

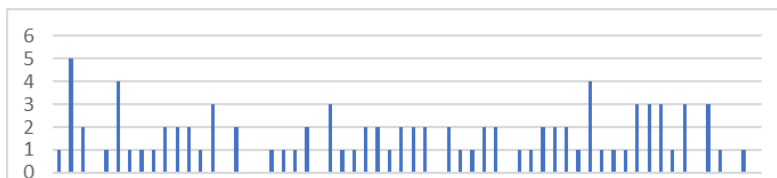
## Measure: Reduce Murder and other homicide

### Home Office crime codes and description:

0010	Murder
0041	Manslaughter
0042	Infanticide
00410	Corporate Manslaughter

#### Recorded crime levels

The monthly volume of homicides from April 2018 to March 2023 is shown below.



The volume of Homicides in South Yorkshire has increased since 2019/20, albeit a reduction on volumes in 2018/19. In 2022/23, 19 homicides were recorded in South Yorkshire, with a rate of 13.4 homicides per million population, above that of the national average.

Whilst this is the total number of homicides initially recorded, there will be an expected number which following post-mortem, associated tests and other enquiries, will not meet the categorisation for homicide. This is overseen by the Senior Investigating Officer for the case. As this can take time to conclude, caution is advised in any review of homicide volumes from recent months.

The majority of the homicides within South Yorkshire have a flag applied linking them to drugs.

#### Force response to homicides

The force's Major Crime Unit deals with all homicide offences with resourcing prioritised for homicides. Investigations can be lengthy and involve the support of many officers and staff across the force. The force Homicide Prevention Problem Profile identifies four factors commonly influencing homicide, these are.

- Domestic abuse
- Drugs markets
- Revenge and retribution
- Spontaneous altercation

In addition to the above the force has identified that the night time economy (NTE) and Knife Crime are also common contributing factors.

Homicide offences are often linked to either Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) activity or domestic-related offending; these areas constitute the focus of our homicide prevention activity.

**OCG links** - Information on the work being undertaken to address armed criminality and OCG delivery (which links to the homicide volumes) is reported under **Reduce Serious Violence**.

**Domestic homicides** - The force Serious Case Review team identify cases fitting the criteria for a Domestic Homicide Review, bringing them to the attention of the Local Authority. A report covering police activity is circulated, ensuring learning is disseminated to staff, supporting future prevention.

With a positive action approach to Domestic Abuse (DA), the force arrest rate remains high in comparison to rates nationally. Training (DA Matters) was provided to over 1600 front line officers/staff in 2020/21 - it included a focus on the importance of risk assessment, and identification of additional vulnerability, supporting intervention. The force Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment team review all medium and high risk DA incidents, providing a specialist secondary risk assessment. They conduct research to identify any high-risk behaviours such as coercive control, stalking/harassment or recent separation, which are sometimes seen as precursors to DA homicides.

High-risk domestic incidents are referred to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which delivers information-sharing, safety planning for victims and their children, and manages

	<p>behaviour of perpetrators. The force-wide Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meeting focusses on repeat perpetrator behaviour through engagement or enforcement.</p> <p>Prevention solutions are available to protect DA victims including Tecso phones, SmartWater forensic marking, and Buddi Tags, which can be monitored via GPS. Civil Orders such as Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) and Stalking Protection Orders are used to good effect to protect victims, supported by a dedicated DVPO team. District-based DA teams provide consistency of quality investigations for all high-risk DA crimes.</p>
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#### **Ongoing focus – November 2023:**

Supt Dave Cowley (Domestic Abuse, Serious Violent Crime)

The force Homicide Prevention Board continues to focus on bringing national best practice to South Yorkshire Police so that the force is able to focus on preventing homicides and serious violent crime. Recent ongoing work includes the introduction of a Habitual Knife Carriers Index which identifies individuals who are believed to be in the habit of carrying knives through analysis of crime and intelligence data. These individuals will be risk assessed and appropriate enforcement activity or diversionary activity will then be applied to them, this has worked well for Sussex police. The Grip team continue with hot spot patrolling and problem-solving work.

With 80 per cent of public space violence occurring in and around the Night Time Economy (NTE), the team have been engaging with managers of pubs, clubs and restaurants in order to ensure the NTE is a safe place to be. The work with McDonalds in particular, received praise from academics during a recent problem-solving conference.

