

Crime & Drugs Partnership

Strategic Assessment 2021

Nottingham
Crime & Drugs Partnership

Working together to reduce crime, disorder & the misuse of drugs and alcohol

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose & Scope

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are responsible for the statutory duty to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, and reoffending. The Nottingham Crime & Drugs Partnership (CDP) is the CSP for Nottingham, which facilitates joint working of key agencies to meet this duty.

The purpose of this document is to provide the CDP and Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) with an assessment of current, emerging, long-term, and cross-cutting themes affecting Nottingham, and to recommend methods of tackling those issues. The document is refreshed annually to inform the CDP's priorities for the coming year, and to assist the OPCC to refresh their Police & Crime Plan.

Although this product will focus on the aforementioned key themes, it will also address over-arching themes requiring strategic direction and governance from the partnership – in particular the theme of serious violence, of note given the forthcoming publication of the Serious Violence Duty.

In addition, work is ongoing with the OPCC to streamline the process of Strategic Assessment production, and this year, for the first time, the authors will combine input from CDP and Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) analysts to create a jointly written section around serious violence. This will provide the basis from which to build a fully merged future product, and will enable additional scrutiny in the area of serious violence.

1.2 Methodology & Limitations

This assessment is based on a long, medium, and short-term assessment of intelligence, alongside crime and performance data, to provide a comprehensive overview of relevant community safety issues. The assessment is conducted using the following data timeframes:

- Long term comparator: 12-month period September 2018 to August 2019 (2018/19)
- Medium term comparator: 12-month period September 2019 - August 2020 (2019/20)
- Short term comparator: 3-month period July 2021 - August 2021 (Jul-Aug 2021)
- Current data: 12-month period September 2020 - August 2021 (2020/21)

As a comparator, the years of 2020 and 2021 will remain anomalous, although many crime types and behaviours have been irrevocably altered by the changes to the economy and behaviours over the past 18 months as a result of COVID-19.

The inclusion of the short-term comparator is intended to analyse the two periods in 2021 and 2020 where restrictions had eased significantly (hospitality & retail sectors reopening, easing of social restrictions, continued remote working) with the implication that these periods can be used to predict future trends in crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB), substance misuse, and reoffending in any future COVID-19 recovery period.

Analysis has been conducted in line with the parameters above, and combined with relevant intelligence from a variety of sources, practitioner perspectives, and citizen consultation where possible, to provide a holistic and well-rounded assessment.

Any dataset will contain limitations, and it is important to note these in the context of this assessment. Intelligence data used does not include any grading around validity, therefore cannot be assessed entirely accurately for risk. Professional opinion will be influenced by personal experiences and will not necessarily provide an impartial view.

There will also be limitations in data comparison due to the impact of COVID-19 on data (i.e. new category of Coronavirus-related ASB introduced in 2020). In addition, with regard to serious violence, there may be some disparity between datasets, due to Police and the Violence Reduction Unit using differing definitions of serious violence. Although this may impact in terms of comparability of datasets, professional analytical opinion and inference will also inform this section.

1.3 Structure & Focus

The structure for the 2021 Strategic Assessment will broadly follow the structure of the 2020 Strategic Assessment, which was impacted by Coronavirus and moved away from the historic quantitative analysis of previous Strategic Assessments.

The assessment will be split into two distinct sections, detailed below.

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

This section will provide an overview of trends in crime and ASB for the period from September 2020 to March 2021 (the point at which phased easing of all restrictions from the second and third national lockdowns began). A summary of community tensions and intelligence during this period will be provided, along with a description of any issues of concern and examples of good practice.

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

This section will provide an overview of trends in crime and ASB for the period from April to August 2021 (the period during which restrictions were phased out and eventually lifted entirely – except for overseas travel, for which some restrictions remain at the time of writing). Community tensions and good practice will also be summarised here, along with emerging trends.

This section will lead into thematic discussions on the areas of interest listed below. These will include a deeper dive into some key matters, which are discussed as priorities for the CDP. They will include a high-level summary, followed by a detailed breakdown of data, and impact across the city. These themes will be used as a measure to recommend CDP priorities for 2022/23:

- Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse
- Serious Violence/Knife Crime
- Hate Crime
- Modern Slavery and Exploitation

- Substance Misuse

The assessment will conclude with a set of recommended priorities for 2022/23, accompanied by a rationale for these recommendations, and a scoring matrix to provide colleagues with evidence as to the prioritisation of these areas and any associated threat and risk.

2. Executive Summary

The partnership has experienced long and medium-term reductions in recorded offences, mostly attributable to the continued impact of Coronavirus. However, short-term comparison shows that volumes are beginning to rise towards previous levels. Despite this, Nottingham has improved its position for offending rates across the Most Similar Group (MSG) of cities, going from 9th best to 4th best (per 1000 population).

Violence against the person and theft offences (excluding burglary and robbery) represent the majority of offences – 36% & 20% respectively. Predictive analysis suggests violence against the person and knife crime offences look set to stabilise, with knife crime in particular having decreased in both the medium and short-term.

Hate crime has increased across the analysed period, and repeat victims of hate crime peaked in June 2021. Race-related hate crime is the predominant strand in Nottingham and the city centre remains a hotspot. It is assessed that the partnership's targets around hate crime may be at risk due to these trends.

Nottinghamshire Police colleagues assess that drugs and firearms are the predominant threat to the city. Although Nottinghamshire Police have promoted the mapping of Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), the impact of drug related crime and substance misuse on the wider community is vast. The work arising from the Serious Violence Duty (due early 2022), will be led by the VRU and will have a focus on early intervention and prevention of serious violence, a large proportion of which links back to drugs activity.

There is an additional area of risk for the partnership around Prevent, due to a lack of funding from central government, an increase in referrals, and a single point of failure in that a lone NCC colleague is the lead for the Prevent Duty, the Home Office SPOC for asylum and refugee matters, and also leads on hate crime and Community Partnerships. A loss of key staff and budgetary pressures contributes to this risk, which may culminate in Nottingham's failure to sustain delivery of Prevent at levels seen previously.

Regarding positive outcomes for offences, performance has suffered, with medium-term positive outcomes declining by three percentage points, to 13%. Reoffending figures suggest Nottingham is impacted by a smaller, more persistent cohort of offenders with the propensity to commit a higher number of offences.

A risk for the partnership has been identified around the CCTV network which requires a sustainable upgrade solution to maintain service levels.

ASB reporting remained high over the period, however recent trends indicate a sharp downward trajectory. The main cause of ASB reporting is noise, and more ASB is now reported in areas outside of the city centre than pre-pandemic - this could be due to reduced tolerances and a shift to more flexible working practices. Student related ASB continues to be an issue for Nottingham, with its large student population. However, the partnership has developed a robust response (detailed in section 5.6). The ASB Tasking process is working well, although should be reviewed if reports continue to decrease to ensure maximum effectiveness.

Tensions monitoring has identified the following key themes during 2020/21:

- Coronavirus and continued anti-lockdown/vaccine sentiment;
- Extremism and the increasing prevalence of right-wing extremist (RWE) groups;
- Migration;
- Protest;
- Recent reporting of drink-spiking;

The Lytham Gardens/Hogan Gardens area (in Bestwood) is highlighted as challenging to the partnership. Issues caused by tensions around student ASB also arose and attracted media attention. The joint work on the Student Living Strategy is expected to provide a basis for more positive interactions in this area.

The domestic abuse system (including the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process) is enduring increased reporting, whilst services are underfunded, and many have seen cuts in real terms. There is also a lack of funding for sexual violence services. Where resources do exist these are short-term and fragile, creating additional pressure in terms of recruitment, training and retention, owing to the 'cliff-edge' arising from cessation of funding. Some agencies are struggling to staff elements of the DVA pathway, including the MARAC. These issues are mitigated to a degree by the strength of local partnerships, however present a risk to the CDP.

There is considerable under-reporting of domestic abuse in some communities (estimated to be 40%) who may not understand how or why to report, and sexual violence remains underreported, particularly incidents at universities, where it is estimated that two-thirds of offences go unreported. As a city with a large proportion of student residents, this is likely to be compounded in Nottingham. Barriers to reporting are multiple and varied, including language, capacity, fear, or stigma. There are no specialised services for refugees with a history of sexual violence victimisation arriving in Nottingham, a clear gap in light of increased local migration, and ongoing transnational humanitarian protection pressures.

In the medium-term, domestic abuse reporting has reduced, although a short-term increase in reporting is noted. The positive outcome rate for domestic abuse offences has decreased, and in over half of cases the outcome was recorded as 'victim declined or withdrew support - named suspect identified'. This is impacted by the length of time taken for a criminal justice response, and the increased demand for services. Whereas DVA reports to Police declined under pandemic restrictions, contacts with the DSVA 24-hour helpline increased. This position has somewhat reversed with the easing of restrictions.

Nottingham's performance in the Most Similar Group cohort of cities has improved from 12th to 3rd to August 2021. Short-term comparisons indicate an increase in reporting of sexual violence offences in the night time economy, mostly in the city centre, and calls to Nottingham Sexual Violence Support Services (NSVSS) helpline have seen a sharp increase since April 2021.

Gaps in data recording of victim and offender characteristics for all reported crimes make fully understanding the full picture challenging. Improved data recording would allow for more targeted messaging and intervention, and allow identification of those underrepresented groups, as well as supporting commissioning, training, and community outreach.

The partnership's response to modern slavery and exploitation through the Slavery & Exploitation Team, and the Slavery and Exploitation Risk Assessment Conference (SERAC),

is progressing, and referrals are increasing as vulnerabilities are being identified by colleagues, allowing identification and support of potentially vulnerable people.

Although Nottingham City Homes have been conducting property visits (within COVID-19 guidance and risk assessments to ensure tenant and professional safety), the broader housing sector remains impacted by social distancing guidelines, and as a result, there is a risk that those with vulnerabilities will not be identified as quickly as previously. It is also noted that some rogue landlords have adopted tactics to avoid regulatory restrictions, therefore increasing the likelihood of exploitation of vulnerable people.

Vulnerable people case conferencing remains a risk to the partnership as the recommended work to review this (as per Strategic Assessment 2020) has not yet been undertaken.

Substance misuse performance declined during the pandemic, but since early 2021 has begun to increase again. It is likely that service impacts arising from circumstances surrounding the pandemic created barriers to access and completion of treatment during this time. Alcohol, opiates and crack cocaine are the substances most likely to be cited by users, and as restrictions have lifted, services are seeing more referrals for users of 'club drugs' (i.e. ketamine, MDMA, and cocaine). Alcohol-related issues are expected to dominate referrals due to the long-term effects of the pandemic on drinking habits, and services will continue to adapt to meet this need.

It is likely that the number of adults using drugs or illicit substances in Nottingham is higher than average, due to the high proportion of young adults who are more likely to report taking drugs. The unmet need for opiate and crack users in Nottingham, in those aged 15-24 and 25-34, is assessed to be high (93% and 65% respectively).

Nottingham has the highest rate of drug-related deaths in the East Midlands, and a higher rate than the English average. There is an emerging gap in knowledge during the pandemic and more recently, due to delays affecting toxicology and coroner's inquests, and therefore a lack of clarity around the true numbers of drug-related deaths.

Recorded drug offences decreased during the pandemic and remain at or below average in the post-lockdown period. A number of emerging trends in the drugs market are noted which may pose a risk, particularly to children and young people, including edibles, synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists (SCRAs, or 'Mamba') and vaping of substances.

3. Context, Consultation and Community Relations

3.1 Partnership Composition & Response

Since publication of the 2020 Strategic Assessment there have been further developments of the structure and working of the CDP. During COVID-19 restrictions, Partnership Tasking underwent changes to refocus the meeting around ASB and associated issues.

As restrictions have lifted, volumes of recorded ASB have begun to decline, and as this is anticipated to continue in the post-lockdown period, the Tasking process may undergo further changes to reflect the issues facing the partnership. The Tasking process now also incorporates student themes, as well as wider strategic issues requiring a partnership response. This group is the natural escalation route for any unresolvable issues or barriers faced at Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT) meetings, and recent successes include mitigation of risks around Halloween and Bonfire Night, for which there were no exceptional reports in 2021, an improvement on previous years.

A reinvigoration of the pathway from NATs to Partnership Tasking is underway, with a workflow in progress to standardise NAT processes and reporting, to allow capture of information and actions arising in a central system, and to improve analysis and monitoring. This will enable NATs to better identify and escalate issues, and improve accountability and structure of NAT processes across the city.

The Vulnerabilities and Commodities Group is formed by key CDP partners and manages issues around vulnerable people, substance misuse, and illicit goods. The group is still relatively new and is engaged in building structures to focus the meeting around its action plan. A series of sub-groups is proposed, focusing on issues such as vulnerabilities, commodities, and prosperities. A specific serious organised crime (SOC) strand is also proposed to provide a strategic focus around organised crime groups (OCGs) impacting on the city. Increased attention on illegal drug use as a driver of crime is anticipated, and the group will provide opportunities for partnership consideration of wider issues, such as the exploitation of vulnerable individuals, and the impact of SOC on neighbourhoods.

When the Serious Violence Duty is enacted in early 2022, it is anticipated that the Violence Reduction Unit will lead on delivering the duty, as many relevant work strands and partners are already drawn together via the VRU. The duty will compel additional partners to involve themselves in tackling serious violence, and will encompass a wider public health remit. This process may also ultimately enfold the Serious Youth Violence & Exploitation Board, to avoid duplication and expedite fulfilling the aims of the duty. The Serious Violence Duty is discussed in further detail in section (4.6).

A highlighted risk for the partnership is the CCTV network, which is operated and maintained by Nottingham City Council. The network is comprised of ageing stock, and upgrades are required to maintain standards, and to allow for continuity of coverage across the city. Residents' surveys note the importance of CCTV to feelings of safety, and it is an important

evidence-gathering tool to support investigations, and prosecutions where offences have occurred.

A forthcoming paper will outline options for upgrade and continuous refresh of CCTV hardware to assure the safety of citizens, and maximise evidence gathering opportunities. Options for a sustainable solution are preferable, as repair and replacement costs increase if upgrades are not sought in a timely manner.

3.2 Respect for Nottingham Survey 2019

The CDP takes the issue of consultation with the citizens of Nottingham seriously, and understands that quantitative feedback is critical to providing a rounded understanding of issues affecting citizens, rather than relying on crime data alone. The method by which the CDP canvasses public opinion is the annual Respect for Nottingham survey

Due to Coronavirus restrictions in 2020, the Respect survey could not be undertaken, but has been commissioned for 2021 with fieldwork currently underway. However, it is not anticipated that results will be available in time for inclusion to this document. Therefore, we remain reliant upon results from 2019 for citizen opinions around issues of crime and ASB.

These results indicated concerns in city neighbourhoods focused around burglary, weapon/ gang-related violence and alcohol-related violence, as well as environmental issues including rubbish, litter, and dog fouling, followed by drug use and nuisance caused by use of motorbikes or similar vehicles. In the city centre, begging was highlighted by a majority of respondents, alongside issues related to alcohol.

Responses indicated environmental issues were of less concern in the city centre than neighbourhoods. However, it was noted that a substantial proportion of respondents indicated they did not know if such issues were prevalent in the city centre, indicating a likelihood that they did not visit the area. This indication is likely to have been further impacted by the past 18 months of restrictions, and therefore it must be with some caution that we interpret the results of the forthcoming 2021 survey.

In relation to satisfaction with the Police response to ASB, in 2019 this declined to the lowest reported level since the survey was first undertaken. As ASB has increased exponentially during the pandemic period, a similar decline in satisfaction is also anticipated in the 2021 survey as well.

Since ASB can be dealt with by police, local authorities, housing providers, or any combination thereof, this should be a concern for the partnership as a whole. As part of the response to ASB – and being cognisant that people may find reporting difficult, or not know how to report – the partnership has produced a document which details reporting methods, and the responses they can expect from the various partners.

3.3 Community & COVID-19 Tensions Monitoring

The Tensions Monitoring framework has been in place since 2019. It is issued monthly by the Community Protection Performance and Intelligence Team, and comprises community tensions, issues, and concerns, collated across the following headings:

- Anti-Religious Activity/Sentiment
- Civil/Political Unrest
- Disruptive Activism (Legal and Non-Legal)
- Emerging Communities
- Extremism
- Fear of Crime (Community)
- Homeless Community Vulnerabilities
- Inter/Intra Gang Tensions
- Terrorism
- Travelling Communities

The product underwent a revamp in 2021 to increase user-friendliness, in terms of identifying concerns by risk, area, and type. It also comprises a three-month dataset to increase specificity and includes an additional analysis section.

The framework is of use in the development of other partnership products, and is provided to trusted stakeholders such as Prevent leads and neighbourhood managers.

In addition to the monthly Tensions Monitoring product, the daily COVID-19 Tensions document was shifted to a weekly schedule, to assist and inform decision making at the COVID-19 Steering Group.

3.4 Emergent Themes (2020-21)

COVID-19

From the end of 2020 into 2021, a number of anti-lockdown/anti-vaccine protests took place in the city centre. Anti-vaccine activists also created disruption at the ‘vaccine bus’ – a mobile vaccination hub coordinated by Nottingham City Council and public health.

