

**Devon and Cornwall Police Authority Performance Management Committee
26 September 2006**

Open for the purposes of FOI

Joint Report of South and West Devon BCU Commander and the Chief Constable

Current Forensic Management Performance in South and West Devon BCU

Recommendation

(i) That the committee notes the contents of this report

Introduction

1. Prior to December 2005 forensic related performance in South and West Devon BCU was consistently below the Force average
2. Areas of concern included scene attendance, particularly dwelling burglary, exhibit recovery and conversion of forensic hits to sanctioned detections
3. HMIC in its BCU inspection report also identified areas for improvement around forensic performance. One of its 8 recommendations concerned the need for the BCU to improve its arrangements for the allocation, actioning and monitoring of DNA and fingerprint hits

Current performance

4. The attached charts highlight a sustained and constant improvement in forensic performance from scene attendance to dealing with outstanding hits
5. The rolling 12 month rolling average for dwelling burglary now stands at 80%. Performance in recent months is significantly higher than 80%
6. There is also a steady improvement in vehicle crime attendance. The average over a 12 month period stands at just over 40%. Again more recent performance is well in excess of that. The rolling average puts this BCU's performance well above the Force average
7. The chart for total scene attendance again highlights good improvement and above the Force average
8. Data surrounding the recovery of DNA and fingerprint samples from scenes mirrors that of scene attendance where the improvement in performance is consistent
9. There is work to do around converting the outstanding hits to sanctioned detections. For dwelling burglary the BCU is above the Force average but below in vehicle crime and total crime. Significant decisions made within the BCU in recent weeks will hopefully enable better performance in this area.
10. Detection rates for burglary and vehicle crime improving. For vehicle crime, the rate of 12.6% is around our BCU family average, 2nd in Force and for Dwelling Burglary, the best in Force, but below Family average

Actions Taken to improve performance

11. Past poor performance was due to a mixture of a lack of focus on Forensic issues and communication between CSID and functions such as CMCD and the BCU Support Team.
12. Actions to improve this included regular meetings between BCU Crime Manager and Crime Scene Manager and identification of better working practices
13. The BCU Crime Scene Manager identified that a number of burglaries were not being 'listed' for Crime Scene Investigators. This gap has been closed with added safeguards which now ensures that the department is aware of all dwelling burglaries
14. The improvement in scene attendance is probably the most important factor in improvements in exhibit recovery. However there is now a need to carefully monitor this in the next few months to maintain the optimum balance between scene attendance and exhibit recovery
15. Actioning BCU outstanding hits is a BCU priority. The Force spreadsheet is maintained by a member of police staff. In recognising the importance of this, the BCU fast tracked a recent selection process to minimise the gap in which this function would not be done, and utilised another member of staff to do this in the interim period
16. Significant hits e.g. burglary and vehicle crime are brought to the attention of daily tasking for actioning
17. In the next few weeks the BCU Tactical Tasking document will include performance data surrounding forensic hits to enable Supt Operations to be informed of current performance
18. The BCU has run a number of operations e.g. NOVA and OZARK to prioritise resources on this issue.
19. In the next 3 months 25 staff will be redeployed into Torbay, a number of which will work within the Neighbourhood Investigation Unit and Neighbourhood Detectives Unit. Again this should support the improvement in performance around dealing with outstanding 'hits'.
20. The BCU looks forward to the appointment of a BCU Detective Inspector focusing on forensic performance. The BCU Crime Manager is already looking at ways to reconfigure roles and responsibilities amongst his DI cadre to enable the additional member of staff to provide a joined up and holistic approach to crime management performance end to end

Summary

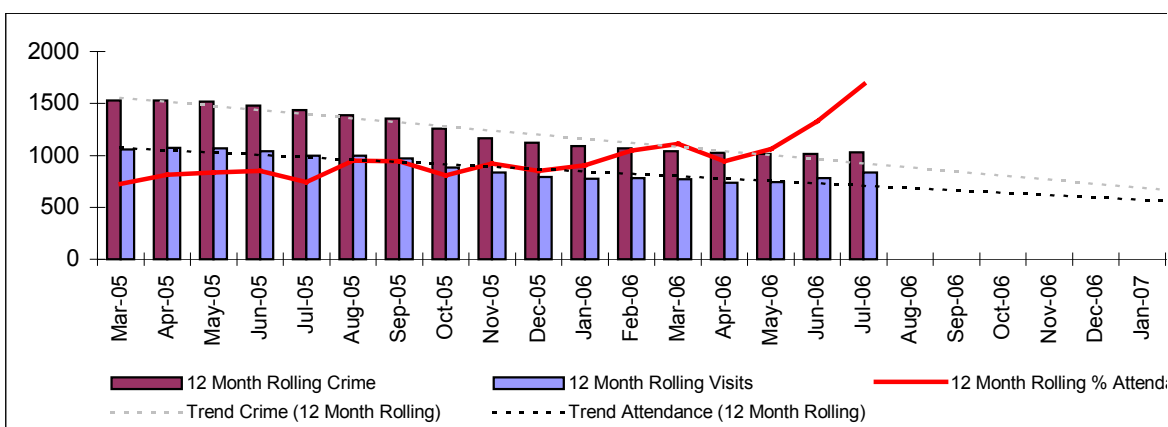
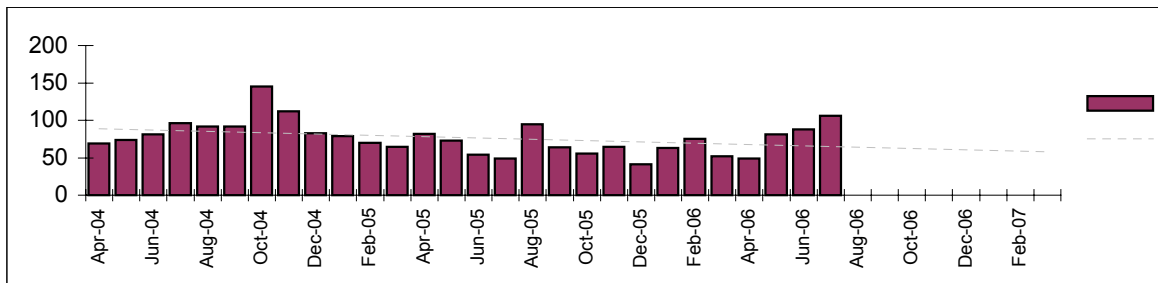
21. It is recognised that BCU forensic management performance was poor during 2005.
22. The focus and endeavour put into improving performance has been continual and is beginning to feed into increased sanctioned detections, particularly burglary and vehicle crime
23. It is accepted that effective forensic management supports improved overall policing performance and the structures already put in place and those in the near future will prevent the decline in 2005.

