

Measure: Reduce Murder and other homicide

Home Office crime codes and description:

0010	Murder
0041	Manslaughter
0042	Infanticide
00410	Corporate Manslaughter

Recorded crime levels

The monthly volume of homicides from January 2018 to March 2025 is shown below.



The volume of Homicides in South Yorkshire has reduced since 2018/19. In the financial year 2024/25, 9 homicides were recorded in South Yorkshire (compared to 22 in 2018/19).

In the 12 months to September 2024 South Yorkshire Police reported a rate of 9.9 homicides per million population, in line with the national average (8.7 per million population).

Whilst this is the total number of homicides initially recorded, there will be an expected number which following post-mortem, associated tests and other enquiries, will not meet the categorisation for homicide. This is overseen by the Senior Investigating Officer for the case. As this can take time to conclude, caution is advised in any review of homicide volumes from recent months.

Force response to homicides

The force's Major Crime Unit deals with all homicide offences with resourcing prioritised for homicides. Investigations can be lengthy and involve the support of many officers and staff across the force. The force Homicide Prevention Problem Profile identifies four factors commonly influencing homicide, these are.

- Domestic abuse
- Drugs markets
- Revenge and retribution
- Spontaneous altercation

In addition to the above the force has identified that the night-time economy (NTE) and Knife Crime are also common contributing factors.

Homicide offences are often linked to either Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) activity or domestic-related offending; these areas constitute the focus of our homicide prevention activity.

OCG links - Information on the work being undertaken to address armed criminality and OCG delivery (which links to the homicide volumes) is reported under **Reduce Serious Violence**.

Domestic homicides - The force Serious Case Review team identify cases fitting the criteria for a Domestic Homicide Review, bringing them to the attention of the Local Authority. A report covering police activity is circulated, ensuring learning is disseminated to staff, supporting future prevention.

Training (DA Matters) was provided to front line officers/staff, with a focus on the importance of risk assessment, and identification of additional vulnerability, supporting intervention. The force Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment team review all medium and high-risk DA incidents, providing a specialist secondary risk assessment. They conduct research to identify high-risk behaviours (coercive control, stalking/harassment or recent separation) which are sometimes seen as precursors to DA homicides.

High-risk domestic incidents are referred to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which delivers information-sharing, safety planning for victims and their children, and manages behaviour of perpetrators. The force-wide Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meeting focusses on repeat perpetrator behaviour through engagement or enforcement.

	Prevention solutions are available to protect DA victims including phones, SmartWater forensic marking, and Buddi Tags, which can be monitored via GPS. Civil Orders such as Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) and Stalking Protection Orders are used to good effect to protect victims, supported by a dedicated DVPO team. District-based DA teams provide consistency of quality investigations for all high-risk DA crimes.
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Ongoing focus – November 2025

Supt Dave Cowley (Homicide, Serious Violent Crime)

It is gratifying to see that the majority of key measures for serious violent crime continue to experience a downward trend, with reductions seen in homicide, most serious violence (MSV), knife crime, knife enabled robbery and firearms offences.

Activity to reduce homicide and serious violence is coordinated through the homicide prevention board, chaired by ACC Barnett. It brings together all districts and key departments alongside the Hot Spot Team (Grip) and Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). Everyone is seen as having an important part to play in reducing homicide and serious violence. The work coordinated by MSV meetings and districts is particularly relevant in focussing activity on investigations and proactivity, particularly in the night-time economy hotspots for violent crime.

The Grip team continues to coordinate hot spot patrolling, problem solving and proactive policing operations to reduce violent crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB).

For the latest period, highlights include:

- Strong operational focus this quarter with increased visible policing for community reassurance and crime prevention.
- 62 Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) operations delivered, generating 2,072 hours of visible patrol.
- Hotspot patrols added 3,571 hours, bringing the total to 8,302 visible patrol hours in Q2.
- Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) increasingly lead POP operations, improving engagement and effectiveness through community familiarity.
- Analytical support provided POP analysis for all areas, shared with NPTs to guide targeted activity.
- Collaboration with local authorities remains strong; for example: Rotherham community safety partnership (CSP) head attended the National Problem Solving and Crime Prevention Conference with South Yorkshire Police staff.
- Challenges faced: stretched force capacity during peak periods (protests, mutual aid, football operations).
- Consistent coverage maintained thanks to hotspot policing coordinator and Grip funding support.