Anti-vaccine leaflets were dropped through resident letterboxes on numerous occasions, and NCC officers and elected members reported multiple instances of anti-vaccine/ anti-lockdown stickers and posters on walls and street furniture around the city. These were logged and removed.

As restrictions began to lift, citizens reported anxiety about leaving their homes and utilising public transport, particularly older residents. Meanwhile, long-term residents in areas with high student populations expressed concerns about the return of students and how they mixed with others.

A small number of individuals, including students, received heavy fines from Nottinghamshire Police for COVID-19 breaches, which were widely publicised in local and national media.

Relationships between student unions and uniformed services have declined noticeably as a consequence.

Extremism

In the first half of 2021, a number of racist stickers, often using the language 'No more Mosques' (along with other anti-religious profanities) were observed in the Wollaton West area. These were believed to relate to a planning application to extend opening hours at local Mosque.

Leafleting was reported from March 2021 onwards by various Right Wing Extremist (RWE) groups (including 'Britain First' and 'For Britain'), while in early May, graffiti with Nazi themes was observed in Southglade Park, Bulwell, and a poster bearing reference to the 'National Radical Camp' (*Obóz Narodowo-Radykalny* – an ultranationalist Polish RWE Group) at Highbury Road, Bulwell.

In April 2021, Britain First also undertook a nationwide 'campaign' of visits to hotels being used to accommodate asylum seekers, including one in Nottingham city centre, capturing video footage which was subsequently uploaded to the internet and shared on social media. The Police were contacted, and activists were removed from the site.

On 9th August 2021, Patriotic Alternative hosted a national day of action around Indigenous People's Day, echoing similar activity in 2020, and claiming this year's event would be 'bigger and better'. This entailed activists unfurling banners, typically including the wording 'White Lives Matter', and taking photographs. Locally, photos of such banners were taken at Robin Hood statue, the BBC building in London Road, and Wollaton Hall, and were subsequently publicised online.

Migration

Contingency hotels, which the Home Office block-booked in 2020 to accommodate dispersed asylum seekers during COVID-19, have remained consistently at capacity (of approximately 300 combined). There is no indicative timescale for these residents being decanted to permanent accommodation. The Home Office has subsequently established additional asylum seeker accommodation in a tower block, now housing over 290 residents. All such measures were imposed on a no-choice basis.

These contingencies have increased the local population of vulnerable asylum seekers by around 66% within 18 months, which has created service impacts (GP registration, school admissions, midwifery, food and clothing banks, etc.) These are being absorbed by statutory and voluntary agencies without additional funding.

Concurrent with opening of the tower block in late summer, the Afghan evacuation crisis became suddenly acute. Local resettlement of Afghan nationals employed by British Armed Forces had already been agreed by city leaders, but the emerging crisis required emergency accommodation across the UK.

In response, the Home Office established a further hotel in Nottingham as 'bridging' accommodation for Afghan residents awaiting permanent homes. These individuals may

remain in place for up to a year. Access to services (GPs, dentistry, school admissions, etc.) is being supported by local agencies, with funding available to claim in arrears.

There are significant cohesion concerns arising from these contingencies, particularly in light of ongoing RWE activity around migration matters.

In January, a new visa process opened for Hong Kong British Nationals (Overseas) (BNOs), entitling qualifying Hong Kong citizens to five years' UK residency, and permanent settlement thereafter. Funding is available to local authorities supporting BNO migrants, but locating and claiming for these individuals is challenging. BNO numbers are estimated at approximately 600 across the greater Nottingham area (including Beeston and West Bridgford,) but are not known with certainty.

Community Development Operations are supporting BNOs to constitute community groups, however it is understood divisions between community factions are opening along political lines. There are also concerns regarding financial exploitation of BNOs.

Issues were also highlighted over summer around Eritrean migrants arriving in Nottingham from across the UK. These individuals were reportedly being employed in businesses with a local footing, including the East Midlands transit hub. Concerns around drugs, gambling, debt, and hunger, and some mental health difficulties were identified. Most had no roots or connections to Nottingham, and were not accessing mainstream services, while some individuals were reportedly victims of financial exploitation (including charges of £800 to assist with Leave to Remain paperwork).

Protest

Nottingham Muslims raised concerns in respect of the escalation of violence in Palestine and the attack on Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem during May and June 2021. Several Palestinian solidarity protests took place in response, the most prominent in May 2021. After this protest finished, a splinter group proceeded on foot along a route not previously agreed, resulting in a number of arrests. This drew criticism of enforcement tactics and resulted in a statement from Notts Police contextualising the matter.

There were also concerns reported from Jewish communities, while some local synagogues cancelled services. For their part, Muslim communities advocated peaceful activism. Several instances of pro-Palestinian and anti-Hamas graffiti were also witnessed during this period.

Following widespread public anger over the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill published in March 2021 (and currently progressing through Parliament), several 'Kill the Bill' protests materialised in Nottingham, including a demonstration at Forest Recreation Ground in March, and further protests in the city centre in May. This coincided with pro-Palestinian demonstrations taking place on the same date at a similar time.

Similarly, weekly anti-racist 'open-mic' demonstrations (begun in the wake of the Black Lives Matter resurgence following the 2020 murder of George Floyd) continued through late 2020 and into 2021, and frequently intersected with other demonstrations as discussed above. A hate crime bearing some resemblance to the George Floyd killing was reported at Trinity School in April, and received national media coverage in the Sun newspaper on 25th May, in

a special report to mark the anniversary of the murder. A commemoration demonstration also took place in Old Market Square.

Meanwhile, protests by environmental activists Extinction Rebellion (XR) were less frequent in Nottingham than in other areas. It is thought that Nottingham City Council's formal adoption of its Carbon Neutral Action Plan in June 2020 diverted XR attention from the city. However, some XR protests still took place, including at the Eastcroft incinerator during September, under 'UK Campaign Against Waste Incineration', and a protest march was called for 6th November.

Multiple protests and opposing sentiments around COVID-19 mitigations were also observed – these are discussed below.

Lytham Gardens/Hogan Gardens

In recent years, around Bonfire Night, a minority of residents in Top Valley, Bestwood have created criminal damage around Lytham and Hogan Gardens. Fires were set on grassed areas, and uniformed services have received hostile responses when attending. It has been difficult to assess the true impact of this activity as residents are reluctant to engage with authorities due to fear of reprisal.

The issues also bear relevance to the October 2020 homicide of a 20-year-old male near Victoria Centre, who had links to the area. In November 2020, a large Bonfire Night gathering grew chaotic. Attending Police and Fire crews were pelted with missiles, including live fireworks. Damage was sustained to three Police vehicles, and two officers were injured.

Councillors, MPs, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and senior Police officers have engaged with residents in search of solutions, while residents have highlighted multiple issues, including intimidation, drug dealing, fly-tipping, hateful remarks and vandalism. Impacts on wellbeing and mental health have also been noted.

During 2021, actions taken in the area have included installation of fencing, review of street lighting, removal of foliage, an introduction by NCH of a local lettings plan, and additional CCTV deployments. This work has been coupled with efforts to carry out youth outreach and diversionary activity – but this has met with challenges around a lack of suitable premises, a situation exacerbated by lockdowns. In September 2021, a CCTV installation was destroyed.

The area also abuts the boundary of Gedling Borough Council, which has created some issues in terms of accountability for specific areas. Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire Police, and partners have worked together to plan, problem solve, and escalate issues when required, and considerable inter-agency preparatory work has been undertaken in the run up to Halloween/Bonfire Night 2021.

New Themes

At time of writing, Nottinghamshire Police have recently received a spate of reports around both spiking of drinks and needle-stick injuries, which have increased in volume over the autumn, attracting considerable media coverage. There is presently no forensic evidence to indicate substances used in these attacks, or clarity around the frequency of these attacks.

Nevertheless, students called for a boycott of night-time economy venues, and some premises responded by cancelling events in solidarity.

4. Infrastructure and drivers of risk

4.1 Housing

The council's Selective Licensing (SL) scheme is due for renewal after coming to the end of its five-year term. The scheme aims to regulate specific areas of the housing market, with enforcement activity to increase compliance, improve housing standards, achieve crime and ASB reductions in key areas, and increase citizens' feelings of safety as a result.

The SL scheme allows Nottingham City Council to regulate housing stock in particular areas of the city, and dissuade improper or undesirable use of properties, while encouraging reintegration of empty properties into the market to assist with shortages and homelessness. The scheme also provides a measure of oversight over empty properties to safeguard against disrepair creating a negative impact on the surrounding environment.

As part of the renewal process, the impact of the scheme on crime and ASB will be assessed within the current designated area, and the likely impact of any new scheme and change to the boundaries, based upon current data and type of housing present.

Housing colleagues have noted that some rogue landlords have adapted in response to regulation imposed by SL and the effects of the pandemic. Landlords are exploiting changes to partnership enforcement activity owing to COVID-19 constraints, and by budgetary pressures which have impacted resources of all public sector partners.

A particular trend of note is landlords setting up cooperatives for their properties/ rooms, as these are covered by alternate regulations to private rented properties. This practice enables avoidance of specific regulations, exploits vulnerable people, and manipulates the market. There is also a risk that these types of properties may be used as a front for criminal activity; if properties are not regulated, there is a greater likelihood that inspections or similar partnership activity will not occur. These activities would otherwise provide additional safeguarding to vulnerable people, who would be most likely to take up residence in these types of accommodation.

It has been noted that reduction in direct oversight of the private rented sector from partners due to scaling back of frontline work under Coronavirus mitigations may have contributed to the decline in reported modern slavery and exploitation crimes over the past 12-18 months. Other criminal activity may also be perpetrated within properties let as cooperatives, with or without knowledge of the landlord. However, an understanding that some landlords may be willing to take steps to avoid regulation creates an inference that they may also overlook other types of criminality such as exploitation, prostitution, or drug-related activity.

The key risks to housing regulations revolve around funding and resources. Prior to the pandemic, partners worked efficiently together, focused on a collaborative model of resource pooling and utilisation of available legislative powers. However, with the rise of remote working and its impact on ad hoc communication and information sharing, opportunities for collaboration have somewhat diminished, leading to gaps in intelligence sharing, reduced visibility, and perhaps missed opportunities. The nature of evidence gathering leading into prosecution has also changed, meaning partners must work with diminished resources to try to achieve the same results.

These combined issues within the sector are likely to increase the confidence of rogue landlords to avert regulation, and will therefore continue to pose a risk to this area of the partnership.

4.2 Risk, Locations, Practices

Locations that fall beyond the remit of the licensing arena pose an inherent risk to the partnership. Hotels are unregulated and therefore NCC does not hold records of such premises operating within the city. This is a particular risk at the present time due to refugees and asylum seeker hotel contingencies being used by central government, alongside other vulnerable citizens who may also be temporarily housed in hotels – for example, rough sleepers, or survivors of domestic abuse.

Many reputable hotels have facilitated training for staff to identify signs of exploitation, and to mitigate the risks of such activity occurring on their premises. This has been particularly effective at tackling reports of hotels used for child sexual exploitation – however, it is believed that exploitation around prostitution, county lines, and/ or other drug criminality continues to take place in hotels (and other unlicensed locations), and the unregulated nature of these premises heightens that risk.

Victims may also be exploited by cash-only businesses, such as hand car washes or nail bars, which both have elements of risk in terms of non-provision of appropriate personal protective equipment, or hazardous products and chemicals used in these facilities. For car washes in particular, environmental and public health issues are also factors, and multi-agency enforcement to check on welfare of workers and trading legitimacy is not uncommon.

Further unregulated areas include public parks and open spaces, abandoned buildings, derelict sites, and commercial premises. As per the 'Housing' section above, the private rented sector is also unregulated in many areas, and rogue landlords may seek to exploit this for profit. Consequently, all of the aforementioned could be drivers of criminality, and potentially put citizens at risk. In mitigation, however, there are now a number of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) in place throughout Nottingham, which seek to cover gaps in the regulatory environment, and provide a safer and more secure city for citizens.

In response to the highlighted issues, the CDP work actively across agencies to identify funding opportunities to bring additional resources into the city. At present the partnership is working to deliver a Safer Streets initiative in identified localities to the north of the city centre. This initiative is focused on burglary and further secondary crime in the area, and resources will be utilised to provide target hardening to dissuade criminal activity and to improve feelings of safety in these neighbourhoods, in the form of window and door locks, alarms, and CCTV.

In addition, the OPCC has recently announced the success of a further Home Office funding bid with a focus on women's safety in the night time economy (NTE), developed by the partnership as a collective. This will bring almost £300,000 of funding into Nottingham, to deliver an ambitious proposal to raise awareness around violence against women and girls (VAWG) in the NTE, and to provide safe spaces for women when out in the city centre at night.

4.3 Licensed Practices

Licensed practices remain a risk to the partnership, and may now present increased challenge in the context of COVID-19. Due to the effects of Coronavirus, teams have been limited in their abilities to innovate and develop good practice, as the focus has been on maintaining service delivery. Furthermore, restrictions have meant staff have not been publicly visible as they were previously, which may have resulted in a decline in adherence to licensing conditions, as businesses take advantage of a reduction in governance.

Taxi licensing has not materially changed during the past 12 months, although trends shows that less licences were processed during the pandemic period, and many working in this industry may have sought alternative employment during lockdowns due to decline in demand for their services. We have recently seen more people re-entering the industry, and refreshing licenses.

Residual risks around taxi drivers are mitigated by the licensing process, however there are still inherent concerns around the taxi network being used by organised crime groups, and that taxi drivers may themselves be drawn into criminality, such as drug dealing or county lines. Discourse around women's safety has likewise gathered pace over the past 12 months, following a number of high-profile cases, and there is a known risk around interaction between taxi drivers (who are predominantly male), and females who may be intoxicated, travelling alone, or vulnerable.

There is a policy requirement for current DBS certification for taxi drivers in Nottingham, which will mitigate (but not completely eliminate) some of these risks. A further risk is noted around rogue or unlicensed taxis which may operate clandestinely, and thereby heighten risk to citizens unwittingly using such services.

Various illegal industries may create risks to those involved in them, including brothels masquerading as massage parlours, and individuals who are victims of modern slavery due to compulsion into sex work under duress, or 'owing' traffickers for their passage to the UK from abroad.

Licensed premises such as bars, pubs and clubs were severely impacted by the pandemic, and due to the mandated closures, many risks highlighted in 2020's assessment were likely mitigated by the simple fact that these premises were not able to operate. Conversely, the additional deterrence created in the city centre by the presence of trained door staff disappeared during lockdowns, and while disorder and violence may have been largely displaced into residences, the city centre may have felt less safe for citizens who still attended or traversed through it, particularly at night.

As the pandemic has progressed and the economy has re-opened, demand for licensing does not appear to have increased. Colleagues are seeing steady volumes of new requests, indicating that there is no 'boom' in new premises opening post-lockdown. This is likely due in part to many licensed premises maintaining their licence as 'live' during lockdowns, enabling them to begin trading, subject to interim policy restrictions, as and when mitigations were lifted.

With other licenced premises (i.e. retail of tobacco and alcohol), the risk remains of illicit importations and counterfeit goods, and associated trading standards and public health issues. Lockdowns may have increased risk around these, as enforcement activity decreased

due to staff working remotely. Would-be criminals may have been emboldened in the sale of illicit goods, and thereby increased risks to the public.

Additionally, as incomes suffered due to furlough and redundancy caused by the pandemic, it is likely that demand for cheaper alcohol or tobacco has increased, further heightening risks around the quality of unregulated products. Notwithstanding losses to the treasury of tax revenue, and risks that those involved in such illicit sales may be subject to exploitation or modern slavery, the implications for public health regarding counterfeit products should not be underestimated, and this is an ongoing challenge for colleagues.

4.4 Vulnerable People Case Conferencing

The 2020 Strategic Assessment highlighted the multiple panels/ groups which met across the city to discuss and manage vulnerable people, many of which overlapped. Rationalisation of this structure was recommended to address issues of fragmented governance, and to improve efficiency. It was also noted that the escalation process to Complex Persons Panel was not utilised frequently, with partners apparently preferring to refer to Adult Social Care, which has a relatively high threshold for intervention. It was noted that this left a gap between the case conferencing groups and Adult Social Care, representing a strategic and operational risk to the partnership.

This remains an ongoing challenge to the partnership, as no work has been initiated to assess this risk, or to look for ways to amalgamate groups and processes in the year since the previous assessment was published. Coronavirus may have further impacted on these themes, particularly in relation to demand on services, and therefore this represents an increased threat to the safe functioning of vulnerable persons' case conferencing.

4.5 Serious and Organised Crime

Drugs and firearms remain the predominant serious crime issues affecting Nottingham, and it is assessed that these are likely to remain prevalent. Nottinghamshire Police have promoted recording of organised crime groups (OCGs) over the past year to better understand the ways in which these groups operate, and to mitigate the resulting risks posed to citizens.

