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**Gwent Police
and Crime Panel**

**Panel Heddlu
& Throseddu Gwent**

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Date: 24th March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Gwent Police and Crime Panel** will be held at the **Sirhowy Room - Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Friday, 31st March, 2023** at **10.00 am** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

A G E N D A

	Pages	
1	Declarations of Interest.	
2	Apologies for Absence.	
To approve and sign the following minutes: -		
3	Gwent Police and Crime Panel held on 27th January 2023	1 - 4
4	Update by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.	5 - 10
5	To Receive and Answer any Questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent	
6	Presentation - Police Complaints and Reviews	
7	Performance Qtr 3	11 - 36
8	Police and Crime Panel Subgroups	37 - 38
9	Forward Work Programme.	39 - 40

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Gareth A. Davies, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Councillor Jacqueline Thomas, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Councillor Marina Chacon-Dawson, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillor Mrs Christine Forehead, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillor Colin Peter Mann, Caerphilly County Borough Council

Councillor Tony Easson, Monmouthshire County Council
Councillor Tony Kear, Monmouthshire County Borough Council
Councillor Farzina Hussain, Newport City Council
Councillor Debbie Jenkins, Newport City Council
Councillor Mark Spencer, Newport City Council
Councillor Lynda Clarkson, Torfaen County Borough Council

Co-opted Members- Gillian Howells

By Invitation

Mr J. Cuthbert, Office of the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner
Ms E. Thomas, Office of the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner
Mrs S. Curley, Office of the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner
Mr D. Garwood-Pask, Office of the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner

And Appropriate Officers.

Gwent Police
and Crime Panel

Panel Heddlu
Gwent a Throseddu

GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE ON FRIDAY 27TH JANUARY 2023 AT 10.00AM

Present:

Mrs G. Howells – Chair

Councillors G. Davies and J. Thomas – Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Councillors M. Chacon-Dawson and C. Forehead – Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillors A. Easson and T. Kear – Monmouthshire County Council
Councillors F. Hussain, D. Jenkins and M. Spencer - Newport County Borough Council
Councillors L. Clarkson – Torfaen County Borough Council

By invitation:

Mr J. Cuthbert – Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Ms E. Thomas - Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Mrs S. Curley - Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Mr D. Garwood-Pask - Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Ms Pam Kelly – Chief Constable of Gwent Police

Mr Rhodri Guest – Head of Communications and Engagement, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Together with:

Mrs C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager - CCBC) and Mr M. Jacques (Scrutiny Officer - CCBC).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were declared by Members.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor C. Mann – Caerphilly County Borough Council.

3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: Gwent Police and Crime Panel held on 16th December 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Gwent Police and Crime Panel meeting held on 16th December 2022 (minute no. 1 - 6) be approved as a correct record.

4. TO RECEIVE AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME

COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT

The Chair advised that no questions were submitted by Panel Members prior to the meeting.

5. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT'S BUDGET REQUIREMENT AND COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT PROPOSAL 2023/24

The Police and Crime Commissioner began by highlighting that it was National Holocaust Day and stressed the significance of the day for promoting anti-racism.

The PCC outlined how this was the 7th Budget Proposal he had delivered to the Panel since first being elected in 2016 and was the most difficult due to the impact of the cost of living crisis on communities. But he highlighted how in order for Gwent Police to perform at an optimum level they had to be funded at an optimum level. Members heard from the PCC how affordability had to align with demand. It was outlined how the cost of living crisis had influenced the PCC's decision regarding the Council Tax Precept Proposal and how years of austerity measures were a factor on the bid put forward by the Chief Constable in December. Members also heard about partnership working and were given examples of bravery at frontline Policing. The PCC highlighted that that the only funding stream he could directly influence was the one discussed in this report. Members then heard about a public consultation process around budget-setting and the PCC advised that 61% of respondents had favoured an increased precept. The PCC advised Members that the proposed level of precept was 6.82% which equated to an extra £20.72 per year for a Band D property or around £1.73 a month. The PCC highlighted the need for significant additional funding from the Home Office in the future and stressed how the use of reserves had addressed the shortfall in this budget. It was stressed that the proposal addressed what the Chief Constable needed rather than what she would like to receive, and anything less would jeopardise effective Policing in Gwent.

The Chair thanked the PCC and invited questions from the Panel. One Member questioned the size of the report under discussion and the limited time Members had to consider it. The Member believed that the process around setting the Precept needed to be reviewed. The Chair highlighted that this point had been raised previously and that a review of the reports received in other Force regions might be useful. The PCC agreed that it was a fair point raised by the Member and highlighted some of the constraints on the timeliness of the report. These included legal issues and ensuring that the financial information contained was as up to date as possible. The Chief Finance Officer provided supporting information to Members and provided assurances that he would work with the Panel's joint Estates/ Finance sub-group on the process.

A Member suggested that an easy-read version of the report could be issued which would make it more accessible.

One Member asked for more information on the public engagement which had taken place. The Chief Finance Officer and the Head of Communications and Engagement provided details on an engagement process which included attending 23 events in order to conduct face-to-face surveys.

A Member raised the issue of the delay of Estate projects and asked about the effect on operational duties. The PCC advised that buildings came under his portfolio but how they were utilised was a matter for the Chief Constable. The PCC reiterated that plans for an operational facility had been deferred until the situation with interest rates was more favourable. The Chief Finance Officer then gave Members some background on how the decision was reached. The Chief Constable advised Members that there was an operational risk, especially with regards to custody, but that affordability was the issue. Whilst accepting the need to currently defer, the Chief Constable was of the opinion that this situation should be the subject of an ongoing review so that prompt action could be taken if the financial climate was more favourable. Members heard how failure to do this would only push a significant problem further down the line. The

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent gave assurances to Members that design and pre-construction planning of the projects was continuing.

The Chair highlighted that the Panel needed a greater understanding of the business case for the operational facility and questioned an assertion in paragraph 88 (page 39) of the report which stated that the PCP's Estate Reference Group concluded that the strategy was robust. The Chief Finance Officer advised that the strategy would be concluded next month, and he outlined additional information on the passage following this conclusion.

A Member of the Estates sub-group raised concerns that they were not made fully aware of some of the proposed Estate projects. The Member highlighted the plans for the former headquarters and the firearms facility and questioned if the latter could not be facilitated on a shared basis with the Ministry of Defence. The Chief Finance Officer advised that the firearms facility was not one of the deferred projects. He also provided assurances on bringing the Estates Strategy to the Panel and sub-group when the implementation stage was reached. The Chief Constable stressed the importance of also understanding operational need when discussing the Estates Strategy. Members heard that the Chief Constable had concerns over operating a firearms facility on a shared basis outside of policing as Gwent Police would only be able to use it when it was not in use by the MOD. The PCC advised that there was also an issue over the Police using different calibre bullets to the MOD. He also highlighted the range of duties performed by firearms officers and told Members about a recent incident when out of control dogs which were posing a danger had to be dealt with by officers.

The Chair asked a question on the impact of deferring Emergency Services Network spend until 2029/30, and enquired if the existing communication system would be able to meet operational needs. The Chief Finance Officer provided assurances to Panel Members and gave information on the "sinking fund" which ensured affordability and reduced the need to borrow. The Chief Constable added that this referral posed a risk which was continuously being monitored and highlighted that it was a national issue.

One Member wished to know what was meant by unrecoverable secondment income which was categorised in the appendices. The Chief Finance Officer advised that this related to officers who were seconded to other Forces or organisations.

A Member queried the IT cost pressures and wished to know the total commitment to Shared Resource Services (SRS). The Chief Finance Officer gave information on the additional costs connected with the new Headquarters but assured Members that the investment was beneficial. The example given to the Panel was the Force's response to the pandemic in 2020 from an IT perspective which allowed a seamless transition to remote working.

One Panel Member wished to have more information on service improvement due to Telematics. The Chief Finance Officer provided information on how it allowed a better understanding of how Police assets are utilised. The use in vehicles benefitted productivity and allowed accurate analysis of deployment.

A Member asked how often performance reviews took place. The Chief Finance Officer advised that this was quarterly but that financial reviews between himself and senior officers took place monthly in order to highlight any issues and take preventative action if needed.

Following questions, the Chief Constable was invited to make some closing remarks. The Chief Constable advised Members that this was an honest budget which still had challenges as even if the 6.82% proposal was accepted savings would still have to be made. Members also heard how an adequate service could not be provided for anything less. It was outlined how savings in the region of £2.5M would have to be found next year. The Chief Finance Officer then outlined some of the financial pressures faced and the significant savings already made. The PCC advised Members that his office would work with them on the content of future presentations and reports around the Council Tax Precept Proposal. He also gave assurances that he and fellow Commissioners would continue to lobby for an increase in the Policing Grant which would

relieve the pressure on those paying Council Tax.

One Member asked what 1% represented in terms of monetary value. The Chief Finance Officer advised that it was approximately £700,000. Another Member made a point about relying on reserves to balance the books. The Chief Finance Officer advised that there were no levers for further efficiencies and reiterated the challenges of operating when most of the budget was already ring-fenced. Members heard how in 17 years of working on the budget requirement this was the most difficult one faced by the Chief Finance Officer.

The Chair then adjourned the meeting so that Panel Members could deliberate on the report in private.

The Chair welcomed officers back into the room. The Chair then advised that whilst accepting the challenging environment the Panel did have concerns about the use of the reserves as set out in the report, but ultimately it was decided that the recommendations be approved.

It was moved and seconded that the report's recommendations be supported. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed precept of £72,998,181 for 2023/24, equivalent to a Council Tax Band D of £324.52, reflecting an increase of 6.82% or £20.72 p.a. outlined in recommendations (1 - 5) is endorsed.

6. GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL INDEPENDENT CO-OPTED MEMBERS

The Lead Officer for the Panel (Ms. C. Forbes-Thompson) advised that the vacant position of Independent Co-opted Member caused by the resignation of Mr. Peter Nuttall would need to be advertised. Members heard how an Interview Panel consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair and a volunteer from the Panel would then be responsible for shortlisting and interviewing candidates. Cllr Chacon-Dawson volunteered to be part of the Interview Panel and Cllr Kear offered to be a reserve if needed.

7. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Panel Members heard that the next Panel would be held on the 31st March. The Lead Officer advised that a presentation on the complaints process and a verbal update on the victim support Task and Finish review were scheduled for this meeting. The following meeting would be on the 23rd June. The Chair reminded Members that an update on the Estates Strategy was scheduled for the June meeting and also suggested that the Performance Sub-Group met with the Head of Strategy ahead of his Performance Quarter 3 report at the next meeting. The PCC also suggested that the Deputy Chief Constable Rachel Williams be invited to attend a future panel meeting.

Meeting Closed at 12:30 pm.

Police and Crime Commissioner Update March 2023

This is a selection of activities undertaken, scrutinised or supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in January – March 2023.

PRIORITY 1 – KEEP NEIGHBOURHOODS SAFE

Community Safety Review

My office and I have been supporting the Community Safety review being undertaken by Gwent Public Service Board (PSB), which includes influencing how funding is spent across Gwent. The review will make a series of recommendations about how all partners work together to deliver community safety, reduce anti-social behaviour (ASB), and improve governance around delivery of key objectives. I have also been working with the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) on the Home Office's intended national review of Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). As co-lead for the APCC's local policing portfolio, I have been contributing to and influencing the Home Office's approach to the review. Key aspects of the review will involve strengthening links between PCCs and CSPs, improving agencies' responses to ASB, and improving the service provided to victims experiencing ASB. The Home Office's consultation should be published shortly.

Diversion Schemes

The Women's Pathfinder Whole System Approach and 18–25 Early Intervention Service are jointly commissioned by my office and South Wales OPCC. They provide targeted support to women and young people, supporting them with issues such as alcohol and substance misuse, mental health problems, and improving family relationships. We have undertaken substantial partnership work in the last few months to recommission these services to help divert people from criminality and re-offending by creating a support network and helping them live safer, healthier lives.

Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service (GDAS)

GDAS Peer Academy, which provides training and support for people with substance use experience, held its first graduation ceremony for participants. The academy aims to build skills and enable attendees to volunteer in a wide range of roles within the drug and alcohol sector, helping those who have had similar experiences. Since 2014, my office has invested more than £800,000 annually into GDAS, which is a consortium of Kaleidoscope, Barod and G4S.

Safer Streets

Money from the Home Office's Safer Streets fund is being spent in communities across each of the five Gwent authority areas. One recent example is investment into youth services in Brynmawr and Tredegar to support young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour. A dedicated youth worker

will be appointed to engage with young people in areas where high levels of anti-social behaviour have been reported, and a bespoke youth shelter has been built in Welfare Park, Brynmawr.

We Don't Buy Crime

We continue to support Gwent Police's We Don't Buy Crime (WDBC) team which is working to prevent crime in communities across Gwent. During January, the team ran sessions to register people's bikes with a national scheme that will help keep them safe. Initiatives like Bike Register help to disrupt the criminal supply chain and make bikes a less desirable target for thieves, and we have seen a notable drop in bike thefts in recent months as a result of this ongoing work. Since its launch, the WDBC team have marked almost 1,200 bikes in Gwent, distributed more than 4,500 SmartWater packs, and reviewed 16,690 acquisitive crimes, among other achievements.

PRIORITY 2 – COMBAT SERIOUS CRIME

Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Services

The Home Office has made funding available for the delivery of domestic abuse perpetrator services. Working with partners, we have submitted applications for both policing and community interventions. We take domestic abuse incredibly seriously and invest a significant amount in victim support services. However, in order to make a real difference we have to look at ways of reducing offending in the first place and one of the ways we can do that is by working with those who have taken the first step and admitted that their behaviour needs to change.

Serious Violence Duty

The Serious Violence Duty went live on 31 January and requires 'specified authorities' to work together to reduce and prevent serious violence. Police and Crime Commissioners have been given new powers to convene these partners together to determine our collective response to serious violence, manage any grant agreements, and monitor progress. My office has successfully bid for funding for 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 to help deliver against the duty across Gwent. We are now leading a working group of community safety partners, such as local authorities and His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, to plan how best to deliver the duty in Gwent over the next few years.

PRIORITY 3 – SUPPORT VICTIMS & PROTECT THE VULNERABLE

Independent Advisors

We are currently on the second phase of the independent sexual violence adviser (ISVA) commissioning work to provide continued support to victims of sexual abuse and violence. This is due to be completed next month. The aim is to implement a whole system approach under the wider Welsh Sexual Assault Service (WSAS)

regionalisation programme, bringing together ISVA, therapeutic support and counselling services. However, due to a number of factors, it is recommended that the criminal justice ISVA commissioning progresses as an initial piece of work in order to meet essential victims' needs. At a later date, the ISVA criminal justice element will be integrated into therapeutic support and counselling services. We are also in the process of tendering for an independent domestic violence adviser service (IDVA) and are currently evaluating whether to introduce an independent roads safety victim advocate role (IRVA) role for Gwent.

Police-Perpetrated Domestic Abuse Service

As part of a national police framework to improve the response to violence against women and girls (VAWG) launched in December 2021, police forces were asked to conduct an urgent review of sexual misconduct, domestic abuse and other VAWG-related offences against officers and staff. These reviews were analysed to provide an overview of themes, learning and recommended improvements. In order for the public to have trust in the policing response to violence against women and girls in society as a whole, it is essential that we show that we can tackle it effectively within the policing workforce. We have been working with South Wales OPCC to develop a police-perpetrated domestic abuse service and are aiming for the service to start in April to allow victims to have an independent and confidential service to share any concerns or reports any issues.

