

SAFER NORTH HAMPSHIRE

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

(2024/25)

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Executive Summary

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

This document will examine data for the crime reporting year 2024/25. To determine whether crime and antisocial behaviour reporting has increased or decreased comparisons will be made to the previous year. There have also been some changes to recording practices, particularly around repeat antisocial behaviour cases, which is explained further in antisocial behaviour section.

This document provides a review of the 2024/25 priorities set at CSP level, and takes a broader look at other community safety matters, using the data available, to identify any trends in other areas requiring specific attention.

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.

The suggested priorities for 2025/26 based on the evidence produced in this strategic assessment:

1. Improving feelings of safety and health outcomes within the CSP area

Monitoring feelings of safety and health outcomes remains crucial. Whilst there has been a downward trend in antisocial behaviour and reported crime, it's important to acknowledge that this may not be reflected in residents' perceptions of safety. We will continue to ensure that we have a representative understanding of how safe people feel in their local area and across other parts of the borough.

2. Serious Violence

Across Basingstoke and Deane there have been increases in police recorded serious violence offences (+40%). While there has been a positive reduction in personal robbery (-16%) and possession of a weapon (-24%) serious violence remains a concern for the partnership. In addition, The Serious Violence Duty 2022 ensures that it is an explicit duty of the Community Safety Partnership to tackle serious violence.

3. Domestic Abuse

In Basingstoke and Deane reports of domestic abuse crime to the police have increased by 5% in the past year. Promotion of initiatives that reduce the impact of trauma and consistent messaging across the area to ensure that victims and perpetrators are recognised and supported is essential as well as working alongside local initiatives which aim to reduce domestic abuse.

4. Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour (ASB) remains a concern for communities, individuals, and businesses. ASB in both public and private spaces was widespread across the area. Although the CSP currently has some effective mechanisms in place, early intervention with young people, proactivity in neighbour

disputes and clear plans around vehicle nuisance are key in reducing the number of higher harm offences the more severe neighbour nuisance issues and those that continue to impact residents.

5. Town Centre and business crime and antisocial behaviour

Despite some considerable reductions in business crime Basingstoke town centre experienced some of the highest levels of crime and antisocial behaviour in the borough with ASB in Eastrop beat increasing by 29% and NTE offences up 8%.

Recommendations for 2025/26 by assessment section:

<p>Feelings of Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise surveys to understanding feelings of safety. • Work collaboratively to tackle the issues identified by residents through 'Lets Talk' surveys. • Examine and understand data in relation to reports of crime by LGBTQ+ and identify and work with seldom heard communities. • Educate residents on how they can keep themselves safe. • Continue to work closely with businesses in the town centre and across the borough to understand their concerns and needs, utilising funding opportunities where available.
<p>Serious Violence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious Violence (SV) data and analysis working group led by the VRU to consider the approach to the scheduling and delivery of district level Strategic Needs Assessments (SNAs). • Focus on establishing the Basingstoke SV Strategic group, with the aim of improving partnership working and monitoring on SV related matters and ensure the action plan is regularly updated by all partners. • Consider findings that are relevant to the borough, gained by SV & Knife Crime surveys. • Develop the approach to Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews, set out in the new serious violence legislation.
<p>Domestic Abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CSP should look at understanding barriers to reporting, why they exist, and implement processes to reduce them as well as promoting reporting mechanisms. • Ensure robust processes are in place for identifying repeat victims and considering measures to support them across all three areas. • Continue to support the implementation of White ribbon accreditation and Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation in Basingstoke and Deane and share best practice. • Enable Domestic Abuse Forums to be utilised to share best practice and monitor trends in conjunction with the countywide strategies. Involve commissioned services to deliver where possible. • Review the impact of domestic homicide reviews on the CSP, in particular with regards to coordinating reviews and funding availability and administration.
<p>Antisocial Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of data to support Problem Solving Focus Group Meetings and ASB Panel. • Continue progress around the implementation of bespoke case management system for BDBC. • Improve data sharing with Housing Associations on ASB reporting and outcomes. • Partners to continue to work collaboratively to address antisocial behaviour. • Focus on early intervention approaches with young people who are involved in antisocial behaviour to reduce risk of escalating behaviour. • Continue to develop strategies to deal with vehicle nuisance with a specific focus on motorbike nuisance.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on developing strategies to reduce the impact of neighbour disputes, including making better use of restorative justice options available through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), such as mediation services, early on. • Explore the opportunities for improving youth service provision across the CSP area (assisting in diversionary and inclusive community activities for young people in these districts/boroughs) and utilise opportunities from OPCC and other sources for funding of youth outreach and engagement. • Work closely with the Local Authority ASB Task Force on the development of better reporting and recording practices and a one-stop-shop. • Work with health partners to examine the impact drug and alcohol as a major contributory factor in ASB incidents. • Continue work around increasing number of empty commercial premises in the borough. • Review the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) annually – Next review November 2025.
<p>Town Centre Business Crime and ASB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to enforce the PSPO and educate partners and stakeholders to ensure they are aware of it. • Continue to share information on individuals involved in crime and anti-social behaviour in the town. • Continue to identify and safeguard vulnerable individuals who frequent the town centre and are at risk of exploitation. • Ensure best use of PSFG meetings to understand issues outside of the shopping centre. • Consider opportunities for crime prevention measure in identified hotspot locations. • Continue to work closely with schools and colleges to ensure safety of students in the town centre. • Continue information sharing and monitoring of NTE venues. • Continued engagement with businesses and make best use of the results of the Town Centre Surveys. • Continue to monitor and engage with key stakeholders regarding empty commercial premises in the town.
<p>Crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSP partners to work collaboratively with the Violence Reduction Unit, Police and Crime Commissioner and Hampshire County Council Community Safety Strategy Group to ensure the serious violence duty can be appropriately embedded into practice. • Development of the approach of Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews, set out in the new Serious Violence Legislation. • Partners to continue working closely to develop action plans around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Youth Related Violence and Exploitation with progress and any barriers reported back to the CSP. • Work closely with businesses to prevent and tackle shoplifting. • Work closely with NHW on the roll out of the Outbuilding Security Project.
<p>Fire and Rescue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Partnership should, where appropriate, look at where it can enhance the use of fire data, particularly around Safe and Well visits and vulnerable individuals. • Work with partners across a range of agencies and organisations to continue to identify opportunities to promote road safety and reduce harm. • Monitor the use of E-Scooters and E-bikes in the borough and the potential dangers around increased use and develop a clear process to deal with it.
<p>Underreported and unrecorded crimes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CSP should continue to look at understanding barriers to reporting, why they exist, and implement processes to reduce them as well as promoting reporting mechanisms. • Examine and understand data in relation to reports of crime by LGBTQ+ victims. • Ensure robust processes are in place for identifying repeat victims and consider measures to support them across all three areas. • Partners to use best practice methods to encourage and enable reporting of sexual offences across all age groups. Use opportunities to promote healthy relationships messaging and education.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support hate crime initiatives which encourage awareness and reporting, such as third-party reporting centres and support needs of local community groups. • Support and enable the Hate Crime Awareness Group. • Ensure the CSP is aware of correct terminology and use of language.
<p>Quality of life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore partnership working opportunities that arise from funding schemes that support CSP priorities. • Capacity and resilience with service delivery with current resourcing challenges. • Examine the links between alcohol and drugs in incidents of ASB at a local level. • Continue to work collaboratively with Social Inclusion Partnership in relation in supporting vulnerable people and reducing crime and ASB.

Introduction

Purpose

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a requirement on Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to produce a Strategic Assessment annually. This ensures it is aware of the local issues and emerging trends and can alter its focus as problems in an area change.

The aim of the document is to:

- Identify current and emerging trends and explore why they may have occurred.
- Present clear and robust findings to enable decision making and priority setting.
- Aide the production of the Partnership Plan once the Strategic Assessment has been adopted by the CSP.
- Identify gaps in knowledge.
Make evidence-based recommendations to ensure partnership work can be directed in the right way.

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 local authority teams were formally merged in March 2015. In October 2020 after much consideration, it was decided that these council community safety services would go back in-house but a shared Community Safety Partnership across the three local authority areas was retained. Basingstoke and Deane and Hart share an analytical function while Rushmoor has its own. From May 2023 there are now separate documents for Basingstoke and Deane, Hart and Rushmoor which will be complimented by a Safer North Hampshire summary.

Unless otherwise stated, the current Strategic Assessment is based on data from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, with comparisons to 2023/24.

Crime and antisocial behaviour data has been obtained from Hampshire Constabulary using current constabulary software 'Business Objects' and 'Record Management 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.

Community Safety Partnership Review

Part two of the Police and Crime Commissioner Review recommended that the Home Office undertake a full review of Community Safety Partnerships across England and Wales.

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) review ran from March 2023 to January 2024 and has now concluded. It sought to clarify the role of Community Safety Partnerships, and improve their transparency, accountability, and effectiveness, making it easier for them to serve the needs of their communities in tackling crime, disorder, and antisocial behaviour.

Phase 1 of the CSP review was launched in March 2023 alongside the Antisocial Behaviour Action Plan. Phase 1 comprised of a targeted consultation, exploring the relationship between Community Safety Partnerships and Police and Crime Commissioners, with the aim of improving the way they work together, and strengthening the accountability of Community Safety Partnerships. The government response to the Community Safety Partnership Review and antisocial behaviour powers consultation was published in November 2023. The response sets out a package of measures being taken forward in legislation and guidance to strengthen powers to tackle antisocial behaviour and improve accountability and alignment between Community Safety Partnerships and Police and Crime Commissioners.

Phase 2 of the CSP review commenced in November 2023. It undertook wide-reaching engagement and evidence gathering to assess the role and remit of CSPs in the wider partnership landscape, noting the significant contextual changes that have taken place since they were first established. As a result of the review, the Home Office will be developing new guidance for CSPs, which will reflect the context CSPs currently work within and set out recommended minimum standards, as well as suggestions for good practice.

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.

Basingstoke and Deane Community Safety 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.

However, on a monthly basis, Basingstoke and Deane holds Antisocial Behaviour Panels and a Problem Solving Focus Group meeting on a bi-monthly basis. This is where partners, including Local Authorities, the Police, Housing Associations and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, gather to discuss and manage vulnerable people and high-risk cases of antisocial behaviour. Partners have the opportunity to make referrals to the meetings, which are discussed, and action is taken if necessary.

Basingstoke and Deane Demographics

Data from the 2021 Census shows that Basingstoke and Deane has the largest population within the Community Safety Partnership area, with 185,200 residents in an area covering 245 square miles and 76,645 dwellings but a lower than Hampshire population density. 65% of the borough is covered by agricultural land and 63% of the population lives in Basingstoke Town.

The 2021 census shows that 30-34 accounts for the largest age group in the borough with 7.41% of the population fitting in this range, closely followed by 50-54 (7.4%). Ages 15-25 represent the lowest age range under 65 with 9,090 between 15-19 years and 9,233 between 20-24 years with no other age groupings under 10,000 until 65+.

The majority of households (55%) in Basingstoke are not deprived in any dimension, 32% of households face one dimension of deprivation and 13% of households face 2+ dimensions of deprivation.

Basingstoke has a greater percentage of households facing no deprivation than the average of Hampshire.

2021 census data shows that almost 82% of the borough identifies as part of the "White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British" ethnic group. The second largest group is "White: Other" with 5.7% residents identifying under this ethnic group. The remaining ethnic groups over 1% of the borough include "Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Indian" (2.6%), "Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh: Other Asian" (2.1%) and "Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African: African" (1.4%).

Risks

Risks which should be considered in the upcoming year include:

- Increasing number of Domestic Homicide Review notifications.
- Implementation of Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews and the impact this may have on the partnership.
- Resourcing/funding and restructure pressures on CSP partners.
- Impact of loss of local level support from the Violence Reduction Unit.
- Community Safety Partnership Review.
- Impact of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) reform and devolution.
- Uncertainty over the impact of changes at Hampshire County Council regarding service level agreements.

Priority 1 – Feelings of Safety

Why is this a priority?

Communities with low levels of perceived safety often experience lower levels of physical and mental health, compromising the wellbeing of residents. It is crucial to differentiate between the fear of crime, an individual perceived level of risk at becoming a victim and their actual likelihood of being a victim. It is important to recognise the impact of feelings of safety more broadly, it's not just about the level of actual crime and offences committed, but residents' perceptions and feelings.

Key Observations

- The Bi-Annual Basingstoke and Deane residents survey is now well established and provides an effective measure of how safe people feel and is helping to identify any specific areas of concern. The last survey was conducted in 2022.
- The key issues affecting feelings of safety as identified by the 'Lets Talk' survey were speeding, parking issues, nuisance vehicle use, drugs and related issues and fly-tipping.
- Overall satisfaction level of 93.4% following CSPO intervention.

Progress during 2024/25

During 2024/25 the Community Safety Partnership has been working hard to improve feelings of safety and health outcomes across Safer North Hampshire. These include but are not exclusive of:

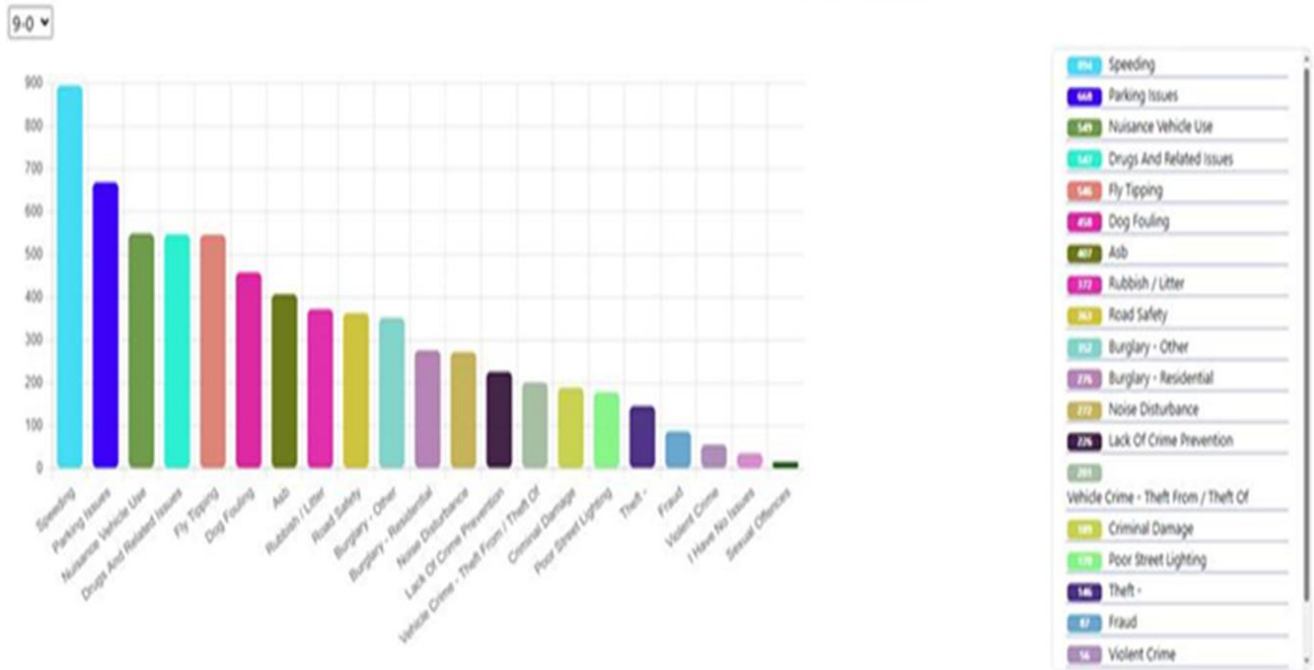
- 2,114 Safe and Well referrals with 1,271 visits carried out by HFRS in Basingstoke and Deane.
- 1,460 incidents recorded by the Community Safety Patrol Officers (CSPOs) and 34 enforcement actions taken.
- 230 engagements under the Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order in 2024/25.

Current Position

Where details were available for Basingstoke and Deane, data shows that violent crime was much more likely (79%) to be committed by somebody the victim knew; acquaintance and ex-partner being the most common, while violence committed by a stranger accounted for only 21% of these offences.

'Lets Talk' is HIOWC new community survey initiative that aims to understand the needs of the local communities and enables residents to share their concerns with officers. Data collected between March 2024 and March 2025 shows that in Basingstoke and Deane, the key issues affecting residents were speeding, parking issues, nuisance vehicle use, drugs and related issues and fly-tipping.

2a. What are the issues affecting you in your community which would benefit from joint working between police, partners and community members to resolve Analyse Question



It will be important for the partnership to monitor this over the upcoming year and react accordingly.

One of the ways that CSPOs measure the success of their interventions is by asking for customer feedback. Following the CSPO team becoming aware of antisocial behaviour, they will work with local residents and communities to address the issues. The team can sometimes resolve issues themselves but will often take a collaborative problem-solving approach with partners and communities to resolve the problems. One of the ways that CSPOs measure the success of their interventions is by asking for feedback once the issues have been dealt with. During the 2024/25 year **91.2%** of respondents said that ASB had reduced following community safety intervention following becoming aware of the ASB. **92.4%** of respondents said that they felt safer as a result of the CSPOs intervention. Where the issue related to environmental ASB, such as littering, or fly tipping, **96.7%** said the area was cleaner and tidier. This resulted in an overall average satisfaction level of **93.4%**. This was an increase of 15% compared to the 2023/24 year.

Basingstoke and Deane CSPOs regularly engage with businesses in the Top of Town area and in May 2025 completed a survey with 79 businesses relating to any issues or concerns they might have.

While conducting the surveys the CSPOs gave out 51 advice leaflets to help businesses report issues to the correct agencies and engaged with 31 businesses to listen to their concerns, provide advice, including the powers available under the PSPO legislation.

It is hoped that some of the recent engagement visits to businesses and demonstration of some of the work already taking place to deal with incidents has increased the visibility and awareness of CSPOs.

