

NATIONAL POLICING AND CRIME MEASURES

2023/24 Q4

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary

And

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Isle of Wight

This document is a statement on Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary's contribution to the national policing and measures.

The key national policing priorities are:

- Reduce murder and other homicide
- Reduce serious violence
- Disrupt drugs supply and county lines
- Reduce neighbourhood crime
- Improve victim satisfaction with a focus on victims of domestic abuse
- Tackling cyber crime

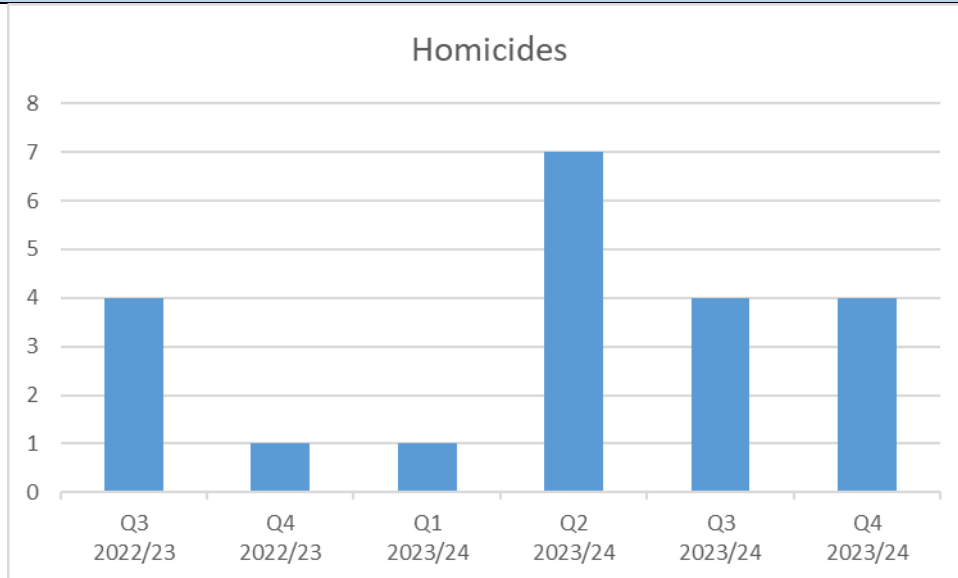
The document will be updated quarterly and will include:

- A summary of relevant statistics – where relevant a comparison will be made against the baseline year 2018/19 and measures tracked for the latest 6 and 12 months
- Review of performance and the Constabulary's contribution towards the priorities
- The planned action for the force to improve performance against the measures

Priority area: Reduce Murder and other homicide

Measures:

- Police recorded homicides



Volumes			Change in Volume	
Jul 2018 - Jun 2019 Baseline	Last 12 months (Ending Mar 24)	Last 6 months (Ending Mar 24)	Current Year vs Baseline	Current 6 Months vs Same Period Previous Year
9	16	8	+7	+3

Force response to homicides:

Major Crime (MC) Department own all confirmed homicide cases within the Constabulary and maintain oversight for the accuracy of reported data, including: CRISMSEC7, crime data integrity and data system management (HOLMES/Niche).

The force operate according to a surge model. This means there is a lean core-group of trained staff responsible for fulfilling mandatory MIRSAP roles; the wider force then supplements MC with additional staff to meet peaks in demand. Over the last 12 months a cadre of officers trained in the management of HOLMES/MIRSAP has been developed outside of the department to enhance resilience.

The force response to homicides is dependent on the dynamics of each particular case. Cat A and A+ offences are typically supported by a Gold group and PIP4 to ensure there is adequate organisational focus and operational space to meet the additional demand these cases pose. There is always an on-duty homicide-trained PIP3 Senior Investigating Officer (SIO) available to lead cases within the force as they emerge. This is covered via callout out-of-hours.

