

# Safer New Forest Strategic Assessment 2017

The New Forest is one of the safest places in the UK to live in, work in and visit. The Safer New Forest Partnership is working to make it even safer.



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The New Forest is an area of southern England which includes one of the largest remaining tracts of unenclosed pasture land, heathland and forest in the heavily populated south east of England. It covers south-west Hampshire and extends into south-east Wiltshire and towards east Dorset. It is a unique place of ancient history, fascinating wildlife and stunning beauty and was established as a royal hunting preserve.

The local government administrative area of New Forest District Council (290 square miles) includes the New Forest National Park (206 square miles). Within the district there are 145 square miles of Crown land, managed by the Forestry Commission.

The New Forest is a working forest that has prospered for nearly 1000 years. Many of the agricultural practices conceded by the Crown in historical times to local people are still retained. The most significant of these is the depasturing of ponies, cattle, pigs and donkeys in the open forest by authorised local inhabitants known as Commoners. These unique agricultural communing practices are administered by the Verderers.

The district council was created on 1 April 1974 and was a merger of the borough of Lymington, New Forest Rural District and part of Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District. The district is one of the most populated in England (179,236) not to be a unitary authority and within its boundaries there are 37 active Town and Parish Councils. Hampshire County Council are responsible for upper tier services.

Operating within the heart of the district council area is the National Park Authority established in 2005. The National Park is the planning authority for its area. In other service areas there are shared responsibilities and close collaborative working with the district council. Approximately 70% of the population of the district live in the New Forest District Council authority area in a number of medium sized towns. To the south and east of the district border there lies 40 miles of coastline.

The broad range of organisations and community groups that exist means that the council works collaboratively with and in the community to deliver solutions.

Based in the district area there are approximately 8,000 businesses, 89% of which are micro in size employing fewer than 10 people. Self-employment in the district area is relatively high at over 14% and unemployment is consistently lower than in the rest of the country. Leisure, tourism and marine along with their associated supply chains are significant employment and economic sectors within the district. The council works closely with the New Forest Business Partnership and 'Helping local business grow' is a priority. Average earnings are low with 60% of the working population earning less than the UK average. This, and the high average house price (£315,000; some £93,000 above the county average), results in significant cross commuting between those who work in the forest but can't afford to live there, and those who can afford to live within the district but work elsewhere. The district council is located between the two major conurbations of Southampton and Bournemouth.

The very special nature of the New Forest makes it an extremely attractive place to live; both for those in work and those wishing to retire (25% of the population is over 65). Housing development is made more difficult by many of the environmental constraints of the area.

- 1.2 During the course of each year the Safer New Forest Partnership ('the Partnership') is required by law to prepare an annual strategic assessment on behalf of all of the responsible authorities who are members of the Partnership.
- 1.3 The aim of this strategic assessment is to provide an analysis of crime in the New Forest during 2016/2017. The strategic assessment will assist the Partnership with the preparation of the Partnership Plan for the year 2018/19.
- 1.4 In particular, the next Partnership Plan will draw upon evidence contained in this strategic assessment to inform a strategy for the reduction of re-offending and crime and disorder for the New Forest. The strategic assessment will assist with the identification of priorities that the Partnership feel should be the focus of their work in the upcoming year.
- 1.5 This strategic assessment includes the following:
  - update on agencies actions of the Partnership plan of 2017/18
  - an overview of the level and pattern of re-offending, crime and disorder in the New Forest area and where available, comparative differences since the 2016 strategic assessment
  - update on the Partnership's community engagement
  - recommendations for future priorities to be included in the 2018/19 Partnership plan

## **2. SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Partnership is made up of the following statutory responsible authorities:
  - New Forest District Council
  - Hampshire Constabulary
  - Hampshire Fire and Rescue
  - Probation (Community Rehabilitation Company)
  - West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group

During the course of 2017, the responsible authorities have worked together with the aim of enhancing community safety in the New Forest. The responsible authorities have contributed towards the preparation of this strategic assessment.

2.2 In addition, throughout 2017, the responsible authorities have been supported by the following non-statutory members of the Partnership:

- Hampshire County Council (Councillor Representative)
- Hampshire County Council Children's Services
- Hampshire County Council Adult Services
- Hampshire County Council Youth Offending Team
- Community First New Forest
- Forestry Commission
- New Forest National Park Authority

### **3 REVIEW OF THE PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2017/18**

3.1 The Partnership Plan 2017/18 was formally agreed by the Partnership on 6 March 2017. It was published on the Safer New Forest Website for public viewing following this date.

The Partnership Plan identified the following priorities:

- a) Tackle the cause and effects of anti-social behaviour
- b) Tackle the causal effects of offending behaviour and reoffending with a focus on violent crime
- c) Continue to support the Partnership and community in preventing arson related incidents
- d) Support victims of domestic abuse
- e) Promote road safety with an emphasis on Killed & Serious Injury (KSI)
- f) Reducing rural crime

3.2 A lead partner/agency was identified for each priority area. This individual agency was responsible, with support from other partners as required, for completing an action plan and strategy to address their priority area. The action plan is attached as APPENDIX A.

3.3 Updates on progress were provided to the Partnership at the meetings on 5 June and 4 September 2017. There are two further dates in January and March 2018 when partners will have the opportunity to update the strategic group further.

3.4 The following progress has been made on the implementation of the Plan during 2017-18: Each priority is listed individually with an update from the lead agency responsible.

### 3.4.1 Tackle the cause and effects of Anti-Social Behaviour - Lead partner NFDC in partnership with Hampshire Police

The term anti-social behaviour (ASB) has no clear definition in terms of specific behaviour or act. It is widely accepted as is described within the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as 'behaviour that causes or is likely to cause harassment alarm or distress to persons not of the same household of the perpetrator'. It is due to this that the resolution to such behaviour requires the input and support of many agencies in finding a resolution. In a vast number of complaints that are lodged, when the source of the nuisance is advised of their behaviour and the impact, this is often sufficient to stop the behaviour.

The impact of ASB on individuals and communities can be the most intrusive and upsetting form of behaviour that affects the individual's quality of life. The Safer New Forest Partnership recognises this and through a coordinated approach, problem individuals or geographical locations of concern are addressed through a multi-agency forum Partnership Interventions Panel (PIP). The District Council's well-established and productive forum is where partner agencies come together to problem solve and action plan appropriate responses to problematic individuals or areas.

Since April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017, the Community Safety department have chaired PIP cases concerning 83 people who are either directly involved in the causes of anti-social behaviour or as victims. The panel have been able to formulate action plans to disrupt and divert the perpetrators but also instigate safeguarding measures for victims where this is both identified and appropriate.

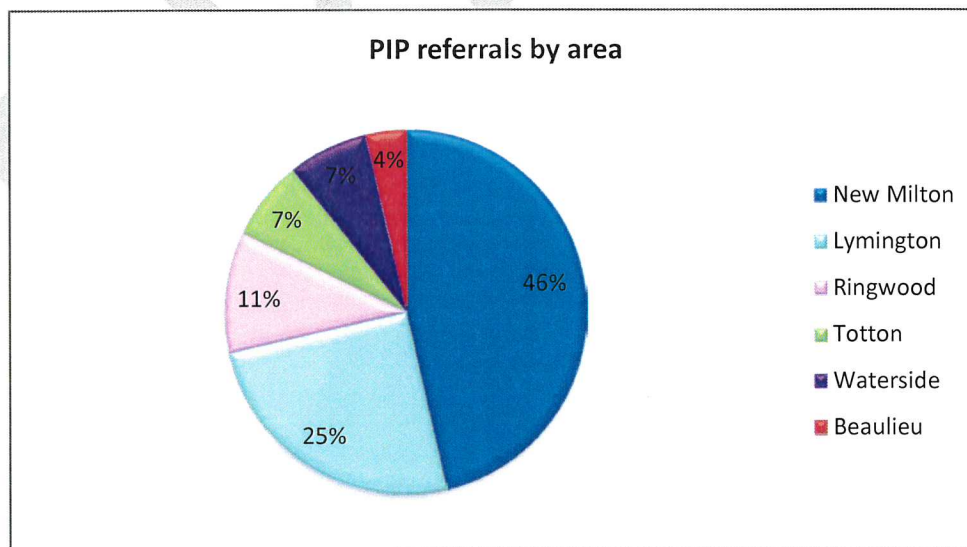


Fig 1: PIP referrals by area

## Supporting New Forest Families

The District Council recognises and supports the needs of vulnerable families. Locally the District Council is the lead agency of the governments Supporting Families Programme. Within the district area, this programme is operated under the name of Supporting New Forest Families. This programme is supported by the Youth Offending Team, Police, Children’s Services, Probation and wider partners to support families and individuals who are identified as:

- a) Involved in ASB or crime
- b) Not in education, employment or training (or at risk of exclusion)
- c) Victims of domestic abuse
- d) Substance misuse
- e) At financial risk or risk of homelessness
- f) Having health needs/failing to thrive

## Supporting New Forest Families Profile

The cohort allocation for the New Forest area between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2016-March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 was 118 families. Of this, 88 families were managed locally by NFDC and its partners with 30 cases being supported by a commissioned intensive service provided by Hampshire County Council. The intensive service entitled Transform was a conglomerate of 3 separate agencies working with an overall allocation of 30 families during the financial year.

The programme has worked with over 100 cases, consisting of over 225 children and young persons.

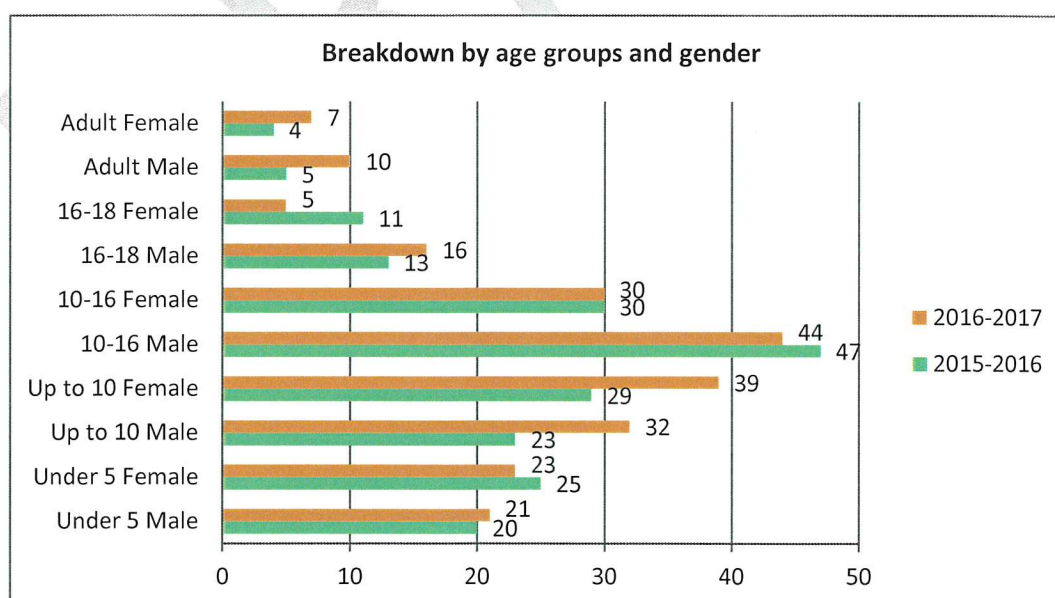


Fig 2: Age and gender of children/young person (2015-2016 vs 2016-2017)

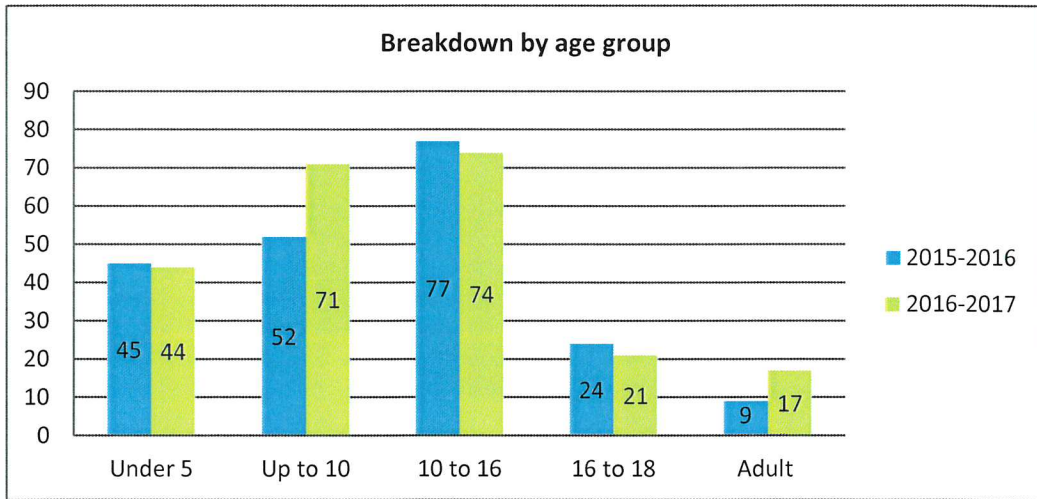


Fig 3: Age of children/young person (2015-2016 vs 2016-2017)

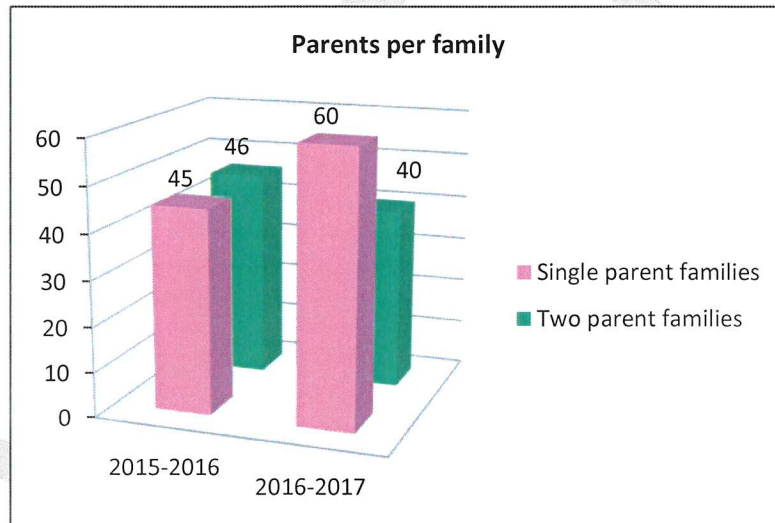


Fig 4: Number of parents per family (2015-2016 vs 2016-2017)



## Supporting New Forest Families Overview (2017/2018)

In the current year from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017-March 31<sup>st</sup> 2018, the New forest Supporting Families Programme will identify a further 118 families to participate within the programme. The commissioned service for this year has changed to three new providers working to deliver a combined provision which is provided by CSW, Motiv8 and Family Lives. The programme also has a dedicated DWP (Department of Works and Pension) worker to support with worklessness and assist with employment opportunities. Each agency will only be allocated a maximum of 10 families over the year. This is to ensure that the families identified are provided with sufficient support at a level consistent with their needs and support plan.

The Supporting New Forest Group is above their year to date target on the number of families identified and actively engaged in the programme. This is a positive position and will enable the programme to extend the support to more families than initially anticipated and provide targeted support to those most in need.

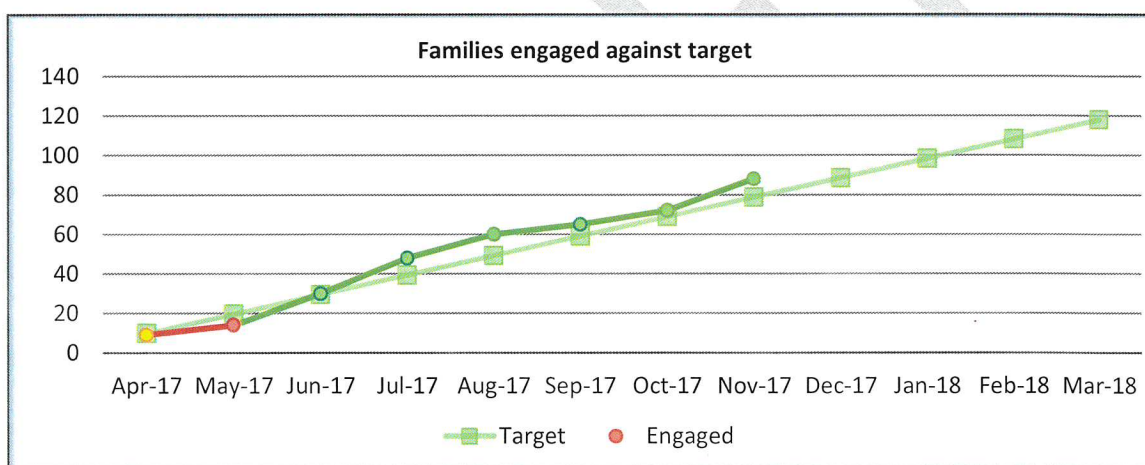


Fig 5: Current allocation from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 to November 30<sup>th</sup> 2017

New Forest	
Families Engaged (ytd)	88
Target Families (ytd)	79
Total Target	118
Intensive Nominations (ytd)	20
Total Intensive Target	30

Fig 6: Current allocation from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 to November 30<sup>th</sup> 2017.

### **3.4.2 Tackle the casual effects of offending behaviour and reoffending with a focus on violent crime – Lead Partner Hampshire Constabulary in partnership with Interchange/CRC**

Hampshire and IOW Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) manage all adult offenders (over the age of 18) in the New Forest area. Following the implementation of the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation agenda, the CRC manages cases that are not assessed as "High" risk of causing Serious Harm or any offender managed under the auspices of MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangement). These cases are managed by the National Probation Service. As such, the high level violent offences are not managed by the CRC who are charged to deliver rehabilitative services to offenders presenting a low and medium risk of harm. This does include many domestic violence offences as well as offences linked to the night time economy and other violent crime that is not assessed as high risk according to Home Office definitions.

With regards to the management of cases in the New Forest area, CRC have negotiated reporting centres in the following areas; Totton (Hub), Lymington (Community Centre), New Milton (Town Hall) and Ringwood (Gateway). This ensures that the majority of service users have a convenient place to report to their Probation Officer in their local community. All offenders subject to CRC management are managed in accordance with the CRC working model, "Interchange" which consists of 6 Core Modules that all offenders undertake in conjunction with their allocated worker:

- Induction
- Assessment
- Plan
- Review
- Network
- Exit

The model is based on the criminological research model of desistance theory whereby the focus of interventions is based around strengths and building positive social networks to create a cognitive and social dissonance from offending behaviour.

Currently, the majority of CRC led interventions are delivered on a one to one basis by the CRC Officer. However, contracts are being utilised with small providers to deliver focussed interventions to women. CRC work in conjunction with the local drug treatment agency (Inclusion) to effectively manage offenders subject to Court Orders with drug treatment provisions or alcohol treatment provisions.