The force is in the process of applying for funding from the Home Office to support a Winter Homicide Prevention Campaign concentrating on the cluster 5 cohort of homicides as defined in the College of Policing data analysis. This suggests that the force should concentrate activity on preventing homicides for over 25's, non-DA public space cases. These are typically one punch manslaughters or stabbings arising out of drug or alcohol fuelled fights. If successful, the plan will run from December to February with a media message entitled 'Just Walk Away'. The plan will concentrate on intensive policing operations in and around the NTE.

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) continues to support and expand the Custody Navigators and Hospital Navigators projects and the Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy has produced a media campaign entitled 'Men Step up' which encourages men to challenge inappropriate behaviour towards women when they see it in others. The VRU continue to support small community-based projects designed to divert youths away from violence and provide consistent educational materials for schools. Work is ongoing in conjunction with Serious Violence Duty statutory partners to devise an overarching strategy to reduce violence in South Yorkshire. A strategic needs assessment will also be produced as part of this, to allow work to be focused to areas where there is the greatest need.

Money from the Serious Violence Duty grant has been used to recruit a member of staff to conduct 'rapid reviews' into homicides and 'near miss' incidents. The aim is to identify learning and prevention opportunities and disseminate the learning through the partnership quickly. A member of staff has already been recruited and sits within the serious case review team within Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Performance and Governance.

Measure: Reduce Serious Violence	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHS hospital admissions data for under 25-year-olds for assault with a sharp object; and</li> <li>• Police recorded crime data on offences involving the discharge of a lethal barrelled firearm</li> </ul>	
Recorded levels	<p>Reductions have been seen in the last 12 months for Under 25-year-old admissions to hospitals for assault with sharp object, aligned with a national reduction.</p> <p>Data to August 2023 are the lowest year to date figures of any of the previous six years, and 19.05 per cent lower than in 2022. This is as a result of a 'good' August 2023 in comparison to August 2022.</p> <p>Internally, Knife Crime and Most Serious Violence (MSV) datasets are also reviewed to support understanding and focus activity. The force is working with the National Data Quality Improvement Service to support the data capture against the HO definition of Knife Crime.</p>
Force response to reducing serious violence	<p>The force created the Armed Crime Team (ACT) in 2020/21, successfully working to reduce the volumes of firearms discharges since inception. Clear interdependencies exist with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grip funding (intelligence-led local visible policing, focused by hot spot analysis)</li> <li>• Problem-Solving Hub (problem-solving partnership plans, with funding to support activity)</li> <li>• Violence Reduction Unit (using a public health approach to violence reduction and prevention)</li> </ul> <p>The Grip team undertake a range of targeted activities to disrupt violent criminality and reduce knife-crime offending. Local policing teams and specialist teams such as licensing also operate in response to violent offences, and proactively work to reduce night-time economy offending. Profiles have been delivered to understand the impact of Covid on demand and resourcing needs and profiles delivering against thematic areas are delivered throughout the year. Taking learning from analytical products, the GRIP team work alongside neighbourhood policing teams to ensure problem-solving plans are targeted and effective.</p> <p>The <a href="#">National Problem Solving and Crime Prevention Programme</a> is based in South Yorkshire Police, with a focus of events around tackling serious violence, supporting a repository, in which the force engages fully to learn from this beneficial insight.</p> <p>The force has an established brand for tackling organised crime, this operation brings together the four districts and Crime Services in a stand against Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) and routine sharing of content externally and internally which builds on the four Ps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pursue – prosecuting and disrupting people engaged in serious and organised criminality</li> <li>• Prevent – preventing people from engaging in serious and organised criminality</li> <li>• Protect – increasing protection against organised crime</li> <li>• Prepare – reducing the impact of serious and organised crime where it takes place.</li> </ul> <p>OCG threats are locally managed and centrally coordinated under the banner of Fortify. OCG disruption activity relies on a strong understanding of threats, and the force has undertaken mapping to establish the level of firearms capabilities across the OCGs residing in South Yorkshire.</p>
<p><b>Ongoing focus – November 2023:</b>  D/Supt Jamie Henderson (Armed Criminality), D/Supt Dave Cowley (Serious Violent Crime)</p>	
<p>Firearm discharge incidents have been on a downward trajectory. Locally, year to date figures to the end of October for viable firearms discharges show 2023 figures are almost 30 per cent lower than in both 2022 and 2021, and 50 per cent lower than in 2020 (the year that the Armed Crime Team was launched).</p> <p>The national threat from Converted Blank Firearms (CBF) remains high and is expected to continue through 2023-2024 due to the ability to legally purchase suitable weapons at affordable prices, convert, and refashion them to look authentic with relative ease.</p>	

Together with availability of blank ammunition, criminals are likely to continue to exploit the legislation and modify both blank firers and ammunition into live firing weapons capable of discharging ammunition containing improvised projectiles. The force has previously reported on the work to tackle this issue within the county through a dedicated operation which is ongoing. So far, this has resulted in over 90 suspected CBFs recovered and multiple suspects are currently on remand pending trial.

