SOUTH YORKSHIRE SYMCA MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

Police and Crime Plan 2023-2025 Performance Report

QUARTER 4 2024/25 - 1ST JANUARY 2025 TO 31ST MARCH 2025

This report covers the period for Quarter 4 2024/25 (1st January to 31st March 2025). It is structured around the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire 2023-2025 in place at that time which was set by the former Police and Crime Commissioner. These priorities are:

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

In working to deliver on these priorities, there are also four Fundamental Principles identified that underpin everything that the police and partners do:

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

This report aims to provide an overview of the progress of all policing and crime partners across South Yorkshire against achieving the priorities of the 2023-2025 Plan. The quarterly reports cannot include everything being delivered, however more information can be found online here: www.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/explore/policing-and-reform-directorate.

The South Yorkshire Mayor unveiled his first Police and Crime Plan for building a safer South Yorkshire at a special meeting of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel on 17 March 2025. The new Plan runs from April 2025 for four years. The corresponding Police and Partners Performance Framework is being updated to take account of the new plan and future reports will reflect the amended framework.

National Priorities for Policing

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

The key national policing priorities are:

- Reduce murder and other homicide.
- Reduce serious violence.
- Disrupt drugs supply and county lines.
- Reduce neighbourhood crime.
- Improve victim satisfaction with a focus on victims of domestic abuse.
- Tackle cybercrime.

There is a requirement for the local policing body (either a Police and Crime Commissioner or a Mayor) to provide a statement on the contribution of South Yorkshire Police to achieving improvements against these national priorities and the latest statement can be found online here: www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk. This report also contains information relevant to the national priorities.

Disclaimer

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

Police and Crime Plan Summary Dashboard

Protecting Vulnerable People			
Measure	**12 Months to March 24**	**12 Months to March 25**	**Trend***
Recorded Domestic Abuse Crimes (1)	24,001	23,276	↓
Domestic Abuse Crime Arrest Rate (1)	43%	43%	↔
Recorded Sexual Offences (1)	4614	5437	↕
% Of crimes where victim is assessed as vulnerable (1)	32%	33%	↕
Vulnerable victims satisfied with police experience (8)	68%	70%	Change not statistically significant
Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour			
Measure	**12 Months to March 24**	**12 Months to March 25**	**Trend***
SYP Recorded level of Anti-Social Behaviour (1)	25,914	25,686	↓
Recorded level of all crime (excl. fraud) (1)	155,180	150,652	↓
Measure	**Data published January 2025 (Apr 22 to Mar 23 cohort)**	**Data published April 2025 (Jul 22 to Jun 23 cohort)**	**Trend***
Rate of proven re-offending (adults) (2) (Lower rates are better)	31.2%	32.2% (England/Wales 26.5%)	↕
Rate of proven re-offending (youth) (2) (Lower rates are better)	28.1%	29.5% (England/Wales 32.0%)	↕
Measure	**12 months to Dec 23**	**12 months to Dec 24**	**Trend***
Serious crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument (3)	1,528	1,481	↓
Treating People Fairly			
Measure	**12 Months to March 24**	**12 Months to March 25**	**Comparison**
% Of people saying police do a good/excellent job (7)	27%	28%	Change not statistically significant
Measure	**Jan 24 to Mar 24**	**Jan 25 to Mar 25**	**Trend***
No. of cases created by Restorative Justice service (active referrals) (4) More information on type of referrals on page 29	81	62	↓
Measure	**12 Months to March 24**	**12 Months to March 25**	**Trend***
Stop and Search conducted (1)	12,292	11,972	↓
Providing Value For Money For Policing and Crime Services			
2024/25 Outturn at 31st March 2025			
End of year forecast (Revenue) (6)	South Yorkshire Police £ 6.1m underspend. SYMCA Policing and Reform Directorate £1.9m underspend.		
End of year forecast (Capital) (6)	Against a revised capital programme of £15.1m – expected to spend £16.6m		

Source: (1) SYP, (2) MoJ, (3) ONS (4) Remedi, (6) SYMCA (7) SYP Your Voice Counts Survey, (8) SYP survey undertaken 6 to 8 weeks after the crime

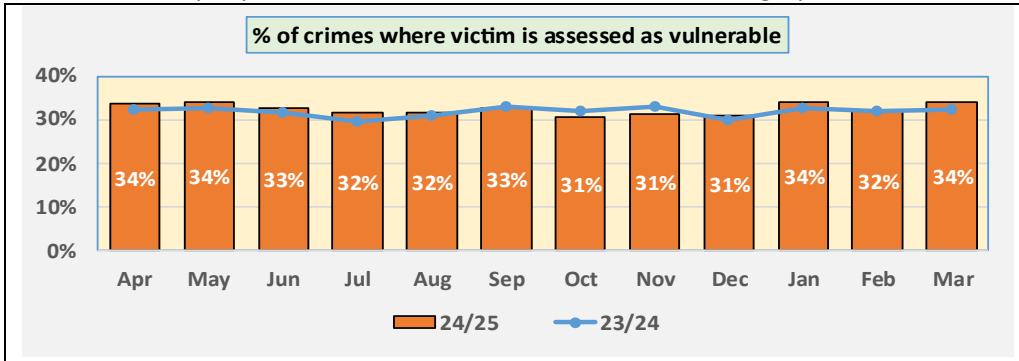
* Unless otherwise stated, the arrows denote the direction of travel rather than any statistically significant increase/decrease. Statistical significance is used in this report in relation to survey data to help understand whether one set of responses is actually different to another set of responses, taking account of differences in size of survey sample or population. If the result is not statistically significant, then this means that the results for each group are not considered to be sufficiently different to demonstrate any real change in perception.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

Within this priority, the areas of focus are:

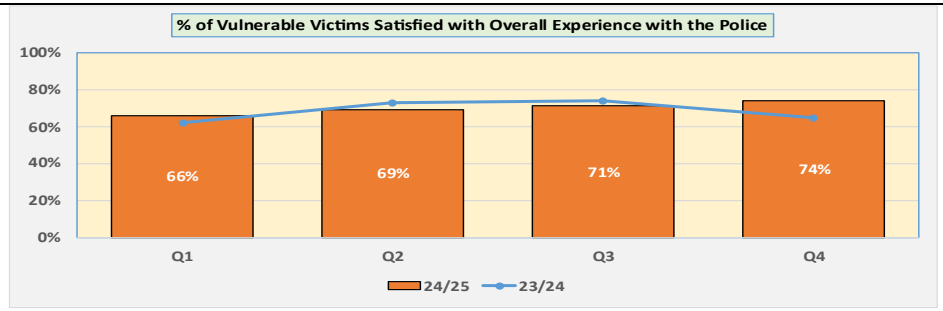
- Working in Partnership to Protect Vulnerable People
- Domestic Abuse (DA)
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Violence Against Women and Girls.
- Tackling the Exploitation of Adults and Children
- Tackling Fraud and Cyber Crime

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



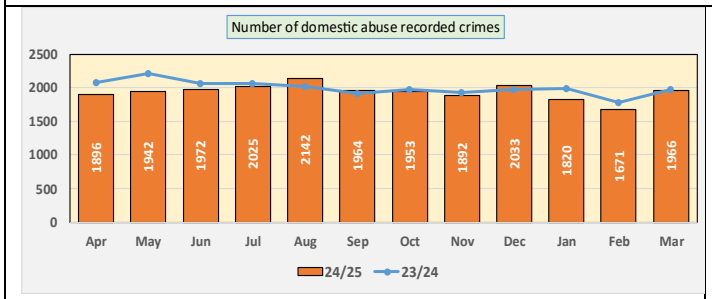
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The % of crimes where a victim is assessed as vulnerable in Q4 24/25 is in line with the % of victims assessed as vulnerable in the previous quarter and the same period last year.



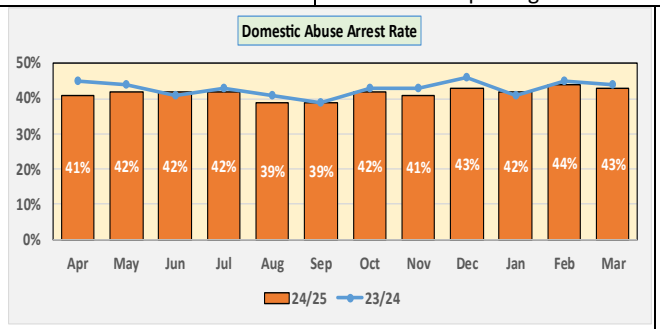
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

In Q4 24/25, 74% of vulnerable victims were satisfied with their overall experience with the Police, an increase from the previous quarter, and the same period in 23/24, but these increases were not statistically significant. Victim satisfaction data is collected by a telephone survey conducted 4-10 weeks after reporting.



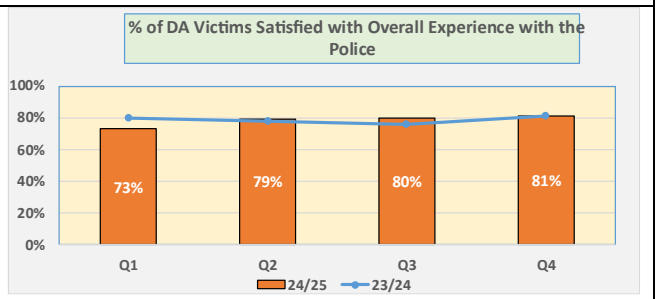
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

There has been a decrease in DA recorded crimes in Q4 24/25 compared to the previous quarter and the same period last year. Comparisons with the previous year may be impacted by changes to the Home Office crime counting rules. SYP and SYMCA continue to ensure victims have the confidence and ability to easily report domestic abuse, including through an online reporting portal.



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

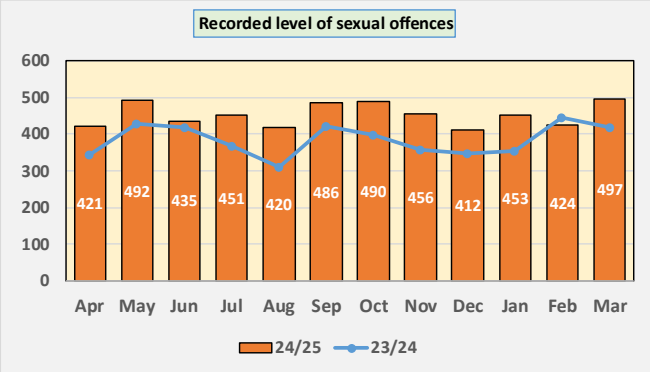
The proportion of all domestic abuse (DA) crimes with an arrest has increased slightly compared to last quarter. The arrest rate for high-risk DA cases remains between 89% & 90%. Domestic abuse is a priority for SYP and SYMCA. Dedicated domestic abuse teams have been set up to deal specifically with DA crime.



