



Mid-Year Update to Waterloo Regional Council

June 19, 2024

People Helping People



2024-2027 Strategic Business Plan

Building a Stronger and Safer Community



People

People are at the centre of everything that we do. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of the community and our members.

Partnerships

Through ongoing community and member engagement, we foster collaborative partnerships to achieve exceptional service delivery.

Professional Excellence

Our professional excellence is driven by trust, accountability, and innovation. We are caring, compassionate, and committed.

Our Goals



Our Commitment to Safety

We will address crime and enhance citizen safety through effective policing.



Our Connections

We will work in partnership to engage with the community and share personal insights and experiences in order to strengthen trust and confidence in the police.



Our Members

We will centre wellness, development, empowerment, and respect in all that we do to ensure that our members thrive.



Our Resources

We will optimize our resources to enhance public safety with a long-term, forward-looking lens.

New Legislative Requirements

- ***Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA)***
Section 50 (1): “A municipality...shall provide the board with sufficient funding to...comply with this Act and the regulations.”
- Budgetary impacts of **approx. \$2 million** for new equipment, uniform, and training enhancements.
- New ‘Generally Applicable Standards’ consider:
 - The policing needs of the community.
 - Geographic and socio-demographic characteristics.
 - Policing in similar communities in Ontario.

Regional Growth & Impact on Service



675,227

Waterloo Region's Population



1,000,000

Projected Population by 2050



Fastest

Growing Region in Canada

CAMBRIDGETODAY .ca

Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo now the fastest growing census metropolitan area in Canada

WATERLOO REGION
RECORD

Waterloo Region grew faster last year than any urban area in Canada

Global
NEWS

Waterloo Region population grew by more than 28K in 2023: report

CAMBRIDGETODAY .ca

Influx of international students seen as 'huge' factor in rise in local hate crimes

