

1. Violence

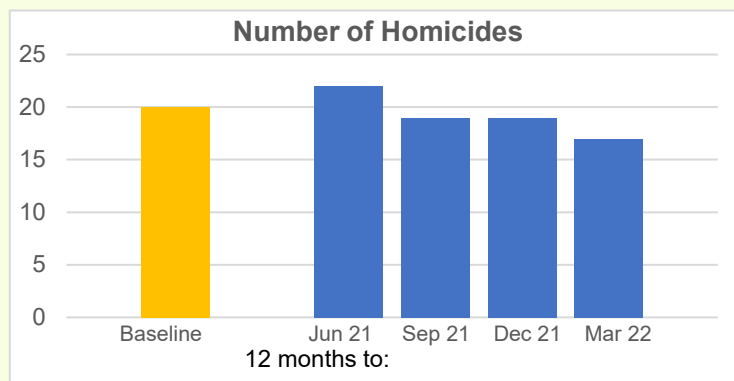
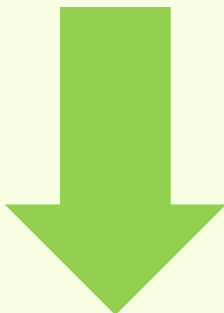
1.1 Homicides (National Measure)

12 months to
June 2019

20

12 months to
March 2022

17



In the 12 months to March 2022, there were 17 homicides in Devon and Cornwall. This is 3 fewer homicides than reported in the 12 months to June 2019.

Based on the latest ONS release of police recorded crime covering the period 12 months to March 2022, Devon and Cornwall's homicide rate is 1.0 crimes per 100,000 population. This is lower than the national rate of 1.2 and the SW Region rate of 1.1. When Devon and Cornwall's homicide rate is compared against its most similar force groups areas, it has the second lowest homicide rate.

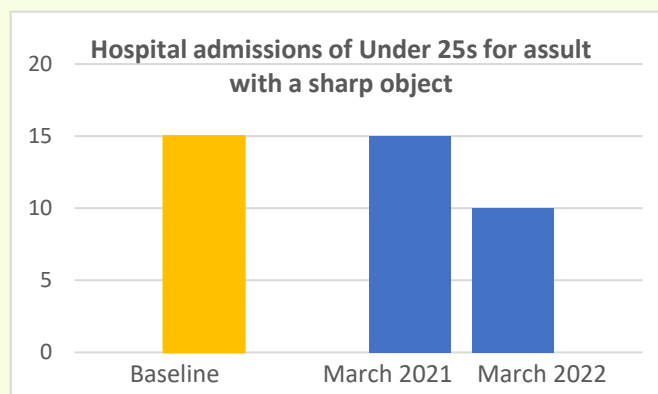
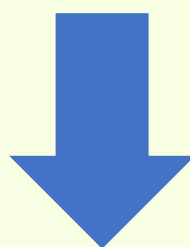
1.2 Hospital admissions of under 25s for assault with a sharp object (National Measure)

12 months to
March 2019

15

12 months to
March 2022

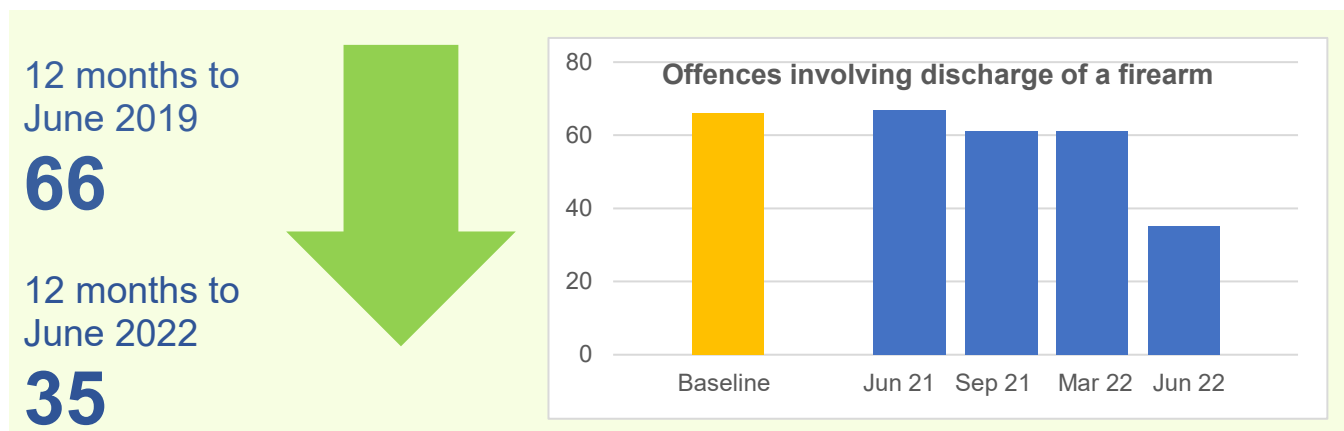
10 * *Provisional data*



Following feedback from the Panel, this measure is currently under review and alternative measures to monitor knife-related crime and harm are being considered by the Commissioner and a revised measure will be provided to the Panel in November. However, this measure has been updated since the last Panel meeting; provisional data published from NHS Digital shows that in the 12 months to March 2022, 10 hospital admissions of under 25's for assaults with a sharp object were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is indicative that there has been slight decrease in the number of under 25 hospital admissions for assault with a sharp object compared with the baseline year (12 months to June 2019).

1. Violence

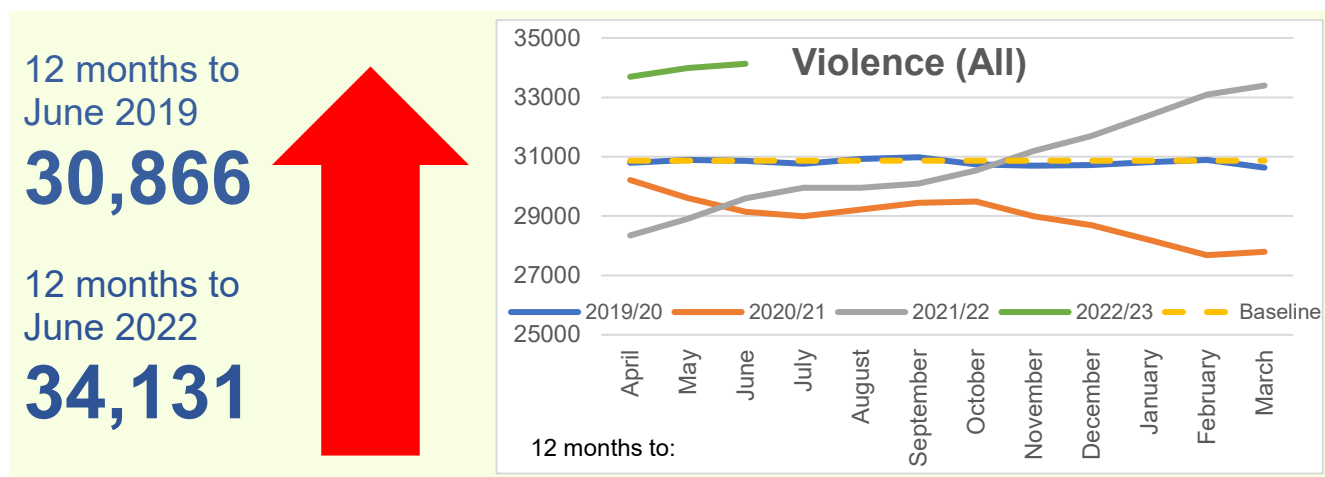
1.3 Offences involving discharge of a firearm (National Measure)



In the 12 months to June 2022, 35 offences involving the discharge of a firearm were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is 31 fewer offences and represents a 47% decrease when compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019).

These offences make-up a very small proportion of total police recorded crime in Devon and Cornwall (0.03%).