Major Crime and the Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT) are co-located in the Constabulary's 3 bases (N, E and W). CAIT cover attendance at all child deaths 24/7. This rota is staffed by Detective Inspectors who have undertaken child death investigation training. If homicide (beyond reckless accidental death of a baby) is suspected, MC will assume ownership. CAIT take an active part in every Joint Action Response (JAR) meeting following child death and will chair these in the event of criminality being suspected. The JAR has an ongoing mission to realise the holistic

situations around each child's passing to avoid further harm to others who may still be in the environment initial harm occurred in. It also has a responsibility to initiate positive change to practice and procedure and share information in the interests of child safety.

Following the HMICFRS report in April 2023 into the murders committed by serial perpetrator, Stephen Port, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary conducted a review of its own force policy and procedures for sudden deaths. The updated force policy was launched at the end of 2023 as Operation Respectful. In the months following its launch this has changed the demand on Major Crime, with SIOs calling and setting up MIRs in the first days of unexplained deaths and increasing the demands upon Major Crime resources.

Major Crime Support has been subject to demand and resources assessment under the new area model and resulted in proposals for a growth in Major Crime staff alongside a move away from routinely surging area staff.

Learning and Review

Any case managed within the Major Crime department is subject to a level of debrief proportionate to its scale, complexity or sensitivity.

Learning is shared with the force's Organisational Learning Team with appropriate tracking on potential improvements.

A homicide problem profile for Hampshire and Isle of Wight was produced in autumn 2023 using a data period from 01/04/2020-30/09/2023.

Within this data period there were a total of 42 homicides and 70 attempted murders. In the three full performance years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23) there were 33 homicides and 56 attempted murders which shows a reduction in homicides compared to the previous profile.

Homicide and attempted murder offences had not reached pre-pandemic levels within this profile, with homicide increasing by 38% across the period. However, the 2020/21 year is an anomaly due to the pandemic and volumes for 2022/23 significantly lower than the previous year.

The key drivers (influencing factors) of homicide in the force area are domestic abuse (29%), drug related (use and markets, 27%) and mental health (22%).

The most common weapon used in homicides within the force area is a sharp object (knife crime, 56%). For homicides only, manslaughter and spontaneous altercations were the most common influencing factors (17%), followed by mental health (14%), showing a significant change from the previous profile where the drug market was the most common influencing factor.

Domestic homicides were decreasing when the previous problem profile was produced, however that trend has reversed with a significant increase seen in the last full performance year (2022/23). A number of domestic abuse attempted murder incidents involved strangulation or suffocation prior to the introduction of the new offence of non-fatal strangulation.

Kitchen knives are primarily used in knife-related incidents whilst illegal knives are more prevalent in drug-related incidents. A number of suspects of knife-related offences were identified as Habitual Knife Carriers (HKCs) prior to committing attempted murder or homicide offences. The number of people identified as HKC provides supporting evidence that the list is effective in highlighting risk.

The profile also highlighted racial disproportionality of both suspects and victims of homicide. Black people are 10.8 times more likely to be a suspect for homicide or attempted murder than White people (which increases for drug-related homicide), but also 5.9 times more likely to be a victim of these offences. Further analysis on this area, extending beyond youth serious violence, is required to support understanding of this issue and highlight potential areas to reduce it.

Serious Case Review Team

The Serious Case Review Team (SCRT) have responsibility for:

- Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR)
- Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR)
- Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR)
- Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Serious Case Reviews (MAPPA SCR)

SCRT are staffed by a number of experienced senior detectives, including some who maintain their PIP3 credentials. This provides important capacity for peer review on complex cases in exceptional circumstances as well as delivering their listed responsibilities. Their focus is to extrapolate learning opportunities realised through their review activity and support the force to deliver improvement by influencing changes to practice, policy and procedure which are fed into the Risk and Review Oversight Panel chaired by ACC Crime, Intelligence and Criminal Justice.

Ongoing focus:

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary are committed to ensuring that the response to homicide delivers justice for victims and their families by:

- Growing resilience and maintaining a skilled homicide investigation workforce
- Placing victims and their bereaved families at the heart of every case
- Maintaining platforms for learning to improve service provision and maintain public safety
- Understanding Hampshire and IOW offending profile and using this information to inform our response to onward homicide prevention.
- Further tracking of the increased demands for homicide investigations following the launch of Operation Relentless
- Reviewing the current Major Crime resourcing model.

