

# Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment









Title	Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2023/24
Date	February 2025 (based on April 2023 - March 2024 data)
Status	Final – for publication
Current Version	V3
Current version	V3
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# **Executive Summary**

# Introduction

Since the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, local authorities, the police, and other statutory agencies are legally obliged to set up Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) that develop joint strategies to tackle crime and disorder. Since their introduction CSP have encouraged a more joined up way of working which has contributed to a sustained fall in crime.

The Isle of Wight (IOW) is a safe place to live, work and visit and its residents feel safe. The organisations that make up the IOW's CSP want to sustain their efforts to ensure this level of safety remains the status quo, whilst tackling any emerging areas of crime and anti-social behaviour.

To enable the partnership to better understand the community safety profile of the Isle of Wight it produces a Strategic Assessment, which helps organisations prioritise resources where needed. This document is a summary of the key community safety data for 2023/2024, providing insight into the CSP priority areas outlined on the following pages.

# The Partnership

The Isle of Wight CSP consists of several organisations working together to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour to help ensure people feel safe. The partnership consists of five statutory authorities: The IOW Council, Hampshire & IOW Constabulary, Hampshire & IOW Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire & IOW Probation Service, and the NHS Hampshire & IOW Integrated Care System (ICS). Other organisations and specialisms also contribute to the partnership including Housing Providers, Adult and Children's Services, Public Health, Mental Health Services, Voluntary Sector organisations, the Youth Justice Service, Inclusion (community drug & alcohol support service) and education organisations.

# Overview

The overall crime rate for the IOW has reduced slightly between 2023 and 2024, and is in line with the Hampshire and most similar group averages. Almost half of all recorded crime on the Isle of Wight is "violence against the person". "Possession of weapons" offences have seen the largest percentage increase, while "public order offences" have seen a reduction.

# PESTEL Analysis (national and local context)

This section outlines the key national and local context which is likely to have an impact on crime and community safety challenges locally.

### **Political**

The UK continues to feel the impact of Brexit and the war in Ukraine as well as the aftermath of Covid. The general election in July 2024 resulted in a change of government with Labour gaining a majority following 14 years of Conservative leadership. In December the Prime Minister outlined his neighbourhood policing guarantee which included a promise that each neighbourhood will have a named, contactable police officer in their community, dealing with local issues. Each force will also have a dedicated anti-social behaviour lead<sup>1</sup>.

### **Economic and Social**

The cost of living crisis continues to hit households, with high food and energy costs in particular. As families tighten their belts to cope this can mean cutting back on leisure activities and luxuries which in turn affects small businesses locally. This can affect mental health and increase the temptation to access basic necessities and desirable things via illegal routes such as shoplifting.

The property market is fairly stagnant, and house prices are falling. Mortgages are more expensive than they were a year ago but there have been slight reductions in interest rates more recently.

# **Technological**

High levels of technology use continues post-covid – with many people working remotely which can result in isolation and lack of community connectedness. Internet fraud and scams are becoming more sophisticated and vulnerable people in particular can be at risk. Stricter rules for online sales of knives are being introduced. <sup>2</sup>

### **Environmental**

The changing make-up of our high streets continues. Empty shops and leisure premises can become an eyesore and a magnet for anti-social behaviour if an area becomes run down and less busy.

There is an ongoing impact of climate change and carbon neutral policies which are increasing costs to consumers.

### Legal

Revised legislation and guidance sets out new responsibilities for local authorities around community safety, for example the ASB action plan which was published on 27 March 2023<sup>3</sup> which aimed to give councils new funding to restore local parks and bringing empty shops back into use. A national review of community safety partnerships was undertaken, with a new dedicated webpage published in October 2023<sup>4</sup> and updated guidance issued in November 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> More bobbies on the beat as PM puts people's priorities first - GOV.UK

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 'Ronan's Law' to see toughest crackdown yet on knife sales online - GOV.UK

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Community Safety Partnerships - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

# Community Safety Partnership Priorities

# **Violent Crime**

What the data tells us – Almost half of recorded crime on the Isle of Wight is 'Violence against the person' which includes stalking and harassment as well as violence with or without injury. The level of violent crime locally is similar to the average in similar comparator areas. The work undertaken as part of the 'most serious violence duty' has enabled further analysis to identify the types of violent crime locally which cause the most significant harm. 'Possession of weapons' is the highest driver of this locally although it is a relatively small proportion of all crime on the Island. Children and young people under 25 continue to be a key demographic in this.

# Reoffending

**What the data tells us –** Reoffending data shows that the rate has continued to increase, and is higher than Hampshire and the England and Wales average. The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system is remaining fairly stable, slightly above the national average. Accommodation data is poorly recorded which doesn't allow analysis to be undertaken.

# Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) and Community Cohesion

What the data tells us - Reported incidents of anti-social behaviour have seen a continued reduction.

### Domestic Violence & Abuse and Serious Sexual Offences

What the data tells us – Domestic abuse continues to be a significant proportion of crime locally. An Isle of Wight Domestic Abuse Board has been established which takes a lead on tackling domestic abuse on the Island. Paragon deliver integrated domestic abuse services to local residents.

# Prevent

The Prevent Duty requires Local Authorities and other named bodies (Education, Health Care, Police, Criminal Justice) to give due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Local risk assessments are used to inform the action plan, and bids for additional funding have been utilised to target local issues.

# Road Safety

What the data tells us – There are on average around 20 road accidents a month on the Island, and these happen evenly across the year, in slower speed zones, in dry, fine weather, and not usually at junctions. More accidents happen between the hours of 4 and 7pm.

Priorities arising from the data will be detailed in the CSP plan which is being developed currently.

# Background

In 2007 the Crime and Disorder Regulations made it a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to prepare an annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder in their local areas.

This summary report has been produced from data and analytical reports provided by Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary, Isle of Wight Council, NHS, Public Health and other agencies working under the umbrella of the Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership and should be read in conjunction with the Isle of Wight Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and other published assessments which are updated on an ongoing basis. This report provides a high level summary analysis of key issues for strategic purpose.

### General information about the data

Reference to '2023/24', or 'this year' refers to the financial year - 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2024, and 'last year' or 'the previous year' will refer to the financial year of 2022/23 unless stated otherwise.

Due to the wide range of data from different sources included, figures will not always cross correlate exactly due to differences in time periods, or differences between local level and nationally published and verified data. Data analysed includes published data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) primarily for the financial year 2023/24; recorded crime from police including local data and published data. Some previously used data sources have been discontinued or replaced by the relevant agencies which can make trend analysis difficult, so the report will always include the most useful available data and aim to clarify if recording methods have changed. Local data is provided by the Probation Service, Fire & Rescue Service, IOW NHS Trust, IOW Council Regulatory Services, Adult Social Care (Housing Needs), Public Health, Children's Services and Youth Justice Service (YJS). If there are any omissions please contact us citing the available sources using the email address at the end of the report and we will review for inclusion in the next iteration.

# Comparisons with Most Similar Groups

Comparisons will be made to the police most similar groups where possible (Bassetlaw, Boston, Conwy, Denbighshire, Dover, Flintshire, Kettering, Newark and Sherwood, Newcastle under Lyme, North Lincolnshire, Shepway, Tendring, Waveney and Wrexham)<sup>5</sup> but where data is not available at that level comparisons will be made to the relevant comparator group

### Profile of the Island and Wider Determinants

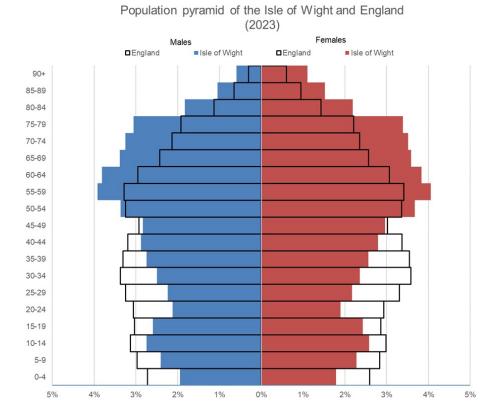
The Isle of Wight has a population of around 142,400 (2023-based estimates), of which 9% are aged between 15 and 24. This is slightly lower than the Hampshire average which has around 10.2% of the population aged between 15 and 24. The Island has an older population structure compared to England, with a higher proportion of adults over 70 (21.5% of the population compared to 13.7% nationally) and lower proportions of young and working age people<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>6</sup>Source: <u>JSNA Demography</u>

7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Source: Compare your area | Police.uk (www.police.uk)

Figure 1. Population Pyramid Isle of Wight and England



Overall the Isle of Wight population density is 370 people per square kilometre, which is slightly lower than the overall population density of Hampshire (381), but this varies hugely between areas, from 25.2 people per square km in the rural areas to 8,847 per square km in the centre of Ryde. The Island is predominantly rural, with most of the population clustered in the towns of Newport, Ryde and Cowes.