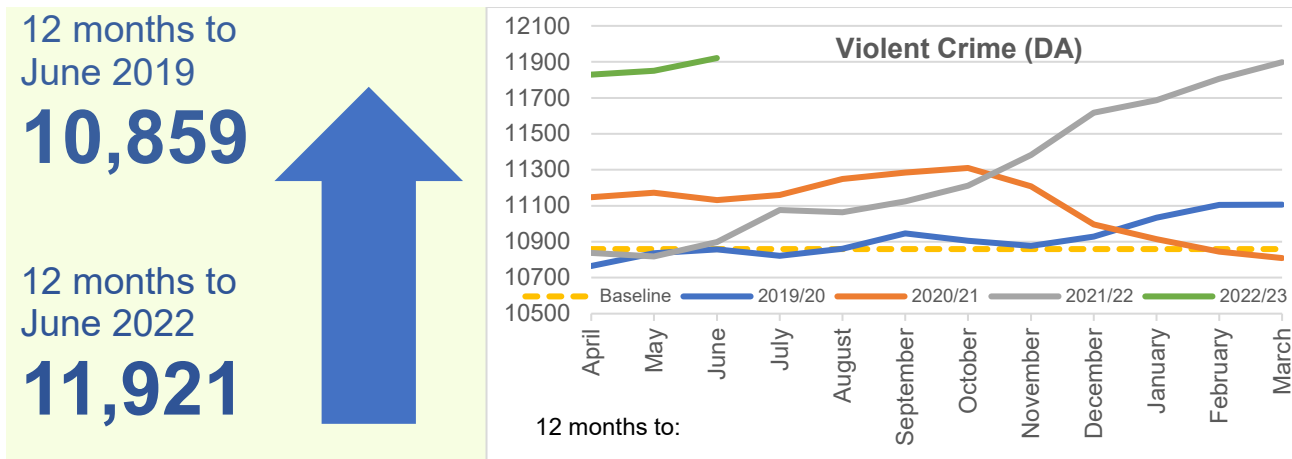
1.4 Violent Crime (All)



In the 12 months to June 2022, 34,131 violent offences were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is an increase of 10.6% (+3,265) compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019) and represents an increasing trend since April 2021. This coincides with the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions following the third national lockdown in early 2021. Local police recorded crime data indicates that reported violent crime is now exceeding the levels seen before the pandemic, which is consistent with national trends. The majority of the increase in violent crime is being driven by increases in violence without injury offences.

1. Violence

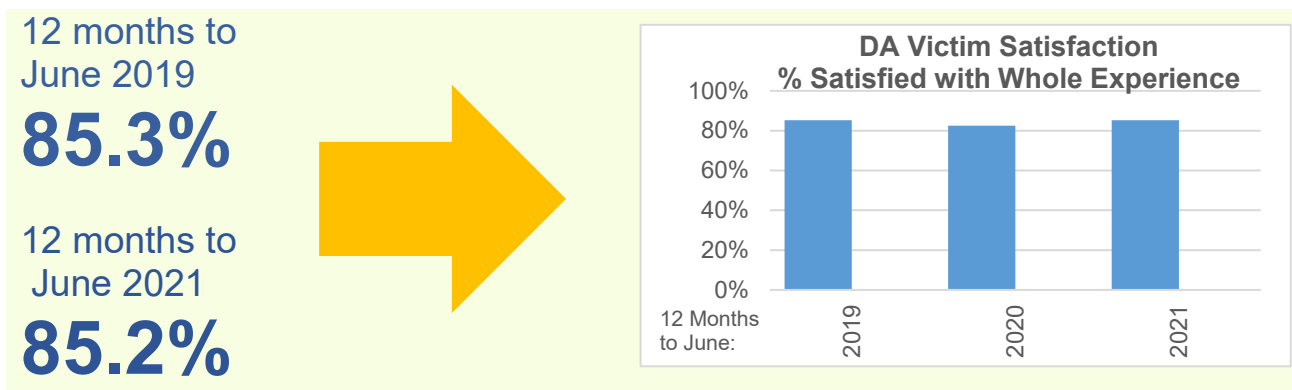
1.5 Violent Crime (Domestic Violence)



Domestic abuse is often a hidden crime that is not reported to the police so data held by the police can only provide a partial picture of the actual level of domestic abuse experienced. It is therefore difficult to make objective inferences about performance based on increases or decreases in domestic abuse crimes. For instance, an increase in domestic violence crime could be interpreted as a positive reflection of victims' confidence in reporting. Conversely, an increase in reports could reflect a 'real' increase in victimisation and therefore a negative outcome. The levels of reporting, victim support and victim satisfaction are closely monitored by the Commissioner to inform performance assessments in this area.

In the 12 months to June 2022, 11,921 violent offences were flagged as related to domestic violence. This is a 9.8% increase (+1,062) when compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019). This trend is consistent with increases seen nationally.

1.6 Victim Satisfaction (Domestic Abuse)

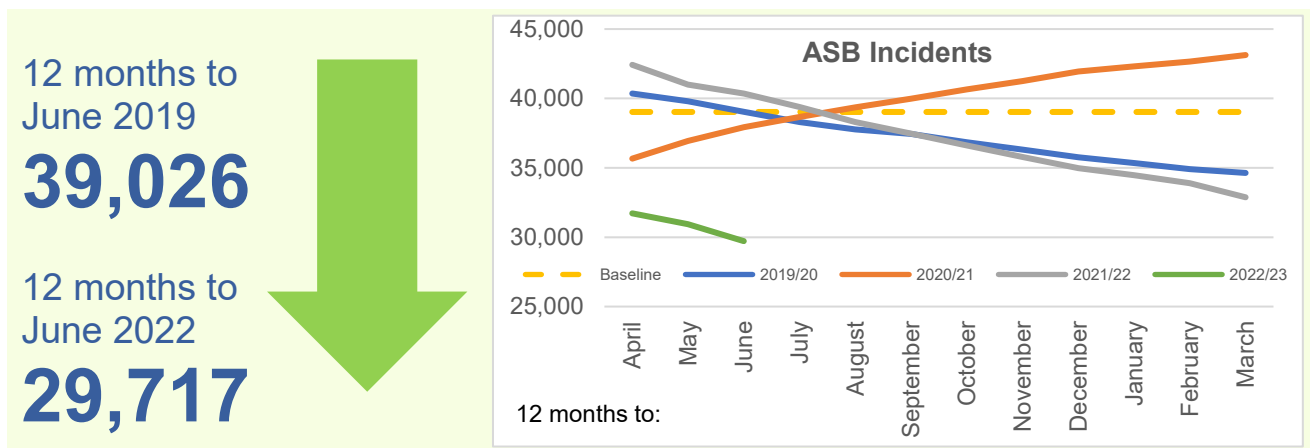


Devon and Cornwall Police have made changes to how they conduct the surveying of victims of crime. Victim satisfaction surveys have been carried out throughout the year and a robust sample size to understand the victim's experience has been collected. Results will be analysed by Devon and Cornwall Police and an update will be shared with the Panel in November.

As stated in the previous report, in the 12 months to June 2021, 85.2% of domestic abuse victims stated they were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police. This indicates stable performance when compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019).

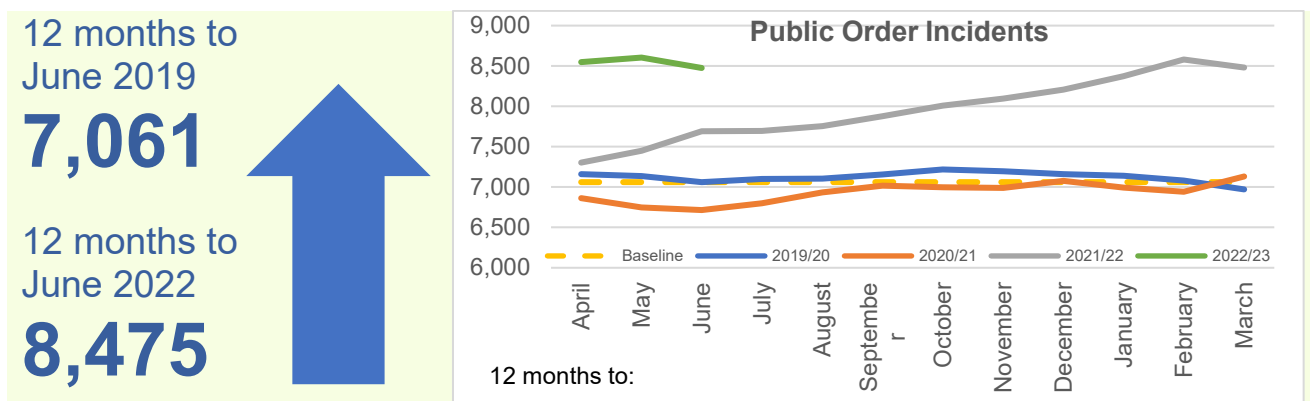
2. Antisocial Behaviour

2.1 Number of ASB Incidents recorded by the Police



In the 12 months to June 2022, 29,717 ASB incidents were recorded by Devon and Cornwall Police. This is a 23.9% decrease (-9,309) on the baseline year the (12 months to June 2019). Levels of ASB were higher during much of 2020/21 due to the additional reporting of Covid-19 restriction breaches. The number of ASB incidents recorded by the police in 2021/22 is similar to that of the pre-coronavirus year 2019/20. Trends in ASB data need to be interpreted with caution; a decrease in reported ASB incidents does not necessarily reflect a real decrease in levels of ASB as it is possible that some incidents are not reported.

