

Crime & Disorder near the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre's Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) Facility

2019 Statistical Overview: First Quarter

Embargoed for public release until Wednesday, May 29, 2019



5/27/2019
Calgary Police Service

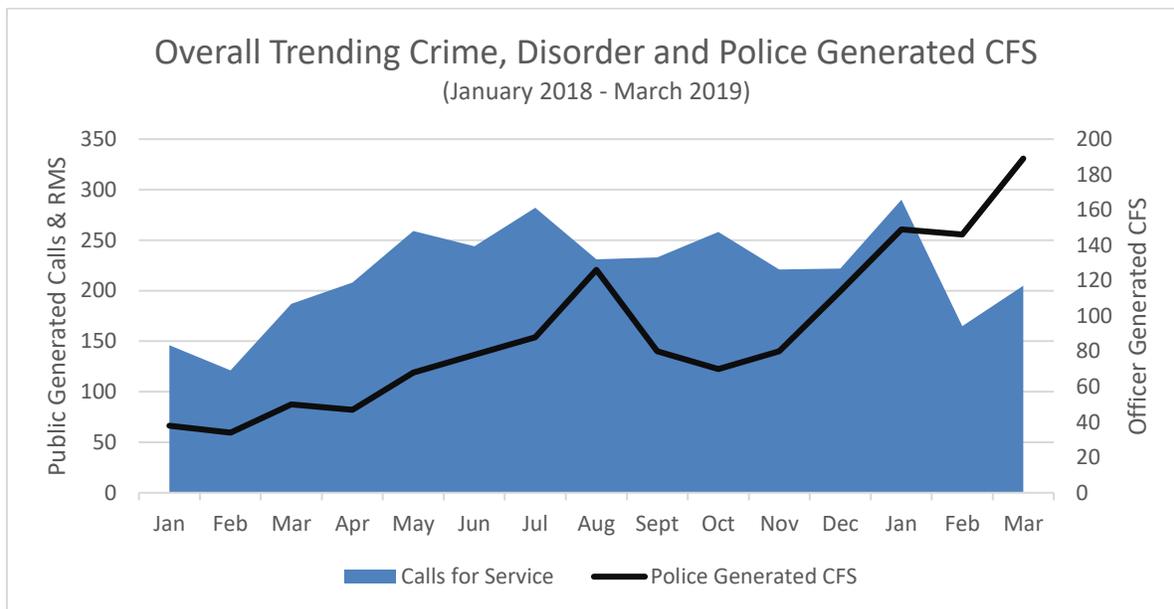
Crime & Disorder near the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre’s Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) Facility

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Calgary Police Service supports the medically endorsed, evidence-based spectrum of treatment and services designed to serve the needs of those with addiction-related issues, and the communities of which they are a part. The Service recognizes that supervised consumption sites are one piece of a broader set of programs, policies, and practices that fall under the umbrella of harm reduction.

On January 29, 2019, the Calgary Police Service released the report “*Crime & Disorder near the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre’s Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) Facility: 2018 Statistical Overview*” which showed an increase in crime and disorder within the area over the three-year average. Since that report, the CPS has made concerted efforts to address crime and disorder issues while continuing to be actively engaged with community and agency partners.

The purpose of this report is to provide a statistical overview of reported crime¹ and disorder² for the 1st quarter (Q1) of 2019 in the 250m study area around the SCS. The statistics reported here are not directly comparable to the previous yearly report, as such, please see the Appendix for a quarterly and yearly comparisons. The analysis in this report includes a comparison of the study area to the Centre City³ and the rest of the city, and a timeline from January 2018 to March 2019. The findings show that increased police presence in 2019 corresponds to decreased crime and disorder issues.



¹ Crime includes: Non-Domestic Violence, Break and Enters, Stolen Autos & Theft from Vehicles

² Disorder includes: Drunk, Disturbance, Indecent Act, Juvenile Complaint, Landlord/Tenant, Mental Health Concern, Neighbour Dispute, Party Complaint, Prowler, Suspicious Person, Threats, Drugs, Noise Complaint, Possible Gunshots, Unwanted Guest/Patrol, Prostitution, Speeder, Suspicious Auto, Fire, Property Damage, & Abandoned Auto

³ Centre City: Communities of Beltline, Chinatown, Downtown Commercial Core, Downtown East Village, Downtown West End, & Eau Claire.

