

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

1st January to 31st March 2024

Introduction

The Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire outlines policing and wider criminal justice priorities for the area with the plan – “Working Together for a Safer South Yorkshire”, covering the period 2023-2025. The overall aim for the plan is: “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 to deliver on these priorities, there are also four Fundamental Principles identified that must underpin everything that the police and partners 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 online here: 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. All of the national priorities are included in the 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.

There is a requirement for the local policing body (either a Police and Crime Commissioner or a Mayor) 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 online here: www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk. 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 Mar 23	12 Months to Mar 24	Trend*
Recorded Domestic Abuse Crimes (1)	25,247	23,877	↓
Domestic Abuse Crime Arrest Rate (1)	46%	43%	↓
Recorded Sexual Offences (1)	4621	4571	↓
% Of crimes where victim is assessed as vulnerable (1)	35%	32%	↓
Vulnerable victims satisfied with police experience (8)	70%	68%	No statistically significant change

Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour			
Measure	12 Months to Mar 23	12 Months to Mar 24	Trend*
SYP Recorded level of Anti-Social Behaviour (1)	24,852	25,653	↑
Recorded level of all crime (excl. fraud) (1)	160,825	155,032	↓
Measure	Jul 20 to Jun 21 cohort	Jul 21 to Jun 22 cohort	Trend*
Rate of proven re-offending (adults) (2) (Lower rates are better)	25.1%	28.2% (England/Wales 25.1%)	↑
Rate of proven re-offending (youth) (2) (Lower rates are better)	24.3%	29.2% (England/Wales 32.6%)	↑
Measure	12 months to Dec 22	12 months to Dec 23	Trend*
Serious crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument (3)	1,592	1,532	↓

Treating People Fairly			
Measure	12 Months to Mar 23	12 Months to Mar 24	Comparison
% Of people saying police do a good/excellent job (7)	28%	27%	No statistically significant change
Measure	Jan 23 to Mar 23	Jan 24 to Mar 24	Trend*
No. of cases created by Restorative Justice service (active referrals) (4) <small>More information on type of referrals on page 29</small>	135	81	↓
Measure	12 Months to Mar 23	12 Months to Mar 24	Trend*
Stop and Search conducted (1)	12,775	12,292	↑

Providing Value For Money For Policing and Crime Services	
Year end forecast as at 31 st March 2024	
End of year forecast (Revenue) (6)	£3.09m underspend
End of year forecast (Capital) (6)	A spend of £20.6m against a revised capital programme of £21.7m

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

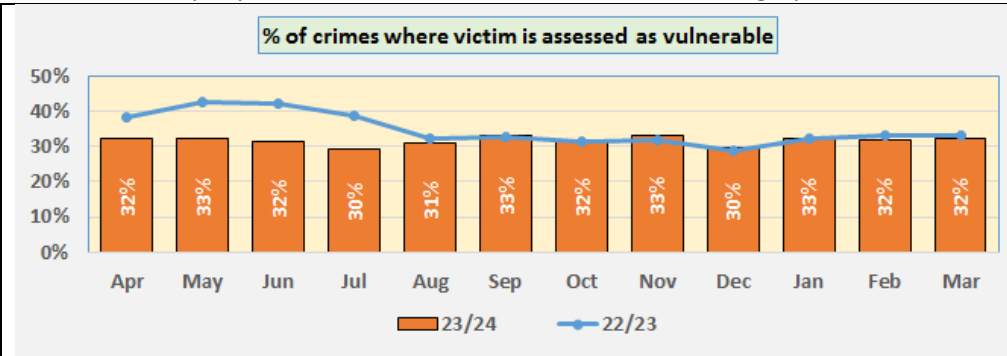
* Unless otherwise stated, the arrows denote the direction of travel rather than any statistically significant increase/decrease. Statistical significance is used in this report in relation to survey data to help understand whether one set of responses is actually different to another set of responses, 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.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

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

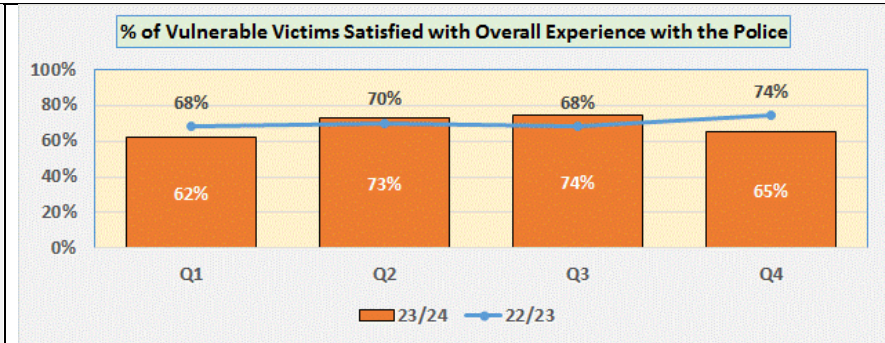
- Working in Partnership to Protect Vulnerable People
- Domestic Abuse (DA)
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Violence Against Women and Girls.
- Tackling the Exploitation of Adults and Children
- Tackling Fraud and Cyber Crime

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.



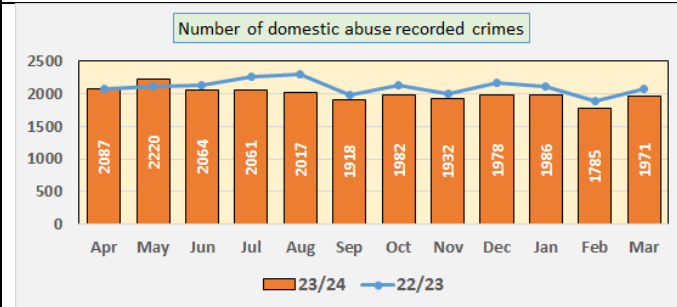
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The % of crimes where a victim is assessed as vulnerable has remained the same in Q4 23/24 compared to the previous quarter. Levels are similar to the same period last year.



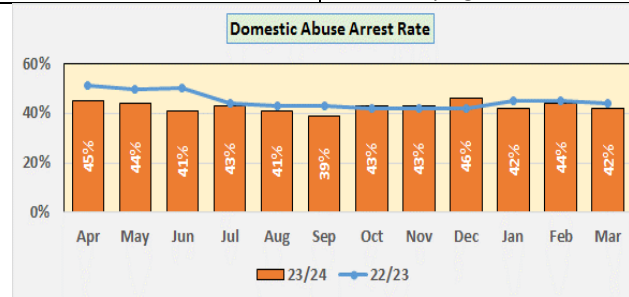
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

In Q4 23/24, 65% of vulnerable victims were satisfied with their overall experience with the Police, a decrease from the previous quarter, and the same period in 22/23, but these decreases were not statistically significant. This is a telephone survey conducted 4-6 weeks after reporting.



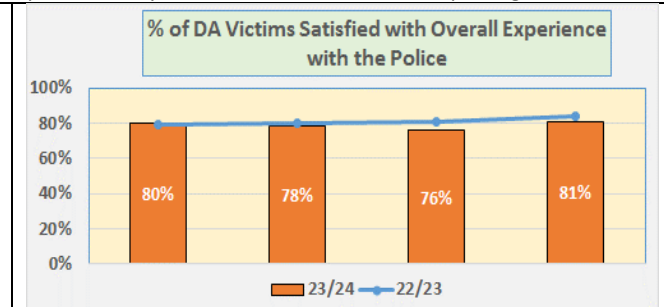
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

There has been a decrease in DA recorded crimes in Q4 23/24 compared to the previous quarter, and levels are lower than Q4 22/23. Some of this will be as a result of changes to the Home Office crime counting rules. 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.

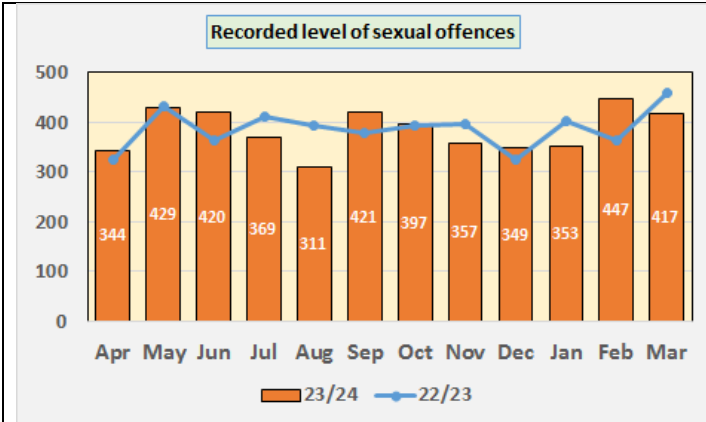
The proportion of all domestic abuse crimes with an arrest is higher than last quarter and Q4 22/23. The arrest rate for high-risk DA cases remains between 85% & 90%. Domestic abuse is a priority for SYP and the PCC. Dedicated domestic abuse teams have been set up to deal specifically with DA crime.



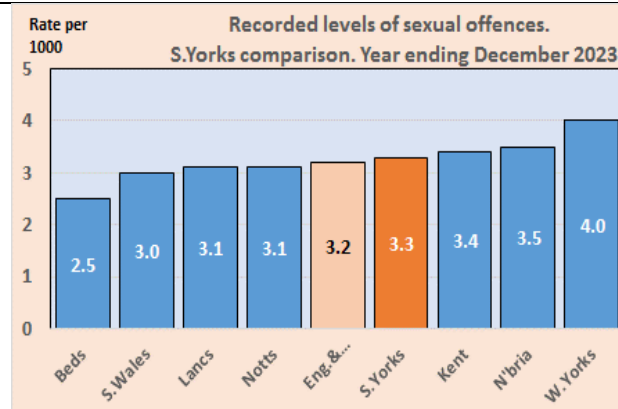
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The % of domestic abuse victims satisfied with their overall experience with the police was 81% in Q4 23/24. There is no statistically significant difference compared to Q3 23/24 or the same period last year. A telephone survey is conducted around 8 weeks after reporting. 135 domestic abuse victims completed the survey in Q4.

