

OPCC Police and Crime Plan development

Survey results

1. Background

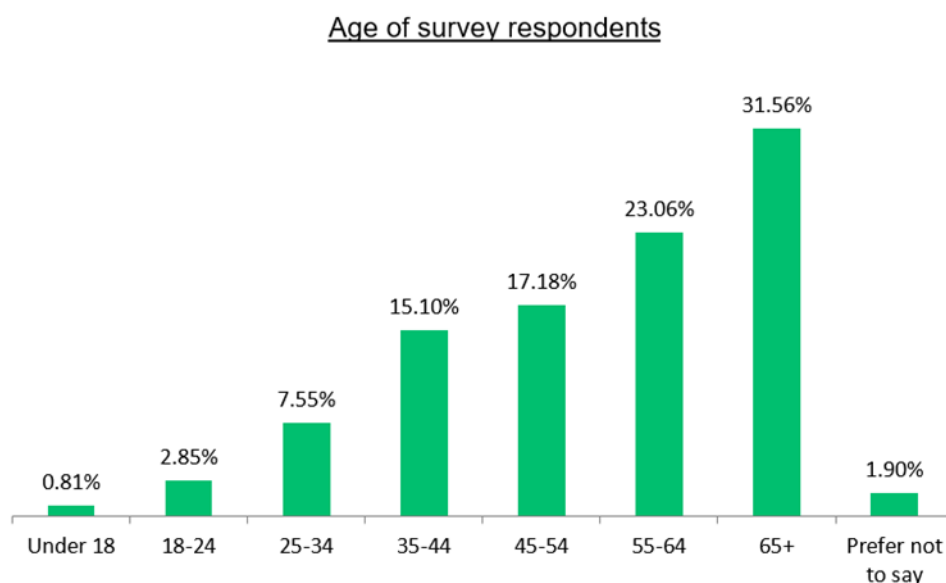
In August 2021 the OPCC embarked on a public engagement exercise to inform the development of the new Police and Crime Plan. The engagement exercise ran from 10th August to 2nd September 2021 via an online survey. The survey asked members of the public for feedback on key aspects of the plan, including:

- The strategic objectives of Safe, Resilient and Connected communities
- The aims sitting beneath each of the strategic objectives
- The four community priorities of tackling all forms of violence, tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB), reducing harm caused by drugs and improving safety on our roads.

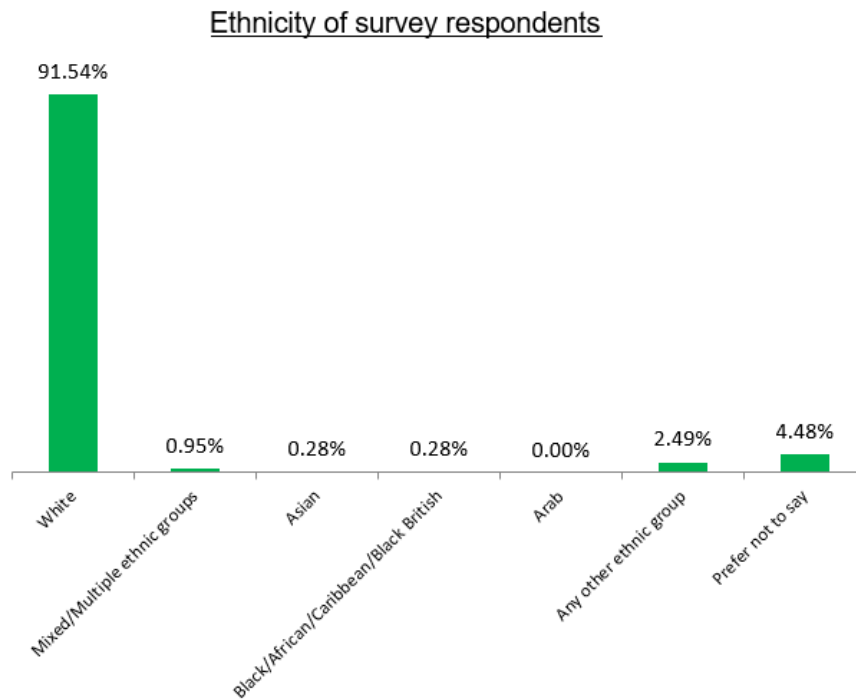
2. Response rate

In total the survey received 2,212 responses. The majority of respondents (55%) were aged over 55 and had a White ethnic background (92%) (see *Graph 1 and 2*). Most (21%) respondents belonged to council tax Band D (see *Graph 3*).