Anecdotal reports indicate drug trafficking networks are increasingly recruiting children, offering financial incentives in return for street dealing on behalf of the OCG. Children may be attracted to the structured environment of such groups and feel part of a 'family', as well as receiving financial recompense.

The impact of drug and substance misuse on the wider community is vast. Treatment and prevention programs present a high cost to the CDP, and the lives and families of many of those who misuse substances are heavily impacted. Additionally, other crime types are associated with substance misuse, including shoplifting, burglary, and robbery, as well as anti-social behaviour in the form of begging, which can be aggressive and intimidating.

Traditionally, gangs and OCGs in Nottingham operate within unofficial 'boundaries', keeping to agreed territory and working in silo. However, there is a suggestion groups may be adopting new tactics, and forming new affiliations and agreements, blurring those historic boundaries and requiring Police to reassess their knowledge and strategies in order to continue to effectively tackle gang criminality and resulting violence. Where rivalries remain – and particularly with younger groups, or urban street gangs (USGs) – groups are increasingly goading each other using social media and websites such as YouTube. USGs are typically more chaotic and less disciplined than other OCGs, thus there is a high risk that impulsive or disproportionate actions may result in outbreaks of violence between groups.

In early 2022, the Serious Violence Duty is due to be enacted, which will place a further responsibility on CSPs to collaborate in tackling serous violence, including domestic violence, knife crime, etc. The CDP is committed to working together to achieve the best outcomes for Nottingham, and it is anticipated that the VRU will lead on this duty for Nottingham, alongside partners from Notts Police, NCC, the Probation Service, health, and education.

The critical importance of crime prevention, tackling root causes, and identifying opportunities for early intervention and diversion is agreed across the partnership, and interlocks with work undertaken by Nottinghamshire Police to understand OCGs in more detail. These groups are propagating much of the violence seen in the city with the goal of protecting and maintaining drug supply networks. Early engagement will also be a key factor in the ability of CDP stakeholders to make tangible impacts on serious violence in the city.

Firearms also remain a risk in Nottingham, and it is assessed that the use and demand for firearms within the criminal fraternity again arises from the need to establish, maintain, and protect drug supply networks, including county lines networks which run out of the city into suburban areas. As discussed earlier, children are often utilised by criminal gangs to facilitate their networks, which leads to trafficking of young people for the purposes of selling drugs, and creates risk of further exploitation. Child criminal exploitation therefore poses a key risk to Nottingham and the CDP for the coming year.

Acquisitive crime has remained low since COVID-19 restrictions eased – it is anticipated that this trend will continue, and volumes will not rise to previous levels, as lifestyles have materially changed, and natural surveillance and security is inherent in the fact that many people are in their homes more than pre-pandemic.

4.6 Knife Crime / Serious Violence

As per the SOC section above, it is believed drug markets and OCG tensions are a key driver of knife crime and serious violence in Nottingham, exacerbated by associated conflicts, or retributions borne out of these fractious relationships. The Vulnerabilities and Commodities SOC sub-group will focus on disrupting and diverting these groups, and identifying/diverting those at risk of being drawn into OCGs. A separate section at 5.14 contains detailed analysis around serious violence and knife crime.

Enactment of the Serious Violence Duty in early 2022 will become a key serious violence intervention, including knife crime. This duty will create an explicit priority for Community

Safety Partnerships to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, to ensure that causes of violence are identified, to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence, and to engage in consultation around this strategy.

The duty will mandate a public health focus, and will require multiple partners to have an input in the reduction of serious violence, although in Nottingham, it is anticipated that the VRU will lead on the work of producing and delivering a strategy to meet this duty.

4.7 Prevent / Channel

Nottingham is not currently a Prevent priority area, and as such, receives no additional funding from central government to meet its statutory duty under Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Nottingham City Council has historically met Prevent duty benchmarks by application of existing resource, combined with extensive reach into local faith networks derived from, and supported by community relations and intelligence-gathering functions, sited within the Community Protection directorate.

Referrals underwent a steady increase across the 12-month period to July 2021, with 122 in total. Compared to the previous quarter, referrals increased by 57% from April to June 2021 (12 additional referrals, coinciding with easing of lockdown). A majority of these (39%) originated from education settings, with schools accounting for 30%. However, some settings did not raise any referrals at all, and this may suggest, among other causes, a potential decline in awareness of the duty.

Extreme right-wing terrorism (ERWT), 'mixed and unstable ideology', extreme Islamist terror (EIT) and 'incel' were key ideological drivers in 2021, while online activity was the primary radicalising influence. 94% of referrals were for young men aged 12-40, with mental health vulnerability present in many.

Due to factors emerging within the past 12-24 months, including loss of key staff and ongoing budgetary pressures, Nottingham's ability to sustain its delivery of Prevent at previous levels may be at risk.

Periods of lockdown during 2020-21 coincided with dramatic reductions in referral volumes, with spikes following easing of restrictions. An increased dependency on virtual spaces, coupled with a reduction in productive activity is likely to have increased exposure to targeted online radicalisation and extreme content, coinciding with challenges to mental health and wellbeing arising from COVID-19 mitigation.

An increase in visibility of recent concerns around Policing (i.e. Black Lives Matter, Sarah Everard murder, Kill the Bill, etc,) and the prominence of cultural movements during COVID-19 (i.e. 'taking the knee', racial abuse of footballers, 'woke' and 'anti-woke' narratives, lockdown and vaccine scepticism, etc,), combined in a tendency towards mistrust of institutions and escalation of 'culture war' arguments, including opposition to Prevent.

On-the-spot phone photography contributing to virality of perceived injustices against individuals and outrage against institutions, as well as an eruption of conspiracy theories, has

resulted in a nexus of grievance acting to heighten risk and vulnerability factors. This analysis is supported by the Nottinghamshire Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) 2020.

Similarly, poverty is increasing (as a known driver of vulnerability to extremism), and this is likely to continue, within the context of emerging gaps around housing security, frangible supply chains, unstable employment, etc.

Nottingham City Council's Prevent Steering Group (PSG) now encompasses both the city and the county (spanning nine local authority areas). Owing to staff turnover, the PSG chair has changed four times within the past two years, impacting momentum and learning. Oversight of Prevent duty is currently located in a single officer (without deputy), who is also Home Office SPOC for asylum/refugee matters, and is responsible for community centres and the community development and support offering across all crime types citywide.

CTLP 2020 has highlighted a critical intelligence gap around EIT, considered to be the most prominent threat to the UK as a whole. Meanwhile, referrals in Nottingham are now equally split between EIT and ERWT; in 2019-20, approximately 70% of referrals related to ERWT. This shift is notable, in light of increased sensitivity around identification of EIT.

Even as society at large continues to rebalance virtual and real-world spaces, wholesale shifts towards online interactions suggest vulnerability to radicalisation is unlikely to reduce in the foreseeable future. Likewise, potential loss of awareness and undermining of confidence around Prevent, both within key agencies and the wider public, as well as the increase in ERWT referrals and sentiments may represent critical risk factors for prevention of potential attacks.

5. Analysis & Insight

5.1 Definitions

Anti-Social Behaviour: The Crime & Disorder Act (1998) defines ASB as 'Acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household…'[1] The National Standard for Incident Recording defines ASB as 'a single distinct event or occurrence which disturbs the quality of life of an individual, group, or community, or causes them concern[2]. There are other definitions of ASB, however the term encompasses a broad range of behaviours which will be experienced differently, and subjectively, by different people, groups, and communities.

Domestic Violence: As set out in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021[3], domestic abuse is defined as physical or sexual abuse, violent or threatening behaviour, controlling or coercive behaviour, economic or psychological abuse, emotional or other abuse between those aged 16 or over and who are personally connected to each other. It is recognised that different police forces may record offences differently, which can make comparison difficult to regional or national figures.

Hate Crime: The definition of hate crime is 'any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic'. There are five protected strands that can be flagged against a crime as the motivating factor. These are race or ethnicity, religion or beliefs, sexual orientation, disability, and transgender identity. Nottinghamshire Police also record offences emanating from the strands of alternative sub-culture, misogyny, and other.

Community Tensions & Intelligence*:* Narrative for these sections is drawn predominantly from the Tensions Monitoring and Covid-19 Tensions documents produced by the Community Protection Performance & Intelligence Team. This information is enhanced with extracts from other documentation and the reflections and analysis of the NCC Community Development team.

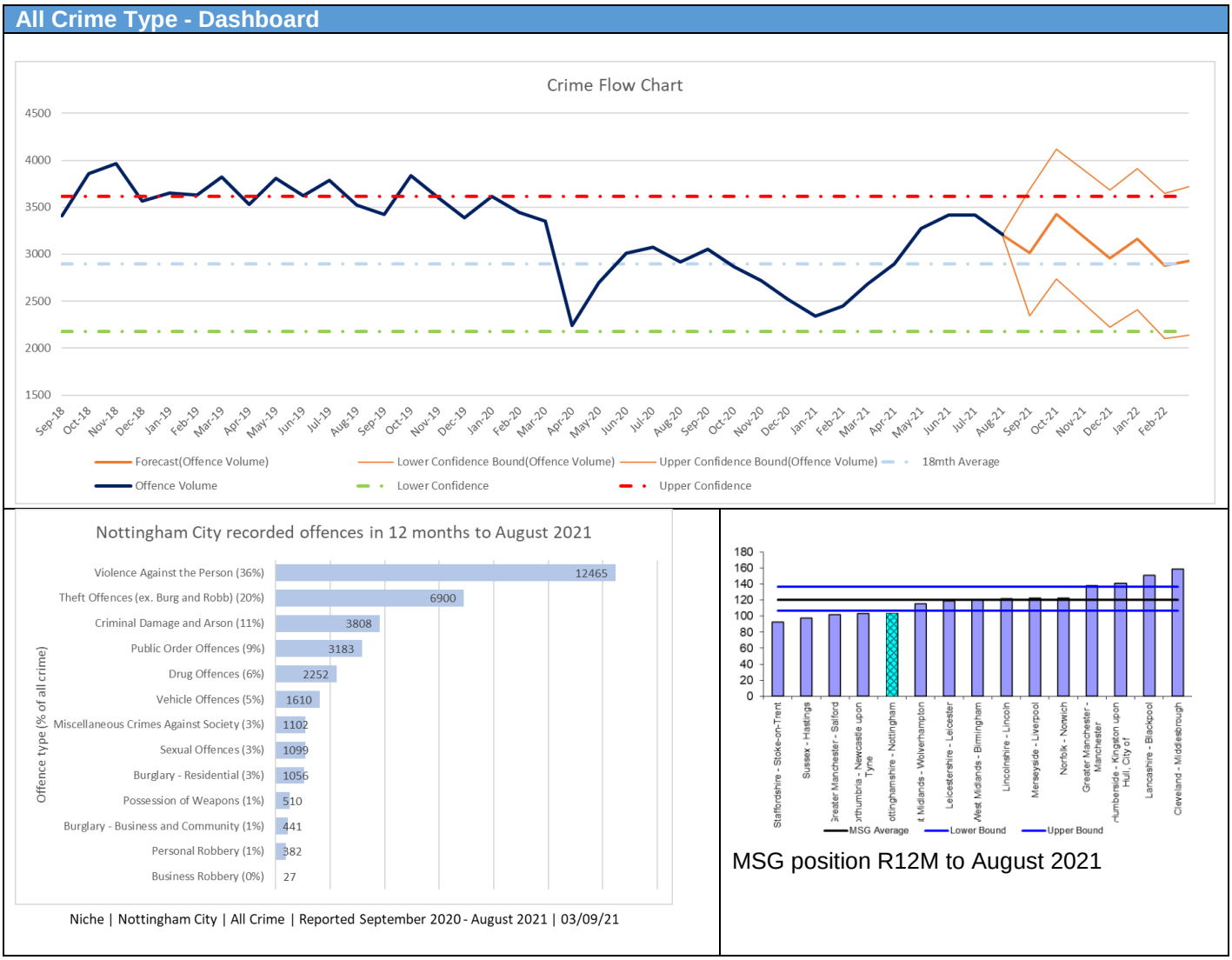
5.2 Summary of Crime

- Although there are long and medium-term decreases of recorded offences, the short-term period has seen increases towards previously recorded levels of crime.
- Violence against the person (VAP) and theft offences (excluding burglary and robbery) represent the majority of offences (36% and 20% respectively.)
- Nottingham has improved its position for offence levels across the Most Similar Group of cities (MSG).
- Medium-term positive outcomes have reduced by three percentage points.

[1] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/37/contents
[2] The National Standard For Incident Recording, 2011
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/116658/count-nsir11.pdf
[3] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/17/part/1/enacted

- Less than a quarter of VAP victims describe the offender as a stranger.

Figure 1: All Crime Dashboard



MSG position R12M to August 2021

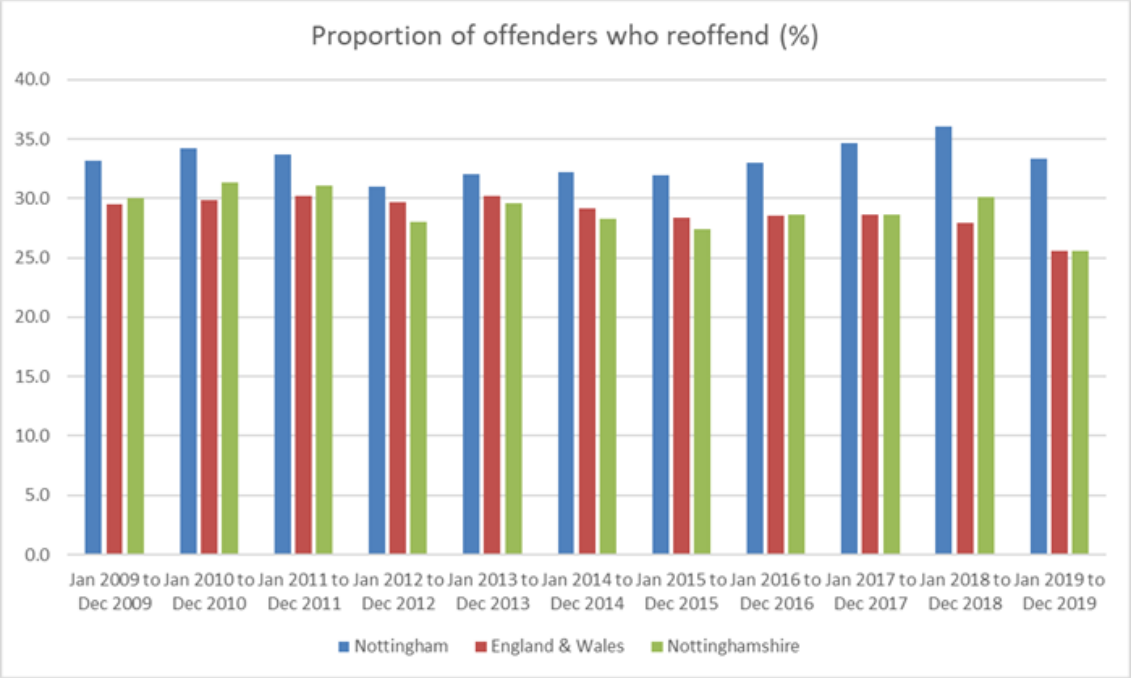
Long-term performance in 2020/21 underwent a 21% decrease (9,328 fewer offences), when compared to the 2018/19 assessment period. The medium-term saw a decrease of 10% (3,773 fewer offences), when compared to 2019/20. In the short-term there was an increase of 11% (1,027 more offences) between June and August 2021, when compared to the same period in 2020.

In the 2016/17 period, a change occurred in the highest volume offence type, with VAP replacing theft offences as the primary category. This came about due to updated recording rules, whereby stalking and harrassment became VAP crimes. Despite recent reductions in the volume of both offence types, these remain the most recorded offence categories in 2020/21, with VAP offences accounting for 36% and theft offences accounting for 20%.