The excellent preventative work with firearms licence holders to make them aware of the risks arising from the theft of lawfully held firearms which has been delivered by our firearms licensing team continues to be a success. Figures continue to show that there have been no reported stolen viable firearms in burglaries in 2023 to date.

There are many strands to the work the force has ongoing, including the Gun Crime Nominals process and the assertive management of nominated individuals which entails visits to gun crime nominals by the Firearms Support Group (FSG). The force has developed a process to ensure that existing nominals are afforded consistent attention including weekly visits to encourage the individuals to turn their back on firearms criminality.

In August, September and October there have been six viable firearm discharges. Each one of these incidents has benefited from our new Operation Relentless approach that went live in May 2023. This response sees every viable firearms discharge being declared as a Critical Incident, with a local Gold/Silver/Bronze management response, complemented by flooding the geographical area with specialist resources in support of district and investigative assets. This is combined with a proactive more impactful media strategy, adopting a more robust approach to firearms discharges and working to dispel any possibility of apathy or acceptance.

The force continues to evolve our firearms intelligence processes. A substantial number of firearms related intelligence reports are received every month, and a new Firearms Intelligence Assessment Process has introduced the FSG3 document as a means of ensuring consistency, accountability, and traction to ensure the force actively develops and act upon firearms intelligence, ensuring Tactical Firearms Commander assessments are conducted appropriately and that they are accessible on Connect.

The strong commitment of the Operational Support Unit (OSU) leadership team has seen those departments adopt a mindset moving from reactive to proactive, driving the armed firearms officers (AFO) in the collective effort to target nominals in tasking areas by stopping cars, appropriate use of stop search, and intelligence submissions. This has led to a significant change in performance, which demonstrates that armed officers are not merely waiting for the next deployment but are actively disrupting criminality. This has resulted in significant arrests and drug seizures over the last few months.

To illustrate the change in ethos, the comparison of monthly data from January to September 2023 compared with the same period in 2022 shows significant increases in arrests, intelligence submissions and stop searches. This effort to prevent rather than simply respond to firearms activity will continue and the collaborative approach between Crime Services and OSU will go from strength to strength to protect the communities of South Yorkshire from the firearms threat.

A targeted operation week of intensive action to raise awareness of and combat knife crime has just commenced. A comprehensive plan of enforcement, prevention, media and educational activity has been put in place which is coordinated with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) lead Cdr Clayman from the Metropolitan Police.

#### Measure: Disrupt drugs supply and county lines

- **Homicide in England and Wales (ONS) data on drug related homicides.**
- **Substance misuse treatment for adults (PHE) data on new presentations to treatment by referral type.**