More information about the Isle of Wight population and its characteristics can be found within the JSNA Demography report produced by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Council Public Health Intelligence team. The demography report is a live website and is routinely updated when new data becomes available. The link to the report can be found here: Microsoft Power BI.

The Island is the 80<sup>th</sup> most deprived authority in England (out of 317) according to the Index of Multiple deprivation (IMD) 2019, although there are pockets within the Island that fall into the most deprived areas of the country, namely Pan in Newport, and the centre of Ryde.

There has been a fall in home ownership (down from 70.1% in the 2011 Census to 67.6% in the 2021 Census) and a corresponding increase in private rented – with a fifth of residents (20.7%) now in private rented accommodation.

According to the 2021 Census, most residents on the Isle of Wight identify themselves as 'White' (97% compared with 97.3% in 2011). OHID Child Health Profile 2023 shows that 9.2% of local school children are from minority ethnic groups (compared with 8.3% in 2021), a continuing upward trend, but still significantly less diverse than England as a whole with 35% of children being from minority ethnic groups.

Child and Maternal Health - Data - OHID (phe.org.uk)

How life has changed on Isle of Wight: Census 2021 (ons.gov.uk)

Island communities have their own set of positives and challenges due to being surrounded by water. Research<sup>7</sup> shows there is a forced self-sufficiency due to a lack of neighbouring areas to share services and broaden demand for goods, which results in an 'Island premium' where additional costs are incurred due to higher transportation costs and limited opportunities for optimal economies of scale. Resulting in dislocation – both an actual or perceived distance, geographical or social, from the mainland. Consequently, the labour market suffers from a relatively small workforce, with the added disadvantage of even less available jobs. The increase in availability of remote working has improved opportunities on the Island for some residents, but also made recruitment challenging for local businesses.

# Children and Young People

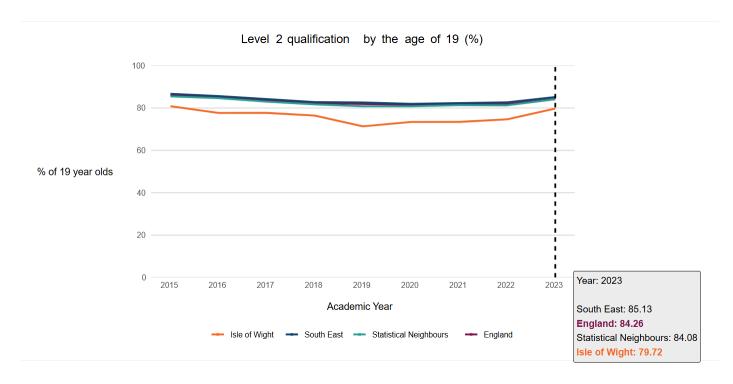
When looking at attainment data for those up to the age of 19 years, the Isle of Wight remains below the South East and England average, with 79.7% of 19-year-olds achieving a Level 2 qualification compared to 85.1% for the South East and 84.3% for England. The gap has closed slightly as there has been a 2.4 percentage point increase in England and across the South East, while the Island has seen an increase of 5 percentage points, resulting in the best results since 2016.

Figure 2: Achievement of a Level 2 Qualification by the age of 19

LA and Regions	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Change from previous year
Isle of Wight	80.85	77.64	77.68	76.41	71.34	73.42	73.43	74.66	79.72	5.06
South East	86.67	85.60	84.19	82.76	82.60	81.93	82.28	82.69	85.13	2.44
Statistical Neighbours	85.43	84.63	82.98	81.67	80.80	80.80	81.32	81.23	84.08	2.86
England	86.07	85.30	83.63	82.25	81.84	81.42	81.73	81.83	84.26	2.43

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Isle of Wight Council commissioned the University of Portsmouth to look into the impact of the 'physical separation from the UK mainland' See: IWC, University of Portsmouth Phase 1 Impact of Physical Separation from the UK Mainland on Isle of Wight Public Service Delivery



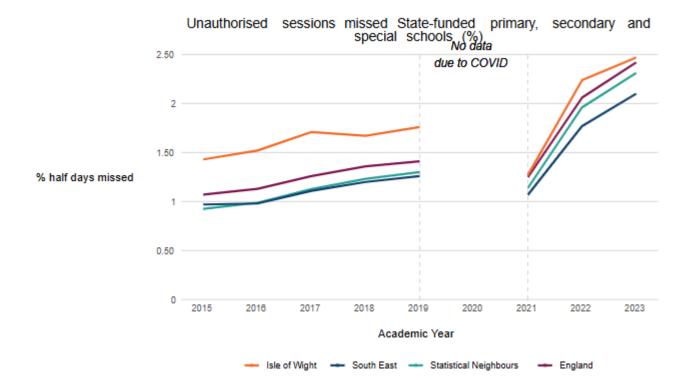
Source: LAIT tool https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait

### (Accessed 9 February 2025)

The Island continues to have higher levels of unauthorised absence then England, the South East and statistical comparators for the 2023 year although the gap has narrowed slightly. The Isle of Wight rate is now 2.47%. All areas continue to see increases and rates are higher than they have been for at least 10 years. (Data from 2020 is missing due to the Covid-19 pandemic disrupting mainstream schooling). The Island also has two independent schools and a large cohort of home educated children (the proportion of children who are home educated is significantly above the national average). These groups of children are not included in these figures.

Figure 3: Percentage of unauthorised sessions missed in state funded primary, secondary and special schools:

LA and Regions	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Change from previous year
Isle of Wight	1.43	1.52	1.71	1.67	1.76	NA	1.27	2.24	2.47	0.23
South East	0.97	0.98	1.11	1.20	1.26	NA	1.07	1.77	2.10	0.33
Statistical Neighbours	0.93	0.99	1.13	1.23	1.30	NA	1.14	1.96	2.31	0.35
England	1.07	1.13	1.26	1.36	1.41	NA	1.25	2.06	2.42	0.36



Source: LAIT tool https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait

(Accessed 09 February 2025)

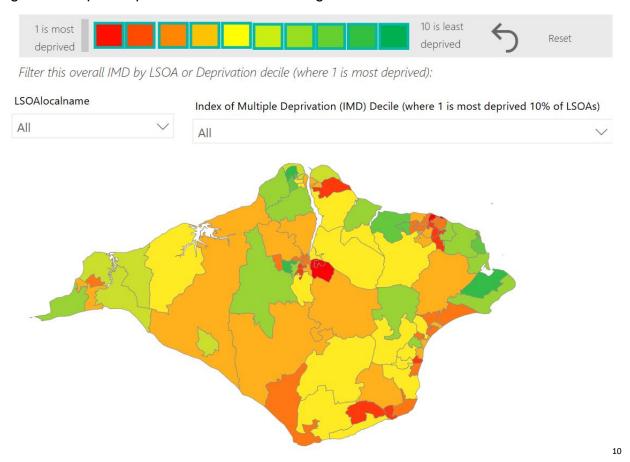
# Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (IMD) provides a relative ranking of areas across England according to their level of deprivation. Overall, the Isle of Wight has a relatively high level of deprivation, ranking 71st of 142 upper tier local authorities, where 1 is the most deprived in terms of average score across each of the domains of deprivation. Scores can also be compared to all 326 district councils in England, where Isle of Wight is ranked 98th and is ranked third lowest of the 14 local authorities in HIPS on average deprivation score and local concentration of deprivation.

According to the 2019 Indices of Multiple Deprivation there are three Isle of Wight Lower Super Output Areas<sup>9</sup> (LSOAs) within the 10% most deprived in England: Pan A, Pan B and Ryde North East B and nine in the 20% most deprived: Mount Joy B, Newport South B, Osborne North, Ryde South East B, Shanklin Central B, St Johns East A, St Johns West A, Ventnor East A and Ventnor West B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> A Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) is a geographical area which contains approximately 1,500 residents.