2.2 Recorded number of Public Order Offences



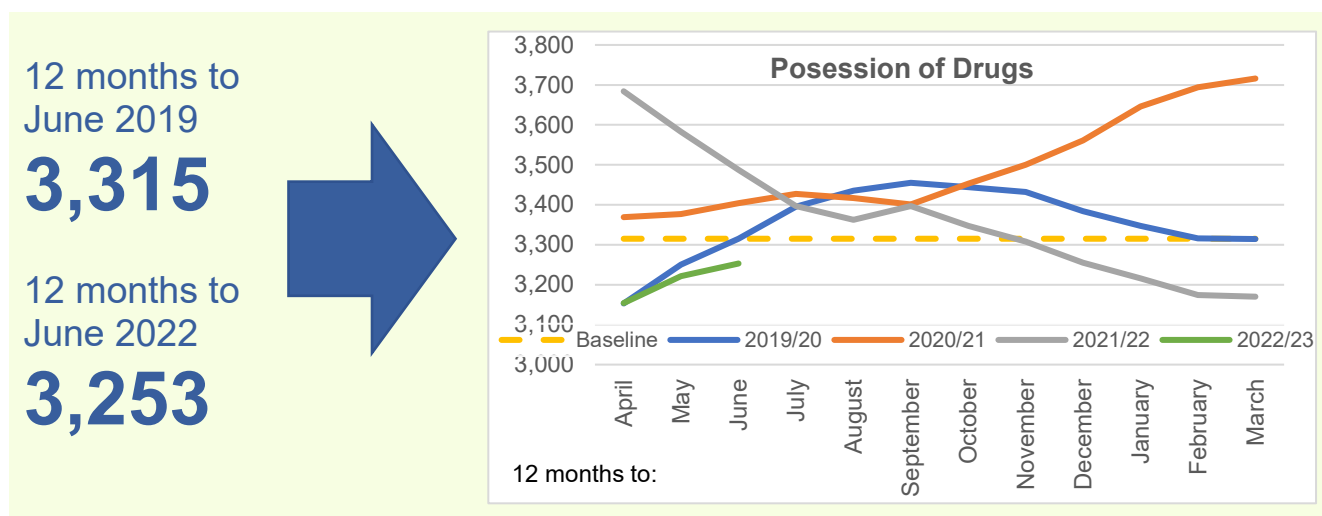
In the 12 months to June 2022, 8,475 public order offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a 20% increase (+1,414) on the baseline (12 months to June 2019) and the level of public order offences across Devon and Cornwall are higher than the pre-coronavirus year 2019/20. The increasing trend is consistent with the national and regional picture.

Typically, public order offences are a product of pro-active policing activity, much of which is associated with the policing the night-time economy.

Based on the latest ONS release of police recorded crime covering the period 12 months to March 2022, Devon and Cornwall's public order rate is 4.7 crimes per 1,000 population. This is lower than both the national rate of 10.0 and the SW Region rate of 7.4. Devon and Cornwall have the lowest rate of public order offences in the SW Region and when compared with its most similar force group areas. Nonetheless, the Commissioner will continue to monitor public order trends closely.

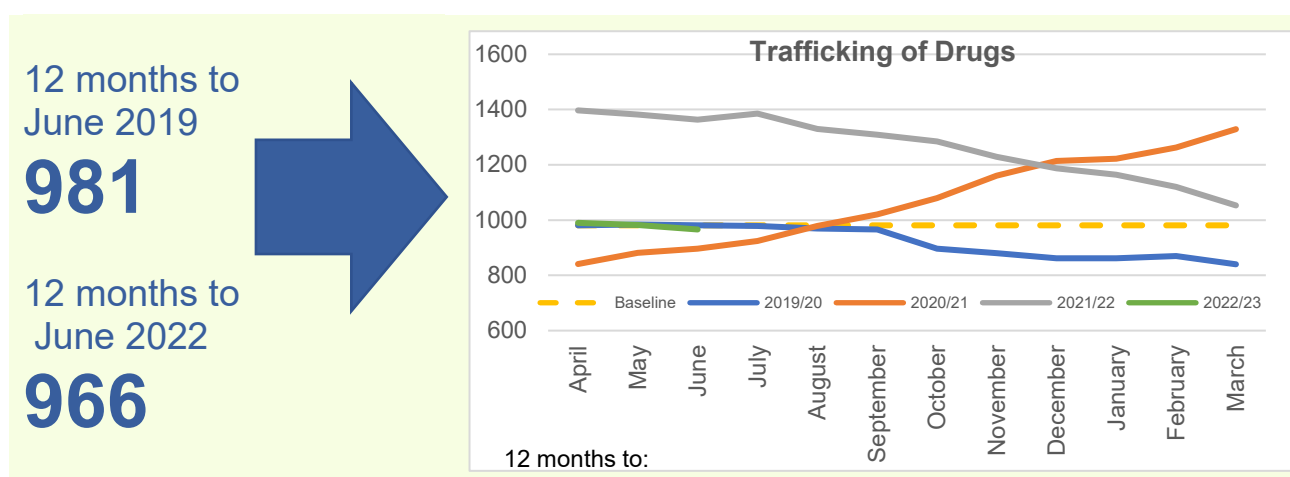
3. Drugs

3.1 Possession of Drugs Offences



In the 12 months to June 2022, 3,253 possession offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a slight decrease of 1.9% (-62) compared with the number of offences recorded in the baseline year (12 months to June 2019). The increasing trend which was previously seen has steadily decreased in the second half of 2021-22. The increase in drug offences seen during the Covid-19 lockdown periods is unlikely to be driven by higher drug activity, but reflective of pro-active policing and the result of increased ease to identifying drug related activity when 'stay at home' advice was in place.

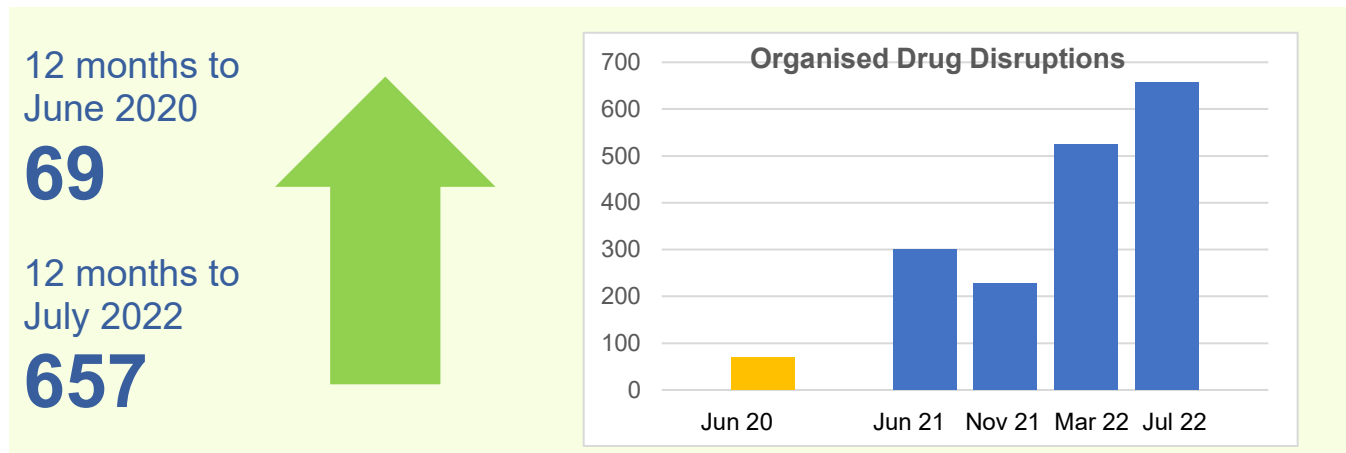
3.2 Drug Trafficking Offences



Drug trafficking includes selling, transporting, or importing illegal drugs. In the 12 months to June 2022, 966 drug trafficking offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a slight decrease of 1.5% (-15) on the number of offences recorded in the baseline year (12 months to June 2019). The increasing trend which was previously seen has steadily decreased in the second half of 2021-22. The increase in drug offences seen during the Covid-19 lockdown periods is unlikely to be driven by higher drug activity, but reflective of pro-active policing and the result of increased ease to identifying drug related activity when 'stay at home' advice was in place.

3. Drugs

3.3 Organised Drug Disruptions



In the 12 months to July 2022, 657 disruptions were carried out by Devon and Cornwall Police of which had links to County Lines and Dangerous Drug Networks and 520 arrests were made. This is an 852.2% increase (+588) on the number of disruptions carried out in the baseline year (12 months to June 2020). Whilst there has been an increase in the number of disruptions since the baseline year, some of the increase is also attributed to changes in recording – the data now includes multiple disruptions for each organised crime group, where previously multiple disruptions for the same organised crime group were only counted once in the period.

Over 14-15 June, Devon and Cornwall Police carried out a significant number of searches in Torquay, Paignton, Teignmouth and Newton Abbot. The operation was carried out as part of project Medusa, which is led by Merseyside Police and aims to tackle county lines – criminal gangs supplying drugs across the UK using dedicated mobile phone lines. Over the two-day operation 40 people were arrested for offences such as: Possession with intent to supply class A and B drugs; Being concerned in the supply of drugs; Possession of an offensive weapon; Money laundering; Drug driving; Driving whilst disqualified. Of those arrested, four people were charged to court with offences of possession with intent to supply drugs and being concerned in the supply of drugs. As part of the operation officers also seized multiple kilograms of suspected Class A and B drugs (Heroin, Cocaine and Amphetamine), electronic scales, multiple bladed weapons, mobile devices, a significant quantity of cash and twelve vehicles.