Recommendations

- Prioritise surveys to understanding feelings of safety.
- Work collaboratively to tackle the issues identified by residents through 'Lets Talk' surveys.
- Examine and understand data in relation to reports of crime by LGBTQ+ and identify and work with seldom heard communities.
- Educate and enable residents on how they can keep themselves safe.
- Continue to work closely with businesses in the town centre and across the borough to understand their concerns and needs, utilising funding opportunities where available.

Priority 2 – Serious Violence

Overview

The Serious Violence Duty requires that councils and other local services collaborate to share information and implement targeted interventions aimed at preventing and decreasing serious violence. Whilst the duty does not define Serious Violence for the purpose of the duty, specified authorities are required to take into account the following factors:

- *The maximum penalty which could be imposed for any offence involved in the violence.*
- *The impact of the violence on any victim.*
- *The prevalence of the violence in the area.*
- *The impact of the violence on the community in the area.*

Why is this a priority?

As noted, the Serious Violence Duty 2022 requires the CSP and its members to collaborate with other organisations to prevent and tackle serious violence (SV) in the local area. Whilst there have been some positive reductions in the most serious violence (SV), the threat of SV crime, particularly for females and young males is a concern for Basingstoke.

Key Observations

- The Basingstoke and Deane SV Strategic group has been established alongside partners and action plan produced.
- Basingstoke and Deane's rate of serious violence (1.9 per 1,000) is lower than the HIPS average (2.5 per 1,000)
- Most suspects are male (87%) and 44% were under 25 years of age.
- Possession of a weapon (48%), violence with injury (30%) and robbery personal (19%) make up most serious violence offences.

Progress during 2024/25

- Active participation in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, and Southampton (HIPS) wide VRU groups, as well as contributions to the development of Strategic Needs Assessment
 - Violence Reduction Board
 - Combatting Drugs Board
 - Homicide Prevention Board
 - Serious Violence Data and Analysis working group
- Participation in VAWG partnership forums and CSP VAWG plan
- Habitual Knife Carriers group set up and led by HCC to monitor local individuals and ensure appropriate safeguards are in place.

Current Position

In 2024/25 108 crimes were recorded as most serious violence (MSV) in Basingstoke and Deane District. This figure represents a 40% (n31) increase compared to the previous year.

Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would bring forward legislation introducing a new Serious Violence Duty (SVD) on responsible authorities which will ensure relevant services work together to prevent and reduce serious violence. The government also announced that it would amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and make sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime.

The SVD focuses on tackling the root causes of violence through a programme of early interventions with young people and local communities. Statutory partners will work together to tackle serious violence and share local knowledge and data to support an evidence-based, multi-agency, 'public health' approach to tackling violent crime.

As part of the duty, areas need to produce a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) to understand the picture of serious violence in the local area, as well as understanding some of the causes of violence. Outputs from the SNA should inform the local strategy, which should contain bespoke solutions to prevent and reduce serious violence in the area.

The SVD does not set out a national definition of serious violence. It does, however, state that specified authorities need to work together to identify the kinds of serious violence that occur in their area, accounting for the factors set out in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2002.

In response to the SVD, a common definition of serious violence was agreed at the HIPS Strategic Violence Reduction Partnership to enable consistency.

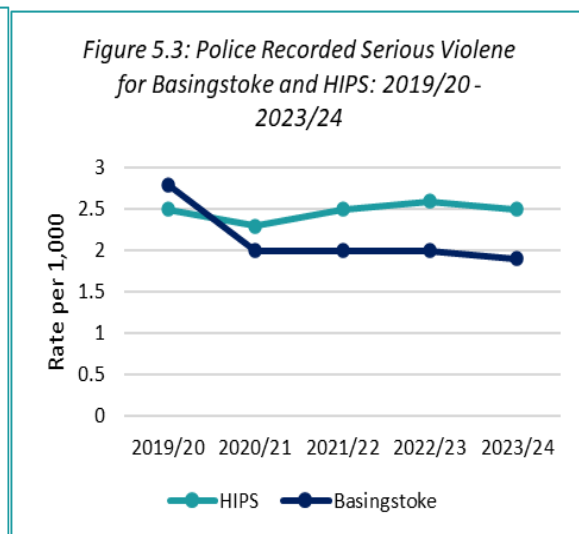
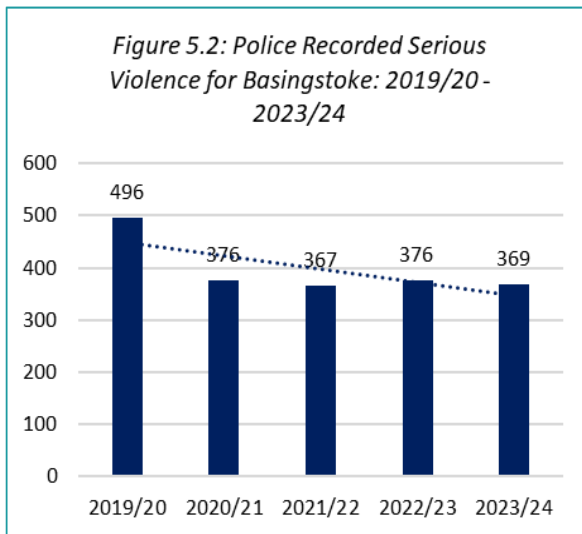
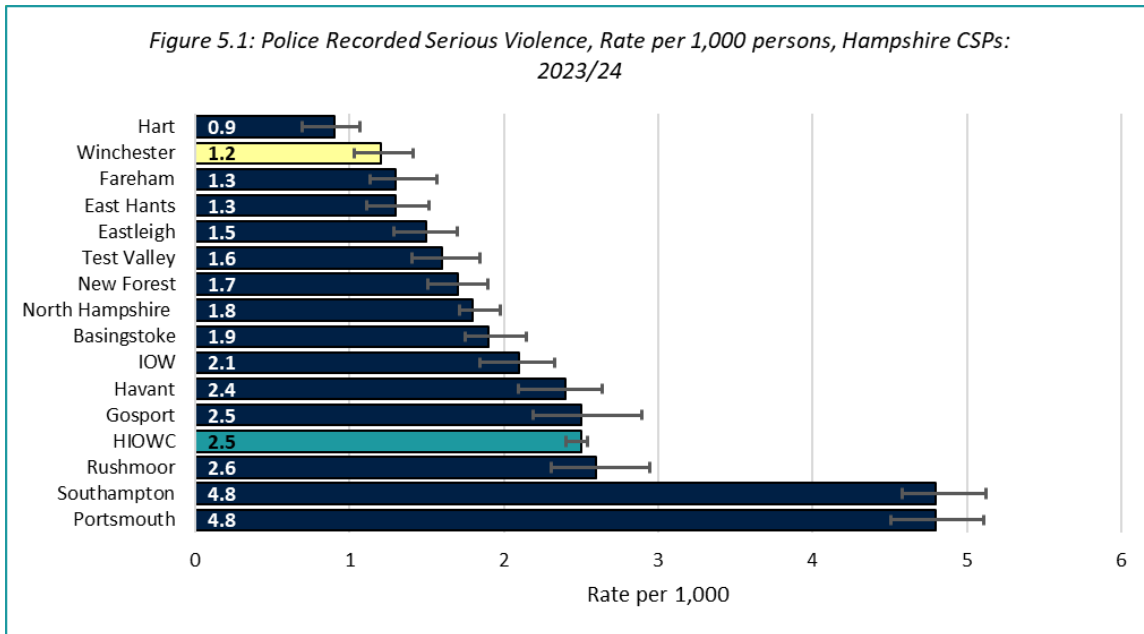
The agreed HIPS wide serious violence definition used in this needs assessment is:

1. Most serious violence – existing definition (1a and 1b where it is GBH and above incl. death by dangerous driving).
2. Robbery (3a and 3b).
3. Possession of a weapon offences (7).
4. Public order (violent disorder [65] and riot [64/1] only).
5. Any violence with injury (1b) not included under MSV where a bladed implement was used.

It is important to note that the data period covered in the SNA differs to this Strategic Assessment period. Key points taken from the Basingstoke and Deane Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment February 2025, show that in Hampshire and more specifically in Basingstoke and Deane:

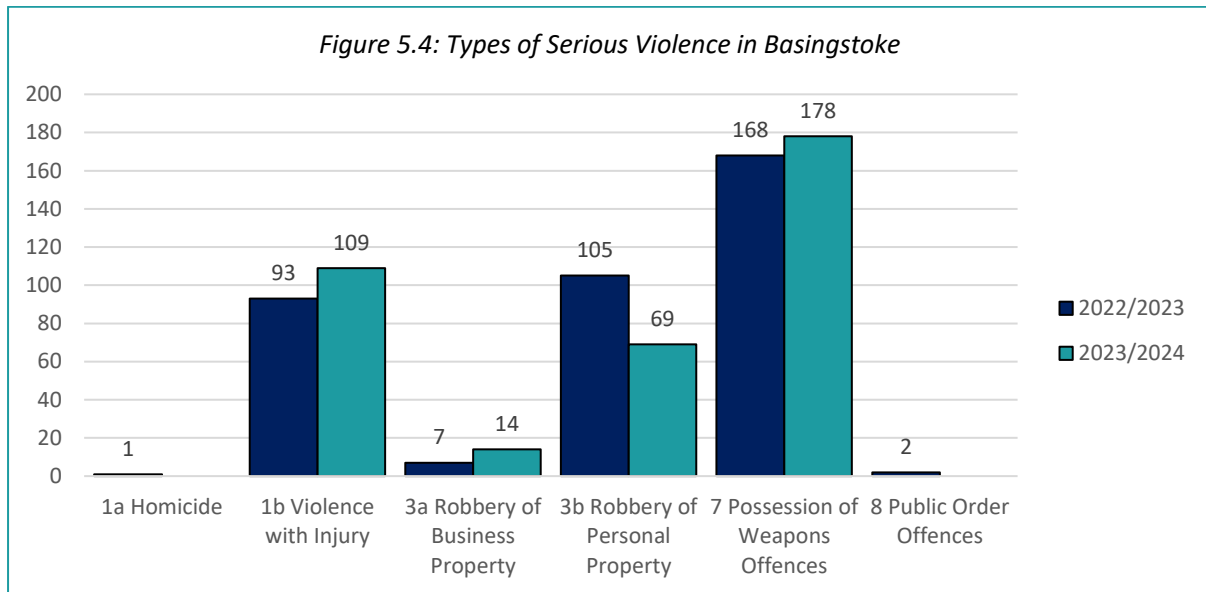
There were 370 serious violence offences in 2023/24 for Basingstoke, which accounts for 7% of the total volume of serious violence in the HIPS area. This is proportionate as Basingstoke accounts for 9% of the population. This gives a rate of 1.9 per 1,000 (Figure 5.1), which is lower than the HIPS average (2.5 per 1,000).

There has been a 2% (n7) decrease in serious violence offences from last year, and levels are still lower than 2019/20.



Of the 370 serious violence offences recorded in Basingstoke in 2023/24, 48% were possession of weapons offences. This is the most prominent offence classified as serious violence. This was higher than, although in line with, the wider HIPS figures, which recorded 45% of all serious violence offences as possession of weapons offences. This demonstrates that Basingstoke recorded a slightly higher rate of possession of weapons offences, compared to the wider HIPS area.

Following possession of weapons offences, violence with Injury (30%) and robbery of personal property (19%) were the most common serious violence offences recorded. This is in line with the trends of offending across HIPS.



Serious violence is concentrated around Brookvale and Kings Furlong, South Ham and Norden, and there is a correlation with those areas which are most deprived. There are no clear seasonal trends, although there are higher levels early evenings and Sunday afternoons. The timings suggest that a large amount of violence in Basingstoke is not related to the night-time economy. Of recorded serious violence occurrences, 8% were linked to licensed premises, 11% involved alcohol use by the suspect and 4% involved drug use.

Most suspects are male (87%) and 44% were under 25 years of age. Among males, those aged 18-24 were most likely to be suspects of serious violence in Basingstoke. For women, the age group with most suspects was 35-44. Of all suspects, 16% were linked to more than one offence, and most were male (92%) and most were under the age of 25 (60%).

Males were also more likely to be the victims (71%) compared to females (29%) and 36% were under the age of 25 years. Among females identified as victims of serious violence, those aged 35-44 were most commonly recorded as a victim of an offence. For male victims of serious violence, the most commonly recorded age band was 25-34, followed by 10-17. Of all victims, n17 (8%) were aggrieved of more than one serious violence offence during 2023/24.

The most common victim and suspect relationship for serious violence was victimless crime (22%), which is often attributed to possession of weapons offences. This was followed by stranger (21%) and acquaintance (18%). This demonstrates more serious violence offences in Basingstoke are committed by a stranger in comparison to an acquaintance (18%, n68), partner/ex-partner (9%, n35), or relative (4%, n16).

The Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) invited young people to participate in a survey about serious violence and knife crime. The aim was to better understand their perspectives on these issues and how they impact young people's sense of safety in Hampshire and Isle of Wight (HIOW)¹.

A total of 474 responses were received with 217 of these complete responses. Below are the key findings:

- ❖ 35% (n88) believe serious violence and knife crime is being somewhat tackled, with only 2% (n4) believing it is being completely tackled.
- ❖ 34% (n26) were aware of things being done but more was needed while 28% (n21) were unaware of what measures were being taken to tackle serious violence and knife crime.
- ❖ 92% (n230) believe that the responsibility of tackling serious violence and knife crime lies with the police, followed by Education (38%, n96) and Fire and Rescue (32%, n81). However, there was many that chose several services, indicating a shared responsibility amongst services.
- ❖ 53% (n38) felt extremely positive about Fire and Rescue, majority felt positive or extremely positive towards the Police (52%, n38).
- ❖ 19% (n43) were very worried about serious violence and knife crime.
- ❖ The most common method of keeping yourself safe amongst young people was charging their phone (70%, n47).
- ❖ 56% (n105) disagree or strongly disagree that respect can be earned through violence.
- ❖ 47% (n89) agreed or strongly agreed that they were worried about others carrying a knife or a weapon.
- ❖ 43% (n81) agreed or strongly agreed that it's ok to do whatever it takes to protect yourself.
- ❖ 43% (n80) agreed or strongly agreed that they knew when to walk away from a situation.
- ❖ Of those who young people would trust to tell if they knew someone had a knife or a weapon, parents/family members were the most commonly chosen (63%, n137).
- ❖ 61% (n42) had been a witness of crime, 34% (n24) had been a victim of crime, and 24% (n16) had been a victim of a violent crime.
- ❖ 27% (n29) of young people did not report a crime because of their lack of trust in the police.

¹ VRP Knife Crime Survey – December 2024 Review

Recommendations

- Serious Violence (SV) data and analysis working group led by the VRU to consider the approach to the scheduling and delivery of district level Strategic Needs Assessments (SNAs).
- Focus on establishing the Basingstoke SV Strategic group, with the aim of improving partnership working and monitoring on SV related matters and ensure the action plan is regularly updated by all partners.
- Consider findings that are relevant to the borough, gained by SV & Knife Crime surveys.
- Ensure CSP is aware and prepared for Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews, set out in the new serious violence legislation.

Priority 3 – Domestic Abuse

Overview

The legal definition of Domestic abuse is:

“...any incident of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are 'personally connected', regardless of their gender or sexuality.”²

Hampshire Constabulary explains some of the types of domestic abuse, include (not limited to) physical, emotional, psychological, sexual or financial. They provide some examples of what 'personally connected' could mean:

- relatives, including half and step relatives
- married couples, or couples who used to be married
- civil partners, or former civil partners
- people who have ever agreed to marry, or enter into a civil partnership agreement with each other
- people who have had an intimate relationship with each other
- people who are a parent of the same child, or have ever had a parental responsibility for the same child

² [What is domestic abuse? | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#)

Estimates from the Crime Survey England and Wales (CSEW) showed that 4.2% of people aged 16 years and over experienced domestic abuse in the year ending December 2024. This was no significant change compared with the year ending March 2023.

Why is this a priority?

Since the 2021/22 period, reports of domestic crime have been on a decline. However, this trend doesn't necessarily reflect a decrease in the occurrence of domestic abuse. Rather, it might be related to reduced awareness and reporting. Local initiatives play a crucial role in reducing the impact of trauma, delivering consistent messages throughout the community, and reducing domestic abuse. Actively promoting these initiatives is essential for recognising and supporting both victims and perpetrators.

Key Observations

- Domestic abuse crimes reported to the police increased by 5% in 2024/25.
- Women continue to be disproportionately represented among victims, with 71% of all victims in Basingstoke and Deane being female over the last year.
- 37% were repeat victims.

Progress during 2024/25

- Active participation and enablement of Domestic Abuse Forums and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings.
- Active role in supporting domestic homicide reviews and recent input with the OPCC on general feedback around the process/Home Office.
- Safe and Well referrals continue to be submitted by Community Safety and other teams in relation to vulnerable individuals.
- DAHA accreditation and White ribbon work continues in the borough.
- Shared IDVA service with Hart.
- Stop Domestic Abuse Dashboard and data sharing.

Current Position

In Basingstoke and Deane district, domestic crimes account for 18% of total crime in 2024/25 (up slightly from 17% the previous year) with reported DA offences increasing by 5% (n102) during this strategic period.

In 2024/25, 'Violence against the person' accounted for 77% (n1590) of domestic abuse crime. The most common VAP offence types were common assault and battery (32%), Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) (25%) and stalking and harassment offences (24%). 37% of all domestic crime involved repeat victims. Across Basingstoke and Deane 71% of victims were female and 29% were male. The peak age for victims was between 18-25 years (18%) and 36-40 years (15%).