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

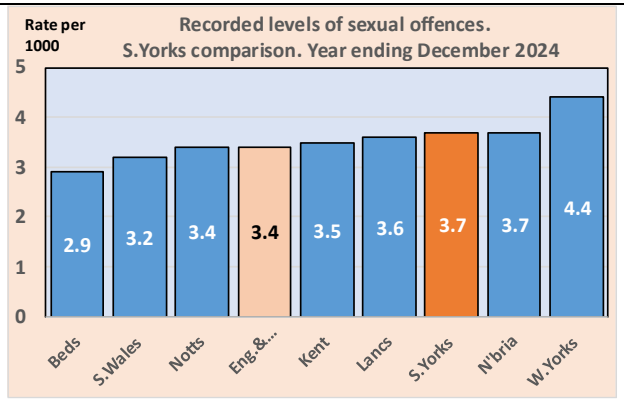
The % of domestic abuse victims satisfied with their overall experience with the police was 81% in Q4 24/25. There is no statistically significant difference compared to Q3 24/25 or the same period last year. A telephone survey is conducted around 8 weeks after reporting. 137 domestic abuse victims completed the survey in Q4.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People



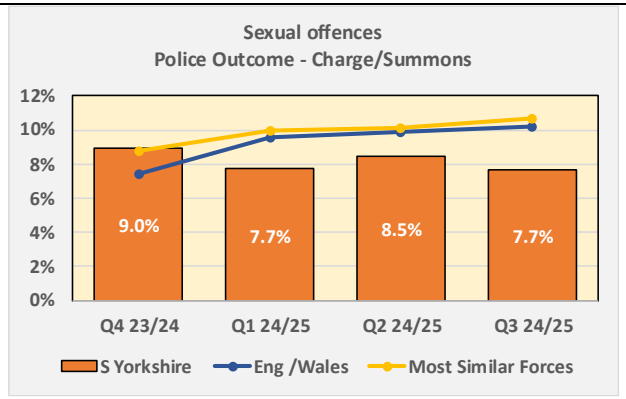
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of sexual offences in Q4 24/25 has remained stable compared to the previous quarter but has increased from the same period last year. Looking at rape offences, the recorded level of rape in Q4 has decreased from the previous quarter and the same quarter last year.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

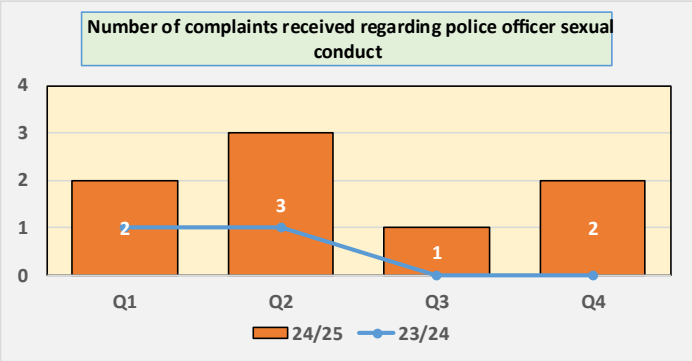
Latest data up to December 2024 shows South Yorkshire Police has slightly higher rates of recorded sexual offences than average. Sexual offences are under-reported nationally, so it is important that victims have confidence in reporting to the police.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Outcomes

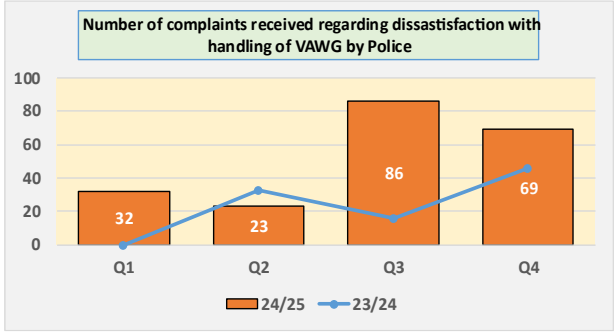
The latest ONS data shows that SYP had lower than average police charge/summons rates for sexual offences in Q3 24/25 when compared to SYP's most similar forces. SYP also sits below the England and Wales average.

However, looking at rape offences specifically, SYP has higher charge summons rates in Q3 24/25. At 9.5% SYP has the highest charge/summons rate of its most similar force group for rape offences. In comparison, the national average is 8.6%.



Source: IOPC Police Complaints Information Bulletin

In Q4 24/25, there were two complaints made to SYP about police officer sexual conduct. There was 1 complaint in the previous quarter and no complaints in the same quarter last year.



Source: IOPC Police Complaints Information Bulletin

In Q4 24/25, there were 69 complaints made to SYP regarding dissatisfaction with the handling of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) by SYP. This is higher than the number received in Q3 24/25 (86) and Q4 in the previous year 23/24 (46).

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

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

South Yorkshire Sexual Violence Partnership - Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) and Children's Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (CHISVA)

The ISVA/CHISVA service is a South Yorkshire service with bespoke teams across each of the districts.

Overall, total referrals to the South Yorkshire ISVA service decreased by 1.6% in quarter 4, from 441 in quarter 3 to 434 in quarter 4. Doncaster was the only district that saw an increase in referrals in Q4.

In quarter 4, the partnership saw a 0.8% increase in the total number of active clients compared to quarter 3, supporting an average of 1279 active clients.

The genders of active clients across the partnership remain at comparable levels to quarter 3, with the largest group being people who identify as female (87.7%), followed by people who identify as male (10.4%). The proportion of people identifying as transgender, non-binary or other remained at a similar level to quarter 3, forming 1.6% of the total client group.

Young people aged 13-17 remained the most represented age group among active clients across the partnership in quarter 4, accounting for 23.3% of all clients. Overall, the number of children and young people accessing ISVA services remained consistent, with those aged 0-17 making up 31.9% of all active clients. This continues to highlight the strong demand for support among younger age groups across the region. While it is encouraging to see more young people receiving the help they need, it also presents ongoing capacity challenges for CHISVAs, who are recommended to carry smaller caseloads due to the additional complexities involved in supporting children and their families. The second most represented age group was those aged 25-34, who made up 21.7% of active clients during the quarter.

The majority of active clients across the region identify as heterosexual (46.8%), while 11.0% identify as LGBTQ+. A further 41.8% of clients either chose not to disclose their sexual orientation or did not provide this information. In terms of ethnicity, White remains the most commonly recorded background among active clients, accounting for 74.1%. The proportion of clients from minority ethnic backgrounds increased slightly in quarter 4 to 9.6%, while 16.2% of clients did not disclose or chose not to share their ethnicity.

Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

The co-commissioned SARC service at Hackenthorpe Lodge has continued to provide free, confidential healthcare and compassionate support to anyone in South Yorkshire that has experienced sexual assault or rape. The centre provides support and guidance, a medical

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

assessment/treatment, a forensic examination, and the opportunity of aftercare referrals for support services. People attending the centre are offered these services based on their own individual needs and can choose to use as much or as little of the service as they wish.

Case referral numbers in South Yorkshire decreased in Q4 24/25 compared to Q3, with 116 referrals in Q4, compared to 123 in Q3. Referrals into the service are predominantly from the police (72% in Q4) followed by self-referrals at 21%. Police referrals have seen an increase from Q3 (63% in Q3), whereas self-referrals have decreased (21% in Q3).

The majority of people using the SARC in Q4 identified as female (87%). The proportion of male users of the service has increased slightly in Q4 compared to the previous quarter. In respect of ethnicity, those identifying as white British are still the predominant users of SARC services.

Child Sexual Assault Referral Centre

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

There were 55 referrals made to the children's SARC in Q4 24/25, 18 of which were acute referrals and 33 were non-recent child sexual assault referrals. There were four Female Genital Mutilation referrals. This is an increase from the previous quarter, where there were 38 referrals made (23 acute and 15 non-recent).

The majority of referrals identified as female (78% acute and 79% non-recent). In respect of ethnicity, those identifying as white British were the majority of referrals (39% acute and 82% non-recent).

'Cranstoun Inspire to Change'- Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme

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

Quarter four saw 90 referrals made to the service across South Yorkshire, an increase from the previous quarter. Police referrals accounted for eight of those referrals (9%), 64 from Children's Social Care (71%) and seven self-referrals (8%). The lower number of police referrals have been raised with the relevant Assistant Chief Constable and are being discussed at district quarterly performance meetings.

Referral breakdown by area:

- Sheffield – 22 referrals (24%)
- Rotherham – 29 referrals (32%)
- Doncaster – 20 referrals (22%)
- Barnsley – 19 referrals (21%)

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

During the quarter, 16 cases exited the service early for the following reason:

- 14 – Dropped out after completing more than one session of an intervention.

1. Protecting Vulnerable People

- 2 – Were removed from the group due to behaviour which includes a lack of engagement or attendance with intervention.

Of the 90 referrals, 33 successfully commenced intervention which equates to 36%.

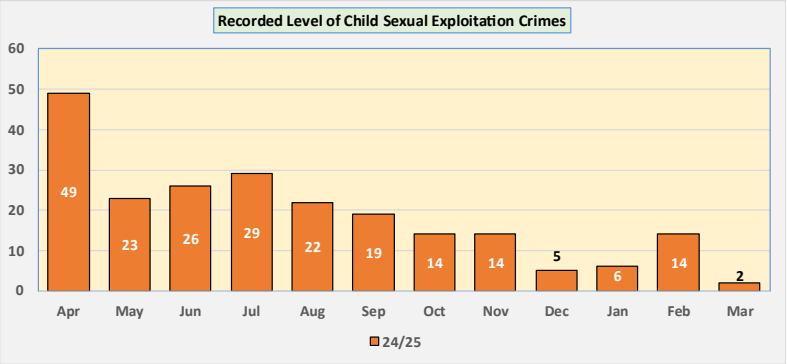
The Men and Masculinities programme continues to be run face to face in each of the four areas. Practitioners continue to carry out ongoing assessments for service users showing little or no accountability which is reviewed periodically in supervision.

The service continues to deliver an online option for those that are physically unable to attend face to face (for example, if they work out of area without the opportunity to return). Each key worker continues to also deliver one to one work to an average of five service users per week.

