



Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Needs Assessment 2023

January 2024

What is the Police and Crime Needs Assessment?

The PCNA provides a shared overview of the main crime, community safety and criminal justice issues, risks and threats facing Nottinghamshire

The PCNA is used to inform:

- The Police and Crime Delivery Plan 2024-25
- Grants and commissioning process for 2024-25
- Organisational planning for 2024 and beyond

Combines a range of partner agency data and stakeholder perspectives

Forward looking, with a focus on priority threats, outliers and emerging risks

Refreshed annually in line with the PCC's strategic commissioning cycle



Information used to inform the PCNA

How is the picture changing?

Projections and forecasting

What issues are causing the greatest harm to communities?

Crime Harm
Index
weightings

Intelligence
profiles & MoRiLE
Assessments

Professional /
practitioner
judgement

Academic
research,
risk registers

What are the issues of greatest concern to local residents?

Police & Crime
Survey, Focus
Groups

Community
engagement
findings

Complaints,
contacts &
community trigger

Neighbourhood
priority setting
process

What are the escalating threats and opportunities for improvement?

Strategic
Assessments, audit
& inspection

Performance
monitoring &
Benchmarking

Futures / Horizon
scanning &
Assessments

Wider
determinants of
crime & ASB

Where are the gaps in our knowledge and understanding?

Intelligence &
indicators of
hidden harm

Extrapolation
from local &
national research

Profiles and
assessments of
unmet need

Service mgmt
statistics /
service attrition



How is the crime profile changing?

Overall crime trends have stabilised. Serious acquisitive crimes remain lower than the pre-COVID baseline while cyber-crime, fraud, domestic abuse and shoplifting are notably higher than pre-COVID levels

Underlying crime trends have stabilised alongside some changes in recording and pro-active policing

- Drug offences: trafficking up 42%, possession down 9%
- Serious acquisitive crime down 3%, but shoplifting up 32%
- Sustained (5-9%) reductions in anti-social behaviour
- Perpetrator profile remains broadly unchanged

Violence with injury, rape and domestic crimes continue to elicit the greatest levels of 'crime harm'

- Reductions (11%-15%) in violence with injury
- Reductions in Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (-5%)
- Rise in severity of some domestic crimes and knife crimes incl. threats to kill and coercive and controlling behaviour

Significant gaps in our knowledge and understanding of...

- Adult / Child slavery and exploitation and abuse
- Cyber-related harm and abuse
- Domestic & sexual violence and abuse = est. 45% reported
- Hate Crime = est. 39% reported
- Harassment and stalking = est. 40% reported
- Anti-social Behaviour – high prevalence, low reporting

Review of Partnership Priorities - 2023

A structured MoRiLE review has identified the following proposed priorities for 2024/25

	Individual Harm	Community Harm	Frequency	Volume	Trend	Knowledge	Resource
➔ Violence Against Women & Girls	Very high	Moderate	Very high	High	Stable	Evolving	Moderate
* Cyber-related harm / abuse	High	Low	Very high	High	Moderate increase	Fairly undeveloped	Low
➔ Domestic violence and abuse	Very high	Low	Very high	High	Stable	Evolving	Moderate
➔ Serious weapon enabled violence	Very high	Very high	Moderate	Low	Stable	Fairly evolved	High
* Financial crime incl. cyber-related	High	Low	Very high	Very high	Stable	Fairly undeveloped	Moderate
➔ Rape / serious sexual offences	Very high	Moderate	High	Low	Stable	Evolving	High
➔ Child Exploitation	Very high	High	Moderate	Very low	Stable	Fairly evolved	High
➔ Public space violence	High	High	High	Moderate	Stable	Fairly evolved	High
⬆ Shoplifting	Moderate	Low	High	High	Major increase	Fairly evolved	Low
⬆ Stalking and harassment	High	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate increase	Evolving	Moderate
⬇ Substance Use (Class A)	High	High	High	Low	Stable	Fairly evolved	High
⬇ Adult Exploitation	Very high	Low	High	Very low	Stable	Fairly evolved	Moderate

Review of Strategic Priorities for 2024/25

A structured MoRiLE review has identified the following core priorities for 2024/25

- **Violence against Women and Girls:** High level of psychological and physical harm, volume of individuals affected on a daily basis, significant opportunities to improve prevention and early intervention activity, capacity and capability constraints, emerging local and national strategic priority.
- **Cyber-related harm and abuse:** Substantial level of psychological harm presented on a daily basis; limitations in capacity and capability which impede management of the issue, significant opportunities to develop the intelligence profile, rising levels of demand
- **Domestic violence and abuse:** High level of psychological, financial and physical harm, volume of individuals affected daily, increasing levels of demand which are likely to compound existing capacity constraints, opportunities to address gaps in knowledge and reporting. N.B. The strong network of services available to support victims serves to offset some key risks in this area.
- **Serious and weapon enabled violence:** High level of psychological, physical and community harm, public interest in the wake of high-profile incidents, opportunities to further develop the intelligence picture. N.B. The strong level of investment in this agenda and introduction of the Serious Violence Duty in 2023 serves to offset some key risks.
- **Financial crime, including cyber-related:** Substantial level of financial and psychological harm presented on a daily basis; limitations in capacity and capability which impede management of the issue, significant opportunities to develop the intelligence profile, rising levels of demand. N.B. A growing partnership prevention focus in this area serves to offset some key risks.

Strategic challenges for 2024 and beyond

The PCNA highlights the following cross cutting strategic challenges for Nottinghamshire

- **Safeguarding young people at risk of harm and offending:** Increasing exposure to risk of harm, victimisation, and offending among children and young people
- **Reductions in public trust and confidence in the police** and other public services over the last year driven by a range of local, national and international factors
- **Safety and protection in the digital space:** Continued growth in online criminality and opportunities for harm in the digital space
- **Rising levels of vulnerability and Severe Multiple Disadvantage** particularly with regards to prevalence of needs relating to financial hardship and mental health
- **Victim experience and CJS outcomes:** The court backlog and system inefficiencies continue to impact on negatively upon victim experience and criminal justice outcomes
- **Serious and Organised Crime:** Organised criminality has an impact across several crime areas with opportunities for groups to expand.