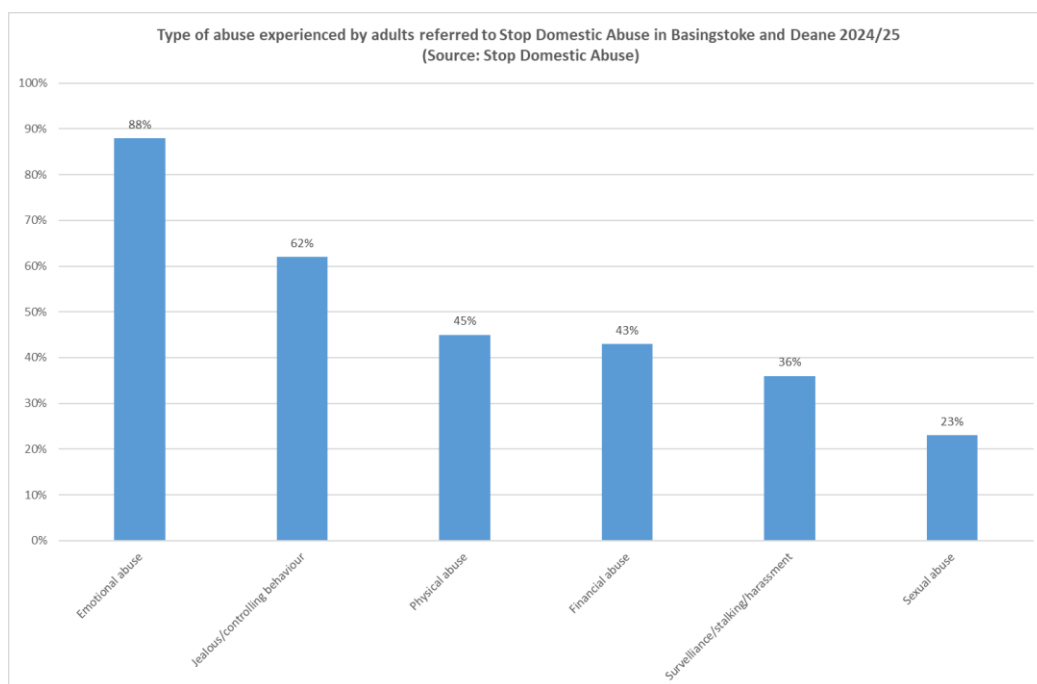
When there is a domestic related homicide, Community Safety Partnerships must undertake a Domestic Homicide Review in circumstances where the death of a person occurs, or is thought to occur, as a result of violence, abuse or neglect from a family member or member of the same

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 is one ongoing (near completion) and one new domestic homicide review currently being undertaken in Basingstoke and Deane district during this strategic period.

Where details were provided the most common victim offender relationships were, ex-partner – heterosexual (40%), partner – heterosexual (28%) and parent (8%).

Stop Domestic Abuse supports and protects victims and survivors of domestic abuse and stalking. Data shows that in 2024/25 the number of adult referrals received in Basingstoke and Deane increased by 14% from 1,129 in 2023/24 to 1,283 in 2024/25. Broken down, 585 of these were from Outreach, 582 were from IDVA, 113 were from Refuge and 3 were from resettlement. The most common adult referral sources were Police (72%), Internal (7%) and self-referrals (6%). Stop Domestic Abuse delivered 282 interventions in Basingstoke and Deane to adult clients in service. In line with police data, the most common relationships to perpetrator were ex-intimate partner (60%) and current intimate partner (24%).

The types of abuse experienced are shown in the graph below, with emotional abuse (88%), jealous/controlling behaviour (62%) and physical abuse (45%) the most commonly experienced by victims.



In addition, Stop Domestic Abuse received 94 referrals regarding children and young people, down slightly compared to the previous year (-4%). A large number of these cases were referred by children services, and schools or colleges. This highlights the critical role these organisations play in identifying and addressing instances of domestic abuse affecting younger individuals.

Recommendations

- The CSP should look at understanding barriers to reporting, why they exist, and implement processes to reduce them as well as promoting reporting mechanisms.
- Ensure robust processes are in place for identifying repeat victims and considering measures to support them across all three areas.
- Continue to support the implementation of White ribbon accreditation and Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation in Basingstoke and Deane and share best practice.
- Enable Domestic Abuse Forums to be utilised to share best practice and monitor trends in conjunction with the countywide strategies. Involve commissioned services to deliver where possible.
- Ensure CSP is aware of and embedding learning points coming from DHR action plans.
- Ensure CSP is aware of new guidance around DHRs (DARDR).

Priority 4 – Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial Behaviour Background

The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) defines anti-social behaviour (ASB) 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. Antisocial behaviour can cover a broad range of subject headings, which may differ to Police recorded antisocial behaviour. For instance, Councils may record environmental antisocial behaviour types such as littering and dog fouling.

Basingstoke and Deane is committed to reducing levels of antisocial behaviour. This has contributed to a 42% reduction compared to five years ago. The partnership has mechanisms in place in relation to early interventions that help both victims and perpetrators.

These reductions are partly due to changes in recording practices. Incidents previously recorded as antisocial behaviour, particularly those in which there is evidence of a long running feud, for example cases of neighbour nuisance, may now be recorded as harassment or public order.

In addition, limitations with the Hampshire Constabulary 101 system for reporting ASB have led to issues with under-reporting.

A Local Government ASB Taskforce has been set up to work specifically with Local Authorities and Police to establish mandatory reporting of key ASB metrics and also work with Courts and Housing Associations. The aim is to create a one stop shop for reporting and collecting ASB data which is hoped will improve reporting and recording practices.

Why is this a priority for us?

Consistent with findings from the Home Office research³, where ASB was the crime type respondents were most concerned about, concerns remain prominent among local communities, individuals, and businesses regarding antisocial behaviour. Issues related to vehicles, young people and neighbour nuisance are prevalent across the borough and make up a significant proportion of antisocial behaviour reports. Whilst some effective mechanisms are already established, it's important we continue prioritising early intervention with young people and proactive approaches to resolve neighbour disputes to prevent escalation of more severe offenses and nuisance problems.

Key Observations

- Reports of antisocial behaviour (ASB) are up by 8% (n128) on the previous year, however the long-term trend is a downward one.
- 51% of reports are classified as ASB Community.
- Sharp rise in reports classified as 'ASB Environmental' linked to recreational drug use.
- Vehicle nuisance (25%), youth related ASB (24%) and neighbour nuisance (13%) most common types in Basingstoke and Deane.

Progress during 2024/25

- 1,460 incidents recorded by the Community Safety Patrol Officers (CSPOs) with patrols focussed in the areas with the greatest community need including antisocial behaviour hotspots.
- Safer Streets and GRIP funding secured.
- Successful partnership work around vehicle nuisance and car meets including intelligence sharing, securing of vulnerable car parks and engagement with cross border multi-agency meeting.
- Use of ASB warning letters, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Community Protection Warnings/Notices, FPNs and Dispersal Orders.
- 52 ASB referrals, 35 new ASB Panel Cases, 51 ASB Panel Reviews, 35 ASB Panel cases closed, 3 New ABCs and 2 closed ABCs.
- Clear information about ASB Case Reviews available on council websites with reciprocal chairing arrangements in place across the three areas.
- Engagement with local businesses around ASB issues, regular visits and patrols, identification of those causing nuisance and working groups.
- SNG Positive Pathways network.
- Successful engagement with designated safeguard leads in schools.
- Choices programme and other education funded by the OPCC.

³ Home Office public polling on community safety: March 2023

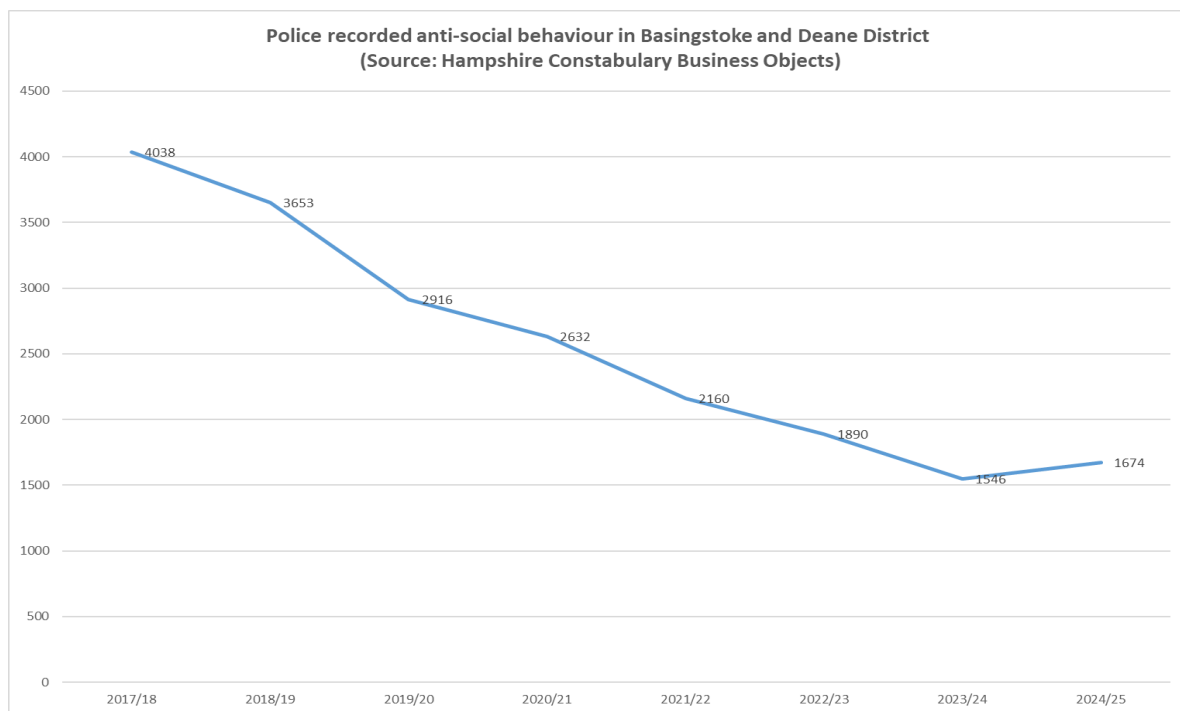
- Educational work carried out by police partnership engagement team.
- Progression made to develop a bespoke case management system for BDBC.

Current position – police recorded ASB

Overall observations

Hampshire Constabulary recorded 18,215 incidents of antisocial behaviour in Hampshire. This is a reduction of 4% (n785) on last year, when 19,000 incidents were recorded.

Across Basingstoke and Deane, 1,674 incidents of antisocial behaviour were recorded. This figure represents an 8% (n128) increase when compared to the previous year, however the long-term trend is a significant reduction in reports of anti-social behaviour to the police (see below chart).



Hampshire Constabulary records antisocial 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.

As in previous years, antisocial behaviour across Basingstoke and Deane area was slightly higher during the summer months (56% occurred April to September), with the most reports occurring in June (12%). Reports were marginally higher on Saturday and Sunday (32%) and incidents increased throughout the day and were highest between 14:00 – 22:59 hours (63%).

The majority of antisocial behaviour reports were classified as ASB Community (51%), followed by ASB Environmental (43%), ASB Personal (6%) and Community Trigger (0.2%).

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 by means of visible patrols. Their priorities are informed by information from a range of sources including reports made to the council and partner organisations.

During 2024/25 the CSPOs recorded 1,460 incidents, an increase of 31% (n384) compared to the previous year.

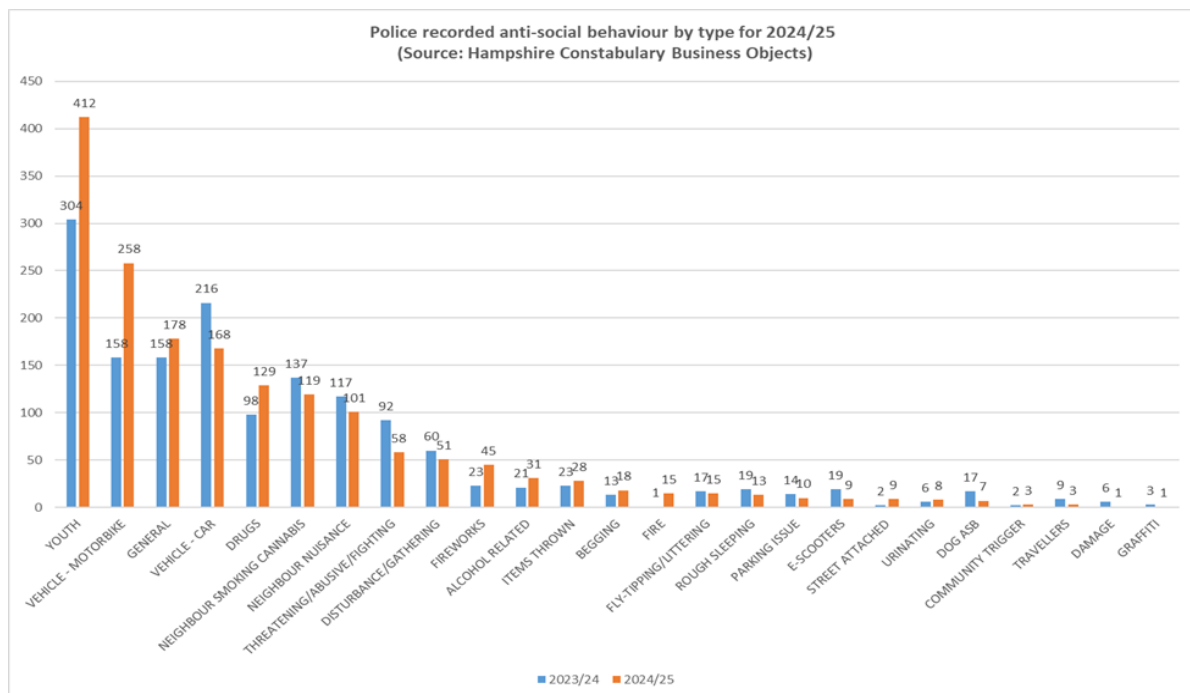
The top incident types were begging (n237, up 90%), rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour (n219, down 18%) and alcohol possession in PSPO- Verbal Warning issued (n183, 95% rise).

The CSPOs use a range of tools and powers to tackle antisocial behaviour and environmental offences. During 2024/25, the team issued a total of 28 warning notices for incidents such as trespassing, underage drinking and abusive behaviour and 6 fixed penalty notices for littering and failure to comply with a Public Spaces Protection Order.

For all incidents recorded by the CSPOs, including antisocial behaviour and environmental issues the top locations were Brookvale and Kings Furlong (n709, 263% increase), South Ham (n151, 42% decrease) and Norden (n151, 17% increase)

Types of ASB

In 2024/25 the key issues for Basingstoke and Deane District in terms of antisocial behaviour were, vehicle nuisance (25%) youth related ASB (24%) and neighbour nuisance (13%), and this was the same as the previous year.



Vehicle nuisance

Vehicle nuisance was the most common type of antisocial behaviour reported to the police in Basingstoke and Deane District in 2024/25. Such reports accounted for 25% (n426) of antisocial behaviour and increased by 15% (n56) compared to the previous year.

Vehicle nuisance can be split into two types. Motorbike nuisance (incidents such as motorbikes, mopeds and quad bikes being ridden on pathways or in the woods) which accounted for 61% (n258) of vehicle nuisance and car nuisance (includes car meets and cars racing) which made up 39% (n168) of vehicle nuisance in Basingstoke and Deane in 2023/24.

Previously car nuisance was much more common than motorbike nuisance however this year reports of motorbike nuisance have risen by 63% (n100) while car nuisance has fallen by 22% (n48).

Vehicle nuisance as with other types of antisocial behaviour was highest in the summer months with 57% (n241) reported between April and September.

The peak days and times for vehicle nuisance differed depending on the type. Motorbike nuisance occurred throughout the week, typically occurring during the afternoon (52%, n134 between 15:00 – 20:59 hours) while car nuisance typically occurred at the weekend (41%, n69 Saturday and Sunday) and at night (65%, n109 between 20:00 – midnight).

Similarly, the locations with the most reports of vehicle nuisance differed depending on whether it was motorbike or car nuisance.

Motorbike nuisance occurred throughout the borough, however there are some locations which have had a bigger problem over the past year. These are Popley East (16%, n41) and Kempshott (9%, n24) beats. Motorbike nuisance typically relates to reports of motorbikes, quad bikes and mopeds being ridden dangerously, often on footpaths and in the woods and by young males with no PPE. An ASB Case Review was raised relating to vehicle nuisance in the Down Grange/Stratton Park area of Kempshott beat and as a result residents were encouraged to report incidents of vehicle nuisance. The case review was raised in January 2025 and following this 46% of vehicle nuisance reports in the area occurred in the three months following the review being opened (Jan – Mar 2025). The review remains ongoing, however positive work including installing signage and a new gate and the securing of the gate at 10pm by a private security contractor is underway. In Popley East beat the police put together OP Enduro to tackle the nuisance bike issue.

Car nuisance was most common in Kempshott (27%, n45) and South Ham (21%, n36) with reports mostly relating to large numbers of vehicles in carparks, racing, doing donuts and revving engines. As above the case review in Kempshott beat has resulted in some positive work being undertaken. In South Ham there has been positive engagement with tenants and security at the leisure park and involvement from property services and the DISC system for reporting has been promoted.

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, including assisting Police where possible with Op Chromium and Op Enduro activities, undertaking Environmental Visual Audits in problematic locations, resulting in increased patrols and ASB Warning Letters being sent to vehicle owners. In addition, enforcement, deterrent and education options are considered for repeat locations.

A multi-agency Car Meets Working Group has been established in Basingstoke and Deane as a response to antisocial behaviour reported at car meets at various sites across the borough. Target

hardening has been put in place in some areas such as at Asda in Brighton Hill. Signage has been developed and erected in known hotspot areas to deter those responsible and give visible reassurance to the public. Police have publicised any prosecution, action or seizures of vehicles. Businesses have been educated around the issue and have been encouraged to take action to secure their sites. Private landowners and supermarkets have also been worked with to ensure that they are taking measures to deter the gathering of vehicles. We have also been a part of OP Chromium discussions pan Hampshire that are looking at a wider problem-solving approach as displacement is an issue. Through the Problem-Solving Focus Group and Car Meets Working Group the partnership is now looking at ways to identify individuals committing motorbike nuisance and linking in with Housing Associations and tenancy agreements.