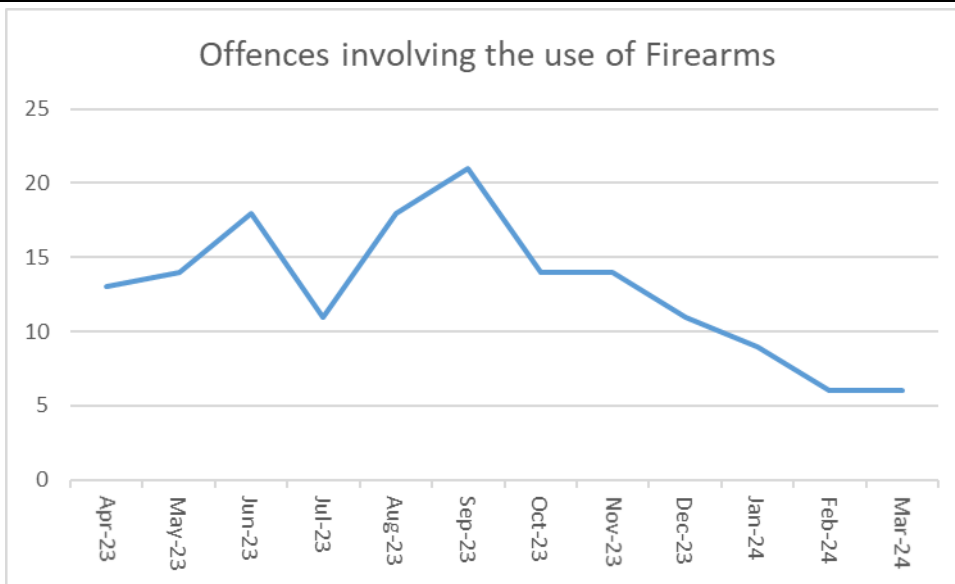
Priority Area: Reduce Serious Violence

Measures:

- Hospital admissions of u25s for assault with a sharp object (NHS data)
- Offences involving discharge of a firearm (police data)

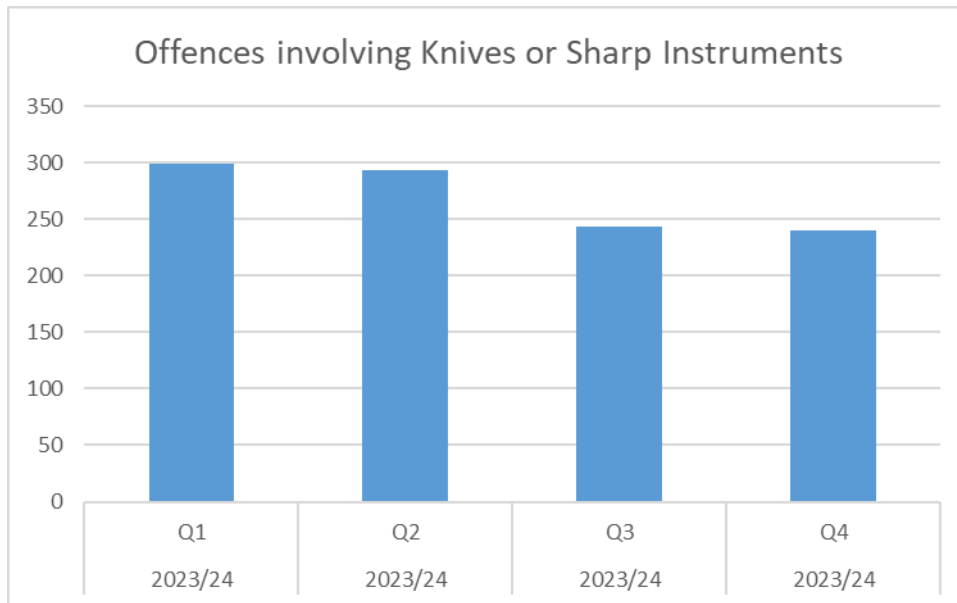
A number of crime categories are considered to as contributors to serious violence:

Firearms:



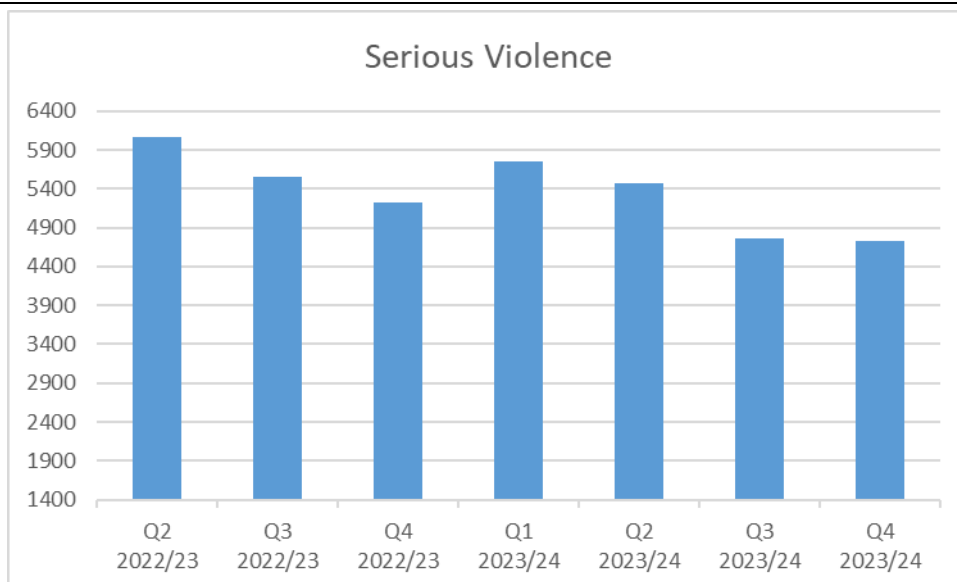
Volumes			Change in Volume	
Jul 2018 - Jun 2019 Baseline	Last 12 months (Ending Mar 24)	Last 6 months (Ending Mar 24)	Current Year vs Baseline	Current 6 Months vs Same Period Previous Year
136	155	60	+19	-12

Knife Crime:



Volumes			Change in Volume	
Jul 2018 - Jun 2019 Baseline	Last 12 months (Ending Mar 24)	Last 6 months (Ending Mar 24)	Current Year vs Baseline	Current 6 Months vs Same Period Previous Year
1410	1075	483	-335	-148

Serious Violence (Robbery and Violence with Injury as per the National Definition):



Volumes			Change in Volume	
Jul 2018 - Jun 2019 Baseline	Last 12 months (Ending Mar 24)	Last 6 months (Ending Mar 24)	Current Year vs Baseline	Current 6 Months vs Same Period Previous Year
22522	20704	9477	-1818	-1291

Force response to reducing serious violence:

This year has been one of tremendous growth in the understanding and delivery of the Violence Reduction Partnership Response Strategy which sets out how a cooperative approach will reduce harm in our communities. Specified and Relevant authorities under the Police Crime Sentencing & Courts Acts 2022 discharge their Serious Violence Duty (SVD) by working together across the police force area whilst also ensuring there is a local joined up response to serious violence at Community Safety Partnership (CSP) level. The annual report has been published.

The Violence Reduction Unit works with Hampshire and Isle Of Wight police to establish regular identification of repeat serious violence perpetrators and habitual knife carriers. This data is shared with relevant partners from the Tactical Violence Reduction Partnership (TVRP) which leads on developing a collaborative problem-solving response and tracks progress against key individuals and geographic hot spots. The TVRP identifies good practice locally and nationally so that can be applied in our communities. Many CSP's have reviewed local partnership arrangements to improve a tactical response where risks are identified by police youth justice services, children's services or education colleagues.

The VCT are a small team of dedicated police officers who work in serious violence hotspots and with serious violence perpetrators solving response to issues, encompassing both enforcement and prevention in order to reduce serious violence. They lead on the Op Sceptre (knife Crime) and Op Calibre (personal robbery) weeks of action, during which a total of 637 knives were seized/ surrendered, 31 arrests were made and there were over 100 schools' engagements.