Safeguarding young people at risk of harm and offending

Significant local outliers in first time entrants and other contextual risk factors (City). Evidence of increased risk of exploitation, offending, victimisation and harm at an increasingly young age

- Significant disparities in rates of permanent exclusion, school suspension and first-time entrants into the justice system (City)
- High proportion of young people represented as victims of sexual assault (71%), modern slavery (62%) knife-enabled robbery (61%)
- Rise in harmful online behaviours (+74% enforcement increase)
- Rise in child and adolescent to parent violence and abuse (+7%)
- Rise in grooming as a component of Child Sexual Exploitation (increased from 27% of all CSE to 42%)
- County Lines exploitation and Urban Street Gang involvement appears to be getting younger - notable rise in 13-15 year olds
- Rising complexity, particularly re. mental health

Strengths and Opportunities

- Increasing (+91%) use of educational & diversionary outcomes (Outcome 22)
- Growth in prevention & early intervention
- Serious Violence Duty compliance
- New legislation: Online Safety, Criminal Justice

Risks and Threats

- National rise in persistent truancy / absenteeism
- Rise in opportunities for online exploitation/abuse
- Pressures on provider landscape / care provision
- Increasing economic disadvantage
- Increasing lone access to digital environment

Deteriorating levels of public confidence in the police

Public confidence in the police has been deteriorating locally (and nationally) since March 2021, falling to a level well below the pre-pandemic baseline in 2023. Recent data indicates some signs of improvement.

- Public confidence in police fell from 55% in March 2020 to 52% in Sept 2023
- This has been reflected across all diagnostic indicators and local areas, with the exception of Ashfield (+2.4pp) and Newark and Sherwood (+4.8pp)
- Broxtowe and Gedling saw the most significant deterioration (-13% pts)
- Largely driven by perception that the police have a good reputation in the area (-6.7pp) and take people's concerns seriously (-5.3pp)
- Visible response to the issues that matter most to communities is key:
 - Speeding, racing and reckless driving (esp. South Notts)
 - Drug use and dealing (esp. Mansfield and Ashfield)
 - Burglary and car crime – all areas
 - Neighbourhood nuisance / ASB (esp. Mansfield and Ashfield)
- N.B. 6 months to Dec 2023 have shown early indications of improvement

Strengths and Opportunities

- Pro-active comms and engagement programme
- Neighbourhood level priority setting process
- Investment in N'hood Policing, Safer Streets, IJ
- Increased in ASB Case Review applications
- Independent Community Scrutiny
- Delivery of the national Race Action Plan

Risks and Threats

- Repercussions of national cases of misconduct
- Unregulated online space
- Growing resonance of digital disinformation
- Expectation v response to volume crime
- Engagement & visibility in rural communities

Safety and protection in the digital space

Rapidly evolving online environment continues to present new risks

- Cyber-related crime increased by 8%, most notably harassment / malicious comms (+17%) and blackmail (+45%) – many facilitated via dating sites
- Cyber-flashing (new legislation) – anticipated increase in reporting
- Organised Crime activity
- Increase in importation of drugs and weapons – misleading online legality information among reputable traders
- Online County Lines recruitment
- Social media as a mechanism to drive behaviour linked to urban street gangs
- Internet Child Exploitation

Strengths and Opportunities

- Nottinghamshire Fraud Partnership
- Notts Police Cyber Prevention Strategy
- Cyber Choices Programme
- Online Safety Act
- Education/School Liaison activities
- Border Force Activity

Risks and Threats

- Growing volume of digital dis-information
- Younger access to illicit material and digital marketized environments
- Intelligence gap regarding Organised Crime activity in the digital space
- Changes in drug and type of drug availability

Increasing levels of vulnerability and Severe Multiple Disadvantage

Severe Multiple Disadvantage remains an increasing factor among victim, perpetrator and safeguarding caseloads. This has been compounded by rising financial hardship and mental health-related need in 2023

Around 148,000 people estimated to be living within the most deprived 10% of lower super output areas in England, with concentrations in need in the City, Mansfield and Ashfield

Economic vulnerability

- +13% demand on emergency foodbank network (Trussell Trust)
- 7% increase in identified cases of financial exploitation (SERAC)

Mental health related need

- Increase in % with MH need in custody (40% to 43% in 2023)
- Increasing recognition of common neurological conditions

Substance use related need

- Increasing risk of drug-related harm related to synthetic opioids
- Increase in % with substance related need in custody (14% to 18%)

Major developments in identification, support and intervention

Strengths and Opportunities

- Sustained improvements in identification and recording of vulnerability and risk
- Major investment in Combatting Substance Use
- Dedicated projects and programmes, particularly in the City (SMD Partnership, SERAC)

Risks and Threats

- Rise in low level acquisitive crime, incl. shoplifting
- Rise in vagrancy, begging and ASB in urban centres
- Opportunities for financial and criminal exploitation
- Rise in coercive and controlling domestic abuse
- Barriers to leaving abusive / exploitative situations

Victim Experience and CJS Outcomes

Inefficiencies within the criminal justice system continue to impact on negatively upon victim experience and criminal justice outcomes. Improving the response to domestic and sexual abuse remains a shared priority

- Criminal Justice efficiency continues to be impacted by:
 - Staffing and capacity constraints - courts, CPS, probation, prisons
 - Trial re-listings on day of trial– up from 20.3% to 26.8% in 2023
 - Failure to secure early guilty pleas – fell from 43% to 35% in 2023
 - Average time from charge to case completion in Crown Court
- Growing pressures on domestic and sexual abuse services, including MARAC and IDVA compared to pre-covid baseline. Opportunities to improve triage
- High proportion of DA victims not supporting further action (57%)
- Opportunities for improvement in keeping victims informed
- Local and national ambition to improve outcomes for rape
 - Police charge rates – 10.4%
 - CPS prosecution rates / completed trials – 50%

Strengths and Opportunities

- LCJB governance & monitoring of VCOP
- Priority CJ investment in VAWG and WSA
- Strong network of DSA services
- Revised Out of Court Disposal Framework
- Strong and improving positive outcome rates

Risks and Threats

- Reductions in public trust and confidence
- Reduction in victim support for further action
- Offender management and prison capacity
- Accommodation and resettlement provision

Serious & Organised Crime

Organised criminality has an impact across several crime areas with opportunities for organised crime groups (OCG) to expand, particularly within the evolving online space.