Youth related antisocial behaviour

In 2024/25 approximately 24% (n412) of antisocial behaviour related to young people. This figure represents a 36% increase compared to the previous year. It does not include incidents where two or more incident types were mentioned. For example, there were a number of reports of young people riding motorbikes /mini mottos/quad bikes. These reports were categorised under the behaviour rather than the person so were recorded as vehicle nuisance.

Reports of youth related antisocial behaviour occurred across Basingstoke and Deane. The bi-monthly Problem-Solving Focus Group meetings have highlighted specific locations where youth nuisance is a problem and identified individuals have been discussed at the ASB Panel.

Incidents of youth related ASB occurred throughout the year and like other types of ASB, were highest during the summer months (57% April to September). Youth related ASB was higher Friday to Sunday (49%) and between 14:00 – 20:59 hours (70%).

The location with the most reports of youth related antisocial behaviour was Eastrop beat (22%) and this has historically been the case with incidents here increasing by 107% in the past year. The Community Safety Team along with police and other partner agencies have been working hard to identify problematic groups of youths in the town centre and wider area through Op Entitlement. It is clear that there are a few individuals who are linked to a number of incidents. Several interventions have been used including home visits, warning letters, Festival place banning, engaging with schools and other professionals. The police have also utilised dispersal orders during school holiday periods and some weekends. A taskforce was set up for 6 weeks to target the most prolific individuals and investigate large numbers of the incidents. This has led to several arrests, bail conditions and CPNs and CBO applications and other youth justice interventions.

Elsewhere in Basingstoke and Deane, 11% (n45) of youth related ASB occurred in South Ham beat. Reports were mostly around Westside Community Centre (youths getting on the pavilion roof and causing a nuisance), The Leisure Park (youths causing issues in and outside of establishments) and Kings Road (youths causing problems around the shops). As a result, targeted patrols have taken place as well as liaison with relevant stakeholders including the Fire Service to secure buildings, identifying individuals involved with home carried out and letter drops to residents for reassurance.

In addition, reports of youth related ASB in Burghclere. Highclere and St Mary Bourne beat increased by 36% (n15) from 11 in 2023/24 to 26 this year. Youth related ASB primarily occurred in the Bramley area and this has been monitored through the Problem Solving Focus Group (PSFG) and ASB Panel with young people identified and dealt with by way of warning letters, house visits and additional patrols by CSPOs and police.

ASB Warning letters, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and referrals to the People Meeting and ASB Panel have continued to have a major impact on early intervention and supporting vulnerable people.

Neighbour nuisance/disputes (including drug use)

Neighbour nuisance/disputes accounted for 13% (n220) of reports in 2024/25 and reduced by 13% compared to the previous year. Broken down, 54% (n119) related to neighbours smoking drugs (mostly cannabis) and 46% (n101) were general issues with neighbours such as feuds and noise complaints.

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 in Basingstoke and Deane.

In 2024/25 a fifth (20%) of reports of neighbours smoking cannabis were repeat calls in one locations which was monitored and managed through the ASB Panel and PSFG meetings.

General neighbour nuisance complaints were spread across the district with the beats of Popley West (10%) and Chineham reporting the most incidents, often with multiple reports in the same street. There were no other significant patterns or trends.

Where referrals have been made to the ASB panel a partnership approach has been taken.

Other issues of note

A significant (17%) number of antisocial behaviour incidents in Basingstoke and Deane were linked to drugs and alcohol. This included drug use/dealing/paraphernalia (46%), neighbours smoking cannabis (43%) and general drug and alcohol related ASB (n11%). Approximately 13% of drug and alcohol related incidents related to youths.

Drug and alcohol related ASB that occurred outside of the home increased in 2024/25 (+34%) from 119 to 160 incidents. The location with the most reports was Eastrop beat. These incidents largely relate to drug paraphernalia, reports of people taking drugs in public places including communal areas and outside the shops in Crown Heights, in the underpasses and Glebe Gardens and drunken behaviour in public. Police are again leading on work around this and CSPOs are patrolling to provide additional information. Crown heights have had building works which has attracted ASB. CSPOs have been liaising directly with the contractors to advise and support around reporting.

In Basingstoke and Deane there is an emerging issue of an increasing number of empty commercial properties which are attracting anti-social behaviour. These are monitored through the PSFG meetings with action plans put in place with key stakeholders, residents are updated and educational messages sent out.

Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

Following public and stakeholder consultation the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) has been renewed for 3 years from November 2024 in Basingstoke Town Centre and is utilised by Police and Council Officers to tackle alcohol related anti-social behaviour. Alcohol related anti-social behaviour is highlighted as a key issue for businesses in the local area and in response to this CSPOs have increased patrols and enforcement action, with 230 engagements and enforcement actions taken in 2024/25.

Antisocial Behaviour Case Review

An antisocial behaviour case review allows victims and communities to request a review of their case, encouraging agencies to collaborate and find a solution. This can be initiated by a victim of antisocial behaviour, someone acting on their behalf, or an individual representing a group of residents or a community group.

To activate the review, the victim or representative should contact Hampshire Constabulary using the non-emergency number 101.

The criteria to meet the threshold are as follows:

- Individual: Three complaints within a six-month period.
- Group: Five individuals within a local community have separately reported similar incidents of antisocial behaviour to a member of the Community Safety Partnership, believing that no action has been taken or being unsatisfied with the action taken.

In all cases, the incidents must have caused harassment, alarm, or distress, been logged within one month of the incident, and the last reported incident must have occurred within the past six months.

If the threshold is met, agencies will share information, review the actions already taken, and determine if additional actions are appropriate or possible.

There were 4 applications for Antisocial Behaviour Case Reviews in 2024/25 for Basingstoke and Deane, including 2 in which the threshold were met and 2 where it was not.

Recommendations

- Use of data to support Problem Solving Focus Group (PSFG) Meetings and ASB Panel.
- Improve data sharing with Housing Associations on ASB reporting and outcomes.
- Partners to continue to work collaboratively to address antisocial behaviour.
- Focus on early intervention approaches with young people who are involved in antisocial behaviour to reduce risk of escalating behaviour.
- Continue to develop strategies to deal with vehicle nuisance with a specific focus on motorbike nuisance.
- Focus on developing strategies to reduce the impact of neighbour disputes, including making better use of restorative justice options available through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), such as mediation services, early on.
- Explore the opportunities for improving youth service provision across the CSP area (assisting in diversionary and inclusive community activities for young people in these districts/boroughs) and utilise opportunities from OPCC and other sources for funding of youth outreach and engagement.
- Work with health partners to examine the impact drug and alcohol as a major contributory factor in ASB incidents.
- Continue work around increasing number of empty commercial premises in the borough.
- Review the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) annually – Next review November 2025.
- CSP to be aware of proposed changes to ASB legislation and how this could benefit management of ASB cases.

Priority 5 – Town Centre, business crime and ASB

Why is this a priority?

The Community Safety Partnership Town Centre locations experience some of the highest levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. Shoplifting offences increased by 45% across the CSP in 2023/24 and ASB in town centre beats accounted for 22% of total reported incidents.

Key Observations

- Business crime accounted for 16% of total crime, down from 17% during the same period last year
- There was no significant change in the number of shop-lifting offences
- Shoplifting, all other theft offences, burglary business and community and criminal damage were the most common business crime types
- Shoplifting offences which had an outcome increased by 57%
- ASB in Eastrop beat increased by 29%
- Night-Time Economy related offences increased by 8%

Progress so far during 2024/25

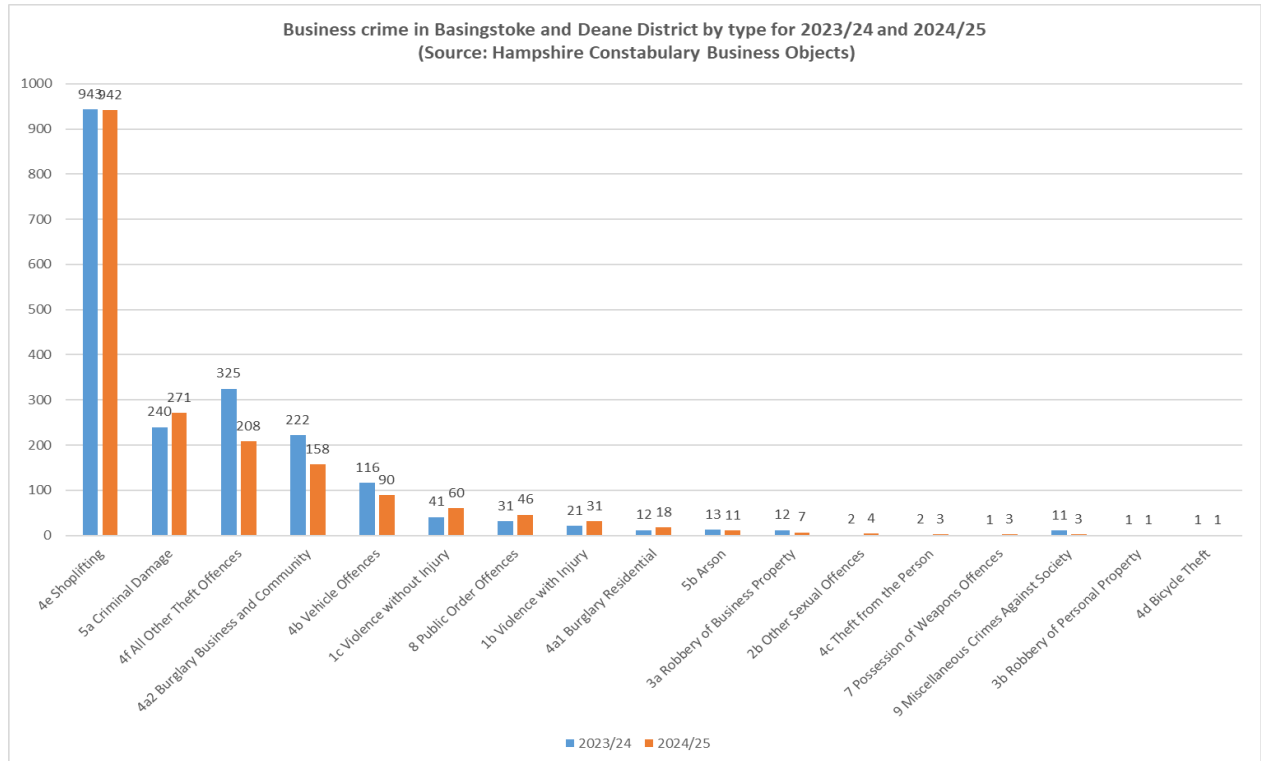
- 230 engagements and enforcement actions taken the Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order.
- 79 businesses engaged with through the 'Top of Town Survey.'
- Regular Basingstoke Town Centre Partnership meetings held.
- Involvement in Op Outfitter.
- Town Centre CCTV system has successfully supported police in detecting crime and supporting vulnerable people
- Partners from social inclusion involved in response to reducing ASB in the town centre.
- DISC system successfully used to identify individuals involved in crime and ASB and vulnerable individuals in the Town Centre and leisure park.
- Additional patrols and engagement carried out using GRIP funding.
- 13 Dispersal Orders in the Town Centre to reduce ASB.

Current Position

Within the Hampshire Constabulary policing area, business crime accounted for 18% of all crime recorded by the force in 2024/25, higher than the previous year (17%).

Business crime accounted for 16% of total crime in Basingstoke and Deane, down from 17% during the same period last year. Shoplifting (51%), criminal damage (15%), all other theft offences (11%),

burglary business and community (9%) and vehicle offences (5%) were the most common business crime types, making up 90% of business crime. With the exception of criminal damage, all of these top five offence types showed reductions compared to last year.



Basingstoke and Deane CSPOs regularly engage with businesses in the Top of Town area and in May 2025 completed a survey with 79 businesses relating to any issues or concerns they might have. The survey showed that:

- When asked what their top three issues were, the main concerns for businesses were; a person or group drinking alcohol (60%) a person or group being aggressive (58%) a person or group involved in anti-social behaviour (51%) and begging (43%).
- 52% of businesses said that they experience anti-social behaviour most days (29%) and every day (22%).
- 43% said that they have not reported issues to the correct agency.

It is hoped that some of the recent engagement visits to businesses and demonstration of some of the work already taking place to deal with incidents has increased the visibility and awareness of CSPOs.

Eastrop beat which includes Basingstoke Town Centre has historically been the location with the highest number of ASB reports. In total, 256 incidents were reported here in 2024/25, accounting for 15% of all reports. This figure represents a 29% increase compared to the previous year when 198 incidents were reported.

The most common types of ASB in Eastrop were youth related incidents (36%), drug and alcohol related incidents (12% and vehicle nuisance (9%) and all of these experienced increases (+107%, +76% and +16% respectively).

The Community Safety Team along with police and other partner agencies have been working hard to identify problematic groups of youths in the town centre and wider area through Op Entitlement. It is clear that there are a few individuals who are linked to a number of incidents. Several interventions have been used including home visits, warning letters, Festival place banning, engaging with schools and other professionals. The police have also utilised dispersal orders during school holiday periods and some weekends. A taskforce was set up for 6 weeks to target the most prolific individuals and investigate large numbers of the incidents. This has led to several arrests, bail conditions and CPNs and CBO applications and other youth justice interventions.

Drug and alcohol related incidents in Eastrop beat largely relate to drug paraphernalia and reports of people taking drugs in public places including communal areas and outside the shops in Crown Heights, in the underpasses and Glebe Gardens. Police are again leading on work around this and CSPOs are patrolling to provide additional information. Crown heights have had building works which has attracted ASB. CSPOs have been liaising directly with the contractors to advise and support around reporting

The number of night-time economy related offences occurring in Basingstoke Town Centre have increased slightly (+8%, n10) in 2024/25 when compared to the previous year. Violence against the person accounted for more than half of offences (57%), followed by theft offences (11%) and criminal damage and arson (10%). The location with the most offences was Plush (14%).

This year there has been a number of new premises opening in the town centre. The Community Safety Team works closely with the council and police licensing teams and Street Pastors and night-time economy offences are monitored through the bi-monthly problem-solving focus group meetings.

Recommendations

- Continue to enforce the PSPO and educate partners and stakeholders to ensure they are aware of it.
- Continue to share information on individuals involved in crime and anti-social behaviour in the town.
- Continue to identify and safeguard vulnerable individuals who frequent the town centre and are at risk of exploitation.
- Ensure best use of PSFG meetings to understand issues outside of the shopping centre.
- Consider opportunities for crime prevention measures in identified hotspot locations.
- Continue to work closely with schools and colleges to ensure safety of students in the town centre.
- Continue information sharing and monitoring of NTE venues.
- Continued engagement with businesses and make best use of the results of the Town Centre Surveys.
- Continue to monitor and engage with key stakeholders regarding empty commercial premises in the town.

Crime Data Summary

Overview

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 both locally and nationally. These factors have contributed to a 10% reduction in crime levels across Basingstoke and Deane compared to five years ago.

Nationally, the police recorded 6.6 million crimes in England and Wales in the year ending December 2024. This figure was relatively stable equating to a 1% decrease on the previous year. Police recorded crime has fluctuated and hides a lot of variation by crime type. Most of the fluctuations can be attributed to increases in the offence categories, which are most subject to changes in reporting and recording practices. Therefore, these estimates should be treated with caution as they may not reflect a genuine increase in crime.

This year (01st April 24 to 31st March 25), Hampshire Constabulary recorded a total of 153,548 crimes across Hampshire. This figure represents a 4% decrease compared to the previous year when 159,731 crimes were recorded.

Basingstoke and Deane recorded, type and level of crime.

Across Basingstoke and Deane 11,672 crimes were recorded in 2024/25. This figure represents a 3% reduction on the previous year when 12,058 crimes were recorded.

The rate of crime per 1,000 population in Basingstoke and Deane was 62.9 which is below the national average of 87.9 crimes per 1,000 population and the Hampshire average of 77.2 crimes per 1,000 population.