Contact: for further information

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Select Area:	South & West Devon
Select Role:	Total
Crime Type:	Burglary Dwelling
Visit Type:	Scene

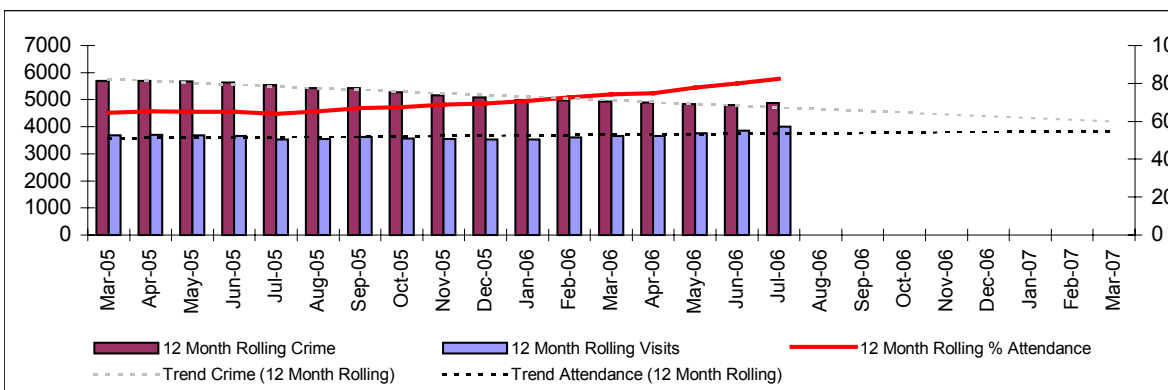
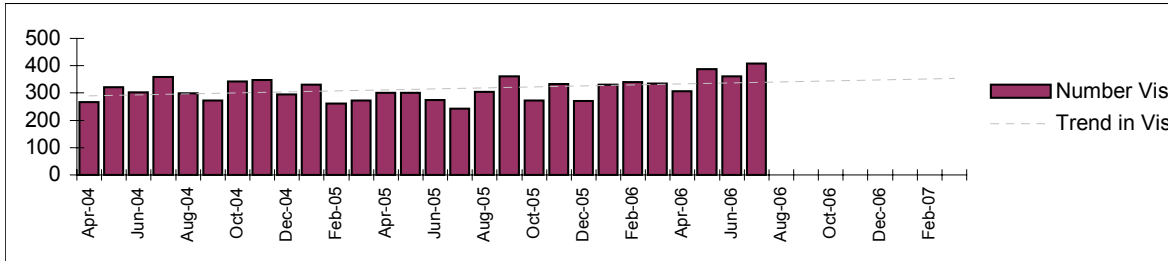


THIS ATTENDANCE DATA IS COLLECTED VIA THE WORKLOAD SHEETS FILLED IN BY SOCO OFFICERS. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CONCERNS OVER THIS DATA, INCLUDING THE FACT ONLY BCU LEVEL DATA IS AVAILABLE ACROSS LIMITED CRIME TYPES. IT IS PROPOSED THAT CIS BE USED AS A MORE ACCURATE MEASURE OF ATTENDANCE. THIS WILL TAKE A WHILE TO GET ACCURATE DUE TO NECESSARY CHANGES IN WORKING PRACTICES.