The findings also show that percent changes in the study area differ from the Centre City and the rest of Calgary. It is important to note that the volume of occurrences is low in the study area and that any change generates large percentage impacts. The Q1 statistics for the 250m study area show the following:

- Increase of 231 calls (50%) in publicly generated calls for service when compared to the 3-year Q1 average with a decline in February and March 2019;
- Increase of 71 calls in calls for service to the Sheldon Chumir M. Health Centre when compared to the 3-year Q1 average;
- Increase of 75 incidents (35%) in disorder calls for service when compared to the 3-year Q1 average with a decline in February and March 2019;
- Increase of 11 incidents (246%) in drug-related calls for service when compared to the 3-year Q1 average with a decline in February and March 2019;
- Increase of 2 incidents (40%) in violence incidents when compared to the 3-year Q1 average. A review of the incidents shows that almost all incidents are isolated and unrelated, and the severity of violence is low;
- Increase of 9 incidents (82%) in break and enter incidents when compared to the 3-year Q1 average with a decline in February and March 2019. A review of the incidents shows no discernable crime pattern and these offences are typically associated with acquisitive crime⁴;
- Decrease of 3 incidents (33%) in vehicle crime incidents when compared to the 3-year Q1 average;
- Increase of 400 calls (340%) in police-generated calls for service; and,
- In February 2019, officers logged 981 pro-active policing hours in the area, and in March 2019, officers reported 1037 pro-active policing hours.

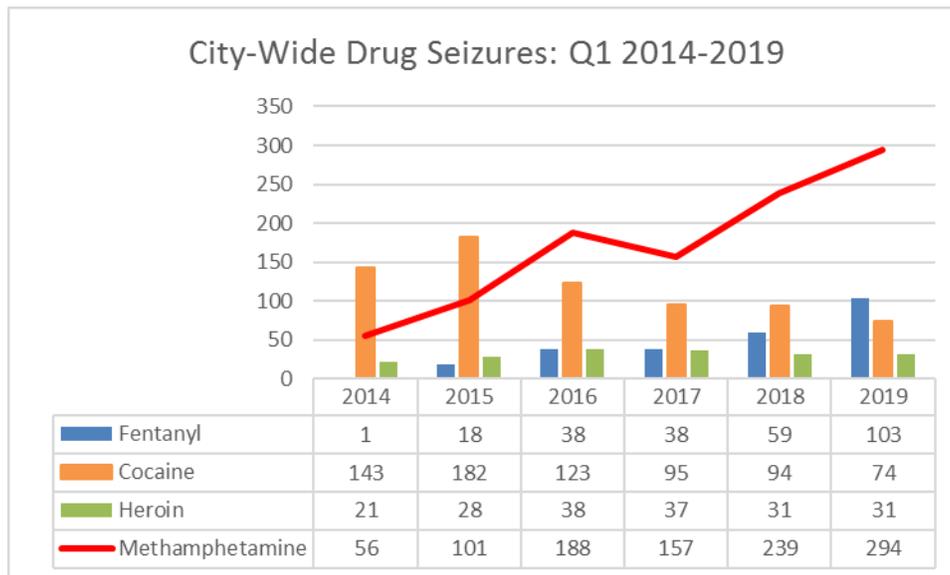
As the substantive increase in pro-active police presence in the study area did not occur prior to the start of this reporting period. It is anticipated future reporting will provide additional insight into the full impact on crime and disorder, while community engagement and feedback has been very positive, there are significant challenges for police to maintain this increased level of presence with current resources. The CPS continues to work with AHS, city business units and community on long-term problem solving to address crime and safety issues.

⁴ Acquisitive crime refers to an offence where the offender derives material gain from the crime, such as property.