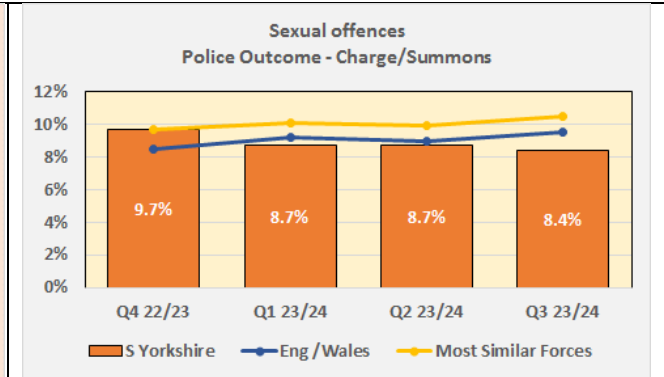
1. Protecting Vulnerable People



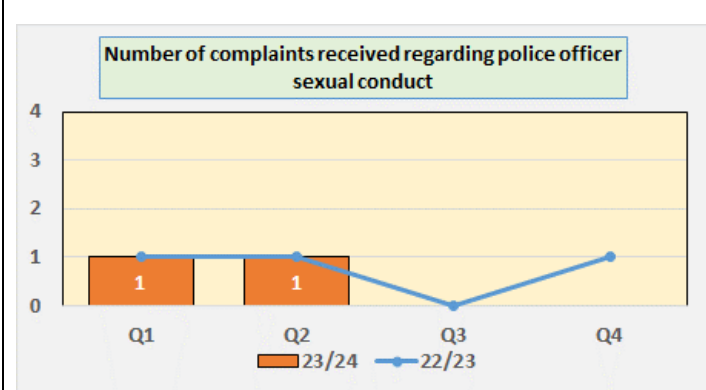
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change
 The recorded level of sexual offences in Q4 23/24 has increased from the previous quarter and is slightly lower than Q4 last year. Looking at rape offences specifically, the recorded level of rape in Q4 has increased both on the previous quarter and the same quarter last year.



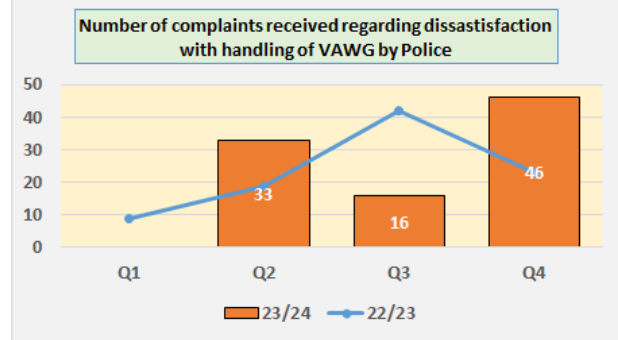
Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime
 The latest available data up to December 2023 shows South Yorkshire Police has rates of recorded sexual offences that are around average compared to most similar forces and the England and Wales average.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Outcomes
 The latest ONS data shows that SYP had slightly lower than the average rates for charge/summons of sexual offences (police recorded outcomes) in Q3 23/24 when compared to SYP's most similar forces. SYP also sits slightly below the England and Wales average.



Source: IOPC Police Complaints Information Bulletin
 In Q4 23/24, there were no complaints made to SYP about police officer sexual conduct.



Source: IOPC Police Complaints Information Bulletin
 In Q3 23/24, there were 46 complaints made to SYP regarding dissatisfaction with the handling of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) by SYP. This is higher than the number of complaints received last quarter and the same period last year.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

Anyone may become a victim of crime and if that happens, people need to have confidence that they 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 feedback from victims is sought to make sure that the services commissioned to support people 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

In Q4, there was a 3.3% decrease in the number of referrals to the South Yorkshire ISVA service, down from 453 in quarter 3 to 438 in quarter 4. Each individual service experienced a decrease in referrals, with the exception of Doncaster and Stovewood where the number of referrals increased. A breakdown in referrals received per locality is shown below:

- Sheffield: 151 (-2)
- Barnsley: 94 (-4)
- Doncaster: 108 (+3)
- Rotherham: 78 (-14)
- Stovewood: 7 (+2)

Stovewood¹ experienced a further increase in referrals in quarter 4, a decrease in the number of active clients, and a comparable number of case closures compared to quarter 3. However, the overall number of cases in Rotherham remains consistent with other areas.

The genders of clients being supported across the partnership remain at comparable levels to quarter 3, with the largest group being people who identify as female (88.4%). In quarter 4 there has been a small increase in the number of people identifying as male accessing support (9.7%), while the proportion of people identifying as transgender, non-binary or other has dropped slightly to 1.8%, from 2.3% in quarter 3.

The most common age group of clients being supported across the partnership was people aged 13-17 years in Q4, who formed 24.3% of active clients. The number of young people accessing services across the partnership remained at a consistent level in Q4; over a third of clients being supported were aged 0-17 years old (34.1%), further demonstrating the demand for support for children and young people in South Yorkshire. While this demonstrates that more young people are being supported by the ISVA service, it also results in capacity concerns for those Independent Sexual Violence Advocates dealing specifically with children and young people, who are advised to hold a reduced caseload to accommodate the additional work that naturally comes with supporting young people and their families. Following the 13-17 category, people aged between 25 and 34 years were the second most popular age group across the four services and formed 23.4% of clients being supported.

Most of the ISVA service clients across the partnership identify as heterosexual (53%), and with comparable levels of clients identifying as gay, lesbian, bisexual, other, or prefer not to say (47%) to quarter 3.

¹ Operation Stovewood is the National Crime Agency's investigation into non-familial child sexual exploitation and abuse in the UK.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

Similarly, White continues to be the most recorded ethnicity among our active clients (78.5%). The proportion of clients from ethnic minority communities across the partnership was slightly lower than the levels reported in quarter 3, at 7.8% in quarter 4.

Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

The PCC continued to support and co-commission the SARC service at Hackenthore 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 decreased in Q4 compared to Q3, with 111 referrals in Q4, compared to 114 in Q3. Referrals into the service are predominantly from the police (67% in Q4) followed by self-referrals at 32%. Police referrals have seen a slight increase from Q3 (62% in Q3), as have self-referrals (29% in Q3).

The majority of people using the SARC in Q4 identified as female, but the provider has reported a continued increase in those identifying as male using the service. In respect of ethnicity, white British people are still the predominant users of SARC services.

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 Q4, there were 24 new referrals into the service, a reduction from Q3 (38).

'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 four saw 90 referrals made to the service over South Yorkshire. Police referrals accounting for 11 of those referrals (12%), 50 Childrens Social Care (55%) and 20 self-referrals in comparison to only 9 the previous quarter and 30 in quarter 2. Referral breakdown by area:

- **Sheffield** – 28 referrals (31%)
- **Rotherham** – 21 referrals (23%)
- **Doncaster** – 20 referrals (22%)
- **Barnsley** – 21 referrals (23%)

100% of referrals made into the service were offered an assessment appointment within 5 working days of first contact.

15 cases exited the service early for the quarter for the following reason:

- 12 – Dropped out after completing more than one session of an intervention.
- 3 – Were removed from group due to behaviour which includes a lack of engagement or attendance with intervention.

The retention rate for the service was 40% for the quarter which is a slight drop on previous quarters. Of the 61 cases closed before starting

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

intervention, the majority were closed after initial contact by practitioners. Having reviewed the overview of the initial contacts and assessments, the common theme appears to have been withdrawal of consent. One of the common reasons was a lack of clarity on why the individual had been referred to the service. These range from service users thinking they had been referred for mental health or substance use, through to a misunderstanding that they had been referred for “couples counselling”.

The Men and Masculinities programme continues to be run face to face in each of the four areas. CITC continue to offer 6 initial sessions to those with low to no accountability as part of an ongoing assessment prior to joining one of the “core” groups.

A tracker has been developed to monitor the service user journey of male referrals suitable for the Men and Masculinities programme. This has been developed to particularly focus to identify any common themes of attrition and how many are able to complete the initial 6 sessions, but then go on to exit the full programme before completion.

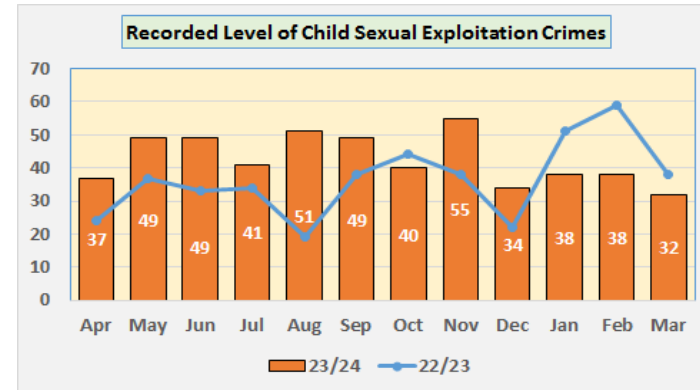
The service continues to deliver an online option for those that are physically unable to attend face to face (for example, if they work out of area without the opportunity to return). Each key worker continues to also deliver 1-1 work to an average of 5 service users per week. In any one week the average number of service users attending an intervention is between 80 and 90, attending either a group session or 1-1 sessions.

There were 29 completions for the quarter. When compared the number of starts in the period April – June 2023 (60), the average completion rate is 48%.

The completions by area are as follows:

- Sheffield – 5
- Rotherham – 7
- Doncaster – 9
- Barnsley – 8

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



The Levels of CSE crimes recorded in South Yorkshire during Q4 23/24 are lower than the volumes recorded in the previous quarter and the same quarter last year.

The expansion and uplift of resources to create additional child exploitation teams in Barnsley and Doncaster has provided greater capacity to ensure a consistent service is provided to protect children across South Yorkshire. The teams have been developed based around the HMICFRS commended Rotherham partnership model and have been driving engagement and awareness with regard to the risk of child exploitation. Staff within the teams have been developing the local and regional understanding, which intelligence will create a better understanding of the risk posed by CSE within South Yorkshire.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

SYP has observed an increase in cyber-enabled offending relating to both CSE and CCE. In line with the national picture, internet use as an offending method now accounts for over 60 per cent of all reported CSE offences in South Yorkshire. Due to the nature of this type of offending, which could be committed from anywhere in the world, more intelligence is required to assist in developing the police tactical response. Stage two of the SYP Child

Exploitation Communication Strategy will look to raise awareness regarding the risk of online based, or cyber enabled child exploitation. This will aim to address directly a potential generational knowledge gap regarding the risk posed by technology in children's lives. SYP Child Exploitation (CE) teams in all four districts will continue to work directly with education settings to equip children with the skills to be safe online, utilising the Lifewise centre and advancement in technology, via Virtual Reality (VR) headsets to create an immersive meaningful input.

All four district child exploitation teams are now co-located, alongside local authority contextual safeguarding teams, ensuring a partnership approach to the assessment of risk. This process looks to map the movement of children both into and out of SYP boundaries. Thematic leads for CE engage with regional partners via tactical working groups, to exchange intelligence and develop collaborative risk mitigation strategies.

Traditionally an exporter of children to other regions, an intelligence gap remains regarding children brought into South Yorkshire for the purpose of exploitation. Ongoing work via the dedicated intelligence collection plans for County Lines will look to develop intelligence gather opportunities, utilising further support from the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU).