Last 3 Months Performance

	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06
Crimes	98	100	#N/A
Attendance	88	106	#N/A
% Attendance	89.8	106.0	#N/A

Select Area:	Force
Select Role:	Total
Crime Type:	Burglary Dwelling
Visit Type:	Scene

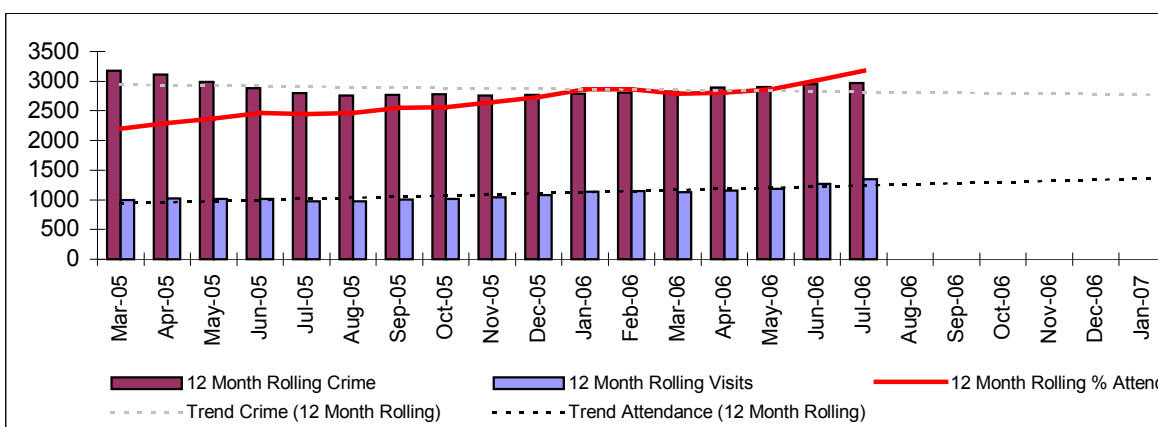
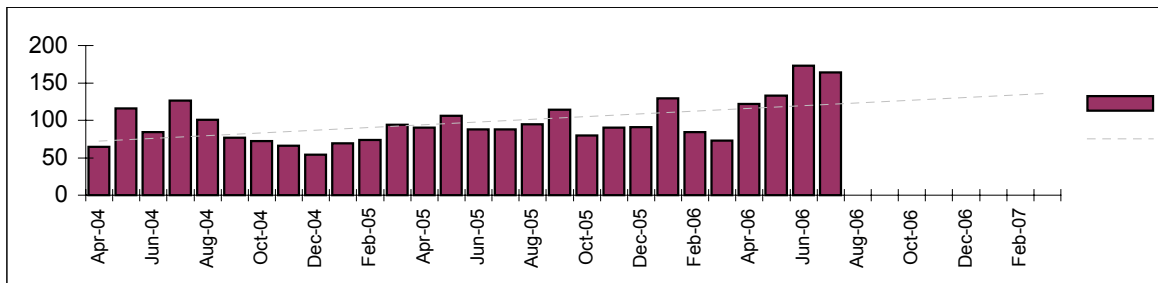


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Last 3 Months Performance

	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06
Crimes	425	473	#N/A
Attendance	360	407	#N/A
% Attendance	84.7	86.0	#N/A

Select Area:	South & West Devon
Select Role:	Total
Crime Type:	Total Vehicle Crime
Visit Type:	Scene

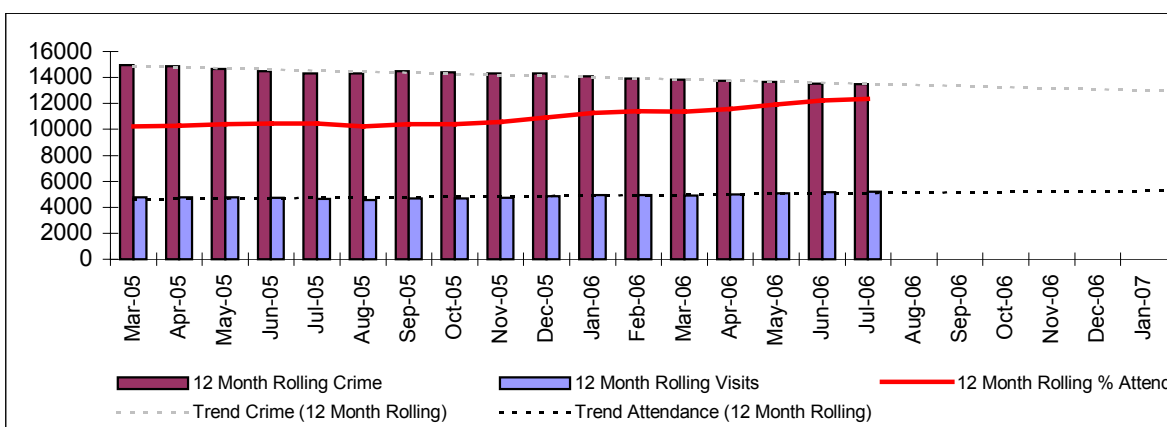
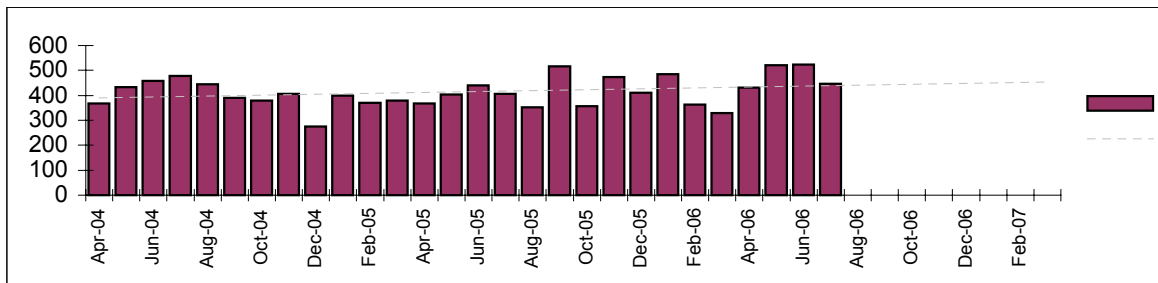


