

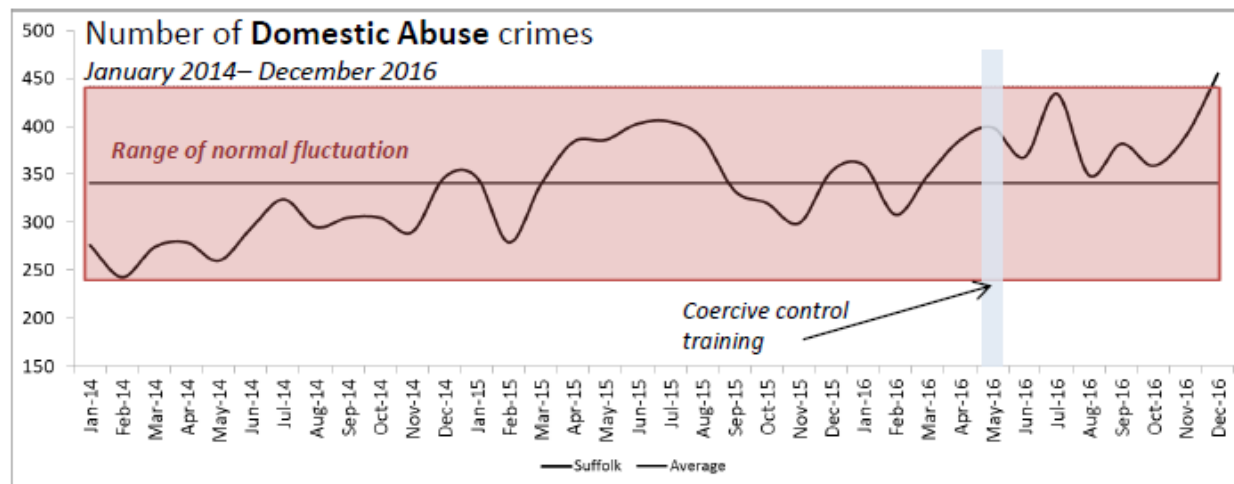
PERFORMANCE REPORT: Domestic Abuse

POLICE and CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

Suffolk Constabulary's work on domestic abuse is aimed at reducing and solving crimes, raising awareness and providing a high quality service to victims.

Performance at a glance

Level of crime	Significantly higher than the norm in December
Level of successful investigations	9% higher in December than the average for 2016
Level of victim support for police investigations	6 in 10 victims engage with an investigation
Satisfaction of victims	The force is currently developing a method for surveying victims safely.
Comparison to most similar forces	Not yet available from the Home Office



Analysis and Comment:

In December 2016 the number of domestic abuse crimes recorded reached a three year high. Practitioners believe this was because of recent training in coercive control leading officers to record crimes which they may previously have defined as non-crimes. This training, which was funded by the PCC, has been evaluated positively and shared with the College of Policing.

Despite rising crime workloads the solved rate in December was also the highest it has been in the last three years.

Further work to improve DA processes is planned for spring 2017.

Last 12 Months in Detail (difference to 3 year average in brackets)

Number of crimes	4,539 (+11%)
% of crimes where an investigation was possible	97%
% crimes where victim supports police investigation	60%
% crimes solved by police	29% (+4 ppt)
% of cases convicted in court	Not yet available
% victims satisfied overall	Not yet available

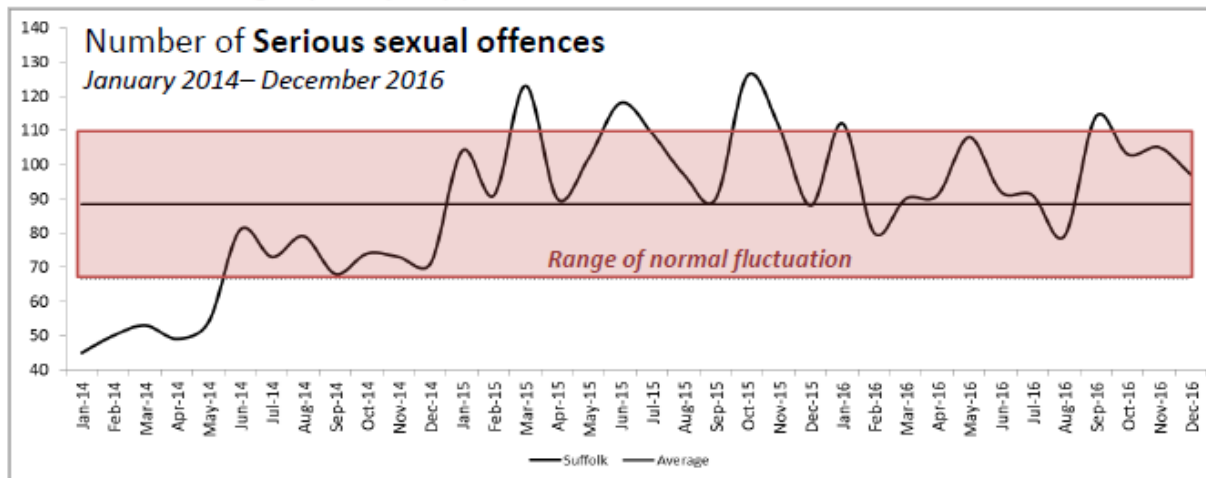
PERFORMANCE REPORT: Serious Sexual Offences

POLICE and CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

Suffolk Constabulary’s work on serious sexual offences is to ensure the most vulnerable victims receive high quality support in accordance with the Victims Code of Practice.

