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**Gwent Police
and Crime Panel**

**Panel Heddlu
a Throseddu Gwent**

For all enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Mark Jacques
(Tel: 01443 864267 Email: jacqum@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Date: 2nd July 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Gwent Police and Crime Panel** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Friday, 10th July, 2026** at **10.00 am** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

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MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Malcolm Day, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Councillor Diane Rowberry, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Councillor Marina Chacon-Dawson, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillor Colin Peter Mann, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillor Lisa Phipps, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillor Tony Easson, Monmouthshire County Council
Councillor Tony Kear, Monmouthshire County Council
Councillor Farzina Hussain, Newport City Council
Councillor Debbie Jenkins, Newport City Council
Councillor James Peterson, Newport City Council
Councillor Lynda Clarkson, Torfaen County Borough Council
Councillor Nick Byrne, Torfaen County Borough Council

Co-opted Members- Mrs. G Howells and Ms. K Stevenson

By Invitation

Ms J. Mudd, 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 MARCH 2026 AT 10.00AM

Present:

Mrs G. Howells – Chair

Councillors M. Chacon-Dawson, C. Mann, and L. Phipps (Observing- Pending Home Office Approval) – Caerphilly County Borough Council
Councillor A. Easson – Monmouthshire County Council
Councillors F. Hussain, D. Jenkins, and J. Peterson - Newport City Council
Councillor L. Clarkson – Torfaen County Borough Council
Ms K. Stevenson – Coopted Member

By invitation:

Ms J. Mudd - 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
Mr S. Slater – Head of Strategy, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent
Mr R. Guest – Head of Communications and Engagement, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Together with:

Mr M. Jacques (Scrutiny Officer - CCBC), Mrs L. Lane (Head of Democratic Services – CCBC) and Mrs E. Sullivan (Democratic Services Manager - CCBC).

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were declared by Members.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors N. Byrne (Torfaen County Borough Council), M. Day (Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council), T. Kear (Monmouthshire County Council), and D. Rowberry (Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council nomination – pending Home Office approval).

3. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON 30TH JANUARY 2026**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Gwent Police and Crime Panel meeting held on 30th January (minute no. 1 – 12) be approved as a correct record and noting that K. Stephens listed in the minutes should read K. Stevenson. The accuracy of the previous meeting's minutes was unanimously approved by those Members present.

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY 2026

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Gwent Police and Crime Panel meeting held on 20th February (minute no. 13 – 14) be approved as a correct record. The accuracy of the previous meeting's minutes was unanimously approved by those Members present.

5. UPDATE BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT

The PCC updated Members on activities undertaken, scrutinised, or supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) during the first three months of 2026. Activities highlighted included attending the Anti-Racism Community Engagement Feedback Forum, support for the Ask for Angela scheme's new pledge initiative, approving twenty-two bids to the Commissioner's Community Fund, and a Memorandum of Understanding which had been signed on behalf of the Welsh Government and Policing in Wales.

One Member raised the Home Office's Winter of Action and sought clarification on the £50K contribution to partners in Gwent and regional figures for arrests and fines for shoplifting and anti-social behaviour as a result of the Safer Streets Summer initiative. Members heard from the PCC that funding for the Winter of Action programme was her decision and that there were no specific funds for it from the Home Office. Community Safety Partnerships submitted bids for funds and decisions were made based on the priorities. The success of both initiatives would be identified in future performance reports. The Member outlined how shoplifting was on the increase and the PCC acknowledged that retail crime was a challenge for Police Forces across the UK.

A Member enquired how the success of diversionary, educational, or other interventions under 'Outcome 22' to address behaviour was measured and shared. The PCC advised that success was shared through the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners and the National Police Chiefs' Council. Challenges around measuring the success of diversionary activities were also highlighted by the PCC and she offered to provide case studies which demonstrated the impact of interventions to a future meeting. In response to a further question from the Member the PCC gave details on the referral and identification process for young people who are at risk of getting involved in violent crimes and gangs, preventative measures which are part of the Serious Violence Duty.

One Member highlighted the importance of Ask for Angela training for staff at licensed premises in Gwent, which was highlighted in the report. The PCC thanked the Member for her comments.

In relation to the Scrutiny section of the report a Panel Member enquired about the spread of community feedback which was the focus of a recent Public Accountability Forum. The PCC advised that it was the ambition to hold forums across the Gwent region, but that Islwyn had been identified for focus at the meetings highlighted in the report. The feedback from communities which was presented to the Chief Constable was localised and focussed on issues such as dangerous driving on certain roads. The Member also commented on the status of 'Outcome 22' outcomes which could not be considered as positive in official recording of data. The Head of Strategy advised that these outcomes were classed as "no further action" as there had been no formal criminal justice outcome however they required individuals to attend a diversionary or educational intervention to address their behaviour.

7. VERBAL UPDATE ON THE ESTATES STRATEGY

With the agreement of the Chair, it was resolved that Agenda Item 7 would be discussed before

the Police Reform update.

The PCC advised that a Sustainability Strategy had now been received but was yet to be considered by the PCC's Estates Strategy Board. It was also highlighted that a Climate Change Risk Assessment which had been compiled by the Gwent Public Service Board was nearing publication and could also impact on any future plans. The PCC offered to share this information in a session with the PCP to collect feedback ahead of developing the strategy.

The Chair highlighted the existing protocol of convening the Finance and Estates Subgroup prior to wider consultation with Members. The Chief Finance Officer favoured holding an All-Member Briefing on the current information prior to the next PCP meeting. The Chair outlined her view that the existing protocol should be observed before any wider briefing. The PCC suggested that this was a matter for Panel Members, and at the meeting Members gave broad support for the position outlined by the Chair. OPCC Officers also highlighted external factors which had impacted on the Strategy in terms of evidence gathering on issues such as decarbonisation and sustainability.

During the ensuing discussion it was determined that the briefings would take place at a date to be confirmed following the election period in May.

6. UPDATE ON POLICE REFORM – PRESENTATION

The PCC outlined an overview on the announced changes to Policing in England and Wales. Members were reminded that PCC elections in May 2028 were now cancelled and that OPCC statutory responsibilities would remain until 3rd May 2028. The PCC also highlighted the wider context such as an independent review of the criminal courts. The Panel were updated on several of the proposals outlined in the White Paper – “From Local to National: A New Model for Policing.” The PCC advised that this was an ambitious programme which was not expected to be fully delivered this current Parliament. Potential challenges around developing a National Policing Service for England and Wales were highlighted by the PCC. The Panel were also advised that an independent Commission was looking into the potential merging of some existing forces. The final strand of the proposed three-tier model for Policing was the creation of Local Policing Areas for aspects such as providing neighbourhood policing. The PCC outlined how ten transition groups had been established by the Home Office and that there was representation from Wales on each of the groups apart from Fire as that responsibility was devolved to Welsh Government. Members were advised that there was a very tight timetable for delivery ranging from the agreement of project governance arrangements in December 2025 to going live on 4th May 2028. The PCC advised that Policing in Wales had developed a potential model for Police governance in Wales which had been presented to the Policing Minister and the Welsh Government's Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice on 5th March 2026. Complexities around potential devolution in England and the consequences for Policing and the fact that Policing was not a devolved matter in Wales were highlighted by the PCC. The issue of the potential merger of Police forces was unknown at this stage, but clarity would be provided following the outcome of the independent Commission led by Lord Bernard Hogan-Howe which the PCC referred to earlier in her presentation. The Chair thanked the PCC for her presentation, recognised the uncertainty for OPCC staff, and invited questions from Members.

One Member highlighted additional uncertainty around Gwent PCP membership following next year's Council Elections and raised the significant amount of time it takes for new Members to receive Home Office approval. The PCC stressed the importance of maintaining stability whilst recognising some of the challenges raised by the Member. The Chief Executive of the OPCC offered to write a joint letter with the other Chief Executives in Wales to the Home Office, in advance of the Local Authority elections in 2027, requesting that priority be given to the ratification of new Panel Members.

A Member enquired about countering unintended consequences of the reform such as the potential for staff to leave partnership organisations who conduct vital services within the community. The PCC advised that there is a transition group specifically for partnership

organisations who provide community support due to OPCC funding and that it was important for concerns raised to be fed back to the transition boards.

One Member asked about the consequences of the Sentencing Review. The PCC acknowledged that there was a degree of uncertainty and that there was potential for a significant increase in demand for policing services. The DPCC advised that the National Police Chiefs' Council had concerns and as a result a piece of work was being conducted which would provide evidence on the impact of the review and subsequent resource requirements. The CFO advised that in Gwent it was estimated that £3M would be required over the next two financial years due to this review. A figure which had not been identified in the published budget forecasts.

A Member raised concerns that Wales risked being overlooked in the reform and highlighted that previous plans to merge Police forces had been scrapped due to estimated costs of £1bn. The PCC acknowledged the points raised and highlighted the cost in terms of OPCC time spent on managing ongoing transition meetings in addition to existing full workloads. However, the importance of presenting an evidence-based view to achieve the best outcome for residents was stressed by the PCC.

One Member enquired about the estimated impact of the Sentencing Review. The PCC and DPCC gave further detail and advised how the aim was to replace short sentences with effective rehabilitation with the right infrastructure within communities. In response to a supplementary question from the Member Officers gave further detail on potential future Scrutiny arrangements and public consultation.

The Chair thanked the PCC for the update, and it was agreed that further updates would be made within future PCC Update agenda items unless a wider presentation was required.

8. PERFORMANCE MONITORING – QUARTER 3 2025/26

During her introductory overview, the PCC highlighted that even though a minor increase in recorded crime levels was noted, the lowest annual total was being projected by analysts. Other highlights included good reports on diversionary Police activity around Halloween and Bonfire Night celebrations and a commitment on further OPCC scrutiny of the three pillars of the Chief Constable's operating model.

One Member commented on the rape figures which appeared to be on an upwards trajectory. The PCC advised that this was a concern that she would focus attention on and the Head of Strategy also highlighted that the trend reflected greater confidence in reporting.

A Member enquired about the recording of stalking and harassment crimes. The Head of Strategy highlighted that these areas were included within violence without injury in the report and provided further detail on the categorisation of crimes by the Home Office. Members also heard how the two crimes highlighted were an area of focus for the OPCC team.

One Member suggested that the inclusion of population data would provide more context to crime monitoring. The PCC agreed and highlighted that population growth also led to a greater demand for policing.

A Member highlighted a fall in Community Support Officer numbers and asked if this was part of plans previously presented. The PCC highlighted fluctuations in terms of funds for PCSOs and advised that funding had been confirmed for the next year which would mean that a full headcount would be presented in the near future. In response to a question on Police Officer numbers in specialist roles Members were advised that such information would be contained in a future operational report. The Member requested further information on the sixteen dogs held in kennels and the Head of Strategy advised that they had been seized because of dangerous dog legislation and the figure was a reduction in previous seizures.

One Member enquired about timescales for determining the breed of seized dogs. Officers provided information on this and highlighted that Gwent Police had a designated officer who specialised in handling dangerous dog cases. Work was also taking place with partners to promote sensible dog ownership.

9. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Officer (Mr M Jacques) highlighted that an update on the Estates Strategy would be scheduled following publication of the Sustainability Strategy and the Climate Change Risk Assessment. This had been resolved during Agenda Item 7. The officer also highlighted that as the meeting scheduled for 26th March 2027 fell on Good Friday, he proposed that the meeting be brought back to 19th March 2027 instead. This was agreed by the Chair and Panel Members.

The Chair suggested that future meetings should be focused on the five priorities outlined in the PCC's Police, Crime and Justice Plan 2025-2029. It was suggested that the July meeting should focus on the Protecting the Vulnerable priority. The Chair's proposal was welcomed by the PCC and supported by Panel Members.

One Member suggested that the Reducing Reoffending priority should be considered before the December meeting. The DPCC felt that the suggestion was relevant considering the Sentencing Review. It was agreed that this topic could potentially come to the September meeting as half-yearly data would then be available. The PCC also offered to provide updates on topics of interest following Member consideration during her existing update at each meeting.

Meeting Closed at 12:00 pm.

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Police and Crime Commissioner Update July 2026

This is a selection of activities undertaken, scrutinised or supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in April - June 2026. Some of this reporting period was during the pre-election period which restricted external activities and decision-making.

Policing reforms

Legislation on the proposed changes to policing governance is currently being drafted and it is expected to be made public in September. Policing in Wales, which comprises the four Commissioners and four Chief Constables in Wales, made a joint submission to the call for evidence by Lord Hogan-Howe. He is undertaking an independent review of police force structures in the UK. At the start of July I appeared before the Welsh Affairs Committee, which is responsible for scrutinising the expenditure, administration and policies of the Wales Office, and the policies of the UK Government as a whole that have an impact in Wales.

Ask for Angela

I have continued to work towards ensuring that all licensed premises in Gwent take part in the Ask for Angela scheme. This is a simple but effective safety campaign to reduce or prevent sexual violence and vulnerability for people in pubs, clubs and licensed venues, particularly in the evening and night-time economy. The proposal is in its final stages and will see my office providing funding to promote the scheme and train staff in pubs and clubs on how to operate it.

Children and Young People's Charter

Following the launch of my Children and Young People's Charter for Gwent in November I have been actively seeking their views to inform service delivery. The charter sets out my commitment to ensuring that children and young people are heard and that their rights are championed within the criminal justice system. My office and I have visited schools in Blaenau Gwent and have developed new ways to capture young people's views when engaging with them. We also took part in a series of engagement events with young people at all Coleg Gwent campuses on the issues that matter most to them.

I have also given funding to a school-based boxing project run by St Joseph's Boxing Gym in Newport. The club is delivering boxing sessions for secondary school pupils across Newport. It is working with the police and probation service to support young offenders, as well as providing sessions for victims of crime. During the sessions, participants practice boxing skills and work on their fitness, while also learning about discipline, developing a positive mindset and teamwork.

Commissioning

During this reporting period, I have agreed funding for 2026/27 of more than £800,000 for a number of projects. Each of these will help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, support victims and vulnerable people, and build community cohesion. This is being achieved through the following initiatives:

- **Commissioner's Partnership Fund** - Grants of up to £1,000 to enable grassroots organisations to deliver community-led activities.
- **Commissioner's Community Fund** - Grants between £1,000 - £50,000 to enable organisations to deliver sustained projects, prioritising support for children and young people.
- **Commissioner's Community Engagement Fund** - Grants of up to £5,000 to support projects that build community cohesion, and trust and confidence in public services.

A total of 16 projects have been awarded grants, while a further 13 projects have received second- and third-year funding. The projects support the priorities set out in my Police, Crime and Justice Plan and are partially funded using money recovered from the proceeds of crime. Many of these projects support children and young people, giving them safe spaces to go and positive activities to take part in outside school hours. Others provide help and assistance to those who have been victims of crime or aim to build bridges between communities and public services. I am proud to be able to support our communities, using money recovered from criminal activity to help build a fairer, safer society for everyone. Projects funded for 2026/27 include:

- Brynmawr Interact Club
- Community House
- Cwmbran Centre for Young People
- Cwm Taf People First
- Cynefin Pamoja
- Duffryn Community Link
- EYST
- Forces Fitness Education CIC
- Hip Hop 12
- KidCare4U
- Newport Central Jame Masjid
- People's Prosperity Project
- SYDIC
- TOGs Centre
- Vitalize Radio
- Volunteering Matters

Community engagement

Following the conclusion of the pre-election period, I restarted my community engagement programme with unannounced walkabouts in Abergavenny, Bargoed, Newport and Usk. We have started our summer community events programme and will be attending 15 weekend events between now and Usk Show on 12 September. My team and I have also supported Streetsoc and Kidcare4u community events in Newport recently.

Elected representatives

I welcomed members of the Senedd and local authority leaders to Gwent Police Headquarters as part of my ongoing engagement with Wales's elected representatives. Chief Constable Mark Hobrough and I provided members with a detailed briefing on policing across Gwent's five local authority areas. The overview covered current demand on services, key operational priorities, and the challenges facing policing across the country. Members were also given a guided tour of the force control room, which handles emergency 999 calls and non-emergency reports. The visit provided an opportunity to see first-hand how officers and staff work to keep communities safe and respond to incidents quickly and effectively. In addition to this, I have continued my ongoing engagement programme with town and community councils in Gwent, as well as my monthly meetings with MPs, AMs and council leaders.

Serious violence

Thousands of young people across Gwent are benefiting from workshops on knife crime, county lines and hate crime, after I extended funding for Fearless. This is a service aimed at young people delivered by the independent charity Crimestoppers. The sessions are delivered by Fearless, which works with young people aged 11 to 18, where evidence shows they are most at risk of either becoming involved in crime or becoming victims of it. Through the sessions, young people are helped to understand the dangers of criminal involvement, including carrying knives and other weapons. In my Police, Crime and Justice Plan for Gwent, I made a commitment to reducing serious youth violence and investing in projects that help keep young people safe from crime.

Scrutiny

I held my latest Public Accountability Forum with Chief Constable Mark Hobrough, meaning I have held them in all five council areas since inception, as well as hosting two additional thematic sessions. Following a walkout in the city centre with the Chief Constable, I put a series of questions to him about the issues affecting communities in Newport. These questions were captured from residents and businesses in a series of engagement sessions in the weeks leading up to the forum. The latest forum was recorded at the University of South Wales's Newport campus and included questions about

safety in the city centre, anti-social behaviour, and the work Gwent Police is doing to support women and girls.

Senior leadership

I was recently on the appointment panel that saw Nick McLain appointed as the new Deputy Chief Constable for Gwent. Nick takes over from DCC Nicky Brain, who has retired after 30 years of service. Nick joined Gwent Police in 1996 and has held a range of roles across the force. Chief Superintendent John Wade, who was based within the joint firearms unit, will become the new Temporary Assistant Chief Constable.

VAWDASV

Elder Abuse Awareness Day takes place every June. To mark it, my team has been collaborating with partners, including Cyfannol Women's Aid, to raise awareness of elder abuse among communities and professionals who support older people. The team attended unpaid carers' events in Newport and Blaenau Gwent and engaged with visitors at Nevill Hall Hospital. During the sessions, conversations focused on raising awareness of the signs of abuse and highlighting organisations that can offer help and support. We also supported a webinar event for safeguarding professionals.

I have given funding to a project aimed at promoting positive masculinity and challenging misogyny and gender-based violence among young people in Gwent. The Positive Masculinity Initiative is run by Media Academy Cymru (MAC) and seeks to empower young people to recognise and model positive masculinity in themselves and others. The project promotes healthy, respectful relationships and aims to help create safer and more inclusive communities. It works with boys and young men who have been identified as displaying problematic attitudes or behaviours, taking a youth-work approach to support them in critically reflecting on their thoughts, opinions and actions. This process helps participants develop a more positive male identity.

Volunteering

I gave funding to help this year's Big Help Out in Pontypool. More than 60 volunteers braved the wind and rain to take part in this event, which included litter picking, clearing pavements and walkways, and tidying up the town's memorials and public spaces.

Volunteering Week takes place every June, so I took this opportunity to thank volunteers from across Gwent who give their time to support their communities. I am directly responsible for two volunteer schemes that support me in holding Gwent Police to account on behalf of the public - independent custody visitors and animal welfare visitors. We are currently in the process of appointing new ICVs in Gwent, who will go into police custody units to check on the welfare of detainees and the facilities in which they are held.

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) PEEL (police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy) 2023-25 inspection report of Gwent Police was published on 27 June 2025. The inspection assessed ten areas of policing, and the force received graded judgments in nine of these areas as follows:

Recording data about crime – Outstanding

Police powers and treating the public fairly and respectfully – Adequate Preventing and deterring crime and antisocial behaviour, and reducing vulnerability – Adequate

Responding to the public – Adequate Investigating crime – Requires improvement

Protecting vulnerable people – Requires improvement

Managing offenders and suspects – Adequate

Building, supporting and protecting the workforce – Adequate

Leadership and force management – Requires improvement.

With reference to the areas of requires improvement and adequate, please can the PCC advise what assurances she has sought and how she is being assured of sustainable improvements being made in these areas during 25/26 and how much additional funding, if any, has been put into these areas in 26/27 to ensure future improvements.

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Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Annual Report 2025/26

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Foreword from the Commissioner

This is my first full year since the publication of my ambitious Police, Crime and Justice Plan in March 2025. My plan is taking effect. Alongside the Chief Constable and his team, my team and I continue to drive bold and ambitious changes to policing and community safety in Gwent.

This year has been a busy one!

To be as visible as possible and hear the voice of residents, I have continued to engage widely with different communities this year. I have done this by attending community groups, local town councils, local events, and schools, as well as speaking to residents across Gwent. I would like to thank everyone for making me so welcome.

During the year I launched a new Children and Young People's Charter, built new partnerships through the local criminal justice board and strategic safer communities board, made significant reforms to the frequency, depth and transparency of my scrutiny of Gwent Police, and made significant new investments in services that prevent crime, tackle offending and support victims.

I am pleased that crime levels have started to fall. However, the number of incidents Gwent Police need to attend and the levels of antisocial behaviour they are responding to continue to increase. Some of this is due to more proactive policing, but you consistently tell me that this is a key concern. I can have confidence in the accuracy of these figures, after His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMIFCRS) highlighted Gwent Police's crime recording as Outstanding in the Police Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy (PEEL) inspection results announced this year. The inspection results, although an improvement on the previous inspection, highlight more work to be done. I am ensuring that I receive updates on this work as part of my Accountability and Assurance Forums, and regular briefings from the Chief Constable on how work is progressing. As part of my commitment to openness, honesty and transparency with our residents, I interviewed the Chief Constable about the latest PEEL inspection on camera at my Public Accountability Forum in September. The Chief Constable's new operating model was embedded this year and, although clear progress is being made, I will continue to monitor this on behalf of the residents of Gwent.

In March, I set Gwent Police's budget for 2026/27. A significant part of this comes through council tax precept and it is my job to set the level paid by residents. It was not an easy decision. However, I believe the final budget is a fair balance between affordability and the money needed to continue to create a safer Gwent and deliver on the commitments I have made in my Police, Crime and Justice Plan.

In late 2025 and early 2026 the UK Government announced plans to change the model of police oversight undertaken by Commissioners as part of wider plans for the biggest reforms to policing in decades through the publication of their police reform white paper. This has created a significant amount of added work for me, my team and wider policing in Wales bodies as we process and help to shape these changes. It is vital that these changes deliver for the people and communities of Gwent and Wales, as Policing in Wales operates within a distinct public service landscape compared to our English counterparts. As a locally elected representative, I am committed to playing a full and meaningful role in designing future arrangements for Wales, ensuring continuity, stability, and democratic accountability during any transition.

I am proud of what has been achieved this year. Despite the uncertainties caused by the police reform proposals, I look forward to next year and will continue to work hard every day on behalf of the people of Gwent; to deliver on the Police, Crime and Justice Plan; and keep making a difference for our communities.

2. Highlights of the Year

To be designed

- New Police, Crime and Justice Plan came into effect from 1 April, 2025

- Crime reduced compared to last year
- New £500k PCC Community Fund launched and 27 grants awarded
- New Positive Impact Fund awarded £9k to 19 small projects across Gwent
- New £100k Community Engagement Fund awarded £67,049.88 to 17 projects
- New Children and Young People's Charter launched in November 2025
- £100k invested in Safer Streets Summer Initiative and Winter of Action town centre campaigns
- New Gwent Strategic Safer Communities Board commenced with partners
- Increased transparency and accountability through reformed governance and scrutiny processes
- Invested over £1m of community safety funding
- New Victim Support contract went live and received 2,456 referrals
- £1m funding for ASB hotspot patrols

Making a difference...

2. Priority 1: Preventing crime and anti-social behaviour

Preventing crime remains the fundamental priority for policing. This year I have pushed to diversify the range of prevention activity and services we offer. This is particularly true for children and young people, and supporting those who wouldn't traditionally engage with some services. This sits alongside my oversight of Gwent Police's visible and neighbourhood policing expansion. Overall, we have achieved some excellent results.

I received £1m in funding from the Home Office that went to Gwent Police and partners to undertake Operation Lockwood, increasing visible patrols in hotspot areas of high crime and antisocial behaviour. Key outcomes include:

- More than 7,200 hours of additional patrols across 19 hotspot areas
- 128 arrests and 111 stop searches, with a 46% positive outcome rate
- 71% of businesses reported increased police visibility, and 85% reported improved confidence
- 52% of surveyed residents reported a perceived reduction in crime and ASB

I launched new funds for community groups, charities and social enterprises to deliver projects and initiatives that tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, support victims and vulnerable people, and build community cohesion, through one of three funding streams:

- Community Partnership Fund - Grants of up to £1,000 to enable grassroots organisations to deliver community-led activities
- Community Fund - Grants between £1,000 - £50,000 to enable organisations to deliver sustained projects, prioritising support for children and young people
- Community Engagement Fund - Grants of up to £5,000 to support projects that build community cohesion, and trust and confidence in public services.

In total, I invested more than £1.2m to support 22 projects through my funds launched in 2025, many of which provide help and support to children and young people who are either at risk of becoming involved in crime and antisocial behaviour, or who have been victims of crime.

What did you get from my funding?

Under this priority, I invested in a wide range of early intervention and prevention activity delivered primarily through grant funding. A total of 57 grants were awarded, including strategic provision such as Positive Futures and targeted interventions in response to local anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues. This is additional to funding delivered through the Police Community Fund (27 grants), Partnership Fund (11 grants) and Community Engagement Fund (17 grants). This approach enabled investment in both large-scale and community-led initiatives, supporting prevention activity across all five local authority areas.

Positive Futures remained a key intervention under this priority. During the year it engaged with 5,200 young people through its open access community provision sessions. In total, 1,096 young people attended the 176 unscheduled diversionary reactive or outreach sessions provided. There were 850 young people targeted for group interventions, totalling a number of 2,235 attendances overall at the 271 sessions offered. The intervention delivered positive outcomes including improved life skills (58%), increased engagement in education employment or training (45%), and increased engagement in leisure, social and community activities (67%). The programme continues to address key risk factors associated with offending, including ASB, substance misuse and exploitation, while responding to wider challenges such as mental health pressures and the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

Targeted funding was also used to respond to localised ASB concerns. For example, Premier League Kicks was awarded £13,750 for its intervention in Blackwood to engage young people in areas of higher risk, providing structured activities and safe spaces. Early indications show improved engagement among participants and a reduction in ASB during delivery periods, demonstrating the value of targeted, place-based interventions.

Through my Community Fund, 27 projects were supported during the year, focusing on early intervention with young people at risk of offending or victimisation. Initial delivery data from completed projects indicates strong engagement and positive outcomes,

particularly in relation to confidence, well-being, life skills and peer relationships. Further outcomes from projects awarded later in the year will be reported in 2026/27, reflecting the timing of grant awards.

The Community Partnership Fund supported 11 projects focused on community cohesion and well-being. Activity included community events, design of a therapeutic garden at New Pathways and targeted programmes aimed at reducing isolation and improving mental health and resilience. This includes a three-week mind and well-being programme via Cyfannol Women's Aid and a femicide timeline project that promotes education and risk assessment resources.

The Community Engagement Fund strengthened my ability to support marginalised and underrepresented communities, in line with the Strategic Equality Plan. Since its launch, a total of 17 grants have been awarded and are currently in delivery. Early delivery indicates strong community engagement, including support for cultural and community events and initiatives aimed at strengthening relationships between communities and public services, in particular the police.

In addition, I continued to support the Gwent High Sheriff Awards, providing £65,000 of funding to community-based projects working with children and young people at risk of ASB or victimisation. From these projects 1,585 people were supported, with 44% of grants awarded to projects located in the top 20% most deprived areas in Wales. Delivery data indicates positive outcomes, including improved aspirations (66%), reductions in ASB (22%) and increased community awareness (11%), with a strong focus on supporting communities in areas of highest deprivation.

3. Priority 2: Making our communities safer

When crime and ASB inevitably happen, it's so critical that Gwent Police respond promptly and appropriately. It's also vital that our community safety partners work closely together to tackle the problem and reduce harms for individuals and our communities. This year I am pleased that Gwent Police have improved and maintained their excellent response rates to calls for service, which I have monitored closely. Beyond that, as a group of community safety partners, we have also seen some real progress with building our strategic partnerships under the Public Service Board, and undertaking various initiatives throughout the year.

I invested more than £1million in organisations to improve community safety across Gwent and protect children and young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime. St Giles Trust, Crimestoppers Trust and Newport Live deliver a range of interventions to young people across Gwent. I also contributed funding to local authorities and partners to boost their local community safety and youth offending initiatives.

I invested £50,000 into local community safety partnerships to support the UK Government's Safer Streets Summer initiative, which increased enforcement, prevention and community engagement in our town centres during the summer. In particular, this focused on acquisitive crime, retail crime and antisocial behaviour.

I held the first Gwent Strategic Safer Communities Board (GSCB) in July, bringing together senior members of public service board partners to solve key strategic community safety issues. The September meeting agreed new priorities for the board, which are now being developed.

Local funding arrangements under the Serious Violence Duty were finalised by my office, with £160k funding allocated to various local community safety projects. This included night safety initiatives in Newport and Caerphilly, as well as youth education and diversion work in Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen and Monmouthshire.

As chair of the Wales Safer Communities Board, I addressed partners from across the criminal justice system at the annual Safer Communities Conference. We explored a range of key issues, including extremism and online harms, criminal exploitation, and the vital role of early intervention in building safer, more resilient communities.

As part of the 'Winter of Action' I contributed £50,000 to partners to boost safety in Gwent over the winter period. This funding supported extra community and enforcement patrols to help keep people enjoying Newport's night-time economy safe. It also went into Torfaen's CCTV network to restore and improve coverage in the communities of Blaenavon, Garndiffaith, Pontypool and Trevethin. Home Office officials came to Newport to see this best practice in action.

What did you get from my funding?

Under this priority, 29 grants were awarded to support activity across community safety, serious violence prevention and anti-social behaviour (ASB). Funding was distributed across local authorities, community safety partnerships, and specialist providers, alongside targeted interventions such as Safer Streets and Winter of Action funding. This approach enabled both strategic, partnership-led delivery and responsive, place-based interventions across all five local authority areas.

Through Home Office Serious Violence Duty (SVD) funding, 13 projects were delivered across Gwent. Interventions ranged from targeted youth provision and school-based prevention programmes to therapeutic support for victims and community-based safety initiatives.

Key outcomes from SVD-funded activity included:

- 78% of children receiving specialist counselling reported improved ability to cope
- 92% of young people engaged in Caerphilly Street Doctors sessions reported increased confidence to respond to a medical emergency, with 91% more willing to act
- 118 young people were supported by the Night Ambassador project in Newport, including safeguarding vulnerable individuals and preventing incidents of violence

These outcomes demonstrate the value of a coordinated, multi-agency approach in both preventing serious violence and improving resilience among young people.

Funding provided to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) supported locally determined priorities and strengthened multi-agency working across Gwent. This included investment in coordination roles and locally tailored interventions to address ASB and community safety concerns. Delivery highlights include:

- In Caerphilly, 222 ASB ‘strike’ processes resulted in a 95% drop-off rate between initial and final stages, indicating reduced repeat behaviour
- In Blaenau Gwent, the OPCC-funded Community Safety Team received national recognition for its ASB taskforce, alongside delivering more than 3,700 patrol hours
- In Newport, OPCC-funded capacity enabled completion of a city-wide ASB impact assessment and delivery of a multi-agency community safety conference

Targeted commissioned interventions also delivered strong outcomes. St Giles Trust supported 91 young people through intensive 1-2-1 provision focused on serious violence and organised crime, alongside delivering preventative sessions in education settings.

Crimestoppers delivered 343 ‘Fearless’ sessions to more than 7,000 young people and 700 professionals. This increased awareness of serious violence, exploitation and reporting mechanisms, alongside engaging a further 5,000 people through community outreach.

Seasonal campaigns, including Safer Streets Summer initiatives and Winter of Action, enabled rapid deployment of activity to address ASB trends at key times of the year. These interventions engaged more than 2,000 young people in diversionary and preventative activity across all local authority areas, alongside enforcement and community safety measures. This flexible approach supported visible community engagement, improved partnership coordination and contributed to reductions in ASB during targeted periods.

These findings demonstrate the effectiveness of targeted enforcement activity combined with community engagement in improving public confidence and reducing crime.

4. Priority 3: Protecting the vulnerable

The most vulnerable in our society are often the most threatened, victimised and exploited in our communities. This year I have continued to intensely scrutinise Gwent Police on their approach to vulnerability, and will shortly be undertaking a ‘deep dive’ into this area. The result of this will be available in next year’s annual report. Beyond this, I have continued to invest in specialist victim and offender services, and promote new schemes and projects to address this issue.

I publicly backed the Ask for Angela scheme’s new pledge initiative, calling for pubs, clubs and other licensed venues in Gwent to pledge to help prevent harassment and sexual violence. Ask for Angela is a simple but effective safety campaign that helps reduce or prevent sexual violence and vulnerability, especially within the evening and night-time economy. I am currently working with Gwent Police and local authorities to ensure it is rolled out to all licensed premises across Gwent.

I have worked closely with wider Policing in Wales colleagues to commission work to improve all Welsh police force approaches to the ‘Herbert Protocol’. This protocol aims to more quickly identify and locate missing people with dementia, often more elderly in society. The results of this work will be available next year.

I supported the UK Government’s intentions to strengthen regulations around online harms, in particular social media controls for young people. I commissioned my team to undertake a review of our ‘online harms’ approach, which will feed into business planning for next year.

I continued to invest in a range of services and interventions aimed at addressing violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV), supporting both victims and perpetrators. This includes a combination of grant-funded services, partnership contributions and oversight of wider system activity. This approach supports both direct service delivery and wider system coordination to improve outcomes for victims and reduce re-offending.

What did you get from my funding?

Specialist pilot services have continued to strengthen support for victims of domestic abuse. The TABW service, supporting victims of police-perpetrated VAWDASV, worked with 27 individuals during the year. Of those exiting the service, 83% reported improved ability to cope and recover, demonstrating the importance of targeted support for complex and high-risk cases.

In partnership with the Chief Constable and organised by my office, I again hosted an impactful art exhibition on violence against women and girls to mark White Ribbon Day. The exhibition showcased works by members of the Threads community arts project and explored themes of memory, feminism, and resilience, while confronting issues of violence against women. All officers and staff were encouraged to attend the exhibition and I am planning to hold a bigger event in a community setting next year.

The Family Court Pathfinder pilot has enhanced support for victims navigating private family law proceedings. In Gwent, 346 cases were referred to the service, with 94% successfully contacted and 83% progressing to specialist, trauma-informed assessments. These assessments inform court decision-making and support improved outcomes for victims and children. The service also provided direct support to 17 families in court, contributing to a more informed and trauma-aware justice process.

As vulnerability is inherently in all crime and antisocial behaviour, this is just a snapshot of the services that protect and support vulnerable people. Please see the sections below to find out what else we are doing.

5. Priority 4: Putting victims first

This year I have continued to work closely with our justice partners through the local and all -Wales Criminal Justice Boards to improve our collective response to supporting victims. I have also continued to invest in services that support victims when they need them most, and developing ways that we can better understand where the main challenges may be for them. Much of this crosses over with the Protecting the Vulnerable priority, to ensure that those who are most vulnerable have the relevant specialists who can help them.

Following a competitive tender exercise, my new victim service was launched in April. Victim Support were awarded the contract to provide one-to-one and group-based support to child and adult victims of crime based on their needs.

I held a Criminal Justice Strategy Board Development Day with police and wider justice partners at the start of the year. The development day was a valuable opportunity to set out my Police, Crime and Justice Plan priorities and ensure that our partnership work aligns to support the priorities of the plan. On the back of this, we have been able to establish a new subgroup reporting to the Board, chaired by a police Detective Superintendent and CPS Crown Prosecutor. This subgroup is now looking at improving the way the Victim's Code of Practice is monitored and reducing attrition rates at court.

I have also commissioned a project, in partnership with Gwent Police, to expand and enhance our joint Victim Satisfaction Survey. It's critical that we get the views of more victims, across more crime types, to better understand where Gwent Police and the services I fund can improve. The results of this will start to take effect this year.

What did you get from my funding?

I continued to fund a comprehensive portfolio of victim services in Gwent, delivered through a combination of contracts, grants and partnership contributions. In 2025/26, this included two contracts, one grant-funded service, and a contribution to Gwent Police's Victim Care Unit, supported by £1.2m Ministry of Justice funding. This investment ensures the provision of a coordinated, multi-agency response to victims of crime across Gwent.

Victim Support delivered an integrated, multi-crime service during the year, supporting both adults and children following the mobilisation of the new contract in April 2025. Of those exiting the service, 88% reported positive progress against key outcomes, including feeling safer, improved wellbeing, and increased ability to cope. A key achievement was the successful integration of support for children and young people, with 144 referrals received, strengthening the overall offer for families affected by crime.

New Pathways provided specialist support to victims of rape and sexual violence, receiving 694 new referrals and supporting 1,073 individuals during the year. Of those engaged, 85% made progress against one or more outcomes, including improved safety, wellbeing and ability to cope. Whilst demand for the service remains high, caseloads have remained stable, supported by clinical supervision and ongoing risk management arrangements.

The Regional IDVA Service continued to provide support to high-risk victims of domestic abuse, receiving 1,639 referrals and supporting 1,727 cases during the year. More than 8,000 client contacts were delivered, reflecting the intensity of support required. Of cases closed, on average 90% of victims made progress towards key outcomes, including improved safety and wellbeing. Although caseloads have reduced to an average of 42 per practitioner, they remain above recommended levels, presenting an ongoing pressure on the service.

In addition, a contribution is made to Gwent Police's Victim Care Unit, which provides an initial point of contact, information, and updates to victims of crime. During the year, the unit received 52,674 referrals, reflecting the scale of demand for victim support services across Gwent.

6. Priority 5: Reducing reoffending

Like the above priority this year I have continued to work closely with our justice partners through the local and all -Wales Criminal Justice Boards to focus on reducing reoffending. Only by working in partnership can we put the systems, processes and services in place to deter people from committing crime.

I held a Criminal Justice Strategy Board Development Day with police and wider justice partners at the start of the year. Alongside the focus on victims, Reducing Reoffending is our other joint priority. We have been able to establish a new subgroup reporting to the Board, chaired by a police Detective Superintendent and the regional Head of Probation Service. This subgroup is now looking at improving how we monitor and manage people who have offended in the community, and what services we can introduce to deter them from crime.