Victims' Needs Assessment

We have appointed Supporting Justice to undertake a victims' needs assessment, as part of collaborative work with South Wales and Dyfed Powys OPCCs. It is not a review of how Gwent Police support victims. The assessment should inform us what gaps there are in services to support victims, and help us to recommission adult and children's victims services in Connect Gwent, the multi-agency victims hub. We are expecting this report to be submitted to us by the end of April.

PRIORITY 4 – INCREASE COMMUNITY CONFIDENCE IN POLICING

Child-Centred Policing

More than 120 young people attended our fifth annual Youth Question Time. Chief Constable Pam Kelly, Children's Commissioner for Wales Rocio Cifuentes, sexual and reproductive health consultant Dr Jane Dickson and I answered questions on a range of issues important to young people in Gwent. As part of the planning for this event, we supported a Wales-wide consultation to develop pre-court diversion principles and guidance by incorporating questions into one of our surveys for young people. A briefing on our child-centred policing work has been sent to panel members separately.

Complaints Monitoring

To ensure Gwent Police handle complaints appropriately, my office dip-sampled complaints files finalised between 1 April and 3 September 2021 and there were no major issues. However, I have advised the Professional Standards Department (PSD) that more information should be captured on the forms going forward. We have also dip-sampled closed complaint files from 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022, and are awaiting the PSD response to our comments before publishing.

Firearms Licensing Monitoring

The Home Office has requested that Commissioners undertake a review of firearms licensing performance every six months. This is to ensure that caseloads are being well managed and the risk to public safety is minimised. We submitted the relevant information to the Home Office based on our initial review in January and have requested that Gwent Police provides a full report on this to the Strategy and Performance Board in June.

Volunteer Schemes

We have appointed two new independent custody visitors and aim to recruit more during this year. ICVs are volunteers who conduct unannounced visits to custody units in order to check on the treatment of detainees, the conditions in which they are being held, and to ensure that their rights and entitlements are being observed.

Gwent Police has introduced a single point of contact for the animal welfare visitors, which has improved the support and assistance offered to visitors. Animal welfare visitors make regular visits to police dogs to ensure that high levels of animal welfare are met. Volunteers are receiving plenty of opportunities to watch training sessions and feedback has been extremely positive.

PRIORITY 5 – DRIVE SUSTAINABLE POLICING

Commissioning Intentions

We have drafted our commissioning intentions for 2023/24 and are currently working with Gwent Police to finalise them. We have implemented a new commissioning meeting to support the successful delivery of these services throughout the year.

Estates

The Chief Constable and I signed-off the recommendations of the Estate Strategy review in February. A revised version of the strategy is currently being drafted and will be presented to panel members in June, while a report proposing to join the finance and estate sub-groups will be presented at today's panel meeting. A key recommendation of the Estate Strategy review is to provide greater focus on the 'must have' estate needs over the next three to five years from an affordability perspective. This includes the business case for the Gwent Police Operational Facility (GPOF). This has not yet been approved internally and remains deferred for

two years, as significant work remains on understanding its feasibility and affordability. An engagement event on the proposal took place earlier this month with local stakeholders. This was not a formal public consultation, but an opportunity to share the proposal with those directly located in sight of the proposed facility and to discuss face-to-face any potential concerns or factors for further consideration. A decision on the viability of GPOF will be made once the business case is finalised, the costs are confirmed and feasibility of the build are known. Full consultation would take place as part of the planning process.

Meanwhile, construction work began this week on Abergavenny Police Station, with the facility due to be completed in spring 2024. Its location on the A40 in Llanfoist means that Gwent Police's neighbourhood team can easily cover the town centre on foot, while response cars have good access to the local road networks for urgent calls. Gwent Police will continue to maintain its customer facing counter service in Abergavenny Town Hall which is easily accessible to the public.

High Sheriff's Community Fund

Grassroots community groups that offer localised support to children and young people are crucial in creating opportunities that steer young people away from crime and anti-social behaviour. I donated £65,000 to the High Sheriff's Community Fund to support this approach. A 'Your Voice, Your Choice' grant making event was held earlier this month, with the following organisations receiving money:

- Made in Tredegar
- The Outdoor Partnership
- Llamau
- The Parish Trust
- Operasonic Cyf
- NYAS
- Cymru Creations
- Rewild Play
- Duffryn Community Link
- TOGs Centre
- The Bridge to Cross CT
- Crimestoppers Trust

National Awards

Three Gwent community support officers (CSOs) have been recognised at a national award ceremony. Tarik Chaudhry was recognised for his hard work and commitment to Cwmbran communities, while Deke Williams and Alex Donnes were recognised for their youth engagement work as part of Gwent Police's NXTGen team.

New Officers

Since the last update, we have welcomed 147 new officers and seven new special constables into Gwent Police. I am proud that we now have more than 200 extra police officers serving our communities than when I was first elected in 2016.

Welsh Government

Chief Constable Pam Kelly and I welcomed First Minister Mark Drakeford for a tour of the new force control room at Police HQ. This is the first point of contact for 999 and 101 calls. A significant number of these calls relate to mental health in some way, and I was keen for the First Minister to understand the pressures that all of Wales's police forces are facing as policing increasingly plugs the gaps in other public services. He also met with Gwent Police's latest cohort of community support officers. We currently have 172 CSOs supporting Gwent's communities and about 100 of these are paid for by Welsh Government. I also met with Welsh Government's Minister for Social Justice, Jane Hutt, to discuss how we tackle violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence on a national level.



Performance Monitoring Framework

Quarter 3 2022 / 2023

This report provides an overview of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) oversight and scrutiny of Gwent Police performance in relation to the Police and Crime Plan. This is a report for quarter 3 of the financial year 2022/23.

The scrutiny and monitoring of force performance take place in a variety of forms, including observation and participation in boards and meetings as a critical friend. The main forum where this takes place is the Strategy and Performance Board, the meeting at which the PCC holds the Chief Constable (CC) to account and is open to the public. There are also specific reports and briefings requested as required. The PCC has weekly one-to-one meetings with the CC to discuss matters arising and any areas of particular concern. The PCC has made it very clear to the CC that his expectation is that he is provided with good quality information, so he can understand performance and undertake effective scrutiny and monitoring.

Police & Crime Plan Priorities

- **Keep Neighbourhoods Safe**
- **Combat Serious Crime**
- **Support Victims and Protect the Vulnerable**
- **Increase Confidence in Policing**
- **Drive Sustainable Policing**

All Incidents	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22				2022-23				Quarterly % Change	
	Total	Total	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3		Total
Public Safety and Welfare	54,094	53,971	48,139	12,993	13,274	12,427	12,389	51,083	12,609	14,644	13,757	41,010	-6%
Crime Related	55,032	51,564	44,584	11,930	12,146	11,375	11,029	46,480	12,521	13,722	12,325	38,568	-10%
Transport	33,278	31,741	23,678	6,789	6,807	6,360	5,778	25,734	5,680	6,090	5,858	17,628	-4%
Anti-Social Behaviour	11,066	11,236	28,621	4,722	3,562	2,880	2,813	13,977	2,957	2,881	2,212	8,050	-23%
Admin	30,790	30,970	31,690	8,198	8,707	7,685	6,972	31,562	7,293	7,741	6,935	21,969	-10%
Open Log	296	605	1,011	285	311	2,880	288	3,764	427	274	290	991	6%
Total	184,556	180,087	177,723	44,917	44,807	43,607	39,269	172,600	41,487	45,352	41,377	128,216	-9%
% change since previous year	-1.56%	-2.42%	-1.31%					-2.88%					-25.71%

Incident Sub Categories 2022-23 Year to Date		
Incident Cat	Top 5 Type of Incident	Notes – if not self-explanatory
ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	NUISANCE	e.g. youth ASB, off-road bikes, loud noise
	ENVIRONMENTAL	e.g. setting fires, fly tipping
	VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	e.g. threatening behaviour, throwing stones
	PERSONAL	e.g. harassment, neighbour dispute
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE	
CRIME RELATED	VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	
	THEFT AND HANDLING	
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE	
	BURGLARY	
	SEXUAL OFFENCES	
PUBLIC SAFETY & WELFARE	ABANDONED CALL	e.g. no request, unsure of service needed
	CONCERN FOR SAFETY	e.g. welfare checks
	MISSING PERSONS	
	DOMESTIC INCIDENT	
	SUSPICIOUS CIRCS/INSECURE PREMISES/VEHICLE	e.g. 'suspicious' persons, vehicles, activity
TRANSPORT	ROAD RELATED OFFENCE	e.g. no seatbelt, MOT, insurance
	HIGHWAY DISRUPTION	e.g. obstruction on highway
	RTC DAMAGE ONLY	
	RTC DEATH/INJURY	
	POLICE GENERATED RESOURCE ACTIVITY	e.g. officers on patrol – insurance checks etc

These tables provide a breakdown of the 'incidents' that Gwent Police have to manage on an annual and quarterly basis. For ease they are broken down into 4 main incident categories (ASB, Crime, Public Safety and Transport), albeit some incidents can be categorised in any of them so there is some crossover between them.

These 4 incident categories can be further broken down into over 200 different incident types. The top 5 for each main category are shown to the left. These tend to be consistent year on year, other than 2020/21 and 2021/22 when Covid lockdown enforcement meant that COVID related ASB was a top category of ASB.

Of course, these are not the only source of demand coming in to Gwent Police, which can include online contact (see slides below) and requests for activity from partners.

This slide shows Crimes reported to police across Gwent, broken down into crime types. The chart also shows the variations to crimes over time.

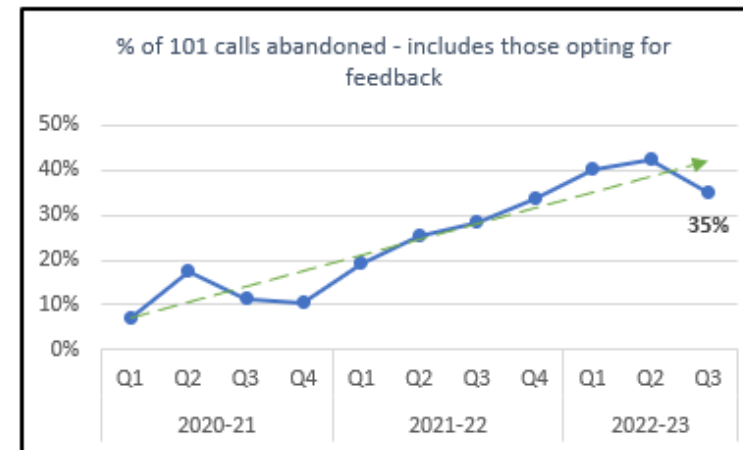
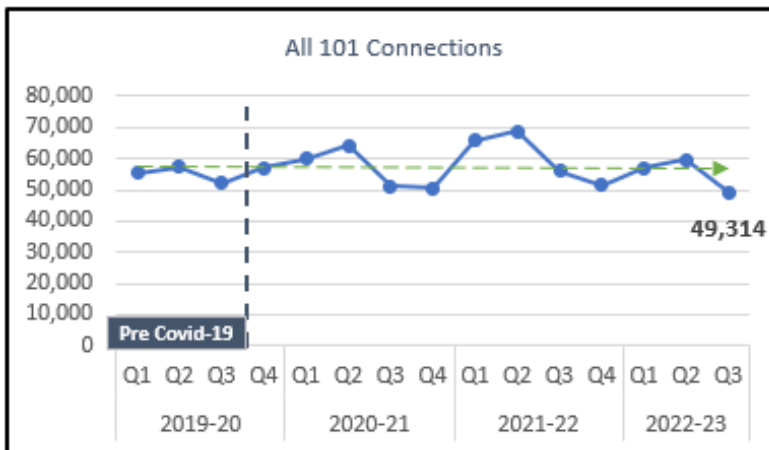
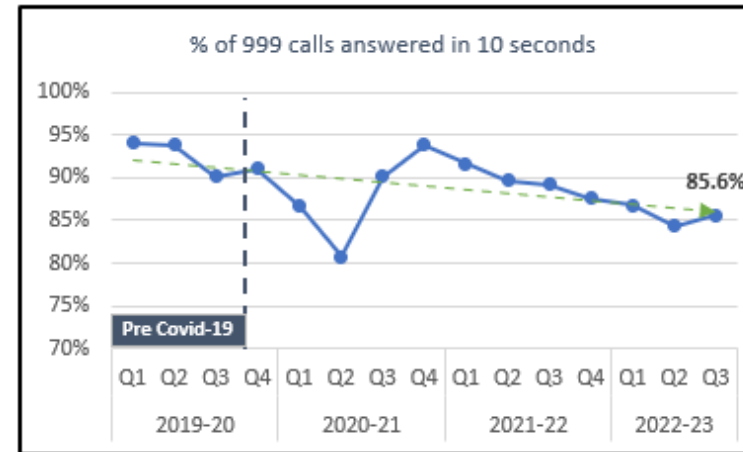
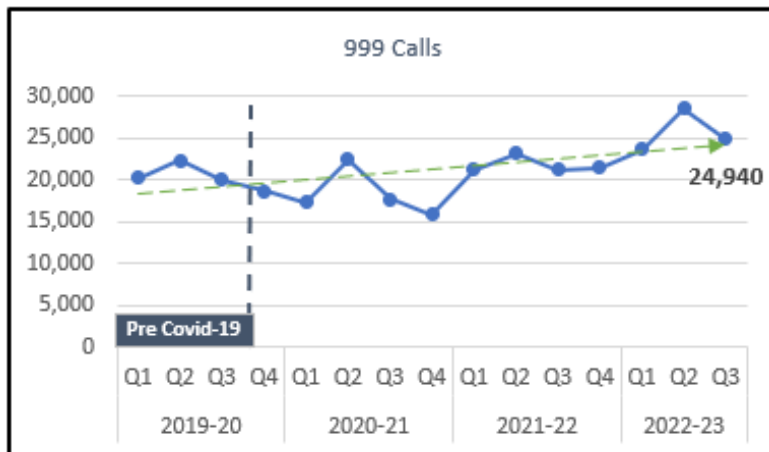
Crime Type	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22					2022-23				Quarterly %	
	Total	Total	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total	Change	
All Other Theft	4,754	4,268	2,993	744	852	878	821	3,295	951	970	891	2,812	-8%	
Bicycle Theft	426	329	274	101	106	57	54	318	79	70	58	207	-17%	
Commercial Burglary	1,159	1,097	689	144	167	163	218	692	232	201	166	599	-17%	
Criminal Damage & Arson	9,413	8,546	6,832	2,019	1,887	2,067	2,036	8,009	2,121	2,183	1,772	6,076	-19%	
Drug Offences	1,482	1,517	1,818	425	298	305	314	1,342	308	302	299	909	-1%	
Homicide	2	6	3	2	0	2	1	5	4	4	1	9	-75%	
Miscellaneous Crimes	1,434	1,708	1,730	418	357	385	368	1,528	387	342	311	1,040	-9%	
Non Notifiable Offences	98	105	76	21	26	47	34	128	20	19	18	57	-5%	
Other Sexual Offences	1,004	1,055	815	310	267	297	296	1,170	282	296	228	806	-23%	
Possession of Weapons	237	249	250	62	51	76	108	297	94	76	96	266	26%	
Public Order Offences	7,836	7,535	7,187	2,101	2,197	2,050	2,298	8,646	2,514	2,812	2,378	7,704	-15%	
Rape	594	504	411	130	144	163	161	598	134	124	103	361	-17%	
Residential Burglary	2,533	2,494	1,953	378	437	487	479	1,781	443	483	377	1,303	-22%	
Robbery	301	301	240	79	59	65	64	267	81	102	75	258	-26%	
Shoplifting	3,544	3,447	2,061	520	566	564	537	2,187	652	595	811	2,058	36%	
Theft From the Person	369	284	153	38	37	50	45	170	52	57	57	166	0%	
Vehicle Crime	3,396	3,234	2,254	547	589	576	591	2,303	606	564	620	1,790	10%	
Violence with Injury	5,886	5,786	4,545	1,402	1,429	1,528	1,504	5,863	1,500	1,695	1,590	4,785	-6%	
Violence without Injury	14,136	14,646	13,947	3,617	3,703	3,924	4,335	15,579	4,261	4,614	4,266	13,141	-8%	
Total	58,604	57,112	48,232	13,059	13,172	13,685	14,264	54,180	14,721	15,510	14,117	44,348	-9%	
% change since previous year	19.93%	-2.55%	-15.55%						12.33%					-18.15%

This slide shows the Positive Outcomes types and percentages for each crime type. The chart to the right identifies those listed in Green as the 'Positive Outcomes' as per Home Office Counting Rules. Note that this information is changing daily as the volumes of 'New/Still Open' cases will continue to be finalised and Outcomes identified.