Throughout the year, Police completed 2934 patrols in the 19 serious violence hotspots. As a result of these patrols and partnership problem solving serious violence within the hotspots has reduced by 17% This was funded by the 'GRIP' grant from the Home Office

Ongoing focus:

We have a continued focus on our work with Habitual knife carriers, ensuring safeguarding for children is paramount. We have a strong tactical partnership and will be agile in responding to new funding opportunities and objectives set by the new government. With a focus on prevention and deterrence we have developed a problem solving practice bank to share an evidence base of what works.

Our youth justice services, police, DWP and the VRU are working with the Princes Trust to develop a programme with The Princes Trust for our riskiest cohort.

Our website has been updated to provide up to date information on legislation regarding knife crime, information on surrender bins and advice for parents and carers

[Tackling Knife Crime | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#)

We are planning for our next Op Sceptre national campaign in November

Priority area: Disrupt drugs supply and county lines

Measures

homicides (police recorded data)

als into drug treatment (Public Health England)

Force response to disrupt drugs supply and county lines:

The continued development of the Home Office 'Combating drugs framework' is working to aid DRH reduction, especially partner-owned elements intended to decrease demand. Hampshire County Council's Drug and Alcohol Partnership reported an 18% increase in persons in drug/alcohol treatment in 2023, against a national target of +20%.

The expansion of Drug testing on arrest (DToA) into other custody centres and refresh of commissioned services to improve immediate engagement whilst in custody have been ongoing - future DToA opportunities are being reviewed regarding ancillary orders and new treatment interventions connecting stimulant misuse and domestic abuse targeting homicide prevention.

A refresh of the County Lines delivery model, with focused delivery alongside Metropolitan Police colleagues closing lines and safeguarding vulnerable persons, took place in April 2023 with improved outcomes delivered in the numbers of arrests and charges achieved throughout the year - 19 arrests of County Line nominals were made through this partnership between April to October 2023 with 17 of those persons subsequently charged. The proportion of County Lines within the overall number of mapped networks continues to reduce and is down 9.4% since 2021.

Progression of cases involving possession of drugs with intent to supply in order to control offending and access criminal justice treatment pathways remain a challenge with backlogs in case progression in part stemming from a national shortage of forensic examination capacity. In force Drug Expert Corroborative testing is being trialled to expedite examinations in simple PWITS cases, having been successfully used in another South East regional force. This project is currently being developed with our partners in the CPS and is due to be launched by January 2025.

The role of the Serious Organised Crime Community Co-ordinator (SOC CC) position continues to evolve and develop traction across the force. They have continued to support Lead Responsible Officer's in developing their

organised crime plans, with a focus on prevent, protect and prepare plans. They have also supported the roll out of the latest Clear Hold Build programme in Gosport which has been recently launched. This district which has been heavily impacted by drug related harms and SOC. The regional organised crime unit also recruited a regional SOC CC who works collaboratively with the force SOC CC supporting a problem solving network across SOC threats.

Changing tactics and business models in the supply of controlled drugs are a key area of focus with sharp increases seen across wholesale heroin prices, which may be contributing towards increasing contaminants and use of synthetic opioids seen nationally. To date there have been two confirmed deaths caused by Nitazene adulterated heroin in the force area. Alongside this drug related deaths have increased by 23% in the reporting year from 60 to 73 deaths with heroin and other opiates being the most harmful illicit drugs, contributing to 70.3% of drug related deaths. There is an increasing risk of adulterants entering the supply chain of other controlled drugs beyond heroin.

Ongoing focus:

Organisational changes in the force will see the alignment of the Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) Department with the Intelligence and Tasking Directorate under one Detective Chief Superintendent and the start of a SOC Board to oversee the further development of the force wide SOC system – this follows investment in the creation of a Force Intelligence Bureau with a strong focus towards Drugs amongst other key threats.

The roll out of the FIB alongside the development of the Force Area model and improved proactive policing capabilities will aid sustained targeting of drug related harms in local communities.

Tracking and understanding of “what works” in the Gosport CHB project over the coming year will also help inform the effective roll out of that type of approach in similarly affected areas in the force.