Group provision for low level alcohol drug use, family support, victim empathy group, service user peer support networks as well as the suite of NOMS (National Offender Management Service) accredited programmes are available to New Forest offenders in Southampton. There is no current group provision in the New Forest and the current demand would not suggest that this is a viable option going forward. Unpaid Work/Community Payback is delivered across the New Forest area and includes group projects as well as Individual Placements, mainly in charity shops.

Violent crime remains one of the key areas that CRC staff work with service users to address. Any case with an offence of violence will have a Risk Management Plan which includes interventions that will be delivered by the CRC Case Manager to increase victim awareness, increase cognitive awareness of anger issues and develop strategies to avoid violent crime in the future. The manager of the CRC and the Councils Community Safety Partnership Manager are active participants in the Police led (Tactical Planning Meetings (TPM)). This provides the police and partners a secure and dedicated time to identify, assess and respond to the needs of individuals of concern through offending or victim status. This has been an extremely useful development during the year as the CRC has been able to raise imminent concerns regarding particular cases that have been identified as being at risk of causing violence or community unrest.

With regards to Domestic Violence, this remains a core part of CRC business and a suite of perpetrator interventions are delivered on a one to one basis unless the offender has been sentence to the Court to the accredited Building Better Relationships programme. The CRC attend MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) meetings and are heavily involved in Safeguarding work through liaison with Children's Services and are active participants in Child Protection Planning decisions and subsequent Core Groups. Our co-location in the Totton Hub building has facilitated good working relationships with Children's Services.

The caseload is completely fluid based on cases coming to an end and new sentences being made. The CRC caseload changes on a daily basis but relatively remains stable within a degree of variances. The user profile on the following page captures information from 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and gives some indication on the profile of the New Forest area.

## New Forest Service User Profile – December 2017

The following graphics represent data taken from the HIOW(Hampshire & Isle of Wight) CRC case management system for all service users managed in the community within New Forest district at December 2017.

HIOW CRC New Forest service users by gender

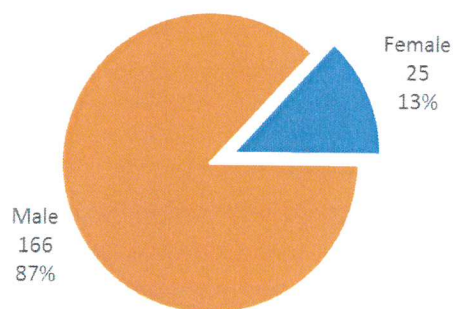


Fig 7: HIOW CRC service users by gender for the New Forest

Female service users in the New Forest are at a slightly lower proportion than for HIOW CRC overall where the proportion of females is usually between 14% and 16%.

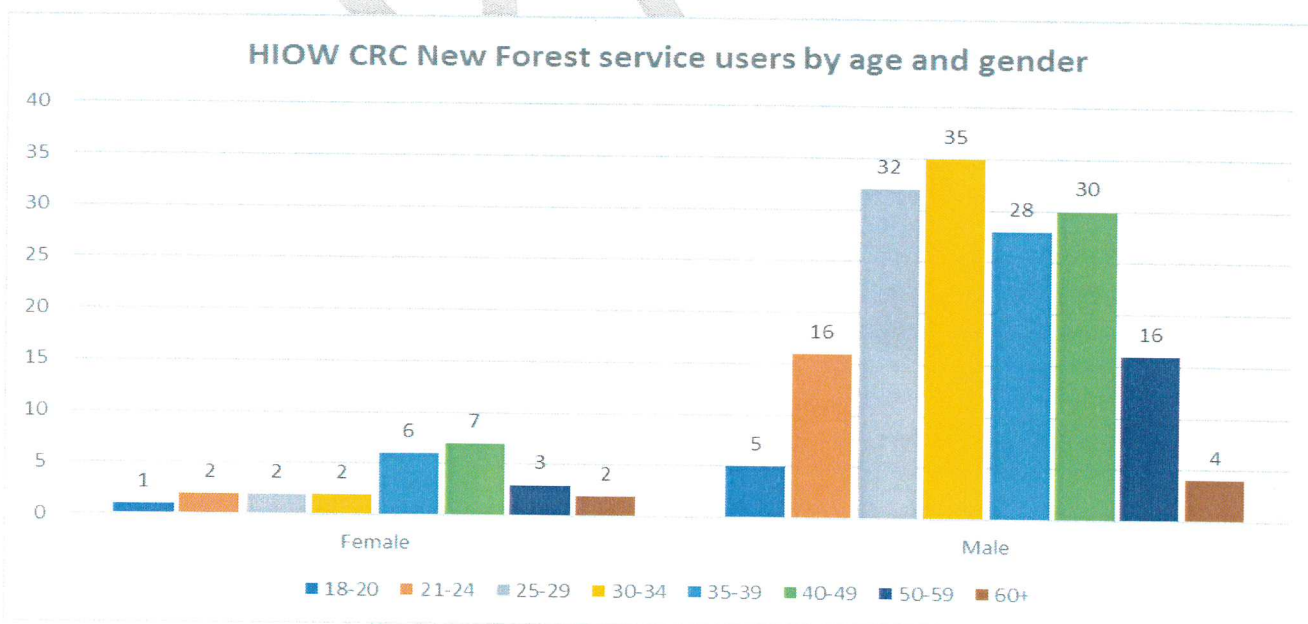


Fig 8: HIOW CRC service users by age and gender for the New Forest

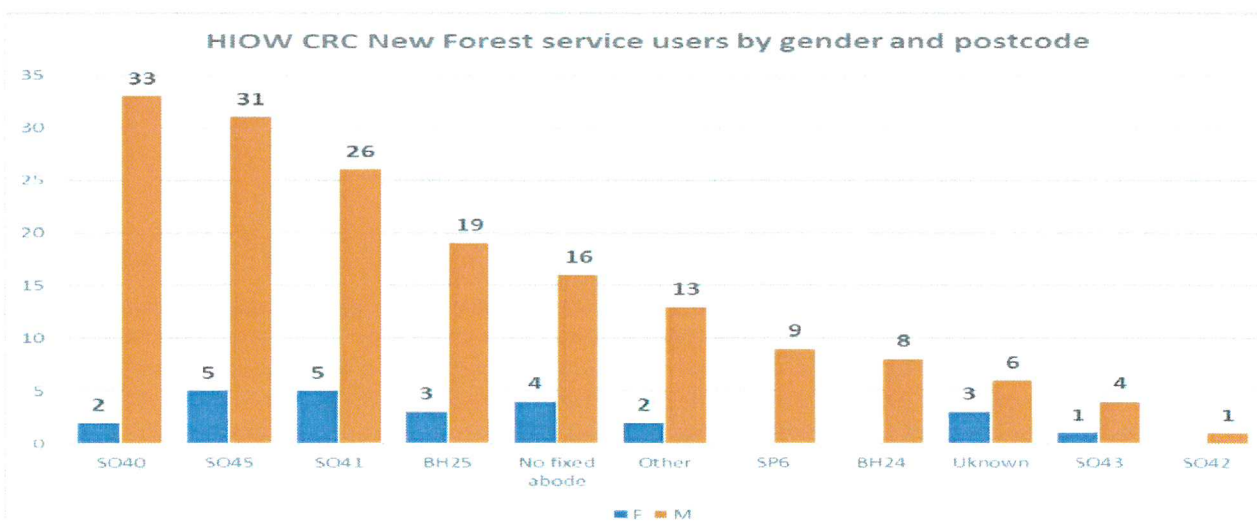


Fig 9: HIOW CRC services users by gender and postcode for the New Forest

Service users in the New Forest have slightly lower levels of Public Order offences in comparison to service users in the community for the whole of HIOW CRC; similarly there are slightly lower levels of theft crime committed by New Forest service users with drink driving offences slightly higher.

### Challenges for 2018

As with other local agencies involved in the field of Criminal Justice, financial constraints may offer additional challenges for delivery during 2018.

The main impact for the CRC is increasing caseloads and due to the financial need, keeping staff numbers at a level concordant with restrictive budgets. A response to this could be the increased use of group delivery with less work being completed on a one to one basis. This represents challenges for the New Forest team due to the demographics of the area, lack of suitable facilities in which to delivery group work and poor transport networks. This may require offenders having to travel to Southampton for interventions and comply with their court imposed orders/requirements.

The CRC remains firmly committed to reducing offending. The Payment by Results framework is starting to provide more detailed information than has previously been available regarding the "type" of offenders who are more likely to offend and this is enabling the CRC to proactively target and provide more robust interventions to those considered to be at risk. This is already happening in terms of identifying offenders who have committed offences whilst under CRC management and these cases are monitored and checked robustly to ensure that appropriate interventions are being delivered. This is going to extend to cases who fit the profile of people who are more likely to offend; where extra management attention are given to these cases.

## **Hampshire Youth Offending Team (Hampshire YOT)**

Hampshire YOT service comprises of Social Workers, Police Officers, Probation Officers, Youth Support Workers and specialists in restorative justice, health, education, parenting, substance misuse and sports/arts. The service is also supported by a large number of volunteers who work together to prevent young people offending or reoffending.

The service is:

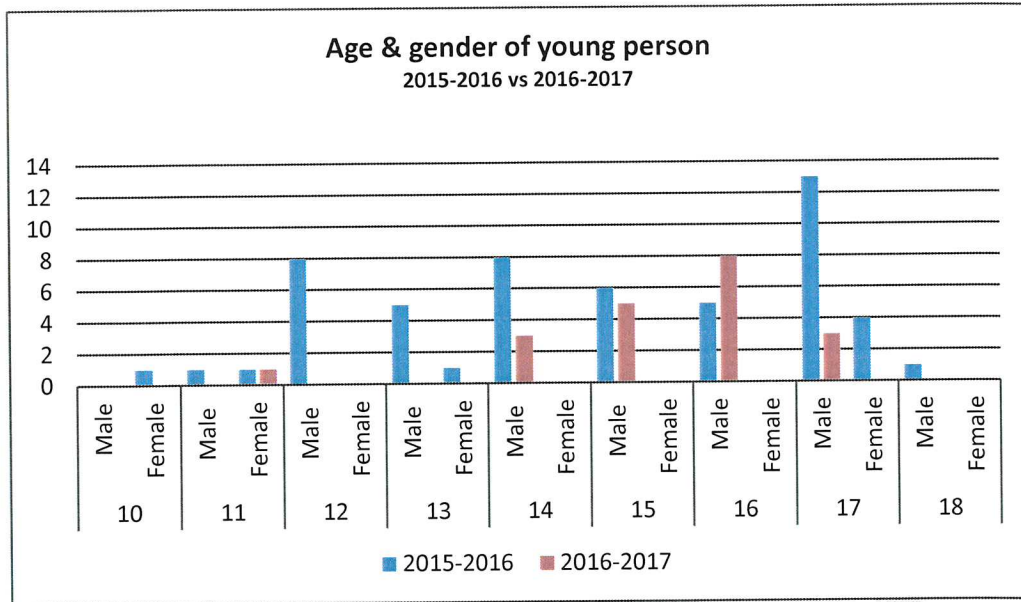
- Supporting and supervising children and young people who have been made the subject of a court order because they have committed a criminal offence.
- Assessing and providing interventions for children and young people who are at risk of offending, or who have received a youth restorative disposal, final warning or youth conditional caution administered by the Police.
- Acting as an appropriate adult (in the absence of a parent/guardian) for children and young people held in custody at a police station.
- Providing support for young people on bail.
- Preparing reports and other information for courts in criminal proceedings so that informed judgements can be made by the judiciary.
- Working with parents to help them develop better parenting skills.
- Offering the victims of crime the opportunity to get involved in restorative processes and meet the young person who offended against them. This can help the young person understand the impact of their offending behaviour and most importantly repair the harm caused to the victim.

## **Youth Crime Prevention Teams**

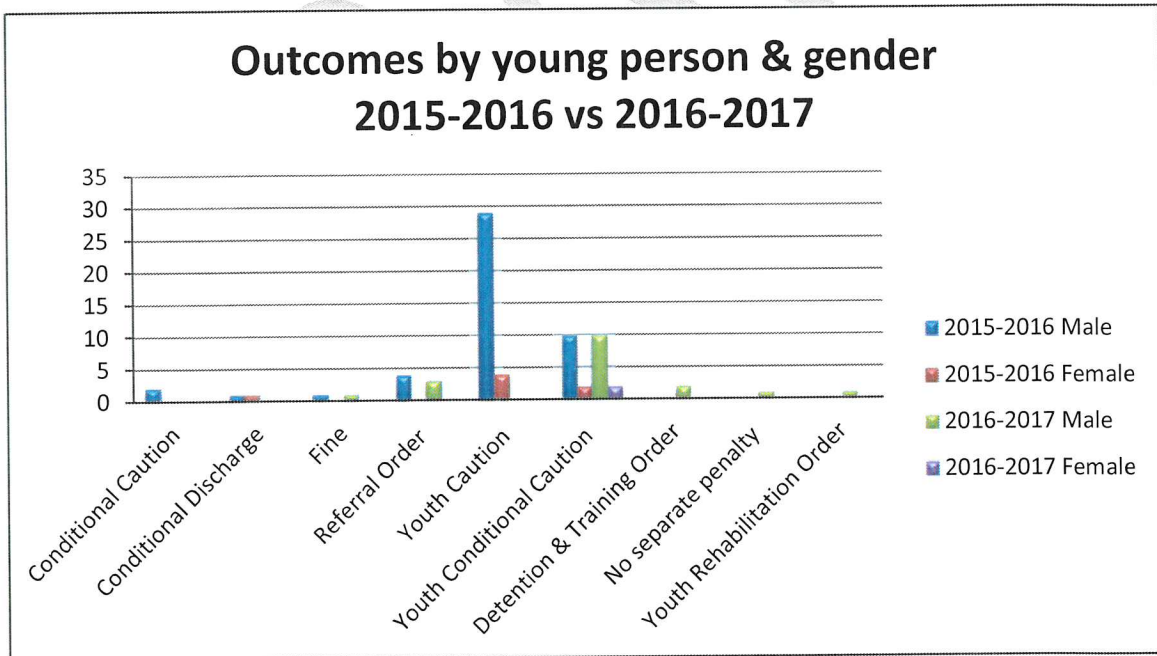
Working alongside the Hampshire Children's Locality Teams are the Youth Crime Prevention Teams who work with and support young people aged 10-16 who are at risk of offending or committing anti-social behaviour.

Engagement with the team is on a voluntary basis and each case is allocated to a key worker who provides an individual plan of intervention.

**First Time Entrant Data: 01/04/2016-31/03/2017**



*Fig 10: Age and gender of young person*



*Fig 11: Outcomes by young person and gender*

First Entrant Data - Offences by type & gender				
	2016-2017		2015-2016	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Arson	0	0	4	0
Criminal damage	4	0	5	1
Domestic burglary	1	0	0	0
Drugs	1	0	11	1
Motoring offences	8	0	1	1
Non domestic burglary	0	0	2	0
Public order	0	0	4	0
Racially aggravated	2	0	1	0
Sexual offences	2	0	1	0
Theft and handling	2	2	10	1
Vehicle theft	0	0	1	0
Violence against the person	15	1	7	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>7</b>

*Fig 12: First entrant data by offences and gender (2015-2016 vs 2016-2017)*

## Weapons Education and Prevention Programme

New Forest District Council Community Safety team provide educational awareness workshops on the implications of weapons use and possession. These are educational lessons provided for schools, youth clubs and for people made the subject of or ordered by the court as part of their rehabilitation.

Over the past year the team have delivered education sessions to over 1000 students. To support this team have also provided sessional workshops for parents to underpin and support the work of the team and their children.

The programme is modular based covering 6 main areas:

- Weapons
- The Law
- Social implications
- Medical implications
- Revenge and reprisals
- Firearms

The delivery of the programme is provided in an environment where participants, both young people and adults can openly discuss their beliefs and misconceptions of the law and weapons use. Over the years this has been delivered in the New Forest this has resulted in the surrender of articles associated with violent crime.



### 3.4.3 Continue to support the partnership and community in preventing arson related incidents – Lead partner Hampshire Fire and Rescue

There were 349 fire related incidents in the New Forest Group in the 2016-17 period. This is a decrease of 9 incidents compared to last year. In 2016-17 there were 195 primary fires and 154 secondary fires. The table below shows the breakdown of fires by primary and secondary, for the past 5 years. The table also shows the percentage increase or decrease from the previous year. (Green = decrease, Red = increase).

Year	Primary Fires	% Change	Secondary Fires	% Change	Total Fires
2016-17	195	7%	154	12%	349
2015-16	182	1%	175	7%	358
2014-15	184	1%	189	9%	373
2013-14	185	11%	208	5%	393
2012-13	208		198		406

Fig 13: Number of primary and secondary fires attend by New Forest Group from 2012-2017

The table shows that the number of primary fires within the New Forest Group have remained fairly constant at an average of 191 incidents per year. However, the number of secondary fires have continued to drop year on year since 2013/14.

*Primary fires are generally more serious fires occurring in one or more of the following locations, buildings, caravans or trailers, vehicles and other methods of transport (not derelict). Outdoor storage, plant, machinery, agricultural, forestry property, other outdoor structures including post boxes, tunnels, bridges, etc.*

*Secondary fires are generally small fires, which start in, and are confined to, outdoor locations. Typically, they are fires in grass or heathland, involving rubbish, street or railway furniture or in derelict buildings and vehicles.*

The total number of incidents in the New Forest Group has followed the same pattern to that of the number of incidents within the whole County. The numbers of incidents have continued to increase year on year since 2014/15 for the New Forest and the County. Hampshire and the New Forest have seen the greatest increase in incidents during 2016/17 compared to the previous two years. This is also the case nationally which has seen an increase year on year.

### Types of Incidents within the New Forest Group 2016-17

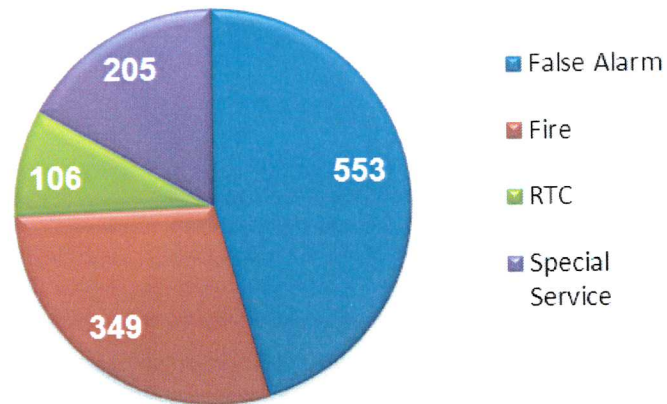


Fig 14: Total number of incidents by type of call out for the New Forest Group in 2016-17.