Recorded crime levels	ONS dataset shows the proportion of homicide victims and suspects that were under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the homicide. The force submits all homicide reports to the Home Office, and the reports include notification of those identified to be drug related. This is captured by the officer in the case with the information known at the point of submission. The majority of the homicides within South Yorkshire have a flag applied linking them to drugs – drug related homicides accounting for 58% of the homicides in the county in 2022, a higher proportion than seen nationally (49%).
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	Substance misuse treatment for adults is not held by police forces.
Force response to disrupt drugs supply and county lines	<p>The force focus continues in the disruption of drugs supply and county lines. The force has worked to significantly increase drug expert witness capability, providing greater support to drug-related prosecutions, and assisting the process through the criminal justice system. Operational activity links to the work of the Armed Crime Team and district Fortify Teams with a high proportion of mapped OCGs primarily linked to drugs. Disruptions of the OCG networks linked to drugs supply and county lines are monitored (<i>Reduce Serious Violence section</i>).</p> <p>The Force employs a SOC Co-ordinator who attends the monthly regional SOC Co-ordinator's forum – this is chaired by a Home Office representative and regional county lines leads, facilitating wide sharing of intelligence, emerging threats, and notable practice.</p> <p>The force's Fortify Management Group scrutinises and tasks against the top SOC threats for each of the four districts in turn informing the Multi Agency Regional Tactical Operational Meeting (MARTOM) where the top SOC threats across the region are discussed. Level 2 activity around force SOC threats is necessarily governed through covert Tactical Tasking and Co-ordination Group (TT&amp;CG) chaired by the SOC thematic lead. The SOC-IT team is responsible for undertaking SOC System Tasking process for OCG Management, reviewing the threats and geographic impact of each OCG with the relevant LRO to inform future demand scanning.</p> <p>MoRiLE scores for OCGs are used during various TT&amp;CG meetings to aid decision making in terms of resources, including whole force and covert meetings. In addition, the districts/departments receive a summary of their OCG's in risk order after each full round of SOC System Tasking to aid local meetings and to allow districts to make informed decisions around resourcing and response to the risks.</p> <p>Each district has proactive Fortify teams varying in numbers commensurate with the size, demographic and SOC threat within the district, equipped with the appropriate tools with which to undertake their roles.</p> <p>The force Serious and Organised Crime Strategy sets out the direction for the force. The purpose of the strategy is to outline the vision for tackling and reducing SOC, set the objectives the force is trying to achieve over the period and the steps that will be taken to deliver this. The strategy has six specific objectives aligned to the 4Ps Pursue, Prepare, Protect and Prevent, these being reducing vulnerabilities; developing our capabilities; improving problem solving; developing strategic partnerships; promoting communications and engagement; and demonstrating effective governance and compliance.</p> <p>A key challenge in tackling the criminality associated with County Lines activity (often linked to drugs), is understanding the nature and scale of activity. As a result, the force works with partners to raise awareness across the communities; proactively engage with young people who may be vulnerable for targeting by offenders; supporting those who have been victims of exploitation; and investigating and charging offenders with their criminal acts.</p> <p>A quarterly county-wide Child Exploitation Group (incorporating County Lines activity) continues to evolve to improve partnership working and information sharing, along with highlighting best practice and addressing any operational issues. The National Police Chief's Council Vulnerability Tracker is fully embedded across the force and utilised within MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation) meetings. This supports the identification of victims for both CSE and CCE, providing a risk score and profile. District PVP teams locally conduct regular MACE meetings, and all Districts have either have a dedicated child exploitation team based within a multi-agency setting or dedicated local lead who works closely with partnership counterparts.</p> <p>In addition to submitting safeguarding referrals, partners also play a key role in prevention work, for example through drug awareness education or through deferring children from youth violence. The work of the Violence Reduction Unit supports the delivery of some commissioned interventions,</p>

	<p>and the force works with to refer individuals for substance misuse programmes, under schemes such as the Custody Navigator programme, and Liaison and Diversion.</p> <p>Additionally, the force and OPCC are working with Local Authority substance misuse commissioners to develop a conditional caution referral pathway for offenders.</p>
<p><b>Ongoing focus – November 2023:</b> D/Supt Jamie Henderson (SOC), CI Leanne Dean (CCE and County Lines), DCI Mark Oughton (Drugs Markets)</p>	
<p>The force has a robust and recognised organised crime groups (OCG) management structure, with an effective partnership response to tackling organised crime and the associated serious violence that inevitably comes with it. With the archive or some dismantled OCGs, and the proactive mapping of new groups, South Yorkshire have 70 identified OCGs, of which 56 with a primary threat of drugs and a further six having a primary threat of County Lines.</p> <p>All four districts have recently been supported with the investment of child exploitation teams which will bring focus to county lines and drug supply investigations that exploit vulnerable people. Our Serious Organised Crime Unit (SOCU), Fortify, and Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) continue to enforce and disrupt drugs lines and OCGs with a primary threat of controlled drugs.</p> <p>During October, the force participated in a period of national intensification around Country Lines, a national multi partnership operation to tackle county lines and exploitation. This is an opportunity to share analytical products and intelligence gaps to target offending, identify and safeguard children whilst pursuing offenders and increasing the intelligence reporting force wide, as well as regionally.</p> <p>This successful operation resulted in the seizure of mobile phones, viable firearms, partially converted blank firing pistols, bullets, shotgun cartridges, knuckledusters and controlled drugs.</p> <p>In December 2023, force thematic leads will present to the Senior Leadership Team at the Force Performance Day insight session on the progress of force wide exploitation work streams, including the introduction of district exploitation teams and future operations.</p> <p>Specialist training has been delivered to multi-agency partners following the establishment of the Barnsley Exploitation Team in September 2023. With support from regional colleagues, a Hydra suit delivery of county lines exploitation training resulted in collaborative upskilling that marked the launch of the team.</p> <p>The force continues to benefit from the introduction of a Detective Inspector within the Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Organised Crime Unit (Y&amp;H ROCU SOC). The features of this role, which is a Home Office funded position, is to be an ambassador on the 'Clear, Hold, Build' (CHB) projects of which South Yorkshire currently has two. The CHB concept provides a structured way to achieve a whole systems approach to tackling Serious Organised Crime (SOC), ensuring that partnership resources are coordinated and applied collectively to increase community resilience to SOC activity.</p> <p>South Yorkshire Police, in conjunction with Dr Matthew Bacon and Dr Xavier L'Hoiry (University of Sheffield) are continuing the collaborative research into conceptualising and evaluating the impact of policing drugs markets. The research governance, under the N8PRP partnership is a collaboration between eight universities and 12 police forces in the north of England. The partnership brings together the skills, structures and independence of academia and the knowledge, experience, and data of police forces, providing a network to champion, enable and support the best in policing research. The N8PRP has previously delivered on numerous national projects and has a proven track record of influencing and introducing national notable best practice in a range of policing settings.</p>	