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Last 3 Months Performance

	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06
Crimes	294	271	#N/A
Attendance	173	164	#N/A
% Attendance	58.8	60.5	#N/A

Select Area:	Force
Select Role:	Total
Crime Type:	Total Vehicle Crime
Visit Type:	Scene

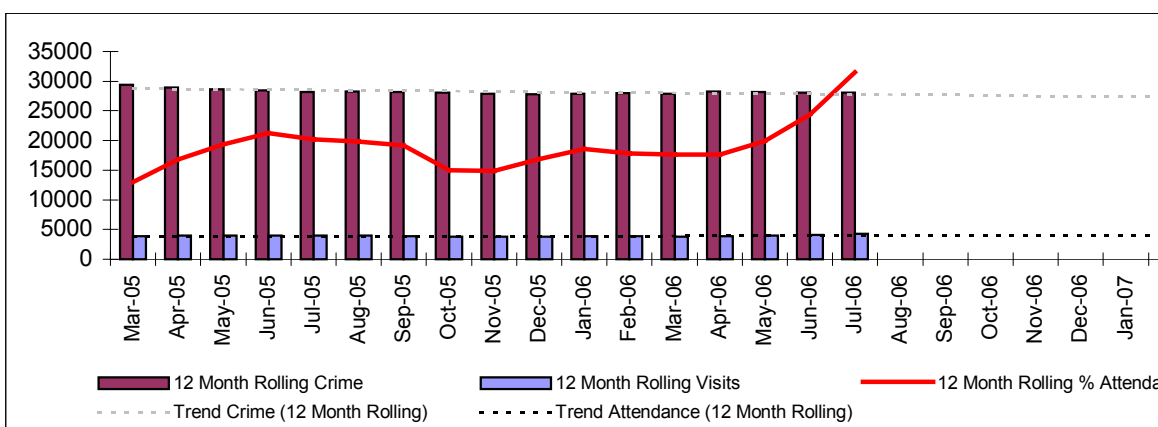
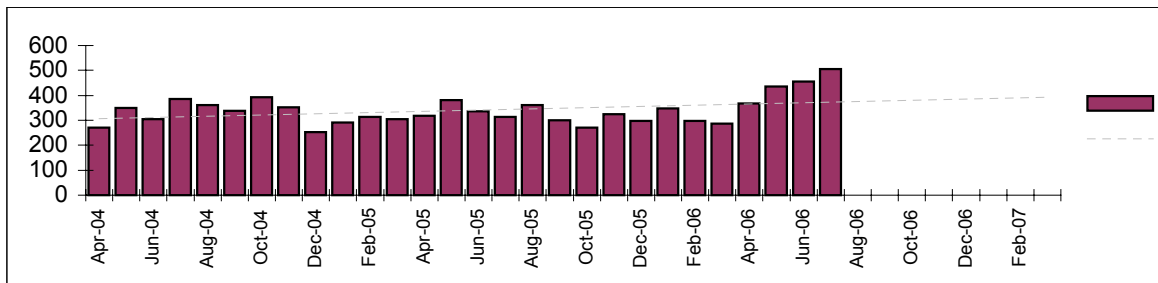


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Last 3 Months Performance

	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06
Crimes	1188	1181	#N/A
Attendance	524	447	#N/A
% Attendance	44.1	37.8	#N/A

Select Area:	South & West Devon
Select Role:	Total
Crime Type:	Total
Visit Type:	Scene

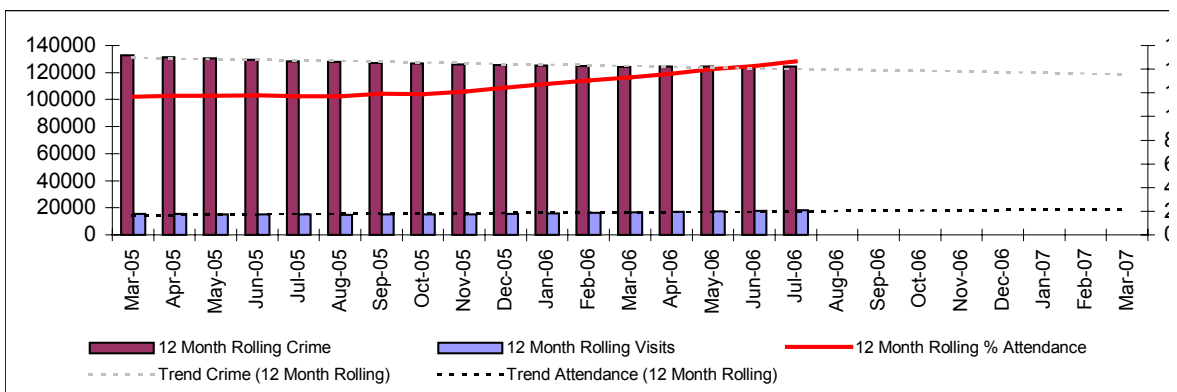
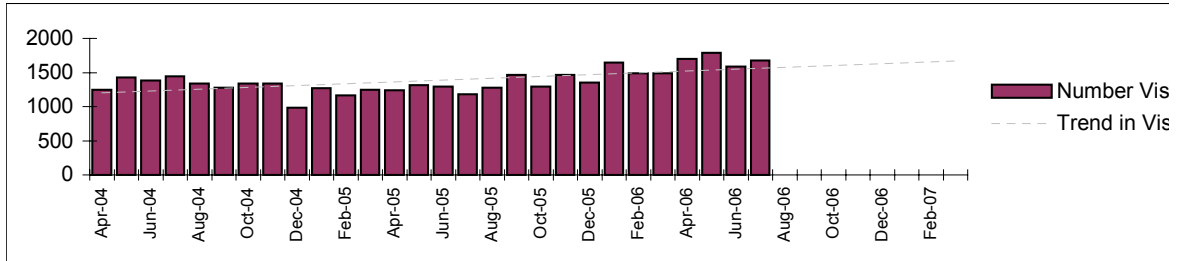