Crime & Disorder near the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre’s Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) Facility

BACKGROUND

The Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) facility is located within the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre. The SCS began operations on October 30, 2017, and since April 30, 2018, has offered services 24 hours, 7 days a week. From October 30, 2017 to March 31, 2019, the SCS had 71,096 client visits⁵. The most common drug reported for use during visits to the SCS continues to remain crystal methamphetamine (meth) followed by fentanyl.



Consistent with usage in the SCS, meth continues to be the most common drug seized by police in Calgary.

METHODOLOGY⁶

This report focuses on a 250m study area around the SCS and includes CPS data from the dispatch (calls for service) and record management (crime reports) systems. RMS occurrences includes data from January 1st to March 31st, 2019.

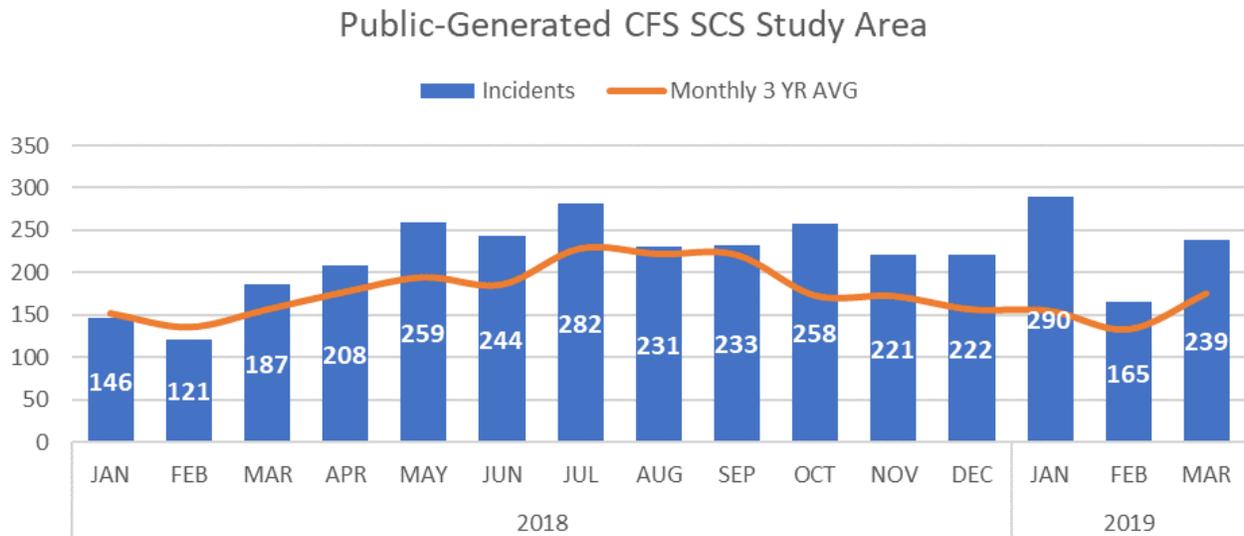
⁵ Safeworks Monthly Report – March 2019: Supervised Consumption Services, Alberta Health Services

⁶ Only calls for service and Sentry reports with valid xy coordinates were included in this analysis. Web calls are excluded from Disorder and CFS analysis. The 250 metre buffer area was calculated from the xy coordinates of the Sheldon Chumir Health Centre. Location of Interest (LOI) searched for address & common place name permutations of 1213 4 ST & Sheldon Chumir. A total of 53 violent occurrences from 2016 to 2018 were manually re-assigned due to address location inaccuracies and added into aggregate total volumes but not counted within any geographical area.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

There were 694 publicly generated calls for service (CFS) in the study area in Q1, 231 calls (+50%) above the three-year average. The highest volume call types in 2019 included unwanted guests, check on welfare, and suspicious persons. In contrast, both the Centre City and the rest of the city recorded approximately a 2% drop from their respective averages.

Calls for Service	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	694	463	231	50%
Centre City	10228	10449	-221	-2%
Rest of City	81683	83330	-1647	-2%



CALLS FOR SERVICE at the SHELDON M. CHUMIR HEALTH CENTRE⁷

In the first three months of 2019, there were 154 public-generated calls for service (CFS) to the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre, 71 calls above the three-year average (from 83 to 153). Check on welfare, unwanted guests, assaults, suspicious persons, and disturbances were the highest volume call types accounting for almost half of all public-generated calls.