The increasing use of encryption within communications technology and data also presents a challenge to law enforcement alongside evolving tactics of line holders distancing themselves from holding deal phones and using bland non-incriminating language to communicate with buyers which may require changes in the operating methodology against County Lines

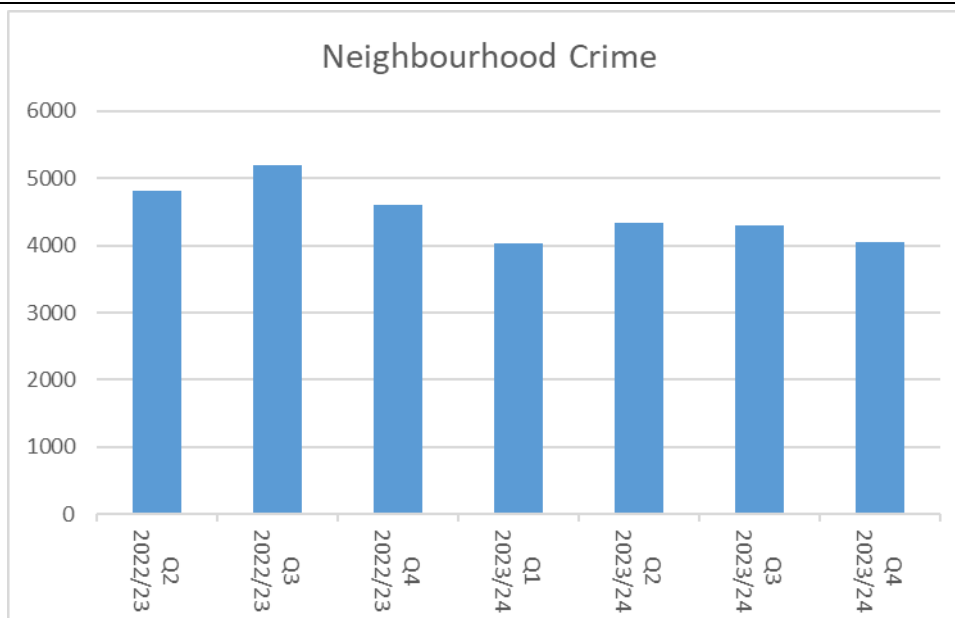
Legislative changes, including Spiking, Nitrous Oxide becoming a Class C controlled drug, and the Online Safety Bill, may also assist in our ability to disrupt and tackle drug use and associated harm.

The force has experienced an increase in small quantities of drugs being imported to the UK through postal services. Work is underway to develop the intelligence picture regarding this threat and investigative opportunities that can bring offenders to justice. This will focus on where organised crime are using vulnerable people and the overseas postal system as a means of importation of controlled drugs.

Priority area: Reduce neighbourhood crime

Measures

- Residential burglary, robbery (personal), theft of and from a vehicle, theft from a person (source: Crime Survey of England and Wales)
- Currently there is no reportable measure within Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW).
- Combined measure of data on residential burglary, robbery (personal), vehicle crime and theft from the person offences:



Volumes			Change in Volume	
Jul 2018 - Jun 2019 Baseline	Last 12 months (Ending Mar 24)	Last 6 months (Ending Mar 24)	Current Year vs Baseline	Current 6 Months vs Same Period Previous Year
21679	16721	8358	-4958	-1444

The crime categories (residential burglary, vehicle offences, theft from person and personal robbery) have seen a reduction in the latest 12 months compared to the baseline year.

Force response to reducing neighbourhood crime:

The force commits to early attendance at all residential burglaries to maximise the opportunity to secure and preserve evidence, identify and detain offenders and offer support to victims. We seek to identify crime series at the earliest opportunity and maximise forensic potential to identify offenders. Within the local policing team we have patrol teams who will respond and conduct an initial investigation, area crime teams who deal with series and prolific offenders, local neighbourhood enforcement teams who police proactively in local areas and seek to detain outstanding suspects.

In respect of theft offences there are dedicated Neighbourhood teams focussed on dealing with repeat offenders who work closely with local businesses to share information. In addition priority crime teams focus on prolific and repeat offenders.