There were 27 completions for the quarter. The completions by area are as follows:

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

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



The chart above shows a reduction in the number of recorded CSE crimes. However, this is as a result of a full-scale review of CSE related data, and the accuracy of keywords used in the recording of crimes related to CSE. A Panel was set up during Q2 to review the quality and accuracy of crime recording in line with national definitions of CSE. The Panel found some over-recording and therefore data has been corrected in line with those national definitions. Where the panel established the misuse of the keyword, the keyword was removed. The review considered all offences committed since 1st January 2024.

To ensure keyword consistency in future, new lines of accountability have been identified, and a new process designed. The new process commenced on the 3rd of September 2024 and consists of a dedicated management information report shared with each of the four district Child Exploitation teams. The report lists all investigations flagged as CSE (individual or group based) for that particular district for the previous seven days. It then becomes the responsibility of the Child Exploitation team sergeant to review the investigation and to ensure that any keywords have been appropriately applied. The approach governs the use

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of crime recording keywords and provides a more accurate understanding of CSE related offending in South Yorkshire.

Running alongside this approach SYP pay close attention to the number of safeguarding investigations (an investigation where there is a safeguarding concern but not a crime to investigate). The number of safeguarding investigations (non-crimes) has remained consistent when compared to previous years reinforcing the forces priority of identifying vulnerability and protecting/preventing offending from taking place. This activity is carried out within the multi agencies teams found in each of the forces four districts.

Vulnerability and Mental Health (MH)

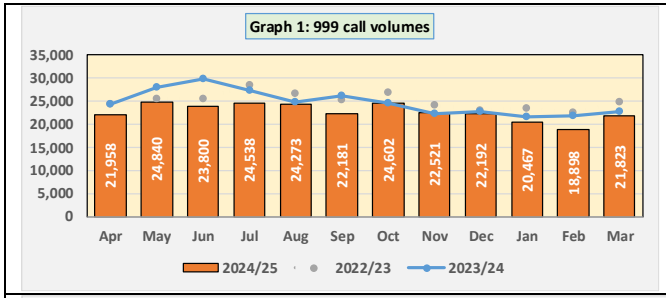
The force continues to make use of the management information report, launched last quarter, which provides almost live time data in relation to Section 136 detentions*. This provides data in relation to the numbers of detentions in each of the force Districts but also, crucially, where those detentions are transported to as a place of safety and how long officers are remaining with detainees before a full handover to trained mental health staff. The force is awaiting further developments to the report developments around its ability to show information to better understand whether disproportionality exists.

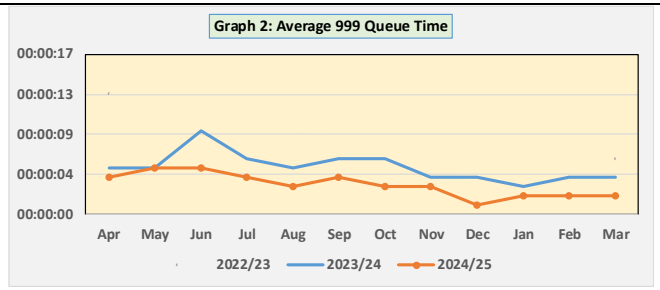
The force continues to run Section 136 detention scrutiny panels which tracked feedback given to officers and wider force where needed. Training has recently been delivered to all custody sergeants and inspectors in relation to those detained in custody who require a mental health assessment. The next step for this will be to engage the Critical Incident Manager cohort (C/Insp to C/Supt) who may be asked to escalate matters with relevant health partners.

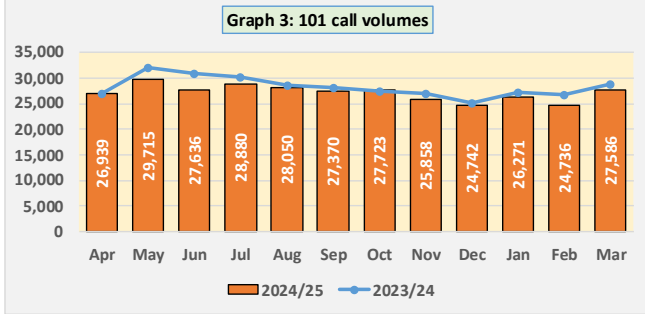
* Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 grants police emergency powers to detain individuals in a public place who appear to be experiencing mental health issues and require immediate care or control, transporting them to a place of safety for mental health assessment.

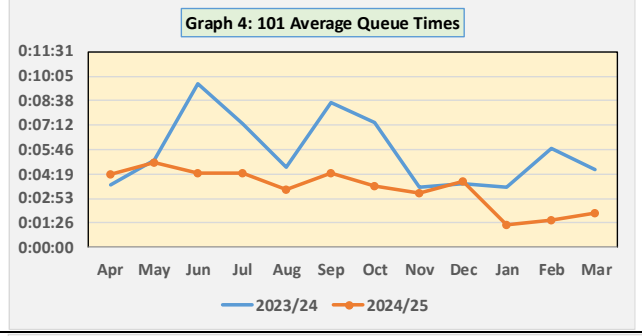
999 and 101 Calls[1]

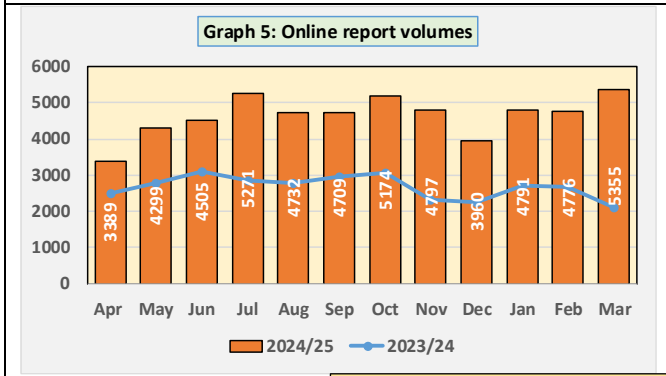
The Government publishes national data for all forces in respect of 999 and 101 call handling performance on the Police.UK website which uses a different dataset or uses a different way of analysing the data to that shown below. Therefore, the data on the Police.UK website will differ slightly to the data provided below. More information about this can be found on the Police.UK website.

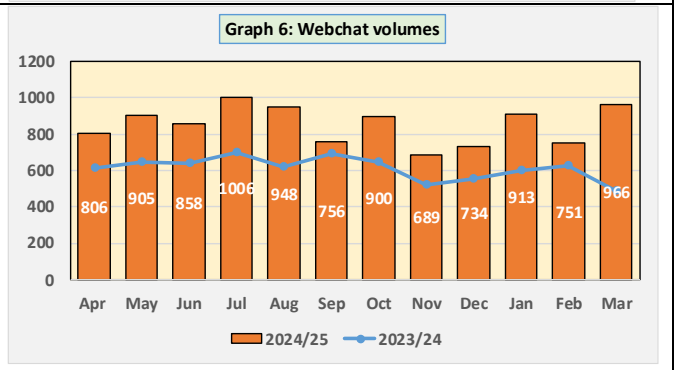












999 calls: 999 call volumes have decreased in Q4 compared to last quarter and Q4 last year. (Graph 1). The average call wait time has remained stable in Q4 compared to Q3 at around 2 seconds (Graph 2).

101 calls: Volumes of 101 calls have remained stable in Q4 24/25 compared to Q3 (Graph 3) and have decreased compared to the same period last year. The average 101 wait time during Q4 (the orange line in graph 4) was around 1m 39s, lower than the previous quarter.

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

Online Reporting:

Members of the public can contact SYP using an online portal which has two methods of contact – online forms (which are bespoke by topic), and a webchat. Online report volumes increased in Q4 24/25 compared to Q3 with 14,922 reports recorded. There were 2,630 webchats recorded in Q4, an increase compared to Q3 and Q4 23/24. The average webchat response time during Q4 was 2 minutes 44 seconds, an increase from Q3. A new system for online contact was introduced during Q1 by SYP. This needs to be taken into account when comparing 24/25 data with data from previous periods.

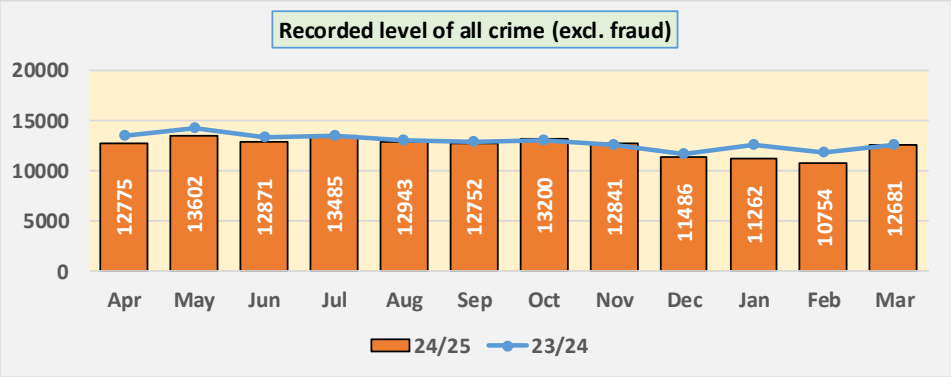
A new online contact system from April 24 will affect comparisons with 2023/24.

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

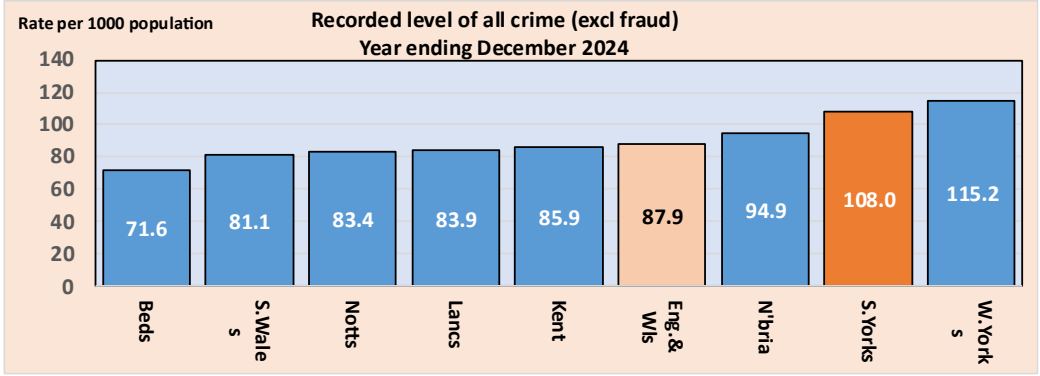
2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

The indicators and narrative chosen for this section of the report aim to show achievement against the following areas of focus within the Police and Crime Plan 2023-2025, namely:

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



The total police recorded level of crime (excl. fraud) has decreased in Q4 24/25 compared to Q3 24/25 and the same period last year. The comparative 12-month rate across South Yorkshire is reducing (see dashboard at the start of this report). Changes to crime recording rules will impact comparisons.