- There are 26 mapped OCGs owned by Nottinghamshire
- The majority are linked to Nottingham City
- High proportion of DA victims not supporting further action (57%)
- Opportunities for improvement in identifying large scale cannabis cultivations.
- National assessments suggest that the number of OCG linked to MSHT are underreported.
- Potential for new substance markets following increases in heroin pricing, following Taliban activity.
- Unknown activity by those linked to online spaces rather than geography

Strengths and Opportunities

- Creation of local partnership SOC Boards
- Collaborative work with EMSOU & NCA
- Development of the Fraud Partnership
- Increased use of management tools such as APMIS

Risks and Threats

- Increased capabilities within the online space
- Potential for new and emerging groups
- Under reporting of OCG criminal activity
- Global conflicts providing greater opportunities within MSHT

Local outliers 2023/24

The PCNA highlights a range of locality-based outliers for 2023, which include...

Nottingham

- Levels of residential burglary
- Levels of shoplifting
- Levels of drug trafficking
- Levels of assault with injury
- Levels of domestic abuse and stalking

Mansfield

- Levels of shoplifting
- Levels of assault with injury
- 30% increase in vehicle crime

Ashfield

- Levels of assault with injury
- Levels of domestic abuse and stalking

Bassetlaw

- Levels of residential burglary
- Levels of vehicle crime
- Levels of drug trafficking
- Levels of rural crime

Newark and Sherwood

- Levels of rural crime

Broxtowe

- Levels of fraud and cyber crime
- 35% increase in residential burglary (+86)
- 19% increase in vehicle crime

Rushcliffe

- Levels of fraud and cyber crime

Summary of key issues

What issues are causing the greatest harm to communities?

Violence
against women
and girls

Serious
weapon-enabled
violence

Domestic and
Sexual Violence
and Abuse

Child and adult
exploitation
and abuse

What are the issues of greatest concern to local residents?

Speeding
and reckless
driving

Drug use
and
dealing

Burglary
and vehicle
crime

Neighbourhood
nuisance /
rowdy behav.

What are the escalating threats and opportunities for improvement?

Cyber-related
harm and
abuse

Shoplifting and
violence against
retail staff

Stalking
and
harassment

Severity of
domestic
violence & abuse

Where are the gaps in our knowledge and understanding?

Cyber-related
harm and
abuse

Financial
Crime – incl.
cyber-related

Domestic and
Sexual Violence
and Abuse

Anti-social
behaviour

Strategic Recommendations

- **Work with health and criminal justice partners to support ongoing improvements in the provision of mental health support services, deliver the ambitions of the Right Care, Right Person approach work to better understand the needs of those experiencing Severe Multiple Disadvantage.**
- **Further strengthen evidence-led online fraud and cyber-related crime prevention activity among partner agencies and work with local, regional and national policing partners in developing general and specialist capabilities in this area.**
- **Maintain a priority focus on tackling and preventing serious violence (including weapon-enabled violence and domestic abuse), sexual violence and adult and child exploitation in line with the ambitions of the newly developed Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy**
- **Provide further assurance in respect of compliance with the Victims Code of Practice in terms of both policing and the wider criminal justice system response.**

Strategic Recommendations

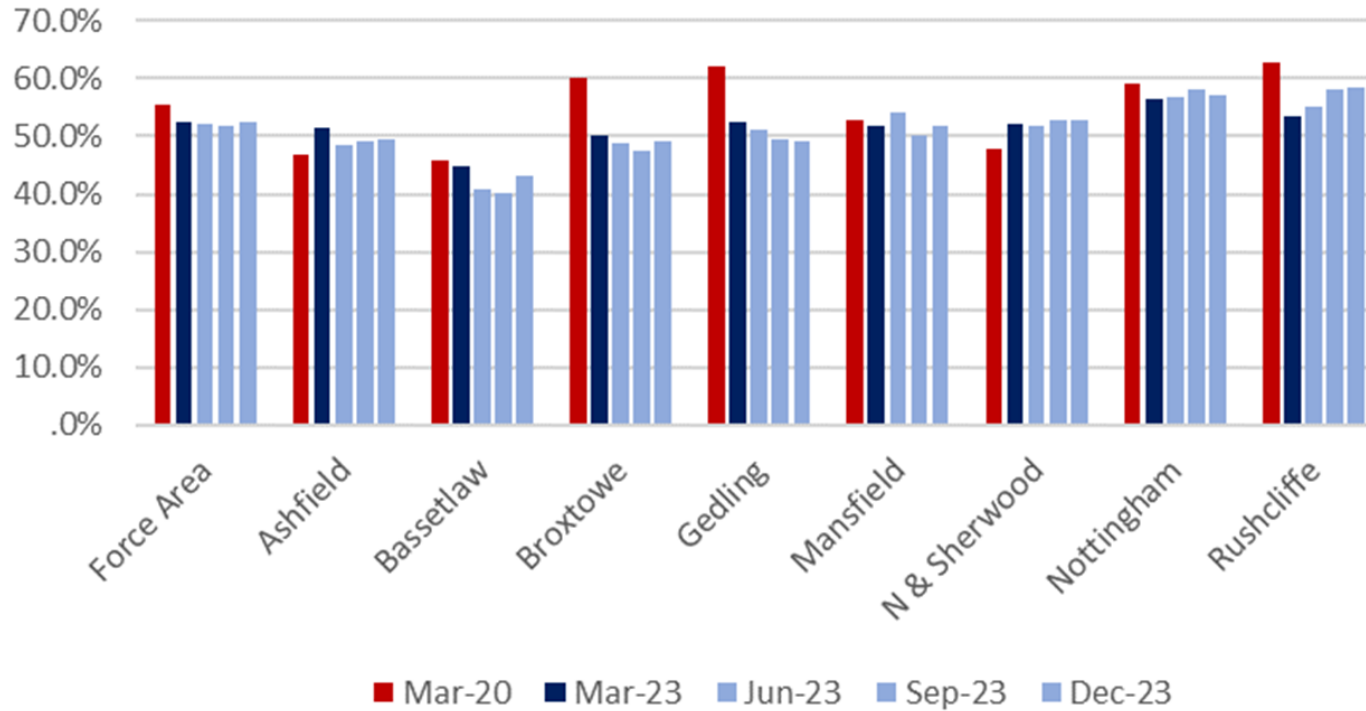
- Continue to drive improvements in the quality and consistency of recording pathways and service outcomes for ASB, including take up, quality and commitment to restorative justice and Immediate Justice approaches.
- Work with the police and partner agencies to further develop and embed new out of court disposal arrangements with a focus on ensuring consistent and proportionate use of Outcome 22
- Work with partners to improve the co-ordination and effectiveness of youth diversionary activity and invest in targeted support for young people in heightened risk situations, with view to ensuring sustainability of these activities.
- Continue to work with the Prevention Hub to address the crimes and issues of greatest concern to local communities utilising multi-agency priority setting and problem-solving approaches.
- Continue to drive improvements in engagement with and feedback to other communities where trust and confidence remains low.