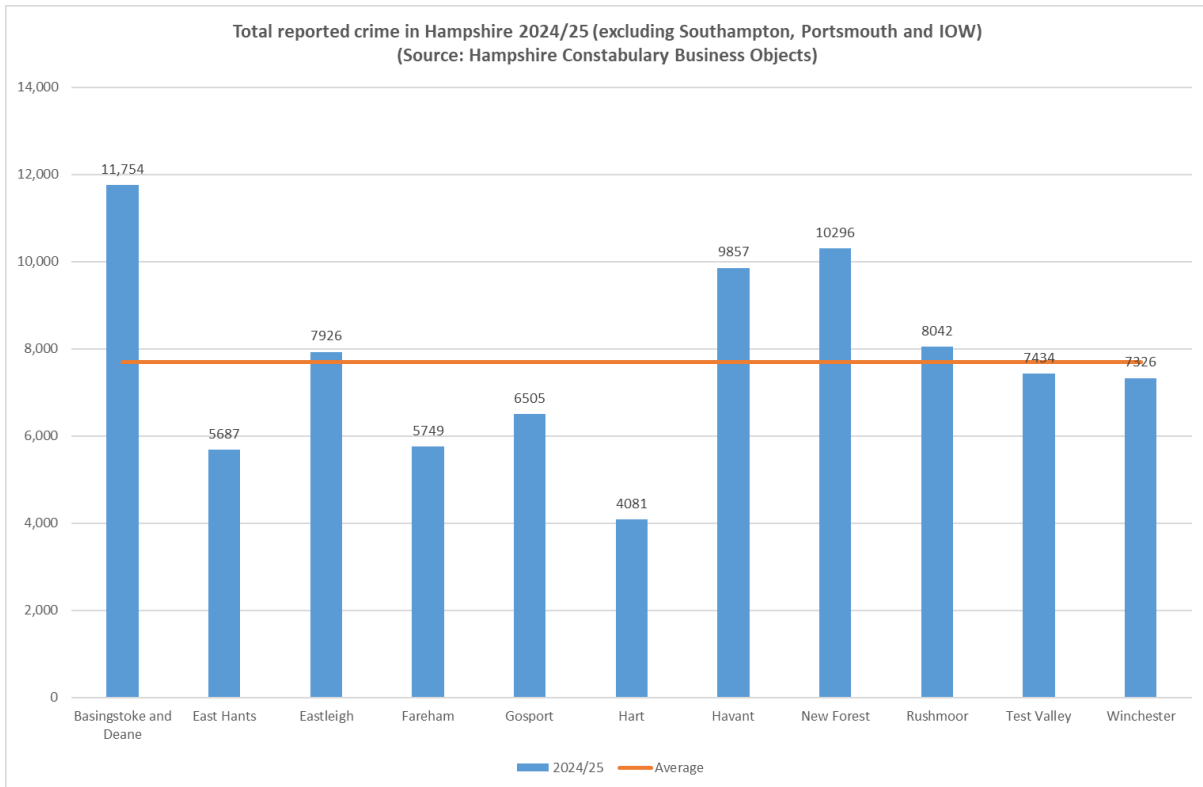
This year, when compared to the previous year there were considerable reductions across a number of crime types, including robbery personal (-16%), burglary business and community (-38%), all other theft offences (-16%), possession of drugs (-18%), possession of weapons (-24%) and public order (-10%). The key exceptions were arson (+34%), trafficking of drugs (+24%) and hate crime (+43%) which were significantly up on the previous year.

As well as a 3% reduction in levels of crime, there was an increase in detection rates across the District with the number of crimes having an outcome up 26.4% and showing increases across all crime types.

	BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE		
	23/24 crimes	24/25 crimes	% change
1a Homicide	1	2	+100%
1b Violence with Injury	1,490	1,517	+2%
1c Violence without Injury	3,384	3,488	+3%
2a Rape	181	182	+1%
2b Other Sexual Offences	319	331	+4%
3a Robbery of Business Property	15	7	-53%
3b Robbery of Personal Property	64	54	-16%
4a1 Burglary Residential	448	391	-13%
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	288	180	-38%
4b Vehicle Offences	627	633	+1%
4c Theft from the Person	70	71	+1%
4d Bicycle Theft	93	93	0%
4e Shoplifting	947	942	-1%
4f All Other Theft Offences	957	807	-16%
5a Criminal Damage	1,096	1,066	-3%
5b Arson	32	43	+34%
6a Trafficking of Drugs	110	136	+24%
6b Possession of Drugs	284	234	-18%
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	176	133	-24%
8 Public Order Offences	1,235	1,115	-10%
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	241	247	+2%
Totals	12,058	11,672	-3%
Domestic crimes	1,959	2,061	+5%
Hate crime	270	386	+43%
Antisocial Behaviour (ASB)	1,546	1,674	+8%

Hampshire comparison

The graph below shows the total reported crime across the named local authorities alongside the county average. This shows that Basingstoke and Deane is considerably above the Hampshire average of 7,696 crimes.



Violence against the person

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

Nationally there was a 5% reduction in homicide offences, down from 563 to 535 crimes, the lowest in a decade. Knife or sharp instruments were used in 41% of homicides, down from 45%.

Nationally, there was a 6% reduction in police recorded violence with injury offences in the year ending December 2024. There was no change in levels of police recorded violence without injury.

In the year ending December 2024 CSEW, people aged 16 and over experienced an estimated 1.1 million incidents of violence with or without injury. There was no statistically significant change compared with the previous year and follows a mostly downward trend since 1995.

Going against the national trend, Basingstoke and Deane experienced an increase in overall violence against the person offences in 2024/25 when compared to the previous year (+3%).

There were two homicides in Basingstoke and Deane in 2025/45, an increase of one offence compared to the previous year. Suspects have been identified and convicted in court.

Violence with injury offences were up slightly (+2%) in this strategic period. ABH accounted for more than three quarters of offences (76%), 33% had a domestic flag, 4.4% involved the use of a weapon, 76% were committed by someone the victim knew and 11-18 year olds made up 25% of victims.

Violence without injury offences also increased slightly (+3%) in 2024/25. Common assault and battery (43%) and harassment and stalking offences (35%) were the most widespread. 31% had a domestic flag, 3.9% involved the use of a weapon, 81% were committed by someone the victim knew and 33-43 year olds made up 24% of victims.

Town Centre locations had some of the highest levels of violence against the person, with Eastrop beat accounting for 13% of total offences, up from 11% last year.

Eastrop beat (n650) had the highest total number of offences, and these can be broken down into;

- Night-time economy related⁴ violence against the person offences (12%, n78), occurring in or outside of a licensed premises between 22:00 – 03:59 hours. Night-time economy offences are monitored at the Problem Solving Focus Group (PSFG) meetings.
- Domestic related offences accounted for 18% (n115) of violence against the person offences in Eastrop beat, less than Basingstoke and Deane as a whole (32%).
- The percentage of violence against the person offences committed by a stranger (48%) was much higher in Eastrop beat than the district as a whole (21%). This can be explained in terms of a higher footfall of people in town centre locations, along with the night-time economy.
- 4.6% (n30) of violence against the person offences in Eastrop beat were hate related which is higher than the figure for Basingstoke and Deane (3.3%) and an increase from 2.8% the previous year.
- 6.7% (n40) of violence against the person offences in Eastrop beat involved the use of a weapon which is higher than the figure for Basingstoke and Deane (5.7%).
- The percentage of male victims (56%) was higher than female victims (44%) in Eastrop beat compared to Basingstoke and Deane (47% male and 53% female).

Robbery

Crime in England and Wales reports that nationally there was no change in the number of police recorded robbery offences in the year ending December 2024. While robbery business offences increased by 54%, this was offset by a 7% reduction in robbery personal offences.

Total robbery offences (robbery business and robbery personal) in Basingstoke and Deane District reduced by 23% (n18) from 79 offences in 2023/24 to 61 offences in 2024/25. Broken down, robbery personal offences fell by 16% (n10) and robbery business offences reduced by 53% (n8).

Robbery offences in Basingstoke and Deane have been examined. Broken down, 89% of offences were robbery personal while just 11% were robbery business.

In 2024/25, victims of robbery personal were often male (84%), with almost half (48%) of male victims aged 25 years and under.

Where details were available, more than half of offences were committed by a stranger (56%) and 21% (n12) involved a weapon, with bladed implements the most common (83%).

⁴ Source: Hampshire Constabulary Business Objects 'Basingstoke Night Time Economy' Report 2024/25

Top locations for robbery in Basingstoke and Deane were Eastrop (23% - 14 robbery personal offences) and South Ham (15% - five out of the six robbery business offences occurred in South Ham with four all of these in shops and four of the five were shoplifting with violence and 50% resulted in charges).

Offences involving weapons

Nationally the number of knife-enabled offences increased by 2% in the year ending December 2024 compared to the previous year. Most were assault with injury with intent to cause harm (43%) and robbery (43%).

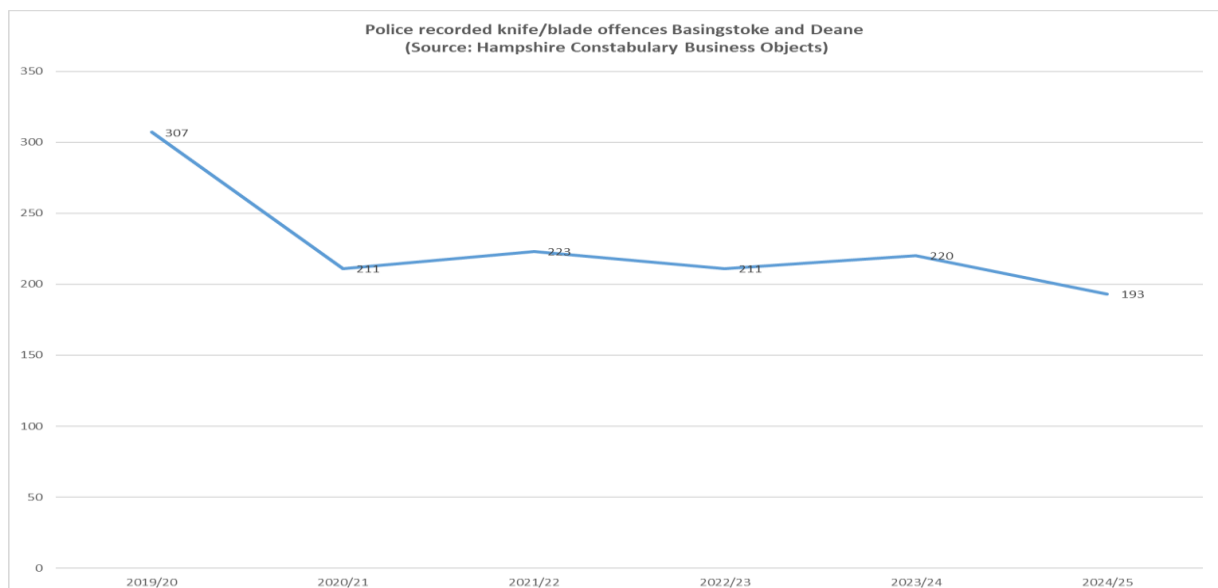
In contrast, provisional admissions data for NHS hospitals in England and Wales showed a 6% decrease in the number of admissions for assault by a sharp object in the year ending December 2024 when compared to the previous year.

Police recorded offences involving firearms reduced (-20%) in the year ending December 2024 with levels at their lowest since March 2016. The largest reduction was in offences involving imitation firearms (-32%), although these remain the most widely used (36%), closely followed by handguns (34%).

Rates of crimes involving knives or sharp instruments vary by Police Force Area. Hampshire's rate of crimes involving knives or sharp instruments (50 per 100,000 population) is much less than the England and Wales average (90 per 100,000 population)⁵.

In Basingstoke and Deane, offences involving a knife/blade reduced by 12% from 220 offences in 2023/24 to 193 in 2024/25 and such offences accounted for 1.9% of total crime. Of the 193 knife/blade offences, the most common were possession of a weapon (43%) and violence against the person (32%).

The five-year trend is a 37% decrease in Basingstoke and Deane since 2019/20 as shown below.



⁵ Crime in England and Wales, year ending December 2023 – PFA tables

Crime in England and Wales (year ending Dec 24) reports that, Police recorded possession of an article with a blade or point offences increased by 1%. Possession of a bladed implement offences in Basingstoke and Deane reduced by 1%. This follows substantial increases in recent years, which could have been influenced by increases in targeted police action to tackle knife crime, including knife amnesty bins and test purchasing across stores in the district for sale of bladed weapons to under 18s.

The Violence Reduction Unit currently offers the 'Choices' programme in Junior and Secondary schools which are pupil and parent workshops aimed at risky decision making.

Acquisitive Crime

Overall acquisitive crime reduced by 9% (n313) across Basingstoke and Deane in 2024/25 when compared to the previous year.

Acquisitive crime refers to offences where the primary motive is to gain property or money, the unlawful acquisition of someone else's belongings. The below factors describe conditions in which acquisitive crime is more likely to occur:

- **Socioeconomic factors** – higher rates of unemployment, poverty and economic instability.
- **Seasonal Trends** – acquisitive crime often spike during certain times of the year, particularly around holidays when more valuable and cash are on hand, and properties are left unattended.
- **Opportunity** – poorly secured properties, inadequate street lighting and lack of surveillance, often exploiting situations where the risk of detection is lower.

In 2024/25 there were considerable reductions in burglary business and community offences (-38%), all other theft (-16%) and burglary residential (-13%). Vehicle offences (+1%), theft from the person (+1%), bike theft (0%) and shoplifting (-1%) showed no statistically significant changes.

Sexual Offences

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

The Crime Survey England and Wales (CSEW) self-completion module provides a more reliable measure of trends in sexual offences than police recorded crime data. In the CSEW year ending December 2024, 2.1% of people aged 16 years and above had experienced sexual assault (including attempted offences).

There have been general increases in police recorded sexual offences over the past decade. This is because of improvements in recording and increased reporting by victims. There was an 8% increase across England and Wales in the year ending December 2024 compared to the previous year.

In 2024/25 the number of sexual offences recorded in Basingstoke and Deane increased by 3% (n13) following a 20% reduction the previous year. The number of rape offences increases by 1% (n1) and the number of other sexual offences increased by 4% (n12).

A more detailed look at sexual offences in Basingstoke and Deane for 2024/25 shows that, where details were available, 81% of victims were female and 19% were male and this is similar to the previous year. The most common offences were rape of a female over 16 (25%) and sexual assault on a female 13+ (19%). Where details were available, 82% of offences were committed by somebody the victim knew and 18% were committed by a stranger. 0.7% of offences involved the use of a weapon.

The peak age for victims was between 12-20 years (43%) with 84% of victims in this age group female.

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 2024/25, levels of police recorded criminal damage reduced by 3% (n30) across Basingstoke and Deane. Police recorded arson on the other hand increased by 34% (n11). This increase was due to a series of offences committed by one suspect with investigations ongoing.

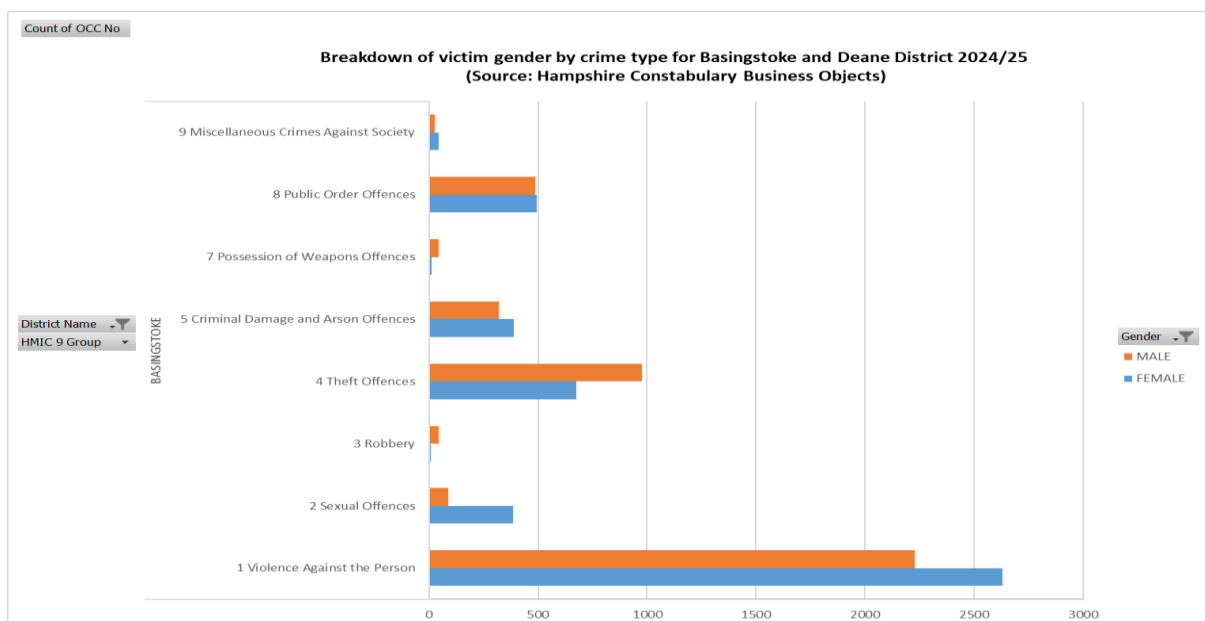
Similar to the previous year, Eastrop beat had the highest number of reports of criminal damage (13%) with the most common type being criminal damage to a building under £5,000 – business and community (51%).

Outside of the town centre the most common type of criminal damage was to a vehicle under £5,000 (26%) with several series in which vehicles were targeted, including police vehicles targeted in Jays Close and London Road.

Victims

In 2024/25, where victim data was available⁶, 52% of victims across Basingstoke and Deane were female and 48% were male, similar the picture across Hampshire and similar to the previous year.

A higher proportion of males were victims of robbery (84%), theft offences (59%) and possession of a weapon offences (77%). Meanwhile females were more likely to be victims of sexual offences (81%).