In respect of Robbery the force is an integral partner of the Violence Reduction partnership, working with the Community Safety Teams, Youth Offending and Probation and Local Authorities to manage perpetrators of serious violence through both enforcement and safeguarding activity. There is also a focus on reducing knife crime and diverting young people away from criminal activity and violent offending.

Ongoing focus:

Engagement with communities is vital in helping us to keep communities safe – our local neighbourhood teams continue to visit homes and survey residents to establish what matters to the local community. This information is then used to direct our patrols and to feedback to residents regarding what the police are doing to tackle crime in your local area.

You can sign up to Hants Alerts and complete a survey here [Let's Talk Community Survey | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#)

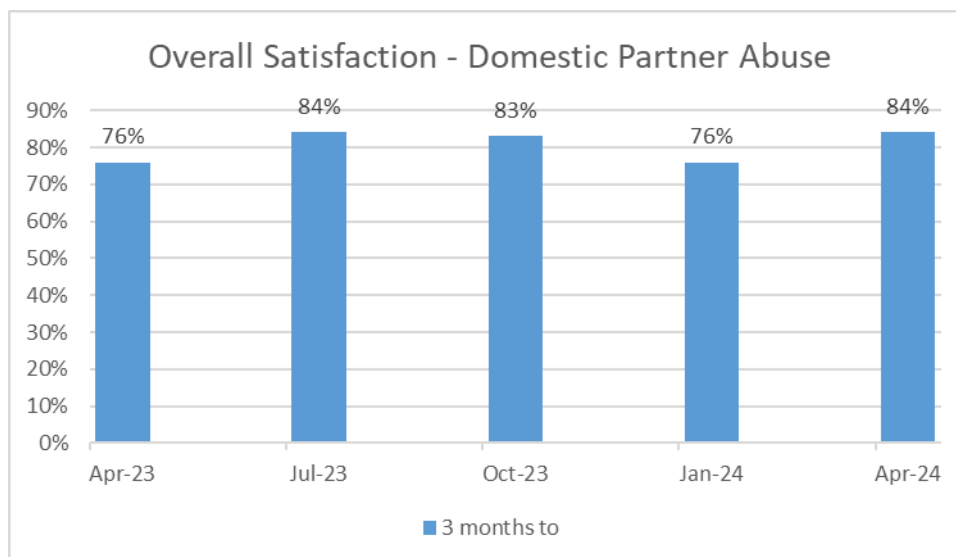
Priority area: Improve satisfaction among victims, with a particular focus on victims of domestic abuse

Measures

- Satisfaction with the police among victims of domestic abuse (CSEW)
- Victim satisfaction with the police (CSEW)

Currently there is no reportable measure within CSEW.

A survey of domestic abuse victims commissioned through Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary shows:



An online survey of victims of crime carried out by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary shows:

In Q1 (Apr-Jun) 2023, the overall satisfaction rate was 52%.

In Q2 (Jul-Sep) 2023, the overall satisfaction levels was 49%.

In Q3 (Oct-Dec) 2023, the overall satisfaction level was 53%

In Q4 (Jan-Mar) 2024, the overall satisfaction level was 52%

In the same period the previous year (Jan-Mar 2023), the overall satisfaction was 54%.

Force response to improving victim satisfaction:

Victim Strategy is being reviewed to ensure it is current, and new priorities being established.

Each department being reviewed to ensure strengths and gap analysis can be understood and prioritised.

Bespoke briefings for Sergeants & Inspectors to drive Victim Care and code compliance

Engagement with Victim Care Hub and Victim support to all teams across the force to improve understanding, and be able to support victims better.

Engagement with Commissioned services to ensure services provided are consistent and effective.

Working with investigation standards team to ensure Victim Care

Victim Portal set up and drive enabling victims to access information about investigation.

CJ working across region to ensure victim care is maintained within Victim Code to ensure victims are prepared for court.

Working with L&PD to understand gaps in CPD to drive victim care & code compliance.

Implementation and drive for Victim Hour, to ensure additional focus time for victims.

