

January 20, 2011

## Crime Down 10% across Leicestershire

Latest figures published in the quarterly update of the British Crime Survey (BCS), which were issued on Thursday 20 January, 2011, revealed that the number of crimes recorded nationally is down by -10% compared to the same quarter last year. This amounts to 8,500 fewer victims of crime and exceeds the national average decrease of -7% recorded crime.

The British Crime Survey (BCS) is considered to be the most accurate barometer of crime and public perceptions of crime. For the crime types it covers, the BCS provides a more reliable measure of trends in crime as it has a consistent methodology and is unaffected by changes in levels of reporting to the police, recording practice or police activity.

Current Leicestershire Constabulary figures show that, compared to figures from this time last year, there have been falls in police recorded offences against vehicles (-16.5%) and of criminal damage offences (-15.9%), and a significant reduction (-21.1%) in domestic burglary and distraction burglary (-48.8%).

Superintendent Ian Coulton: "With the local community partnerships developed through neighbourhood policing, we are able to respond to the problems the public outline to us – meaning we are able to tackle crime which has a huge impact on quality of life, such as criminal damage."

### In the quarter up to September 2010:

- Leicestershire police reduced Domestic Burglary by 12% (England & Wales - 7%)
- When considering the Force's approach to tackling anti-social behaviour, the British Crime Survey rated Leicestershire as joint highest with Dyfed Powys & Northumbria with 63% of people surveyed saying that they agreed (Strongly agreed or tended to agree) the police deal with local concerns. This was also the highest rating in the East Midlands Region.
- Leicestershire was placed in the better half of the country for communities feeling that drug use or drug dealing is a problem in their area, with only 22% of respondents saying that it was.
- With regard to recorded crime, Leicestershire's rate per 1,000 population is 78 crimes, which is the over the regional (75) and England & Wales (76)

rates. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the region behind Nottinghamshire, but it is not statistically significant.

- The perception of whether there was a high level of ASB is second lowest in the region at 13% and is in line with the regional average.