Approximately two thirds of the public-generated calls in Q1 were generated by Alberta Health Services staff or security.

⁷ Location of Interest (LOI) searched for address & common place name permutations of 1213 4 ST & Sheldon Chumir

LOI Search - Sheldon Chumir - Public Generated Calls for Service



DISORDER

Disorder events in the study area increased 35% when compared to the three-year average for the first three months of the year. Drugs, mental health, suspicious persons, and unwanted guest calls registered the largest increases from average during the first quarter and account for almost 80% of total disorder in the study area. The highest volume of disorder activity occurred in January.

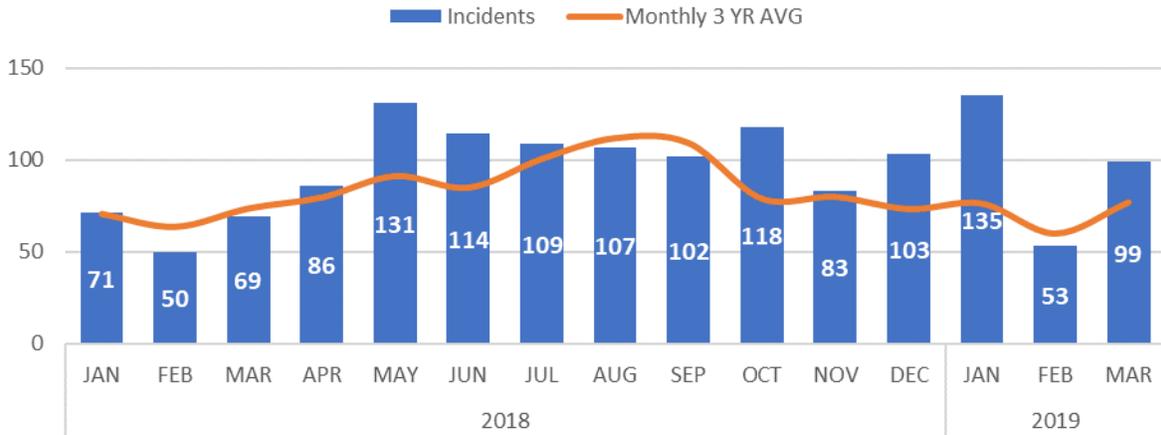
In contrast, the rest of the Centre City's disorder volume declined 4% and 2% in the rest of the city when compared to the three-year average.

Disorder CFS	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	287	212	75	35%
Centre City	3390	3528	-138	-4%
Rest of City	17147	17399	-252	-2%

Since the deployment of additional policing resources, disorder-related CFS has declined compared to the previous months.

Efforts on needle pick-up continues in the Beltline area and supported by City and community partners.

Disorder SCS Study Area



DRUGS⁸

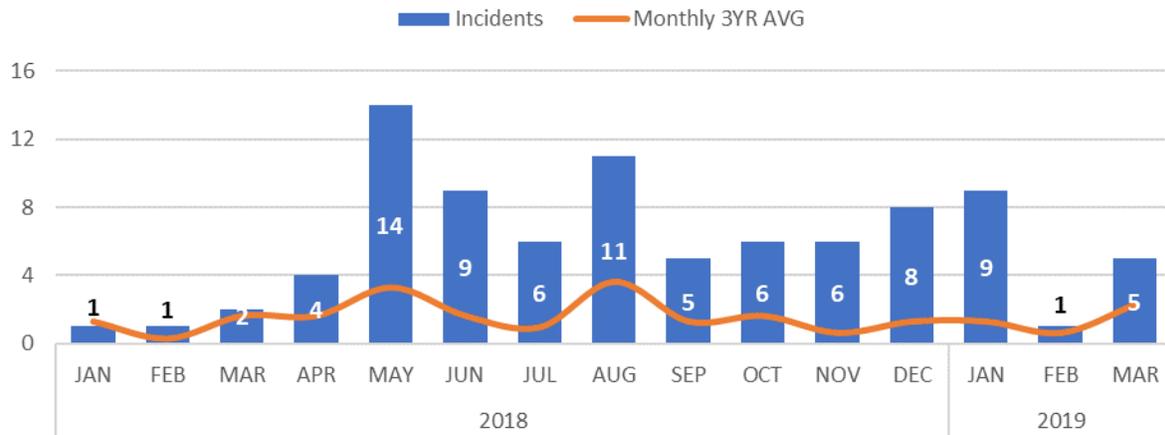
In the first three months of 2019, there were 15 public generated drug calls for service, almost ten calls above average; two-thirds of these calls occurred within January. These calls consisted primarily of drug use/possession complaints.