My team has been working closely with the Gwent Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Board to determine what services need to be put in place to specifically tackle perpetrators of these types of violence. We are looking to take the evidence from this work and, partnering with the Home Office, introduce additional measures to those we already fund.

We have also been working closely with our youth offending services and other partners to explore additional capacity for Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) for young offenders, who have significantly higher levels of SLT needs than the wider population.

What did you get from my funding?

Under this priority, I funded a combination of contracts and grants to reduce re-offending and support individuals within the criminal justice system. This approach supports both early intervention and ongoing rehabilitation, targeting individuals at different points within the criminal justice pathway.

The One Wales Women and Young Adults Service supported 489 individuals during the year, including 351 women and 138 young adults. Referrals were primarily from the criminal justice system, with a mix of Out of Court Disposals and voluntary engagement following police

contact. For women accessing the service, intensive support was delivered through more than 2,700 1-2-1 sessions and group work. The service addresses a wide range of needs, including health and wellbeing, relationships and behavioural factors. Outcomes for those supported include:

- 76% reporting increased feelings of safety
- 76% improved health and wellbeing
- 94% strengthened relationships
- 83% enhanced life skills

For young adults, more than 300 1-2-1 sessions and 67 workshops were delivered, alongside onward referrals to specialist support. Of those completing the programme, 94% made progress across one or more outcome areas, including education, employment, wellbeing and relationships.

The GDAS Criminal Justice service engaged with 3,406 individuals in custody during the year, with nearly half being identified as requiring support for substance use. The service plays a key role in early identification and intervention for individuals entering the criminal justice system. Of those who were seen in custody, 511 were already open to the GDAS caseload, with 323 already on the CJ caseload. In total, 953 new referrals were made to GDAS CJ with police making up 10% of this total, other referrals came from court, probation, prison and voluntary cases referrals. Outcomes for those exiting the service include:

- 71% reducing or ceasing substance use
- 82% reducing or ceasing alcohol use
- 80% reporting improved wellbeing

The service also continues to provide important insight into the profile of offending behaviour, with substance misuse and acquisitive crime remaining key drivers of demand.

My office was successful in securing funding for the year to continue delivering the Cautioning and Relationship Abuse (CARA) programme. CARA allows low-level domestic abuse offenders to be diverted from court to attend intervention programmes that

address their offending behaviour. During the year, 21 offenders completed the programme, with strong engagement from victims. Key outcomes include:

- 79% of victims reported positive behavioural change following the intervention
- No victims reported negative behaviour following engagement
- 90–95% of offenders reported increased awareness of domestic abuse and motivation to change their behaviour

These results demonstrate the value of early intervention in preventing escalation and reducing re-offending.

Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC), funded through the Home Office Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Fund and delivered by Gwent Police, targets high-risk perpetrators. My office provides oversight and assurance in line with funding requirements. During the year, 179 perpetrators were assessed as suitable for the programme, with 116 victims supported. This intervention has played a key role in managing high-risk offenders and coordinating multi-agency responses to reduce harm.

Funding provided to Youth Offending Services (YOS) supported local delivery of preventative and restorative interventions across Gwent, alongside strengthening multi-agency working. Delivery highlights include:

- Restorative justice provision supporting young people across all local authority areas.
- Community resolutions and diversionary outcomes to prevent further escalation into the criminal justice system.
- Flexible delivery approaches, including outreach support to improve engagement.

These interventions contribute to reducing re-offending risk among young people and supporting positive behavioural change at an early stage.

7. Cross-cutting measures

My team designed, published and promoted a new OPCC Strategic Equality Plan for 2025-2029. A large part of the new SEP is to introduce a new £100k PCC Community Engagement Fund, which was launched in October (see above). I joined fellow panellists at the Creating an Anti-Racist Wales Conference to speak about OPCC initiatives linked to building inclusion, community cohesion and improving representation in public services.

I'm grateful that my volunteer animal welfare visitors identified an issue with the first aid training and equipment for dog handlers. This resulted in all handlers completing a specialist first aid course for dogs and they have also now been issued with both vehicle-based and personal equipment for carrying out first aid on dogs should there be an incident, which unfortunately does happen.

Strategic Policing Requirement

Through the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR), the Home Secretary sets out the national crime and terrorist threats and other civil emergencies that they perceive to be so serious as to require a cross-boundary policing response. This year, I took account of the SPR in my scrutiny of Gwent Police's performance against the priorities in my Police, Crime and Justice Plan.

Many of the requirements of the SPR are delivered in collaboration with other Welsh PCCs and police forces. This year I commenced chairing of the Collaboration Oversight Board, which is a key mechanism for reviewing the relevant response to these cross-border threats. I look forward to working with colleagues to develop this board. I also ensured that my local scrutiny increased its oversight of these collaborations to ensure they are delivering for the people of Gwent.

Overall, I am assured that the Chief Constable has the capabilities in place to tackle the SPR threats. I will continue to monitor these arrangements through my assurance and accountability arrangements in the coming year.

7. Spotlight on... engaging with you

I am committed to ensuring transparent, effective communication and engagement with the public, key stakeholders, and wider partners. I do this through a variety of ways from face-to-face engagement to digital interaction.

My office undertakes community engagement every week and feeds this information back to me to help me hold the Chief Constable to account on the issues that matter most to the citizens of Gwent. Because of this, I launched the new Public Assurance Forums during the year. This gives residents the opportunity to raise their questions and concerns directly with the Chief Constable. Through open, honest and transparent discussions, we are ensuring citizens' voices are heard and that they play an active role in shaping policing in Gwent. Since launch, I have held them in all five local authority areas in Gwent, as well as holding special focused PAFs on tackling VAWDASV and Gwent Police's response to a PEEL inspection.

As part of my commitment to community engagement, I have continued walkabouts in all local authority areas. During the summer, my office and I attended more than 20 events and engaged with more than 8,000 people. I joined residents from across Gwent for a community led, cultural fashion show at the ICC Wales, organised by the charity KidCare4U. I supported the 20th anniversary of the Ethnic Minorities & Youth Support Team (EYST) in May. I also took part in Race Equality First's community get together at Pillgwenlly Millennium Centre, which was a celebration of cultures and brought together people from local groups, many from diverse communities. My office and I attended a series of Pride events across Gwent during May and June, reinforcing my ongoing commitment to equalities. I also agreed grants for Torfaen and Caldicot Pride events, following requests to my office. Trust and confidence in the police remain low within many LGBTQ+ and ethnic heritage communities in particular, and as such crimes often go unreported. By being a visible and active part of our communities, we are ensuring that people feel seen, heard and respected. By building trust and confidence in this way people are more likely to report crimes and seek support when they need it.

In November I launched a new Children and Young People's Charter for Gwent. My launch event at the Ebbw Fawr Learning Community was well attended by public leaders from across Gwent and was featured on the ITV evening news. As the first all-age school in Wales, Ebbw Fawr was the perfect location to launch the charter, and I would like to thank the staff and pupils for all their hard work and support. The charter sets out my commitment to ensure that children and young people are heard and that their rights

are championed within the criminal justice system. It was informed by an extensive engagement programme over the summer period that and shaped by the voices of more than 2,000 children and young people across Gwent. They told me that feeling safe at home, at school, and in their communities is really important to them. They want the police to treat them fairly and kindly. If something bad does happen, they want the right support to help them feel better and move forward. My three promises to children and young people are that:

- I will listen to you
- I will protect your rights
- I will make sure that services we provide are the best they can be

I continued to visit schools across Gwent where I was put through my paces by members of the schools' Heddlu Bach and school councils. My team and I also arranged for mini police from Nant Celyn Primary School to enjoy a special visit and tour of Police Headquarters in Cwmbran.

My Youth Question Time gave young people the chance to put questions that really matter to me and other leading figures from across Gwent, reinforcing the commitment I made in my charter, while helping to build trust and confidence between our children and young people and public services. More than 130 people attended to put their questions to a panel of Assistant Chief Constable of Gwent Police, Vicky Townshend; the Chair of the Gwent Public Services Board, Cllr Anthony Hunt; Shereen Williams MBE, CEO of the Democracy and Boundary Commission Wales; and TV presenter Lloyd Lewis. I chaired this event which reinforced the commitments I made in my charter.

I also addressed a conference of Gwent headteachers and other educators on taking restorative approaches in schools. The aim is to reduce conflict, build relationships, and promote accountability, responsibility and positive values in our children and young people. On the day we explored the links between restorative approaches and community safety. I'm proud that our work was recognised as helping schools to problem solve some of the key issues that teachers are facing and help turn troubled children's lives around.

Finally, residents can now connect with me and my office on social media channels Bluesky and Threads, in addition to our existing Facebook and Instagram accounts. They can also sign up to receive news directly via my dedicated e-bulletin, and get key updates through WhatsApp.

8. Spotlight on... increasing transparency and accountability

One of the key commitments in my Police, Crime and Justice Plan was to increase the level of transparency of my scrutiny of Gwent Police, to ensure you know that I am holding them to account for delivering a good service to you. As a result, I have overhauled the scrutiny and accountability mechanisms here in Gwent.

I held my first Accountability and Assurance Board at the start of June. This is the new forum where I hold the Chief Constable to account. With my commitment to transparency, these meetings are now live-streamed on my YouTube channel [Gwent PCC - YouTube](#).

You can find the meetings and relevant information that I scrutinised here:

- [4th June 2025 | Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner](#)
- [3rd September 2025 | Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner](#)
- [24th October 2025 | Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner](#)
- [2nd December 2025 | Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner](#)
- [4th March 2026 | Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner](#)

I also launched a new Public Accountability Forum (PAF) to ensure that the voices of Gwent's residents are put directly to the Chief Constable in that local area, or related to a particular subject. I held five during this reporting period, across different local authority areas and a range of important subject matters. You can find them here:

- [Public Accountability Forum – Blaenau Gwent](#)
- [Public Accountability Forum - HMICFRS inspection](#)
- [Public Accountability Forum - Abergavenny](#)
- [Public Accountability Forum - White Ribbon Day](#)
- [Public Accountability Forum Torfaen 13th January 2026](#)

- [Public Accountability Forum: Caerphilly](#)

The intended results of this increased level of scrutiny are primarily to continue to support and challenge the Chief Constable to make improvements to Gwent Police, and to better connect the residents of Gwent with the work of my office and me.

Scrutiny Panels by my office reviewed use of force, stop and search, and out-of-court resolutions (OOCRs) issued by Gwent Police. Feedback from the OOCR Scrutiny Panel was pivotal for helping to change Gwent Police's policy of issuing different outcomes for certain drug possession offences. My Legitimacy Scrutiny Panel continues to meet quarterly and has expanded the volume of cases scrutinised this year, in response to findings from an inspection. The findings continue to be fed into Gwent Police to be able to continuously improve the service they provide.

My Chief Executive continues to regularly scrutinise the professional standards of Gwent Police each quarter on my behalf. The meeting looks at the current performance situation with complaints, conduct, anti-corruption and vetting. Naturally, this area of scrutiny cannot be held in the public domain, but I receive a detailed briefing after each meeting on the current position. I have also met regularly with the Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC), alongside the Chief Constable, to understand and discuss any particular issues that have been referred for national investigation. This gives me an extra layer of assurance of how well Gwent Police are performing in the wider national context. Through these extra levels of scrutiny, I am assured of the current position within Gwent Police.

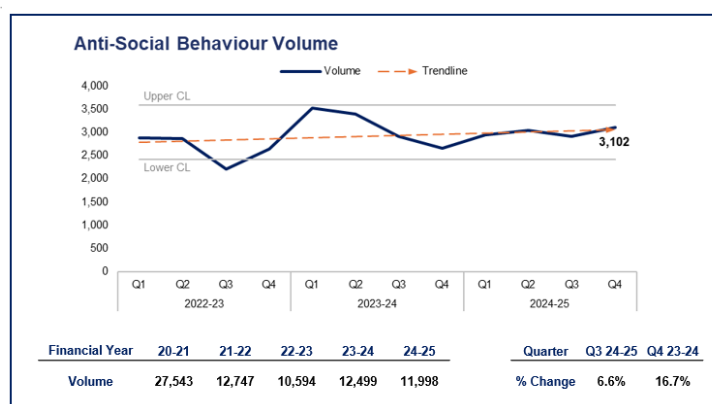
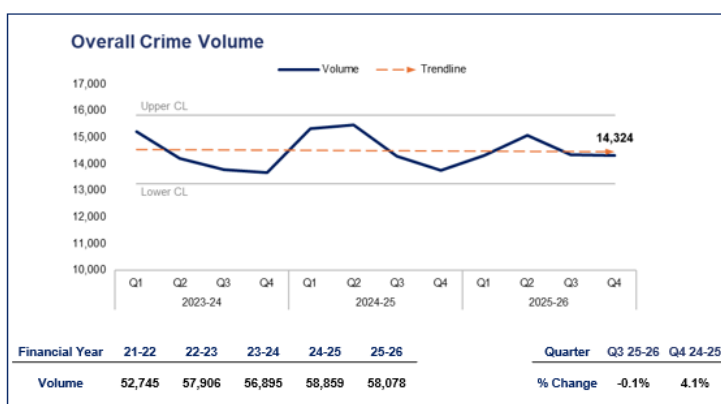
9. Spotlight on... performance

Gwent Police recorded more than 4,000 more incidents attended than last year, and the highest in the past five years, which continues to show the increasing level of demand coming into the service. Antisocial behaviour incidents have also increased since last year, the second highest amount in the past five years.

However, in many areas, performance has been improving. For example, the number of recorded crimes dropped to more than 58,000, following a pattern of increases that has been seen in recent years. Gwent Police also continue to respond to 999 and 101 calls quicker than almost all police forces, and are attending crime scenes far quicker than last year. Also, some violence offences, shoplifting and some types of theft are now lower than last year.

However, some crimes such as burglary, robbery and vehicle crime have started to go up, and there needs to continue to be improvements in solving crimes for victims and the wider community.

It remains a mixed picture, which reflects the socio-economic challenges we continue to see in Wales and the wider UK. I will continue to scrutinise Gwent Police, work with partners, focus on crime prevention and try to tackle these numbers and hopefully bring them down again next year.



Crime Type – Police Recorded Crime	Annual Change	3 yr Trend
All Other Theft	Decrease	Decreasing
Bicycle Theft	Decrease	Decreasing
Commercial Burglary	Decrease	Decreasing
Criminal Damage & Arson	Increase	Stable
Drug Offences	Decrease	Increasing
Homicide	Increase	N/A (low numbers)
Miscellaneous Crimes	Increase	Increasing
Non Notifiable Offences	Decrease	Decreasing
Other Sexual Offences	Increase	Increasing
Possession of Weapons	Increase	Increasing
Public Order Offences	Decrease	Stable
Rape	Increase	Increasing
Residential Burglary	Increase	Increasing
Robbery	Increase	Increasing
Shoplifting	Decrease	Stable
Theft From the Person	Decrease	Decreasing
Vehicle Crime	Increase	Decreasing
Violence with Injury	Decrease	Decreasing
Violence without Injury	Minor Increase	Stable

Police efficiency, effectiveness and legitimacy (PEEL) Inspection results

As mentioned at the start, His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) published their PEEL inspection results of Gwent Police in 2025. The PEEL inspection evaluates police forces on effectiveness, efficiency, and legitimacy across ten areas of policing, with graded judgments in nine areas. This gives a good overview of Gwent Police performance at the point in time of the inspection, and I use this information to scrutinise the performance of Gwent Police. I have scrutinised this in detail at my regular 1-2-1s with the Chief Constable, at my Accountability and Assurance Board and at a special Public Assurance Forum looking exclusively at what Gwent Police has done to address the areas for improvement.

I am pleased that this inspection was an overall improvement on the previous inspection. HMICFRS findings highlighted Gwent Police's strengths in crime recording and ethical standards, but also identified some areas for improvement in investigations, leadership, and protection of vulnerable people.

Outstanding	Good	Adequate	Requires improvement	Inadequate
Recording data about crime		Police powers and treating the public fairly and respectfully	Investigating crime	
		Preventing and deterring crime and antisocial behaviour, and reducing vulnerability	Protecting vulnerable people	
		Responding to the public	Leadership and force management	
		Managing offenders and suspects		
		Building, supporting and protecting the workforce		

Force response and improvement plans

Significant efforts have been implemented since that time, which I have been monitoring, such as new strategic leadership recruitment, increasing qualified investigators, improving supervision, and enhancing community engagement through digital tools. These changes are starting to show improvements in performance, but there is still plenty more to do.

The next PEEL inspection will take place this year with findings due to be published in 2027. A number of other thematic area inspections are also due to publish this year. I look forward to reviewing these findings and will continue to monitor and hold the Chief Constable to account for areas for improvement identified by HMICFRS.

10. Spotlight on... budget and finance

In January, I formally set the 2026/27 budget for Gwent Police, the OPCC and services I fund at £224.5m, acting on information received from the Chief Constable, the public, partner agencies, UK and Welsh Governments, and Gwent Police and Crime Panel.

The budget was determined following detailed scrutiny of the operational and financial case put forward by Chief Constable Mark Hobrough. It was also informed by a 10-week programme of public engagement with residents throughout summer and Autumn 2025, resulting in a huge amount of qualitative data being collected on issues including confidence in policing, victim satisfaction, and local concerns, as well as the affordability of a potential precept increase. A total of 1,185 people completed a survey and the increase of 6.95 per cent (about £2.19 a month on average) is a careful balance between affordability for residents and the money needed to continue to run an efficient and effective police service. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey and shared their views.

Cost of policing in Gwent			Capital budget		What you will pay	
	2025/26	2026/27		2025/26	2026/27	Property council tax band
	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	
Gross revenue budget	213,193	224,484	Capital budget	22,458	11,680	Tax band
Less income	(11,350)	(10,836)				£
Less Home Office & Ministry of Justice grant	(13,179)	(10,534)	Expenditure incurred in providing buildings and other assets is called capital expenditure			A 269.02
Less Welsh Gov grants	(4,823)	(5,061)				B 313.86
Net revenue expenditure	183,841	198,053				C 358.69
						D 403.53
						E 493.20
						F 582.88
						G 672.55
						H 807.06
						I 941.57

8. Looking Ahead to 2026/27

As I reflect on the past year through this annual report, I know that next year will continue to be a challenging one.

We await to see the impact of the largest change to the political landscape here in Wales in decades, alongside planning for the largest changes to policing in a generation. With the continued fast-paced social, economic, environmental and technological changes this contributes to an uncertain future for policing.

This is a time for investing in our people, processes and partnerships, and we will need to collectively work together to tackle these challenges. However, we have built solid foundations with the reforms and investments I have made this year, and I continue to have ambitious plans. I intend to leave a positive legacy for the role of Police and Crime Commissioner in Gwent.

Despite everything, Gwent remains a safe place to live, work and visit, and I am energised about what we can deliver next year.

Appendices

[Link to Police, Crime and Justice Plan](#)

Contact your Police and Crime Commissioner

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner,
Police Headquarters, Llantarnam, Cwmbran,
Torfaen, NP44 3FW

01633 642200

commissioner@gwent.police.uk

Social media channels @gwentpcc

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Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27-2030/31 – Update June 2026

1. PURPOSE AND RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for information. There are no recommendations made requiring a decision.

2. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 – 2030/31 (MTFP) was presented by the Police & Crime Commissioner (the Commissioner) to the Police & Crime Panel meeting on 30th January 2025 and is summarised in Annex 1. For the 2026/27 financial year the MTFP showed a projected budgetary requirement of £202.7m against approved funding of £196.6m, resulting in a £6.1m deficit. Savings of £0.7m had already been identified, leaving £5.4m still to cover from either further savings or reserves utilisation. The net projected surplus at 2030/31 was £0.1m.
- 2.2 Further cost pressures, income, and funding adjustments have occurred since 30th January 2026, as they do every year. Typically, these additional costs are managed from non-recurrent savings in that financial year and include any recurring costs in the next round of budget setting in October each year. The MTFP is also updated between on May/June each year to reflect the final budget book position and new funding/income and expenditure amendments.

3. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The MTFP update for May 2026 confirms the position at 29th May 2026 and is shown in Annex 2. This shows a net increase of £1.9m in the projected budgetary requirement to £204.7m, and a revised deficit after known savings and funding changes of £5.9m. The updated net projected position at 2030/31 is now a deficit of £0.5m.
- 3.2 Significant work has been done to identify further budget savings which has resulted in reductions across Departmental budgets in February and March 2026. These have been reflected in the £204.7m revised budget, and the 2026/27 Budget Book internally published in April 2026. A reconciliation of the net increase of £1.9m is provided in Annex 3.
- 3.3 The main additional funding reductions and cost pressures total £5.7m and are:

PUP Specific Grant Funding (£3.594m) – the Home Office has met a number of adjustments to specific grant funding between the Draft Police Settlement issued in December 2025 and the Final Police Settlement confirmed in March 2026. This resulted in the recurring Operation Uplift

Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27-2030/31 – Update June 2026

Grant of £3.6m being added to the core Police Grant as a reclassification of recurrent funding.

Operation Uplift Top Up Grant (£1.106m) - The Home Office have combined the Operation Uplift Top Up specific grant that funds 21 additional officers in Force, with funding for the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee into a single grant. The Home Office also changed the basis of calculating the Top Up grant from a specific amount per officer to an amount based on the police funding formula, which resulted in a £74k drop in funding for Gwent. This 'cost' of £1.1m is therefore offset by the Neighbourhood Policing Grant funding for Phases 1 and 2 below.

Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee Phase 2 (£1.0m) – The Home Office confirmed in March 2026 that a further increase of 18 posts was required as part of Phase 2. This reflects the estimated cost for these additional posts.

- 3.4 Offsetting the above pressures are the following funding increases totalling £5.2m:

Neighbourhood Policing Grant (£3.755m) – The Force received and spent £2.053m in specific grant funding in 2025/26 for Phase 1 of the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee. As noted above the Operation Uplift Top Up grant was recalculated and the £1.106m now forms part of the Neighbourhood Policing Grant. The Home Office confirmed in March 2026 that the total Neighbourhood Policing Grant for Phases 1 and 2 for the Force is £3.755m. After the taking the reclassification of the Top Up grant into account, this gives an overall increase in funding of £0.596m against estimated costs of £1.0m for the additional 18 posts required as part of Phase 2, resulting in a full year difference of £0.404m that the Force will have to manage locally.

Central Government Funding (£1.461m) – the reclassification of the Operation Uplift grant and the confirmation of final Police Grant, Revenue Support Grant and Non-Domestic Rates funding figures in the Final Police Settlement, confirmed an increase in central government funding of £1.461m.

- 3.5 The net impact of these costs and funding changes has resulted in a net cost increase of £0.490m, attributable primarily to the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee costs and funding. The net projected deficit for 2026/27 is now £5.885m. In order to close this updated deficit position, a number of actions are being taken to drive out further budget and commissioning savings, and also to reflect external economic changes.
- 3.6 Firstly, the budget includes interest costs of £1.2m for borrowing and a further 0.6m of minimum revenue provision to fund the Capital Programme and interest and capital repayments on borrowing. The revenue contribution to the Capital Programme of £7.15m continues to fund the

Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27-2030/31 – Update June 2026

replacement of short-term assets, and revenue budgets continue to be used for longer term refurbishment costs and minor upgrades to buildings. The Commissioner continues to save £150k for every month that borrowing isn't undertaken. This is a postponement of the cost rather than a recurring saving and will be clarified further with updates to the Capital Programme within the overall Estate Strategy.

- 3.7 The Productivity and Efficiency Working Group and SIB continue to monitor savings as part of the Finance Tracker document, which is considered monthly by SIB as to when those savings crystallise. This document has recognised a number of savings already reflected in the updated budget and assesses the likelihood of delivery for each potential saving from the Change Programme.
- 3.8 The 2026/27 budget assumes a vacancy factor totalling £2.0m to reflect the time required to recruit into Police Officer and Police Staff posts. In the National Police Chiefs' Council's Financial Resilience Surveys, which use data from MTFPs, the Force's vacancy factor remains at the lower end of the range used by Forces across England and Wales. The level of the ongoing vacancy factor will form part of the budget assumptions for the 2027/28 budget setting process.
- 3.9 The Capital Programme projections in the MTFP at January 2026 totalled £11.7m for 2025/26 funded by reserves, revenue to capital contributions and £4m of borrowing. The budget will be revised following the finalisation of the Estate Strategy and agreement on the forward Capital Programme.
- 3.10 Taking a full year saving on borrowing interest and capital repayment costs, and assuming the realisation of the projected benefits from the Change Programme above, these two elements alone would close nearly £2.5m of the updated deficit. Work continues to identify recurring savings and cost avoidance from service improvements, centrally controlled costs, procurement frameworks, and additional income generation opportunities in preparation for the 2027/28 budget setting process.

4. COLLABORATION

- 4.1 Noted above.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The Force will continue to update the Finance Tracker reported to SIB to reflect known savings. Further financial updates when developing the MTFP 2027/28 – 2031/32 will be shared in due course, along with the Quarter 2 2026/27 financial position ahead of budget setting in October 2026.

Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27-2030/31 – Update June 2026

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Noted above.

7. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 Noted above.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 No specific considerations arising from this report.

9. EQUALITIES & HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 This report has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.
- 9.2 In preparing this report, consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.

10. RISKS

- 10.1 A specific risk on the financial position for 2026/27 has been added to the strategic risk register.
- 10.2 If the Capital Programme costs as they currently stand are fully realised by the end of 2026/27, this will result in further pressures on in-year revenue budgets or require borrowing.
- 10.3 Police Officer and Police Staff pay awards are subject to central negotiation by the UK Government. There are indications of a 3.5% pay award for Police Officers will be recommended for 2026/27 which is higher than the 3.0% assumptions in the MTFP. The final position on Police Staff pay awards is also yet to be confirmed but is expected to be at a similar level to Police Officers. This is a substantial increase and, while the UK Government have provided additional funding in the past, there remains a risk that any additional cost may have to be borne by the Commissioner and Force.
- 10.4 The financial impact on policing from the UK Government's Sentencing Review and funding of the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee beyond 2026/27 were identified in January 2026 as risks which were not budgeted

Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27-2030/31 – Update June 2026

for. this remains the case and the operational impact of the Sentencing Review is also being separately monitored. In addition, the budget does not include any local costs associated with Police Reform given the very early stages of this programme. These risks remain and further assessments of any known financial impact will be made as part of 2027/28 budget setting.

11. PUBLIC INTEREST

11.1 This is a Public report.

12. REPORT AUTHOR

12.1 Matthew Coe, Chief Finance Officer (CC) and Darren Garwood-Pask, Chief Finance Officer (PCC).

13. LEAD CHIEF OFFICERS

13.1 Matthew Coe, Chief Finance Officer (CC) and Darren Garwood-Pask, Chief Finance Officer (PCC).

14. ANNEXES

14.1 Annex 1 (MTFP at January 2026, Annex 2 (MTFP at May 2026) and Annex 3 (MTFP reconciliation January to May 2026) are included.

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Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent / Heddlu Gwent Police
Medium Term Financial Projections 2026/27 to 2030/31
At 30th January 2026

Page 49

	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(f)
	2025/26 Forecast £'000s	2026/27 Forecast £'000s	2027/28 Forecast £'000s	2028/29 Forecast £'000s	2029/30 Forecast £'000s	2030/31 Forecast £'000s
1 Effect of increases to authorised Establishment, Pay Awards and Increments		9,624	3,954	4,179	4,284	4,416
2 Non-Staff Inflation		973	769	823	880	940
3 Apprenticeship Levy Scheme		32	14	14	14	14
4 In Service Pressures / Developments		6,077	2,599	2,800	4,001	2,800
5 Budget savings identified		(1,530)	-	-	-	-
6 Finance costs		661	175	15	(118)	-
7 Unavoidable Cost Increases		15,837	7,511	7,832	9,061	8,170
8 Gross Budget Movement		15,837	7,511	7,832	9,061	8,170
9 Recurring Base Budget Brought Forward		186,915	202,751	210,263	218,095	227,156
10 Projected Budgetary Requirement	186,915	202,751	210,263	218,095	227,156	235,326
11 % Increase on Previous Years Base Budget	6.27%	8.47%	3.70%	3.72%	4.15%	3.60%
12 Funding						
13 Central Government Funding						
14 Police Grant	(71,033)	(75,380)	(77,838)	(77,838)	(77,838)	(77,838)
15 Revenue Support Grant	(26,102)	(27,699)	(28,602)	(28,602)	(28,602)	(28,602)
16 National Non-Domestic Rates	(213)	(226)	(233)	(233)	(233)	(233)
17 Total Central Government Funding	(97,348)	(103,306)	(106,673)	(106,673)	(106,673)	(106,673)
18 Council Tax	(86,493)	(93,321)	(100,599)	(108,444)	(116,902)	(126,019)
19 Maintenance costs for community engagemnt App - Neighbourhood Matters	(183,841)	(196,627)	(207,272)	(215,118)	(223,575)	(232,692)
20 Projected Recurring Deficit / (Surplus) Before Efficiencies	3,074	6,125	2,990	2,977	3,581	2,633
21 Efficiencies						
22 Future Year Staying Ahead Scheme Savings	(360)	(730)	(1,310)	(1,890)	(2,470)	(2,770)
23 Reserve Utilisation	(2,715)			-	-	-
24 Projected Recurring Deficit/ (Surplus) After Efficiencies & Reserve Utilisation	(0)	5,395	1,680	1,087	1,111	(137)

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Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent / Heddlu Gwent Police
Medium Term Financial Projections 2026/27 to 2030/31
At 29th May 2026

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
	2025/26 Forecast £'000s	2026/27 Forecast £'000s	2027/28 Forecast £'000s	2028/29 Forecast £'000s	2029/30 Forecast £'000s	2030/31 Forecast £'000s
1 Effect of increases to Authorised Establishment, Pay Awards and Increments		9,624	3,954	4,179	4,284	4,416
2 Non-Staff Inflation		1,890	807	863	920	980
3 Apprenticeship Levy Scheme		32	14	14	14	14
4 In Service Pressures / Developments		7,078	2,599	2,800	4,001	2,800
5 Budget Savings Identified		(1,530)	-	-	-	-
6 Finance Costs		661	175	15	(118)	-
7 Unavoidable Cost Increases		17,754	7,550	7,871	9,101	8,210
8 Gross Budget Movement		17,754	7,550	7,871	9,101	8,210
9 Recurring Base Budget Brought Forward		186,915	204,669	212,218	220,089	229,190
10 Projected Budgetary Requirement	186,915	204,669	212,218	220,089	229,190	237,401
11 % Increase on Previous Years Base Budget	6.27%	9.50%	3.69%	3.71%	4.14%	3.58%
12 Funding						
13 Central Government Grant Funding						
14 Core Police Grant	(71,033)	(78,308)	(80,861)	(80,861)	(80,861)	(80,861)
15 Revenue Support Grant	(26,102)	(26,254)	(27,110)	(27,110)	(27,110)	(27,110)
16 National Non-Domestic Rates	(213)	(205)	(212)	(212)	(212)	(212)
17 Total Central Government Grant Funding	(97,348)	(104,767)	(108,182)	(108,182)	(108,182)	(108,182)
18 Council Tax Precept	(86,493)	(93,287)	(100,560)	(108,401)	(116,854)	(125,965)
19 Total Funding	(183,841)	(198,053)	(208,743)	(216,584)	(225,036)	(234,147)
20 Projected Recurring Deficit / (Surplus) Before Efficiencies	3,074	6,615	3,475	3,505	4,154	3,253
21 Efficiencies						
22 Future Year Continuous Improvement Scheme Savings	(360)	(730)	(1,310)	(1,890)	(2,470)	(2,770)
23 Reserve Utilisation	(2,715)			-	-	-
24 Projected Recurring Deficit/ (Surplus) After Efficiencies & Reserve Utilisation	(0)	5,885	2,165	1,615	1,684	483

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Reconciliation MTFP 2026-27 versions: January 2026 Settlement version to May 2026 position

	2026/27 £000	2026/27 £000
Projected budgetary requirement : 30th Jan 2026 MTFP		202,751
Add: additional costs identified		
Topup Grant, now part of NHG	1,106	
PUP Grant- now part of core funding	3,594	
NHG Phase 2- 18 Additional office	1,000	
Decrease in NI funding	6	
Various additional budget pressures	(34)	
		5,673
Less: further budget reductions and additional income identified		
Increase in NHG (Include topup and Phase 2)	(3,755)	
		(3,755)
Projected budgetary requirement : 29th May 2026 MTFP		204,669
Total movement Jan-May 2026 - net increase in costs		1,917
Final settlement UK Gov/WG grant funding 30th Jan 2026		(103,306)
Final settlement UK Gov/WG grant funding 29th May 2026		(104,767)
Total movement		(1,461)
Projected Council Tax funding 30th January 2026 based on 6.99%		(93,321)
Confirmed Council Tax funding post veto based on 6.95% - 0.04% change		(93,287)
Total movement		35
Projected continuous improvement programme saving 30th Jan 2026		(730)
Projected continuous improvement programme saving 29th May 2026		(730)
Total movement		0
Net movement costs and funding post PCP meeting		490
Projected deficit after efficiencies 30th Jan 2026		5,395
Projected deficit after efficiencies 31st May 2026		5,885

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Police, Crime and Justice Plan 2025-29

Performance Monitoring - Quarter 4 25/26

Improving Trust and Confidence Together



Q4 25/26 – Performance highlights and current and planned areas of focus

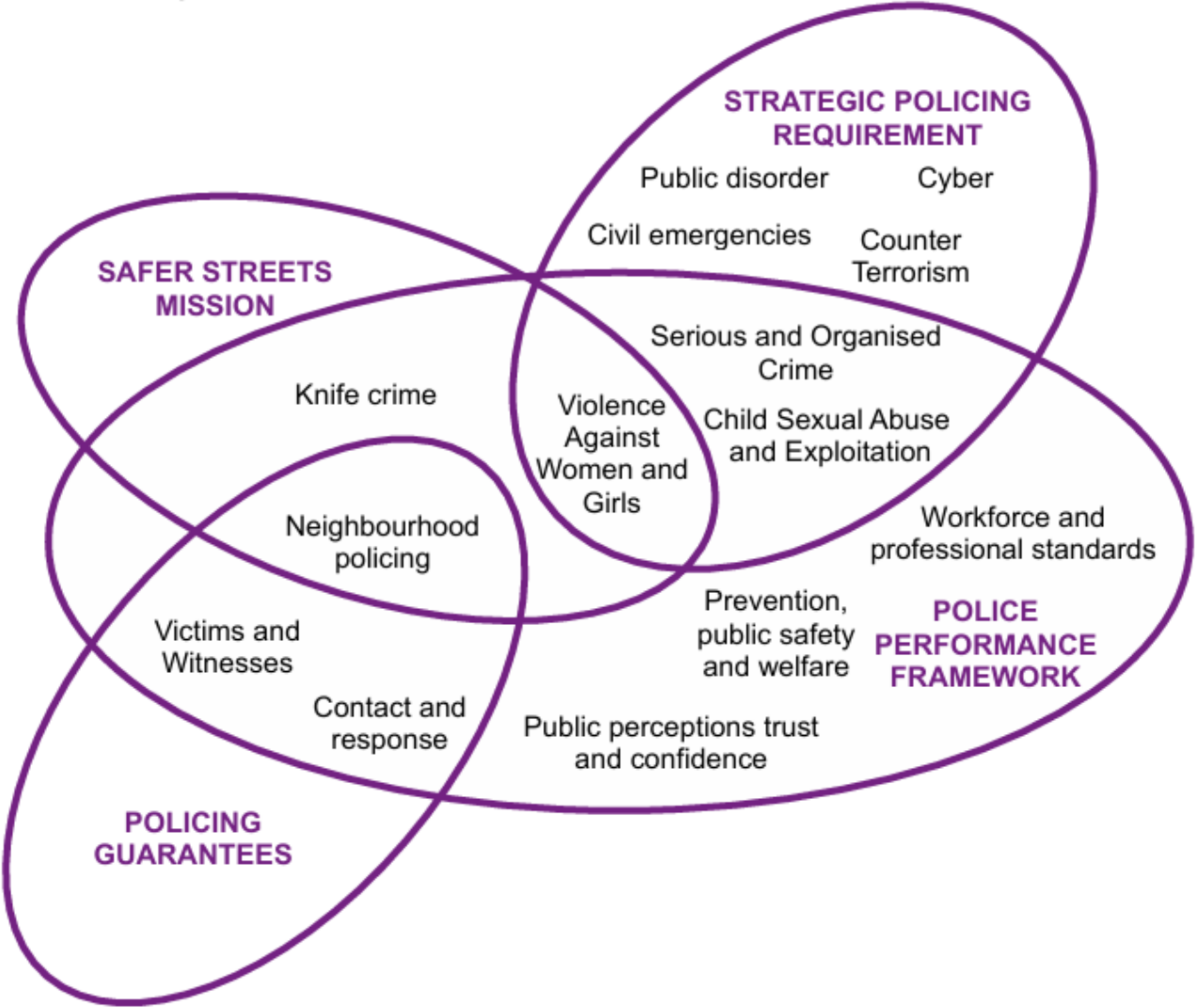
Q4 Highlights	Areas of Focus
Overall crime reduced in 2024/25 compared to 2023/24. However, incident volumes being attended continue to rise	The imminent introduction of the new Home Office national performance programme and ensuring alignment with local monitoring (see next slides for overview)
Sharp increases in burglary, robbery, violent and sexual offences will continue to be closely monitored	Impact of the new Quality Investigations and Victim Care Change Programme – a bespoke briefing session is planned for the PCC to scrutinise progress, particularly related to HMICFRS PEEL Inspection findings in this area
Continued and sustained good performance in relation to initial response (999/101 and prompt scene attendance), despite continuing increases in volumes	Increasing solved rates, particularly for crimes involving a victim and vulnerability
Reductions in antisocial behaviour for the past two quarters compared to same time last year	Impact of new VAWG and Vulnerability Strategies (local to national) and undertaking a Vulnerability ‘Deep Dive’ (terms of reference being finalised) – further taking into account PEEL inspection findings
The initial impact of the new Gwent Police ‘Neighbourhood Matters’ engagement app – with significant take-up by communities – will start to have an impact on trust and confidence	The results of HMICFRS serious organised crime inspection are due imminently, which will contribute to the above ‘Deep Dive’ terms of reference