Vulnerability and Mental Health (MH)

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. The volumes of MH incidents continues at around 150 incidents per week, which is over a hundred fewer per week than 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 Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) now operating 2 full time Mental Health Response Vehicles (unmarked ambulance) as business as usual based in Maltby and Sheffield. These vehicles are staffed solely by YAS staff and respond to mental health related incident demand. SYP are also working with health and social care partners, including the NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) provider collaborative and those with lived experience to reduce the need to utilise Section 136 for those in mental health crisis. Partners are also working to 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 have also refurbished their Section 136 suite, which now has four purpose-built beds and modern facilities, though not all four beds operate concurrently. There is a workstream within the ICB with the aim of increasing capacity in Section 136 suites to meet demand and ensuring that capacity is available when required.

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SYP are working hard to reduce the use of S.136 MHA detention powers. The power should be used as a last resort, only when no other options exist to secure the care needed by the individual in crisis. Our ongoing work, both internally and with partners is leading to real reductions in the use of S136. In

April 2023 there were 88 detentions in South Yorkshire, which reduced to 66 in April 2024, in line with a downward trend over the last 18 months. Where detentions do occur or detained persons are assessed in the custody environment as requiring admission to a mental health ward, we 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 continues to work with senior

colleagues in the ICB to refresh the escalation processes, both to deal with live operational pressures and to inform longer term strategic planning around bed availability. Partners are working hard to try and achieve the aim within the National Partnership Agreement for Right Care Right Person, to achieve a one-hour handover of those needing mental health care, assessment or treatment who are in the care or custody of the police.

The force has reviewed and updated 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. The mental health portal continues to provide a wealth

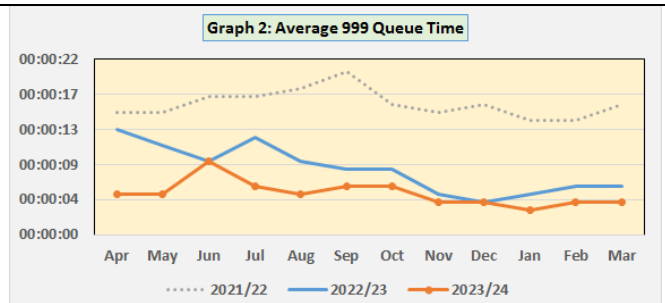
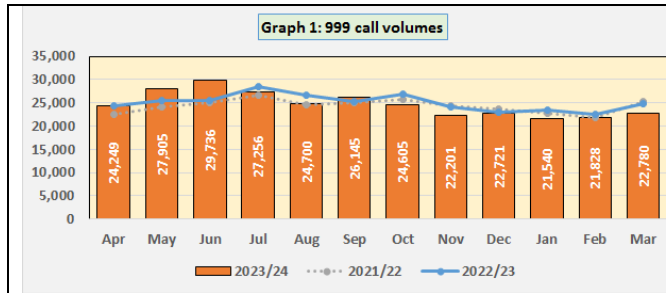
of relevant and up to date reference material and training resources to staff, underpinned by the Mental Health Toolkit, which is currently being reviewed and updated.

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 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 23, with a weekly reduction of a round 200 incidents per week (20% - 25%) since launch. The force held a ‘one year on’ strategic partners event in June 2024 where partners were afforded the opportunity to provide feedback, make comment and contribute to the future direction. This was an incredibly positive event, highlighting the strength of the partnership working.

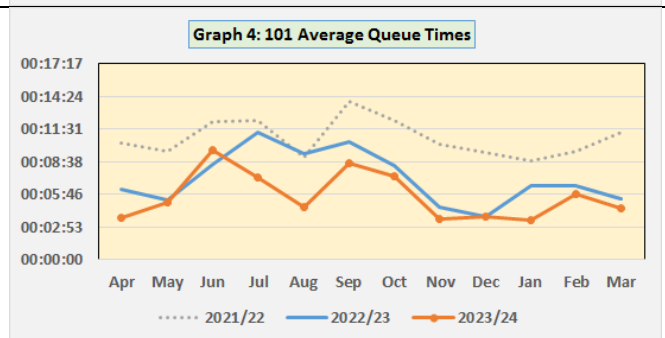
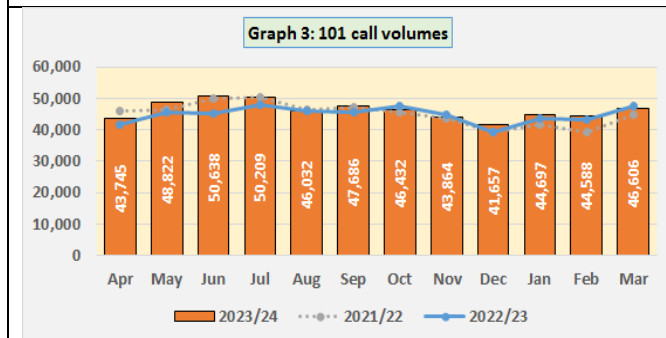
A significant development in 2024 has been the introduction of the quarterly Section 136 scrutiny panel, which consists of subject matter experts, clinicians and individuals with lived experience. The panel reviews calls, incidents, documentation and Body Worn Video to consider how individuals were treated, the lawfulness of the detention and whether any alternative options could or should have been considered. The first panel took place in March 24 and the panel highlighted the high level of care, compassion and empathy shown by police officers. The next panel is due to take place in July 24.

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.

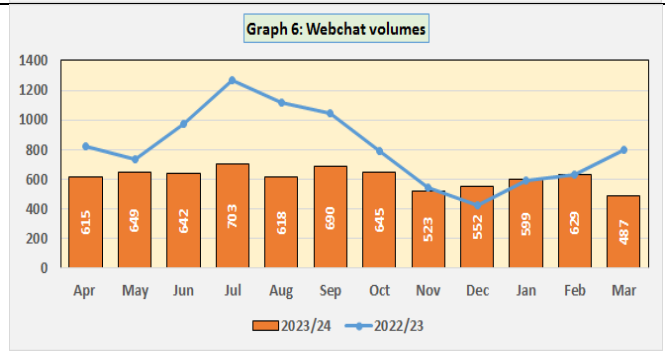
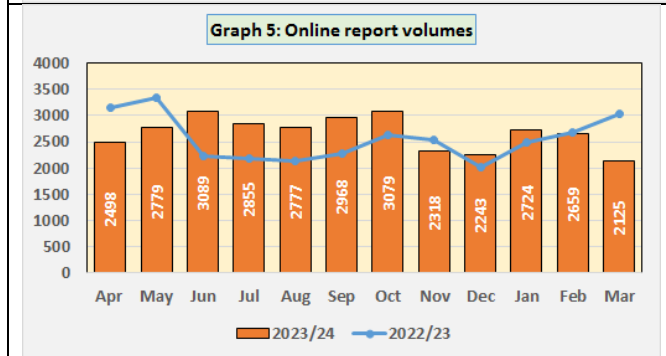
999 and 101 Calls²



999 calls: 999 call volumes have decreased in Q4 compared to last quarter and are around 6% lower than Q4 last year. (Graph 1). The average call wait time has reduced compared to Q3 23/24 at around 4 seconds (Graph 2).



101 calls: Volumes of 101 calls have increased in Q4 23/24 compared to Q3 (Graph 3) and levels are slightly higher than those recorded in the same period last year. The average 101 wait time during Q4 (the orange line in graph 4) was around 4m 38s, lower 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:

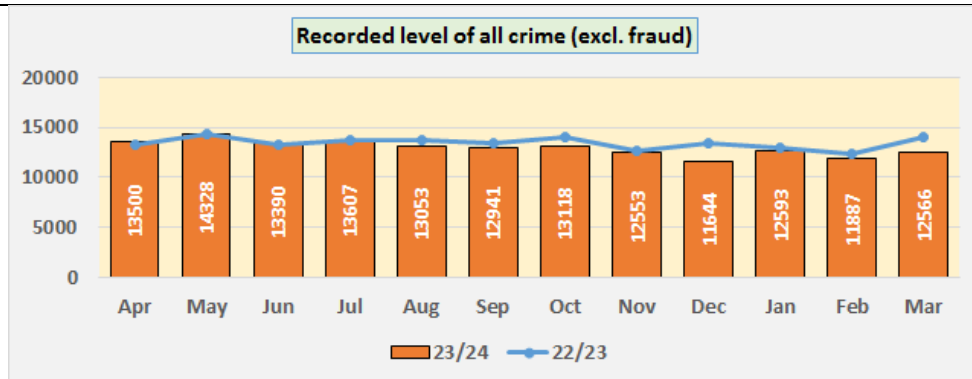
The online portal has two methods of contact – online forms (which are bespoke by topic), and a webchat. Online report volumes decreased in Q4 23/24 compared to Q3 with 7,508 reports recorded. There were 1,715 webchats recorded in Q4 23/24, a similar level to Q3, but a decrease compared to the same period last year. This may be reflective of the quicker response times for other areas of reporting. The average webchat response time during Q4 was 57 seconds. These methods of contact will continue to be monitored for wider understanding of preferred access channels by the public.

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

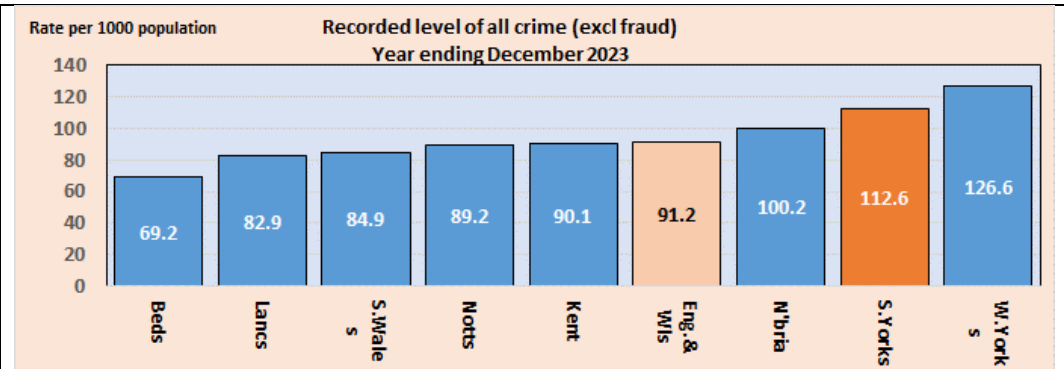
2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

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 Q4 23/24 compared to Q3. The level of total recorded crime in Q4 23/24 was also lower than Q4 last year.