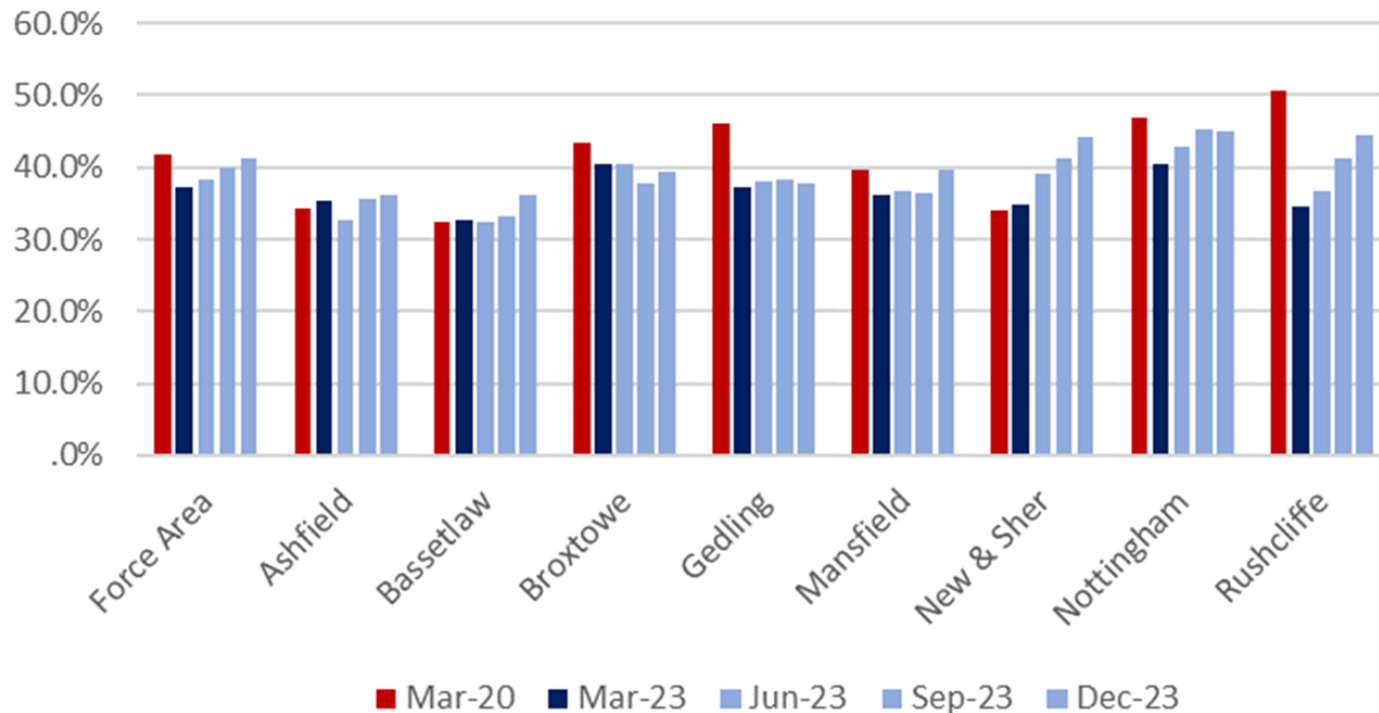
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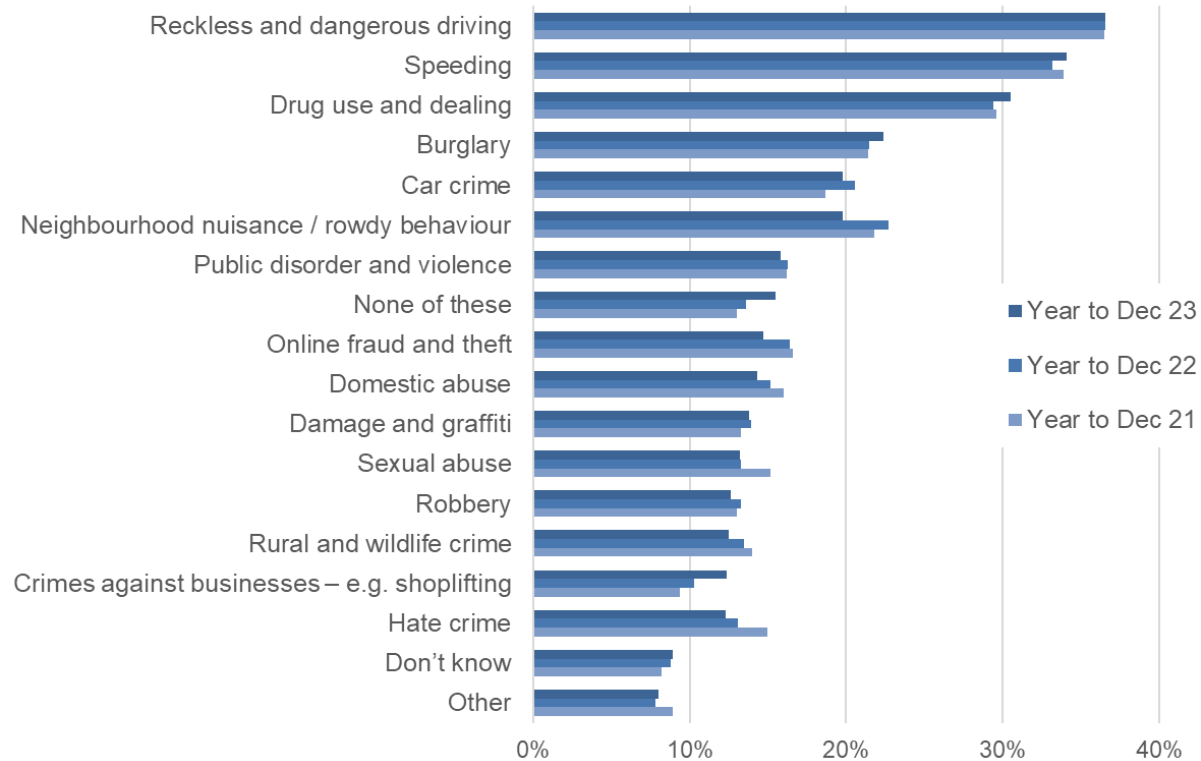
I Have Confidence in the Police in My Area



