

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

1st July to 30th September 2023

Introduction

The Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire is published by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). It outlines his policing and wider criminal justice priorities for the area and how he will work with the police and partners to achieve them. The latest Police and Crime Plan – “Working Together for a Safer South Yorkshire”, covers the period 2023-2025. The overall aim for the plan: “We want South Yorkshire to be a place in which it is safe to live, learn, work and travel.”

The priorities outlined in the plan in support of the aim for 2023 onwards are:

- Protecting Vulnerable People
- Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Treating People Fairly

In working deliver on these priorities, the PCC has also identified four Fundamental Principles that must underpin everything that the police, partners and the OPCC do:

- Put victims first.
- Improve public trust and confidence in policing.
- Demonstrate value for money.
- Support sustainability.

This report aims to provide an overview of the progress of all policing and crime partners across South Yorkshire against achieving the priorities of the Plan. The quarterly reports cannot include everything being delivered, however more information can be found on the PCC’s website www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk.

National Priorities for Policing

The National Priorities for Policing were introduced by the Government in 2021/22. The priorities are specified by the Government in the National Crime and Policing Measures. The aim of the national measures is to complement existing local priorities set out in the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan. The Police and Crime Commissioner has included all national priorities in his current Police and Crime Plan.

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.
- Tackle cybercrime.

The Police and Crime Commissioner is required to provide a statement on the contribution of South Yorkshire Police to achieving improvements against these national priorities and the latest statement can be found on the PCC's website. This report also contains information relevant to the national priorities.

Disclaimer

Much of the performance indicator data used in the graphs in this report is not yet fully audited and is subject to change as records are updated and quality checks undertaken. Therefore, data is subject to change until published by the Office for National Statistics and cannot be reproduced without permission from the owner of the data.

Police and Crime Plan Summary Dashboard

Protecting Vulnerable People			
Measure	12 Months to September 2022	12 Months to September 2023	Trend*
Recorded Domestic Abuse Crimes (1)	24,750	24,923	↑
Domestic Abuse Crime Arrest Rate (1)	48%	42%	↓
Recorded Sexual Offences (1)	4531	4635	↑
% Of crimes where victim is assessed as vulnerable (1)	37%	32%	↓
Vulnerable victims satisfied with police experience (8)	69%	69%	No statistically significant change

Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour			
Measure	12 Months to September 2022	12 Months to September 2023	Trend*
SYP Recorded level of Anti-Social Behaviour (1)	24,976	25,500	↑
Recorded level of all crime (excl. fraud) (1)	157,939	160,107	↑
Measure	Jan 20 to Dec 20 cohort	Jan 21 to Dec 21 cohort	Trend*
Rate of proven re-offending (adults) (2) (Lower rates are better)	26.0%	26.0% (England/Wales 24.6%)	↔
Rate of proven re-offending (youth) (2) (Lower rates are better)	26.6%	25.3% (England/Wales 31.4%)	↓
Measure	12 months to Jun 22	12 months to Jun 23	Trend*
Serious crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument (3)	1,609	1,618	↑

Treating People Fairly			
Measure	12 Months to September 2022	12 Months to September 2023	Comparison
% Of people saying police do a good/excellent job (7)	35%	29%	↓ statistically significant decrease
Measure	Jul 22 to Sep 22	Jul 23 to Sep 23	Trend*
No. of cases created by Restorative Justice service (active referrals) (4) More information on type of referrals on page 29	111	138	↑
Measure	12 Months to September 2022	12 Months to September 2023	Trend*
Stop and Search conducted (1)	12,362	12,643	↑

Providing Value For Money For Policing and Crime Services			
Year end forecast as at 30 th September 2023			
End of year forecast (Revenue) (6)	£4.4m underspend		
End of year forecast (Capital) (6)	Capital Programme of £17.4m – expected to spend in full by 31 st March 2024 as at 30 th September 2023		
Source: (1) SYP, (2) MoJ, (3) ONS (4) Remedi, (6) OPCC (7) SYP Your Voice Counts Survey, (8) SYP survey undertaken 6 to 8 weeks after the crime	<p>* Unless otherwise stated, the arrows denote the direction of travel rather than any statistically significant increase/decrease. Statistical significance is used in this report in relation to survey data to help understand whether one set of responses is actually different to another set of responses, taking account of differences in size of survey sample or population. If the result is not statistically significant, then this means that the results for each group are not considered to be sufficiently different to demonstrate any real change in perception.</p>		

COVID 19

Some comparator data used in this report covers periods of Government partial lockdown restrictions or periods of leaving lockdown restrictions on the whole UK population because of the Covid 19 Coronavirus pandemic.

The pandemic and associated restrictions led to differences in the recorded levels of crimes compared to those seen pre-pandemic and during different periods of restrictions. Recorded levels of crime overall were lower during a period of lockdown. However, there was variation between crime types. For example, residential burglary and sexual offences saw reduced levels, drug offences and public order offences saw increases.

Some of the graphs used in this report now include data from 2019/20 to show pre-pandemic levels of police recorded crime where relevant.

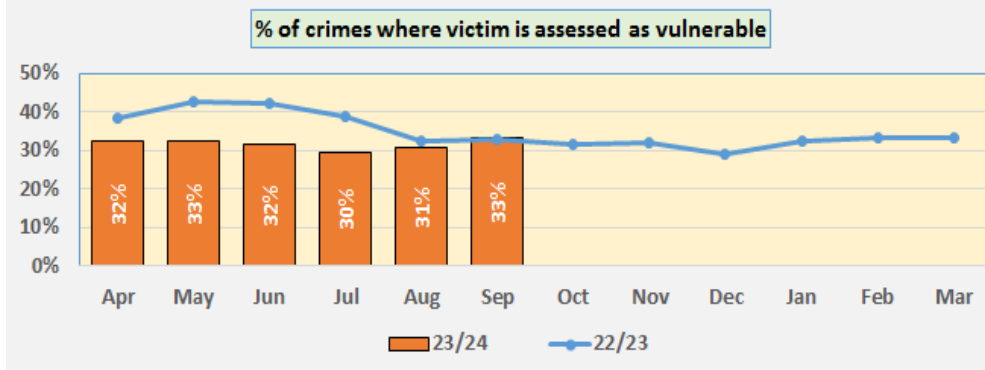
Since the pandemic the PCC has been writing and publishing a weekly blog. The blog aims to keep members of the public, partners, and communities up to date with how he is carrying out his role and also to think more widely around contemporary issues that have a bearing on policing. All the blogs can be found on the PCC's website, with the latest one here: [PCC Blog 174 - South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner \(southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/blog/174)

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

Within this priority, the area of focus for 2023/24 are:

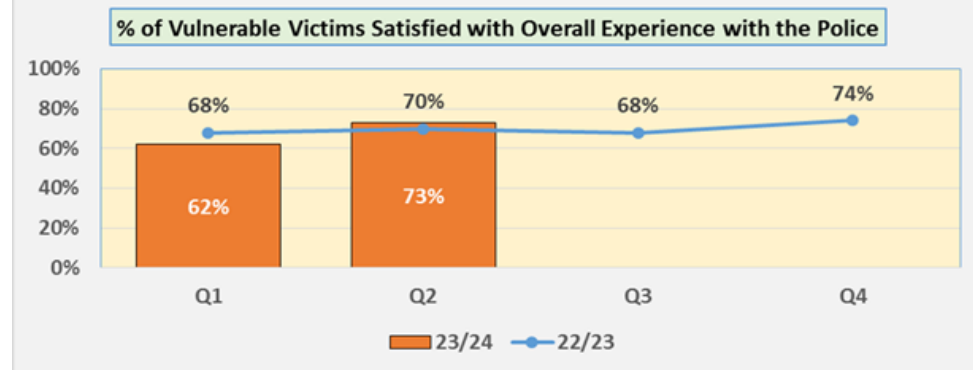
- Working in Partnership to Protect Vulnerable People
- Domestic Abuse (DA)
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Violence Against Women and Girls.
- Tackling the Exploitation of Adults and Children
- Tackling Fraud and Cyber Crime

This section of the report includes a look at data and performance indicators as well as information about the range of work going on aimed at protecting vulnerable people - details of which are included after the graphs.



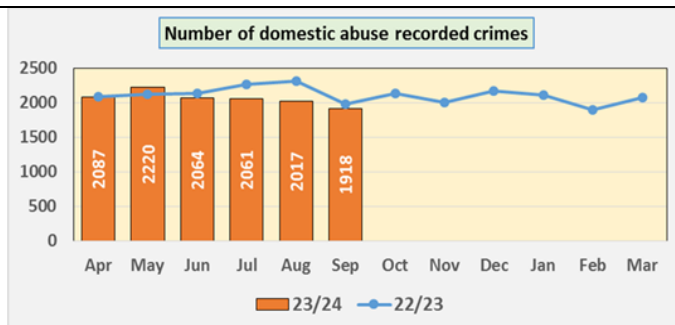
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The % of crimes where a victim is assessed as vulnerable has decreased slightly in Q2 23/24. Levels are lower than the same period last year.



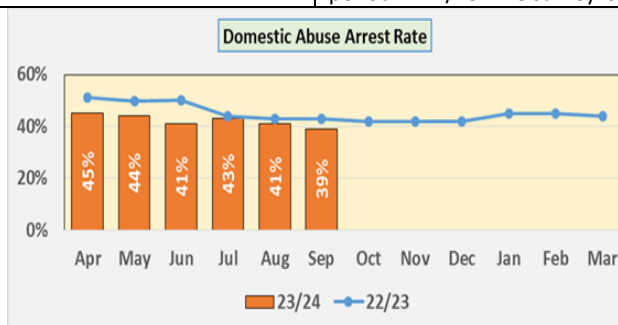
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

In Q2 23/24, 73% of vulnerable victims were satisfied with their overall experience with the Police. There was a statistically significant increase from the previous quarter but no change with the same period in 22/23. The survey is conducted 4-6 weeks after reporting and is a telephone survey.



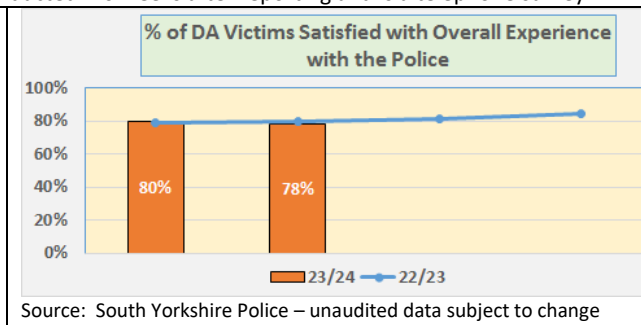
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

There has been a decrease in DA recorded crimes in Q2 23/24 compared to the previous quarter, and levels are lower than Q2 in 22/23. Levels in Q2 are higher than pre-pandemic. SYP and the OPCC continue to ensure victims have the confidence and ability to easily report domestic abuse, including through an online reporting portal.



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change.

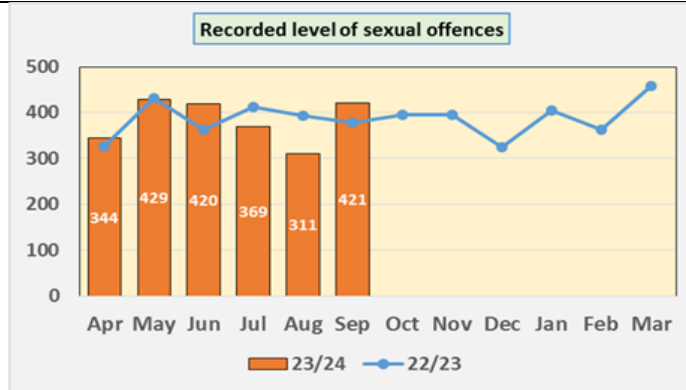
The proportion of domestic abuse crimes with an arrest is lower than the previous quarter and below Q2 22/23. The arrest rate for high-risk DA cases remains between 85% & 90%. Domestic abuse is a priority for SYP and the PCC. Dedicated domestic abuse teams have been set up to deal specifically with DA crime.



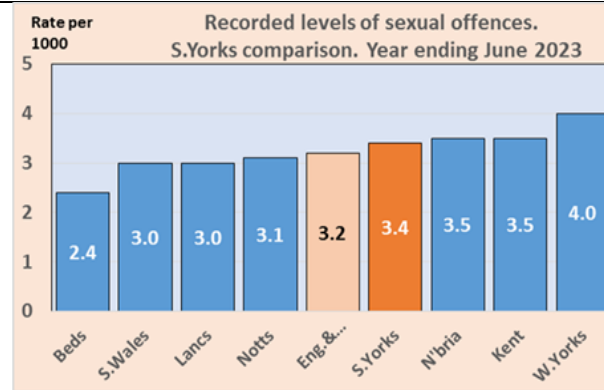
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The % of domestic abuse victims satisfied with their overall experience with the police was 78% in Q2 23/24. There is no statistically significant difference compared to Q1 23/24 or the same period last year. A telephone survey is conducted around 8 weeks after reporting. 145 domestic abuse victims completed the survey in Q2.