Update: New national performance framework

First Iteration

- New Police Performance Framework against UK Government priorities – see Figure 1 overview
 - Significant list of ‘Headline’ and ‘Monitoring’ Measures being captured and reviewed
 - Blend of police-recorded data, crime survey data and partner data (e.g. CPS)
 - New Performance Dashboard being launched to enable Home Office, HMICFRS, Forces and Local Policing Bodies to monitor performance
 - Monitoring to identify ‘Outliers’ through
 - Within Force trend (e.g. year-on-year and upper/lower thresholds)
 - Most Similar Force (MSF) comparison
 - National trend comparison
 - System starting to go live Summer 2026
 - Currently reviewing our performance framework to identify where we may need changes
- Page 58
- More information here: [Police Performance Framework - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/police-performance-framework)

Figure 1: Interactions between the Police Performance Framework and Government priorities



Update: New national performance framework

Governance and Oversight

- A new tiered performance system to identify, and support improvement within, under-performing forces
 - **Level 1** – Forces may have minor, mitigated concerns but an overall positive trajectory
 - **Level 2** – Forces have either: enduring, low-level, non-systemic issues; receding issues which require oversight; or multiple, minor issues
 - **Level 3** – Forces have either a single, critical, enduring issue; have widespread and/or systemic performance concerns; or fail to demonstrate meaningful improvements
 - **Level 4** – Force performance failings are very serious and there is insufficient evidence or confidence that the steps being taken to address them are having the desired effect. Forces will be subject to special measures and statutorily required to act on HMICFRS recommendations and may be subject to Home Secretary intervention powers
- Force level (Tier 1 and 2) determined by Regional Triage group, chaired by Regional HM Inspector
- National Police Performance Monitoring Group (PPMG), chaired by His Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary, maintains overall oversight and decisions on Tiers 3 and 4. Includes: HMICFRS, Home Office, NPCC, APCC, and IOPC
- Considering:
 - Home Office Analysis of PPF
 - HMICFRS Inspections
 - Force/Local Policing Body self-referral
 - PPMG referral
- For all Tiers:
 - Increasing support available from the College of Policing, embedding new ‘turnaround teams’
 - New powers are being introduced for HMICFRS to intervene where forces are failing, backed up by the Home Secretary’s powers of direction, where required.
- More information here: [About the policing performance system | College of Policing](#)

Q4 25/26 – Commissioner Scrutiny & Accountability

Date	Summary	Link
March 2026	Public Accountability Forum – Newbridge, Caerphilly • Highlighting key issues and concerns raised by our communities and bringing them directly to the attention of Chief Constable Mark Hobrough • Ensuring residents voices are heard and help to shape local policing priorities • Held at Newbridge Memorial Hall	Watch here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dELD MfRilvs
April 2026	Accountability & Assurance Board: Force Strategies • Annual review of new and revised local policing strategies, including: • Communications • Engagement • Violence against women and girls • Learning and development	https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/transparency/accountability-assurance-board/agendas-and-minutes-2026/15th-april-2026/
June 2026	Public Accountability Forum – Newport • Highlighting key issues and concerns raised by our communities and bringing them directly to the attention of Chief Constable Mark Hobrough • Ensuring residents voices are heard and help to shape local policing priorities • Held at University of South Wales, Newport Campus	Watch here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kejew8GPjiM
June 2026	Accountability & Assurance Board: Q4 • HMICFRS PEEL Inspection progress report • Organisational Performance Report against the Police, Crime & Justice Plan priorities Q4 2024-25 • Review of Strategic Risk Register	https://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/en/transparency/accountability-assurance-board/agendas-and-minutes-2026/3rd-june-2026/

Q4 25/26 Police recorded crime and incidents – at a glance

All Incidents	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2023-24	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2024-25	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2025-26
Public Safety and Welfare	17,732	17,028	14,650	13,871	63,281	14,887	15,845	14,763	15,197	60,692	16,939	18,216	16,552	16,594	68,301
Crime Related	13,036	13,025	12,338	12,642	51,041	14,712	14,947	13,187	13,056	55,902	13,693	14,758	13,429	13,106	54,986
Transport	6,545	6,470	6,505	6,499	26,019	7,347	7,347	7,462	7,070	29,226	7,684	7,999	7,471	7,217	30,371
Anti-Social Behaviour	3,525	3,397	2,918	2,659	12,499	2,950	3,035	2,911	3,103	11,999	3,568	3,537	2,656	2,898	12,659
Admin	9,003	9,393	8,715	8,313	35,424	8,985	9,383	8,425	7,567	34,360	7,458	8,017	7,524	7,316	30,315
Open Log	15	35	17	6	73	19	8	11	25	63	84	103	2	5	194
Total	49,856	49,348	45,143	43,990	188,337	48,900	50,565	46,759	46,018	192,242	49,426	52,630	47,634	47,136	196,826
% change since previous year					11%					2%					

Crime Type	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2023-24	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2024-25	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2025-26
All Other Theft	964	928	879	874	3,645	911	943	943	865	3,662	914	966	825	773	3,478
Bicycle Theft	71	93	71	51	286	79	78	59	58	274	83	68	35	53	239
Commercial Burglary	211	200	202	173	786	254	222	179	134	789	148	172	187	198	705
Criminal Damage & Arson	1,983	1,739	1,810	1,629	7,161	1,800	1,778	1,637	1,684	6,899	1,841	1,931	1,668	1,576	7,016
Drug Offences	322	387	360	346	1,415	410	511	506	425	1,852	457	461	467	457	1,842
Homicide	2	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	3	1	0	2	3	6
Miscellaneous Crimes	415	447	361	411	1,634	442	489	434	508	1,873	533	538	553	502	2,126
Non Notifiable Offences	28	20	24	29	101	21	20	35	38	114	22	28	22	25	97
Other Sexual Offences	312	266	275	283	1,136	360	379	386	420	1,545	394	357	411	473	1,635
Possession of Weapons	130	138	110	107	485	109	130	125	136	500	138	138	162	163	601
Public Order Offences	2,220	1,846	1,612	1,536	7,214	1,871	2,047	1,702	1,695	7,315	1,901	2,000	1,672	1,649	7,222
Rape	137	144	133	164	578	189	155	200	180	724	195	218	185	216	814
Residential Burglary	389	334	352	316	1,391	397	351	370	357	1,475	364	364	444	445	1,617
Robbery	65	87	67	80	299	88	88	75	74	325	109	120	99	98	426
Shoplifting	820	978	1,025	1,105	3,928	1,413	1,310	1,123	1,135	4,981	1,049	1,111	1,093	997	4,250
Theft From the Person	62	44	48	32	186	44	39	40	48	171	44	40	32	29	145
Vehicle Crime	713	845	741	760	3,059	758	829	647	541	2,775	572	687	792	823	2,874
Violence with Injury	1,837	1,670	1,572	1,662	6,741	1,794	1,807	1,687	1,453	6,741	1,590	1,656	1,569	1,370	6,185
Violence without Injury	4,601	4,192	4,164	4,151	17,108	4,424	4,324	4,195	4,113	17,056	4,115	4,475	4,109	4,376	17,075
Total	15,283	14,359	13,806	13,709	57,157	15,365	15,501	14,344	13,864	59,074	14,470	15,330	14,327	14,226	58,353
% change since previous year					-1%					3%					-1%



Preventing Crime and Antisocial Behaviour

Monitoring Crime and Policing

Priority		Measure	24/25 Baseline	28/29 Ambition	25/26 FYTD	Q4 25/26 vs Q4 24/25 % comparison	Raised with CC in Q4
Cross-cutting	Total Incidents	192,242		196,826	+2.4 %	 	
	Total ASB incidents	11,999		12,658	-6.6 %		
	Total Crimes	58,859		58,078	+4.1 %		
More visible and Accessible policing	Total Police Officers (headcount)	1549		1,572	Not scrutinised quarterly		
	Total PCSOs (headcount)	153		148			
	Total Special Constables (headcount)	58		53			
	Total Police Staff (headcount)	860		868			
	Proportion in front line and back office	New for 25/26		TBD			
Proportion in neighbourhood policing	New for 25/26	196 officers					
Working with police and partners to address root causes, engage children and young people, increase crime prevention advice	There are no specific measures/KPIs for this priority – relevant activity will be reported through other means, such as commissioned service reports						



Key Updates and Context

Scrutiny and Accountability

At June’s Accountability and Assurance Board, the PCC scrutinised performance on the following matters:

- Overall incidents and crimes, which the Assistant Chief Constable highlighted was higher than Q4 last year, but for the whole year was lower than the year before
- The take-up of the new neighbourhood matters app continues to be high, which should soon start to have a greater impact on levels of trust and confidence, with levels of trust showing to be increasing
- Discussions centred on levels of ASB, which were lower when comparing Q4 2025/26 to the year before.

However, a number of incidents, particularly in Newport had been flagged to the Commissioner. The Assistant Chief Constable gave assurances of work under the new ASB Action Plan, including reviewing multi-agency citysafe plans, Operation Vigilant in the city centre, proactively reviewing breaches of orders, and considering bringing in a ‘Clear, Hold, Build’ initiative in Newport. In terms of tackling some issues around perception, the Neighbourhood Matters app is being promoted significantly, so members of the public can get a better picture of policing activity in their area.

Partnerships

Smaller, more intensive interventions under the Serious Violence Duty included therapeutic counselling and Youth Inclusion Zone provision, focusing on individuals at higher risk to ensure a balanced approach across prevention, targeted support, and recovery. Overall, delivery in Q4 demonstrated a broad, multi-agency response with substantial reach and clear alignment to serious violence prevention priorities. Under the Duty, the contract is renewed for a further year and incorporate a new ASB package which partners welcome.

Additional prevention activity has been carried out through community safety partnerships, which the OPCC are active members of, and the Gwent Strategic Safer Communities Board, chaired by the PCC and supported by the OPCC.

With support from the OPCC and partnerships across Gwent, the ASB Action Plan has been finalised and published by Gwent Police. The plan sets out the local context of ASB across Gwent area and places victims and communities at the heart. It outlines how targeted, visible neighbourhood policing, strong community engagement and effective problem-solving through well-established multiagency partnerships.

Funding and Investments

Fearless: The team engaged with 2012 young people, delivered 135 sessions and interacted with 287 professionals in schools. During this period, Fearless saw an increased demand for content focusing on knife crime and county lines, alongside a growing need around hate crime awareness. Fearless emphasised personal responsibility, legal understanding, and proactive choices to challenge the normalisation of violence and crime.

Positive Futures: 1399 young people attended their open access sessions in Q4, with 161 young people attending their ‘unscheduled’ sessions, with 38 individuals in Torfaen. 13 referrals were received for 1-1 support. The team also delivered an extra 29 sessions due to local ASB needs / requests from police or community safety, 24 more than Q3.

PCC community funding: The PCC launched community funds continued in Q4. The new Partnership Fund offers grants up to £1,000 to enable grassroots organisations to deliver community-led activities. The new Community Fund offers grants of between £1,000 and £50,000 to deliver larger projects prioritizing support for children and young people and was significantly oversubscribed, and. The Community Engagement Fund offers grants up to £5,000 to support projects focusing on community cohesion and trust and confidence in policing services.



Monitoring Crime and Policing

Priority	Measure	24/25 Baseline	28/29 Ambition	25/26 FYTD	Q4 25/26 vs Q4 24/25 % comparison	Raised with CC in Q4
Page 64 Cross-Cutting	999 Volume	92,275	↔	95,678	+6.1%	
	999 Service Level (% calls answered in 10s)	96.8%		97.2%	-0.4%	
	101 Volume	219,010	↔	260,582	+3.7%	🚩
	101 Abandonment rate (average)	9.1%		8.0%	+1.5%	
	101 Speed of answer (average)	01:43		01:27	+00:28	
	Emergency Response in 15mins	68.7%	↑	85.2%	+7.2%	🚩
	Priority Response in 60mins	74.5%		87.2%	-3.1%	
Reducing Serious Violence and Knife Crime	Most Serious Violence. Volume	594	↓	593	-3.6%	🚩
	Serious Violence Volume	936		951	+4.5%	
	Knife crime Volume	390		350	+1.3%	
Tackling Retail Crime and Assaults on Staff	Volume of Shoplifting	4,981	↓	4,246	-12.2%	
	<i>Volume of assaults of retail worker</i>	<i>Offence not established</i>		<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	
Cracking down on Anti Social Behaviour	ASB volume	11,999	↓	12,658	-6.6%	🚩
Tackling Burglary, Robbery and Theft	Residential Burglary Volume	1,473	↓	1,605	+25.0%	🚩
	Robbery Volume	324		426	+32.4%	🚩
	Theft from the person Volume	172		143	-40.8%	
Drug Offences	Drug Possession	1,040	↓	1,177	+22.0%	
	Drug Supply	776		659	-9.0%	



Key Updates and Context

Scrutiny and Accountability

The Commissioner held recent Public Accountability Forums with the Chief Constable to discuss issues affecting communities in Caerphilly and Newport. These forums provide a platform for the Commissioner to highlight key concerns raised by the community.

At June's Accountability and Assurance Board, the PCC scrutinised performance of Gwent Police on the following matters:

- 999/101 and Response Time performance, which was highlighted as continually sustained good performance, despite continued increases in volumes
- Most serious violence, in particular a recent high volume of homicides. The Assistant Chief Constable highlighted that there were no clear patterns and the force were doing a retrospective review to identify if there were any prevention opportunities. The impact on resourcing was highlighted as a challenge with so many major crime operations happening at once.
- Levels of Burglary and Robbery. The Assistant Chief Constable further highlighted the proactive and targeted activity taking place across Gwent, as the increased levels were noted for a 2nd quarter running. However, levels are being monitored closely

Partnerships

In Q4 work continued with the Gwent Strategic Safer Communities Board (GSSCB) with partners, chaired by the PCC. The subgroup and task and finish groups continues to meet, which focused on taking forward the priorities agreed in September. The agreed priorities are: partnership data sharing, delivering the Winter of Action, an ASB action plan, improving community cohesion, deeper research on partnership issues, and improving sustainability and resilience of different 'safer places' partnerships.

The Home Office's Winter of Action (WOA) finished in Q4. Similar to the Safer Streets Summer Initiative, the Commissioner allocated £50k to WOA to enable Community Safety Partners to deliver targeted programmes within their local areas. This Home Office campaign has now concluded with no confirmation as to whether similar national campaigns will continue in the future.

During the recent GSSCB, members discussed whether, in the absence of further Home Office initiatives, funding from the Commissioner's budget could be allocated to support the continuation of targeted local campaigns. Work is ongoing to progress with this priority.

Funding and Investments

St Giles Trust: The Service worked with 34 young people this quarter and 9 new referrals were received for the coming quarter. Q4 saw St Giles deliver a total of 181 hours of direct contact, the current caseload is 27 young people; youngest child is 12 and oldest is 17.

Serious Violence Duty: Q4 saw a total of 9 SVD interventions delivered across Gwent, collectively reaching approximately 2,060 individuals. The majority of those engaged were young people, with over 1,700 participants aged under 25, reflecting the strong emphasis on early intervention and prevention. Key programmes included large-scale education and awareness initiatives such as Street Doctors (820 young people reached), alongside targeted youth provision through Blaenau Gwent Youth Services (437) and sports-based interventions (205), all contributing to improved behaviour, engagement, and reduced risk of exclusion. Community safety activity was also a significant feature, with Night-Time Ambassadors supporting the safety of the night-time economy and taxi safeguarding training reaching 249 drivers.



Monitoring Crime and Policing

Priority	Crime/Policing Measure	24/25 Baseline	28/29 Ambition*	25/26 FYTD	Q4 25/26 vs Q4 24/25 % comparison	Raised with CC in Q4
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse, and Sexual Violence	Rape volume	713	↑ ↓	806	+29.3%	🚩
	Serious Sexual offence volume	984		1,140	+16.8%	
	Domestic Abuse volume	8,313		8,844	+15.8%	
	Violence against Women and Girls volume	13,390		12,958	+1.3%	
	Stalking volume	2,058		2,364	+15.8%	
	Harassment volume	5,895		5,454	+3.6%	
Tackling Hate Crimes	Hate crime volume	1,577	↑ ↓	1,573	+1.7%	
Safeguarding Children and Young People	Public Protection Notifications (PPN) submitted to Social Services	26,277	↓	In June	In June	🚩
	Op Encompass Referrals	9,902		In June	In June	
	Missing Child Reports	4,350		4,922	+22.4%	
	Child Sexual Exploitation Volume	176		102	-21.8%	
	Child Criminal Exploitation Volume	43		30	-46.2%	
Protecting People from Online harms	Cyber-fraud National Fraud Intelligence Bureau Investigations	867	↑ ↓	953	+40.7%	🚩
	'Cybercrime' cases:	New for 25/26		6,340	+13.9%	
	• Protection from Harassment Act s2	-		Q4 339	N/A	
	• Stalking (online)	-		Q4 238	N/A	
	• Putting people in fear of violence	-		Q4 128	N/A	
	• Take/make indecent photographs of children	-		Q4 85	N/A	
	• Sending letters etc with intent to cause stress or anxiety	-		Q4 100	N/A	



*These arrows reflect an ambition to see police recorded crime increase, but publicly reported crime decrease (as reflected in ONS/local surveys)



Key Updates and Context

Scrutiny and Accountability

At June's Accountability and Assurance Board, the PCC scrutinised performance of Gwent Police on the following matters:

- Performance related to rape and serious sexual offence crimes was highlighted, particularly the levels of outcomes and whether Gwent Police were resourced to support victims who were increasingly confident to report crimes. The ACC acknowledged there is still work to be done and highlighted the focus on support provided to victims and survivors
- Domestic abuse offences and levels of stalking were discussed. In particular the ACC highlighted the increasing amount of cyber-enabled stalking taking place, with the force achieving it's first conviction on cyber-stalking recently. There is an ongoing training need for officers to identify it, and the force is reviewing all aspects of prevention and protection for victims during investigations.
- Levels of missing children were discussed. The ACC highlighted that Gwent has the highest level of missing children per population across England and Wales, with many being housed 'out of county' in Gwent. The ACC highlighted some bespoke work going into understanding this more, including around prevention of exploitation.

Partnerships

At the beginning of Q4 the Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Board tasked the Regional Advisor for VAWDASV to identify recommendations to some of the systemic challenges in the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference process in Gwent. The OPCC worked alongside the Regional Advisor to facilitate the delivery of a workshop, attended by all MARAC partners, to reach consensus on possible solutions, and contributed to the subsequent report, delivered to the Board, who agreed to pilot a new approach.

The OPCC continued to coordinate partnership work to relocate the Gwent Remote Evidence Site (RES) to Caerleon Police Station. Victim Support will deliver the RES service; this will enable vulnerable victims and witnesses the opportunity to give evidence in a safe, secure and trauma-informed venue.

Operation Vigilant was introduced in January; in this initiative covert officers target and disrupt potential sex offenders in or near night-time economy venues. Covert officers were also deployed to test adherence to Ask for Angela in a sample of venues across Gwent. The findings will support partnership work to reinvigorate this scheme.

Funding and Investments

The Commissioner has invested in a number of services which directly tackle vulnerability and VAWDASV. These primarily include services for victims and interventions for perpetrators and have as such been allocated under Priorities 4 & 5 (but are jointly important here), where more details can be found around their delivery and outcomes.

No new/additional funding or investment for this workstrand was made during Q4. However, work has been underway to look at opportunities to increase referrals into the core VAWDASV services.



Putting Victims First

Monitoring Crime and Policing

	Priority	Measure	24/25 Baseline	28/29 Ambition	25/26 FYTD	Q4 25/26 vs Q4 24/25 % comparison	Raised with CC in Q4
Working Together to Improve the Justice System	Protecting Victims from Further Harm	Number of victims** Number of repeat victims*	33,051 7,199	↓	32,967 7,105	+6.0% -1.3%	
	Improving Victim's Access to Information and Updates	Compliance levels with Victim Codes of Practice Victim satisfaction rate (surveyed)	<i>Being Established</i> 64%	↑	<i>TBC</i> 66.0%	<i>TBC</i> +1.0%	🚩
	Ensuring Access to Help and Support	<i>There are no specific measures/KPIs for this priority – relevant activity will be reported through other means, such as commissioned service reports</i>					

*For the purposes of this report, a repeat victim is defined as an individual who has been linked in this capacity to two or more separate offences within a 12-month period. This may include being linked to 2 or more crimes from the same incident/event.

**Reporting for this metric has been amended to reflect the number of unique individual victims rather than the number of crimes involving a victim. This is to ensure we know each person who needs a service from Gwent Police and other victim services.



Putting Victims First

Key Updates and Context

Scrutiny and Accountability

At June's Accountability and Assurance Board, the PCC scrutinised performance of Gwent Police on the following matters:

- Performance related to solved rates for victims were discussed. The Chief Constable continued to highlight that he wanted this to increase to 15%, in particular through improved victim care and engagement
- The ACC highlighted that there had been improvements shown in the victim satisfaction survey data across all aspects being monitored. However, the sample size is low and joint work with the OPCC is underway to improve this (see right)
- Improvements to victim care are one of the key aspects to the Quality Investigation and Victim Care Change Programme, led by a Detective Superintendent, which will be subject to bespoke scrutiny at a later date

Partnerships

The GCJSB Supporting Victims and Witnesses Subgroup met in Q4, noting continued positive trends for the average days taken by the police to charge an offender, victim retention, and achieving quality of justice for victims. Discussion also focussed on impacts and mitigations of potential delays in Magistrates' Court sittings.

Work continued with partners on the interim Wales Victims' Code compliance insights model. In Q4, the four LCJB coordinators and Criminal Justice Board for Wales (CJBfW) Coordinator drafted a proposal document outlining the current position, next steps and recommendations for presentation to the CJBfW in June. Pending agreement, the Wales Victims' Code Working Group will be reconvened to take forward the work required.

Work continued with Gwent Police to improve the quarterly Victim Satisfaction Survey. A draft question set was shared with key internal and external stakeholders inviting views on the contents and considerations of the trauma-informed approach applied. Feedback will be consolidated and reviewed at the next Working Group meeting in June.

Funding and Investments

Victim Service: Q4 saw 371 referrals during this quarter. 8% of cases involved children aged under 18, the same as the previous quarter. 85% were successfully contacted and 35% of these responded to the offer and went on to complete a needs assessment. 110 cases went on to receive support. Overall, 86.8% of people who used the service made progress towards achieving one or more positive outcomes.

ISVA service: The service received 156 referrals in Gwent during Q4, bringing the total for 25-26 to 694. The ISVA service is co-commissioned with SWP and Dyfed-Powys. The OPCC is exploring options for expanding ISVA provision. In Gwent ISVA cases are, on average, open for a comparatively long time, reflecting wider criminal justice system delays in the region.

IDVA Service: The service received 391 new referrals, bringing the total number of referrals across 2025-26 to 1639.

TABW: The service received 1 new referral in Gwent in Q4, bringing the total for 2025-26 to 19.

FAMILY COURT PATHFINDER: The service in Gwent received 95 referrals in Q4 for adult victims, bringing the total for 2025-26 to 346, of whom 326 were successfully contacted.

The OPCC is exploring options for increasing and improving the provision of support services for domestic abuse victims and survivors in Gwent assessed as being at medium or standard risk of harm.



Reducing Reoffending

Monitoring Crime and Policing

Priority		Measure	24/25 Baseline	28/29 Ambition	25/26 FYTD	Q4 25/26 vs Q4 24/25 % comparison	Raised with CC in Q4
Using my Legal Duty to Bring Partners Together to Improve the Justice System	Catching Offenders, Solving More Crimes	Number of offenders	20,809	↓	20,485	+3.6%	
		Number of repeat offenders*	7,044		6,839	-2.9%	
		Gwent Police crime solved rate	12.8%		12.2%	-1.4%	■
		Timeliness of investigations – median days	31		44	+15.0%	■
	Diverting Young Offenders from a life of Crime	Number of young offenders (under 18)	3,621	↓	3,412	-1.7%	
		Number of young offenders First Time Entrants (under 18)	2,007		1,853	-5.7%	
		Number of children held in Police Custody	751		532	-31.6%	■
	Rehabilitating and Reintegrating Offenders	<i>There are no specific measures/KPIs for this priority – relevant activity will be reported through other means, such as commissioned service reports</i>					

*For the purposes of this report, a repeat offender is defined as an individual who has been linked in this capacity to two or more separate offences within a 12-month period. This does not necessarily mean that they have been charged with or found guilty of the offence in question.



Reducing Reoffending

Key Updates and Context

Scrutiny and Accountability

At March's Accountability and Assurance Board, the PCC scrutinised performance of Gwent Police on the following matters:

- A key focus for scrutiny by the Commissioner at AAB related to the solved rates of various crimes. The Chief Constable's response is highlighted above
- The ACC gave an overview of the slight drop in investigation timeliness but with a longer-term overall rise. This is particularly impacted by significant demands coming into the service at the moment. To support this, an overview of a domestic abuse charging pilot was given, where police officers can charge non-remand guilty anticipated plea cases to court, and this had sped up processes in these cases, alongside an improved engagement process with the CPS.
- The decreasing levels of children coming into police custody was also flagged as a positive success story.

Work continues to establish a new Custody Scrutiny Panel. A draft terms of reference has been shared within the OPCC for consultation.

Partnerships

The GCJSB Reducing Reoffending Subgroup met in Q4 and agreed a common definition of reoffending which was accepted by the GCJSB in the March meeting. A task and finish meeting with agency analysts is planned in the next quarter to agree metrics and reporting pathways, with consideration of disproportionality measures within the data for both adults and children.

The OPCC met with police colleagues and service providers to explore opportunities to improve support to children in police custody. A proposal is being drafted for consideration by the PCC which works with existing provisions to provide effective and appropriate engagement and support that reduces the likelihood of reoffending.

The OPCC met with partners from Newport Youth Justice Service and Gwent Police to address delays for children and young people within the criminal justice system. The group discussed case examples and recent policing improvement work alongside action planning, other impact factors and victim considerations.

Funding and Investments

One Wales: Positively, referral numbers increased in Q4 to 31 for 18-25 referrals and 34 women's referrals in Gwent. All KPI's remained green during this quarter. Data shows that 99% of 18-25 year old and 100% of women were making positive progress towards achieving one or more outcomes upon exit from the service, a slight improvement from Q3.

Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service: During Q4, the team received 248 new referrals into GDAS CJ support, consistent with previous quarters this year. The team also engaged with 677 people in Gwent's custody suites, identifying 242 of these as having substance use support needs.

Cautioning And Relationship Abuse (CARA): During Q4 12 referrals were made for CARA (10 IPV cases and 2 non-IPV cases) and 12 offenders completed the CARA workshops. Of these, just one offender was female. Scrutiny of the suitability of CARA referrals transferred to Gwent's wider Out of Court Disposal scrutiny panel. Force analysis conducted during Q4 found that of their sample of 20 people who had completed CARA, none had committed any further DA offences when followed up 12 months later.

Multi-Agency Tasking And Coordination (MATAC): During Q4 78 referrals were made to the MATAC process and all were triaged, of whom 53 were assessed as suitable for MATAC intervention and the remaining 25 were deemed not suitable. Three MATAC meetings were held during this period to coordinate multi-agency responses and review cases.

Monitoring Crime and Policing						
Foundation	Measure	24/25 Baseline	28/29 Ambition	25/26 FYTD	Q4 25/26 vs Q4 24/25 % comparison	Raised with CC in Q4
Trust and Confidence	Confidence Survey Trust Survey	62.5% 66.5%	↑	63% 70.1%	+1.0% -0.2%	🚩
Sustainability	Staff numbers • Police Officers full time equivalent • Police Staff full time equivalent • PCSO full time equivalent • Special Constabulary (establishment)	1506 FTE 801.8 FTE 155 FTE 100 Establishment	↑	Current headcount 1,572 868 148 53	N/A – not tracked quarterly	
	Officer sickness levels Staff sickness levels Carbon Emissions	5.3% 5.7% Under development	↓	5.6% 6.0% TBC – subject to Welsh Gov reporting	-0.2% +0.4% TBC	🚩
Ethics and Standards	Complaints (Schedule 3 – managed formally) Complaints (non Sch3 – managed informally) Additional metrics are currently being agreed	624 627	↓	TBC – scrutiny meeting 30/06	TBC – scrutiny meeting 30/06	
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	Staff Demographics • Gender (Female - Officers/Staff/PCSO/Special) • Ethnicity (Ethnic Heritage - Officers/Staff/PCSO/Special)	Officers 38% , Staff 68.4% PCSO’s 46.7% , Specials 25% Officers 3.8% , Staff 2.5% PCSO’s 8.9% , Specials 3.8%	↑	Officers 39.6% Staff 68.3% PCSO’s 48.6% Specials 20.8% Officers 3.7% , Staff 2.8% PCSO’s 8.1% , Specials 3.8%	N/A – tracked annually N/A – tracked annually	🚩

Key Updates and Context		
Scrutiny and Accountability	Other Activity	
At June’s Accountability and Assurance Board, the PCC scrutinised performance of Gwent Police on the following matters: - Confidence and satisfaction. Discussions focused on the new Neighbourhood Matters application rolled out across Gwent. This has been covered above. - Sickness levels. The Assistant Chief Constable highlighted the continued challenges around sickness, which are being actively monitored through a new monthly ‘Silver’ meeting. The PCC requested for a review of some of the procedures around sickness management. - Discussions centred around having good quality equality data in police systems and the ongoing work to improve this locally and nationally. System changes were expected shortly, to ensure officers are prompted appropriately, along with training to improve officers approach to asking the relevant questions at the appropriate time. In light of the recent draft code of practice on the equality act being published, the Chief Constable gave assurances that inclusivity is threaded through all planning. The Legitimacy Scrutiny Panel met in February, chaired by the Commissioner’s office. Body worn video for 10 incidents was reviewed (6 stop searches, and 4 use of force) with a thematic focus on stop searches on children and young people from minority Ethnic Heritage backgrounds and use of Taser on children under 18. 3 written stop search grounds were assessed as ‘strong’, 1 as ‘moderate to strong’ and 1 was not assessed due to an error in the linking of the video and incident record. The use of force was agreed to be appropriate and justified in 100% of the cases.	The LCJB has noted consistently high levels of performance across partners in terms of Transforming Summary Justice. Gwent Police, the CPS and HMCTS in Gwent have all ranked at number 1 across delivery metrics. This will continue to be monitored by the LCJB. The LCJB continues to recognise and celebrate the highly successful and positive partnership working across the criminal justice arena. The Commissioner joined Welsh criminal justice colleagues and stakeholders at an in-person CJBfW Anti Racism Community Engagement Feedback Session. CJBfW members, including the PCC, spoke about their experiences of the Community Collaboration Visits undertaken during the summer and shared any identified learning. The session was chaired by the Chief Constable of Gwent Police and featured the Independent Oversight and Advisory Panel Chair’s vision and reflections on the progress of the CJ Anti-Racism Action Plan.	As part of the Public Service Board, members of the OPCC have been active participants in development of a new Gwent Climate Change Risk Assessment. This was recently released is now being considered in the ‘Greener Gwent’ meetings to enable estate and operational planners to understand where the key risks facing each organisation is and enable adaptation plans to be introduced. The OPCC joined Welsh Government and partners for an in-person meeting of the Hate and Community Tensions Board Cymru. The meeting provided a focus on potential approaches following changes in Welsh Government following the Senedd election, as well as a review of UK hate crime legislation and processes.

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Gwent Police
and Crime Panel

Panel Heddlu
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SUBJECT: REPLACING POLICE AND CRIME PANEL SUBGROUPS WITH ALL-MEMBER SEMINARS

DATE: 10TH JULY 2026

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Gwent Police and Crime Panel of the offer from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding informal consultation and seminars prior to panel meetings. A role currently undertaken through panel subgroups.

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 two 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 involved a small number of panel members. The groups that have been established are:

- Finance and Estates
- Performance

4. REPORT

Background

- 4.1 The Gwent Police and Crime Panel Finance subgroup was the first group to be set up and were initially set up to allow informal consultation and briefings prior to panel meetings during the budget setting process. These meetings were held on an ad-hoc basis, the purpose was to have a small group of Panel members who had more in-depth understanding of the topic.
- 4.2 The Performance subgroup was established whilst the performance reporting dashboard was being developed. The Panel had raised concerns that the Police and Crime plan objectives were not easily measured and sought to work with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to develop a new dashboard. This work has now been completed, and the Panel are presented with the Dashboard on a quarterly basis. Although, some Panel Members have commented on gaps in the reporting.
- 4.3 The subgroups have evolved over time and now meet more frequently and consider larger amounts of information. The use of remote meetings has also enabled these informal group meetings to be held more easily, previously they were conducted in-person. The Performance

subgroup has met quarterly, and Panel requested that the Finance and Estates subgroup meet two weeks before any Panel meetings with finance or estate matters on the agenda. The Finance and Estates subgroup has not met regularly of late, but briefings on issues such as budget-setting have taken place prior to the full Panel meeting.

- 4.4 A subgroup is not a formal sub-committee as set out in the Panel terms of reference, which are for specific purposes (similar to a task and finish group) where they develop terms of reference, conduct the work and report back to the Panel.
- 4.5 At the Panel meeting in March 2023 the Panel agreed to merge the former Finance subgroup and the Estates subgroup when it became apparent there were budgetary pressures on the Estate Strategy, which would have a significant financial impact.
- 4.6 In July 2024 the Panel reviewed three options regarding the function of panel subgroups going forward. The Panel favoured Option 3 and therefore resolved to retain the existing subgroups but with a lead Member for each subgroup. Generally, Members have found subgroup meetings to be extremely valuable in particular with preparation ahead of the Precept meeting in January. All Members are annually invited to join the subgroups and notes of meetings are circulated to the Panel for information.

Proposals

- 4.7 Following the Precept and budget-setting process for 2026/27 the Panel Chair raised concerns in a letter to the PCC and requested a meeting to discuss further. At an informal meeting at Gwent Police Headquarters on 8th June between the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), the Panel Chair and Vice Chair, senior OPCC personnel and the PCP Secretariat, the following changes were proposed:
 - To maximise OPCC staff resources during the Police Reform transition period, the PCC proposed that future informal consultation with Members prior to panel meetings would be conducted through All-Member Seminars rather than meetings of the Finance and Estates subgroup and the Performance subgroup. This would broaden the range for consultation. Some recent subgroup meetings were attended by as few as two Panel Members.
 - In relation to Finance and Estates, the previous arrangements of four meetings per year prior to full Police and Crime Panel (PCP) meetings in June, September, December and January in any given financial year would be replaced by two All-Member seminars prior to the full PCP meetings in December and January.
 - The Performance Subgroup meetings would be replaced by All-Member seminars at key times in the annual cycle. The key times are yet to be determined by Panel Members.
 - All-Member Briefings/Seminars would be held via Microsoft TEAMS in the same manner as existing subgroup meetings.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Police and Crime Panel is funded from grant funding provided by the Home Office to the lead authority.
- 5.2 Panel arrangements provide for members to claim an allowance for attendance at formal panel meetings up to 6 days per annum, with discretion for additional meetings for statutory purposes. This is based on the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales co-opted rates paid to Ordinary Standards Committee Members. Travel expenses are paid at HMRC rates. However, there is no allowance paid for members attending subgroup meetings or visits as this is done on a voluntary basis, but travel expenses would be paid if applicable.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The report has been circulated to the consultees and any comments received have been included in the report.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 Members are asked to note and comment on the proposals set out in paragraph 4.7 of the report.
- 7.2 In addition to Finance and Estates/ Performance All-Member Seminars, the Panel can request other informal topical briefings throughout the year.
- 7.3 Members note that the existing sub-groups and future seminars are not a statutory requirement and neither Panel Members nor OPCC personnel are required to attend. They exist purely to facilitate informal consultation and briefings prior to panel meetings.

8. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To ensure that Panel members are kept informed and briefed appropriately.

9. STATUTORY POWERS

- 9.1 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Author: Mark Jacques, Scrutiny Officer, Caerphilly County Borough Council
Email: jacqum@caerphilly.gov.uk
Telephone: 01443 864267

Consultees: Rob Tranter, Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, Caerphilly County Borough Council.
Lisa Lane Deputy Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic Services, Caerphilly County Borough Council.
Emma Sullivan, Democratic Services Manager, Caerphilly County Borough Council.
Jane Mudd, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.
Eleri Thomas Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.
Sian Curley Chief Executive Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
Darren Garwood-Pask Chief Finance Officer Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
Sam Slater, Head of Strategy, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.
Gill Howells Chair of Gwent Police and Crime Panel.
Councillor Colin Mann Vice Chair of Gwent Police and Crime Panel.

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GWENT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2026/27

Meeting Date	Items - Theme
10 th July 2026	Elect Chair and Vice Chair
	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Annual Report 2025/26
	MTFP
	Police, Crime and Justice Plan Priorities Update
	Performance Qtr 4
Meeting Date	Items - Theme
25 th September 2026	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Performance Qtr 1
	Budget Setting Timetable
	Police, Crime and Justice Plan Priorities Update
	Welsh Language Standards Annual Report
Meeting Date	Items - Theme
11 th December 2026	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Operational Context and Requirements for the Finance Strategy
	Treasury Management Update
	PCP Recorded Complaints Report (Information Item)
	Performance Qtr 2 (Information Item)
Meeting Date	Items - Theme
29 th January 2027	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent's Budget Requirement and Council Tax Precept Proposal
Meeting Date	Items - Theme
19 th March 2027	PCC Update
	Panel Questions to PCC (if submitted)
	Performance Qtr 3
	Police, Crime and Justice Plan Priorities Update
	Date to be confirmed
	Treasury Management Update (from December 2025)
	We Don't Buy Crime Initiative
	Decarbonisation Report
	Serious Violence

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POLICE**

Organisational Performance against the PCC Priorities

Page 81

Report to the Assurance and Accountability Board

Quarter 4 2025-26



Agenda Item 13

Glossary of Terms

Common Terms:

Percentage Points (PP) – Percentage points are used to indicate the numeric difference between two percentages. For instance, moving from 10.0% to 12.0% is an increase of two percentage points.

Solved Crimes – For the purposes of this report, a crime is considered 'solved' if it has been finalised with a criminal justice outcome (outcomes 1-8, excluding 5). This includes out of court outcomes such as community resolutions and cautions, in addition to formal charges.

