

SAFER NORTH HAMPSHIRE

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

2020/21

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Safer North Hampshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) produces an annual Strategic Assessment which it reviews every six months. This ensures that the partnership is aware of current and emerging trends.

The crime reporting year 2020/21 was a year like no other. In March 2020 the nation entered into the first of its full lockdowns due to the Coronavirus Pandemic with the next twelve months seeing large periods of restrictions on working and socialising.

On the one hand, this led to more people being at home, limited to no night-time economy, reduced footfall in town centres and other previously thriving locations. This has reduced the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour.

On the other hand, people spending more time at home, becoming more aware of their surroundings, children being out of education, families spending more time together in pressurised circumstances and people being out of work increased the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour.

As such, it is very difficult to compare 2020/21 to previous years. Some crime types have experienced reductions, some have increased, and while Police and partner agencies have continued to work tirelessly to make communities safer, priorities and ways of working shifted during the pandemic with enforcing restrictions taking up a large amount of resource and this will have undoubtedly impacted crime and anti-social behaviour figures.

This document has focused on the areas where crime and anti-social behaviour has risen and seeks to examine whether this is a result of the pandemic or whether it is a longer term trend which needs to be addressed by the partnership going forward.

As a result, the following have been identified as the primary threats for Safer North Hampshire and the priorities for the upcoming year:

- 1a) Youth related anti-social behaviour** – *Youth related anti-social behaviour accounts for the joint largest number of incidents both across Safer North Hampshire (20%) and in each individual district. Incidents occurred across Safer North Hampshire with some locations more at risk than others. Although the CSP has some effective mechanisms in place, early intervention with young people is key in reducing the number who go on to commit further, often higher harm offences.*
- 1b) Neighbour related anti-social behaviour** – *Neighbour related anti-social behaviour also accounted for 20% of anti-social behaviour reports to the Police. Investigating these reports can be extremely resource intensive and are an increasing concern for agencies. Closer working with Housing Associations and implementing cannabis warning letters across the Safer North Hampshire area are just some of the ways to improve the lives of residents.*
- 2) Knife and blade related offences with a specific focus on robbery** – *Knife/blade crime across Safer North Hampshire has risen 23% in the past five years. While we know that knife/blade crime is rare, 26% of robberies and 57% of possession of a weapon offences involved a blade/knife. A high proportion of offenders using (52%) and carrying (44%) a knife/blade were under 25 and it is hoped that the CSP can work with the Violence Reduction Unit to educate them and reduce the risk of future offences.*

- 3) Crimes with historically low levels of reporting** – *While reports of domestic crime (+5%) have risen in the past year, something which the CSP finds encouraging, the Covid-pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of victims. Hate crime reports have also increased (+15%) but there is still work to be done, therefore it is recommended that these offences with historically low levels of reporting are looked at as priorities for the upcoming year.*

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

Safer North Hampshire produces a Strategic Assessment annually. This ensures that Community Safety Partnerships¹ (CSPs) are aware of the local priorities and can alter their focus as problems in an area change.

The aim of the document is to:

- Identify current and emerging trends and why they may have occurred
- Set clear and robust priorities
- Aide the production of the Partnership Plan once the Strategic Assessment has been adopted by the CSP
- Identify gaps in knowledge

1.2 METHODOLOGY

Hart, Rushmoor and Basingstoke and Deane Councils began working together to deliver community safety under the banner of Safer North Hampshire in 2012. Following a review of the service, the partnership was formally merged in March 2015. In October 2020 after much consideration it was decided that Community Safety services would go back in-house but the shared Community Safety Partnership was retained. As a result, changes have been made to the way that the Strategic Assessment is completed and this year the document will examines the common themes across the three areas.

Unless otherwise stated, the current Strategic Assessment is based on data from 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, with comparisons to previous years where appropriate.

Crime and anti-social behaviour data has been obtained from Hampshire Constabulary using current constabulary software 'Business Objects' and 'Record Management System.' Data has also been extracted from the OPCC Interact system. Data from a range of partners has been used throughout the Strategic Assessment to ensure a holistic approach.

Data contained in this report is referenced with the supporting source, and relevant graphs and tables appear throughout the text.

1.3 LIMITATIONS

Police recorded crime is prone to changes in recording practices and police activity, as well as changing behaviour in public reporting of crime. As a result, trends will not always reflect changing levels in criminal activity.

¹ Community Safety Partnerships are made up of representatives from the responsible authorities, which are police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation service and health. The partnership meets regularly and pool resources to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour issues.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on behaviour and way of life. In addition, Police and partner agencies priorities and ways of working have shifted during the pandemic. This will have undoubtedly impacted crime and anti-social behaviour figures. As such comparisons to previous years should be viewed with a degree of caution.

1.4 SAFER NORTH HAMPSHIRE PROCESSES

The Strategic Assessment is an annual document, which enables the Community Safety Partnership to consider year on year trends and set its main priorities for the year.

Meanwhile, on a monthly basis, Basingstoke and Deane holds Anti-Social Behaviour Panels and Hart and Rushmoor holds Vulnerabilities Operational Group (VOG) meetings. This is where partners, including Safer North Hampshire, the Police, Housing Associations and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, gather to discuss and manage vulnerable people. Partners have the opportunity to make referrals to the group, which are discussed, and action is taken if necessary. In addition Quarterly Performance Meetings (QPM) are where identified vulnerable locations are discussed. These meetings allow the partnership to react to current issues and direct resources accordingly.

1.5 SAFER NORTH HAMPSHIRE DEMOGRAPHICS

Safer North Hampshire includes Basingstoke and Deane, Hart and Rushmoor. Each area is quite distinct in character and population make up.

Basingstoke and Deane has the largest population of 173,860 and an estimated 72,890 dwellings². Less than 8% of the geographic area is built up with 75% of land being agricultural or green-field and about 15% woodland or forest. 62% (108,000) of the population lives in Basingstoke town and 9.5% (16,600) live in Basingstoke, Pamber and Tadley. The 2015 population profiles show that Basingstoke and Deane has a slightly younger than average age profile with nearly 25% of the population aged under 20 compared to 23.5% across England and Wales. 22% of the population is aged 60 or over, compared to 23% across England and Wales. It is anticipated that there will be a rapid increase in the older population in the next 5 years. 2011 census data shows that 88% of the population are White British with the next two largest population groups being White Other 4.7% and Asian / Asian British 4%. 85% of the population is economically active which is significantly higher than the average 78% across England. Unemployment levels are relatively low at 3.7% (5.1% across England). There are small pockets of deprivation although only 5 /109 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA³), are in the 30% most deprived across England.

Hart has a population of 93,900 people of which 25% (n23,733) are 20 or under and 24.2% (n22,727) are 60 and above. Both of which are slightly over the England and Wales averages. 70% of the council area is urban

² General data is from the 2015 mid year estimates: Office for National Statistics.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/bulletins/annualmidyearpopulationestimates/mid2015> and details from Hampshire County Council <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/ons-mid-year-est.htm>

³ Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) were first built using 2001 Census data and have been updated following the 2011 Census. They have an average of roughly 1,500 residents and 650 households. They are also designed in location and social homogeneity (to encourage areas of similar social background).

and 30% rural⁴. The urban population is spread across a number of towns and villages including Blackwater, Fleet (including Church Crookham), Hook, Yateley and the smaller urban areas of Hartley Wintney and Odiham. 0.4% of the working age population is unemployed which is below the national average. Fleet is the largest town with 41.5% of the population⁵; the next largest is Yateley where 11% of the population lives.⁶ Hart has the highest proportion of LSOAs in the least deprived areas in the country. 77% of Hart's LSOA fell in the 10% of least deprived areas. Nearly 91% of the population defined themselves as White British⁷.

Rushmoor⁸ has a population of 95,342 located in the two main towns of Farnborough and Aldershot. 61.3% of the population lives in Farnborough⁹ and 38.7% live in Aldershot. 25.6% (n24,438) of the population are 20 or under; again above the England and Wales average. However, the 60 and over population is just 18.4% (17526), which is below the England and Wales averages. Rushmoor is the most ethnically diverse area in Hampshire. 80.2% of the population define themselves as White British. The next largest population group is Asian Other (7.6%) which is because Rushmoor has the largest Nepali community in England and Wales with 6.5% (n6,131) of the population being Nepalese. This reflects the Gurkha connection with Aldershot Garrison during their service¹⁰. 0.9% of the working age population is unemployed, which is below the national and South East average but slightly higher than Hampshire as a whole (0.8%). There are just two out of 58 small areas (LSOA) that are in the 20% most deprived in the country¹¹.

⁴ Data from Hampshire County Council: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/keyfactsandfigures/key-facts/kf-hart.htm#hartboundaries>

⁵ 2011 census data; 37760 population out of a total of 91033.

⁶ Again based upon 2011 census details with 10115 out of a population of 91033.

⁷ More information on http://www3.hants.gov.uk/2011_census_hart_summary_factsheet.pdf

⁸ Further detail is available on the Rushmoor council website: <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=11203&p=0> and <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=11200&p=0> and <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=11199&p=0>

⁹ Based on available 2011 population data: <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=11196&p=0> It is probable that these estimates will have increased slightly in the 2015 mid year estimates but the data has yet to be made available.

¹⁰ Following a 2008 High Court ruling, the Government gave Gurkhas who retired before 1997 and their dependent families, the right to settle in the UK. This ruling resulted in a further increase in the number of Nepali people coming to England and a high proportion of those coming to Rushmoor.

¹¹ Part of Aldershot Park ward and part of Cherrywood wards.

2.0 CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OVERVIEW

2.1 CRIME STATISTICS

Nationally, Police recorded crime¹² reduced by **8%** in the year ending December 2020 when compared to the previous year. The annual decrease was driven by substantial falls during the periods of national lockdown, particularly April to June 2020. This reflected the increase in time people spent at home under national lockdown restrictions, a reduction in opportunities of theft in public spaces and the closure of the night-time economy.

A total of 4,801,109 offences were recorded (all offences excluding fraud and computer misuse), or **81** crimes per 1,000 population.

This year, Hampshire Constabulary recorded a total of **139,904** crimes across Hampshire or **74** crimes per 1,000 population. This figure represents a 13% (n21,355) reduction compared to the previous year when 161,259 crimes were recorded.

Across Safer North Hampshire **20,415** crimes were recorded or **53** crimes per 1,000 population which represents a 20% (n4,959) reduction on the previous year when 25,374 crimes were recorded.

Broken down, total crime in Basingstoke (-22%), Hart (-17%) and Rushmoor (-17%) reduced considerably.

There were reductions across most crime types, the key exceptions being drug offences (+47%), domestic abuse (+5%) and hate crime (+15%).

Hampshire Constabulary recorded **37,207** incidents of anti-social behaviour in Hampshire or **20** incidents per 1,000 population. This is a reduction of **2%** (n876) on last year, when 38,083 incidents were recorded.

Across Safer North Hampshire, **5,534** incidents of anti-social behaviour were recorded, or **15** incidents per 1,000 population. This is a reduction of 6% (n372) on the previous year when 5,906 incidents were recorded.

Anti-social behaviour reduced in Basingstoke and Deane (-10%) and Rushmoor (9%), however the number of incidents increased in Hart (+9%).

Figure 1, shown below compares police recorded crime and anti-social behaviour data from the current year with the previous year.

Figure 1

(Source: Hampshire Constabulary
Business Objects, Report run
05.04.2021)

	BASINGSTOKE			HART			RUSHMOOR			SAFER NORTH HANTS AREA		
	19/20 Crimes	20/21 Crimes	% change	19/21 Crimes	20/21 Crimes	% change	19/20 Crimes	20/21 Crimes	% change	19/20 Crimes	20/21 Crimes	% change
1a Homicide	2	0	-100%	0	1	+100%	0	1	+100%	2	2	0%
1b Violence with Injury	1659	1283	-23%	484	427	-12%	1028	889	-14%	3171	2599	-18%
1c Violence without Injury	3231	2942	-9%	915	973	+6%	1986	1964	-1%	6132	5879	-4%
2a Rape	181	171	-6%	38	30	-21%	103	95	-8%	322	296	-8%
2b Other Sexual Offences	310	266	-14%	94	83	-12%	145	160	+10%	549	509	-7%
3a Robbery of Business Property	12	5	-58%	3	3	0%	14	5	-64%	29	13	-55%
3b Robbery of Personal Property	173	93	-46%	36	24	-33%	98	81	-17%	307	198	-36%
4a1 Burglary Residential	669	406	-39%	220	159	-28%	378	268	-29%	1267	833	-34%
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	326	183	-44%	111	67	-40%	127	81	-36%	564	331	-41%
4b Vehicle Offences	916	492	-46%	380	277	-27%	624	341	-45%	1920	1110	-42%
4c Theft from the Person	94	53	-44%	30	9	-70%	71	33	-54%	195	95	-51%
4d Bicycle Theft	118	94	-20%	76	42	-45%	150	99	-34%	344	235	-32%
4e Shoplifting	811	327	-60%	210	162	-23%	598	347	-42%	1619	836	-48%
4f All Other Theft Offences	1056	662	-37%	602	293	-51%	648	418	-35%	2306	1373	-40%
5a Criminal Damage	1384	1009	-27%	567	373	-34%	814	591	-27%	2765	1973	-29%
5b Arson	49	48	-2%	20	25	+25%	27	25	-7%	96	98	+2%
6a Trafficking of Drugs	65	105	+62%	9	28	+211%	33	73	+121%	107	206	+93%
6b Possession of Drugs	286	337	+18%	72	93	+29%	111	208	+87%	469	638	+36%
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	165	149	-10%	25	42	+68%	91	83	-9%	281	274	-2%
8 Public Order Offences	1183	1290	+9%	411	445	+8%	908	804	-11%	2502	2539	+1%
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	222	193	-13%	86	84	-2%	119	101	-15%	427	378	-11%
Totals	12,912	10,108	-22%	4,389	3,640	-17%	8,073	6,667	-17%	25,374	20,415	-20%
Domestic abuse	1954	1983	+1%	602	605	0%	1225	1376	+12%	3781	3964	+5%
Hate crime	247	265	+7%	46	73	+59%	154	176	+14%	447	514	+15%
ASB	2,916	2,632	-10%	1,076	1,171	+9%	1,908	1,731	-9%	5,900	5,534	-6%

Figure 2 (Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects)