The Commissioner has thanked both the Merseyside team and local officers who have put a considerable amount of effort into preparing intelligence for this operation. Drugs and drug-related crime are extremely harmful to our communities, operations such as these are crucial to targeting those responsible and safeguard vulnerable people to prevent further harm.

4. Road Safety

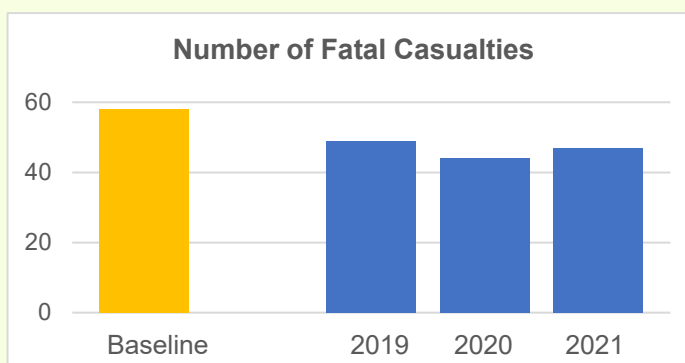
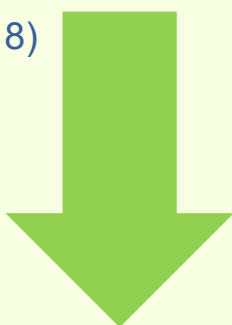
4.1 Number of Fatal Casualties

Baseline
(Average 2016-2018)

58

12 months to
December 2021

47



This measure has not been updated since the July Panel meeting. The number of fatal casualties will now be updated annually on receipt of fully validated data from the Vision Zero South West partnership. This data excludes fatalities which are later identified as medical episodes, suicides, death after 30 days and fatalities on private roads.

As stated in the previous report 47 fatalities were recorded on Devon and Cornwall's roads in the 12 months to December 2021: 11 fewer fatalities than the baseline year. The reduction in road traffic during much of the Covid-19 pandemic contributed to a decrease in fatal casualties. As we emerged from the pandemic and road usage increased, the number of people killed on Devon and Cornwall's roads increased by 6.8% compared with 2020, which means that 3 more people lost their lives on our roads in 2021. Compared with 2019 the number of fatalities remain lower.

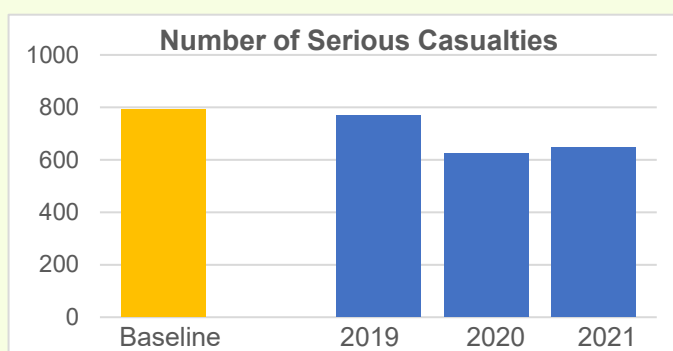
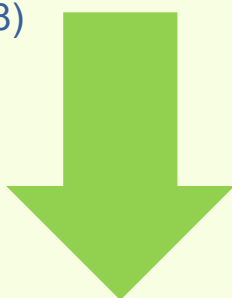
4.2 Number of Serious Casualties

Baseline
(Average 2016-2018)

791

12 months to
December 2021

647



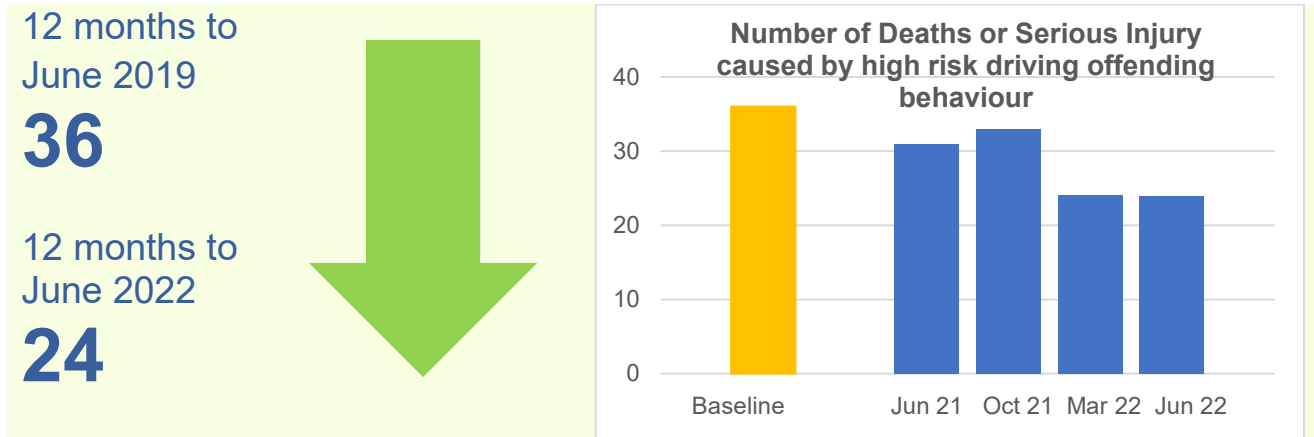
This measure has not been updated since the July Panel meeting. The number of serious casualties will now be updated annually to align with Vision Zero South West partnership validated data.

As stated in the previous report 647 people were seriously injured on Devon and Cornwall's roads in the 12 months to December 2021. This represents a 18.2% decrease (-144) when compared to the baseline period of 2016-18.

As with fatalities, the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in a reduction in casualties. As we emerged from the pandemic last year and road usage increased, the number of people seriously injured on Devon and Cornwall's roads has increased by 3.9% compared with 2020, which means that 24 more people were seriously injured on our roads in 2021. Compared with 2019 and earlier years (2016-18), the number of seriously injured casualties remain lower.

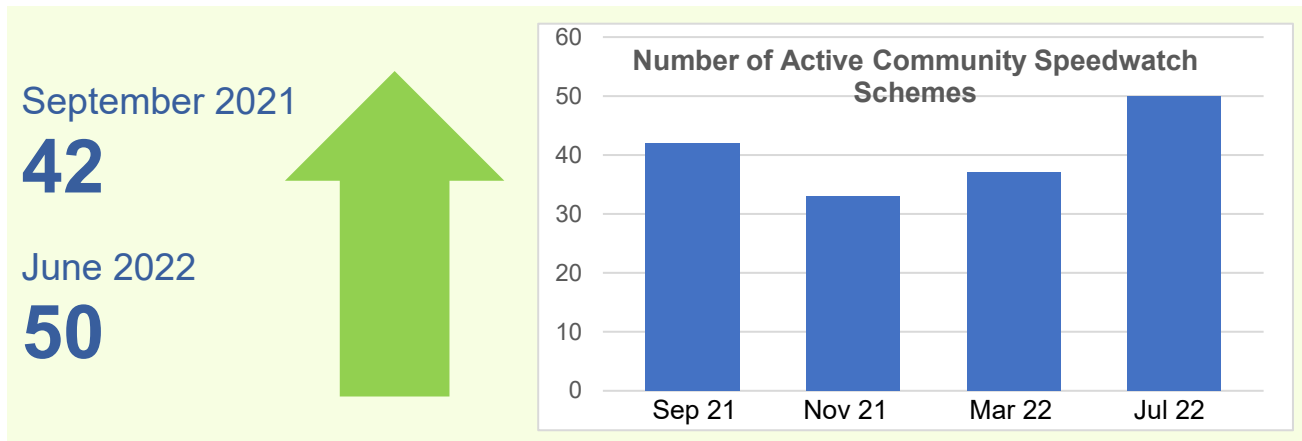
4. Road Safety

4.3 Number of offences related to death or serious injury caused by high risk driving behaviour



24 offences of death or serious injury caused by high-risk driving behaviour were recorded in the 12 months to June 2022. This is a 33.3% decrease (-12) on the number of offences recorded when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019. The current data remains below the baseline year and a decreasing trend is evident.