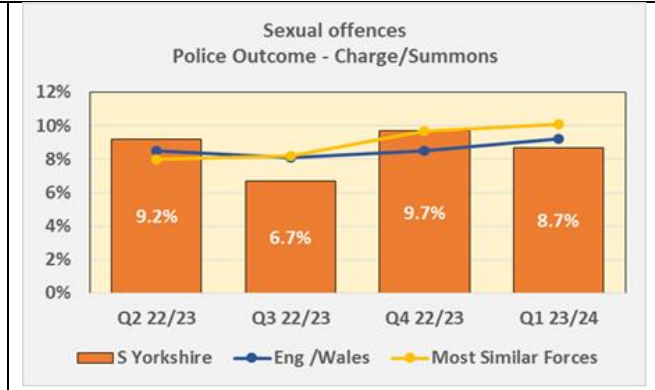
1. Protecting Vulnerable People



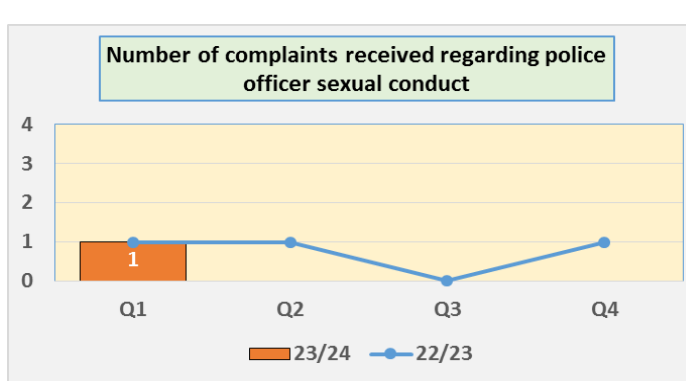
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change
 The recorded level of sexual offences in Q2 23/24 has decreased slightly from the previous quarter and are lower than Q2 last year. Looking at rape offences specifically, recorded level of rape in Q2 has increased both on the previous quarter and the same quarter last year.



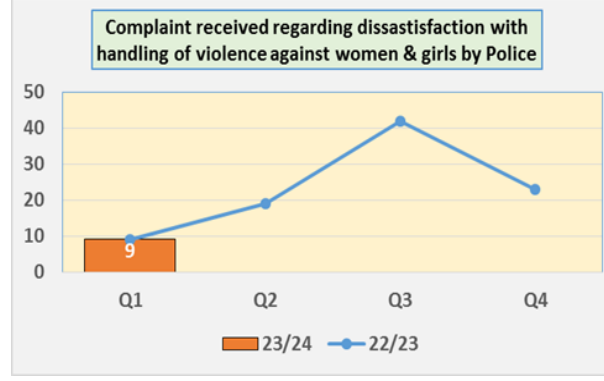
Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime
 The latest available data up to June 2023 shows South Yorkshire Police has rates of recorded sexual offences that are around average compared to most similar forces and the England and Wales average



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Outcomes
 The latest ONS data shows that SYP have slightly lower than the average rates for charge/summons of sexual offences (police recorded outcomes) in Q1 23/24 when compared to SYP's most similar forces. SYP is slightly lower than the England and Wales average.



Source: IOPC Police Complaints Information Bulletin
 In Q1 23/24, there was 1 complaint made to SYP about police officer sexual conduct. This is in line with the number of complaints received in Q4 22/23 and Q1 22/23



Source: IOPC Police Complaints Information Bulletin
 In Q1 23/24, there were 9 complaints made to SYP regarding dissatisfaction with the handling of VAWG by SYP. This is lower than the number of complaints received last quarter and in line with the same period last year.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

Any one of us may become a victim of crime and if that happens, we need to have confidence that we will receive a timely and supportive response. Protecting women and girls is a key area of focus as well as making sure all vulnerable victims and their needs are recognised at the earliest opportunity so that they can be supported in the most appropriate way. It is important that we receive feedback from victims to make sure that the services I commission are effective in meeting the needs of all victims including victims of sexual offences who may be particularly vulnerable. However, over recent years, much of policing and requests for service are not directly about crime, but about safeguarding the vulnerable – such as those who are missing from home or those with mental health issues. Supporting and safeguarding is the responsibility of all agencies who must continue to work together to protect the most vulnerable in society.

Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) Service

Quarter 2 has seen a slight reduction in referrals to the ISVA service across all areas of the partnership. However, similarly to Quarter 1, ISVA's caseloads are rising across all four localities. This is currently being addressed within the partnership to explore the reasons for this as a number of factors could be at play both internally and externally updates to this will be given within the monthly contract meetings.

The number of referrals across all four localities totals 419 for Quarter 2, with a breakdown per locality shown below:

- Sheffield: 153
- Barnsley: 91
- Doncaster: 91
- Rotherham: 83 plus Stovewood: 1 additional referral.

Operation Stovewood, the National Crime Agency's investigation into child sexual abuse in Rotherham, continues to see a decline in ISVA

referrals as expected however the overall number of cases in Rotherham remains consistent with other areas as expected with many Stovewood cases at the trial stage.

People who identify as female continue to make up the vast majority of ISAV service clientele across all four localities. The service are seeing an increase in the number of people who identify as male accessing support, increasing from 375 at the end of quarter 1 to 385 at the end of quarter 2. This is positive and reflective of the new male specialist ISVA workers across three of the four areas who have been working hard to promote and increase the offer of ISVA support to the male community. The number of people identifying as non-binary, transgender men and women, or other/prefer not to say remains the same as in quarter 1 (68).

The primary age group of active clients across the partnership was those aged 13-17 in quarter 2, forming over a quarter of the total clientele across all four areas (26%). 38% of the total clientele across all four areas were people under the age of 18 in quarter 2, demonstrating the demand for children and young people support across all areas. People aged between 25 and 34 were the second most popular age group across the four services and formed 23% of active clients.

The majority of our clients identify as heterosexual (54%). However, there has seen an increase in the proportion of clients identifying as gay, lesbian, bisexual, other, or prefer not to say, from 43% in quarter 1 to 46% in quarter 2. This is a positive step forward for the service in the service's inclusivity appeal.

White is the most recorded ethnicity among ISVA active clients. However, in quarter 2 there has been a further increase in the number of Asian/Asian British clients and in the total proportion of minority ethnic clients. This may be an indication of the work of Sheffield's specialist ISVA

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for minoritised ethnic adults, who has been working hard to promote and raise awareness of the service and is now managing a caseload.

Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

The PCC continues to support and co-commission the SARC service at Hackenthorpe Lodge which provides free confidential healthcare and compassionate support to anyone in South Yorkshire that has experienced sexual assault or rape. The centre provides support and guidance, a medical assessment/treatment, a forensic examination, and the opportunity of aftercare referrals for support services. People attending the centre are offered these services based on their own individual's needs and can choose to use as much or as little of the service as they wish.

Case referral numbers in South Yorkshire were similar in Q2 to Q1 at just over 120 cases. Referrals into the service are predominantly from the police (66% in Q2) followed by self referrals at 18%. These figures are similar to those in the previous quarter.

The majority of people using the SARC in Q2 identify as female – around 95%. In respect of ethnicity, around 13% of service users in Q2 defined their ethnicity as Black, Asian or having a mixed ethnic background.

Child Sexual Assault Referral Centre

South Yorkshire also has a separate dedicated children's Sexual Assault Assessment Service based within the Sheffield Children's Hospital. The service provides specialist support, including forensic examinations as required, for children (under 16 years of age) where there is a concern about recent (Acute) or non-recent (historic) disclosure or suspicion of sexual abuse. The children's SARC also accepts referrals for young people aged 16 and 17 years old who have additional vulnerabilities and provides

support where concerns about sexual exploitation or other child protection issues exist. During Q2, there were 21 new referrals into the service, a slight reduction on the 28 in Q1.

The work on producing a video looking at the child's journey through the paediatric SARC, from when a child arrives at the unit until discharge is continuing. The video is being co-produced with both police and social care professionals as well as service users recognising the voice of the child in the video.

'Cranstoun Inspire to Change'- Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme

The Inspire to Change (ITC) programme is a voluntary behaviour change programme targeted at the perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Quarter two saw 138 referrals made to the service over South Yorkshire, an increase on quarter 1 (99 referrals). Police referrals accounting for 44 of those referrals (32%), Childrens Social Care 47 (34%) and 36 referrals were self-referrals, this is a significant increase in self-referrals.

Referral breakdown by area:

- Sheffield – 51 referrals (37%)
- Rotherham – 31 referrals (22%)
- Doncaster – 25 referrals (18%)
- Barnsley – 31 referrals (22%)

An average of 88% of referrals made into the service were offered an assessment appointment within 5 working days of first contact. This is an increase from the 69% last quarter.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

The number of referrals from South Yorkshire Police has seen a downward trend over recent months, however the trend was reversed in quarter 2 with an increase in the percentage of referrals from SYP. This is likely to be as a result of increased meetings with the force leads from all four South Yorkshire areas and the Violence Reduction Unit and a multi directional approach to regaining traction within the force. Further work publicising the service is ongoing including a move to face to face sessions from online delivery.

There were 27 ITC completions for this quarter, bringing the completions total for year 2 of the programme to date to 103. At present the completion rate for those starting an intervention stands at 54%. The completions by area are as follows:

Sheffield – 8

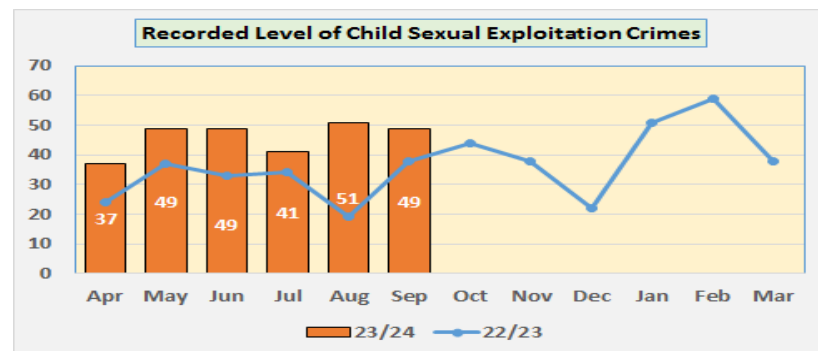
Rotherham – 7

Doncaster – 7

Barnsley – 5

This sees a slight increase in completions from the previous quarter.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)



The Levels of CSE crimes recorded in South Yorkshire during Q2 23/24 are higher than the volumes recorded both in the previous quarter and the same quarter last year.

The police continue to adopt a victim-focused approach when dealing with CSE, with the victim being placed at the centre of everything the police do. A dedicated child exploitation awareness campaign has recently been launched by SYP, which has been developed alongside survivors of CSE from Rotherham. The objective of the campaign was to draw upon feedback directly from the survivors as to what would have appealed to them or those around them, to raise concerns or seek support at the time. The campaign was launched to multi-agency professionals from across the broader safeguarding spectrum at Rotherham Football Club in April 2023.

As part of the force's continuous development regarding a victim focussed, trauma informed response to child abuse, HMICFRS commended how innovative practice has been highlighted to assist in capturing the voice of the child. Originally created by Suffolk police the ARTHUR mnemonic looks to develop on the learning derived from the independent review conducted following the tragic murder of 6-year-old Arthur Labinjo-Hughes in June 2021. This seeks to proactively seek out, capture and act upon the voice of a child following contact with SYP. The mnemonic emphasises the importance of early intervention and prevention opportunities to make a difference in children's lives across South Yorkshire.

There is ongoing work to identify and safeguard CSE victims, as well as try to identify CSE within wider Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE). The force has now increased the operational exploitation provision through the creation of dedicated teams in both Barnsley and Doncaster, in addition to the existing teams already formed in Sheffield and Rotherham.

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Due to the intrinsic links between both child sexual and criminal exploitation, previously separated CSE and CCE teams have been amalgamated into holistic child exploitation teams, supported by significant partnership engagement. The objective is to ensure that victims of exploitation receive a consistently high standard of service, irrespective of where they live across South Yorkshire. New dedicated CSE and CCE delivery plans have been jointly developed both with SYP and cooperatively with regional colleagues via the regional threat coordination groups.

Vulnerability and Mental Health

Mental health incidents are defined as ‘any police incident thought to relate to someone’s mental health where their vulnerability is at the centre of the incident or where the police have had to do something additionally or differently because of it’. These incidents are recorded by means of a qualifier applied within the Force Control Room. From April to September 2023, the number of these incidents reported to South Yorkshire Police has continued to track lower than each of the previous 5 years. The average weekly incidents year to date is 178 compared to 226 during 2022 and 249 in 2021.