Criminal Justice Positive Outcome Rates	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23			
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
All Other Theft	4%	4%	6%	3%	1%	4%	2%	2%
Bicycle Theft	4%	6%	2%	8%	5%	1%	2%	3%
Commercial Burglary	7%	8%	13%	7%	6%	7%	10%	8%
Criminal Damage & Arson	7%	7%	11%	7%	5%	8%	9%	7%
Drug Offences	67%	81%	79%	67%	41%	61%	62%	54%
Fraud	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Homicide	100%	67%	50%	100%	25%	100%	100%	75%
Miscellaneous Crimes	16%	14%	21%	18%	9%	17%	18%	15%
Non Notifiable Offences	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	0%	4%	4%
Other Sexual Offences	8%	10%	13%	8%	5%	9%	8%	7%
Possession of Weapons	46%	59%	62%	46%	22%	46%	44%	37%
Public Order Offences	9%	9%	15%	10%	6%	8%	8%	7%
Rape	4%	6%	11%	5%	5%	7%	8%	7%
Residential Burglary	4%	5%	7%	6%	5%	4%	5%	4%
Robbery	18%	19%	16%	19%	9%	10%	20%	13%
Shoplifting	31%	29%	35%	28%	19%	26%	21%	22%
Theft From the Person	3%	3%	6%	5%	0%	2%	2%	1%
Vehicle Crime	3%	4%	5%	6%	3%	5%	5%	4%
Violence with Injury	16%	16%	19%	14%	10%	13%	11%	11%
Violence without Injury	9%	8%	12%	8%	5%	8%	8%	7%
Overall Positive Outcome rate	11%	12%	16%	11%	7%	10%	10%	9%
% change since previous year	-29.00%	3.51%	36.44%	-31.06%				-18.32%

Outcome Rates for All Crime (based on period crime was committed)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-24
	Total	Total	Total	Total	YTD
1: Charged/Summonsed	5,163	4,797	4,542	3,589	1,963
2: Youth Caution/Conditional Caution	79	95	85	63	17
3: Adult Caution/Conditional Caution	930	699	632	485	259
4: TIC (Taken into Consideration)	30	20	14	4	2
5: Offender has Died	12	16	23	27	31
6: Penalty Notice for disorder	314	249	307	98	0
7: Cannabis Warning	252	270	409	145	1
8: Community Resolution/Youth Restorative Justice	738	604	1,196	1,142	577
9: Prosecution not in the public interest	7	11	27	21	4
10: Police - Formal action not in public interest	290	628	529	543	295
11: Named suspect below age of criminal responsibility	57	87	59	106	108
12: Named suspect too ill to prosecute	52	61	107	104	78
13: Named suspect but victim/key witness deceased or too ill	31	31	20	32	21
14: Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender	3,208	3,143	2,517	2,857	1,700
15: Named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	9,344	9,237	8,129	8,649	5,543
16: Victim withdraws support - named suspect identified	14,425	15,138	13,045	15,189	9,477
17: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit expired	137	183	164	267	62
18: Investigation complete no suspect identified	22,900	21,217	14,542	16,570	12,426
20: Other body agency has investigation primacy	351	288	173	337	264
21: Named suspect, investigation not in the public interest	109	198	101	119	132
22: Diversionary, educational or intervention activity	11	210	194	195	83
New/Still Open	229	382	437	2,334	11,157

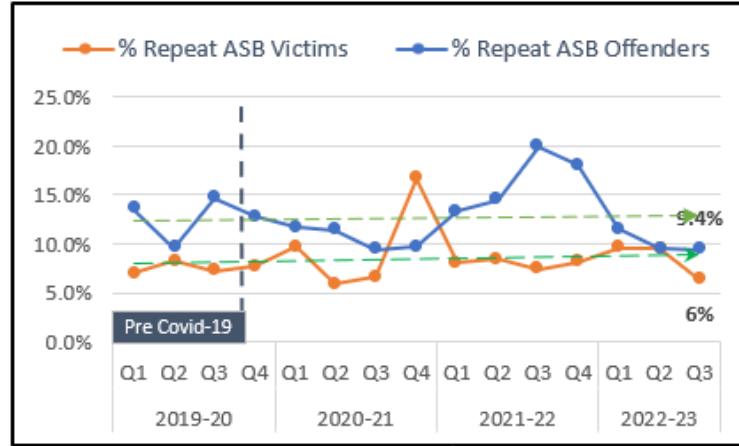
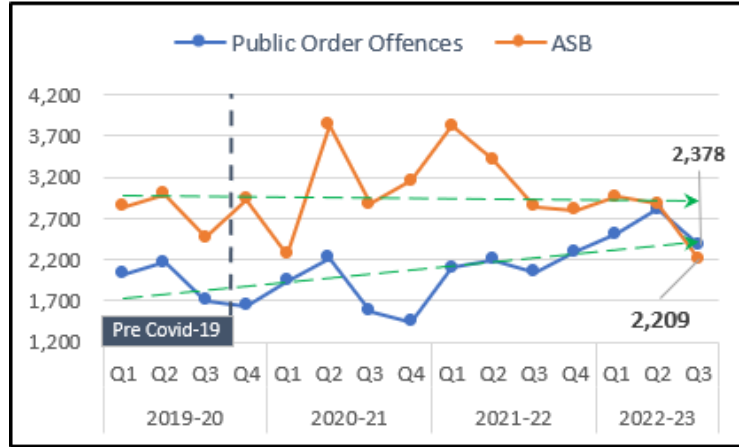
999 and 101 demand has decreased compared to the previous quarter, this follows the typical trend seen in quarter 3 in the previous two years, that said it continues to follow an upward trend that's been seen since the pandemic in 2019/20. With the decrease in demand for 999 calls comes an improved percentage of 999 calls answered in 10 seconds in quarter 3. 101 demand conforms to a seasonal trends seen in the previous 4 years; this decrease has resulted in a reduction in the percentage of calls abandoned before point of contact. The move of the Force Control Centre to the new HQ has also contributed to improved service levels for 999 and 101 calls this quarter as Gwent Police are benefiting from its investments in technology and recruitment to ensure the teams within the control room establishment levels are maintained.



101 Average Answer Speed
Currently 9m41s

2019-20				2020-21				2021-22				2022-23		
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
00:02:22	00:01:49	00:01:11	00:00:46	00:01:09	00:03:17	00:02:08	00:02:28	00:04:46	00:06:35	00:06:20	00:05:19	00:06:53	00:07:45	00:09:41

Reduce Public Order and Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), and the Number of People who Repeatedly Carry Out These Acts



Quarter 3 saw Public Order (PO) offences fall. This follows a pattern seen in previous years, suggesting that a decline in Q3 may be a seasonal trend.

ASB also fell, reaching the lowest number of incidents since 2019/20. Paired with the reduction in PO, this is a welcome trend.

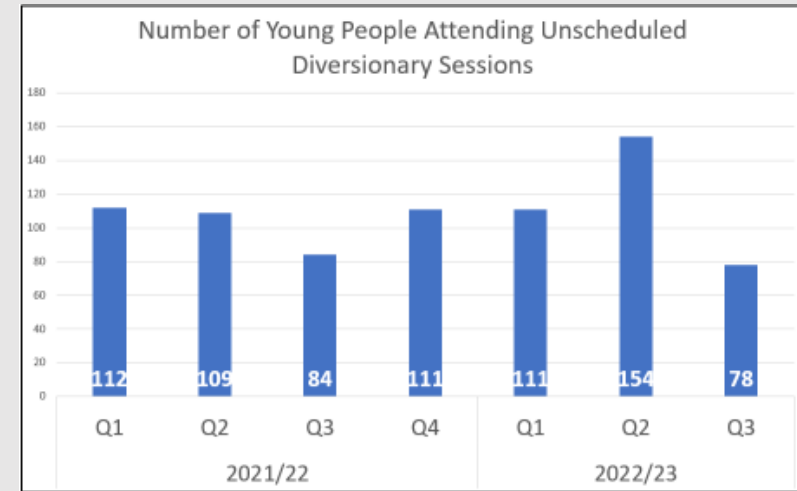
What have the PCC and OPCC Done?

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The PCC has been proactive in working with the APCC on the Home Office's Community Safety Partnership Review. As co-lead for the Local Policing Portfolio, the PCC has been contributing to and influencing the Home Office's approach to the review. One key aspect of the review will be improving agencies' response to ASB and improving the service provided to victims experiencing ASB. It will go live for consultation in Q4.

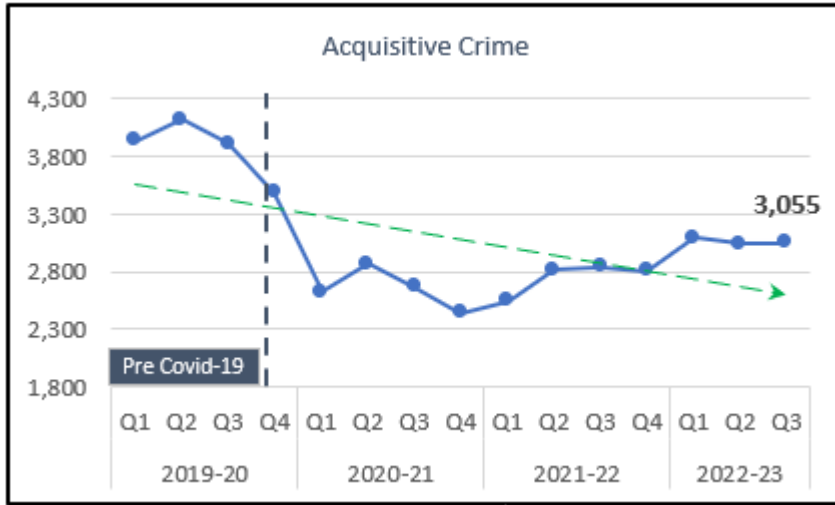
A second 'Community Trigger' appeal has been received into the OPCC, whereby a repeat ASB victim who is unhappy with the result of the community trigger held by the Local Authority/Community Safety Partnership, can ask the PCC to review this. This appeal is currently under consideration.

Funding and Commissioned Services:



The graph above shows the number of young people who attended an unscheduled ASB diversionary session delivered across Gwent; the numbers do not count repeat attendance. Q3 saw a decline in the number of young people attending, which is due to a reduction in the number of sessions delivered. This is a seasonal trend, as demonstrated by a reduction in Q3 in the previous financial year. It also aligns with the reduction in ASB seen in police data during the same period.

Reduce Acquisitive Crime and Repeat Offenders



Acquisitive crime consists of burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, shoplifting and theft. Q3 saw a marginal increase in the number of acquisitive crime incidents. The OPCC will pay close attention to the data to see if acquisitive crime is trending upwards in Q4 or whether this is a quarterly anomaly.

The PCC sought assurance from the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable on current plans in relation to burglary. The DCC emphasised the Burglary Improvement Pilot with a focus on timely arrival at scene and investigation improvements are starting to see green shoots in terms of improved outcomes. She advised this was not the only answer to improving performance, with the intention of other broader force improvement plans aiming to put this work on a sustainable footing.

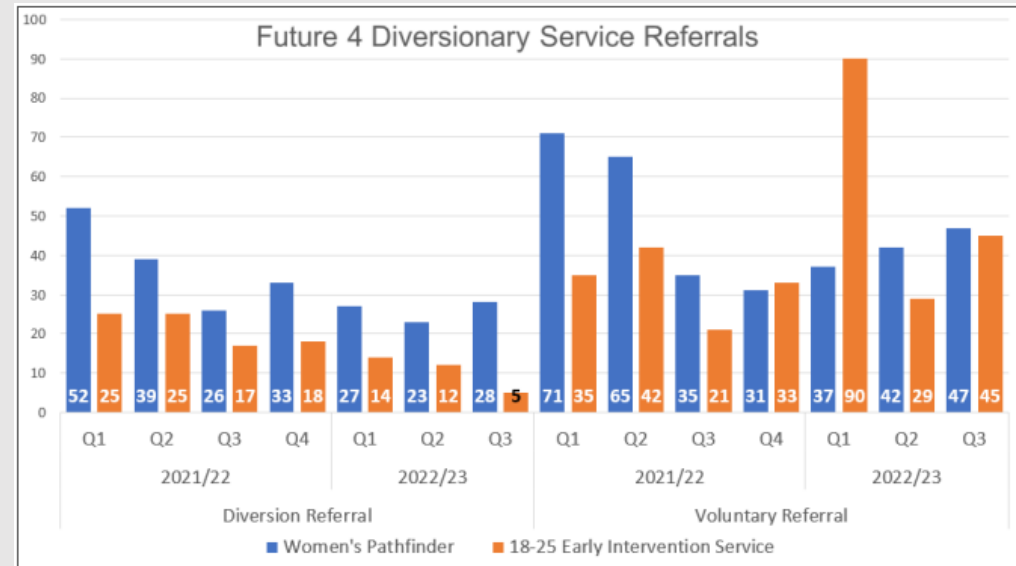
What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The OPCC continued work with the force to develop a Reducing Reoffending Strategy for Gwent. The evidence base and preparatory work is now established and the Strategy is in the drafting stage.

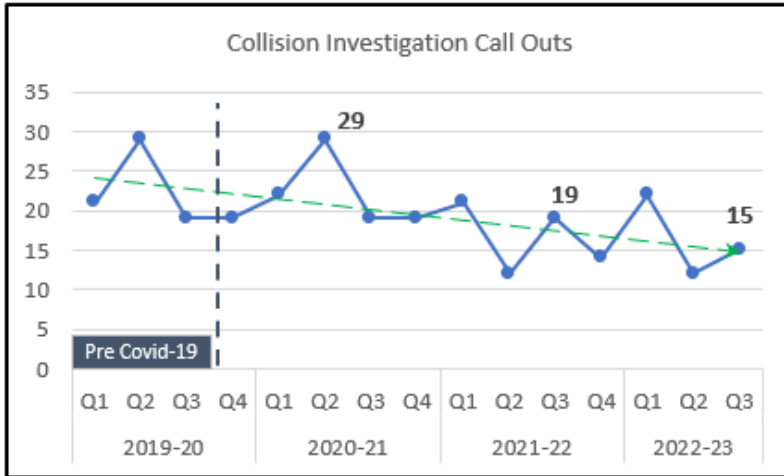
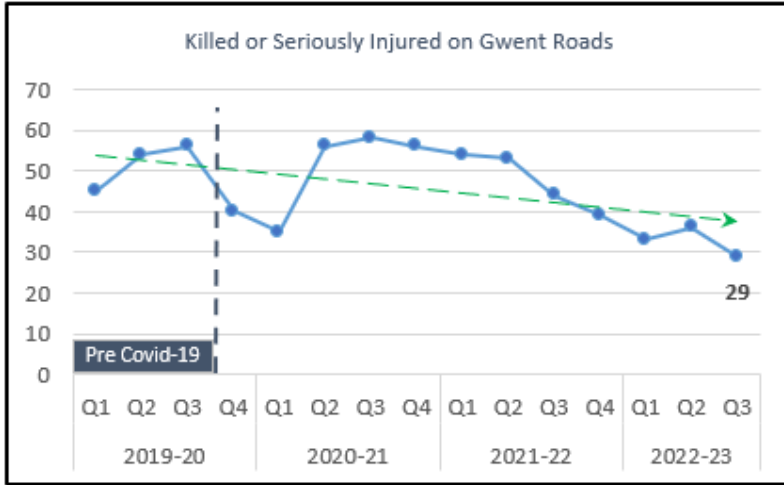
In addition, the OPCC supported national re-offending partnership work, attending meetings on Integrated Offender Management and reoffending more generally.