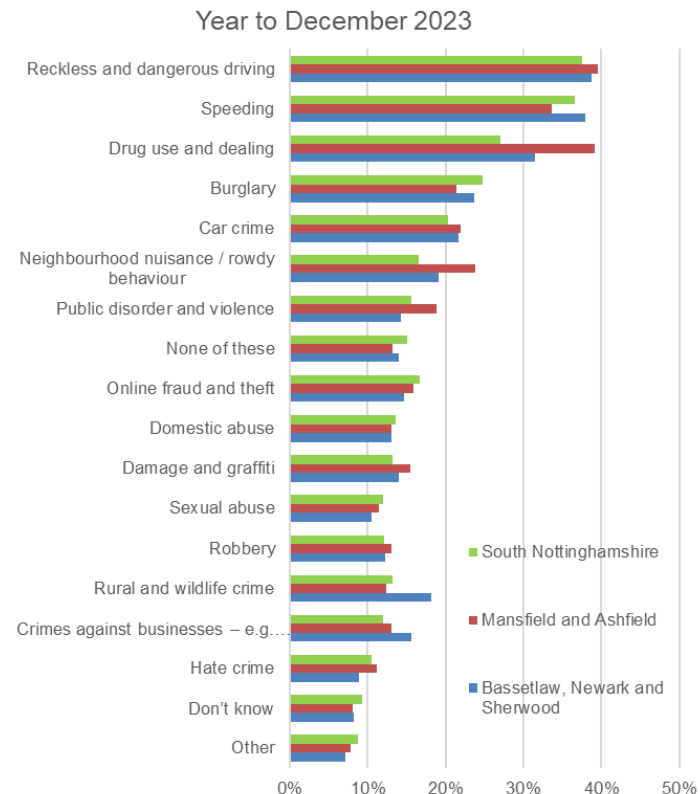
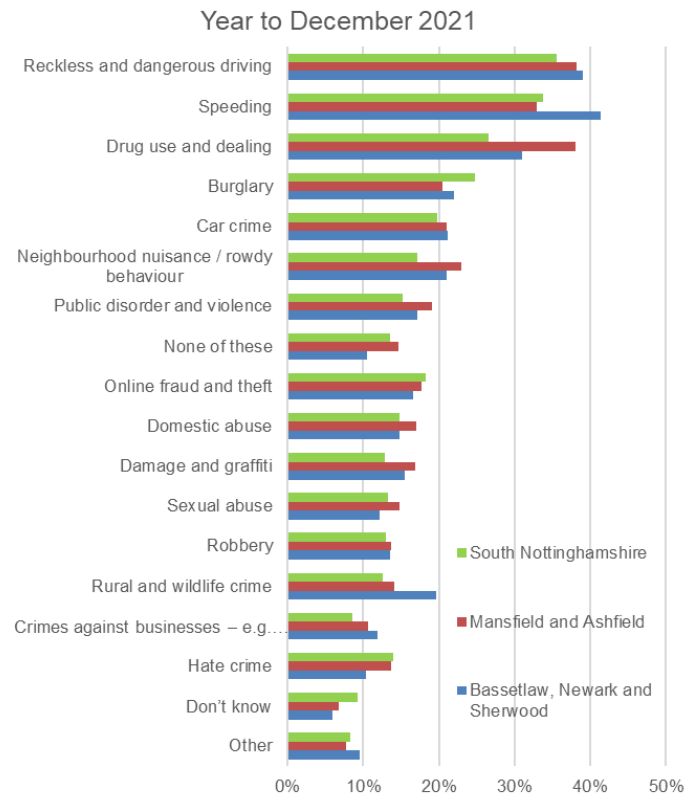
Police are dealing with the issues that matter most



Are there any specific crime or anti-social behaviour issues that you would like to see the police and other agencies do more to tackle in your area?



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- **999 calls up 17% on pre-pandemic levels**
- **Rising mental health related demand:** Street-triage team responded to 9,646 mental health incidents in 2022, continuing an upward trend
- **Missing persons reports:** Nottinghamshire Police dealt with 2,570 incidents in 2022 – marking a 13% increase on the pre-COVID baseline (2,276) – largely driven by a rise in CYP Missing person reports
- **Homelessness:** Reductions in rough sleeping (68) and households eligible for homelessness prevention (2,172) / relief (2,616) on pre-Covid baseline, but a rise in support needs relating to domestic abuse (+7%) and sexual abuse or exploitation (+22%)
- **Refugee and asylum seeker populations:** 1,186 Nottinghamshire visas issued as part of the Ukraine scheme, with 965 arrivals to sponsor residences

Contextual Factors

- Education deprivation - Ravensdale

Risks and Threats

- ?