### Types of Incidents within Hampshire 2016-17

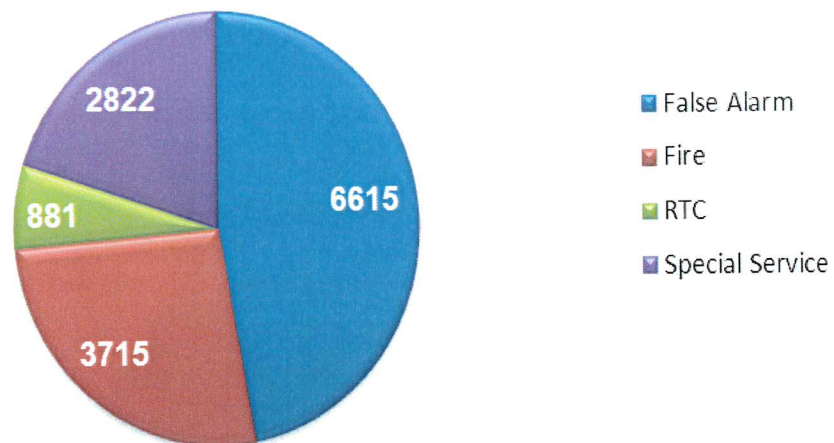


Fig 15: Total number of incidents by type of call out for Hampshire in 2016-17.

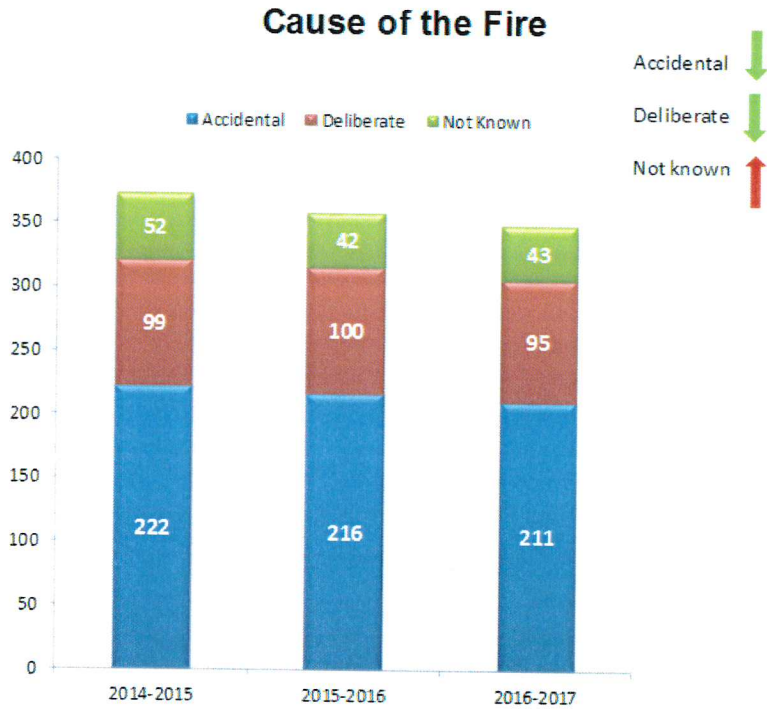


Fig 16: Causes of fires in the New Forest district between 2014-2015, 2015-2016 & 2016-2017

The New Forest Group attended 1213 incidents in 2016/17. Just under half of these (46%) being False Alarm incidents (553). The second largest incident type was Fire incidents, followed by SSC (Special Service Calls) incidents and the smallest incident type was RTC's with 106.

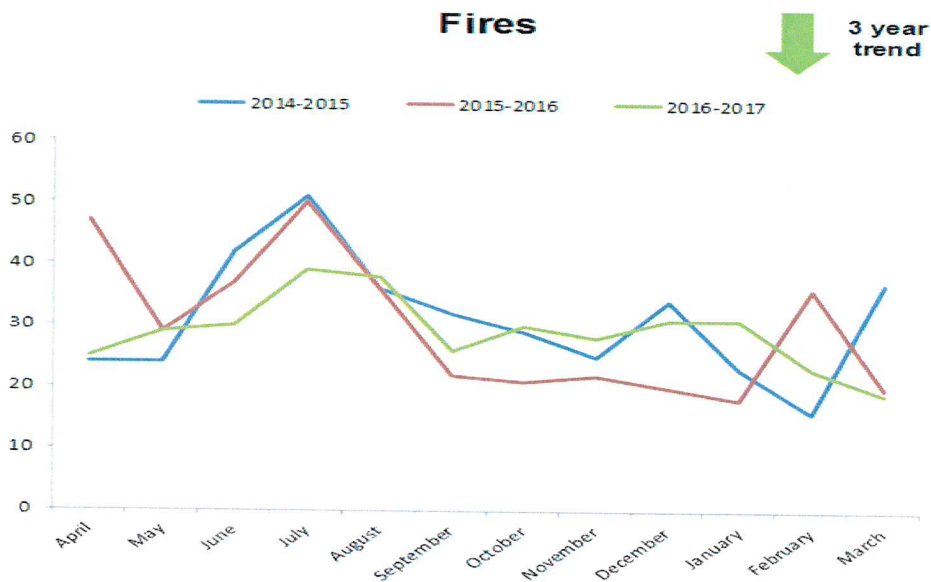
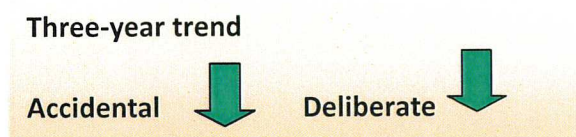


Fig 17: All fires within the New Forest District between 2014/15, 2015/16 & 2016/17

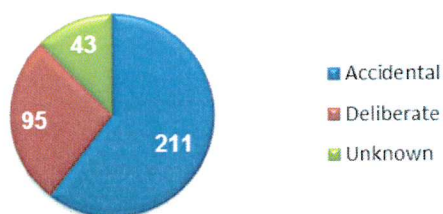
In Comparison, nearly half of all incidents within Hampshire are also False Alarms with 6615 incidents (47%). This is followed by 3715 Fire incidents, 2822 SSC incidents and 881 RTC's.

### Deliberate and Accidental Fires



Deliberate and accidental fires have seen a decrease in 2016/2017 compared to the previous year. The trend for the three years is showing a decrease in deliberate fires and accidental fires is showing a decline over the three years.

### Causes of Fire in the New Forest Group



### Causes of Fires in Dwellings and Commercial Buildings

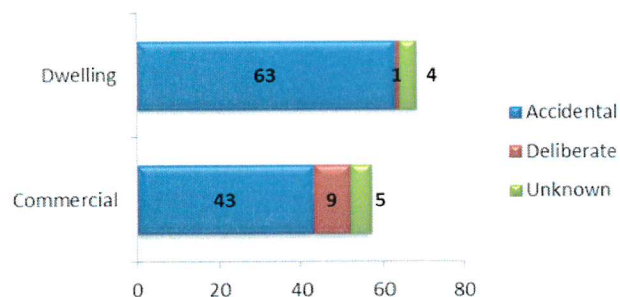


Fig 18: Cause of fires in the New Forest Group and causes of fires split by dwellings and commercial buildings

The pie chart above (Fig 18) shows that the most common cause of fires within the New Forest Group were accidental fires, which comprised of over half of the total fires in the year. This was followed by deliberate fires where the cause was not known.

The stacked bar chart (Fig 18) represents the cause of fire broken down by dwelling and commercial properties. The chart shows that a larger proportion of the fires in commercial and dwelling properties are accidental.

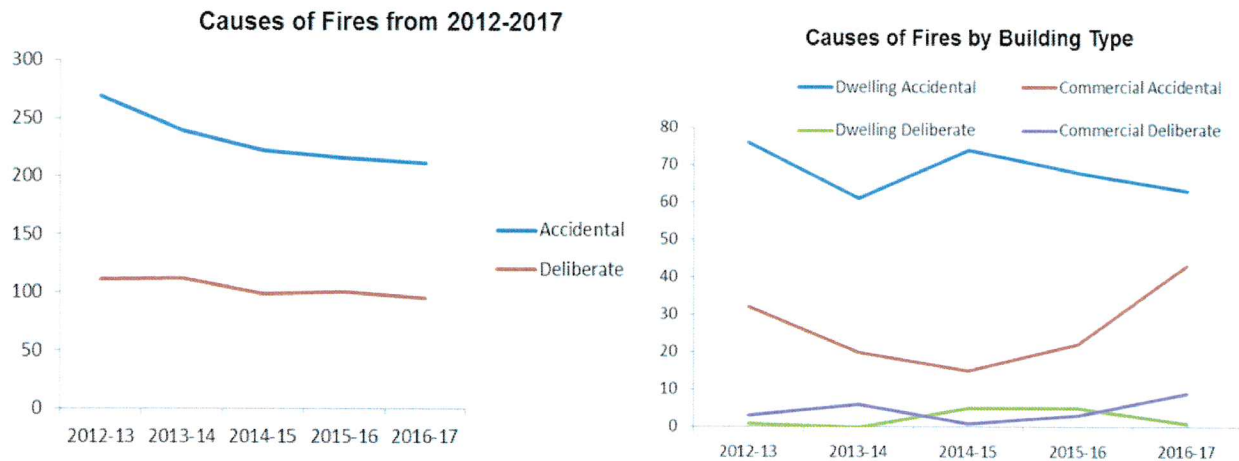


Fig 19: Causes of fires in the New Forest Group 2012-2017 (5 year trend)

The graph shows the trend of accidental and deliberate fires within the New Forest Group over 5-year period. Accidental fires have continued to reduce over a five-year period. Deliberate fires as a total have decreased moderately over a five-year period. Deliberate fires have mainly reduced due to a decrease in deliberate primary dwellings, secondary grass and secondary other outdoor areas.

The second graph shows the breakdown of the data by building type (dwelling and commercial buildings). It shows that commercial accidental and deliberate fires have decreased in 2016/17 compared to 2015/16.

Deliberate commercial fires have seen the greatest increase, whereas deliberate dwellings have decreased by four incidents. Home Safety visits and Safe and Well visits could be a reason for accidental dwelling fires declining over the past three years.

## Safe & Well Visits

Hampshire Fire and Rescue provide safe and well visits to residents of the New Forest. Safe and well visits are a person centred visit to identify and reduce risk to the occupier/occupiers, taking into account their behaviours and the social and physical environmental in which they live.

The visits combine a home safety check to reduce fire risk in the home, such as checking and fitting smoke alarms, with health referrals for extra support where appropriate, to improve the occupier's health and wellbeing.

Free visits are available and are offered to the most vulnerable in our community for anyone aged over 65.

The table below is an overview of visits undertaken across the New Forest during the past 3 years. The data provided is broken down to parish areas.

Stations	2014/15	2015/16	2016/2017
Lymington	86	59	31
Hythe	67	57	41
Ringwood	49	25	42
Totton	91	56	33
Fordingbridge	30	33	5
Lyndhurst	29	25	51
Beaulieu	4	3	3
Brockenhurst	13	9	42
New Milton	121	105	202
Burley	13	18	3
Hardley	70	48	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>497</b>
<b>No. of primary dwelling fires in the New Forest Group</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>68</b>

Fig 21: Safe & Well Visits carried out in the New Forest Group

## Outdoor Fires

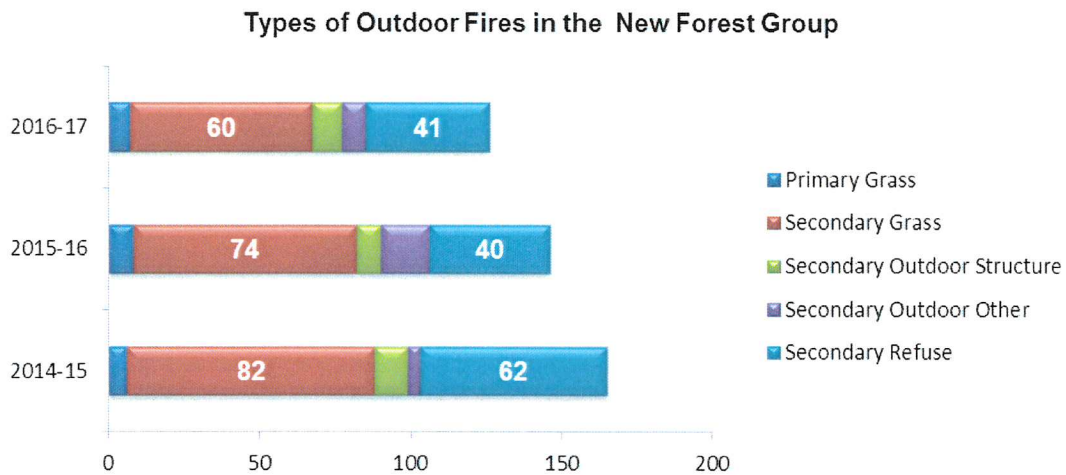


Fig 22: Types of outdoor fires within the New Forest Group

The number of outdoor fires has decreased in 2016/17 compared to the previous year by 20 incidents (16%). Since outdoor fires are classified as secondary fires minimal data is recorded in relation to this incident type. Grass fires have reduced in 2016/17 from 74 to 60 and refuse fires have increased from 40 to 41 incidents. Most grass fires and refuse fires were started deliberately. Most of the refuse fires occurred in car parks and refuse fires in Totton.

Overall most of the outdoor fires were started deliberately, followed by accidental and not known how the fire was caused.

Outdoor fires peaked in July, August and September and then in April and May which coincide with the hottest months of the last year. The month of May saw warm and sunny weather were July and August was recorded as warmer than average, summer 2016 was also the second warmest summer after 2013.

### **3.4.4 Support victims of domestic abuse - Lead Partner New Forest District Council in consultation with the Domestic Abuse Forum**

The Integrated Domestic Abuse Service in Hampshire is provided by the You Trust which supports women, men and children affected by domestic abuse. In the previous plans since 2015, the Partnership's aim was to increase awareness and access of support services for victims. The You Trust are in the second year of their contract covering Hampshire and the New Forest, the partnership set about raising the profile of support services available for victims who are:

- a) currently living with perpetrators of, or experiencing domestic abuse  
or
- b) in need of therapeutic support from historical abuse

During the past year the strategic group continued with the publication of domestic abuse services and the dissemination of labelled products for both awareness and access to services. In November of 2017, all contributing partners of the safer new forest group committed to raising the profile of the White ribbon awareness campaign. This action saw over 3000 ribbons been worn by staff and members of the public as a commitment to ending of domestic abuse. The campaign is a charity by men as a stand against violence towards females and as part of this awareness programme, the safer new forest partnership bus and staff attended local communities.

#### **Domestic Abuse Forum**

The domestic abuse forum has increased its partnership attendance following a review of its terms of reference. The forum is now acting as a single point of reference and contact for local staff who are working within the district area. The forum has extended its remit to include a confidential environment for professionals to discuss cases of concern and seek positive professional guidance and support in assisting them with working with vulnerable families.

The forum has also set its objectives to both identify current or emerging voids in service delivery and support the strategic delivery group in securing services for the residents of the New Forest with a focus on an increase staff training and knowledge in identifying vulnerable persons.





Fig 23: Number of victims referred to You First within the New Forest

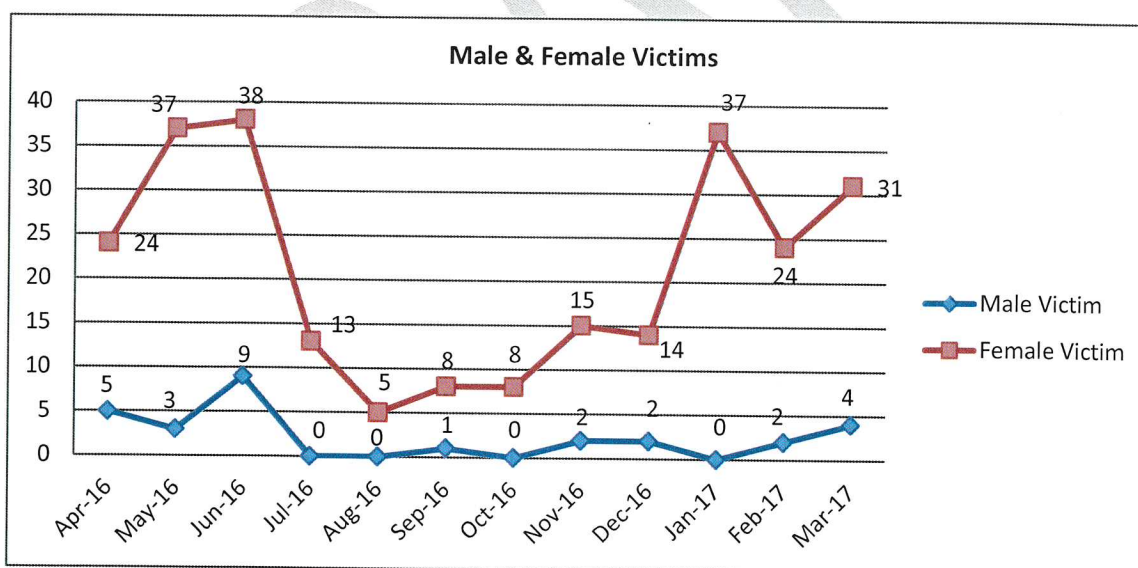


Fig 24: You First victims by gender within the New Forest

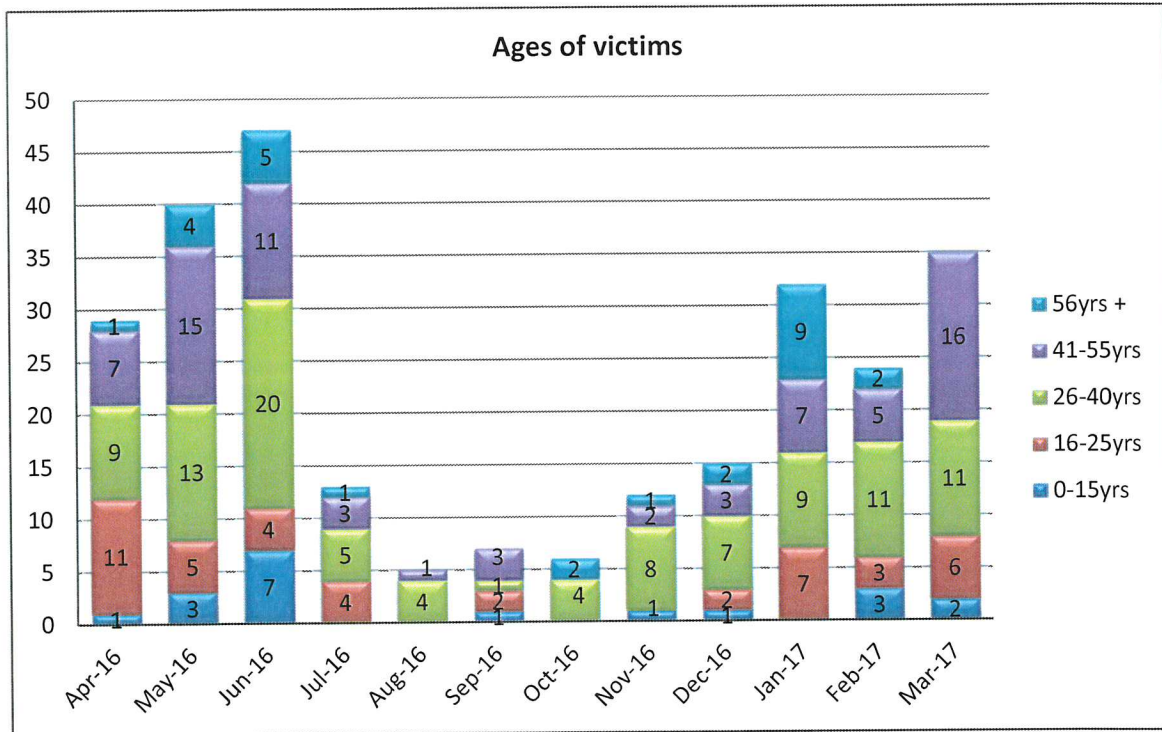


Fig 25: You First victims by age within the New Forest

### 3.4.5 Promote road safety with an emphasis on Killed & Serious Injury (KSI) – Lead Partner Hampshire Fire & Rescue in partnership with Hampshire Constabulary

Since 2012-13 RTCs have decreased year on year, however 2016/17 has seen a 6% (6 incidents) increase in the New Forest Group. There is a decrease over the five-year trend, but averagely the New Forest Group experiences 114 RTCs per year. Owing to the serious nature these incidents have been analysed separately to the other SSC incidents. Although the number of incidents has increased in 2016/17 the overall trend for the five years is showing a decrease.