Ongoing focus:

Trauma informed response to victim care across depts. and teams to better understand victim response.

Drive of supervisory reviews to improve standards and victim care within investigations

Focus on indecent exposure offences

Link between NPT & Triage Hub to ensure good handover of victims

Relaunch of Victim SPOC, with bespoke training

Race Action Plan pillars regarding victim care and understanding being embedded into next Victim Strategy.

Priority area: Tackle Cyber Crime

Measures

- Public confidence in the law enforcement response to cybercrime (Cyber Aware Tracker)
- Proportion of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack (Cyber Security Breaches Survey)

Recorded data

The most recent ONS Crime Survey of England and Wales estimates that during 2023 there were 3.1 million fraud incidents experienced by people resident in households. This was a 16% decrease compared with 2022 and includes reductions in bank and credit account fraud (13%), advance fee fraud (34%), and other fraud (50%).

The latest CSEW estimates are that fewer than one in seven fraud offences were reported to the police or Action Fraud (the public-facing national fraud and cybercrime reporting centre).

Fraud offences investigated by the police are recorded and collected by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) from Action Fraud and two industry bodies: Cifas and UK Finance - overall, police recorded fraud was 1% higher (1.2 million offences) compared with the year ending December 2022. The increase in overall fraud was

mainly influenced by a rise in offences reported by UK Finance a result of an increase in reporting from their existing members because of engagement from UK Finance. The CSEW provides a better indication of the volume of computer misuse offences than those reported to the police, as it captures incidents that go unreported to the police. The latest CSEW estimates, showed that fewer than 1 in 20 computer misuse offences were reported to the police or Action Fraud. Action Fraud reported a 1% increase in reports (301,166 offences) compared with the year ending December 2022 (298,792 offences)

The NFIB reported a 27% increase in computer misuse offences referred by Action Fraud (from 27,447 to 34,941 offences) during 2023 compared to 2022.

For Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary there were 10,054 fraud and computer misuse reports by Action Fraud during 2023 compared to 9,545 in 2022 – a rise of 5.3%.

Around 87% of these reports are for fraud and 13% for cyber related fraud at total cost of around £46 million, with an average loss / victim of around £5120.

Around 14% of NFIB reports to the Force are assessed as suitable to enforcement (Pursue).

Force response to tackling cyber-crime:

The HIOWC Cyber Crime Unit moved to regional management under SE ROCU in April 2024 as part of Nationally Led – Regionally Managed – Locally Delivered Home Office pilot.

The dedicated Protect officer recruited in 2022 continues to identify opportunities for Protect / Prevent advice by scanning across NFIB referrals and delivering safeguarding, protect and prevent interventions. They operate in conjunction with the dedicated Cyber Crime Unit DS and 4 x DC who respond to threats and investigate offences. An intelligence researcher has also been embedded with the team since mid-2023 which has contributed to a rise in Pursue activity for the CCU leading identification of more cyber related suspects developed from stranger research of National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) disseminations and wider CMA offending within other Force crime recording.

Complementing the dedicated resources are a nationally recognised team of Cyber Specials and Volunteers who have a range of cyber specialisms brought in from academia and business backgrounds supporting Protect, Prevent and Pursue capabilities.

Ongoing focus:

Support and embed the Nationally Led – Regionally Managed – Locally Delivered Home Office pilot.

In conjunction with SEROCU further develop seizures and confiscation of criminal assets held within cryptocurrencies.

Maintain CCU operating strength following recent abstractions and vacancies arising from promotion.

Ensure all cases disseminated from NFIB for Force CCU are assessed, researched and investigated

Ensure victims receive Protect advice to prevent repeat victimisation.

Seek to ensure that organisations that receive Prepare advice develop or review their incident response plans to cyber following engagement.

Maintain current compliance with monthly disruption returns and continue to develop further performance activity through identification of wider Computer Misuse Act offending outside of National Fraud Intelligence Reporting. Ensure Action Fraud referrals are updated promptly and any backlog in providing updates is recovered before April 2025.

Complete regular checks of Police Cyber Alarm to improve real-time support to member organisations when issues are identified.