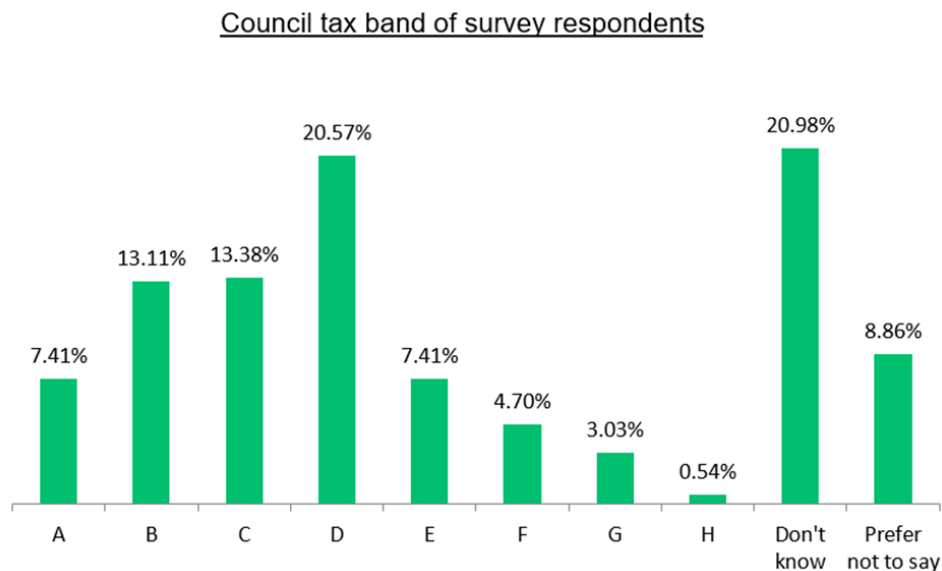
Graph 1: Bar chart showing the age category of respondents



Graph 2: Bar chart showing the ethnicity of respondents



Graph 3: Bar chart showing the council tax bands of respondents



3. How representative was our survey sample?

When compared to population estimates for Devon and Cornwall, there is an under-representation of those aged <44 in the survey sample and an over-representation of those aged 45+.

According to the 2011 Census, 98% of Devon and Cornwall's residents were White. In our survey sample, 92% of respondents identified as White. When compared to 2011 Census figures, there is an under-representation of Asian ethnicities in our survey sample (by 0.76%)

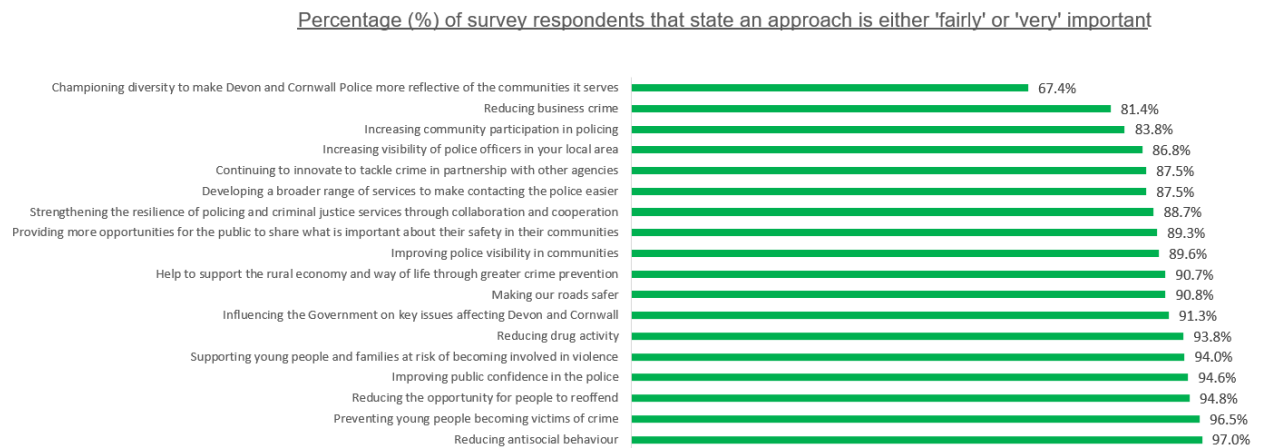
and those of Arab ethnicity (by 0.10%). 0.28% of the survey respondents were Black compared to 0.24% in the population.