Funding and Commissioned Services:



The OPCC provides funding for the delivery of 18-25 Early Intervention Service and Women's Pathfinder in Gwent. The services supports young adults and women entering the criminal justice system to achieve positive outcomes such as accessing accommodation, improving their financial situation, gaining employment and improving their overall health and wellbeing. These are vital outcomes for reducing re-offending.

Improving the Safety of Roads Throughout Gwent



Road Traffic Collisions (police attended)

Q3 22/23	167
Q2 22/23	150
Q1 22/23	139
Q4 21/22	124
Q3 21/22	165
Q2 21/22	167
Q1 21/22	150

735 persons reported for 'Fatal Five' offences in Q3:

- Careless Driving
- Drink/Drug Driving
- No Seatbelt
- Use of Mobile Phone
- Speeding

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

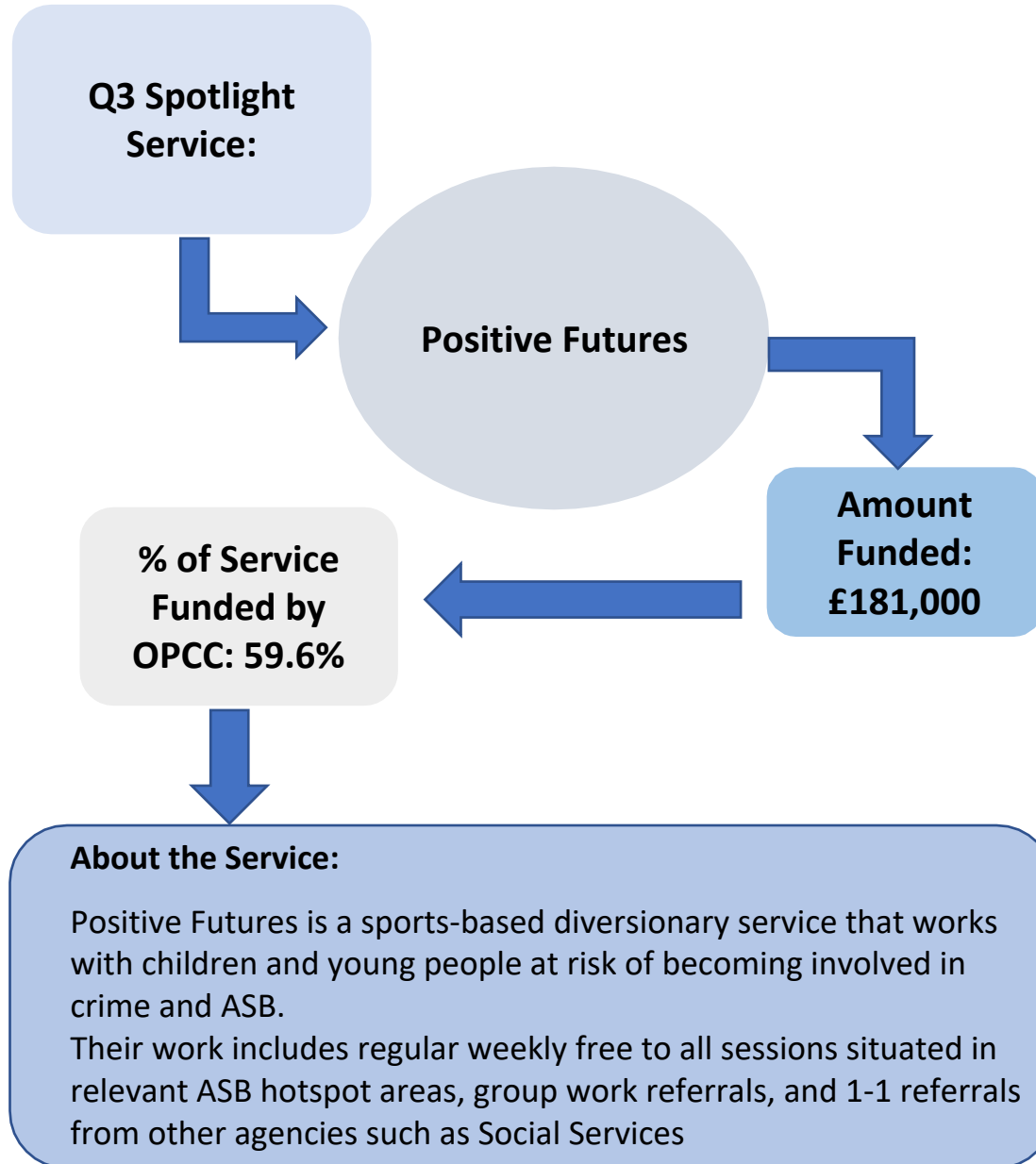
The OPCC worked with Go Safe to promote its Christmas drink drive campaign and ensure a greater reach across Gwent. The OPCC also arranged for Go Safe's digital campaign van to be based at Friars Walk in Newport for some of the Christmas period, boosting exposure during the city centre's busiest time of year.

Funding and Commissioned Services:

The OPCC have identified a service gap in road safety provision. In line with the PCC's commitment to improve the safety of the roads, the OPCC is considering options for funding. This will inform the OPCC's commissioning intentions strategy.

The number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) fell further in Q3, continuing the positive downwards trend seen in previous quarters. Despite the decrease in the KSI figures, the number of collision investigation call outs increased. Investigation call outs are for complex collisions requiring roads policing expertise and do not necessarily reflect the severity of harm involved.

Commission and Invest in Effective Crime Prevention Initiatives

**Case Study:**

Positive Futures became involved with Client A after their mum raised concerns about their behaviour with the police.

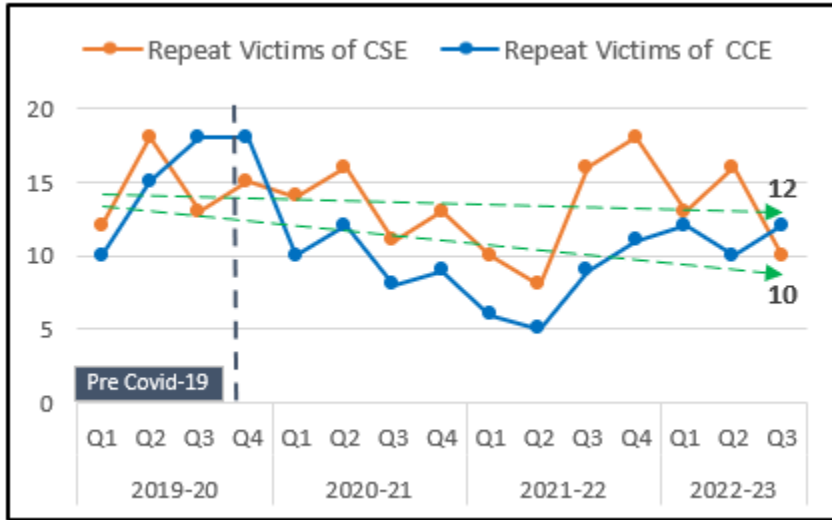
Positive Futures initially engaged with Client A whilst Mum was present as she wanted to know how her son was behaving and engaging. Whilst working with Client A, staff became increasingly concerned about their wellbeing, mum's mental health and the general isolation the family had.

Numerous safeguarding concerns were emerging, and concern was increased due to the lack of services aware or engaged with the family. No teacher with safeguarding support, no friends or families, no social worker, preventions, or family support.

Positive Futures have now arranged a meeting for Mum to chat with Newport City Council Education department to see what support she can receive.

To understand what Client A wants to achieve while engaging with Positive Futures, an Individual Development Plan (IDP) was completed. Positive Futures are now working with Client A to achieve the goals they have set in their IDP.

Note: performance data included on page 7



The number of repeat victims of CCE increased in Q3, resuming an upward trend that was briefly disrupted in Q2. Repeat victims of CSE fell in Q3, continuing the downward trend seen since Q4 last year.

At the recent Strategy and Planning Board, Detective Chief Superintendent Brain gave an overview of relevant structures and performance in this area.

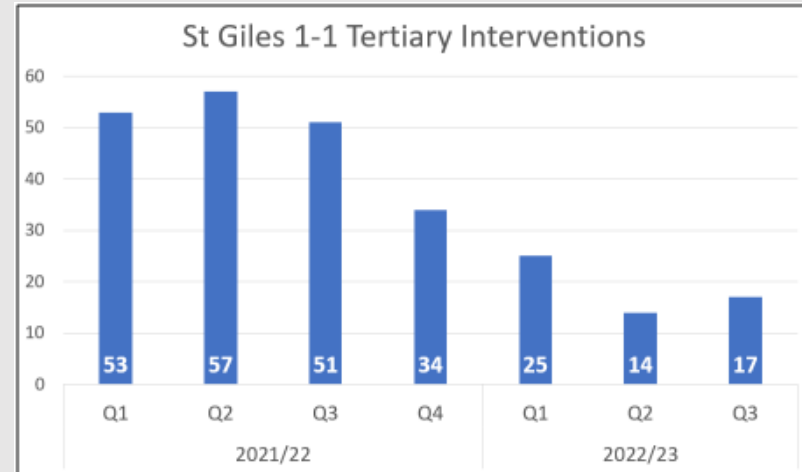
She advised that there has been a reduction in occurrences of CSE/CCE, but that this had resulted in an increase in crime recording (showing an improvement in standards), and also an increase in outcomes against those crimes. A positive discussion took place on the structures (e.g. safeguarding hubs) and the relevant improvement plans in place, with a request from the DPCC to include focus on safeguarding hubs, looked after children and children impacted by domestic abuse.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The OPCC continue to work with Newport City Council on a pilot supporting vulnerable children and families at risk of criminality and exploitation (criminal or sexual). The pilot has further increased its case load and is offering person-centred support built around the needs of children and their families. The OPCC will produce an evaluation report at the end of the current school year.

Funding and Commissioned Services:

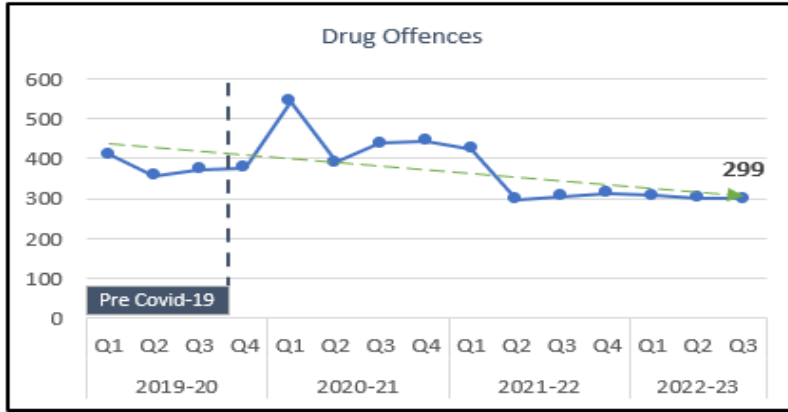


St Giles Trust support children and young people at risk of or currently being exploited. Tertiary interventions work with children and young people known to be exploited. A combination of successfully supporting children to disengage with serious organised crime and ongoing staff retention issues had seen the number of interventions decline. However, St Giles have been able to improve the staffing situation and have since seen a slight increase in the number of interventions delivered.

Priority 2. Combat Serious Crime

Preventing and reducing crimes that cause significant harm to communities and victims

Increase Disruption of Serious Organised Crime, and Reinvest Assets Seized Back into Communities



Drug offences have remained stable since Q2 21/22, trending below pre-pandemic levels.

Serious violence offences fell sharply after peaking in Q2. This is a welcome development and the OPCC will be monitoring the data closely to see if this is a sustained downward trend.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

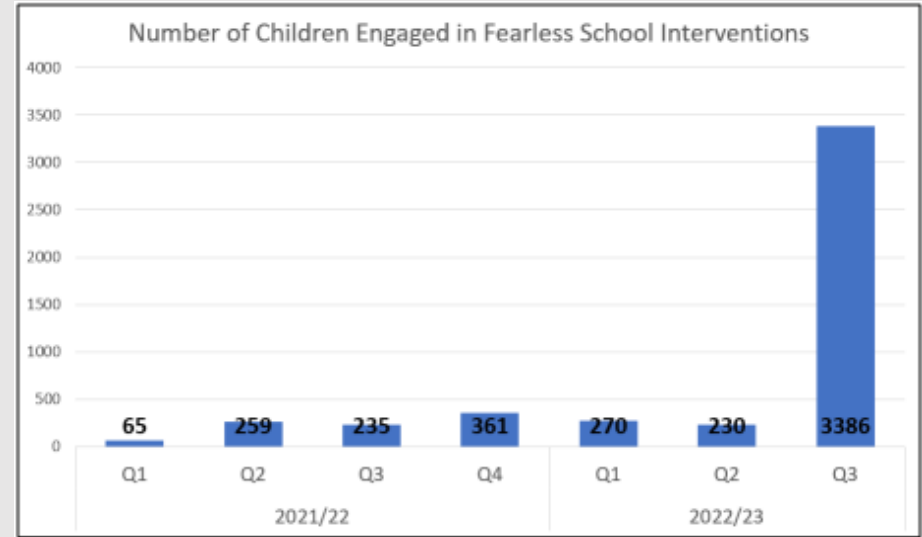
The PCC raised the issue of lack of scrutiny over collaborated service such as the Regional Organised Crime Unit at the Q3 SPB. It was agreed to look further into this to ensure the PCC can be satisfied the right information is coming into his office for scrutiny.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The OPCC took a leading role in convening partners to submit a bid to the Home Office's Serious Violence Duty fund. This bid will support partners in delivering against the Serious Violence Duty. Under the Duty, partners will need to work together to develop a needs assessment and address serious violence in Gwent.

The OPCC also undertook a proactive comms campaign to promote the knife angel statue while it was in Gwent throughout November.

