

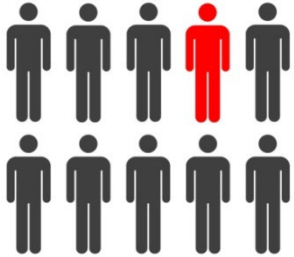


**T/Detective Chief Superintendent
Matthew Bradford**

Midlands Fraud Forum

Thursday, 30th June 2022

Fraud overview and threat



1 in 13 people

Have been a victim of fraud and cyber crime



£193 Billion

Estimated cost of fraud to the public every year. Cyber crime is nearly as big as all other crime, such as home burglary, car thefts and violence put together.

Portsmouth University (AFI 2016)



5m fraud incidents

Crime Survey for England and Wales 2021. Office for National Statistics (ONS).

RUSI report 2021

The Silent Threat – The Impact of Fraud on UK National Security

Fraud overview and threat

KEY THREATS

The highest harm threats for 2022/23 are Courier, Romance, Payment Diversion, Investment, and frauds linked to Card and Online BankAccounts

56% of reported fraud is cyber Enabled

The use of money mules is pervasive across a wide range of frauds

Social media and encrypted messaging continues to be used across all frauds –there were over **138,000** Action Fraud reports that featured a social media or communication platform.

HIGH RISK VICTIM INDICATORS

Volume:
20 - 29 years
Loss:
50 - 59 years

90% Individuals

Gender (Where Self-Defined)
Female – 51%
Male – 49%

Payment Diversion Fraud

REPORTING VOLUMES & LOSSES

VOLUME 4,060 reports received **-9%**

LOSS £136.6m reported losses **-4%**

VICTIM RISK CHARACTERISTICS

Small organisations in large cities

Financial clerks Conveyancing

Financial Sector

SUSPECTS

Cyber Hacking & E-mail
Spoofing

Increased use of **communication platforms**, such as **WhatsApp** and **Telegram** to facilitate the crime

Romance fraud

REPORTING VOLUMES & LOSSES

VOLUME 8,588 reports received **+12%**

LOSS £96.4 reported losses **+18%**

VICTIM RISK CHARACTERISTICS

30-60 years old

Gender (Self-Identified)
Female: 55%
Male: 45%

Vulnerable due to circumstance: loneliness

SUSPECTS

Nigerian & Ghanaian OCGs, based in West Africa but many with an element in the UK remain the key threat. They utilise complex money mule networks.

Social networking and dating sites are key enablers to this fraud

National Lead Force Objectives x7

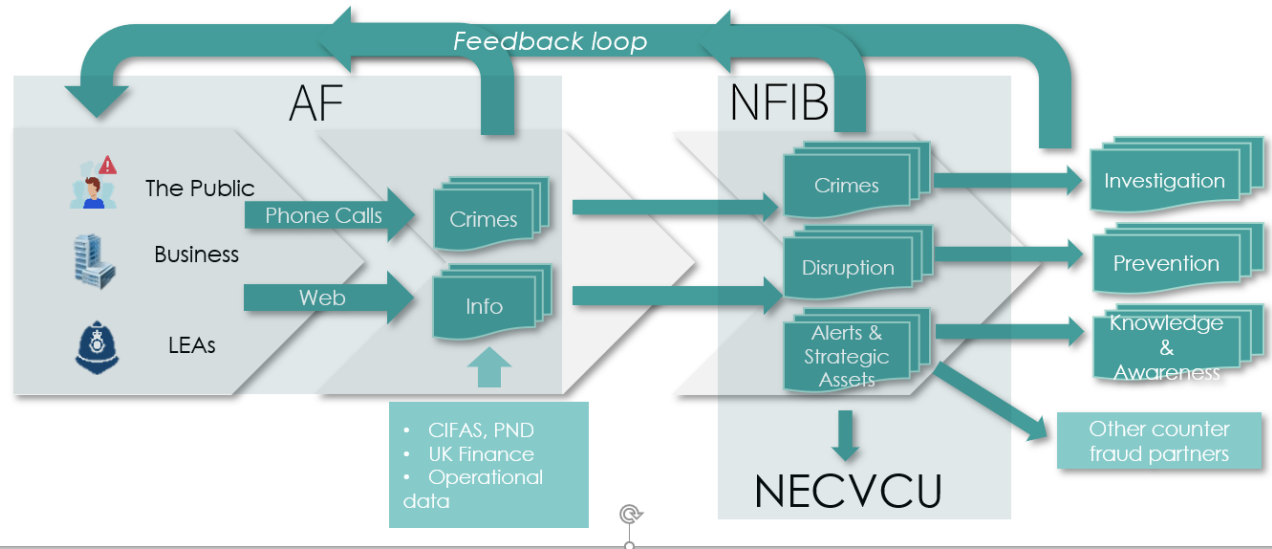
1. **co-ordinating national fraud reporting** through Action Fraud
2. national **triaging and allocation** of fraud cases and intelligence
3. **leadership and coordination of victim care**
4. **investigation** of nationally significant, serious and complex fraud
5. **Workforce development** across policing
6. setting the **national fraud policing strategy** and **leading and coordinating** the police response to fraud
7. Management of **national fraud policing performance**