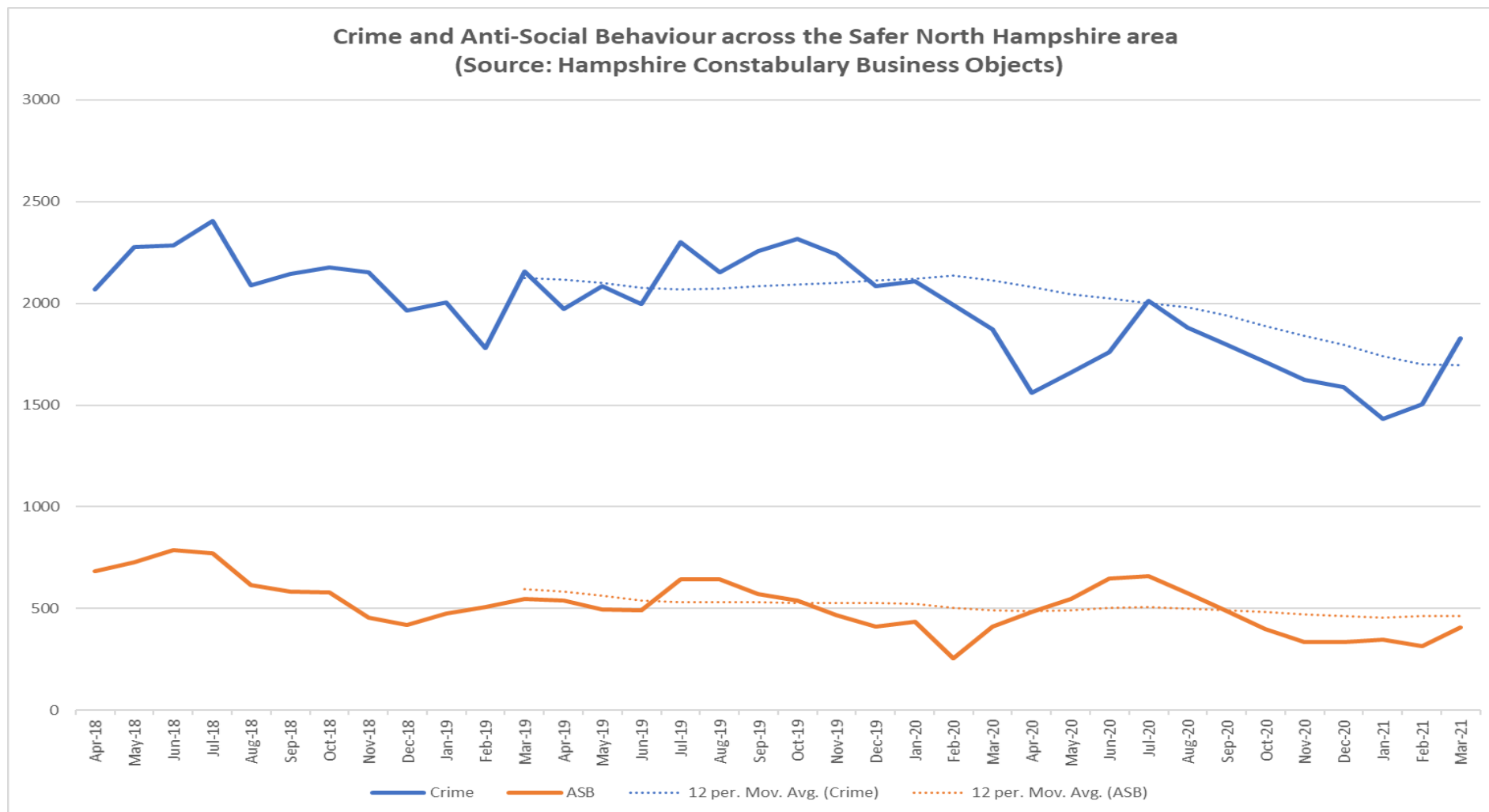


Figure 2 above shows crime and anti-social behaviour figures across Safer North Hampshire for the past three years. Crime, shown in blue, peaked in July 2018 but since then levels have started to come down and over the past twelve months, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic offences have fluctuated with substantial falls during the periods of national lockdown. The moving average line marked in black, which shows the longer- term trend, shows that crime has fallen.

Anti-social behaviour which is shown in red, displays a clear seasonal trend with increases in the summer months. Despite the lockdown levels of anti-social behaviour have remained stable.

2.2. VICTIMS

In 2020/21, where victim data was available¹³ 53% (n8171) of total victims across Safer North Hampshire were female and 47% (n7309) were male.

A higher proportion of males were victims of robbery (84%), theft offences (58%) and possession of a weapon offences (81%). Meanwhile females were more likely to be victims of violence without injury (58%) and sexual offences (87%).

Where details were available, the offender was known to the victim in 72% (7,515) of crimes committed across the Safer North Hampshire area. Of these the most common were acquaintance (14%), ex partner – heterosexual (8%) and partner – heterosexual (5%). 28% (n2885) of offences were committed by a stranger. The picture is similar across Hampshire.

Offences in which males were more commonly the victim, were most often committed by a stranger. For example 66% of robberies, 64% of theft offences and 48% of possession of a weapon offences were committed by a stranger.

Offences in which women were more commonly the victim were most often committed by someone known to the victim, for example 84% of rape and sexual offences and 84% of violence without injury were committed by someone the victim knew.

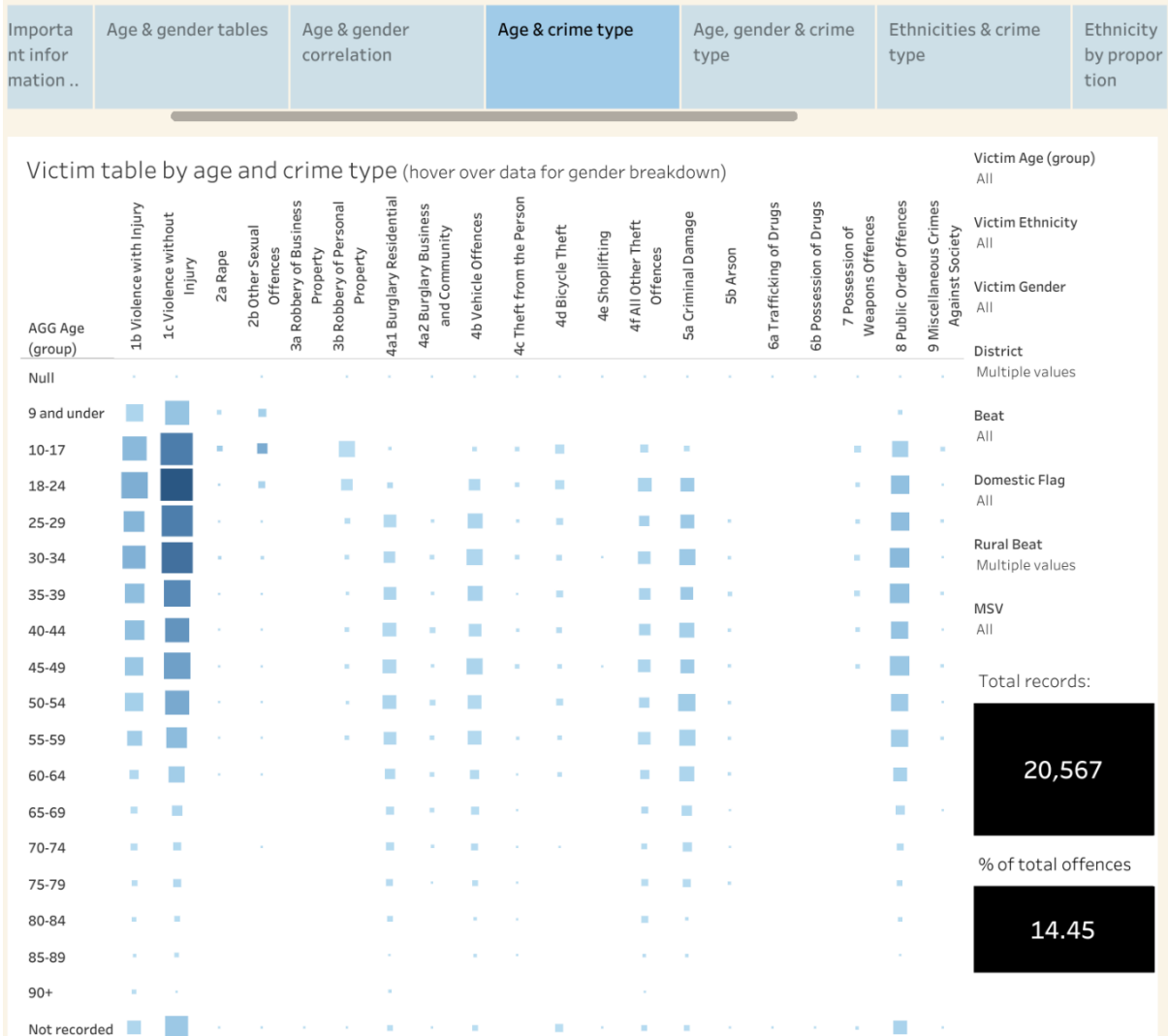
Broken down by age, 18-24 years had the highest number of victims and this was the same across Hampshire. This was also the most common age group for both male and female victims.

Table 3 below shows the breakdown of offences across Safer North Hampshire between 01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021 by victim age and crime type. It highlights that when the offender details were known, violence with and violence without injury were the most common offence types. For these crime types offenders were most commonly aged between 18-24 years. This age group was also the peak age for possession of drugs offences and possession of weapons offences.

¹³ Searchable data from 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2021.

Figure 3 (Source: Hampshire Constabulary via OPCC InterAct, report run 25.05.2021)

Victim profile and crime data



Where details were available, 79% of victims were White-North European, followed by White European (10%), Black (4%), Asian (4%), White South European (1.4%), Arabic or North African (0.3%), African Caribbean (0.2%) and Chinese, Japanese and SE Asian (0.2%).

2.3 OFFENDERS

Where offender data was available¹⁴ 83% (n1149) of offenders across Safer North Hampshire were male and 17% (n229) were female. Broken down by age, 18-24 years had the highest number of offenders (20%, n273) which was the same the previous year. The picture across Safer North Hampshire is similar to that of Hampshire as a whole.

Table 4 below shows the breakdown of offences across Safer North Hampshire between 01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021 by offender age and crime type. It highlights that when the offender details were known, violence with and violence without injury were the most common offence types and that for these offences, offenders were most commonly aged between 18-24 years. This age group was also the peak age for possession of drugs offences and possession of weapons.

Figure 4 (Source: Hampshire Constabulary via OPCC InterAct, report run 25.05.2021)



¹⁴ Figures for the 12 months 01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021

Where details were available, 86% of offenders in Safer North Hampshire were White-North European, followed by Black (8.8%), Asian (2.8%), White South European (2.3%), Chinese, Japanese and SE Asian (0.4%) and Arabic or North African (0.2%).

2.4 RE-OFFENDING AND OFFENDING RISK

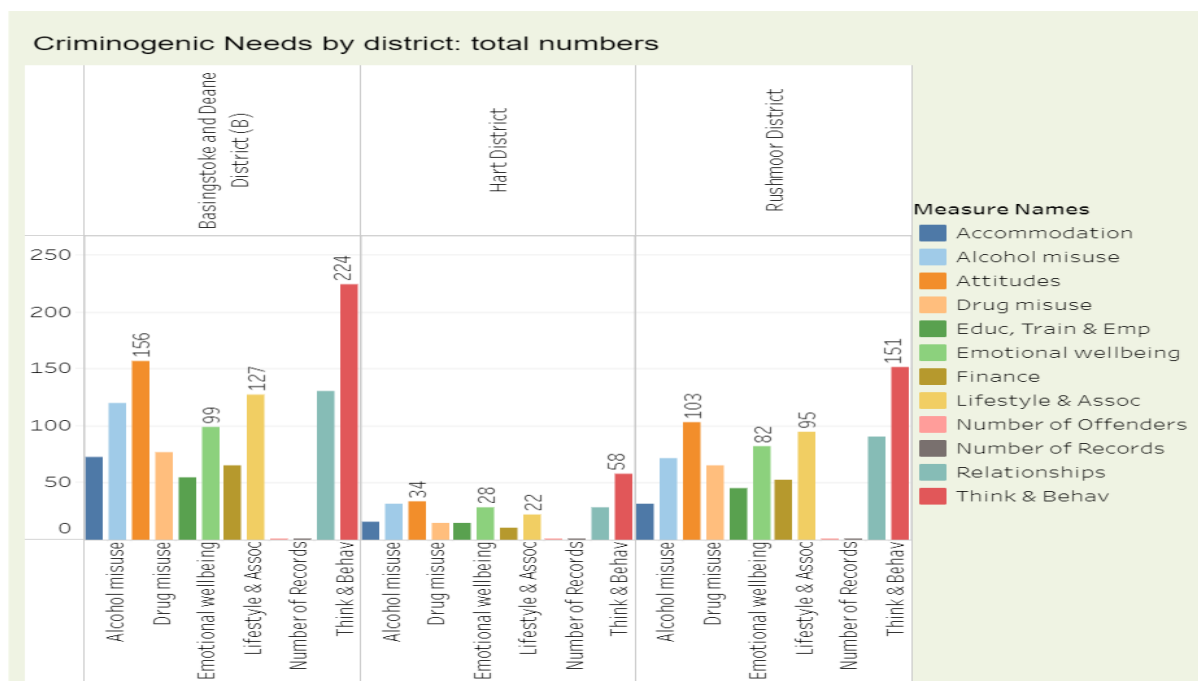
ADULTS

Public Health England Data for 2014 shows that both Basingstoke and Deane (27.3%) and Rushmoor (28.9) have levels of re-offending which are above the England average (25.4%). Basingstoke and Deane (0.95) and Rushmoor (1.05) also have a higher than the England average (0.82) number of re-offences per offender.

The County Strategic Assessment 2018/19 states that much crime is committed by a relatively small number of offenders so the rate of repeat offending and the effective rehabilitation of prolific offenders is a key factor in the safety of our communities. Adult offenders account for around 93% of offenders and juvenile offenders account for 7%.

For higher risk offenders managed by the National Probation Service (NPS), there are 450 repeat offenders across Safer North Hampshire on the current NPS caseload¹⁵. Of these, 78% were male and the peak age was between 26-49. An analysis of these repeat offenders for whom there are current needs assessments shows that the key aspects of their criminogenic needs are shown in the graph below.