Performance at a glance

Level of crime	Continued downward trend away from exceptionally high levels
Level of successful investigations	12% higher in December than the average for 2016
Level of victim support for police investigations	Almost 8 out of ten victims engage with an investigation
Satisfaction of victims	The force is currently developing a method for surveying victims safely.
Comparison to most similar forces	Not yet available from the Home Office



Analysis and Comment:

Despite a year on year reduction, the number of serious sexual offences consistently remains above the three year average. This illustrates a change in reporting trends believed to be a result of raised awareness and positive police engagement. The levels seen in 2016 are likely to be sustained.

While this presents challenges in maintaining detection rates, the sexual offences improvement board continue to provide cross-command governance on improving a range of measures including detections, and will be complemented by forthcoming academic research on victim engagement.

Last 12 Months in Detail (difference to 3 year average in brackets)

Number of crimes	1162 (+9.6%)
% of crimes where an investigation was possible	95%
% crimes where victim supports police investigation	79%
% crimes solved by police	12% (-1 ppt)
% of cases convicted in court	Not yet available
% victims satisfied overall	Not yet available

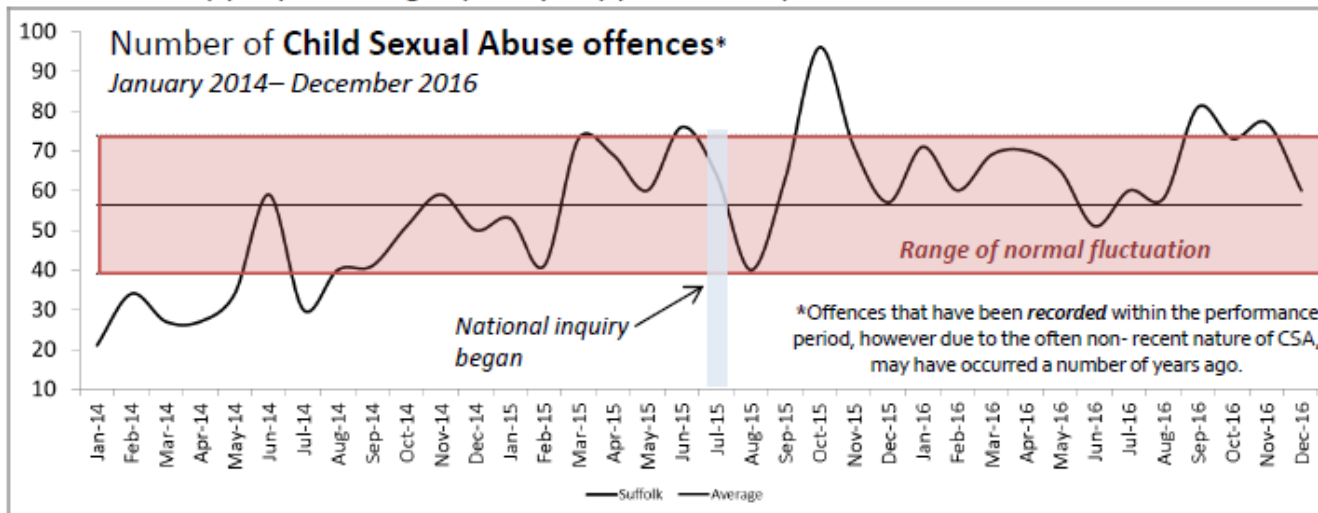
PERFORMANCE REPORT: Child Sexual Abuse

POLICE and CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES

Suffolk Constabulary’s work on child sexual abuse is to improve awareness and understanding of hidden harm so that victims have the confidence to report, and receive appropriate high quality support from police and commissioned services.

Performance at a glance

Level of crime	Downward trend since breaching upper exceptions in November 2016
Level of successful investigations	Double the rolling 12 month average in December, and the highest for 2 years.
Level of victim support for police investigations	Almost 9 out of 10 victims engage with an investigation
Comparison to most similar forces	Not yet available from the Home Office



Analysis and Comment:

A 68% increase in offences between 2014 and 2016 reflected similar national trends (60% increase between 2011 and 2015) and correlates with growing awareness and the launch of the national inquiry into historic child sexual abuse.

Despite the significant increase in investigator caseloads, the % of crimes solved by Suffolk Constabulary has remained stable. The Constabulary continues to prioritise victim’s welfare through application of the Victim’s Code of Practice and the work of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre and Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub.