Solved Rate – The solved rate for a given quarter is calculated by dividing the number of crimes which were assigned a criminal justice outcome during that quarter by the number of crimes recorded during that quarter.

Graph Elements:

Average – For the purposes of this report, this graph element is calculated based on the mean value of the eight quarters preceding quarter four of the 2025-26 financial year.

Trendline – This graph element indicates the overall direction of the data within the graph. All 12 quarters represented within the graph are taken into account.

Upper and Lower Control Limits (Upper CL and Lower CL) – These graph elements mark the points beyond which a value is considered a special case, often implying the influence of one or more abnormal external factors. The upper control limit indicates that a value is higher than would be expected, whereas the lower control control limit indicates that the given value is below the expected level.

Pillar One - Preventing Crime and ASB

1. Representative Workforce
2. Sickness Rates
3. Quarterly Summary
4. Perceptions Survey - Engagement
5. Perceptions Survey – Local Concerns and Confidence
6. Overall Crime
7. Overall Incidents
8. Anti-Social Behaviour
9. Community Action Team
10. Preventing Crime and ASB – Emerging Issues

1. Representative Workforce

Employee Type	Establishment Numbers					Gender		Ethnicity				Number of Officers by Operational Pillar		
	Finance Budget FTE	Establishment Budget FTE	Actual FTE	Actual FTE v Establishment FTE Variance	Headcount	Female	Male	Ethnic Heritage	Not Stated	Prefer Not to Say	White	Crime	Neighbourhood	Response
Police Officer	1506.0	1506.0	1559.1	53.1	1572	39.6%	60.4%	3.7%	0.3%	3.3%	92.7%	386	196	531
Police Staff	795.8	880.8	823.6	-57.2	868	68.3%	31.7%	2.8%	0.3%	2.9%	94.0%	These figures pertain to the numbers of Police Constables, Police Sergeants, Detective Constables, and Detective Sergeants assigned to departments within each operational pillar. At present, 322 officers operate outside of these pillars.		
PCSO	144.0	144.0	143.8	-0.2	148	48.6%	51.4%	8.1%	0.0%	1.4%	90.5%			
OPCC	23.0	23.0	23.3	0.3	24	70.8%	29.2%	8.3%	8.3%	0.0%	83.3%			
Special Constable	-	100.0	-	-47	53	20.8%	79.2%	3.8%	1.9%	0.0%	94.3%			
Agency Worker	-	-	-	-	7	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%			
Cadets	-	-	-	-	127	55.1%	44.9%	8.7%	2.4%	0.8%	88.2%			
Volunteers	-	-	-	-	49	53.1%	46.9%	6.1%	61.2%	0.0%	32.7%			

Operational Overview

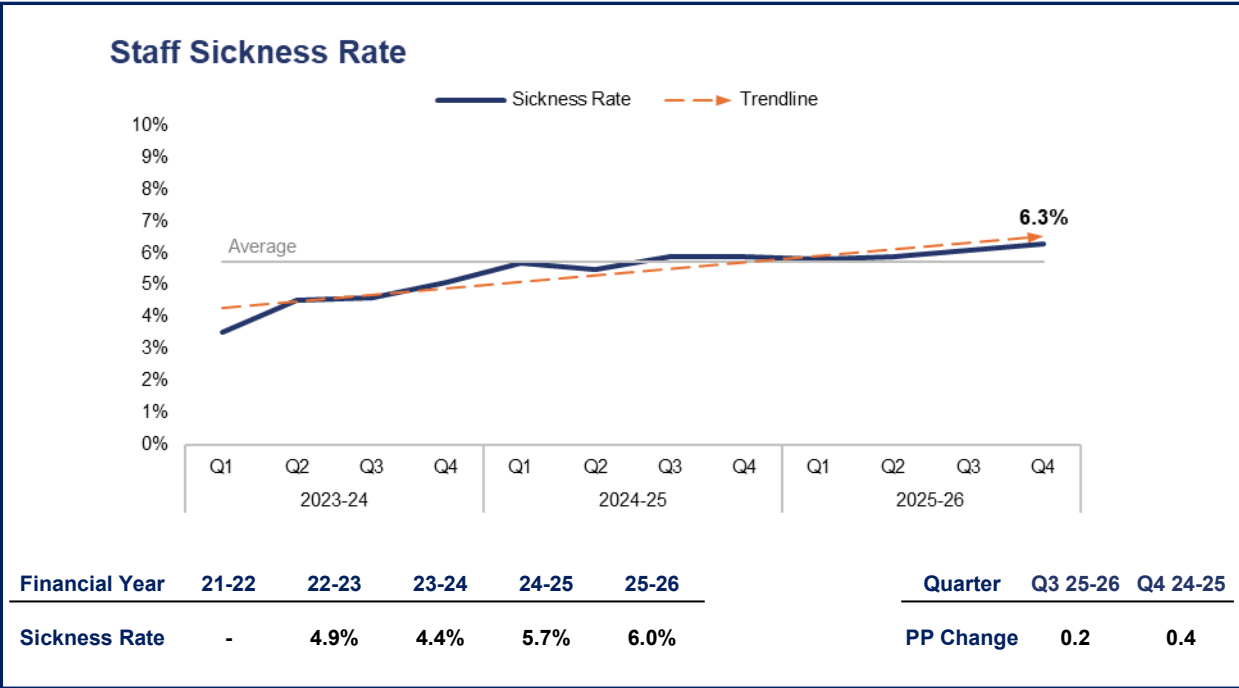
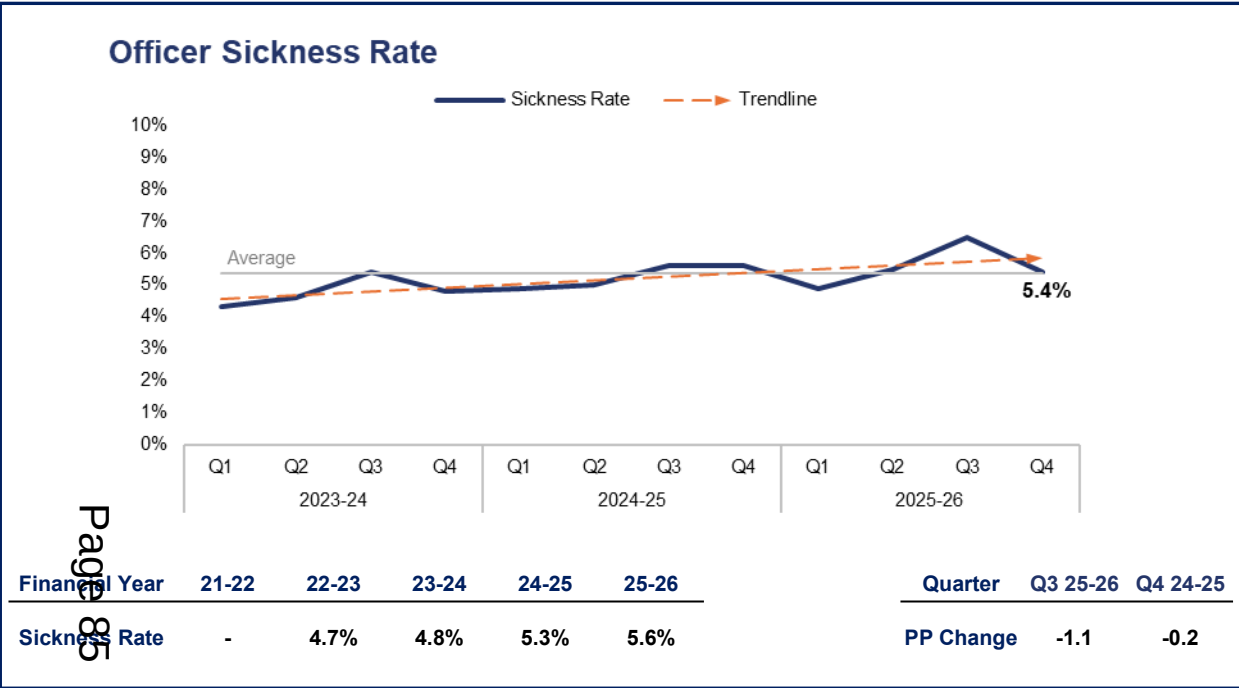
There is a gender disparity evident in the workforce for both officers and staff. For officers, females are under-represented by approximately 11 percentage points (females account for 51% of the population in Gwent based on the 2021 Census). However, females are overrepresented in the staff workstream area by approximately 17 percentage points. There is also a disparity in ethnic heritage representation within the workforce. According to the 2021 Census, 5.8% of the Gwent population are people of ethnic heritage. As of March 2025, 3.7% of police officers are of ethnic heritage, whereas ethnic heritage representation in the staff workstream is lower, at 2.8%.

A representative workforce is crucial for fostering public trust, improving community relations and enhancing operational effectiveness. It is vitally important that Gwent Police mirrors the diversity of the community it serves, in order to better understand and address the unique needs and concerns of all residents. This can lead to greater public confidence in approaching officers for help, reporting incidents, or providing valuable information, as well as creating opportunities to build cohesion and forge stronger relationships. It is also important to recognise that officers from diverse backgrounds may be better equipped to handle specific situations involving vulnerable individuals or specific groups.

The force is organised into three operational pillars – Crime, Neighbourhood, and Response. There are currently 386 officers working within the Crime Pillar, 196 within the Neighbourhood Pillar, and 531 within the Response Pillar. This operating model has been designed to influence how the force works together to improve trust and confidence. Removing geographic barriers puts the community at the heart of everything the force does, working as one team to deliver on issues that matter to people. The model offers opportunities to bring consistency of approach to communities irrespective of the pillar or area of the force, notwithstanding local nuances which will require a tailored delivery dependent upon their needs.

The data on this slide is accurate as of March 2025. The Establishment Budget for Special Constables is a target headcount.

2. Sickness Rates



Operational Overview

During the fourth quarter of the 2025-26 financial year (Q4 2025-26), the sickness rate for police officers within the force stood at 5.4%. This represents a reduction of 1.1 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, and a less prominent reduction of 0.2 percentage points when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The police staff sickness rate for the same period stands at 6.3%. This is the highest quarterly figure within the three-year timeframe, representing an increase of 0.2 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 0.4 percentage points when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

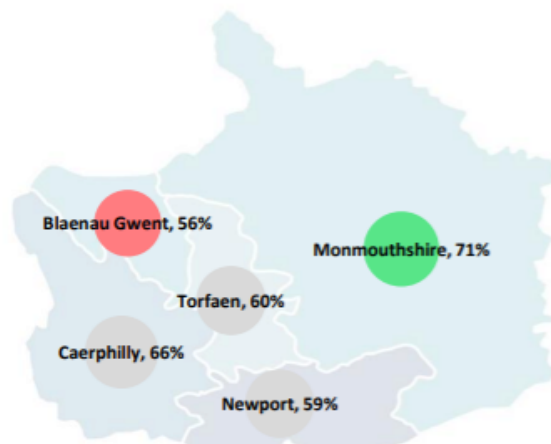
In this context, the sickness rate is calculated by dividing the number of individuals who have taken a day or more of sick leave during the given period by the overall establishment figure for that group.

3. Quarterly Summary

Q4 2025-26 - Crime Volume and Solved Rate by Crime Category		
Crime Category	Volume	Solved Rate
-	120	15.0%
All Other Theft	773	3.9%
Bicycle Theft	53	5.7%
Commercial Burglary	198	11.6%
Criminal Damage & Arson	1,579	7.8%
Drug Offences	457	58.9%
Homicide	3	66.7%
Misc Crimes Against Society	502	22.7%
Other Sexual Offences	473	6.3%
Possession Of Weapons	163	33.1%
Public Order Offences	1,649	10.0%
Rape	216	7.9%
Residential Burglary	445	5.4%
Robbery	98	19.4%
Shoplifting	997	40.9%
Theft From The Person	29	0.0%
Vehicle Crime	823	5.0%
Violence With Injury	1,370	13.1%
Violence Without Injury	4,376	8.9%
Total	14,324	13.3%
Crime Volumes in Red and Solved Rates in Green are above the eight-quarter rolling average.		

4. Perceptions Survey – Engagement

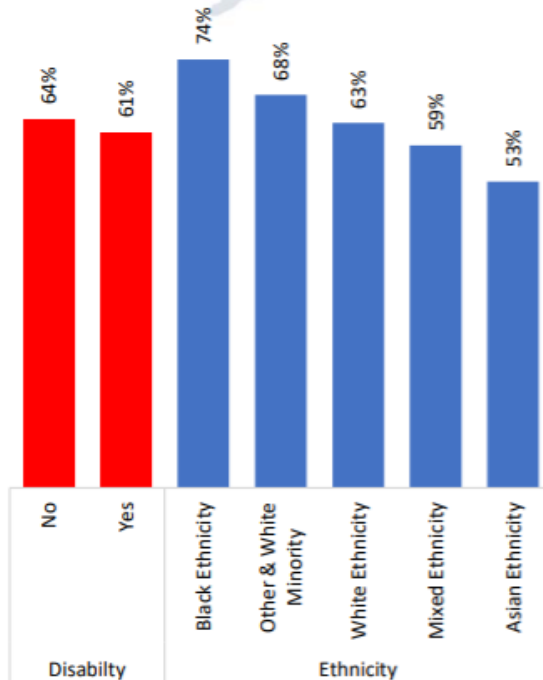
Sense of Community



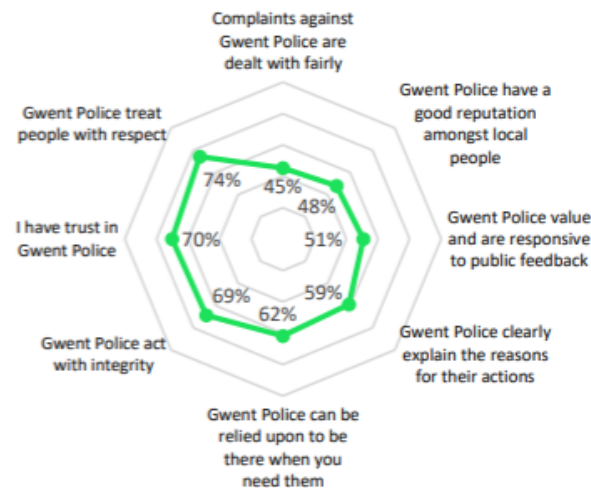
Monmouthshire (71%) residents agree there is a strong sense of community in their area. This is the highest of all areas.

Blaenau Gwent (56%) has the lowest perceived sense of community.

Those with a disability (61%) and residents of Asian Ethnicity (53%) felt less likely to feel a strong sense of community. 74% of respondents of Black Ethnicity felt a strong sense of community, however there were very few respondents.



Trust

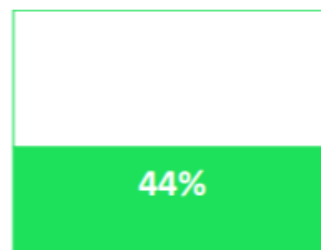


In the 12 months to Q4 2025-26, 70.1% of people agreed they had trust in Gwent Police, 45.3% of people said complaints against Gwent Police are dealt with fairly.

(Left) For the rolling 12 months, 44% of respondents agreed they felt informed of what Gwent Police were doing in their local area. 50% disagreed about feeling informed.

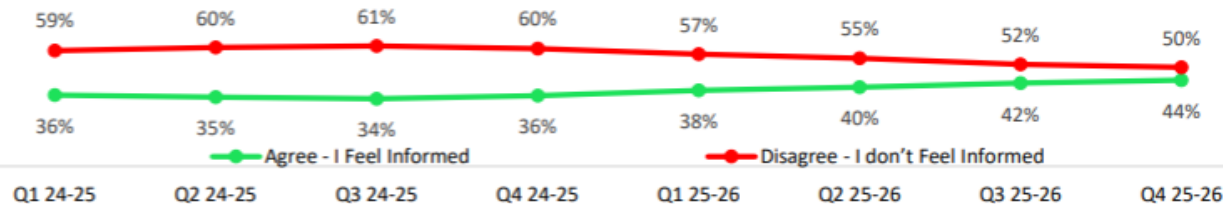
(Below) There is an upward trend in feeling informed over the last eight quarters (Rolling 12 months).

Communication



I Feel Informed
(Rolling 12 months)

Overall, how well informed do you feel about what Gwent Police is doing in your local area?



5. Perceptions Survey – Local Concerns and Confidence

Local Concerns

Percentage of people who feel Crime and ASB is a problem in their area



In the 12 months to Q4 2025-26, 50% of residents perceive crime and ASB to be a problem (12 month rolling quarterly trend above). This perception is at it's highest in Blaenau Gwent (where 70% agreed) and at it's lowest in Monmouthshire where 37% of respondents felt this way.

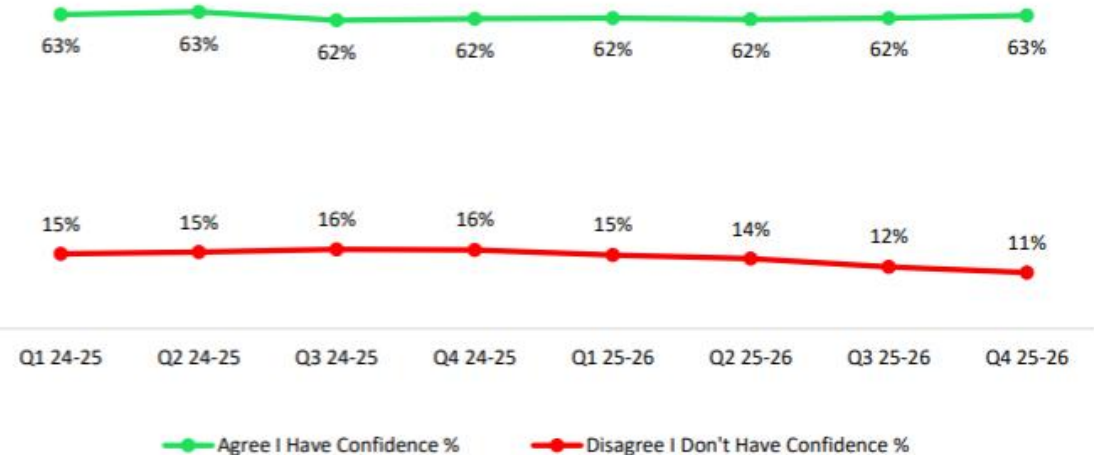
In the 12 months to Q4 2025-26, 26% of respondents said they felt unsafe at night (12 month rolling quarterly trend below). This perception is at it's highest in Blaenau Gwent (where 35% agreed) and at it's lowest in Monmouthshire where 18% of respondents felt this way.

How safe do you feel in your local area during the night?

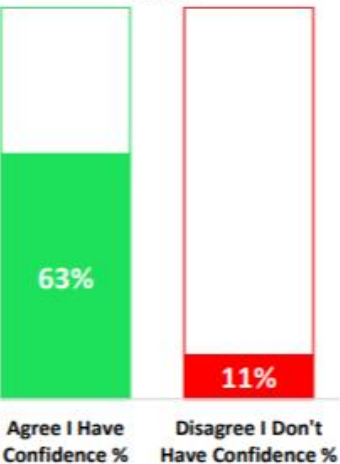


Overall Confidence

The final question in the survey asks: - Please say how much you agree or disagree with the following statement about the police in your local area: Taking everything into account I have confidence in the police in this area.

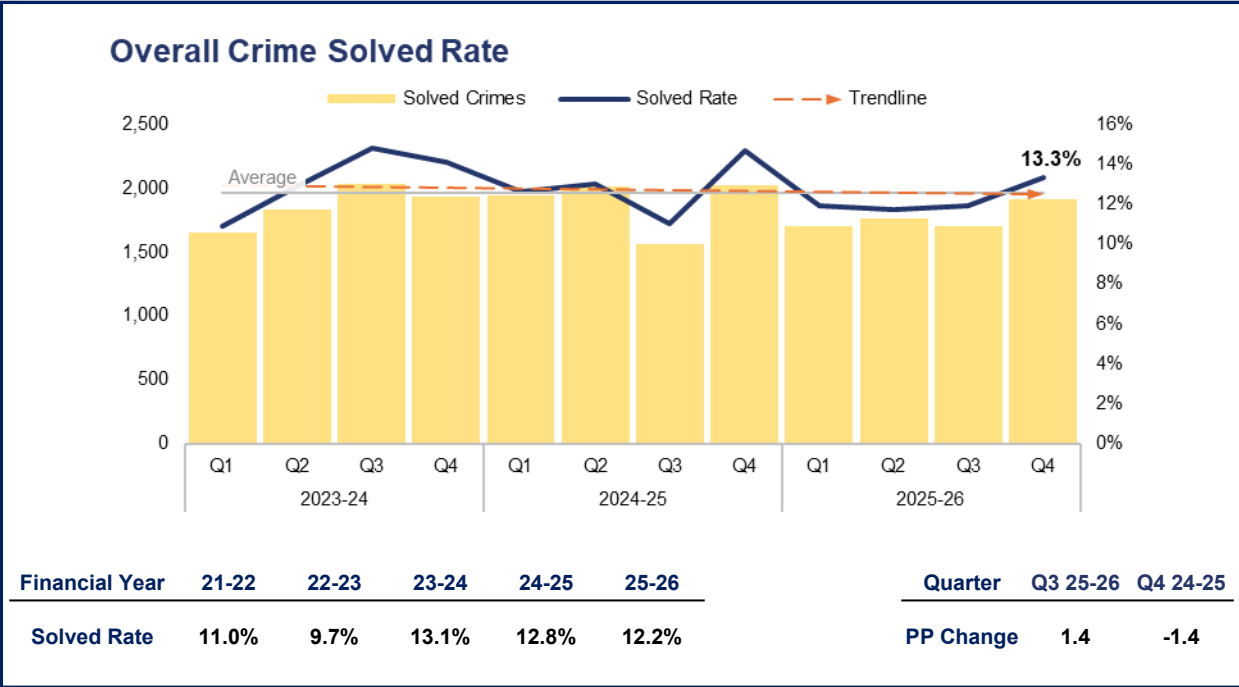
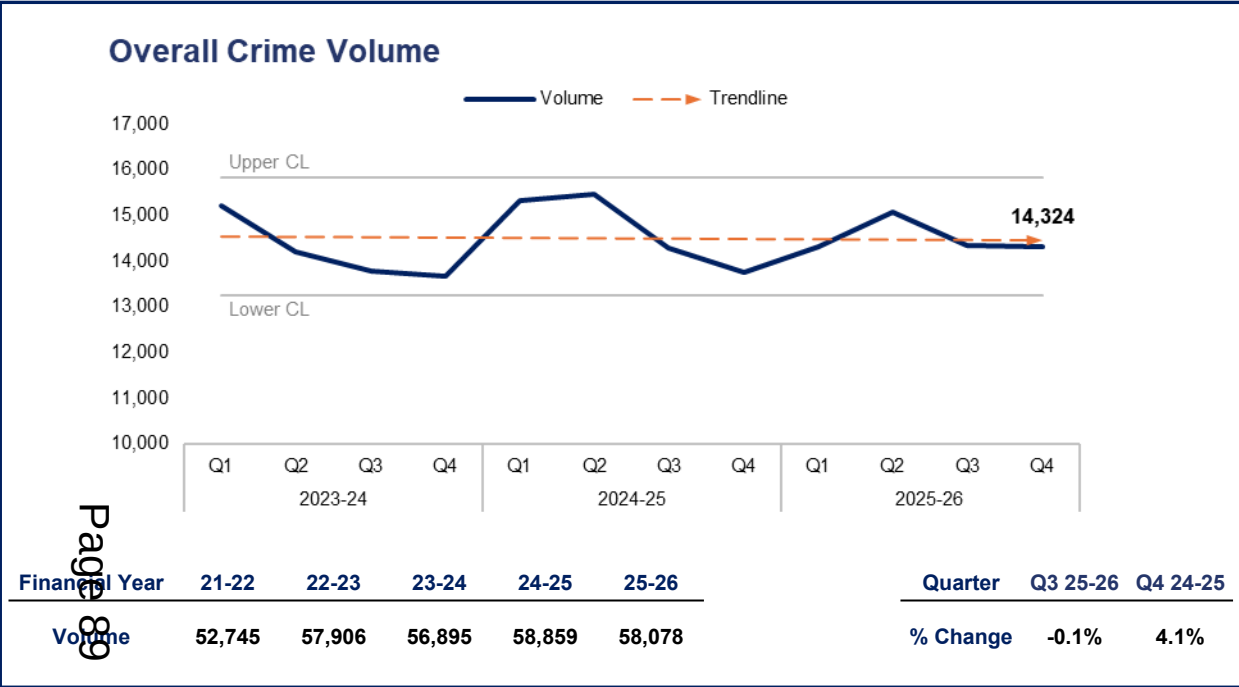


Rolling 12 months Confidence in Gwent Police



In the 12 months to Q4 2025-26, 63% of respondents said they agreed they had confidence in Gwent Police (Left). This perception is at it's highest in Torfaen (where 66% agreed) and at it's lowest in Blaenau Gwent where 55% of respondents felt this way. (Above) There is a downward trend in overall confidence in Gwent Police over the last eight quarters (Rolling 12 months to quarter).

6. Overall Crime

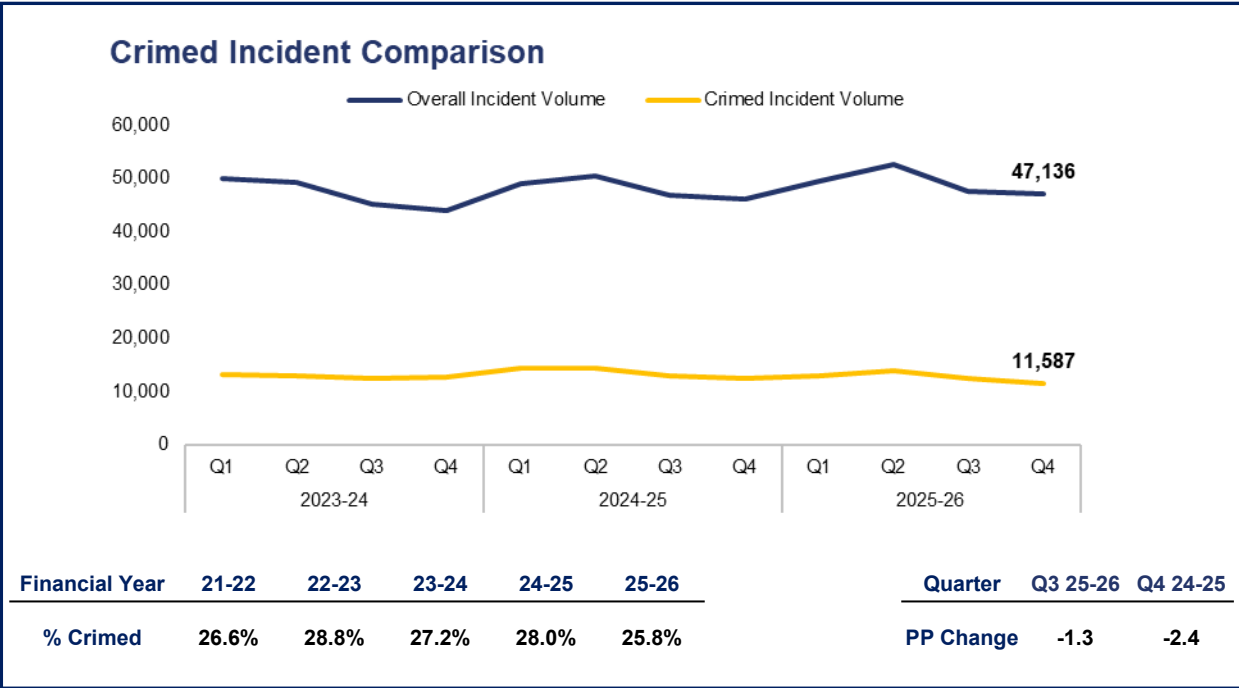
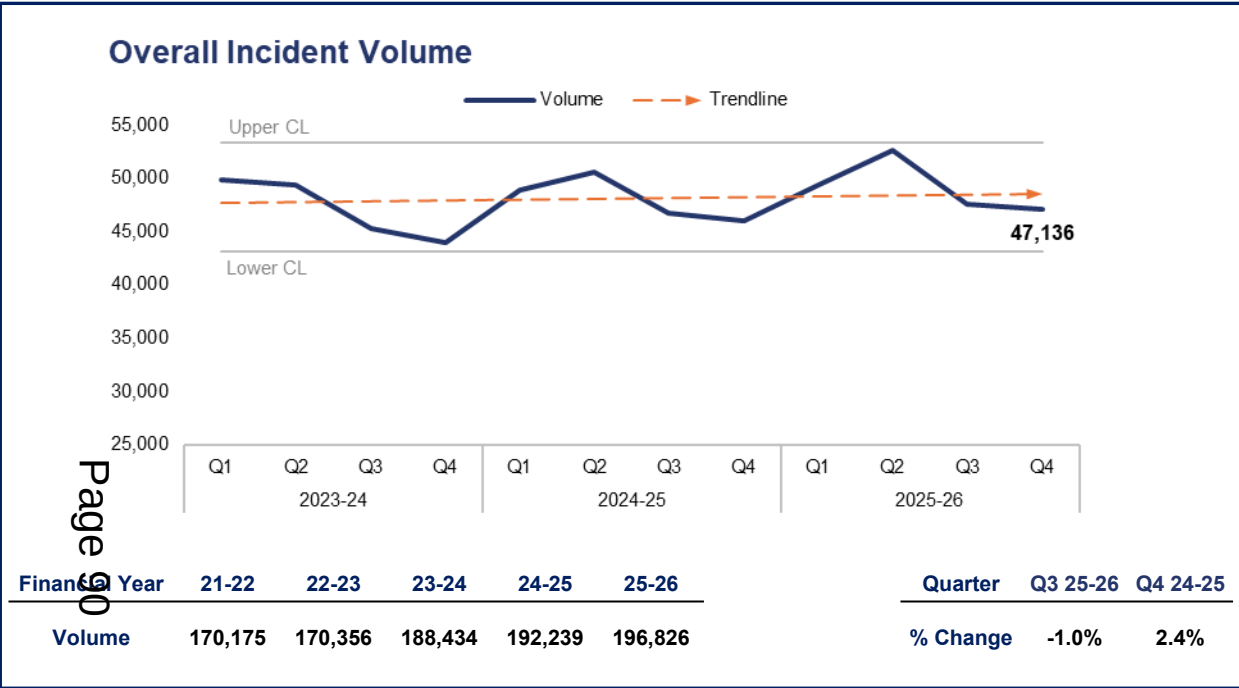


Operational Overview

Overall, 14,324 crimes were recorded in Gwent during Q4 2025-26. This represents a slight reduction of 0.1% (21 fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 4.1% (561 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The overall solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 13.3%, with 1,909 crimes solved. This is an increase of 1.4 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with 206 additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction of 1.4 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 110 fewer crimes solved.

7. Overall Incidents



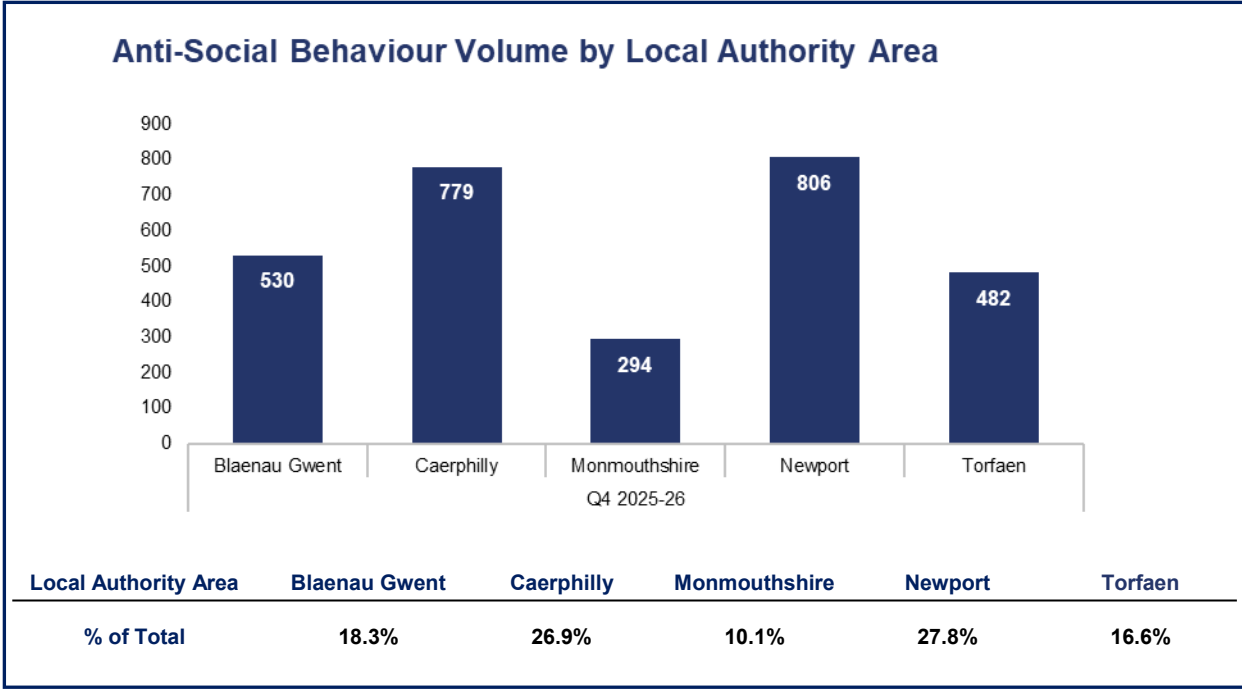
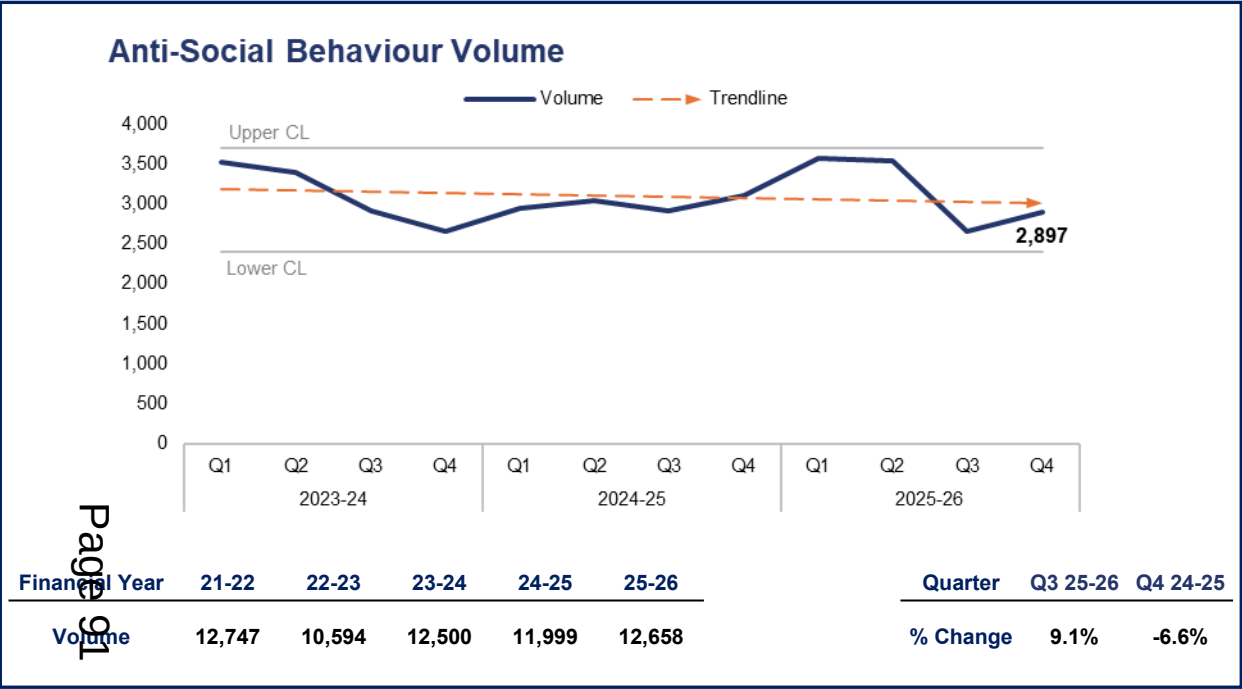
Operational Overview

Overall, 47,136 incidents were reported during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 1.0% (498 fewer incidents) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 2.4% (1,118 additional incidents) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

Of the 47,136 incidents reported during Q4 2025-26, 11,587 were assigned a crime category, or 'crimed'. This accounts for 24.6% of all incidents recorded during the quarter, representing a reduction of 1.3 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior. A further reduction of 2.4 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

Additional crimes can be created independently of incidents, accounting for the discrepancy between the number of crimed incidents and the overall crime volume for the quarter.

8. Anti-Social Behaviour



Operational Overview

A total of 2,897 incidents classified as Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) were reported during Q4 2025-26. This represents an increase of 9.1% (241 additional incidents) when compared to the quarter prior, but a reduction of 6.6% (206 fewer incidents) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The upper-right graph displays ASB incident volume during Q4 2025-26 by Local Authority Area. The highest volume of incidents were reported in Newport, accounting for 27.8% of the force-wide total with 806 incidents. Conversely, the lowest volume of incidents were reported in Monmouthshire, comprising 10.1% of the force-wide total with 294 incidents.

Dedicated patrols continue to take place throughout the 37 identified hot-spots in Gwent. By the end of Q4 2025-26, officers had undertaken 10,010 hours of dedicated overtime patrols in these areas, exceeding the requirement of 9,000 hours stipulated by the Home Office. Greater emphasis and resources were placed in and around town centre areas as part of the force's commitment to safer town centres within the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.

During Q4 2025-26, six ASB incidents were reported as having taken place outside of the force area, and have therefore been omitted from the Local Authority Area comparison.

9. Community Action Team

Community Action Team Activity – Q4 2025-26					
Metric	Abersychan & Blaenavon Team	Bargoed Team	Bettws Team	Ebbw Vale Team	Overall
Offences Recorded	22	25	34	44	125
Solved Rate	68.2%	28.0%	44.1%	34.1%	41.6%
Arrests Made	17	16	21	27	81
Stop Searches Performed	13	25	41	20	99
Vehicles Seized	4	15	11	9	39

Operational Overview

The Community Action Team (CAT) were deployed in Aberbargoed, Bettws, Ebbw Vale, and Llantarnam between October 2025 and February 2026. During February, the Aberbargoed team moved to Bargoed and the Llantarnam team moved to Abersychan & Blaenavon, with the Bettws and Ebbw Vale teams remaining in place. Across Q4 2025-26, the teams made a total of 81 arrests and seized 39 vehicles, primarily due to them being used or ridden in an anti-social manner. They also achieved a solved rate of 41.6% for crime investigations.