Figure 4: Map of deprivation on the Isle of Wight



The government's children in low income families measure helps understand child poverty levels locally. More than 1 in 5 (21.2%) of the Island's children are in relative low-income families (financial year ending 2023)<sup>11</sup>. This equates to 4,402 under 16 year olds but is a slight reduction on the previous year (24.7% or 5,144 children)

Source: Children in low income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Public Health England's Child Health Profile 2023 shows that the Isle of Wight has a smaller proportion of children aged 0-19 years than the regional and England figures (17% compared to 22.3% and 22.5% respectively). The proportion of school children from minority ethnic groups is much lower on the Island than the rest of the country (9.2% compared with 35% in England). The proportion of school children with social, emotional and mental health needs is higher (3.8% compared with 3.0% in England). Hospital admissions for mental health, self-harm, and alcohol are also all worse on the Island than the England average.

Source: Child and Maternal Health - Data - OHID (phe.org.uk)12

### Health

The IOW is higher than the national average for deaths from drug misuse (2021 to 2023) with a local rate of 8.3 per 100,000 compared to 5.5 per 100,000 for the national average. The IOW also has statistically higher than national average rates for admission episodes for alcohol related

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> English Indices of Deprivation on iow.gov.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> A family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC) in the reference year. A family must have claimed child benefit and at least one other household benefit (Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit) at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A child health profile for 2024 was not published at the time of writing this report

conditions (narrow)<sup>13</sup> with a rate of 684 per 100,000 in 2023/24 (compared to the England rate of 504 per 100,000). For alcohol specific conditions<sup>14</sup> (2023/24) the Island rate is 628 per 100,000 compared to the national average of 612 per 100,000. This is a reduction on the 2021/22 figures.

Source: Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care

# **Community Perceptions**

### YouGov

The YouGov data included in previous reports is no longer available via the InterACT tool and so is no longer included in this report.

# Children and Young People

The IOW Youth Trust, a local mental health charity, undertakes a biennial mental health survey in which they survey children in primary and secondary schools on their feelings of wellbeing. The 2023 survey showed concerning data around the scale of the mental health crisis among children locally. The infographic below highlights some of the key statistics. While things have improved since 2021 they haven't yet returned to pre-covid levels.

"Of 1,223 young Islanders – aged between 11 and 25 – questioned by the mental health charity earlier this year, 30 per cent admitted to deliberately harming themselves, 34 per cent had considered suicide and 11 per cent attempted to take their own life."

Source: Youth Mental Health Census 2023 | IOW Youth Trust

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> OHID Fingertips: Admissions to hospital where the primary diagnosis is an alcohol-attributable code, or a secondary diagnosis is an alcohol-attributable external cause code. Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population (standardised to the European standard) population). This methodology has changed since the previous assessment and isn't directly comparable to previous publications of this document.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> OHID Fingertips: Admissions to hospital where the primary diagnosis or any of the secondary diagnoses are an alcohol-specific (wholly attributable) condition. Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population (standardised to the European standard population).

# **ISLAND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CENSUS 2023**

1,223

Young Islanders (aged 11-25) responded to the Census

Have one or more good friends

88% Have one trusted adult who they can

go to for support 60%

Have heard of the Youth Trust

1in3 Have seen a

mental health professional 1in5

Have been diagnosed with a mental health condition

**FEELINGS** 

It is true or sometimes true that I...



71% often get angry or lose their temper



63% often feel unhappy, down or tearful



energy and

enthusiasm

41% feel terribly alone and isolated



Whist it is positive to see that the majority of scores have improved since 2021, it is important to note they have not recovered to the 2019 Census scores **Gyouth** trust"

I agree or strongly agree that...



76% I feel positive about my future



young people are viewed positively within the Island community

**SELF HARM** 

30% have deliberately hurt themself without intending to end their life

have considered suicide

1in10 have made an attempt to take their own lives

of those have made an attempt to take their own life have not seen a mental health professional

HOW YOUNG PEOPLE COPE WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH...

- 1. Listen to music
- 2. Play video games
- 3. Spend time with family



24% identify as lesbian, gay,

bisexual, pansexual

98%

are very comfortable (82%) or partly comfortable (16%) or as unsure (8%). (15%) with their sexuality

**BULLYING** 



**53%** have been bullied

72% of those who identify as LGBTQAI+ have been bullied.

**9%** admitted to having bullied someone else

method of bullying is **in person** whether that be verbal, emotional and physical

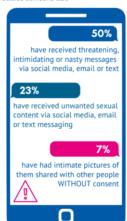
99% Use social media



89%







# National and Local Police Priorities

The National Crime Agency Annual Plan for 2023/24 outlined six strategic priorities of the Home Secretary:

- 1. Reduce serious and organised crime in our communities by leading the law enforcement system and improving coordination with policing and other partners to tackle organised crime groups in the UK.
- 2. Reduce serious and organised crime in the UK by dismantling the highest harm organised crime groups, networks and individuals.
- 3. Reduce organised immigration crime with a particular focus on the organised crime groups facilitating small boat crossings as part of the wider Government strategy to stop small boats under the Prime Minister's 10 point plan on Illegal Migration.
- 4. Reduce fraud and combat corrupt elites, state threats, cyber-crime, money laundering and other economic crime.
- 5. Enhance the security of our borders and ports by working with operational partners to dismantle the organised crime groups and networks that seek to undermine their integrity.
- 6. Play a full role in delivering the Government's objectives to reduce and prevent crime and respond to national security threats.

The Director General established four operational priorities under those:

Degrading     the most     harmful     organized	2. Leading the UK's operational	Transforming     the agency's     capabilities	4. Growing a highly skilled
organised	response		workforce
crime groups			

Source: National Crime Agency Annual Plan 2023-2024

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Donna Jones) set out local priorities in the Police and Crime Plan for 2021-2024

- 1. 600 more police officers by 2023
- 2. Improve police visibility bringing policing to your community
- 3. Tackle anti-social behaviour
- 4. Making it easier to report crime
- 5. Prevent young people from committing crime
- 6. Zero tolerance approach on knife crime
- 7. Crack down on unauthorised encampments
- 8. Improve outcomes for victims
- 9. Targeting rural crime.

Dealing with high harm crime such as knife crimes, rape and homicides remain high priorities for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary.

Source: pcp-final-2021-download.pdf (hampshire-pcc.gov.uk)

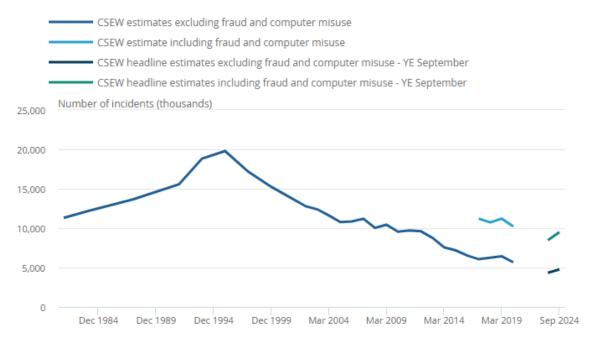
# Total Crime Trends 2023/24

Police recorded crime isn't always the best indicator of true crime trends as it can be affected by variations in police activity and improvements to recording methods. The ONS telephone-operated crime survey for England and Wales (TCSEW) provides more robust information on true prevalence.

Nationally, there has been a long term downward trend in crime against individuals and households, with some notable exceptions such as sexual assault, however figures for the year ending September 2024 showed a 12% increase in crime, mainly due to a 19% rise in fraud.

Figure 5:





Police recorded crime provides insight into lower-volume higher-harm crime such as homicide which reduced by 4% compared with the previous year (550 year ending Sept 2024 down from 572 the previous year). Offences involving firearms also decreased, but robbery and offences involving knives or sharp instruments both increased.<sup>15</sup>

### **Local Crime Trends**

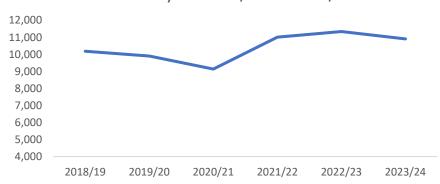
Published recorded crime data by community safety partnership area<sup>16</sup> shows that there was a 4% decrease in total recorded crime on the Isle of Wight between 2023 and 2024, from 11,412 in 2023 to 10,909 in 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Crime in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

Figure 6:





Source: Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables - GOV.UK

In the quarter ending June 2024, crime rates remained level on the Isle of Wight but reduced slightly in Hampshire when compared with the same quarter in 2023. Overall crime rates on the Island are becoming more in line with Hampshire and the Isle of Wight most similar group averages.