5.3 Summary of Reoffending

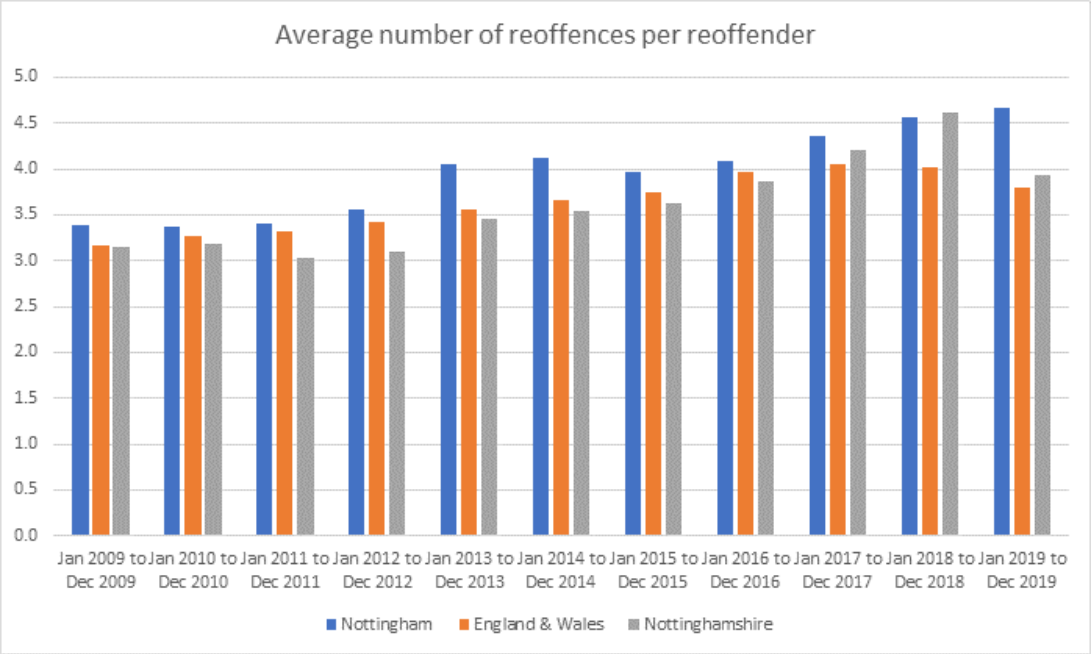
The proportion of offenders in Nottingham who reoffend is consistently higher than either the regional or national figure, and has remained broadly consistent since 2009.

Figure 2: Proportion of Offenders who reoffend



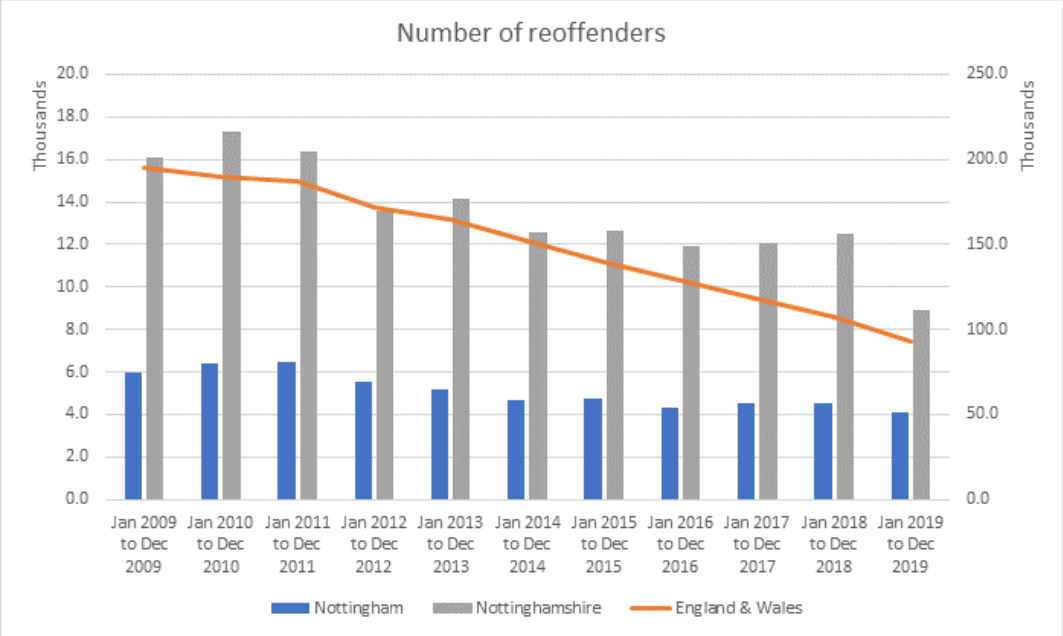
Similarly, Nottingham performs less favourably when comparing the average number of offences committed by each reoffender. Whilst the changes are relatively small, this figure has been rising consistently since 2009, in line with the regional and national picture.

Figure 3: Average number of re-offences per reoffender



More positively, the size of the offending cohort in Nottingham is now considerably smaller than in previous years and has been declining for some time.[4] Taken in conjunction with the data above, this is suggestive of a smaller, more persistent cohort of reoffenders with the propensity to commit a higher number of offences.

Figure 4: Number of reoffenders



During 2017 the Nottinghamshire Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme was redeveloped in order to target those offenders who pose the highest risk of harm, and the highest risk of reoffending. Consultation with partners indicated that a balance between these two factors was a prerequisite for an effective programme.

Under the revised governance arrangements, the CDP Board and Safer Nottinghamshire Board are responsible for endorsing the strategic priorities of the IOM programme. The IOM Governance Group has now been repurposed as the countywide Reducing Reoffending Governance Group.

As well as strategic governance of the IOM programme, this group also provides an oversight and scrutiny function for the broader reoffending agenda across the county. A key workstream is the creation of a detailed performance framework, which will provide additional context and allow the group to focus action and intervention in line with its objectives. Demographics and other identifiers considered in the framework include gender, ethnicity, ex-service personnel, domestic violence perpetrators and first time entrants into the youth justice system.

In 2017 the IOM scheme was expanded to cover the highest-risk perpetrators of domestic abuse. At the same time the capacity of survivor services was also increased to absorb the

[4] All data taken from Ministry of Justice proven reoffending figures https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics

extra demand generated. During 2019 the scheme was expanded again to cover a cohort of non-statutory individuals known or suspected to be involved in knife-related offending.

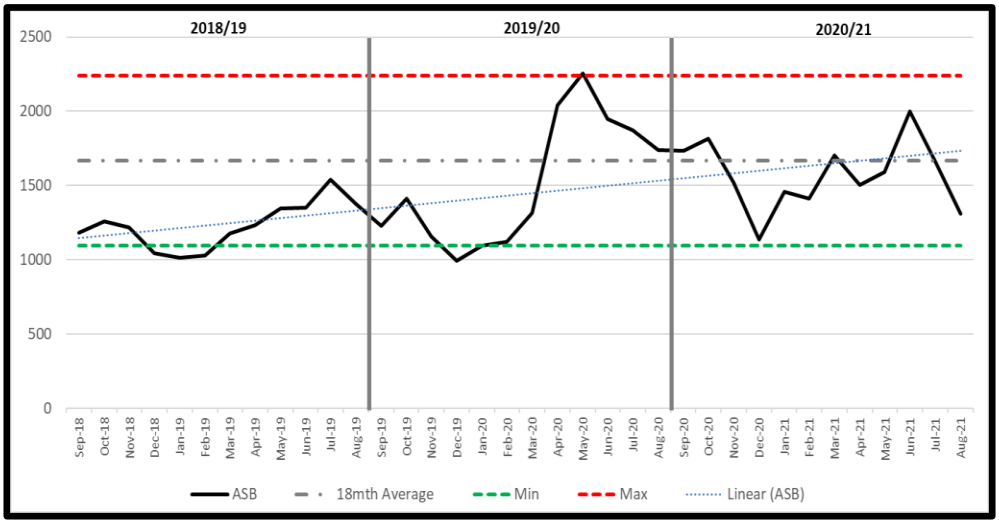
In July 2018 the Ministry of Justice announced 'a consultation to seek views on the future structure and services provided by the probation system'.[5] This has led to a restructuring of probation services with Community Rehabilitation Companies having their current contracts ended early and the parts of the structure responsible for the supervision of offenders being brought back into public ownership.[6]

From 2021, the National Probation Service (NPS) will be responsible for managing all offenders on a community order or license following their release from prison in England and Wales. The NPS will continue to deliver those services reserved to the public sector such as advice to court. From June 2021, the NPS will also deliver offenders' unpaid work and behavioural change programmes in England and Wales. Furthermore, the voluntary sector will play an enhanced role in the probation system, running services such as education, employment, accommodation.

5.4 Summary of Anti-Social Behaviour

- Long-term increase of 28% in reported ASB, showing the impact of Coronavirus on society and tolerance levels in communities.
- Reporting became more sporadic as restrictions were imposed or lifted during the year.
- The historic hotspot of the city centre remained, but at reduced levels, and much ASB reporting was displaced to other wards of the city. In the medium term, Radford and Mapperley experienced the largest percentage point increases, at 38% and 31% respectively.

Figure 5: Monthly three-year trend of ASB calls



[5] https://www.gov.uk/government/news/justice-secretary-outlines-future-vision-for-probation

[6] https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/may/16/part-privatisation-probation-sevices-to-be-reversed-offender-management-nationalised-chris-grayling

- ASB Tasking was utilised effectively to tackle this rise in ASB from a partnership perspective, and has evolved during the period to include specific items around student ASB, due to its community impact.

Community Protection Officers & ASB

Community Protection Officers (CPOs) perform a unique and innovative role building strong links with communities to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) and environmental crime in Nottingham, to create in turn a safe and clean environment in every one of the city's neighbourhoods. There are up to 78 CPOs providing a high-visibility presence citywide to respond quickly and effectively to issues, with 48 of these based within neighbourhoods.

CPOs have numerous enforcement tools and delegated powers to deal with ASB and work, where appropriate, to a five stage enforcement model illustrated in the graphic below:



This model of enforcement recognises that most ASB is suitable to be dealt with via low level early interventions, such as requesting cessation of behaviours (Stage 1 – Ask), and formal warnings of consequences should those behaviours continue (Stage 2 – Warn), with 85% to 94% of behavioural issues being stopped at these stages. More formal enforcement action, for example issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice (Stage 3 – Initial Enforcement), will usually only be considered in cases where Stage 1 and 2 have failed to resolve the issues, although in some cases immediate escalation to Stage 3 may be more appropriate.

For any subsequent breaches, the case is referred to an Enforcement Officer who will escalate to Stage 4 (Substantive Enforcement) and then Stage 5 (Breach) if necessary.

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

5.5 Overview

The continued impact of Coronavirus between 1st September 2020 and 31st March 2021 created a decrease in crime, with 36% of these reductions around theft. The city centre is most affected in terms of crime rates, and performance for successful outcomes of recorded crimes dropped by three percentage points.

ASB figures fluctuated, but saw an overall increase, especially in noise-related ASB, whilst reports of Coronavirus-related ASB continued. Under ongoing restrictions, ASB was displaced from the city centre to neighbourhoods, with the ward of Hyson Green & Arboretum being the worst affected.

In communities, there was a perception that students were causing issues around the spread of COVID-19 and associated ASB, and as the vaccine bus began to visit areas across the city, colleagues noted scepticism from some communities such as the Roma and Somali communities. A number of protests were noted in the city, and further hesitancy was observed in other communities due to anecdotal or unconfirmed reports regarding provenance and efficacy of vaccines.

5.5 Crime

The continuing impact of restrictions on crime have occasioned a 24% decrease (6,040 fewer offences), in the period of September 2020 to March 2021 when compared with the same period in 2019/2020. This offence volume is also a 28% decrease (7,268 fewer offences), when compared to 2018/2019. Unsurprisingly, with opening of retail premises subject to restrictions, 36% of these reductions have been observed in the medium-term reduction of theft offences, with 2,166 fewer offences recorded.

Long-Term Performance

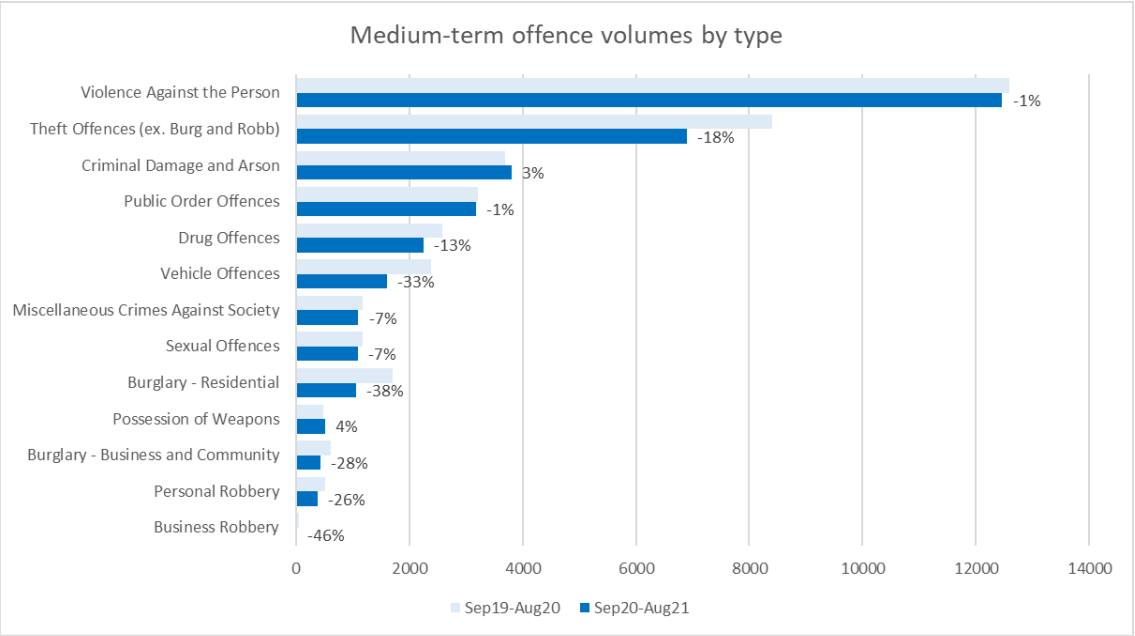
Between September 2018 and August 2021, a total of 117,606 offences were recorded in Nottingham by Nottinghamshire Police. The long-term comparison between September 2018 to August 2019 and September 2020 to August 2021 shows a 21% decrease in offences. This reduction is primarily due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place from March 26th to July 4th 2020, November 5th to December 2nd 2020, and January 6th to June 21st 2021.

Medium-Term Performance

Despite the national policy of restrictions, Nottingham's rate of offending per 1,000 of population underwent impressive positive moves within the Most Similar Group (MSG) of cities. Nottingham's position for offences within the MSG has improved four places from ninth best (with 117.6 crimes per 1,000) in 2019/20, to fourth best (with 103.6 crimes per 1,000) in 2020/21.

September 2020 to August 2021 figures show a decrease of 10% (3,773 fewer offences) compared to the same period in 2019/20. With lockdowns in the medium-term time periods affecting the local economy and the population's ability to travel or socialise, volumes of some offences have remained consistent, inasmuch that VAP offences only experienced a 1% reduction in volume whilst theft offences ('Other' – excluding burglary and robbery), saw 18% fewer crimes. Since the bulk of this offence group is attributed to shoplifting (46%, 3,145 offences) this can be expected to rise in future periods, as retail has re-opened without restrictions.

Figure 6: Medium Term Crime by type September 2019 – August 2021



Niche | Nottingham City | All Crime | September 2019 - August 2021 | 03/09/2021

Violence Against the Person

VAP offences represent 36% of recorded offences in the year to August 2021, with increasing volumes in the VAP offence types of stalking and harassment (+7%, 273 more offences), and violence without injury (+3%, 133 more offences).

Over the three years covered by this analysis, the volume of VAP offences recorded as occurring in a dwelling have consistently accounted for more than half of such offences, with 52% in 2018/19, 59% in 2019/20 and 61% in 2020-21. This compares with the next largest recorded VAP offence location of public/open space, which accounted for 25% in 2018/19, 22% in 2019/20 and 22% in 2020-21.

The volume of VAP offences recorded within a dwelling increased 3% in the medium-term (194 more offences) and increased by 7% (493 more offences) in the long-term. Where victim gender is recorded for VAP offences in a dwelling, 61% are female (38% are male), while 39% of female victims are aged between 25 to 39. Offender data shows that 72% of offenders where VAP has occurred in a dwelling identify as male, with 45% aged 25 to 39.

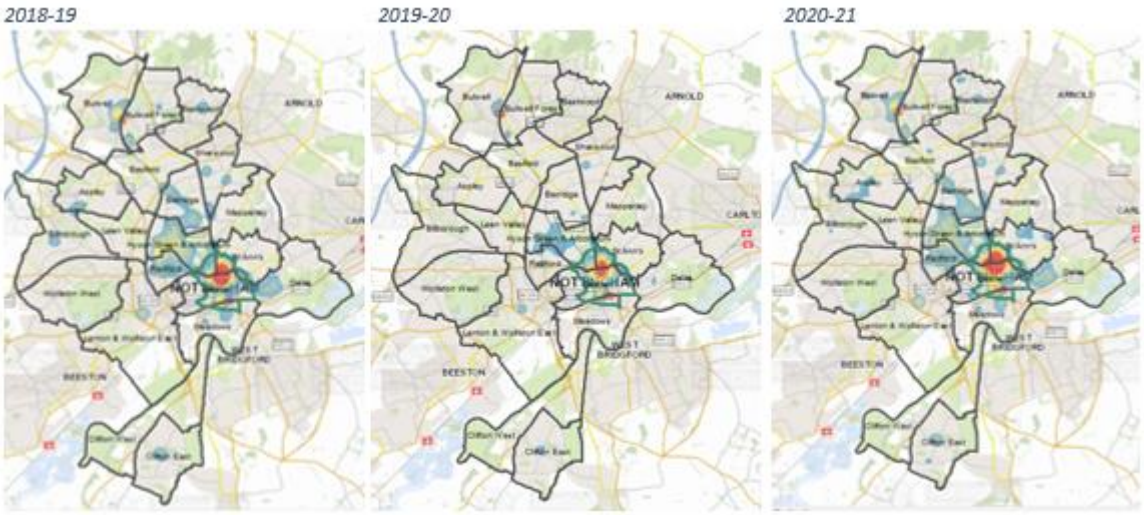
Most serious violence categories saw a long-term offence decrease of 31% (131 fewer offences) and a further decrease of 14% (48 fewer offences) in the medium-term. These reductions were primarily attributed to a decrease in assault with injury causing serious harm offences of 25% in the long-term, and 13% in the medium-term.