There are a number of initiatives operating within South Yorkshire that may be impacting demand experienced by SYP in terms of mental health, including a Mental Health Response Vehicle (unmarked ambulance) now operating as business as usual in Rotherham and Doncaster, and the Sheffield vehicle, based at the Longley Centre, having now gone live on 9th October. SYP are also working with health and social care partners, including the NHS ICB provider collaborative and those with lived experience to reduce the need to utilise Section 136 for those in mental health crisis, but to also ensure there is sufficient health based provision in terms of both capacity and quality where individuals are detained. Key to the appropriate use of the S136 power of detention is the ability of officers to access mental health triage advice quickly and for that advice to be of a good quality. Each of the

four ‘place’ areas within South Yorkshire (Sheffield, Doncaster, Rotherham, Barnsley) now have alternative crisis support with direct pathways for the police. This provides a genuine alternative for officers to using Section 136, ensuring the most appropriate support is given to the member of public, who may be experiencing a mental health crisis. Sheffield Health and Social Care are also in the final stages of planning a pilot to base a mental health nurse in the Emergency Department at the Northern General Hospital.

Ongoing work, including with partners, in relation to the use of Section 136 MHA powers of detention is showing a real impact with the average number of monthly detentions in the first 6 months of this financial year at 80, compared to 101 in 2022. That equates to average of 21 fewer people in mental health crisis per month detained by police officers in South Yorkshire. Where detentions do occur or detained persons are assessed in the custody environment as requiring admission to a mental health ward, SYP continue to experience problems in identifying suitable beds. There are significant bed pressures within the health system, which often leads to those detained spending far too long in the care of the police rather than appropriate mental health settings. The force mental health lead is working with senior colleagues in the Integrated Care Board to refresh the escalation processes, both to deal with live operational pressures and to inform longer term strategic planning around bed availability.

The force is currently reviewing the operational training provided to new starters around mental health in order to ensure the local context is captured and to explore the potential to include the voice of those with lived experience. There is also a planned CPD input on mental health to all training staff in February, which will be delivered by the force mental health coordinators. The mental health portal continues to provide a wealth of relevant and up to date reference material and training resources to staff.

Since the implementation of Right Care Right Person as a phased approach in March 2023, the force has continued to engage with partner agencies at both a strategic and tactical level to ensure those who need support receive it

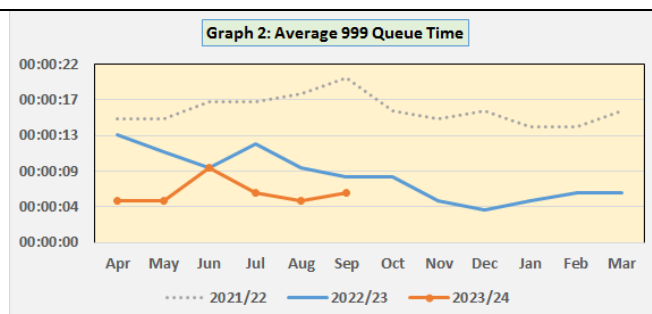
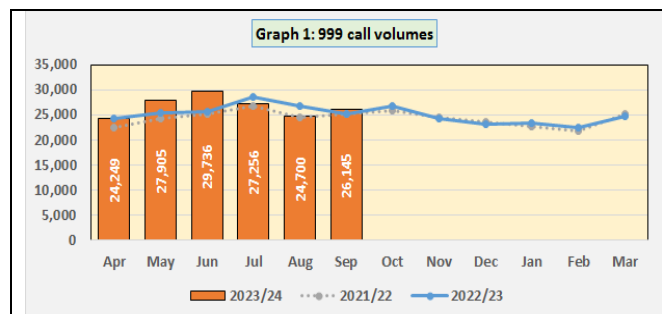
1. Protecting Vulnerable People

from the right agency with the right training. For those experiencing mental ill health in their own home, this will rarely be the police. Around 500 incidents are assessed using the Right Care Right Person framework each month, with very few meeting the threshold to deploy a police resource. There has also been a reduction in the number of “concern for safety” incidents recorded by the force since the initiative commenced on 20th March, with a weekly average of 678 incidents per week since ‘go live’ on

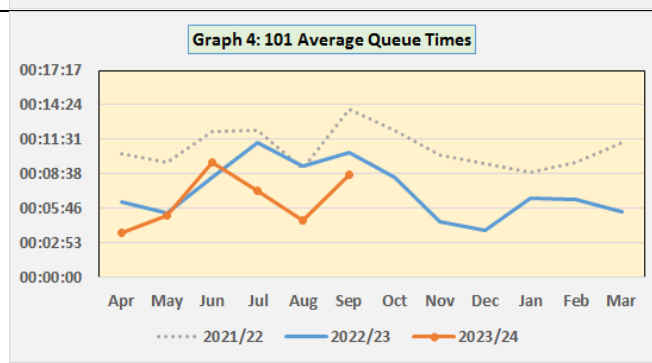
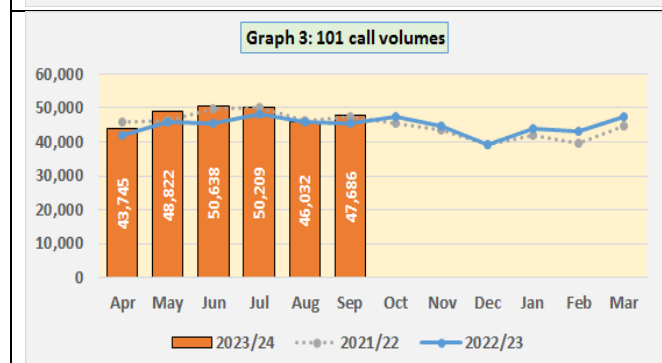
20th March 2023, compared to 806 incidents per week for the equivalent period in 2022. The third and final phase of RCRP went live on 23rd October, which specifically deals with mental health. This largely seeks to reduce the amount of time that police officers spend with those in mental health crisis before their care is accepted by appropriately trained staff in an appropriate setting.

The Government publish national data for all forces in respect of 999 call handling performance on the Police.UK website which uses data provided by BT. The BT data will differ slightly to the data provided below, which is from SYP's own call handling system. The BT data measures call handling times from a slightly different perspective. More information about this can be found on the Police.UK website.

999 and 101 Calls¹

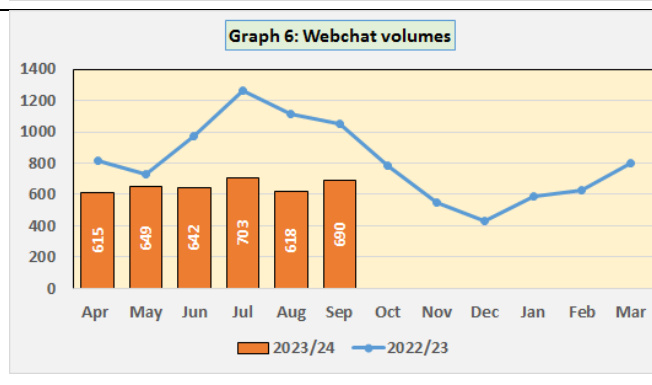
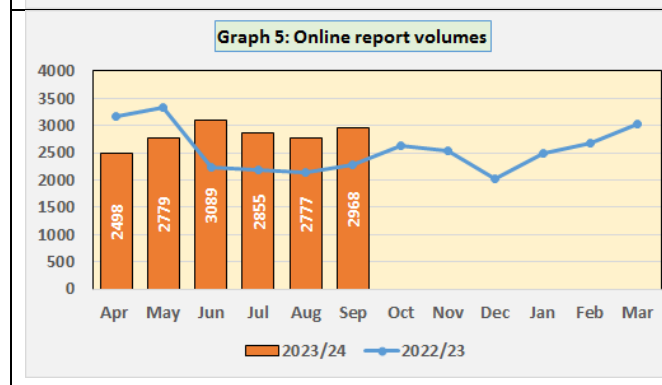


999 calls: 999 call volumes have decreased in Q2 compared to last quarter and are around 3% lower than Q1 last year. (Graph 1). Call volumes in Q2 are about 3% above pre-pandemic. The average call wait time has stayed the same as Q1 at around 6 seconds (Graph 2).



101 calls: Volumes of 101 calls have increased slightly in Q2 23/24 compared to Q1 (Graph 3), and levels are higher than those recorded in the same period last year. The average 101 wait time during Q2 (the orange line in graph 4) was around 6m 50s, slightly higher than the previous quarter.

Callers to 101 are now able to choose from a range of options before being put through to switchboard (or any option selected). As a result, the wait time after 15/09/2022 is now measured slightly differently and so this should be borne in mind when comparing wait times from before this period.



Online Reporting Portal:

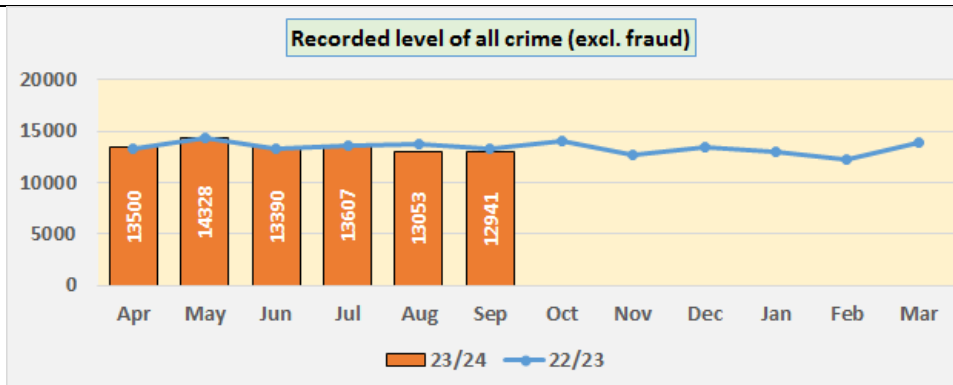
The online portal has two methods of contact – online forms (which are bespoke by topic), and a webchat. Online report volumes increased in Q2 23/24 compared to Q1 with 8,600 reports recorded. There were 2,011 webchats recorded in Q2 23/24, an increase from Q1, but lower than the same period last year. This may be reflective of the quicker response times for other areas of reporting. The average webchat response time during Q2 was 1 minute 50 seconds. These methods of contact will continue to be monitored for wider understanding of preferred access channels by the public.

¹ 101 is the number for contacting the police about something that is not an emergency.

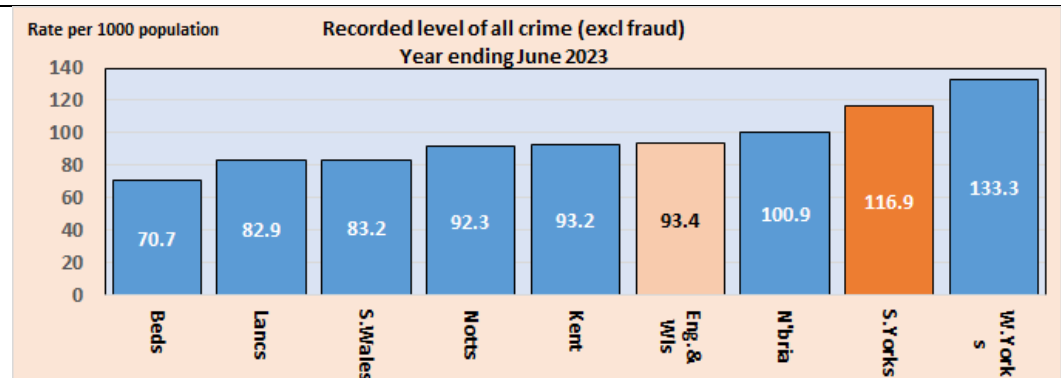
2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

The indicators and narrative chosen for this section of the report aim to show achievement against the following areas of focus within the Police and Crime Plan for 2023/24

- Neighbourhood Crimes and Policing
- Organised Crime and Serious Violence
- Local Partnerships
- Speeding and Road Safety
- Drugs Supply and Demand
- Violence Reduction Unit and Violence Reduction Strategy
- Rural and Wildlife Crime
- National Threats



The levels of total recorded crime (excl. fraud) have decreased in Q2 23/24 compared to Q1. The level of total recorded crime in Q2 was also lower than Q2 last year but above pre-pandemic levels for Q2.