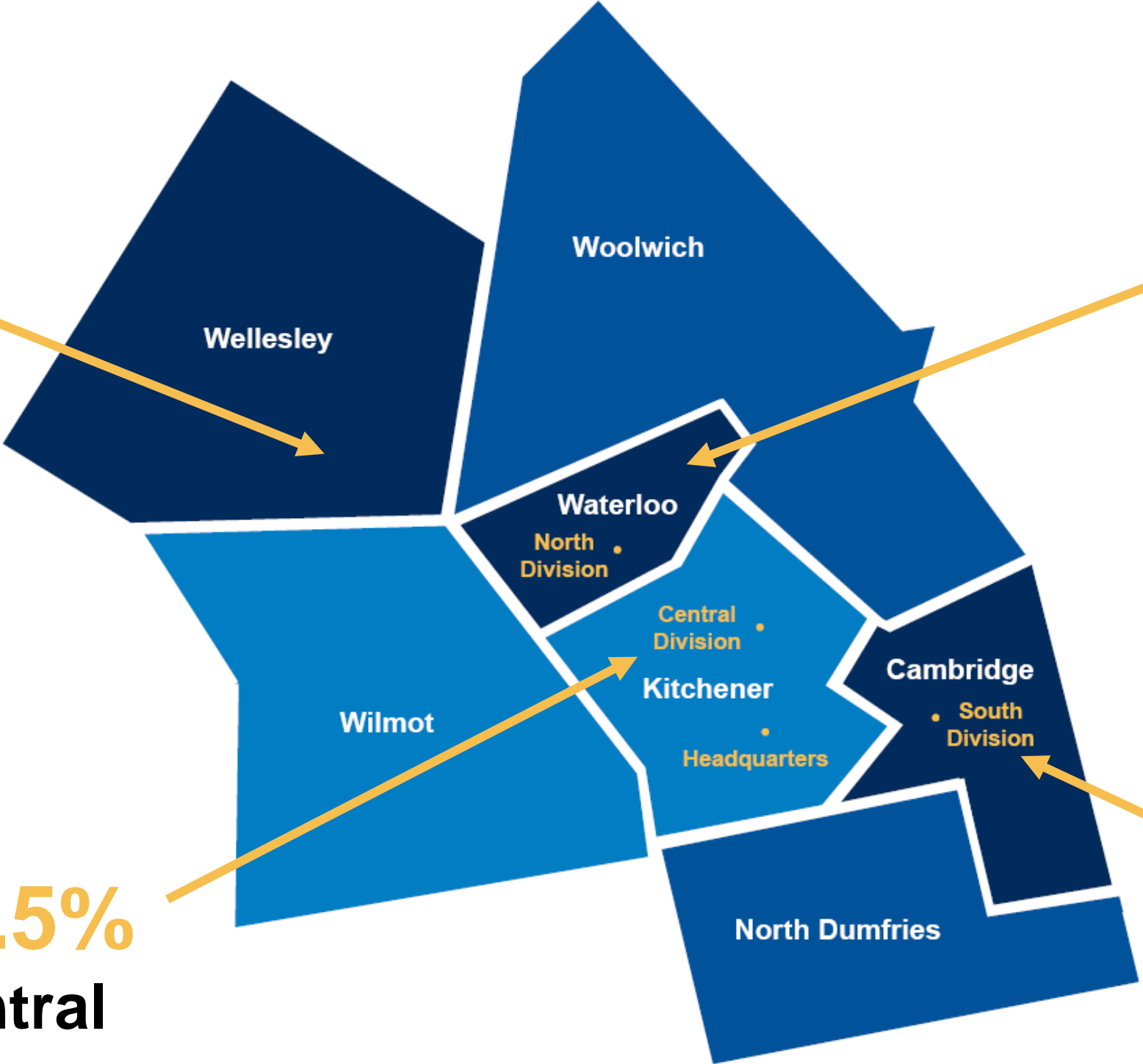
Calls for Service Breakdown

5.5%
Rural

30%
North

38.5%
Central

26%
South





24/7

372,247

Occurrences in 2023

11% ↑

from 2022

2023 By the Numbers



204,037

9-1-1 Emergency Calls



1,081

Vehicle Thefts



400

Internet Child Exploitation Investigations



6,244

Intimate Partner Violence Related Calls



695

Firearms and Prohibited Weapons or Devices Seized



38,281

Tips Received at Crime Stoppers Since 1987



\$2.72M

Worth of Drugs Seized



27

Public Order Unit Deployments

2023 By the Numbers



277

Hate Crimes



5

Homicide
Investigations



18

Shooting
Investigations



288

Robbery
Investigations



117

Human Trafficking
Investigations



42,849

Record Checks
Completed



28

Arrests by the
Canine Unit



180

Body-Worn
Cameras Deployed

Traffic & Road Safety



- Traffic safety represents a major community priority in the Region of Waterloo.
- In 2023, there were a total of **23,105** road safety charges in the Region.
- Targeted enforcement efforts utilize public reporting.

6,547

Speeding Charges

939

Impaired Driving
Charges

354

Distracted Driving
Charges

361

Failing to Wear
Seatbelt Charges

Innovative Policing Practices

- Continued expansion and exploration of mental health responses - aligned with 'Addressing Mental Health Needs, Together' priority.
 - Integrated Mobile Police and Crisis Team (IMPACT) was available **88%** when requested to attend calls.
 - **74%** of mental health calls dispatched to Crisis Call Diversion Team were resolved without police.
- Expansion of the **Digital Evidence Management** system, including **44,000** Body-Worn and **34,000** In-Car evidence pieces annually.
- Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) is in **all patrol cars**.
- NG911 / WR Public Safety Communication Centre / Real Time Operations Centre.

15,000

Average ALPR License
Plate Hits / Day

Member Wellness & Service Demands

Comprehensive Human Resources Strategy

- **276** new police officers were hired in the last 5.5 years; one third of sworn complement.
- New programs: Cadet and Part-Time Policing

Service Demands on Members

- **\$8.25 million** in overtime costs in 2023.
- **44%** of overtime occurred in frontline patrol, represents **98%** of the overtime increase in 2023.
- WRPS remains below both **Big 12** and **Provincial** averages for officer per population ratio.

44

FTEs to make up OT overage in 2023

Meaningful Community Engagement

- Co-hosted the successful **2024 Special Olympics Spring Games**.
- In 2024, our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Unit is hosting community consultations on the Race and Identity Based Data Collection Strategy.
- Upcoming WRPS' **Youth Engagement Strategy** will rely on youth-informed positive engagement and community spaces.
- Partnering with academic institutions on innovative research and work placement opportunities.



Advancement of the Community Safety & Wellbeing Plan

- WRPS is deeply committed to amplifying and leading the Region of Waterloo's Community Safety & Wellbeing Plan (CSWP) and its four priorities:
 - **Combatting Hate**
 - **Addressing Mental Health Needs, Together**
 - **Creating Safe and Inclusive Spaces**
 - **Intimate Partner Violence and Gender-Based Violence**

Region of Waterloo
**Community Safety
& Wellbeing Plan**



01 Incident Response
Critical and non-critical response

02 Risk Intervention
Mitigating situations of elevated risk

03 Prevention
Proactively reducing identified risks

04 Social Development
Promoting and maintaining community safety and wellbeing



**Success Today,
Success Tomorrow**



**WATERLOO REGIONAL
POLICE**