Violence Against Women and Girls

- 999 calls up 17% on pre-pandemic levels

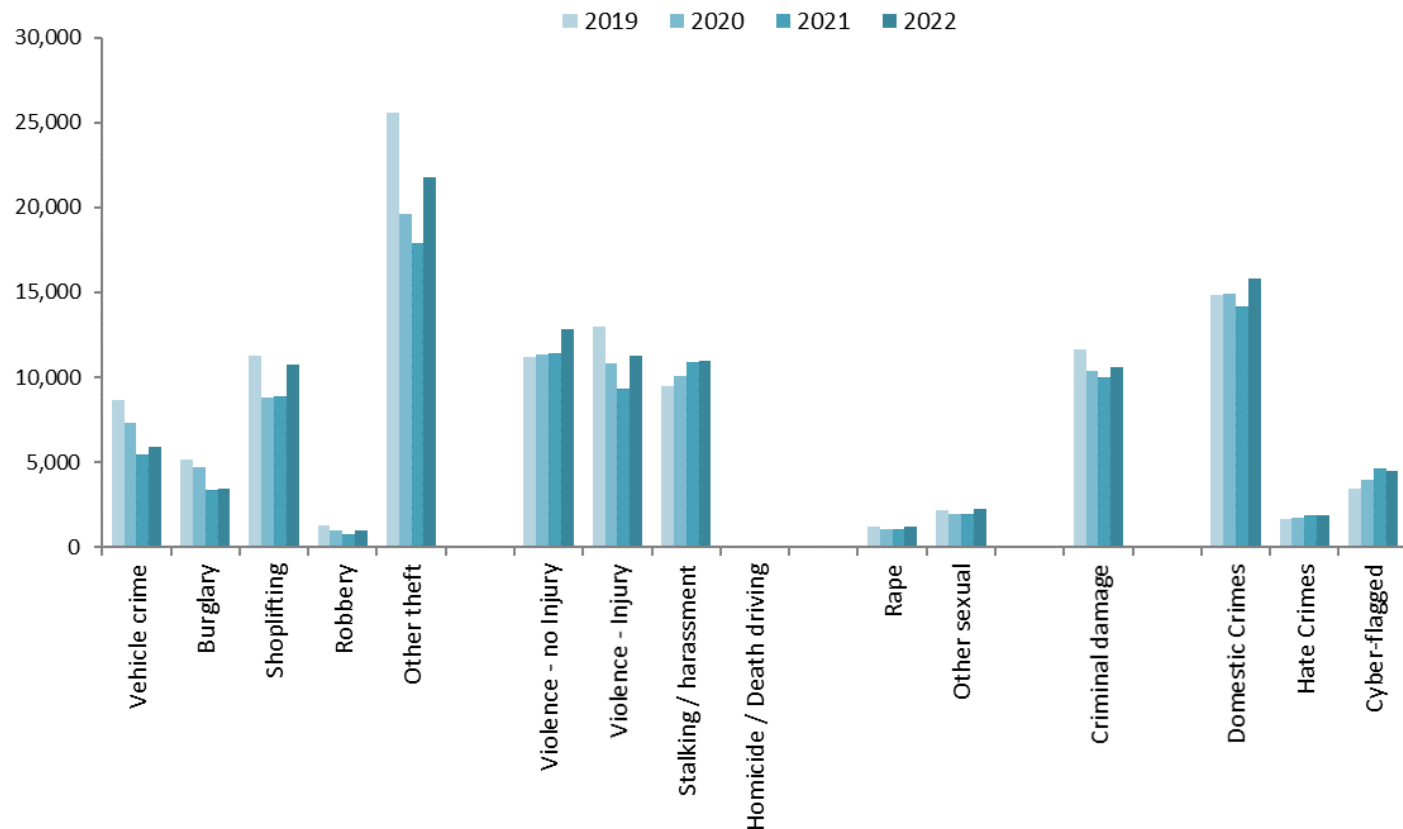
Strengths and Opportunities

- Serious Violence Duty

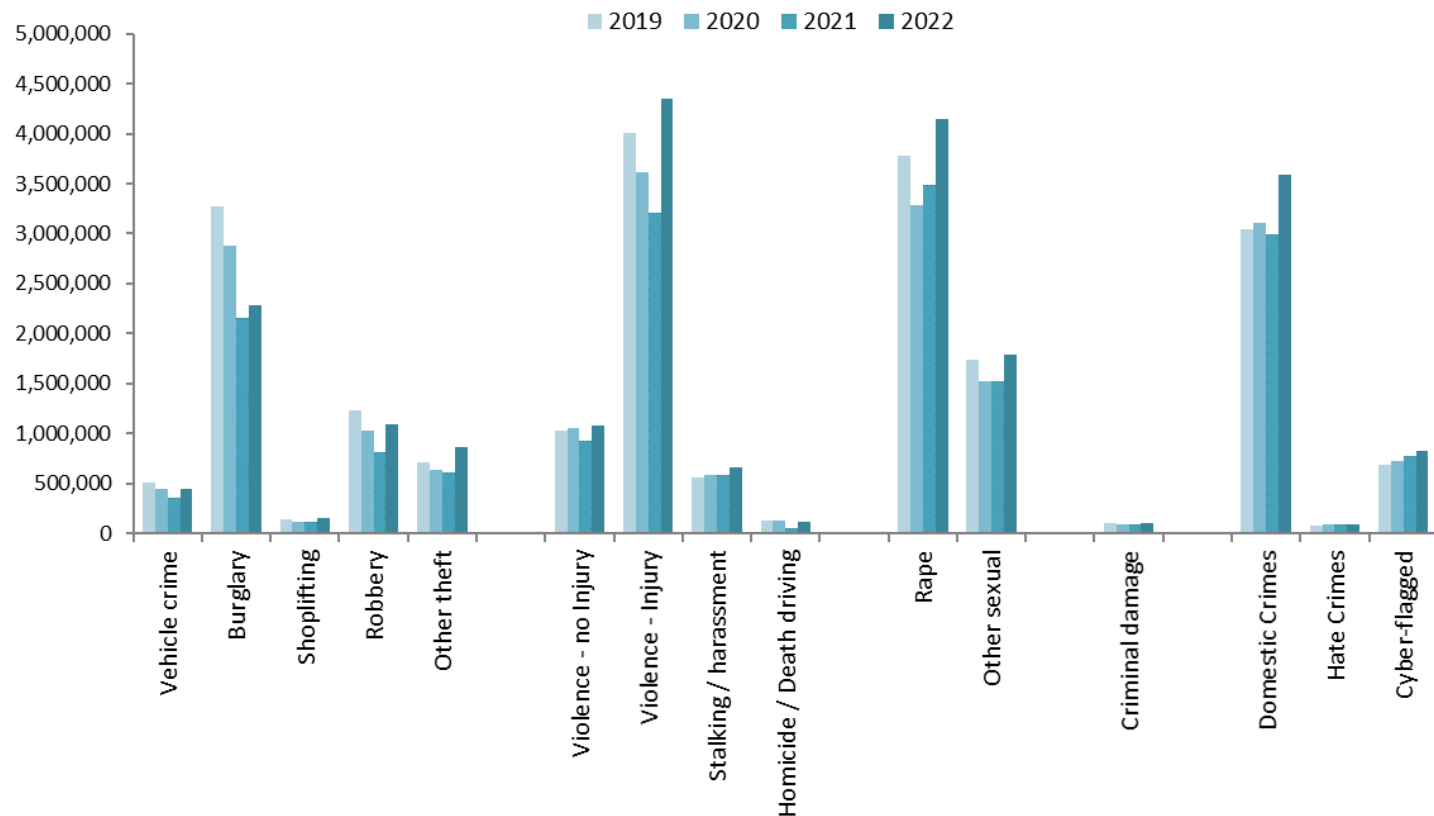
Risks and Threats

- ?

