



Performance Plan 2020-21 OBA Report Card on Measures 1.1.1, 1.2.1 and 2.4.1 on tackling Domestic Violence and Abuse

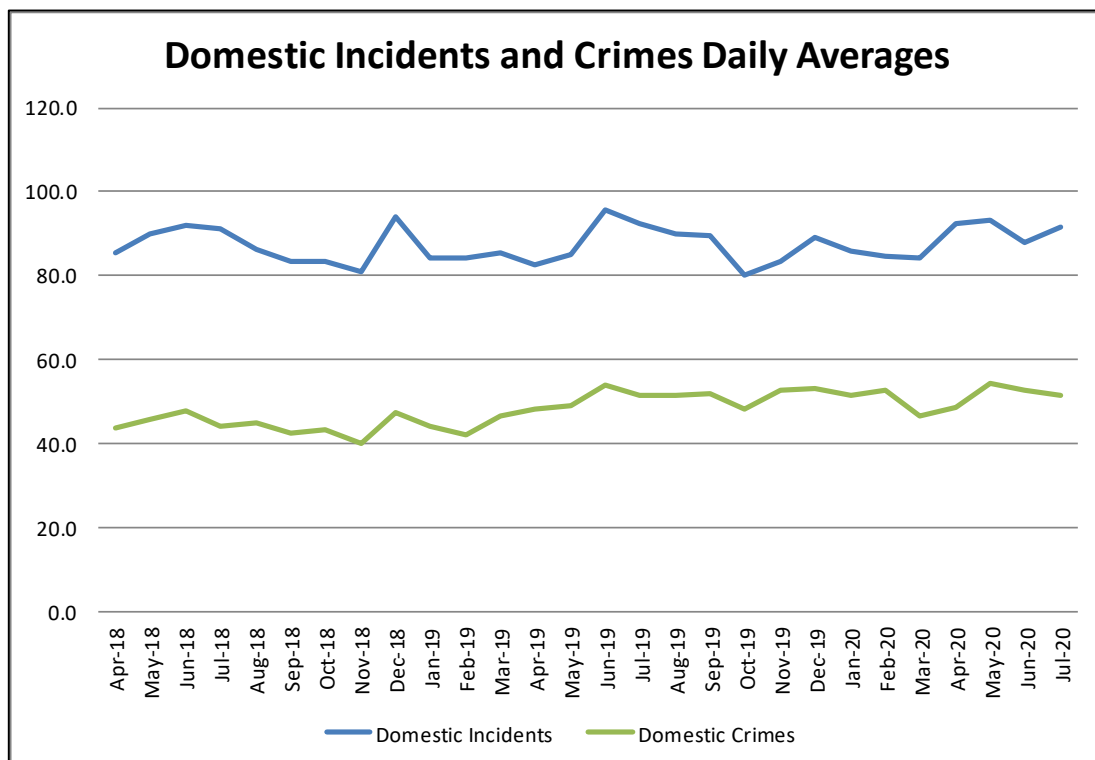
OUTCOME 1: WE HAVE A SAFE COMMUNITY

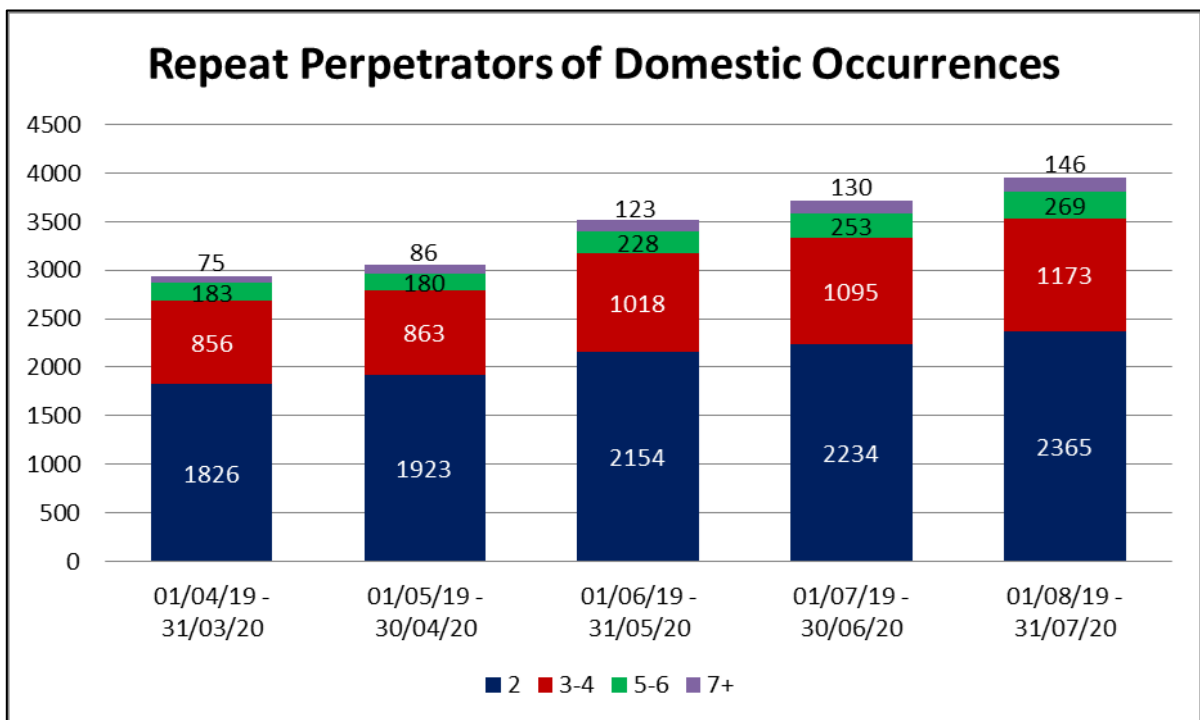
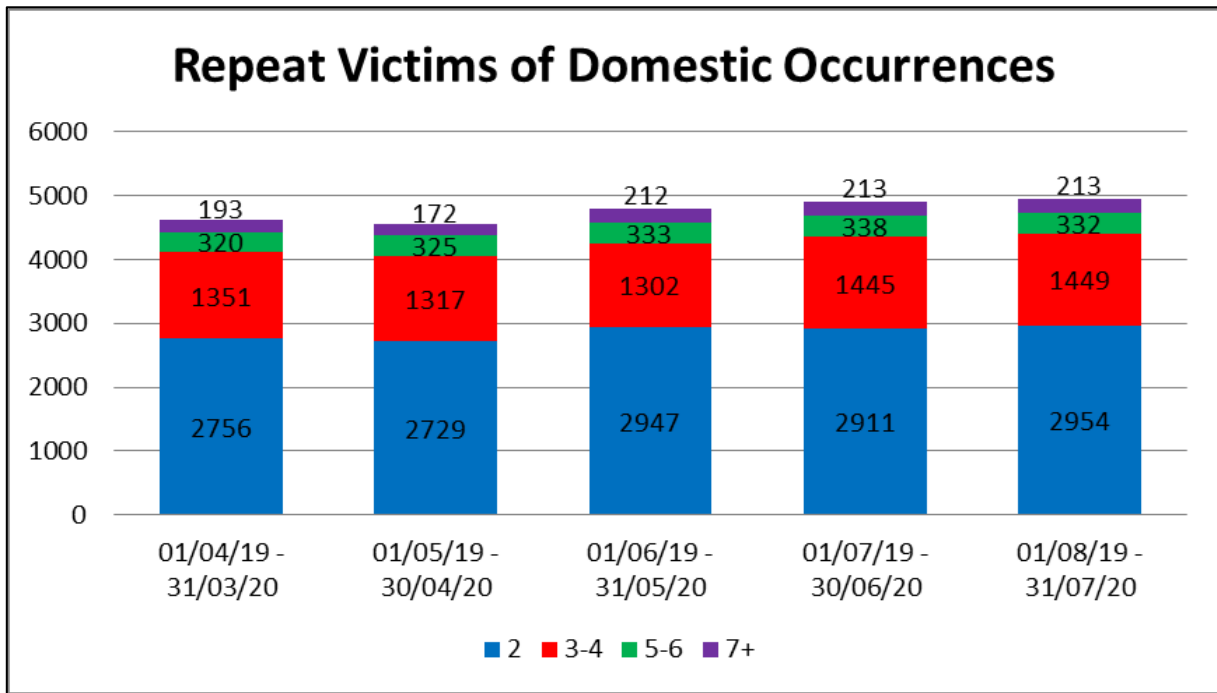
Indicator 1.1 Fewer repeat victims of crime	Measure 1.1.1 Repeat victimisation rate and report on initiatives to support repeat victims of domestic abuse
Indicator 1.2 Fewer repeat offenders of crime	Measure 1.2.1 Repeat offending rate and report on initiatives to reduce repeat offenders of domestic abuse