Figure 7:



The crime rate on the Isle of Wight to year end June 2024, was about the same as the average crime rate across similar comparator areas (76.2 per 1,000) with the lowest comparator – Newcastle under Lyme being 60.8 and the highest Denbighshire, being 99.6 – all areas have reduced compared to the previous year.

Figure 8:

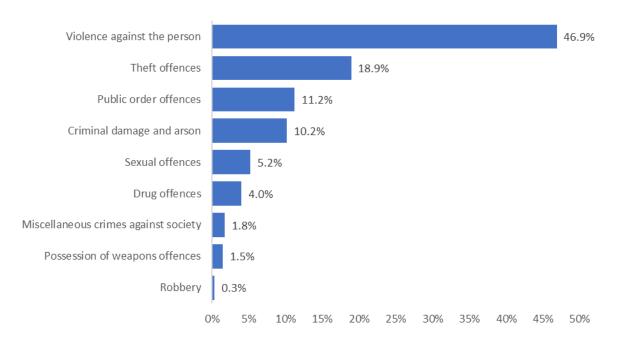


Source: Compare your area | Police.uk

Almost half (46.9%) of recorded crime on the Isle of Wight is "violence against the person" – the split across the other types of crime is very similar to the profile in 2023.

Figure 9 – Recorded crime types

Recorded crime type as a percentage of total recorded crime (excluding Fraud), Isle of Wight, Year ending March 2024

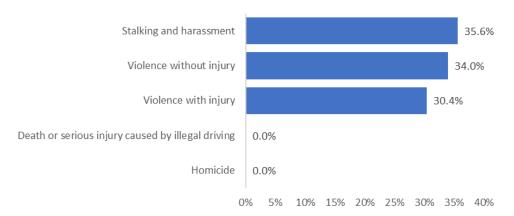


Source: Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

'Violence against the person' recorded crime is approximately equally split between three categories

Figure 10 – Violence against the person

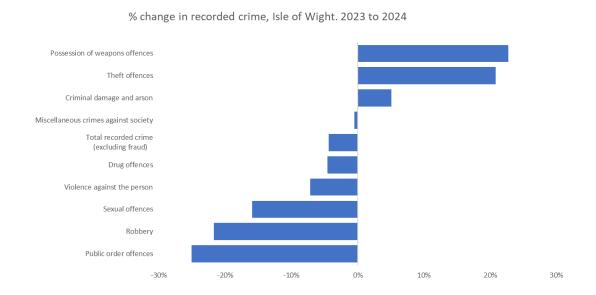
Breakdown of 'Violence against the person' crime type, Isle of Wight, Year ending March 2023



Source: Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

The category which has seen the largest percentage increase year on year is possession of weapons offences although this remains a very small percentage of all crime locally. Theft, criminal damage and arson have also seen increases, while public order offences and robbery have seen a reduction<sup>17</sup>.

Figure 11 - change in recorded crime

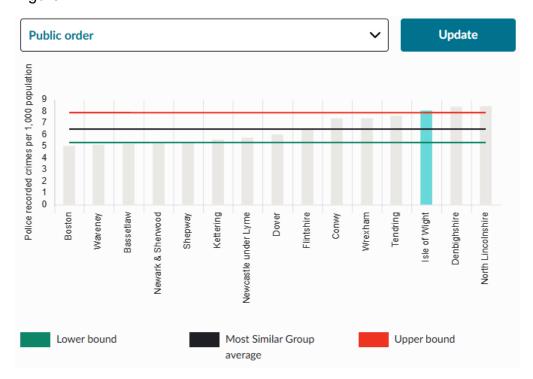


Source: Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics

Drug offences and public order offences on the Isle of wight are both statistically above the average of similar areas, although are a relatively small proportion of all crime locally.

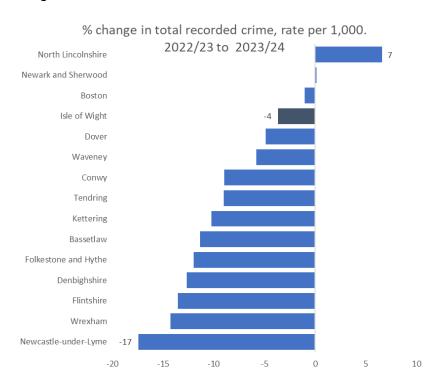
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Recorded crime figures can reflect police priorities and local activity for example a focus on stop and search activity as well as absolute increases in the amount of criminal activity taking place in an area

Figure 12



Most comparator areas have seen a reduction in recorded crime during the year ending March 2024 - with the exception of North Lincolnshire which has seen a 4% increase in reported crime rates.

Figure 13: Percentage Change in total reported crime rate – Isle of Wight and Statistical neighbours

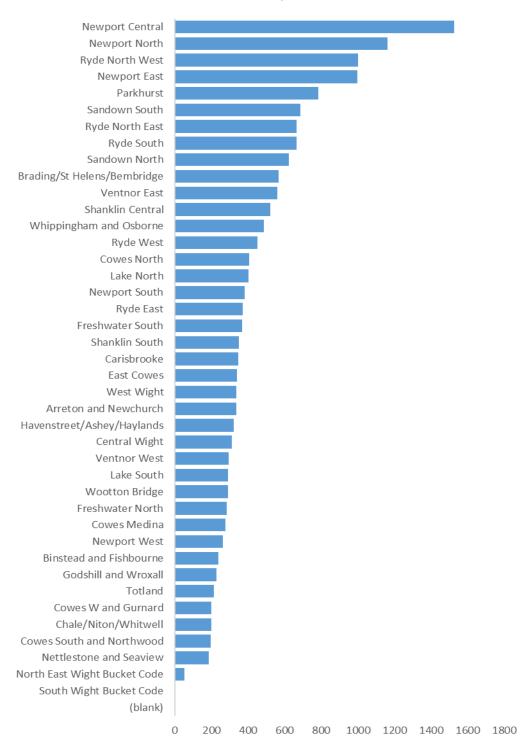


# Geographical Analysis

Newport Central and Newport North are the two areas highest reported incidents of crime. Key contributors to these figures are the Police Station in Newport North, and the town centres and out of town retail parks. Areas of Ryde, Newport and Parkhurst closely follow and there are key streets and locations in each area which see multiple recorded incidents.

Figure 14: Number of offences by area - 1 April 2023 to 30 March 2024

Total Crime Offences by area 2023 to 2024



Source: Police recorded crime local data set analysis 2023-2024

Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership Priorities

# Violence Reduction Partnership and Reducing Violent Crime

Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would bring forward legislation introducing a new Serious Violence Duty (SVD) on responsible authorities which will ensure relevant services work together to prevent and reduce serious violence. The government also announced that it would amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and make sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime (Serious Violence Duty Guidance)

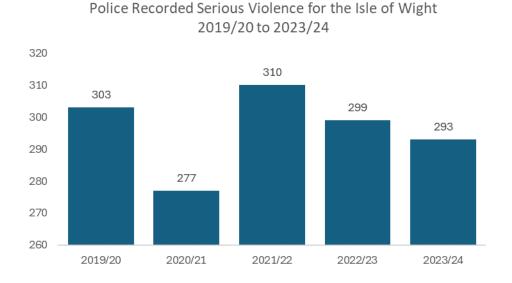
In February 2025 the HIPS (Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton) Violence Reduction Partnership produced an Isle of Wight Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment and the data in this section is taken directly from that profile – the full document is available online at ..... insert link here when published.

The agreed HIPS wide serious violence definition used in this needs assessment is:

- 1. Most serious violence existing definition (1a and 1b where it is GBH and above incl. death by dangerous driving). A full list of these offences can be found in Appendix 1.
- 2. Robbery (3a and 3b).
- 3. Possession of a weapon offences (7).
- 4. Public order (violent disorder [65] and riot [64/1] only).
- 5. Any violence with injury (1b) not included under MSV where a bladed implement was used.

Using the definition for serious violence above there were 293 serious violence offences in 2023/24 for the Isle of Wight which is relatively similar to the previous years.

Figure 15



Source: data from IOW Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment, February 2025

56% (n163) of the police recorded most serious violence were possession of weapons offences a slight increase on the previous year.