Last 12 Months in Detail

(difference to 3 year average in brackets)

Number of crimes	795 (+17.4%)
% where an investigation was possible	97%
% where victim supports police investigation	87%
% crimes solved by police	8% (0 ppt)
% of cases convicted in court	Not yet available

----- End of Evidence Set 4 -----

Extract of Key focus areas and Draft Outcomes from the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee meeting on 1 March 2017.



Agenda Item 6

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee 1 March 2017

Covering Report: Children Needing Help and Protection

Summary and Objectives

1. The objective of this scrutiny is for the committee to understand, and make any recommendations in relation to the issues associated with Suffolk children in need of help and protection, in particular with regard to child exploitation and sexual abuse.

Scrutiny Focus

2. Key focus areas for this scrutiny include the following:
 - i) Progress against the actions in the LSCB strategy document: [Children and Young Persons at Risk of Experiencing Exploitation - Strategy Document 2015/17](#) and priorities for 2016/17 identified in the [LSCB Annual Report 2015-16](#). More specifically:
 - o The focus on NEGLECT and on Child Exploitation (see Annex 1, below)
 - o Identifying children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
 - o Use of toolkits to assess the risk factors
 - o A strategic understanding of the scale and prevalence of CSE (and reassurance of senior level strategic focus)
 - o What we are doing to increase awareness and understanding of CSE across the county
 - o The work around '*Chelsea's Choice*' for use in schools (*as referred to in the LSCB Annual Report*).
 - ii) How is the LA working with police & others, eg. via the MASH?
 - o County Lines Analysis
 - o The Make a Change Team,
 - o CSE awareness training done by councillors in 2016
 - o Update on progress with identifying and tracking missing children
 - iii) Links to gangs & drug/alcohol use. Intelligence gathering and action to disrupt networks.
 - iv) Sexual education and preventative work in schools.

Draft Outcomes:

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 1 March 2017

EXTRACT of DRAFT Recommendations

Agenda Item 6 – Children Needing Help and Protection

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee recommends to the Cabinet, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, and the Director of Children and Young People's Services:

1. To commend the ongoing, mutually-beneficial multi-agency work that is taking place to protect young people in Suffolk and address the concerns previously highlighted by Ofsted, at a time of severe financial constraint.
2. That Cabinet satisfies itself that all the issues identified in the section on [pg.43 of the report](#) (*'What are we Worried About? / What Needs to Happen'*) are being addressed, in particular *'The need to ensure that the commissioning of specialist therapeutic services tailored to the needs of children and young people who have been victims of exploitation including CAMHS is adequate'*.
3. To ensure that engagement of the Health agencies in Suffolk covers all involved agencies, including Great Yarmouth & Waveney CCG and the Norfolk & Suffolk Foundation Trust (NSFT).
4. That the Director of Children and Young People's Services uses the statutory mechanism of 'Section 175' audits to enquire of Suffolk schools as to how they are engaging with Child Exploitation training and preventative programmes for safeguarding children.
5. That officers ensure continued further focus on other geographic centres and their cultural groups, such as Haverhill and Lowestoft, in addition to the focus on Ipswich, with regard to addressing child exploitation.
6. To ensure wider dissemination of information about the escalation process in the event of a practitioner disagreeing with the assessment decisions made by the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).
7. To ensure that safeguarding information for parents draws attention to the differences in the safeguarding checks required for licenced taxis and for private hire vehicles (eg. stretch limousines).
8. Noting the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) training that was done for County Councillors in 2015/16, to check that a similar level of awareness and training is being done for District and Borough councillors in Suffolk.
9. That County Councillors be provided with regular information, including as part of the induction material following the forthcoming elections, regarding the locality / geographic distribution of children at risk in Suffolk.

Evidence Set 6 - Extract from March 2017 HMIC Report

Summary of findings



Good

Suffolk Constabulary has made good progress since HMIC's 2015 effectiveness (vulnerability) report. It is good at protecting those who are vulnerable from harm, and supporting victims. Officers and staff in the control room are effective at identifying risk and they deploy resources appropriately to incidents that involve people who are vulnerable.

The force responds well to the immediate and longer-term needs of vulnerable victims and it works with a variety of different organisations in order to protect those who are vulnerable.

Staff across the organisation have a good understanding of vulnerability and what they need to do to protect vulnerable people. The force is effective at investigating offences involving vulnerable victims; however, its use of powers including Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) could be increased and improved on.

The force's support to victims of high, medium and standard-risk domestic abuse is good, with positive action at the scene, structured joint agency safeguarding and good outcomes for victims. Both the arrest rate and subsequent charge/summons rate for domestic abuse incidents have reduced since last year, however, and the force needs to understand the reason for this and take appropriate action.

Areas for improvement

- The force should review its current use of preventative legislation, particularly DVPOs and DVPNs, to ensure it is making effective use of these powers to safeguard victims of domestic abuse.

----- End of Evidence Set 6 -----