In addition to funded activity, unfunded patrol hours have significantly contributed to overall visibility, with 892 hours recorded in Barnsley, 858 in Doncaster, 209 in Rotherham, and 2,360 in Sheffield. The majority of these were as part of the Safer Streets Summer initiative. Results include:

- **318 arrests**
- **215 stop searches, 125 positive (58.14 per cent)**
- **133 Traffic Offence Reports / Reported on Summons**
- **90 police intelligence reports (PIR)**
- **12 weapons found**

Proactive operations for example Basic Mike weapons searches, and Sentinel, Scorpion and Sidewinder operations continue to be used to reduce violence and violence against women and girls (VAWG) offences in town centres and the nighttime economy.

Work planned for next quarter includes coordinating and contributing to the winter town Centre campaign just launched by the Home Office and further work to combat knife crime including the Sceptre intensification week of activity from 17th to 23rd November.

The VRU takes a long-term approach to violent crime by addressing the root causes of violence. The VRU is funding 22 organisations across the county to provide diversionary activity to help prevent youths becoming

involved in violent crime. The take up of the Learn Sheffield school teaching materials on knife crime remains good and delivery of the custody navigators and custody navigator project continues. Through SYMCA, the unit has recruited two new partnership managers who are both now in place. Recruitment of a further two and a new Head of VRU is ongoing. These are to be permanent SYMCA staff who will build lasting local relationships with statutory partners and the voluntary community sector.

The VRU is currently working with Doncaster Council to pilot Youth Futures Partnership Prevention Panels. These aim to identify children at risk of becoming involved in crime and violence at an early stage in order to put preventative strategies in place to divert them away from crime. The initiative is funded through the Home Office and is data led. The first panels have already taken place and if successful, the aim is to roll out this initiative across the county starting next year.

Measure: Reduce Serious Violence

- NHS hospital admissions data for under 25-year-olds for assault with a sharp object; and
- Police recorded crime data on offences involving the discharge of a lethal barrelled firearm

Recorded levels	In the 12 months to March 2025, the force recorded 35 under 25-year-old admissions to hospital for assault with sharp object, a 36 per cent reduction from the baseline period (55), against a national reduction of 37 per cent. Internally, Knife Crime and Most Serious Violence (MSV) datasets are also reviewed to support understanding and focus activity. The force is working with the National Data Quality Improvement Service to support the data capture against the Home Office definition of Knife Crime.
Force response to reducing serious violence	The force created the Armed Crime Team (ACT) in 2020/21, successfully working to reduce the volumes of firearms discharges since inception. Clear interdependencies exist with the following: • Grip funding (intelligence-led local visible policing, focused by hot spot analysis) • Problem-Solving Hub (problem-solving partnership plans, with funding to support activity) • Violence Reduction Unit (using a public health approach to violence reduction and prevention) The Grip team undertake a range of targeted activities to disrupt violent criminality and reduce knife-crime offending. Local policing teams and specialist teams such as licensing also operate in response to violent offences and proactively work to reduce night-time economy offending. Profiles have been delivered to understand the impact of Covid on demand and resourcing needs and profiles delivering against thematic areas are delivered throughout the year. Taking learning from analytical products, the GRIP team work alongside neighbourhood policing teams to ensure problem-solving plans are targeted and effective. The force has an established brand for tackling organised crime, this operation brings together the four districts and Crime Services in a stand against Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) and routine sharing of content externally and internally which builds on the four Ps: • Pursue – prosecuting and disrupting people engaged in serious and organised criminality • Prevent – preventing people from engaging in serious and organised criminality • Protect – increasing protection against organised crime • Prepare – reducing the impact of serious and organised crime where it takes place. OCG threats are locally managed and centrally coordinated under the banner of Fortify. OCG disruption activity relies on a strong understanding of threats, and the force has undertaken mapping to establish the level of firearms capabilities across the OCGs residing in South Yorkshire.

Ongoing focus – November 2025

DCI Sam Blakemore (Armed Criminality), D/Supt Dave Cowley (Serious Violent Crime)

The force continues to record positive reductions in firearms-related offences, maintaining a downward trend that has been evident since 2021.

Historically, South Yorkshire Police reported significantly higher numbers of viable firearm discharges compared to its Most Similar Group (MSG). The force was previously identified as one of six 'Key Gun Crime Forces' alongside West Yorkshire Police, Greater Manchester Police, Merseyside Police, West Midlands Police, and the Metropolitan Police Service. However, this position changed markedly in 2024, with South Yorkshire now recording a substantially lower number of discharges.