The force has trained an additional Drugs Expert Witnesses in a recent South Yorkshire Police hosted training event by attended by national experts.

A Drugs and Alcohol Reduction (DARD) and Local Drugs Information System (LDIS) event took place between South Yorkshire Police and partners from all Local Authorities. Both systems are now being embedded. The drugs Death Coordinator is now in position, updating partners on a daily basis and forging relationships with drugs intervention partners and coroners.

Training is being prepared for officers around the awareness of naloxone. This training will commence in March 2024 so that officers are aware how to administer should they come across someone in an overdose state and Naloxone is available.

The Savings and Efficiencies team have agreed a proposal for testing cannabis plants within the Calder facility by South Yorkshire Police officers can go ahead. A working group has now been formed, this aims to remove cannabis plants from the forensic provider pipeline and aims to reduce examination times for Class A drugs.

Training sessions are being prepared for officers in January to ensure cannabis Cultivation scenes are dismantled safely and efficiently.

A recent court case R v Galoway et Al, saw South Yorkshire Police first use of an analytical algorithm resulting in an OCG receiving significant sentences. After pleading guilty, prosecutors were able to demonstrate this was not just street dealing by analysing bulk messaging. This had an impact on sentencing and future proceeds of crime act offences. This case has been used for training within continual professional development throughout the force.

## Measure: Reduce neighbourhood crime

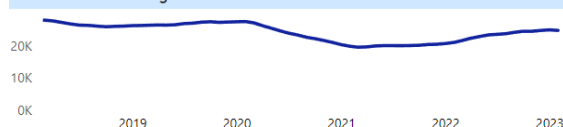
- **Combined measure of Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) data on domestic burglary, robbery, theft of a vehicle, theft from a vehicle, attempts of and from vehicles and theft from the person offences.**

Recorded crime levels

The CSEW data to December 2022 reported that the *percentage of adults in South Yorkshire who have been a victim of at least one personal crime or have been resident in a household that was a victim of at least one household crime are 1.9 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively* – this was aligned with the national picture.

In the 12 months to December 2019 (baseline) there were 27,309 Neighbourhood Crimes recorded in South Yorkshire. Since December 2019, reductions in recorded crime volumes have been seen in Residential Burglary, Theft from Person and Theft of/from Vehicle, whereas

Chart 1b: Total Neighbourhood Crime Volume



Personal Robbery has seen an increase. Some reductions had pre-dated reductions recorded in neighbourhood crime during lockdown. As restrictions have eased there have been increases in volumes of crime, although not to pre-pandemic levels, with an

overall reduction in the twelve months to February 2023 of nine per cent in comparison with the baseline period.

Whilst reductions are largely maintained, Theft of Vehicle is an increasing challenge, and the force currently records a higher rate of Residential Burglary, Robbery and Theft from / of Vehicle than peer forces, and a similar rate of Theft from Person offences.

