## **Crime and Community Tensions (1/2)**

Last reviewed on 17 June

NPCC Op Talla data covers the 4-week period to 7 June 2020 compared to the equivalent period in 2019.

- Overall crime is significantly lower than the same period last year. While it is difficult to draw firm conclusions from the data, there are early indications of trend normalisation in some areas of police demand and calls to service that have been suppressed during the pandemic restrictions. Overall crime has started to increase week on week and arrests are approaching similar volumes to those recorded in 2019.
- Acquisitive crime: NPCC data shows continued significantly lower levels of acquisitive crime than in the same period in 2019. We are confident that this represents a fall in prevalence. Suppression of this demand is expected to continue as long as restrictive measures are in place.
- **Domestic abuse**: The number of domestic incidents recorded have begun to increase with marked spikes coinciding with the bank holidays. Rolling four-week trends suggest that recorded DA incidents are now above the level recorded during the equivalent period in 2019.
- Homicide: HOAI analysis shows the number of homicides in the lockdown period appears to be around the same level as the
  pre-lock down period but the number of domestic homicides in 2020 is now slightly higher than the same period in 2019. Due to
  the relatively low numbers of such homicides, there is fluctuation and it remains too early to suggest this is the start of an
  increasing trend.
- ASB: Recorded anti-social behaviour is significantly higher compared to the same time last year but appears to be falling after an Easter weekend peak. It is judged that ASB increases are partly due to increasing reports of people contravening lock down measures.
- Assaults on emergency workers are 24% higher than in the same period last year. HOAI analysis suggests that this is driven
  by assaults without injury on officers. Anecdotal evidence suggests a driver of the increases in assaults without injury on
  officers is a rise in COVID-19 related common assaults (e.g. officers being spat on by those claiming to be infected with
  COVID-19). Officers may also be less tolerant of such behaviour and in turn are more willing to ensure such incidents are
  recorded.

## **Public Order:**

- NPoCC assess it is likely that there will be an increase in low level public order incidents in the coming weeks as the
  government eases current restrictions and encourage economic activity to resume.
- NPoCC assess it is likely that recent events in the United States regarding the death of George Floyd whilst in police custody
  will continue to manifest in public protests across the UK over the next few weeks, presenting challenges to social distancing
  guidelines.