In addition to the increase in RTC incidents in the New Forest Group area the number of RTC's involving injured victims has also increased. However, the number of RTC fatalities has decreased in 2016/17 to four fatalities compared to five in 2015/16. Over the five-year period, both the number of 'non-serious' and 'serious' casualties have decreased. There are many arterial commuter routes that run through the geography of the group, and therefore it is not easy to address and educate the possible victims due to the majority of the drivers residing outside of the group, and possibly even further a field.

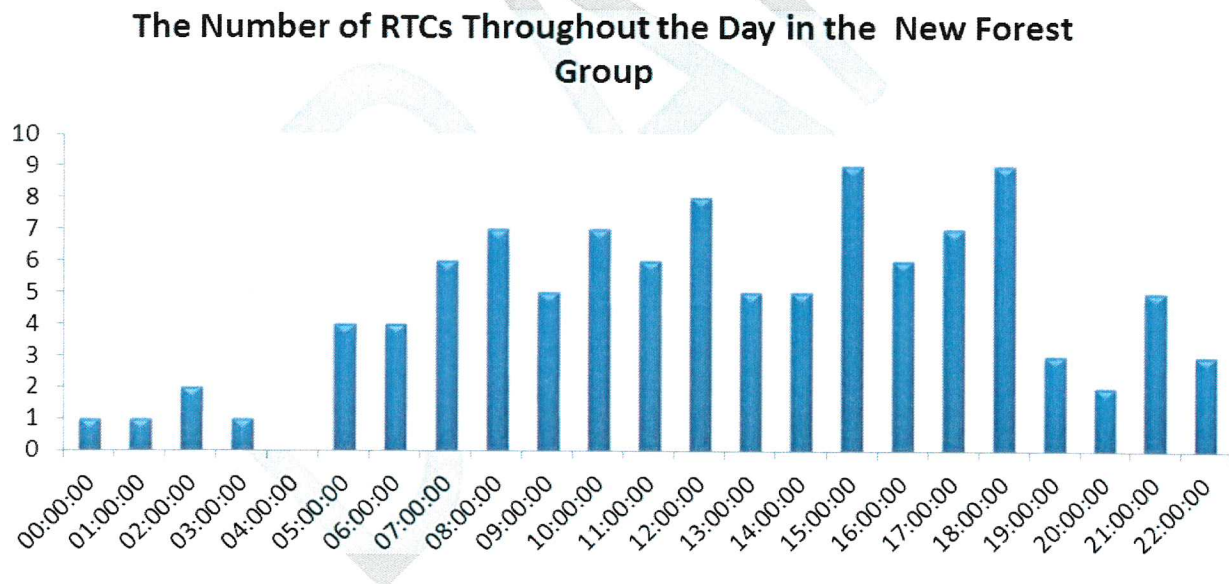


Fig 26: Number of RTCs throughout hours of the day (see fig 28 for location of peak time RTCs)

As expected the main commuter times of the day, i.e. travel to and from the office are when the majority of RTC incidents occur. A steady number of RTCs continue to occur throughout the evening hours of the day.

## Location of RTCs

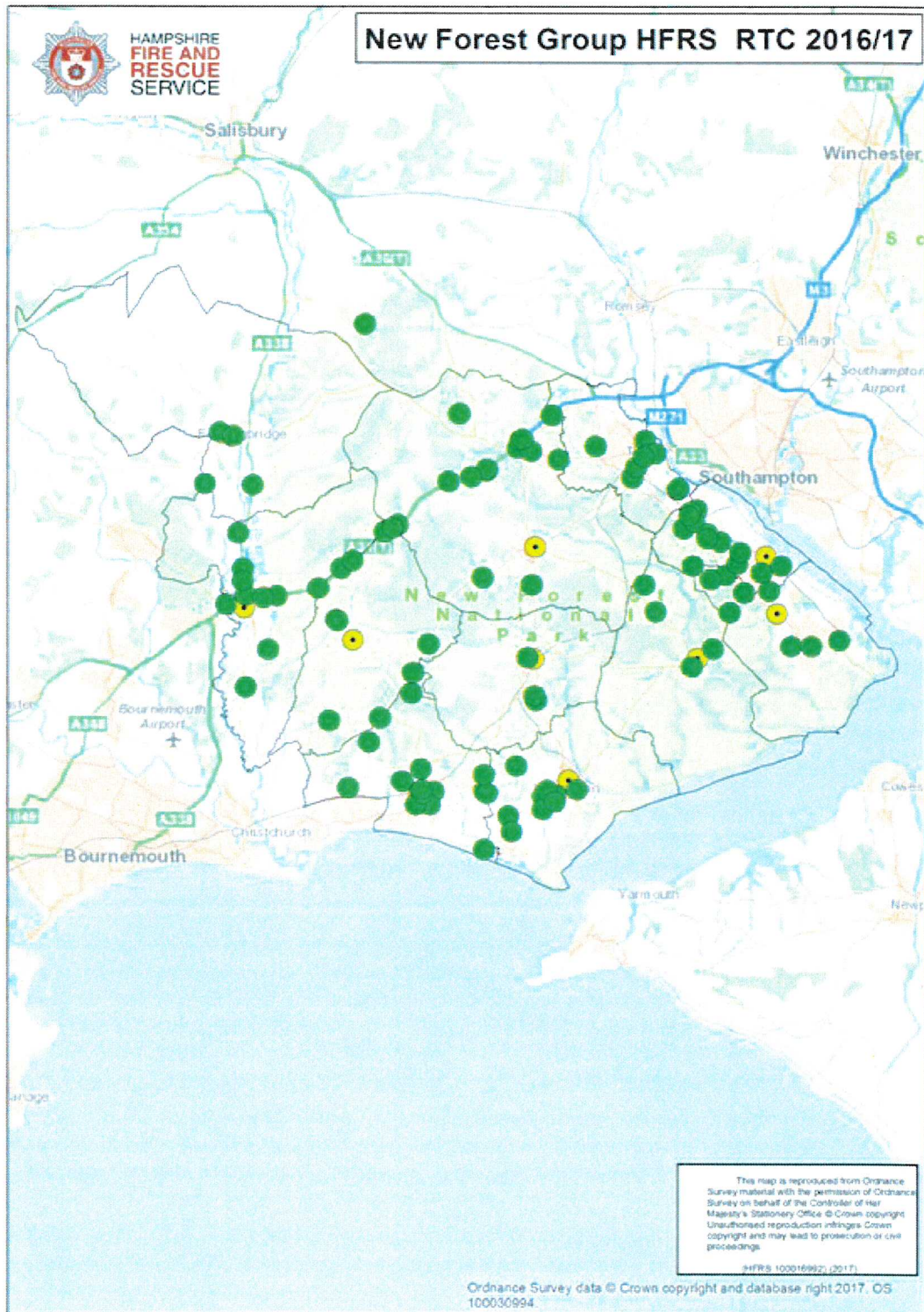


Fig 27: Location of RTCs within the New Forest Group.

The majority of the RTCs have occurred in the main through commuter routes throughout the New Forest Group. The M27, A326 and the A35 have experienced many of the RTCs for 2016/17. The towns New Milton, Lymington, Ringwood and Totton also suffered a higher number of RTC compared to the previous year.

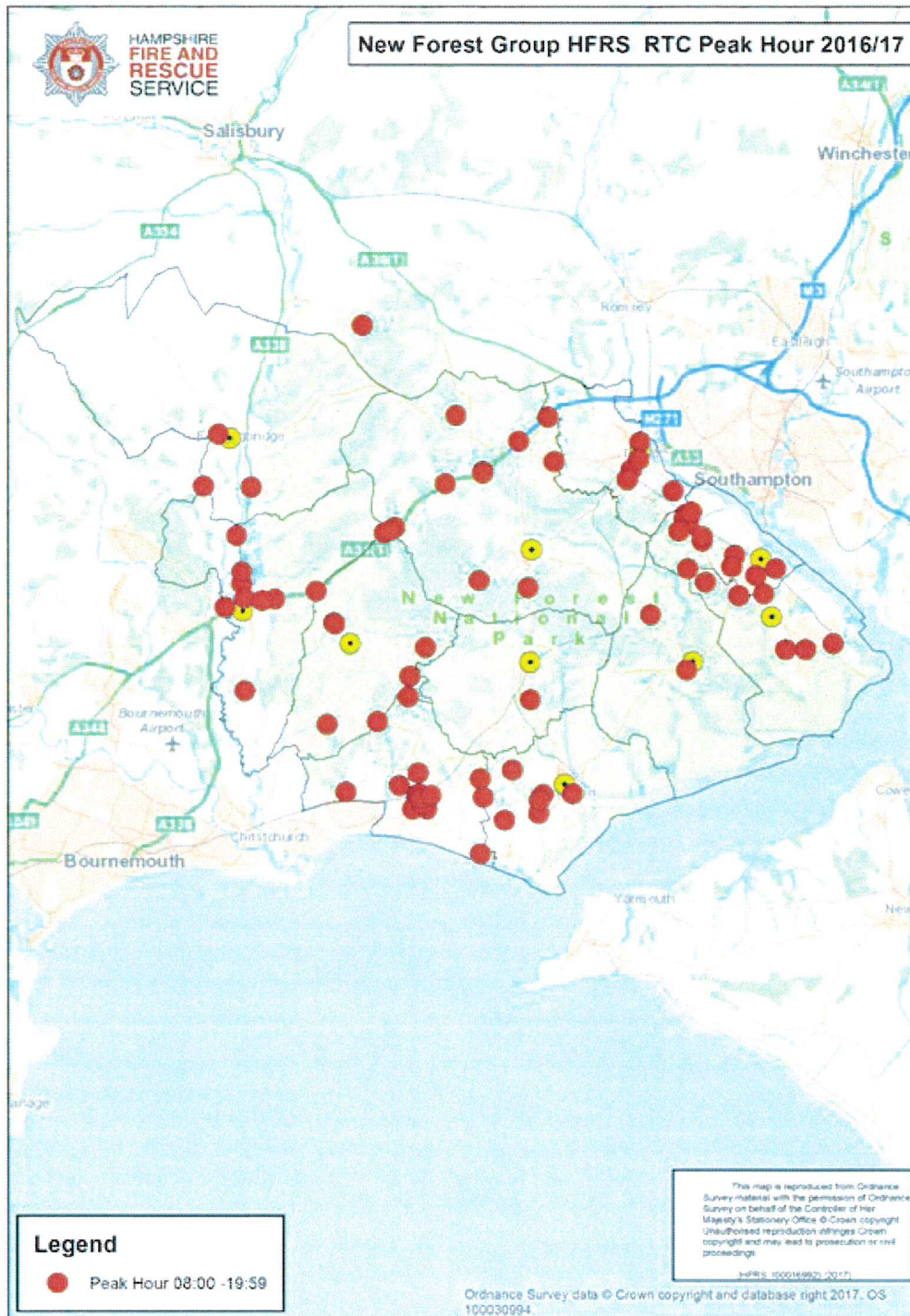


Fig 28: Location of RTCs within the New Forest Group during peak hours .

The map shows that the RTCs that occur during the peak hours (i.e. the hours when the most RTCs occur in the Group) are mainly on the main commuter roads A336, A31 and the A35. There are clusters of incidents around the main town centres of New Milton, Ringwood and Lymington. This is possibly due to grid locked town centres during rush hours and could therefore be 'lesser' incidents with regards to severity of casualties etc, as this map does not take in to account the severity of an RTC.

## Casualties and Fatalities

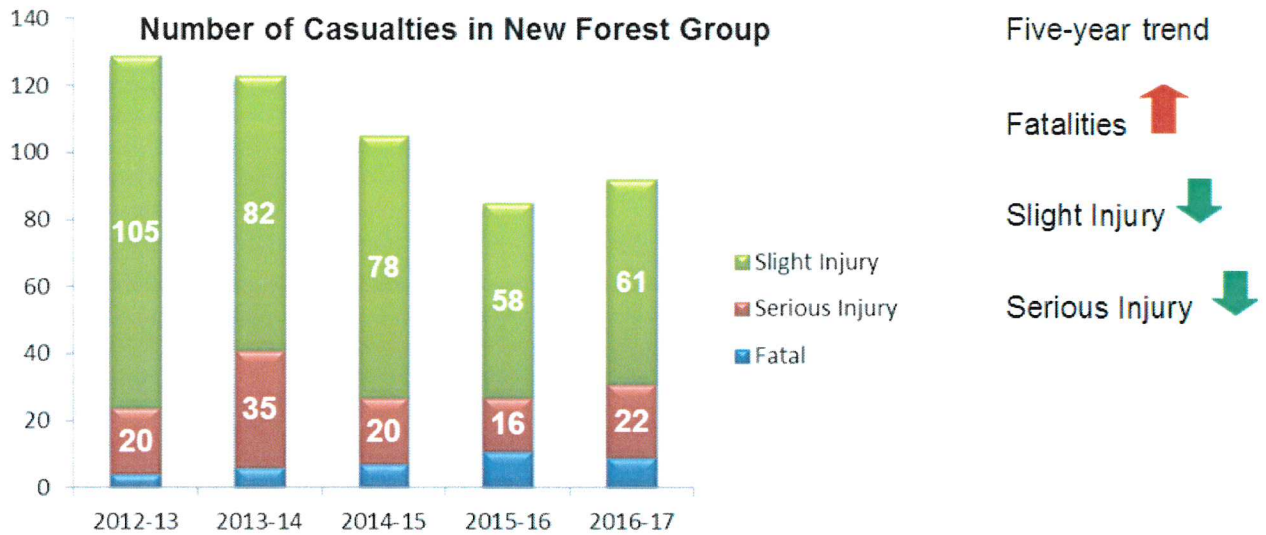


Fig 29: Types of casualties within the New Forest Group

The total numbers of casualties have continued to decline in the New Forest Group over the last five years, however there has been an increase in Serious Injury and Slight Injury in 2016/17.

It is important to note that the split between casualties with slight injuries and those with serious injuries should be considered with caution. This is because the data is taken from the IRS (Incident Recording System), which records severity of the injury at the time the report is written and therefore a slight injury evolve into serious injuries (or vice versa) after the report has been written this is not reflected in the data in this report.

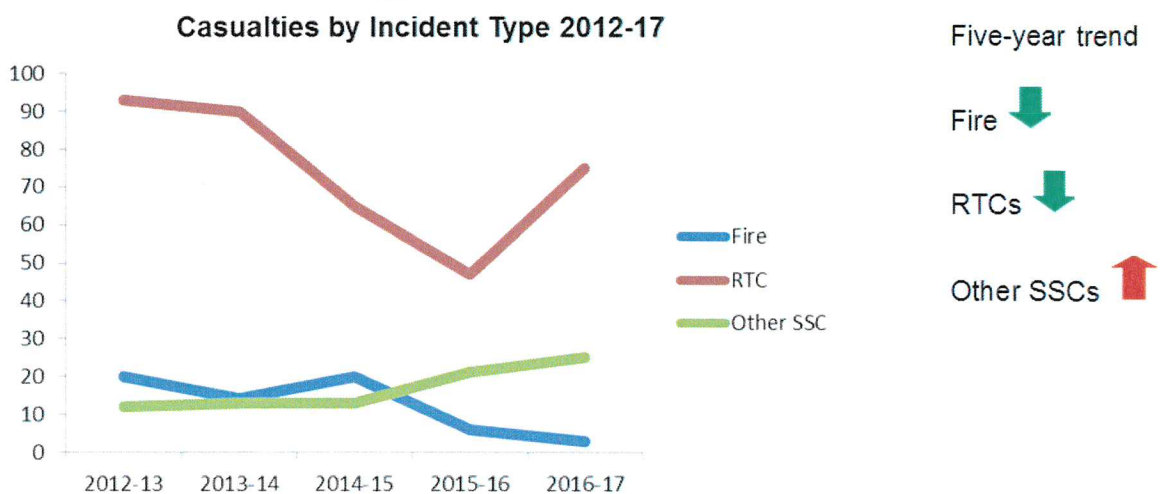


Fig 30: Types of casualty incidents in the New Forest Group 2012-2017

RTC incidents are the cause of most casualties within the New Forest Group. The number of RTC related casualties have continued to decline over the last four years, however in 2016/17 the number of casualties (75 incidents) increased by 37% compared to 2015/16 (47 incidents). The five-year trend for RTC casualties is showing a decline.

The five-year trend for fire related casualties is showing a decrease. The trend for SSC casualties is showing an increase over the five years, the last two years have both seen an increase.