The teams continue to be well received by the communities of Gwent, as well as local councillors and stakeholders. They amplify their successes through posts on numerous social media platforms, which have gained significant positive traction online.

10. Preventing Crime and ASB – Emerging Issues

Operational Overview

The force completed and submitted its ASB Action Plan to the Home Office ahead of deadline in March 2026. The Plan encompasses closer working arrangements with community safety partners around key themes which include visibility, offender management, the use of ASB powers, youth intervention and prevention, application of innovative approaches and new technology, and the introduction of a new ASB risk assessment.

To address the topic of visibility, the force has introduced new IR3 telematics which will capture neighbourhood officer footfall, by hours, in both ward and town centre areas. This will then be monitored via monthly governance arrangements. The force has continued its investment in Newport through the night-time economy City Safe initiative. This includes additional and dedicated officers assigned to work Friday and Saturday evenings and nights. This initiative has been complemented by the introduction of Operation Vigilant, which involves the deployment of both overt and covert resources to the City Centre with the goal of identifying and addressing inappropriate sexualised behaviours. This supports the wider force approach to violence against women and girls.

The messaging alert system Neighbourhood Matters has now moved from its implementation phase to becoming business as usual. As of the end of Q4 2025-26 over 6,260 individuals were signed up to the platform, demonstrating continued growth.

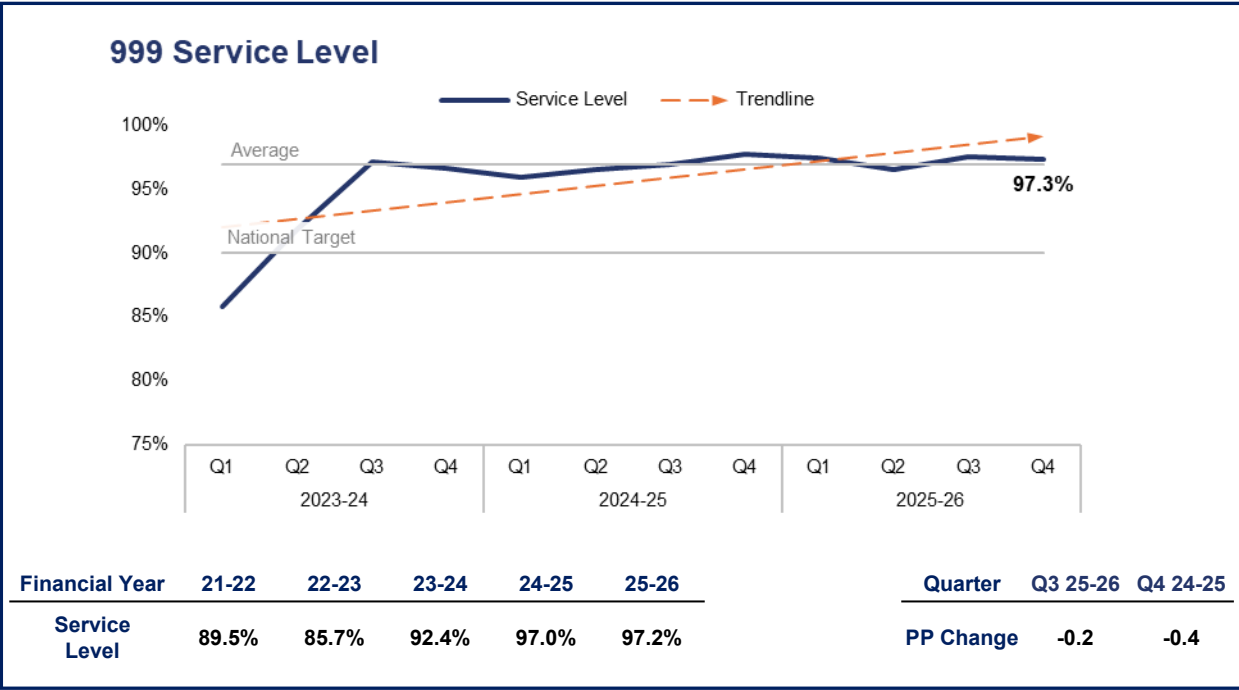
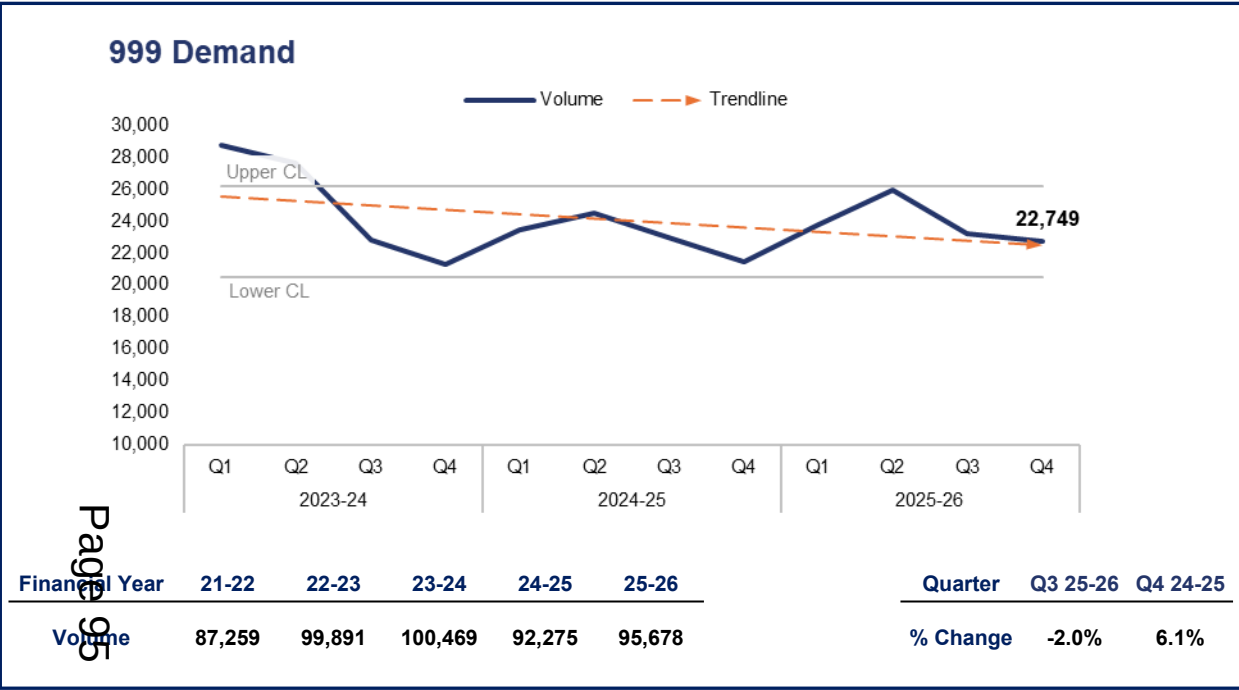
The number of school engagements undertaken as part of the Safer Schools Programme continued to increase during Q4 2025-26. A total of 1,554 engagements took place throughout the 242 schools within Gwent during this period, half of which were conducted in person.

The 'We Don't Buy Crime' team have been supporting their colleagues with numerous crime prevention activities and events during the quarter, including several bike marking schemes. They have also been engaging with rural communities via the rural crime team.

Pillar Two - Making Our Communities Safer

1. 999 Demand
2. 101 Demand
3. 999 and 101 Average Answer Speed
4. Response Times
5. Most Serious Violence
6. Serious Violence
7. Knife Crime
8. Overall Drug Offences
9. Drug Possession
10. Drug Supply
11. Shoplifting
12. Residential Burglary
13. Robbery
14. Theft from the Person
15. Making Our Communities Safer – Emerging Issues

1. 999 Demand

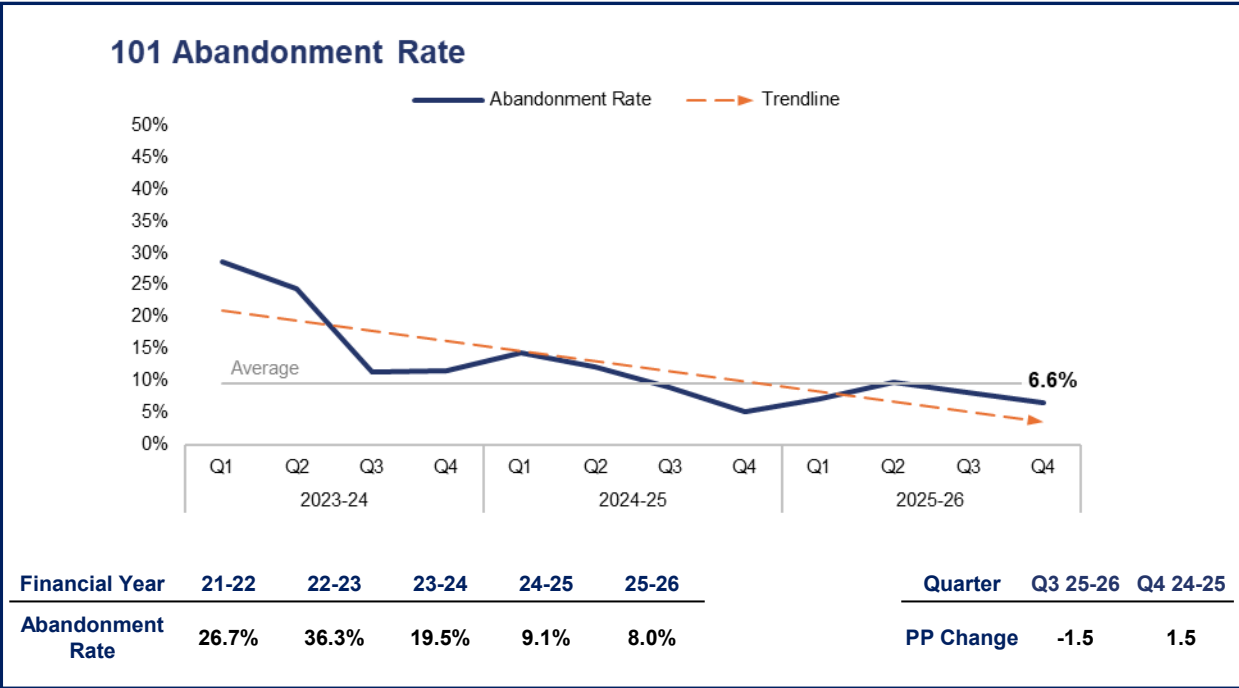
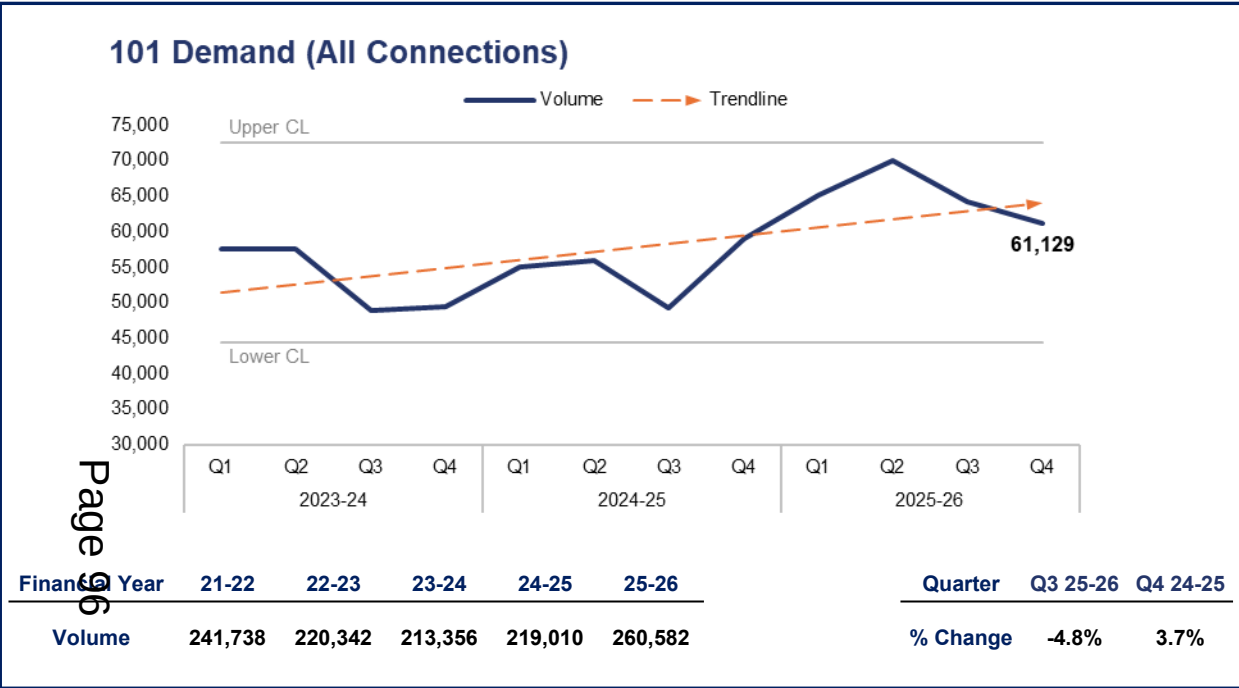


Operational Overview

999 demand has fallen by 2.0% during Q4 2025-26 when compared to the quarter prior, with 474 fewer calls received for a total of 22,749. Conversely, an increase of 6.1% (1,308 additional calls) can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

999 service level (the percentage of 999 calls answered within 10 seconds) stands at 97.3% for Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 0.2 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, and a further reduction 0.4 percentage points when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year. That said, 999 service level remains above the national target of 90%, as it has done for the last eleven consecutive quarters.

2. 101 Demand



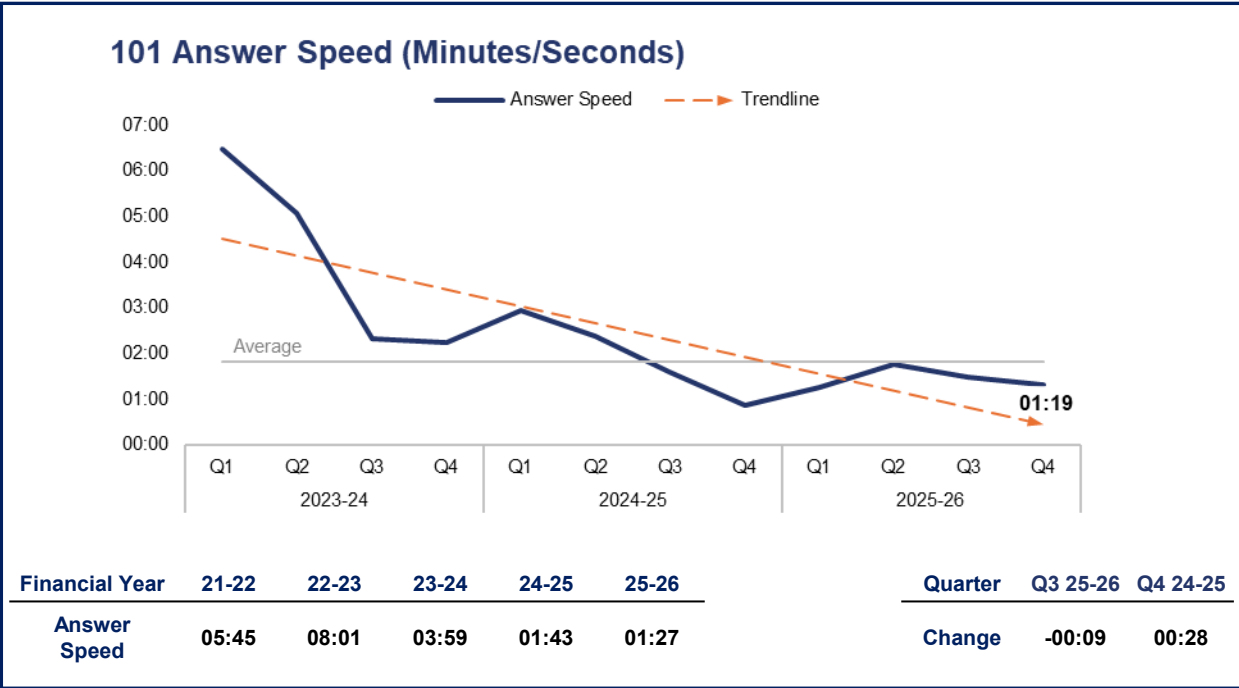
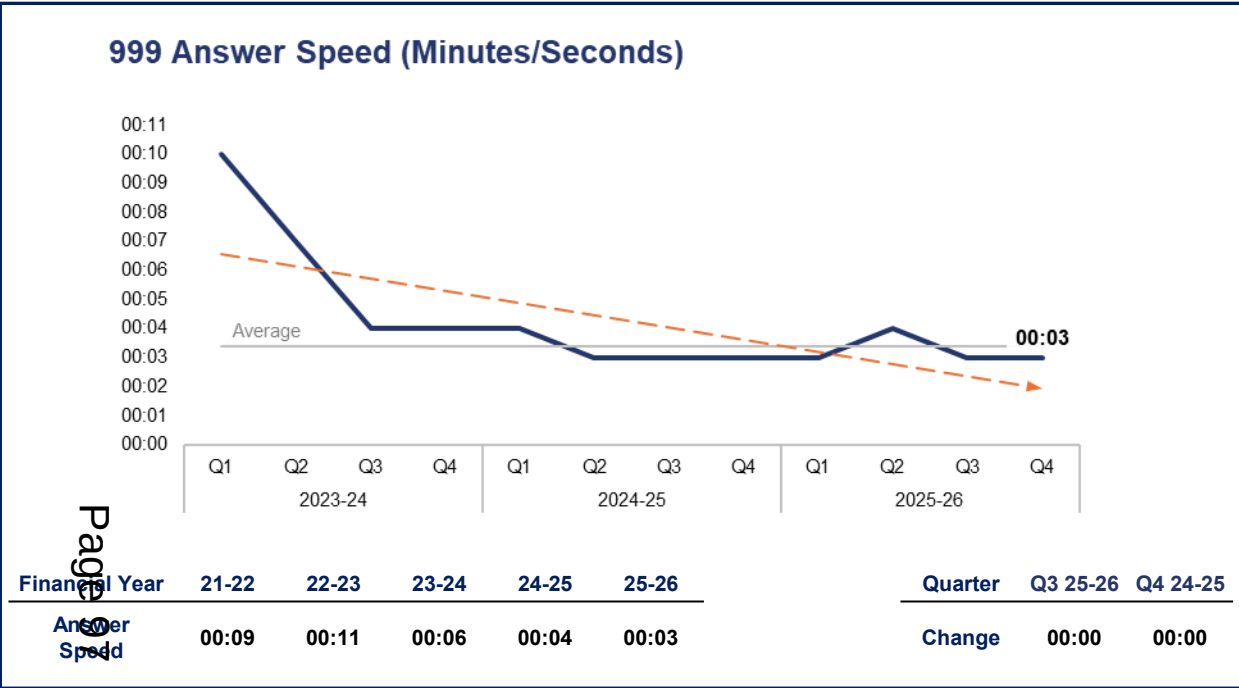
Operational Overview

101 demand (all connections) has fallen by 4.8% during Q4 2025-26 when compared to the quarter prior, with 3,102 fewer calls received for a total of 61,129. Conversely, an increase of 3.7% (2,179 additional calls) can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The abandonment rate for 101 calls during Q4 2025-26 was 6.6%. This is a reduction of 1.5 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 1.5 percentage points when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The 101 abandonment rate figure is calculated based on call options one and two only, which pertain to new incidents and incident updates respectively.

3. 999 and 101 Average Answer Speed



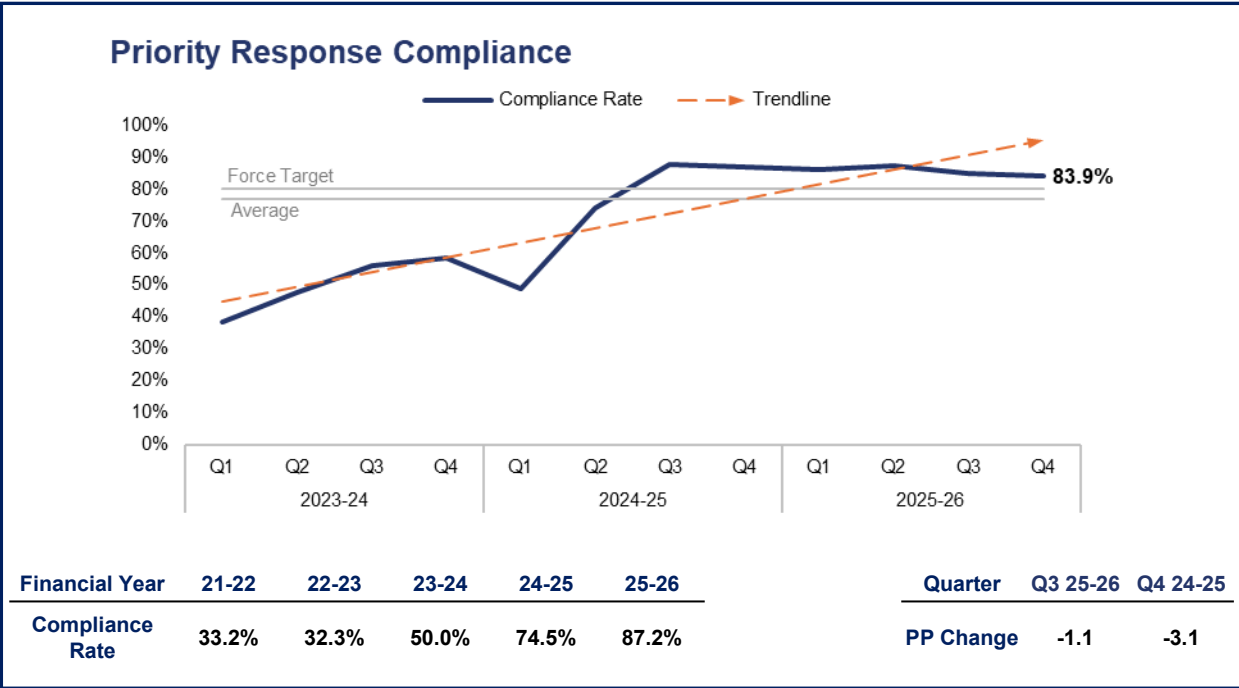
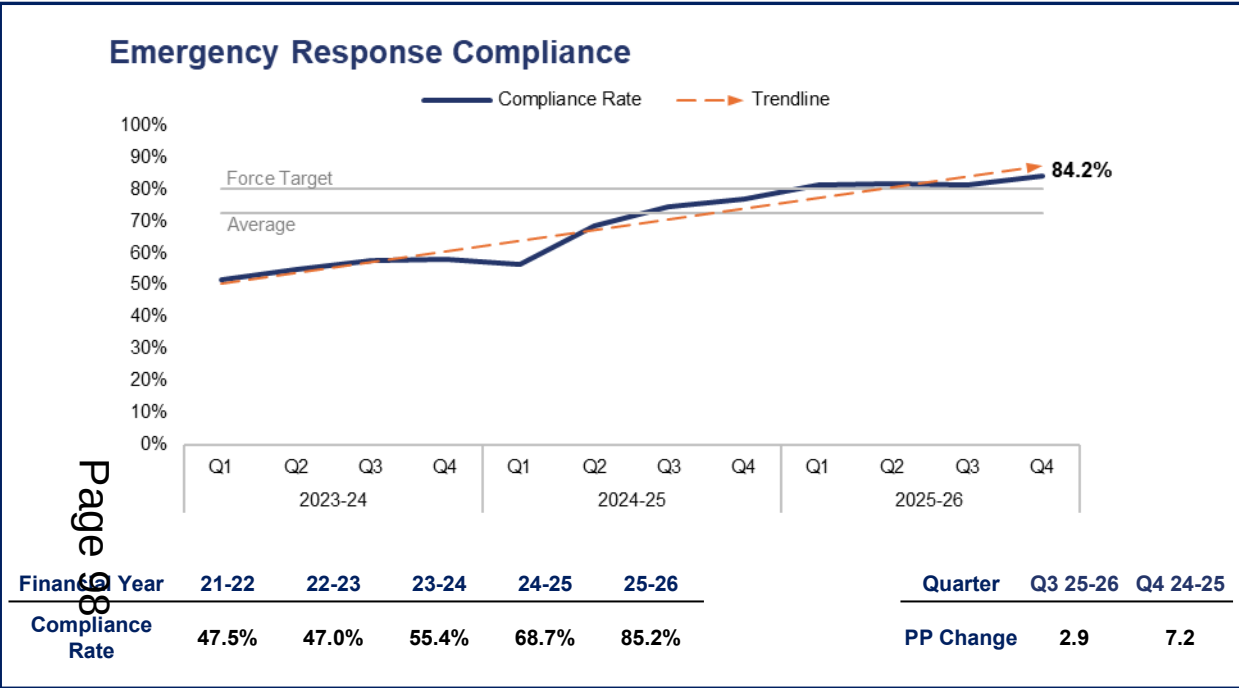
Operational Overview

The average answer speed for 999 calls during Q4 2025-26 was three seconds. This is equal to both the quarter prior and same quarter during the previous financial year.

The average answer speed for 101 calls during Q4 2025-26 was one minute and 19 seconds. This is a reduction of nine seconds when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 28 seconds when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The 101 average answer speed figure is calculated based on call options one and two only, which pertain to new incidents and incident updates respectively.

4. Response Times



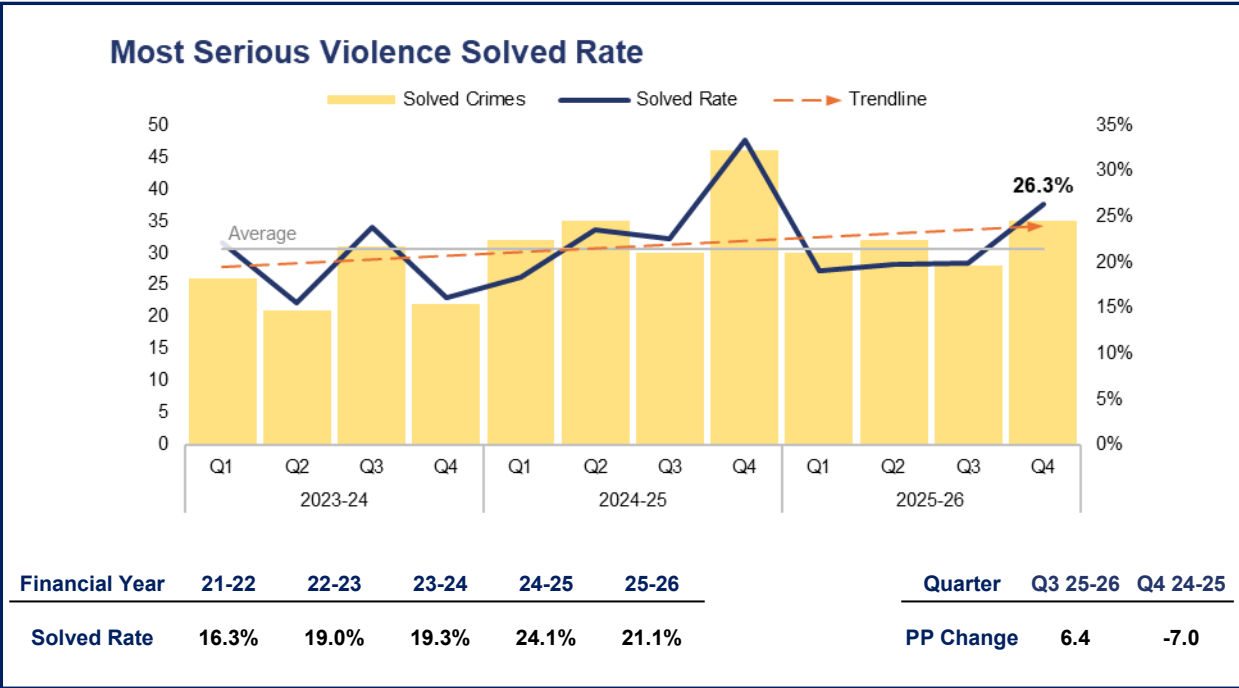
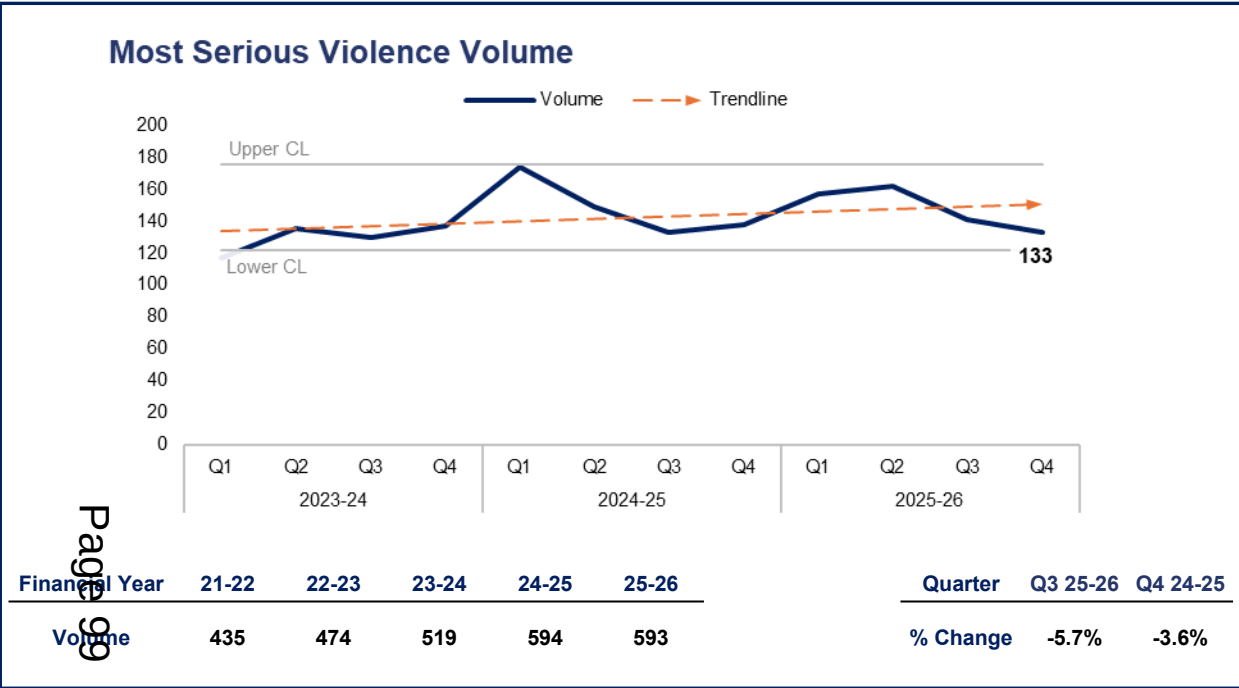
Operational Overview

Based on the target arrival time of 15 minutes, the emergency create-to-arrival compliance rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 84.2%. This is an increase of 2.9 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 7.2 percentage points when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year. The compliance rate has exceeded the force target of 80.0% for a fourth consecutive quarter.

Based on the target arrival time of 60 minutes, the priority create-to-arrival compliance rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 83.9%. This is a reduction of 1.1 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, and a further reduction of 3.1 percentage points when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year. Despite these reductions, the compliance rate has exceeded the force target of 80.0% for six consecutive quarters.

In this context, ‘create-to-arrival’ refers to the time elapsed between the creation of a Storm Log for a given incident, and the arrival of officers at the scene. The above figures include regraded incidents, in which the target response time has been amended based on the receipt of new information which has altered the risk assessment and therefore response grade of the incident in question. This includes instances where the risk has increased, thus the response grade has been elevated, and likewise instances where the risk has decreased. This increased accuracy has been facilitated by recent improvements in the force’s reporting systems.

5. Most Serious Violence



Operational Overview

A total of 133 crimes classified as Most Serious Violence were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 5.7% (eight fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a similar reduction of 3.6% (five fewer offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 26.3%, with 35 crimes solved. This is the second-highest solved rate within the three-year timeframe, representing an increase of 6.4 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with seven additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction of 7.0 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 11 fewer crimes solved.

The Homicide and Serious Violence meeting ensures appropriate oversight of investigations and is able to identify any changes in performance. Most Serious Violence is investigated by the Reactive Criminal Investigation Department (CID) who operate as part of the Crime Pillar. Scrutiny and the identification of patterns in offending allow for predicted demand analysis and the assignment of appropriate resources. The management and oversight of meetings has seen strong relationships forged between the three pillars, with problem solving plans devised to prevent and detect Most Serious Violence. The force tasking process and the Investigations Detective Chief Inspector ensure appropriate neighbourhood team ownership of emerging issues.

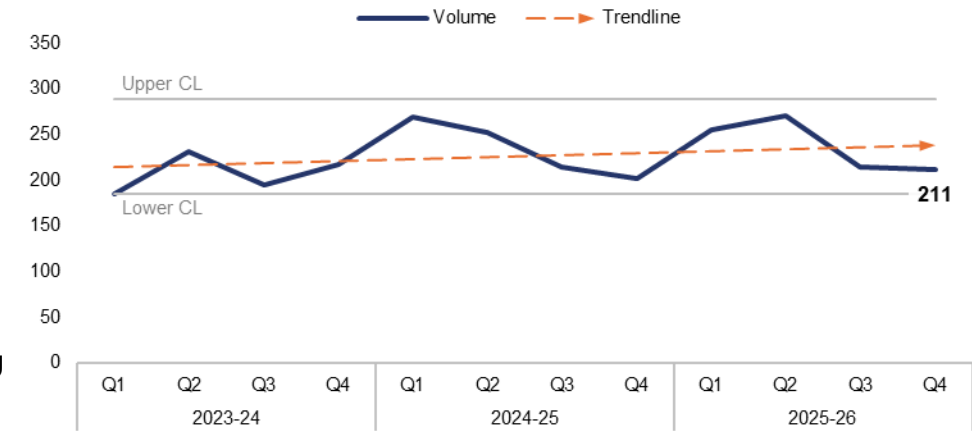
There were two homicide investigations during Q3 2025-26. One suspect has been convicted at court, offering a guilty plea, and the second has been charged, remanded, and is awaiting trial.

Most Serious Violence offences consist of homicide, grievous bodily harm with intent, and causing death by dangerous driving.

6. Serious Violence

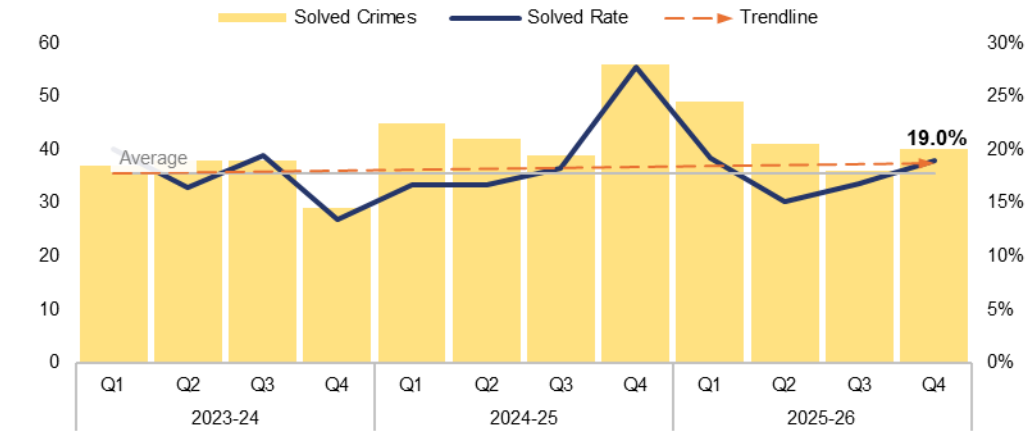
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Serious Violence Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	729	844	828	937	951	% Change	-1.4%	4.5%

Serious Violence Solved Rate



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	16.2%	15.6%	17.1%	19.4%	17.5%	PP Change	2.2	-8.7

Operational Overview

Overall, 211 crimes classified as Serious Violence were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 1.4% (three fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 4.5% (nine additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 19.0%, with 40 crimes solved. This is an increase of 2.2 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with four additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction 8.7 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 16 fewer crimes solved.

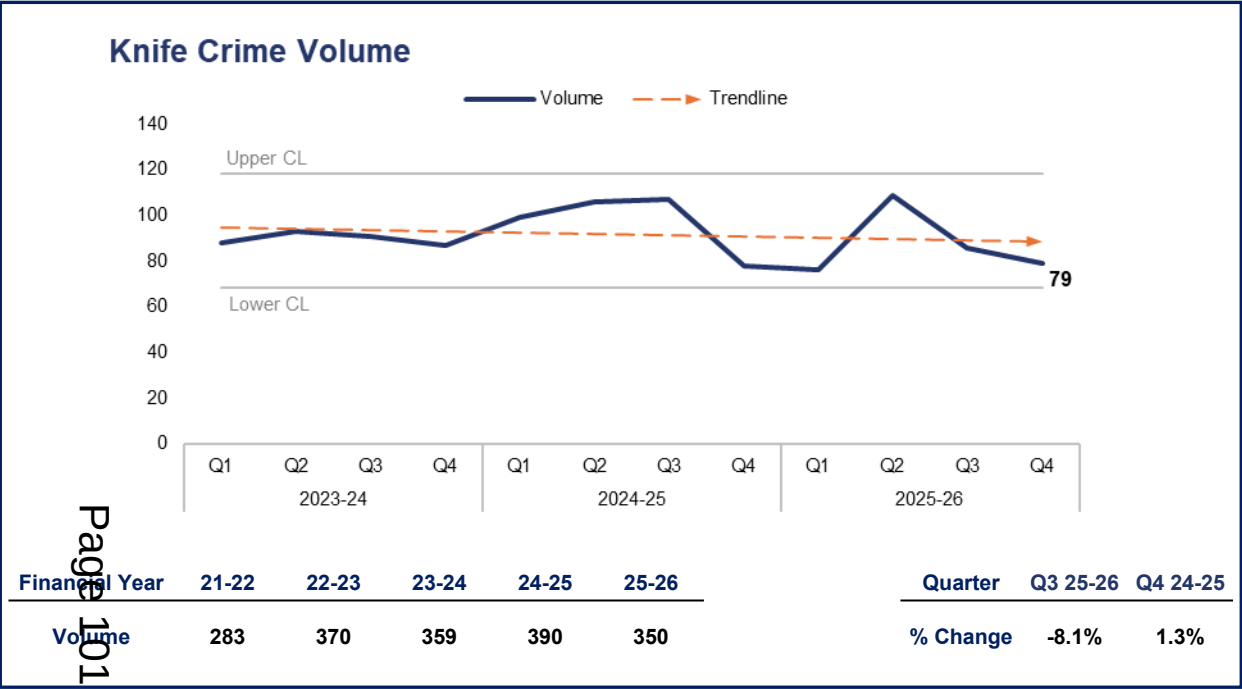
Serious Violence is discussed in the Homicide and Serious Violence meeting. Given the multifaceted nature of this offending, it also features in the Serious Organised Crime (SOC) meeting, in which Organised Crime Group (OCG) nominals involved in Serious Violence are identified in order to explore opportunities under a '4Ps' approach (Pursue, Prevent, Protect, and Prepare).