Figure 5 (Source: InterAct)



¹⁵ Data for the period 01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021

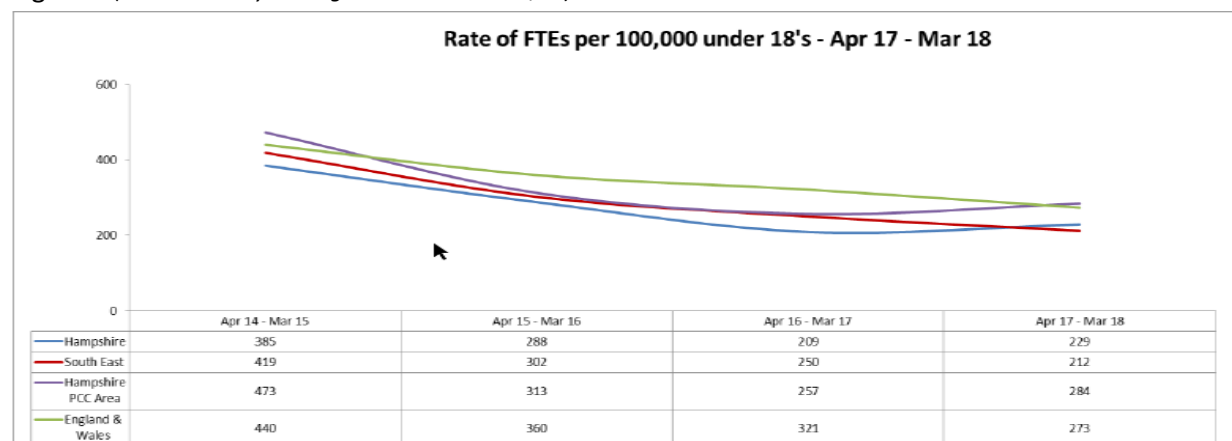
YOUTHS

The County Strategic Assessment 2018/19 notes how the number of children entering the youth justice system via the courts has reduced significantly over the years.

85% of the Hampshire's young offenders are boys and 72% are aged 15-17 years. The needs of the group have become more complex and the reoffending rate for the group has increased. Nationally, the proven reoffending rate for young offenders is almost 42%. The highest rate of re-offending is in the 15-17 age group and Hampshire's re-offending rate is above the national average. The average number of offences per re-offender has also increased in recent years. However, the number of Hampshire children in custody is significantly (80%) lower than the national average.

The graph below taken from the County Strategic Assessment 2018/19 demonstrates the reduction in the number of first time entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system in Hampshire compared to the regional and national trend.

Figure 6 (Source: County Strategic Assessment 2018/19)



2.5 FEELINGS OF SAFETY

The fear of crime refers to the fear of being a victim of crime as opposed to the actual probability of being a victim.

Two recent horrific crimes against lone women, those being the kidnapping and murder of 33 year old Sarah Everard in London in March 2021 and the more recent murder of off-duty PCSO Julie James in Kent prompted many women, and men, to express fears and concerns over their safety particularly when out walking alone.

It is important to educate residents on how they can keep themselves safe but just as important is providing information around the actual probability of being a victim and knowing which groups to target advice towards.

Where details were available for Safer North Hampshire¹⁶, data shows that violent crime was much more likely (85.2%) to be committed by somebody the victim knew; acquaintance and ex-partner being the most

¹⁶ Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects, Aggrieved and Offender breakdown by age and gender, report run 07.06.2021

common, while violence committed by a stranger accounted for only 14.8% of these offences. In addition, where the victim/offender relationship was recorded as stranger, males were 62% more likely to be the victim of a stranger attack with those aged between 14-21 years making up almost a quarter of victims in this cohort.

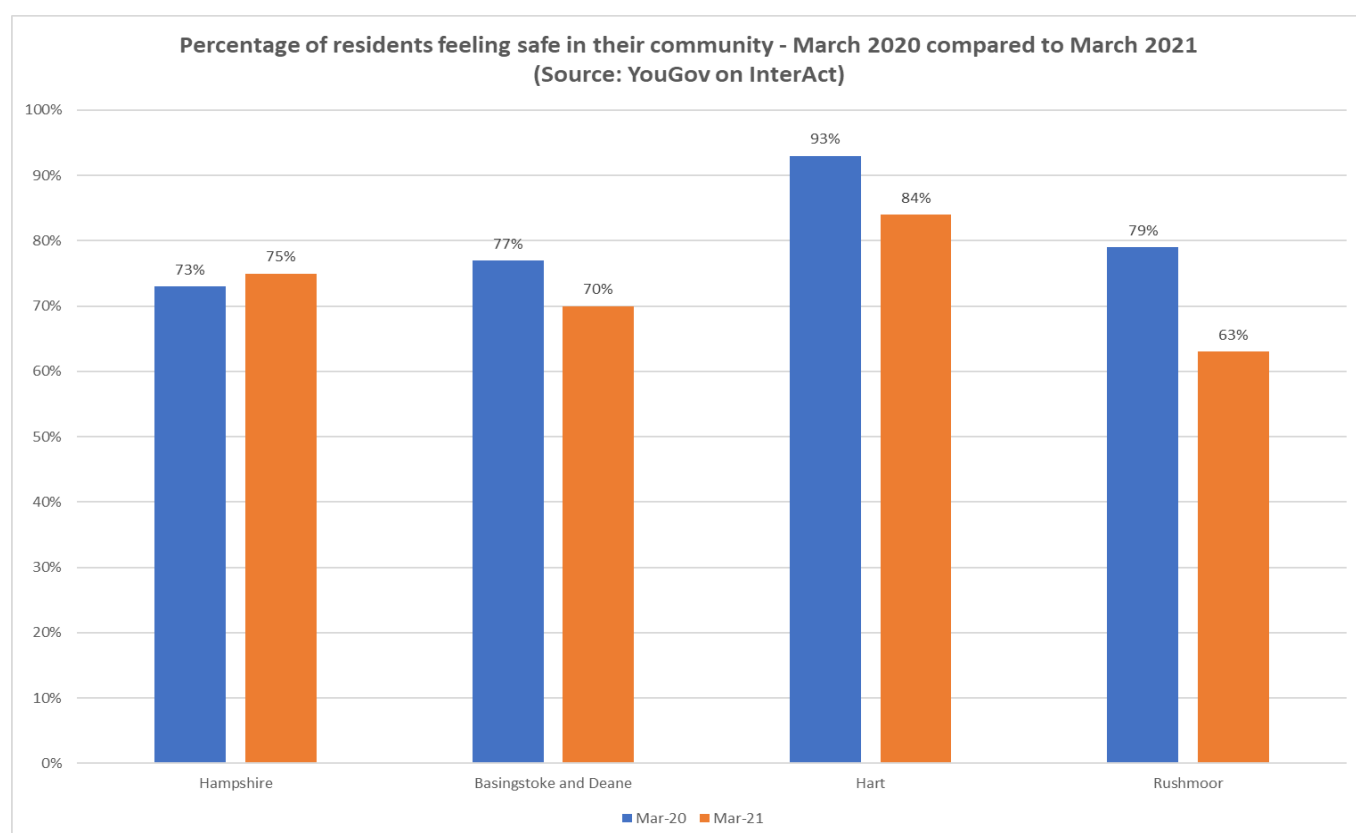
In addition, when looking specifically at robbery offences, males were 4.6 times more likely to be a victim of a robbery committed by a stranger and 71% of these victims were young males aged between 14 and 21.

The anomaly is sexual offences committed by a stranger, in which women accounted for 90% of victims. More than half (58%) were aged between 11-19 years, with the most common offence type in this age group, sexual communication with a child (21%).

In September 2021 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight launched a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) task group with Hampshire Constabulary, partners across the criminal justice system and local authorities. The task group will seek to improve the operational response and support given to victims of these crimes and focus on stopping it happen through prevention and targeting and disrupting perpetrators.

During the assessment period data collected by YouGov relating to public confidence in policing and safety shows a decline across all three Safer North Hampshire areas in the percentage of residents feeling safe in their community while across Hampshire feelings of safety increased.

Figure 7 (Source: YouGov via OPCC InterAct, report run 26.05.2021)



It will be important to monitor this over the course of the upcoming year and look at how the partnership can improve resident's feelings of safety.

2.6 BUSINESS CONCERNS¹⁷

The ONS reports that temporary closures, a shift in on-line shopping and reduced travel meant that coronavirus had an enormous impact on businesses over the past twelve months. However, the restrictions have also led to an overall reduction in business crime.

Within the Hampshire Constabulary policing area, business crime accounted for 10.3% of all crime recorded by the force, down from 15% the previous year.

Across Safer North Hampshire, Hart had the highest volume of Business crime last year, accounting for 11.4% of all crime, slightly above the Hampshire average. 9.7% of total crime in Rushmoor and 8.7% of total crime in Basingstoke and Deane was business crime.

Shoplifting, all other theft, criminal damage and burglary business and community were the most common business crime types.

¹⁷ Source: Hampshire Constabulary, Business related Crime, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, 2019/20 via Interact.

3.0 ANTI - SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES

3.1 BACKGROUND

The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) defines anti-social behaviour as:

“Acting in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not in the same household as (the defendant).”

Different agencies record data in relation to ASB, including Police, Council and Housing Associations.

Safer North Hampshire is committed to reducing levels of anti-social behaviour. This has resulted in a **26%** (n1967) reduction compared to five years ago. The partnership has mechanisms in place in relation to early interventions that help both victims and perpetrators, and the way we work has received recognition from the HMIC.

3.2 POLICE RECORDED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Hampshire Constabulary records anti-social behaviour under three primary categories. The first is ASB – Community (previously ASB – Nuisance), which includes incidents that cause problems to the local community in general. Environmental ASB includes incidents where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings, and Personal ASB identifies incidents deliberately targeted at an individual or group.

In 2020/21 across the Safer North Hampshire Area reported levels of anti-social behaviour reduced by 6%, from 5,900 to 5,534 incidents.

Broken down, Basingstoke (-10%) and Rushmoor (-9%) experienced reductions while ASB in Hart increased by 9%.

The increase in Hart was partially down to increases in Church Crookham East (+118%, n40) - 28 calls regarding Azalea Gardens – rise in youth related ASB in the play park – see below) and Crondall (+78%, n51) repeat callers in two locations of which the partnership is aware and issues in hand.

As in previous years, anti-social behaviour across the Safer North Hampshire area was higher during the summer months but this also coincides with the lifting of coronavirus restrictions during this time. Anti-social behaviour was higher at the weekends and incidents increased throughout the day and were highest between 15:00 and 21:59 with the peak at between 17:00 – 17:59 hours.

The majority of anti-social behaviour was classified as ASB Community (75%). ASB Personal accounted for 20% while ASB Environmental made up just 5% of total recorded incidents in 2019/20.

In 2020/21 7% (n368) of police recorded ASB across Safer North Hampshire related to reports of breaches/possible breaches of COVID-19 regulations. Reports were categorised as such if the detail specifically stated that COVID restrictions were being breached/people ignoring social distancing etc. Two thirds of such reports occurred in April and May 2020 when people were encouraged to report breaches. Basingstoke accounted for 46% of reports, followed by Rushmoor (28%) and Hart (26%).

Aside from COVID breaches, the key issues for Safer North Hampshire in terms of anti-social behaviour were, youth related anti-social behaviour (20%, n1125), neighbour nuisance/disputes (including cannabis use) (20%, n1111) and vehicle nuisance (14%, n792) and these were also the prevailing issues when looking individually at the three authorities.

Youth related anti-social behaviour

Reports of youth related anti-social behaviour occurred across Safer North Hampshire. The Quarterly Performance Meetings have highlighted specific locations where youth nuisance is a problem and identified individuals were discussed at the VOG and ASB Panel meetings.

In 2020/21 one fifth (20%, n1125) of anti-social behaviour related to young people. This figure does not include incidents where two or more incident types were mentioned. For example, there were a number of reports of youths riding quad bikes/mini mottos. These reports were categorised under the behaviour rather than the person so were recorded as vehicle nuisance.

In keeping with the overall trend for anti-social behaviour, youth related incidents increased during the summer months. They were slightly higher at the weekend and between 15:00 – 21:59 hours.

The police beats with the most reports of youth related anti-social behaviour were;

Buckskin, Basingstoke and Deane (7%, n74) is an area which has been the focus of ongoing partnership work, largely related to a group of local youths and adults causing anti-social behaviour and linked to drugs networks. As a result there has been regular meetings and exchange of information with the police. This has resulted in successful enforcement action by the Police and BDBC working with other agencies to provide support and low level interventions for some people to help disrupt and discourage their association with the 'Basingstoke Street Gang'.

Norden, Basingstoke and Deane (5%, n53) is historically an area where youth related anti-social behaviour has been prominent. Over the past year problems with youths trespassing on school grounds, smoking and drinking alcohol have been the common concerns.

Fleet North, Hart (5%, n51) experienced ongoing issues such as young people gathering, causing damage, smoking drugs and drinking underage, with the area around Turners Way, Turners Avenue, Elvetham Crescent, Elvetham Heath Way and Wintney Street contributing more than a third (35%, n18) of reports.

In addition, the overall top street for youth related anti-social behaviour in 2020/21 was Azelea Gardens in Church Crookham East, Hart. A total of 22 incidents were recorded at this location, mostly regarding youths congregating in the play park, smoking, drinking alcohol and making a lot of noise. The last report was in September of 2020 and while there have been no reports since, this has been identified as a recurring summer problem for the most part and is likely to be an issue again. The Council Community Safety Team are looking to put a plan in place with the Neighbourhood Policing Team for dealing with repeat youth ASB issues and have requested that noise as a result of ASB in public places is reflected as such by the Hampshire Constabulary contact centre and website so that it can be appropriately managed.

Previously town centre beats have experienced high levels of youth related disorder. This year, while the draw of shops and eateries and shelter have been restricted youth related anti-social behaviour was less dominant. Such incidents were down almost two thirds in Eastrop beat (-65%), Fleet Central (-64%) and Wellington (-62%) when compared to the previous year. Instead, the types of anti-social behaviour in the town centre locations were more evenly spread, with issues such as street drinking, homelessness and

begging (17%, n51) in Eastrop, drug use and dealing (10%, n18) in Wellington and neighbour nuisance/disputes (20%, n19) in Fleet Central being regularly reported.

In October 2020 Community Safety Teams went back in house and as a result it is not possible to ascertain accurate statistics relating to the number of interventions undertaken for 2020/21. That being said, ASB Warning letters, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and referrals to the VOG and ASB Panel have continued to have a major impact on early intervention and supporting vulnerable people. In addition, Community Court sessions have been on hold throughout 2020/21 due to the pandemic but it is hoped they will resume in the future.