Funding and Commissioned Services:

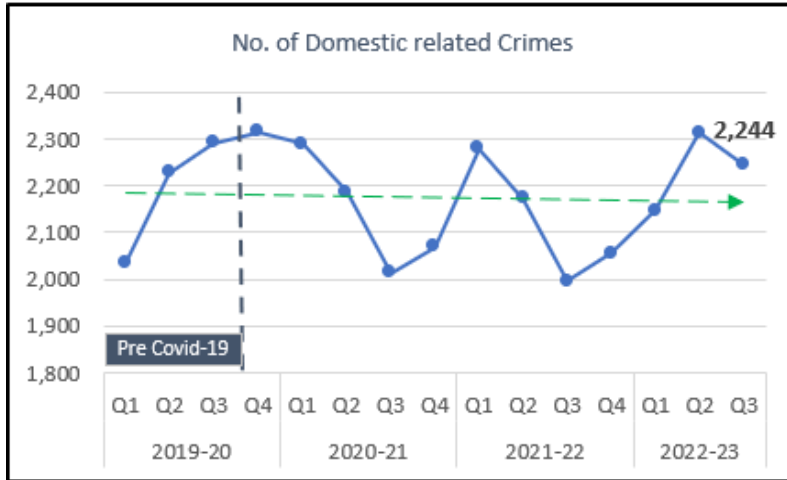
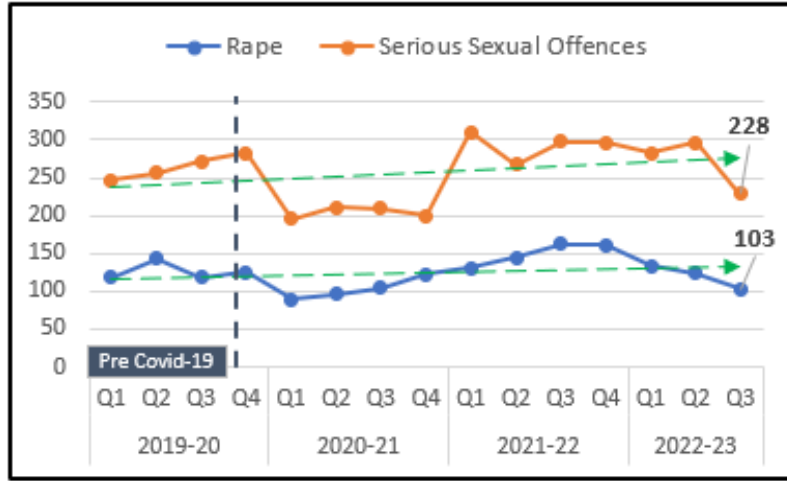


The OPCC provides funding to Fearless to deliver interventions to school children, with a focus on the risks of SOC, county lines and serious violence. While the knife angel was in Gwent, Fearless ran whole-school workshops on knife crime and county lines. For this reason, Q3 saw a significant increase in the number of children engaged. These numbers are due to an exceptional circumstance, so we do not anticipate seeing similar numbers in Q4.

Priority 2. Combat Serious Crime

Preventing and reducing crimes that cause significant harm to communities and victims

Improve the Overall Criminal Justice Response to Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence



Reported rape continued to decline in Q3. We know from ONS data that only 16-20% of rapes get reported to police, so work is ongoing nationally and locally to increase confidence to report to close that gap. More work is needed to understand whether this is an overall decline in rape or a decline in reporting. To improve the response to rape, the force has become an Op Soteria force, which is starting to be embedded. The force has been praised by the Op Soteria team in relation to its management of victims. Also, the force understands it has to improve public confidence, given recent media reporting, and is focusing on improving culture, performance and confidence as part of its overall action plans.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

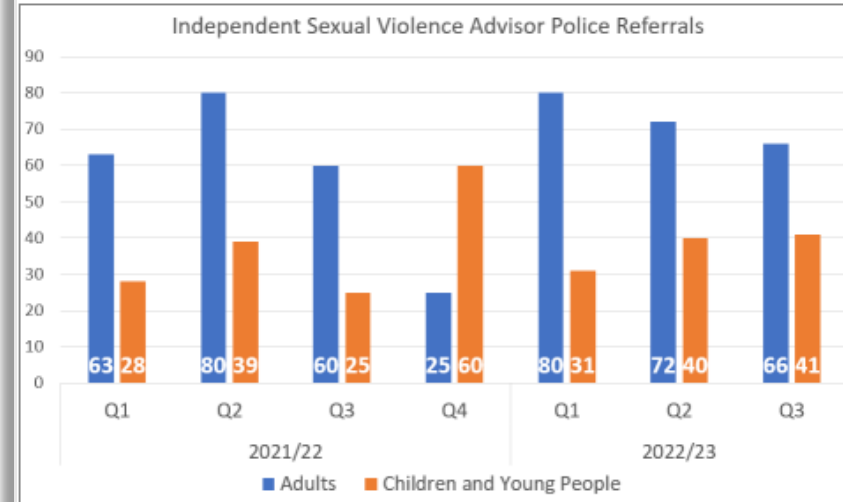
Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Significant discussion took place at the Q3 SPB on VAWDASV in relation to overall response. In particular, questions were focused on the overall response for victims, plans to improve public confidence and how we can maintain increases in reporting as we know from academic studies only 16-20% of rapes ever get reported to police.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The OPCC are collaborating with South Wales OPCC in jointly recommissioning an ISVA service. As part of this work, the OPCC have been providing policy support to understand gaps, barriers and challenges for the service. This will ensure that the ISVA service is best placed to deliver for victims. The contract is due to go live in 2024.

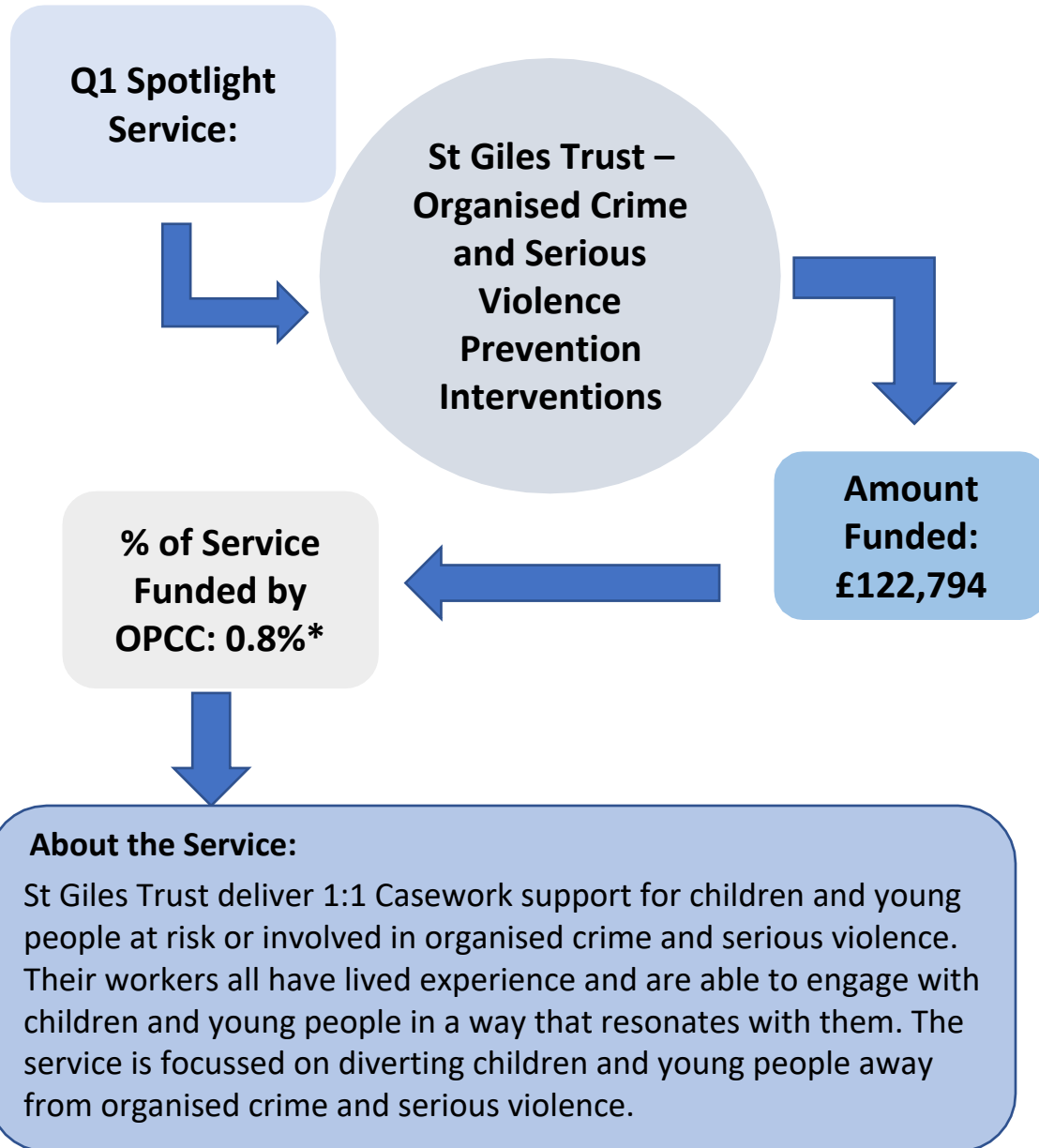
Funding and Commissioned Services:



27.7% non-engagement rate for ISVA referrals*

*Total referrals from all agencies for adults and children and young people.

New Pathways provides a specialist Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) service for victims of rape and serious sexual offences. Police referrals for adults and children and young people saw small fluctuations compared to the previous quarter.



Case Study:

Client B is 15 years old and was referred by Gwent police for support for substance misuse and concerns around child criminal exploitation.

Client B was not in education or training for nearly 2 years, 5 missing episodes, and pending offences for burglary with intent to cause unlawful damage. Client B was also involved in organised fights between opposing gangs.

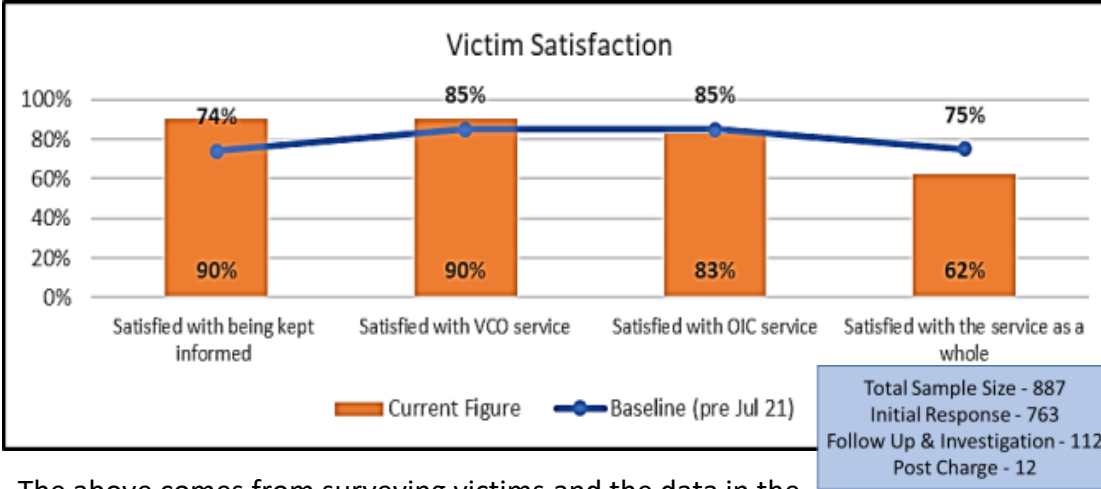
The Caseworker has supported Client B for 4 months. They engaged well with the caseworker and appreciated the caseworker’s lived experience. Support around going back to educational settings was undertaken. Going back to school was the start of Client B’s turn around.

Over a period of 3 months Client B’s behaviour improved. They are now playing rugby and going to the gym and no longer associates with those looking to exploit them. For the first time in their life, Client B is very positive about their future and wants to achieve something with their life.

Note: performance data included on page 11

*St Giles is a UK-wide third sector provider and thus have a budget pooled from funding granted by commissioners across the country. Therefore, OPCC funding will account for a small percentage of the overall service.

Improve Victim Services and Ensure the Needs of Victims are Identified and Responded to Appropriately Through Connect Gwent and the Victim Care Unit



The above comes from surveying victims and the data in the table above are cumulative from December 2021. The Home Office will be launching a national Victim Satisfaction Survey process in the near future. This will provide consistency of approach across all forces in England and Wales. The baseline predates the introduction of the Victim Care Unit (VCU) in July 2021 as provided in the VCU Business Case.

In Q3, 13,389 victims were referred to the VCU for support, a 10% decrease when compared to the previous quarter. However, Gwent Police saw a 17.2% increase in the number of victims when compared to Q3 2019/20. Repeat crime victims also increased by 3.2% (to 8,684) during Q3. This may partly be due to greater confidence in reporting by these repeat victims, potentially indicating an improvement in victim satisfaction with their initial contact with Gwent Police.

The Witness Care Unit continues to guide victims and witnesses through the final part of their criminal justice journey. The unit are currently supporting 6,949 victims and witnesses, with an average attendance rate of 83% for Magistrates Court and 97% for Crown Court.

Gwent Police’s Special Measures Advisor is providing a positive influence on the number of applications being made for special measures in court. During Q3, 21 special measures applications were made in respect of access to Live Link sites to provide remote evidence. All 21 were granted, resulting in a conversion rate of 100%.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic Areas Covered at SPB this quarter:

- We were advised that for RASSO cases specifically, the force has been praised by the national Operation Soteria team on how they manage victims.
- The Survivor Engagement Coordinator is getting good feedback that can be learned from.
- More broadly, improvements are being seen within the victims’ hub, and with keeping victims engaged.
- Greater efforts are needed to improve victim satisfaction.

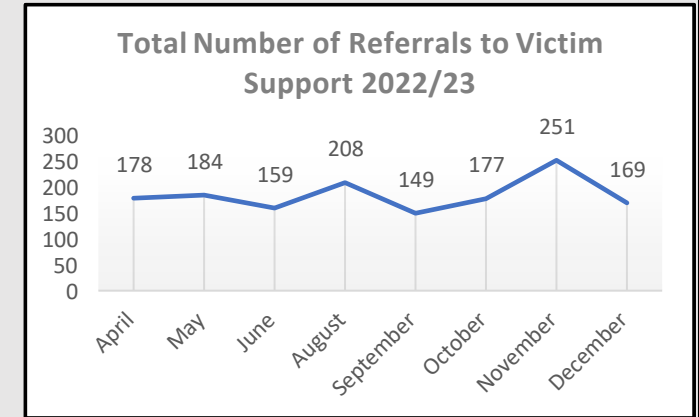
Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The OPCC is collaborating with Dyfed Powys and South Wales OPCCs on a Victims’ Needs Assessment process to inform the recommissioning of adult and children services by April 2024. Contributions from relevant partners are planned to further inform development.

Funding and Commissioned Services:

Victim Support is the largest single commissioned service for victims in Gwent. During the last quarter, the main services provided were:

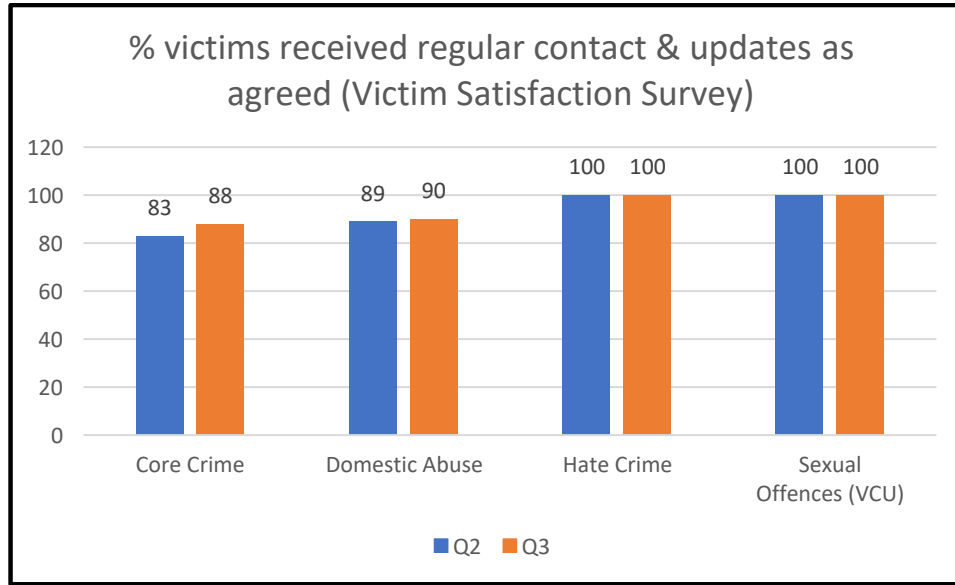
- Advice and information provision (40.9%)
- Ongoing emotional support (16.9%)
- Emotional support (9.7%)
- Immediate practical service delivery (9.7%)
- Immediate emotional support (9.7%)



See Slide 19 for more information on this service

Increase the Timeliness of Police Investigation Updates Provided to Victims

During Q3, victims of ‘core crime’ and domestic abuse in Gwent reported improvements in satisfaction with the timeliness and quality of updates provided. Victim and survivor feedback on their experiences is integral to ensuring that any areas for improvement are quickly identified and addressed in the most appropriate way.