Figure 16

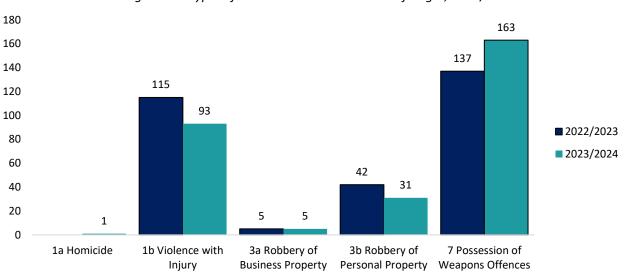


Figure 5.4: Types of Serious Violence on the Isle of Wight, 2023/24

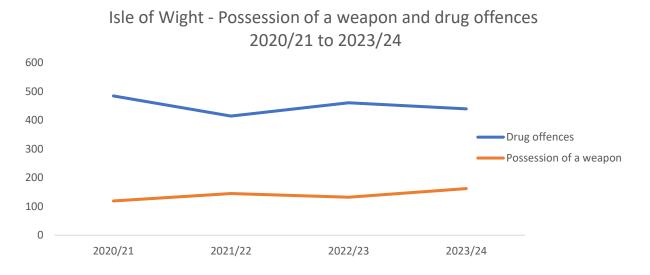
Source: IOW Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment, February 2025

# Drugs Offences and Possession of Weapons

In 2023/24 there were 439 reported incidents of drug offences, a decrease from 460 the previous year. Drug offences form 4% of all recorded crime on the Isle of Wight (ONS).

Possession of weapon offences has seen a slight increase from 132 reported incidents in 2022/23 to 162 in 2023/24.

Figure 17: Possession of weapons and Drug offences trend, IOW, ONS:

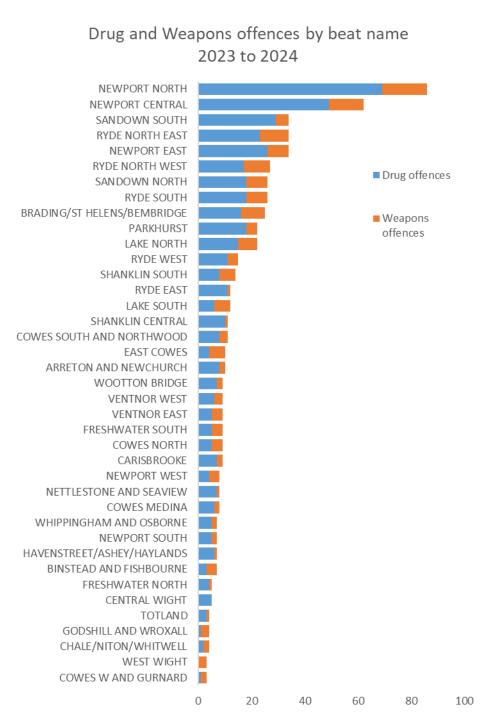


Source: Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

## Location

Newport North and Newport Central have the highest number of drug offences and possession of weapons offences. Local postcode analysis shows that incidents recorded at the police station in Newport are just under half of drug and weapons offences in Newport North, with Church Litten and the area round into town by the taxi rank and Sports Direct/the bus station being another hot spot.

Figure 18: Drug Offences and Possession of Weapon Offences Rate by area



Source: Police recorded crime local data set analysis 2023-2024

# Domestic Violence & Abuse and Serious Sexual Offences

### **Domestic Violence and Abuse**

Measuring domestic violence, abuse and rape / serious sexual offences is difficult due to the complex nature of the issues and the awareness that many cases of such abuse are not reported; as a result, there are no definitive figures for the scale of the problem on the Island, or anywhere else in the UK.

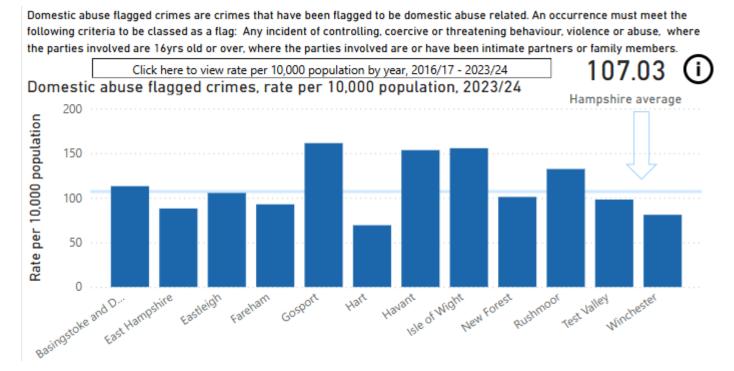
It is known that there are a hidden number of victims who do not come forward and on average a victim will sustain in the region of 50 incidents of abuse before reporting to the police<sup>18</sup>.

The Crime survey for England and Wales (TCSEW) estimated that 4.5% of people over 16 experienced domestic abuse in the last year.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Public Health team have published a domestic abuse Power BI dashboard and the following data and commentary has been taken from there.

The rate of domestic abuse flagged crimes per 10,000 population for the Isle of Wight was 155.6 which was higher than the Hampshire average (107.3) in 2023/24. On the Isle of Wight it's estimated that almost 6,000 people were subjected to domestic abuse last year (of which around 70% were female).

Figure 19

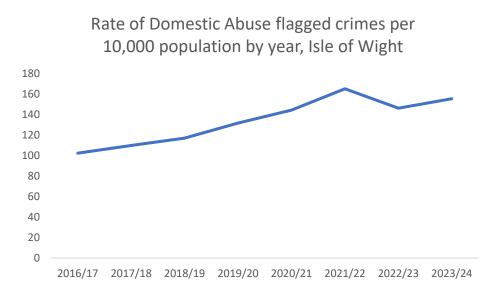


Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Domestic Abuse dashboard - Microsoft Power BI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See: SafeLives (2015), Insights Idva National Dataset 2013-14. Bristol: SafeLives and Walby, S. and Allen, J. (2004), Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey. London: Home Office. (see: http://safelives.org.uk/policy-evidence/about-domestic-abuse/how-long-do-people-live-domestic-abuse-and-when-do-they-get

Rates of domestic abuse flagged crimes have increased on the Isle of Wight over the past few years.

Figure 20:

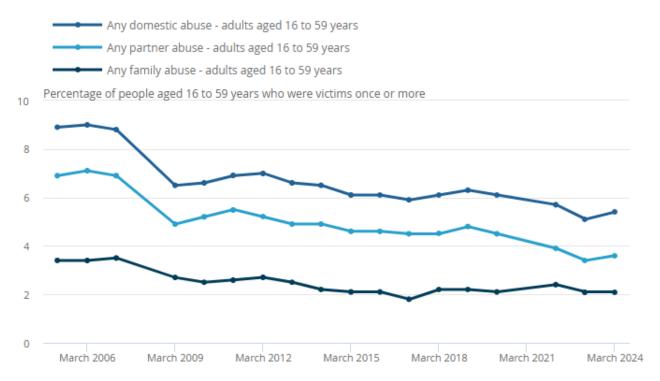


There is a strong correlation between deprivation and domestic abuse, with more incidents in the most deprived areas. The majority of domestic abuse crimes are between partners and expartners. In terms of proportion, those aged 16-19 are most likely to be affected with 8.7% of this age group being subject to domestic abuse, and those with a disability (9.2% of this group). Due to the aging population, in terms of absolute numbers, those aged 60-74 are most likely to be affected with over 1,200 people. Women are still significantly more likely than men to be victims of abuse.

The chart below shows that prevalence has been reducing since 2006 in the 16 to 59 age group.

Figure 21 – Domestic Abuse Prevalence, National figures, ONS

# Prevalence of domestic abuse in the last year among people aged 16 to 59 years, England and Wales, year ending (YE) March 2005 to YE March 2024



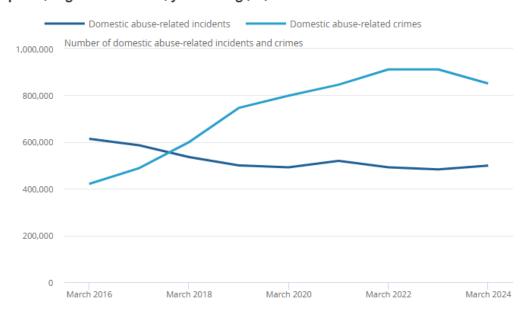
For reporting, the police add a domestic abuse flag on their records where any crime includes 'any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality'. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional<sup>19</sup>.