The city centre continued to record the largest volume of crime in the twelve months to August 2021, while outside of the city centre, the Hyson Green & Arboretum ward recorded the largest volume. The largest volume increase over the previous period was observed in the Bilborough ward, with an 8% rise (132 more offences) when compared with 2019/20. These trends are shown in the following table. Highlighted are the wards with the largest volume totals and increases outside of the city centre.

Figure 7: Medium Term Ward Comparison Table

Ward	Sep19-Aug20	Sep20-Aug21	Volume +/-	%change
Aspley	1847	1819	-28	-2%
Basford	1736	1656	-80	-5%
Bestwood	1647	1648	1	0%
Bilborough	1680	1812	132	8%
Bulwell	2439	2241	-198	-8%
Bulwell Forest	1182	1173	-9	-1%
Leen Valley	733	686	-47	-6%
NORTH LOCALITY TOTALS	**11264**	**11035**	**-229**	**-2%**
Berridge	1855	1737	-118	-6%
Castle	331	302	-29	-9%
Hyson Green & Arboretum	3237	3296	59	2%
Lenton & Wollaton East	1939	1689	-250	-13%
Radford	1615	1496	-119	-7%
Sherwood	1548	1556	8	1%
Wollaton West	641	651	10	2%
CENTRAL LOCALITY TOTALS	**11166**	**10727**	**-439**	**-4%**
Clifton East	1643	1625	-18	-1%
Clifton West	581	561	-20	-3%
Dales	1824	1711	-113	-6%
Mapperley	1391	1237	-154	-11%
Meadows	1242	1161	-81	-7%
St Ann's	1680	1438	-242	-14%
SOUTH LOCALITY TOTALS	**8361**	**7733**	**-628**	**-8%**
City Centre	7817	5340	-2477	-32%
Grand Totals	**38608**	**34835**	**-3773**	**-10%**

Figure 8: Crime Hotspot mapping



Offences with a positive outcome between September 2020 and August 2021 accounted for 13% of outcomes, which is a three-percentage point drop from the 16% recorded in the same period in September 2019 to August 2020.

Figure 9: Positive outcomes table

		Positive Outcomes	Unresolved: Suspect	Unresolved: Suspect N/K	Latest	Previous	Volume +/-	% Change	Latest %	Previous %
Positive Outcomes 4300	Charge or Summons	2699			2699	4716	-2017	-43%	8%	12%
	Out of court disposal	1601			1601	1424	177	12%	5%	4%
Unresolved: Suspect Identified 13086	Not in public interest (Police or CPS)		851		851	2175	-1324	-61%	2%	6%
	Evidential Difficulties (suspect identified)		2517		2517	3171	-654	-21%	7%	8%
	Survivor unable/withdraws/declines support		9474		9474	9887	-413	-4%	27%	26%
	Action not possible		244		244	245	-1	0%	1%	1%
Unresolved: Suspect N/K 12977	Investigation complete no suspect identified			12977	12977	16005	-3028	-19%	37%	41%
Transferred Crime	Other body has investigation primacy			426	426	667	-241	-36%	1%	2%
Live Investigation	Unresolved as investigation ongoing			4046	4046	318	3728	1172%	12%	1%
	Total	4300	13086	12977	34835	38608	-3773	-10%	100%	100%

Victims' gender demographics show little change in offences with a gender record. It is indicated that females account for 50.4% of victims, while males accounts for 48.1% in 2020/21, compared with 50.2% and 48.5% respectively in 2019/20.

Figure 10: Victim age groups table

Victim Age Groups

		0-10	11-17	18-24	25-31	32-38	39-45	46-52	53-59	60+
Female	Asian	8	19	84	84	99	93	41	21	19
	Black	6	35	114	101	100	105	49	42	33
	Mixed	5	26	70	69	73	31	17	21	6
	Other	7	22	74	102	118	63	46	21	12
	White	41	314	830	995	872	653	432	318	339
	Not Stated	90	387	644	561	578	355	353	207	199
		157	**803**	**1816**	**1912**	**1840**	**1300**	**938**	**630**	**608**
Male	Asian	7	30	104	116	140	162	116	35	54
	Black	9	39	90	107	87	106	109	68	49
	Mixed	13	39	46	48	45	26	25	14	10
	Other	11	24	74	87	124	86	46	22	17
	White	60	260	648	611	644	465	464	362	408
	Not Stated	106	322	594	495	487	415	358	296	322
		206	**714**	**1556**	**1464**	**1527**	**1260**	**1118**	**797**	**860**

5.7 Anti-Social Behaviour

Long-term Performance

For the three-year period between September 2018 and August 2021, there were a total of 51,825 ASB calls to Notts Police via 101. There were 18,862 ASB calls during the 12-month period of September 2020 to August 2021, compared to 14,773 calls between September 2018 to August 2019. The long-term trend therefore reveals a 28% increase, equating to an additional 4,089 calls.

This significant increase in ASB reporting demonstrates the impact of Coronavirus upon society, and the tolerance levels in communities. The first lockdown (23rd March to 4th July 2020) resulted in a shift in societal behaviour in that people were ordered to remain at home for much of the day, either working from home, furloughed, or shielding due to being clinically vulnerable. This resulted in complex and challenging social situations which drove an increase in ASB calls, particularly noise-related calls. The mitigations also meant certain behaviours,

previously accepted, were now not tolerated as anti-social, which contributed to the rise in calls.

Figure 11: ASB comparison table

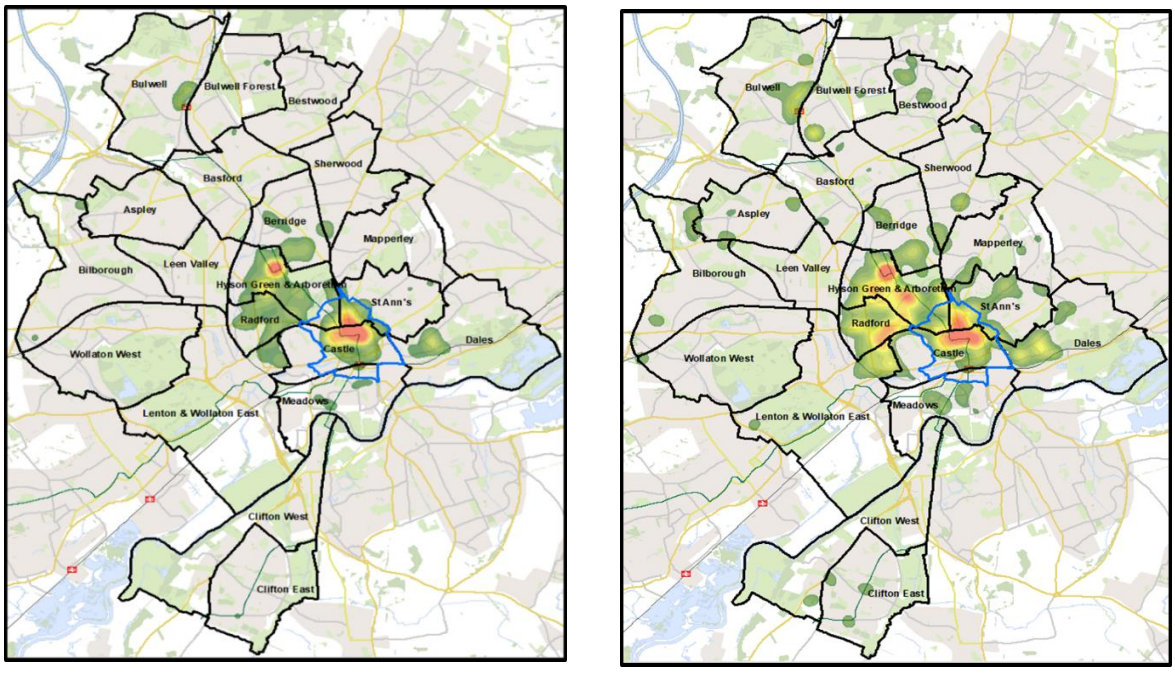
	Sep18-Aug19	Sep19-Aug20	Sep20-Aug21	Long term		Medium term	
				Volume +/-	%change	Volume +/-	%change
ASB	14773	18190	18862	4089	28%	672	4%

The three-year trend is indicated at figure 5 above, showing the large increase in ASB calls during April 2020, and peaking in June 2020. Calls continued to remain elevated over pre-pandemic levels, before declining in December 2020. ASB calls have been more sporadic during 2020/21, compared to 2018/19 when calls were more consistent. Complaints were also high in June 2021, but have since reduced as the lifting of restrictions took effect.

Medium-Term Performance

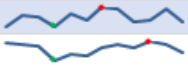
COVID-19 continues to impact ASB calls, with the medium-term comparison showing a 4% increase, or 672 additional calls, during September 2020 to August 2021 (18,862 calls), compared to September 2019 to August 2020 (18,190 calls). The heat maps below demonstrate how ASB has changed during the medium-term comparison, with additional hotspots appearing around the city centre.

Figure 12: Medium term heat map comparison (Sept 19-Aug 20 and Sept 20-Aug 21)



The ward chart below demonstrates the city centre still accounts for the largest volume of ASB calls, with 2,562 incidents, a reduction of 20% (or 624 calls.) Despite this reduction, the city centre makes up 14% of Nottingham's total ASB calls. This is a reduction from 18% for the comparable period.

Figure 13: Medium-term ward comparison

Ward	2019/20	2020/21	Change		ASB trend by month (Sep20-Aug21)
			Volume	%	
Aspley	744	754	10	1%	
Basford	760	713	-47	-6%	
Berridge	1002	755	-247	-25%	
Bestwood	739	788	49	7%	
Bilborough	1000	867	-133	-13%	
Bulwell	951	1027	76	8%	
Bulwell Forest	529	520	-9	-2%	
Castle	156	188	32	21%	
City Centre	3186	2562	-624	-20%	
Clifton East	711	778	67	9%	
Clifton West	269	267	-2	-1%	
Dales	906	1060	154	17%	
Hyson Green & Arboretum	2149	2482	333	15%	
Leen Valley	240	306	66	28%	
Lenton & Wollaton East	947	1210	263	28%	
Mapperley	533	697	164	31%	
Meadows	621	568	-53	-9%	
Radford	1075	1487	412	38%	
Sherwood	582	655	73	13%	
St Ann's	850	927	77	9%	
Wollaton West	240	251	11	5%	
Total	**18190**	**18862**	**672**	**4%**	

ASB Tasking

ASB Tasking evolved from the previous Partnership Tasking meeting, beginning in April 2020, as a response to the sudden rise in ASB during Covid-19 lockdown. This was a joint request from both Nottinghamshire Police and Nottingham City Council.

ASB Tasking now takes place monthly (instead of bi-weekly), comprising a multi-agency partnership meeting with representatives from Nottingham City Council (ASB Team, CPOs, Performance & Intelligence, Safer Business, Environmental Health, Community Development, and Safer Housing) Nottingham City Homes, Nottinghamshire Police, and Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service. The process is managed on the multi-agency case management system ECINS by the Performance & Intelligence Team.

The meeting discusses the top 10 ASB repeat locations in the city which is sourced from both Council and Police data. The Performance & Intelligence Team detail the substance and volume of complaints, relevant addresses, and housing status for agencies to use as a reference point. These locations are then discussed, intelligence is shared and, once agreed by the group, resources are allocated to tackle the issues in the most efficient and effective way.

Representatives are also encouraged to communicate any other ASB related issues they are facing that cannot be solved at a local level or to bid for any additional resources that they may require.

Hyson Green & Arboretum still remains a problematic area, with ASB increasing by 333 calls, or a 15% rise.

This ward has the highest rate of ASB outside of the city centre, with 125 calls per 1,000 people. The average rate of calls for Nottingham was 54 calls per 1,000, while Wollaton West had the lowest rate with 16 calls per 1,000 people.

Radford ward had the largest volume and percentage increase for the medium-term comparison, increasing by 412 calls or 38%.

Noise

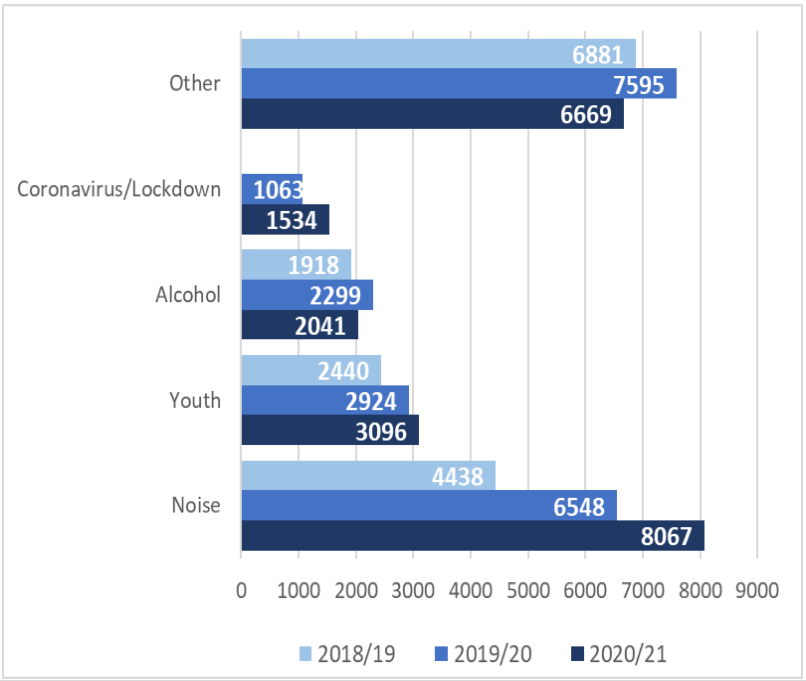
There were 8,067 incidents related to noise, an increase of 1,519 (23%) compared to 2019/20. These incidents made up 38% of ASB, increasing from 32% for the comparison period. Noise incidents typically involve loud music, loud banging on walls or floor, and building work.

Youth

There were 3,096 youth related ASB calls in 2020/21, an increase of 172 incidents (6%) from 2019/20. These incidents accounted for 14% of ASB for the latest 12-month period, decreasing slightly compared to the long- and medium-term comparisons. Typical reports of youth ASB involve riding around on bikes creating nuisance around town centres and supermarkets, or groups of youths gathered in parks or housing estates and creating disruption.

Alcohol

Alcohol ASB has reduced for the medium-term comparison, decreasing from 2,299 incidents in 2019/20 to 2,041 in 2020/21, an 11% reduction or 258 fewer calls. 34% of alcohol ASB was also recorded as noise ASB (ASB incidents can be 'tagged' with multiple themes).



