

SOUTH WALES POLICE · SOUTH WALES POLICE



“Can and Should  
the Police Solve  
More Crime?”



Chief  
Superintendent  
Sally Burke

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# Key Questions?

- How many and what types of crime do the police solve?
- Why can't the police solve more crime?
- What impact has forensic developments had on solving crime?

# Policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?

- Government Green Paper – Neighbourhood to National
- Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime
- Sir Ronnie Flanagan Review of Policing
- The Perception Gap
- Globalisation and technology
- Financial and Performance Pressures

# Can and Should?

- Prioritisation and decision making
- Threat, Harm and Risk
- Maximise productivity and performance
- Strategic to tactical
- Business, legal, ethical choices

CAPABILITY versus CAPACITY

# Solving Crime

- SWP Context
- Crime type affect solvability? Why?
- Investigative process
- Decision making process-risk, harm, threat
- Skills and training

# The Investigative Process

- Call handling/Case screening
- Initial Actions
  - victim/witnesses
  - CCTV
  - H2H
- Proactive or reactive tactics
- Suspect Management/CPS and Statutory charging

# The Investigative Process

- Scene Preservation and Forensic
  - resource intensive – money and people
  - Murder - £40-£60k
  - Wounding - £10k
  - Scientist Call out - £86k
  - 16% exhibits refused
- Decision making dilemmas
  - Risk – to fast track – rape/creeper burglary
  - Cost versus solvability – stolen pedal cycle
- Evidence gatherers not investigators?
- Over reliance on forensic at expense of other investigative opportunities?
- Does this adversely impact upon decision making?

# Forensic Contributions

- Burglary Dwelling – 19% of total detections
- Theft of motor vehicle – 8.3%
- Theft from motor vehicle – 7.2%
- Violence – 3%
- Sexual offences – 6.3%

# Critical Investigative Success Factors

- Community and the Public
- Initial action – the golden hour
- Investigative skills and training
- Effective consideration – risk, harm and threat
- Effective decision making and prioritisation

# Should we solve more crime?

- Increased Capability and Capacity
- National agenda
- Organisational culture – performance and efficiency – a business approach
- Collective responsibility – crime and causes – prevention and partnership
- Prioritisation criteria/Decision making model- front line skills