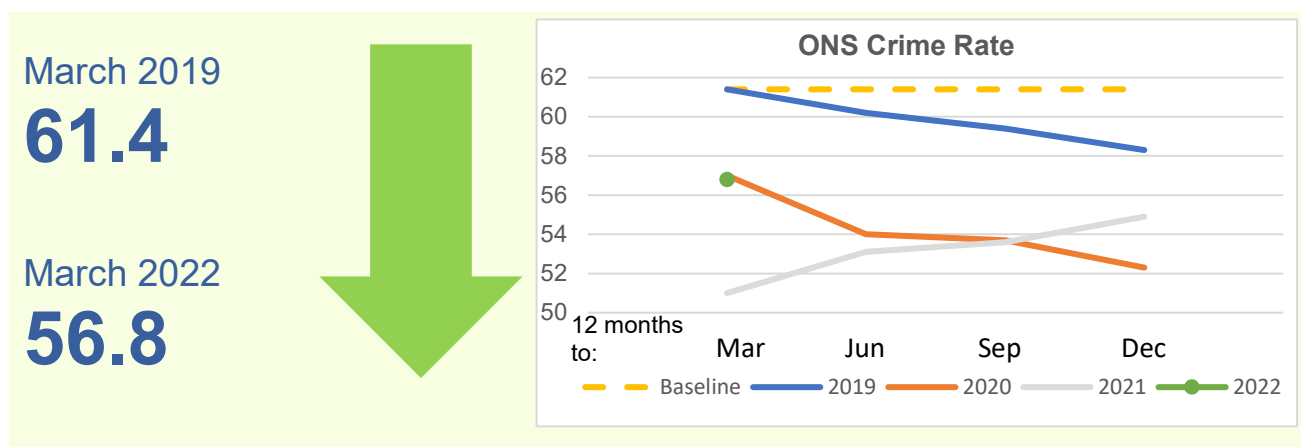
4.4 Number of active Community Speedwatch Schemes



During June 2022, there were 50 active Community Speedwatch (CSW) Schemes out of 171 CSW Schemes in total. This is 17 more active schemes than reported in November 2021 (33 active schemes). Devon and Cornwall Police's CSW policy states that Speed Watch can only take place in 'good visibility during daylight hours and must not take place in adverse weather conditions'. The improving weather and increase in daylight hours are likely to explain the increase in active schemes. The Commissioner is expecting the number of active CSW schemes to increase throughout the summer and is also encouraged that the number of schemes signed up to CSW continues to increase – 22 more since November 2021 (149 Schemes) and 32 more schemes since last September (139 schemes).

5. Safe

5.1 ONS Crime Rate Devon and Cornwall

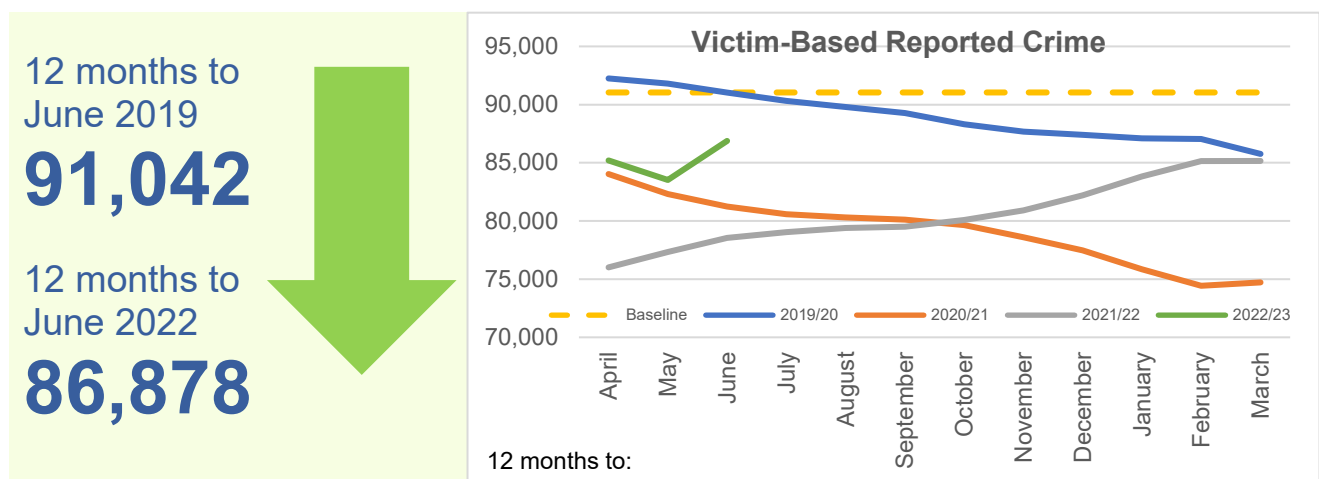


Patterns of crime over the last two years have been substantially affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and government restrictions on social contact. Since restrictions were lifted following the third national lockdown in early 2021, police recorded crime data shows indications that certain offence types are returning to or exceeding the levels seen before the pandemic. Violence, public order and sexual offences recorded by the police have exceeded pre-pandemic levels, while theft offences remain at lower levels.

Total recorded crime remains lower than 3 years ago but as expected is steadily on the increase and consistent with national, regional and most similar force group trends. The latest ONS data for the 12 months to March 2022 shows that Devon and Cornwall's crime rate has increased to 56.8 crimes per 1,000 population which equates to 101,323 recorded crimes in the year. Despite the increase, Devon and Cornwall has the 2nd lowest crime rate nationally, which is significantly lower than the England and Wales average of 89.3 crimes per 1,000 population.

Devon and Cornwall's crime rate for this period (56.8) remains 1.1 times lower than the baseline year (12 months to March 2019) and a long-term declining trend is still evident.

5.2 Victim-based reported crime

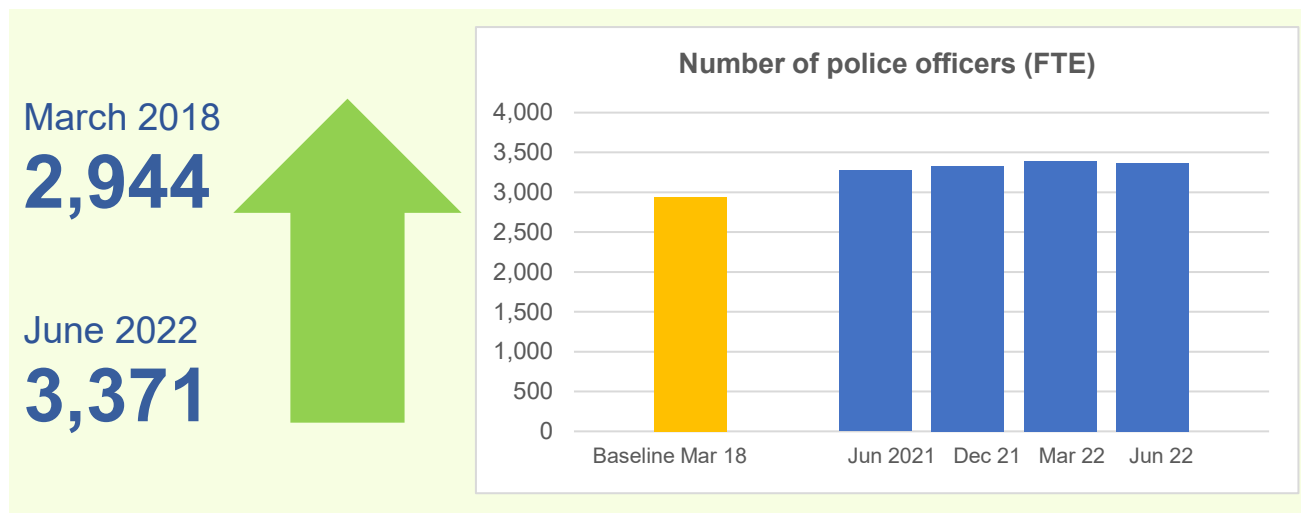


5. Safe

Victim based crime includes violence, sexual offences, stalking, harassment, theft, criminal damage and arson. In the 12 months to June 2022, 86,878 victim-based crimes were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is a 4.6% decrease (-4,164) when compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019).

The decrease in victim-based crimes is likely attributable, in part, to the COVID-19 pandemic and the varying lockdown restrictions throughout this period. This created significant reductions in social interaction and decreased opportunities for crime. However, as expected with the continued easing of COVID-19 restrictions there has been a steady increase in victim-based crimes since April 2021. The latest data shows that there has been a 10.7% increase in victim-based crime compared with last year, but the volume of crimes remain lower than 3 years ago. Decreases across most theft offence categories are the main contributors to the continued downward trend which is evident for victim-based crime when compared to the baseline year.