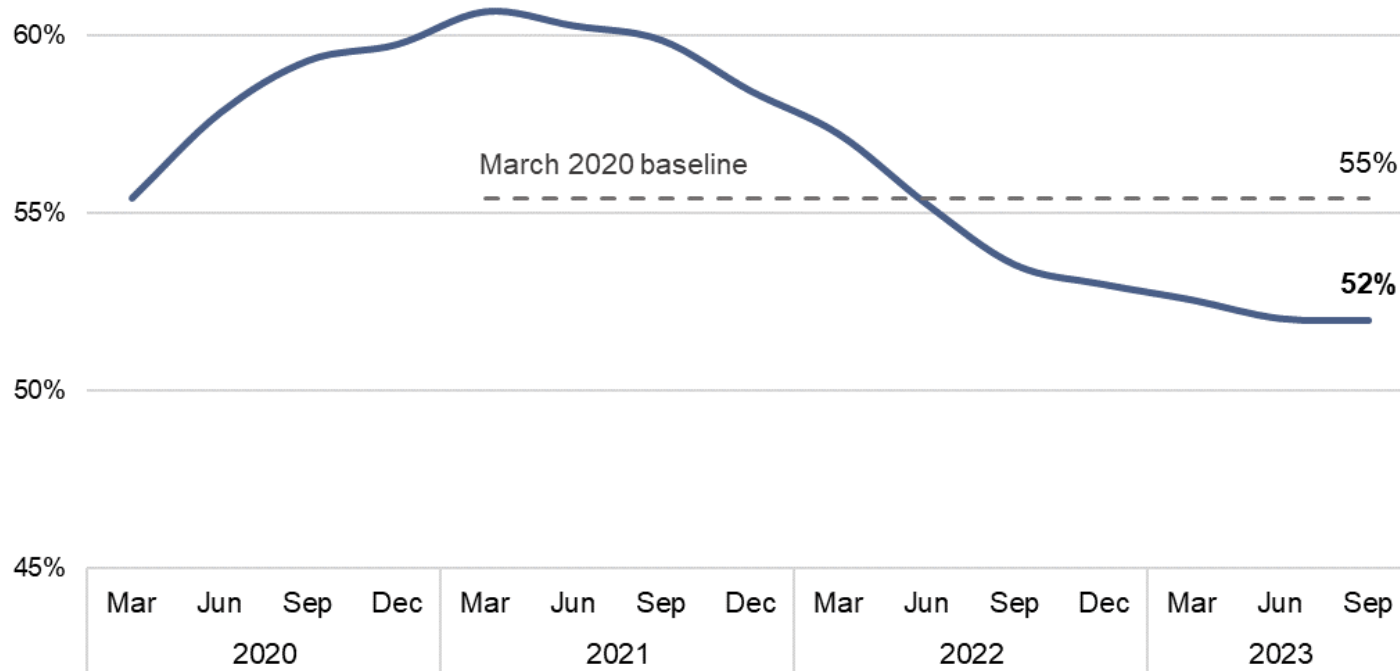
Nottinghamshire Police recorded crime by VOLUME of offences



Nottinghamshire Police recorded crime weighted by 'CRIME HARM'



Taking everything into account, I have confidence in Notts Police
% respondents that agree (Police and Crime Survey)

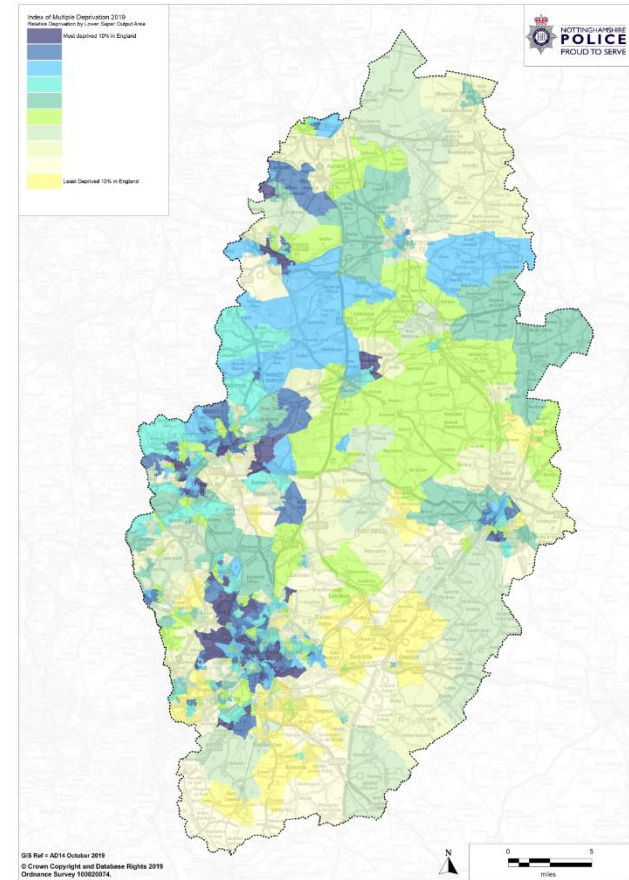


Priority Locations and the Index of Multiple Deprivation

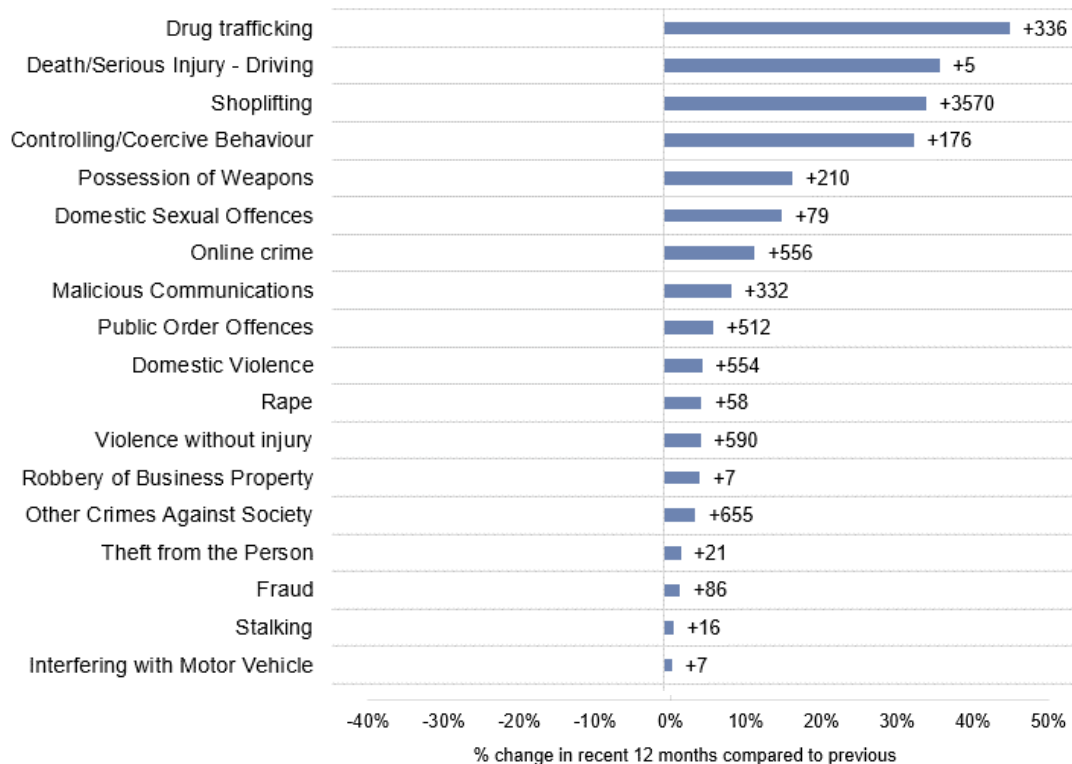
A number of priority localities have been identified on account of the levels of complex need and cross-agency demand that they present.