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Last 3 Months Performance

	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06
Crimes	2448	2558	#N/A
Attendance	455	506	#N/A
% Attendance	18.6	19.8	#N/A

Select Area:	Force
Select Role:	Total
Crime Type:	Total
Visit Type:	Scene



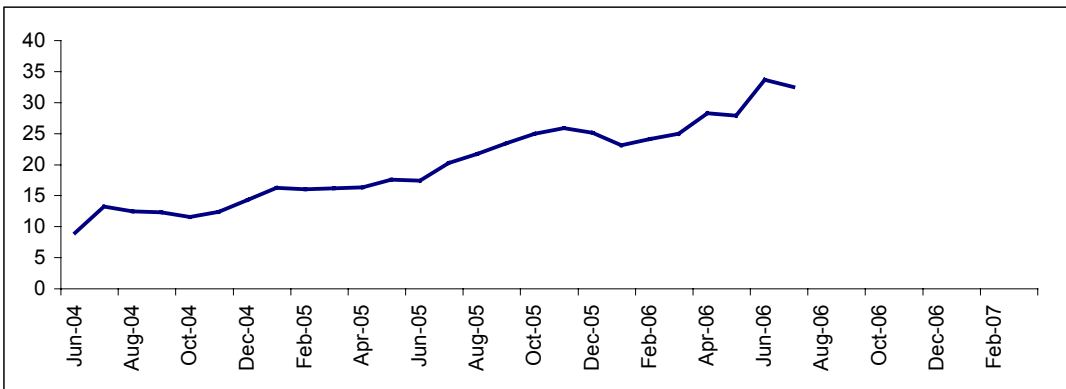
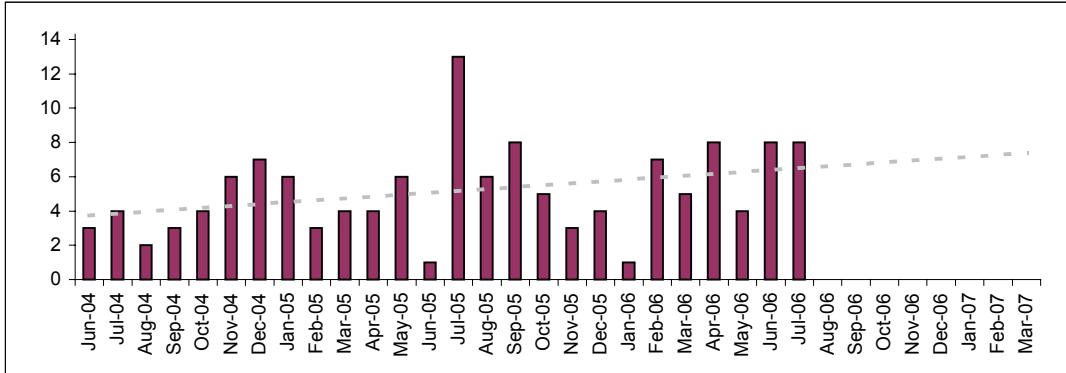
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Last 3 Months Performance

	Jun-06	Jul-06	Aug-06
Crimes	10769	11305	#N/A
Attendance	1590	1673	#N/A
% Attendance	14.8	14.8	#N/A