While victim contact timeliness data is collected by Gwent Police, it has not been consistently reported prior to Q2 due to analytical capacity and resources. However, work is underway by the force to ensure it is capable of reporting compliance with the Victims’ Code and keeping victims informed aligned to Ministry of Justice future requirements. **Please note, the sample size for non-core crime is quite low, so do not present a complete picture. Work is ongoing to improve this.**

Each quarter, Gwent Police identifies opportunities for service recovery with victims who have not received the expected standard of service. During Q3, a total of 26 cases were identified for further action in respect of contact and updates.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

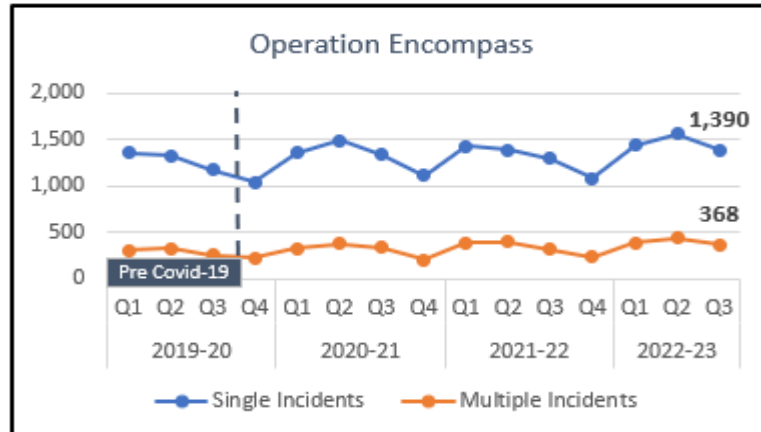
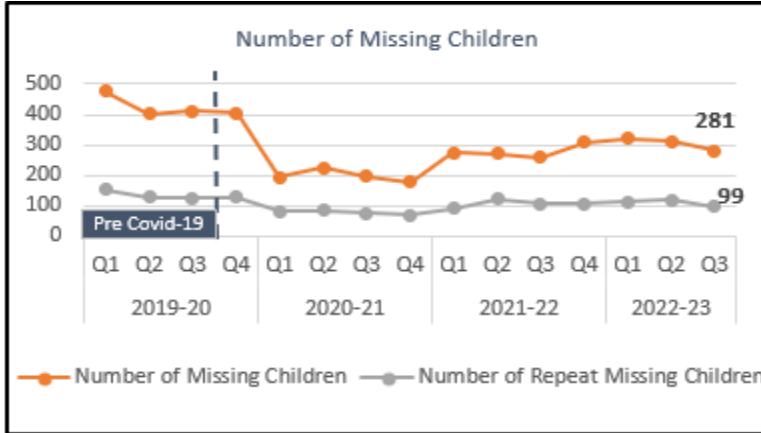
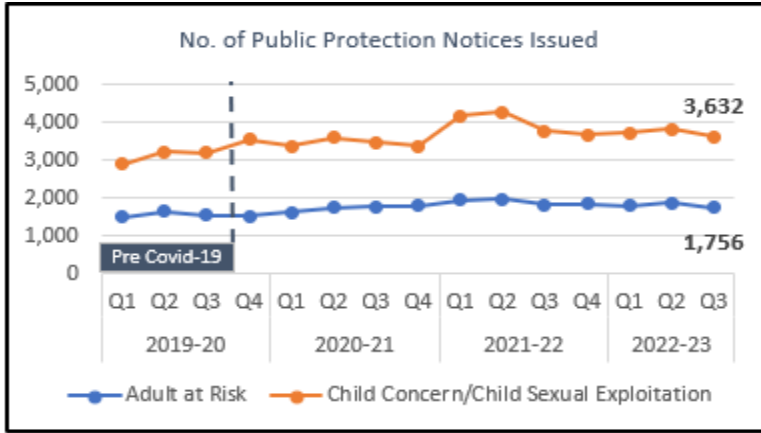
These new measures remain under development since the introduction of the VCU. The DPCC and Head of Strategy both attend the Victims’ Board where there is an opportunity to review performance in this area and support development of the measures needed to reflect performance.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The OPCC continues to be involved with criminal justice partners in Wales regarding the development of the Ministry of Justice’s performance framework to measure agency compliance with the 12 rights set out in the Victims’ Code. Right 6 relates to keeping victims informed at key stages of an investigation. The framework will be introduced as part of measures within the Victims’ Bill and the regular collection and reporting of data will enhance the PCC’s oversight of criminal justice performance in Gwent.

Aligned to this, the OPCC is engaged with Gwent Police’s work to identify and implement an effective data gathering and analysis process.

Further Improve Our Work With Partners to Protect Those Most Vulnerable



What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic Areas Covered at SPB:

- We were advised that missing children numbers dropped in January and February, and repeat numbers remained relatively static.
- Problems had been identified with out of county repeat missing children being housed in pop-up accommodation by local authorities, then going missing when returning to home area. Plans were being created to manage repeat missing children, alongside discussions with local authorities.
- Funding has been secured for an evaluation of the missing children debrief service, and a provider found to carry out the work, which will inform future commissioning of the service.
- Work is ongoing to improve PPN quality, volume and interaction with local authorities

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

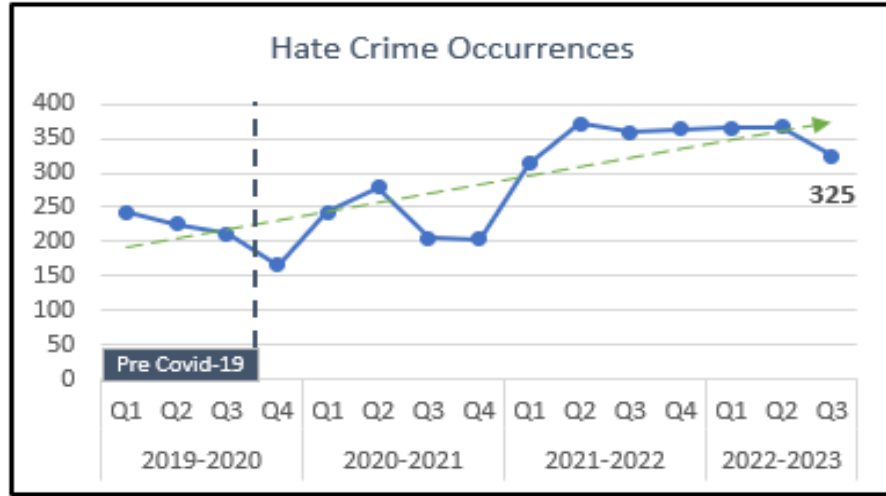
The PCC presented certificates to young refugees aged between 16 and 18 who had completed a series of workshops with Gwent Police. The 5-week course introduces them to the police, explains UK laws, and gives them information to help keep them safe from exploitation from criminal gangs due to a lack of language and cultural understanding, while supporting them to plan an active part in their community.

The OPCC has been working with the Ministry of Justice, the Criminal Justice Board for Wales, and Welsh local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs) to develop reporting mechanisms for adult rape and all crime. Data and analysis will be presented to the Gwent LCJB in March to enable better oversight of regional and Welsh performance and identify opportunities for closer scrutiny and improvement work.

A child rape data dashboard is also in development as this has been identified as a knowledge gap for LCJBs.

Information on Child Sexual Exploitation data is included on slide 11

Further Improve Our Work With Partners to Protect Those Most Vulnerable



The volume of recorded hate crime has reduced by 11.9% (46 fewer crimes) when comparing Q3 2022-23 against the quarter prior, and currently stands at 341 offences. When compared to Q3 2019-20, recorded hate crime has increased by 69.7% (an additional 140 offences). *N.B.: a hate crime can contain more than one hate strand.*

Racially motivated hate crimes continue to be the most prevalent type reported in Gwent. The gap between disability and homophobic/sexual orientation hate crime is starting to narrow. Due to improved recording practices for religiously motivated incidents, there was an increase of 3.8 percentage points (12 cases) recorded during Q3 compared to Q2. Race-related incidents decreased slightly during Q3, indicative of the improved identification of religious hate crimes as distinct to those based on race.

All VCU Victim Care Officers have been provided with the new Hate Crime Support Officer referral processes to ensure effective and appropriate support is being provided to victims.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic Areas Covered at SPB:

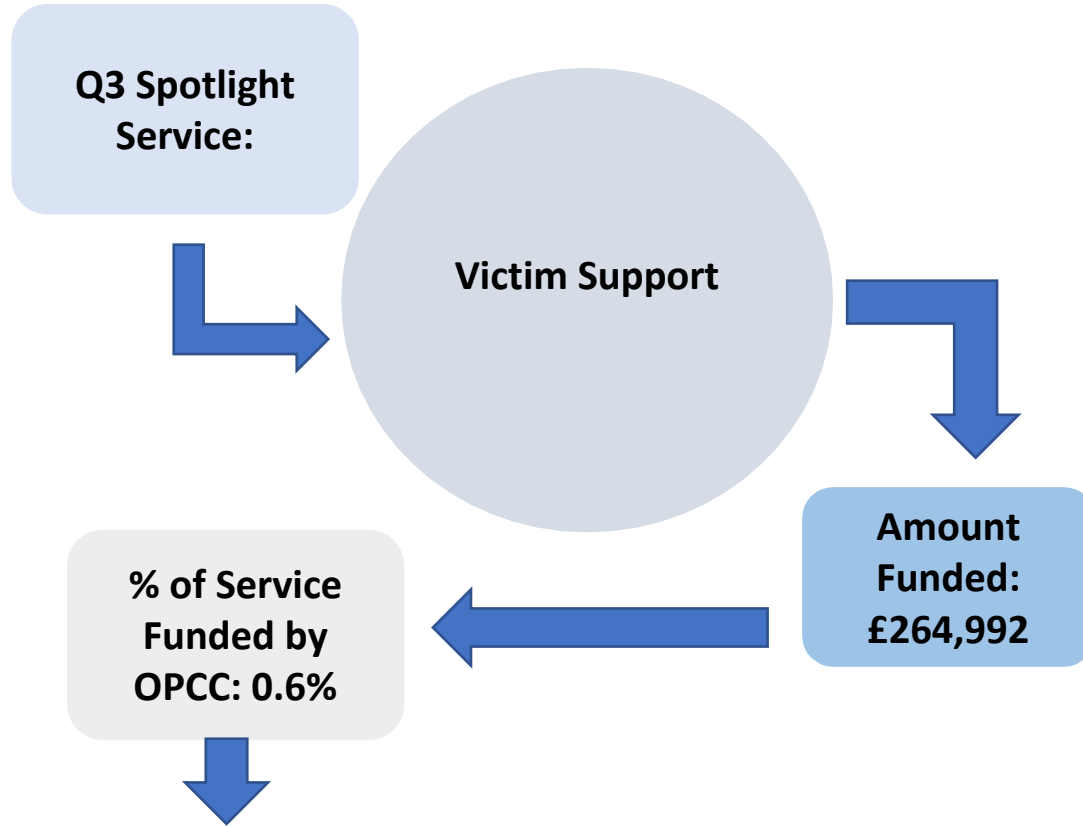
- We noted that no major changes had been made to the performance outcomes in the Hate Crime Action Plan
- The continued increase in disability hate crime reporting mirrored the trends being seen pan-Wales
- Work has started with local support groups to push out messaging regarding the support available.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

During Hate Crime Awareness Week 2022, the OPCC visited Abergavenny, Caerphilly, Cwmbran, Ebbw Vale and Newport to raise awareness of hate crime and help people feel confident to report any incident. Staff teamed up with a range of organisations including Gwent Police, Connect Gwent, Fearless, South Wales Fire and Rescue, Umbrella Cymru and Victim Support Cymru to provide advice, guidance, and support to residents. Working in partnership with so many organisations highlights the wealth of services we have in Gwent to help and support anyone affected by a crime they feel is directed at them because of their race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or gender.

The OPCC also launched a new easy read leaflet to help people with disabilities understand when a hate crime has been committed and how they can report it. The 'Keeping Safe' leaflet was co-created with local disability groups, Caerphilly People First and My Mates to ensure the information in it is accessible and easy for people with a range of disabilities to understand. Leaflets have been given to local disability groups and placed in libraries across Gwent. It has also been shared with the Hate and Community Tensions Board Cymru as an example of good practice.

Commission and Invest in Specialist Services to Support Victims Throughout the Criminal Justice Process

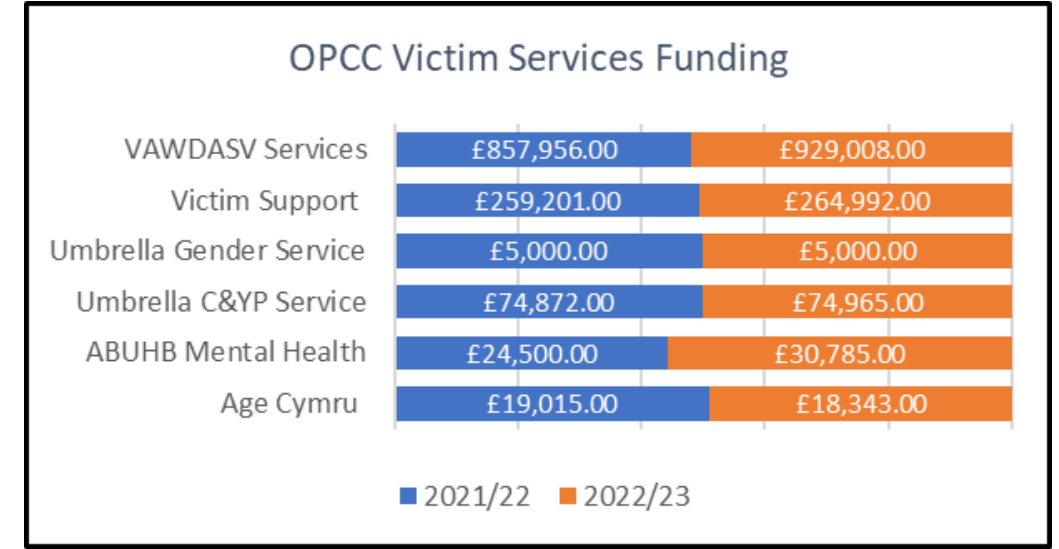


Victim Support (VS) is a national service that provides independent support to people impacted by crime in Gwent. The service is focused on delivering local, accessible and victim-centred services. Services delivered by Victim Support include:

- Support and reassurance
- Security planning/security items
- Building support networks
- Developing coping strategies.

Victim Support works alongside partners within and outside Connect Gwent to fully meet the needs of service users and provide tailored support to their needs.

Overall funding:



Case Study:

S self-referred to VS due to concerns for his safety. S had been the victim of a serious assault and been advised that the CPS did not have enough evidence for the case to go to court. S was homeless and felt vulnerable. S's wellbeing was impacted, feeling the police weren't listening and that he was being let down by "the system". S was concerned that he was not safe from further assaults but declined to approach homeless charities due to previous experience and feelings of safety there.