Year-to-date data reinforces this sustained improvement. In 2024, there were 25 firearms discharges, a significant reduction from the peak of 86 in 2020. So far in 2025, 17 discharges have been recorded (compared to 18 by November 2024).

Injuries caused by firearms have also declined. In 2024, there were seven injuries and no fatalities. In 2025, only two injuries have been recorded so far, although one resulted in a fatality.

Proactive disruption of firearms-enabled organised crime groups has contributed to these results, with a notable increase in the recovery of illegally held firearms. To date in 2025, 47 illegally held firearms have been seized, compared to 24 in the whole of 2024.

Knife crime continues to be a focus for the VRU with 'work well advanced' to establish a focussed deterrence pilot in Sheffield linked to the Habitual Knife Carriers index. The VRU is also presenting the deputy Mayor with a number of options around knife crime for a round table event planned for early next year.

The VRU continues to support a VAWG coordination post for South Yorkshire Police and activity has included VAWG matters training to South Yorkshire Police staff and partner agencies and the Independent Advisory Group.

A VAWG round table event is also being planned with the SYMCA Police and reform team and VRU.

Newly appointed Partnership Managers in the VRU have been linking in with the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Leads to refresh the local violence reduction plans and review the spending plans for the VRU grants to them. These plans support local violent crime initiatives put in place by the CSPs to address local issues.

Measure: Disrupt drugs supply and county lines

- **Homicide in England and Wales (ONS) data on drug related homicides.**
- **Substance misuse treatment for adults (PHE) data on new presentations to treatment by referral type.**

Recorded crime levels	The ONS dataset shows the proportion of homicide victims and suspects that were under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the homicide. The force submits all homicide reports to the Home Office, and the reports include notification of those identified to be drug related. This is captured by the officer in the case with the information known at the point of submission. The majority of the homicides within South Yorkshire have a flag applied linking them to drugs with drug related homicides accounting for 57 per cent of the homicides in the county in the 12 months to September 2024, a similar proportion than seen nationally (53 per cent). Substance misuse treatment for adults is not held by police forces.
Force response to disrupt drugs supply and county lines	The force focus continues in the disruption of drugs supply and county lines. The force has worked to significantly increase drug expert witness capability, providing greater support to drug-related prosecutions, and assisting the process through the criminal justice system. Operational activity links to the work of the Armed Crime Team and district Fortify Teams with a high proportion of mapped Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) primarily linked to drugs. Disruptions of the OCG networks linked to drugs supply and county lines are monitored (<i>Reduce Serious Violence section</i>).

	The force employs a SOC Co-ordinator who attends the monthly regional SOC Co-ordinators forum chaired by a Home Office representative and regional county lines leads, facilitating wide sharing of intelligence, emerging threats, and notable practice. The forces Fortify Management Group scrutinises and tasks against the top SOC threats for each of the four districts, in turn informing the Multi Agency Regional Tactical Operational Meeting (MARTOM) where the top SOC threats across the region are discussed. Level 2 activity around force SOC threats is governed through covert Tactical Tasking and Co-ordination Group (TT&CG) chaired by the SOC thematic lead. The SOC-IT team is responsible for undertaking SOC System Tasking process for OCG Management, reviewing the threats and geographic impact of each OCG with the relevant LRO to inform future demand scanning. MoRiLE scores for OCGs are used during various TT&CG meetings to aid decision making in terms of resources, including whole force and covert meetings. In addition, the districts/departments receive a summary of their OCG's in risk order after each full round of SOC System Tasking to aid local meetings and to allow districts to make informed decisions around resourcing and response to the risks. Each district has proactive Fortify teams varying in numbers commensurate with the size, demographic and SOC threat within the district, equipped with the appropriate tools with which to undertake their roles. The force Serious and Organised Crime Strategy sets out the direction for the force. The purpose of the strategy is to outline the vision for tackling and reducing SOC, set the objectives the force is trying to achieve over the period and the steps that will be taken to deliver this. The strategy has six specific objectives aligned to the 4Ps Pursue, Prepare, Protect and Prevent, these being reducing vulnerabilities; developing our capabilities; improving problem solving; developing strategic partnerships; promoting communications and engagement; and demonstrating effective governance and compliance. A key challenge in tackling the criminality associated with County Lines activity (often linked to drugs), is understanding the nature and scale of activity. As a result, the force works with partners to raise awareness across the communities; proactively engage with young people who may be vulnerable for targeting by offenders; supporting those who have been victims of exploitation; and investigating and charging offenders with their criminal acts. A quarterly county-wide Child Exploitation Group (incorporating County Lines activity) continues to evolve to improve partnership working and information sharing, along with highlighting best practice and addressing any operational issues. The National Police Chief's Council Vulnerability Tracker is fully embedded across the force and utilised within MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation) meetings. This supports the identification of victims for both CSE and CCE, providing a risk score and profile. District PVP teams locally conduct regular MACE meetings, and all Districts have a dedicated child exploitation team. In addition to submitting safeguarding referrals, partners also play a key role in prevention work, for example through drug awareness education or through deferring children from youth violence. The work of the Violence Reduction Unit supports the delivery of some commissioned interventions, and the force works with to refer individuals for substance misuse programmes, under schemes such as the Custody Navigator programme, and Liaison and Diversion. Additionally, the force and Mayor's office are working with Local Authority substance misuse commissioners to develop a conditional caution referral pathway for offenders.
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Ongoing focus – November 2025

