



# PRESS INFORMATION

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## Police Performance Improves

Half yearly performance figures show that Bedfordshire Police is continuing to improve performance with significant reductions in most crime areas.

Members of Bedfordshire's Police Authority's Performance Committee were pleased to see that overall crime has reduced by 8% (1990 less crimes) in the first six months of the year compared to the same period the previous year.

Key reductions:

- Robbery 34% (187 fewer crimes)
- Domestic burglary 12% (228 fewer crimes)
- Theft from a motor vehicle by 23% (624 fewer crimes),
- Theft of a motor vehicle 24% (176 fewer crimes)
- Fraud and forgery 33% (266 fewer crimes)
- Sexual offences 21% (62 fewer crimes)

There was a slight increase in violence against the person (236 more incidents) and drugs offences (20 more crimes).

Martin Pantling, Chair of the Authority's Performance Committee, said: "No-one is complacent, but these figures show that the Authority's investment in policing is continuing to pay dividends and thanks to a lot of hard work performance is being sustained in priority areas.

"There are now considerably fewer victims of crime, which is very good news. However, that is not all that policing is about and we were pleased to see that the force is continuing to perform well against the targets set down in the Policing Pledge. This means that people are now receiving the type of service that they have repeatedly told us they want.

"Naturally, we are keen to see violent crime reduced, which although a relatively small problem across Bedfordshire, can have devastating consequences for the victim. During our meeting we received a detailed report on the work being undertaken to combat knife crime and other violent crimes, which we hope will soon deliver the results we all seek.

"There are areas where work is still required, including the detection rate, but overall the picture is positive."

ENDS

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