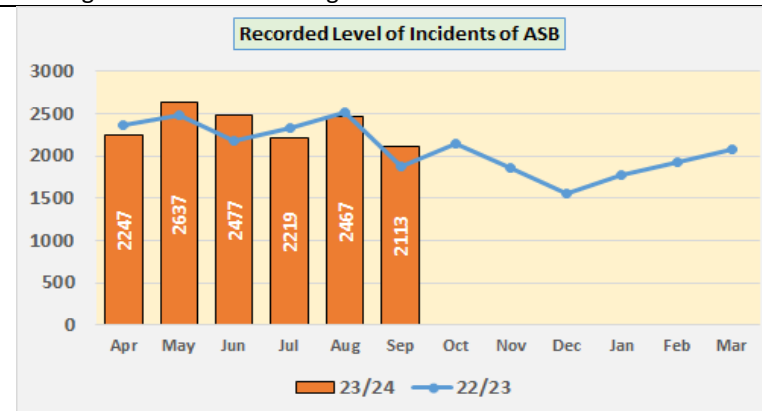


Source: ONS

Latest available comparator data shows South Yorkshire has a higher rate of total recorded crime (excl. fraud) per 1000 population compared to the most similar group of police forces and the England and Wales average.

SYP: District Recorded Crime (excl. fraud)	Barnsley	Doncaster	Rotherham	Sheffield
% Change 12 months to September 23 compared to 12 months to September 22	+2.4%	+0.6%	+1.7%	+0.8%
Volume 12 months to 30.09.23	27,252	42,410	26,964	61,212
Volume 12 months to 30.09.22	26,622	42,160	26,523	60,726

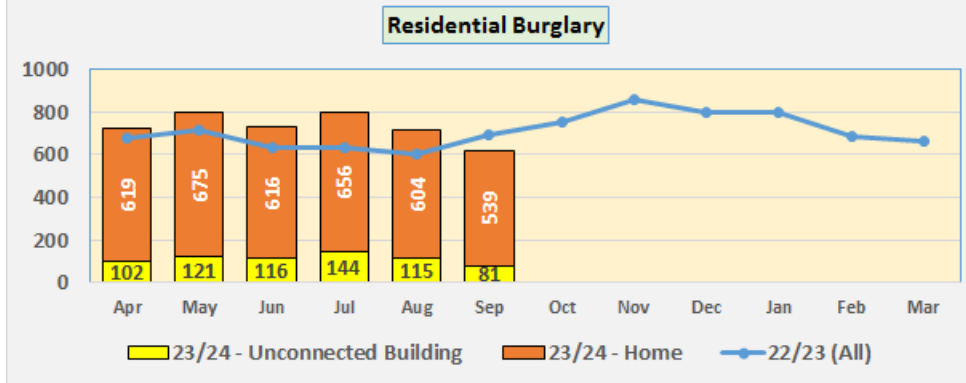
Source: SYP – Unaudited data subject to change.



Source: SYP – Unaudited data subject to change

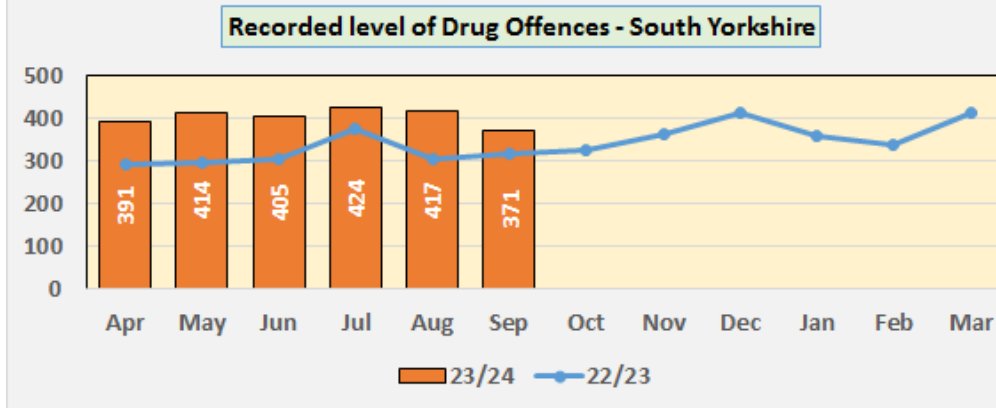
There has been a decrease in recorded levels of ASB in Q2 23/24 compared to the previous quarter. However, levels are above the same period last year. Local authorities also record ASB incidents which are not included here.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



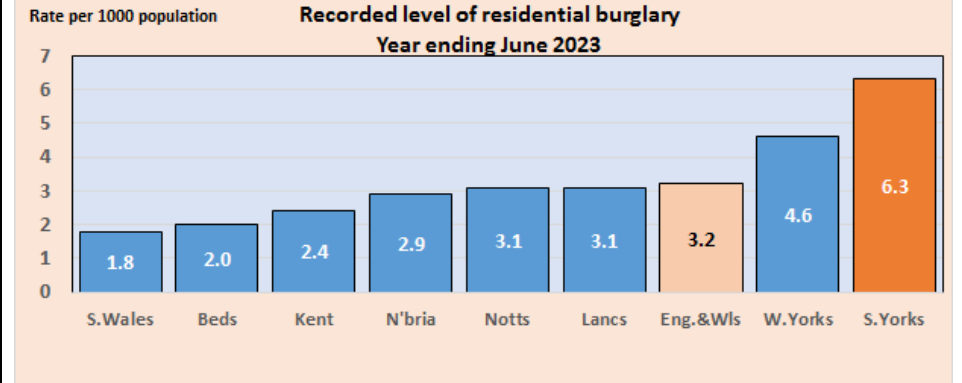
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

Recorded levels of residential burglary have decreased in Q2 23/24 compared to the previous quarter. However, volumes are higher than those recorded in the equivalent period last year. SYP continue to focus specifically on tackling residential burglary in line with residents' priorities. Data and force initiatives are being closely monitored to check the impact of this work.



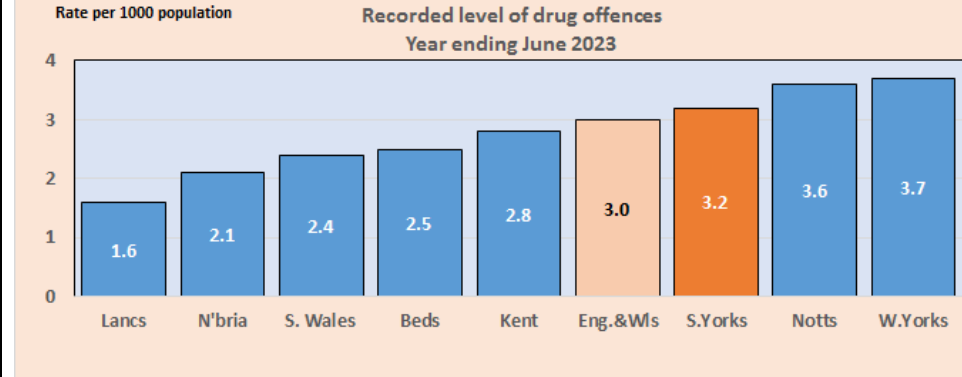
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

Recorded levels of drugs offences in Q2 2023/24 are in line with the previous quarter. Levels are higher than the equivalent period last year and higher than those recorded pre-pandemic 2019/20. Levels of recorded offences will increase as more pro-active work is undertaken to tackle drug crime. Drugs offences include the possession and trafficking of drugs.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

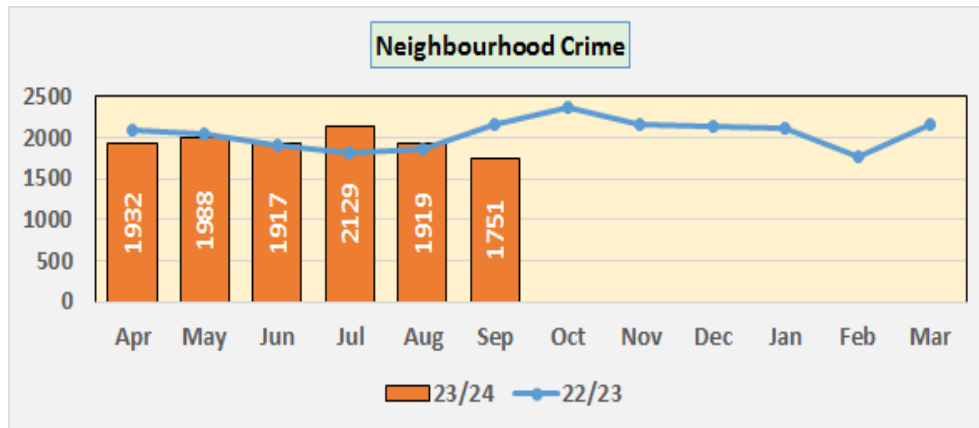
The latest comparator data for the 12 months to the end of June 2023 shows that South Yorkshire has a higher rate of residential burglary than the similar group of forces and the national average. Tackling residential burglary is a priority for all districts with several specific operations and initiatives in place to tackle the issue.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

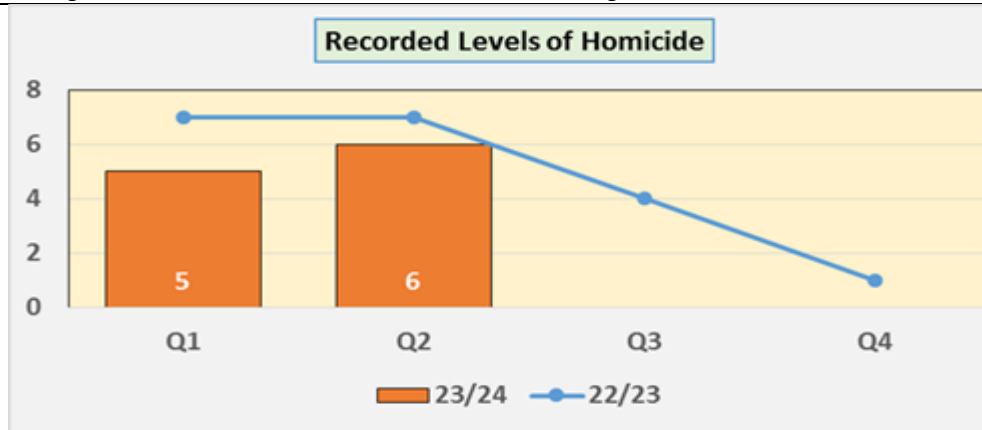
The latest comparator data for the year ending June 23 shows South Yorkshire recorded a rate of 3.2 drug offences per 1000 population, slightly higher than the England and Wales average of 3.0 and slightly above the average of the similar group of forces.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



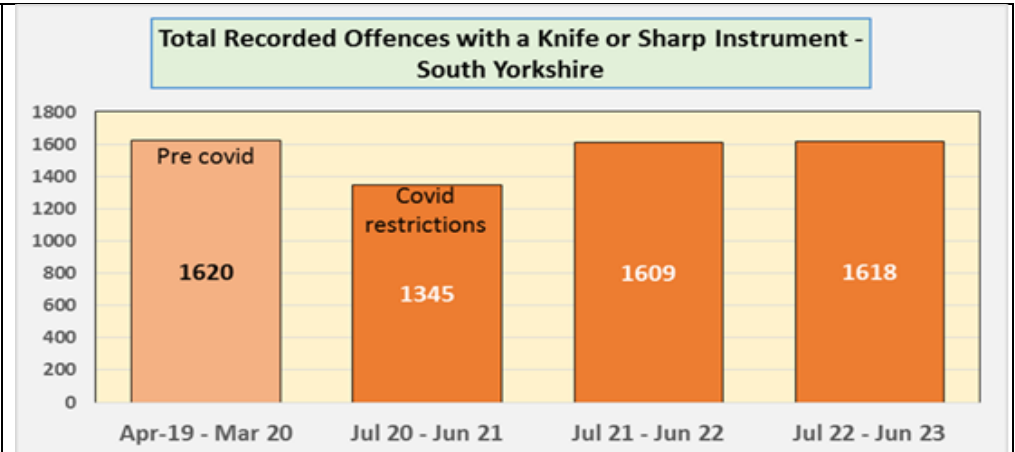
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of neighbourhood crime in Q2 23/24 is slightly lower than levels in Q1 and lower than the same period last year. Neighbourhood crime includes Residential Burglary, Robbery of Personal Property, Theft from the Person, Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Vehicle, Theft from a Vehicle, and Interfering with a Vehicle.