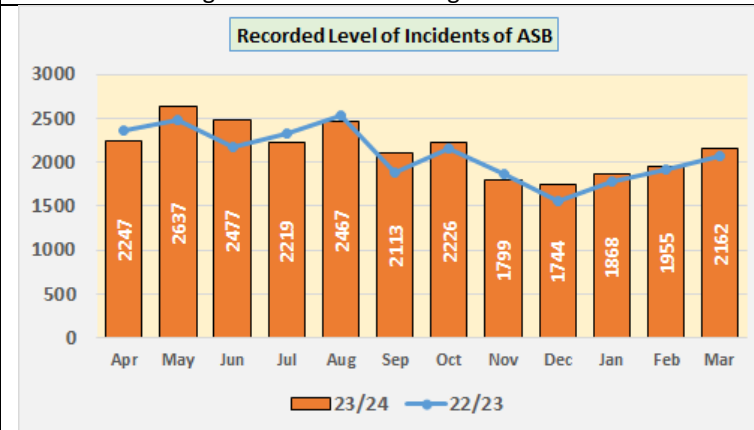


Source: ONS

Latest available comparator data shows South Yorkshire has the second highest 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 March 24 compared to 12 months to March 23	-5.3%	-5.0%	-4.1%	-2.2%
Volume 12 months to 31.03.24	26,039	40,878	25,853	60,187
Volume 12 months to 31.03.23	27,489	43,009	26,971	61,513

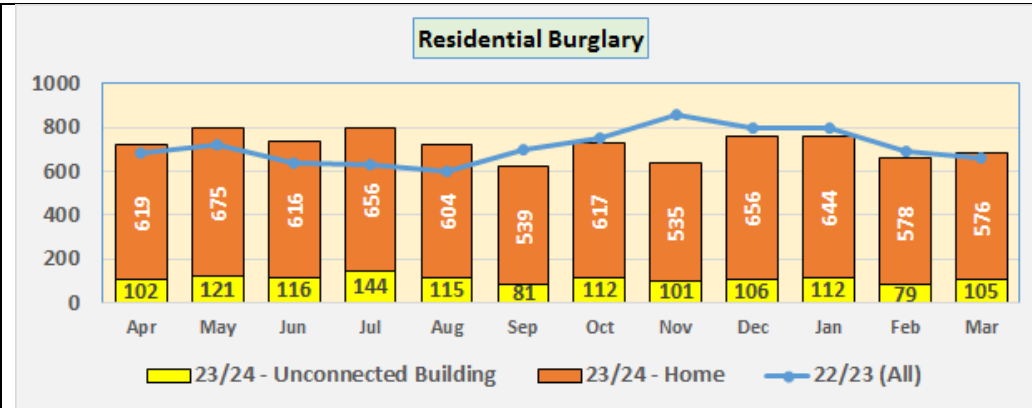
Source: SYP – Unaudited data subject to change.



Source: SYP – Unaudited data subject to change

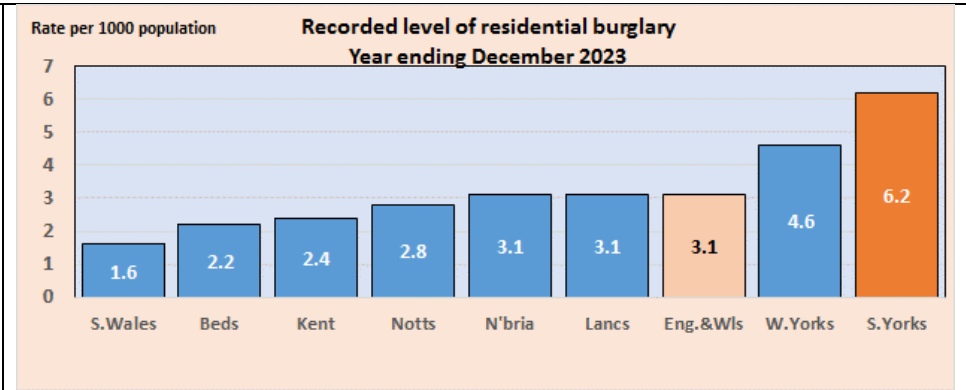
There has been an increase in recorded levels of ASB in Q3 23/24 compared to the previous quarter. Levels are also above the same period last year. Local authorities also record some ASB incidents which are not included here.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



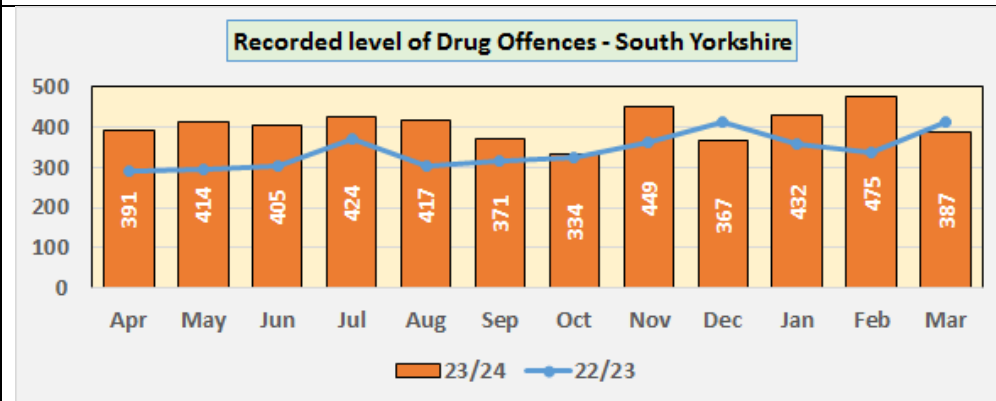
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

Recorded levels of residential burglary have decreased slightly in Q4 23/24 compared to the previous quarter. Volumes are also lower 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.



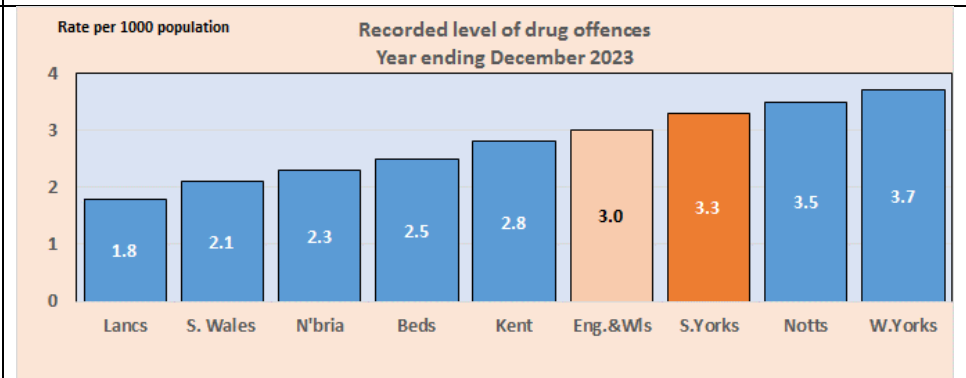
Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

The latest comparator data for the 12 months to the end of December 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: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

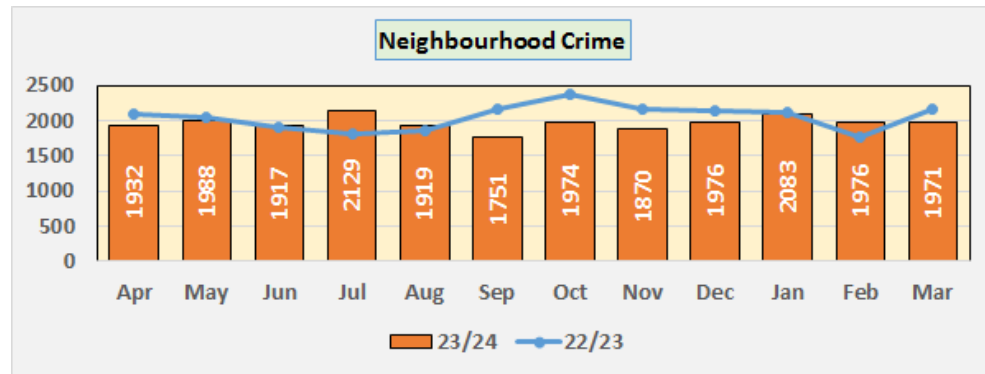
The recorded level of drugs offences in Q4 2023/24 has increased from the previous quarter. Levels are higher than the equivalent period last year. Levels of recorded offences will increase as more pro-active work is undertaken to tackle drug crime. Drugs offences include the possession and trafficking of drugs.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

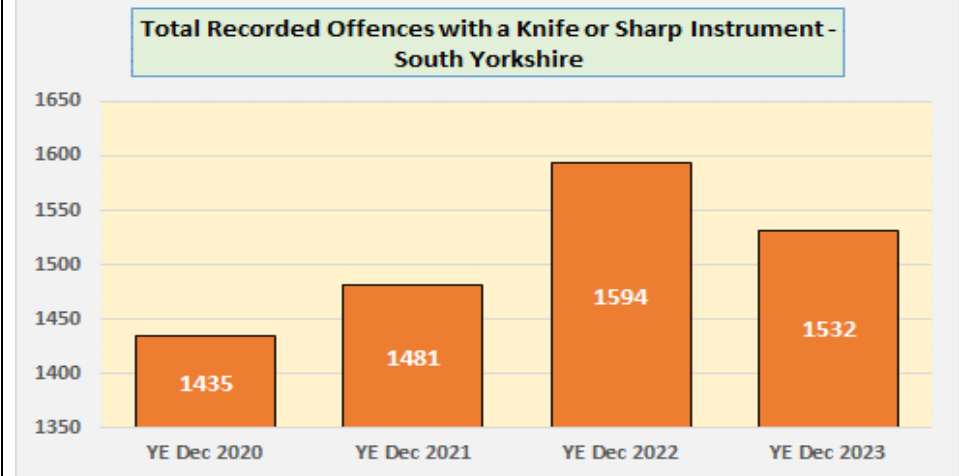
The latest comparator data for the year ending December 23 shows South Yorkshire recorded a rate of 3.3 drug offences per 1000 population, slightly higher than the England and Wales average of 3.0 and just above the average of the similar group of forces.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



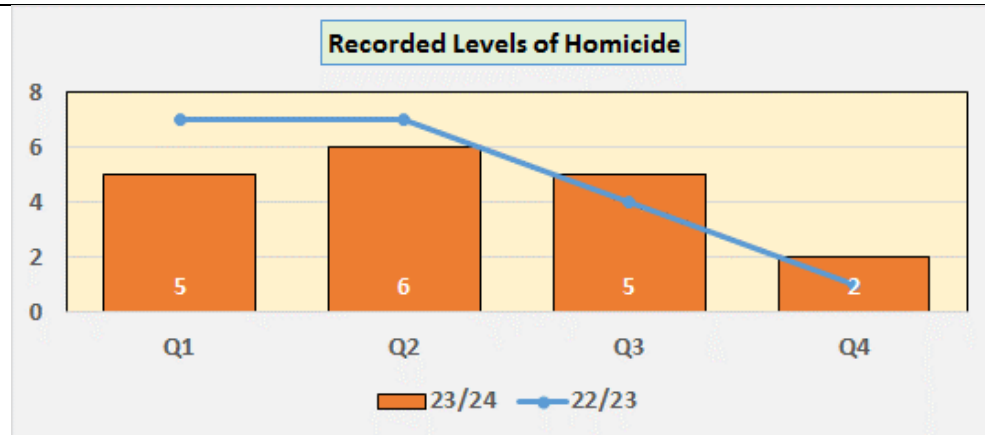
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of neighbourhood crime in Q4 23/24 is slightly higher than levels in Q3 but 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.