D/Supt Nikki Shimwell (SOC), DCI Gary Magnay (CCE and County Lines), DCI Mark Oughton (Drugs Markets)

Work under the Pursue aim of the 4 P's continues and overall action taken outcomes for Modern Slavery have improved across the force from 2023 to 2024. Although small numbers in respect of investigations, action taken outcomes increased by 77 per cent (3.5 per cent in 2023 to 6.2 per cent in 2024).

The South Yorkshire Modern Slavery Partnership Group continues to work well and a new public facing partnership website is due to launch in the near future ensuring a more sustainable public resource.

The MSOIC Unit (Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime) are continuing to lead the overall response to organised immigration crime and recently facilitated a national request for three days of activity targeting organised immigration crime between the 23rd and 25th September. A multi-agency operation was conducted over this period focusing on engagement with HGV drivers on the M1 corridor. Over 50 vehicles were engaged with and fines issued to vehicles on the organised immigration crime action list for approximately £30,000. No migrants were located in any vehicles.

Further funding opportunities have been explored, and funding has been secured for a further £12,664 to complete four road operations, generating opportunities to uncover MSOIC and SOC offending through the targeting of vehicles. Work is likely to commence from November 2025.

A multi-agency immigration learning event was held in September with a variety of attendees from different roles and responsibilities across the force to improve South Yorkshire Police's response to incidents of this kind.

The MSOIC Unit have worked closely with the Economic Crime Unit (ECU) to plan for and execute days of action in October for Op Machinize 2. This is a focus on cash rich businesses that have overlaps with illegal working and potential Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) aspects. Results have been published including numerous businesses visited, illegal commodities recovered, and fines issued.

Focus continues to develop safeguarding as the primary response to children involved in county lines, to ensure they are treated primarily as victims and that every opportunity is explored to identify engagement options. Jointly, through Doncaster childrens safeguarding board, a restorative practice training package has been developed and rolled out to statutory partners and professionals who work directly with children, with the aim to involve families as active partners in safeguarding of their children. The strength based, relationship focussed approach supports families to understand concerns, take responsibility for change and remain involved in decision making, moving to a "do with" approach rather than "done to" which has previously impeded true engagement.

Work continues to highlight the vulnerability that exposes children to exploitation. It is essential that professionals understand the push/pull factors involved in childrens lives that make them more susceptible to grooming. Children who are repeatedly missing from home are at significantly greater risk of criminal exploitation and the risk of involvement in county lines operations. Doncaster childrens safeguarding board have commissioned a strategic audit of repeat missing children within the district to identify early intervention and prevention opportunities. The learning derived from the review will be utilised to develop the blueprint for new bespoke partnership problem solving plans.

The in-house cannabis testing pilot, which has been ongoing for last 12 months, is nearing conclusion. This has seen relative success in the expedition of cases through the criminal justice programme. The Benefits realisation review of the pilot is entering its final phase, with the results and forward plan being shared on completion.

A multi-agency tabletop exercise is currently in planning with the four Local Authorities to test the force joint response to Synthetic opioids. Synthetic Opioids continue to emerge in drugs seizures and in results from toxicology following drugs deaths.

