

SURREY POLICE - PAPER FOR PCC MANAGEMENT MEETING
FIREARMS DEPLOYMENT STUDY

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to appraise the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner on the types of incidents Surrey Police firearms units deploy to.

2. Overview

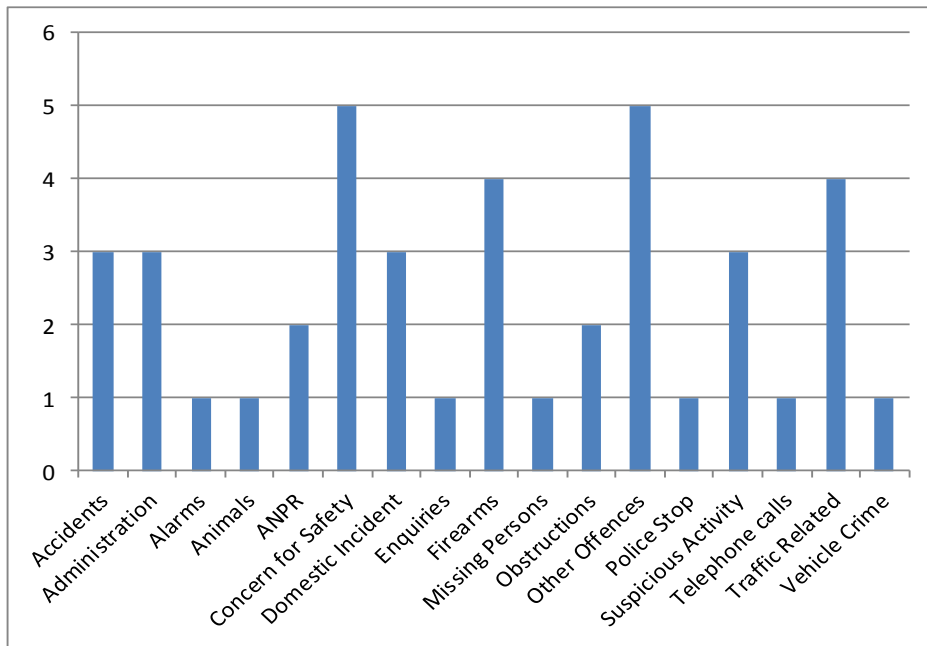
- 2.1 Due to the lack of available management information, this study involved the manual extraction from the ICAD system of a small sample of 120 incidents attended by firearms units over a three week period from the 2nd to 21st May 2015 covering early, late and night shifts (40 incidents per shift). As such, this paper is limited to providing a "snapshot" of the incident types being attended and caution should be taken around drawing any firm conclusions from the data provided.

3. Early Turn Incidents

- 3.1 A total of 17 different incident types were recorded for the early turn unit with 4 (10%) being firearms related. The other three main categories of incidents attended were 5(12.5%) concern for safety, 5(12.5%) other offences¹ and 4(10%) traffic related. It is worth noting that although only 10% attended were firearms related, 7(17.5%) of the non-firearms incidents involved mention of a firearm, weapon or related to a person or vehicle with warnings for firearms/weapons. The table at 3.2 shows all incident types attended:

¹ Examples of other offences across all shifts are a road rage incident, concerns for person with mental health issues, dog worrying sheep and youths fighting.