4. Main results

Overall, results show that all 18 of the Commissioner’s objectives were supported by the public, with most respondents stating that they were either ‘fairly’ or ‘very’ important (see *Graph 4*).

The objectives that were most likely to be deemed ‘fairly’ or ‘very’ important by respondents included; reducing anti-social behaviour (97%), preventing young people becoming victims of crime (97%), reducing the opportunity for people to re-offend (95%) and improving public confidence in the police (95%).

Graph 4: Bar chart showing the percentage (%) of respondents that stated a priority was either ‘fairly’ or ‘very’ important.

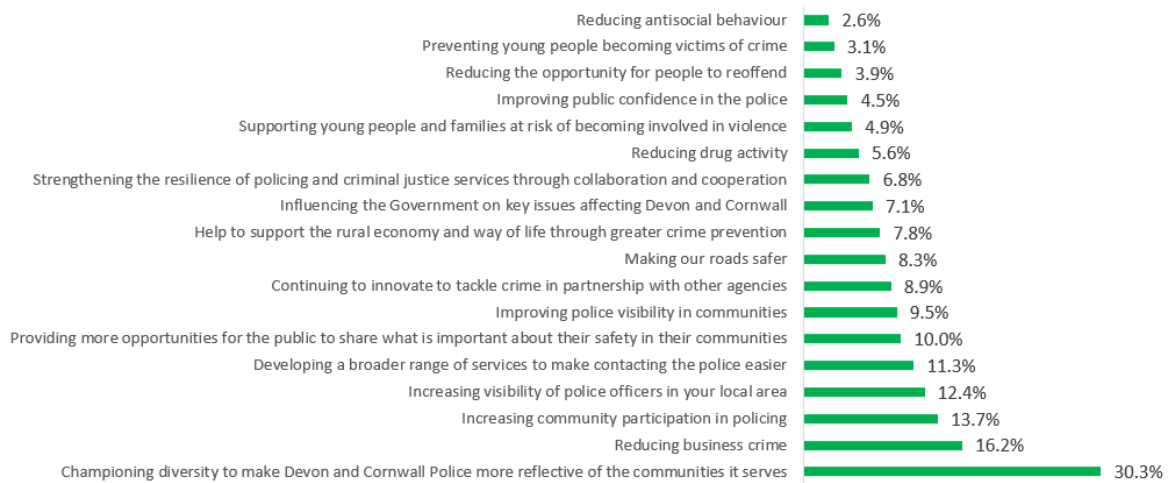


Note: around 2,000 people responded to this question. Some respondents chose not to provide a response to all of the approaches.

The objectives that were most likely to be deemed ‘not very’ or ‘not at all’ important by respondents included; championing diversity to make Devon and Cornwall Police more reflective of the communities it serves (30%), reducing business crime (16%) and increasing community participation in policing (14%) (see *Graph 5*).

Graph 5: Bar chart showing the percentage (%) of respondents that stated a priority was either ‘not very’ or ‘not at all’ important.