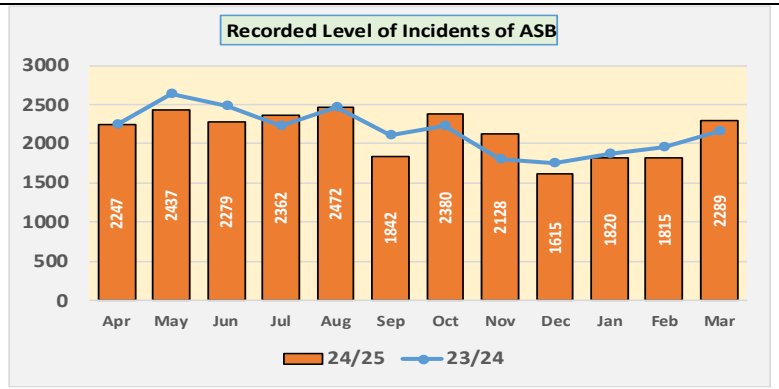


Source: ONS

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

SYP: District Recorded Crime (excl. fraud)	Barnsley	Doncaster	Rotherham	Sheffield
% Change 12 months to March 25 compared to 12 months to March 24	-3.8%	-5.8%	-2.2%	-2.5%
Volume 12 months to 31.03.25	25,112	38,638	25,328	58,840
Volume 12 months to 31.03.24	26,091	40,998	25,907	60,321

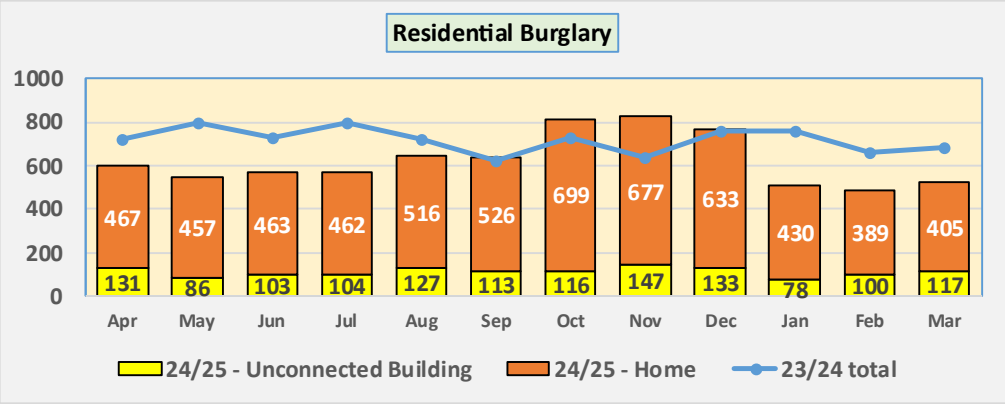
Source: SYP – Unaudited data subject to change.



Source: SYP – Unaudited data subject to change

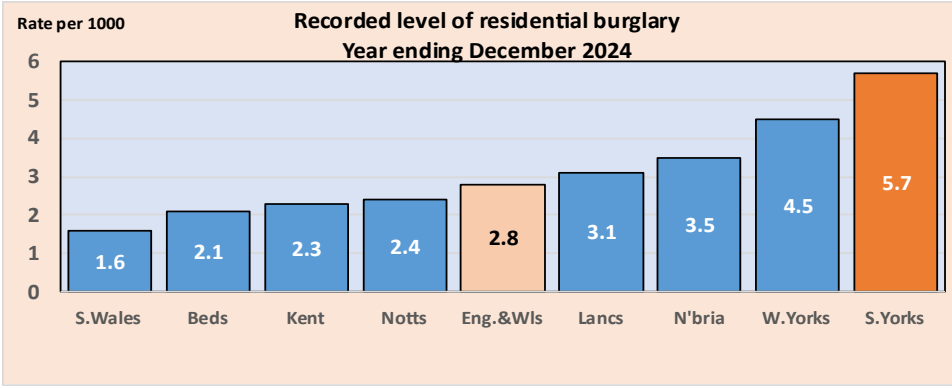
There has been a decrease in recorded levels of ASB in Q4 24/25 compared to the previous quarter. Levels are similar to the same period last year. Local authorities also record some ASB incidents which are not included here.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



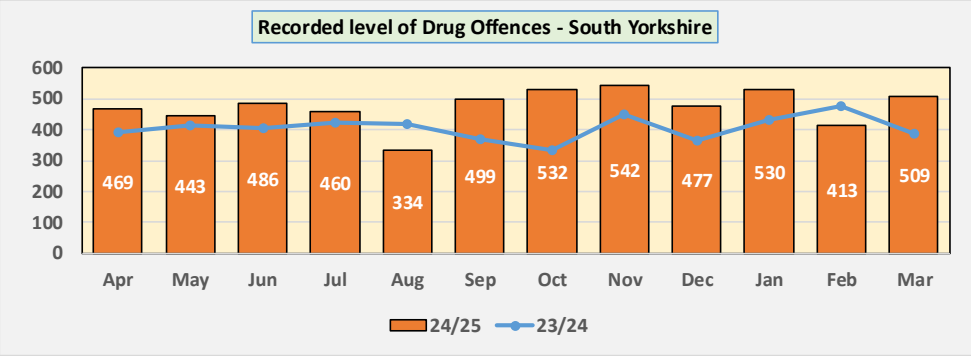
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

Recorded levels of residential burglary have decreased in Q4 24/25 compared to the previous quarter and the equivalent period last year. SYP continue to focus specifically on tackling residential burglary in line with residents' priorities. Data and force initiatives are being closely monitored to check the impact of this work.



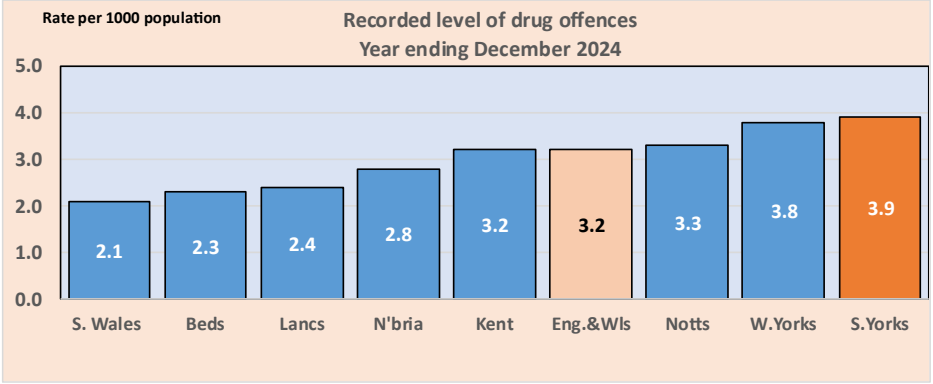
Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

The latest comparator data for the 12 months to the end of December 2024 shows that South Yorkshire has a higher rate of residential burglary than the similar group of forces and the national average. Tackling residential burglary is a priority for all districts with several specific operations and initiatives in place to tackle the issue.



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

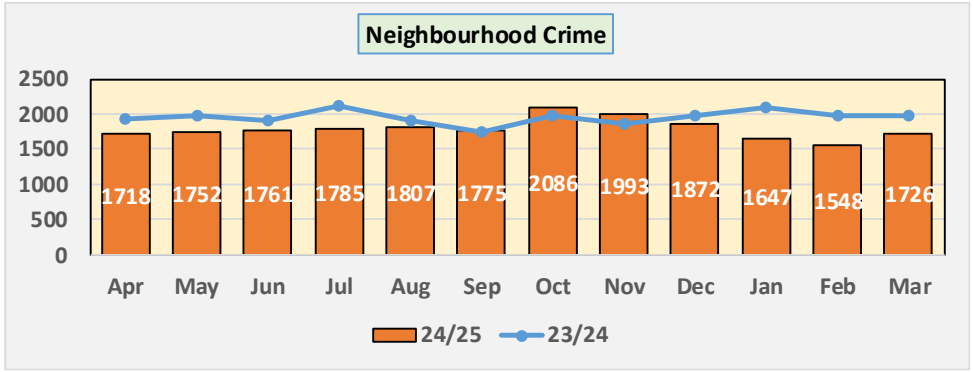
The recorded level of drugs offences in Q4 2024/25 have decreased from the previous quarter but have increased compared to the equivalent period last year. Drugs offences include the possession and trafficking of drugs. Levels of recorded drug offences will increase as more pro-active work is undertaken by the police to tackle drug crime.



Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

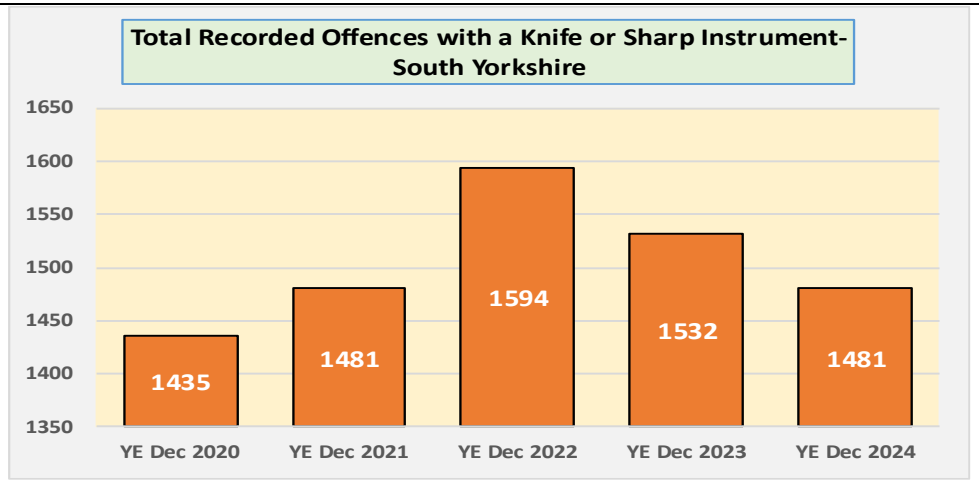
The latest comparator data for the year ending December 24 shows South Yorkshire recorded a rate of 3.9 drug offences per 1000 population, higher than the England and Wales average of 3.2 and above the average of the similar group of forces. Levels of recorded drug offences will increase as more pro-active work is undertaken by the police to tackle drug crime.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



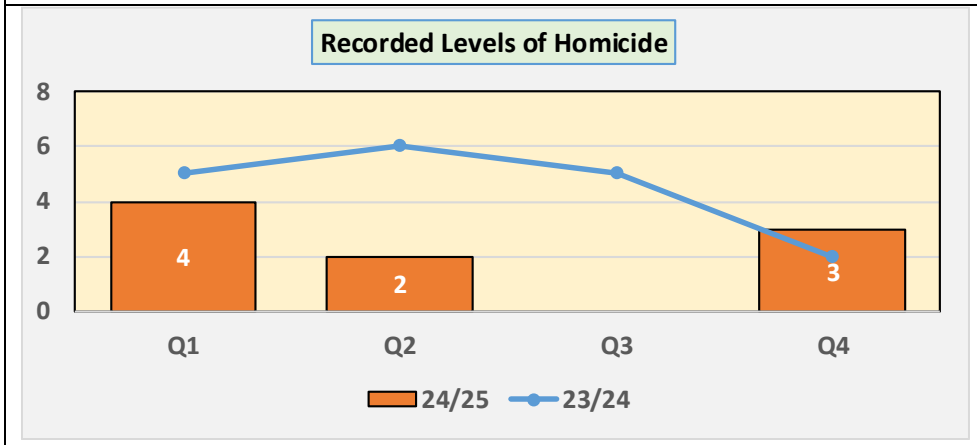
Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of neighbourhood crime in Q4 24/25 is lower than levels in Q3 and the same period last year. Neighbourhood crime includes Residential Burglary, Robbery of Personal Property, Theft from the Person, Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Vehicle, Theft from a Vehicle, and Interfering with a Vehicle.



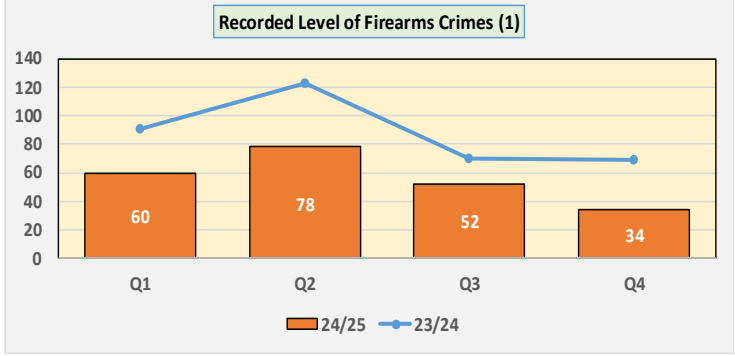
Source: ONS – Police Recorded Crime

The recorded level of crimes involving a knife or sharp instrument has decreased in the year ending December 24 compared to the previous 12-month period.



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

There were three homicides recorded in Q4 24/25 in South Yorkshire. It should be noted that Homicide figures can change as inquests are concluded. Homicide includes murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter, and infanticide.



Source: South Yorkshire Police – unaudited data subject to change

The recorded level of firearms crimes in Q4 24/25 was lower than Q3 24/25 and lower than the same period last year.

(1) Firearms crimes includes the use of imitation firearms, air weapons if a violent crime or burglary and stun guns.

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

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

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

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

Barnsley CSP - Safer Barnsley Partnership

This quarter and throughout 2024/25, the partnership have achieved considerable success in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), serious and organised crime, and the most serious forms of violence. Significant progress has also been made in developing targeted responses to violence against women and girls, addressing criminal exploitation of vulnerable adults, and supporting residents experiencing housing crises and homelessness. Embracing national agendas, the partnership has enhanced local strategies on counterterrorism and housing regulation, ensuring the responses are robust and current.

Looking ahead, priorities include intensifying efforts to keep the town centre safe, ensuring victims remain central to the response to ASB, exploring innovative solutions to environmental crime and urban blight, reinforcing homelessness prevention strategies, and managing those whose actions pose significant concern.

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour:

Overall volumes of ASB have remained fairly static, with only a small reduction since the previous quarter. The rate per 1000 population is at its lowest this financial year. There has been an impact on ASB due to incidents in and around the interchange, although this has been diluted by the positive performance across the whole borough.

Recognition of the partnership's efforts was exemplified when the ASB Case Management Team was awarded the prestigious national Team of the Year accolade at the Resolve National Conference—a testament to their innovative and effective approach.

Tackling Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG):

Funding from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) has helped to create a safe space within Barnsley town centre and the nighttime economy. The Night life Angels compliment The Night Life Angels initiative to support vulnerable female nighttime revellers in Barnsley nighttime economy has been funded for another year into 2025/2026. So far this quarter, 30 young people have been engaged with and safeguarded (this means taken to a place of safety, reunited with friends or family or assisted to get home safely).

Significant investment has been provided by the VRU to improve the safety of the Barnsley public with the funding of a Safe space for anyone who needs support whilst on a night out. The South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit continues to support many different initiatives and organisations to reduce domestic violence and is working with strategic partners regionally to understand the vulnerability in the sex working industry not only within Barnsley but online and throughout South Yorkshire and regionally.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Staff within the safer neighbourhood service working with vulnerable individuals have attended the BSARCS Ask the Question Training to identify individuals who may have experienced historical sexual abuse.

This training has provided staff with the confidence to ask individuals if they have experienced sexual abuse.

As Barnsley Council continue to support the cross-county roll-out of the personal safety app WalkSafe, Barnsley's Wardens now share their live location on the app for users. This will help increase the perception of safety for visitors to the town centre.

Doncaster CSP - Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP)
During Q4, the SSDP has continued to work effectively to address issues across the Crime and Disorder spectrum and to ensure delivery against the Community Safety Strategy 2022-25 and the Police and Crime Plan. The SSDP structure continues to support the activity of six thematic groups, governed by the Executive Board. These theme groups respond to current demand and identify future priorities across the key themes of Anti-Social Behaviour; Domestic and Sexual Abuse; Serious Organised Crime; Substance Misuse; Crime and Reoffending and Violent Crime. Each of these groups are performance managed to ensure progress and delivery of outcomes for communities in Doncaster.

In relation to initiatives funded through the Mayor's Community Safety Grant, the Partnership has continued to support key roles in relation to workforce development and serious organised crime. As has been the approach in previous years, each theme group manages their own funding pot to enable them to respond to emerging issues and to facilitate planning for seasonal trends. During this financial year, the SSDP has:

- Purchased a range of domestic abuse support books for service users
- Provided Domestic Abuse Freedom Programme training for staff
- Provided bus passes to support the Domestic Abuse refuge provision
- Funded a street lighting column to support CCTV installation
- Purchased a CASED Radio to support the Safe Haven initiative
- Funded numerous electric bikes; accessories and signage to support the Off-Road Bike Team
- Contributed towards the purchase of a vehicle to tackle ASB / enhance patrols
- Contributed towards a domestic abuse survivors' friends and family campaign
- Supported attendance at a Tackling Sex Work event
- Provided welcome packs for domestic abuse clients in temporary accommodation
- Purchased signage raising awareness of cuckooing.
- Supported a fencing project to tackle ASB/drug activity
- Supported the Best Bar None scheme.
- Provided a range of equipment to support the Fortify team to tackle serious and organised crime
- Provided cameras and lenses to support the work of the off-road bike team
- Funded a Safer City Communications Campaign
- Supported workshops to develop the Domestic and Sexual Abuse strategies

All activity described above has positively contributed to the Police and Crime Plan and Community Safety Partnership priorities to tackle crime and disorder and improve the lives of Doncaster residents.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

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

A protocol has been developed for schools to address issues with young people and vapes including the additional risks of exploitation. A presentation was delivered to Education Safeguarding Leads by South Yorkshire Police, Trading Standards and Public Health. There is a Vapes in Schools working group who meet quarterly and are implementing and monitoring deployment processes and pathways for schools to follow when incidents occur.
Statutory process pathway (child protection conferences) in place with clear expectation for Graded Care Profile assessments to be completed as part of the process (launched April 2025).

Substance Misuse
The Rotherham Drug and Alcohol Service now has a Team Leader in post and discussions have been held with partners about the pathway. An internal restructure will lead to the availability of Outreach Workers to support Criminal Justice with agile working, they will work closely with Integrated Offender Management Teams, Police and Probation to support in re-engagement of nominals

Online Crime
Continued engagement by professionals on sessions being delivered to increase awareness of online safety risks for young people. Online Safety and the Misuse of Social Media awareness session has been delivered to over 100 professionals and around 80 young people in February and March.

Domestic Abuse
Crime and non-crime has reduced this quarter and referrals to support service Hopian have increased which is positive.
Repeat cases heard at the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) have reduced, which means the implementation of the additional MARAC is working well. The number of households presenting as homeless has also reduced this quarter.

Sexual Abuse
The Sexual Abuse action plan has been updated and agreed through the S Domestic and Sexual Abuse Priority Group.

Prevent Duty
The annual benchmarking assessment took place on the 3 March 2025, RMBC scored the highest "exceeding" mark in 7 out of 8 criteria and "met" the final benchmark criteria, a positive result. The formal recommendations have been confirmed and will be incorporated into the Partnership Prevent Action Plan.
Work is progressing through the Hostile Vehicle Mitigation Working Group in respect of the introduction Hostile Vehicle Mitigation measures in and around Rotherham town centre.

Sheffield CSP - Safer Sheffield Partnership (SSP)
ASB Theme group:

- ASB hot spots: The hot spot patrol pilot is now in progress supporting the over-arching activity led by SYP. Activity focusses on 12 identified hotspot areas.
- Clear, Hold, Build: Work on the Clear, Hold, Build initiative in Woodhouse is in train in conjunction with SYP and other key partners. The “Clear” phase has now concluded. The emphasis has now moved to working with the community to “Hold” Woodhouse and prevent the return of organised criminality.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Hate Crime Theme Group:

- Hate Crime Awareness Week: Support was provided to the multi-agency response to the annual hate crime awareness week.
- Third party reporting centres: On-going efforts to increase the number of third-party reporting centres continues.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG):

- Cranstoun Inspire to Change Programme: 35 individuals engaging with the programme year to date with referrals from multiple agencies.