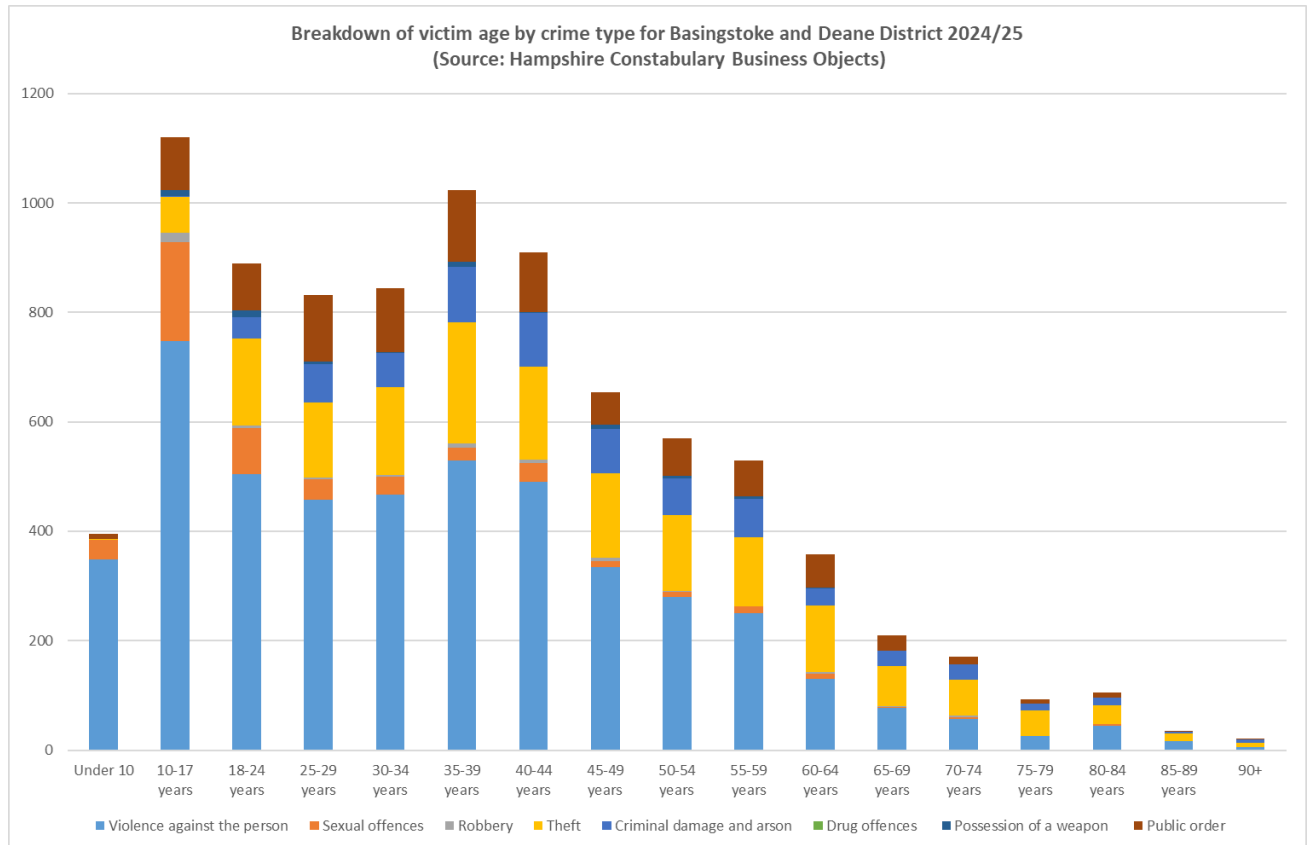
Where details were available, the offender was known to the victim in 65% of crimes committed in Basingstoke and Deane in 2024/25. Of these the most common were acquaintance (44%), ex-

⁶ Business Objects Aggrieved and Offender Data from 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025.

partner – heterosexual (18%), partner – heterosexual (12%) and parent (12%). 35% of offences were committed by a stranger. The picture is similar across Hampshire.

Broken down by age, 10-17 years (13%) had the highest number of victims in Basingstoke and Deane. As shown in the graph below, this age bracket had the largest number of victims of violence against the person offences (16%), sexual offences (38%) and robberies (31%).

Victims in the age bracket 35-39 years experienced the second highest number of offences (12%) with this age having the largest number of theft offences (13%).



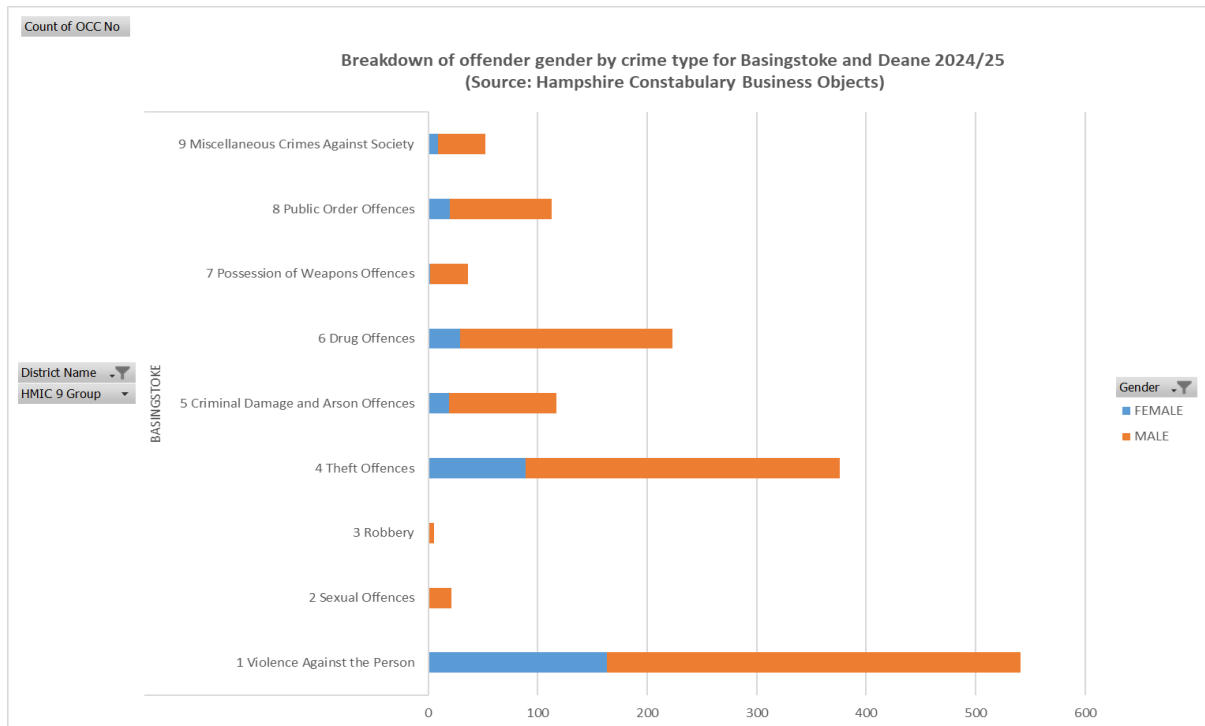
Where details were available, 82% of victims were White-North European, followed by White European (7%), Black (4.7%), Asian (3.6%), White South European (1.8%), Arabic or North African (0.5%), Chinese, Japanese and SE Asian (0.4%), Oriental (0.1%) African Caribbean (0.1%) and Dark European (0.1%).

Where hate crime offences had been committed, 44% of victims were White North European, 14% were Asian, 9% were black, 3% were White European, 0.6% were White South European, 0.6% were African Caribbean and 0.6% were Chinese, Japanese and SE Asian.

Offenders

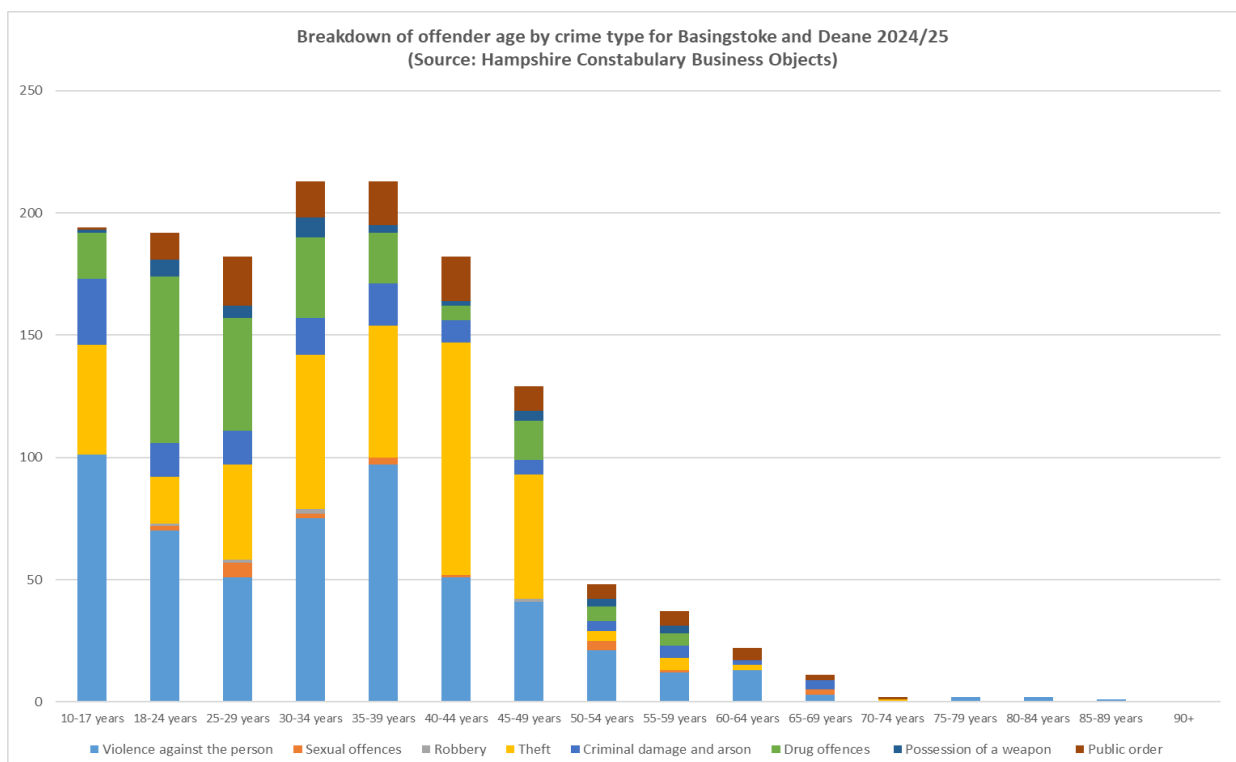
Where offender data was available⁷ 78% of offenders across Basingstoke and Deane were male and 24% were female.

⁷ Figures for the 12 months 01.04.2024 – 31.03.2025



Broken down by age, 30-34 years (15%) and 35-39 years (15%) had the highest number of offenders.

Offenders in the age bracket 10-17 years committed the highest number of violence against the person (19%) and criminal damage and arson offences (23%). Offenders in the 18-14 years age bracket committed the highest number of drug offences (31%). Offenders in the 30-34 age bracket committed the highest number of possession of weapon offences (22%) and offenders in the 40-44 age bracket committed the highest number of theft offences (12%).



Where details were available the most common offender ethnicity in Basingstoke and Deane in 2024/25 was White North European (86%), followed by Black (7%) and Asian (3%).

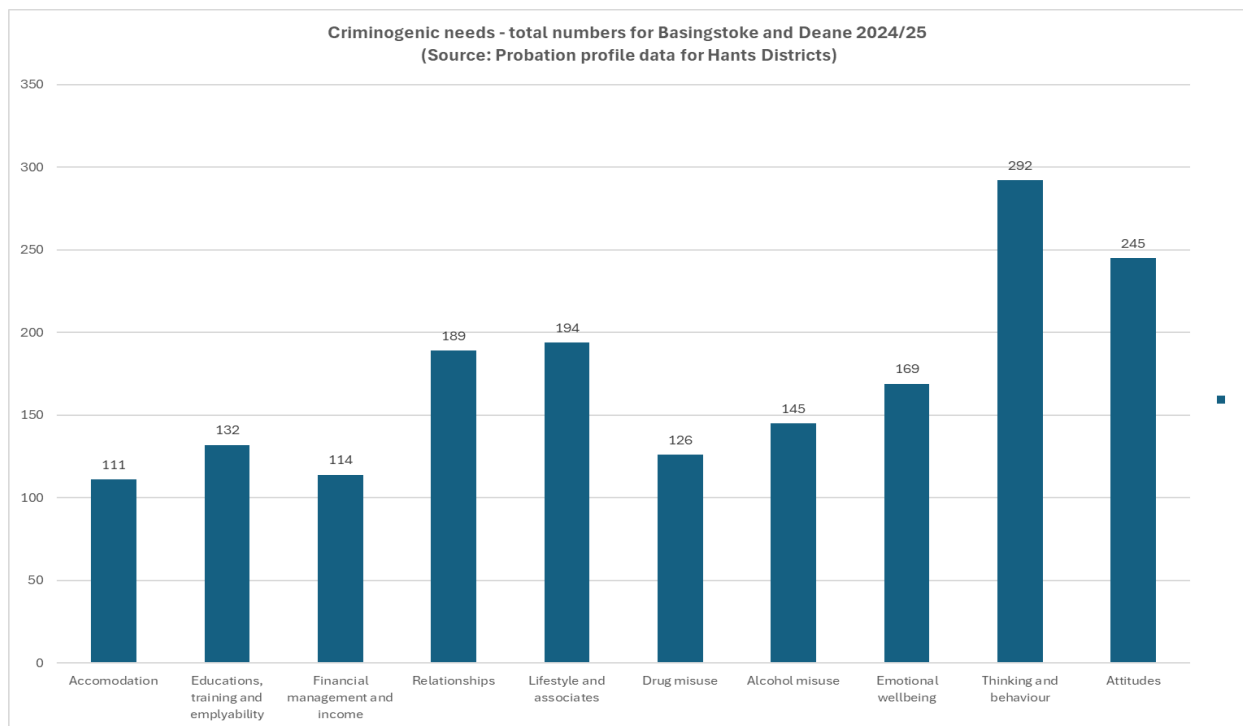
Re-offending and offending risk

Adults

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.

Where data was available, adult offenders accounted for approximately 86% of offenders and juveniles accounted for 14% of offenders in Basingstoke and Deane in 2024/25.

For higher risk adult offenders managed by the National Probation Service (NPS), there are 300 repeat offenders in Basingstoke and Deane on the current NPS caseload⁸. An analysis of these repeat offenders for whom there are current needs assessments shows that the key aspects of their criminogenic needs are thinking and behaviours and attitudes. (See below) and this was the same the previous year.



Of this cohort, 89% were male and 11% were female. The age groups with the most offenders were 35-39 years (44%) and 26-34 years (24%) and the most common offender ethnicity was White British (78%). The most common offence types committed by this group were, violence against the person (39%), summary motoring offences (18%) and drug offences (9%).

Young People

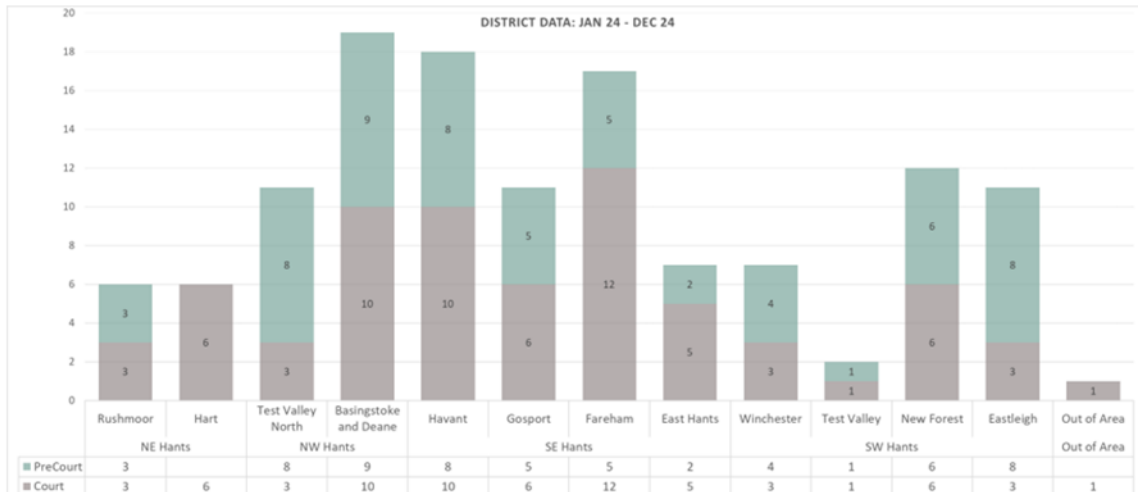
Data from Hampshire Constabulary shows that in 2024/25, there were 205 offences committed by young people aged between 10-17 in Basingstoke and Deane.

⁸ Data for the period 01.04.2024 – 31.03.2025

68% of offenders in this age category were male while 32% were female. The peak age within this category was 14 years (23%).

The offences most commonly committed by this age group were violence against the person (49%), theft (22%) and criminal damage and arson (13%).

Data from the Youth Offending Team for 2024/25 shows that in Basingstoke and Deane there were 19 First Time Entrants (FTE) into the Youth Justice System, the highest number across Hampshire.



Violence against women and girls

In line with the Governments 2021 Tackling violence against women and girls’ strategy, in September 2021, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight established a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) task group in collaboration with Hampshire Constabulary, partners in the criminal justice system, and local authorities. The task group's objectives are to enhance the operational response and support provided to victims of these crimes, as well as to prevent such incidents by targeting and disrupting perpetrators.

VAWG is the umbrella term used to cover various types of abuse that affect more women and girls than men and boys. These include, domestic abuse, domestic homicide, sexual assault, abuse experienced as a child, female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage and harassment in work and public life. These experiences are often hidden and not limited to physical violence, involving abusive treatment or exploitation as well.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Force Strategic Assessment 2024 states that reported VAWG offences have shown a downward trend across the County (-10%). 72% of VAWG suspects were male, similar to the previous year.

Focusing on crime type, just over a quarter (28%) of offences are Section 4A Public Order Act – Causing Intentional Harassment, Alarm or Distress. This crime type accounts for the most offences, more than Protection From Harassment Act – Section 2 (23%), ABH (19%) and Sending Letters etc. With Intent to Cause Distress or Anxiety (15%). The remaining 15% of offences are covered by Stalking, Fear of Provocation of Violence and other offences.

Within the overall reductions, some individual crime types have shown notable decreases: Section 4A Public Order Act – Causing Intentional Harassment (-14.5%, -914) and Sending Letters etc. With Intent to Cause Distress or Anxiety (-20.0%, -720).

The Community Safety Partnership has created its own Action Plan to help monitor outcomes against strategic planning to support the VAWG agenda and over the coming year, it will be important for the Community Safety Partnership to continue to work closely with the VAWG task group.

Recommendations

- CSP partners to work collaboratively with the Violence Reduction Unit, Police and Crime Commissioner and Hampshire County Council Community Safety Strategy Group to ensure the serious violence duty can be appropriately embedded into practice.
- Development of the approach of Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews, set out in the new Serious Violence Legislation.
- Partners to continue working closely to develop action plans around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Youth Related Violence and Exploitation with progress and any barriers reported back to the CSP.
- Work closely with businesses to prevent and tackle shoplifting.
- Work closely with NHW on the roll out of the Outbuilding Security Project to support tackling acquisitive crime.