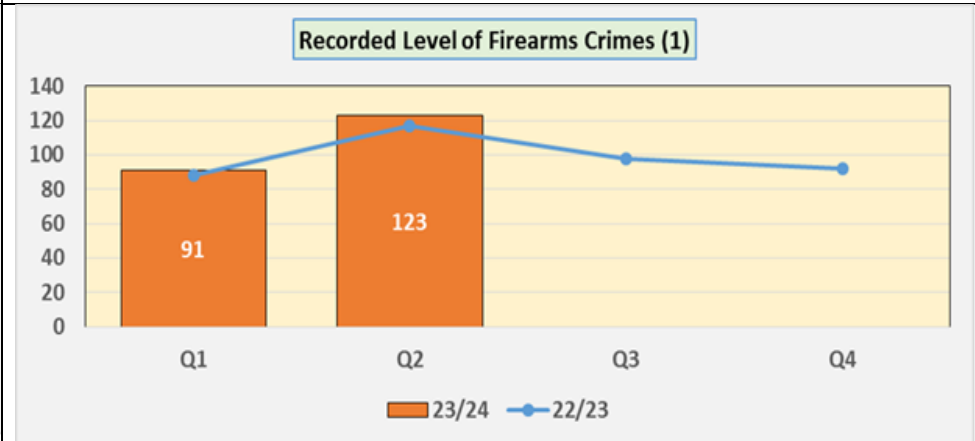
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

There were 6 homicides recorded in Q2 23/24 in South Yorkshire. Homicide figures can change as inquests are concluded. Homicide includes murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter, and infanticide.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

The recorded level of crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument have remained relatively stable with 9 additional offences in the 12 months to June 2023 compared to the previous 12-month period. Levels are now at pre-pandemic levels - first bar on the graph).



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of firearms crimes in Q2 23/24 is higher than Q1 23/24 and the same period last year. Firearms crimes includes the use of imitation firearms, air weapons if a violent crime or burglary and stun guns. (1)

(1). A firearm is defined as used if it is fired, used as a blunt instrument to cause injury to a person or used as a threat. This includes a threat made with a concealed firearm.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)

CSPs and the VRU are a key way in which all partners across South Yorkshire work together to keep people safe. CSPs are made up of representatives from South Yorkshire Police, Local Authorities, Health services, Housing Associations, Fire and Rescue Services and some of the Criminal Justice partners covering. They cover each of the 4 South Yorkshire districts, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield. The PCC holds bi-monthly meetings of the County Wide Community Safety Forum where representatives from each partnership come together. This is how the Rotherham, Doncaster, Barnsley, and Sheffield partnership have been working to tackle issues of concern to local residents.

Barnsley CSP - Safer Barnsley Partnership

Focussing on joint working on crime and anti-social behaviour. During this quarter, the partnership Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour teams have dealt with 240 cases and 169 community safety cases.

During ASB Awareness Week 3rd to 7th July, the Warden teams held a number of engagement stalls with SYP throughout the week in the town centre and carried out targeted patrols in areas with high reports of ASB throughout the borough.

ASB patrols have been carried out in parks and public spaces across the borough. Utilising the CCTV van's high-tech kit, Wardens can identify offenders and record evidence of offences to support successful prosecutions, prevent crime and ASB and to re-assure the public.

A problem-solving plan was developed for the area around Sives in Bank End, including targeted Warden patrols, intelligence development and enforcement action, focusing on off-road bikes and ASB. The CCTV van

was used to identify offenders including those using and dealing drugs. Working with partners including South Yorkshire Police (SYP) and Berneslai homes, safeguarding referrals were submitted, and joint police and Warden home visits conducted to advise and inform parents and to serve ASB documents on offending youths. Further achievements in this area include:

- 22 stage 1 ASB letters served.
- 2 off road bikes seized.
- 40 ASB surveys under-taken with residents.
- 122 hours of targeted patrols over a 2 month period.
- Engaged with over 40 young people.
- Supported investigations into illegal drug use, dealing and off-road bikes.

Wardens have conducted ASB operation with partners in locations across the Dearne. They engaged with 55 members of the local community, completed 78 ASB surveys, made 3 referrals to South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue for home fire safety checks. 120 leaflets were provided to residents on Fire Safety Awareness and 23 square metres of graffiti was removed from 7 locations.

July saw an increase in ASB in Hoyland town centre with youths climbing on the market roof, arson, graffiti and significant damage caused to the toilet block and old Town Hall. A problem-solving plan was developed and directed by Wardens. This included targeted patrols, partnership working, use of anti-vandal paint, intelligence development and enforcement action. CCTV was used to identify the main offenders. Joint visits were carried out with South Yorkshire Police to speak to parents of 3 of the youths.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Doncaster CSP - Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP)

During Q2, the SSDP has continued to work effectively to address issues across the Crime and Disorder spectrum and to ensure delivery against the Community Safety Strategy 2022-25 and the Police and Crime Plan. Our SSDP structure continues to support the activity of 6 thematic groups, governed by the Executive Board. These theme groups respond to current demand and identify future priorities across the key themes of Anti-Social Behaviour; Domestic and Sexual Abuse; Serious Organised Crime; Substance Misuse; Crime and Reoffending and Violent Crime. Each of these groups are performance managed to ensure progress and delivery of outcomes for our communities.

The communications strategy has been strengthened, with public information produced advising of ways to report concerns around crime and anti-social behaviour. We have also developed an SSDP newsletter, which contains a variety of information, including key safety messages, good news stories and updates.

In relation to initiatives funded through the OPCC Community Safety Grant, the Partnership has continued to support key roles in relation to workforce development and serious organised crime. As has been the approach in previous years, each theme group manages their own funding pot to enable them to respond to emerging issues and to facilitate planning for seasonal trends. A small amount of activity has been progressed to date, including officer attendance at a County Lines Digital Conference and the ongoing delivery of the Violence Reduction Unit priorities. These include a training event for licensees/security staff within the evening/night-time economy; the delivery of the Safe Haven bus providing pastoral support; the provision of Taxi Marshalls; the purchase of equipment for the safe recovery and storage of seized items; Victim Support training and communications support.

All activity throughout the year will positively contribute to the PCC and Community Safety Partnership priorities to tackle crime and disorder and improve the lives of Doncaster residents.

Rotherham CSP - Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP)

Domestic Abuse

Rotherham Rise, the domestic abuse service, continues to receive a consistent number of victim referrals, enabling victims and survivors the choice of support, such as one to one, group work or therapeutic support. The Homelessness Prevention fund continues to help individuals and families stay in their homes as well as supporting domestic abuse victims at risk of being made homeless with essential financial support. The 'Inspire To Change' programme has delivered 2 awareness raising sessions to staff this quarter within Rotherham to help promote the service provision to address perpetrator behaviour.

Serious & Organised Crime

During the period, over 100 schools safeguarding professionals received an awareness raising briefing about County Lines. Two engagement events around county lines were held at Thomas Rotherham College and Rotherham Indoor Markets with over 50 young people being engaged at the College and over 100 members of the public engaged at the indoor markets. The partnership has continued to deliver a wide range of impactful disruptions to Organised Crime Groups operating in Rotherham during the period.

Safeguarding Vulnerable People

Modern Slavery training packages continue to be developed for delivery during the remainder of 2023/24 and into the following year. A Strategic Modern Slavery Steering Group has been established and is meeting on a regular basis, leading on modern slavery and reporting to the Safer

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Rotherham Partnership through the Protecting Vulnerable Adults Priority Group.

Safer and Stronger Communities

Work continues with schools to tackle hate and bullying, including the launch of e-newsletter, Hate Crime awareness raising package, projects, and activity with secondary and primary schools (e.g., Wickersley Northfield video and workshops). 29 schools are signed up to Rotherham Youth Cabinet's Hate Incident Charter. The Remedi restorative hate crime project continues to provide group sessions to young people and one to one interventions for adults and young people involved in hate crimes and incidents.

Sheffield CSP - Safer Sheffield Partnership (SSP)

In Quarter 2, the Safer Sheffield Community Safety Partnerships grant funding was approved to support three specific core themes.

- Employee posts
- SSPCSP Theme Groups
- Communication and publicity activity

A summary of how funding is being used for each is presented below.

Employee Posts

Fortify analyst. The Fortify Analyst has played a key role in Safer Sheffield partnership's efforts to disrupt organised criminals and protect vulnerable people from exploitation.

The partnership is looking at further funding opportunities to see whether an additional post aimed at disrupting organised criminals can be provided.

Hate crime coordinator. The hate crime coordinator continues to play a significant role both strategically and operationally during 23-24. This has included working to revitalise the network of third-party reporting centres across Sheffield, supporting the work of the hate crime theme group and providing ethical assistance to other groups.

Information and Research Officer – This post continues to add has added significant value to by providing support and providing information to the Fortify team, teams working on organised crime disruption and work on supporting vulnerable people experiencing criminal exploitation.

Theme Groups:

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Cumulative funding bids targeting ASB over the dark nights period will impact positively on an estimated 10,000 residents in the East Local Area Committee and the Sharrow community forum localities. Both initiatives will be subject of evaluation to assess impact of each initiative and lessons learned.

Neighbourhood Crime and Re-offending

Approved spending under this thematic heading includes a focus on acquiring equipment to better manage the detection of criminality and ASB, including drones and IT equipment. It includes a focus on crime prevention literature and helping offenders secure training and employment opportunities.

Protecting Vulnerable People

Help Us Help – This initiative aims to reduce incidents of begging related ASB, improve relationships with businesses and retailers and

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

improve signposting for people on the streets in Sheffield. The Safer Community Team produced a city Centre Action Plan, the plan encompasses three themes: engagement, education, and enforcement. This initiative supports the education theme via a tailored marketing and communications programme aimed at educating retailers and businesses.

Violence Against Women and Girls

Citywide domestic perpetrator programme (Inspire to change) - This structured programme is a continuance of a County-wide programme commenced last year involving a series of 1-2-1 and group interventions aimed at changing the behaviour of male and female perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Violent Crime Reduction.

Second Chance Project. This project works with young people to reduce violence and the effects of violence, to strengthen communities, build resilience, raise awareness, promote a change in attitude. The programme will deliver quarterly themed events on topics such as knife crime, sexual exploitation, drugs one-to-one support to clients and a range of inputs to partners.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT (VRU)

The SYVRU has continued to work in partnership with organisations and communities to prevent and reduce violence in South Yorkshire.

A number of community visits have taken place during Quarter 2, mostly to organisations which have received grant funding from the VRU's Violence Reduction Fund. This supports young people aged 4-25, with more than £323,000 of funding awarded to 20 organisations. Community engagements in this quarter have included visits to Together Women, a Sheffield project focused on supporting young women and girls, Redfearns Junior Football Club in Barnsley, and a Dinnington Community Boxing Group coaching session.

The VRU has continued to work with key partners on the implementation of the Serious Violence Duty. This has included working on surveys to gather the views of residents and community organisations, the results of which will help to inform South Yorkshire's Serious Violence Duty Response Strategy, which will be published at the end of January.

Each of the VRU's engagement forums have continued to meet, including the Preventing Violence Forum, the Countywide Communications Group, the VRU Communicators Group, and the Countywide Evening and Night-Time Economy Information Sharing Group. These groups continue to be productive in strengthening links between the VRU and partner organisations.

Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) remains a priority for the VRU. Work is continuing to promote the Statement of Intent which was launched last year, while development of two VAWG communications campaigns commissioned by the VRU has continued in Quarter 2, with the first of these to be launched in November 2023.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

The VRU has additionally been working with Learn Sheffield on Developing Healthy Attitudes, a programme which aims to deliver high quality PSHE provision and lesson plans for schools across South Yorkshire. An engagement event was held in September, which provided an opportunity for partners to hear more about this work.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs)

The performance report focuses on the work of two of the four SYP neighbourhood teams each quarter. This quarter its Rotherham and Doncaster.

Neighbourhood Policing in South Yorkshire is about working at the local level and engaging directly with the community. Neighbourhood policing continues to develop, with teams across all four districts engaging with their local communities through attending community meetings, linking with Neighbourhood Watch, using social media and engaging with children and young people through schools and universities. All districts now publish a Neighbourhood Newsletter circulated by Inspectors.

Each district provides quarterly updates to the Force leadership regarding their progress. The cycle of action plan updates being provided to the Force leadership enables a process of continuous improvement to identify any areas of innovation or good practice and for this to be shared between the other districts.

Rotherham

Rotherham has developed a dedicated Neighbourhood Crime Team which now proactively targets prolific burglary offenders who cause harm to Rotherham communities in their own homes. Anti-Social Behaviour continues to be a main area of focus for our Neighbourhood Policing

Teams, which impacts on the quality of life for local residents and businesses.

Vehicle related offences remain have remained a priority over recent periods with work continuing in this area through a problem-solving approach being adopted by the Neighbourhood Teams in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Crime Team (NPT) within district to ensure prevention, intervention, engagement, and enforcement tactics are all utilised which is driven via the Problem Orientated Policing (POP) process and Neighbourhood Crime Governance fortnightly meeting.

Examples of work within this area include the recent POP work in Hellaby in response to theft from motor vehicle offences- key times were identified, making it harder for criminals to target particular areas, including exploring CCTV options was completed and the NPT, along with partners, engaged with local businesses to explore other options for lorries to securely park. This joint work has led to a stark reduction in offences within the locality.

Other work being progressed by the team relates to burglaries within the Kiveton area identified as 2 in 1 burglary. The team have increased their engagement with residents and businesses to offer crime prevention advice and issue security devices to make it harder for criminals to operate. They have also established a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator to progress the scheme within the area.