The Centre City and the remainder of the city recorded 19 to 16% reductions in public-generated drug calls in the first quarter of 2019.

Drugs	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	15	4	11	246%
Centre City	85	104	-19	-19%
Rest of City	430	510	-80	-16%

⁸ Drugs includes: Use, Possession, Trafficking, and Found Drugs (excluding mandatory Health Canada reporting to police of drugs found within the SCS facility).

Drug CFS SCS Study Area

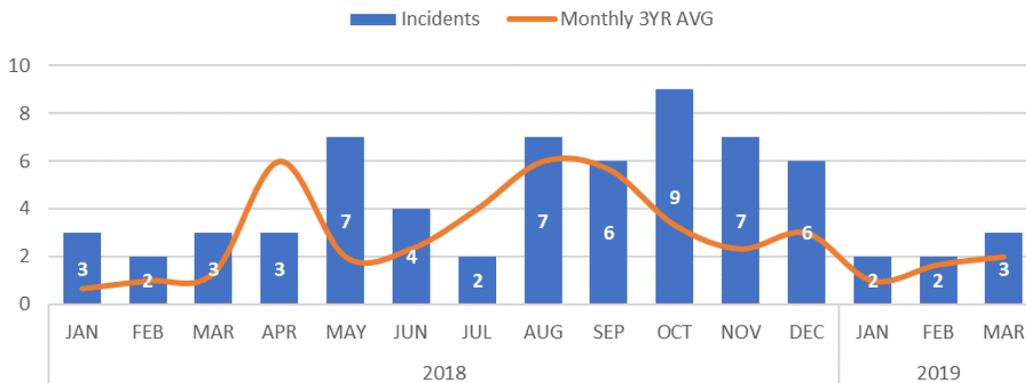


VIOLENCE⁹

There were seven violent occurrences in Q1 which is roughly two occurrences above average; however, it is noted with volumes this low that singular incidents generate larger impacts. A review shows that all but one, are isolated incidents that are unrelated to one another, or the SCS. The severity of the Q1 incidents is low. The Centre City saw an increase of violent activity while the remainder of the city saw only a slight increase.

Violence	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	7	5	2	40%
Centre City	240	191	49	26%
Rest of City	1155	1027	128	12%

Violence SCS Study Area



⁹ Violence does not include domestic violence. Monthly 3YR AVG in bar graph calculated from previous three years of monthly data. Note-smaller values may produce large percentage changes therefore it's important to consider absolute change as well.

BREAK & ENTERS¹⁰

Break and Enters within the study area registered an increase of nine occurrences compared to the three-year average. The rest of the Centre City also recorded above average break and enter activity. In contrast, the remainder of the city recorded only a slight increase. A review of the occurrences within the study area show that most of these crimes are entries into secure parkades and thefts from storage lockers and vehicles. There is no discernable crime pattern to these occurrences crime pattern and these offences are typically associated with acquisitive crime.