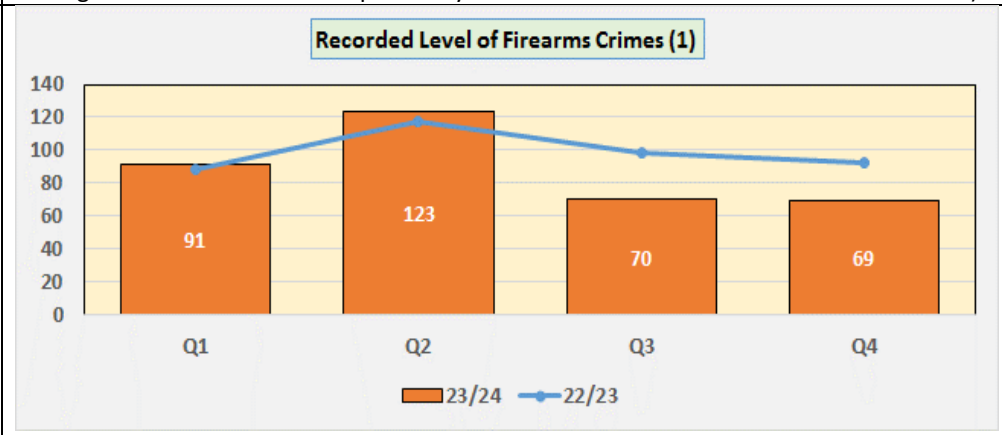
Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

The recorded level of crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument has decreased in the year ending December 2023 compared to the previous 12-month period. (The years ending Dec 20 and 21 will be impacted by Covid which saw reductions in recorded crime)



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

There were 2 homicides recorded in Q4 23/24 in South Yorkshire. It should be noted that Homicide figures can change as inquests are concluded. Homicide includes murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter, and infanticide.



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of firearms crimes in Q4 23/24 is slightly lower than Q3 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

Despite some challenges, it has overall been an extremely successful year for Barnsley's Safer Communities teams. Barnsley CSP continues to perform well across the breadth of the service offer. There continues to be good local partnership working between the police and the council, to protect the most vulnerable, bring those who cause harm to justice and make Barnsley a safer place for all. Worthy of note at year end 2023/24 are the following:

- Reduced expenditure on temporary accommodation in comparison to the previous year by over 20%, and stabilised rough sleeper numbers bucking the national and regional trends.
- Successfully delivered resettlement programmes to new arrivals to the borough fleeing conflict, including acquiring multiple properties as part of the Local Authority Housing Fund scheme.
- Increased court enforcement actions by 146 % across all categories including housing possessions, closure orders, fly-tipping prosecutions, unlawful eviction prosecutions and housing disrepair prosecutions.

- National recognition of the Clear Hold Build initiative at Hoyland to disrupt organised crime.
- 2 Tilley Award nominations for problem orientated approaches to the impact of organised crime and the illicit drugs market on communities.
- National recognition of delivery of the Prevent programme in Barnsley within the counter terrorist national strategy.
- Damp and mould investigations are more robust in line with the damp and mould action plan. In Q4, Barnsley CSP secured the first ever prosecution for failing to comply with an improvement notice to rectify damp and mould in a family home. The fines and costs totalled £12,800.
- Hundreds of vulnerable people living in the private sector proactively identified by the Area Council funded Housing Officers. The 6 officers picked up almost 25% of housing demand, cases that would otherwise have gone unreported.
- Over £30,000 debt to the council identified for recovery action arising from proactive empty homes investigations for long-term empties.
- Continued overall reductions in reported antisocial behaviour.

In the coming year Barnsley CSP will also begin to focus more on further strengthening our integrated neighbourhood policing offer, will embolden joint approaches to reducing the debilitating impacts of organised crime on individuals and communities, and will seek to tackle violence in Barnsley's communities and in particular violence affecting women and girls.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Doncaster CSP - Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP)

During Q4, 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.

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. During 2023/24, the SSDP has:

- Purchased CCTV cameras and monitors to deter, prevent and detect criminal activity;
- Purchased a range of security equipment to support victims of domestic abuse;
- Contributed to the Cranstoun Level Up Programme, working to engage with young people presenting abusive and challenging behaviours within their homes, with family members or within intimate relationships.
- Purchased an ANPR camera to be deployed at key location to assist with the detection of organised criminality;

- Purchased additional CASED radios to assist with communications and responses to incidents in the City Centre;
- Purchased ID discs to assist dementia sufferers to access help and support when needed;
- Contributed towards the development of an information video for young people, tackling the challenging issue of off-road bikes, quads and e-bikes;
- Purchased signage to promote the renewed Public Spaces Protection Order for the City's Alleygate initiative, displayed at key locations;
- Purchased basic mobile phones to support monitoring and engagement of individuals managed through the Integrated Offender Management scheme;
- Purchased basic mobile phones, food vouchers and other essentials to assist with the engagement of clients in Doncaster as part of the NHS initiative to tackle Hepatitis C;
- Purchased various crime prevention materials as part of a burglary pilot initiative, to be used in Doncaster's highest volume locations, to protect those who have been burgled or who are immediate neighbours of someone who has been burgled.

Rotherham CSP - Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Safer, Stronger Communities.

In February, the partnership ran a Harms of Hate for 154 Year 6 pupils from selected primary schools at New York Stadium. Workshops and activities saw them learn about hate crime, knife crime and radicalisation. Excellent feedback was received from pupils and teachers. Following open tender, Remedi were successful in bidding to continue providing the hate crime service in Rotherham. The contract will run over the next three years and the provision has been extended to include primary schools.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

A first of its kind Continuous Professional Development package, to embed hate crime awareness in schools, has been completed. A collaboration between the council's Community Safety Team, the Anti-Bullying Company, Forge CPD, Victim Support, Rotherham United Community Trust and South Yorkshire Police, the package is a wonderful example of cooperation between local partners. The official launch is in September at the Education Safeguarding Forum for schools but the video component can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/3G-tJy5RnYQ>

Protecting Vulnerable Children

Training on the risks of vaping to young people, including the additional vulnerability to exploitation, was delivered to 4 education settings and to 68 professionals over a number of sessions. The feedback from these sessions was positive however more education in this area is being requested, particularly by schools. We are linking in with existing work that is being explored by partners in relation to vaping, the risks for young people and how to address the behaviour challenges this presents to schools. Training on Minimising Unconscious Bias in Child Criminal Exploitation has been delivered to 197 professionals across the partnership. The sessions were aimed at those working directly with young people involved in exploitation and looked at how unconscious bias can impact our work.

Continued use of digital technology poses a risk to young people, particularly the risk of exploitation in relation to image sharing. A community Online Safety awareness session has been developed and delivered to members of the public alongside the Digital Inclusion Team. The session is being adapted to target parents and carers to help protect young people online with a particular focus on image sharing which continues to be raised as an issue by professionals working with young people.

Protecting Vulnerable Adults

The Protecting Vulnerable Adults Group is currently testing and monitoring progress of the work being carried out by the Probation Service and Drug and Alcohol Service, particularly around evidencing positive outcomes in respect of service users.

Improved process are now in place in respect of data collection and management around mental health interventions which more accurately reflects the work and interventions of the dedicated mental health specialist embedded within the Safer Neighbourhood Service. Work continues with the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) in respect of the increase nationally of reports of labour exploitation in the Care Sector and to assist in the identification of issues in Rotherham. A series of training courses have taken place with care sector workers, with more planned for the future.

Domestic Abuse/Sexual Abuse/Male violence against women and girls

Victims presenting as homeless are receiving immediate support from the Domestic Abuse Homelessness Officers, with the safe accommodation and refuge being utilised and monitored on a weekly basis.

In tackling potential violence, targeted work carried out in identified hotspot locations continues. Through weekly walkabouts, 8 areas of concern have been identified and clearing of several open areas to reduce drug use and support additional CCTV has been carried out. Work has taken place with a number of Night Time Economy (NTE) venues on a multi-agency period of action specific to Rotherham to prevent, disrupt and reduce serious violent crime and an operation looking at early intervention within the NTE addressing drug use. This has led to significant reductions in NTE related premises violence.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Organised Crime

Over 1000 individual professionals have now received training on how to share intelligence to support a partnership approach to tackling organised crime, and we are now seeing a wide range of impactful disruptions to Organised Crime Groups operating in Rotherham and beyond.

Rotherham has contributed to and is a member of the South Yorkshire wide Dangerous Dogs Group, established to address the breeding of dogs linked to Organised Crime.

We have seen an increase in the targeted commissioning of initiatives for young people in areas impacted by Organised Crime Groups.

Areas vulnerable to financial exploitation/Fraud/Money Laundering in public services such as Housing, Benefits and Licencing are now involved in work to identify, investigate and take action on those responsible.

Sheffield CSP - Safer Sheffield Partnership (SSP)

Theme groups:

Each of the six theme groups as shown below have continued to deliver against their approved plans.

- ASB
- Violence against women and girls
- Addressing the supply of drugs
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Neighbourhood crime and re-offending
- Hate Crime

Quarter 4 has seen many of the projects and initiatives nearing conclusion with minimal new work being commissioned as is to be expected at this stage of the financial year. Worthy of specific mention is the work of the ASB theme group and other stakeholders, bringing together several ASB related work-streams:

- PSPO: The ASB theme group has undertaken significant work in the City Centre which includes consideration of a Public spaces protection order (PSPO) which is now at the consultation phase.
- City-wide ASB policy: A City-wide ASB policy has been developed and approved at the March 2024 Communities, Parks and Leisure Committee.
- BWV: The SCC ASB Team have secured funding for body worn video equipment for the sustainable communities' officers and ASB investigators. This equipment has now been rolled out and is deployed operationally.
- ASB hotspot pilot: The teams have supported the SYP led hot spot patrol pilot, utilising Home Office funding to increase visible uniformed patrols in twelve ASB hot spot areas in Sheffield.
- Safer Streets: Funding has been secured via the Home office to install CCTV coverage in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant Park, Nether Edge.

Violence Reduction Unit

The Sheffield VRU had two over-arching priorities during 2023/34;

1. Reducing and preventing violence against women and girls (VAWG)
2. Work to change the cultural and social attitudes that contribute to violence.

The projects approved in support of these themes are summarised below:

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

- Reducing and preventing violence against women and girls: Night-time Economy – continue to develop the voluntary licensing schemes of Pub /licence Watch, Ask for Angela, Purple Flag, Best Bar none, Safe Space pilot.
- Work to change the cultural and social attitudes that contribute to violence: Fund to continue the prevention and education work in schools and youth settings and general public exhibitions and awareness projects.