Rotherham reflected the recent national trend in a spike in shoplifting related offences. This included at several retail premises identified as creating the highest demand. Problem solving work was conducted in relation to these premises in conjunction with partners and crime prevention visits and advice was conducted, prolific offenders identified and detained and youths that were committing ASB dealt with by using joint powers and interventions.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

A recent example of this relates to the Problem-solving work that was conducted at a store in Rawmarsh. This included visits by Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCOs) for target hardening and considering crime reporting processes to ensure that offences are reported at the same time and not grouped together- which allows for more speedy and efficient investigations. This saw a reduction in offences and key persons being identified and processed.

To address specific local priorities the following has been undertaken.

Within the Rotherham North NPT partnership work has been undertaken to reduce anti-social behaviour in Swinton precinct and work with business and builders at the development is ongoing to make sure issues do not re-emerge.

To address residential burglary concerns in Rotherham South NPT multiple operations and problem solving work has been undertaken. Directed patrols have been conducted in conjunction with officers from the Special Constabulary at key identified times and days. Engagement has increased in the area to offer reassurance to the community and to allow for crime prevention items to be distributed. Disruption tactics have been used in relation to key suspects and the team is working with to explore partnership housing powers to target criminality.

To tackle speeding and road safety identified as a priority in Rotherham Central, analysis has been done to identify any roads or localities that re identified as where the most offences or collisions take place. Operation 'Slow Downs' have been conducted throughout the locality to ensure high visibility deterrence from speeding at key locations. Improved links to Road Policing Group colleagues have been established to ensure a joined-up approach to ensuring safer roads.

Doncaster

The Neighbourhood teams in Doncaster have continued to use QR based surveys to identify local priorities. These can be accessed through engagement events, leafleting, SYP alerts and online platforms. Further engagement is progressed through attendance at Parish council meetings, ward member meetings and local solution group meetings. The district commander has a regular, quarterly meeting process with ward councillors, the neighbourhood inspector and members of the local authority communities' teams. This allows elected members to raise local issues and the police to highlight good work, initiatives and provide an understanding of the districts priorities and demands.

Doncaster Neighbourhood teams recently played a key role in a national operation targeting cannabis production by organised crime groups. Criminal proceeds from these set ups are used to fund wider issues such as Class A drug supply, people trafficking and modern slavery. As a result of this work the teams executed 10 warrants over a three day period. Subsequent intelligence identified a further 12 addresses where cannabis was being grown. Over 1500 plants were seized and 6 suspects charged with associated offences.

Additional patrolling of hotspot areas of anti-social behaviour started in the middle of July. This was made possible as a result of additoinal funding being awared through Operation Civitas. The patrols are underpinned by local Neighbourhood Policing Teams through problem-ordinated policing (POP). In the first two weeks of these hotspot patrols, Doncaster saw specific locations patrolled 155 times – a data analyst is in place to measure outcomes from these patrols and report to the public and to the Home Office. SYP are working the local authority to identify opportunities for further support to the police with these patrols.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

The neighbourhood teams have been pro-active in working to disrupt drug supply across Doncsater – a key priority for local communities. A key focus of this work has been under Operation Train Alpha which was successful in obtaining 115 arrests and recovering over £360,000 of class A and B drugs, as well as removing 122 vehicles from the road as a result of offences identified. The Central Neighbourhood Team have been working closely with Immigration colleagues and regularly work jointly on both drugs and immigration warrants. This joint working arrangement provides wider legal powers and enhances problem-solving abilities and safeguarding.

Doncaster Neighbourhood police officers and the forces Modern Slavery Team have been working together to raise awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking within partner agencies and the third sector. Recent examples of this include a community engagement event focused on organised crime and an event focused on engaging with the city's sex worker community in order to reduce their vulnerabilities to exploitation.

Modern Slavery Human Trafficking (MSHT) and Organised Immigration Crime

The Modern Slavery Team have continued to collaborate with partners to ensure that the collective response to MSHT and Organised Immigration Crime is as effective as possible within South Yorkshire. Recent activity has involved operations focussing on potential exploitation within the Hand Car Wash industry. During these operations the Police have worked jointly with a variety of different partners and organisations in attending relevant premises where persons present have been engaged with, safeguarding has taken place and any offences identified have been investigated.

The South Yorkshire Modern Slavery Partnership Group continues to work effectively, providing an environment where Police and other partners such as representatives from local authorities, National Health Service (NHS), His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC), Department for Works and Pensions (DWP), Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) and other key stakeholders meet every 6 weeks to identify, discuss and seek to resolve any emerging themes. This has led to different agencies collaborating on a variety of activities, such as the focus on the hand car wash industry, the co-ordination of a multi-agency partnership training event and continuing to raise awareness within different organisations to spot the signs and response to Modern Slavery.

The Modern Slavery Team have delivered training to front line officers within South Yorkshire Police over a 10 week training programme. This has led to operational Police Officers becoming more aware with regards to how to spot the signs of Modern Slavery along with raising their knowledge and awareness of this area and Organised Immigration Crime.

SYP continues to support and contribute to the national operation, 'Operation Aidant'. This is a multi-agency, approach in identifying and safeguarding those most at risk from human trafficking and exploitation. Officers from the force's Modern Slavery Team are involved in this operation, which targets different exploitation themes across the force on a quarterly basis.

Anyone who has concerns for modern slavery can contact the force directly on 101 (or 999 if there is a concern an individual is in immediate danger), or alternatively by calling the Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 012 1700.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Fraud/Cybercrime

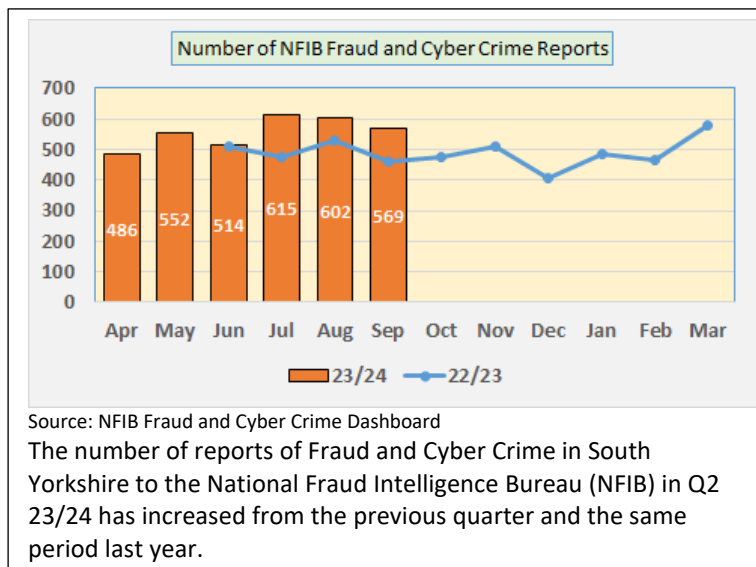
Work continues to recognise and safeguard vulnerable victims of online and cyber fraud, SYP also links in with partners to address this. Operation Signature is a nationally recognised and utilised operation to do this, and data is referred into SYP in respect of fraud and cyber victims that reside in the South Yorkshire area. These individuals are risk assessed and the appropriate protect advice provided, whether this is an email, phone call or more enhanced safeguarding such as a personal visit by a protect officer and equipment installed, such as call blocker devices.

If businesses are subjected to fraud and/or cybercrime, additional protect advice and support will be provided either directly or indirectly by Protect Officers or persons setting the investigation plan and/or tactical advice when the investigation is allocated for further investigation.

Where there is a victim of a criminal investigation, the officer in the case (OIC) will be responsible for ensuring safeguarding and sign posting to relevant services and making any formal referrals such as to social care. If relevant, the Cyber and Fraud team will do this or assist with this where it is evident to them at the point of investigation triage or when they are in receipt of the Op Signature data.

The work of both the Protect Officers in both cyber and fraud is to raise awareness to individuals, communities, and organisations to prevent fraud or cybercrime occurring in the first instance.

Regular inputs and presentations are delivered to relevant individuals and groups around protecting themselves and/or businesses from this type of criminality. Different initiatives and campaigns are completed such as the recent initiative to educate younger persons around the risks when they are gaming on-line.



Organised Crime Group (OCG) Disruption activity

South Yorkshire currently has 69 active Organised Crime Groups (OCGs); 67 per cent of the OCGs have a primary threat of drugs (primarily cocaine, heroin and cannabis) and a further 13 per cent of the OCGs sell drugs using the County Lines model. 7 per cent of the OCGs have a primary threat of Organised Acquisitive Crime (notably vehicle theft), 4 per cent Economic Crime (mostly fraud offences) and 1 per cent Modern Slavery (adult sexual exploitation).

A notable change in primary threats are OCGs being mapped who have no direct involvement in drug dealing, but they allow their premises to be used by drug dealers to cultivate cannabis; these are recorded as 'Professional Enablers' and these account for 4 per cent of the force's OCGs.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

The "4Ps" framework provides a coherent approach for all partners involved in countering serious and organised crime, from preventing crime in the first place to convicting perpetrators and helping victims.

Between October 2022 and September 2023, 412 disruptions were claimed, targeting 64 of these OCGs. Three quarters of disruptions relate to Pursue activity, followed by 9 per cent Protect, 8 per cent Prepare, 7 per cent Prevent.

Some of the results of the Police 'pursue' strand achieved between October 2022 and September 2023 reflect the hard work that SYP's Operation Fortify and Neighbourhood Policing Teams, as well as the specialist teams, have been putting in to disrupt organised criminal gangs and serious organised crime offenders. Results include:

- 56 cash seizures totalling in excess of £800,000.
- 72 pistols, five shotguns and a quantity of various ammunition seized.
- 121 disruption warrants executed.
- 193kg cocaine, 28kg cannabis and 5kg heroin seized.
- 55 vehicles seized.
- 14 Eviction Notices.
- Nine Closure Orders.
- 40 Adult Safeguarding and 34 Child Safeguarding referrals submitted.
- 299 arrests, 52 convictions and 182 years in custody.

3. Treating People Fairly

The areas of focus for 2023/24 under this priority for are:

- Treating Members of the Public Fairly
- Championing Equality
- Fair Allocation of Police Resources.

The fair treatment of individual residents and communities in South Yorkshire is essential to maintain the public's trust and confidence in the police and partner organisations. Whoever the police engage with, they should always seek to treat people with courtesy and respect. This includes understanding and addressing such issues as racial and cultural differences. Ethical standards of behaviour need to underpin all officer interaction not just with members of the public but with other officers, staff, and partners to create an inclusive culture where trust and confidence is paramount.

Independent Ethics Panel (IEP)

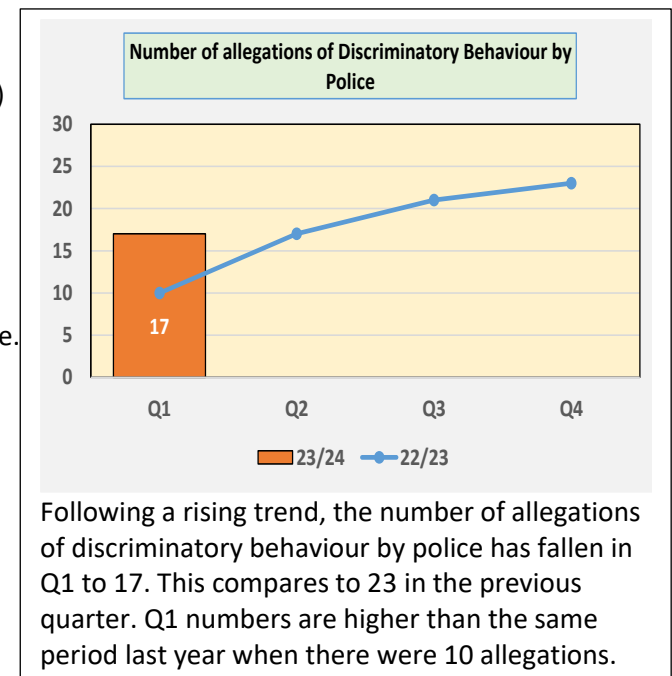
One of the main ways of gaining assurance that people are being treated fairly is through the work of the Independent Ethics Panel. The Panel has a role in helping the PCC and Chief Constable build the trust and confidence of the public and partners in South Yorkshire Police, by ensuring the code of ethics is culturally embedded across the organisation and is demonstrated through the way South Yorkshire Police thinks and behaves. The Panel receive reports and discuss ethics in particular areas such as Stop and Search, Complaints and Professional Standards and Workforce data including around equality and diversity. The Panel also have "link members" - nominated individuals whose role is to focus on a particular area of work over and above those discussed within the quarterly meetings.

A key focus for 2023/24 is on officer and staff professional standards and the receipt and handling of complaints. Additionally for 2023/24, the Panel will review data provided by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) as well as develop a Professional Standards and Complaints performance framework as part of the PCC's Police and Partners Performance Framework. As part of progressing this framework, 3 key pieces of information from the IOPC are now included in this quarterly report, two included in the Protecting Vulnerable People section and the following data on complaints received about discriminatory behaviour by police.