Neighbour nuisance/disputes (including drug use)

Neighbour nuisance/disputes also accounted for 20% (n1111) of incident reports in 2020/21. Broken down, 72% (n796) related to general issues with neighbours such as feuds, parking issues and noise complaints and 28% (n315) were reports of neighbours smoking drugs, mostly cannabis.

Neighbour disputes are often ongoing issues with regular reports coming into the police, housing associations and other agencies and these cases are monitored through the ASB Panel (Basingstoke) and VOG (Hart and Rushmoor). However, a large number are often unsubstantiated. For example, of the 315 reports of neighbours smoking drugs in 2020/21, one individual in Aldershot South reported 54 separate incidents to the police alone. Various partnership agencies were involved, with the local PCSO attending the property regularly with no evidence found. Housing liaising with the landlord of the property and Community Safety liaising with the mental health team, although the individual wasn't open to them. The case was also discussed at the VOG with the individual eventually putting in a voluntary request to move which was agreed. Since then there have been no further issues at the new property and no reports from the new tenant.

In response to the problem of neighbours smoking drugs, cannabis warning letters are being sent out in Rushmoor. Since November, the Community Safety Team has sent 15 (11 initial warning letters and 4 second warning letters) letters out. Offenders will receive an initial warning letter, followed by a second warning letter and then if the problem persists agencies will gather evidence for a Community Protection Warning Notice.

Vehicle nuisance

Reports of vehicle nuisance made up 14% (n792) of anti-social behaviour across Safer North Hampshire. These reports ranged from people riding quad bikes and mini mottos to car meets and dangerous driving in carparks.

Vehicle nuisance as with other types of anti-social behaviour were highest in the summer months. Reports peaked on Sunday where incidents were 36% higher than the subsequent highest day which was Saturday. Reports on Sundays peaked at 21:00 when incidents largely related to vehicles racing and 12:00 when reports were mostly of people riding quad and motor bikes in public spaces and this was also the theme across the week.

Basingstoke and Deane (49%, n392), Rushmoor (26%, n206) and Hart (25%, n194) all experienced problems with vehicle nuisance. Norden (7%, n55 – vehicles racing in the evening particularly around Bell Road and Wade road and youths on scrambler bikes in the daytime), Empress (5%, n38 – vehicles racing around the carparks, particularly around Union Street, Westmead, Kingsmead and Pinehurst with three quarters of these between 17:00 – 00:59 hours), Winklebury (4%, n34 – mostly youths riding mopeds on the

pavements and off road vehicles being ridden in the parks and wooded areas), Basing (4%, n33 – motorbikes being ridden in Cowdery Heights and Basing Road) and Eversley (4%, n31 – off road vehicles being ridden dangerously particularly in Bramshill Forest) were the locations with the most reports.

In addition, Worting Road in Buckskin beat Basingstoke was the street with the highest number of vehicle nuisance reports (3%, n21), linked to the Leisure Park and cars meeting, doing donuts, revving their engines and racing around the area.

The CSP is aware of the dangerous and detrimental impact of vehicle nuisance and over the last year has worked hard to reduce the problem. Environmental Visual Audits have been undertaken in problematic locations, resulting in increased patrols and ASB Warning Letters being sent to vehicle owners. In addition, enforcement, deterrent and education options are currently being considered for repeat locations.

Community Trigger

A community trigger provides victims and communities with the right to request a review of their case, bringing agencies together to take a joined up approach with the aim being to try and find a solution.

Community triggers can be used by a victim of anti-social behaviour, another person acting on behalf of the victim or an individual acting on behalf of a group of residents or community group.

In order to activate the trigger the victim or representative should contact Hampshire Constabulary using the non-emergency number 101.

In order for the threshold to be met there is certain criteria;
Individual – 3 complaints within a six month period.

Group – 5 individuals within a local community have separately reported similar incidents of anti-social behaviour to a member of the Community Safety Partnership. They must all think that non action has been taken or are not satisfied with the action already taken.

To meet the criteria in all cases, incidents need to have caused harassment , alarm or distress, been logged within one month of the incident and the last reported incidents must have occurred within the last six months.

If the Community Trigger threshold is met, agencies will share information, review what action has already been taken and decide if additional actions are appropriate or possible.

In 2020/21, there were three activations across Safer North Hampshire in which the threshold was met, two in Basingstoke and one in Rushmoor.

3.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY PATROL OFFICERS

The Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Community Safety Patrol Officers (CSPOs) focus on tackling low level anti-social behaviour and environmental issues while providing reassurance to communities throughout the borough. Their priorities are informed by information from a range of sources including reports made to the council and partner organisations.

During 2020/21 the CSPO team recorded 3,367 incidents. This was an 89% (n1589) increase on the previous year.

The top incident type was Environmental (39%) with incidents increasing 77% from 745 in 2019/20 to 1320 in 2020/21. This was followed by Anti-Social Behaviour (34%) and again incidents increased considerably from 797 in 2019/20 to 1,140 in 2020/21. Welfare incidents accounted for 21% of all incidents dealt with by the CSPO team and these experienced the largest increase in 2020/21 (+461%), from 127 to 713.

Welfare categories include assistance given to rough sleepers, missing people, welfare concerns and assistance to vulnerable people while on patrol. Other incidents (6%) increased by 75% from 111 to 194 in 20/21. Other categories include other crimes, road traffic incidents, curfew checks, stray dogs, tobacco confiscations, licensing issues, trading standards incidents and vulnerable buildings.

The Community Safety Patrol Offices (CSPOs) played an essential role in the borough councils response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This was based on five priorities including:

1. Promoting a feeling of safety and provide reassurance through high visibility patrols
2. Supporting those most vulnerable
3. Effectively dealing with incidents of antisocial behaviour-
4. Identifying community intelligence & tensions
5. Engaging, explaining and encouraging members of the public in relation to social distancing measures.

Due to the nature of the pandemic and the uniformed, community facing, trusted role of CSPOs, they were heavily involved in supporting the work of the community hub, in particular helping with emergency food and medication deliveries to vulnerable people who were shielding and had no access to other support. As time went on and more volunteers came forward CSPOs involvement in this reduced, but other welfare oriented activity took its place, such as follow up welfare visits on behalf of the county council to vulnerable persons. Due to the nature of closely working with vulnerable people over this time, there was an increase in welfare related incidents recorded by the CSPOs.

Another impact of the pandemic on the CSPOs work was the ability to conduct proactive community engagement with local communities and focus on dedicated antisocial behaviour campaigns which both form a core part of the role of the CSPO to ensure communities can be engaged with in relation to antisocial behaviour impacting on them and they can be involved in resolutions. Community engagement activity was limited due to restrictions in place to limit social contact and organisations and facilities limiting contact opportunities, temporarily closing or furloughing staff. As a result of this and due to the nature of the pandemic the CSPOs operated a more reactive way than normal with less community engagement opportunities. This provides some explanation to the increase in incident numbers over the past year, particularly relating to environmental ASB, rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and welfare related incidents.

CSPO reports around environmental antisocial behaviour increased during this time. Fly tipping formed some of this work which can partly be linked to closure and reduced capacity at the Hampshire Waste and Recycling Centres. People were also spending more time in their own homes during the pandemic and disposing of items no longer needed to make more space or using increased time availability to de-clutter homes. This contributed to in an increase of fly tipping incidents dealt with by CSPOs over the previous year.

The CSPOs use a combination of enforcement powers to tackle antisocial behaviour and environmental offences. During 2020/21, the team issued a total of 57 warning notices and 6 fixed penalty notices for littering.

For all incidents recorded by the CSPOs, including antisocial behaviour and environmental issues the top locations were Eastrop (20%, n679) where incidents mostly related to rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, welfare concerns and littering. The subsequent top locations were Buckskin (16%, n522 – rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, drugs related incidents and fly-tipping) and Norden (10%, n324 – rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, fly-tipping and vulnerable person) and these tie in with Police recorded ASB top locations.

3.5 POLICE RECORDED CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Criminal damage is defined as *‘the intentional or reckless damage, or destruction of another person’s property and includes damage to vehicles and buildings, graffiti and arson.’* Criminal damage is a volume crime and causes significant distress to its victims, increases the level of fear among the public and has the potential to cause people a great deal of concern.

In 2020/21, levels of police recorded criminal damage and arson reduced by 29% (n792) across Safer North Hampshire, and this follows from a 6% reduction the previous year. Offences decreased in Basingstoke and Deane (-27%), Hart (-34%) and Rushmoor (-27%).

Areas suffering from high amounts of criminal damage included Norden (n85), Yateley East (n39) and Manor Park (n65) and vehicles and windows were common targets.

4.0 CRIMES

4.1 BACKGROUND

As a result of Covid-19, crime levels locally and nationally fluctuated in 2020/21. In addition, changes to recording practices, as well as police activity and changing behaviour in public reporting of crime have also led to fluctuations in crime levels in the longer term. These factors have contributed to an overall 4% (n886) increase across Safer North Hampshire compared to five years ago¹⁸.

In its latest review of Hampshire Constabulary’s crime recording accuracy, HMICFRS¹⁹ states that Hampshire has made a “real and concerted effort” to improve its approach to recording crime. The force has “strong, demonstrable leadership and a very clear commitment to get crime recording right. We also found that officers and staff generally place the victim at the forefront of their crime-recording decisions. This has resulted in significant improvements to the crime-recording standards that we found and in turn means more victims are receiving the service and support they should.”

In 2014 the force was at the bottom of the table recording just 60% of crime accurately. Thanks to the hard work of officers and staff across the force this has gone up to 91.3%.

Figures for individual crime categories vary and will be discussed in the next section.

¹⁸ Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects

¹⁹ Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service 2018

4.2 VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON

Violence against the person includes the categories 1a homicide, 1b violence with injury and 1c violence without injury.

Nationally, Police recorded violence against the person offences were up 2% in the year ending December 2020. There were more violence without injury offences and these were up 12%, compared to violence with injury which rose 1%.

There were 588,973 stalking and harassment offences, which fall within violence against the person. However, data is not comparable with the previous year because of changes to Home Office counting rules²⁰.

In Safer North Hampshire violence against the person offences reduced by 9% (n825) in 2020/21, from 9,305 to 8,480 offences. Violence against the person remains the single largest contributor to crime across Safer North Hampshire accounting for 42% of all reported offences, up from 37% in 2019/20.

Broken down, Basingstoke (-14%), Rushmoor (-5%) and Hart (-4%) all experienced reductions in the number of offences.

Violence without injury accounted for 69% of VAP offences and these reduced by 4%, from 6,132 to 5,987 offences. Violence with injury offences made up 31% of VAP offences and these fell by 18%, from 3,171 to 2,599 offences.

Across Safer North Hampshire, 39% of violence against the person offences were domestic related. 7% involved the use of a weapon, 3% had a hate crime flag and 2% were categorised as Most Serious Violence.

There were slightly more male victims of violence against the person (55%), compared to females (45%). The peak age range for victims was between 18-24 (14%) and 30-34 (12%) and the most common victim ethnicity was White North European (80%).

Town Centre locations had some of the highest levels of violence against the person accounting for 11% of total offences, down from 15% last year. This reduction can be explained in terms of fewer people frequenting these locations because of Covid-19 restrictions including shops and night-time economy being closed for large periods.

Eastrop beat had the highest number of offences per 1,000 population (66.6) and accounted for 10% of violence against the person offences in Basingstoke and Deane. Here offences can be broken down into;

- Night-time economy related²¹ offences (7%, n26), occurring in or outside of a licensed premises between 22:00 – 03:59 hours. Night-time economy offences are monitored at the Quarterly Performance Meetings. In the crime reporting year 2020/21, night-time economy offences are uncharacteristically low due to Covid-19 restrictions.

²⁰ From April 2020 changes to Home Office counting rules means controlling and coercive behaviour was categorised under the stalking and harassment offence category and all cases where a course of conduct is reported between and victim and their former partner must be recorded as stalking unless the police are satisfied that the matter amounts to harassment in law only.

²¹ Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects 'Basingstoke Night Time Economy' Report

- Domestic related offences accounted for 26% (n106) of violence against the person offences in Eastrop beat which is lower than across Safer North Hampshire (39%).
- The percentage of violence against the person offences committed by a stranger (35%) was higher in Eastrop beat than across Safer North Hampshire (17%).
- 3% (n12) of violence against the person offences in Eastrop beat were recorded as Most Serious Violence which is slightly higher than the 2% across Safer North Hampshire.
- 3% (n13) of violence against the person offences in Eastrop beat were hate related which is in line with the figure for Safer North Hampshire.
- 55% of victims were male and 45% were female, which again is in line with the figure for Safer North Hampshire.

Elsewhere, Rooksdown beat in Basingstoke had the second highest number of violence against the person offences per 1,000 population (53.98). This can be explained as the Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital is located here. The hospital recorded 112 offences, accounting for 45% of the total.

Fleet Central beat accounted for 9% (n122) of violence against the person offences in Hart, offences can be broken down into;

- Night-time economy related²² offences (17%, n21), occurring in or outside of a licensed premises between 22:00 – 03:59 hours. Night-time economy offences are monitored at the Quarterly Performance Meetings. In the crime reporting year 2020/21, night-time economy offences are uncharacteristically low due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- Domestic related offences accounted for 30% (n37) of violence against the person offences in Fleet Central beat which is lower than across Safer North Hampshire (39%).
- The percentage of violence against the person offences committed by a stranger (31%) was higher in Fleet Central beat than across Safer North Hampshire (17%).
- 3% (n12) of violence against the person offences in Fleet Central beat were recorded as Most Serious Violence which is slightly higher than the 2% across Safer North Hampshire.
- 4% (n5) of violence against the person offences in Fleet Central beat were hate related which is slightly higher than the figure for Safer North Hampshire.
- 51% of victims were male and 49% were female, which is a slightly higher proportion of female victims than the figure for Safer North Hampshire as a whole.

Wellington beat had the highest number of offences per 1,000 population (54.94) and accounted for 14% (n396) of VAP offences in Rushmoor. These can be broken down into;

- Night-time economy related²³ offences (18%, n72), occurring in or outside of a licensed premises between 22:00 – 03:59 hours. Night-time economy offences are monitored at the Quarterly

²² Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects 'Basingstoke Night Time Economy' Report

²³ Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects 'Basingstoke Night Time Economy' Report

Performance Meetings. In the crime reporting year 2020/21, night-time economy offences are uncharacteristically low due to Covid-19 restrictions.