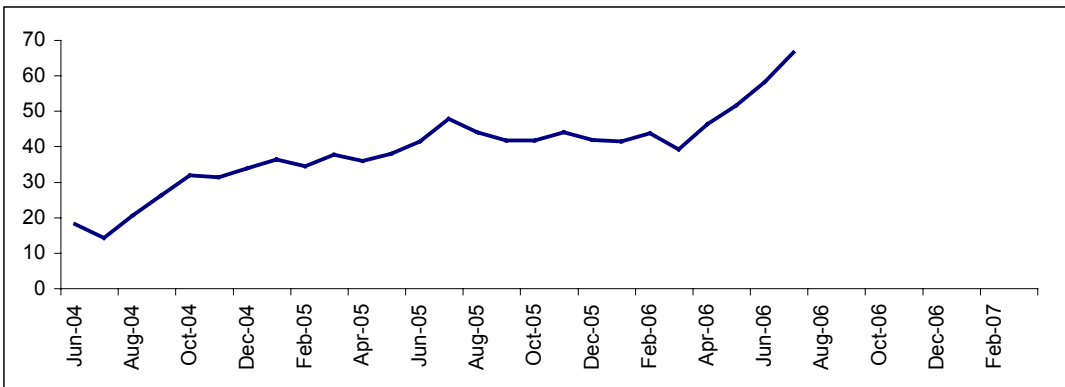
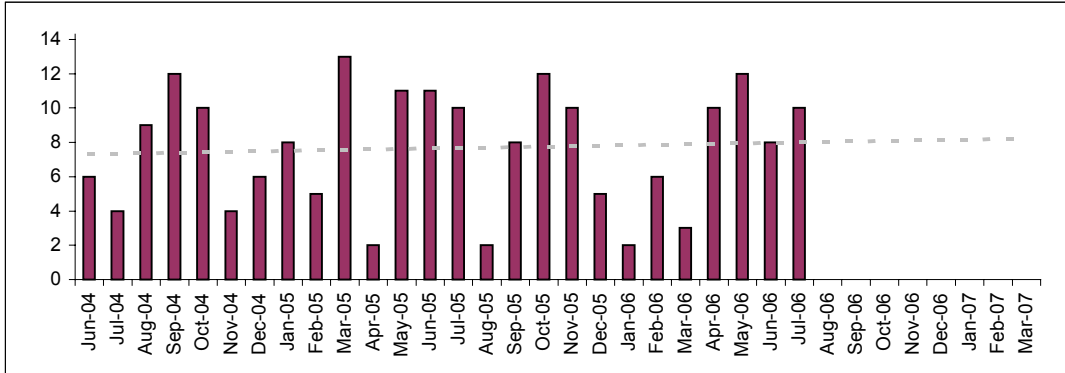
FORENSIC IDENTs

Select Area	South & West Devon BCU
Select Crime	Domestic Burglary
Select Analysis	Proportion of Ident's from Recovery
Select FP / DNA / Both	Both



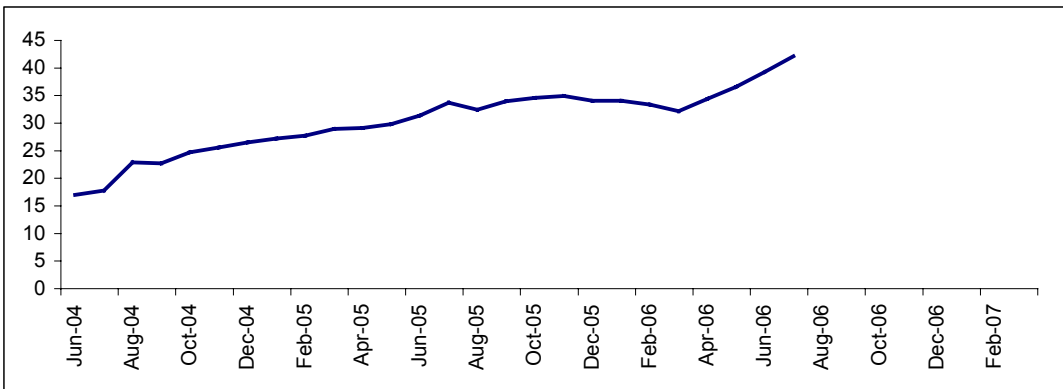
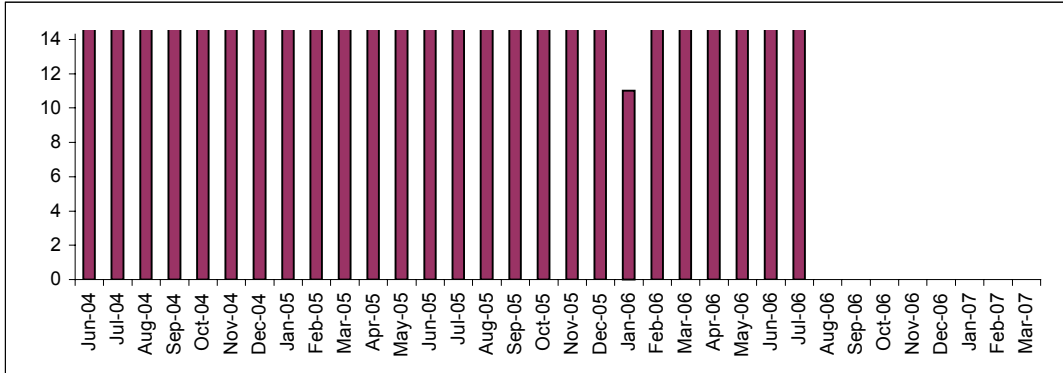
FORENSIC IDENTS

Select Area	South & West Devon BCU
Select Crime	Total Vehicle Crime
Select Analysis	Proportion of Idents from Recovery
Select FP / DNA / Both	Both