The IEP met in July and September during this quarter. The meetings took an in depth look at SYP's recently introduced Leadership Academy to help inform and gather evidence for the Panel's Culture work programme. The Panel also received reports and discussed ethical issues in relation to:

- SYP's Vetting Unit and the work being undertaken in the department.
- SYP's Digital Technology Strategy.
- The use of police drones.
- The use of and governance around juvenile strip searches in custody and as a result of a stop and Search.

Further information about the work of the Independent Ethics Panel can be found [on the IEP pages of the OPCC website here: - South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner \(southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk\).](#)



3. Treating People Fairly

Independent Custody Visitors Scheme

The OPCC runs an Independent Custody Visitors (ICV) Scheme to check on the welfare of those who are being detained.

Visitors normally divide into teams of two and go to police custody suites at whatever time of the day or evening suits them. They arrive unannounced and the custody sergeant is obliged to welcome them and facilitate their visit.

OPCC officers are also monitoring the force custody dashboard. This enables them to track performance information including, the number of detainees, ethnicity, number of young people and the average length of time detainees are in custody. This additional monitoring does not replace the usual custody visiting but it gives added assurance to supplement physical visits. The OPCC working with SYP are in the early stages of looking at how further external scrutiny can be undertaken in custody – potentially by the setting up of an external scrutiny panel. Further information will be available in due course.

The Independent Custody Visitors scheme continues to recruit, vet and train ICVs but some ICVs have paused their involvement currently – recruitment of ICVs is a particular priority during 2023/24.

During Q2 23/24 22 visits to custody were undertaken by custody visitors, in line with numbers undertaken last quarter (21). The OPCC is also in regular contact with officers from SYP in relation to findings from visits and the checking of records to share findings and set actions for improvement.

3. Treating People Fairly

Hate Crime

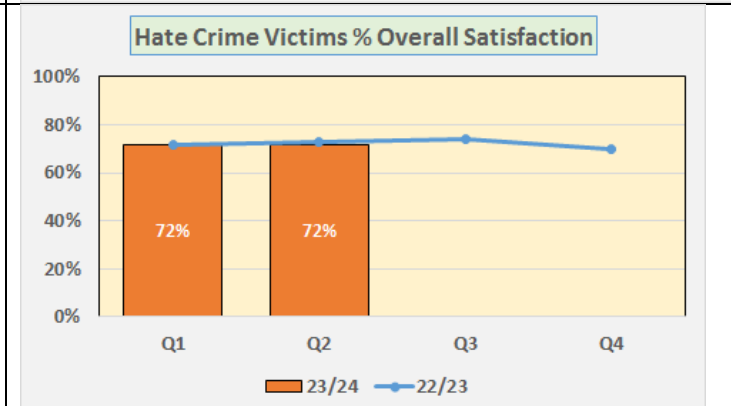
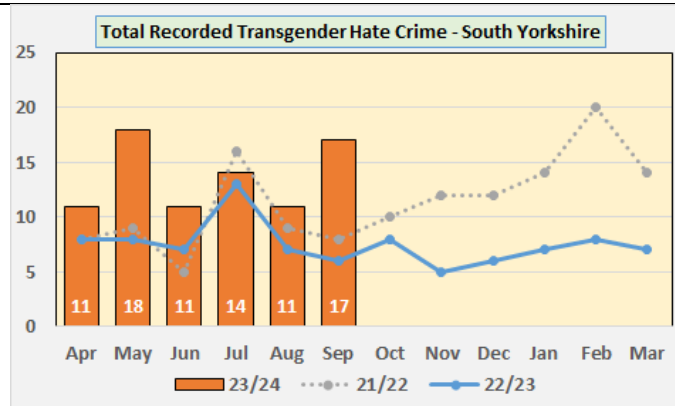
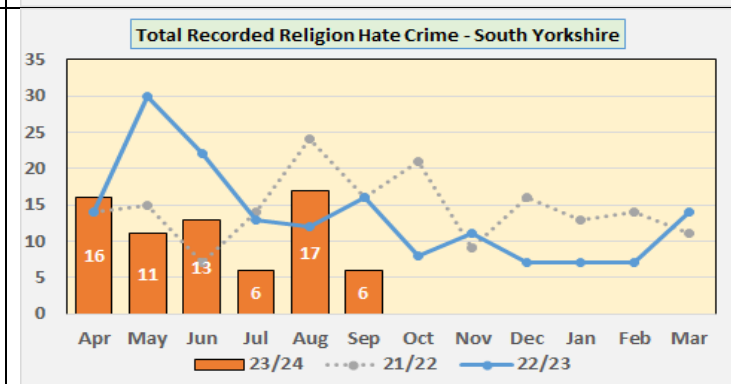
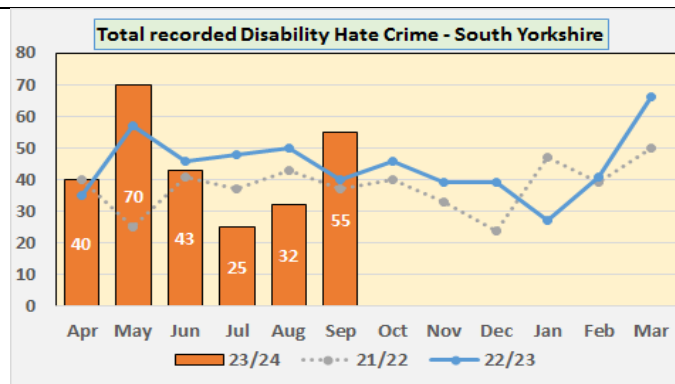
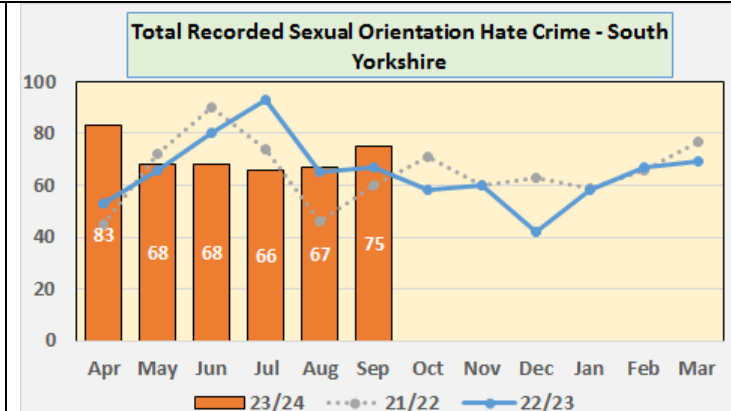
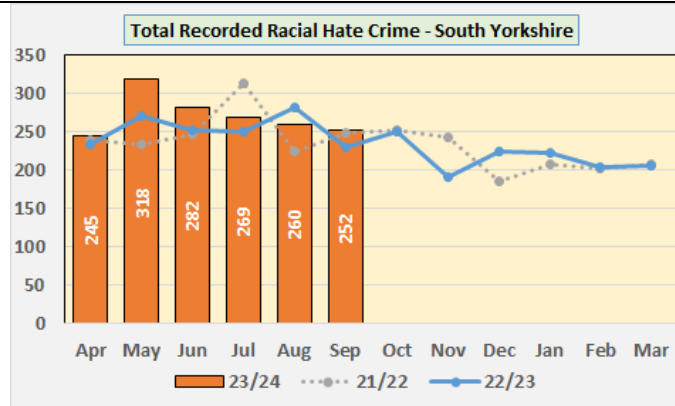
There was a decrease in the volume of hate crimes recorded in Q2 23/24 compared to the previous quarter, however levels are higher than the same period last year and pre-pandemic levels.

Overall satisfaction of hate crime victims was 72% in Q2 23/24 – no change from last quarter or compared to the previous year.

Hate crimes are reviewed on a daily, weekly and monthly basis to ensure that they are allocated and investigated effectively. The force continues to work with partners, and the OPCC to seek feedback from victims to support improvements in service delivery and increase the confidence of victims to report to the police.

The volume of hate crimes being reported can be influenced by national and international events. Both SYP and the OPCC are keen to make it as easy as possible for victims to report hate crime and for victims to feel confident that their report will be dealt with effectively and sensitively.

Source: SYP– unaudited data subject to change



3. Treating People Fairly

Police Staff Workforce

Police staff ethnic minority representation currently stands at 5.2% in Q2 as opposed to 5.1% last quarter. Heritage other than white is at 3.4% against 3.5 % last quarter. Police staff LGBTQ+ representation stands at at 3.5% compared to 3.2% in Q1 with representation for disability at 4.7% compared to 4.5% last quarter.

Police Officer Workforce

Police officer ethnic minority representation in Q2 stands at 5% compared to 5.1% last quarter and 3 % for heritage other than white. Police Officer representation for LGBT+ now stands at 4.7% compared to 4.5% in Q1. Police Officer representation for Disability stands at 3.4%. Female police officer representation has increased slightly to 38% in Q2 compared to 37.5% in Q1.

The OPCC are currently working with SYP to refine workforce representation data relating to joiners and leavers into and out of the force so that it includes numbers as well as percentages to better contextualise the data. It is hoped this will be ready for Q3.

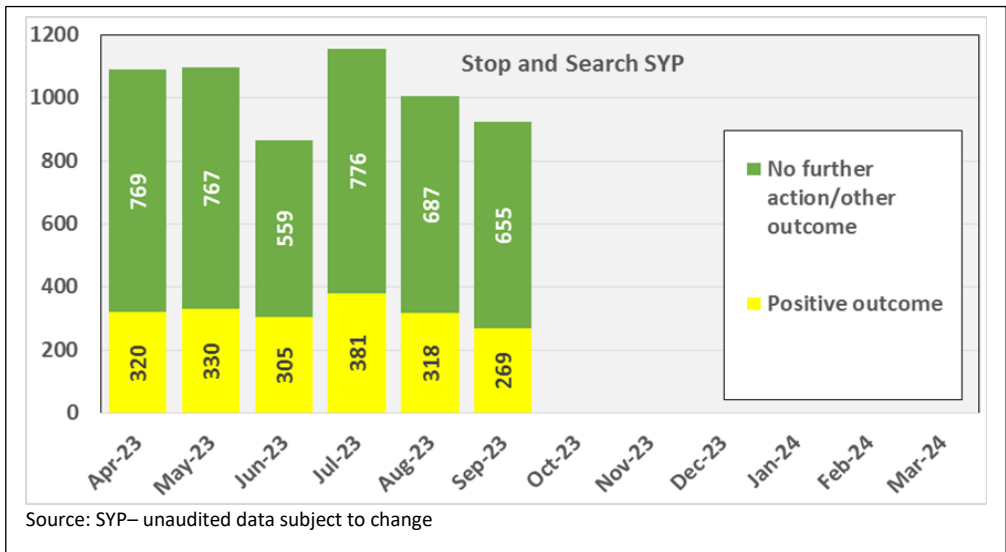
Ethnic minority representation in police officer leadership roles continues to be low at all levels. At the three levels of leadership - Superintendent, Chief Superintendent, and Chief Officer - SYP have no ethnic minority representation. Ethnic minority representation at ranks below this is Chief Insp. (2.6%), Det Ch Insp. (5%) and Inspector (3.5%). Representation at both Sergeant and Det Sergeant rank is 2.9%.

Stop and Search

South Yorkshire Police's vision for stop and search is: "To achieve the highest level of trust and confidence in its use to tackle crime and keep our streets safe." Stop and search helps the Police protect communities by identifying and eliminating violent and key crimes including antisocial behaviour.

Public scrutiny of stop and search incidents is in place, with a panel of members of the public meeting to review stop and search incidents by viewing body worn video footage where available. Meetings of the panel are held every two months and findings are discussed by the Panel members with SYP's Stop and Search Lead and an Inspector.

A member of the Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) also has a lead for Stop and Search. Their role is to take the lead on behalf of the IEP in helping determine the level of assurance to be provided to the PCC and Chief Constable in respect of the fair use of Stop & Search powers by SYP.



3.Treating People Fairly

The yellow areas in the chart above shows where there is a positive police outcome / action taken when someone is stopped and searched. This includes outcomes such as arrest, warning, caution and summons/charge by post or penalty notice. The percentage of positive outcomes was 33% in July, 32% in August and 29% in September 2023.

(The chart does not show the total numbers of stop and searches as there will be stop/searches where action is taken but not defined as a positive outcome. E.g., advice given, verbally warned).

The following table shows the numbers of stop and searches and outcomes broken down by ethnicity.

Stop and searches broken down by ethnicity.