Our response

National Lead Force Objectives

1. co-ordinating national fraud reporting through Action Fraud
2. national triaging and allocation of fraud cases and intelligence
3. leadership and coordination of victim care

Action Fraud / National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) / National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit (NECVCU)



National Fraud and Cyber crime Reporting centre
Action Fraud is run by the City of London Police
Take reports on behalf of the police

875k+ reports per year

1,720+ calls per day

72,000+ reports a month

470+ web chats per day

Our response

City and National Lead Force



National Lead Force Objectives

OP Neutron

Police seize £170,000 worth of counterfeit CDs in raids

Key Operational Principles

Serial fraudster who lied about having terminal cancer and exploited job at bank jailed for £2 million plot

4. investigation of nationally significant, serious and complex fraud

5. Workforce development across policing

OBJECTIVES



IMPROVING core policing capability in England and Wales

Outcome

- Gaps Identified and filled in current training provision
- Cyber Training has been incorporated into ECA portfolio
- CPD programme delivered to national police
- Increased 3rd party funding to pay for police EC training



SUPPORTING HMG objectives to build capability in key jurisdictions

Outcome

- ECA continues to support HMG capability building
- ECA Identifies new opportunities to deliver international training



PROVIDING additional training to non-policing organisations

Outcome

- ECA offers a range of training suitable for wider public sector

Our response

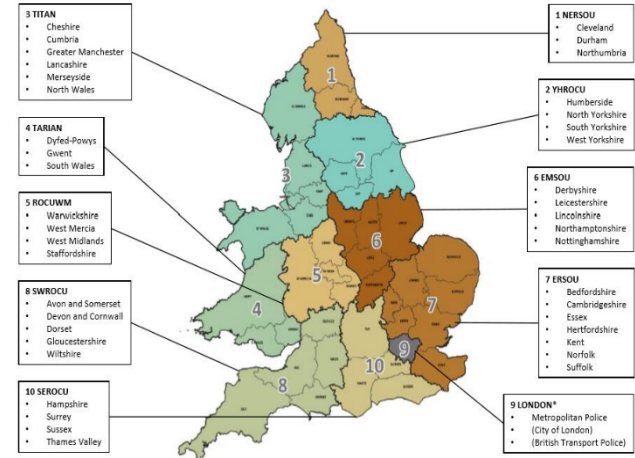
National Lead Force Objectives

6. setting the national fraud policing strategy and leading and coordinating the police response to fraud