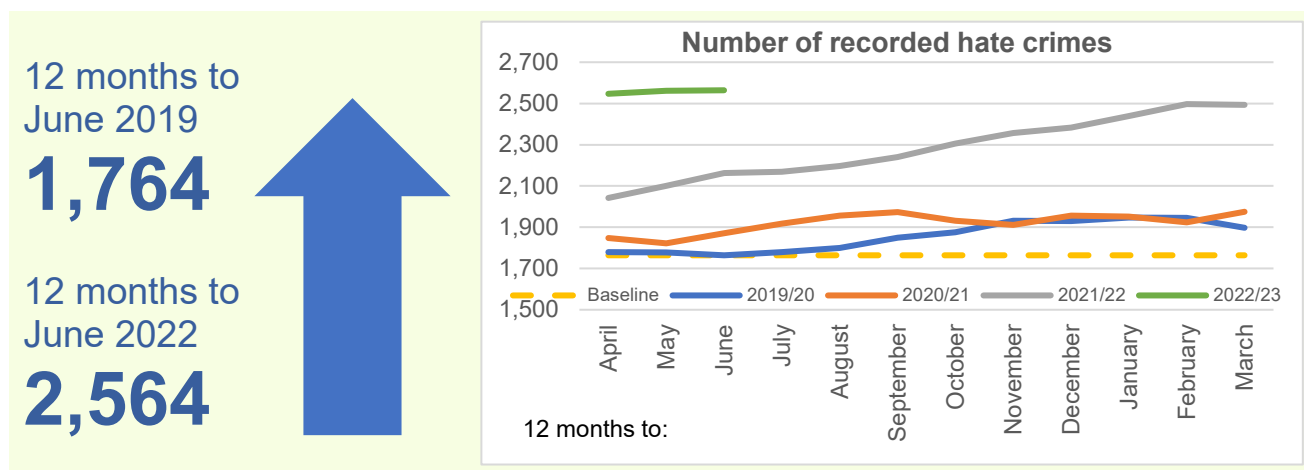
5.3 Number of Police Officers (FTE)



The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers employed by Devon and Cornwall Police as of June 2022 was 3,371. Compared with the baseline year (12 months to March 2018), there has been a 14.5% increase which equates to an additional 427 FTE officers.

5. Safe

5.4 Number of Recorded Hate crimes



2,564 hate crimes were recorded in the 12 months to June 2022. This is a 45.4% increase (+800) when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019. Despite the observed increase, it is difficult to make objective inferences about performance based on increases or decreases in hate crime. For instance, an increase in offences could be interpreted as positive, because victims may be more confident to report to the police, or the police may have made recording improvements when identifying hate offences. Conversely, the trend could also be interpreted as negative because it could be reflective of a 'real' increase in victimisation.

Hate related crime accounts for 2.5% of total crime recorded in Devon and Cornwall. Of the 2,564 hate crimes recorded in the last year, 44.2% were public order related hate crime offences, and these were predominately racially or religiously aggravated public fear and public fear or distress offences. Stalking and harassment related hate crime offences (19.8%) make up the second highest proportion of all hate crime and have increased compared with three years ago – a high proportion of which relates to malicious communication offences.

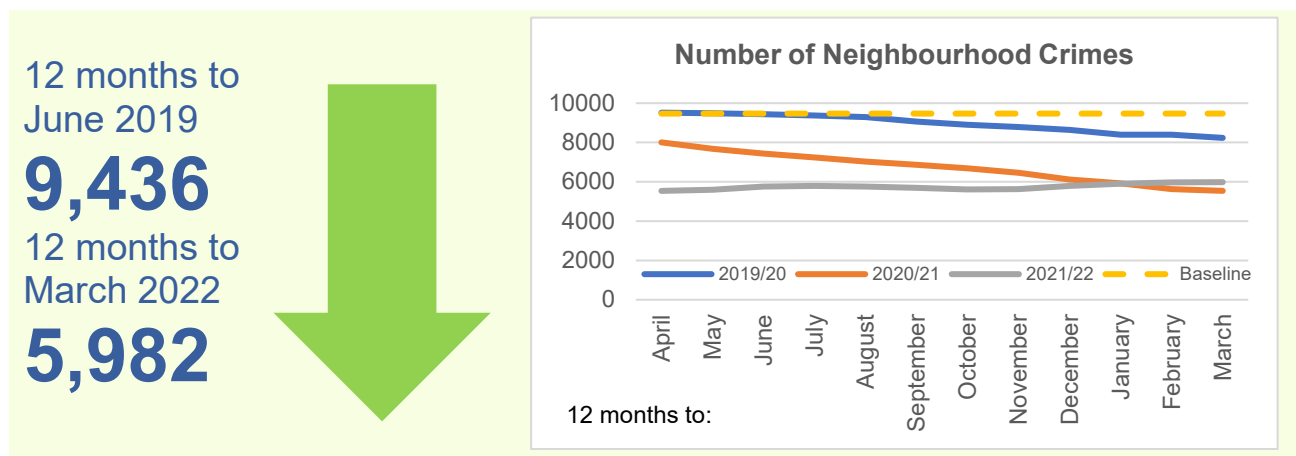
The majority of hate crime reports across Devon and Cornwall in the last year were racially motivated, followed by sexual orientation and disability related hate crimes – all of which have increased over the last three years.

Over the past three years the number of hate crimes reported through email has increased by 200.4% (equivalent to 509 crimes). There has also been an increase in those being reported online (308.3% equivalent to 37 crimes). These increases could indicate improved reporting due to the availability of alternative contact methods. There has also been notable increases in hate crime disclosed as part of an ongoing investigation and discovered by Police. These increases could indicate improved awareness and understanding of hate crime and contribute to the increasing numbers of reported hate crimes.

The Commissioner will continue to monitor trends in hate crime closely to understand the offence types that are contributing to the increase and the force's response to victims.

5. Safe

5.5 Number of Neighbourhood Crimes (National Measure)



Neighbourhood crime consists of the following offence types: Burglary dwelling, robbery, theft of and from a vehicle and theft from the person. In the 12 months to March 2022, 5,982 neighbourhood crimes were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a 36.6% decrease (-3,454) when compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019). The number of neighbourhood crimes previously reported to the Panel included burglary non-dwelling offences. To align with the national measure, the number of recording burglary non-dwelling offences are no longer included as part of this measure and account for the variation to the baseline of the 12 months to June 2019.

Much of the decrease may be attributable to the Covid-19 pandemic, including restrictions on social interactions, limitations on movements and the increased time that people have spent in their homes. In recent months, small increases in neighbourhood crimes have been evident but levels remain below pre-pandemic levels. Devon and Cornwall continue to have the lowest rate of residential burglary in England and Wales of 0.9 crimes per 1,000 population compared with the national average of 3.2.

6. Resilient

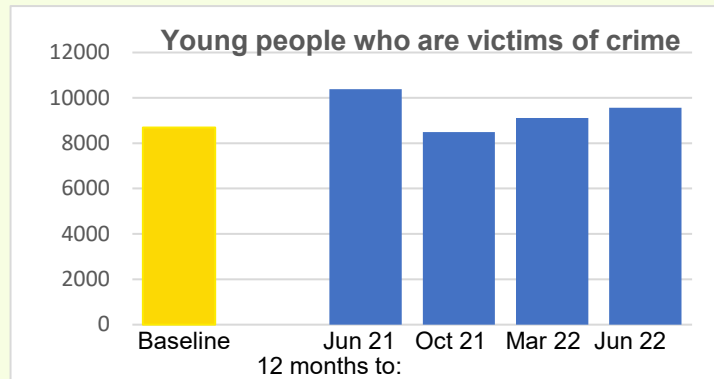
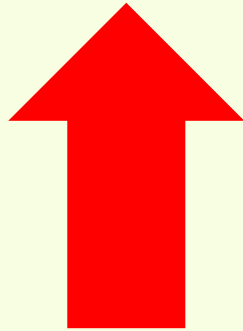
6.1 Number of Young People who are victims of crime

12 months to
June 2019

8,692

12 months to
June 2022

9,569



In the 12 months to June 2022, 9,569 people under the age of 18 were identified as a victim of crime in Devon and Cornwall. This is 10.1% more victims (+877) when compared to the baseline year (12 months to June 2019) and higher than the number reported to the Panel in July. The Commissioner will continue to monitor the number of young people who are victims of crime closely and will work with Devon and Cornwall Police to identify if there are particular offence groups where increases in young victims is evident.

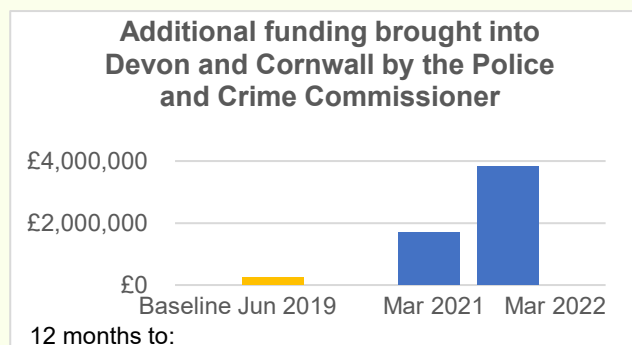
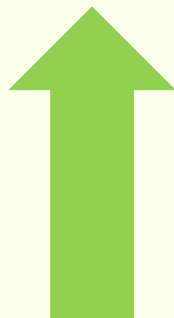
6.2 Amount of Funding bought into Devon and Cornwall by the Police and Crime Commissioner

Financial year 2018/19

£238,228

Financial year 2021/22

£3,829,262



This measure will not be updated again until the end of the 2022/23 financial year. There has been no change to the figure which was reported to the Panel in July 2022.