**Organisational Culture**

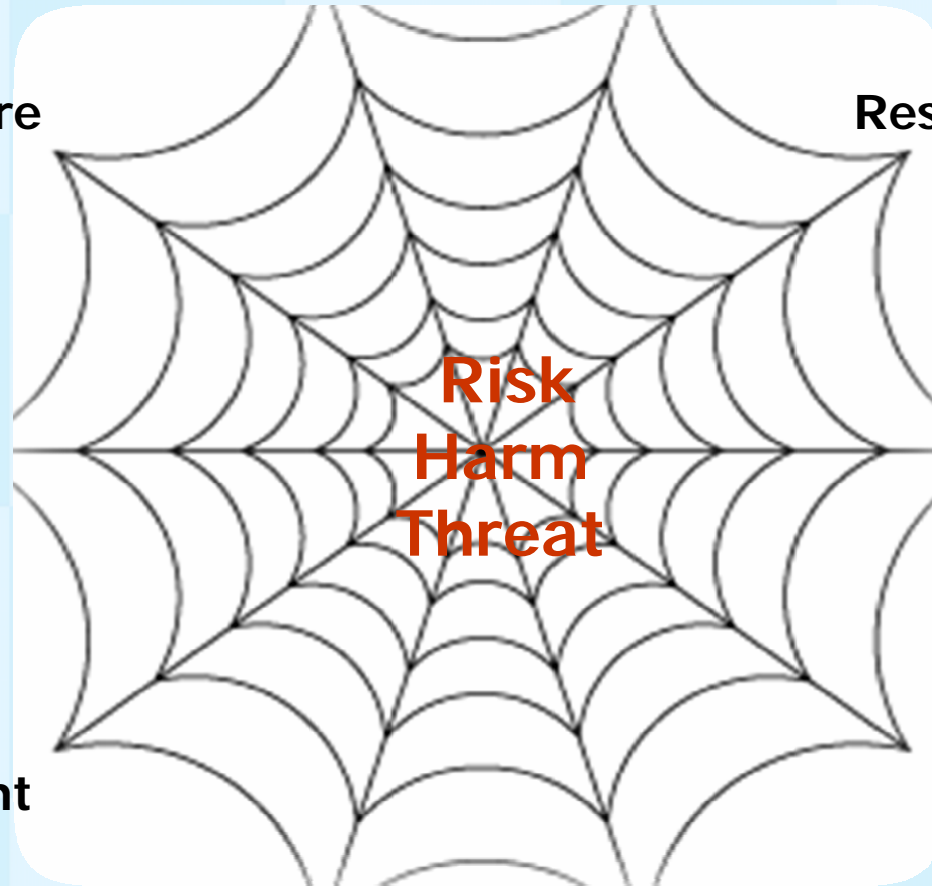
**Resources**

**Vulnerability/Impact**

**Ethics**

**Government  
Direction**

**Legal Requirement**

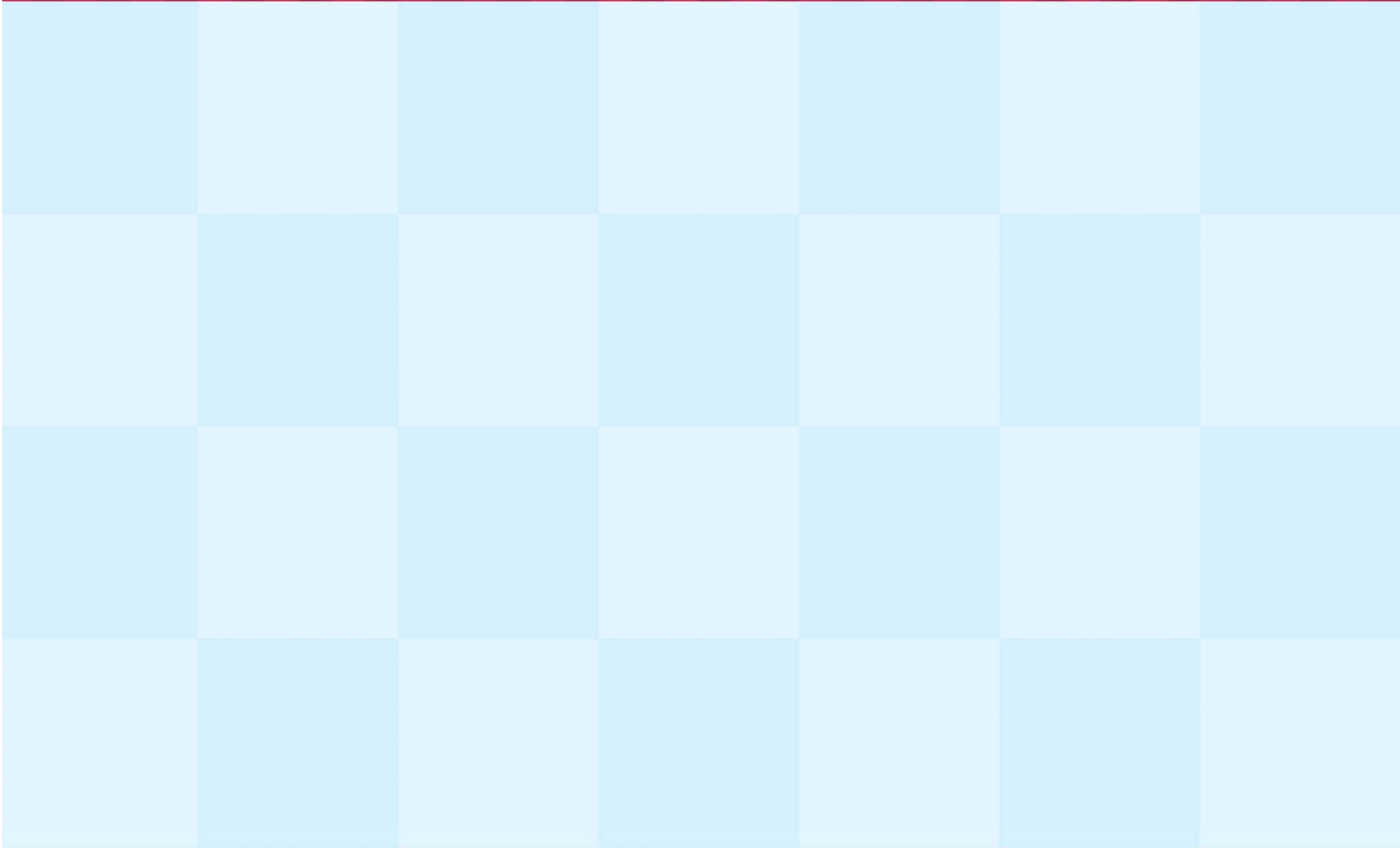


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**Questions?**

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