Force response to reducing

Prevention activity undertaken by neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) is the backbone for long-term delivery of crime reductions. The force analysts have identified wards with the highest rates

neighbourhood crime	<p>of neighbourhood crime. The NPTs apply an evidence-based policing approach to develop local problem-solving plans for these areas. Bespoke neighbourhood policing training has been developed for NPT officers; the first force to achieve officer accreditation by Skills 4 Justice. This work is supported by effective communications with the public and the force continues to deliver media campaigns for emerging neighbourhood crime types to ensure the public is alert to any local themes of criminality, and where possible undertaking preventative action.</p> <p>Intelligence Analysts produce bi-weekly patrol plans for each district, using crime and incident records, incoming intelligence, and analytical profiling to review the modus operandi of the latest burglary reports, support local officer awareness, investigative consideration, target-hardening activity and public-facing crime prevention messaging. Prior neighbourhood crime offenders under imminent prison release are also notified to local officers. This is further supported by a monthly vehicle crime and robbery analysis document.</p> <p>District investigation teams are responsible for the investigation of these offences, management of suspects and offenders. All teams are dedicated to improving the quality of initial scene attendance, evidence capture and investigation to improve action taken outcomes and reduce offending.</p> <p>Resulting from the development of NPT structures and investigative focus, the force is in a strong position to focus on the continued delivery of reductions in neighbourhood crime.</p>
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#### Ongoing Focus - November 2023

Supt Pete Thorp (Serious Acquisitive Crime), Insp Matt Wood (Neighbourhood Policing)

The force continues to review the existing arrangements around neighbourhood crime teams across the four local districts with a view of ensuring that a consistent approach is delivered across the force area. A key piece of work in forming this review is the success brought through the initiative undertaken in Doncaster relating to tackling home burglary. This review is scheduled to report in February 2024.

Work is ongoing to further develop our analytical capability to deliver a new and innovative approach to problem profiling of burglary hotspot areas. This change in approach makes use of powerful mapping software and in-depth analysis of an identified location. In addition, the force has plans to include modelling around socio-demographic and environmental factors to predict vulnerable areas that are then correlated to known areas and allow for wider prevention activity to take place. This approach will then be complemented by the new communication strategy allowing targeted messaging to specific areas.

The force is reviewing its approach to cocooning activity, with consideration of which prevention tools could be provided to members of the public in identified areas and how reach to them can be increased using digital opportunities.

A change to existing governance arrangements will support this change in analysis work, ensuring that both investigation and neighbourhood policing teams are focussing on the right areas. This will allow local policing teams to monitor, and review identified areas on a regular basis.

#### Measure: Improve satisfaction among victims, with a particular focus on victims of DA

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

Recorded satisfaction levels	There is no local comparison available against a national measure, but the force has locally invested to undertake victim feedback surveys to support an understanding of service delivery.
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	<p>Since June 2016, the Home Office has required forces (as part of annual data return requirements) to survey victims of Domestic Abuse. Victim feedback is important to the force to understand where improvements in service can be made.</p> <p>In the 12 months to April 2023, victim satisfaction with overall service in South Yorkshire is 72 per cent for victims of a combined crime measure (domestic burglary, vehicle crime, vulnerable, and hate victims), and 82 per cent for local victims of Domestic Abuse.</p>
Force response to improving victim satisfaction	<p>South Yorkshire Police works alongside OPCC to deliver the victim feedback survey with a focus on understanding the elements where service can be improved. The force seeks the views of members of the public across South Yorkshire who have been recent victims of domestic burglary, vehicle crime, hate crime, domestic abuse, stalking, vulnerable victims and anti-social behaviour victims.</p> <p>The Victim Satisfaction Strategy 2021-2024 refers to several factors which aim to improve victim satisfaction across the force. Whilst the force usually receives positive feedback for the initial response to incidents, and treatment of victims by officers, the main areas for improvement are in the updating of victims by the officer and keeping victims informed of the investigation progress. Two other areas which can result in negative feedback are satisfaction levels where an officer did not attend, and those instances where the victim was not provided with the victims' booklet (or a link to the online version).</p> <p>Compliance against the Victims Code of Practice (VCOP), including an assessment of the force's delivery of enhanced service where appropriate, and delivery of the communications plan is coordinated through the strategic group. It is difficult to understand compliance without a manual review of the investigation, to ensure that the correct people have been identified as being entitled to an enhanced service and whether they receive this service or not. As a result of review, changes were made to the referrals process to better support the identification of victim vulnerability.</p> <p>DA Matters training was provided to over 1600 front line officers and staff in 2020/21. This included a focus on the importance of risk assessment, and identification of additional vulnerability to support intervention, supporting the victim service. A network of DA champions continues to operate across the force to support ongoing local delivery and looking for ways to improve the service provided.</p>
<p><b>Ongoing focus – November 2023:</b> Ch Insp Johnathan Greaves (Victim Satisfaction), Det Supt Dave Cowley (Domestic Abuse)</p>	
<p>The force has successfully trialled a Rapid Video Response (RVR) tool that allows officers to contact victims of Domestic Abuse (DA) in a more timely and convenient manner when deemed appropriate. Following the trial there are plans to purchase further software licenses to roll out across the force. This is expected to have a positive impact on confidence and satisfaction as well as increasing engagement within the Criminal Justice System. The force continues to engage with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and other key partner agencies in line with the DA National Joint Justice plan.</p> <p>In addition to this, on the back of the success of the dedicated DA court in Sheffield, there are plans for a similar model to be rolled out in Barnsley in the coming year. The evaluation of the dedicated DA court in Sheffield has shown that the initiative has led to an increase in guilty pleas at first hearing and a reduction in court wait times for victims.</p> <p>The force has also been part of a trial employing a Special Measures Adviser to help to understand how Special Measures can be used more effectively and frequently to support prosecutions involving our most vulnerable victims. The force has seen a positive increase in its use within sexual offences and continues to train officers from other departments around its benefits and uses. As previously referenced in a recent Public Accountability Report, the force has agreed to fund the post for a further 12 months whilst work continues to be embedded across</p>	