Break and Enter	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	20	11	9	82%
Centre City	288	160	128	80%
Rest of City	1970	1763	207	12%

Break & Enter Crime SCS Study Area



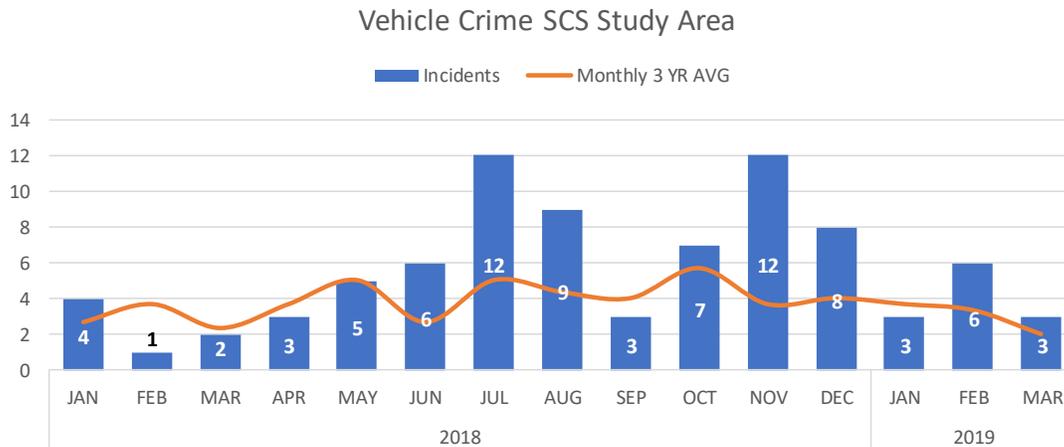
VEHICLE CRIME¹¹

There were six vehicle crime occurrences in the study area during Q1 registering an almost 25% decrease compared to the average. The Centre City had 89 additional occurrences which was 46% higher than average and the rest of the city had fewer incidents than average showing an 23% decrease compared to average.

¹⁰ Break & Enters include: Residential, Commercial, Detached Garages, and Secured Parkades. Note-smaller values may produce large percentage changes therefore it's important to consider absolute change as well.

¹¹ Vehicle Crime includes: Theft from Vehicles (carprowlings) and Theft of Vehicles. Note-smaller values may produce large percentage changes therefore it's important to consider absolute change as well.

Vehicle Crime	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	12	9	3	33%
Centre City	356	234	122	52%
Rest of City	3498	3799	-301	-8%



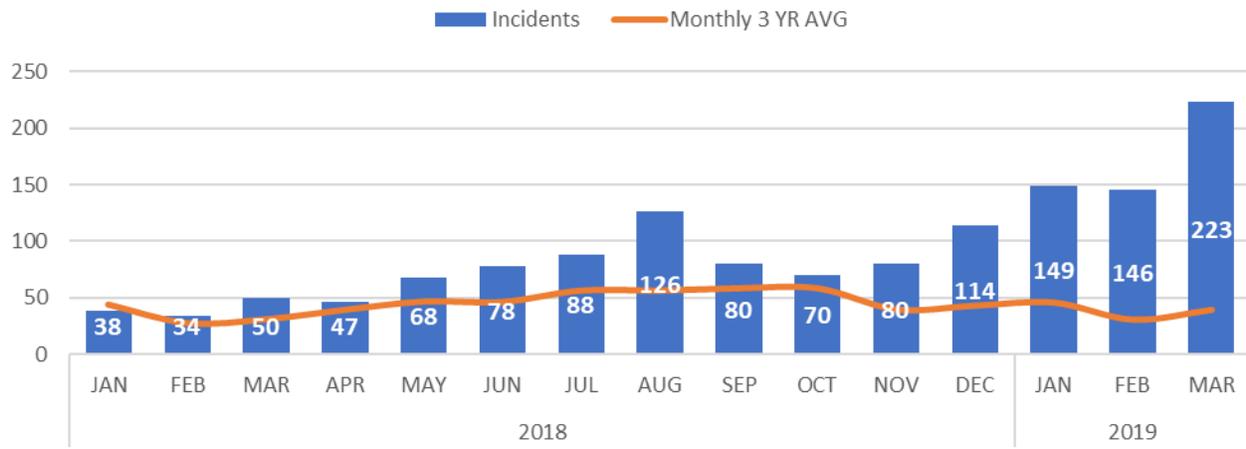
POLICE-GENERATED CALLS FOR SERVICE

The previous statistical overview did not report on police-generated CFS; they are included here as an indicator of the police efforts to engage the community and address the crime and disorder concerns.