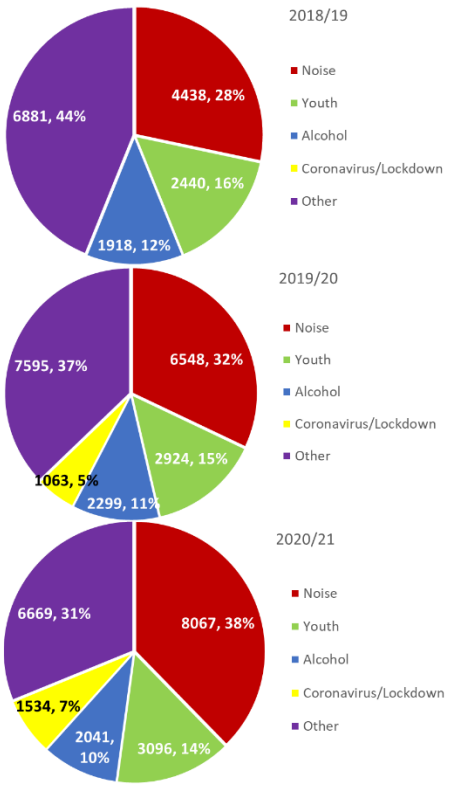


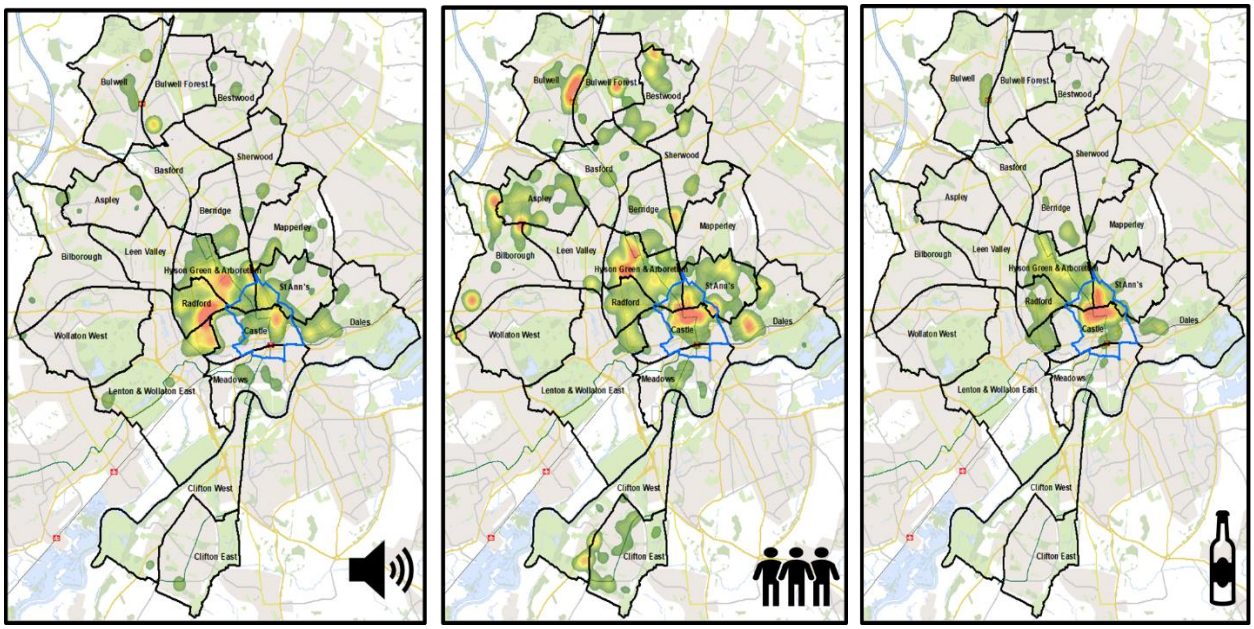
Figure 14: Volume and proportion of ASB by category for each yearly period

These incidents account for 10% of all ASB and have reduced marginally year on year for the three-year analysis period. Alcohol ASB typically involves street drinkers creating nuisance to businesses, or people drinking in their gardens and being loud and disorderly.

The heat maps below cover the most recent 12 months and reveal how the different ASB categories are problematic in various areas across Nottingham. Alcohol is most problematic in the city centre where there is a high density of licensed premises and a large night-time economy.

Noise ASB is more of an issue in areas surrounding the city centre such as Hyson Green & Arboretum, Radford, and Lenton & Wollaton East. Much of this is student-related ASB and is discussed further below. The heat map also reveals youth ASB has flared up across Nottingham, typically increasing near strips of shops. Hyson Green & Arboretum, as well as Bulwell, and Dales wards all have notable hotspots.

Figure 15: Heat map of noise, youth and alcohol ASB during Sep-20 to Aug-21



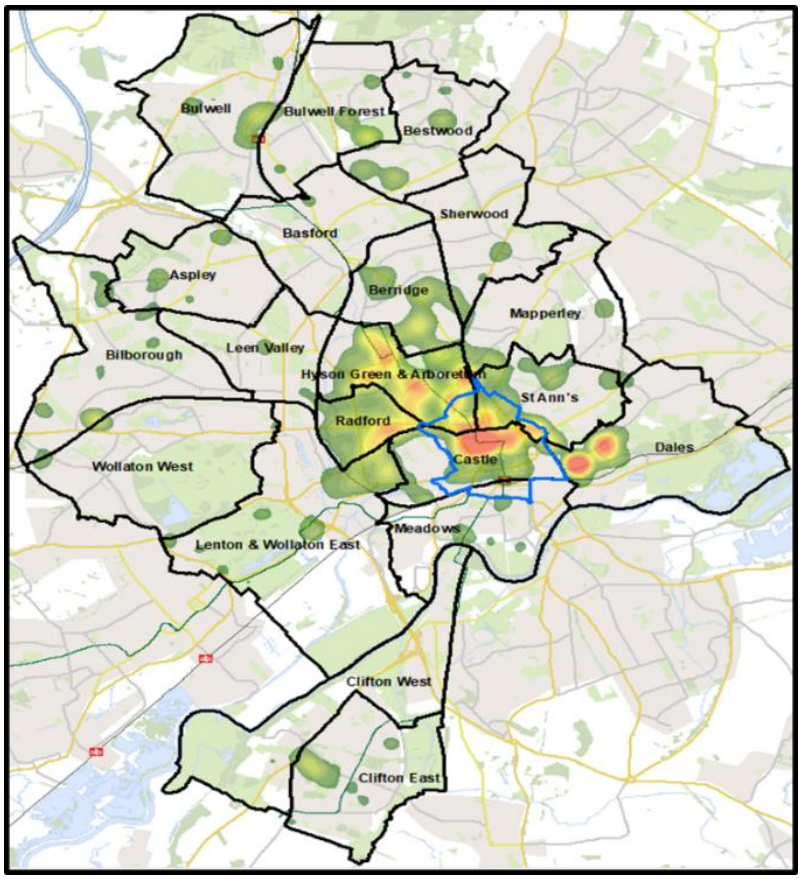
Coronavirus-related ASB

Coronavirus is not an official category for ASB recording, however a word search formula has been applied using the incident details to identify ASB incidents which were related to breaking Coronavirus and lockdown measures.

There were a total of 2,585 such ASB incidents from March 2020 to August 2021, representing 5% of ASB calls during 2019/20, and 7% during 2020/21. Behaviours such as hosting people in gardens or in homes, and congregating in large groups were deemed to be in contravention of restrictions, and therefore reported as ASB and counterproductive to the national lockdown effort.

These incidents peaked during the initial lockdown during March 23rd to 4th July 2020, and then reduced during summer when many restrictions were lifted. Reports increased again during the third lockdown (January to March 2021). These incidents have reduced month on month since January 2021, when there were 265 Coronavirus-related ASB incidents, to just 14 in August 2021; this is indicative of restrictions being lifted and society returning to a state more reflective of pre-pandemic.

Figure 16: Heat map of Coronavirus ASB during Sep-20 to Aug-21



Other

ASB calls classified as 'other' are remaining incidents which have not been categorised into one of the previously discussed groups. As a proportion these have reduced from 44% in 2018/19 to 37% in 2019/20, and to 31% of calls in 2020/21. These incidents reduced by 12% or 926 calls for the medium-term comparison period. This type of ASB typically involves begging in front of or near shops.

Students

Student-related ASB is an ongoing issue, particularly in the wards of Hyson Green & Arboretum, Radford, Lenton & Wollaton East, and Castle (city centre), as these areas all have high student populations. These areas account for 76% of student accommodation, and thus 88% of student-related ASB is reported in these areas.

There was a total of 2,441 incidents for the three-year period. However, there has been a 255% increase for the long-term comparison – 1,028 additional incidents from 403 to 1,431. There was a 136% increase (or 824 calls) for the medium-term comparison, from 607 to 1,431. These incidents made up 3% of incidents for the two comparison periods, increasing to 8% of calls during the last 12 months.
Such incidents typically involve students playing loud music, banging around their properties, and shouting in the garden or street. House parties are also frequently reported. Of the 2,441 student-related ASB calls, 72% were also tagged as noise ASB. The large increase in these types of incidents has likely been driven by COVID-19 restrictions and the inaccessibility of regular social venues.

Response to Student ASB

Nottingham has two globally-recognised universities – Nottingham Trent University and The University of Nottingham. In addition to on campus accommodation, students may choose to reside in an off campus community setting alongside long-term or permanent residents. In previous academic years, CPOs have dealt with a number of late-night house parties with unacceptable levels of noise and associated anti-social behaviour.

There is a strong partnership response to the issue of student related noise and associated ASB, with senior representation from CDP partners at the Student Issues meeting, alongside both universities. There are also several operations that are run in areas with high student populations including the Police's Operation Universal and Community Protection's Operation Corridor.

Through funding provided to Community Protection by universities, an offer of dedicated patrols seeks to tackle student-related ASB and promote closer working with both universities. This has been provided to keep officers on the streets longer and later during peak times of the week.

This allows for dedicated student patrols and enables Community Protection to deal with any reports of anti-social behaviour and respond to any late night/early morning noise nuisance. Nottingham City Council has a Public Spaces Protection Order in place to prevent public consumption of alcohol, allowing CPOs confiscation powers.

This measure is heavily utilised around the parts of the city with large student populations, with hundreds of confiscations taking place each academic year. Community Protection also works in collaboration with Nottinghamshire Police, under Operation Beeswax, to clearly map out the differences and expectation in the joint offer to tackle ASB.

Temporal Analysis

ASB calls by day and hour are displayed in the chart below, with peaks in calls highlighted. Peak times are highlighted in red and show increases on Friday night into Saturday morning as well as on Saturday night into Sunday morning.

Saturday accounts for 19% of ASB calls with calls peaking between 2300 and 0100. The different ASB categories will all show varying peaks in calls, with noise and alcohol incidents typically occurring late at night, whilst youth ASB tends to peak in the early evening. 'Other' ASB is typically more problematic in the afternoon.

Figure 17: ASB calls by day and hour during Sep-20 to Aug-21

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total	Proportion
00:00	133	135	152	149	166	298	356	1389	7%
01:00	112	90	105	128	138	271	299	1143	6%
02:00	66	55	72	77	82	187	222	761	4%
03:00	37	36	44	43	56	123	142	481	3%
04:00	26	40	24	27	32	65	83	297	2%
05:00	19	9	17	20	19	43	41	168	1%
06:00	10	12	17	23	29	36	29	156	1%
07:00	23	24	31	22	31	32	24	187	1%
08:00	54	61	35	38	51	31	43	313	2%
09:00	74	79	81	68	62	72	50	486	3%
10:00	61	98	93	78	72	74	67	543	3%
11:00	80	70	81	87	86	77	92	573	3%
12:00	84	81	89	95	113	111	83	656	3%
13:00	109	100	100	87	109	110	108	723	4%
14:00	143	111	104	116	99	143	132	848	4%
15:00	142	113	120	101	133	150	161	920	5%
16:00	145	135	146	132	141	154	181	1034	5%
17:00	122	140	164	170	160	152	149	1057	6%
18:00	169	170	159	139	159	180	130	1106	6%
19:00	160	161	147	152	157	165	127	1069	6%
20:00	151	141	135	159	178	204	102	1070	6%
21:00	123	115	135	125	191	242	120	1051	6%
22:00	142	151	145	170	225	315	136	1284	7%
23:00	158	150	188	172	314	407	158	1547	8%
Volume	2343	2277	2384	2378	2803	3642	3035	18862	100%
Proportion	12%	12%	13%	13%	15%	19%	16%	100%	

Flare Data

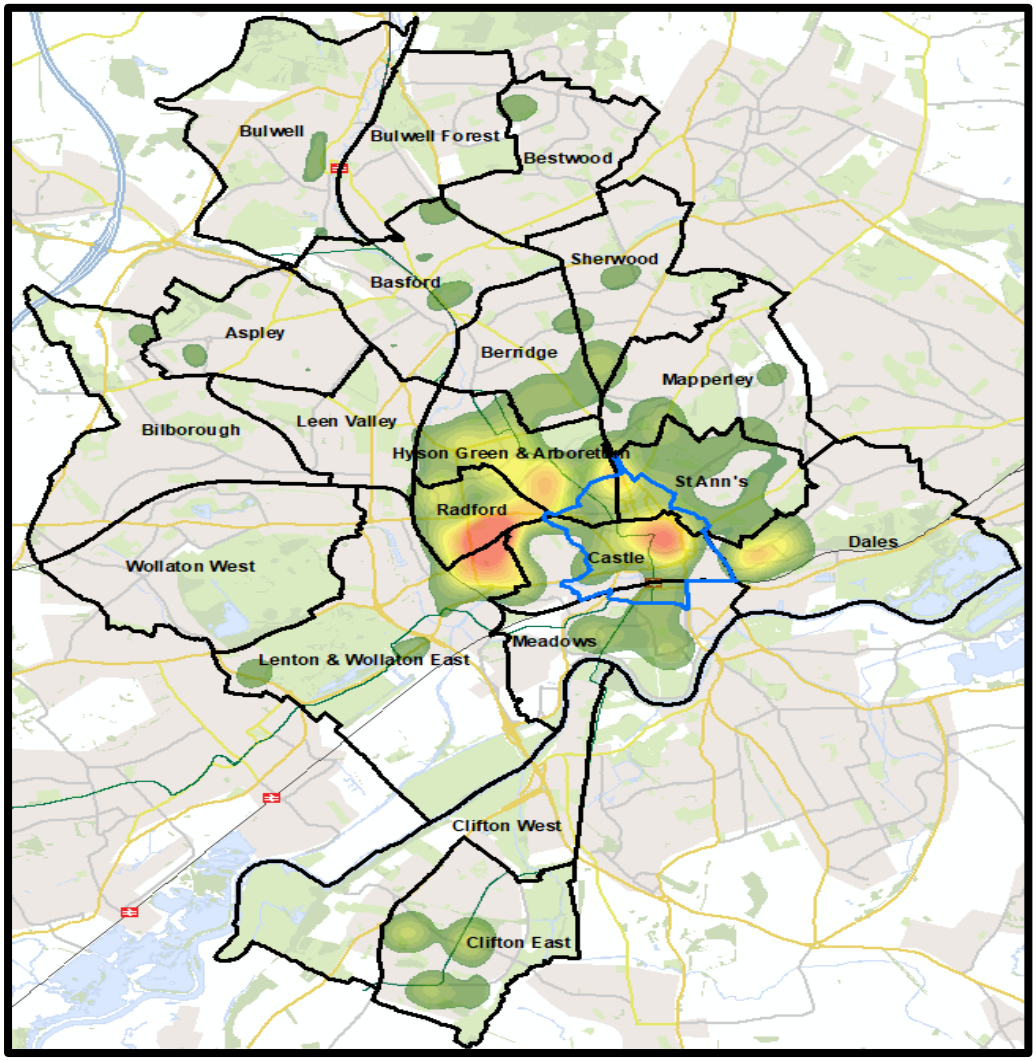
Nottingham City Council record incidents of noise-related ASB in the Flare database. Using the same comparison periods, there was a 20% increase (or 781 ASB calls) for the long-term comparison from 3,967 to 4,748. The medium-term comparison revealed a slight decrease of 5%, 261 fewer incidents. For the three-year analysis period, noise related to music accounted for 39% of these calls, followed by noisy people (23%) and noisy dogs barking (9%).

Figure 18: Flare ASB comparison table

	Sep18-Aug19	Sep19-Aug20	Sep20-Aug21	Long term		Medium term	
				Volume +/-	%change	Volume +/-	%change
ASB	3967	5009	4748	781	20%	-261	-5%

The heat map below shows the hotspot areas for ASB recorded on Flare, with the problematic areas appearing similar to those revealed by Police 101 data.

Figure 19: Heat map of Flare ASB during Sep-20 to Aug-21



5.8 Community Tensions and Intelligence

COVID-19: General Tensions, Students, ASB & Concerns About Re-opening

In summer 2020, a phased escalation of COVID mitigations was introduced. A 'rule of six' was imposed in September, followed by a three-tier system of restrictions. By November, a second lockdown commenced in England. Following a brief easing over Christmas, a third lockdown was instituted in January 2021.

In Nottingham, by October 2020, weekly case-rates were approaching 750 per 100,000 (up from 12 per 100,000 at the beginning of September), the highest in the UK.

In local press remarks, this was attributed to a rapid spread of COVID-19 amongst returning students, arising from both increased social mixing, and rigorous testing imposed by universities. Reportedly, over 400 students tested positive during the week of 28th September, 226 of whom lived in private off-campus accommodation.

Lenton and Arboretum residents raised concerns about student neighbours, fearing an increase in house parties due to ongoing closure of nightclubs. In October, a student party host in Lenton became one of the UK's first recipients of a £10,000 fine for breaching restrictions. A further £10,000 fine was handed to a church in Bulwell during February 2021. Ongoing concern around compliance and mask-wearing was also a key theme over this period.

Business engagement and compliance with Community Protection's COVID-19 response team was consistently high through the second and third lockdowns, while a spike of ASB in student areas noted around September 2020 tapered off towards Christmas – efforts to ensure visible patrols were maintained mitigated against this.

However, concerns were raised within multiple emerging communities, including Eritrean, Somalian, and Roma groups, regarding the impact of further lockdowns. These issues focused on low GP registration, ability to meet basic needs, trust and confidence in authorities, and the risk of exploitation arising from loss of income.

Similarly, as vaccination increased in availability early in 2021, conflicting messages were propagated about booking methods, and some confusion emerged as to whether offers of vaccination were genuine or not. Further concerns were raised in communities over the order of vaccine delivery, a perception of uneven (or exclusionary) availability of testing kits, and apprehension over leaving homes to attend testing or vaccination sites, particularly via public transport. At the same time, COVID-19 outbreaks were observed around the city, including at a local migrant contingency hotel, where whole-site testing ultimately showed around 25 positive results.