OUTCOME 2: WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN POLICING

Indicator 2.4 Delivery of effective crime outcomes	Measure 2.4.1 Levels of domestic abuse crime outcomes to identify and respond to areas of concern in outcomes statistics
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All figures provided are based on operational data and subject to change







Rolling 12 Months to 31st July 2020 - Domestic Motivated Offences		
Outcome Type	All Offences	Violence Against the Person
Charge / Summons	21.0%	18.5%
Out of court (formal)	1.0%	0.9%
<i>Adult caution</i>	0.6%	0.7%
<i>Adult Informed Warning</i>	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Juvenile Caution</i>	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Juvenile Informed Warning</i>	0.1%	0.0%
<i>Youth conference</i>	0.2%	0.1%
<i>PND</i>	0.0%	0.0%
Community Resolution	1.4%	1.3%
Prosecution prevented / not in public interest	0.3%	0.3%
<i>Suspect too ill</i>	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Victim/witness too ill</i>	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Prosecution time limit expired</i>	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Offender died before proceedings</i>	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Underage</i>	0.1%	0.1%
<i>No prosecution directed</i>	0.1%	0.1%
Evidential Difficulties	55.4%	58.4%
<i>Suspect identified / victim does not support</i>	37.2%	39.2%
<i>Suspect identified / victim supports action</i>	17.8%	18.9%
<i>Suspect not identified / victim does not support</i>	0.4%	0.3%
Investigation complete - no suspect	1.0%	0.7%
Other agencies	2.4%	2.8%
Outcome not yet recorded	17.6%	17.1%

- Over the last five years domestic motivated incidents and crimes are showing an upward trend; however, there is no trend in the data when looked at over a two year period.
- Baselines are being established for repeat victims and repeat perpetrators (offenders) of domestic abuse.
- A new Call Back Scheme for all victims of Domestic Abuse was introduced during lockdown.
- Internally, monthly performance meetings which look at factors from the initial call for service through to files submission to PPS are being used to support repeat victims of domestic abuse and drive overall performance and outcomes.
- Where violence with injury has been a factor, this is now part of the daily 9 point dip sample process to drive up performance in order to prevent persons from becoming repeat victims, to deal robustly with violent offenders and maximise criminal justice outcomes.



- A “think charge” for all Domestic Abuse offences is being reinforced and scrutinised in order to improve criminal justice outcomes.
- Between 1st August 2019 and 31st July 2020 there were 18,778 domestic motivated offences. During this period 3,940 incidents resulted in a charge / summons, 16.5% resulted in a charge (3,107) and 4.4% (833) resulted in a summons being issued

Narrative - How Well did we do?