A Sheffield wide conference is being organised for November 2025 with University of Sheffield/Likewise (Drug and Alcohol support service) and Sheffield City Council to increase city wide carriage of Naloxone. A wide range of

speakers are planned, and other local authority representatives are invited to replicate. Currently South Yorkshire Police have 1569 staff trained, with 464 still to train and 302 carrying (15 per cent of eligible staff). The next steps are for the dissemination via briefings of a FAQ video. South Yorkshire Police have received positive feedback from NPCC and Home Office regarding the number of officers trained and carrying. A finalisation report is being completed as this work stream becomes business as usual. Funding continues to be an issue post December 2026.

Measure: Reduce neighbourhood crime

- **Combined measure of Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) data on domestic burglary, robbery, theft of a vehicle, theft from a vehicle, attempts of and from vehicles and theft from the person offences.**

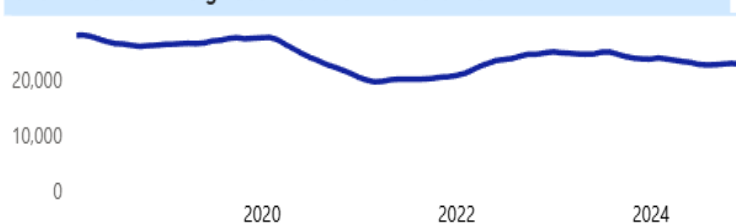
Recorded crime levels

The CSEW data to September 2024 reported that the *percentage of adults in South Yorkshire who have been a victim of at least one personal crime or have been resident in a household that was a victim of at least one household crime are 2.6 per cent and 9.8 per cent respectively – compared to 3 per cent and 7.9 per cent for England and Wales.*

In the 12 months to December 2019 (baseline) there were 27,308 Neighbourhood Crimes recorded in South Yorkshire compared to 22,704 in the 12 months to December 2024, a reduction of 17 per cent.

Reductions in recorded crime volumes have been seen in Residential Burglary, Theft from Person and Theft of/from Vehicle, whereas Personal Robbery has seen an increase (4 per cent)

Chart 1b: Total neighbourhood crime volume



Whilst reductions are largely maintained, Theft of Vehicle is an increasing challenge, and the force currently records a higher rate of Residential Burglary, Robbery and Theft from / of Vehicle than peer forces, and a similar rate of Theft from Person offences.

Force response to reducing neighbourhood crime

Prevention activity undertaken by neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) is the backbone for long-term delivery of crime reductions. The force analysts have identified wards with the highest rates of neighbourhood crime. The NPTs apply an evidence-based policing approach to develop local problem-solving plans for these areas. Bespoke neighbourhood policing training has been developed for NPT officers; the first force to achieve officer accreditation by Skills 4 Justice. This work is supported by effective communications with the public and the force continues to deliver media campaigns for emerging neighbourhood crime types to ensure the public is alert to any local themes of criminality, and where possible undertaking preventative action.

Intelligence Analysts produce bi-weekly patrol plans for each district, using crime and incident records, incoming intelligence, and analytical profiling to review the modus operandi of the latest burglary reports, support local officer awareness, investigative consideration, target-hardening activity and public-facing crime prevention messaging. Prior neighbourhood crime offenders under imminent prison release are also notified to local officers. This is further supported by a monthly vehicle crime and robbery analysis document.

District investigation teams are responsible for the investigation of these offences, management of suspects and offenders. All teams are dedicated to improving the quality of initial scene attendance, evidence capture and investigation to improve action taken outcomes and reduce offending.

Resulting from the development of NPT structures and investigative focus, the force is in a strong position to focus on the continued delivery of reductions in neighbourhood crime.

Ongoing Focus – November 2025

Operation Fortress is now in effect across the force. It remains too early to show the true impact of this operation but a cohort of persistent and prolific nominals perpetrating 2 in 1 burglary and the subsequent theft of motor vehicles have been identified and a full suite of tactical and preventative options are being implemented and coordinated at a force level.

A review is underway of Operation Hawkeye which has proven effective in driving longer-term problem-solving activity in relation to residential burglary and contributed to the decrease in offending noted. To continue to drive these reductions, South Yorkshire Police plan to adopt a tiered approach across identified geographical areas and adopt a menu of tactics according to the tiering. This will allow priority to be brought to areas most impacted by offending, with additional analysis to drive bespoke and highly nuanced tactics to offending patterns and behaviour including bespoke prevention advice to MO types seen in areas and additional use of civil orders to manage offenders.