Percentage (%) of survey respondents that state an approach is either 'not very' or 'not at all' important

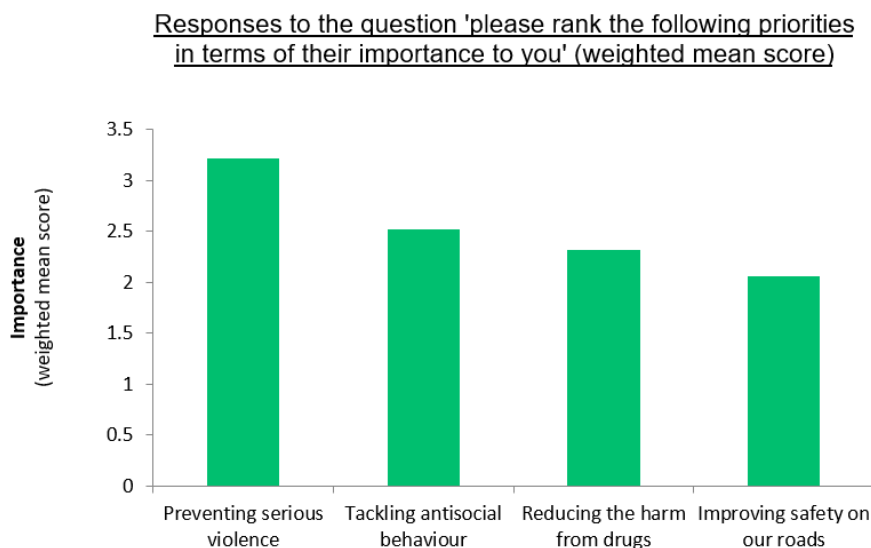


Note: around 2,000 people responded to this question. Some respondents chose not to provide a response to all of the approaches.

See Annex A below for an alternative representation of these results.

When asked to rank the four community priorities in order of importance, preventing serious violence was deemed the most important by the majority of respondents. This was followed by tackling anti-social behaviour, reducing the harm caused by drugs and improving safety on our roads (see Graph 6).

Graph 6: Bar chart showing community priorities ranked in order of importance to survey respondents (weighted mean score).



Note: around 2,000 people responded to this question. Some respondents chose to skip this question of the survey.

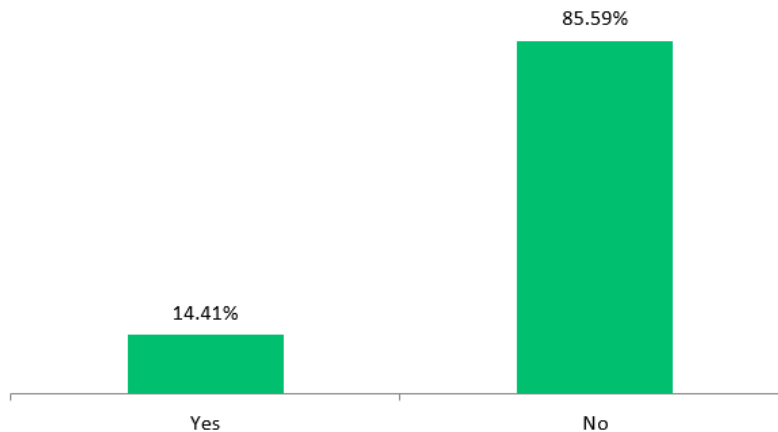
*The weighted mean score is calculated considering the respondent's priorities and the sample size per category. The higher the score the more likely the response was prioritised as most important.

5. Responses to additional questions

The survey also asked respondents if they had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months. Overall, most (86%) people stated they had not been a victim of crime (see Graph 7).

Graph 7: Bar chart showing the percentage (%) of respondents that have been a victim of crime in the last 12 months.