Funding provided by the Home Office to tackle county lines has been used to prevent Serious Violence and bring offenders to justice through proactive policing and partnership operations. Tarian have provided considerable support to tackle an OCG which used Serious Violence, leading to the arrest and conviction of offenders.

Services have been commissioned via Serious Violence Duty funding which aim to prevent violent crime and promote early intervention through the identification of effective local practices and prevention programmes. This is aligned to the government's Safer Streets mission, with interventions being delivered through the five Community Safety Partnerships.

Serious Violence offences consist of section 18 grievous bodily harm with intent, section 20 malicious wounding without intent, and personal robbery.

7. Knife Crime



Operational Overview

A total of 79 offences recorded during Q4 2025-26 were classified as knife crimes, as defined by the Home Office’s National Data Quality Improvement Service (NDQIS) reporting system. This represents a reduction of 8.1% (seven fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but a slight increase of 1.3% (one additional offence) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The force continually encourages the appropriate use of stop and search as a proactive tactic to limit access to knives for criminals. Appropriate performance and oversight meetings ensure that stop and search is used proportionately, with accurate and reliable grounds for each search recorded. Disproportionality is also considered to ensure an equitable policing response.

SOC profiles are used to identify the top three wards in each local authority area based on Crime Severity Score. Within these wards, knife crimes and those linked to SOC have been highlighted and are discussed at the SOC partnership meetings.

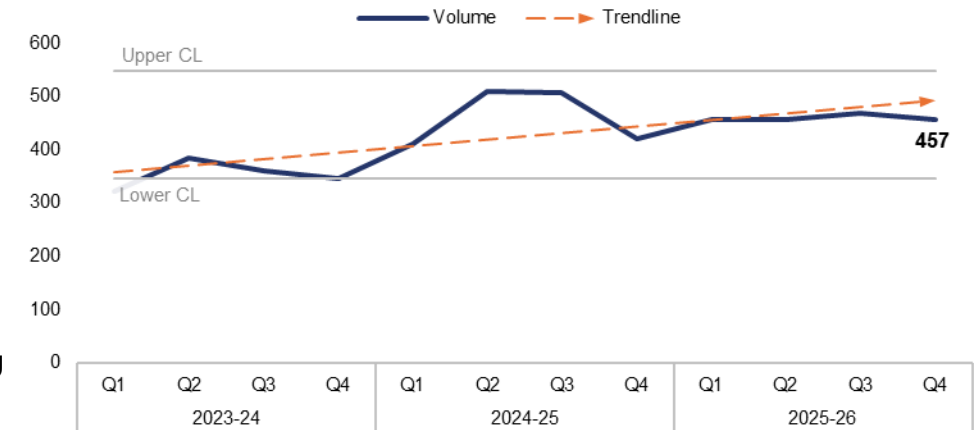
County Lines Intensification Week took place during Q4 2025-26, targeting individuals involved in organised crime, the exploitation of vulnerable people, and the use of violence. As part of this operation, 10 individuals were arrested, 12 people were safeguarded, and three knives were recovered.

In accordance with NDQIS reporting criteria, Possession of a Weapon and Homicide offences have been excluded from this dataset.

8. Overall Drug Offences

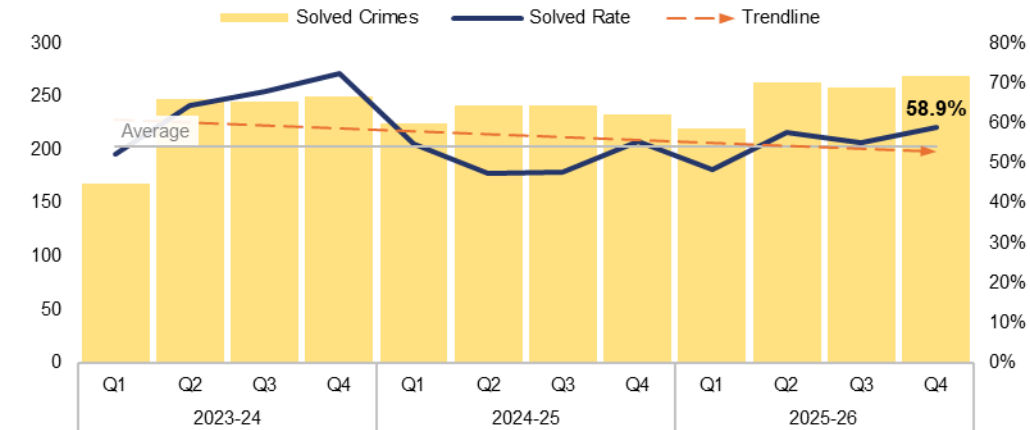
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Overall Drug Offences Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	1,328	1,296	1,412	1,846	1,838	% Change	-2.4%	8.8%

Overall Drug Offences Solved Rate



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	67.6%	54.6%	64.5%	50.9%	55.0%	PP Change	3.8	3.4

Operational Overview

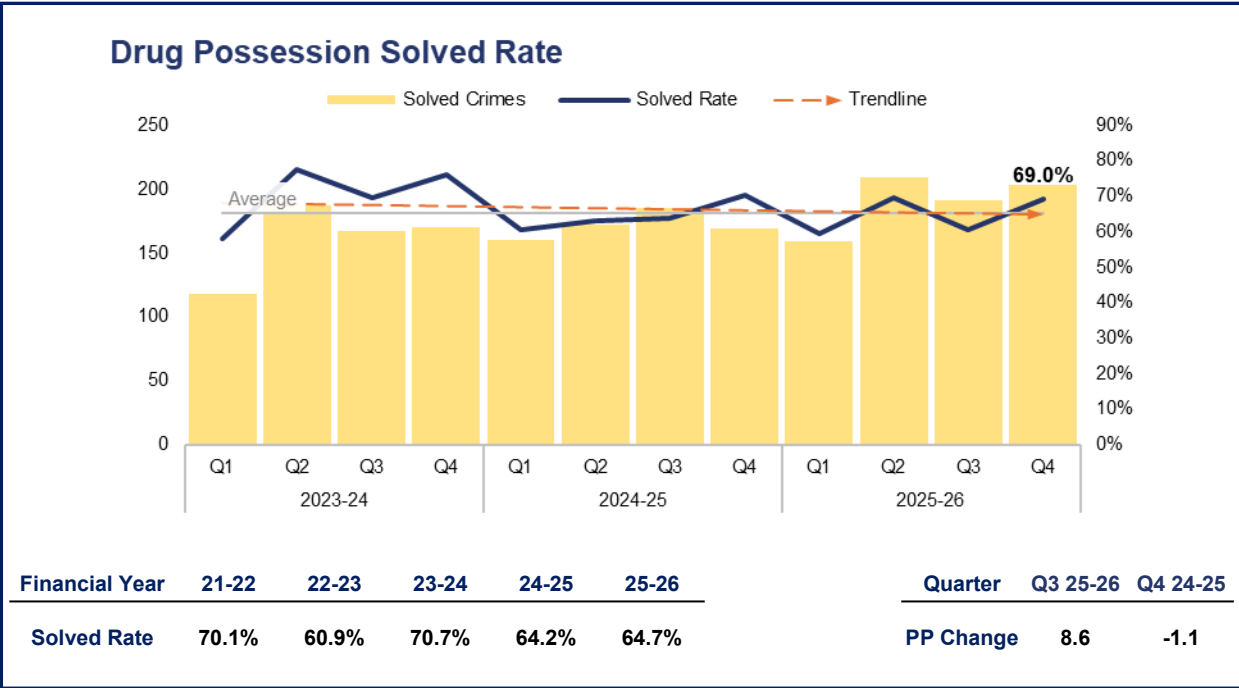
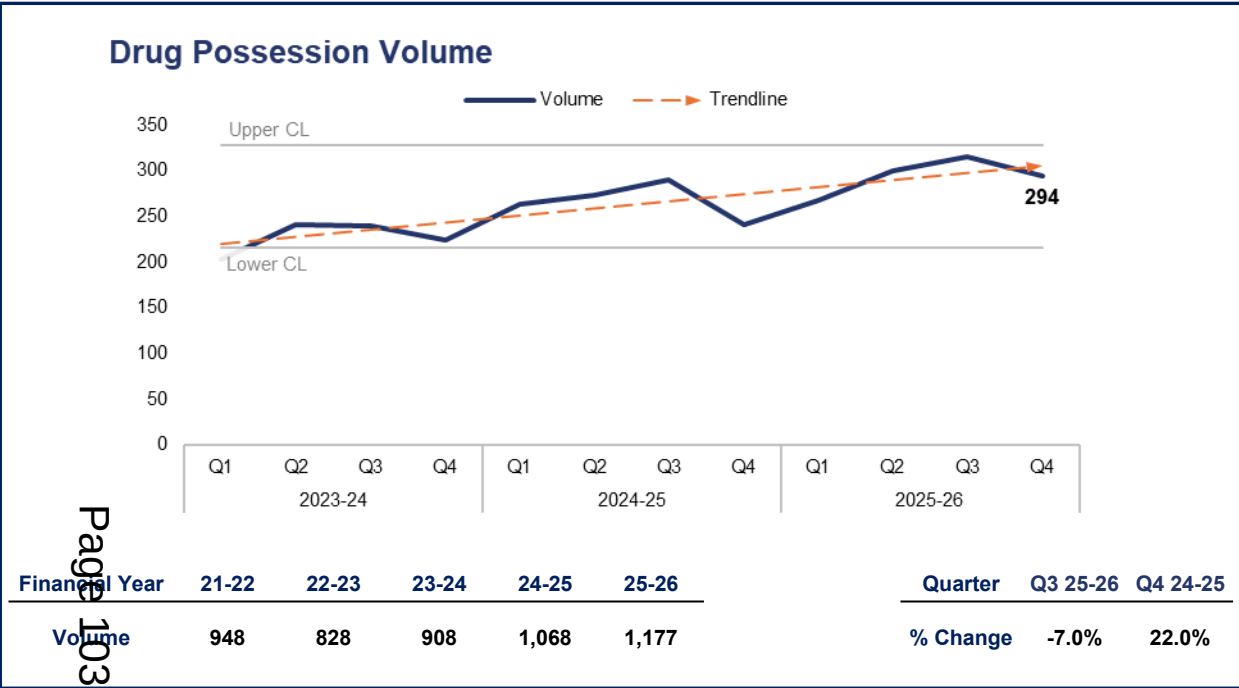
Overall, 457 crimes classified as Drug Offences were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 2.4% (11 fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 8.8% (37 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 58.9%, with 269 crimes solved. This is an increase of 3.8 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with 11 additional crimes solved. A similar increase of 3.4 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 36 additional crimes solved.

The number of offences relating to the importation of drugs has risen by 14.6% (six additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, for a total of 47.

New processes have been implemented by Gwent Police to manage drug importation offences. These offences saw an increase due to an international rise in the use of the fast parcel service to import drugs, particularly from areas which have legalised cannabis. The processes provide effective management of importations, with a focus on disruption to prevent further offending.

9. Drug Possession



Operational Overview

A total of 294 drug possession offences were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 7.0% (22 fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but a significant increase of 22.0% (53 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 69.0%, with 203 crimes solved. This is an increase of 8.6 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with 12 additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction of 1.1 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, albeit with 34 additional crimes solved.

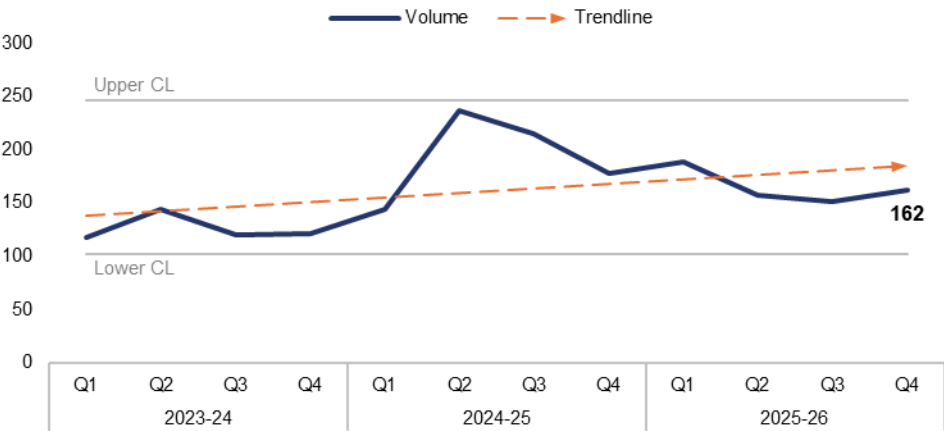
The force has significantly improved its proactive approach to tackling drug supply and use within local communities. Progress is monitored monthly at the force SOC meeting via the Agency and Partner Management Information System, which records disruption activity for each team. The rise in recorded drug possession offences directly corresponds with the increase in these disruption activities.

This slide pertains to possession offences for all controlled drugs, including Cannabis.

10. Drug Supply

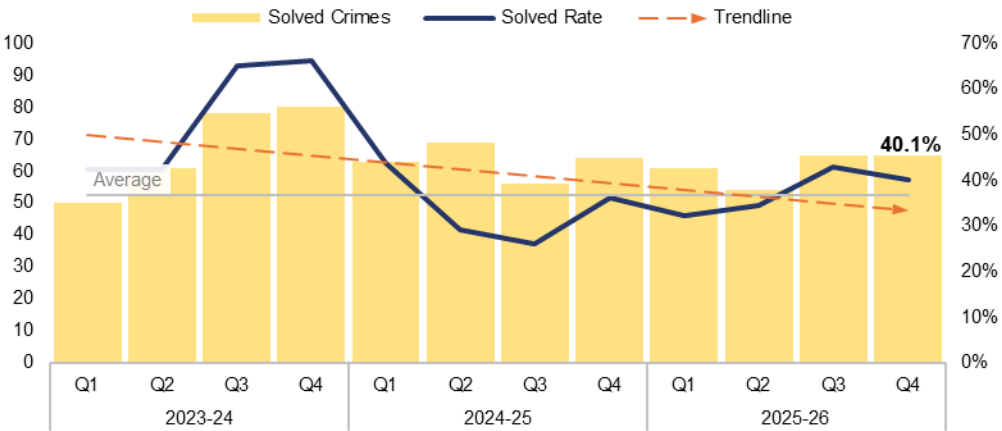
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Drug Supply Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	378	461	503	774	659	% Change	7.3%	-9.0%

Drug Supply Solved Rate



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	61.4%	43.4%	53.5%	32.6%	37.2%	PP Change	-2.9	4.1

Operational Overview

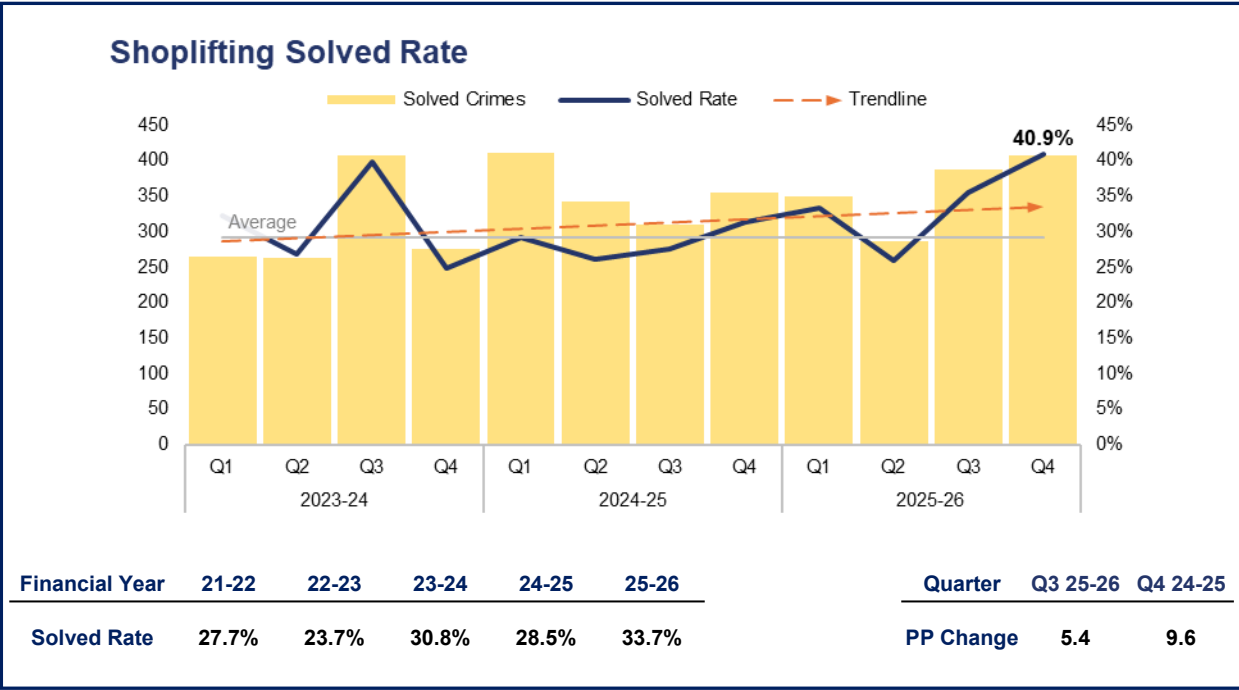
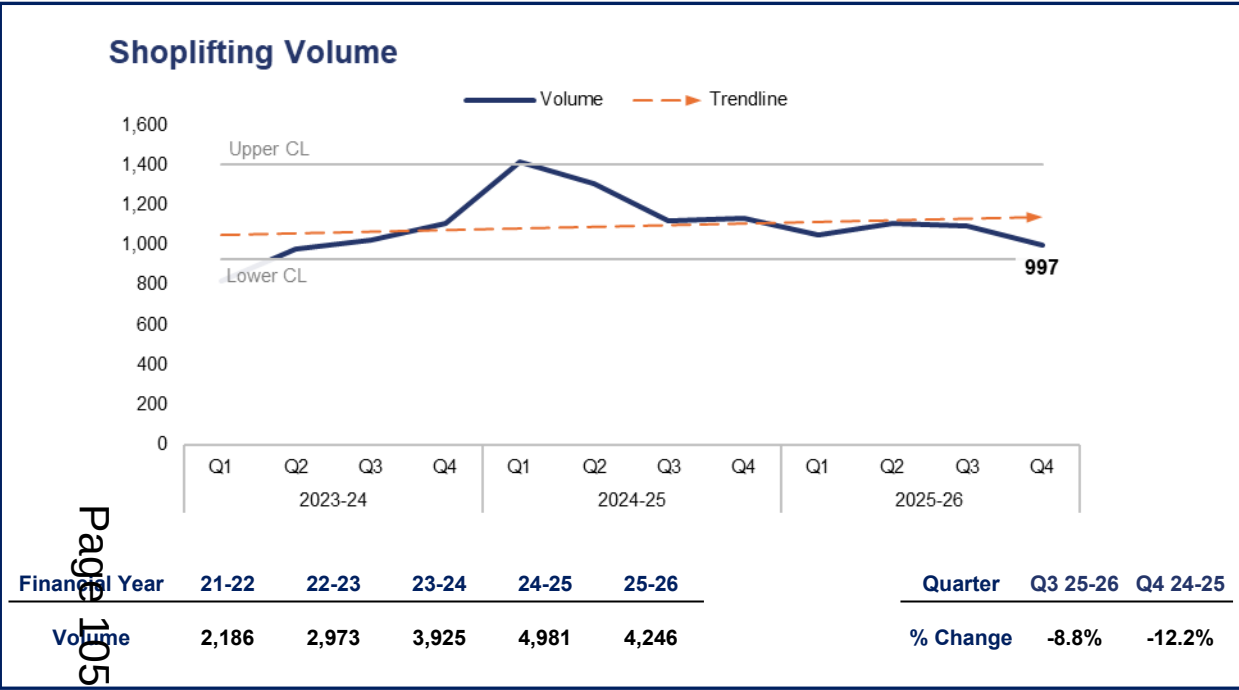
Overall, 162 drug supply offences were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents an increase of 7.3% (11 additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but a reduction of 9.0% (16 fewer offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 40.1%, with 65 crimes solved. This is a reduction of 2.9 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, albeit with an equal number of crimes solved. An increase of 4.1 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with one additional crime solved.

The force has made significant arrests and secured substantial drug seizures linked to the highest-harm and highest-threat OCGs in the area. These targeted, intelligence-led operations have resulted in several individuals being remanded in custody, awaiting trial. Collectively, this activity has had a meaningful impact on disrupting organised crime across Gwent.

This slide includes all offences pertaining to the supply, importation, or production of controlled drugs.

11. Shoplifting



Operational Overview

During Q4 2025-26, 997 Shoplifting offences were recorded. This represents a reduction of 8.8% (96 fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further reduction of 12.2% (138 fewer offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

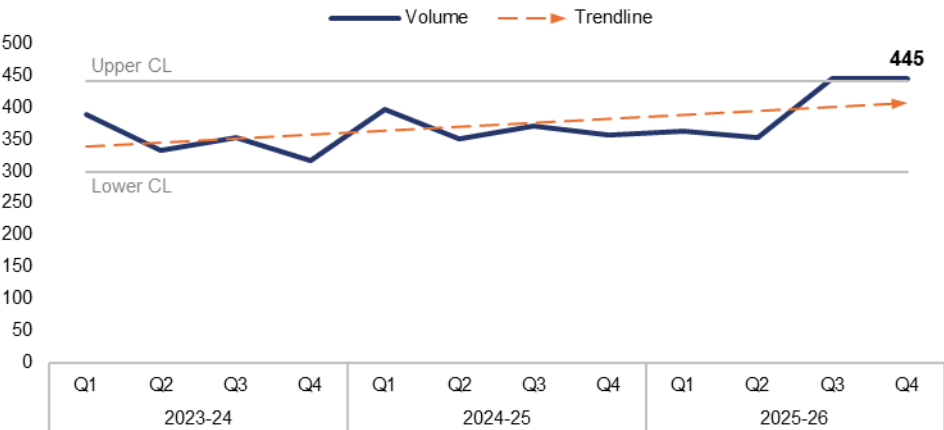
The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 40.9%, with 408 crimes solved. This is the highest quarterly solved rate within the three-year timeframe, representing an increase of 5.4 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with 20 additional crimes solved. A further increase of 9.6 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 53 additional crimes solved.

The force continues to focus on retail crime and maintains several Problem-Orientated Policing plans in town centre areas where shoplifting has been identified as adversely impacting crime levels and quality of life for retailers and the wider community. The introduction of dedicated demand reduction officers has placed specific emphasis on prolific offender management and ensuring that they work closely alongside Crime and Disorder Reduction Officers in securing Criminal Behaviour Orders, which are used to manage these individuals post charge/conviction.

12. Residential Burglary

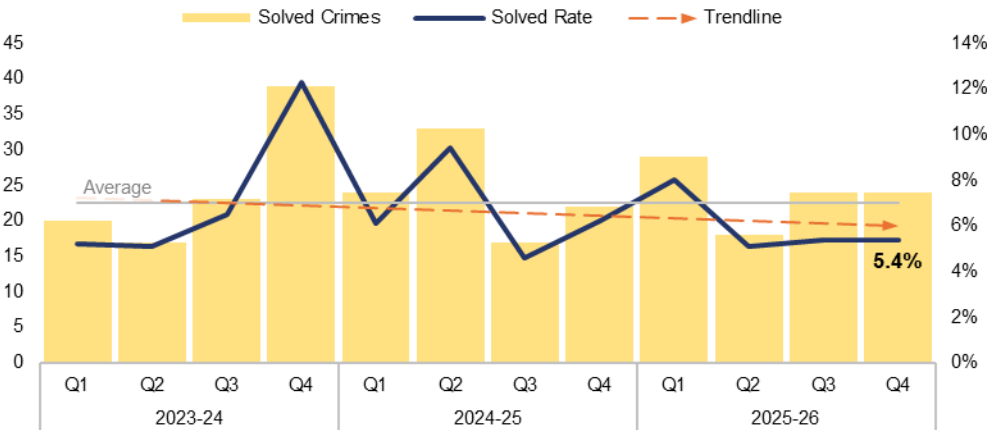
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Residential Burglary Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	1,755	1,615	1,389	1,473	1,605	% Change	0.0%	25.0%

Residential Burglary Solved Rate



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	6.3%	5.1%	7.1%	6.5%	5.9%	PP Change	0.0	-0.8

Operational Overview

The volume of Residential Burglary offences exceeded the upper control limit during Q4 2025-26 for a second consecutive quarter, with 445 crimes recorded. This is the joint-highest quarterly figure within the three-year timeframe, equal to the quarter prior, and represents an increase of 25.0% (89 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

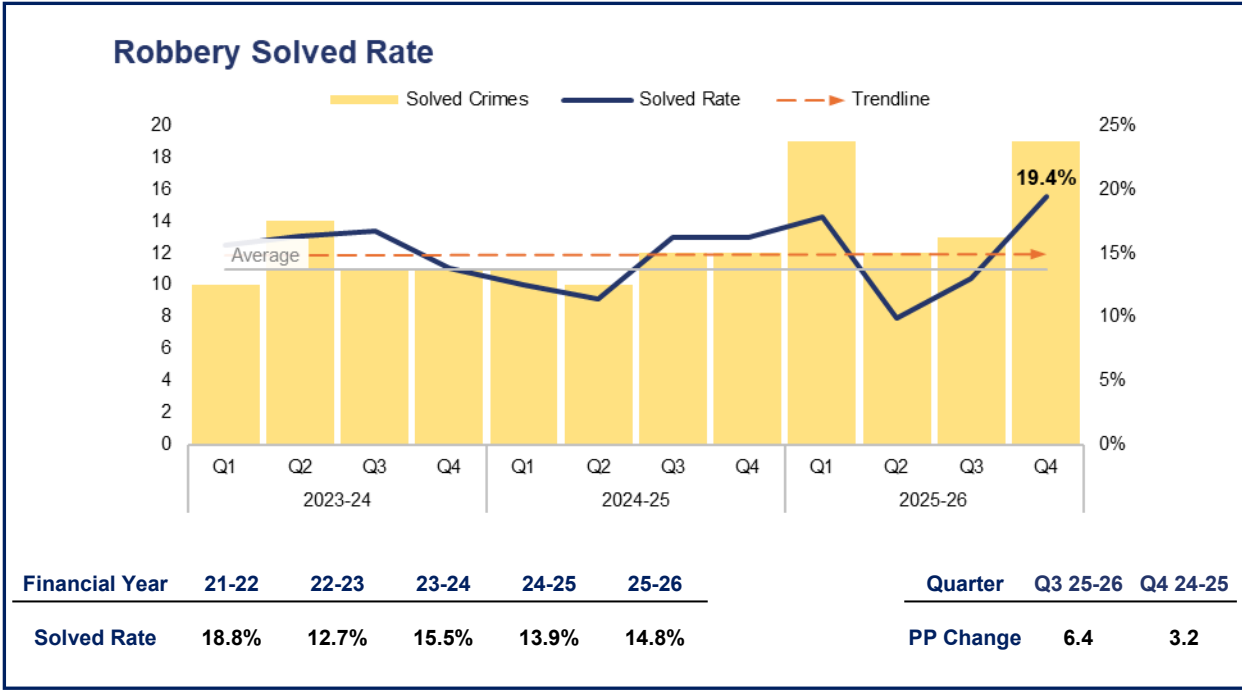
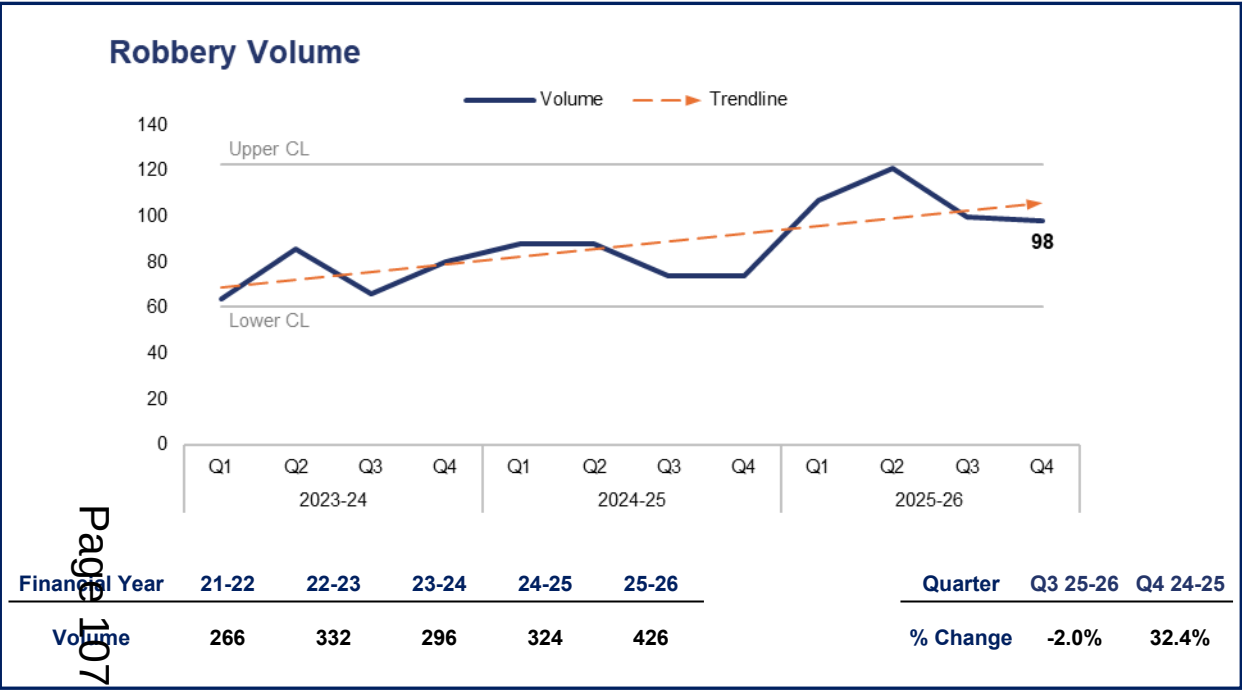
The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 5.4%, with 24 crimes solved. This is again equal to the quarter prior, in terms of both solved rate and the number of crimes solved. A reduction of 0.8 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, albeit with two additional crimes solved.

During Q4 2025-26, 88.8% of Residential Burglary of a Home incidents were attended by officers, with 49.7% of these attended within 60 minutes.

There is a notable disparity in solved rate between crimes classified as residential burglaries of homes and those classified as residential burglaries of unconnected buildings. The solved rate for residential burglaries of homes stands at 7.6% for the financial year, whereas the solved rate for residential burglaries of unconnected buildings is lower, at 2.1%.

The last two quarters of the 2025-26 financial year have seen established practice being adopted by Reactive CID to ensure that all dwelling burglary offences are identified on a daily basis. This allows ownership decisions to be made swiftly, whereas previously delays in this area could hamstring the policing response. Initial indications show that this has resulted in better identification of these offences, and their subsequent ownership by CID resources.

13. Robbery



Operational Overview

A total of 98 Robbery offences were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 2.0% (two fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but a significant increase of 32.4% (24 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 19.4%, with 19 crimes solved. This is the highest quarterly solved rate within the three-year timeframe, representing an increase of 6.4 percentage points when compared the the quarter prior, with six additional crimes solved. A less prominent increase of 3.2 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with seven additional crimes solved.

Offences pertaining to the robbery of personal property comprise 77.0% of those recorded during the financial year (328 offences). Robbery of business property offences account for the remaining 23.0% (98 offences). The solved rate for the former stands at 11.0% (36 crimes solved), whereas the solved rate for the latter is higher at 27.6% (27 crimes solved).

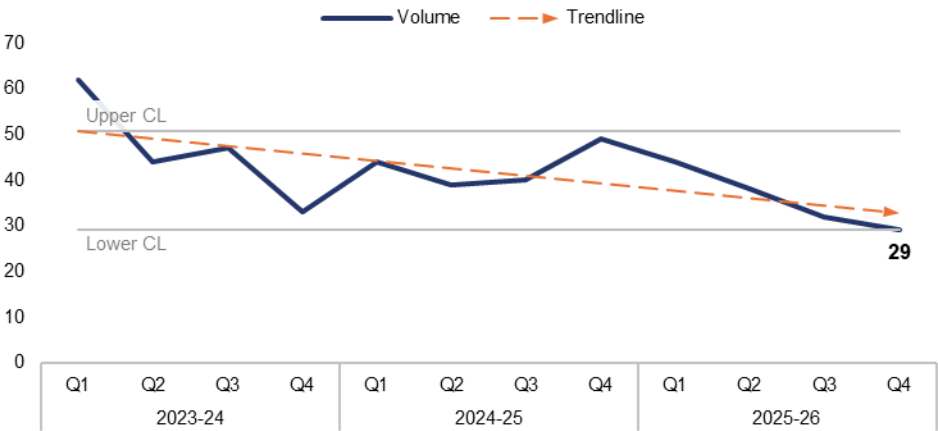
Force-wide performance regarding Robbery is tracked in the Homicide and Serious Violence Meeting. This highlights specific areas of concern and allows for the effective tasking of specialist resources to problem-solve and robustly investigate these offences. A daily process run by the CID ensures that all Robbery offences are correctly identified and owned by the appropriate investigative team. This is further supported by Level 1 tasking, where multiple departments come together to problem-solve any ongoing series of offences.

The data on this slide includes both personal and business Robbery offences.

14. Theft from the Person

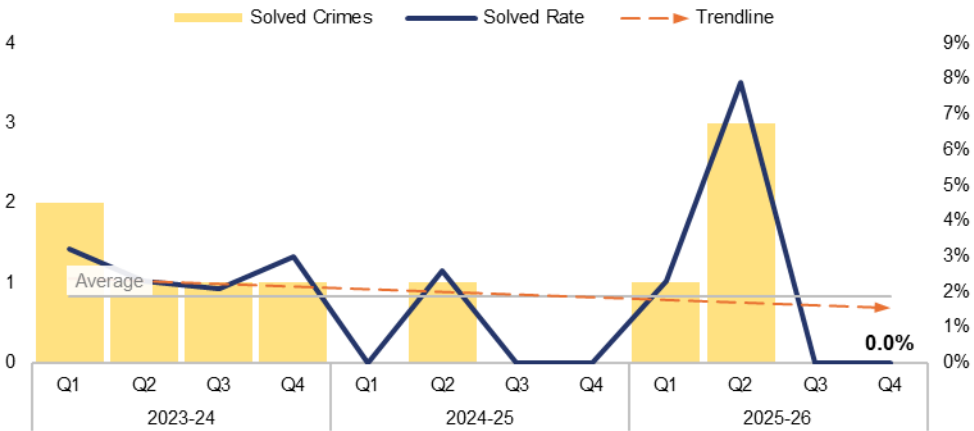
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Theft from the Person Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	166	207	186	172	143	% Change	-9.4%	-40.8%

Theft from the Person Solved Rate



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	5.4%	0.5%	2.7%	0.6%	2.8%	PP Change	0.0	0.0

Operational Overview

Theft from the Person offences fell below the lower control limit during Q4 2025-26, with 29 crimes recorded. This represents a reduction of 9.4% (three fewer offences) when compared to quarter prior, and a significant reduction of 40.8% (20 fewer offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 0.0%, with no crimes solved. This is equal to both the quarter prior and the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The majority of the outcomes recorded for Theft from the Person offences during Q4 2025-26 were classified as Outcome 18: Investigation complete – no suspect identified. This is likely due in part to the nature of these offences, which include pickpocketing and ‘snatch thefts’, in which the victim typically has very little (if any) direct interaction with the offender.