- Domestic related offences accounted for 37% (n147) of violence against the person offences in Wellington beat which is similar to the figure across Safer North Hampshire (39%).
- The percentage of violence against the person offences committed by a stranger (29%) was higher in Wellington beat than across Safer North Hampshire (17%).
- 3% (n13) of violence against the person offences in Wellington beat were recorded as Most Serious Violence which is slightly higher than the 2% across Safer North Hampshire.
- 3% (n12) of violence against the person offences in Wellington beat were hate related which is in line with the figure for Safer North Hampshire.
- 51% of victims were male and 49% were female, which is a slightly higher proportion of female victims than the figure for Safer North Hampshire as a whole.

Elsewhere, Empress beat in Rushmoor had the second highest number of violence against the person offences per 1,000 population (41.46). Offences were concentrated around the shopping centre.

Public Health England data (2017/18 – 2019/20) shows that the level of hospital admissions for violent crime (including sexual offences) in Rushmoor (55.4 per 100,000 population) is much higher than the England (45.8) and South East (31.6) average and also much higher than Basingstoke and Deane (35.5) and Hart (27.7).

4.3. SERIOUS VIOLENCE

The Hampshire Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), was established in 2019 to bring together different organisations, including police, local government, health, community leaders and other key partners to tackle violent crime by understanding its root causes. The units will be responsible for identifying what is driving violent crime in the area and coming up with a coordinated response.

In line with the new Serious Violence duty, the VRU will share problem profiles with Community Safety Partnerships to ensure a joined-up approach to tackling the multifaceted issues of serious violence.

The information below has been taken from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Strategy 2021 “Working together preventing serious violence,” and explains how and why the work of the unit is so important.

In April 2018, the Government published its Serious Violence Strategy setting out an ambitious programme of work to respond to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide.

The Government’s Strategy places a strong emphasis on a whole system approach with early intervention and prevention to tackle the root causes of violence and prevent young people from getting involved in crime in the first place.

Hampshire is a relatively safe place to live, with a lower crime rate than the England average, however there is always more we can do to prevent violence and reduce the devastating impact this has on individuals, families and our communities. With a hospital admission rate due to violence of 25.6 per 100,000 population, the county was chosen to be one of the 18 areas in England to form

a Violence Reduction Unit. This will enable us to identify where we can intervene early to reduce violence through appropriate interventions.

The violence reduction unit tracks serious violence against the following crime types within a narrow and broad definition:

Narrow definition	1. Knife/bladed weapon enabled serious violence 2. Most serious violence (inc murder, attempted murder, manslaughter)
Broad definition	3a. Violence enabled by other weapons (including fire-arms and corrosive substances) 3b. Possession of a bladed weapon 4. Serious sexual offences

Crime trends between October 2019 to September 2020 have highlighted some areas for concern such as drug related offences, where Hampshire has seen a higher increase than the England average. Rates of serious violence for all ages using the narrow definition being utilised by Hampshire, were higher in **Basingstoke, Rushmoor** Gosport and Havant. There has also been a fall of 18.8% in serious offences involving a knife or sharp instrument. From October 2016 to September 2020, the greater number of these where the aggrieved or offender was aged under 25 occurred in **Basingstoke, Rushmoor** and Test Valley. Using rates of serious violence for all ages using the narrow definition being utilised by Hampshire, were higher in **Basingstoke, Rushmoor** Gosport and Havant.

Across Hampshire, it is estimated that 38,000 women, 17,500 men and 40,000 children and young people were affected by domestic abuse in the latest year where data is available.

However, during the current pandemic and periods of national restrictions, it is recognised that these numbers are likely to have increased.

Using a public health approach, there are a range of societal, community, relationship and individual risk factors for violence, which have been identified and evaluated. Hampshire has used these to inform where our work and actions should be prioritised, for example; levels of deprivation, employment status, homelessness and relationships. This data suggests that on the whole Hampshire has some strong protective factors within its local communities compared to England, although there are variations across the county.

By taking a public health approach the work of the Violence Reduction Unit and wider partners will be to reduce violence by tackling the causes of violence and violent crime, protecting those most vulnerable at risk of violent crime and preventing harm to individuals and local communities. This work and resources will be focused on those populations and areas of greater concern, working to build upon the factors in local communities which help to prevent violence.

This Pan Hampshire VRU strategy is aligned to the Government Serious Violence Strategy 2018 and includes six themed areas:

- 1) Tackling county lines and misuse of drugs – There is strong evidence that illicit drug markets can drive sudden shifts in serious violence. Drugs like crack cocaine have been linked directly to violence via their psychoactive effects.

In other instances, drugs impact upon serious violence indirectly, either by fuelling robberies to service drug dependence, or through violent competition between drug sellers. Violence can be used as a way of maintaining and increasing profits within drug markets.

County Lines are where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and Local Authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. The 'County Line' is the mobile phone used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend. County lines involves the violence, abuse and exploitation of children and vulnerable adults who are often groomed, coerced and subjected to threats of violence and intimidation in order to support the county lines model. There is a significant overlap between county lines and knife crime.

Gangs dealing drugs is not a new issue but the extent to which criminal exploitation (often organised) of children and vulnerable adults, as well as increasing use of violence, has become an inherent part through county lines makes it especially damaging. Mental health issues are more prevalent in individuals involved in violence and gangs than other comparable groups.

Young people and vulnerable adults caught up in county lines frequently go missing from home and school, so a focus on missing persons is a critical factor in identifying and supporting those involved in county lines. Return home interviews are important not only in building engagement with a young person, but also in providing valuable intelligence for law enforcement.

Young people out of education are vulnerable to exploitation and recruitment into criminality. These young people may lack supervision, and connect with others who are also out of education and who may be seeking to recruit them into county lines. Away from the school environment pupils may lack trusted adults and a safe space.

Modern Slavery includes Exploitation. Modern slavery is a crime which violates human rights, denying people of their right to life, freedom and security. It is estimated over 40 million people globally exist under enslavement today. The Global Slavery Index estimated that there were 136,000 people living in modern slavery in the United Kingdom. Organised crime groups and criminals use coercion, deception, threats or violence to exploit victims into slavery and to keep them in slavery. Modern slavery is an umbrella term, which involves the exploitation of children and adults and may encompass but is not limited to:

- Criminal Exploitation
- Domestic Servitude
- Human Organ Harvesting
- Labour Exploitation
- Sexual Exploitation

There were over 1,400 active investigations involving modern slavery across the UK at the end of 2019, and last year saw the largest ever successful prosecution of a slavery gang in the UK.

The strategy to tackle Modern Slavery in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has been developed in line with the Government's Modern Slavery Strategy.

The Modern Slavery Partnership of Hampshire and Isle of Wight underwent a restructuring at the end of 2019 to ensure the Partnership remained outcome focused. The new structure comprises a Steering

Group and 3 Sub-Groups: Prevent/Training & Raising Awareness, Protect/Victim Support and Pursue. The Steering Group is acting as the 4th 'P' or Prepare group. Each group has been given a specific functionality:

Prepare/Steering Group to work in partnership, which sits at the core of the Modern Slavery Partnership as a whole by bringing agencies together in the fight against modern slavery.

Prevent to raise awareness of the issue of modern slavery through training, sharing of best practice, communications and events.

Protect to identify and support victims of modern slavery through coordination of statutory and non-statutory agencies and the sharing of joined up working practices, current legislation, research and best practice.

Pursue to pursue perpetrators by actively seeking intelligence and partnership working to increase prosecutions

- 2) Whole system approach – Early intervention and prevention are at the heart of the VRU, preventing young people from committing Serious Violence, developing resilience, supporting positive alternatives and offering timely and effective interventions.
- 3) Supporting communities and local partnerships – Tackling Serious Violence requires a multi-strand, coordinated approach, with a predominant focus on early intervention and prevention, where partners understand their role and consider serious violence to be a shared problem.
- 4) Law enforcement and the criminal justice response – Effective sentencing, offender management, addressing the needs of young people who offend, and addressing the reasons for offending all have the potential to reduce further offending. It will also reduce the number of young people entering the secure estate or transitioning to become an adult offender.
- 5) Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and trauma - The VRU recognises the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and advocates a trauma informed approach.

ACEs can lead to trauma which can be so severe that it might negatively impact a person their whole life. It is important that we are aware of this and work in a way which is healing and reduces the impact of trauma.

Many experiences can be described as an ACE but a regularly-cited list of ten ACEs originates from a large public health study carried out in the United States(Felitti and Anda 1998). The ACEs relating to this study include five factors directed at a young person:Physical, sexual or emotional abuse, physical and emotional neglect, and five factors which related to household dysfunction: Parent who has experienced violence at home, mental illness, substance abuse, incarceration or separation.

- 6) Data and information sharing - The analysis and sharing of data are critical to understanding serious violence. New technologies and techniques have the potential to significantly improve efforts to tackle and prevent a range of serious crime threats. In particular, the proportionate and controlled sharing of data has the potential to transform our understanding and impact.

4.4 ROBBERY

Crime in England and Wales reports that nationally, police recorded robbery offences reduced by 25% in the year ending December 2020. Prior to this robbery had risen for four consecutive years.

Robbery offences across Safer North Hampshire reduced by 37%, from 336 offences in 2019/20 to 211 offences in 2020/21. Broken down, total robbery offences in Basingstoke (-47%), Hart (-31%) and Rushmoor (-23%) all reduced.

Offences in the Safer North Hampshire area have been examined. The highest number occurred in Basingstoke (46%, n98 or 0.53 crimes per 1,000 population), followed by Rushmoor (41%, n86 or 0.86 crimes per 1,000 population) and Hart (13%, n27 or 0.26 crimes per 1,000 population). All below the national average of 1.0 offences per 1,000 population. Broken down, 94% of offences were robbery person while just 6% were robbery business.

In 2020/21, victims were often youths. 38% were aged between 10-17 and a further 23% were aged between 18-24 with 90% of this cohort being male. Where details were available more than half of offences (54%) involved weapons, with bladed implements the most common (65%), the same as the previous year. Offenders across Safer North Hampshire were predominantly young males (73% males aged 24 and under).

4.5 OFFENCES INVOLVING WEAPONS

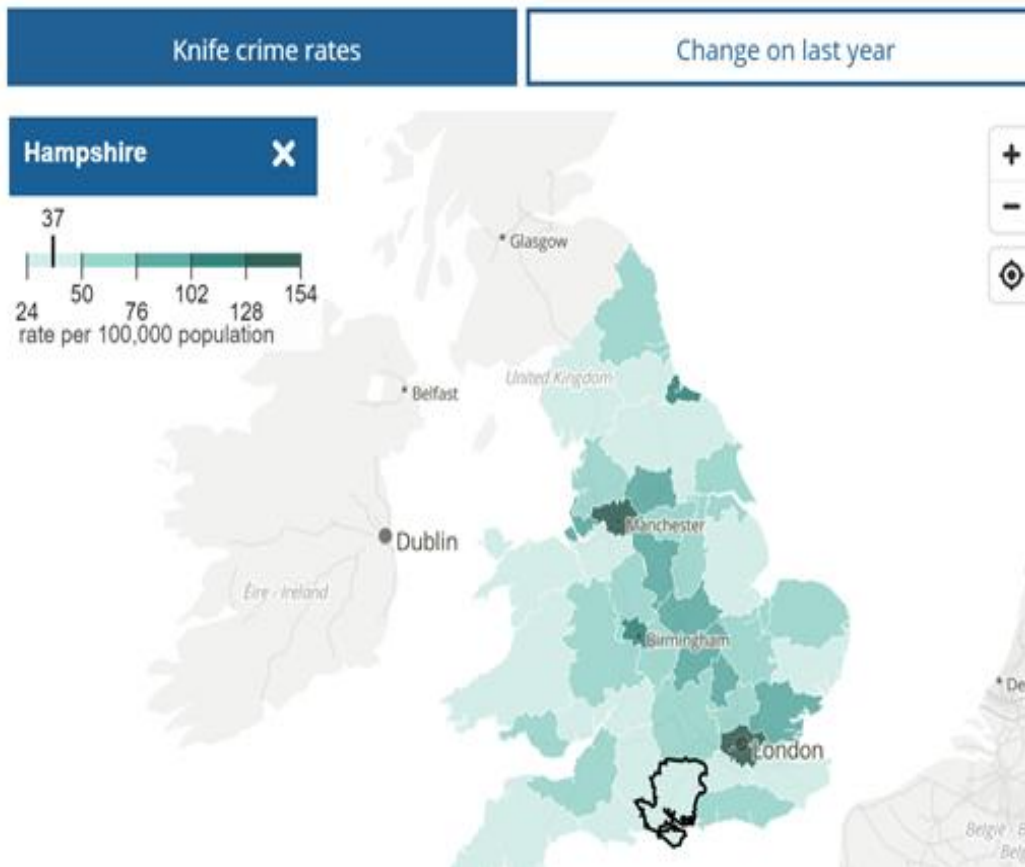
Crime in England and Wales reports that over the last year (ending Dec 2020) most police force areas reported a reduction in offences involving knives or sharp instruments which nationally were down by 9% compared with the previous year. The annual decrease in knife-enabled crime can be largely attributed to the decrease seen in time periods affected by coronavirus lockdown restrictions. The reduction in this type of crime is supported by admissions data for NHS hospitals in England, which have shown a 29% fall in admissions for assault by a sharp object between October and December 2020.

Similarly, there was an 11% fall in offences involving firearms, again largely attributable to lockdown restrictions.

Rates of crimes involving knives or sharp instruments vary by Police Force Area. Hampshire's rate of crimes involving knives or sharp instruments (37 per 100,000 population) is much less than the England and Wales average (79 per 100,000 population).