departments with the goal to increase satisfaction across the criminal justice portfolio and reduce victim attrition by increasing support.

The identification of vulnerability for officers attending incidents and work around the initial victim's needs assessment is ongoing. A training programme has been undertaken across new recruits to upskill them as to the requirements and its importance. There is currently IT work underway to allow officers to record the initial victim needs assessment (IVNA) directly from their mobile device onto the associated investigation. This will ensure that appropriate measures can be put in place to support victims and an audit trail is maintained. Once this IT change is implemented, a week of focus using internal media will be planned to inform officers of their obligations and the benefits of this.

The force has committed to implementing the Single Online Home (SOH) national website which will incorporate online reporting of DA and an online Clare's Law Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) application process.

Whilst the force is already using its own online reporting tool and is processing DVDS applications via the Police.co.uk website, the new SOH will improve accessibility for the public and will conform to a national template.

National work is ongoing to establish a national satisfaction survey. This will allow direct comparison between forces as to satisfaction levels across various stages of the criminal justice journey. The results are expected to be published quarterly once embedded.

**DA Victim Satisfaction Summary:** July to October 2023 (crimes reported in June to August 2023)  
Results are based on 3 months' worth of data and compared to the previous 3-month period.

**Overall Satisfaction:** remained stable at 80 per cent (145 victims)

- The below aspects of service have remained stable.
  - First Response (86 per cent, 103 victims)
  - Initial actions (85 per cent, 103 victims)
  - Investigation (73 per cent, 113 victims)
  - Treatment (90 per cent, 145 victims),
- **Follow up** continued to be the aspect of service with the lowest satisfaction, however, this has remained stable at 62 per cent (112 victims).
- Key indicators include:
  - 90 per cent of victims reported they would feel confident contacting police again.
  - 45 per cent of victims reported having been dealt with by **3 or more different officers** throughout the course of the investigation.
  - 39 per cent reported that formal action was taken against the perpetrator, 39 per cent said they wanted formal action to be taken.
- All districts were in line with the force average of 79 per cent except Doncaster that was above the force average at 88 per cent.

**Stalking Victim Satisfaction Summary:** November 2022 to September 2023

**Overall Satisfaction:** 76 per cent (219 victims)

- Satisfaction with First response (86 per cent), initial actions (84 per cent), and treatment (84 per cent) remained high.
- Follow up had the lowest satisfaction at 54 per cent (189 victims).
- Key indicators include:
  - 84 per cent of victims reported they would feel confident contacting police again.

- 30 per cent reported that formal action was taken against the perpetrator, 45 per cent said they wanted formal action to be taken.
- 44 per cent reported they were informed of the final result.
- All districts were consistent with the force average of 76 per cent.

The force will be expanding on the work of its established Independent Advisory Groups (IAG) to bring some independence to its DA scrutiny panel process. This will then feedback through the monthly PVP Performance meetings.

The force is eagerly awaiting the publication of the national DA Joint Justice Plan which has been jointly produced by the Police and Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) following considerable consultation with stakeholders. The aim of the plan is to increase the number of successful prosecutions of DA perpetrators and one of the key workstreams is to reduce the time from initial report to police to the outcome at court. The report is due to be published early next year.