Despite reducing prevalence, the number of domestic abuse-related incidents recorded by the police in this way has been increasing – which is likely to reflect improvements in recording, and a higher level of reporting.

27

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Domestic Abuse definition: https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/domestic-abuse

Figure 22 — Police recorded domestic abuse incidents, National Figures
Number of domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes recorded by the
police, England and Wales, year ending (YE) March 2016 to YE March 2024



Source: Home Office – Police recorded crime, accessed on the ONS website <u>Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics</u>

# Prevent

The Prevent Duty requires Local Authorities and other named bodies (Education, Health Care, Police, Criminal Justice) to give due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

The objectives of Prevent are to:

- · Tackle the ideological causes of terrorism.
- Intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation.
- Enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate.

### **National Terrorism Risk**

The UK threat level has been **SUBSTANTIAL<sup>20</sup>** (meaning an attack is likely) since 09/02/2022. It is important that CSP agencies are alive to this threat and work towards mitigating any identified risks where possible.

The Home Office undertakes a prioritisation exercise to review the relative threat from terrorism and risk of radicalisation across the country and targets their support and funding resources as a result. The Isle of Wight is considered a lower risk area and so does not receive additional support or funding through this process, however we continue to make use of additional funding opportunities and have successfully completed two bids under the Preventing Radicalisation Fund in 2023 and 2024.

To understand local risk, local authorities are expected to produce a risk assessment specific to their circumstances. This assessment is informed by the counter-terrorism local profiles (CTLPs), produced for every region by the police, as well as other relevant sources of information.

The Isle of Wight Prevent board completes this risk assessment which is reviewed quarterly. It is updated with relevant national and local information as well as emerging threats and trends. This is then used to develop a local partnership action plan which is managed and delivered by members of the board.

Low: An attack is highly unlikely.

Moderate: An attack is possible but not likely.

Substantial: An attack is likely. Severe: An attack is highly likely.

Critical: An attack is highly likely in the near future.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> The UK's terrorism threat levels are determined by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) and the Security Service (MI5). These levels are designed to inform the public and guide security measures. The five threat levels are:

# Reducing Reoffending

Youth Justice - First Time Entrants (FTE)

First Time Entrant (FTE) describes children and young people entering the Youth Justice System for the first time i.e., when they received their first substantive outcome for a proven offence. FTE Data is captured by the Youth Justice Board from local case management systems. The rationale for monitoring the reduction in FTE is understanding that becoming involved in the crime is detrimental to children's future outcomes. Interventions to support the avoidance of offending can be delivered via the local Youth Crime Prevention Service.

Looking at the whole cohort – published figures for FTE to the youth justice system show that figures have increased slightly in the most recent year after a fairly stable period, and they remain above the national average, with 39 entrants in 2023.

Figure 23: First Time Entrants Trend, Isle of Wight

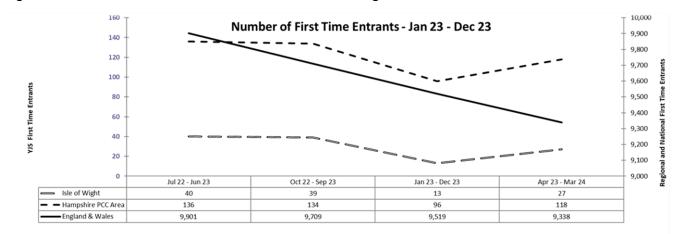


Source: OHID, based on Ministry of Justice and Office for National Statistics data

Source: DHSC Fingertips (accessed 10/02/2025)

Local data on FTEs indicates that the trend is fairly level between July 2022 and March 2024, with the latest year having 27 first time entrants.

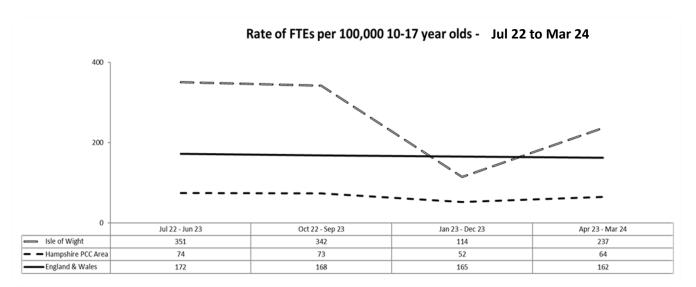
Figure 24: Local Data on numbers of FTE, Isle of Wight



Source: IOW YJS Performance Report Quarter 4 2023/24

The current FTE rate is 237 per 100,000 which is higher than the England average.

Figure 25:

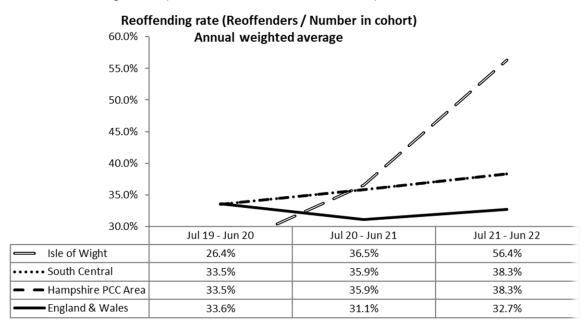


# Reoffending Trend

The reoffending trend indicator measures reoffending using data from the Police National Computer (PNC). This measure uses a 3-month cohort and measures the number of offenders that reoffend and the number of reoffences they commit over the following 12-month period. The change from 12-month cohorts to 3-month cohorts was expected to result in a greater proportion of prolific offenders and higher reoffending rates. Though both measures show similar trends over time at a national level there is greater variance at local level. The data is monitored on a lag due to the need to allow time to pass before being confident about whether reoffending has taken place or not.

The Island's reoffending rate has increased to 56.4% (up to June 2022) from 36.5% the previous year (up to June 2021). The IOW rate is higher than the Hampshire PCC area (38.3%) and the England and Wales average (32.7%): Re-offending is a continued focus for the team locally with additional analysis being undertaken to understand the drivers of this trend.

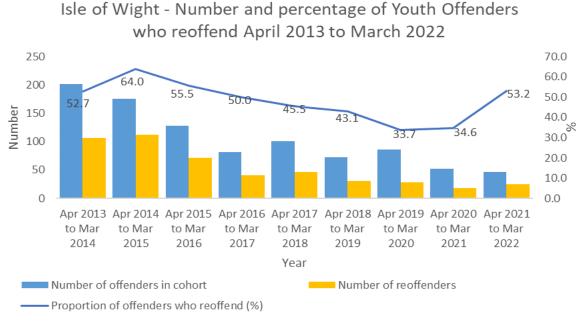
Figure 26: Reoffending Rate (reoffenders/number in cohort)



Source: IOW YJS Performance Report Quarter 4 2022/23

Published data from the Government's proven reoffending statistics (to March 2022) for youth offending indicates a further decrease in the cohort, with 47 offenders (down from 52 the previous year, blue bars on the graph below, a sustained downward trend). The number of reoffenders increased to 25 compared with 18 the previous year (yellow bars on the graph) and as a result the published reoffending rate increased to 53.2% (line on the graph).

Figure 27: Number and percentage of reoffenders

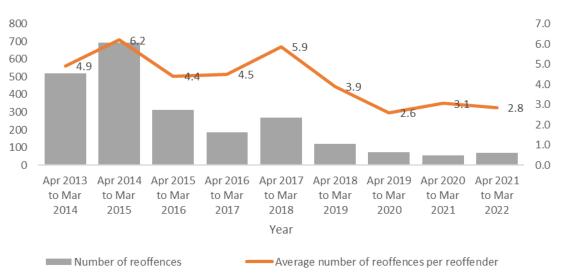


Source: Proven Reoffending figures Gov.uk

The average number of reoffences per reoffender is now 2.8 (April 2021 to March 2022), a slight decrease from 3.1 the previous year:

Figure 28: Reoffences per reoffender trend

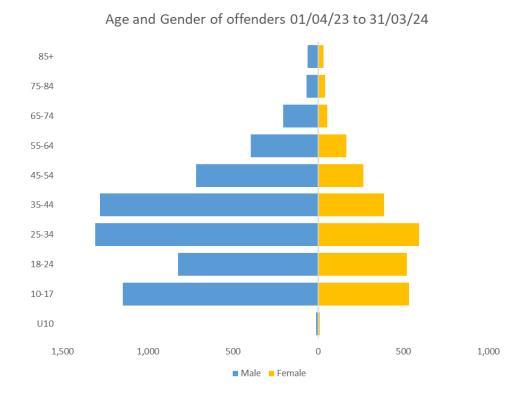
Isle of Wight - Youth - Number of Reoffences and average number per reoffender April 2013 to March 2022



Source: Proven Reoffending figures Gov.uk

80% of first time entrants are male, violence is the most common offence but there are also some children with repeat shoplifting offences.