Since Q3 of 2018, there have been concerted efforts to create a significant pro-active police presence in all Centre City communities, with special attention given to the SCS area. Pro-active police work includes increased beat officer patrols, increased mountain bike officer patrols, scheduled Mobile Command Vehicle presence and patrols, and increased focused drug trafficking enforcement. In February 2019, officers reported 981 pro-active policing hours in the area, and in March 2019, officers reported 1,037 pro-active policing hours. While community engagement and feedback has been very positive, there are significant challenges for police to maintain this increased level of presence with current resources.

Police Generated Calls for Service	Q1 2019	Q1 AVG (3YR)	DIFF AVG	%DIFF AVG
250m Study Area	518	118	400	340%
Centre City	4493	3312	1181	36%
Rest of City	31525	33557	-2032	-6%

Police-Generated CFS SCS Study Area



Appendix

	2016 by Quarter				Total	2017 by Quarter				Total	2018 by Quarter				Total	2019	Q1 Comparison (2016:2018)		
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4			1	Q1 AVG	# DIFF AVG
Public-generated CFS																			
Study Area	433	529	675	469	2106	501	654	693	496	2344	454	711	746	701	2612	694	463	231	50.0%
Centre City	11040	10905	11136	9855	42936	9780	10909	11541	10962	43192	10527	11513	11572	10311	43923	10228	10449	-221	-2.1%
Rest Of City	83062	89814	90518	83343	346737	80525	90621	93849	88249	353244	86404	93249	94188	85170	359011	81683	83330	-1647	-2.0%
Disorder																			
Study Area	204	226	328	230	988	243	303	301	220	1067	190	331	318	304	1143	287	212	75	35.2%
Centre City	3771	3553	3705	3390	14419	3264	3642	3718	3844	14468	3548	3879	3834	3450	14711	3390	3528	-138	-3.9%
Rest Of City	18287	21718	23055	18319	81379	17031	22304	23362	18682	81379	16880	21852	23218	18527	80477	17147	17399	-252	-1.5%
Drug CFS																			
Study Area	4	8	6	4	22	5	9	9	5	28	4	27	22	20	73	15	4	11	246.2%
Centre City	114	111	126	93	444	67	135	175	133	510	132	189	176	108	605	85	104	-19	18.5%
Rest Of City	556	705	717	470	2448	483	662	674	477	2296	492	662	601	424	2179	430	510	-80	15.7%
Violence																			
Study Area	3	7	18	8	36	4	16	16	13	49	7	13	15	22	57	7	5	2.3	50.0%
Centre City	205	215	193	147	760	170	225	258	232	885	199	291	318	259	1067	240	191	49	25.4%
Rest Of City	957	964	969	972	3862	1035	1053	1145	1113	4346	1089	1335	1210	1267	4901	1155	1027	128	12.5%
Break & Enter																			
Study Area	8	7	6	4	25	10	24	18	12	64	15	12	19	16	62	20	11	9	81.8%
Centre City	118	97	117	103	435	170	167	182	233	752	191	195	213	198	797	288	160	128	80.4%
Rest Of City	1889	2019	2050	1870	7828	1554	2049	1968	2357	7928	1846	2193	2614	2135	8788	1970	1763	207	11.7%
Vehicle Crime																			
Study Area	14	14	18	13	59	6	8	11	12	37	7	14	24	27	72	12	9	3	33.3%
Centre City	293	301	350	284	1228	231	258	241	266	996	179	267	348	290	1084	356	234	122	51.9%
Rest Of City	3947	4087	4481	4494	17009	3728	4547	4700	4540	17515	3721	3907	5015	4186	16829	3498	3799	-301	-7.9%
Police-generated CFS																			
Study Area	130	153	158	137	578	101	135	217	132	585	122	193	294	264	873	518	118.0	400	340.2%
Centre City	3268	3248	3483	2886	12885	2917	3330	3291	3427	12965	3751	4040	4819	3740	16350	4493	3312.0	1181	35.7%
Rest Of City	32478	31725	31319	30022	125544	32557	32457	31412	32732	129158	35636	35963	32963	32047	136609	31525	33557.0	-2032	-6.1%