- A potential increase in the levels of domestic violence was identified as a risk associated with lockdown in response to Covid 19. During March – June 2020 calls for service in relation to domestic abuse increased by 25%. Whilst there was an increase in reporting there are still concerns that this remains under-reported.
- Public Protection Branch (PPB) is presently operating a Repeat Victim (Domestic Violence / Abuse) Strategy, which has been in use since its creation in late 2019. This Strategy, which compliments the core domestic violence and abuse (DV/A) work already undertaken by PPB to engage with and seek to protect victims considered to be at greatest risk of DV/A, standardises the high level of service and engagement with those *highest-volume* repeat victims of DV/A. A process of pro-active engagement is employed with each identified repeat victim of seven or more occurrences of DV/A in the past 12 months.
- PPB already intensively and consistently reviews all medium and high risk (DASH) victims; however the Strategy delivers a further level of safeguarding by ensuring, additionally, perceived risk based on *volume* is also critically examined.
- In addition to the aforementioned PPB Repeat Victim Strategy, PPB are also currently undertaking a repeat DV/A perpetrator Pilot. Alleged perpetrators are identified on the basis of their recent association to MARAC, as well as through PSNI data analysis to identify those perpetrators involved in 5 or more incidents of DV/A in 12 months, including at least one incident in the preceding month. This Pilot involves, specifically, pro-active police engagement with identified alleged perpetrators of DV/A , and is aimed at providing guidance, intervention and support to these individuals, including offering specific sign-posting to available support services, such as RESPECT.
- The repeat victim strategy is being reviewed alongside the repeat perpetrator pilot to combine efforts in reduction in both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- Work is underway to provide performance data in an automated way, including identifying those cases that are brought where evidence is by way of police observations / body worn video evidence. This will create further opportunities to identify risk assessment tools outside but in support of MARAC.



- The service provided by PSNI from start to finish in relation to DV/A is being monitored at the monthly Domestic Abuse Performance Meeting as a way of not only supporting victims and perpetrators in order to reduce crimes, but also to improve criminal justice outcomes, specifically in relation to violence against the person and malicious communications.

Report on initiatives for Domestic Abuse – Is anyone better off?

- In order to provide victims with support in these unprecedented times, a call back scheme was launched for all victims of domestic abuse at the start of lockdown. This has resulted in 4,754 contacts and a further 227 referrals for support agencies, 14 cases of further evidence being provided and 11 new crime reports. This is a positive result from the additional call back scheme which is being reviewed in respect of this being maintained post lockdown restrictions having eased.
- In addition to responding to current calls for service there has been a focus on PSNI “wanted persons” as a result there have been an additional 12 arrests made, leading to 7 persons being charged and 2 persons being reported, 1 returned to prison and 1 remains on police bail. Further to this of the current list there are 19 persons who have been identified as wanted in respect of domestic incidents. This has resulted in 52 arrest attempts being made against these individuals
- PPB continue to closely monitor the outcomes of the Repeat Victim Strategy, specifically reviewing repeat victim statistics at our monthly Domestic Abuse Performance Meeting, chaired by PPB Head of Branch (HOB). The number of repeat victims falling within the strategy’s threshold decreased from 110 in March 2020 to 94 in July 2020.
- The repeat perpetrator (offender) pilot is in its infancy and remains under continuing review; however, initial findings are positive. There were 39 repeat perpetrators identified for the pilot. A number of perpetrators could not be traced, but during the eight week pilot two – thirds (21) of perpetrators contacted did not re-offend. The second phase of the repeat strategy is being drafted to identify the relevant partners and actions that will support reduction of repeat offenders. This is being reviewed alongside the Reducing Offenders in Partnership model.
- A new process has been created to assess the quality of first contact for domestic abuse victims which now allows for at least 20% of all dip samples within PSNI to be domestic abuse related calls. This has highlighted that the vast majority of calls have been dealt with competently. This is managed under the monthly domestic abuse performance framework whereby representatives are there from District Policing Command and Public Protection Branch. Reassurance is provided that those calls that do not meet the required standard are dealt with by way of management interventions to address the issues raised.
- As a result of the monthly monitoring at the performance meetings chaired by PPB head of branch, which looks at the first point of contact for domestic abuse victims through to file



submissions to PPS, body worn video usage at domestic motivated occurrences has increased by 20% points.

- The MARAC Operating Board (MOB) Sub-group on Training and Communication, chaired by PSNI and representing all participating MOB partner members, is presently undertaking a training needs analysis of all internally delivered DA/V awareness and DASH & MARAC (including referrals) training. This is being carried out collectively by all partner organisations with the aim of establishing what training of this nature is presently provided, and, keenly, its appropriateness. The objective is to ensure consistent, quality training delivery to all front line staff in each partner organisation in the areas of DA/V awareness, as well as knowledge of and confidence in the use of DASH & MARAC (including referrals).
- PPB continue to closely monitor the charge/summons statistics for domestic motivated crime, specifically violence with injury and malicious communications at the monthly Domestic Abuse Performance meeting.