Figure 29: age and gender of offenders, Isle of Wight

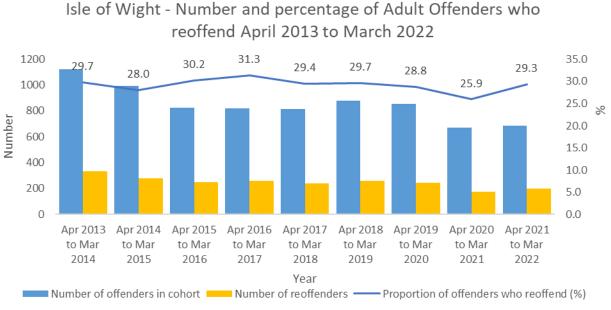


Source: Police recorded crime local data set analysis 2023-2024

# Adult Reoffending

Published data from the government's proven reoffending statistics for adult offenders indicates that the number of offenders in the cohort, as well as the number of reoffenders, has fluctuated but remained relatively constant in the last few years. The percentage of offenders who reoffend is now 29.3%, around the same as in 2017-18.

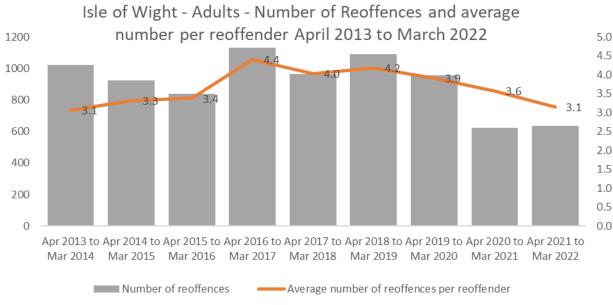
Figure 30 - Offenders and Reoffending trend, Isle of Wight



Source: Proven Reoffending figures Gov.uk

The number of reoffences per reoffender has also continued to reduce, with the average number of reoffences per reoffender now at 3.1 (April 2021 to March 2022):

Figure 31: Reoffences per reoffender, Isle of Wight



Source: Proven Reoffending figures Gov.uk

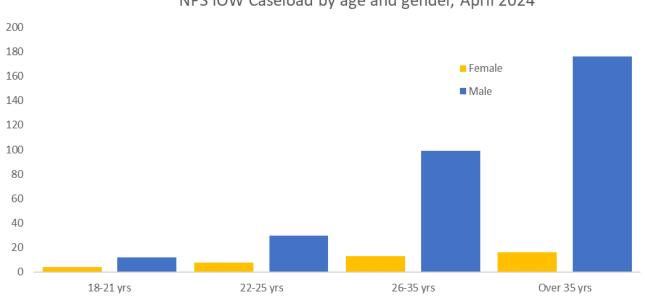
Figure 32 - Numbers in NPS, Isle of Wight, local caseload

Year	Community	Post- Release	Pre- Release	Grand Total
04/2020	49	57	42	148
04/2021	56	59	42	157
04/2022	251	66	75	392 <sup>21</sup>
04/2023	239	39	90	368
04/2024	238	12	108	358

Source: NPS Isle of Wight Caseload Figures April 2020 to April 2024

The majority of those known to the service are male (88.5%). Just over half (53.6%) are over 35.

Figure 33 – NPS caseload by age, Isle of Wight



NPS IOW Caseload by age and gender, April 2024

Source: NPS Isle of Wight Caseload Figures April 2019 to April 2024

Accommodation data for the NPS cohort is poorly recorded, with almost 93% of the information missing – this means analysis is not possible.

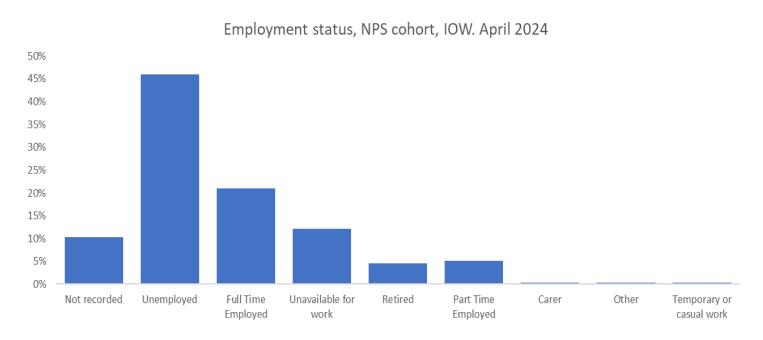
(Figure 31 – graph removed due to lack of accommodation data).

Data recording for employment status has improved since last year so the figures are more reliable. They show that almost half (46%) of the cohort are unemployed, an increase from just under a quarter the previous year. (This could be due to improvements in data recording).

Just over a fifth (21%) were in full time employment, with 12.1% unavailable for work and 4.6% retired.

<sup>21</sup> Prior to June 2021 the release of offenders was managed both by the National Probation Service (NPS) and the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). The NPS had responsibility for managing only those offenders who posed the highest risk of harm to the public and who had committed the most serious offences, while CRCs delivered community services for medium and low-risk offenders. Since June 2021 all offences are now handled by the NPS which explains the year-on-year jump in caseloads between 2021/2022

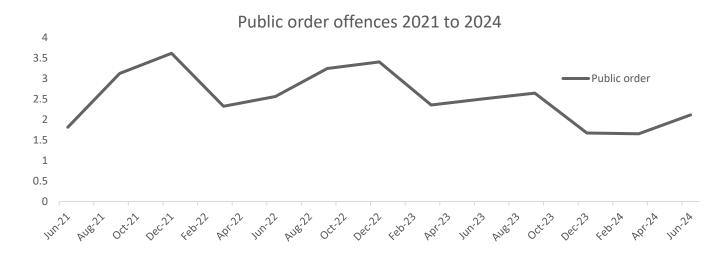
Figure 34: Employment status, NPS cohort, Isle of Wight



# Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) and Community Cohesion

ASB is defined as "conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person" (Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014). The police recorded crime data set has incidents flagged as 'Public Order' offences. These have been declining over the past three years. There is a clear cyclical trend with higher levels in the Autumn and Winter.

Figure 35: Public order offences trend 2021 to 2024, Isle of Wight



Source: Compare your area | Police.uk

# Time of day

The heatmap below shows that the majority of incidents are happening in the late afternoon or early evening with some around midnight each day too.

Figure 36: All crime incidents heatmap

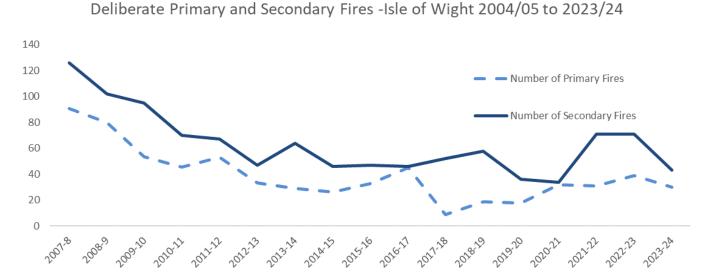
	Not																								
	stated	00:00	01:00	02:00	03:00	04:00	05:00	06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00 2	23:00
Sunday	143	154	103	84	. 77	27	23	19	34	53	85	98	79	131	87	117	153	133	133	127	129	136	142	105	85
Monday	167	84	41	35	25	14	9	15	40	102	123	101	116	133	152	151	151	147	187	142	136	128	123	103	65
Tuesday	152	90	37	37	23	3 20	13	24	28	86	116	101	113	160	126	124	170	163	171	149	156	126	134	94	74
Wednesday	148	80	37	22	23	13	15	21	48	98	123	142	126	157	140	187	199	193	149	156	126	131	104	106	104
Thursday	138	101	41	31	20	18	20	19	48	119	127	122	116	152	138	154	193	173	167	155	130	126	112	124	92
Friday	159	107	58	40	25	21	18	19	53	91	134	109	119	154	127	144	183	159	166	176	162	151	123	129	163
Saturday	149	133	87	58	59	29	33	21	33	96	87	92	103	146	97	129	154	136	129	158	156	164	164	136	132

Source: Police recorded crime local data set analysis 2023-2024

# **Deliberate Fires**

Fires are categorised into primary and secondary types with primary fires including any fire that occurs in a building (non-derelict), road vehicle or outdoor structure, any fire involving fatalities and/or casualties and any fire attended by five or more pumping appliances. Secondary fires are almost exclusively outdoors including scrub or grassland, rubbish bins and bonfires. If either a primary or secondary fire was started as a malicious act, then they are classed as 'deliberate'.