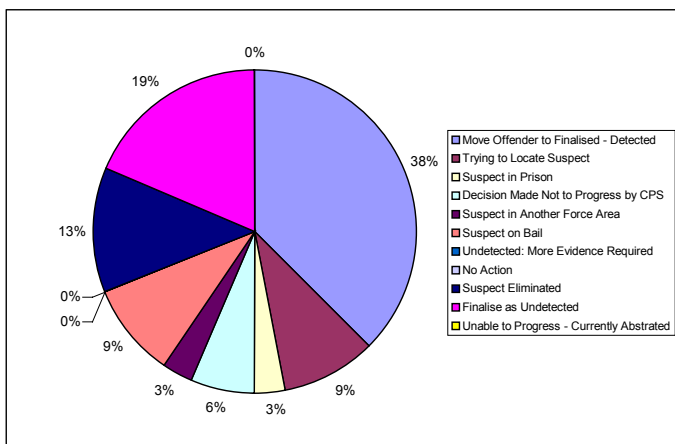


FORENSIC IDENTS

Select Area	South & West Devon BCU
Select Crime	Total Crime
Select Analysis	Proportion of Idents from Recovery
Select FP / DNA / Both	Both



Select Area	South & West Devon BCU
Select Crime Type	Domestic Burglary
Select Type of Ident	Both
Select Start Date	Apr-06
Select End Date	Aug-06

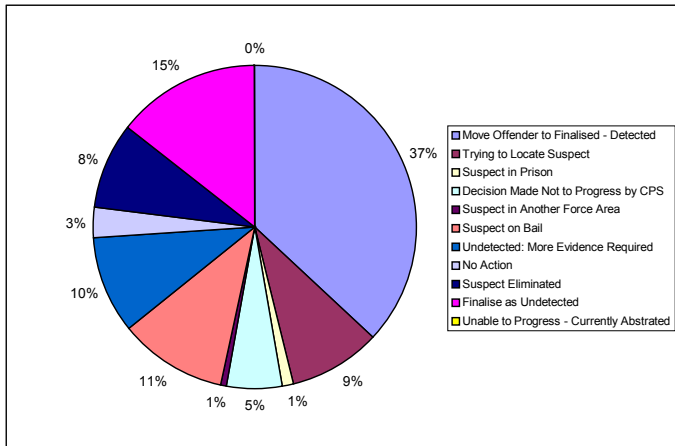


Action Taken	Number	Percent
Move Offender to Finalised - Detected	12	37.5
Trying to Locate Suspect	3	9.4
Suspect in Prison	1	3.1
Decision Made Not to Progress by CPS	2	6.3
Suspect in Another Force Area	1	3.1
Suspect on Bail	3	9.4
Undetected: More Evidence Required	0	0.0
No Action	0	0.0
Suspect Eliminated	4	12.5
Finalise as Undetected	6	18.8
Unable to Progress - Currently Abstrated	0	0.0
Other - Miscellaneous	4	12.5
Total	36	

In addition there are 1 crimes where the suspect is on PNC

Figures are available for the period Sep-05 to Aug-06

Select Area	Force
Select Crime Type	Domestic Burglary
Select Type of Ident	Both
Select Start Date	Apr-06
Select End Date	Aug-06

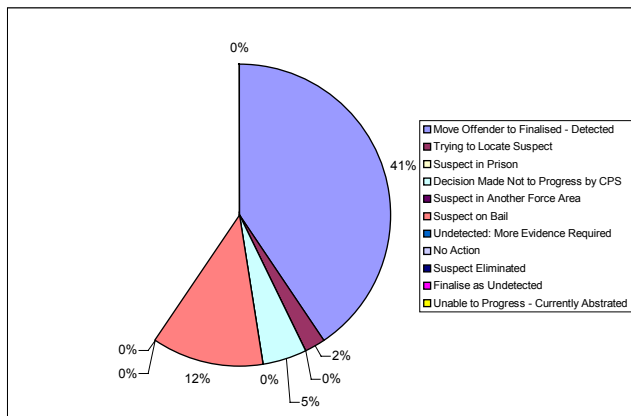


Action Taken	Number	Percent
Move Offender to Finalised - Detected	61	37.0
Trying to Locate Suspect	15	9.1
Suspect in Prison	2	1.2
Decision Made Not to Progress by CPS	9	5.5
Suspect in Another Force Area	1	0.6
Suspect on Bail	18	10.9
Undetected: More Evidence Required	16	9.7
No Action	5	3.0
Suspect Eliminated	14	8.5
Finalise as Undetected	24	14.5
Unable to Progress - Currently Abstrated	0	0.0
Other - Miscellaneous	8	4.8
Total	173	

In addition there are 2 crimes where the suspect is on PNC

Figures are available for the period Sep-05 to Aug-06

Select Area	South & West Devon BCU
Select Crime Type	Total Vehicle Crime
Select Type of Ident	Both
Select Start Date	Apr-06
Select End Date	Aug-06