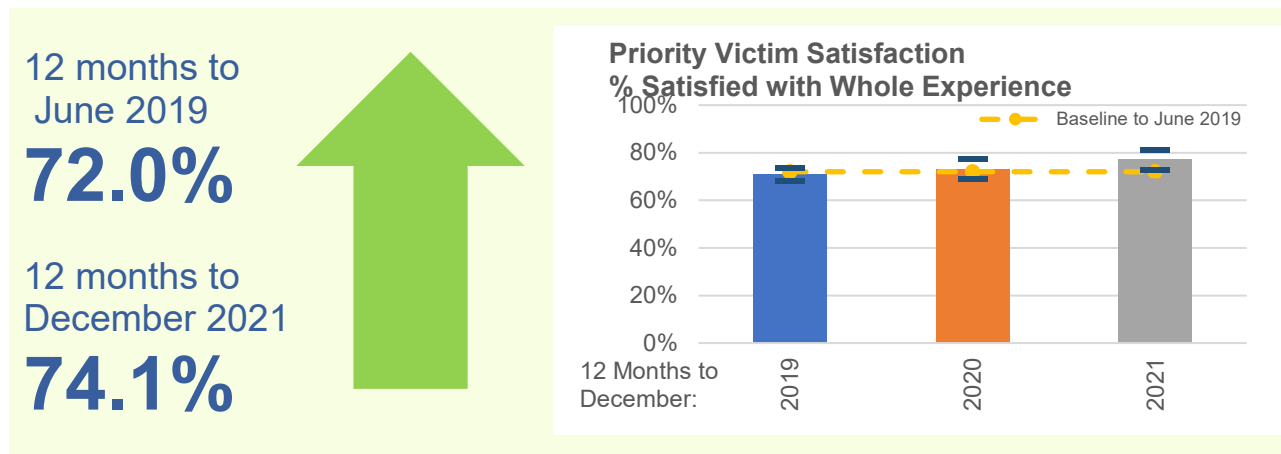
The Commissioner has secured £3,829,262 of additional funding in the financial year 2021/22 to help tackle crime and support victims. This figure includes the additional funding the OPCC has secured, as well as funding the OPCC has supported partners in securing.

The Commissioner has secured £1,591,513 of additional funding which has primarily supported victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence. This figure also includes funding to support Keyham victims.

The OPCC has supported partner bids across Devon and Cornwall helping to secure an additional £2,237,749 of funding. This includes Safer Streets funding to tackle neighbourhood crime and violence against women and girls, Pathfinder for adult victims and survivors of sexual assault and abuse with complex trauma related mental health needs, Changing Futures (a 3-year programme to support people facing multiple disadvantage), Visible Policing and Community Safety in Keyham and a project focused on the safety of women at night (SWAN) in Exeter.

6. Resilient

6.3 Percentage (%) of victims that were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police



This survey is based on priority victim satisfaction. Priority victims are those that are victims of serious crimes which include domestic abuse, hate crime, sexual offences, attempted murder as well as victims who are persistently targeted, vulnerable or intimidated.

Devon and Cornwall Police have made changes to how they conduct the surveying of victims of crime. Victim satisfaction surveys have been carried out throughout the year and a robust sample size to understand the victim's experience has been collected. Results will be analysed by Devon and Cornwall Police and an update will be shared with the Panel in November.

As stated in the previous report, in the 12 months to December 2021, 74.1% of priority victims of crime were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police. This is +2.1% higher than the baseline year (72.0%) and indicates an improving trend. The Commissioner will continue to monitor victim-satisfaction levels closely as new data becomes available.

7. Connected

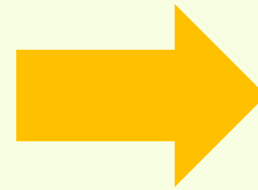
7.1 Number of Customer Contact points Open to the Public

October 2021

10

July 2022

10



Monitoring the number of customer contact points open to the public – for instance, via front desks – will be one way of helping the Commissioner to evaluate connectivity. As of July 2022, there were 10 customer contact points open to the public across Devon and Cornwall and there has been no change since the last report to Panel in July.

As previously reported to panel, there are plans to reopen four front desks (Falmouth, Penzance, Tiverton and Newton Abbot) by November 2022. Since then, two additional front desks (Bude and Truro) have been added to the project and work is ongoing to open these desks by January 2023.

The opening hours are planned to be Monday to Saturday, 10am-3pm, however opening hours/days may be reduced initially while sufficient staff are recruited and trained. In addition, the existing front desks operated by the force will benefit from extended opening hours of 8am-6pm on the same days.

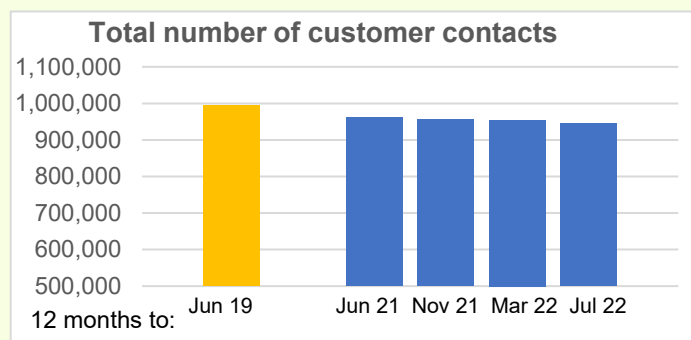
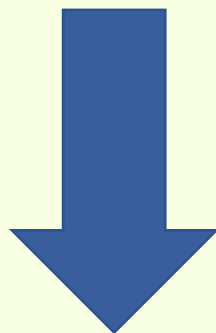
7.2 Number of Customer Contacts (999, 101, Online)

12 months to
June 2019

993,666

12 months to
July 2022

945,221



In the 12 months to July 2022 Devon and Cornwall Police's Contact Centre received just over 945,221 contacts. This consisted of the following activity:

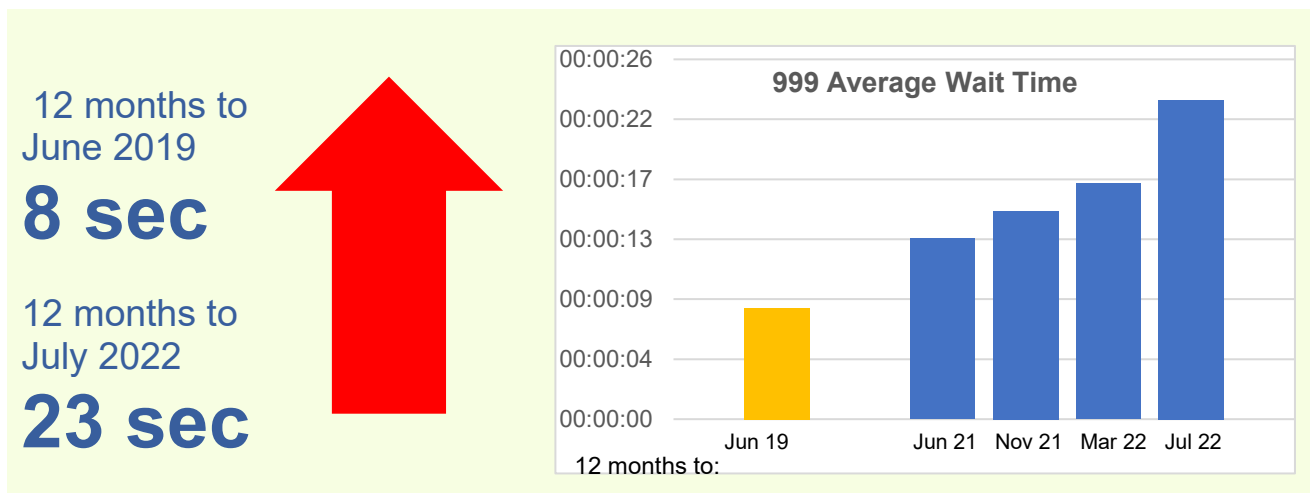
- 999 calls: 315,500
- 101 calls: 423,435
- 101 Emails and texts: 134,016
- 101 Webchat: 72,270

This indicates that fewer contacts have been received compared to the baseline year of the 12 months to June 2019. A reduction in the number of all 101 calls received has contributed to the decrease. All other contact types, including 999 emergency calls and 101 alternative contact methods (including Email, Text and Webchat) have increased.

The number of emails and texts received has increased by approximately 41% (or 39,242 more emails and texts received) and the number of Webchats received has increased by 770% (or 63,960 more Webchats received). The increase in email and text volumes is not unexpected given the communications from Devon and Cornwall Police and the OPCC to encourage use of these alternative contact methods.