Fire and Rescue data summary

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 2024 to 31st March 2025.

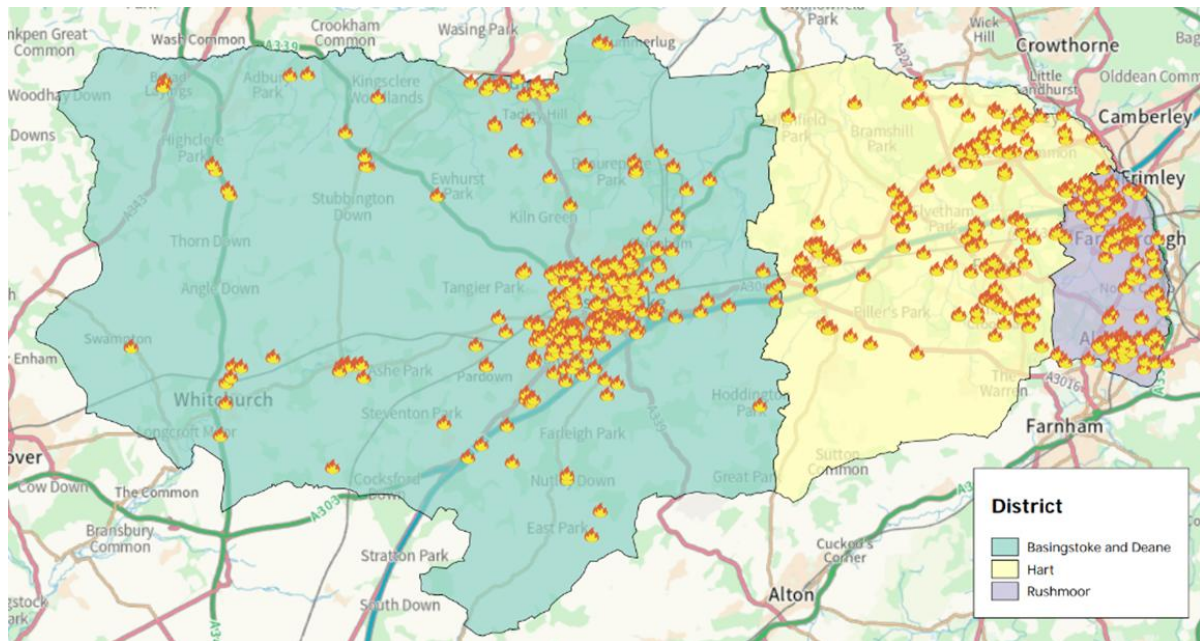
The report shows that Basingstoke and Deane continue to attend the most incidents of the three areas with 276 in 2024/25, which is a 7% increase compared to the previous year when 258 incidents were recorded.

The causes of fires are categorised as either accidental (39%), deliberate (38% - increased by 23%) or unknown (23%).

These can be further broken down into primary (63%) and secondary (37%). The most common types of fires in 2024/25 in Basingstoke and Deane were, primary vehicle and primary dwelling fires both of which increased.

The rise in deliberate vehicle fires in Basingstoke is in line with the increase in arson recorded by the police.

The below graph shows where fires occurred in Basingstoke and Deane in 2024/25. The majority occurred in Basingstoke Town.



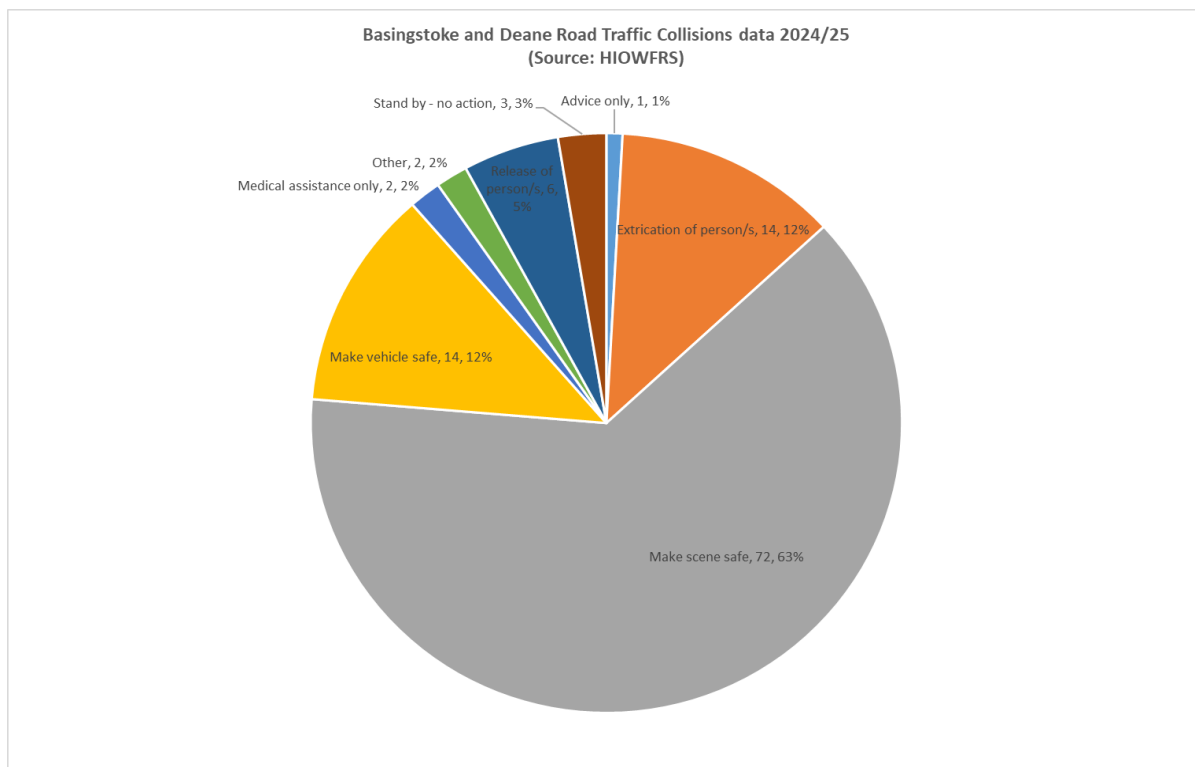
A total of 2,114 Safe and Well visits were carried out between April 24 and March 25 within Basingstoke and Deane, an increase of 30% compared to the previous year. Where the agency was known, the top three referring agencies were Adult Services (13%), Ambulance Service (11%) and Other agency (10%). There were 359 post incident referrals and 474 risk based and self-referrals.

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 total number of road traffic collisions recorded by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service for Basingstoke and Deane increased by 9% in 2024/25 compared to the previous year.

The highest number of RTC types attended in Basingstoke and Deane were Making the scene safe, followed by making vehicle safe and extrication of person.



Recommendations

- The Partnership should, where appropriate, look at where it can enhance the use of fire data, particularly around Safe and Well visits and vulnerable individuals.
- Work with partners across a range of agencies and organisations to continue to identify opportunities to promote road safety and reduce harm.
- Monitor the use of E-Scooters and E-bikes in the borough and the potential dangers around increased use and develop a clear process to deal with it.

Underreported and unrecorded crimes

Modern Slavery

Overview

“Modern Slavery is a crime, which violates human rights, denying people of their rights to life, freedom and security.”

The terminology above is used in the Modern Slavery Partnership Strategy 2023-2026 published by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). Organised crime groups and criminals use threats, violence, and coercion to exploit children and adults into slavery and to keep them there. Modern Slavery is an umbrella term including but not limited to Criminal, Labour and Sexual exploitation.

Modern Slavery Partnership

The Modern Slavery Partnership for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is chaired and facilitated by the OPCC, and the strategy has been developed in line with the Government’s Modern Slavery Strategy. It sets out four clear strategic objectives, which are delivered via a steering group “Prepare”, and three subgroups “Prevent”, “Project” and “Pursue”:

- **“Prepare – combat modern slavery working in partnership”** sits at the core of the partnership, bringing together agencies in the fight against Modern Slavery.
- **“Prevent - raise awareness of modern slavery”** through training, sharing of best practice, communications and events.
- **“Protect”** focuses on identifying and supporting victims through coordination of statutory and non-statutory agencies and the sharing of joined up working practices, legislation, research and best practice.
- **“Pursue”** aims to increase prosecutions by actively seeking perpetrators by seeking intelligence and working with partners collaboratively.

Modern Slavery Data

The Modern Slavery: National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and duty to notify statistics UK, end of 2024 summary states that 19,125 potential victims of modern slavery were referred to the Home Office in 2024, representing a 13% increase compared to the previous year, the highest since NRM began.

There have been a number of changes which have collectively raised the profile of modern slavery since 2014. These are likely to have increased awareness of modern slavery and the NRM and, alongside potential increases in exploitation, may have driven the increase in overall referrals. However, it is not possible to point to a main driver due to the hidden nature of modern slavery.

Demographic data shows that where details were known, 68% of referrals related to adults and 32% related to children. 74% were male and 26% were female.

Overall, the most common type of exploitation was labour exploitation (32%). However criminal exploitation was far more common when looking at referrals for children (48%).

Exploitation typically has gender patterns. In 2024 males most often reported labour exploitation (39%) while females most often reported sexual exploitation (31%).

The most common nationality referred was UK (23%), followed by Albanian (13%) and Vietnamese (11%).

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council sit on the Hampshire wide Modern Slavery PREVENT sub-group and are also members of the Local Government Association Modern Slavery Network. Any intelligence received relating to modern slavery is shared through appropriate means, and staff trained on what to look out for at regular safeguarding training sessions.

Child exploitation and child victims of crime

Child exploitation occurs when someone uses a child for financial gain, sexual gratification, labour, or personal advantage. This can include both criminal and sexual exploitation, which often involves cruel and violent treatment that leads to physical and emotional harm to the child.

Child criminal exploitation involves using a child to commit crimes, such as working on a cannabis farm or selling drugs in county lines or local drug operations. It can involve bribery, intimidation, violence, and threats, and can occur even without direct contact, through the internet or mobile phones, and via social media platforms and gaming forums. Even if a child appears to be a willing participant, they may still be victims, as many young people do not recognise themselves as such. Exploiters often take advantage of their power over children due to age differences or other factors such as gender, intelligence, strength, status, or wealth.

Children can be exploited in multiple ways simultaneously and by various perpetrators, including individuals or groups, men or women, and adults or other young people. This exploitation causes significant physical and emotional harm, highlighting the importance of recognising and addressing these issues to protect vulnerable children.

The different types of exploitation include:

- **Child Sexual Exploitation** - is a form of sexual abuse where children are coerced into sexual activities in exchange for gifts, money, drugs, affection, or status. It can affect any child, regardless of gender or background, both in and out of school. Children as young as 8 can be exploited, often believing they are in a consensual relationship.
- **Child Criminal Exploitation** - using power imbalances to coerce, manipulate, or deceive a child into criminal activity, often in exchange for something the child needs or wants, or through violence or threats.
- **Online Exploitation** - occurs over the internet on devices like phones, tablets, computers, and game consoles. There are various types of online abuse, including grooming, sexting, sexual abuse, and exploitation.
- **Modern Slavery & trafficking** – this can include human trafficking, slavery, servitude, and forced labour. More details in the Modern Slavery section of the document.
- **Gang activity and youth violence** - children may join gangs due to peer pressure, the desire for respect and protection, promises of money, school exclusion, and social media influence, making them vulnerable to exploitation.

- **Radicalisation** - exposure to radical or extreme views can lead to radicalisation, which is the process of supporting or becoming involved in extremist ideologies, experiences of radicalisation are unique and can be rapid or gradual.

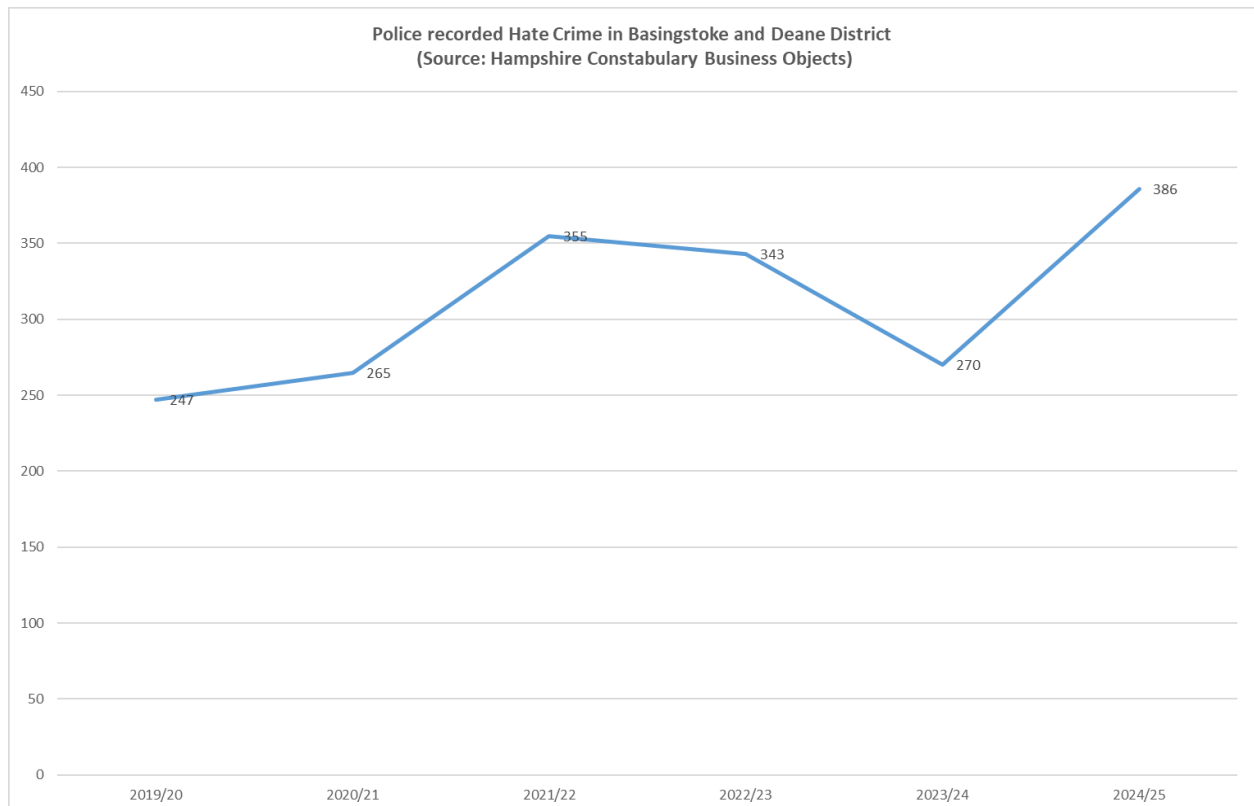
Hate Crime

Hate crime is defined as any criminal offense perceived by the victim or anyone else to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards an individual based on a personal characteristic. There are five centrally monitored categories of hate crime that can be flagged when recorded by the police:

- Race or ethnicity
- Religion or beliefs
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Transgender identity

Nationally, the number of hate crimes reduced by 5% in the year ending March 2024. While there was an overall reduction there was a 25% increase in religious hate crime, driven by a rise in crimes against Jewish people and to a lesser extent Muslims.⁹

Unlike the National picture, reports of hate crime in Hampshire increased by 5% and in Basingstoke and Deane reports have fluctuated and increased by 43% from 270 offences in 2023/24 to 386 in 2024/25.



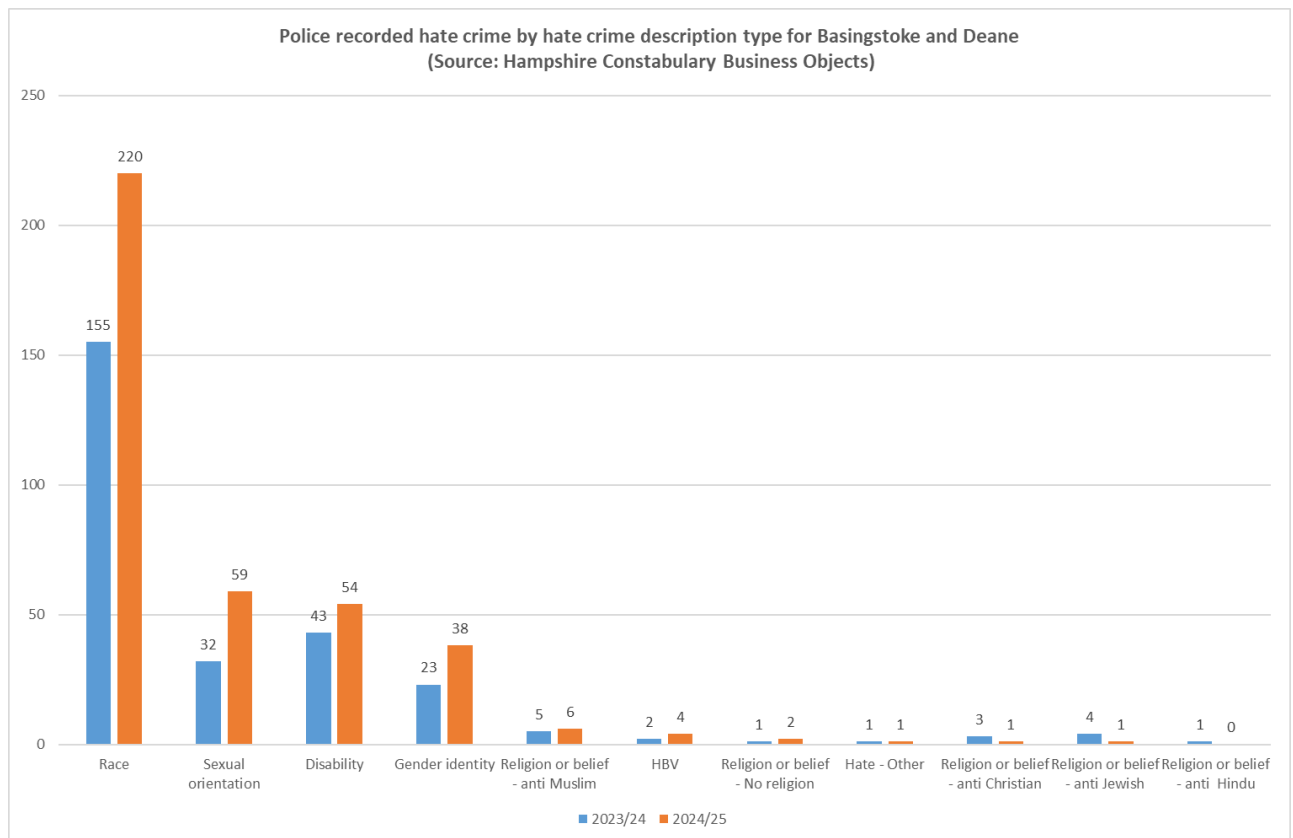
⁹ Hate Crime, England and Wales, Year Ending March 2024.