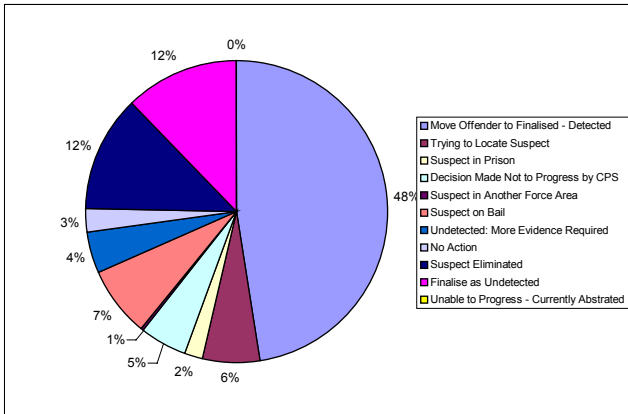


Action Taken	Number	Percent
Move Offender to Finalised - Detected	17	40.5
Trying to Locate Suspect	1	2.4
Suspect in Prison	0	0.0
Decision Made Not to Progress by CPS	2	4.8
Suspect in Another Force Area	0	0.0
Suspect on Bail	5	11.9
Undetected: More Evidence Required	0	0.0
No Action	0	0.0
Suspect Eliminated	6	14.3
Finalise as Undetected	11	26.2
Unable to Progress - Currently Abstrated	0	0.0
Other - Miscellaneous	8	19.0
Total	50	

In addition there are 1 crimes where the suspect is on PNC

Figures are available for the period Sep-05 to Aug-06

Select Area	Force
Select Crime Type	Total Vehicle Crime
Select Type of Ident	Both
Select Start Date	Apr-06
Select End Date	Aug-06

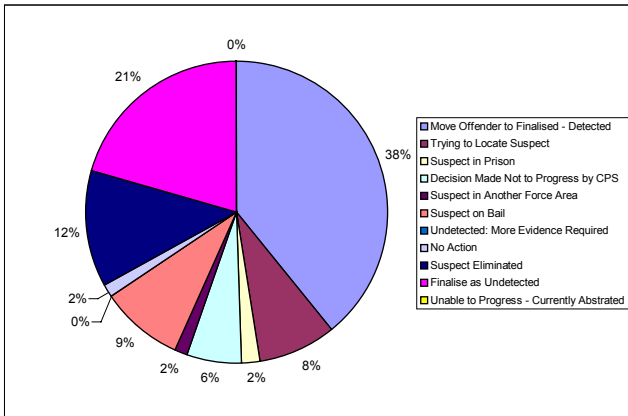


Action Taken	Number	Percent
Move Offender to Finalised - Detected	89	47.6
Trying to Locate Suspect	11	5.9
Suspect in Prison	4	2.1
Decision Made Not to Progress by CPS	9	4.8
Suspect in Another Force Area	1	0.5
Suspect on Bail	14	7.5
Undetected: More Evidence Required	8	4.3
No Action	5	2.7
Suspect Eliminated	23	12.3
Finalise as Undetected	23	12.3
Unable to Progress - Currently Abstrated	0	0.0
Other - Miscellaneous	15	8.0
Total	202	

In addition there are 1 crimes where the suspect is on PNC

Figures are available for the period Sep-05 to Aug-06

Select Area	South & West Devon BCU
Select Crime Type	Total Crime
Select Type of Ident	Both
Select Start Date	Apr-06
Select End Date	Aug-06

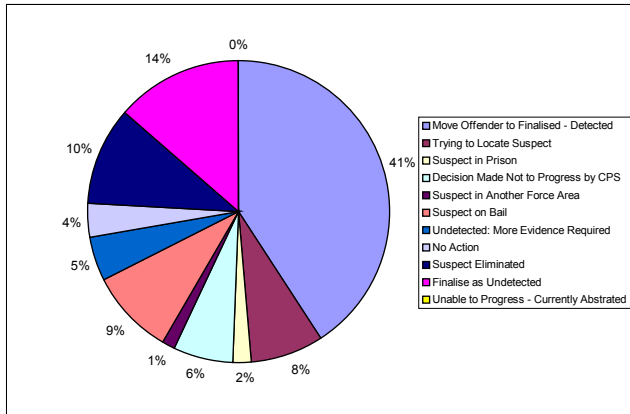


Action Taken	Number	Percent
Move Offender to Finalised - Detected	76	39.2
Trying to Locate Suspect	16	8.2
Suspect in Prison	4	2.1
Decision Made Not to Progress by CPS	11	5.7
Suspect in Another Force Area	3	1.5
Suspect on Bail	17	8.8
Undetected: More Evidence Required	0	0.0
No Action	3	1.5
Suspect Eliminated	24	12.4
Finalise as Undetected	40	20.6
Unable to Progress - Currently Abstrated	0	0.0
Other - Miscellaneous	27	13.9
Total	221	

In addition there are 3 crimes where the suspect is on PNC

Figures are available for the period Sep-05 to Aug-06

Select Area	Force
Select Crime Type	Total Crime
Select Type of Ident	Both
Select Start Date	Apr-06
Select End Date	Aug-06



Action Taken	Number	Percent
Move Offender to Finalised - Detected	343	40.8
Trying to Locate Suspect	66	7.8
Suspect in Prison	18	1.9
Decision Made Not to Progress by CPS	54	6.4
Suspect in Another Force Area	11	1.3
Suspect on Bail	78	9.3
Undetected: More Evidence Required	39	4.6
No Action	31	3.7
Suspect Eliminated	88	10.5
Finalise as Undetected	114	13.6
Unable to Progress - Currently Abstrated	1	0.1
Other - Miscellaneous	50	5.9
Total	891	

In addition there are 14 crimes where the suspect is on PNC

Figures are available for the period Sep-05 to Aug-06