A benefits realisation review is also under way to assess the previous changes and implementation to neighbourhood crime teams across the force. Some early signs of impact in regard the 'scanning' pilot initially adopted in Doncaster, and subsequently in Sheffield, is showing early promise with reported increases in action taken rates in these areas. This approach will be considered in the wider review which is underway. It is expected the force will be able to report on this in early November.

Measure: Improve satisfaction among victims, with a particular focus on victims of DA

- **Satisfaction with the police among victims of domestic abuse (CSEW)**
- **Victim satisfaction with the police (CSEW)**

Recorded satisfaction levels	There is no local comparison available against a national measure, but the force has locally invested to undertake victim feedback surveys to support an understanding of service delivery. Since June 2016, the Home Office has required forces (as part of annual data return requirements) to survey victims of Domestic Abuse. Victim feedback is important to the force to understand where improvements in service can be made. In the 12 months to February 2025, victim satisfaction with overall service in South Yorkshire is 72 per cent for victims of a combined crime measure (domestic burglary, vehicle crime, vulnerable, and hate victims), and 78 per cent for local victims of Domestic Abuse.
Force response to improving victim satisfaction	South Yorkshire Police works alongside the Mayoral office to deliver the victim feedback survey with a focus on understanding the elements where service can be improved. The force seeks the views of members of the public across South Yorkshire who have been recent victims of domestic burglary, vehicle crime, hate crime, domestic abuse, stalking, vulnerable victims and anti-social behaviour victims. Whilst the force usually receives positive feedback for the initial response to incidents, and treatment of victims by officers, the main areas for improvement are in the updating of victims by the officer and keeping victims informed of the investigation progress. Satisfaction can be lower for crimes where an officer doesn't attend, therefore managing victim expectation and communicating an effective final contact remain a focus. Compliance against the Victims Code of Practice (VCOP), including an assessment of the force's delivery of enhanced service where appropriate, and delivery of the communications plan is coordinated through the strategic group. It is difficult to understand compliance without a manual review of the investigation, to ensure that the correct people have been identified as being entitled to an enhanced service and whether they receive this service or not. As a result

	of review, changes were made to the referrals process to better support the identification of victim vulnerability.
Ongoing focus – November 2025 Supt Mark James (Victim Satisfaction), DCI Melissa Johnson (Domestic Abuse)	
Key deliverables in support of the vision:	
Map and understand the victims’ journey across all aspects of service delivery. The 12 victims’ rights have been broken down into areas of policing that cover contact, communication, investigations and Criminal Justice. The victims code are ongoing rights, throughout the victim experience. These rights fall under Force Control Room (FCR), Investigations and Criminal Justice Unit (CJU). Many of these rights cross over due to their nature. The force is considering how well these rights are met, and how this is being measured and quality assured.	
Identify key performance measures and indicators throughout key aspects of the journey. Performance and Governance (PAG) will be key in the discussion around how the force measures performance. Currently, data is accessible via the force’s Operational Management Information Power BI App on victim contact failures/ due to fail – this is one of the force’s most viewed reports. Further victims’ code of practice (VCOP) performance data is captured within the Investigation Quality Reviews (IQR), of which work is ongoing for a Power BI App to be developed, and other metrics including Victim Support Referrals, crime recording timeliness and victim’s right to review (VRR) are captured within the VCOP Power BI App under development, which will also feature relevant IQR data and VNA Connect data when available. Of the rights the MoJ have stipulated police forces are likely to be required to provide data on, PAG have identified 5 of the 7 have measurable data in place. Where measurable data is not yet in place, the force continues to develop systems and processes to rectify this.	
Prepare for and support delivery of the new Victims Code (Victims and Court Bill currently in the House of Commons) Work is ongoing to understand how the force measures these rights and how the victim service is quality assessed. Technical work is ongoing to ensure the requirements of the code are captured and delivered in the individual needs assessment and reflected across South Yorkshire Police systems, including in built utilisation for the new Records Management System (RMS) and the Victim Journey software utilised by the FCR.	
Strengthen governance incorporating relevant aspects within the force Investigations Governance Board (tactical and strategic). Discussions have taken place with FCR/FCB and CJU to clarify the governance structure and avoid duplication. Meetings are also scheduled with the investigations improvement unit (IIU) to discuss how the team can ensure that the rights are being met throughout the investigation process and how this is being measured.	
Work in collaboration with and in support of Criminal Justice Victims and Witness service delivery. Discussions are taking place on how the force makes and captures referrals to witness care services and other agencies such as IDAS and ISVAS and understanding which rights are covered by CPS.	
Draw upon and make use of learning from regional and national forces. The force is liaising with forces nationally that already have a “good” rating with regards to investigations and meeting victims’ rights and satisfaction to understand how their processes may differ and identify any notable practice.	
Victim satisfaction scores for the past three months can be seen below. <i>DA Satisfaction Aug-Oct compared to May-Jun</i>	