The Safe Space Pilot which VRU and core Safer Sheffield Partnership funding supported has concluded. A subsequent evaluation was positive, the initial pilot received universal praise and significant local media attention. The Safe Space initiative will therefore continue during this financial year supported by the VRU funding initially, with the VRU partnership manager and other stakeholders exploring viable long- term funding options.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT (SYVRU)

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 took place during Quarter 4 both to organisations which received grant funding from the Violence Reduction Unit's (VRU) 2023/24 Violence Reduction Fund, and those which didn't. Visits in this quarter have included a visit to Rotherham United Community Trust workshops, and meeting with Sheffield City Council's Sustainable Communities team to discuss the VRU's work on tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

These and other events provided an opportunity to speak to partner organisations and communities about the work of the VRU.

The VRU has continued to work with key partners on the implementation of the Serious Violence Duty. In Q4, South Yorkshire's Serious Violence Reduction Strategy and Strategic Needs Assessment were sent to the Home Office, as required under the Duty, and were published on the VRU website and promoted through issuing a press statement.

Tackling VAWG remains a priority for the VRU. The VRU has developed two VAWG communications campaigns, focused on positive male role models and behaviours, and the role that men can play in tackling the issue. The second of these campaigns, called Every Man Can, launched on 6 February in Rotherham, and ran until 18 March. Both of these campaigns reached over a million people.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs)

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

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.

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.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Barnsley:

Barnsley NPT has continued to focus considerable resourcing in and around the Transport Interchange which has remerged as one of our localised hotspots for ASB. Targeted partnership problem solving activity has taken place, and activity centred on a cohort of individuals identified as responsible for the majority of incidents. The activities have led to multiple arrests and subsequent charging of offences disclosed. The team are also pursuing criminal behaviour orders and civil injunctions against individuals to enhance further the safety of the local community. The work undertaken highlights the value of having a dedicated town centre neighbourhood policing team.

One of the issues for residents in Barnsley is the use of off-road bikes where they have a negative impact on local communities. The force's off-road bike and rural crime team and mounted department are supporting bespoke days of action within hotspot locations. One example on 8th June was of resources being deployed in the Lundwood, Cudworth and Stairfoot areas to respond to reports of off-road bikes – this led to an arrest for dangerous driving; the recovery of a suspected stolen bike; and a recovery of a stolen scooter. This activity was positively received by witnesses such as walkers, farmers, and local businesses.

Doncaster

High visibility uniformed patrols have continued in violent crime and ASB hotspot areas, linking together with night-time economy problem solving activities. For example, training inputs around Violence Against Women and Girls, Safeguarding, crime scene preservation and drink spiking have been provided for licensed premises workers; and work continues to support improvements in CCTV and body worn video coverage within licenced premises. Additional training has been delivered at door staff awareness events with inputs on use of force legislation, searching

awareness, positional asphyxia and use of body worn videos. Further training designed to improve knowledge about licensing and legislation and night time economy crime recording has also been delivered to Doncaster Police officers as part of a force wide programme.

Local concerns were raised within engagement events with members of the community and local businesses about volumes of retail crime and associated ASB in the City, correlating with increases in recording. The force reallocated five officer resources into the Central Neighbourhood Team and supported specific liaison activity within the Frenchgate shopping centre and transport interchange. Plans to provide a dedicated office in the Frenchgate centre will further increase the officers' engagement with retail premises and support visibility in the city centre. The team recently purchased an additional 'CASED' radio set which improves real time communication between police officers and retail staff. This supports the ongoing targeted activity, with seven key repeat demand nominals identified who are now subject to interventions including banning letters, ASB referrals and civil injunctions.

Based on a partnership approach to demonstrating a sustained presence within the community from both the Police and across the Partnership, the 'Clear, Hold and Build' activity in Edlington has transitioned to the 'hold' phase. Governance is in place to drive this activity and create the 'space' for longer term community regeneration projects to become established. Current work to prevent and deter serious crime uses a partnership register of community assets to plan and deliver local community events, and supports the development of educational and health and wellbeing projects.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Rotherham

Rotherham have maintained a focus on reducing burglary and acquisitive crime. This is managed via fortnightly meetings with NPTs, Rotherham Neighbourhood Crime team, intelligence unit and offender management unit. Collectively, patterns of offending are reviewed from recent investigations, intelligence and offenders, supporting interventions and proactive targeted activity. NPTs deliver 'cocooning' visits to properties neighbouring victims of burglaries, to offer crime prevention advice and target-harden properties. This has been well received within the local community, with positive feedback from residents and remains a priority focus within the district.

Rotherham continue to work with partners across the borough to tackle anti-social behaviour. Working alongside RMBC, elected Members and local businesses there has been a focus to tackle off-road bikes and nuisance vehicles and the linked criminality such as thefts and wildlife crime. Intelligence from local communities is supporting this delivery, and in partnership work to seize bikes, and take tenancy action where appropriate. This will remain a focus as the summer months continue.

Drugs, and specifically cannabis cultivations, are a priority area. The crime type is often associated with wider issues of organised crime and vulnerable persons, and therefore action taken is not purely targeting offenders, but also safeguarding vulnerable people involved in any activity. Warrants have been executed in relation to cannabis, with one resulting in over £300,000 worth of cannabis plants being recovered and taken off the streets, and offender arrested and charged.

Specialist road traffic police officers have been working with DVSA (Driving & vehicle standards agency) partners to support proactive work

around the 'fatal four' driving issues of speeding, drink and drug driving, driving while distracted and non-wearing of seatbelts. Days of action in Rotherham have resulted in a number of vehicle stops, traffic offence reports, unsafe vehicles being taken off the road and drug searches. The district continues to engage positively with drivers to tackle this issue of concern within the community.

Sheffield

The Fargate and High Street area of the city centre has become a significant issue for visitors and people working in Sheffield, as a focal point for vagrancy, anti-social behaviour, acquisitive and drugs crime. The symptoms are complex and presenting in people who are sometimes known to the partnership services - including concerns for mental health; drug and alcohol abuse; homelessness; and people who have homes who do not live in them. There is an element of persons 'commuting' to Sheffield as a more lucrative place to beg, and some identified as working through the immigration system. The cathedral has a proud tradition as a safe haven for vulnerable street people, offering support to those who need it; but the demand presented and the impact outside of service hours is overwhelming the area. Additionally, with the positive but major redevelopment works in the centre, construction works can channel people into tighter spaces, restricting free movements and concentrating people together. The Central Neighbourhood team and local authority officers are working closely to better enforce and disperse offending behaviour, with arrests, stop searches and civil powers being used robustly where possible. However this activity does not deal with the root causes of people being on the streets. A strategic group has now formed, bringing together senior leaders from across the agencies to resolve such issues collectively. Meanwhile, the effort to reduce the visible, offending behaviours continues. The 'Clear, Hold, Build' methodology is being promoted as an approach to be utilised here. Consultation on implementation of a Public Space Protection Order for the area commenced in February 24, with feedback received from individuals

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

and interest groups. If achieved, a PSPO will add 'tools to the box' of police and authority officers' powers, such as alcohol seizure, which will help address some of the issues identified.

The Page Hall Strategic Group partnership is led by Fir Vale School's Head Teacher and the authority's Director of Operational Services. The group is working on key objectives to improve upon: health; education; community pride; reducing crime and integration and bridge building. This work has led to a North-East Neighbourhood officer being welcomed into Fir Vale School to work each week in school to support staff. Work is also underway to introduce Mini Police into local primary schools and cost CCTV options for the area. The Page Hall area is identified as a longer-term burglary problem-solving hot-spot area, and is incorporated in the force's wider Burglary Reduction Plan.

Modern Slavery Human Trafficking (MSHT) and Organised Immigration Crime

The South Yorkshire Police Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime Unit has continued to chair and co-ordinate the South Yorkshire Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Partnership. Members of this partnership include a wide variety of organisations across law enforcement, local authorities and also non law enforcement areas and provides a forum and environment where information and best practice can be shared and joint working agreed in order to effectively tackle Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime.

Examples of partnership working that has taken place has involved a period of intensification focussing on potential exploitation within the Barbershop industry, where multiple partners worked directly with South Yorkshire Police in attending several locations in all district areas across the force. During these visits completed, individuals encountered were

engaged with, workers safeguarded and supported, and where offences were identified arrests were made. Operations have also continued to take place in respect of tackling Organised Immigration Crime with activity undertaken on our road networks and also formal debriefs having taken place with migrants who are residing in the South Yorkshire region.

A number of officers across South Yorkshire Police have undergone formal training to become Modern Slavery Tactical Advisors and Victim Liaison Officers. These additional officers that have now been trained will significantly increase our cohort for these roles and who will be able to directly support Modern Slavery investigations and ensure the right outcome is achieved for victims.

South Yorkshire Police has voluntarily engaged in a force peer review conducted by the National Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime Programme, regarding the current structure and response to Organised Immigration Crime. A report has been provided following this peer review with a number of recommendations for the force to now consider implementing. A significant recommendation is the implementation of the National Response Plan which has now been launched and which will now support an effective and efficient response to any incident connected to Organised Immigration Crime. 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.

Fraud/Cybercrime

There is currently a regional managed, local delivered approach to cybercrime. South Yorkshire Police has a resolute team of pursue officers and a protect/prevent officer who deal with cybercrime. The pursue officers are dedicated to investigation cyber crime whilst the protect/prevent officer whose primary role is to engagement with the

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

communities and business in South Yorkshire to deliver advice aimed at reducing the risk of them becoming a victim of cybercrime.

All cyber investigation are reviewed by the pursue officers to identify any positive lines of enquires and opportunities for disruption opportunities. The protect officer uses a variety of engagement methods including bespoke victim engagement or larger scale events and presentations.

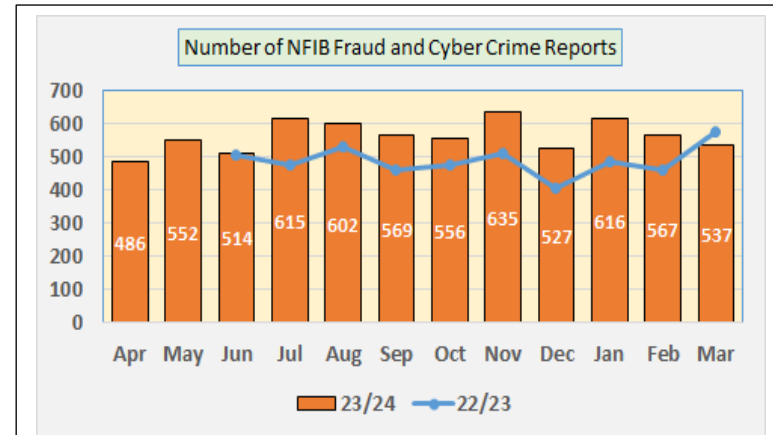
During January, February and March 2024 the SYP Fraud and Cyber Protect officers attended 23 events and presented information to attendees around how they can protect themselves from being a victim of fraud/cyber crime.

