## Warwickshire Police

### Operational Communications Centre Review





#### **KEY BENEFITS**

- Staffing requirements for a range of operating models identified
- Supported Warwickshire Police in designing a new operating model
- Calculated hourly staffing requirements and shift pattern options for different call handler roles, including a new triage desk

◆ Process Evolution helped us to design a new operating model in our contact management centre across our 999, 101 and digital desk workload. They were knowledgeable and professional, and clearly explained the impacts of decisions and assumptions that we made along the way.

Mike Smith, Chief Superintendent, Public Contact

## Designing a new operating model in Warwickshire's OCC

#### **KEY FACTS**

Population served: 593,773 999 calls received per annum: 104,000 101 calls received per annum: 148,000 Annual budget: £125,997,000

#### THE CHALLENGE

Warwickshire Police is one of the smaller Forces in England and Wales. However, it borders onto six others (including one Metropolitan area) and has a significant road infrastructure, all of which contribute to its demand profile.

The Operational Communication Centre (OCC) was struggling to meet the 999 call answering target, and the mean answer time for 101 calls had been declining over time. Similarly, the true demand on the digital desk was unknown.

Warwickshire Police wanted support to design an efficient operating model to meet

key performance indicators (KPIs) across the different demand streams. This included identifying the staffing requirements on a new 101 triage desk, and the subsequent impact on call handler requirements.

#### **APPROACH**

Process Evolution carried out detailed analysis of telephony, digital desk and resource data to understand the balance between demand, resourcing, processes and performance. As a result of the baseline work, a series of modelling scenarios for different operating models were created.

The analysis and outcomes from practitioner workshops enabled our Call Profiler software tool to be used to create a virtual replica of the OCC. With this, iterations of the identified modelling scenarios were carried out to identify the optimum operating model and staffing requirements to meet desired call answer performance targets.

#### **FINDINGS**

A new operating model was designed in collaboration with Warwickshire Police which introduced a new 101 triage desk, a pool of 999 and 101 call handlers, and a Digital Desk that could be 'interrupted' to handle 999 calls when required.

This new model required a similar number of staff to the current model while offering improved 999 call handling performance and increased resilience during times of peak demand.

Shift pattern options that maintained the current core rota structures were identified that supported the new operating model and allowed call answer performance targets to be met.

#### IN SUMMARY:

• The new operating model would improve performance

- To implement the new model, a small uplift of 1.9 FTE would be required
- The proposed shift pattern allowed for a 'smoothed' consistent hourly resourcing pool
- Any reduction in staffing numbers would increase the call abandonment rate
- All of these aspects allow the OCC to improve performance in meeting demand with current resource levels

#### OUTCOME

Immediately following completion of the review, Warwickshire Police used the results to successfully 'bed in' a new 101 triage desk.

As part of a Phase II of their OCC change programme, Warwickshire Police are using Process Evolution's findings to support the design and implementation of the new operating model.





## **About Process Evolution**

# **ENABLING EVIDENCE-BASED DECISIONS**



Process Evolution helps emergency services around the world to optimise resource use and respond in the most effective and efficient way. We have set the benchmark for emergency service planning, with a proven approach combining rigorous scientific analysis with experienced, insightful consultancy. Our expert team uses sophisticated modelling techniques to identify opportunities for improvement and uncover hidden capacity. Simulating future scenarios ensures that solutions are objective, evidence-based and quantified.

Process Evolution's approach is always tailored to the needs of the client. Above all, we are committed to getting it right, for the good of our clients and the people who rely on their services.

WE HELP FORCES ACROSS MANY OPERATIONAL POLICING AREAS INCLUDING:

- Contact Management
- Local Policing
- Investigations
- Specialist Operations

#### BENEFITS OF OUR WORK INCLUDE:

- Informed sizing of teams based on an understanding of true demand
- Better timelines of service for calls, incidents and investigations
- Improved positive outcome rates for crimes
- Improved officer safety, health and wellbeing
- Efficient service design within budget constraints