Figure 8 Source: Crime in England and Wales, year ending December 2020 – PFA tables

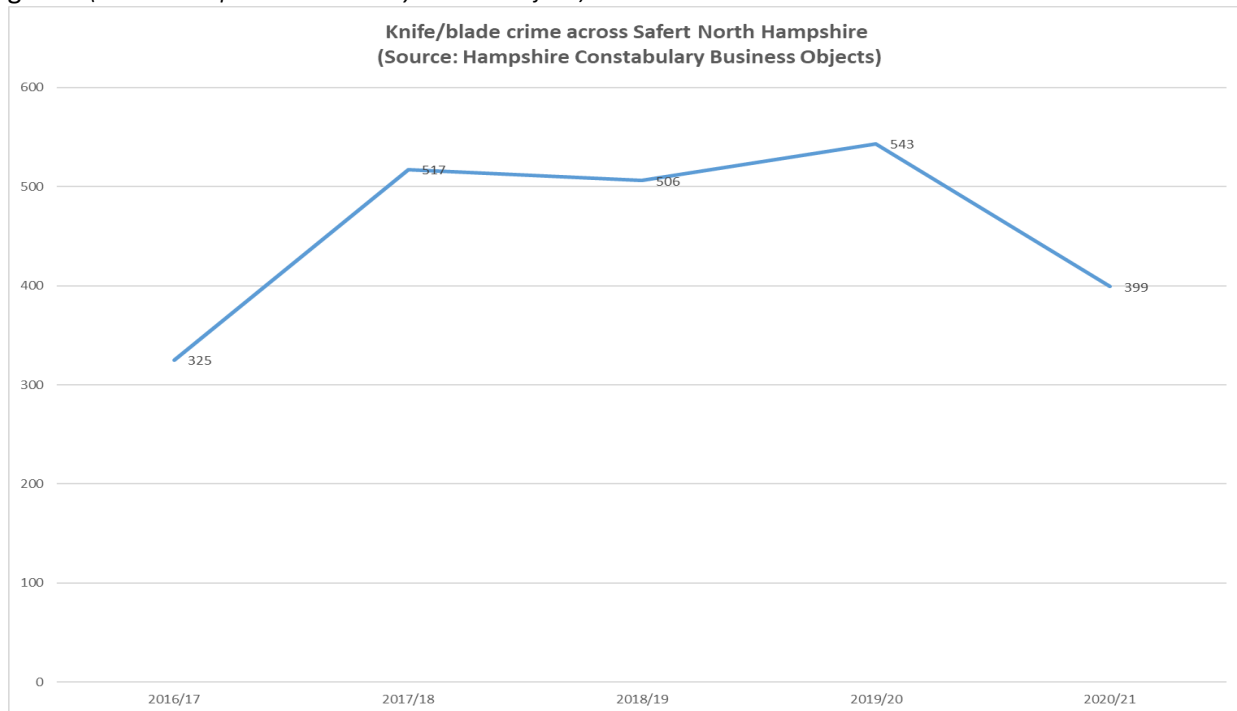
England and Wales, year ending September 2020



Across Safer North Hampshire, overall offences were down 27% from 543 in 2019/20 to 399 in 2020/21.

The five year trend is a 23% (n74) increase across Safer North Hampshire since 2016/17 as shown below, though it is anticipated that some of this rise is down to improved recording.

Figure 9 (Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects)



While the long-term trend shows that offences have increased, it should be seen in context. The majority of crimes do not involve weapons. Just 2% of total crime across Safer North Hampshire involved the use of a bladed implement or knife. Robbery and possession of weapons are the exception accounting for 25.6% and 56.9% of offences respectively.

Figure 10 (Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects)

Crime category	% as blade/knife crime 2020/21
Violence against the person	1.6% N136
Sexual offences	0.1% N1
Robbery	25.6% N54
Theft offences	0.2% N11
Criminal damage	0.8% N17
Drugs	0.7% N6
Possession weapons	56.9% N156
Public Order	0.7% N19
Misc	1.1% N4
Total Crime	2.0% N399

Crime in England and Wales (year ending Dec 2020) reports that, nationally there was a 10% reduction in police recorded 'possession of an article with a blade or point' offences. Trends in this offence have often been influenced by increases in targeted police action, such as the recent rise in stop and searches.

In 2020/21, across Hampshire 46% (n220) of offenders who used a knife or bladed implement during the commission of their crime were under 25. In Safer North Hampshire that figure was higher (52%, n24), with more offenders aged under 25 using a knife or bladed implement in the commission of their crime in Basingstoke (56%, n15) and Rushmoor (50%, n7) than Hart (40%, n2).

In addition, across Hampshire, 51% (n122) of offenders found in possession of a knife or bladed implement were under 25. Across Safer North Hampshire this figure was lower (44%, n25), with Basingstoke (50%), Rushmoor (43%) below the Hampshire average. In 2020/21 there were no offenders aged under 25 in Hart found to be in possession of a knife or bladed implement.

4.6 ACQUISITIVE CRIME

Overall acquisitive crime reduced across Safer North Hampshire in 2020/21. There were reductions in burglary residential (-34) and burglary business/community (-41%), reductions in vehicle offences (-42%), theft from the person (-51%), bike theft (-32%), shoplifting (-48%) and all other theft offences (-40%). These annual changes were mainly driven by lockdown restrictions reducing the opportunity for people to commit acquisitive crime.

Despite the overall reduction there were some offence series, particularly in the rural areas where burglaries and thefts of machinery and ATVs are a police priority. There has been a cross border response to this with active crime prevention messaging, reassurance patrols at vulnerable locations and operational activity taking place to disrupt criminals.

5.0 CRIMES WITH HISTORICALLY LOW LEVELS OF REPORTING AND RECORDING

5.1 DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic abuse is 'any incident or pattern of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional.'

Previous estimates from the CSEW showed that 5.5% of adults aged between 16 and 74 years experienced domestic abuse in the last year in the year ending March 2020. Concerns around confidentiality and safeguarding limit the types of questions that can be asked in the TCSEW and so this figure cannot be updated for the 2020/21 crime reporting year.

Police recorded domestic abuse figures show that nationally there was a 7% increase in reported offences in the year ending December 2020. Unlike most other offence types, domestic abuse did not reduce in the past year during the coronavirus pandemic.

In the Safer North Hampshire area, domestic crimes account for 19% (n3964) of total crime (up from 15% in the previous year) with DA offences increasing by 5% (n183) during this strategic period. Broken down, there was no change in the number of offences in Hart and a slight increase in Basingstoke and Deane (+1%). The majority of the increase occurred in Rushmoor where reported offences increased by 12% from 1225 to 1376. Some of this is due to improved recording, confidence in reporting, or increased counter allegations following on from the increased arrest rate.

Hampshire Constabulary is currently going through a drive to improve its service to victims of Domestic Abuse. Each Police District is having an internal but independent inspection and dip sampling of crimes to identify a local improvement plan.

In 2020/21, 'Violence against the person' accounted for 81% (n3232) of domestic abuse crime. The most common offence types were common assault and battery (29%, n1154) and Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) (25%, n983). 36% (n1432) of all domestic crime involved repeat victims compared to 34% the previous year. Across Safer North Hampshire, 70% of victims were female and 30% were male. 86% of offenders were male and 14% were female. The peak age for victims was between 25 and 34 (30%) and this was also the peak age for offenders (29%).

When there is a domestic related homicide, Community Safety Partnerships must undertake a Domestic Homicide Review in circumstances where the death of a person occurs, or is thought to occur, as a result of violence, abuse or neglect from a family member or member of the same household. The purpose being to establish what lessons are to be learned regarding the way in which local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims and to prevent domestic homicide in the future. Reviews are published with the aim of restoring public confidence and improving transparency of the processes in place across all agencies to protect victims. There were no domestic homicide reviews undertaken in the strategic period.

Where details were provided 45% of domestic abuse offences involved an ex-partner, either heterosexual (97%) or non-heterosexual (3%). 30% of offences involved a current partner, either heterosexual (98%) or non-heterosexual (2%) and a further 26% involved a relative²⁴.

A report by Womens Aid entitled 'A Perfect Storm' has highlighted the impact of the pandemic on domestic abuse survivors and the services supporting them. They found that domestic abuse has worsened during the pandemic with 90% of respondents saying that it has negatively impacted them. In addition they report abusers using the pandemic as a 'tool of abuse' and a reduction in refuge vacancies.

Locally, to support victims of domestic abuse through the pandemic and beyond, the 'Safe at Home' scheme was set up in Southampton in Spring 2020. It was quickly rolled out across the county and pop up surgeries in supermarkets and other places, structured visits to homes of vulnerable children and domestic abuse victims, reaching out to schools to help support children at risk and using social media to signpost support services and target specific groups were just some of the pieces of work being done to safeguard people who are vulnerable in their homes.

Districts were encouraged to mould the scheme to suit their communities and share successes to inform further developments. One example of this is in Aldershot, Rushmoor, where there was an interview on Gurkha Radio in Nepali to discuss domestic abuse and signpost victims.

Launched in 2014, Clare's Law is the domestic violence disclosure scheme designed to provide victims with information that may protect them from an abusive situation before it ends in tragedy. The scheme allows the police to disclose information about a partners previous history of domestic violence or violent acts. Across Safer North Hampshire in 2020/21 49 disclosures were made and of these, 27 were 'right to ask' which enables someone to ask the police about a partners previous history of domestic violence or violent acts and 22 were 'right to know' where police can proactively disclose information in prescribed circumstances

5.2 HATE CRIME

Hate crime is defined as 'any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic.' There are five centrally monitored strands of hate crime which can be flagged when recorded by the police:

- Race or ethnicity
- Religion or beliefs
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Trans-gender identity

Nationally, the number of hate crimes has been increasing and were up 8% in 2019/20. Increases in police recorded hate crime in recent years have been driven by improvements in crime recording and a better identification of what constitutes a hate crime.

In contrast, the CSEW which is not affected by changes in crime recording, shows a long-term decline in hate crime, with a 38% fall in these incidents between the combined year ending March 2008 and year ending March 2009 and the combined year ending March 2019 and year ending March 2020 surveys.

²⁴ Includes brother, sister, parent, grandchild, grandparent, son , daughter and other relative.

Given that certain significant events can lead to a rise in hate crime it was anticipated at the start of the COVID-19 outbreak that we may see an increase in hate crime as a result. True Vision reported that nationally there have been incidents of people committing hate crimes linked to the Covid-19 outbreak. There do not appear to have been any incidents of this nature reported across the Safer North Hampshire Area.

During the assessment period hate crime across Safer North Hampshire rose by 15% (n67). Offences increased in Basingstoke (+7%, n18) and Rushmoor (+15%, n22) and the largest rise was seen in Hart where hate crime increased by 59% (n27).

Improvements in recording and a better identification of what constitutes a hate crime will have contributed in part to the increase. Districts are working closely with local Hate Crime Working Groups to increase trust and confidence in reporting. 93.3% of hate crimes had an outcome.

In addition, there were ten duplicate reports in Hart contributing to the larger percentage increase in hate crime.

There were several repeat locations for hate crimes and these include hospitals (13 offences at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and 4 in Odiham Road, Hart), the Police Investigation Centre in Jays Close, Basingstoke (n10), shopping centres (7 in Kingsmead) and Schools (3 in Court Moor Secondary School, Hart).

In addition, there were several repeat victims of hate crime during the assessment period. These victims are managed through the VOG process.

Safer North Hampshire has a growing diverse population with increasing numbers of people from different backgrounds.

- Basingstoke and Deane and Rushmoor have the highest percentage of non white British residents in Hampshire
- Over 10% of Rushmoors' population are from a non-white British ethnic group, with over 6,120 people identifying themselves as Nepalese

This could explain the higher number of crimes per 1,000 population in these areas (Rushmoor 1.8, Basingstoke, 1.5 and Hart 0.75).

Across Safer North Hampshire, offences relating to race were the most common, accounting for two thirds (66%, n338) of all reported hate crimes.

Hate related public order was the most common offence type (49%, n254), followed by violence against the person (44%, n226).

5.3 SEXUAL OFFENCES

Sexual offences includes the categories 2a rape and 2b other sexual offences.

Nationally, Police recorded sexual offences reduced by 6% in the year ending September 2020. Lockdown restrictions in April to June 2020 largely contributed to the overall year on year decrease and as restrictions

were eased, the number of sexual offences in July to September 2020 returned to a similar level to that recorded during the same period the previous year.

Crime in England and Wales reports Police recorded sexual offences do not provide a reliable measure of trends in these types of crime. Improvements in police recording practices and increased reporting by victims have contributed to increases in recent years, although this effect is thought to be diminishing. The figures do, however, provide a good measure of the crime-related demand on the police.

In 2020/21 the number of sexual offences recorded across Safer North Hampshire reduced by 8% (n66).

Broken down, the number of rape offences reduced by 8% while the number of other sexual offences reduced by 7%. Total sexual offences reduced in Basingstoke and Deane (-11%) and Hart (-14%) but increased in Rushmoor (+3%) driven by a 10% rise in reported other sexual offences. A more detailed look is necessary to understand the rise in these offences.

5.4 CHILD EXPLOITATION AND CHILD VICTIMS OF CRIME

Child exploitation linked to organised criminal activity is a key threat to the safety of vulnerable children. This can typically involve young people being given large amounts of money and high cost items and an increase in frequency and duration of missing episodes. Further indications are evidence of injuries with unwillingness to seek medical attention, an increase in aggression and or the carrying of weapons. Children are trafficked across areas in order to move or deal drugs and a number of gangs can operate within one area. The County Strategic Assessment 2018/19 states that there is evidence that at any one time at least five gangs have/are operating within the Basingstoke area. The networks develop quickly and often change their names and profiles. They will often work across large geographical areas, switching location when discovered and emerging weeks later. The location of Hampshire with good rail and motorway networks potentially compounds the issues.

The County Assessment also states that Basingstoke and Aldershot are hotspots for County Lines activity, whereby vulnerable children and adults are specifically targeted to deliver drugs across counties.

The National Crime Agency suggest that children as young as 12 are being drawn into County Lines activity, with 15-16 years being the most common age. Children are being subjected to debt bondage, threats and violence with vulnerable adults losing their homes due to cuckooing. Males were most commonly exploited but females were also found to be exploited and groomed by gangs.

In Hampshire there is experience of cases where young people have been suspected to be involved in running/dealing drugs for particular groups. They have gone on to be robbed or assaulted by their 'own' group, thereby creating a drug debt, often of significantly high amounts.

Typically class A drugs such as heroin, cocaine and crack cocaine are being sold. Children are used to move and sell drugs as they are considered a cheap resource.

'Pull' factors include the sense of belonging to a gang and the amount of money said to be earned can be up to £700 per week. There is experience in Hampshire where children as young as 13 have been involved. Other slightly older teenagers can be involved in recruiting and grooming boys for drug running and girls for sexual exploitation.

As noted above under serious violence, county lines and drugs misuse is one of the six themes the Violence Reduction Unit aims to tackle.

The NSPCC report ‘Isolated and struggling’ (June 2020) reviewed the risk to children’s safety due to the conditions created by the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the key findings of the report is that there are indications that the pandemic has heightened the vulnerability of children and young people to certain types of abuse, including online abuse, abuse within the home, criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.

Across Hampshire, 7.39% of victims of crime were aged between 10-17. Across Safer North Hampshire the percentage of 10-17 year old victims was slightly higher (7.97%), with the percentage of victims in this age group higher in Basingstoke (8.36%) and Hart (8.38%) than Rushmoor (7.18%). More than 40% (41%, n668) of this cohort were victims of violence without injury offences.