In March 2024, a new South Yorkshire Police Economic Crime strategy was launched with focus on the following:

- Ensure an effective capability to tackle cyber criminality.

To succeed in this the Force Cyber Crime Unit will:

- Develop the workforce to allow staff to develop and improve skills within a cyber crime environment.
- Focus on victims by providing advice to all victims, provide support to victims and understand the needs and concerns of the victims.
- Ensure partnership working with Regional Organised Crime Unit and City of London Police.
- Disrupt offenders through early intervention.



Source: NFIB Fraud and Cyber Crime Dashboard

The number of reports of Fraud and Cyber Crime in South Yorkshire to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) in Q4 23/24 is in line with the previous quarter but is higher than the same period last year.

Organised Crime Group (OCG) Disruption activity

South Yorkshire Police 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:

- Pursue – prosecuting and disrupting people engaged in serious and organised criminality
- Prevent – preventing people from engaging in serious and organised criminality
- Protect – increasing protection against organised crime
- Prepare – reducing the impact of serious and organised crime where it takes place.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

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.

South Yorkshire have 67 identified active OCGs, of which 48 have a primary threat of drugs and a further five having a primary threat of County Lines. Drug threat predominantly consists of Cocaine and Crack, Heroin and Cannabis. However, the threat from synthetic drugs is an emerging threat, with four OCGs now recorded with a synthetic drug threat. The Serious Organised Crime Unit (SOCU), Fortify, and Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) continue to enforce and disrupt drugs markets and OCGs with the threat of controlled drugs with great success, resulting in significant seizures of controlled drugs over the last reporting period.

There have been numerous examples of ongoing partnership work to tackle organised crime including:

- Participation during March 24 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. This resulted in the seizure of mobile phones,

viable firearms, partially converted blank firing pistols, bullets, shotgun cartridges, knuckledusters and controlled drugs.

- Work with stakeholders within the Combatting Drugs Partnerships to prepare for and prevent harms caused by the introduction of Synthetic Opioids into the local drugs supply. Forces have seen increased deaths where these substances have been found and this is constantly monitored. The force is working with partners to ensure timely harm reduction messages are made and action is taken.
- Drugs detection dogs and licencing officers used to deter drugs entering the NTE resulting in several arrests and weapons recovered.
- Drugs Expert Witnesses in South Yorkshire Police act as Subject Matter Experts in force and have recently received training in County Lines and Serious and Organised Crime improving their effectiveness.
- Training sessions for officers dealing with cannabis cultivation scenes to ensure they are dismantled safely and efficiently.

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)

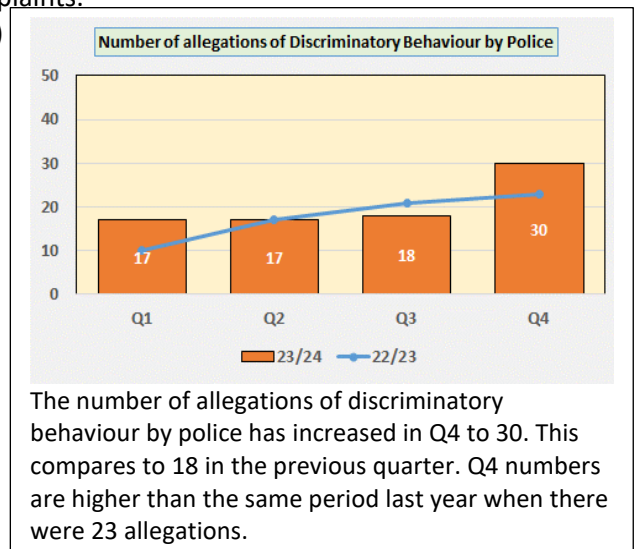
One of the main ways of gaining assurance that people are being treated fairly is through the work of the Independent Ethics Panel. The Panel has a role in helping the PCC and Chief Constable build the trust and confidence of the public and partners in South Yorkshire Police, by ensuring the code of 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 has been 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 February 2024 during this quarter. The Panel received reports and discussed in depth, the ethical issues in relation to two key topics:

- Gaining assurance on SYP’s Professional Standards Department including complaints handling and vetting. (More information on this can be found on the Public Accountability Board papers from 7th March 2023 on the PCC’s website)
- The Panel’s continuing culture work programme – including receiving the first interim report on the panel’s work so far in relation to SYP’s organisational culture and a presentation on the SYP Staff Survey results



The number of allegations of discriminatory behaviour by police has increased in Q4 to 30. This compares to 18 in the previous quarter. Q4 numbers are higher than the same period last year when there were 23 allegations.

Further information about the work of the Independent Ethics Panel can be found online: [South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority - South Yorkshire MCA \(southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk\)](https://southyorkshire-ca.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 to increase capacity – recruitment of ICVs is a particular priority during 2023/24.

During Q4 23/24, 19 visits to custody were undertaken by custody visitors, slightly lower than were undertaken last quarter. The OPCC is 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.

During this period, the OPCC has been looking at procuring additional technology that will support ICVs in being able to provide feedback quickly and efficiently on the results of their visits. An application has now been identified and procurement is underway that will ensure all ICVs have remote access to a report template linked to an analysis tool to provide the outcome of ICV visits in a speedy and efficient way. The new application is being trialled with implementation aimed for August 2025.

3. Treating People Fairly

Hate Crime

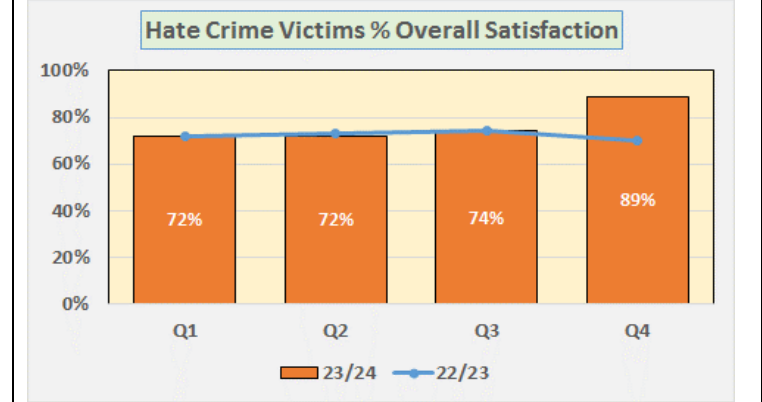
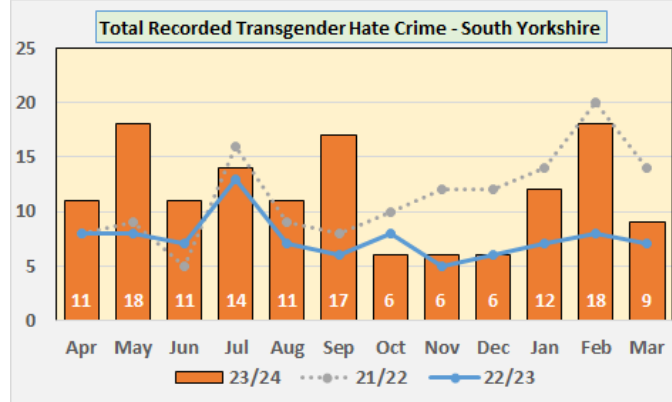
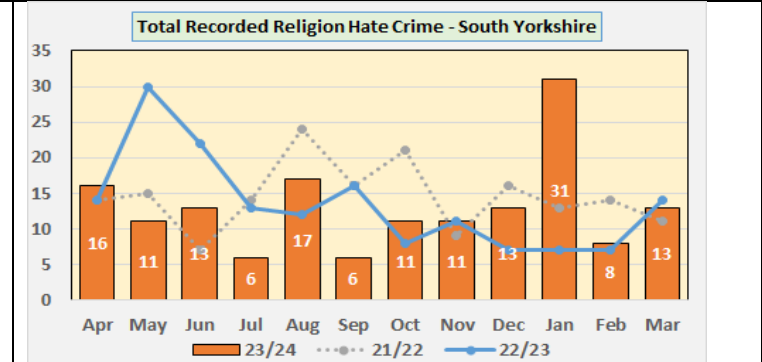
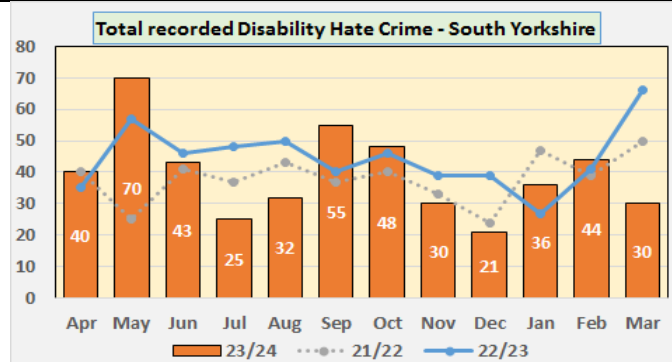
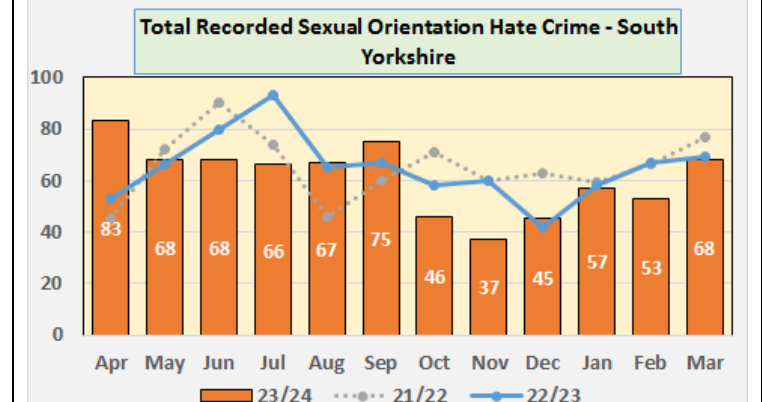
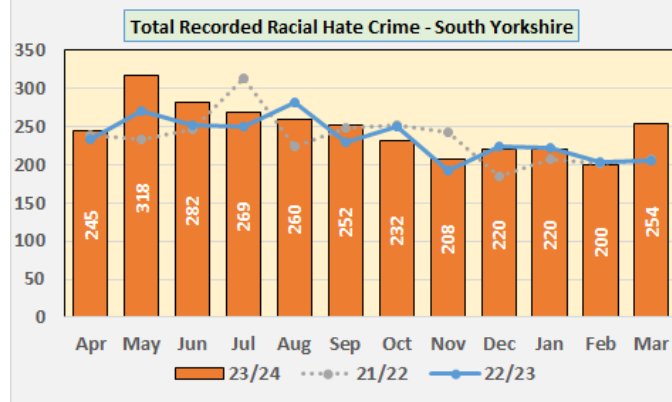
There was an increase in the overall volume of hate crimes recorded in Q4 23/24 compared to the previous quarter and the same period last year.