Neighbourhood Crime and Re-offending:

- Burglary/Theft Offences: In order to mitigate the risk presented from high value burglary/theft offences across Sheffield, the theme group has supported the purchase of crime prevention materials. These were circulated as part of broader operational and problem-solving activity delivered under *Operation Hawkeye* led by SYP.
- Rural Criminality: The theme group have also supported the provision of cameras employed in rural crime settings to assist in the detection of crime and anti-social behaviour suffered by rural communities. Particularly prevalent is the theft of plant and machinery.

Addressing the supply of drugs:

- Fortify Awareness and Cuckooing awareness: Shelter's inputs across the city to professionals has ensured a better understanding of the impact of organised crime and exploitation. Sessions have been delivered to approximately 500 staff in total. It is hoped that this work will continue across the 25-26 financial year.

Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP):

- Elements Society: The PVP theme group has worked with SYP and colleagues from the SCC Community safety team in support of the Elements society who are a national charity with a hub in the City Centre. The objective of the initiative has been to reduce ASB in and around the High Street and local business premises by engaging with young people in the town centre in order to reduce risk, vulnerability and signpost to other services by building trusting relationships. Early assessment by all involved is that the initiative has proven successful with excellent feedback from retail premises, service users and the public. The challenge ahead is securing funding for the work to continue.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT (SYVRU)

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

In Q4, the VRU has relaunched its Community Grants Scheme, offering successful applicants up to £25,000 to support initiatives for 12 months that help prevent violence and support people.

Funding can be used to establish new activities, to build on existing projects or to trial something completely new. Eligible projects include those that promote positive relationships, tackle domestic abuse, support substance misuse recovery, or provide pathways into education and employment. Communications activity will take place with successful applicants once funding is awarded, to promote the projects they are working on.

The VRU has continued to engage with organisations and communities across South Yorkshire in the last quarter.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

A meeting of the Preventing Violence Forum was combined with the Countywide Communications Meeting in January to allow more cohesive partner working; this has continued in Q4.

The Senior Communications Officer has also held separate catch-up meetings with communications colleagues from different organisations. In this quarter, this has included meetings with SYMCA, South Yorkshire Police, Neighbourhood Policing Teams across all four districts, Causeway and the Doncaster Safer Stronger comms group.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAMS (NPTs)

The force has seen reductions in the reports of residential burglary, with the first months of 2025 showing the lowest levels of reporting for several years. Despite these positive reductions, there are some ongoing challenges to increase the action taken rates for offending. Reductions are driven by the problem-solving approach adopted under Operation Hawkeye and previous changes in regards the monitoring of cocooning activity and utilising nudge theory principles to support the public to take their own crime prevention measures. SYP plans to sustain this activity in addition to further work to ensure the understanding of offending patterns and risk that exist around key nominals, which should see improvement in action taken rates. Doncaster have been adopting a process which involves the wider scanning of all reported home burglary offences to ensure that investigative opportunities are not missed, and wider offending patterns are better understood. This approach is showing early signs of promise with action taken rates for the first months of 2025 increasing. The focus is now to adopt this model as a formal pilot into Sheffield, the district which sees over 40 per cent of reported home burglaries reported in South Yorkshire. Should this pilot evidence the success anticipated, consideration will then be given as to how this model can be adopted across the force.

The force continues to engage with the Home Office in regards knife enabled robbery as one of 7 identified task force forces. Positive practice has been identified for South Yorkshire Police in relation to the prompt time charging decisions are reached in these types of cases. In addition, following a call to practice from the College of Policing, the force Robbery Action Plan and the monthly analytical document have been identified as good practice. The ongoing focus in relation to robbery remains engaging in the Home Office task force and continuing to evolve the force response based on wider sharing of practice.

The force is adopting an operation to map the deposition sites of stolen vehicles more effectively. This is vital to the ongoing challenge in developing detailed intelligence profiles of offending to allow further operational activity to take place. The name of this operation is Lorry Alpha. The force is training additional officers as stolen vehicle examiners and has purchased additional key reader technology. Both these points will support the forces response in the coming months to the recovery of stolen vehicles, vehicle parts and keys and the disruption of chop shop activity which supports much of the organised criminal elements of vehicle crime.

Modern Slavery Human Trafficking (MSHT) and Organised Immigration Crime

The South Yorkshire Police Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime (MSOIC) Unit, continue to chair and co-ordinate the South Yorkshire Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime Partnership. The partnership is made up of a wide variety of organisations across law enforcement, local authorities and non-law enforcement areas and

provides a forum and environment where information and best practice can be shared, and collaboration can take place at both a strategic and tactical level. Work is underway to relaunch the public facing website for this partnership, which will provide the public and professionals with key

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

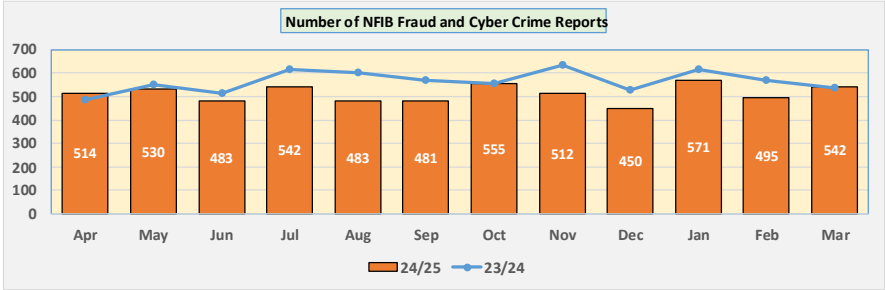
information regarding the activity of the group and other content regarding Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime.

Examples of collaboration between members of the partnership has involved training inputs being provided between agencies and multi-agency operational activity taking place, such as a focus on exploitation within barbershop and food delivery industries. Partnership working also continues to take place in respect of tackling Organised Immigration Crime with activity including agencies working together to conduct formal intelligence debriefs with migrants who are residing in South Yorkshire. Intelligence gathered through this work supports the local, regional, and national picture around Organised Immigration Crime.

South Yorkshire Police continue to manage a centralised investigation review process which involves Modern Slavery investigations being submitted to be reviewed by the Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime (MSOIC) Unit. The MSOIC Unit will review each investigation to support the investigating officer and to ensure that the appropriate outcome has been achieved before endorsing for the matter to be concluded. Each of these investigations also have a dedicated Modern Slavery Tactical Advisor assigned to again best support the investigating officer throughout the duration of the enquiry. This process after initially being introduced within the Sheffield and Barnsley districts will be rolled out across the entire force within the next few months.

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

Fraud/Cybercrime



Source: NFIB Fraud and Cyber Crime Dashboard

The number of reports of Fraud and Cyber Crime in South Yorkshire to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) in Q4 24/25 was higher than the previous quarter but lower than the same period last year.

In the last 13 months there has been 1203 cyber related crimes reported with financial loss of £19,000. The main offending type is social media hacking.

Between January and March 2025, 32 engagement events were held by the cyber protect officer to raise the awareness of cybercrime and

provide practical advice on how individuals and businesses can protect themselves from being a victim that will ultimately assist in reducing cybercrime. National protect campaigns are supported and there is a dedicated social media page that the Force Cyber Crime Unit utilise to circulate not only the national messaging but any local protect messaging also.

2. Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

The engagement events range from presentations within schools to events reaching out to the over 60's. The coverage for the events is wide reaching and there is engagement across all sections of the communities. The force remains determined to tackle cybercrime whether that being Computer Misuse Act offences or cybercrime in other areas such as stalking and harassment, violence against women and girls or other linked offending such as crypto currency related crime.

South Yorkshire Police has recently seen its first cryptocurrency account freezing orders, which were obtained under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 in February 2025. An account freezing order uses civil legislation to freeze funds which are believed to be either criminal property or intended to be used for a criminal purpose. The account freezing orders have a combined total of £926,710. Enquiries remain ongoing in relation to these account freezing orders.

The force is also seeking to recruit cyber volunteers to support the force Cyber Crime Unit. The volunteers would be sought to support both pursue investigations and the protect work undertaken. The cyber volunteers programme is part of the National Cyber Crime strategy, and the force are aiming to launch the programme over Spring 2025.

Organised Crime Group (OCG) Disruption activity

March 2025 data shows South Yorkshire Police manage 65 identified active Organised Crime Groups (OCG). 44 have a primary threat of drugs, of which 8 also have a threat of County Lines and 14 have a threat of firearms. The force Fortify partnership is responsible for tackling organised crime at both tactical and strategic level. Strong partnerships exist and this was recognised in the recent inspection.

South Yorkshire Police continue to lead the way nationally in the field of the 'Clear Hold Build' (CHB) initiative focused on tackling organised crime in a locality. Three projects have shown much success at tackling serious and organised crime and anti-social behaviour in the communities; with the most recent in Woodhouse, Sheffield currently moving through the Hold phase into Build.

In November 2024, the force participated in the national week of intensification for county lines. The week saw officers and staff from across the force collaborating operationally with the shared objective of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, pursuing offenders, and increasing preparedness in local communities. The next week of action is planned for the week commencing 23rd June 2025 and plans are already underway to try and top the success seen in November. In the meantime, the force continues to make good use of analytics to identify lines, pursue offenders and safeguard children and vulnerable adults that become the victim of exploitation.