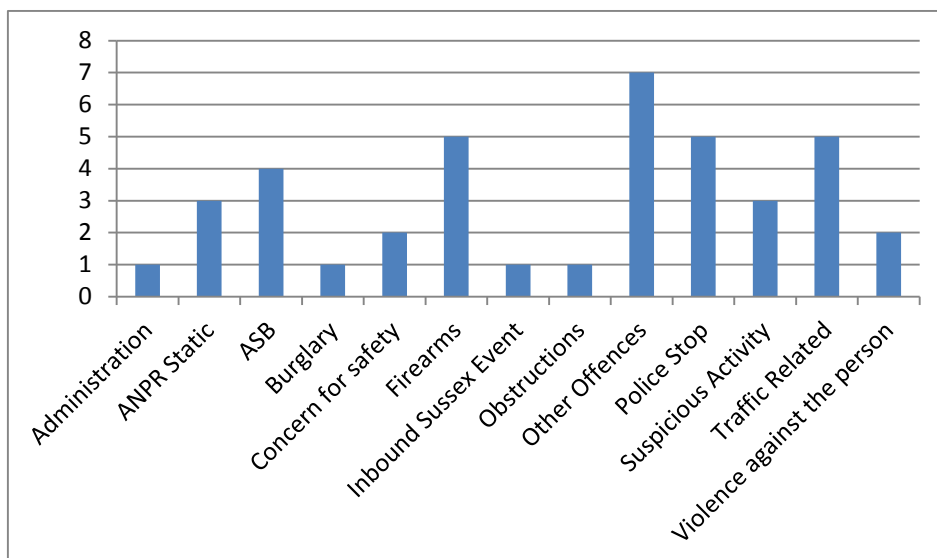
3.2 Early Turn Firearms Unit – Incidents attended



4. Late Turn Incidents

4.1 A total of 13 different incident types were recorded for the late turn unit with 5 (12.5%) being firearms related. The other three main categories of incidents attended were 7(17.5%) other offences, 5(12.5%) police stop and 4(10%) traffic related. During the late turn period a further 9(22.5%) non firearms incidents involved mention of a firearm, weapon or related to a person or vehicle with warnings for firearms/weapons. The table below at 4.2 shows all incident types attended:

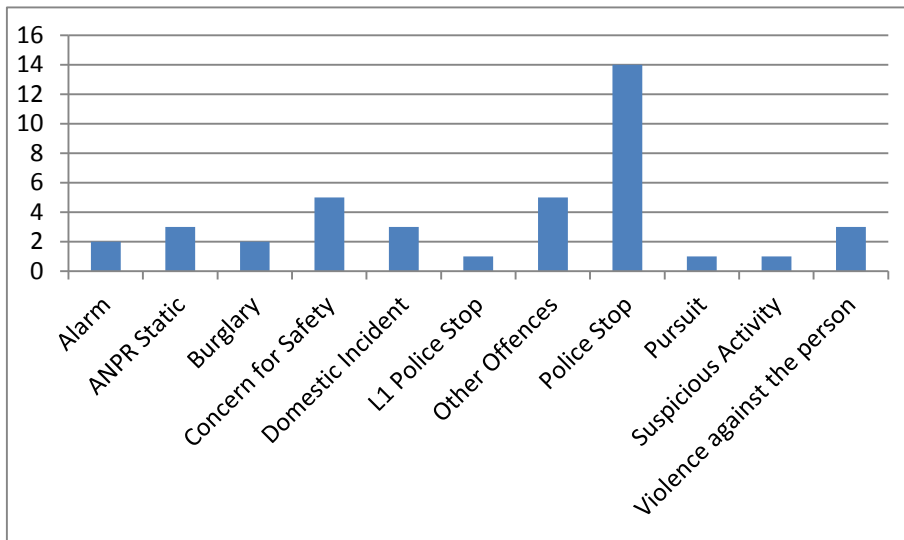
4.2 Late Turn Firearms Unit - Incidents attended



5 Night Turn Incidents

5.1 A total of 11 different incident types were recorded for the night turn unit with none being firearms related. The three main categories of incidents attended were 14 police stop (35%), 5(12.5%) other offences and 5(12.5%) concern for safety. The table below at 5.2 shows all incident types attended:

5.2 Night Turn Firearms Unit - Incidents Attended



6. Conclusion

The results from this snapshot study tend to indicate that our firearms units attend a wide variety of policing incidents. Often this was in support of area officers who were dealing with actual or potential high risk or violent situations. On early and late shifts in particular, 62.5% of incidents attended were firearms incidents or non-firearms incidents that involved mention of a firearm, weapon or related to a person or vehicle with warnings for firearms and/or weapons. On quite a number of occasions firearms units were the nearest to an incident or there was a requirement for a unit with taser or TPAC capability.