Overall satisfaction of hate crime victims increased in Q4 23/24 to 89% – an increase from the previous quarter (this change was statistically significant), and higher than Q4 22/23.

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

As a force, SYP is continuing to focus on representation across all protected characteristics and there have been a number of positive trends for the end of the 2023/24 period. Police staff ethnic minority representation currently stands at 5.3% in Q4, a slight increase on the position in Q3 (5.1%). Heritage other than white remains stable at 3.4%. LGBTQ+ representation has also increased slightly (now 3.9% compared to 3.4% in Q3), as well as representation for disability (5.1% in Q4 compared to 4.8% last quarter).

Police Officer Workforce

Police Officer ethnic minority representation stood at 4.8% and at 3.2% for heritage other than white in Q4, compared to 4.9% and 3.4% in the previous quarter respectively. Police Officer representation for LGBT+ was at 5.0% in Q4 compared to 4.6% in Q3. Police Officer representation for Disability stands at 3.6%, a slight increase from Q3 (3.4%).

Longer term trends show that there have been slow but steady increases in female representation across the workforce. Female Police Officer representation currently stands at 37.9%, which is in line with the position at Q3.

Achieving more diverse representation within supervisory roles remains an area of focus as the force does not currently have any ethnic minority officers above the rank of chief inspector, a position which has not changed since the last quarter. That means there is currently no ethnic minority representation of superintendents, chief superintendents, or chief officers.

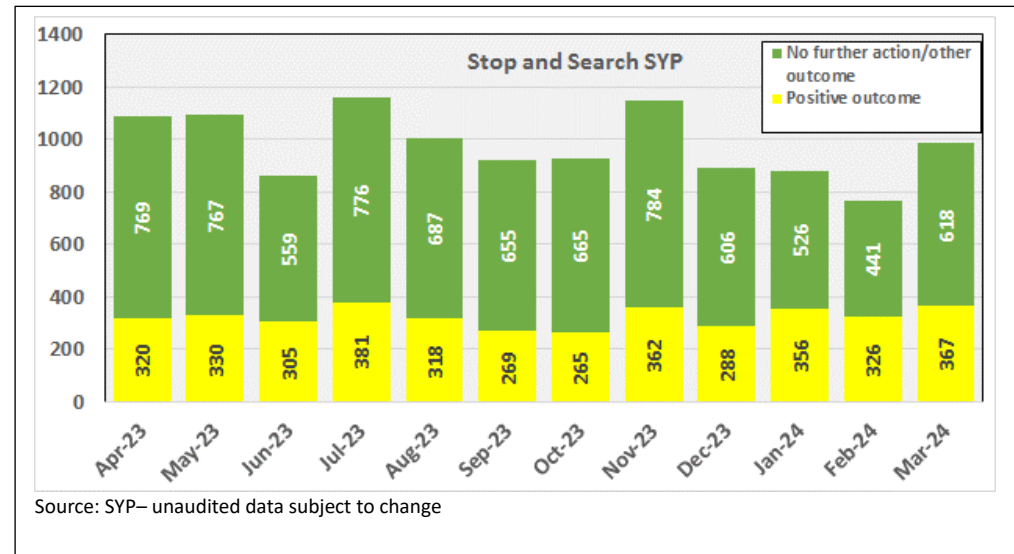
Recent promotion processes have incorporated an increased fill rate to ensure that there are succession plans and select lists to boost accessibility for a larger number of applicants. Data from other sources

such as staff surveys will be utilised to help inform understanding about existing workforce culture as well information regarding the make-up of new joiners to increase knowledge across the recruitment cycle.

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 are held every two months and findings are discussed by the Panel members with SYP’s Stop and Search Lead and an Inspector.



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 32% in January, 35% in February and 31% in March 2024.

(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).

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.

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 April 2023 – 31 st March 2024				
Ethnicity	No. of searches	% of searches	% positive outcome	Rate per 1000 population*
White	6625	64%	34%	5.5
Black	526	5%	37%	15.5
Asian	785	8%	33%	9.9
Other	210	2%	39%	8.3
Mixed	304	3%	41%	10.0
Not Stated	1918	18%	20%	-

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 Q4, 83% of stop and searches were conducted on males, 17% 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. Although there is disproportionality in the rate of stop and search, there is no disproportionality in the % of stop/searches with a positive outcome.

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 Q4, 1st January 2024– 31st March 2024, Remedi received a potential 433 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.

78 victims of crime have been personally offered RJ during this quarter, with 59 saying yes to RJ, and we 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 in line with the national Victims Code.

3. Treating People Fairly

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

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

- 21 direct (face to face) interventions, including sensitive & complex cases.
- 136 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 our Restorative Victim Awareness Sessions. Remedi continue to complete relaunch briefings across all the NPS offices within South Yorkshire and have also implemented SPOCs within all offices in order to take a pro-active approach to increase referrals into our service. Remedi will continue this consistent approach throughout the remainder of the financial year, as well as working closely with the National Probation Service leads.

RJ Service User feedback:

"I felt very supported through the entire process, and I feel that everything was followed through by Alison Correctly. I feel that the experience has helped my son take responsibility for his actions. Thank you so much".

"I am 90 years old, and never engaged in anything like this before or even heard of Restorative Justice, until I was contacted by Lauren, Due to this been a non-threatening offence, I thought I would give him the chance and meet him, I thought he would be a nice young man and he was, thank you."

"It was nice to meet my victim again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to apologise for my actions and listening to my circumstances without judgement, thank you Lauren for your support and also going above and beyond and helping me get my money back".

The RJ Hub is based within 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 for RJ 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 for the period 1 April 2023-31 March 2024 is as follows:

Revenue budget £3.09m underspend:

- OPCC £191k underspend. This relates to underspends on:
 - Staffing: variances caused by differences to budget assumptions.
 - Additional income for the pay award and external audit fees from the Government.
- SYP underspend £1.197m this is made up of some underspends and additional income received netted off against additional pressures that have emerged. The following significant items are flagged:
 - £1.4m underspend on Gas & Electric costs.
 - £2.81m additional one-off income received
 - Additional revenue financing of specific projects e.g. Oracle Cloud
- An overspend on legacy costs of £618k in the year. This relates to Hillsborough, the Stovewood enquiry, and CSE civil claims. All budget estimates are provided by Legal Services based on the best information available at the time. Some timing differences are likely however, given the nature of these cases, and it is these that have led to the overspend.
- Commissioning and Partnerships have had an underspend of £222k. This is largely due to delivery slippage by partners and has been set aside for use in 2024/25.
- Capital Financing £2.104m overachievement of income. 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 has not been required this financial year due to the healthier cashflow position and other contributing factors. This is however a timing difference and once relevant expenditure has taken place this position will reverse. Consequently, some of the underspend has been set aside to assist with future borrowing costs.

Capital budget

- The approved capital programme has been revised during the year from £19.655m to £21.7m (£27.4m before slippage contingency adjustments) due to previous year's slippage, re-phasing, and adjustments. Expenditure on capital projects for 2023/24 amounted to £20.6m, which equates to 95% of the budget.

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 a large number of 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 Senior Leadership Team (previously of the PCC and now from the Mayor's Policing and Reform Directorate) are represented. There are other regular meetings where SYP can alert the Mayor's Policing and Reform Directorate to any areas of exception or concern. The information and findings gathered from the CEF and the CEB thus inform decisions made by both SYP's chief officer team and that of the mayor.

Assurance on collaboration is also sought through the Internal Audit function, and from SYP's and the Mayor's Policing and Reform directorate's Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC). The JIAC reports by exception quarterly to the Mayor and Chief Constable.

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. There are changes currently being made to the procurement function in South Yorkshire. Data will be provided in performance reports at the earliest opportunity.

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

Public Engagement

Throughout Q4, a range of engagements have taken place via methods such as face to face meetings and online Teams' meetings. Overall, a total of 58 engagement briefings were completed for the period of January - March, this is up 2 vs the Q3 period. A total of 1,820 people engaged with for this period, this includes 149 internal SYP officers / police staff.

- Work began analysing all 1400 free text comments at the end of January from the Precept and Priorities Consultation. This information will feedback into a range of relevant areas across the force. This year's consultation also saw an increase in the amount of people completing the survey rising from 2,870 in 2022/23 to 3,886.
- Collaboration with SYP's Rural Crime Team re-commenced following communication into the OPCC around issues within rural communities. Moving forward, community meetings will take place three times per year on each district to ensure that members of the public have the opportunity to have their say.
- Pubwatch meetings have been attended across all but the Rotherham district in order to understand how landlords and bar staff are supported by the police in licensed premises. The National Pubwatch Conference was attended in March and brought together partners across the country to highlight best practice.
- As was the case in Q3, several community meetings were attended over the course of the Q4 period, across all four districts. Attendance at these meetings support with building relationships with partners and sharing information across districts regarding common themes.
- Positive feedback for South Yorkshire Police was received over the course of Q4, members of the public praised efforts and work undertaken to support local communities. Members of the public have spoken about acknowledging teams are often stretched with competing demands.

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 former Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) 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, the 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 sat and assessed, shortlisted, and confirmed successful applicants who were awarded grant funding. 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	£10,000.00
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
Sheffield Mind	Sheffield	£10,000.00
Sheffield Wednesday Community Programme	Sheffield	£9990.00

Hartley Brook Academy	Sheffield	£7615.00
HumanKind	Barnsley	£9495.38
Endeavour Training	Sheffield	£8419.40
Forces Employment Charity	SY Wide	£10,000.00
ROTHACS	Rotherham	£10,000.00
Barnsley FC Community Trust	Barnsley	£9995.77
Sheffield Grand Mosque	Sheffield	£7524.00
YMCA Doncaster	Doncaster	£10,000.00

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	7 meetings held between April 2023 and March 2024.
Joint Independent Audit Committee meetings – Quarterly (or more frequently if needed)	Focussing on governance and risk management – exception reports to the Public Accountability Board	5 meetings held between April 2023 and March 2024.
Independent Ethics Panel	Set up by the PCC and providing independent challenge and assurance around integrity, standards, and ethics of decision-making in policing	5 meetings held between April 2023 and March 2024.
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 4 19 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	5 meetings held between April 2023 and March 2024.
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	16 decisions were made during Q4 2023/24
Joint Corporate Governance Framework	Making sure the PCC and Chief Constable conduct business correctly in line with the statutory framework.	