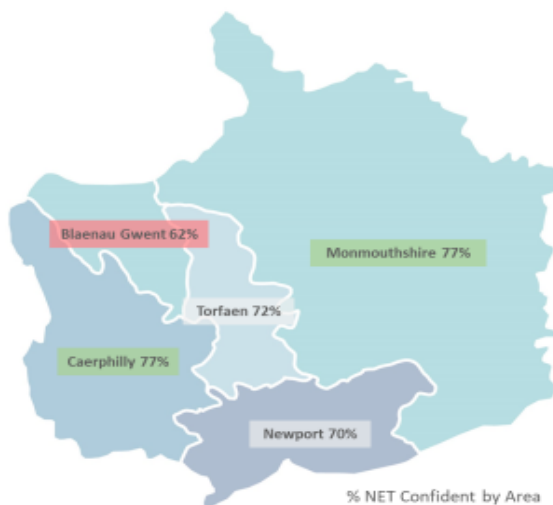
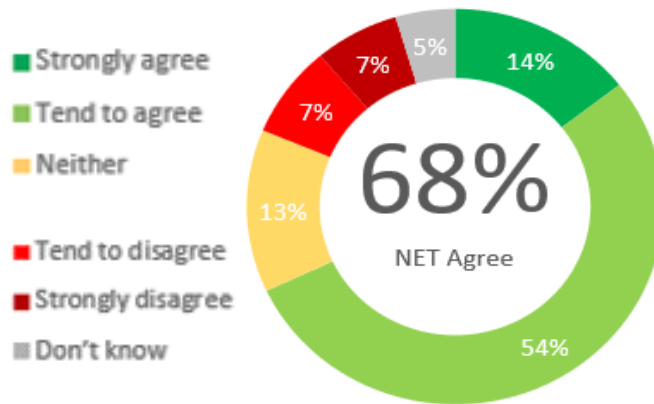
VS liaised with the VCU to identify the OIC and obtain further case information to help manage S's expectations and provide answers to S's questions. VS also provided advocacy in meetings with Newport City Homes, Newport Council and POBL. S's vulnerability was apparent and following supporting correspondence with housing teams, emergency housing was quickly secured for S. This dramatically reduced any further risk to his safety. VS assisted S in submitting a right to review to the CPS to help S understand decisions made about the case.

Increase the Effectiveness of Officer and Staff Engagement with Residents in their Communities, and Community Confidence and Trust in Gwent Police

The PCC is monitoring this information closely, as 68% of people agree they have confidence in the police in their area, a reduction from 73% in the previous quarter. This is lowest in Newport (59%) and highest in Monmouthshire (75%).

Ethnic minority groups have less confidence in this statement, with 61% agreeing they have confidence in police in their area, an increase from the 49% reported in Q2.

3.0% of residents have been a victim of crime and did not report to Gwent Police. Applying this to the population of Gwent would equate to 17,631 individuals.



Nearly three quarters of residents are confident they could easily speak to police in their area, however this has reduced over the last 4 quarters (64% in Q3 2022-23).

Blaenau Gwent had the lowest confidence (62%), Monmouthshire and Caerphilly had the highest confidence (77%).

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic areas covered at SPB :
The DCC stated that a drop in confidence in Gwent was not where the force wanted to be, but also expected due to recent local and national incidents and the impact on public perceptions.

An overall improvement plan focuses on:

- Getting the job right;
- Improving force culture; and
- Improving standards with investment in the Professional Standards Department.

Funding and Commissioned Services:

The OPCC continues to provide funding to the Maindee Youth (School's Out) Project which provides support to children and young people aged between 6 and 25 years of age, predominantly from Roma communities (Slovakian, Czech or Romanian). Young people are mostly school excluded, or had poor experiences of school, and may have displayed risky behaviour in the past in terms of drug use, fighting, and ASB.

The main outcomes of the project include providing a positive role model in the community, seeing improved relationships with young people from different backgrounds, and improved awareness of opportunities. Police relationships are difficult to navigate, but there has been much engagement with Gwent Police about how to engage with young people to improve these interactions.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

During Q3, the OPCC held the independent Legitimacy Scrutiny Panel to review stop and search activity in Gwent. Thematic feedback included:

- The importance of feedback to and engagement with communities
- Positive recognition of good officer engagement seen during body worn video review
- The impact and effectiveness of current stop and search training methods for new officers.

Increase the Effectiveness of Officer and Staff Engagement with Residents in their Communities, and Community Confidence and Trust in Gwent Police

Complaints Information

Normally information from the Professional Standards Department on complaints would be presented here.

However, Gwent Police have revised the data pack provided to the OPCC, due to national changes in reporting by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) and at request of the PCC.

Therefore, this data will be presented by Gwent Police to the Panel in March as part of a 'deep dive' exercise.

Highlights from this new regular report will be shared through this report in future.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic areas covered at SPB:

- We were assured that with regards to an overall assessment of culture across the force, Gwent is generally in a good place with staff stating that they want 'bad officers' out of the service.
- The investment in a Police Perpetrated Domestic Abuse officer intended to support internal colleagues/witnesses to come forward with complaints.
- There is a genuine focus on wellbeing across the force, and feedback is being listened to.
- A staff survey is currently running and a cultural survey will follow.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

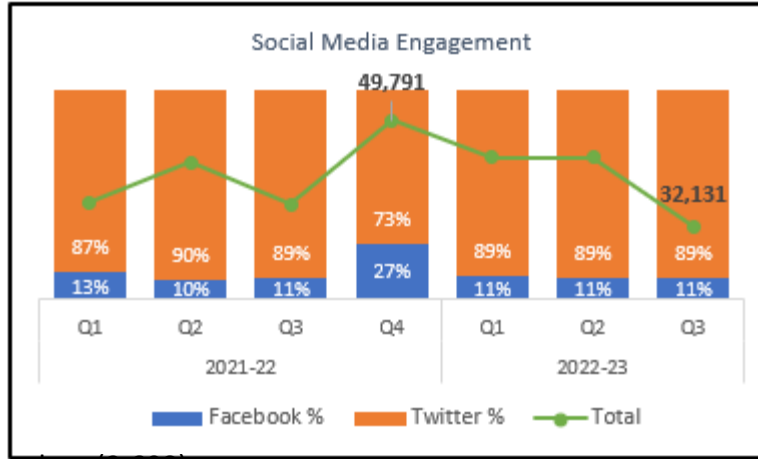
At the end of Q3, the OPCC had 5 complaint reviews ongoing. 23 requests for a review have been dealt with so far during 2022/23, 3 of which were either withdrawn or not eligible. 3 reviews were upheld and 20 not upheld. The recommendations for the 3 upheld included a request for a clear explanation to be provided to a complainant, for processes to be updated on receipt of complaints relating to vehicle recovery and for a complaint not responded to, to be answered.

More detailed information on complaints is available in the Professional Standards Report provided as part of the Strategy and Performance Board pack.

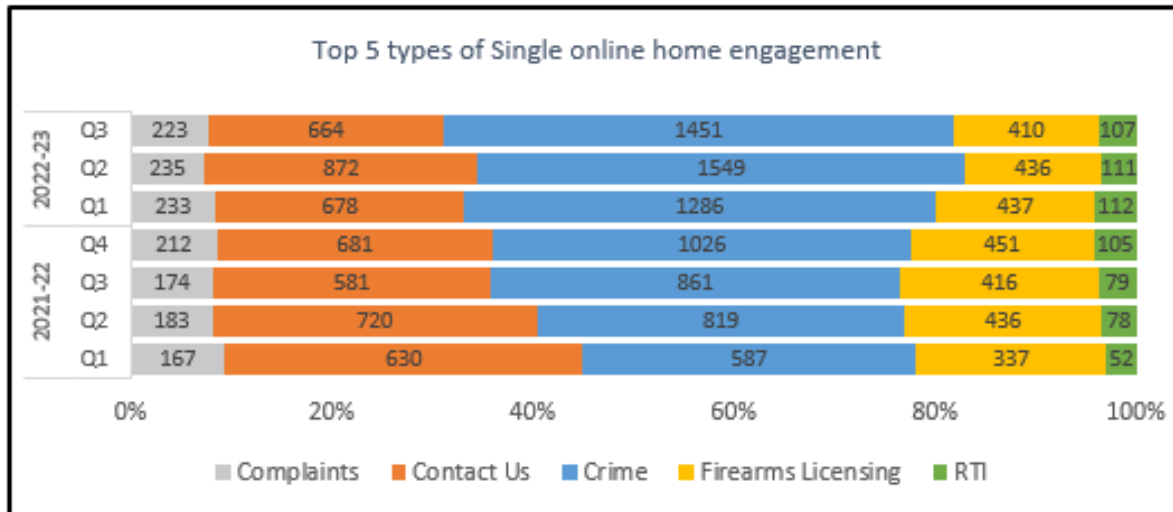
Improve the Accessibility of Neighbourhood Police Teams Through a Variety of Contact Channels that Meet the Needs of the Public

Inbound private messages received via social media platforms decreased during Q3 compared to Q2, by 19.6% (5,419 fewer messages) to 22,263.

92.6% (20,609) of inbound private messages were received through the force's Facebook platforms. The highest volume of such messages were recorded on Sundays (3,608).



Inbound public messages received via social media platforms decreased in Q3 2022-23 compared to Q2, by 38.5% (6,175 fewer messages) to 9,868. For inbound public message sources, 82.0% (8,087) were received via the force's Facebook platforms. The highest volume of inbound public messages were recorded on Fridays (2,208).



What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic areas covered at SPB:

- We were informed that the Digital Public Contact publication reports Gwent as receiving the 31st highest volume of SOH forms (of 42 forces), and is third highest in its Most Similar Group, below South Wales and Northamptonshire. The majority of these contacts are to report crime (45.8% or 1,451 forms), followed by general 'contact us' messages (21.0% or 664 forms) and firearm licensing (12.9% or 410 forms). 'Other' includes forms with low volume, including events and processions, filming, fingerprints and IP licensing.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

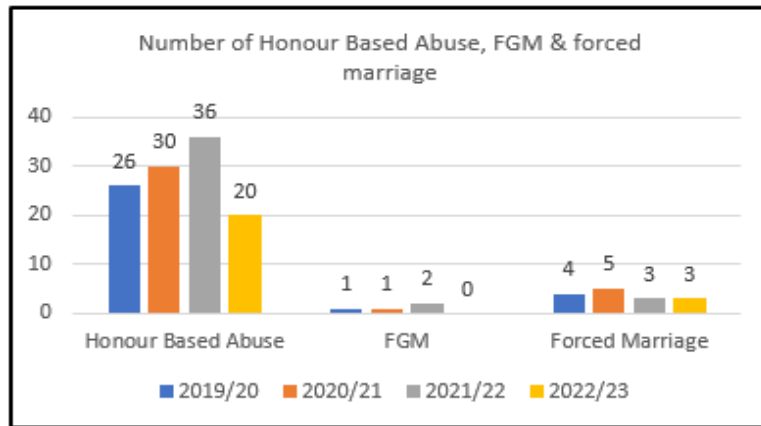
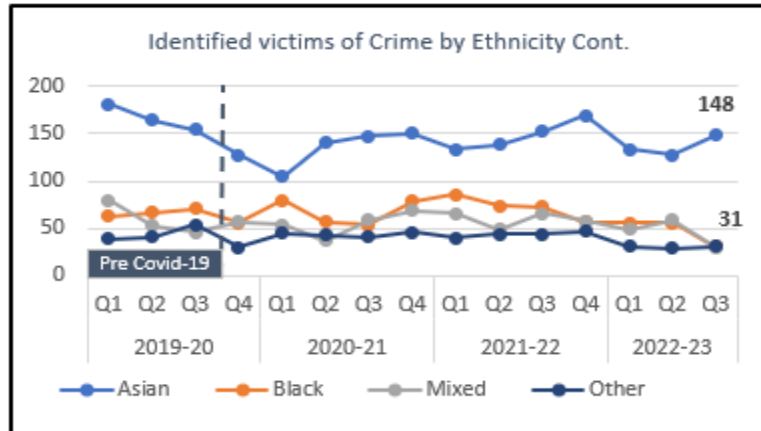
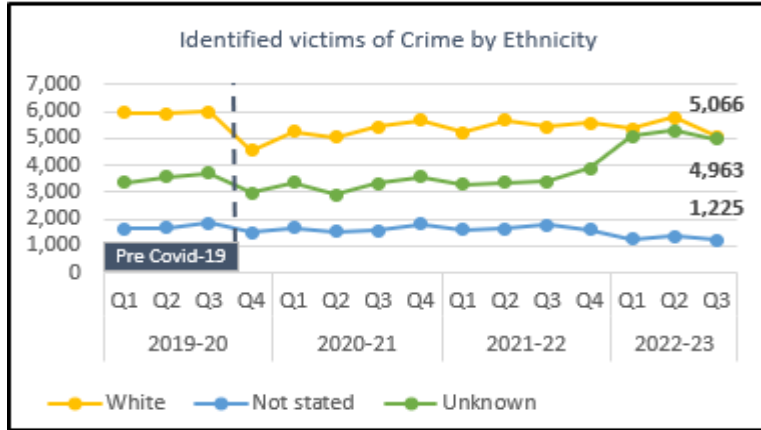
Throughout December, the PCC accompanied OPCC staff who were out and about engaging with residents of Gwent to understand how they felt about proposals to increase council tax precept and their perceptions of policing in their communities. 13 venues were visited, ranging from supermarkets, community hubs, colleges, town centres and Christmas fairs.

1,197 community safety items were handed out during this time. The face-to-face engagement supported an online campaign, which closed on 9 January.

3,168 Single Online Home (SOH) forms were submitted to Gwent in Q3 2022-23, a reduction when compared to the previous quarter (down 11.0%, or 393 forms).

*Note, RTI = Road Traffic Incident

Increase Reporting of Crime by Communities that are Less Likely to Engage with the Police



What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic areas covered at SPB:

- We were informed that the reporting of high harm crimes such as rape is being focused on through increased engagement, particularly with Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.
- Understandable challenges exist linked to public perception and the current operating context for policing nationally and in Gwent, due to frequent undesirable media coverage which may undermine individual's confidence to report their experiences.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

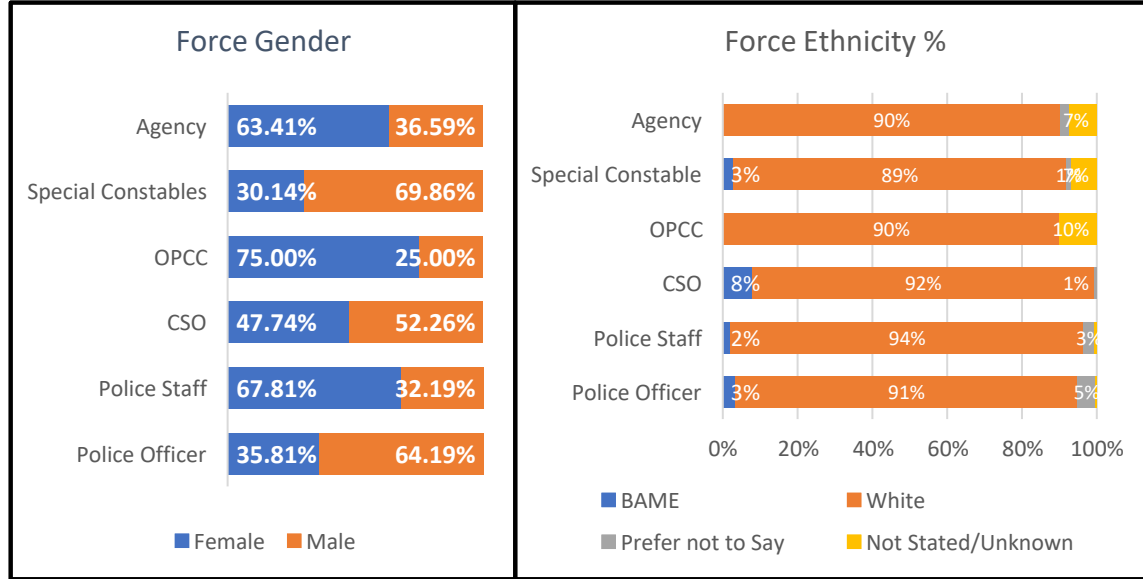
The Deputy PCC continues to provide a leadership role for the communication and engagement workstream of the Criminal Justice Board for Wales's Anti-Racist Plan, which includes a range of activities intended to create positive realities and relationships for more informed communities in Wales. It is anticipated that this work will help improve engagement with, perceptions and experiences of the police and wider criminal justice services, leading to increased reporting by victims from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

OPCC staff are also involved with supporting the Plan's implementation.