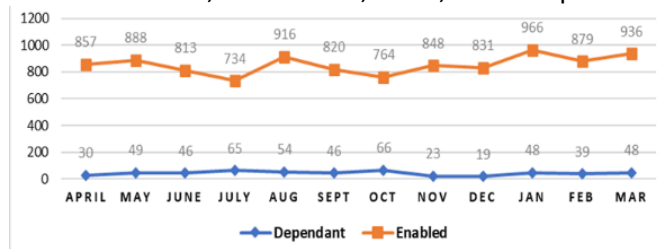
### Measure: Tackle Cyber Crime

- **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

The datasets nationally identified are not currently available at a local level. On a quarterly basis, the force provides data returns to the region which feeds a national performance report to the NPCC Cybercrime Programme Board.

Recorded cybercrime offences have continued to increase in recent years, with over 10,000 offences recorded in 2022/23. The largest cybercrime categories are malicious communications, harassment, fraud, obscene publications and blackmail.



Tackling this criminality is widespread across a number of operational areas.

#### Force response to reducing cyber crime

There is an increasing digital footprint within criminality and the force has taken steps to support officers in undertaking cyber-dependent or cyber-enabled investigations. Despite this, keeping pace with the rate of technological advancement adopted by offenders is a challenge. Cybercrime is a cross cutting theme within the force Control Strategy, and the approach to cybercrime mirrors the 4P strands of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy.

The force has a dedicated Cyber Protect Officer who is responsible for supporting the delivery of the Protect strand in relation to cybercrime. This officer works extensively with local businesses and public groups to support prevention messaging and circulate emerging issues across media platforms. Key to this work is the early intervention in place to deliver 'cyber choices' input for children considered to be at risk of cyber offending.

The force has invested in a Digital Forensics Unit, digital evidence kiosks (available to officers across the organisation) and a Digital Intelligence and Investigations Unit (specialises in the investigation of complex cyber-dependent offences). The Digital Intelligence and Investigations Unit also works to support the wider Yorkshire and Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit (RCCU), the National Crime Agency, and other force Cyber Crime Units as required.

	<p>Digital Media Investigators across the force work to support local officer knowledge and capability. Street Skills training, reaching all frontline response and NPT officers, includes cyber-crime input. The force has an internal intranet page dedicated to cybercrime to provide an information support for all officers. This includes the force's Little Book of Cyber Scams, and links to the Met Police mini videos on various cyber scam topics.</p> <p>ISO 17025 is the international standard applicable for all laboratories performing calibrations and/or tests. The United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) is the national body with responsibility for assessing organisations that provide these services. In 2019, the force gained accreditation in the physical capture and preservation of data from computer related devices and in Autumn 2020 completed an extension to scope the capture and processing of data from mobile devices. The force recognises the need to continually improve the resources and training to respond to and prevent cybercrime and is committed to continued investment in digitally capability.</p>
<p><b>Ongoing focus –November 2023:</b> DCI Claire Mayfield (Digital Investigations and Cyber)</p>	
<p>The local delivery of the investigation of cybercrime continues to be cemented in the economic crime portfolio, with the embedding of reinvigorated regional management by the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU).</p> <p>Within the last update the governance of the local delivery team had moved to sit under local management in the Economic Crime portfolio.</p> <p>This new structure is now operational and working well with the team relocating to Ecclesfield.</p> <p>Where vacancies exist within the small teams, the impact is mitigated by the temporary movement of other staff who have previous experience within this area.</p> <p>In the last update, mention was made of the recommencement of the force wide Digital Investigations Working Group (DIWG). The DIWG encompasses cybercrime and links in with the broader digital investigation portfolio, enabling trends, learning and governance to be shared both within the dedicated teams and across the districts via the District Crime Managers.</p> <p>Prevent and Protect work remains daily business for the team and a force wide newsletter will be implemented for cybercrime, similar to the one completed by DFU.</p> <p>With the commencement of the new school year in September 2023 the focus continued to be around educating and collaborating with new school starters in to the next quarter.</p> <p>It has been agreed that a cohort of new Digital Media Investigators will commence during 2024. The recruitment and posting timetable is being managed through the Workforce Deployment Board.</p> <p>The Digital Forensics Unit continue to align their analytical function. A new operating model has been agreed and implementation will commence within the coming weeks. This will involve a realignment of priorities in preference to an increase in establishment.</p> <p>A tasking group will be commencing around Forensic Science Regulators codes of practice and the force is currently scoping future requirements with regard to quality management and full sustainable compliance with these codes.</p>	