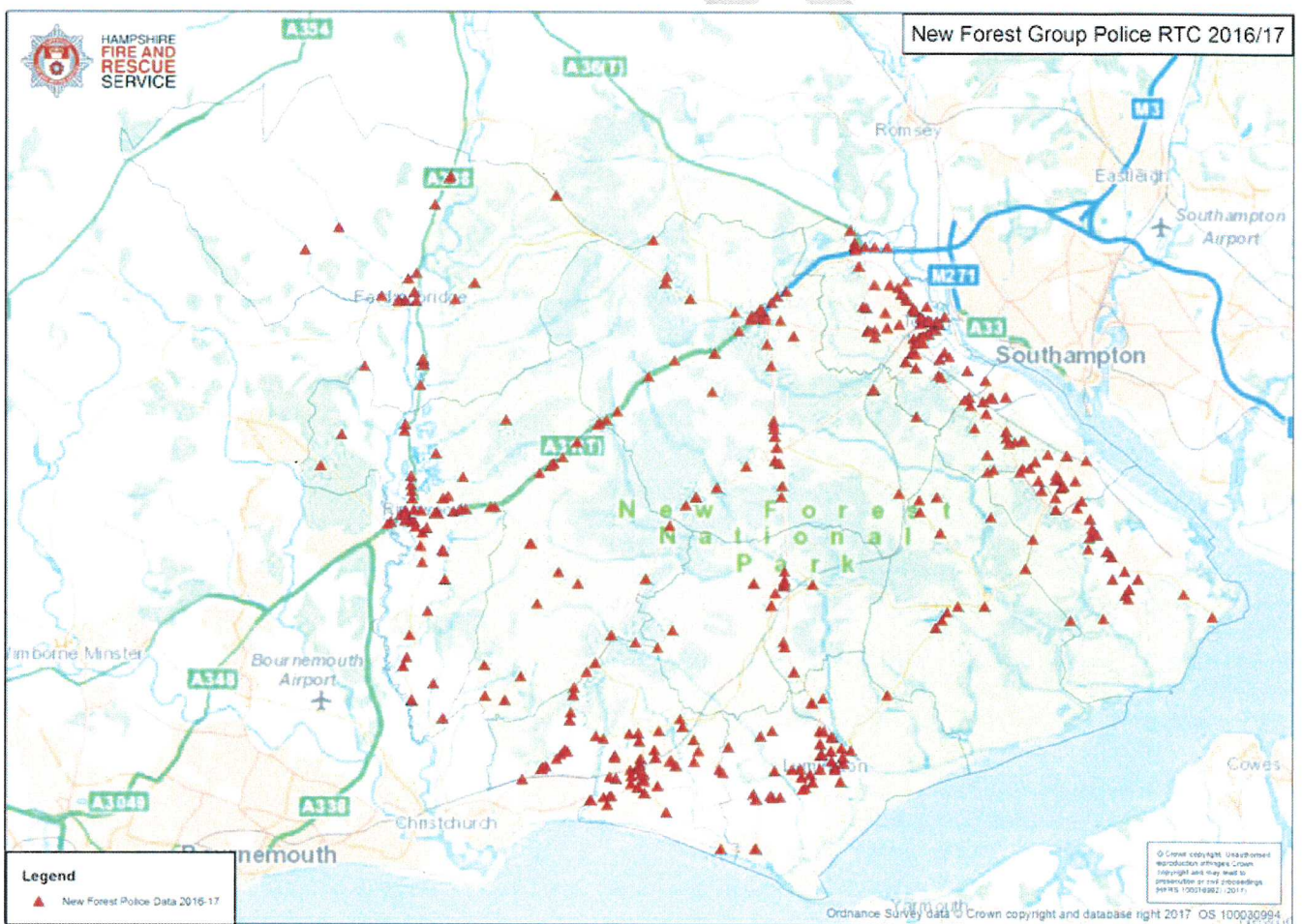


Fig 31: Locations of Police RTCs

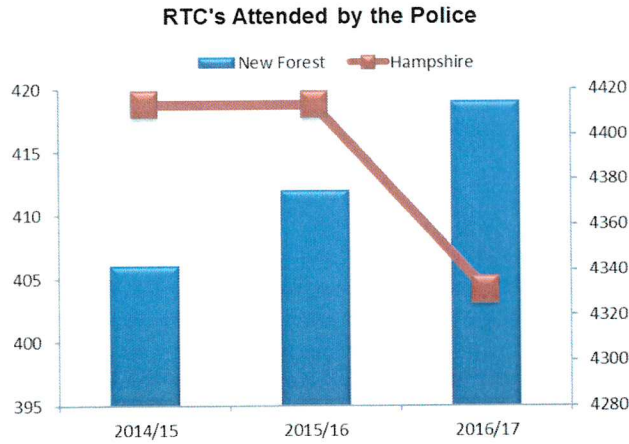


Fig 32: RTCs attended by the Police over a three-year period

The numbers of RTCs the Police have attended in the New Forest Group have continued to increase over the three years. However, the number of RTCs attended by Police in Hampshire has seen a significant decline. The trend for the three years is showing an increase in RTCs attended by the Police in the New Forest Group.

The chart below shows the number of fatalities, serious and slight injuries that the Police have attended. Fatalities and Serious injuries attended by the Police decreased in 2015/16 compared to 2014/15 but increased again in 2016/17. Slight injuries decreased in 2016/17 compared to the previous year.

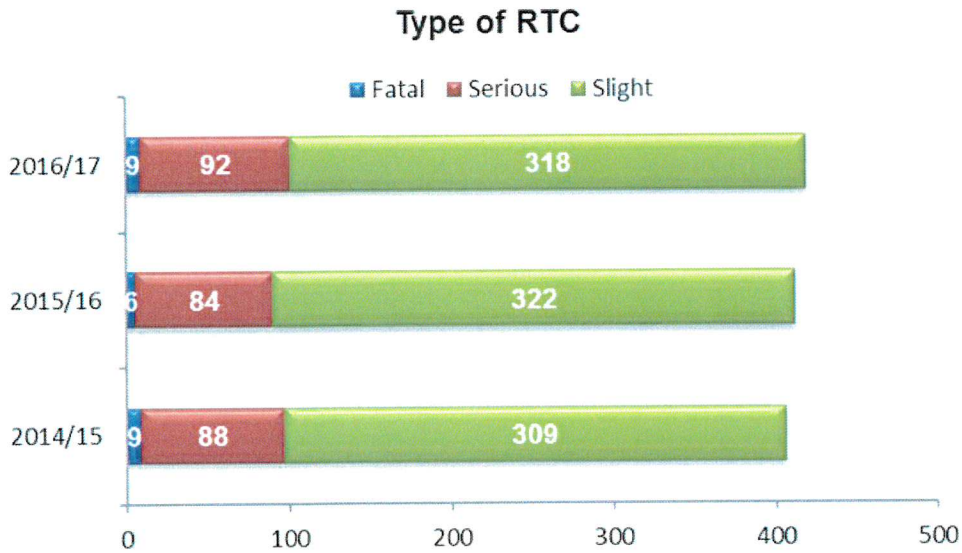


Fig 33: Types of RTCs attended by the Police.



## Speed Limit of the Road

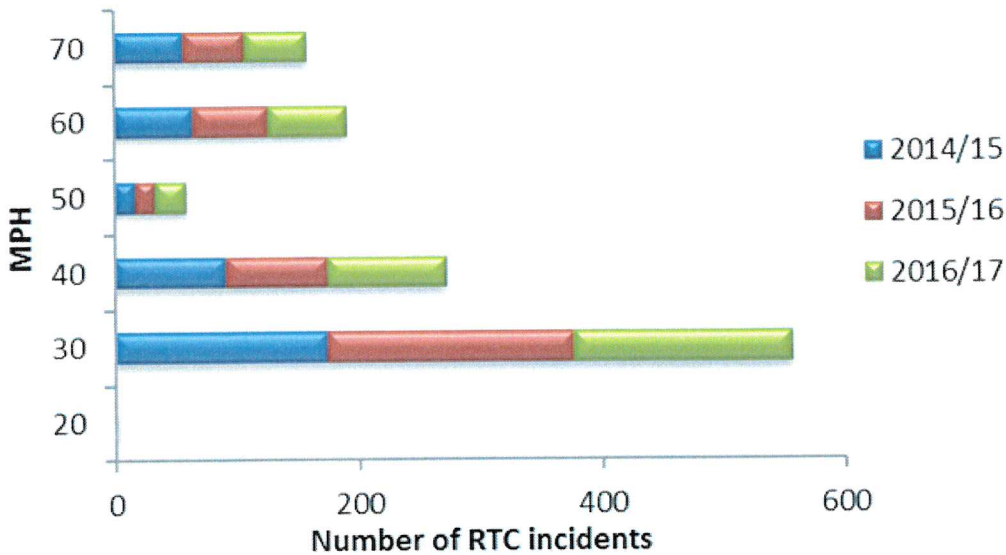


Fig 34: Speed limit of the road

The above graph shows that nearly half of all RTCs attended by the Police over the three-year period occurred in built up areas where the speed limit is 30 mph. This is followed by 40 mph roads. There is a maximum speed limit of 40mph on unfenced forest roads.

## RTCs by Month

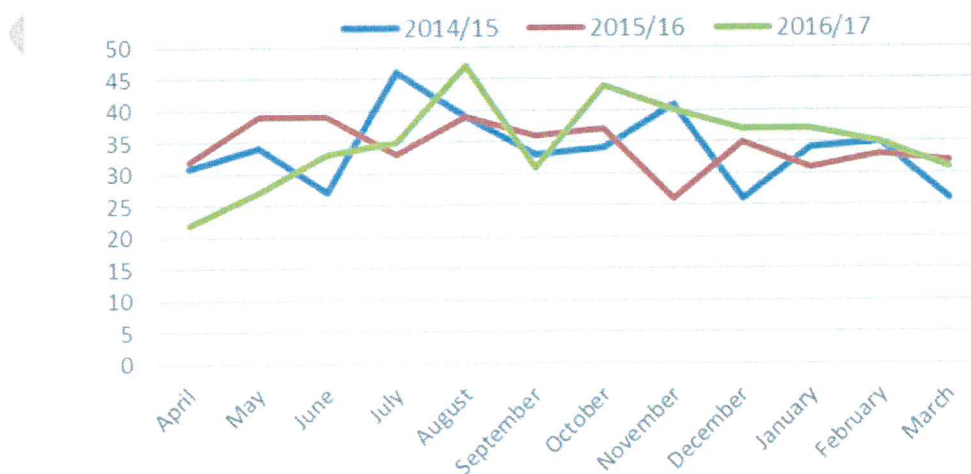


Fig 35: Month the RTC occurred

The above graph shows that the busiest months for RTCs attended were in August, October and November. The months with the least amount of RTC attended were in March and April.

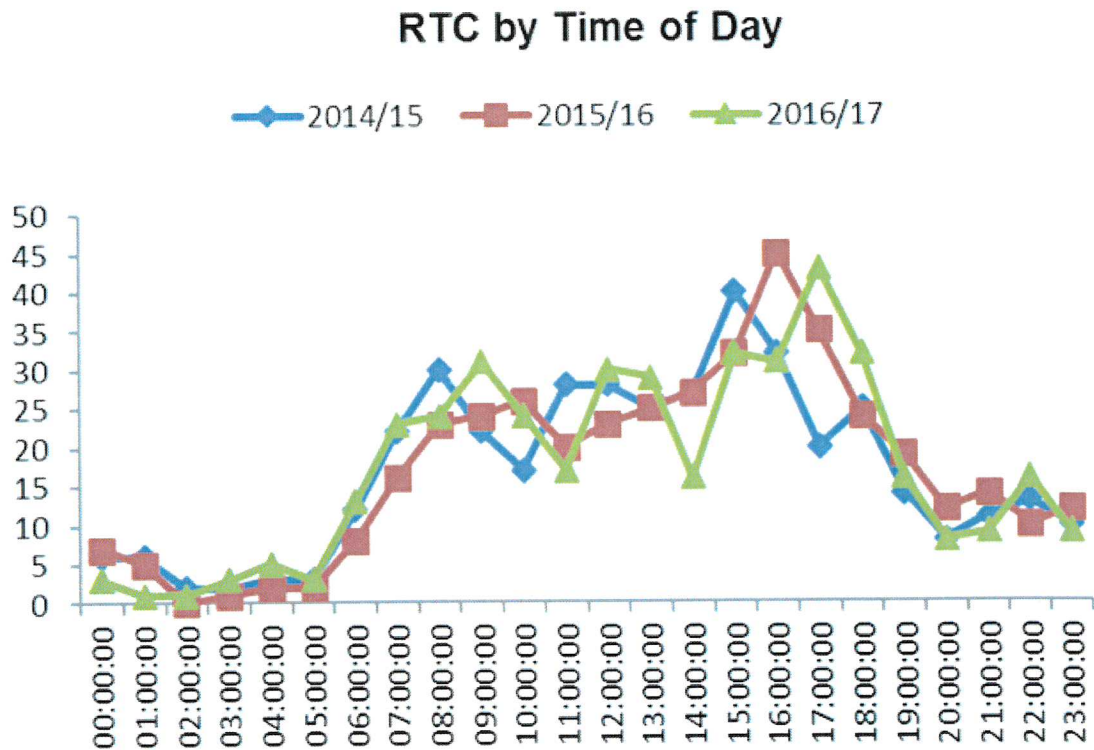


Fig 36: Time of day the RTC occurred

The peak time for RTCs occurred between the hours of 06:00 and 19:00 with the peak hour being 17:00 to 17:59.

### Safer New Forest Drink Drive Awareness Campaign

During December 2016 the Community Safety team, Policing partners and the Councils Licensing team worked with licensed premises across the New Forest area. This activity was to directly support our Policing partners in raising the profile of the 'don't drink & drive' campaign and promote positive safe driving through a visual message on festive beer mats. During the course of December over 50,000 beer mats were delivered to premises reminding patrons of the importance of not drinking and driving.

### 3.4.6 Reducing rural crime - Lead partner Hampshire Constabulary

Overall figures demonstrate a 14.6% increase in rural crime across the whole force area, compared with this time the previous year. This may not mean that there is an increase in crime as a whole, as there have been changes to how crime is recorded and also an increase in people reporting crime. Further analysis and aggregation of data is required.

Even though evidentially there has been an increase in reported crime, Country Watch has continued to work hard in partnership to identify the causes and tackle this. This has been achieved through a co-ordinated, focused and directed approach. Particular focus within the New Forest District has been provided through the pro-active approach under Operation Koeman, Operation Falcon and Operation Bothersome.

Similar to last year Operation Koeman has seen a number of positive operations dedicated to high-visible reassurance patrols of the New Forest car parks. Officers have spoken with members of the public to educate them about not leaving valuables in vehicles, as well as ensuring that vehicles are locked and secure when parked. Funding provided from the safer New Forest Strategy group enabled a targeted programme of engaging with patrons of beauty spot carparks was undertaken. Officers were able to remind visitors of the dangers of leaving valuables in their unattended vehicles and were provided a branded `safer new forest` draw string bag to take valuables away with them.

Covert operations have also taken place across the district to gather intelligence on nominals to inform and advise future operational activity.

Operation Falcon has focused on identifying key crime types via seasonal trends. These include areas such as fuel theft, non-dwelling burglary, plant machinery theft, metal theft and rogue trader activity.

Operation Bothersome focuses on galvanising the community and encouraging them to work with police. A number of operations have taken place with local game keepers, farmers and land managers to work together to tackle poaching related activity. These operations serve to detect and deter poachers, as well as providing an opportunity for local officers to engage with local rural community members. Confidence in policing increases as a result of these operations, and the rural communities feel valued and involved in tackling local crime issues.

#### 4. NEW FOREST COMPARATIVE CRIME DATA

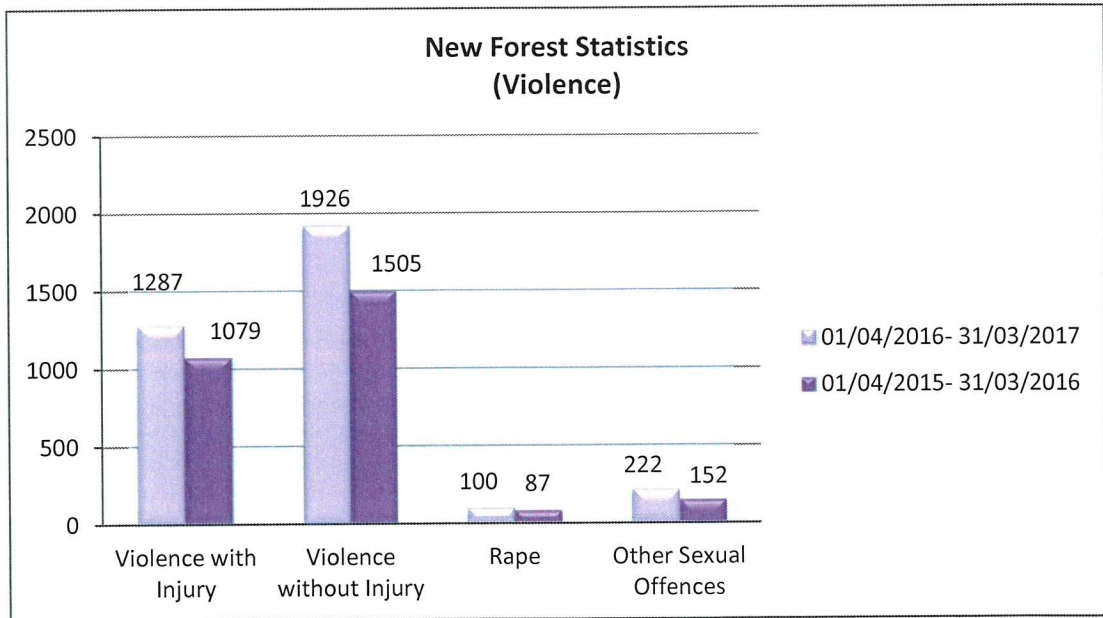
01/04/2015 to 31/03/2016 and 01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017

Crime can be split into numerous categories. The table below shows crime trends by type that were committed within the New Forest during 01/04/2016 and 31/03/2017 and how they compared with the previous year.

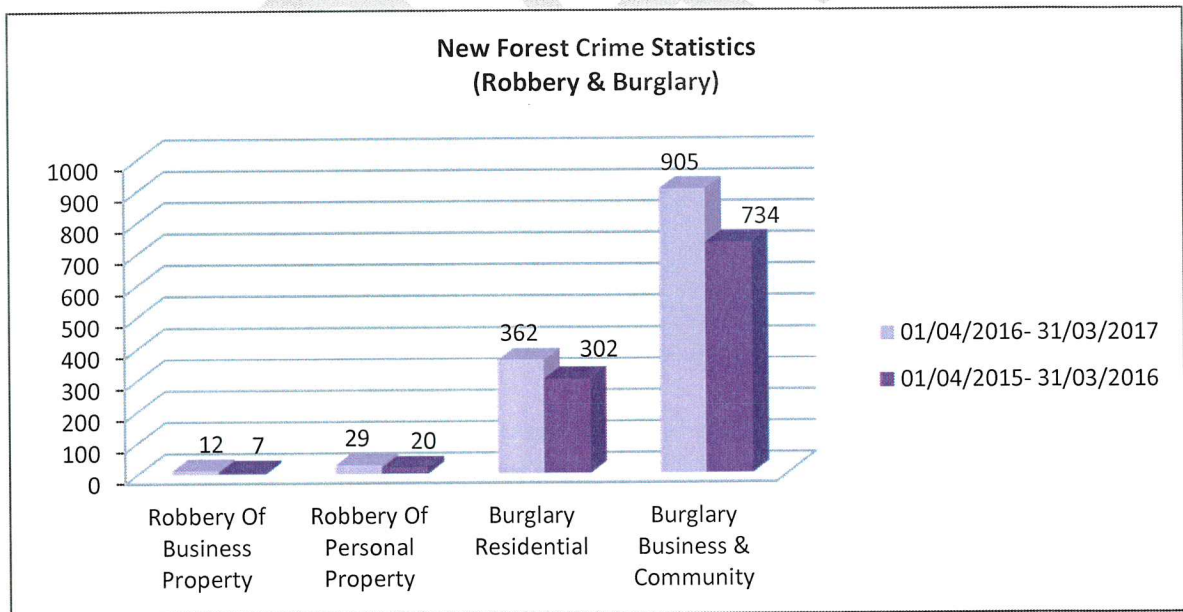
For a further explanation on these definitions of crime types, APPENDIX B is included at the end of this report.