South Yorkshire 12 months 1 st October 2022 – 30 th September 2023				
Ethnicity	No. of searches	% of searches	% positive outcome	Rate per 1000 population*
White	6933	65%	25%	5.7
Black	505	5%	26%	14.9
Asian	722	7%	25%	9.1
Other	154	1%	31%	6.1
Mixed	282	3%	34%	9.3
Not Stated	2112	20%	16%	

Source: SYP stop and search report – data subject to change.

*Rate per 1000 population is based on 2021 population census data. These are the latest official statistics available that break down the ethnicity of the UK population.

In Q1, 84% of stop and searches were conducted on males, 16% on females. Although the actual numbers of searches of people from Black, Asian and Minority ethnic communities are lower than for white people, the rate per 1000 population shows that there is disproportionality in the

use of stop and search particularly within Black and Asian communities. Work continues to better understand and deal with this issue, including improved linking of stop and search data to age, ethnicity and location. Disproportionality is also an issue nationally.

More data and information about stop and search in South Yorkshire can be found on the Police.UK website. <https://www.police.uk>

Restorative Justice (RJ) - Remedi

Remedi is a registered charity working to deliver Restorative Justice services for persons affected by crime in South Yorkshire. This includes arranging a direct or indirect exchange between a victim of crime and the offender.

In Q2, 1st July 2023– 30th September 2023, Remedi received a potential 507 referrals into the service, via agency/self-referrals or as a result of a sentence outcome at court, enabling Remedi to make proactive victim contact.

133 victims of crime have been personally offered RJ during this quarter, with 77 saying yes to RJ. Remedi are still attempting to contact a further 374 cases. Remedi offer 3 proactive calls at different times of the day in most cases, with 5 attempts on all cases where the victim is deemed vulnerable as per VCOP.

Practitioners continue to hold a mix of standard, sensitive and complex and out of court disposal cases.

3.Treating People Fairly

The following interventions have taken place across South Yorkshire during this quarter:

- 14 direct (face to face) interventions, including sensitive & complex cases.
- 119 indirect messages and letters have been passed between victims and offenders.

Following the probation service reform in June 2021, Remedi have been working hard to increase referrals for the Restorative Victim Awareness Sessions. The team continue to complete relaunch briefings across all the NPS offices within South Yorkshire and have also implemented SPOC's within all offices in order to take a pro-active approach to increase referrals into the service. Remedi will continue this consistent approach throughout the remainder of the financial year.

RJ Service User feedback:

“Talking about our offences is difficult and doesn't happen normally, but today it was good to be able to talk openly and to learn from each other. Learning that you must accept what you have done is the first step, this was a good reflection activity and gave us time to reflect on our own personal stuff. Hearing from others has been helpful. We don't normally talk about the impact of our offences. Looking at the ripple effect and seeing that what you do affects others around you has really helped. Seeing how one moment changes so many people's lives.”

“Taking part in RJ has been a step forward regarding my mental health. I can't thank you enough for giving me the opportunity to apologise and trying to put things right.” Victim said, “I could tell that the offender was really struggling with his mental health at the time, and I want you to let him know that I accept his apology and to send him my love”.

The RJ Hub is based at Snig Hill Police Station and operates working hours 9am – 5pm Monday-Friday. An answerphone facility is available out of hours and all calls will be responded to. Remedi welcome referrals from victims & offenders themselves or any professional working with those persons.

Direct contact number is 0800 561 1000 or text SYRJ to 82228.

Or via website www.restorativesouthyorkshire.co.uk

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

Whilst working towards delivering the priorities and areas of focus within the Police and Crime Plan, all partners will need to show value for money (VFM). The plan focuses value for money on the optimal use of resources to achieve intended outcomes. The OPCC's Value for Money Strategy breaks VFM down into core component parts to understand whether organisations are using resources economically, efficiently, and effectively.

Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness

There are two main ways currently that value for money aims to be measured; through the quarterly Budget Monitoring Report covering “economy” and “efficiency” and the quarterly Police and Crime Plan Performance Report covering “effectiveness”. Both these reports are presented and discussed at the Police and Crime Panel meetings.

The high-level financial position for the OPCC and South Yorkshire Police forecast for the end of 2023/24 as at 30th September 2023:

Revenue budget £4.4m underspend:

- OPCC £0.147m underspend. This relates to underspends on:
 - Staffing: Vacancies and variances caused by differences to budget assumptions.
 - Additional income for external audit fees from the Government
- SYP underspend £3.507m this is made up of net underspends of £6.5m plus emerging in year pressures totalling £3.2m. The following items are flagged:
 - £1.4m projected underspend against Gas & Electric costs based on the latest hedging estimations
 - £2.55m projected overachievement of one off funding.
- Legacy should spend to budget, this relates to Hillsborough, the Stovewood enquiry, and CSE civil claims and this figure may move based on the outcome of various activities.
- Commissioning and Partnerships breakeven. However, the final outturn position may change as mitigating actions are being performed to maximise external funding.
- Capital Financing £0.766m underspend. This is in line with the strategy of utilising internal borrowing for as long as possible and benefiting from increased interest rates on return on investments. Long term borrowing is anticipated in this financial year, and the position is being monitored closely. If required, borrowing will be undertaken in line with the strategy on the basis of need and at the most optimum time.

Capital budget – programme of £17.4m – expected to spend in full.

- The approved capital programme has been revised down during the year from £19.655m to £17.35m due to previous year's slippage, re-phasing, and adjustments. It is anticipated that the programme will spend in full.

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

Collaboration

South Yorkshire Police (SYP) has developed a Collaboration Effectiveness Framework (CEF) which is being used to review collaborative activity based on an assessment of the risk and significance of the activity. The CEF is based on best practice from His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the independent research body - the Police Foundation.

Based on several measures the framework first determines the level of risk and organisational significance presented by the collaboration from low, medium or high. This level then determines the level at which the collaboration is passed through the framework, in essence the higher the risk and significance the higher the level of assurance that is expected.

There are many South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and SYP collaborations (70+), and it is not possible to perform regular and full evaluations of each of them, nor would this be proportionate. However, the framework identifies common elements within successful collaborations and compares these to the collaborative activity SYP is involved in. There is a Collaboration Effectiveness Board (CEB), which has put in place a review plan that runs from October 2022 for 2 years and details review timescales for each piece of collaborative activity.

The CEB feeds into SYP's Strategic Change Board where the PCC's Senior Leadership Team is represented. The Deputy Chief Constable also highlights any areas of exception or concern with the PCC's Chief Executive at their Management Board, and/or with the PCC at regular meetings. The information and findings gathered from the CEF and the CEB thus inform decisions made by both SYP's chief officer team and the PCC.

The PCC and Chief Constable also seek reassurances in this area from their Internal Audit function, and from their Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC). The JIAC reports by exception quarterly to the PCC and Chief Constable.

Taking a regional approach to procurement is one way in which the Force collaborates so as to be as efficient as possible. The Regional Yorkshire and Humber Procurement Team was established in 2012. The four forces involved currently spend in excess of £220 million per annum on goods and services. The Procurement Strategy sets out the commitment to achieve value for money for the public purse through all procurement and commissioning activity, in order to both protect frontline services and support a sustainable economic environment.

In the period 1st July 2023 to 30th September 2023, nine procurement contracts were awarded for SYP with eight of these collaborative. Forecasted procurement savings for 23/24 currently stands at just over £283,000 against a target of £403,200.

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

Public Engagement

Throughout Q2, a range of engagements have taken place via methods such as face to face meetings and online Teams' meetings. Q2 has seen the Communications and Engagement team attend a number of weekend events such as Penistone Show, Barnsley Pride and Sheffield Pinknic. Planning has also commenced in preparation for the Precept and Priorities Survey due to launch in November. It is hoped that this year, we will be able to add growth to the number of individuals completing the survey in comparison to the previous year.

Overall, a total of 45 engagement briefings completed for the period of July – September, this was one more than during Q1. We engaged with a total of 2164 people during this period.

- Off Road Bikes continues to be an issue raised at almost all community engagement events and public meetings across South Yorkshire. We are meeting frequently with the Off Road Bike (ORB) and Rural Crime Team to follow up from the public events that took place focused on Rural Crime earlier in the year. The recent funding for Operation Civitas focused on patrolling hotspot areas of anti-social behaviour (ASB) has allowed further allocation of funding / resource to be allocated to this team.
- Work is continuing to build links within our communities to understand how best to share information and offer involvement not only with the precept and priorities survey, but also to publicise the Independent Custody Visitors Scheme run by the OPCC which is seeking additional volunteers. Further information about the scheme and how to become a volunteer are on the South Yorkshire OPCC website.
- We attended the annual Lifewise open day in August and saw over 1000 members of the public come through the door. The event provided a good opportunity to network with other organisations, hear feedback from members of the community and to also speak to various policing teams in attendance.
- Reporting to the police via 101 and online has been raised as an issue recently with members of the public advising that they feel it is becoming increasingly difficult to report. As a result of this feedback, links are now established with the Force Control Room management team and examples and information are being fed back in order to help try and improve the service and impact upon future updates.
- Mapping work has been undertaken to establish where communities receive free local magazines / newspapers, it is hoped that once this is completed for the whole of South Yorkshire, we will be able to share this with SYP in order to coordinate updates and information we share more effectively through these publications.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner attended an event hosted by SAYIT earlier in the month focused upon tackling hate crime. A number of speakers were present including South Yorkshire Police. Feedback was raised by those in attendance on ways in which SYP and the OPCC could improve their response and action towards tackling hate crime.

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) Community Grant Scheme

The Commissioner Community (POCA) Grants Scheme has been in operation for over 8 years. During this period, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has awarded almost £2million in grants to non-profit organisations in South Yorkshire. The grants have helped organisations deliver projects aimed at keeping people safe, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and supporting victims of crime. The scheme is funded from the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) and the PCC's policing budget. The Proceeds of Crime Act refers to monies confiscated from criminals and awarded to worthy causes to help reduce crime and the impacts of crime in South Yorkshire. Non-profit organisations can apply for a maximum of £10,000 to deliver projects lasting up to 12 months. In the 2023-24 financial year, Community Grants Scheme panel has sat on one occasion so far to review and award applications. The latest funding window closed 30th September 2023. The panel will sit to assess and shortlist the received funding applications in mid-November 2023. Successful applications awarded to date in the 2023-24 financial year are included in the table below.

Organisation	District	Awarded
Swinton Lock Activity Centre	Rotherham	£ 8,976.00
Unity Boxing Centre CIC	Rotherham	£ 9,906.05
We are in your Corner C.I.C	Sheffield	£ 9,967.00
Dearne Valley Personal Development Centre	Doncaster	£ 6,141.00
Reach Up	Sheffield	£ 6,556.00
Club Thorne CIC	Doncaster	£ 4,400.00
Sheffield Street Pastors	Sheffield	£ 6,000.00
The Learning Community Ltd	Rotherham	£ 8,470.00
Doncaster in Union	Doncaster	£ 7,020.00
Olympia Wellbeing Academy CIC	Sheffield	£ 10,000.00
Regather Limited	Sheffield	£ 4,868.55
Saffron Sheffield	Sheffield	£ 10000.00
Roshni Sheffield Asian Women's Resource Centre	Sheffield	£ 10,000.00
Cricket Arena CIC	Sheffield	£ 9,300.00
Grow	Sheffield	£ 9,998.60
Sheffield Mencap and Gateway	Sheffield	£ 8,238.47
The Fun Hub	Rotherham	£ 9,290.00

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

The table below provides an overview of some of the ways that the PCC ensures that police and criminal justice partners are delivering against the Police and Crime Plan and that the PCC statutory duties are met.

Forum	Purpose	Activity
Public Accountability Board meetings – every 2 months	An opportunity for the PCC and members of the public to question the Chief Constable and his team	10 meetings held between October 22 and September 2023
Joint Independent Audit Committee meetings – Quarterly (or more frequently if needed)	Focussing on governance and risk management – exception reports to the Public Accountability Board	7 meetings held between July 2022 and June 2023
Independent Ethics Panel	Set up by the PCC and providing independent challenge and assurance around integrity, standards, and ethics of decision-making in policing	6 meetings held between October 2022 and September 2023.
One to one meetings with the Chief Constable	To ensure regular communication to discuss strategic matters and current issues	Weekly meetings
Independent Custody Visiting Scheme	OPCC run scheme where volunteers visit unannounced to check that those being held in custody are being treated properly	During quarter 2 22 ICV visits were completed. Issues noted have been reported back to SYP.
Local Criminal Justice Board	The Local Criminal Justice Board brings together partners from across the criminal justice system including The Police, Crown Prosecution Service, the Courts, Probation, and others to ensure an efficient and speedy justice system in South Yorkshire	4 meetings held between October 2022 and September 2023.
Decision Log	In line with the Decision-Making Framework, decisions made by the PCC and the OPCC of significant public interest are published on the OPCC website	11 decisions were made during Q2 2023/24
Joint Corporate Governance Framework	Making sure the PCC and Chief Constable conduct business correctly in line with the statutory framework.	