Students received further media criticism over the course of the third lockdown – in March 2021, following an easing of restrictions on higher education, it was reported that large groups had gathered on the Arboretum, and were witnessed drinking, fighting, smoking cannabis, climbing trees, and breaching social distancing.

Concurrently, a story appeared in the Guardian regarding a Unison complaint that Queen's Medical Centre managers had withheld personal protection equipment from staff during the first lockdown, reportedly as a punishment for raising concerns about access to intensive care for people with disabilities or underlying conditions.

As society began to re-open in March 2021, proceeding along the government's unlocking 'roadmap', Nottingham City Council and partners established the vaccine bus – a mobile hub facility to enable vaccination outreach into communities, and provide a vector for dissemination of 'myth busting' COVID-19 messages.

COVID-19: Anti-lockdown/Anti-vaccine Protests

During September 2020, in the context of climbing infection rates, and a looming second lockdown, discourse around the effectiveness and broader consequences of mitigations grew more prominent, and intensified as the UK's vaccination programme began.

Against a background of continual social media campaigning, partners noted considerable scepticism and conspiracy theorising, particularly in emerging communities, comprising

material around lockdown misinformation, widespread protest across the EU, propagation of vaccine myths, and social control theories.

Community Development colleagues suggested some communities were favouring potentially misleading information received informally, or from their nations of origin, over information provided by UK authorities and media. Community confidence (particularly in Roma and Bulgarian communities) was badly impacted following the reported death of a Roma woman in Queen's Medical Centre, apparently shortly after administration of a vaccine.

Concerns were also raised from Muslim communities about vaccines potentially containing porcine gelatine, and whether their use would therefore be considered permissible. Ultimately, the British Fatwa Council issued guidance permitting this for medical purposes – however, this did not guarantee that all would feel comfortable with the vaccine.

Likewise, physical protests became a regular occurrence during the autumn and winter of 2020 as further lockdowns loomed. A demonstration publicised as 'Midlands Freedom Rally' took place in October, and appeared directly connected to a similar large-scale protest which took place in London during September.

This event, assembled in the Old Market Square, featured appearances by Piers Corbyn and Jaymie Icke (son of conspiracy theorist David Icke), and was promoted by multiple prominent right-wing figures and alternative media commentators online. A further protest featuring Piers Corbyn took place in December 2020, assembling at Forest Recreation Ground before mobilising to Old Market Square. Around 200 were in attendance, despite adverse weather.

By early 2021, as a third national lockdown began, Piers Corbyn publicised on social channels Saturday 30th January as 'The Great Re-Opening', a decentralised 'day of action' campaign to encourage opening of businesses in contravention of restrictions, in a spirit of 'civil disobedience'. This publicity was flagged to partners in advance by Community Protection's Tasking process, and efforts were taken to ensure businesses were informed of potential consequences of breaching restrictions – ultimately the campaign resulted in little to no observable non-compliance. A further anti-lockdown protest during January attracted around 100 to Victoria Embankment, before mobilising towards London Road and on to Old Market Square.

Between larger scale protest efforts, lone actors with loudhailers, leafleting, and sticker campaigns were observed (most notably, a series of stickers observed in multiple locations around the city, attributable to 'The White Rose' – a decentralised worldwide group of activists with a presence on the social network Telegram, providing home-printable propaganda.)

A common theme identified across many of these protests were anti-Semitic or anti-Chinese themes. This was highlighted for particular attention by elected members.

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

5.9 Overview

As restrictions were lifted, Nottingham experienced a 16% increase in crimes recorded since lockdown, however this revealed a reduction on 2019 figures. Offences showing the greatest

increases were violence without injury, criminal damage, and shoplifting. Burglary remained at low volumes compared to 2019 and 2020.
ASB incidents are now declining, and it is expected they will reduce further in the coming months. ASB figures for the post-lockdown period in 2021 are below both 2020 and 2019 levels, with reductions seen mainly in noise and student-related ASB. This period coincides with summer months when many students have left the city and returned home.

5.10 Crime

The impact upon crime of lifting restrictions have resulted in a 16% increase (2,267 more offences), in the period of April 2021 to August 2021 when compared with the same period in 2020. This offence volume is however a 11% decrease (2,060 fewer offences), when compared to 2019. The three offences showing the largest volume increases in this period (when compared with 2020) were violence without injury (+30%, 550 more offences), criminal damage (+24%, 320 more offences), and shoplifting (28%, 308 more offences).

Comparing the three months of June to August 2021 with the same period on 2020, an offence volume increase of 11% or 1,033 more offences was observed. These increases are still 8% below the levels recorded in the same period in 2019 (891 fewer offences).

The highest volume offence type in this period was VAP with 3,832 offences, which was an increase of 16% or 536 more offences, when compared to the same period in 2020. The offence type with the largest volume reductions was in residential burglary, with 100 fewer offence (-28%) recorded in 2021 than in 2020 and 140 fewer (-36%) than in 2019. Given the stay-at-home message provided by the government in March 2020, this is unsurprising.

The city centre experienced both the largest offence volume, with 1,919 offences in this three-month period, and the largest offence volume increase of 53%, (or 666 more offences) when compared to the same three months in 2020. However, these offence levels are still a decrease of 25% or 649 fewer offences when compared with the same period in 2019.

Burglary Interventions
Interventions to tackle burglary are being coordinated through the ASB Tasking meeting. This brings together partners and agencies from across the city to coordinate interventions, including the deployment of resources, and crime prevention materials. A sub-group has also been established to deal with specific hotspot areas in Berridge and Arboretum wards, utilising funding from the government's Safer Streets initiative.

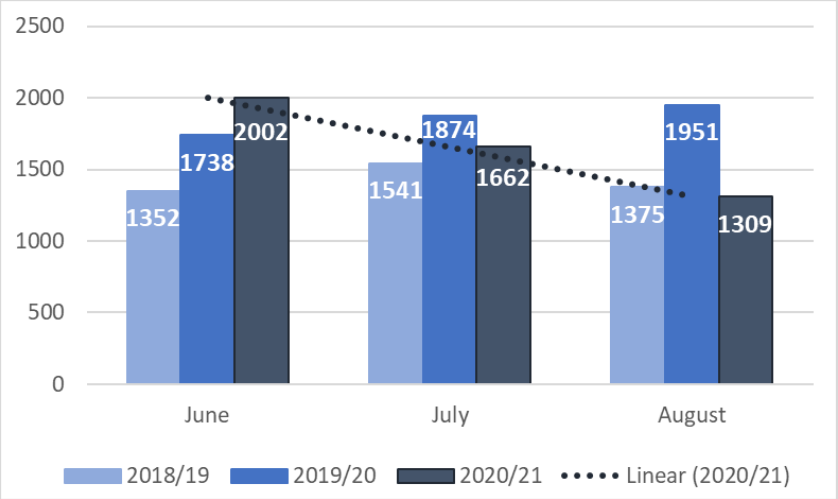
The police are continuing increased activity, particularly in student areas at the beginning of the academic year, and interventions planned or implemented by all partners include:

- Increased patrols
- Crime prevention advice
- Distribution of property marking agent
- Distribution of crime prevention materials
- CCTV installation
- Target hardening utilising aids such as window and door locks

5.11 Anti-Social Behaviour

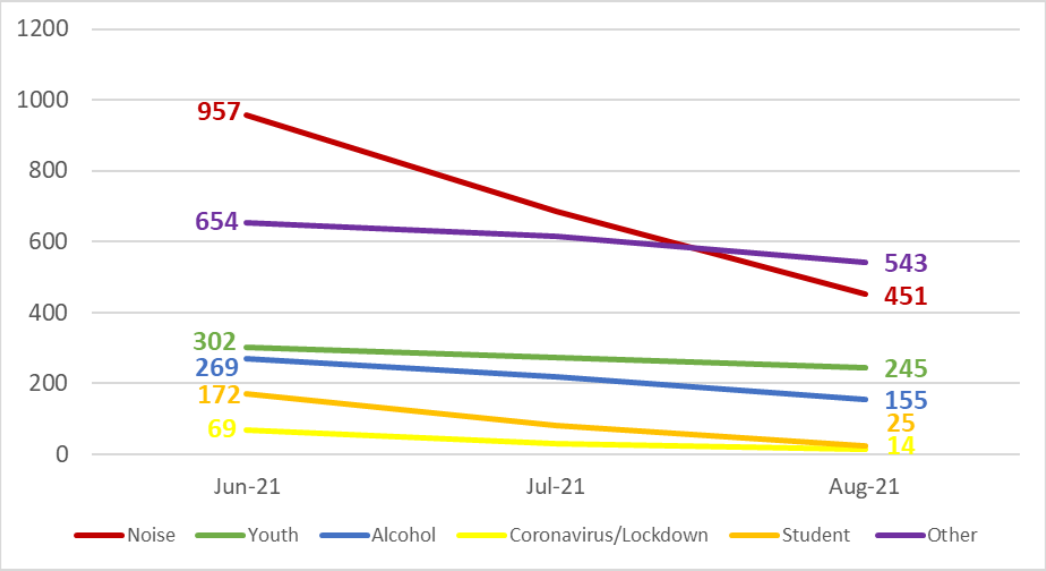
The lifting of restrictions on 19th July 2021 meant there were no further lockdown constraints, although quarantining rules for those testing positive remained in place. The short-term comparison period looks at the last three months of the three data periods analysed. ASB calls reduced by 11% (or 590 fewer calls) during the three months of June to August, from 5,563 to 4,973. Calls have reduced for the three months as the trend line shows, with calls decreasing by 35%, 693 fewer calls from June 2021 to August 2021.

Figure 20: Short term comparison of ASB



The following graph shows the decline in ASB incidents for each category during June 2021 to August 2021. Each category shows reduced volumes for the short-term period, with noise ASB reducing by 506 calls, or a 53% reduction. This is likely due to people once again being allowed to socialise outside their homes. Student-related ASB had the largest percentage reduction, an 85% decrease or 147 fewer incidents and is likely due to students returning to their hometowns during these months.

Figure 21: ASB category for the short-term period during 2020/21



Broader trends around temporal analysis and impacted wards have not been significantly affected in the short-term comparison period – the effect is mainly reflected in the volume of reported ASB. It is inferred this reduction in reporting will continue, and that ASB volumes will reduce to a level akin to, although not level with, pre-pandemic levels. This is due to a fundamental shift in society, and the likelihood that with the increase in ongoing flexible working arrangements and decreased tolerances, issues that may previously have gone unnoticed or unreported will instead be acted upon.

5.12 Community Tensions and Intelligence

COVID-19: General Tensions, Students, ASB & Concerns About Re-opening

In spring 2021, the Delta variant of COVID-19 was classified, and by early summer, had become dominant in the UK. As discussed above, ASB complaint volumes continued to reduce during this period, but at time of writing, remain considerably higher than partnership targets, and higher than the previously recorded peak, in September 2016.

It was noted by April that a majority of students had now returned to Nottingham, borne out by footfall spikes in areas of student residence – however, a feared rise in noise-related ASB had not materialised. Communications were provided to student households about behaviour expectations, and this, combined with re-opening of pubs for outdoor service in mid-April, appeared to create effective deterrence.

During May, as higher education re-opened for face-to-face teaching, some ill-sentiment was noted among students regarding the impact of circumstances upon their study experience. While on-street and park drinking remained a concern (eventuating significant numbers of alcohol confiscations), concerns around house parties remained muted, with most complaints relating to transit noise in and out of neighbourhoods.

By summer, however, this had changed. In June, a 21st birthday party in Lenton went out of control – over 100 attendees created disturbance in the street until the early hours of the following morning, resulting in issue of a £10,000 fine. Some Lenton students stated in a Nottingham Post article of 24th June that they felt ‘unfairly targeted’ by long-term residents, and joined with neighbours in opposition to the nuisance created by some parties.

At the same time, residents in Arboretum (Addison Street and Portland Road) noted a general increase in parties, and fears that these would continue over summer.

As easing of restrictions continued during the summer, tensions specifically related to Coronavirus became less acute, and few issues were noted in respect of the re-opening of hospitality, sporting venues, and nightclubs.

Some concerns around vaccinations persisted, however; by July, it was noted that vaccine uptake had slowed considerably, creating anxiety that overall immunity rates would be impacted. Community fears were heightened following a death within the Chinese community shortly after receiving a vaccine (although no causal link was established), while more broadly, discussions about booster vaccines were reportedly contributing to a narrative that initial doses were ineffective. Meanwhile, new arrivals from various nations were liable to require re-vaccination to obtain a complete treatment record, even if they had been previously inoculated.

Against this background, strategic work around relationships with the universities and student citizens continued, including inception of a multi-disciplinary Student Living Strategy working group, aiming to increase collaboration between Nottingham City Council and the universities, and to rebalance relationships between student citizens and long-term residents, with themes including waste management, community cohesion, wellbeing and welfare, etc.

During September 2021, on-street drinking remained an issue of significant concern, and as students geared up for a new academic year, it became apparent that relationships between uniformed services (both Council and Police) and the universities had been impacted by perceptions and media coverage of the treatment of students under COVID-19 restrictions. Colleagues likewise noted an increased attitude of opposition and defiance from students when confronted on their behaviours.

This perception was borne out by remarks made in local press on Wednesday 13th October by registrars from both universities, stating that students had been 'victimised', and feel 'bitter at being unfairly blamed' for spreading COVID-19, while acknowledging that 'a small minority' of students had behaved improperly.

COVID-19: Anti-lockdown/Anti-vaccine Protests

In general terms, as the unlocking of society progressed, COVID-19 related protests became much less prominent. Although 'White Rose' stickers and leaflet drops continued to emerge, protests largely clustered around other themes (Hong Kong, purpose-built student accommodation, climate change, and support for Afghan refugees).

However, the vaccine bus was confronted on two occasions during April 2021 by anti-vaccine protesters who created minor disturbance and prompted additional security deployments at subsequent stops. In May, a 'critical incident' drill was scheduled at Ellis Guilford School, prompting activists to publicise beliefs that this was an attempt to forcibly administer vaccines to children without parental consent. Efforts to mobilise a protest were made via social media channel Telegram, resulting in the postponement of the drill.

During August, a global protest entitled 'Rally for Freedom' was announced, with intent for local activists to congregate at the Victoria Embankment war memorial – ultimately this created little concern.

5.13 Thematic Overview

Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse (DVA) issued by the Home Office reads 'any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.' Whilst this is the cross-government definition, each Police force may have different rules for recording DVA, making it more difficult to compare at a regional or national level. The abuse can include (but is not limited to)

psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional. A recent estimate of the cost for domestic abuse survivors ending March 2017 in England and Wales was £66 billion[7].

The government has recently drafted a landmark Domestic Abuse Act, signed into law on 29th April 2021, which aims to support survivors and their families whilst pursuing offenders. The bill will introduce a statutory definition of domestic abuse, recognising that abuse is not just physical, but may also be emotional, controlling, coercive and comprise economic abuse between persons over the age of 16 who are personally connected. This bolsters an offence of 'controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship' which was introduced in 2015, recognising coercive control as a key underpinning element of abuse, and providing additional vectors of focus for relevant services, both in terms of utilisation of enforcement powers, and improving general awareness and acknowledgement.

The Domestic Abuse Act also includes further measures to protect survivors, including prohibiting perpetrators from cross-examining survivors in court, and a duty on local authorities to provide safe accommodation support to survivors of domestic abuse and their children.

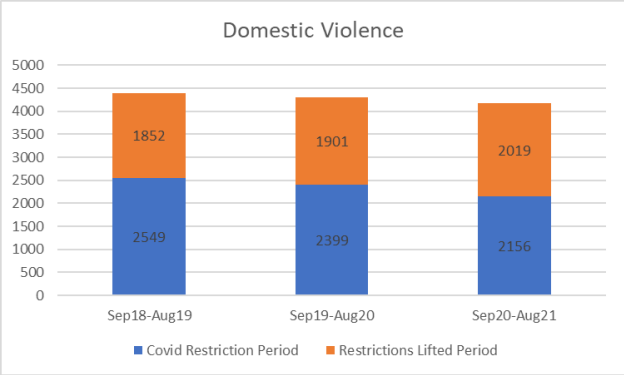
Locally, the Nottingham Labour manifesto pledges to train staff and councillors in domestic abuse awareness to enable identification of signs of abuse, and to signpost to advice and services. Further, the OPCC has recently secured over £280,000 in funding to implement a range of measures designed to tackle violence against women and girls in the city centre night time economy (NTE). This will be delivered by the CDP and partners, and will include the creation of a violence against women and girls (VAWG) charter, and a rollout of training to NTE staff, as well as the provision of a safe space during the NTE. Additional funding for DVA services was also secured from the Ministry of Justice, to create additional capacity to deal with increased reports of DVA under COVID-19 restrictions.

There are four key crime types that make up domestic violence: Homicide, stalking and harassment, violence with injury, and violence without injury. The way in which stalking and harassment reports are counted was amended in 2018/19, so that stalking and harassment in all cases should be recorded in addition to the most serious additional victim-based offence involving the same victim-offender relationship. This in effect means that in some instances, two crimes will be recorded in relation to the same incident. This is partly responsible for the increase in domestic violence reports seen from April 2018 onwards.