Districts are working closely with the local Hate Crime Awareness Group to increase trust and confidence in reporting. Actions undertaken by the group include identifying and forming relationships with seldom heard communities and ensuring all types of hate crime are represented.

There were several repeat locations for hate crime and these include hospitals, the Police Investigation Centre in Jays Close, Basingstoke and shopping centres.

In addition, there were several repeat victims of hate crime during the assessment period. In Basingstoke and Deane these victims are managed by the Police.

Across Basingstoke and Deane, offences relating to race were the most common, accounting for more than half (57%) of all reported hate crimes, followed by sexual orientation (15%), disability (14%) and gender identity (10%) with all of these types showing considerable increases compared to the previous year.



Hate related public order (47%) and violence against the person (46%) were the most common offence types, accounting for the majority of offences in 2024/25.

In Basingstoke and Deane, the CSP continues to liaise with Prevent where incidents of hate such as banners, leaflets, graffiti or other issues that may cause community tension have arisen. We have worked with landowners to remove offensive images/wording as quickly as possible.

Work has also been carried out within the Council to ensure consistent messaging relating to Local and National issues.

Fraud

According to the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) for the year ending December 2024, there were an estimated 4.1 million fraud incidents affecting household residents. This represents a 33% increase from the 3.1 million incidents reported in the year ending December 2023. Bank and credit card account fraud increased by 27% and consumer and retail fraud rose by 35%. Out of the estimated 4.1 million incidents of fraud, around 3 million incidents involved a loss. Victims were fully reimbursed in 2.1 million of these cases.

The CSEW also provides valuable context for police data. For instance, the latest estimates indicate that one in seven fraud offenses were reported to the police or Action Fraud, the national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime.

Nationally, there were 301,972 reports of fraud to Action Fraud in the year ending December 2024, a reduction of 2% on the previous year. In Basingstoke and Deane there were 245 reports made.

Prevent – Counterterrorism strategy

Prevent is one part of the government's comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The objectives of Prevent are to:

- Address the ideological roots of terrorism.
- Intervene early to support individuals vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Facilitate the disengagement and rehabilitation of those already involved in terrorism.

Many activities and behaviours related to radicalisation and extremism may not be captured in crime data.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council sit on the Hampshire PREVENT Partnership Board and Channel Panels. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council also provide data to the annual Counter Terrorism Local Profile which assists local agencies in assessing the threat from extremism at a local level.

Recommendations

- The CSP should continue to look at understanding barriers to reporting, why they exist, and implement processes to reduce them as well as promoting reporting mechanisms.
- Examine and understand data in relation to reports of crime by LGBTQ+ victims.
- Ensure robust processes are in place for identifying repeat victims and consider measures to support them across all three areas.
- Partners to use best practice methods to encourage and enable reporting of sexual offences across all age groups. Use opportunities to promote healthy relationships messaging and education.
- Support hate crime initiatives which encourage awareness and reporting and support needs of local community groups.
- Support and enable the Hate Crime Awareness Group.
- Ensure the CSP is aware of correct terminology and use of language.

Quality of life

Substance misuse

Substance abuse can significantly impact various aspects of an individual's wellbeing, including health, safety and social relationships, which in turn can affect their overall quality of life within a community. Drug and Alcohol use impacts health outcomes, crime, domestic abuse, unemployment and homelessness.

Hampshire County Council, alongside partners of the multi-agency Hampshire Strategic Drug and Alcohol Partnership have developed a plan to prevent and reduce drug and alcohol harm¹⁰. The Hampshire plan is closely linked to national drug and alcohol strategies aimed to:

- Have a renewed focus on drug and alcohol prevention.
- Target county lines operations to disrupt the supply of illegal drugs in Hampshire.
- Enhance drug and alcohol treatment by boosting workforce, and improving care pathways in collaboration with other organisations, such as criminal justice service, mental health, housing and employment.
- Reduce unmet need of those individuals misusing alcohol, by improving access to treatment. the number of people misusing alcohol.

The Drug and Alcohol Strategy Update noted that over half of opiate and/or crack cocaine users in Hampshire aren't in treatment, affecting around 2,000 vulnerable people, with an estimated 10,000 having unmet alcohol treatment needs.

Areas of deprivation have a higher risk of drug and alcohol harm; this is worth noting bearing in mind the levels of deprivation in some areas of the borough. To address this, targeted services include widespread naloxone availability, a Local Drug Information System, outreach from the Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Team, and a specialist alcohol team providing hospital and primary care support.

The Hampshire Strategic Drug and Alcohol Partnership's priorities for 2024 are:

- **Reducing stigma:** Improve understanding and reduce stigma by working with People with Lived Experience and developing a language guide for professionals.
- **Lived experience and co-production:** Involve people with lived experience in service improvement and decision-making through peer mentoring and user forums.
- **Reducing barriers to alcohol treatment:** Enhance access to alcohol treatment by improving public information, referral pathways, early access, and understanding of drug and alcohol use.
- **Addressing the changing illicit drug market:** Improve intelligence on synthetic opioids and other adulterants, pilot drug testing, and ensure naloxone availability.

¹⁰ Drug and Alcohol Strategy Update March 2024; Hampshire County Council.

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 recent years there has been an increase in proactive policing, meaning that police have recovered controlled drugs and made arrests.

In Basingstoke and Deane drug offences reduced by 6% (n23) in 2024/25 when compared to the previous year. Trafficking offences increased by 24% while possession offences were down 18%. Broken down, possession of drugs accounted for 63% of offences in the district and trafficking offences made up the remaining 37%.

In 2024/25 the highest number of offences related to possession of cannabis (49%). Offenders of drug offences were overwhelmingly young males aged between 17-30 who accounted for 52% of drug offenders in Basingstoke and Deane last year.

As mentioned in the ASB section above, a significant (17%) number of antisocial behaviour incidents in Basingstoke and Deane were linked to drugs and alcohol. This included drug use/dealing/paraphernalia (46%), neighbours smoking cannabis (43%) and general drug and alcohol related ASB (n11%). Approximately 13% of drug and alcohol related incidents related to youths.

Drug and alcohol related ASB that occurred outside of the home increased in 2024/25 (+34%) from 119 to 160 incidents. The location with the most reports was Eastrop beat. These incidents largely relate to drug paraphernalia, reports of people taking drugs in public places including communal areas and outside the shops in Crown Heights, in the underpasses and Glebe Gardens and drunken behaviour in public. Police are again leading on work around this and CSPOs are patrolling to provide additional information. Crown heights have had building works which has attracted ASB. CSPOs have been liaising directly with the contractors to advise and support around reporting.

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.

Nationally, the number of admissions episodes for alcohol related conditions (broad) was 1,824 per 100,000 people in 2023/24. The rate in Basingstoke and Deane was slightly higher with 1,879 admissions per 100,000 people¹¹.

In addition, the number of admissions episodes for alcohol specific conditions (under 18 years) was higher in Basingstoke and Deane 36.9 per 100,000 people in 2023/24 than across England (22.6 per 100,000 people).

An alcohol related nuisance Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is currently in place for the Town Centre and surrounding areas. It was renewed in November 2024 and is due to run until November 2027.

Rough sleeping and begging

Police reports relating to individuals sleeping rough and begging increased by 18% from 34 last year, down to 40 reports this year.

¹¹ Local Alcohol Profiles England 2022/23 data should be treated with caution as Frimley Health Foundation Trust did not submit any HES data for June 22 – Mar 23.

Street Link is a national alert system, hosted by Home Connections, that links local authorities and support agencies with those who may be sleeping rough. It works using Google maps to allow the referrer to pinpoint a location in which they have seen someone they believe to be sleeping rough, give a description etc and then this gets sent to the relevant teams, which in Basingstoke and Deane is to the Homelessness Support Team and Julian House as our rough sleeper outreach team.

In Basingstoke and Deane Street Link is used to not only ensure those in need of support are able to access it, but also to inform where outreach visit, our annual autumn rough sleeper snapshot (count) and intelligence for partners, such as CSPOs, regarding areas they may visit – we also use this data to inform joint patrols between CSPOs/Outreach/Housing as there is a clear link between homelessness/rough sleeping and ASB.

During the twelve month period April 2024 to March 2025 Basingstoke and Deane received a total of 356 alerts.

Restorative Justice and Mediation

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight commissions Restorative Solutions to deliver their Restorative Justice service.

Restorative Justice focuses on a specific crime involving at least one victim and one offender. Thorough preparation and partnership working informs a formal risk assessment and the process focusses on exploring what harm has been caused and helping people to move forward or gain some closure.

In 2024/25, RJ received 22 referrals in Basingstoke and Deane. Of these referrals, 12 had an outcome. This included:

- 1 direct RJ
- 6 indirect RJ processes where information was exchanged between parties
- 1 letter
- 4 RJ conversations (victims) which included wellbeing and signposting.

Of the 22 victims, twelve were male and eight were female – with two not stated. They had an age range between 18 – 75+ years old, with 73% being reported as white British.

RJ support was in place by Restorative Solutions for victims of the following crimes:

- 14 violence against the person
- 3 theft
- 3 public order
- 1 criminal damage or arson
- 1 sexual offences.

Whilst data isn't available specifically related to those victims listed above, data from 2024/25 does indicate that many victims, after receiving support through RJ, reported an improvement in their health, wellbeing and in their feelings of safety.

Tackling ASB is a priority for the OPCC, as a result Restorative Solutions have worked closely with Hampshire Constabulary, Local Authorities, and businesses to explore how they can be used as a potential response to ASB issues. They have linked in with the ASB taskforce and built effective partnerships with Community Safety partners. Referrals related to ASB can be accepted not just from the Police but from CSPs and Local authorities. As a result, 3 cases have been referred to Mediation provider.

Mediation explores on-going conflict between two or more parties where there is no formal police outcome. Succinct preparation and a dynamic risk assessment are carried out by facilitators which focus on all parties changing behaviours to reduce harm and resolve on-going issues.

The RJ provider works closely with local mediation providers in cases which are outside the scope of any housing contracts with those providers, in order to offer the best service for those affected by ASB, crime and conflict.

All referrals are handled by the RJ provider in HIOW, Restorative Solutions, who can share the referral form for completion or they can accept referrals directly via a secure email.

For mediation (non-crime) referrals consent is required from all parties prior to referral.

For any ASB resulting in a criminal offence, we only need consent from the party being referred. 'The Restorative Justice (RJ) contract includes Restorative Justice (RJ) and Mediation both of which may be used as a potential response to ASB issues involving adults.'

Victims have the opportunity to discuss the impact of the behaviour and offence with practitioners and allows them to share anything they specifically want to with the offender or questions they would like to be asked via practitioners, as part of the awareness course. A central part of the course is to explore the wishes of the victim and any communication between those affected, which could take place on a voluntary basis, such as sharing information discussed within the course or entering into a further restorative process with the victim.

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch groups are dispersed widely across England and Wales. Each group is run by a volunteer Coordinator with the goal of making their community a better and safer place to live. Neighbourhood Watch groups are supported on a regional level by their local Association and on a national level by Neighbourhood Watch Network.

People join Neighbourhood Watch for many different reasons, whether it is to improve safety around their home or to become part of a group and meet new people. It is widely regarded that being part of Neighbourhood Watch can:

- Reduce/prevent local crime and disorder.
- Reduce fear of crime.
- Address issues relating to antisocial behaviour.
- Create safer neighbourhoods.
- Build community spirit and cohesion.
- Reassure members of the public.
- Enhance partnership working with other community groups.

- Assist in the detection and apprehension of criminals through members providing information to the police.
- Improve the quality of life and the local environment.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is very well regarded in Basingstoke and Deane. They have a very close working relationship with Neighbourhood Policing and the Community Safety Team and attend and contribute regularly at Community Safety Partnership Meetings.

In 2024 there were 152 approved schemes operating in the Basingstoke and Deane area with 145 Main Coordinators, 1711 members and a total of 4,987 users.

Recommendations

- Explore partnership working opportunities that arise from funding schemes that support CSP priorities.
- Capacity and resilience with service delivery with current resourcing challenges.
- Examine the links between alcohol and drugs in incidents of ASB at a local level.
- Continue to work collaboratively with Social Inclusion Partnership in relation in supporting vulnerable people and reducing crime and ASB.

Priorities and Recommendations

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.

The priorities for 2025/26 based on the evidence produced in this strategic assessment are:

1. Improving feelings of safety and health outcomes within the CSP area – public, virtual and private space.

- Prioritise surveys to understanding feelings of safety.
- Work collaboratively to tackle the issues identified by residents through 'Lets Talk' surveys.
- Examine and understand data in relation to reports of crime by LGBTQ+ and identify and work with seldom heard communities.
- Educate residents on how they can keep themselves safe.
- Continue to work closely with businesses in the town centre and across the borough to understand their concerns and needs, utilising funding opportunities where available.

2. Serious Violence – Across Basingstoke and Deane there have been increases in police recorded serious violence offences (+40%). While there has been a positive reduction in personal robbery (-16%) and possession of a weapon (-24%) serious violence remains a concern for the partnership. In addition, The Serious Violence Duty 2022 ensures that it is an explicit duty of the Community Safety Partnership to tackle serious violence.

- Serious Violence (SV) data and analysis working group led by the VRU to consider the approach to the scheduling and delivery of district level Strategic Needs Assessments (SNAs).
- Focus on establishing the Basingstoke SV Strategic group, with the aim of improving partnership working and monitoring on SV related matters and ensure the action plan is regularly updated by all partners.
- Consider findings that are relevant to the borough, gained by SV & Knife Crime surveys.
- Develop the approach to Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews, set out in the new serious violence legislation.

3. Domestic Abuse – In Basingstoke and Deane reports of domestic crime to the police have increased by 5% in the past year. Promotion of initiatives that reduce the impact of trauma and consistent messaging across the area to ensure that victims and perpetrators are recognised and supported is essential as well as working alongside local initiatives which aim to reduce domestic abuse.

- The CSP should look at understanding barriers to reporting, why they exist, and implement processes to reduce them as well as promoting reporting mechanisms.
- Ensure robust processes are in place for identifying repeat victims and considering measures to support them across all three areas.
- Continue to support the implementation of White ribbon accreditation and Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation in Basingstoke and Deane and share best practice.

- Enable Domestic Abuse Forums to be utilised to share best practice and monitor trends in conjunction with the countywide strategies. Involve commissioned services to deliver where possible.
- Review the impact of domestic homicide reviews on the CSP.

4. Antisocial Behaviour - Antisocial behaviour (ASB) remains a concern for communities, individuals, and businesses. ASB in both public and private spaces was widespread across the area. Although the CSP currently has some effective mechanisms in place, early intervention with young people, proactivity in neighbour disputes and clear plans around vehicle nuisance are key in reducing the number of higher harm offences the more severe neighbour nuisance issues and those that continue to impact residents.

- Use of data to support Problem Solving Focus Group Meetings and ASB Panel.
- Continue progress around the implementation of bespoke case management system for BDBC.
- Improve data sharing with Housing Associations on ASB reporting and outcomes.
- Partners to continue to work collaboratively to address antisocial behaviour.
- Focus on early intervention approaches with young people who are involved in antisocial behaviour to reduce risk of escalating behaviour.
- Continue to develop strategies to deal with vehicle nuisance with a specific focus on motorbike nuisance.
- Focus on developing strategies to reduce the impact of neighbour disputes, including making better use of restorative justice options available through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), such as mediation services, early on.
- Explore the opportunities for improving youth service provision across the CSP area (assisting in diversionary and inclusive community activities for young people in these districts/boroughs) and utilise opportunities from OPCC and other sources for funding of youth outreach and engagement.
- Work closely with the Local Authority ASB Task Force on the development of better reporting and recording practices and a one-stop-shop.
- Work with health partners to examine the impact drug and alcohol as a major contributory factor in ASB incidents.
- Continue work around increasing number of empty commercial premises in the borough.
- Review the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) annually – Next review November 2025.

5. Town Centre Business Crime and ASB – Despite some considerable reductions in business crime Basingstoke town centre experienced some of the highest levels of crime and antisocial behaviour in the borough with ASB in Eastrop beat increasing by 29% and NTE offences up 8%.

- Continue to enforce the PSPO and educate partners and stakeholders to ensure they are aware of it.
- Continue to share information on individuals involved in crime and anti-social behaviour in the town.
- Identification and safeguarding of vulnerable individuals who frequent the town centre and are at risk of exploitation.

- Ensure best use of PSFG meetings to understand issues outside of the shopping centre.
- Continue to work closely with schools and colleges to ensure safety of students in the town centre.
- Information sharing and monitoring of NTE venues.
- Continued engagement with businesses and make best use of the results of the Town Centre Surveys.
- Monitor and engage with key stakeholders regarding empty commercial premises in the town.