Overall Victim Satisfaction: Overall satisfaction no change

- Overall (71 per cent) and attended (78 per cent) satisfaction remained stable compared to the previous period.
- Non-attended satisfaction (66 per cent) remained stable.
- Satisfaction with initial contact has significantly increased (89 per cent)
- All other aspects of service remained stable.

Burglary: Overall satisfaction no change

- Overall (83 per cent), attended (85 per cent) and non-attended satisfaction (75 per cent) remained stable.
- All aspects of service remained stable.

Vehicle: Overall satisfaction no change

- Overall (65 per cent) and attended (61 per cent) satisfaction remained stable.
- Non-attended satisfaction (65 per cent) significantly increased.
- Satisfaction with initial contact significantly improved (89 per cent)
- Follow up satisfaction is the lowest aspect of service at 47 per cent.

Vulnerable: Overall satisfaction no change

- Overall (68 per cent) satisfied with the whole experience
- Attended satisfaction (74 per cent) and non-attended (63 per cent) satisfaction remained stable.
- Initial contact and actions taken have also significantly increased to 91 per cent and 79 per cent respectively.
- All other aspects of service remained stable.
- Follow up had the lowest satisfaction at 56 per cent.

Hate: Overall satisfaction no change

- Overall (71 per cent), attended (74 per cent) and non-attended satisfaction (68 per cent) remained stable.
- Satisfaction with initial contact significantly improved from 80 per cent to 94 per cent.
- All other aspects of service remained stable.
- Follow up satisfaction is the lowest aspect of service at 61 per cent.
- It should be noted that the figures for hate crime victims are based on a small sample size

Domestic Abuse: Overall satisfaction no change

- Overall 84 per cent were satisfied with the service
- First response remained stable at 91 per cent.
- Initial contact remained stable at 95 per cent.
- Follow up is the lowest aspect of service at 58 per cent.

The Rotherham district introduced RAPID on 1st October 2025 and training has been delivered to supervisors across the response and investigative portfolio. There has been a specific reference made to ensuring the force conduct victim centred and suspect focused investigations, from outset to conclusion, thus improving the investigative quality of domestic abuse cases.

This should result in increased victim confidence and public satisfaction and is expected to be reflected in any victim satisfaction surveys moving forward.

Expected standards have been reinforced to officers to ensure victims are supported and engaged throughout a domestic abuse investigation.

Governance structures have been implemented to ensure that officers are adhering to these standards and to track the effect of the implementation.

The rollout of RAPID is to continue across the force to ensure that all DA victims receive the same high-quality service from South Yorkshire Police.

Rotherham are also piloting the expedited case build for green DA cases, with a view to cases being submitted within 42 days of a report being made. This is in the final consultation phase and further clarity will be provided in the next national measures update.

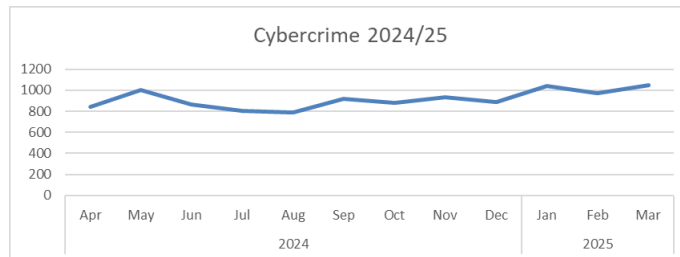
Measure: Tackle Cyber Crime

- **Public confidence in the law enforcement response to cybercrime (Cyber Aware Tracker)**
- **Proportion of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack (Cyber Security Breaches Survey)**

Recorded

The datasets nationally identified are not currently available at a local level. On a quarterly basis, the force provides data returns to the region which feeds a national performance report to the NPCC Cybercrime Programme Board.