Figure 37: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service Primary/ Secondary Fire Rates



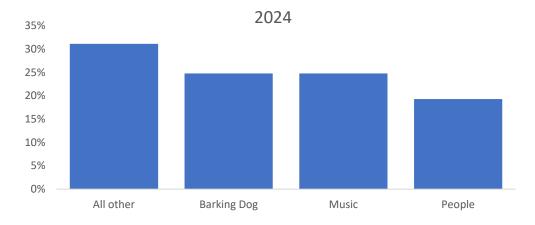
Source: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service 2024

Overall, there were 73 deliberate primary and secondary fires including vehicle fires in 2023/24. This is a decrease from 2022/23 where there were 110. This decrease is primarily due to a reduction in the number of deliberate secondary fires with 43 in 2023/24, compared with 71 the previous year.

### Noise Nuisance

There were 456 noise nuisance reports during the 2024 calendar year, a slight reduction on the previous year. There has been a noticeable increase in complaints about bird scarers this year, but overall, the picture is fairly consistent from year to year with barking dogs, music and noise from people, accounting for two thirds of complaints.

Figure 38: Noise Nuisance complaints – Isle of Wight



Source: Isle of Wight Council Environmental Health 2024

# **Doorstep Crime and Scams**

Trading Standards help protect Isle of Wight residents from cold callers, rogue traders and other scams. Isle of Wight Against Scams Partnership (IWASP) supports victims and promotes a hostile environment to scammers. The membership has remained the same at 42 partners, with agencies both statutory and voluntary receiving training to enable them to prevent residents becoming victims and support those who may have been victims.

During 2023/24, 53 doorstep crimes were reported, and same day interventions implemented (an increase from the previous year). There were 135 reports of scams (a slight decrease from the previous year).

The intervention through Trading Standards has resulted in savings of £446,557 to island residents (an increase from the previous year). This is based on a national formula looking at the consequences to the local authority and other agencies if victims are left, not only with little or no money but the health and wellbeing consequences of being a victim of this type of crime.

Source: Isle of Wight Trading Standards - Community Protection 2024

# **Road Safety**

# Killed and Seriously Injured

Data on road safety comes from the Isle of Wight Council Highways and Transport team, and also from published data on Road Safety Data - data.gov.uk

In 2023/24 there were 229 accidents on the Isle of Wight, 3 of these involving fatalities.

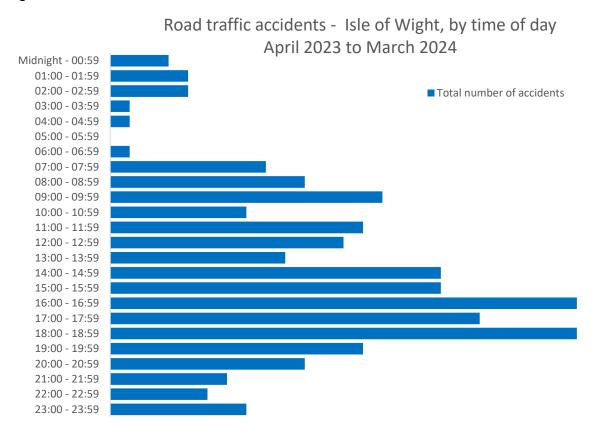
Figure 39

Accident Severity	Total
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	
Fatal	3
Serious	77
Slight	149
Damage	0
Total	229

Local road safety statistics show that, a significant proportion of these accidents occur in 30mph zones, in fine dry weather, in daylight, not at junctions and while going ahead rather than turning, perhaps suggesting that motorists take more care in conditions they perceive as hazardous.

Temporal analysis of all accidents showed that slightly more occurred in June, September and December, with less in April and November, though this wasn't significantly higher. The day of the week made very little difference, but time of day was a factor with more accidents taking place between the hours of 16:00 to 19:00

Figure 40



# Appendix A

Crime tree		2020/	21		2020/21		2021/	/22		2021/22		2022,	/23		2022/23		2023/	<b>'24</b>		2023/24 total 2022/23	Change 2022/23 to		Four year total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2023/24		2023/24	totai
1a Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.0%	2
Death or serious injury - unla		0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	C	) -1	0.0%	1									
1b Violence with Injury	286	400	337	277	1,300	412	424	342	392	1,570	431	508	391	347	1,677	377	450	343	347	1,517	7 -160	13.9%	6,064
1c Violence without Injury	361	451	428	381	1,621	444	555	466	466	1,931	496	498	427	428	1,849	490	512	428	499	1,929	9 80	17.7%	7,330
Stalking and harassment	354	405	309	352	1,420	428	465	512	479	1,884	494	503	456	503	1,956	468	419	349	441	1,677	7 -279	15.4%	6,937
2a Rape	39	52	32	36	159	56	34	39	51	180	58	61	41	44	204	41	48	62	42	193	3 -11	1.8%	736
2b Other Sexual Offences	54	77	66	72	269	86	90	76	112	364	118	135	85	128	466	117	100	82	70	369	-97	3.4%	1,468
3a Robbery of Business Property	1	1			2	2	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	5	2	0	1	2	5	5 0	0.0%	14
3b Robbery of Personal Property	9	7	10	9	35	13	12	14	11	50	15	5	12	9	41	6	5	9	11	31	L -10	0.3%	157
4a1 Burglary Residential	54	45	48	45	192	47	46	29	42	164	34	45	33	46	158	46	39	55	51	191	1 33	1.8%	705
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	28	12	26	16	82	21	33	17	21	92	24	37	20	18	99	16	30	25	26	97	7 -2	0.9%	370
4b Vehicle Offences	54	56	39	39	188	47	53	42	47	189	47	64	39	64	214	53	56	46	41	196	5 -18	1.8%	787
4c Theft from the Person	6	8	11	5	30	6	21	14	4	45	8	8	5	9	30	21	21	13	11	66	36	0.6%	171
4d Bicycle Theft	15	11	8	5	39	19	15	8	2	44	8	9	6	2	25	5	6	2	5	18	3 -7	0.2%	126
4e Shoplifting	95	81	51	36	263	69	79	90	85	323	88	101	119	175	483	189	178	244	208	819	336	7.5%	1,888
4f All Other Theft Offences	127	180	120	94	521	160	218	181	153	712	180	189	158	154	681	190	189	163	138	680	) -1	6.2%	2,594
5a Criminal Damage	223	279	223	211	936	276	266	291	227	1,060	240	285	233	246	1,004	261	298	285	227	1,071	L 67	9.8%	4,071
5b Arson	19	11	10	5	45	14	3	6	5	28	8	18	11	15	52	8	10	10	11	39	-13	0.4%	164
6a Trafficking of Drugs	33	29	30	29	121	25	20	18	20	83	20	17	16	15	68	21	14	20	13	68	3 0	0.6%	340
6b Possession of Drugs	91	102	72	100	365	75	85	93	77	330	101	110	87	90	388	98	109	93	72	372	2 -16	3.4%	1,455
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	32	38	25	24	119	31	44	27	35	137	33	38	31	28	130	46	43	35	36	160	30	1.5%	546
8 Public Order Offences	298	376	283	265	1,222	446	511	329	362	1,648	457	481	332	355	1,625	381	373	238	234	1,226	-399	11.2%	5,721
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	53	60	47	50	210	41	31	48	59	179	52	55	36	44	187	54	48	43	40	185	5 -2	1.7%	761
Total	2,232	2,681	2,175	2,051	9,139	2,718	3,005	2,642	2,651	11,016	2,914	3,168	2,539	2,722	11,343	2,891	2,948	2,546	2,525	10,910	-433	100.0%	31,065

Source: Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables</a>



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If you have difficulty understanding this document, please contact us on 01983 821000 and we will do our best to help you.