Effective recording of victim demographic data continues to be a focus for Gwent Police. As a key element of the Gwent Race Action Plan This is being underpinned by the Criminal Justice Board for Wales's work to develop a common approach to data to better understand the lived experiences of people from ethnic minority groups who engage with the criminal justice service in Wales.

Honour based abuse, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage continue to be under-reported by the communities that experience them. However, honour-based abuse continues to occur more prevalently than FGM and forced marriage within Gwent.

Further Increase Officer and Staff Diversity to Ensure Our Police Service Reflects the Communities that we Serve



Gender disparity remains evident in the workforce for both officers and staff. For officers, females are underrepresented by approximately 15 percentage points (2021 Census data reveals that females make up 51% of the population in Gwent). However, females are represented more greatly in the staff workstream area, by approximately 17 percentage points.

There is also disparity in the minority ethnic representation within the workforce. 8.6% of the Gwent population are from an ethnic minority group, according to the 2021 Census. For police officers, currently 3.4% are persons from an ethnic minority. Ethnic minority representation in staff is even lower at 2.1%.

What have the PCC and OPCC done?

Holding the Chief Constable to Account:

Thematic areas covered at SPB:

We were advised that Gwent Police are on target to achieve operation uplift and the stretch target of 1,521 officers by the 31st March 2023. Ethnic minority representation continues to steadily grow with the ethnic minority joining rate rising to 8.7% by April 2023.

Policy, Projects and Partnerships:

The PCC and members of OPCC staff attended the first all-Wales Disability Seminar, hosted by Gwent Police. Entitled ‘Conversations with Confidence’ and aimed at improving workplace culture towards people with disabilities, the seminar covered a range of topics including accessible ICT, the new NPCC Workplace Adjustment Toolkit, neurodiversity, and personal accounts of life with dwarfism, autism, and deafness. The seminar culminated in the launch of a new all-Wales disability network, which will help to provide additional support to people with different conditions that may affect their workplace experiences.

The Commissioner has a statutory obligation to publish the number of staff in their team, including the proportion of staff who are women, and (where disclosed) are members of an ethnic minority and / or have a disability. The OPCC team currently includes the following staff, with no recorded change since the last quarter:

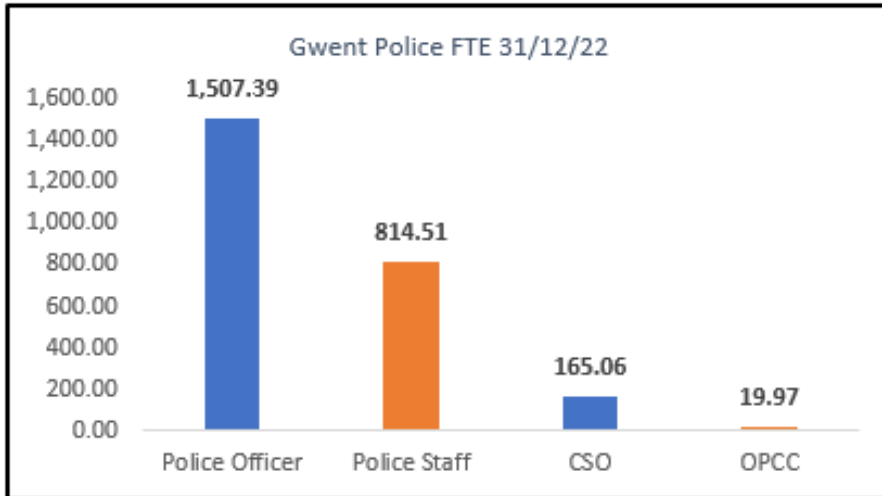
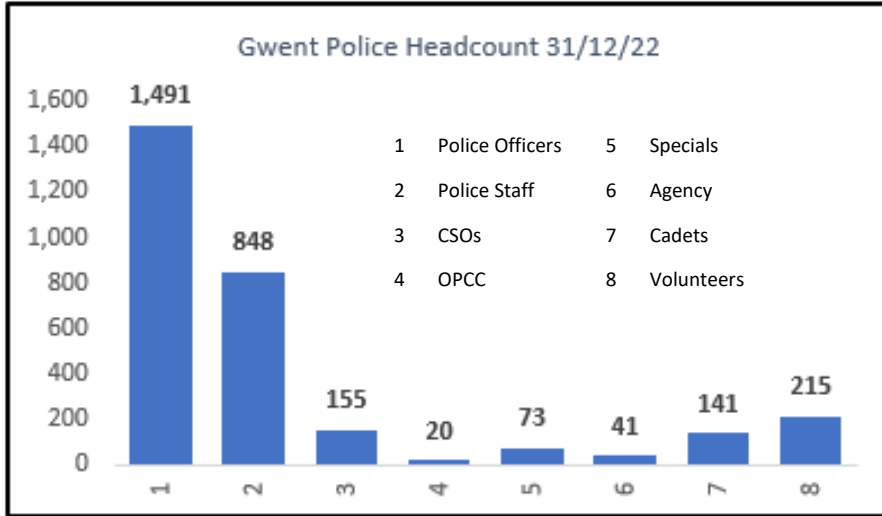
*Excluding the PCC and DPCC

Number of posts*	17 (FTE)
No of staff who are women*	13
Proportion of ethnic minority staff*	0
No of staff with a declared disability*	2

Ensure Gwent Police have the right number of officers, staff and volunteers in the right places

Priority 5. Drive Sustainable Policing

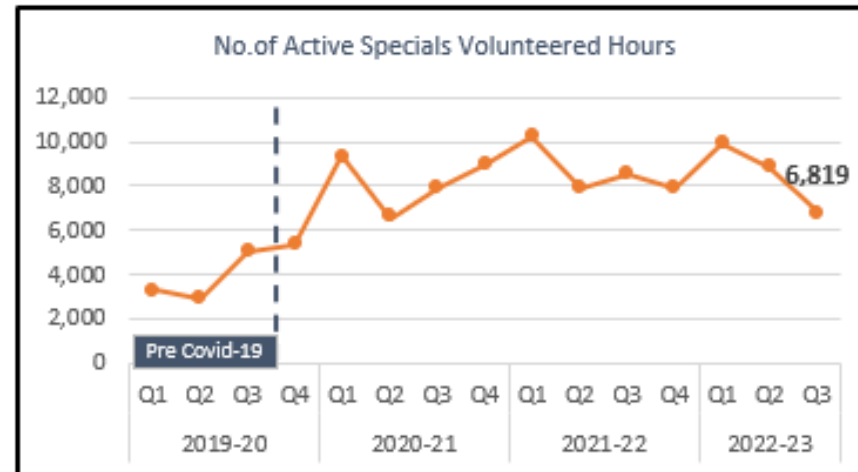
Providing a value for money police service that meets its responsibilities, with sustainable infrastructures that support current and future demands



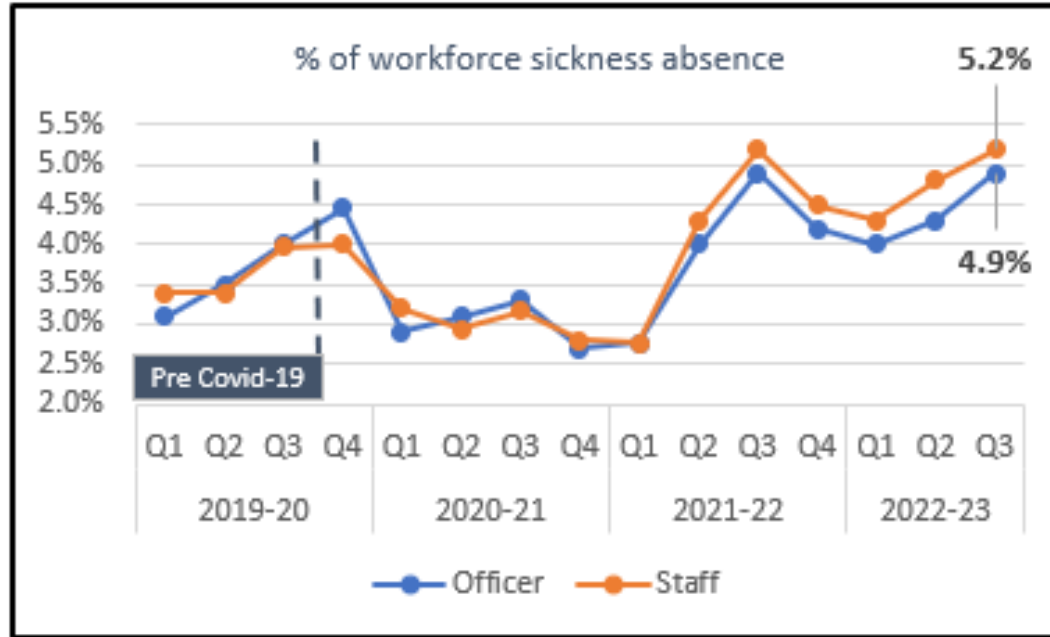
At the recent Strategy and Performance Board, the Chief Constable gave an overall assessment of the current position relating to Officers and Staff. She highlighted to the PCC that Gwent has the 2nd highest new joiner rate in England and Wales, which means there are 400-500 officers with less than 5 years service. The focus of Gwent Police is to ensure these officers are effectively skilled, equipped and trained to the right standards, which form the basis of their frontline improvement plans.

In terms of published police officer establishment, the following touchpoints give an indication of how officer numbers have changed in the past 12 years:

- 2010/11 – 1477** (the previous high point)
- 2015/16 – 1147**
- 2019/20 – 1300**



Enhance health and wellbeing support for officers and staff to ensure our workforce is fit and ready to meet the challenges of policing



What have the PCC and OPCC done?

The Gwent Wellbeing Plan was discussed at the recent Strategy and Performance Board, with feedback provided through the Gwent Public Service Board.

As chair of Policing in Wales (PCCs and Chief Constables), a briefing was discussed by the OPCC on the impact of the cost of living crisis on policing, which is now a standing agenda item on the agenda for that meeting.

A cost of living crisis survey has also been sent to all commissioned services to understand how this is impacting not only on the services themselves but also the people they support. The results will be factored into future planning.

Top 5 Short Term Sickness Absence Reasons

1. Vomiting/Diarrhoea
2. COVID-19 Positive
3. Cold
4. Influenza
5. Vaccine Reaction

Top 5 Long Term Sickness Absence Reasons

1. Other Stress
2. Anxiety
3. Depression
4. Back Condition/injury
5. Post COVID illness

SUBJECT: POLICE AND CRIME PANEL SUBGROUPS

DATE: 31ST MARCH 2023

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To ask the Gwent Police and Crime Panel to formally agree to merge the Finance and Estate subgroups and confirm the revised membership.

2. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the establishment of a Police and Crime Panel (PCP) within each police force area to support and challenge the local Police and Crime Commissioner.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Police and Crime Panel has established a small number of subgroups to consult and work with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner on certain subject matters. These groups meet on an ad-hoc basis throughout the year and will involve a small number of panel members. The groups that have been established are:

- Complaints
- Estate
- Finance
- Performance

4. REPORT

- 4.1 During 2022/23 it became apparent there were budgetary pressures on the Estate Strategy which would have a significant financial impact and therefore the strategy would need to be reviewed during 2022. The Panel were updated on the financial implications during the precept meeting in January 2023, when the PCC advised that some Capital projects would be delayed for 2 years. A report on the updated Estate Strategy will be provided to the Panel in June 2023, following consideration by the new Finance and Estate subgroup as proposed below.
- 4.2 At the Panel meeting in September 2022 the membership of the subgroups was agreed for the new Panel term. It was also suggested that that the Finance and Estate groups could meet jointly due to the financial impact of the planned works. It is now proposed to permanently merge the two groups with the revised membership of the single subgroup as:

Councillor Marina Chacon-Dawson, Caerphilly County Borough Council;
Councillor Colin Peter Mann, Caerphilly County Borough Council;
Councillor Tony Kear, Monmouthshire County Borough Council;
Councillor Mark Spencer, Newport City Council; and

Co-opted Member, Gillian Howells
Eleri Thomas, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner;
Rachel Williams, Deputy Chief Constable;
Darren Garwood-Pask, Chief Finance Officer; and
Nigel Stephens, Assistant Chief Officer, Resources.

- 4.3 In view of the changes to the Capital works programme and the financial impact it is therefore suggested that the Finance and Estate subgroup hold a planned programme of meetings to be aligned to the cycle of Panel meetings and held approximately two weeks before.
- 4.4 It is also proposed to offer all Panel members a finance training session, this will be aimed for new members but can also be considered a refresher for experienced members.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Police and Crime Panel is funded from grant funding provided by the Home Office to the lead authority.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been reflected in the recommendations of this report.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That the Finance and Estate Subgroups merge; new membership confirmed; and hold a regular cycle of meetings aligned and held two weeks before each formal Panel meeting.
- 7.2 To run a finance training session for Panel members.

8. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To ensure that Panel members are kept informed of the estate strategy and the financial implications.

9. STATUTORY POWERS

- 9.1 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

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Consultees: Rob Tranter, Rob Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, Caerphilly County Borough Council.
Lisa Lane Deputy Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic Services
Sian Curley Chief Executive Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Darren Garwood-Pask Chief Finance Officer Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Gill Howells Chair of Gwent Police and Crime Panel
Councillor Colin Mann Vice Chair of Gwent Police and Crime Panel

GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 & 2023/24

Meeting Date	Items – Theme Support Victims and Protect the Vulnerable
31st March 2023	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Performance Qtr 3
	Presentation on Professional Standards
	Recording of RTA's, (where there are no Personal Injuries) – For Information (Gwent Police to brief Cllr outside meeting)
	Gwent PCP Sub Groups – Finance & Estates
Meeting Date	Items – Theme Combat Serious Crime
30th June 2023	Elect Chair and Vice Chair
	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Annual Report 2022/23
	Performance Qtr 4
	Update on Estates Strategy
	Victims Support Review Update
Meeting Date	Items – Theme
29th Sept 2023	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Performance Qtr 1
	MTFP & Budget Setting Timetable
	Welsh Language Standards Annual Report
	OPCC Equality Annual Report
	Gwent Police and Crime Panel Annual Report (Information)
Meeting Date	Items – Theme
15th Dec 2023	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	PCP Recorded Complaints Report
	Operational Context and Requirements for the Finance Strategy
	Treasury Management update
	Performance Framework Q 2 (Information Report)
Meeting Date	Items – No Theme – Precept meeting
26 Jan 2024	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent's Budget Requirement and Council Tax Precept Proposal
Meeting Date	Items – Theme
15th March 2024 – subject to Pre-election period	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