Percentage (%) of survey respondents that have been a victim of crime in the last 12 months

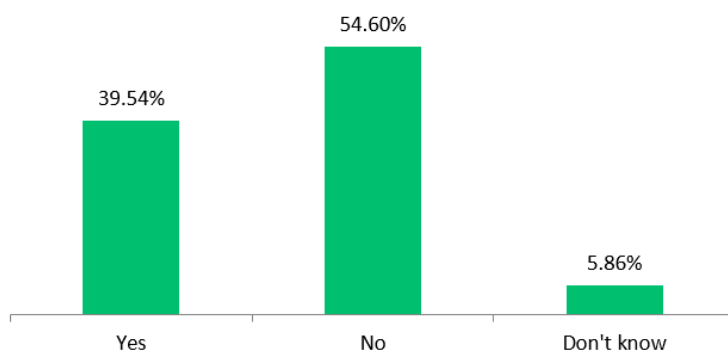


Note: around 1,000 people responded to this question. Some respondents chose to skip this question of the survey

Similarly, the survey also asked whether respondents were aware that services for victims of crime are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week via the Victim Care Unit, even if a crime has not been reported to police. Overall, most (55%) respondents were not aware of this service (see Graph 8).

Graph 8: Bar chart showing the percentage (%) of respondents that were aware that services for victims of crime are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, via the Victim Care Unit, even if a crime has not been reported.

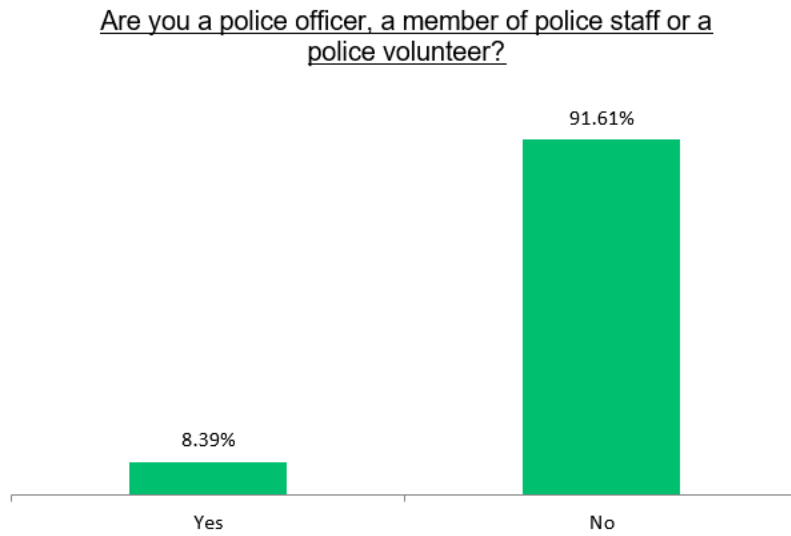
Percentage (%) of survey respondents that are aware that services for victims of crime in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week via the Victim Care Unit even if a crime has not been reported to police



Note: around 1,800 people responded to this question. Some respondents chose to skip this question of the survey.

Finally, the survey asked respondents whether they were a police officer, staff or volunteer. Overall, most (92%) respondents were not (see *Graph 9*).

Graph 9: Bar chart showing the percentage (%) of respondents that stated they were a police officer, staff or volunteer.



Note: around 1,800 people responded to this question. Some respondents chose to skip this question of the survey.

Annex A

Responses to the question “how important to you are the following approaches” can also be understood by calculating a mean weighted score. This is calculated by considering the respondents ordering of priorities and the number of people that responded to each question. A mean score of 4 would suggest that the majority of respondents thought the priority was ‘very important’ and a score of 1 would suggest that the majority of respondents thought the priority was ‘not very important’.

This approach provides a slightly different perspective to Graphs 4 and 5, because it considers all responses in totality, rather than combining responses of those who consider priorities to be ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ important versus those who find the priorities ‘not very’ or ‘not at all’ important.

The weighted mean score therefore takes into greater consideration the grading of priorities by respondents.

As Graph 10 shows, this does change the ordering of priorities when we compare to Graph 4, which looks at the percentage of respondents who believe an approach is either ‘fairly’ or ‘very’ important. However, the top 6 priorities remain the same across both graphs.

Graph 10: Bar chart showing the importance of approaches to respondents (weighted mean score).