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	1287	1079	16.16%
Violence Without Injury	1926	1505	21.86%
Rape	100	87	13%
Other Sexual Offences	222	152	31.53%
Robbery Of Business Property	12	7	41.67%
Robbery Of Personal Property	29	20	31.03%
Burglary Residential	362	302	16.57%
Burglary Business and Community	905	734	18.90%
Burglary	1267	1036	18.23%
Vehicle Offences	787	616	21.73%
Theft from Person	73	48	34.25%
Bicycle Theft	150	134	10.67%
Shoplifting	668	454	32.04%
All other Theft Offences	1032	977	5.33%
Criminal Damage	1433	1369	4.47%
Arson	42	54	28.57%
Trafficking Of Drugs	30	33	10%
Possession Of Drugs	155	184	18.71%
Violence Against the Person	3213	2584	19.58%
Sexual Offences	322	239	25.78%
Robbery	41	17	58.54%
Theft Offences	3977	3265	17.90%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	1475	1423	3.53%
Drug Offences	185	217	17.30%
Possession of Weapons Offences	37	49	32.43%
Public Order Offences	701	550	21.54%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	169	143	15.38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20600</b>	<b>17278</b>	<b>16.13%</b>

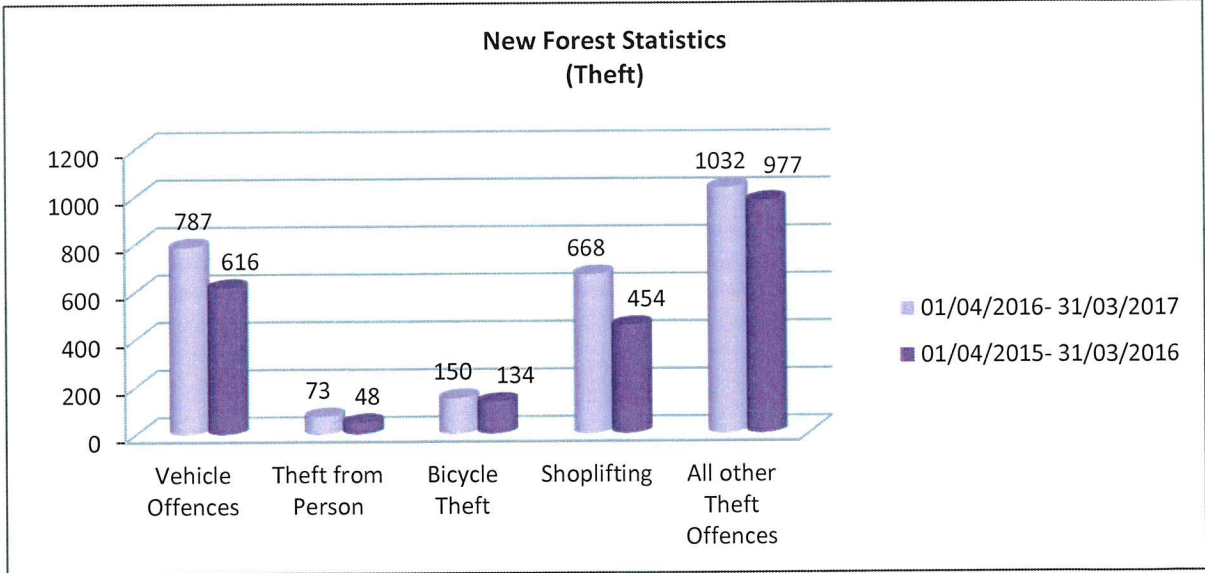
**4.1 Overview of incidents by type and comparison of crimes year on year:**



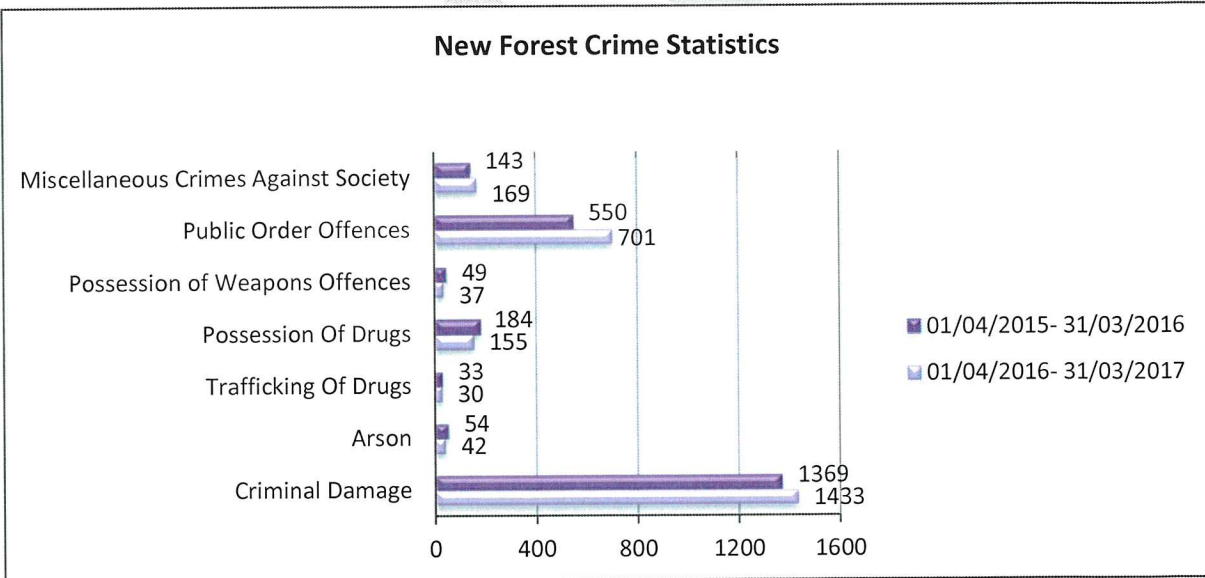
*Fig 37: Violence crime statistics for the New Forest area*



*Fig 38: Robbery & burglary crime statistics for the New Forest area*



*Fig 39: Theft crime statistics for the New Forest area*



*Fig 40: Crime statistics for the New Forest area*

## Crimes by Sector Level

### 4.2 New Milton

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	236	171	27.54%
Violence Without Injury	242	217	10.33%
Rape	15	10	33.33%
Other Sexual Offences	38	22	42.11%
Robbery Of Business Property	1	3	200%
Robbery Of Personal Property	7	9	28.57%
Burglary Residential	73	54	26.01%
Burglary Business and Community	117	95	18.80%
Burglary	190	149	21.58%
Vehicle Offences	79	57	27.85%
Theft from Person	11	7	36.36%
Bicycle Theft	13	19	46.15%
Shoplifting	141	78	44.68%
All other Theft Offences	112	130	16.07%
Criminal Damage	164	184	12.20%
Arson	2	3	50%
Trafficking Of Drugs	4	2	50%
Possession Of Drugs	19	38	100%
Violence Against the Person	478	388	18.83%
Sexual Offences	53	32	39.62%
Robbery	8	12	50%
Theft Offences	546	440	19.41%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	166	187	12.65%
Drug Offences	23	40	73.91%
Possession of Weapons Offences	8	15	87.5%
Public Order Offences	64	103	60.94%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	34	21	38.24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2944</b>	<b>2486</b>	<b>15.56%</b>

Anti-social behaviour	445	475	6.74%
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### 4.3 Lymington

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	183	177	3.28%
Violence Without Injury	285	233	18.25%
Rape	9	11	22.22%
Other Sexual Offences	17	22	29.41%
Robbery Of Business Property	1	0	100%
Robbery Of Personal Property	5	1	80%
Burglary Residential	56	72	28.57%
Burglary Business and Community	122	106	13.11%
Burglary	178	178	0%
Vehicle Offences	112	75	33.04%
Theft from Person	8	8	0%
Bicycle Theft	47	24	48.94%
Shoplifting	129	66	48.84%
All other Theft Offences	205	179	12.68%
Criminal Damage	201	214	6.47%
Arson	6	12	100%
Trafficking Of Drugs	6	3	50%
Possession Of Drugs	25	38	52%
Violence Against the Person	468	410	12.39%
Sexual Offences	26	33	26.92%
Robbery	6	1	83.33%
Theft Offences	679	530	21.94%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	207	226	9.18%
Drug Offences	31	41	32.26%
Possession of Weapons Offences	8	8	0%
Public Order Offences	105	75	28.57%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	19	11	42.11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3144</b>	<b>2754</b>	<b>12.40%</b>

Anti-social behaviour	449	425	5.35%
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#### 4.4 Ringwood and Fordingbridge

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	187	156	16.58%
Violence Without Injury	281	240	14.59%
Rape	10	14	40%
Other Sexual Offences	28	22	21.43%
Robbery Of Business Property	0	0	0%
Robbery Of Personal Property	3	4	33.33%
Burglary Residential	48	48	0%
Burglary Business and Community	289	175	39.45%
Burglary	337	223	33.83%
Vehicle Offences	175	142	18.86%
Theft from Person	32	10	68.75%
Bicycle Theft	8	18	125%
Shoplifting	108	103	4.63%
All other Theft Offences	220	186	15.45%
Criminal Damage	288	192	33.33%
Arson	5	6	20%
Trafficking Of Drugs	5	6	20%
Possession Of Drugs	28	30	7.14%
Violence Against the Person	468	396	15.38%
Sexual Offences	38	36	5.26%
Robbery	3	4	33.33%
Theft Offences	880	682	22.5%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	293	198	32.42%
Drug Offences	33	36	9.10%
Possession of Weapons Offences	5	7	40%
Public Order Offences	152	123	19.08%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	30	30	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3954</b>	<b>3087</b>	<b>21.93%</b>

Anti-social behaviour	485	465	4.12%
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#### 4.5 New Forest Heart

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	80	74	7.5%
Violence Without Injury	120	83	30.83%
Rape	4	5	25%
Other Sexual Offences	15	10	33.33%
Robbery Of Business Property	0	1	100%
Robbery Of Personal Property	3	0	66.67%
Burglary Residential	23	24	4.85%
Burglary Business and Community	71	88	23.94%
Burglary	94	112	19.15%
Vehicle Offences	160	117	26.88%
Theft from Person	6	6	0%
Bicycle Theft	16	9	43.75%
Shoplifting	21	17	19.05%
All other Theft Offences	114	107	6.14%
Criminal Damage	59	106	79.66%
Arson	4	5	25%
Trafficking Of Drugs	1	1	0%
Possession Of Drugs	23	12	47.83%
Violence Against the Person	200	157	21.5%
Sexual Offences	19	16	15.79%
Robbery	3	1	66.66%
Theft Offences	411	370	9.98%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	63	112	77.78%
Drug Offences	24	13	45.83%
Possession of Weapons Offences	5	4	20%
Public Order Offences	55	57	3.64%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	7	3	57.14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1601</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>5.68%</b>

Anti-social behaviour	184	184	0%
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#### 4.6 Hythe

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	312	248	20.51%
Violence Without Injury	518	405	21.81%
Rape	32	22	31.25%
Other Sexual Offences	63	41	34.92%
Robbery Of Business Property	3	2	33.33%
Robbery Of Personal Property	4	2	50%
Burglary Residential	45	49	8.89%
Burglary Business and Community	84	86	2.38%
Burglary	129	135	4.65%
Vehicle Offences	91	75	17.58%
Theft from Person	7	5	28.57%
Bicycle Theft	17	22	29.41%
Shoplifting	120	52	56.67%
All other Theft Offences	169	162	4.14%
Criminal Damage	368	341	7.34%
Arson	15	20	33.33%
Trafficking Of Drugs	9	14	55.56%
Possession Of Drugs	27	25	7.41%
Violence Against the Person	830	653	21.36%
Sexual Offences	95	63	33.68%
Robbery	7	4	42.86%
Theft Offences	533	451	15.38%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	383	361	5.74%
Drug Offences	36	39	8.33%
Possession of Weapons Offences	8	8	0%
Public Order Offences	155	176	13.54%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	42	50	19.05%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4102</b>	<b>3533</b>	<b>13.87%</b>

Anti-social behaviour	738	825	11.79%
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#### 4.7 Totton

Crime Type	01/04/2016-31/03/2017	01/04/2015-31/03/2016	% Change
Violence with injury	284	242	14.79%
Violence Without Injury	444	320	27.93%
Rape	26	17	34.62%
Other Sexual Offences	48	31	35.41%
Robbery Of Business Property	7	1	85.71%
Robbery Of Personal Property	7	4	42.86%
Burglary Residential	117	55	53%
Burglary Business and Community	222	184	17.12%
Burglary	339	239	29.5%
Vehicle Offences	163	137	15.95%
Theft from Person	7	12	71.43%
Bicycle Theft	49	42	14.29%
Shoplifting	149	138	7.38%
All other Theft Offences	203	207	1.97%
Criminal Damage	349	331	5.16%
Arson	10	8	20%
Trafficking Of Drugs	5	7	40%
Possession Of Drugs	33	40	21.21%
Violence Against the Person	728	562	22.80%
Sexual Offences	74	48	35.14%
Robbery	14	5	64.29%
Theft Offences	910	775	14.84%
Criminal Damage and Arson Offences	359	339	5.57%
Drug Offences	38	47	23.68%
Possession of Weapons Offences	16	7	56.25%
Public Order Offences	169	124	26.63%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	32	27	15.63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4802</b>	<b>3949</b>	<b>17.76%</b>

Anti-social behaviour	702	679	3.28%
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## 5. WHY HAVE KEY CHANGES OCCURRED?

The New Forest district policing area experienced an overall rise in crime of 16% when compared with the previous year. This was set against an overall countywide rise of 13% in all crime. Unfortunately this rise in recorded crime has continued into the 2017/2018 reporting year with overall crime 12% higher than last year. Again the county average has increased with a further 11.3% rise.

Crime data integrity continues to play a role in this increase with continued improvements being made in our recording practices as a result of previous HMIC inspections and recommendations.

Examination of public order and violence offences within the New Forest have demonstrated a trend whereby previous anti-social behaviour incidents are now being recorded as Public Order Act offences and minor non-injury assaults.

More accurate crime recording can mean that several separate offences will be identified and recorded from just one incident. An example being an altercation between a number of persons at a family event. What might previously have been recorded as one public order offence could now accurately identify a number of offences and victims who may have been threatened, caused harassment alarm or distress and caused minor or no injury. Violence against the person offending saw a 24.3% rise across the New Forest. Public order offences saw a 7.8% rise.

The picture has improved from April 2017 onwards with violence against the person offences standing at a reduced 0.5% increase on last year to date. This is well below the countywide average.

However, the rise in some crime types such as vehicle crime and burglary cannot be attributed to crime data integrity improvements alone. This unfortunately does represent an increase in criminality which has impacted upon the communities of the New Forest. We have experienced a 19% rise in residential burglary over the reporting year. This rise was 15.7% for the whole county.

Several burglars have been caught and sentenced to imprisonment for multiple burglaries and in one instance a travelling criminal from out of the county admitted to over fifty burglaries across the county which he committed over a number of months.

During the last reporting year the district experiences other violent crime such as robbery saw a 55% increase which meant an extra 15 offences over the 12 month period. This increase was mainly in Totton which recorded an extra 9 offences.

The district has seen a 34.7% increase in recorded sexual assault over the reporting period. It is important to recognise that this increase reflects a large increase in reported historical crime whereby the victim has felt confident enough to come forward. This increase reflects a national trend where there has been an increase in awareness and confidence in public authorities to treat allegations seriously and sensitively. Countywide the increase in sexual assault reporting is 21.4%.

The priority areas of reducing rural crime has been considered and over the reporting period we saw a 12.8% increase in all rural crime. 5% lower than the district crime level. This level does not necessarily reflect obvious rural specific crime issues such as wildlife

offences, poaching or machinery and equipment theft but rather all crime types reported in a rural beat area.

Initiatives to reduce rural crime continue through local policing including neighbourhood teams and our Country watch unit working in partnership with rural stakeholders.

## 6. EMERGING RISKS AND TRENDS

Hampshire Constabulary Strategic Assessment is created to provide a comprehensive picture of the strategic risks and threats affecting the communities of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, based on an assessment of our current intelligence picture. It identifies opportunities to create a better understanding of key threats and underlying influence and drivers which impact across the Constabulary. It is intended to enable the setting of the Force Control Strategy, identify key Intelligence Requirements and define key Areas for Improvement for 2017/18.

The Strategic Assessment has been informed by a number of strategic and tactical products, and through ongoing consultation with key stakeholders. It provides a high level overview, highlighting key strategic threats in order to inform their prioritisation. Where appropriate it will seek to reflect regional and national priorities, aimed at providing a top down approach with the opportunity to raise potential emerging issues.

All identified risk areas have been scored using MoRILE (Management of Risk in Law Enforcement), a risk prioritisation matrix introduced by College of Policing in 2015. This should provide a consistent approach to the identification of strategic priorities across all law enforcement agencies nationally and assist in providing a better picture of risk at a local, regional and national level. The matrix has provided a demarcation of risk scores at 270, therefore the Proposed Control Strategy Priorities have been identified as those issues scoring at or above this line.

Partnership working and sharing of partner agency data is essential to improve our understanding and response to the key strategic threats. This information and intelligence is required in both formal and informal structures to inform a detailed understanding of threat, risk, opportunity and demand in relation to organised criminality and the profile of vulnerability.

Opportunities and challenges arising from rapidly advancing technology and the changing face of crime is identified as a key theme. The impact of cyber enabled offending is once again recognised in fraud, sexual and child abuse offences as a key threat; as is the organisational ability to identify, analyse and respond effectively to these crimes. The Digital Intelligence &

Investigation project is leading the response to this challenge, however it is recognised that the developing nature of this crime and the associated technology present a real challenge to law enforcement. The challenges in this area have therefore contributed to the increase in MoRILE threat score for a variety of priority areas.

The following summary of issues explore some those that, following the initial MoRiLe scoring, should be considered as priorities for the coming year.

## **Children at Risk**

Children at risk from criminally motivated exploitation is identified as a key strategic risk throughout the Hampshire constabulary Strategic assessment of 2017.

Risks are evident in relation to those criminally and/or sexually exploited by drug networks, linked to modern slavery or vulnerable to cyber enabled extortion. Drivers for these vulnerabilities are well documented and include domestic abuse situations and missing episodes. An overarching approach emphasising the requirement to identify all young people vulnerable to exploitation would ensure that all are appropriately safeguarded and are afforded equitable opportunities. This will require the support of all partner agencies co-ordinated through the safer new forest strategy and delivery group.

## **Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking**

Intelligence and occurrences have increased, likely in part to increased awareness. Occurrence rates are driven by the number of reported Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, while intelligence indicates exploitation within the sex industry and labour exploitation are key threats.

## **Drug Related Harm**

County line drug supply presents a risk within Hampshire and is the acknowledged driver for drug related harm and violence, and the exploitation of vulnerable adults and children. The nature of violence is increasing, with knife related occurrences showing a rise. The Op Fortress model of NPT engagement combined with OCG style management of offenders is shown to be an effective model in increasing intelligence, reducing harm and tackling offenders. Improved joint working with regional forces will maximise opportunities for enforcement.