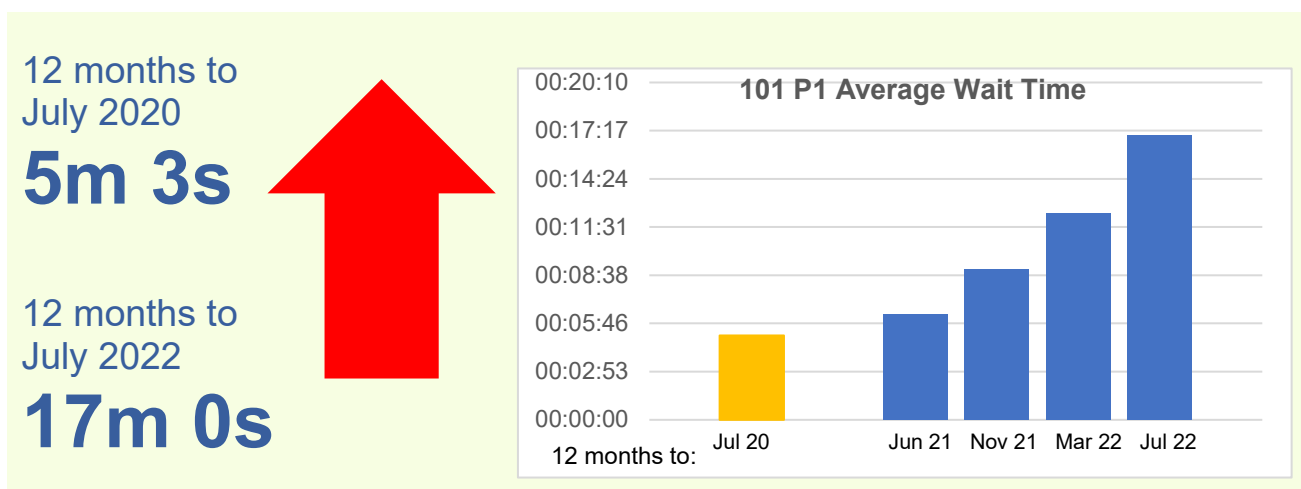
7. Connected

7.3 101 and 999 call wait times: 999 average wait time



The average answer time for 999 emergency calls has increased by 15 seconds in the 12 months to July 2022 when compared to the baseline year (the 12 months to June 2019). This has taken the average wait time for 999 calls to 23 seconds. When compared to the figure last reported to Panel (for the 12 months to March 2022) the average wait time has increased by 6 seconds. More calls have been received and answered in the latest period – there has been a 35.9% increase in 999 calls received (+83,334) and a 29.8% increase in the number of 999 calls answered compared with the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019.

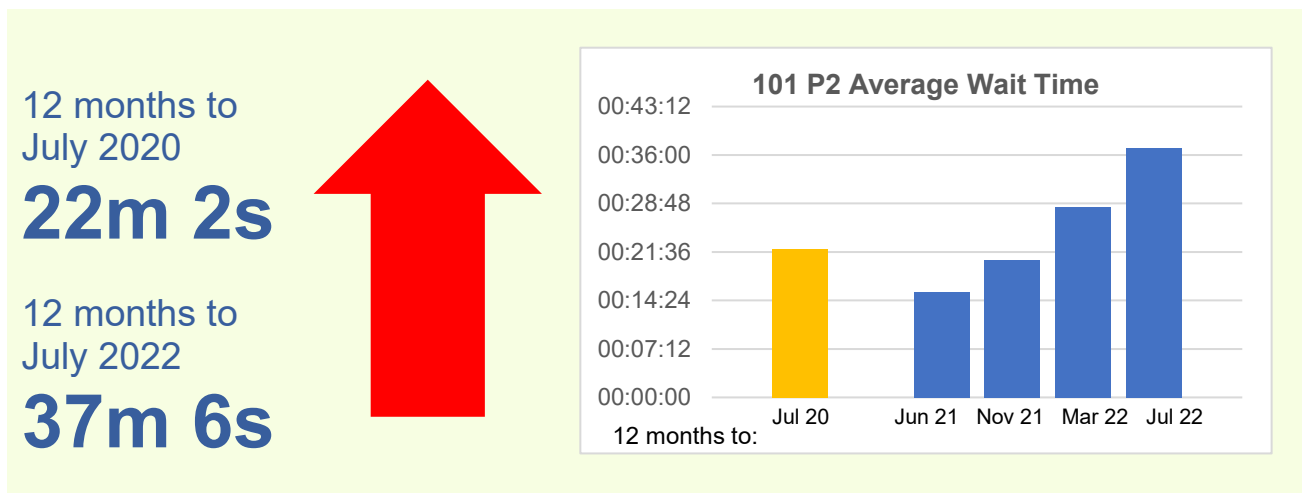
7.4 101 and 999 call wait times: 101 P1 average wait time



P1 (or Priority 1) non-emergency calls are those calls that are identified by the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system as high priority. These include calls relating to domestic abuse, sexual offences, hate crime, missing persons, and road safety. In the year to July 2022, the average wait time on the P1 line was 17 minutes. This is an increase of 11 minutes 57 seconds when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to July 2020. Compared to the figure last reported to the Panel, for the 12 months to March 2022, the average wait time has increased by 4 minutes 40 seconds. Fewer calls have been received in the latest period, fewer answered and a higher abandonment rate is evident.

7. Connected

7.5 101 and 999 call wait times: 101 P2 average wait time



P2 (or Priority 2) non-emergency calls relate to all 101 calls that are not identified as urgent by the IVR system. This could include calls regarding anti-social behaviour or callers requesting updates about ongoing investigations. The average wait time on the P2 line in the 12 months to June 2022 was 37 minutes 6 seconds. This is an increase of 15 minutes 4 seconds when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to July 2020. Compared to the figure reported to the Panel in the last meeting – for the 12 months to March 2022 – the average wait time has increased by 8 minutes 47 seconds and an upward trend is evident in recent periods. Fewer calls have been received and answered in the latest period and a higher abandonment rate is evident.

7.6 Levels of Public Confidence in the Police



In the continued absence of survey results for Devon and Cornwall from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), Devon and Cornwall Police are conducting public surveying to explore public confidence. The first results were presented to the Panel in July (as below) and the second survey results will be presented to the Panel in November.

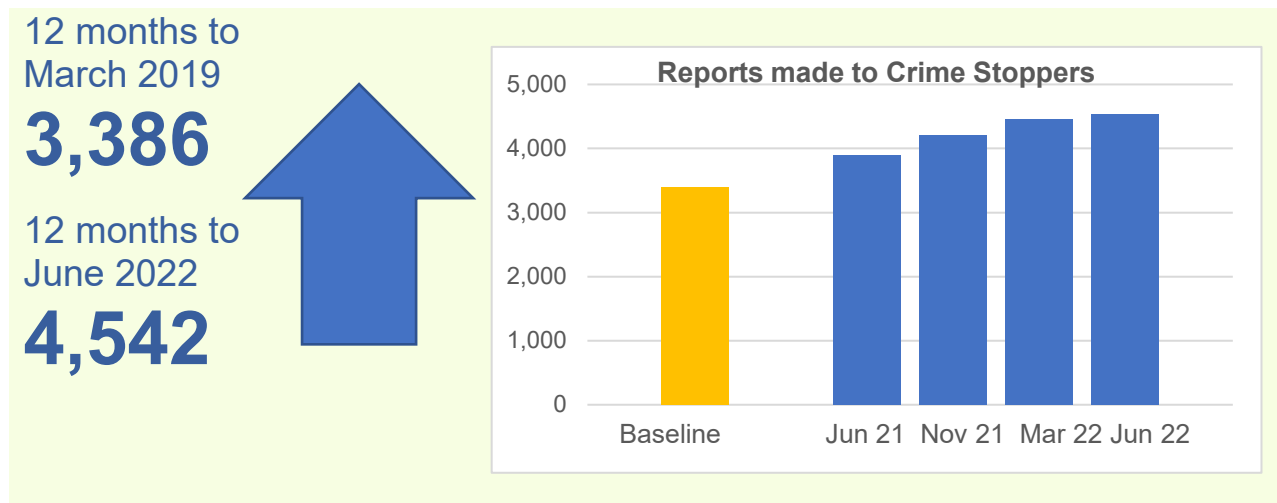
Historically, data measuring public confidence has been taken from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW). It was reported in the last Panel paper that in the year to March 2020, 77.5% of Devon and Cornwall's residents agreed with the statement that, 'taking everything into account, [they] have confidence in the police in [Devon and Cornwall]'. This was a 1.3% increase on the baseline year, the 12 months to March 2019.

Since the last Panel meeting Devon and Cornwall Police conducted public surveying in February / March to explore public confidence. A total of 500 surveys were conducted via telephone, representative of the demographic profile within the force area.

7. Connected

Whilst the results are based on a small sample size, the first wave of public surveying indicates that almost nine in ten (87%) agree with the statement “taking everything into account I have confidence in the police in this area” compared with 77.5% in March 2020. However, due to differing methodologies these results cannot be directly compared with the last CSEW data in 2020.

7.7 Reports made to Devon and Cornwall from Crime Stoppers



Crime Stoppers is a national charity which allows people to call anonymously to report information about crime. Any information which Crime Stoppers deem useful to the police is passed onto the respective local police force. In the 12 months to June 2022, 4,542 reports were disseminated to Devon and Cornwall Police via Crime Stoppers. This is a 34.1% increase (+1156) on the number of reports received in the baseline year - the 12 months to March 2019. An upward trend in the number of reports continues to be evident and the Commissioner welcomes this increase in the number of reports.