South Yorkshire Police have increased focus around Asset Recovery, the team focuses on work under the Proceeds of Crime Act to remove illicit finances from the criminal world. The current total removed from organised crime for the year 2024-2025 sits at £677,693. This is invested back into community projects and innovation to tackle serious and organised crime through the Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme (ARIS) funding board

3. Treating People Fairly

The areas of focus in the Police and Crime Plan 2023-2025 under this priority for are:

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

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

Independent Ethics Panel (IEP)

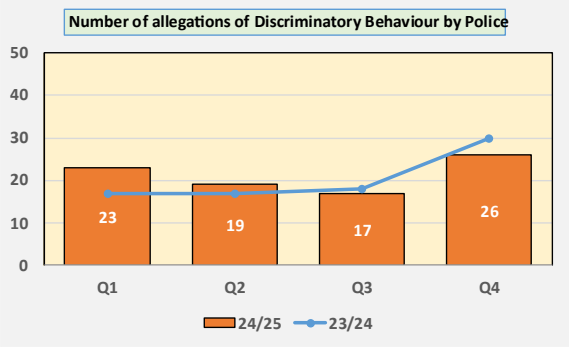
One of the main ways of gaining assurance that people are being treated fairly is through the work of the Independent Ethics Panel. The Panel has a role in helping the Mayor and Chief Constable build the trust and confidence of the public and partners in South Yorkshire Police, by ensuring the national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

The IEP met in February 2025 during this quarter. Following a discussion at the last meeting about the serious public disorder that took place nationally as well as in South Yorkshire during August, the Panel received a further update and had the opportunity to discuss progress with investigations, the wellbeing support being provided to officers involved and learning from the disorder, some of which had already been implemented.
The Panel also received reports and discussed the ethical issues in relation to:

- SYP's workforce recruitment and retention activity, focussing particularly on where there is under-representation in the Workforce.
- Stop and Search including observations from the external Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel
- The Panel's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work programme. The Panel agreed activity on the work for 2025/26.
- Lead Member work in relation to Digital Policing and Vetting.

Further information about the work of the Independent Ethics Panel can be found online:
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority - South Yorkshire MCA (southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk)

Anyone interested in joining the external Stop and Search scrutiny panel can find more information on SYP's website: Stop and search | South Yorkshire Police



The number of allegations of discriminatory behaviour by police in Q4 24/25 was 26. This compares to 17 complaints in the previous quarter. Q4 numbers are slightly lower than the same period last year when there were 30 allegations.

3. Treating People Fairly

Independent Custody Visitors Scheme
The Policing and Reform Directorate runs an Independent Custody Visitors (ICV) Scheme to check on the welfare of those who are being detained in police custody.

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

The directorate is also monitoring the force custody dashboard. This enables them to track performance information including, the number of detainees, ethnicity, number of young people and the average length of time detainees are in custody. This additional monitoring does not replace the usual custody visiting but it gives added assurance to supplement physical visits.

During Q4 24/25, 25 visits to custody were undertaken by custody visitors, more than were undertaken last quarter. There is regular contact with officers from SYP in relation to findings from visits and the checking of records to share findings and set actions for improvement. Some emerging themes which have been raised with South Yorkshire Police have been:

- Delays in ICVs gaining access to the suites, this has occasionally resulted in a visit not taking place. SYP have raised this with the staff within the custody suites to ensure accessibility to the suites is timelier or if this was not possible, communications are to be made to the ICVs to advise of the reason for the delay.
- Some cells have been out of use in Barnsley, and these are not back in use. Improvement works at Barnsley began and some are planned over April for Doncaster.
- Across the whole custody estate there is a positive theme of the staff being helpful and kind to the detainees, the ICVs and the suites being clean.

Officers supporting the ICV scheme have been looking at procuring additional technology to support ICVs in being able to provide feedback quickly and efficiently on the results of their visits. An application was identified but was delayed slightly due to Wi-Fi issues, which have now been resolved. A working group has been established with all ICV scheme users to ensure conformity of use and to remove any technical issues and improve reporting features.

SYMCA will host the July regional ICV scheme managers meeting in Sheffield to share best practise and the national body, the Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA)will be represented. General learning and best collaborative practise will be discussed across the region, with recruitment and retention of volunteers being a regional and national concern. The development of the PCC Custody Scrutiny Panel (CSP) continues.

ICV Interviewing continued and induction training is scheduled for April. Of the eight attending, their joining the scheme will be subject to SYP security clearance and references.

3. Treating People Fairly

Hate Crime

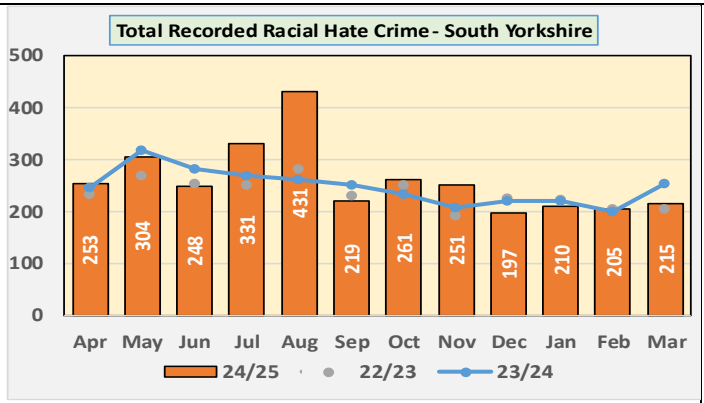
There was a decrease in the overall volume of hate crimes recorded in Q4 24/25 compared to the previous quarter and the same period last year.

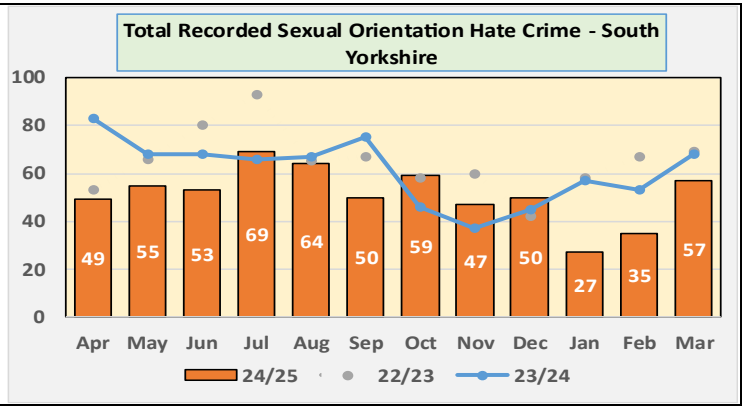
Overall satisfaction of hate crime victims decreased in Q4 24/25 to 75% compared to 81% in the previous quarter. This change was not statistically significant. Satisfaction also decreased compared to Q4 23/24, but this change was not statistically significant.

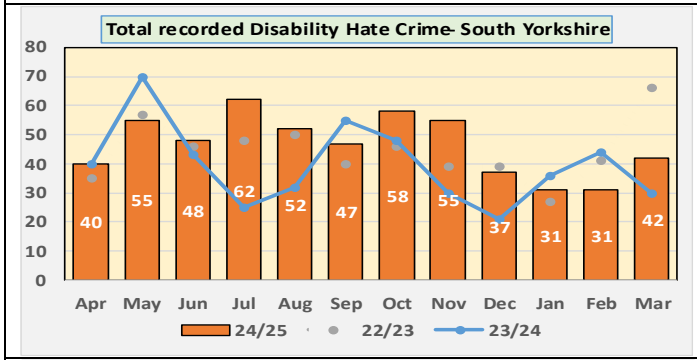
Hate crimes are reviewed regularly to ensure that they are allocated and investigated effectively. The force continues to work with partners, and SYMCA to seek feedback from victims to support improvements in service delivery and increase the confidence of victims to report to the police.

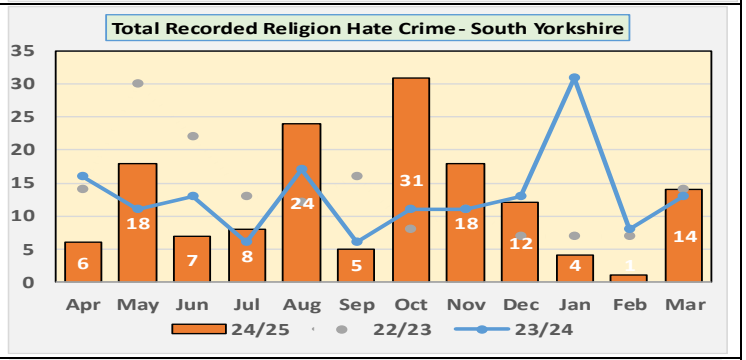
The volume of hate crimes being reported can be influenced by national and international events. Both SYP and the SYMCA are keen to make it as easy as possible for victims to report hate crime and for victims to feel confident that their report will be dealt with effectively and sensitively.

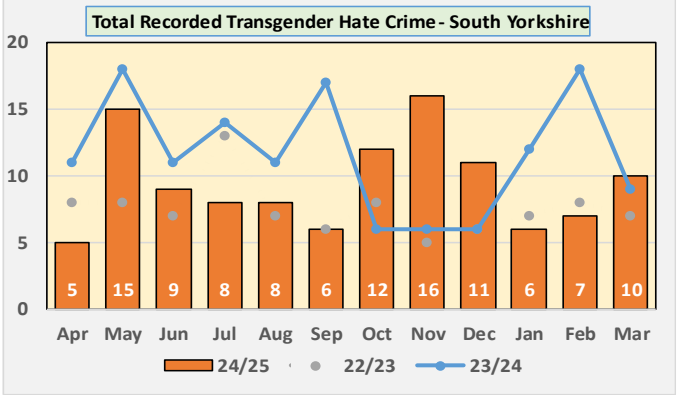
Source: SYP– unaudited data subject to change

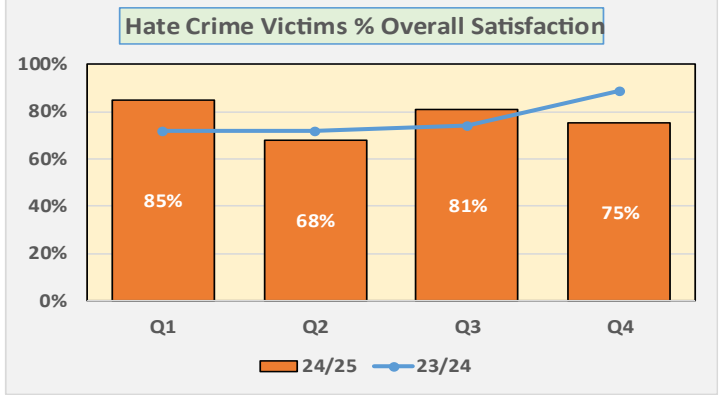












3. Treating People Fairly

Police Officer Workforce
Police Officer ethnic minority representation has remained at 4.9% in Q4 and has also remained at 3.2% for heritage other than white compared to the previous quarter. Police Officer representation for LGBTQ+ has reduced to 5.3% in Q4 from 5.5% in Q3. Police Officer representation for Disability has increased to 5.5% in Q4 compared to 3.9% in Q3.