5.5 FRAUD, ROUGE TRADERS AND SCAMS

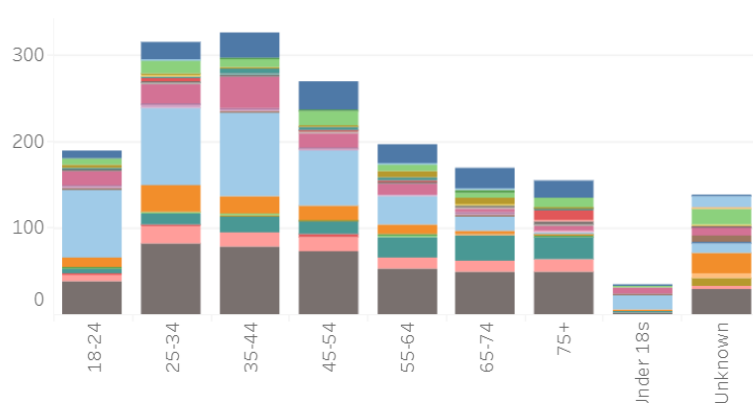
Fraud and scams do not discriminate and anybody can be a victim. Approximately 1 in 5 people fall victim to a scam every year and almost 50% of adults have been targeted²⁵.

Across the Safer North Hampshire area there were 1,793 reports of fraud in 2020, up 133% on the previous year and at a cost of more than 7 million pounds. This rise is largely due to improved recording of these offences. Estimates from the Telephone-operated Crime Survey for England and Wales (TCSEW) showed that there were 4.5 million fraud offences in the last 12 months to December 2020. Although not directly comparable with estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), the estimate for fraud is similar to that reported in recent years.

Across Safer North Hampshire, the peak age of victims was between 35-44 (see graph below), with online shopping and auctions being the most common fraud type.

Figure 11 (Source: OPCC Tableau)

Fraud by age:



Operation Signature is the force campaign to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud within Hampshire. Increasingly fraud is becoming more complex and deceptive, much of which is targeted at

²⁵ Source: OPCC Tableau 2019



vulnerable and elderly people. The OPCC is working with Hampshire Constabulary and Neighbourhood Watch to raise the awareness of fraud and keeping safer in our communities.

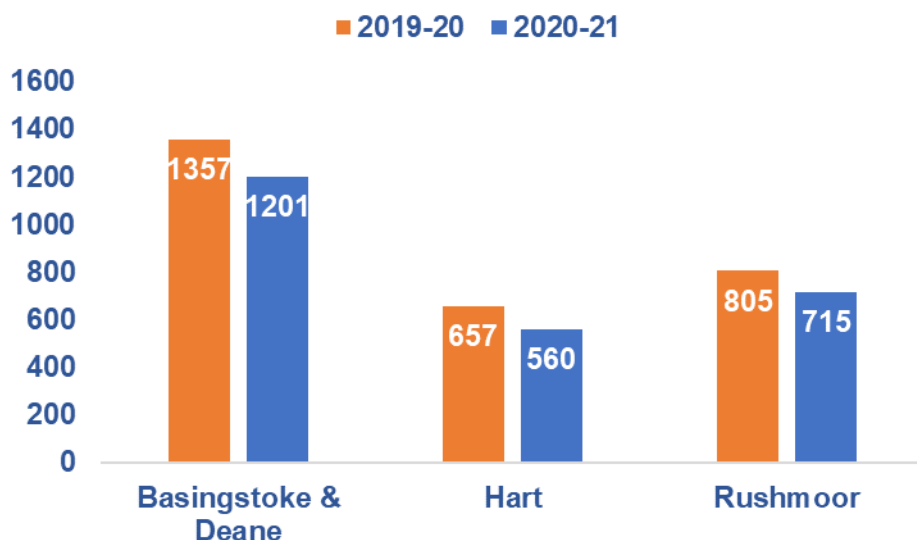
6.0 FIRE SAFETY

6.1 FIRE INCIDENTS

The North Hants District report presents statistical information on all incidents within Basingstoke and Deane, Hart and Rushmoor district council boundaries for the period 1 April 2020 to 31st March 2021.

The report shows that Basingstoke and Deane continue to attend the most incidents of the three areas with 1,201 in 2020/21, which is a 11% (156 fewer incidents) decrease compared to the previous year. Hart (-15%, n97) and Rushmoor (-11%, n90) have also seen a fall in the number of incidents year on year.

Figure 12 (Source: North Hants District Report)



All incident types have decreased in both Basingstoke & Deane and Rushmoor & Hart districts. Special Service incidents decreased the most for Basingstoke & Deane with -57 incidents followed by RTCs with 41 less incidents compared to 2019-20. Rushmoor & Hart had the greatest reduction in the number of False alarm incidents with a difference of 78 incidents and RTC incidents with 42 less incidents compared to the previous year.

Accidental fires decreased by 5 incidents (-3%), deliberate fires decreased by 9 incidents (-8%) and there was a significant decrease of 18 fires (-30%) where the cause of fire is not known in Basingstoke & Deane. In Rushmoor and Hart there was a decrease in the number of accidental fires by 3 incidents (-2%), deliberate fires have decreased by 20 incidents (-18%) and there has also been a decrease in fires where the cause is unknown by 15 incidents (-14%).

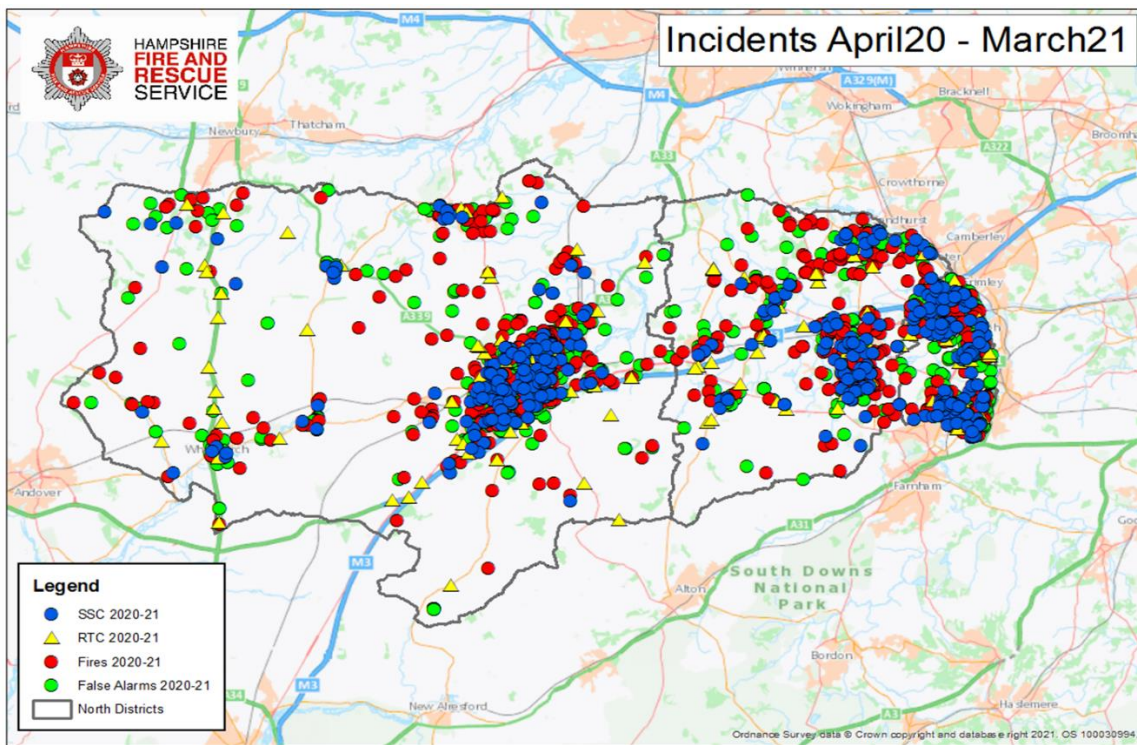
Primary fires have reduced by -4% and secondary fires have decreased by -15% within the Basingstoke & Deane district. Primary grass fire incidents have increased the most by +67% from 9 to 15 incidents, Secondary grass (-29%) and Primary vehicles fires (-17%) highlight a considerable decrease in 2020-21 compared to the previous year.

Primary fires have decreased by -22% and Secondary fires have increased by 2% for the Rushmoor and Hart district. The decrease in Primary fires has mainly been impacted by a -31% drop in primary vehicle fires, there has also been a -15% decrease in primary dwelling fires. Secondary grass fires have increased by 8%

(+8 incidents from 99 to 107), Secondary chimney fires have increased by 6 incidents and Secondary outdoor structures fires have increased by 20%.

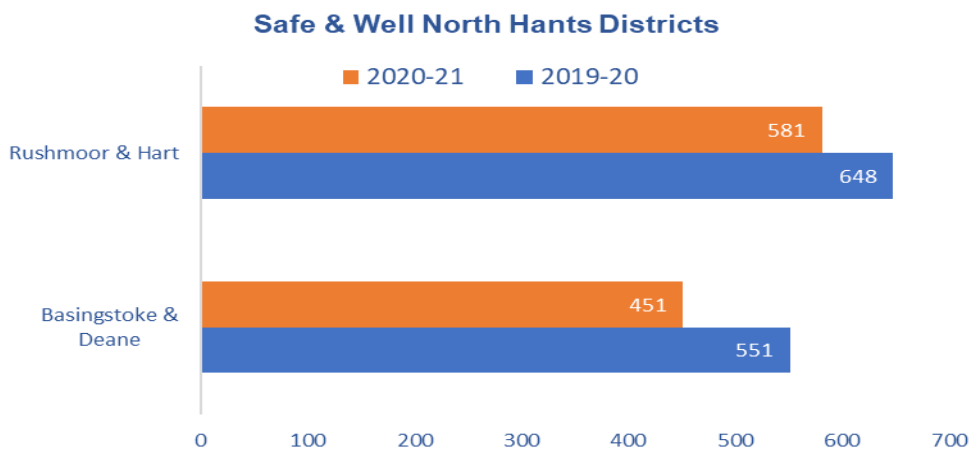
RTCs have decreased for both districts with a reduction of -36% in Basingstoke & Deane (-41 RTC's) and -44% (-42 RTC's) in Rushmoor & Hart when compared to April 2019 to March 2020.

Figure 13 (Source: North Hants District Report)



A total of 1032 Safe and Well visits were carried out in April 2020-March 21 within the North Hampshire district, a reduction of -14% compared to the previous year. The reduction has been impacted by Covid-19 restrictions whereby HIWFRS have targeted & prioritised high risk and vulnerable areas during this period.

Figure 14 (Source: North Hants District Report)



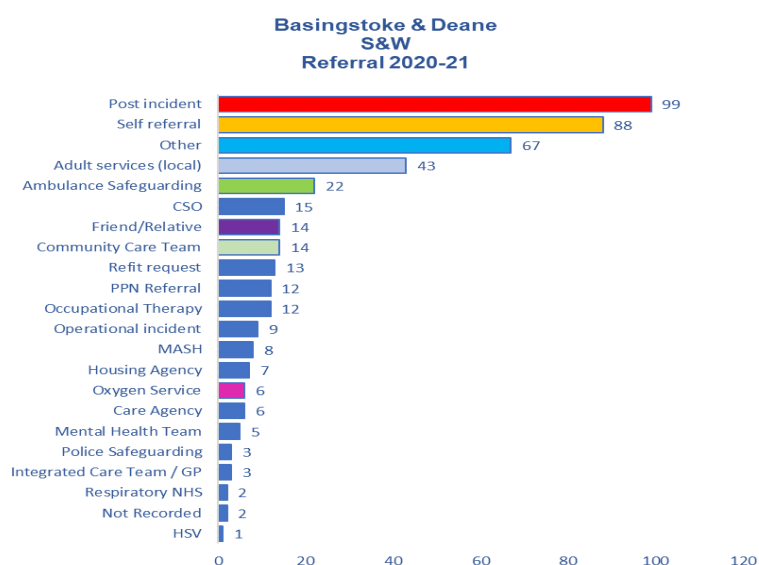
Safe & Well visits within the Rushmoor & Hart district have decreased by -10% from 648 to 581 in April 2021. Basingstoke & Deane district follow the same trend with a -18% decrease.

Safe & Well visits highlight a declining trend from April 2020, impacted by lockdown restrictions and targets being prioritised to those who fall under high risk & vulnerable categories. Safe and well visits started to increase with the ease of lockdown and then decline again after November 2020 when lockdown restrictions were reintroduced.

Safe and well visits for Basingstoke & Deane have decreased by -18% from 551 visits to 451. Rushmoor and Hart have seen a -10% reduction in Safe & Well visits from 648 to 581 in April20-March21. Covid-19 & lockdown restrictions has been the main impact in the reduction of these visits, which were being prioritised to the vulnerable and high risk. Please see slide 9,10 & 11 for agency referrals and monthly breakdowns

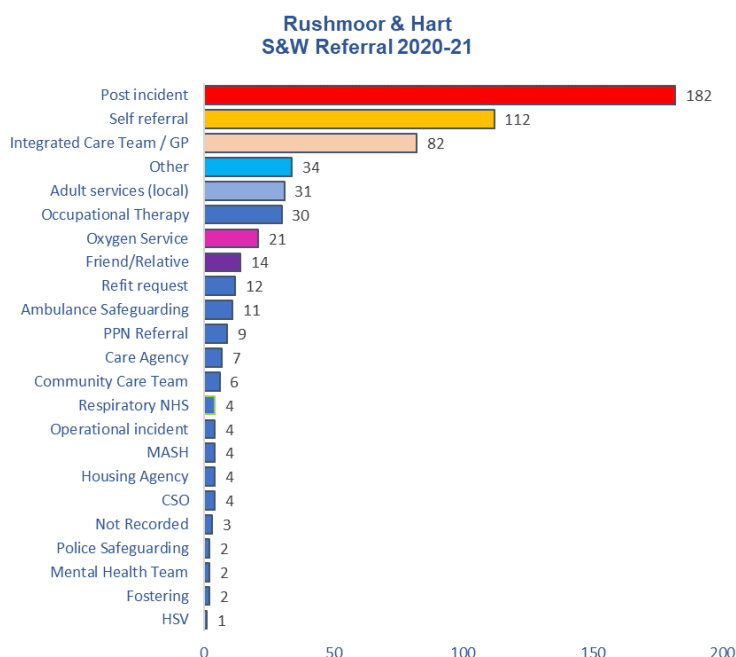
The highest number of Safe and Well visits in 2020-21 for Basingstoke & Deane were Post Incident referrals (premises referred after an incident has been attended by HIWFRS) accounting for 22% of the total number of visits. Post incidents increased by 58 visits in comparison to 2019-20, possibly impacting the reduction in the total number of incidents. Self referrals account for 19% of visits in April20-March21 decreasing by -58% compared to 2019-20 where Self referral was the highest category. In 2020-21 there were 6 visits referred for Oxygen Service, highlighting an impact of C-19 and services required for the Community.