Recorded cybercrime offences have continued to increase in recent years, with just under 11,000 offences recorded in 2024/25. The largest cybercrime categories are harassment, stalking and obscene publications.



Tackling this criminality is widespread across a number of operational areas.

Force response to reducing cyber crime

There is an increasing digital footprint within criminality and the force has taken steps to support officers in undertaking cyber-dependent or cyber-enabled investigations. Despite this, keeping pace with the rate of technological advancement adopted by offenders is a challenge. Cybercrime is a cross-cutting theme within the force Control Strategy, and the approach to cybercrime mirrors the 4P strands of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy.

The force has a dedicated Cyber Protect Officer who is responsible for supporting the delivery of the Protect strand in relation to cybercrime. This officer works extensively with local businesses and public groups to support prevention messaging and circulate emerging issues across media platforms. Key to this work is the early intervention in place to deliver 'cyber choices' input for children considered to be at risk of cyber offending.

The force has a Digital Forensics Unit, digital evidence kiosks which are available to officers across the organisation, and a Digital Intelligence and Investigations Unit which specialises in the investigation of complex cyber-dependent offences. The Digital Intelligence and Investigations Unit also works to support the wider Yorkshire and Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit (RCCU), the National Crime Agency, and other force Cyber Crime Units as required.

Digital Media Investigators across the force work to support local officer knowledge and capability. Street Skills training, reaching all frontline response and NPT officers, includes cyber-crime input. The force has an internal intranet page dedicated to cybercrime to provide an information support for all officers. This includes the force's Little Book of Cyber Scams, and links to the Met Police mini videos on various cyber scam topics.

ISO 17025 is the international standard applicable for all laboratories performing calibrations and/or tests. The United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) is the national body with responsibility for assessing organisations that provide these services. In 2019, the force gained accreditation in the physical capture and preservation of data from computer related devices and in Autumn 2020 completed an extension to scope the capture and processing of data from mobile devices. The force recognises the need to continually improve the resources and

	training to respond to and prevent cybercrime and is committed to continued investment in digitally capability.
Ongoing focus – November 2025 DCI Anna Sedgewick (Digital Investigations and Cyber)	
The main focus will be delivering the Protect and Prevent message to various groups within south Yorkshire at a local level and with regional collaboration. Nine events have already been organised including schools, social care, NHS services, foster care services and various social groups. There are another 25 other events yet to be organised. The ongoing focus will remain the targeting of those groups which are the most vulnerable and at risk of being victims of cyber related offending. The investigative focus remains around identifying and disrupting cyber criminals committing offences against residents and businesses within South Yorkshire. There will be continued collaboration between regional forces and South Yorkshire Police providing an expedited service for ransomware incidents. The force Cyber Crime unit has a number of ongoing ransomware investigations relating to businesses across South Yorkshire. Work remains ongoing to collaborate with businesses, particularly in high-risk areas of manufacturing to strengthen cyber resilience. The Cyber investigation team will continue to review and log financial intelligence around cryptocurrency to allow the team to build an intelligence picture about how criminals are using cryptocurrency in South Yorkshire. The force will continue to robustly investigate suspicious behaviour reports from cryptocurrency platforms and aim to disrupt money laundering and freeze and seize any criminal assets linked to online criminality. The Cyber investigation team will also monitor daily the cyber threat landscape and direct their resources to tackle any emerging threat. Part of this is joining a new AI working group run by TARIAN to share new emerging risk and threats and to share investigative practices with all forces in this new rise in criminal use of technology. The cyber team continues to take part in continuous development concerning technology-based issues on the topic of violence against woman and girls. Arrangements to deliver training throughout the force will continue from both the protect and pursue team on all areas encompassing cybercrime and cyber related fraud. The cyber team will continue to monitor and pursue proactive opportunities around cyber related offenders in South Yorkshire. They will work closely with regional forces to provide a Prevent service to high-risk people in this area. Preparations are being made to assist regional forces in Cyber Switch up. This is a regionally managed event/competition for young people under 18 years of age to take part in a number of cyber competitions. The primary objective being to promote opportunities in cyber career paths and deliver a prevent message to the children of the region. Events are in the process of being organised in schools and youth services to promote this.	