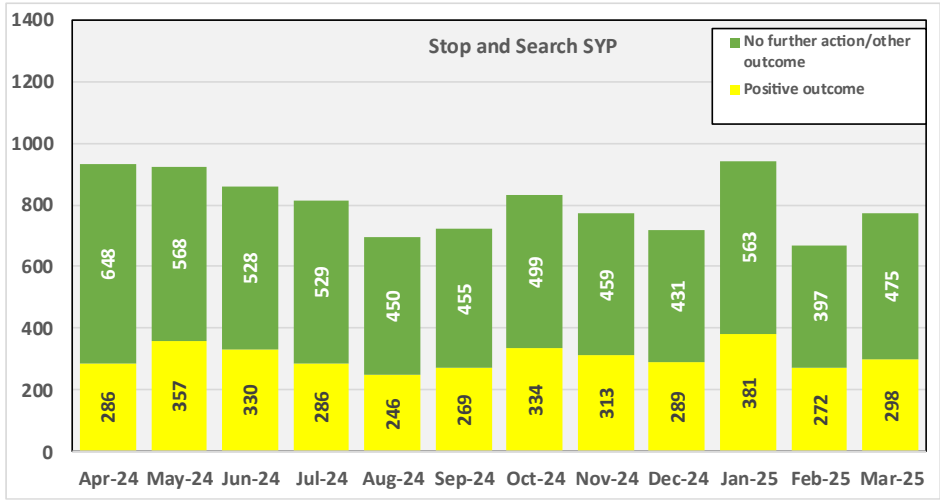
Police Staff Workforce
As a force, SYP is continuing to focus on representation across all protected characteristics, however trends have been mixed for the 2024/2025 period. Police staff ethnic minority representation has increased to 5.3% in Q4 from 5.1% in Q3. Heritage other than white has increased to 3.5% in Q4 from 3.2% in Q3. However, LGBTQ+ representation has decreased slightly to 4.3% in Q4 from 4.4% in Q3. Representation for disability has increased to 7.3% in Q4 from 5.5% in Q3.

Longer term trends show that there have been slow but steady increases in female representation across the workforce. Female Police Officer representation currently stands at 38.4%.

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

Stop and Search
South Yorkshire Police's stop and search powers are never used lightly and police officers will only exercise their legal right to stop members of the public and search them when they genuinely suspect that doing so will further their investigations into criminal activity – whether that means looking for weapons, drugs or stolen property.

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



Source: SYP– unaudited data subject to change

The yellow areas in the chart above shows where there is a positive police outcome / action taken when someone is stopped and searched. This includes outcomes such as arrest, warning, caution and summons/charge by post or penalty notice. The percentage of positive outcomes was 32% in January and 30% in both February and March 2025 respectively.
(The chart does not show the total numbers of stop and searches as there will be stop/searches where action is taken but not defined as a positive outcome. E.g., advice given, verbally warned).

3. Treating People Fairly

A member of the Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) also has a lead for Stop and Search, although this role has become vacant during the last quarter. Their role is to take the lead on behalf of the IEP in helping determine the level of assurance to be provided to the Mayor and Chief Constable in respect of the fair use of Stop & Search powers by SYP. Other panel members are sharing this role whilst a new lead is appointed.

The numbers of stop and searches & outcomes broken down by ethnicity.

Stop and searches broken down by ethnicity.

South Yorkshire 12 months 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025				
Ethnicity	**No. of searches**	**% of searches**	**% positive outcome**	**Rate per 1000 population***
White	6435	64%	34%	5.3
Black	556	6%	38%	16.4
Asian	757	8%	32%	9.6
Other	222	2%	33%	8.7
Mixed	345	3%	33%	11.3
Not Stated	1759	17%	18%	-

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

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

In Q4, 87% of stop and searches were conducted on males, 13% on females.

Although the actual numbers of searches of people from Black, Asian and Minority ethnic communities are lower than for white people, the rate per 1000 population shows that there is disproportionality in the use of stop and search particularly within Black and Asian communities. Work continues to better understand and deal with this issue, including improved linking of stop and search data to age, ethnicity and location. Disproportionality is also an issue nationally. Although there is disproportionality in the rate of stop and search, there is no disproportionality in the % of stop/searches with a positive outcome.

More data and information about stop and search in South Yorkshire can be found on SYP's and the Police.UK website. https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/st-s/stop-and-search/ and https://www.police.uk

Restorative Justice (RJ) - Remedi

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

In Q4, 1st January – 31st March 2025, Remedi received a potential 554 referrals into the service, via agency/self-referrals or as a result of a sentence outcome at court, enabling Remedi to make proactive victim contact.

62 victims of crime have been personally offered RJ during this quarter, with 40 saying yes to RJ, with the service still attempting to contact a further 492 cases. Remedi offer three proactive calls at different times of the day in most cases, with five attempts on all cases where the victim is deemed vulnerable in line with the national Victims Code of Practice.

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

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

3. Treating People Fairly

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

Following the probation service reform in June 2021, Remedi have been working hard to increase referrals for the Restorative Victim Awareness Sessions. Remedi continue to complete relaunch briefings across all the National Probation Servuce offices within South Yorkshire and have also implemented a Single Point of Conctact within all offices in order to take a pro-active approach to increase referrals into the service. Remedi will continue this consistent approach throughout the remainder of the financial year as well as working closely with the National Probation Service leads.

RJ Service User feedback:

''I felt RJ was the right thing to do. I wanted to understand why it happened but also wanted to make sure we could all move on.

I felt very well informed throughout the entire process. I was always asked if I felt comfortable and if I had any questions. There was never a point where I felt uncomfortable with the process.

I was very satisfied with how things went.

I felt I achieved what I wanted to, and my expectations were met.

I felt more comfortable after the meeting and more at ease. I felt there was a closure after the meeting. I'm pleased I went through with the process and proud of us as a family for completing the process.

I am impressed with the system and process.

I feel I would recommend the process as it has been beneficial and given a sense of closure.

"Throughout my experience with RJ, I have always held a positive perspective. However, engaging fully in the restorative justice process—particularly the meeting between the perpetrator and victim—has deepened my appreciation for the impactful work done by Remedi. This experience has highlighted the profound effect this intervention can have on both parties involved. The professionalism and unwavering support provided a compassionate and constructive environment, especially considering the emotional challenges faced by the perpetrator."

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

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

Or via website **www.restorativesouthyorkshire.co.uk**

3. Treating People Fairly

Public Engagement

Throughout Q4, engagement activity both online and face to face continued with events and visits covered across all four districts. The figures detailed below do not cover any additional engagement visits that were undertaken by the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). During this period, we have continued to share updates and information in relation to the mayor's priorities for Policing and Crime and supported the launch of the mayor's first Police and Crime Plan.

Overall, 26 engagement briefings were completed for the period of January – March (this is up 3 vs the Q3 period), plus an additional 41 meetings and events. A total of 412 people were engaged with for this period, this includes 40 internal SYP officers and police staff.

- Crime prevention engagement items remain under review following the transfer whilst branding and strategic direction is determined, therefore these may be limited at engagement events over the coming months. Staff continue to attend events and engage with partners and the public through meaningful discussion.
- Visits to Neighbourhood Policing Teams across South Yorkshire commenced in January. These have continued throughout the year with several teams still to be visited. Each visit has comprised of either attendance at staff briefings or joining the teams on days of action or community walkabouts. The visits have provided insight into the day-to-day requirements for neighbourhood teams and provided a better understanding of how we engage from a policing perspective with our communities.
- Rural crime meetings continued during this period, with visits by the Engagement Officer to the Rotherham and Barnsley meetings taking place. Both were well attended, with members of the public in attendance praising the work of South Yorkshire Police but requesting more support in tackling Off Road Bikes in communities.
- A number of engagement events were attended and supported in relation to the month of Ramadan. The Engagement Officer, along with representatives from South Yorkshire Police and the Violence Reduction Unit, attended the Sheffield Central Local Area Committee Community Iftar. Over 250 people were in attendance and shared food and stories around culture and coming together.
- A number of partnership meetings were attended during the month of February and March themed around knife crime and prevention work being undertaken following the tragic death of Harvey Willgoose. A Sheffield serious violence group led by South Yorkshire Police and the Violence Reduction Unit has been established and is attended by Policing and Crime colleagues in support of this partnership approach.
- The Engagement Officer attended the Sheffield City Centre Businesses meeting for the first time in January. This meeting brings together city centre businesses to discuss tackling crime and anti-social behaviour within the city centre and the impact on businesses in Sheffield. This meeting has led to developing new relationships with local authority and partners.
- Engagement stalls were held by the Policing and Crime Communications and Engagement Team on policing priorities and the council tax precept. Members of the public were encouraged to complete the survey and have their say. Over 2,000 people responded to the consultation across South Yorkshire.

4. Providing Value for Money for Policing and Crime Services

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

Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness

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

The high-level financial position for the Policing and Reform Directorate of SYMCA and South Yorkshire Police for the financial year 2024/25 is as follows:

Revenue budget outturn £1.9m underspend SYMCA Policing and Reform Budget

- The 2024/25 outturn position is a £1.9m underspend reflecting staff vacancies, reduced commissioning expenditure and additional Treasury Management income. Increased Treasury Management income is a product of higher than expected cash balances in a higher than expected interest-rate environment. Cash balances are higher than expected due to underspends on general budget and legacy activity.

Revenue budget outturn £6.1m underspend South Yorkshire Police Budget

- The revenue outturn position for 2024/25 (before reserve movements) is a £6.1m underspend (revised down from £6.5m) against the net revenue budget approved of £330.1m. The high level contributing factors to the underspend position include decisions taken to delay progression of growth items approved for 2024/25, the Priority Based Budget Programme and the close management of both vacancies and running costs following recognition of significant funding issues in the second half of the year and the uncertainty surrounding the funding gap over the medium term.

Capital budget – expected to spend in full

- At Q4. The Capital budget was revised to £15.1m with adjustments made to the spending plans across several projects. Total Q4 YTD spend was £16.6m due to accelerated delivery compared to the revised budget and averaging a monthly expenditure of £1.4m

Legacy and cashflow

- To-date good progress has been made against the asks of Government, with additional funding being made available for legacy issues, a cashflow intervention that generates material value, and support for the proposed accounting treatment for the correction of errors. Home Office are further sponsoring a request for a capitalisation direction to be issued to support the costs of current and future legacy compensation scheme costs.

Reserves

- Total reserves at 31 March 2025 are £83.4m, of which General Reserve is £28.7m, Earmarked Reserve £47.1m, and Insurance Reserve £7.6m. Without a sustainable settlement from Government these reserves are expected to be quickly exhausted in forthcoming years.