15. Making our Communities Safer – Emerging Issues

Operational Overview

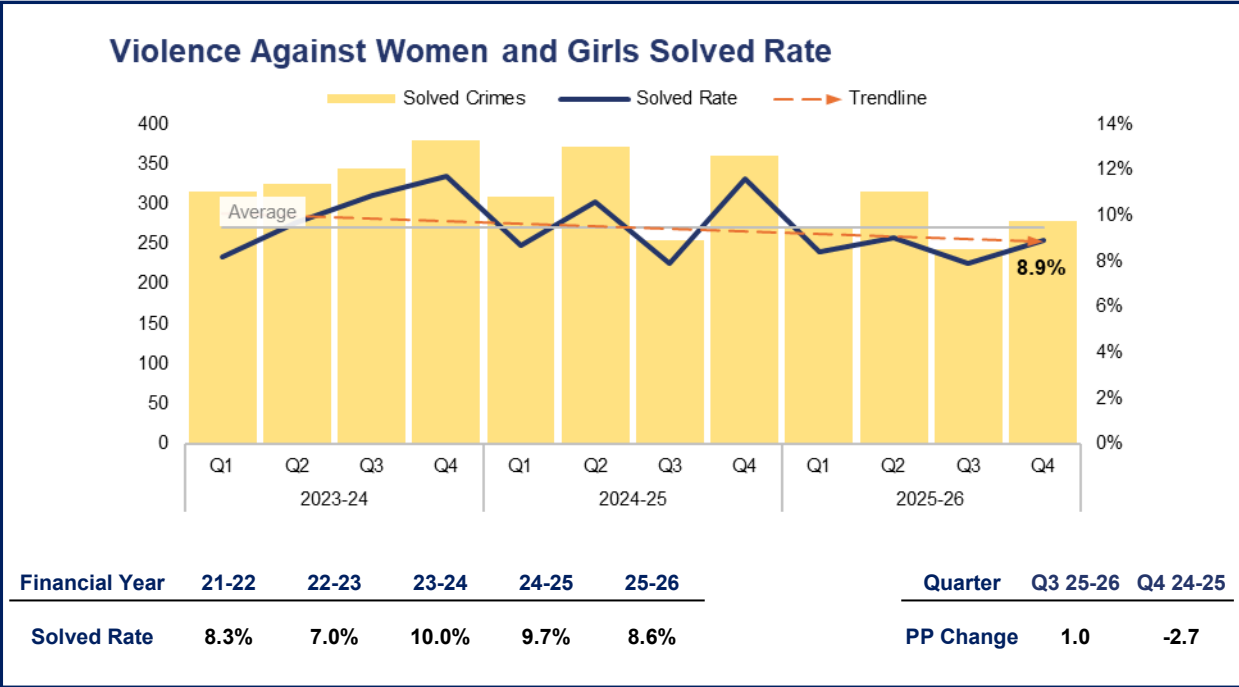
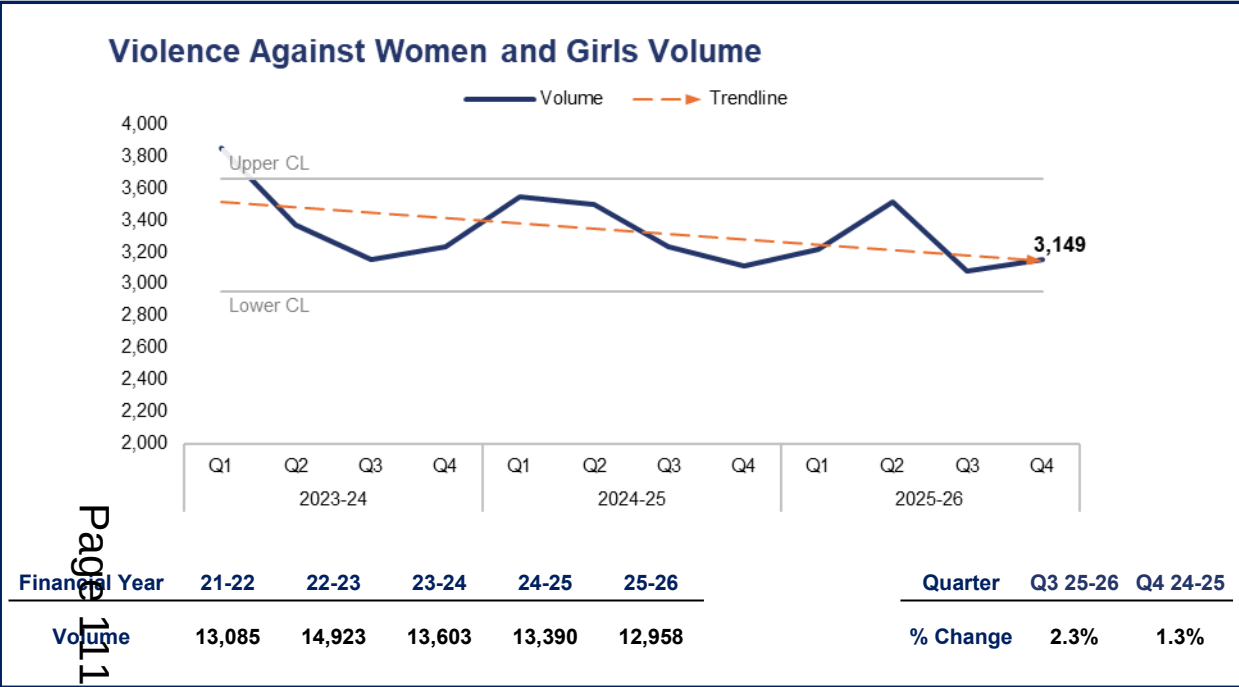
The continued use of electric bikes and scooters for criminal and ASB purposes presents a significant demand for neighbourhood policing teams, but this is a challenge which the teams are keen to meet head-on. There has been considerable success throughout Q4 2025-26 in relation to seizures and subsequent criminal investigations undertaken by both neighbourhood and CAT officers, which has been shared widely via social media platforms. The force utilises a suite of tactics to address this issue, including the increasing use of drones and fixed wing aircraft, in addition to covert approaches.

Dangerous dog activity continues to present a complex and ever-evolving risk within our communities that requires sustained focus from local neighbourhood policing teams and dog handlers. A month-on-month increase in dangerous dog crimes has been recorded throughout Q4 2025-26, which is in keeping with seasonal trends and patterns. That said, the force has made significant progress in this area through the introduction of robust governance arrangements which have resulted in a dramatic, sustained reduction in the number of dogs kennelled externally, with 16 held as of April 2026, down from 58 during June 2025. This has also resulted in fewer open investigations and improved case file timeliness.

Pillar Three – Protecting the Vulnerable

1. Violence Against Women and Girls
2. Domestic Offences
3. Rape
4. Serious Sexual Offences
5. Stalking
6. Harassment
7. Hate Crime
8. Child Criminal and Sexual Exploitation
9. Missing Children
10. Action Fraud
11. Cybercrime
12. Protecting the Vulnerable – Emerging Issues

1. Violence Against Women and Girls

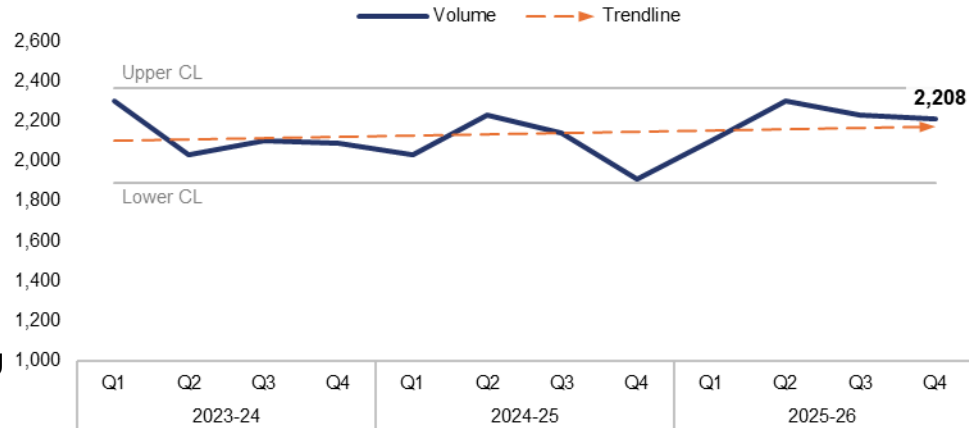


Operational Overview

A total of 3,149 crimes classified as Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) offences were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents an increase of 2.3% (70 additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a similar increase of 1.3% (39 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

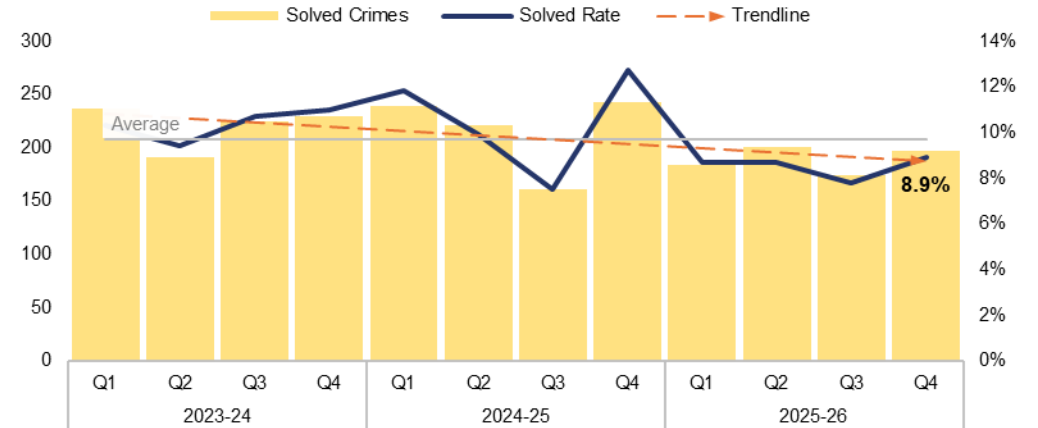
The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 8.9%, with 279 crimes solved. This is an increase of 1.0 percentage point when compared to the quarter prior, with 35 additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction of 2.7 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 against the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 81 fewer crimes solved.

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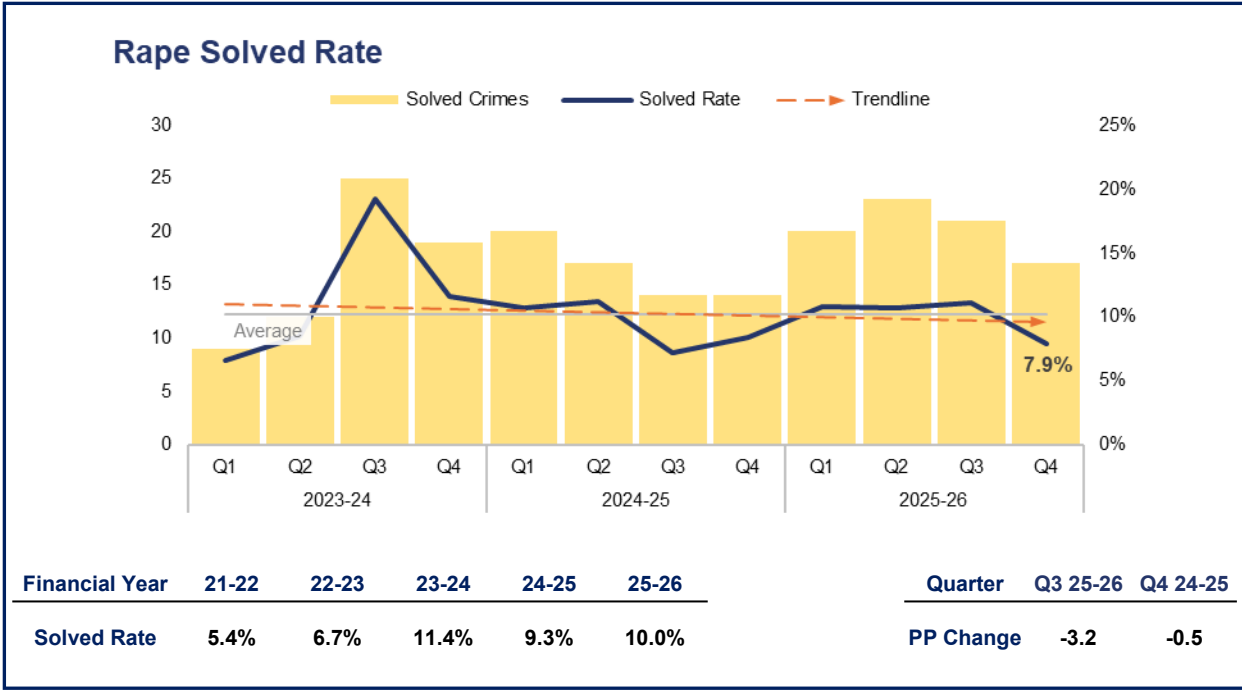
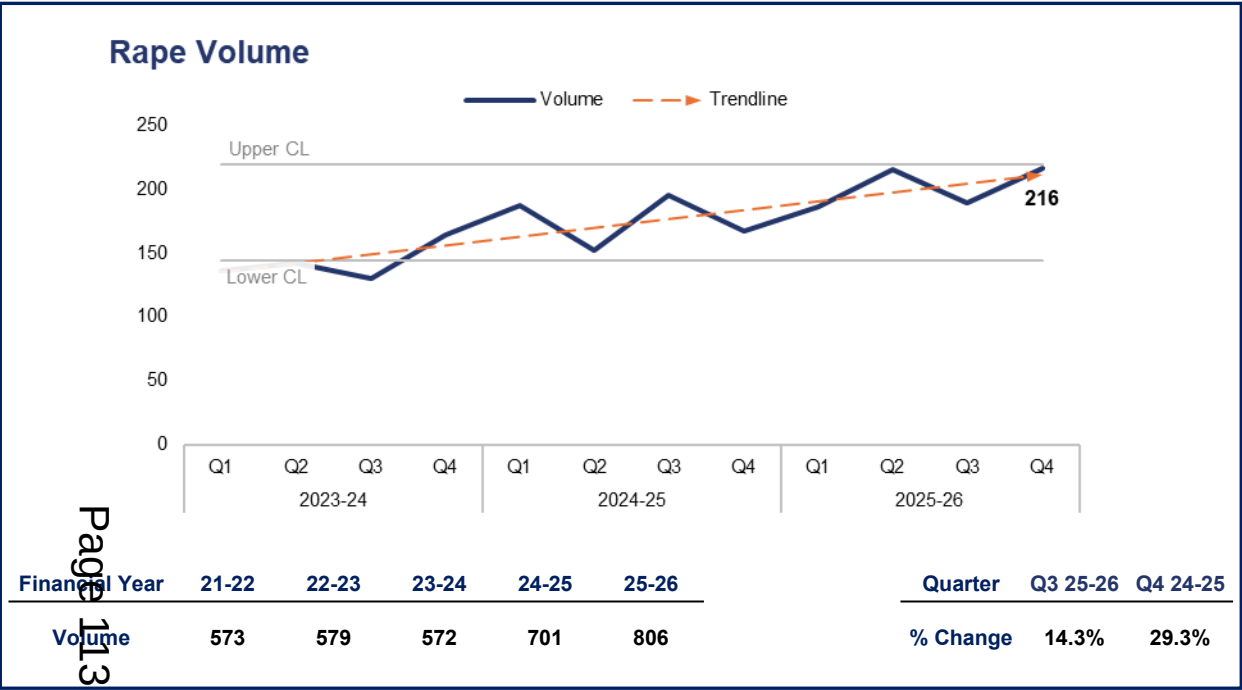
Operational Overview

For the purposes of this report, a domestic offence is defined as a crime which has been assigned a domestic abuse local qualifier and in which the victim and offender are both over 16 years of age, in accordance with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Offences assigned the qualifier but in which the age of the victim or offender has not been recorded have also been included, in order to prevent under-reporting.



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	9.4%	9.7%	10.4%	10.4%	8.5%	PP Change	1.1	-3.8

3. Rape



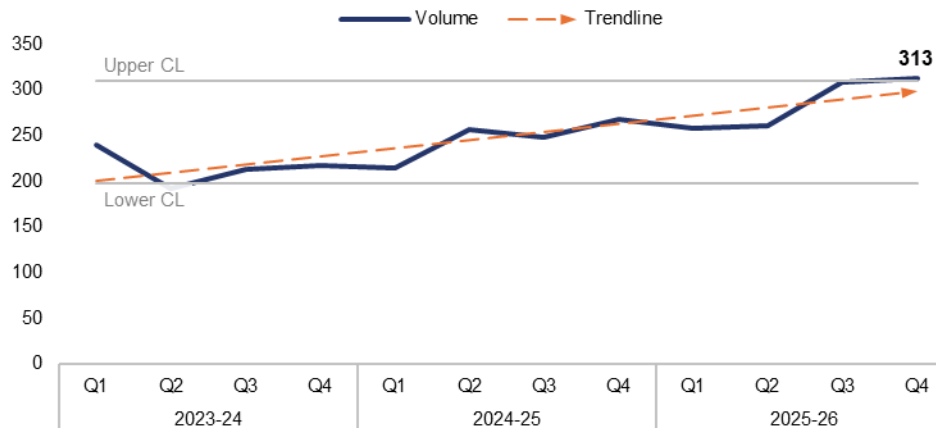
Operational Overview

During Q4 2025-26, 216 Rape offences were recorded. This is the highest quarterly figure within the three-year timeframe, representing an increase of 14.3% (27 additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 29.3% (49 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

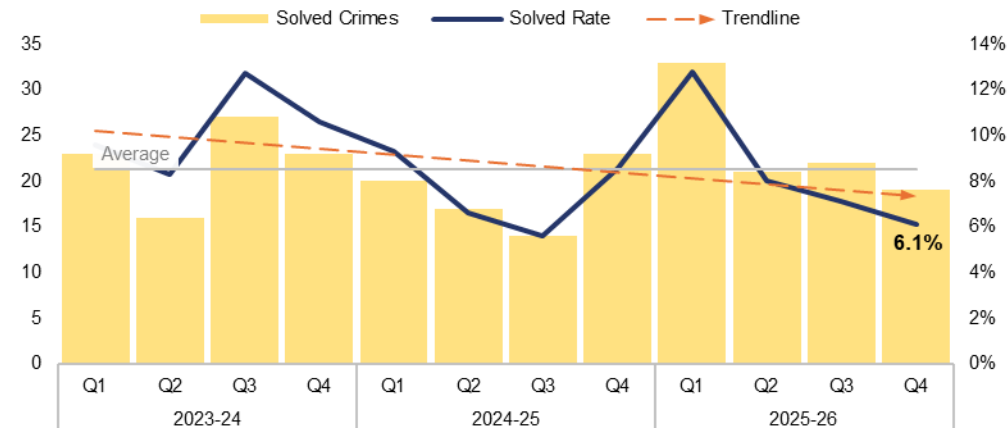
The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 7.9%, with 17 crimes solved. This is a reduction of 3.2 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with four fewer crimes solved. A less prominent reduction of 0.5 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, albeit with three additional crimes solved.

There is a continued upward trend in the reporting of Rape. Much of this increase is due to the reporting of non-recent crimes, which is consistent with national trends. The force has invested in additional investigative resources to meet this rise in demand, and further work is ongoing to ensure that the dedicated Rape investigation Team are able to meet new national requirements. Timeliness of investigations is a key focus going forward, in recognition of the impact this has on victim attrition.

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Volume	922	999	861	986	1,140	% Change	1.6%	16.8%
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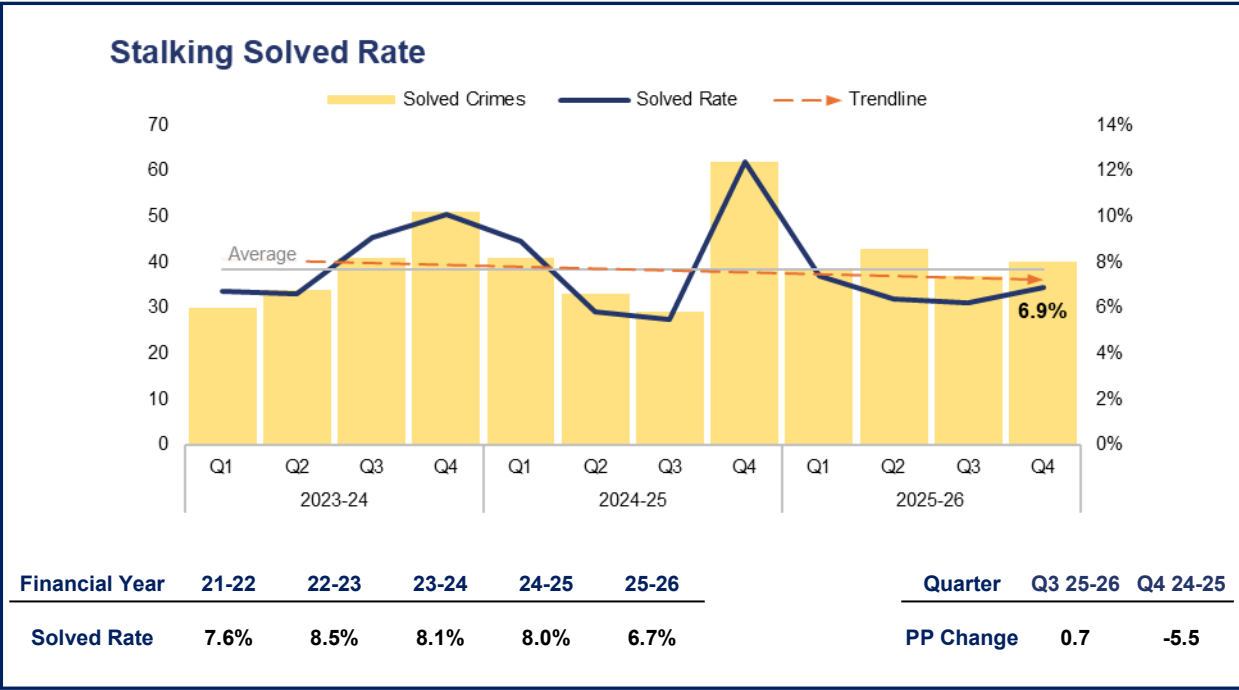
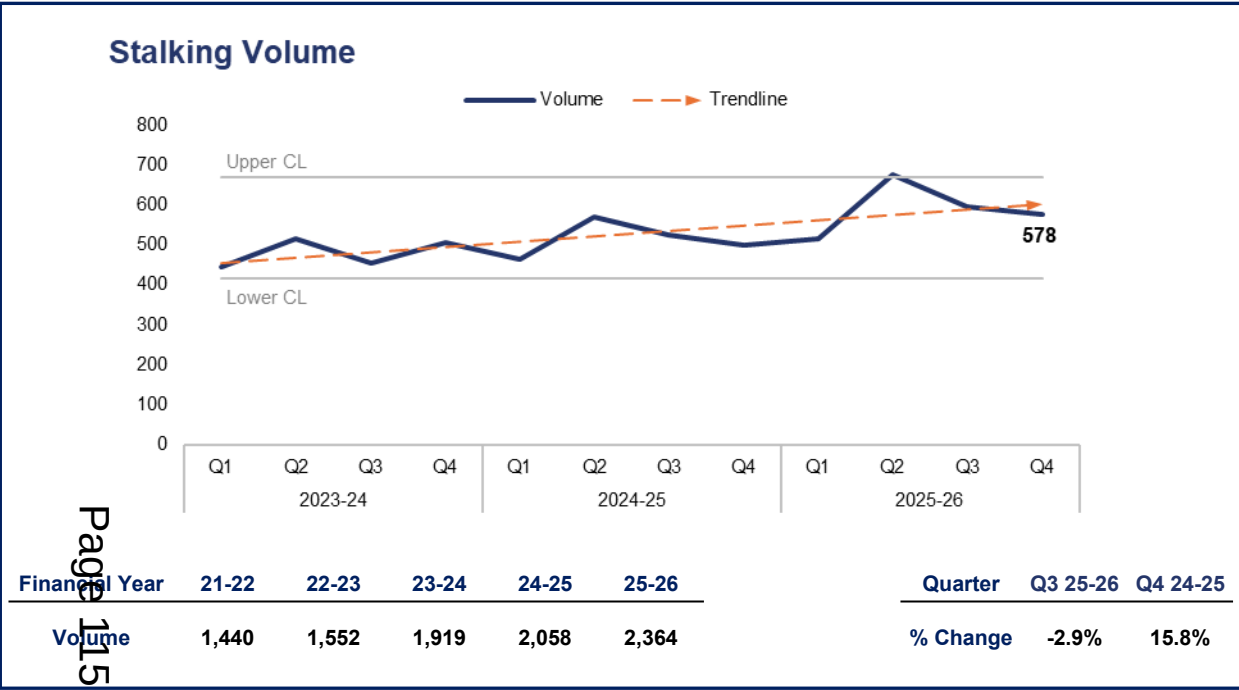
Solved Rate	6.3%	6.5%	10.3%	7.5%	8.3%	PP Change	-1.0	-2.5
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The volume of crimes classified as serious sexual offences exceeded the upper control limit for a second consecutive quarter during Q4 2025-26, with 313 offences recorded. This is the highest quarterly figure with the three-year timeframe, representing an increase of 1.6% (five additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 16.8% (45 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

In response to the Angiolini enquiry, Gwent Police now scrutinises non-contact sexual offending daily, ensuring appropriate ownership based on risk. This is in recognition that non-contact offending can lead to escalating criminal sexual behaviours. The sustained focus on non-contact offending may have had an impact on the level of offences recorded during Q4 2025-26. During the coming financial year, all serious sexual offences will be transferred to the dedicated Rape Investigation Team, with specialist officers leading each case. This is expected to improve timeliness, investigation quality, and solved rate for serious sexual offences.

Rape offences have been excluded from this dataset.

5. Stalking



Operational Overview

Overall, 578 offences classified as stalking were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 2.9% (17 fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 15.8% (79 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

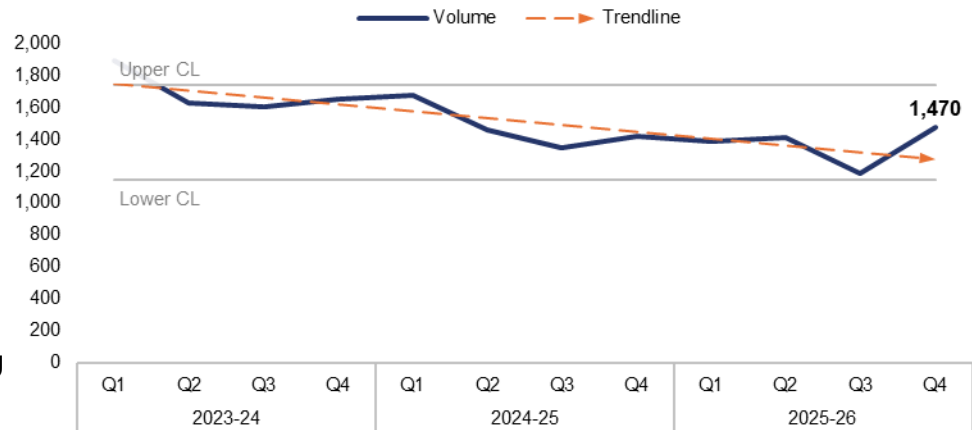
The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 6.9%, with 40 crimes solved. This is an increase of 0.7 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with three additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction of 5.5 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 22 fewer crimes solved.

The increase in offences recorded during the 2025-26 financial year can be attributed in part to the training delivered during this period, which has left officers and staff better equipped to identify stalking offences. This has yet to translate to improved outcomes. The stalking and harassment officer delivering this training will now have capacity to support investigators, with a view to improving the quality of stalking investigations. This will be monitored going forward.

6. Harassment

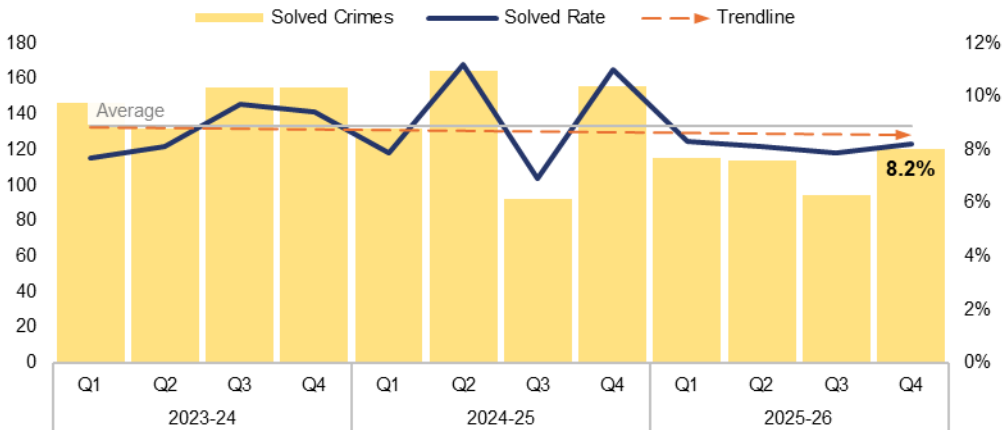
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Harassment Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	6,512	7,498	6,769	5,895	5,454	% Change	23.9%	3.6%

Harassment Solved Rate



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Solved Rate	7.8%	5.5%	8.7%	9.2%	8.1%	PP Change	0.3	-2.8

Operational Overview

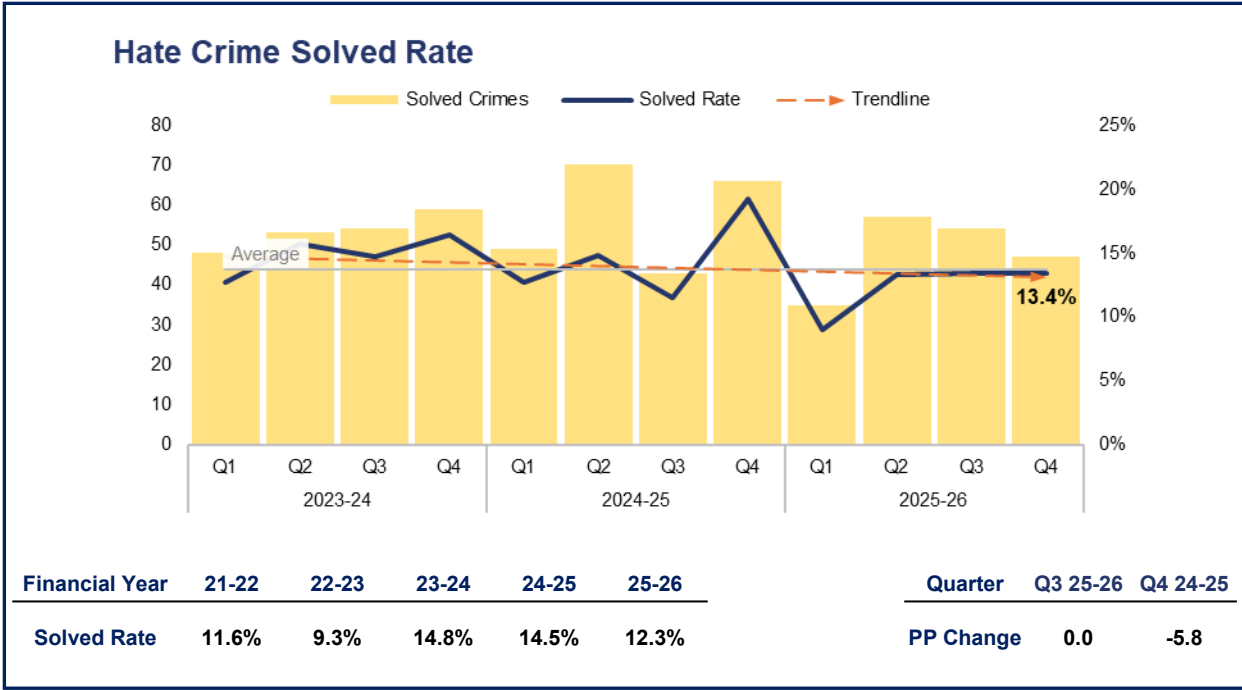
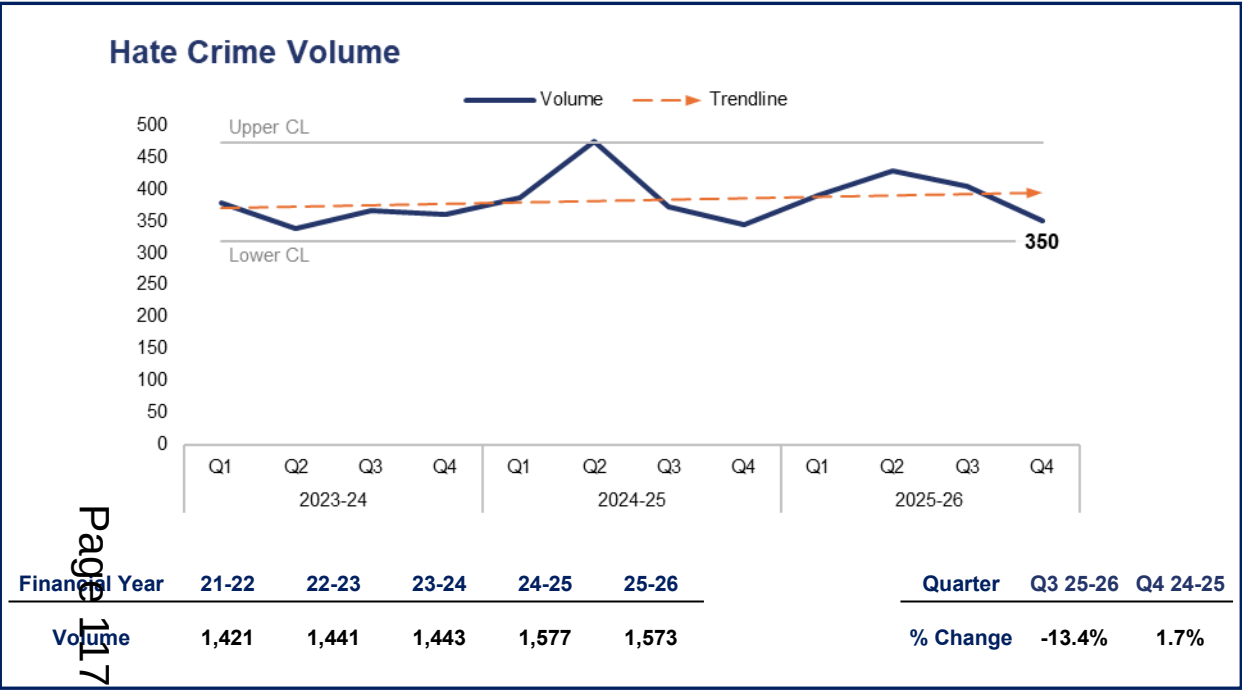
A total of 1,470 offences classified as harassment were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents an increase of 23.9% (284 additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a less prominent increase of 3.6% (51 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 8.2%, with 120 crimes solved. This is an increase of 0.3 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with 26 additional crimes solved. Conversely, a reduction of 2.8 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 36 fewer crimes solved.

Work is ongoing to focus on 'golden hour' investigations in all areas, including harassment offences, in order to maximise evidence gathering opportunities.

The Detective Chief Inspectors for Investigations and Public Protection, along with the Superintendent for Response Policing, have initiated meetings in order to better understand a whole-system approach to the identification of both stalking and harassment offences, and to improve investigation quality in this area.

7. Hate Crime



Operational Overview

Overall, 350 offences which met the definition of a hate crime were recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a reduction of 13.4% (54 fewer offences) when compared to the quarter prior, but a slight increase of 1.7% (six additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year. Crimes assigned the racial hate strand were the most prevalent during Q4 2025-26 with 229 such offences recorded. Conversely, crimes assigned the religious and transphobic hate strands were the least common, with 16 offences recorded for each.

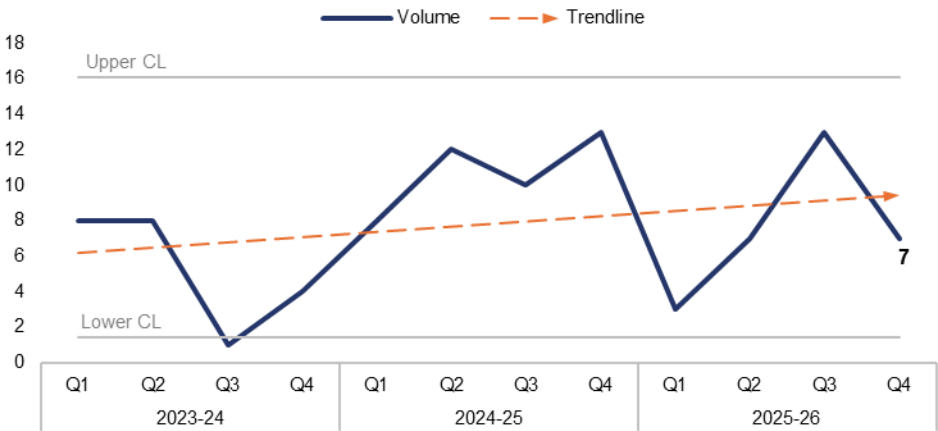
The solved rate for Q4 2025-26 stands at 13.4%, with 47 crimes solved. This is equal the quarter prior, albeit with seven fewer crimes solved. A reduction of 5.8 percentage points can be observed when comparing Q4 2025-26 to the same quarter during the previous financial year, with 19 fewer crimes solved.

A single crime can be assigned multiple hate strands. The crime trend is based on recorded crimes, whilst the assessment of hate strands is based on the volume of each individual strand.

8. Child Criminal and Sexual Exploitation

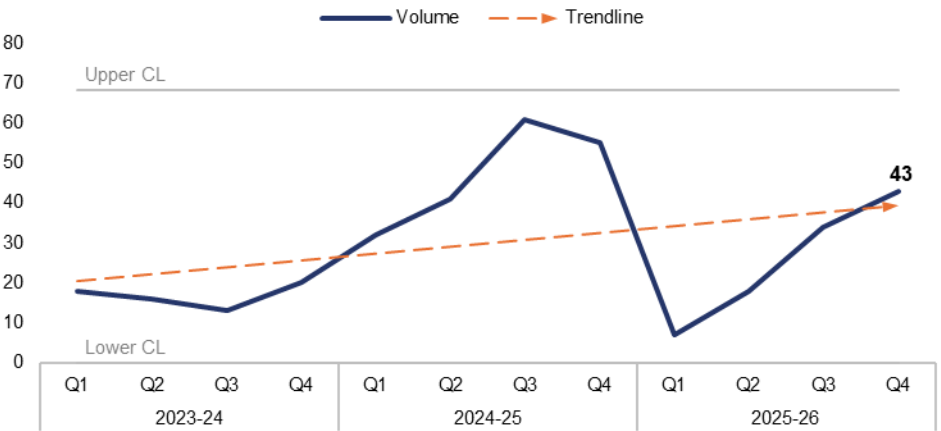
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Child Criminal Exploitation Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	1	20	21	43	30	% Change	-46.2%	-46.2%

Child Sexual Exploitation Volume



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	239	183	67	189	102	% Change	26.5%	-21.8%

Operational Overview

During Q4 2025-26, seven offences were assigned a child criminal exploitation local qualifier. This represents a reduction of 46.2% (six fewer offences) when compared to both the quarter prior and the same quarter during the previous financial year.