These areas coincide with localities of higher than average multiple deprivation and remain a focus for targeted multi-agency activity:

- Hyson Green / Arboretum, Bulwell and Aspley in Nottingham
- Carsic, Abbey Hill, Central, New Cross and Hucknall in Ashfield
- Newgate, Portland, Ravensdale and Oak Tree in Mansfield
- Worksop South East, Worksop North West and Langold in Bassetlaw
- Bridge, Ollerton and Devon in Newark and Sherwood
- Netherfield, Colwick and Eastwood South in South Nottinghamshire



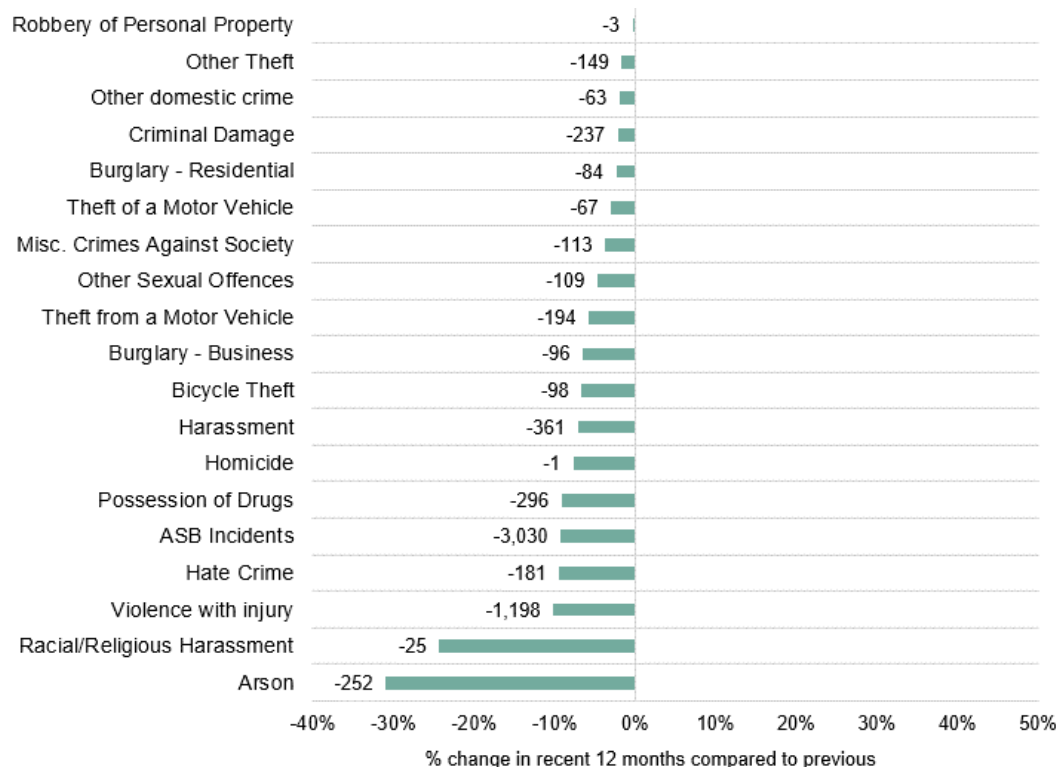
**Changes in crime volume recorded by Nottinghamshire Police between
October 2022 - September 2023, compared to October 2021 - September 2022.**



Notable exceptions

- Recorded drug offences
 - Trafficking up 42%
 - Possession down 10%

**Changes in crime volume recorded by Nottinghamshire Police between
October 2022 - September 2023, compared to October 2021 - September 2022.**



Strengths and Opportunities

- Child First approach: increasing use of educational & diversionary outcomes (22)
- Growth in prevention, early intervention, intel
- VRP funded programme of activity / intervention
- Serious Violence Duty compliance

Risks and Threats

- National rise in persistent truancy / absenteeism
- Rise in opportunities for online exploitation/abuse
- Pressures on provider landscape / care provision
- Societal factors incl. increasing economic disadvantage

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3	Child Exploitation	Very high	Moderate	High	Very low	Moderate increase	Fairly evolved	Moderate
4	Cyber and financial crime	High	Very low	Very high	Very high	Moderate increase	Fairly undeveloped	Low
5	Serious weapon enabled violence	Very high	Very high	Moderate	Low	Moderate increase	Evolving	High
6	Rape / serious sexual offences	Very high	Moderate	High	Low	Moderate increase	Evolving	High
7	Adult Exploitation	Very high	Low	High	Very low	Moderate increase	Fairly evolved	Moderate
8	Substance Use (Class A)	High	High	High	Low	Stable	Fairly evolved	Moderate
9	Hate crime	High	Moderate	High	Very low	Stable	Fairly undeveloped	Moderate
10	Extremism and radicalisation	High	Moderate	Moderate	Very low	Stable	Fairly evolved	Very high
11	Burglary (residential)	High	High	High	Moderate	Moderate increase	Evolved	High
12	Public space violence	High	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate increase	Fairly evolved	High

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9 Shoplifting	Moderate	Low	High	High	Major increase	Fairly evolved	Low
10 Stalking and harassment	High	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate increase	Evolving	Moderate
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