7. Management of national fraud policing performance

Force Capability Rank	FOR INFO Force Caseload Rank	FOR INFO Judicial Outcome Rank 20/21	FOR INFO Difference between Judicial Outcomes NFB and Call for service rank 20/21	FOR INFO Difference in CS and NFB IO Trend 2019-21	NFA % Rank 20/21	FOR INFO NFA Trend outcomerank 20/21	FOR INFO % outstanding outcomerank 20/21	FOR INFO % outstanding outcomerank 20/21	Contribution to ORSC grid	Engagement with NFB	Suggested Tier	Agreed tier
1	9	19	11 →	39 ↑	8 ↓	27 ↑	3	1	2	1	2	
2	27	29	36 ↓	20 →	19 ↓	20 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
3	19	23	19 ↓	18 ↓	32 ↓	41 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
4	14	17	37 ↓	29 ↑	4	40 ↑	1	1	2	1	2	
5	40	35	34 ↓	19 ↓	5 ↓	21 ↑	1	1	2	1	2	
6	7	29	38 ↓	33 ↓	25 ↑	1 ↓	1	1	2	1	2	
7	34	19	3 ↓	21 ↓	41 ↓	4 ↑	3	2	1	2	1	
8	40	36	15 ↓	31 →	14 ↓	26 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
9	38	13	4 ↑	40 →	15 ↓	13 ↓	2	1	2	1	2	
10	32	21	6 ↓	34 ↓	30 ↓	34 ↑	3	1	2	1	2	
11	24	31	33 ↓	22 ↑	3 ↓	42 ↑	3	2	1	2	1	
12	25	23	43 ↓	1 →	2 ↓	25 ↓	2	3	1	2	1	
13	11	3	20 ↓	6 ↑	21 ↓	39 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
14	35	19	41 ↓	13 ↓	11 ↓	35 ↑	3	1	2	1	2	
15	3	39	29 ↓	23 ↓	25 ↓	19 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
16	21	15	7 ↓	28 ↓	10 ↓	25 ↓	3	1	2	1	2	
17	28	6	16 ↓	25 ↑	13 ↓	30 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
18	21	13	31 ↓	16 ↓	13 ↓	36 ↑	2	1	2	1	2	
19	40	36	10 ↓	14 ↓	20 ↓	9 ↑	3	1	2	1	2	
20	6	1	24 ↓	28 ↑	22 ↑	21 ↑	1	2	1	2	1	
21	16	33	39 ↓	41 ↑	12 ↓	28 ↑	3	2	1	2	1	
22	11	3	21 ↓	35 ↑	14 ↓	19 ↑	1	1	2	1	2	
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24	1	10	1 ↑	43 ↑	7 ↓	11 →	2	1	2	1	2	
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28	10	32	42 →	27 ↓	1 →	43 ↑	3	1	2	1	2	
29	6	9	77 ↓	5 ↓	17 ↓	12 ↑	1	1	2	1	2	
30	19	35	9 ↑	37 ↑	27 ↑	17 ↓	2	1	2	1	2	

The Regional Organised Crime Units and Constituent Forces



June 2022 Interim report; good practice

- Strategic Governance, Structure and Performance
- Intelligence, triage and investigation
- Safeguarding and protect

Changing and improving landscape

STATE OF POLICING

PART 2: OUR INSPECT

There needs to be greater awareness of the scale and effects of digital crime at national and local levels

Figure 7: How well do forces manage digital crime?

How do forces deal with referrals from the National **fraud** Intelligence Bureau?



Do the police understand the impact of digital crime?



The investigation and prevention of **fraud**, by police forces, remain under-resourced and are not given enough priority.

In our follow-up report in August 2021, we found that not enough had changed. Too many victims still receive a poor service and are denied justice. The investigation and prevention of **fraud**, by police forces, remain under-resourced and are not given enough priority. These thieves almost always get away with it.⁵⁰

If the extraordinary proliferation of **fraud**, largely enabled by the internet, is to be brought into check in any meaningful way, those who commit **fraud** must realise that policymakers have decided that this corrosive and extraordinarily expensive offending will now be tackled with resources commensurate with its seriousness and prevalence. **Fraud** costs the UK many billions of pounds every year.⁵¹

For too long, police forces have placed an unjustifiable reliance on Action **Fraud**, the national **fraud** reporting centre, to solve the problem. But Action **Fraud** exists mainly to record **fraud** allegations, not investigate them. Many police forces aren't taking their responsibilities to prevent and investigate **fraud** anywhere near seriously enough.

And so the suffering of many people goes on, and will continue and rise as the perpetrators continue to believe that politicians care so little.

Spot the difference.....



Changing and improving landscape

- HMICFRS Thematic inspections (2019 and 2021)
- 10-year fraud strategy
- Economic Crime Plan 2.0
- Fraud Action Plan
- Online Safety Bill
- “whole system approach” via NECC coordination
- HMG investment from Police Uplift and Spending Review
- Tactical delivery improvement – LFOR and PECTs