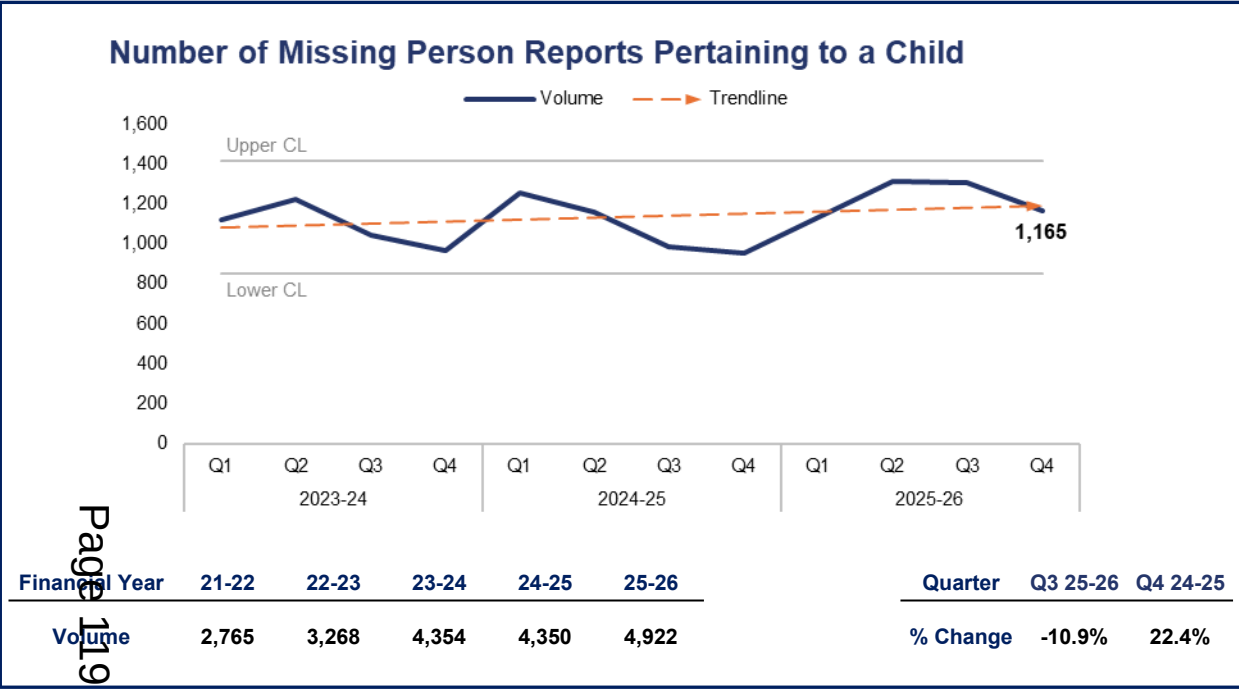
A total of 43 offences were assigned a child sexual exploitation local qualifier during Q4 2025-26. This is an increase of 26.5% (nine additional offences) compared to the quarter prior, but a reduction of 21.8% (12 fewer offences) compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year. It has been identified that this qualifier may have been incorrectly applied in the past.

Work continues to improve data quality regarding flags and qualifiers to ensure the accurate recording of exploitation offences. Gwent Police are a pilot force for Operation Beaconport, led by the National Crime Agency. This operation was established in response to the Casey Audit and wider national concern about the historic policing response to group-based child sexual exploitation and abuse. It focuses on the review of closed investigations involving two or more offenders and one or more victims, to determine whether those investigations were correctly concluded and whether further action is required.

The force has governance and reporting on child sexual abuse and exploitation through the Regional Threat Group and Strategic Governance Group in order to provide a regional overview and understanding, as patterns and issues are reflected nationally.

Use of the Child Criminal Exploitation local qualifier commenced during 2022, limiting the scope of the currently available dataset.

9. Missing Children



Operational Overview

During Q4 2025-26, 1,165 missing person reports were created which pertained to a child. This represents a reduction of 10.9% (143 fewer reports) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 22.4% (213 additional reports) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The management of missing children has been greatly improved through a multi-agency response and weekly Missing Meetings. The force has equipped frontline staff with a greater understanding of risk through use of the Philomena Protocol and additional training for frontline teams throughout the 2025-26 financial year.

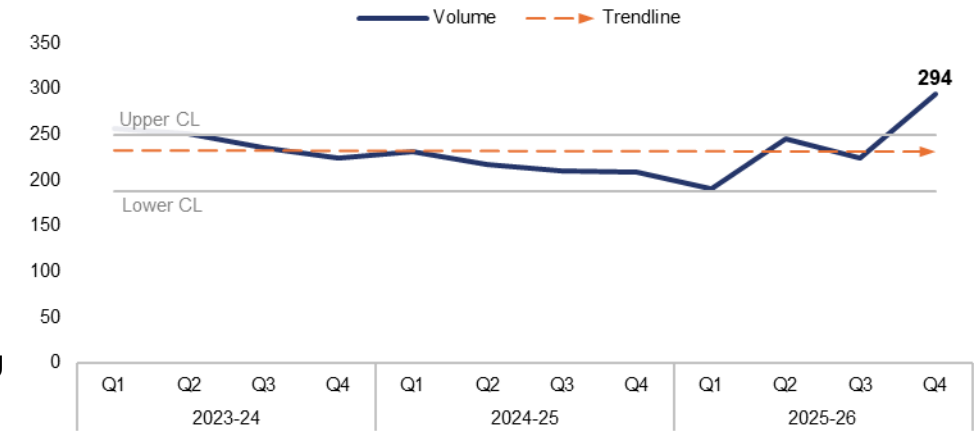
The Missing Children Team manage Missing Meetings to review all missing children and ensure that debriefs are completed. Trends regarding missing children are escalated via the Operational and Strategic Missing Meetings. Links between missing children and exploitation are mitigated through the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation meetings. Effective partnership working ensures a problem-solving approach to reducing the frequency and duration of missing episodes for children.

A missing person report is created each time an individual is reported as missing. Several reports can be created for the same individual if they are reported as missing on multiple occasions.

10. Action Fraud

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Action Fraud Occurrence Volume



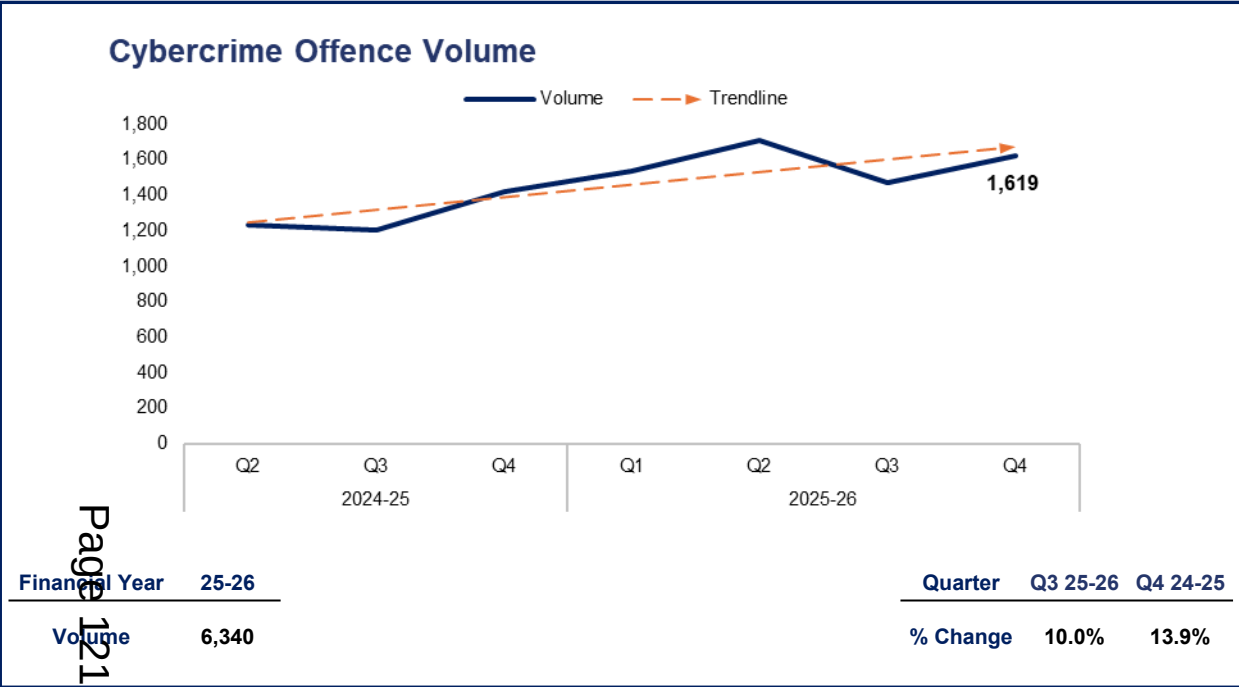
Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	788	923	969	867	953	% Change	31.3%	40.7%

Operational Overview

Overall, 294 action fraud occurrences were reported to Gwent Police via the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau during Q4 2025-26, exceeding the upper control limit. This is the highest quarterly figure within the three-year timeframe, representing a significant increase of 31.3% (70 additional occurrences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 40.7% (85 additional occurrences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

During Q4 2025-26, £31,300 of victim’s money was safeguarded by fraud investigations in Gwent. The total for the financial year stands at £345,171.

11. Cybercrime



Offences Most Commonly Classified as Cybercrime by Volume – Q4 2025-26		
Offence Title	Volume	% of Total
Protection from Harassment Act Section 2	339	20.9%
Pursue course of conduct which amounts to stalking	238	14.7%
Putting people in fear of violence	128	7.9%
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	100	6.2%
Take/make indecent photographs/pseudo-photographs of children	85	5.3%

Operational Overview

A total of 1,619 offences recorded during Q4 2025-26 were classified as cybercrime, as defined by the NDQIS reporting system. This represents an increase of 10.0% (147 additional offences) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 13.9% (197 additional offences) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

During Q4 2025-26, three of the five offences which were most commonly classified as cybercrime can be defined as harassment offences, with a fourth defined as a stalking offence. Overall, crimes classified as either a harassment offence or a stalking offence accounted for 59.0% of all cybercrime recorded during the quarter, with a total of 955 offences reported. This is an increase of 2.2 percentage points when compared to the quarter prior, with 119 additional offences recorded.

Cybercrime reporting via the NDQIS system was first adopted by the force during June 2024, limiting the scope of the currently available dataset. As a full financial year of data is now available, reporting in the table beneath the graph has been reformatted to adhere to this timeframe.

12. Protecting the Vulnerable – Emerging Issues

Operational Overview

The government are creating a new standalone offence to prosecute adults committing child criminal exploitation. In addition, they are creating a new regime for child criminal exploitation civil preventative orders, to prevent exploitative conduct committed by adults against children from occurring or re-occurring.

The government are also creating a new bespoke criminal offence to tackle the practice known as cuckooing (home takeover), whereby offenders take control over the home of another person in order to use it for criminal activity. Furthermore, a standalone offence of coerced internal concealment will be created to deal with incidents where children or adults are forced, deceived, or compelled to internally conceal illicit items for criminal purposes. Activity will be co-ordinated across forces in the Regional Threat Group when this legislation is enacted.

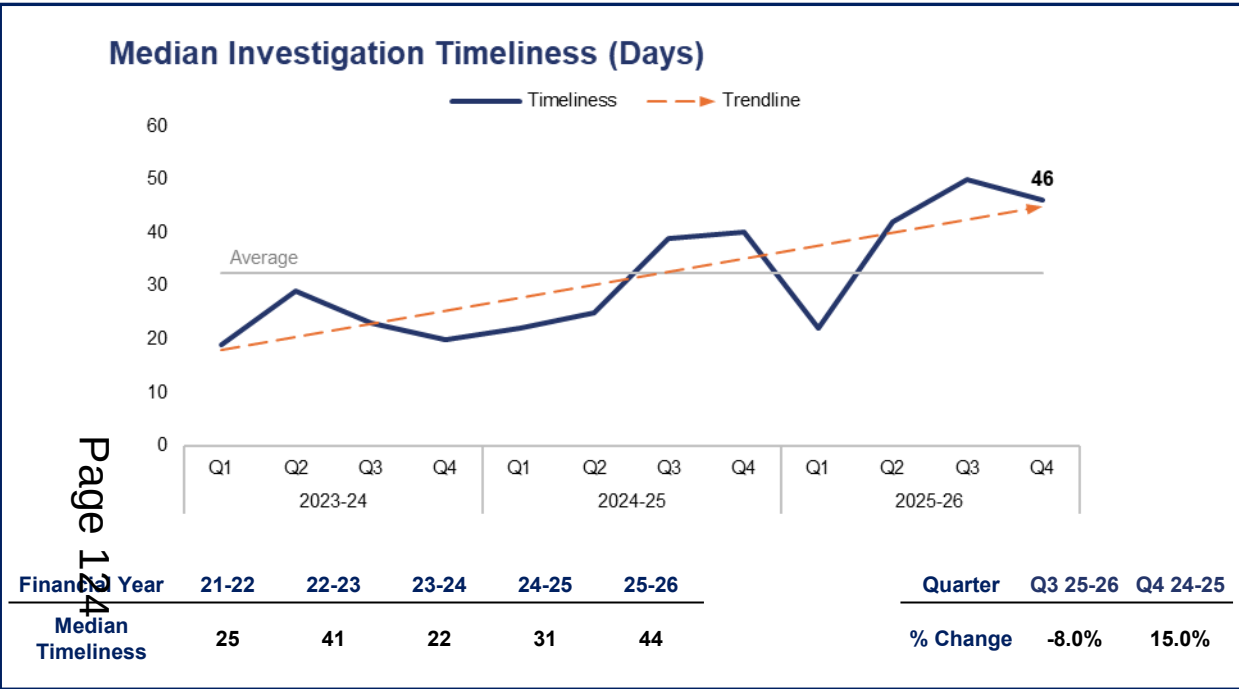
Harmful Sexual Behaviour has been raised as an emerging issue by the Welsh Government and there will be requirements for a standardised multi-agency approach. Local Authorities are leading on this and ensuring that there is correlation between matters reported to social care and those reported to police. Additional training for officers has been arranged and co-ordinated by Gwent Safeguarding Board.

Pillar Four – Putting Victims First

1. Investigation Timeliness
2. Victims and Repeat Victims
3. Victim Satisfaction
4. Putting Victims First – Emerging Issues

1. Investigation Timeliness

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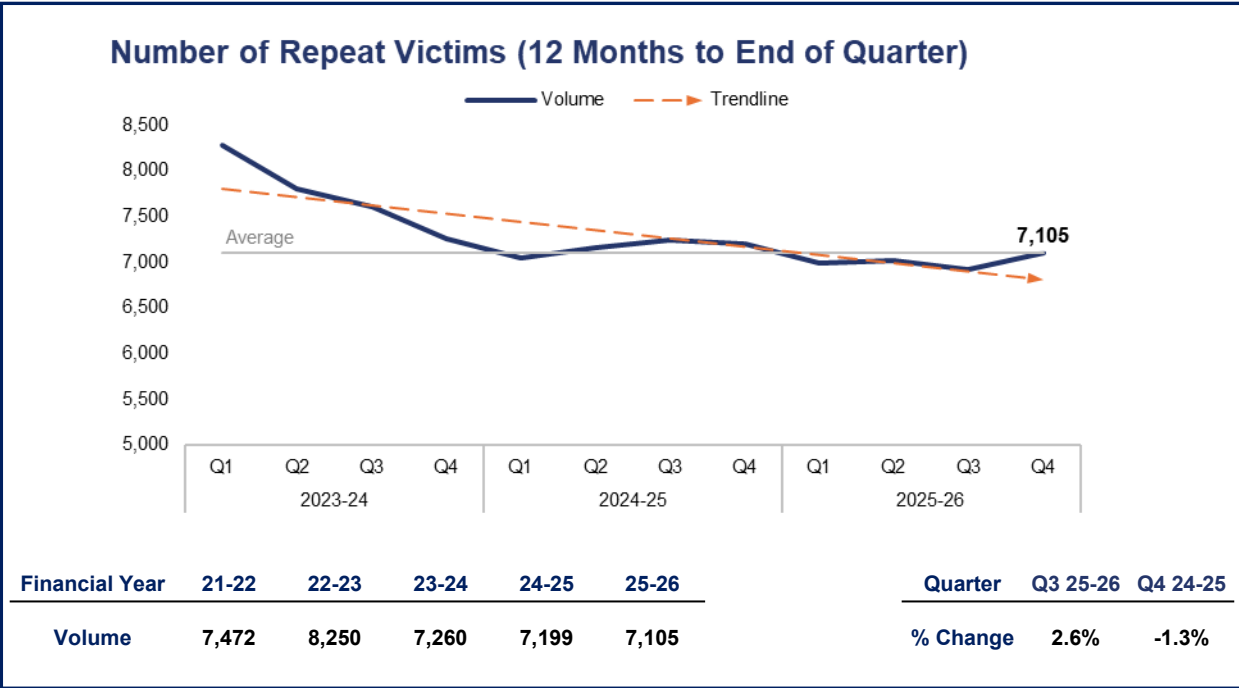
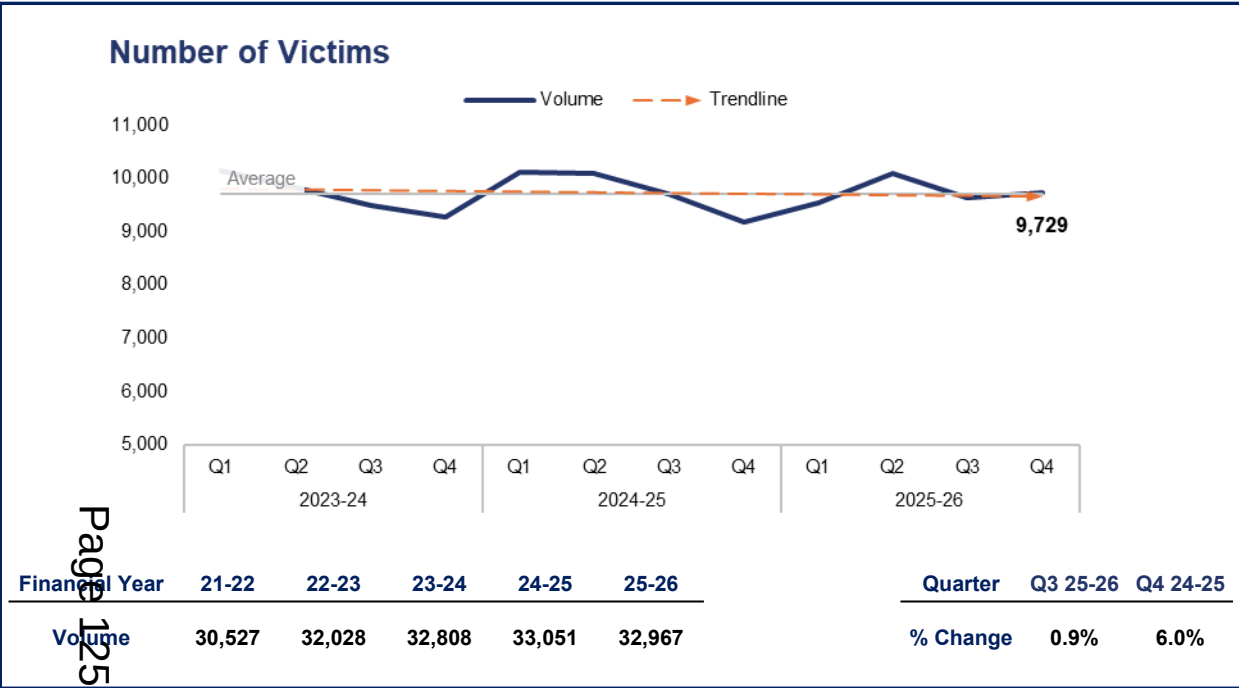
Operational Overview

During Q4 2025-26, the median investigation length was 46 days. This represents a reduction of 8.0% (four fewer days) when compared to the quarter prior, but an increase of 15.0% (six additional days) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

It is recognised that whilst investigation timeliness is key for victims, an investigation also has to be proportionate and effective. A balance must be struck between investigation quality and timeliness. This messaging forms part of the Quality of Investigation and Victim Care framework. To further support this messaging, victim inputs have been delivered at force training days and are provided to all new recruits. These focus on maintaining victim updates, updating victims at key stages, ensuring the victim’s right to receive specialist support is met, and providing a Victim Impact Statement.

Gwent Police are participating in the Domestic Abuse Charging Pilot, which is improving investigation timeliness by allowing police to charge non-remand guilty anticipated plea domestic abuse cases. The earlier charging process is designed to enable immediate safeguarding measures, secure quicker access to protective orders, and potentially reduce victim attrition. This will support a more efficient investigative procedure and faster case progression within the justice system. In support of this, an initiative between the police and Crown Prosecution Service has introduced Real Time Case Conversations. This is being trialled successfully for domestic abuse investigations, and is intended to streamline the process of obtaining a charging decision for these cases.

2. Victims & Repeat Victims



Operational Overview

Overall, 9,729 unique victims were linked to crimes recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents a slight increase of 0.9% (85 additional victims) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 6.0% (548 additional victims) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

During the 12 months to the end of Q4 2025-26, 7,105 victims were linked in this capacity to two or more separate offences, classifying them as repeat victims. This is an increase of 2.6% (180 additional repeat victims) when compared to the 12 months to the end of the quarter prior, but a reduction of 1.3% (94 fewer repeat victims) when compared to the 12 months to the end of the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The ‘Victim Care’ guiding principle of the Quality of Investigations and Victim Care Change Programme aims to improve understanding and recording principles, in order to ensure that appropriate and tailored services are delivered to victims. Level 1 Tasking ensures that repeat victims are identified and problem-solving plans are enacted by the appropriate resource.

The Gwent Police Victim Care Unit (VCU) continue to work collaboratively alongside Victim Support, a service commissioned by the OPCC to deliver ongoing assistance to victims. The VCU supports Daily Management Meeting processes, ensuring that victims of high threat/harm/risk investigations are identified much sooner and signposted to appropriate support.

For the purposes of this report, a repeat victim is defined as an individual who has been linked in this capacity to two or more separate offences within a 12-month period.

The financial year figures on this slide now refer to the number of repeat victims recorded across that timeframe, rather than being the sum of the quarterly figures for that year.

3. Victim Satisfaction

Victim Satisfaction Survey Data: Q4 2024-25 – Q4 2025-26					
Survey Question	Percentage of Respondents Satisfied	Quarter-on-Quarter Difference		Number of Respondents Satisfied	Total Responses Received
How satisfied are you with the ease of initial contact with the Police?	77.4%	+0.6pp	↑	205	265
How satisfied are you with the response time to your contact? (e.g. how long it took for your call to be answered)	79.9%	+2.2pp	↑	211	264
Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience of the first point of contact with the police?	79.9%	+2.2pp	↑	211	264
If an officer attended, how satisfied are you with the time it took for them to arrive?	84.1%	+0.9pp	↑	116	138
How satisfied are you with the actions taken by the attending officer/s?	73.8%	+0.5pp	↑	107	145
Thinking about your overall experience, how satisfied are you with the treatment you have received from Gwent Police?	66.0%	+1.0pp	↑	173	262

Operational Overview

A total of 268 respondents have engaged with the victim satisfaction survey between Q4 2024-25 and Q4 2025-26 inclusive. Of those who replied to the given question, 84.1% of respondents were satisfied with the time it took for officers to attend, whereas only 66.0% of respondents were satisfied with the overall treatment they received from Gwent Police. When compared to the same period for the quarter prior (Q3 2024-25 – Q3 2025-26), the percentage of satisfied respondents has increased for all of the questions above.

Improving the trust and confidence of victims is a core part of how Gwent Police seeks to deliver its services. It is recognised that the initial satisfaction rates regarding contact and attendance are much higher than overall satisfaction rates following interaction with investigators. The victim satisfaction survey is currently under review, with the support of Victim Services and the OPCC. This review has identified a new question set which has been sent to the wider working group for consultation. Further opportunity to utilise the Citizens First project to amplify victim's feedback has been identified and is being explored through the programme delivery.

All questions within the survey are optional, which may result in a disparity between the number of responses received for each question.

4. Putting Victims First – Emerging Issues

Operational Overview

The change programme seeks to implement improvements in how all investigators care for victims, seeking to embed meaningful and purposeful interactions with victims at every stage of the investigation. Work is progressing to fully understand operational practices and seek feedback from frontline practitioners. This not only puts victim care at the forefront of everything we do, but ensures that those who deliver the service continue to improve the trust and confidence of our communities by delivering a connected service that cares about getting it right and doing the right thing.

The force will soon deliver changes to the templates used for identifying and caring for victim's needs, as well as satisfying Victims Rights under the Victims Codes of Practice.

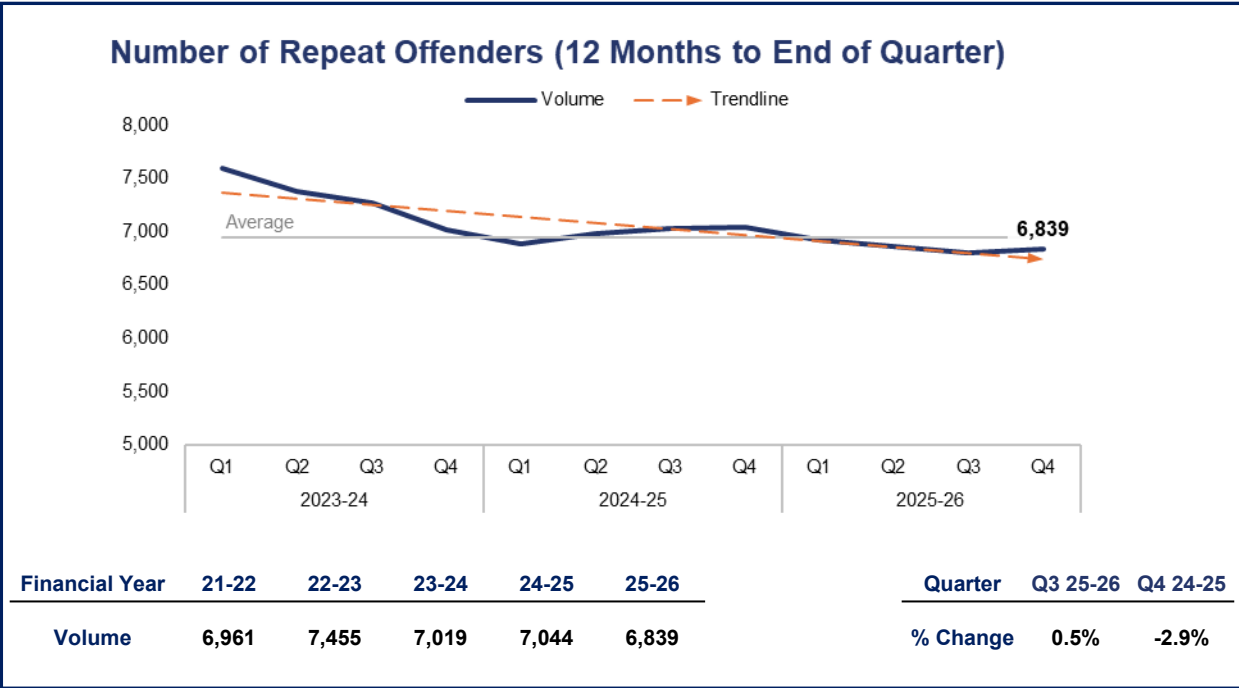
Governance arrangements in the force ensure that victim's voices are at the forefront of the priorities of policy makers, investigators, and Victim Services. The Survivor Engagement Coordinator brings together the collective voices of a committed advisory group, acting as a stakeholder group who are willing to advise and challenge Gwent Police on the services it delivers. A recent review has tightened procedure and ensures that the reference group deliver to the organisational goals, as set by the Chief Constable.

The Head of Victim Services has worked with other Welsh leads to deliver consistent Victims' Code of Practice reporting metrics, in order to create a common language and performance framework for all Welsh forces. The Head of Victim Services and an analyst are also engaged with the Ministry of Justice Analytical Working Group, a forum to provide insights to help develop the national framework for the Victims' Code compliance metrics. Due to challenges at a national level, the force has been asked to pause system changes to the collection and review of this data in anticipation of a consistent approach for all of England and Wales.

Pillar Five – Reducing Reoffending

1. Offenders and Repeat Offenders
2. Young Offenders and First-Time Entrants
3. Children in Police Custody
4. Reducing Reoffending – Emerging Issues

1. Offenders & Repeat Offenders



Operational Overview

Overall, 6,588 unique offenders were linked to crimes recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents an increase of 2.5% (163 additional offenders) when compared to the quarter prior, and a further increase of 3.6% (226 additional offenders) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

During the 12 months to the end of Q4 2025-26, 6,839 offenders were linked in this capacity to two or more separate offences, classifying them as repeat offenders. This is a slight increase of 0.5% (37 additional repeat offenders) when compared to the 12 months to the end of the quarter prior, but a reduction of 2.9% (205 fewer repeat offenders) when compared to the 12 months to the end of the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The organisation has recognised a need to standardise its identification of suspects, with a view to enhancing its understanding and drive towards timely intervention from law enforcement. This has been delivered in force, with messaging and accountability in place within the pillar structure. The gold group has transitioned to business as usual, with outstanding suspects now established as a mainstay for pillar performance meetings.

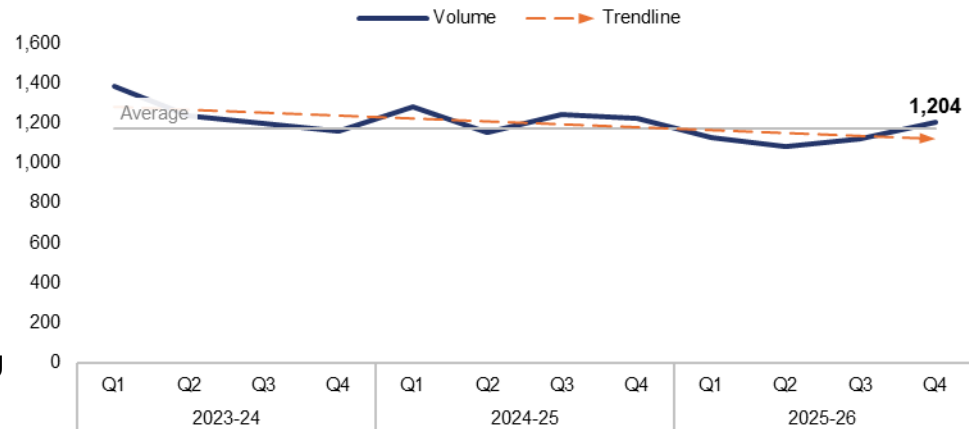
For the purposes of this report, a repeat offender is defined as an individual who has been linked in this capacity to two or more separate offences within a 12-month period. This does not necessarily mean that they have been charged with or found guilty of the offence in question.

The financial year figures on this slide now refer to the number of repeat offenders recorded across that timeframe, rather than being the sum of the quarterly figures for that year.

2. Young Offenders and First-Time Entrants

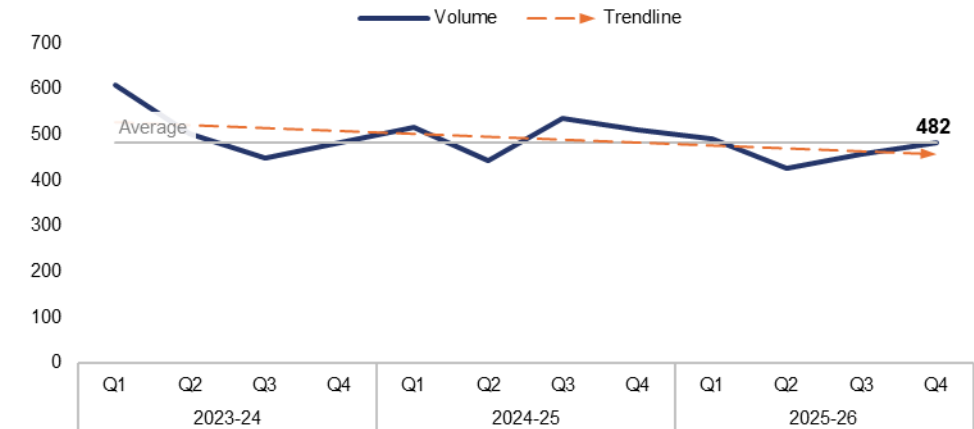
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Number of Young Offenders



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	3,225	3,544	3,687	3,621	3,412	% Change	7.1%	-1.7%

Number of Young Offender First-Time Entrants



Financial Year	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	Quarter	Q3 25-26	Q4 24-25
Volume	2,088	2,107	2,041	2,007	1,853	% Change	5.5%	-5.7%

Operational Overview

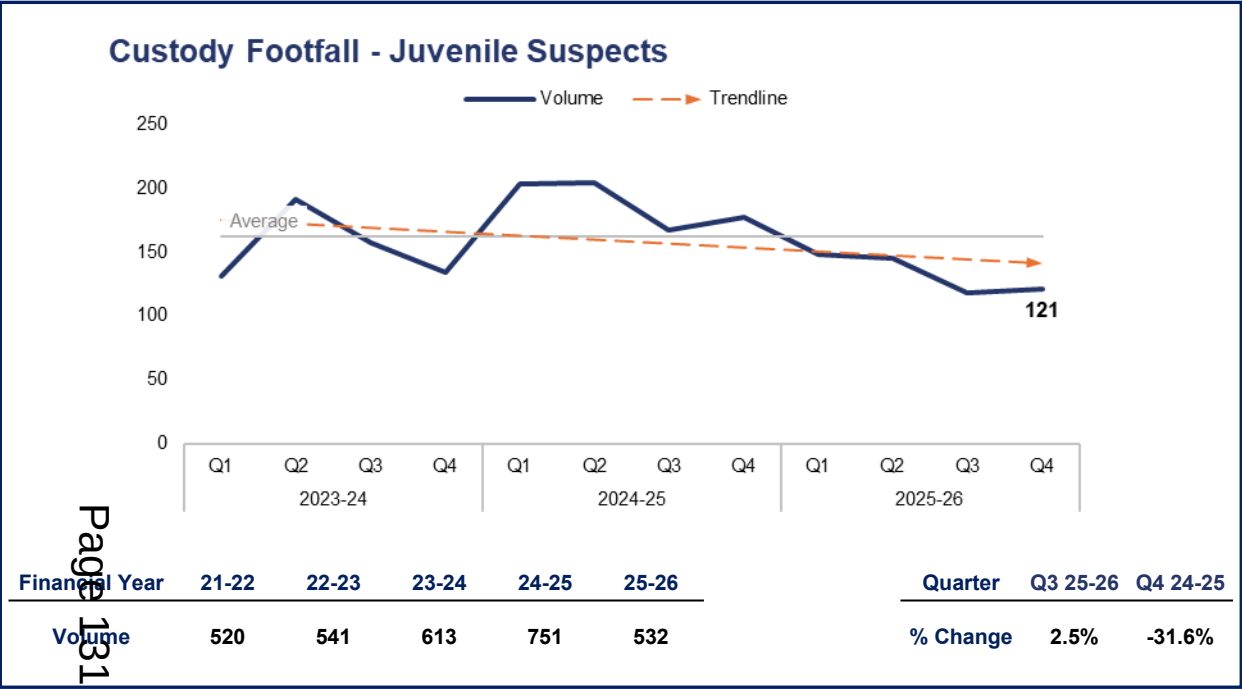
A total of 1,204 unique offenders under the age of 18 were linked to crimes recorded during Q4 2025-26. This represents an increase of 7.1% (80 additional young offenders) when compared to the quarter prior, but a reduction of 1.7% (21 fewer young offenders) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

Of these young offenders, 482 (40.0% of the quarterly total) have been identified as first-time entrants into the criminal justice system within Gwent. This represents an increase of 5.5% (25 additional entrants) when compared to the quarter prior, but a reduction of 5.7% (29 fewer entrants) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The force is striving to ensure that young offenders are seen as children and dealt with appropriately, with a focus on restorative processes to divert them from future offending and the criminal justice process. The force is leading an approach to standardising processes between the four Welsh forces, focusing on child-centric procedures and out of court disposals. Governance arrangements into the Wales Youth Justice Advisory Panel and the Criminal Justice Board provide accountability, supported by the Youth Justice Board. Force metrics regarding children, such as levels of offending, are tracked in Superintendent-led performance meetings and the Operational Effectiveness Board. In support of this, Youth Justice are leading on internal processes to ensure that children's rights are afforded consistently, and that investigations with a released under investigation disposal receive the same levels of accountability as bail cases.

The age of the offenders included in this dataset has been calculated based on the committed date of the offence they were linked to. This does not necessarily mean that they have been charged with or found guilty of the offence in question. The dataset used to identify first-time entrants is limited to offences committed within Gwent from 2018 onwards. Offences committed outside of Gwent or prior to 2018 are not included in this calculation.

3. Children in Police Custody



Operational Overview

During Q4 2025-26, 121 custody records were created which had a juvenile subject. This represents an increase of 2.5% (three additional custody records) when compared to the quarter prior, but a significant reduction of 31.6% (56 fewer custody records) when compared to the same quarter during the previous financial year.

The above figures are based on custody footfall, which is the number of custody records with an arrival time within the specified timeframe. As such, if a subject came into custody on multiple occasions, they would be counted upon each arrival.

4. Reducing Reoffending – Emerging Issues

Operational Overview

Legislative changes allowing for eligible offenders to be released after serving one third of their sentence represent an emerging issue for policing, specifically the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) team and probation services. This is under constant review by statutory agencies, in order to understand the impact and scale of the added demand that could be placed on services. The independent sentencing review is being managed through Operation Redford, ensuring a consistent approach to Sentencing Act changes across England and Wales. The IOM team are leading this change for GWP, engaging internal and external stakeholders. In support of this, the IOM team have improved multi-agency planning to manage the incoming demand and have enhanced processes for identifying individuals who are suitable for removal from the cohort due to consistent positive qualifiers, as per the IOM doctrine.

The Reducing Reoffending Subgroup continues to meet and work towards a multi-agency plan for reducing reoffending. The group is focusing their efforts on three main crime categories: drugs importation and supply, violence, and theft. The group have agreed a consistent definition of 'reoffending' and have further broken down the crime categories into specific crime types which are most prevalent within the cohort of individuals who reoffend. As part of an innovative step forward for Gwent Police, data analysts have identified a consistent process for the identification of those who reoffend. This will be reviewed and tracked against protected characteristics to understand the efficacy of diversion programmes and the disproportionality or bias of outcome or decision making. Their progress is being reported to the Local Criminal Justice Board.