Figure 15 (Source: North Hants District Report)



The highest number of Safe and Well visits in 2020-21 for Rushmoor & Hart were also Post Incident referrals accounting for 31% of the total number of visits. Post incidents increased by 25% (+37 visits) in comparison to 2019-20. Self referrals account for 19% of visits in April20-March21 decreasing by -33% compared to 2019-20 where Self referral was the highest type. In 2020-21 there were 21 visits (4%) referred for Oxygen Service & an increase of 3 visits for Respiratory NHS compared to 2019-20 highlighting possible impacts of C-19.

Figure 16 (Source: North Hants District Report)



6.2 ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

Road safety impacts all districts within the county. The topic sits across enforcement (Police), Rescue (HFRS), Accident and Emergency (South Central Ambulance Service) and Local Authorities (prevention and enforcement).

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner undertook research into the driving habits of 9,597 residents across the region for leisure driving, commuting and motorway driving. They found that leisure driving was highest for New Forest and Winchester districts. Commuting five days was the highest for **Hart** and **Rushmoor** districts and residents that drive on motorways 5 days a week are more likely to be from Fareham, **Hart** and Eastleigh.

Hampshire Constabulary Strategic Assessment 2018 notes a 17% reduction in fatal casualties in 2017 compared to 2016, reducing the number to that of three years ago. Serious casualties have recorded a 4% reduction. Commuting times remain a key risk issue, particularly between 15:00 and 18:00, with A-roads accounting for the majority of injuries.

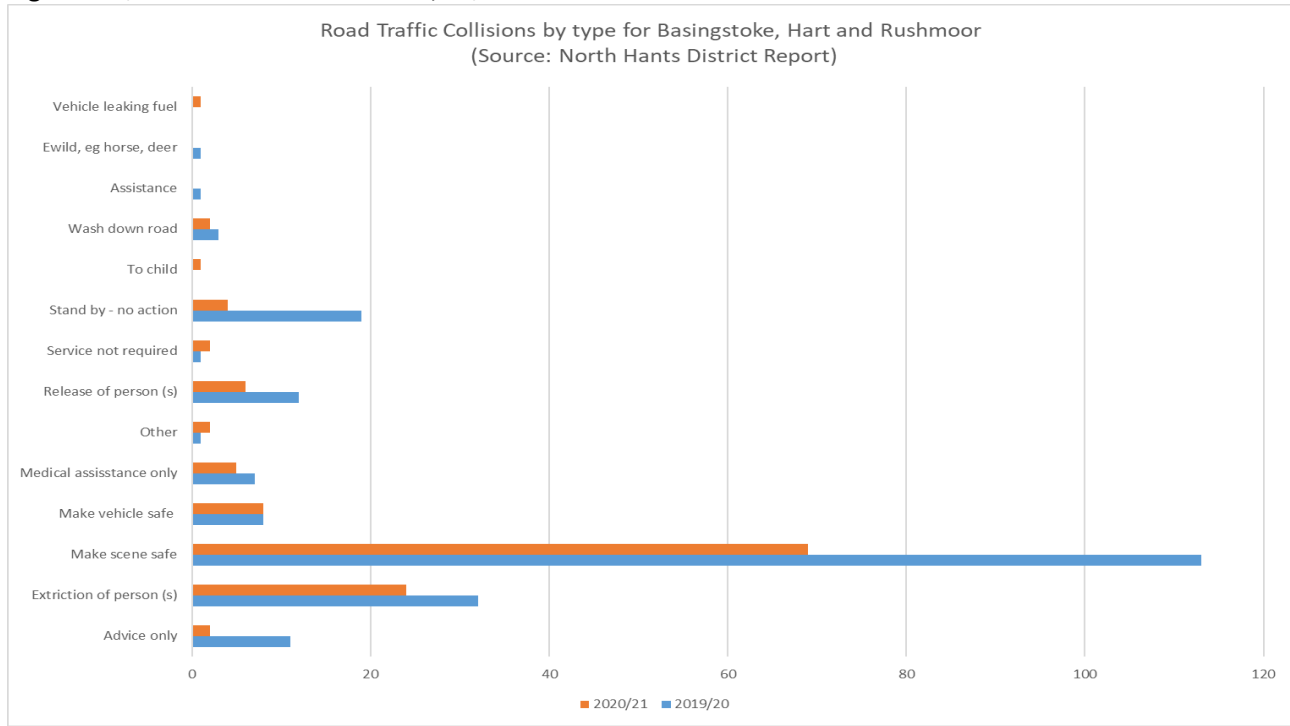
Key contributory factors in 2017 for both fatal and serious collisions are poor observation, loss of control, careless or reckless behaviour, poor manoeuvre and poor judgement of another road user. The 'Fatal Four' also feature highly and particularly for fatal collisions, alcohol impairment is a top contributory factor.

In addition, Public Health England Data shows that the number of people from Hart (53.4 per 100,000 population) killed or seriously injured on England's roads is significantly higher than the England average (40.8 per 100,000 population).

Lockdown restrictions have impacted on driving habits over the past year. While the number of road traffic collisions attended by HFRS have increased in previous years (+16% in 2019/20) this year saw a 40%

reduction across Basingstoke, Hart and Rushmoor. The graph below shows the breakdown of incidents by type.

Figure 17 (Source: North Hants District Report)



7.0 KEY FACTORS AND RISKS FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 SUBSTANCE MISUSE

DRUGS

The number of drug offences recorded by the police is greatly dependent on police activity rather than trends in the level of drug offending. In 2020/21 there was an increase in proactive policing, meaning that police have recovered controlled drugs and made arrests. Nationally there was a 15% increase in recorded offences and across Safer North Hampshire drug offences increased by 47% from 576 to 845 offences.

Broken down three quarters of offences were recorded as possession of drugs (up 36%) and a quarter were trafficking of drugs (up 93%).

The area with the highest number of offences was Basingstoke and Deane (52%), followed by Rushmoor (33%) and Hart (14%).

Hampshire Constabulary's Force Strategic Assessment 2017/18 notes that county line drug supply is considered to present the greatest risk with regard to drug related harm and violence, and the exploitation of vulnerable adults and children. The severity of violence continues to increase, with knife related occurrences rising. The 'Fortress' model of NPT engagement combined with organised crime group style offender management is shown to be effective in increasing intelligence, reducing harm and tackling offenders. Joint working with regional partners maximises opportunities for enforcement.

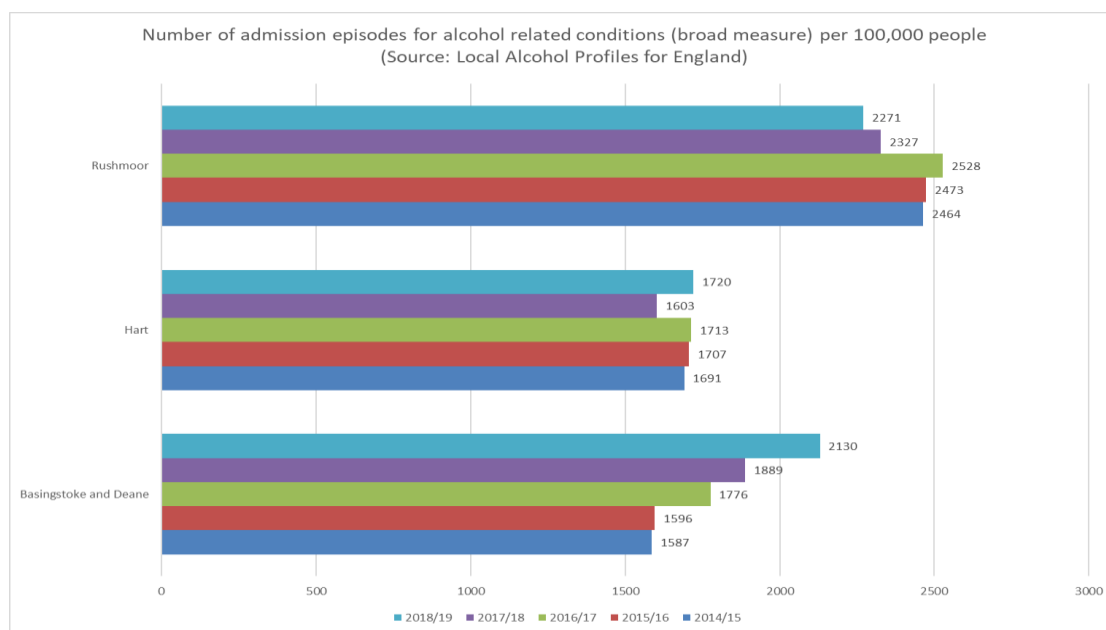
Over the past year the Police alongside partner agencies have worked extremely hard to reduce Drug Related Harm (DRH) with offences across Safer North Hampshire falling 7% in 2020/21, and this has been a significant contributing factor in the 12% reduction in Most Serious Violence (MSV) offences across Safer North Hampshire. MSV offences include the most serious types of assault (Grievous Bodily Harm and Wounding) and other offences linked to the use of knives and other weapons and by definition result in the serious types of injury.

ALCOHOL

"Overall, alcohol harm costs society £21 billion a year, with costs to the NHS at £3.5 billion. We see massive inequalities in where the impact is felt. People with mental illness are more likely to misuse alcohol. And the most deprived fifth of the population of the country suffers two to three times greater loss of life attributable to alcohol." – Public Health England.

Across Basingstoke and Deane and Hart the number of alcohol admissions per 100,000 people has increased year on year since 2014/15. Rushmoor has seen a slight reduction.

Figure 18 (Source: Local Alcohol Profiles England)



In addition, Hampshire Constabulary records data in relation to offences in which alcohol was a contributory factor. Data is dependent on whether the officer ticks the alcohol box when recording the offence.

In 2020/21 there were 1,864 offences across Safer North Hampshire in which the alcohol marker was ticked, equating to 34% of total crime.

The County Strategic Assessment 2018/19 states that dependency on and engagement with drugs and/or alcohol affects all aspects of an individual and community: relationships, meaningful activities and employment, family life, parenting, educational attainment, housing opportunities, **criminal and anti-social behaviour**.

Among the impacts of substance misuse in Hampshire we know:

- In 2016/17, 3,088 adults accessed substance misuse treatment services in Hampshire for alcohol, opiate and non-opiate use.
- 263 young people (under 18) access specialist support and treatment for their alcohol/drug use in 2016/17.
- The impact of substance misuse is greatest in deprived areas, for example Gosport, **Rushmoor** and Havant.
- Parental substance misuse can negatively affect children. It is estimated that around 20% of Children 'In need' are affected by drug misuse and 18% by alcohol misuse. A quarter of cases on the Child protection register are related to parental substance misuse.
- Acquisitive crime, violent crime and domestic abuse are particularly associated with drug and alcohol misuse. It is estimated that 45% of acquisitive crime is committed by regular crack/heroin users. 48% of domestic abuse perpetrators had a history of alcohol dependence; 73% had consumed alcohol prior to the event
- Over 80% of homeless people in Hampshire who were provided support by street outreach services (August 2017) were identified as having a substance misuse support need.
- There are approximately 500 people in Hampshire who are claimants of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disability Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance with alcohol misuse as the main disabling condition

Alcohol problems are widespread:

- A recent survey of school children aged 11-15 in Hampshire reported that 49% had consumed alcohol compared to 38% nationally.
- 50% of young people (who accessed specialist young people's substance misuse services) started using their problem substance from 15 years.
- 81% of children and young people accessing substance misuse services use two or more substances (including alcohol) compared to 60% nationally.
- Approximately 27% of the Hampshire adult population have increased risk of harm through consuming more than the recommended levels of alcohol.
- It is estimated that there are 9,980 dependant drinkers in Hampshire – 90% of these are not currently in treatment.

Drug use is a problem but dependence is more concentrated:

- 8.7% of young people aged 11-15 in Hampshire reported having taken cannabis and 3.2% psychoactive substances.
- There are approximately 4,043 opiate and/or crack cocaine users in Hampshire.
- It is estimated that approximately 35% of opiate users are not accessing substance misuse service
There has been a significant increase in drug related deaths in Hampshire over the last few years. There were 143 deaths from drug misuse between 2014-2016 and over half of these were due to opiates.

8.0 PRIORITIES

It is suggested that the priorities for 2021/22 based on the evidence produced in this strategic assessment remain as they are with the added focus on neighbour disputes as a problematic type of anti-social behaviour.

The Partnership Plan sets out how partners will work to tackle identified priorities throughout the year and it is for individual agencies to evidence how they are contributing to these priorities.

- 1a) Youth related anti-social behaviour** – *Youth related anti-social behaviour accounts for the joint largest number of incidents both across Safer North Hampshire (20%) and in each individual district. Incidents occurred across Safer North Hampshire with some locations more at risk than others. Although the CSP has some effective mechanisms in place, early intervention with young people is key in reducing the number who go on to commit further, often higher harm offences.*
- 1b) Neighbour related anti-social behaviour** – *Neighbour related anti-social behaviour also accounted for 20% of anti-social behaviour reports to the Police. Investigating these reports can be extremely resource intensive and are an increasing concern for agencies. Closer working with Housing Associations and implementing cannabis warning letters across the Safer North Hampshire area are just some of the ways to improve the lives of residents.*
- 2) Knife and blade related offences with a specific focus on robbery** – *Knife/blade crime across Safer North Hampshire has risen 23% in the past five years. While we know that knife/blade crime is rare, 26% of robberies and 57% of possession of a weapon offences involved a blade/knife. A high proportion of offenders using (52%) and carrying (44%) a knife/blade were under 25 and it is hoped that the CSP can work with the Violence Reduction Unit to educate them and reduce the risk of future offences.*
- 3) Crimes with historically low levels of reporting** – *While reports of domestic crime (+5%) have risen in the past year, something which the CSP finds encouraging, the Covid-pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of victims. Hate crime reports have also increased (+15%) but there is still work to be done, therefore it is recommended that these offences with historically low levels of reporting are looked at as priorities for the upcoming year.*