## **Domestic Abuse**

Domestic Abuse accounts for 13% of all crime within Hampshire. Repeat offenders and those linked to high risk incidents are linked to increased violence and remain a priority. Half of children linked to a domestic abuse occurrence have previously been linked to a child abuse occurrence or child protection procedures; these children are more likely to be linked to drugs intelligence, violence with/without injury and one in five will have been reported missing at least once.

## 7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a. In accordance with the Partnership Plan 2017/18, during 2017 formal links were established with the New Forest District Association of Local Councils and other Town and Parish Councils in the area. Representatives from Hampshire Constabulary and Hampshire Fire and Rescue attended a number of meetings of the Association in order to engage with the local councils and to facilitate the views of the community being brought before the Partnership for consideration.
- b. The Partnership continues to maintain its public website, with useful information for members of the public on community safety issues.
- c. As part of the Partnership's obligation to engage with people and organisations that live and work in the New Forest, members of the public were invited to attend the meeting of the Partnership on 4 September 2017 to address the Partnership on crime and disorder concerns they might have and to assist the Partnership with identifying its priorities for the next year.
- d. The meeting on the 4 September 2017 was attended by the Chairman of the New Forest District Association of Local Councils, Fawley Parish Council, National Farmers Union and Lymington & Pennington Town Council.
- e. The Partnership was advised of a range of issues which were of concern to residents in the New Forest. An analysis of these issues has led the partnership to conclude that the local community would support the priorities set out in the following paragraph which have been included in the Partnership Plan for 2017/18.



## 8. PRIORITIES FOR 2018/19

### Recommended Priorities

The following priorities are identified as increasing emerging risks and concerns for residents of the New Forest. Further discussion is to be held at the Safer New Forest Strategy & Delivery Group on January 8<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Children at Risk  
Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking  
Drug Related Harm  
Domestic Abuse

The Police and Crime Commissioner's plan is available at:

<https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/plan>

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## ACTION PLAN – 2017/18

	Priority area	Lead Partner and Contact	Action	Measurement of Action	Resource Allocation Lead Partners to Allocate
1	Tackle the cause and effects of anti-social behaviour	New Forest District Council in partnership with Hampshire Constabulary  Brian Byrne, Partnership Intervention Manager & Chief Inspector Rob Mitchell	1.1 Joint work with Policing partners, Youth Offending Team and Probation in identifying perpetrators of ASB. This will be achieved through clinics across the forest identifying perpetrators and utilising current processes to engage individuals. 1-2-1 work with perpetrators of ASB to identify the causal effects of negative behaviour and implement prevention plans to deter further behaviour.	Through positive engagement with support services and reduction in overall number of reported ASB incidents.  Measurable reduction or cessation in negative behaviour resulting in victim satisfaction and increased confidence. This will be quantified through the measurement of reported cases and incidents of ASB.	NFDC Community Safety Team to oversee and support with Supporting Families Programme and its partners through positive divertive actions or punitive measurements where appropriate.  Partnership Interventions Panel to formulate action plans and implement risk assessment when dealing with perpetrators of ASB with a focus on victim impact.  Utilise the Restorative Justice Programme as a means of deterring perpetrators of ASB and providing reparation work to make good any harm.

			<p>1.2 Plan seasonal events with partners to ensure appropriate resources and pre planning are in place for major events.</p> <p>Safety Advisory Group and Licensing Team to notify the NFDC Community Safety Team of known events that may have an impact on the community. This will provide a more holistic approach to the prevention and effects of ASB and impact on the communities.</p>	<p>Seek to minimise the effects of negative behaviour towards communities and victims of ASB.</p>	<p>NFDC Community Safety Team and Hampshire Police with core partners to devise plan and direct resources where required to known seasonal events such as Halloween, Mid-Term educational breaks and major sporting events.</p>
			<p>1.3 ASB awareness programmes with educational establishments and youth facilities on the effects of ASB both on perpetrators and victims.</p>	<p>Seek an overall recorded number of reported ASB and 1<sup>st</sup> time entrants into the criminal justice system by perpetrators.</p>	<p>Joint working with Schools, Youth Centres, Youth Offending Team and the Children and Young Persons Alliance. Utilising the Safe4me Schools educational package for delivery.</p>
2	<p>Tackle the causal effects of offending behaviour and reoffending with a focus on violent crime</p>	<p>Hampshire Constabulary in partnership with Interchange/ CRC</p> <p>Chief Inspector Rob Mitchell &amp; Dean Hatton,</p>	<p>2.1 Develop a working strategy with local Mental Health care services around reducing violence towards staff and other patients within residential mental health units in the New Forest.</p>	<p>Seek to minimise the harm to others from assaults with and without injury in mental health units. One measure would be to see a reduction of reports compared to the previous 12 months.</p>	<p>Continue with ongoing partnership work with Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust. Continued partnership work with The Bluebird Unit involving information sharing and accurate recording of risks. Implement and review action plans and threat assessments with partners.</p>

		Interchange Manager	2.2	Continue to seek to reduce domestic abuse through partnership work. (This has been carried over from the 2016/17 Action Plan)	<p>Reduction in number of DV assaults as proportion to overall assaults.</p> <p>DV perpetrators subject to court orders/licences given the appropriate level of intervention and/or treatment</p>	<p>Partnership work with stakeholders to identify those at risk.</p> <p>Identify perpetrators through partnership information and manage the risk posed.</p> <p>Prevention work through use of Domestic Violence Prevention Notices and formal police outcomes.</p> <p>Intervention with perpetrators whilst in police custody (Op Cara) when in custody.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Officers to work closely with partnership processes (MARAC/MASH) where local knowledge will allow engagement and problem solving.</p>
			2.3	Improved engagement within schools to address Youth on Youth violence issues.	Reduction in levels of youth on youth related violence compared to previous 12 months	Support the delivery of Safe4Me schools programme by partners, joint work with schools across District including supporting education around knife and

			<p>2.4 Ensure that offenders subject to Court Orders and Licences are given access to the appropriate rehabilitative activities and that, where necessary, correct enforcement action is taken</p>	<p>Reduction in offending and harm</p>	<p>weapon use.</p> <p>Wider work with Supporting Families group and domestic abuse priority to address wider DV issues in the District which can form violence issues for young people.</p> <p>CRC offenders to complete Orders successfully in 75% of cases.</p> <p>Reach action to be taken within 8 days of the unacceptable absence.</p> <p>CRC Manager to liaise with local police to share information and agree to joint actions to reduce risks of further offending.</p> <p>Use of assessments of offenders' needs to make appropriate local referrals.</p> <p>Evidence of delivery to accredited programmes such as Building Better Relationships and Thinking Skills Programme.</p>
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						Close working relationships with the local drug treatment agency.
3	Continue to support the partnership and community in preventing arson related incidents	Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service  Dan Tasker Group Manager Response	3.1	Continue to lead the New Forest Arson Reduction Forum towards proactively identifying and positively addressing all potential/ongoing problems associated with deliberate fire-setting activity	Reduction in number of arson-related incidents across the New Forest	All of this essential work will be centrally driven through the continued vision of the Strategic Partnership; albeit actively co-ordinated and locally delivered through the excellent work of the multi-agency "Arson Reduction Forum", chaired by HFRS. Information exchange and "Task Force" delivery will be greatly supported and better facilitated by the co-location of the two Police/Fire Stations in the East and West of the New Forest. Wider, more effective use of SafetyNet will also support this information sharing.
			3.2	Reintroduce and drive a multi-agency approach to arson prevention through increased use of the Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) process, mobile CCTV and Exchange of Information (EOI)	Increased numbers of completed EVA and EOI. Increased use of mobile CCTV units to identify repeat offenders	
			3.3	Introduce a more multi-agency "Task Force" based approach in tackling high-risk problematic issues both quickly and effectively (e.g. fly-tipping)	Reduction in arson-related incidents. Increased level of detection/conviction for repeat offenders	
4	Support victims of domestic abuse	New Forest District Council (in consultation with the Domestic Abuse Forum as	4.1	Continue to develop a positive awareness campaign for You First, the commissioned service for victims of Domestic Abuse. Alternating advertising campaign, both digital and print for improved	Increase in access to support services.	NFDC Community Safety Team, with NFDC funds.

		necessary)  Brian Byrne, Partnership Intervention Manager		awareness.		
			4.2	Upskill Council Housing staff on the use of screening tools for identifying victims of Domestic Abuse and sign posting them to support services.	Earlier identification and reduction in missed opportunities for supporting victims of Domestic Abuse.  Increased confidence in alerting services to adults and children at risk of Domestic Abuse.	NFDC Community Safety Team with You First.
			4.3	Identify areas of need, emerging issues and training through the Domestic Abuse Forum and assist in implementing positive action where available.	Greater service access to both professionals and victims of Domestic Abuse.	NFDC Community Safety Team though permanent participation at the Domestic Abuse forum.
			4.4	Enabling victims of Domestic Abuse and families to access the Supporting Families Programme for positive interventions and safe planning for the future. This will provide greater opportunities for support of children witnessing the effects of Domestic Abuse.	Increase in cohort size for families with recorded Domestic Abuse.	Supporting Families Programme, both local and intensive services. Access to the Supporting Families budget and the strategic community safety grant

5	Promote road safety with an emphasis on Killed & Serious Injury (KSI)	<p>Hampshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service in partnership with Hampshire Constabulary</p> <p>Dan Tasker, Group Manager Response, HFRS &amp; Ch Insp Rob Mitchell, Hampshire Constabulary</p>	5.1	Excess speed is a contributory factor to serious injury incidents on our roads. Enforcement and education to tackle poor driver behaviour	The number of Police-led Partnership initiatives to tackle traffic speeding issues with a mixture of enforcement and awareness raising for drivers.	<p>Hampshire Constabulary Roads Policing Team to support volunteers with Community Speedwatch training.</p> <p>Speed enforcement initiatives with use of visible camera van at identified hotspots. Liaison between Roads Policing Team and Neighbourhood Team to identify appropriate locations.</p> <p>Road safety education can be provided through Roads Policing Force-wide initiatives by liaison with Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Hampshire Fire &amp; Rescue.</p>
			5.2	Continue to support Hampshire Constabulary and the Community Safety Partnership in order to deliver a range of educational programmes and prevention activities	Reduction in the numbers of KSI figures across the New Forest	Strong reliance on the data provided by Hampshire Constabulary in order to effectively baseline, monitor and report on annual progress
			5.3	Work to reduce animal injury and death on New Forest roads by enforcement and education to tackle poor driver behaviour, particularly in relating to excess speeds.	The number of Police-led partnership initiatives to tackle traffic speeding issues with a mixture of enforcement and awareness raiding for drivers	Local Neighbourhood & Prevention Teams to support volunteers with Community Speed Watch initiatives with use of visible camera van at identified



						hotspots to reduce animal injury and death
6.	Reducing rural crime	Hampshire Constabulary  Rob Mitchell, District Commander	6.1	Continue reduction in rural theft from motor vehicles in beauty spot car parks	Reduction in beauty spot TFMV compared to previous 12 months.	Allocation of resource from Police, also requiring assistance from NFDC and Forestry Commission in relation to wider awareness and crime prevention messages. Visible policing operations such as Operation KOEMAN to provide reassurance and prevention advice.
			6.2	Deliver a monthly themed operation to tackle seasonal rural crime – Operation FALCON	Data and feedback from individual operations	Operation BOTHERSOME which utilises collaborative policing with stakeholders within the community. Wider media strategy to deliver reassurance to rural communities through all areas of partnership including most agencies working within the New Forest.

## GLOSSARY OF CRIME TYPES

### Crime Types and Drug Offences

#### 1 - VIOLENT CRIME

Violent crimes are those where the victim is intentionally stabbed, punched, kicked, pushed, jostled, etc., or threatened with violence whether or not there is any injury.

In published crime statistics, violent crime – both as measured by the British Crime Survey (BCS) and by recorded crime – is grouped into two broad, high-level categories of violence with injury and violence without injury. However, these categories are not directly comparable between BCS and recorded crime: for example, the BCS violence categories include robbery, but the police recorded crime violence categories do not (recorded robbery figures are shown separately).

Just over half of all BCS violent incidents and just under half of all police recorded violence against the person, resulted in injury to the victim.

- Violence with injury includes all incidents of wounding, assault with injury and (BCS only) robbery which resulted in injury. Homicide is only included for police recorded crime. Police recorded crime also includes attempts at inflicting injury, although the BCS would not include these if no actual injury occurred.
- Violence without injury includes all incidents of assault without injury and (BCS only) incidents of robbery which did not result in injury. Police recorded crime also includes possession of weapons offences and a number of public order offences, such as harassment.

Police recorded crime statistics for violence, especially less serious violence, are particularly affected by changes in recording practice over time; for the population and crime types it covers, the BCS is the best measure for long-term national trends in violence. Police statistics are important for showing the mix of violent crimes dealt with and recorded by the police. They are an important measure of activity locally and a source of operational information to help identify and address local crime problems, at a lower geographical level than is possible using the BCS. Police statistics also provide more reliable information on less common crimes, such as robbery, and are currently the only source of data on homicides and offences against those not resident in households.

#### BCS violence

BCS violent crime is categorised in two other ways: by offence type and according to the victim-offender relationship. BCS offence types are as follows (estimates for wounding, assault with minor injury, assault without injury and robbery add up to overall violence):

- Wounding: the incident results in severe or less serious injury, e.g. cuts, severe bruising, chipped teeth, bruising or scratches requiring medical attention or any more serious injuries.
- Assault with minor injury: an incident where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled and the incident resulted in minor injury to the victim, e.g. scratches or bruises.

- Assault without injury: an incident (or attempt) where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled but resulted in no injury.
- Robbery: an incident in which force or threat of force is used in a theft or attempted theft.

The categories of BCS violence according to the offender-victim relationship are as follows:

- Domestic violence comprises wounding and assaults which involves partners, ex- partners, other relatives or household members.
- Stranger violence includes wounding and assaults in which the victim did not have any information about the offender(s), or did not know and had never seen the offender(s) before.
- Acquaintance violence comprises wounding and assaults in which the victim knew one or more of the offenders, at least by sight. It does not include domestic violence.

Figures are also presented for mugging which is a popular rather than a legal term and is the total number of robbery, attempted robbery and snatch theft incidents combined. Snatch theft is excluded from all BCS violence since it includes no violence or minimal threat of force (e.g. just enough to pull a bag away from someone).

In the BCS, the previously used common assault (or attempted assault) category, which had been inconsistent with the police recorded offence category, was replaced with assault with minor injury and assault without injury categories in 2006/07. This change was made to align BCS categories more closely with those used by the police.

#### Police recorded violence against the person

Violence against the person offences contains the full spectrum of assaults, from pushing and shoving that result in no physical harm, to murder. Even within the same offence classification, the degree of violence varies considerably between incidents.

Trends in police recorded violent crime can be very difficult to interpret, as they are influenced by a number of factors. It is important to consider the following issues when interpreting trends:

Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in the levels of public reporting of incidents. The proportion of violent crimes estimated to be reported to the police has increased from the first BCS results in 1981, but has been reasonably stable since 2002/03 (see Chapter 2 of the annual crime statistics publication).

Local policing activity and priorities affect the levels of reported and recorded violent crime. Where the police are proactive in addressing low-level violence and anti-social behaviour, this can lead to more of these crimes being brought to their attention and being recorded. For example, research by the Cardiff Violence Research Group showed an association between the introduction of CCTV surveillance and increased police detection of violence (Sivarajasingam et al., 2003).

Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in police recording practices. The 1998 changes to the Home Office Counting Rules had a very significant impact on the recording of violent and sexual crime; the number of violence against the person offences recorded by the police increased by 118 per cent as a result of the 1998 changes (Povey and Prime, 1999). Much of this increase resulted from a widening of the offence coverage to include assaults with little or no physical injury and offences of harassment (again with no injury).

The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS), introduced in April 2002, again resulted in increased recording of violent and sexual crimes particularly for less serious offences, as well as for some other offences. There was an estimated NCRS effect of 23 per cent on violence against the person offences in the first 12 months of implementation, although it was recognised that this effect was unlikely to be complete within the first 12 months (Simmons et al., 2003).

Audits undertaken by the Audit Commission on behalf of the Home Office indicate substantial improvements in crime recording across forces in the two to three years following NCRS introduction, which would particularly impact on violence against the person and result in increases in recorded crimes for this category.

Incidents of violence against the person recorded by the police include the following categories as described below:

- Homicide including murder, manslaughter and infanticide.

The published figures do not separately identify between these individual offences as, when a homicide is initially recorded by the police, the full circumstances of the incident may not be known. Furthermore, the precise nature of an offence may only become clear once a suspect has been apprehended and appears at court.

The Home Office receives two sources of information on homicide from the police forces of England and Wales (including the British Transport Police where the incident occurred within England and Wales). These are:

- The monthly aggregated recorded crime return (see Section 3.1)
- A more detailed statistical return for each recorded homicide containing additional information, including victim and suspect details and the circumstances of the offence. This is used to populate a Home Office database called the Homicide Index.

The Homicide Index contains details about homicides recorded in England and Wales since 1977. In contrast to the aggregated recorded crime return, the Homicide Index is continually being updated with revised information from the police as investigations continue and as cases are heard by the courts. As the Homicide Index is continually updated and provides more detailed information, Home Office Statisticians view the Index as a better source of data than the separate monthly aggregated recorded crime return. However, due to the time permitted for police forces to submit the individual returns (within 30 days of recording an incident as homicide) and the complexities in checking the data, it is not possible to use the Homicide Index figures for the annual crime bulletin. Instead, figures from the monthly aggregated recorded crime return are presented as a provisional homicide estimate, with full analysis published in a supplementary bulletin approximately six months' later. Care should therefore be taken when using the provisional figures for homicide as these are subject to change.

- Death by driving offences (includes by dangerous driving, careless or inconsiderate driving, driving under the influence of drink or drugs and while being an unlicensed or uninsured driver).
- Corporate manslaughter where an organisation is deemed responsible for a person's death.

- Grievous bodily harm (GBH) includes injury resulting in permanent disability, more than minor permanent disfigurement, broken bones, fractured skull, compound fractures, substantial loss of blood, lengthy treatment or serious psychiatric injury (based on expert evidence).

GBH with intent occurs when there is clear evidence of a deliberate attempt to inflict serious bodily harm regardless of level of injury sustained.

GBH without intent occurs when serious bodily harm results but there is no evidence of a deliberate intent to inflict such an injury. Prior to April 2008, GBH without intent was not separated out from a much broader category of less serious wounding that mostly consisted of Actual Bodily Harm (ABH).

The definition of GBH with intent rests upon whether “the actions of the offender clearly show a deliberate attempt to inflict serious bodily harm”. The clarification to the rules from

April 2008 makes this clear and that “the gravity of the injury resulting is not necessarily the determining factor”. The rules were clarified as there had previously been some confusion as to whether the degree of injury sustained, rather than intent, should be the sole determining factor in the recording of these offences (see Section 3).

- Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) relates to any assault with injury which is not GBH (with or without intent) and includes internal injury and shock (when accompanied by expert psychological evidence).
- Threats to kill where an individual fears that the offender’s threat is real and may be carried out.
- Possession of weapons offences include possession of firearms with intent, possession of other weapons and possession of article with blade or point. If a weapon is used, then the police will normally record a more serious notifiable offence. Possession of firearms with no intent offences are recorded under other miscellaneous offences.
- Harassment offences are those incidents where no other substantive notifiable offence exists, but when looked at as a course of conduct are likely to cause fear, alarm or distress. Public fear, alarm or distress offences are where a course of conduct is not present.
- Assault without injury offences are those where at the most a feeling of touch or passing moment of pain is experienced by the victim.

The other violent offences recorded by the police include attempted murder, conspiracy to murder, poisoning or female genital mutilation, cruelty or neglect to children, abandoning a child under two years and child abduction.

Recorded crime statistics do not specifically identify offences of domestic violence since it is not a legal definition. Such offences would be recorded in accordance with the intent of the offence and any injuries sustained e.g. GBH with intent.

Police recorded crime figures for violence against the person quoted in the text and charts also include assault on a constable and racially or religiously aggravated assault, which are both separate categories within recorded crime. Such incidents are not treated separately in the BCS and would fall within the BCS assault with minor injury or without injury categories.

## Sexual Offences

Due to the small numbers of sexual offences identified by face-to-face BCS interviews, results from the main BCS are too unreliable to report; these data are not included within the overall count of violence (except for the categories of serious wounding with sexual motive and other wounding with sexual motive which are included in the offence type of wounding).

Respondents may not wish to disclose sensitive information face-to-face and so interviews since 2004/05 (and prior to this in 1996 and 2001) have included self-completion modules on intimate violence (see Section 2.3). These figures have previously been published separately from the annual volume (Mirrlees-Black, 1999; Walby and Allen, 2004; Finney, 2006; Coleman et al., 2007; Povey et al., 2008, 2009; Smith et al., 2010). Headline figures are also presented in the annual crime statistics bulletin for 2009/10.

Intimate violence is the collective term used to describe domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and the categories are defined as follows:

- Any domestic abuse: non-sexual emotional or financial abuse, threats, physical force, sexual assault or stalking carried out by a current or former partner or other family member.
- Partner abuse (non-sexual): non-sexual emotional or financial abuse, threats or physical force by a current or former partner.
- Family abuse (non-sexual): non-sexual emotional or financial abuse, threats or physical force by a family member other than a partner (father/mother, step- father/mother or other relative).
  - o Emotional or financial abuse: includes being prevented from having a fair share of household money, stopped from seeing friends or relatives or repeatedly belittled.
  - o Threats are classified as an affirmative response to the statement 'frightened you by threatening to hurt you/someone close'
  - o Minor force is classified as an affirmative response to the statement 'pushed you, held you down or slapped you'
  - o Severe force involves being kicked, hit, bitten, choked, strangled, threatened with a weapon, threats to kill, use of a weapon or some other kind of force.
- Sexual assault: indecent exposure, sexual threats and unwanted touching ('less serious'), rape or assault by penetration including attempts ('serious'), by any person including a partner or family member.
  - o Rape is the legal category of rape introduced in legislation in 2003. It is the penetration of the vagina, anus or mouth by a penis without consent.
  - o Assault by penetration is a legal offence introduced in 2003. It is the penetration of the vagina or anus with an object or other body part without consent.
- Stalking: two or more incidents (causing distress, fear or alarm) of obscene or threatening unwanted letters or phone calls, waiting or loitering around home or workplace, following or watching, or interfering with or damaging personal property by any person including a partner or family member.

The police recorded crime category of most serious sexual crime encompasses rape, sexual assault, and sexual activity with children. The Sexual Offences Act 2003, introduced in May 2004, altered the definitions of all three categories so comparisons around this time should be made with caution

The group of other sexual offences recorded by the police covers unlawful sexual activity, mostly involving consenting adults and is therefore particularly influenced by police activity in investigating such crime. It includes among other offences, exploitation of prostitution and soliciting, but not prostitution itself (which is not a notifiable offence). The Sexual Offences Act

2003, introduced in May 2004, introduced certain offences such as sexual grooming which is included in this group. Offences of indecent exposure have been retrospectively reclassified to sexual offences back to 2002/03 to aid comparisons over time.

## 2 ACQUISITIVE CRIME

BCS acquisitive crime covers all household and personal crime where items are stolen and can be split into household and personal acquisitive crimes.

Household acquisitive crime: Personal acquisitive crime:

Burglary

Attempted burglary in a dwelling

Theft in a dwelling

Theft from outside a dwelling

Theft and attempted theft of and from vehicles

Theft of pedal cycle Snatch theft (Theft from the person)

Stealth theft (Theft from the person)

Attempted theft from the person

Other theft of personal property and other attempted theft of personal property

Robbery and attempted robbery

Burglary

The BCS covers domestic burglary only, which is an unauthorised entry into the victim's dwelling but does not necessarily involve forced entry; it may be through an open window, or by entering the property under false pretences (e.g. impersonating an official).

BCS domestic burglary does not cover theft by a person who is entitled to be in the dwelling at the time of the offence; this is called theft in a dwelling and includes thefts committed inside a home by someone who is entitled to be there e.g. party guests, workmen.

The police record an offence of burglary if a person enters any building as a trespasser and with intent to commit an offence of theft, GBH or unlawful damage. Aggravated burglary occurs when the burglar is carrying a firearm, imitation firearm, offensive weapon or explosive.

Recorded crime figures are provided separately for burglaries that occur in domestic properties and those which occur in commercial or other properties.

- Domestic burglaries include burglaries in all inhabited dwellings, including inhabited caravans, houseboats and holiday homes, as well as sheds and garages connected to the main dwelling (for example, by a connecting door).
- Non-domestic burglaries include burglaries to businesses (including hotels and similar accommodation) and also some burglaries of sheds and outhouses where these are not clearly connected to the inhabited property.

Using the BCS it is possible to differentiate between burglaries with entry and attempted burglaries and also between burglary with loss and burglary with no loss (including attempts). Burglary with entry plus attempted burglary add up to total burglary. Burglary with loss plus burglary with no loss (including attempts) also add up to total burglary. These are defined below.

An attempted burglary is recorded by the police and in the BCS if there is clear evidence that the offender made an actual, physical attempt to gain entry to a building (e.g. damage to locks, or broken doors) but was unsuccessful.

Burglary with entry is a term used in the BCS and comprises burglary where a building was successfully entered, regardless of whether something was stolen or not.

Burglary with loss is a term used in the BCS and comprises burglary where a building was successfully entered and something was stolen.

In the BCS, burglary with no loss includes attempted entry to a property and cases where a property was entered but nothing was stolen. In making comparisons with police recorded crime, BCS burglary with no loss (including attempts) is used as a proxy for attempted burglary, though there will be some instances with no loss where entry has been gained.

#### Vehicle offences

The BCS includes offences against private households only and includes cars, vans, motorbikes, motor-scooters or mopeds used for non-commercial purposes. It identifies three vehicle theft categories:

- Theft of vehicles where the vehicle is driven away illegally, whether or not it is recovered.
- Theft from vehicles refers to both theft of parts and accessories of motor vehicles and to theft of contents.
- Attempted thefts of and from vehicles No distinction is made between attempted theft of and attempted thefts from motor vehicles, as it is often very difficult to ascertain the offender's intention.

If parts or contents are stolen as well as the vehicle being moved, the incident is classified as theft of a motor vehicle.



The police recorded crime category of offences against vehicles covers private and commercial vehicles (although does not distinguish between the two) and comprises:

- Thefts and attempted thefts of vehicles where the intent is to permanently deprive the owner.
- Unauthorised taking of a vehicle where intent to permanently deprive the owner is not evident – this would typically include ‘joyriding’ where the car is later recovered.
- Aggravated vehicle taking where a vehicle once taken is known to have been driven dangerously, damaged or caused an accident.
- Thefts and attempted thefts from a vehicle targeting property in or on the vehicle.
- Interfering with a motor vehicle which includes attempts to drive away without apparent intent to permanently deprive the owner. This mostly includes recorded crime offences where there is evidence of intent to commit either theft of or from a vehicle or taking without consent (TWOC), but there is either:
  - (i) No evidence of intent to commit one of these three offences specifically, or
  - (ii) There is evidence of intent to commit TWOC (TWOC is a summary offence but, under the provisions of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981, it is not legally valid to have an attempted summary offence).

Interfering with a motor vehicle offences as presented in the annual crime statistics publication are equivalent to the offence class formerly referred to as ‘vehicle interference and tampering’. The BCS cannot separately identify this category. In comparisons with the BCS it is included in the attempted vehicle theft category but in some instances could be viewed as criminal damage or even a nuisance.

The taking of vehicles during robberies (often termed ‘car-jacking’) is included within the robbery offence group.

### Robbery

A robbery is an incident or offence in which force or the threat of force is used either during or immediately prior to a theft or attempted theft. As with violence against the person, police recorded robberies cover a wide range of seriousness from armed bank robberies to muggings for mobile phones or small amounts of money. Recorded crime offences also distinguish between robbery of personal property (personal robbery) and business property (business robbery). Robbery of business property is a recorded crime classification where goods stolen belong to a business or other corporate body (such as a bank or a shop), regardless of the location of the robbery. The taking of vehicles during robberies (often termed car-jacking) is also included as robbery. Supplementary data on this offence have been collected in a supplementary collection by the Home Office since 2007/08.

The BCS covers robberies against adults resident in households; these are included in the violent crime count.

## Theft

Theft from the person covers theft (including attempts) of a handbag, wallet, cash etc. directly from the victim, but without the use of physical force against the victim, or the threat of it. This BCS category breaks into two components:

- Snatch theft where there may be an element of force involved but this is just enough to snatch the property away; and
- Stealth theft where no force is used and the victim is unaware of the incident (pick-pocketing). Stealth theft makes up the larger share (over 80%) of the total.

For recorded crime, theft from the person offences are those where there is no use of threat or force. Stealth theft is included as part of this recorded crime category and cannot be separately identified from snatch theft.

Other theft of personal property covers thefts away from the home where no force is used, there was no direct contact between the offender and victim and the victim is not holding or carrying the items when they are stolen (i.e. thefts of unattended property).

Other household theft cover a number of theft types: Theft in a dwelling includes thefts that occurred in the victim's dwelling, by someone who was entitled to be there; theft from outside a dwelling covers incidents where items are stolen from outside the victim's home and the category also includes burglaries to non-connected buildings, for example, garden sheds.

The recorded crime offence group of other theft offences covers thefts that are not covered by other property crime offence groups (i.e. thefts from vehicles is included in offences against vehicles). Offences included are theft from a person, thefts of bicycles, shoplifting and other theft or unauthorised taking.

### Bicycle Theft

The BCS covers thefts of bicycles belonging to the respondent or any other member of the household. Police recorded crime also includes offences where a pedal cycle is stolen or taken without authorisation, within the other theft offences category.

This category does not include every bicycle theft, as some may be stolen during the course of another offence (e.g. burglary) and are therefore classified as such by the police and in the BCS:

- Burglary; if anything else was stolen, or an attempt was made to steal something else, from the household's dwelling.
- Theft from a dwelling; when a bicycle is stolen from inside a house by someone who was not trespassing.
- Theft from a vehicle; if the bicycle is one of a number of things stolen.

## 3 VANDALISM AND CRIMINAL DAMAGE

In the BCS, criminal damage is referred to as vandalism and is defined as the intentional and malicious damage to either the home, other property and vehicles. Vandalism shown in the BCS

ranges from arson to graffiti. Cases where there is nuisance only (e.g. letting down car tyres) or where the damage is accidental are not included. Where vandalism occurs in combination with burglary or robbery, the burglary or robbery codes take precedence over the damage codes in offence coding.

The BCS produces estimates both for vandalism to the home and other property and against vehicles. Vandalism to the home and other property involves intentional or malicious damage to doors, windows, fences, plants and shrubs, for example. Vandalism to other property also includes arson where there is any deliberate damage to property belonging to the respondent or their household (including vehicles) caused by fire.

The BCS defines vandalism of vehicles as any intentional and malicious damage to a vehicle such as scratching a coin down the side of a car or denting a car roof. It does not, however, include causing deliberate damage to a car by fire. These incidents are recorded as arson and, therefore, included in vandalism to other property. The BCS only covers vandalism against private households; that is, vehicles owned by any member of the household and company cars which count as belonging to the respondent. Recorded crime includes all vehicle vandalism under the offence classification of criminal damage to a motor vehicle.

Police recorded criminal damage results from any person who without lawful excuse destroys or damages any property belonging to another, intending to destroy or damage any such property or being reckless as to whether any such property would be destroyed or damaged. Damage which is repairable without cost, or which is accidental, is not included in police recorded crime statistics. Separate recorded crime figures exist for criminal damage to a dwelling, to a building other than a dwelling, to a vehicle and other criminal damage. Figures are also published for racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage.

Arson is the act of deliberately setting fire to property including buildings and vehicles. In the BCS this is any deliberate damage to property belonging to the respondent or their household caused by fire, regardless of the type of property involved. The only exception is where the item that is set on fire was stolen first (this is coded as theft). Arson is included in vandalism to other property and includes arson to vehicles.

For vehicle crime, if a vehicle is stolen and later found deliberately burnt out by the same offender, one crime of theft of a vehicle is recorded by the police and in the BCS. If there is evidence that someone unconnected with the theft committed the arson, then an offence of arson is recorded by the police in addition to the theft. For the BCS, only an offence of theft of a vehicle would be recorded as in practice it would often not be possible to establish that the arson was committed by someone unconnected with the theft.

#### **4 FRAUD AND FORGERY**

The measurement of fraud is challenging as fraud is known to be very substantially under-reported to the police. Better information can be derived from other sources. For example, figures for plastic (credit, debit or bank) card fraud are obtained from The UK Cards Association, which is the leading trade association for the cards industry in the UK. For more information on the various sources of fraud including administrative data and on the nature, extent and economic impact of fraud in the UK, see Hoare (2007), Levi et al. (2007) and Wilson et al. (2006).

Plastic card fraud among individuals resident in households in England and Wales is also covered in a module within the BCS. Stolen plastic cards (i.e. credit, debit or bank cards) are included in the main BCS crime count under the relevant offence, such as burglary or theft from the person, but incidents of fraud are not covered. However, the BCS has included questions on experience of plastic card fraud in a separate module of questions since 2005/06.

Offences of fraud and forgery are recorded by the police, but figures from 2007/08 onwards are not comparable with previous years due to the introduction of the Fraud Act 2006, which commenced in January 2007 and saw significant changes to offences in the fraud and forgery offence group.

For offences prior to January 2007, fraud is defined as dishonestly deceiving to obtain either property or a pecuniary advantage. Recorded crime statistics were collected for: fraud by company director; false accounting; cheque and credit card fraud; other frauds; bankruptcy and insolvency offences; forgery or use of false drug prescription; other forgery and vehicle/driver document fraud.

Under the Fraud Act 2006, fraud is defined as dishonestly making a false representation to obtain property or money for themselves or another. Recorded crime statistics are collected for: fraud by company director; false accounting; other frauds; failing to disclose information; abuse of position; obtaining services dishonestly; making or supplying articles for use in fraud; possession of articles for use in fraud; bankruptcy and insolvency offences; forgery or use of false drug prescription; other forgery and vehicle/driver document fraud.

The Counting Rules changes in January 2007 also changed recording of fraud so that in most cases cheque and plastic card fraud is counted on a 'per account' rather than 'per transaction' basis. If an account is defrauded only one offence is recorded rather than one offence per fraudulent transaction on each account (as was the practice prior to January 2007). For example, previously if a person had their credit card stolen and it was subsequently used on ten separate occasions to buy goods fraudulently from ten different shops there would be a requirement for one crime record for theft and ten for deception. Now there is a requirement to record one theft and one fraud by false representation. The result of this change means that fewer crimes of plastic card and cheque fraud were recorded by the police during 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 compared with previous years and recorded fraud and forgery figures prior to 2007/08 are not comparable with more recent figures.

This change was made to reduce significant bureaucracy in recording crime (possibly involving several police forces) and to reflect the fact that in the cases when this counting basis is used, the financial loss is generally borne by the financial institution at which the account is held rather than by the merchants who process a transaction or by the account holder.

From April 2007, where a financial institution makes full financial recompense to an account holder, the financial institution (rather than the account holder) can report the crime directly to a single point of contact within the police.

These changes have been supported by The UK Cards Association and ACPO as they have resulted in significant reductions in bureaucracy in relation to the reporting of cheque and plastic card fraud. This has focused police effort on reports of fraud most likely to lead to a suspect being brought to justice and also introduced single points of contact within police forces for the financial institutions to report cases directly to. As victims of fraud are mainly commercial organisations, it is not covered in the same way as other crimes. The government's Fraud Review (2006) also

specifically welcomed the changes that were being put in place:  
[http://www.aasbni.gov.uk/pubs/FCl/fraudreview\\_finalreport.pdf](http://www.aasbni.gov.uk/pubs/FCl/fraudreview_finalreport.pdf)

The 2006 Fraud Act also resulted in the creation of a National Fraud Authority (NFA). One of the key objectives of this new body is to support better reporting of fraud crimes and their subsequent investigation. During 2009/10 the NFA opened a single national point of reporting for a wide range of frauds, in particular those arising from the growing use of the internet and email. This new means of reporting sits outside the police service as a call centre (Action Fraud) with an associated online reporting tool. At the same time the police have established a National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) to receive reports from Action Fraud as well as those from the banks and other financial institutions and to analyse them to identify positive investigatory opportunities which will then be referred to individual forces to follow up. The creation of these new bodies has had little or no impact on police recorded crime data for 2009/10 as they only commenced operation in early 2010.

## **5 RACIALLY OR RELIGIOUSLY AGGRAVATED OFFENCES**

Used in recorded crime, racially aggravated offences are legally defined under section 28 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (section 39) added the religiously aggravated aspect. Racially and religiously aggravated offences are categorised together in police recorded crime and cannot be separately identified. BCS respondents are asked whether they thought the incident was racially motivated and from 2005/06 whether they thought the incident was religiously motivated. Figures on racially and religiously motivated crimes from the 2005/06 and 2006/07 BCS are reported in Jansson et al. (2007).

## **6 DRUG OFFENCES**

Recorded crime figures for drugs offences are published in Table 2.04 of the annual crime statistics publication. With effect from April 2004, ACPO issued guidance to forces over the recording of warnings for cannabis possession (these were termed 'formal warnings' for cannabis possession prior to January 2007). These were incorporated into the Home Office Counting Rules (see Section 3 for more information). From January 2009 it has also been possible to issue a Penalty Notice for Disorder for cannabis possession (this detection method was not separated from Cannabis Warnings in statistics for the period to the end of March 2009).

In addition, the Home Office produces a separate National Statistics bulletin on Drug Seizures for England and Wales, covering seizures made by the police, HM Revenue and Customs, and the UK Border Agency.