Between September 2018 and August 2021 there were 12,876 DVA reports recorded by Nottinghamshire Police in Nottingham. With offences undergoing a decrease of 3% in 2020/21 compared to 2019/20, the overall volume of DVA crimes over the three-year analysis period has gradually decreased, such that the average monthly volume of reports decreased to 356 per month (over the 18 months prior to August 2021) from 361 reports (in the 18 months prior to August 2020.) The trend looks set to continue, since the average over the last 12 months is 348 reports per month.

[7] Home Office, Domestic Abuse Bill, (2019) - https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-publishes-landmark-domestic-abuse-bill

Figure 22: Domestic Violence comparison chart



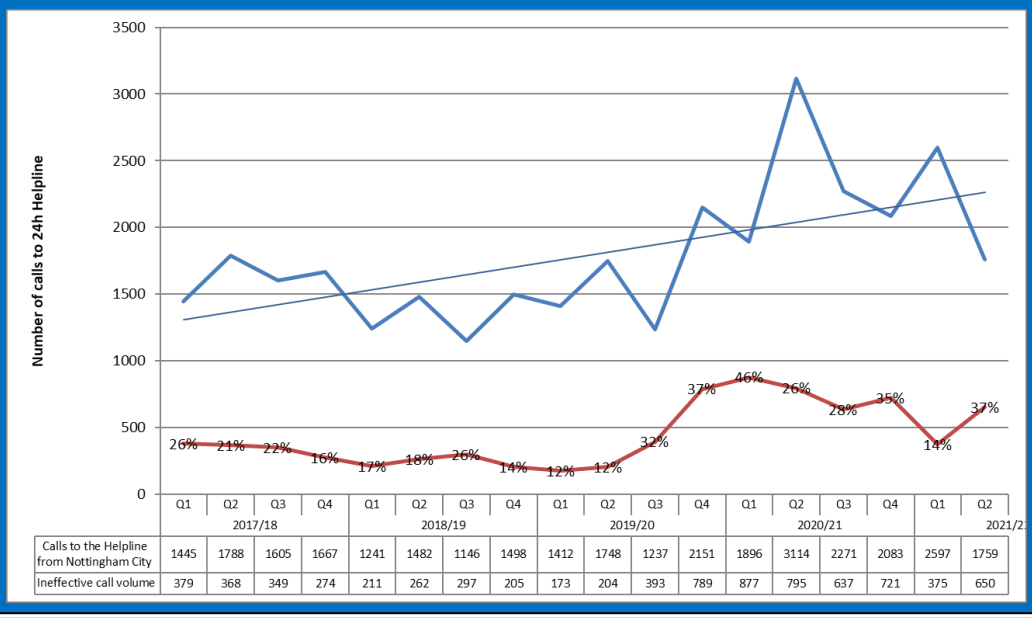
For the medium-term assessment period, DVA reports decreased by 3% (125 fewer). There was one homicide in 2020/21, compared to one in 2019/20. Violence with injury made up for the largest decrease for the comparative periods, decreasing by 14% or 192 reports. Stalking and harassment increased by 1% (18 more), while violence without injury made up 38% of domestic violence reports in 2020/21, increasing by 3% (49 more).

The positive outcome rate for DVA reports in 2020/21 was 7%, decreasing from 12% in 2019/20. There were 268 domestic violence reports with the outcome of 'charged', 6% of all outcomes for this offence type. The number of outcomes recorded as 'victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified' was 59%, decreasing from 60% in the previous period.

Juno Women's Aid

Juno Women's Aid is the largest domestic abuse organisation in Nottingham and one of the largest in the UK. They work with women, children, and teens who have been affected by domestic abuse and provide the WAIS 24-hour helpline which received 4,356 calls from Nottingham City in Q1 & Q2 of 2021/22.

The blue line on the chart below shows the volume of calls, and the red line shows the percentage of ineffective calls. The volume of ineffective calls in 2021/22 decreased by 63% (647 fewer calls) when compared with the same period in 2020/21.



	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
	2017/18				2018/19				2019/20				2020/21				2021/2	
Calls to the Helpline from Nottingham City	1445	1788	1605	1667	1241	1482	1146	1498	1412	1748	1237	2151	1896	3114	2271	2083	2597	1759
Ineffective call volume	379	368	349	274	211	262	297	205	173	204	393	789	877	795	637	721	375	650

Analysis of demographic information reveals that in 3% of cases, DVA survivor data is not recorded. Survivors are more likely to be female (75% of cases) and white (71%), although it is noted that in 30% of cases, ethnicity was not recorded (4%) or not stated (26%). DVA is most commonly perpetrated by males against women (77% of offenders).

The most represented victim age group has changed from those aged 32-38 in 2019/20 to those aged 25-31 in 2020/21 making up 23% of victims, higher than the local population in this range of 13%. Offenders aged 32-38 accounted for 25% of reports, again, higher than the local population in this range (9%). The relationship of survivors to offenders reveals that 36% of offenders were ex-partners of the survivor, with 34% of offenders being a current partner.

Domestic Homicide Reviews

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). This provision came into force on 13th April 2011.

The purpose of a DHR is to:
a) Establish what lessons are to be learned from the domestic homicide regarding the way in which local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims;
b) Identify clearly what those lessons are both within and between agencies, how and within what timescales they will be acted on, and what is expected to change as a result;
c) Apply these lessons to service responses including changes to inform national and local policies and procedures as appropriate;
d) Prevent domestic violence and homicide and improve service responses for all domestic violence and abuse victims and their children by developing a co-ordinated multi-agency approach to ensure that domestic abuse is identified and responded to effectively at the earliest opportunity;
e) Contribute to a better understanding of the nature of domestic violence and abuse; and
f) Highlight good practice.

Reviews should illuminate the past to make the future safer and it follows therefore that reviews should be professionally curious, find the trail of abuse and identify which agencies had contact with the victim, perpetrator or family and which agencies were in contact with each other. From this position, appropriate solutions can be recommended to help recognise abuse and either signpost victims to suitable support or design safe interventions

The following learning points have been identified across multiple DHR's conducted in Nottingham:

1. The importance of rigorous information sharing, including third party information;
2. The response to people with vulnerabilities or complex needs;
3. The issue of victims not engaging with services;
4. The requirement for accurate record keeping;
5. The value of a whole family approach;
6. The need for specialist knowledge within the criminal justice system in relation to perpetrators and young people who harm;
7. The need for DSVA training across partner agencies, including risk assessment and perpetrator identification.

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

In this period Nottingham observed a medium-term reduction in DVA reports of 10% (243 fewer offences), slowing from a long-term decrease of 15% or 393 fewer reports. It is understood that during COVID-19 restrictions, reporting shifted from Police to the 24-hour helpline, which may account for this reduction.

Medium-term comparisons of DVA reports between Nottingham localities indicated that this decrease was being led by the north of the city, with a 15% reduction (or 151 fewer reports) than in the previous year. The north locality accounted for 41% of all DVA crimes in this period. The wards with the largest volume increase of DVA crime in the medium- and long-term were Bulwell Forest and Sherwood, which both recorded 27 more offences, when compared to 2019/20. The wards with the largest volumes of DVA reports were Aspley and Bulwell with 154 offences each. The decreasing volume of offences was driven by reductions in violence with injury, which had decreased by 17% (129 fewer offences).

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

The medium-term reductions seen during 2020/21 reversed in this period when Nottingham underwent a medium-term DVA reporting increase of 6% (118 more offences), and a long-term increase of 9% (or 167 more offences).

Medium-term comparisons of DVA offences between localities indicated this increase was led by the north locality with a 13% increase (100 more offences) on the previous year. This locality accounted for 44% of all DVA reports in this period.

The wards with a medium-term volume increase of DVA reports were then being led by Bilborough (which accounted for 8% of all DVA reports in this period) with a 35% increase (155 more reports). Hyson Green & Arboretum underwent a 7% increase (36 more reports).

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Case Conference (MARAC)
From September 2017 all high risk domestic abuse referrals are referred to the MARAC, with only duplicate referrals (which are merged for information) being removed.

To accommodate the increase in MARAC referrals it was agreed that the MARAC meetings would remain fortnightly with every other MARAC meeting being a 2-day meeting. Each meeting discusses 25 cases (50 cases for the 2 day MARAC meeting), it was agreed by the MARAC Steering Group to cap the meeting at 25 cases, as this was the maximum cases that could be discussed in a day whilst ensuring the same level of attention is given to the last case discussed as the first.

As well as an increase in cases being discussed at the MARAC year on year, the cases are also becoming more complex, which could be attributed to the impacts of austerity. Agencies have continued to support the MARAC and ensure survivors, their children and other vulnerable adults are safe and accommodate these challenges with limited resources.

The MARAC is piloting the use of ECINs, a secure, encrypted, case management system to assist with the increase in cases and to be compliant with GDPR requirements. The MARAC Steering Group regularly review the MARAC process to ensure adequate management of the process, resources and timely implementation of any improvements to ensure support is maintained to increase safety and reduce risk survivors, their children and other vulnerable adults.

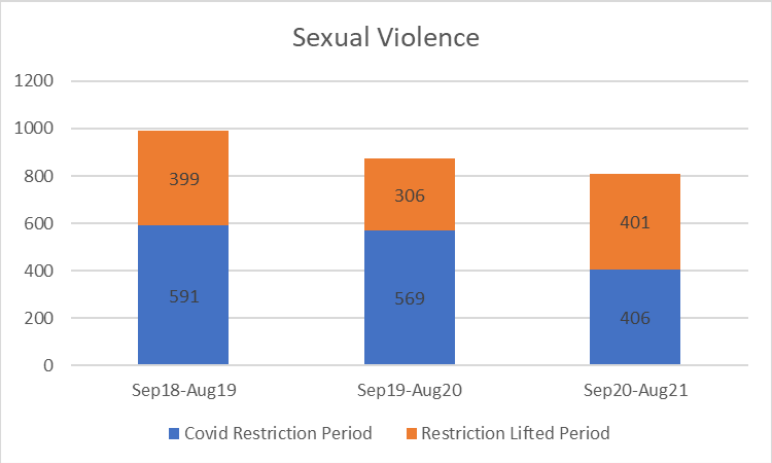
These increasing reporting volumes were driven by violence without injury offences, which had increased by 17% (109 more). Violence with injury, however, experienced a medium-term decrease of 10% (63 fewer).

The positive outcome rate for domestic violence offences during the lockdown period was 5%, decreasing from 13% in the same period during 2020. There were 86 DVA reports with the outcome of 'charged', 4% of all outcomes for this offence type. The number of outcomes recorded as 'victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified' was 56%, 4% less than in the same period in 2020.

Sexual Violence

Sexual Offences are made up of the two sub-categories of rape and other sexual offences, with offences accounting for 2.3% of all crime in 2020/21 in Nottingham city. For the long-term comparison, sexual offences show a decrease of 18%, 183 fewer reports. This decrease is continued over the medium-term with a further decrease of 8%, 68 fewer reports. The strand of other sexual offences has decreased by 35 reports (or by 8%) in the medium-term, with rape offences decreasing by 33 reports, a 7% reduction.

Figure 23: Sexual Violence comparison chart



Monthly data for the last three-year period show a declining, fluctuating performance by month, with the yearly average for the three-year analysis period reducing to 67 for 2020/21 compared to 73 for 2019/20. This decrease in reports underwent a dramatic decline during the first lockdown, reducing the monthly average to 58 per month. This compares with the monthly average during third lockdown, of 64 reports.

Nottingham currently sits in third position in the Most Similar Group of cities for other sexual offences in the last 12-month period to August 2021, an improvement of three places on the previous 12 months. The rate of sexual offences per 1,000 was 2.06, an increase from 1.6 in the previous comparative period. For rape offences, Nottingham is currently third among the MSG with 1.2 reports per 1,000 people. For the comparative period in 2019/20, Nottingham was twelfth, with a rate of 1.5 rape reports per 1,000 people.

Of the offences recorded by Notts Police in 2020/21, 15% of all sexual offence reports were deemed historical cases, defined as having occurred a year prior to reporting. For other sexual offences, historical cases made up 11%, whilst historical rape offences accounted for 20%.

Females make up the majority of sexual violence survivors (86% during the continuing restricted period, and 89% after), and although the recording of ethnicity is poor, most victims are white British (80%). The age group 18-24 is most likely to be a survivor of sexual violence, making up 28%, and in terms of relationship between survivor and offender, they are most likely to be strangers, followed by an acquaintance or ex-partner.

Information relating to sexual violence offenders is poor due to there being many cases where the offender is not identified (1,208 offences, 523 offenders identified). Where information is recorded, it is seen that 90% of offenders were male. Offender ethnicity data is also poor, however where captured, it is seen that a majority of offenders are White British. During the period of restrictions, offenders aged 25-31 accounted for 16% of reports, whereas after March 2021, offenders aged 18-24 became the majority age bracket with 18% in this category. Both age groups are overrepresented compared to their numbers in the population.

Sexual Violence Action Network

In 2016 the Sexual Violence Action Network (SVAN) was developed and is made up of statutory and voluntary sector organisations, whom have a professional interest, working knowledge and experience of the field of sexual violence. The SVAN ensure that Nottingham has an effective partnership response to Sexual Violence. The SVAN agreed that one of its main aims was to create a joint public awareness campaign in Nottingham to reduce the prevalence of sexual violence and the harm it causes.

The SVAN in partnership with Nottinghamshire Police launched the first Sexual Violence Campaign Survey for Nottinghamshire. The aim of the survey was to gather data on local perceptions on rape and sexual violence and also to raise awareness of the law on consent.

The Consent Coalition is the branding for all the SVAN's sexual violence activities and campaigns in Nottingham City.

The Consent Coalition has their own webpage. This is hosted on Nottinghamshire Sexual Violence Support Services Website. This is the commissioned sexual violence provider for Nottingham City. Within the Consent Coalition webpage, viewers will be able to find the following:

- What is the Consent Coalition (its aims and its members/supporters)
- Campaigns (including each consent poster and key messages)
- How to get involved with the Consent Coalition and its campaigns
- Where to get sexual violence support
- Resources – reporting, support, sexual violence awareness raising information and social media links
- How to contact the Consent Coalition

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

In this period Nottingham experienced a medium-term sexual violence reporting reduction of 29% (163 fewer reports), slowing from a long-term decrease of 31% (or 185 fewer reports).

Medium-term comparisons of sexual violence reports between localities indicated that this decrease was being hindered by the south locality, showing a 5% increase, or 5 more reports than in the previous year. The central locality accounted for 35% of all sexual violence reports in this period.

The wards with a volume increase of sexual violence reports in the medium-term, were led by Dales (with 9 more reports) and Hyson Green & Arboretum (with 8 more reports).

The decreasing volume of reports was driven by decreases in other sexual offences, which have decreased by 38% (114 fewer reports). Rape, however, experienced a medium-term decrease of only 18% (49 fewer reports).

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

The medium-term reductions seen in the previous periods of 2020/21 reversed in this period when Nottingham experienced a medium-term sexual violence reporting increase of 31% (95 more), and a long-term increase of 1% (or 2 more reports).

Medium-term comparisons of sexual violence offences between localities indicated that this increase was being led by the north locality with a 47% increase or 44 more reports than in the previous year. The north locality accounted for 34% of all sexual violence reports in this period.

Wards with a volume increase of sexual violence reports in the medium-term were led by the city centre, with 39 more reports, and Bestwood, with 19 more offences. Only a third of wards (n=7), experienced a volume decrease in this period compared with 2019.

The increasing volume of reports was driven by increases in other sexual offences, which had increased by 60% (79 more reports). Rape also experienced a medium-term increase of 9% (16 more reports).

Calls to the NSVSS helpline have seen a sharp increase post-restriction. In the period between September 2020 and March 2021 there were an average of 126 calls per month to the helpline. After this date the average has increased to 163 calls per month.

5.14 Serious Violence / Knife Crime

Violence Against the Person (VAP)

There are five key crime types that make up VAP: Death or serious injury, unlawful driving, homicide, stalking & harassment, violence with injury, and violence without injury. The way in which stalking & harassment offences are counted was amended in 2018/19, so that stalking and harassment in all cases should be recorded in addition to the most serious additional victim-based offence involving the same victim-offender relationship. This in effect means that

in some instances two crimes will be recorded in relation to the same incident. This is partly responsible for the increase in VAP offences seen from April-18 onwards.

Between September 2018 and August 2021 there were 38,579 VAP offences recorded by Nottinghamshire Police in Nottingham. With offences undergoing a decrease of 1% in 2020/21 over 2019/20, the overall volume of VAP crimes over the three-year analysis period has gradually decreased, such that the average monthly volume of offences decreased to 1,034 per month over the previous 18 months to August 2021 from 1,084 offences in the 18 months prior to August 2020. The trend looks set to stabilise around the 18 month average, since the average over the last 12 months is 1,039 offences per month.

Figure 25: Violence Against the Person Volume chart

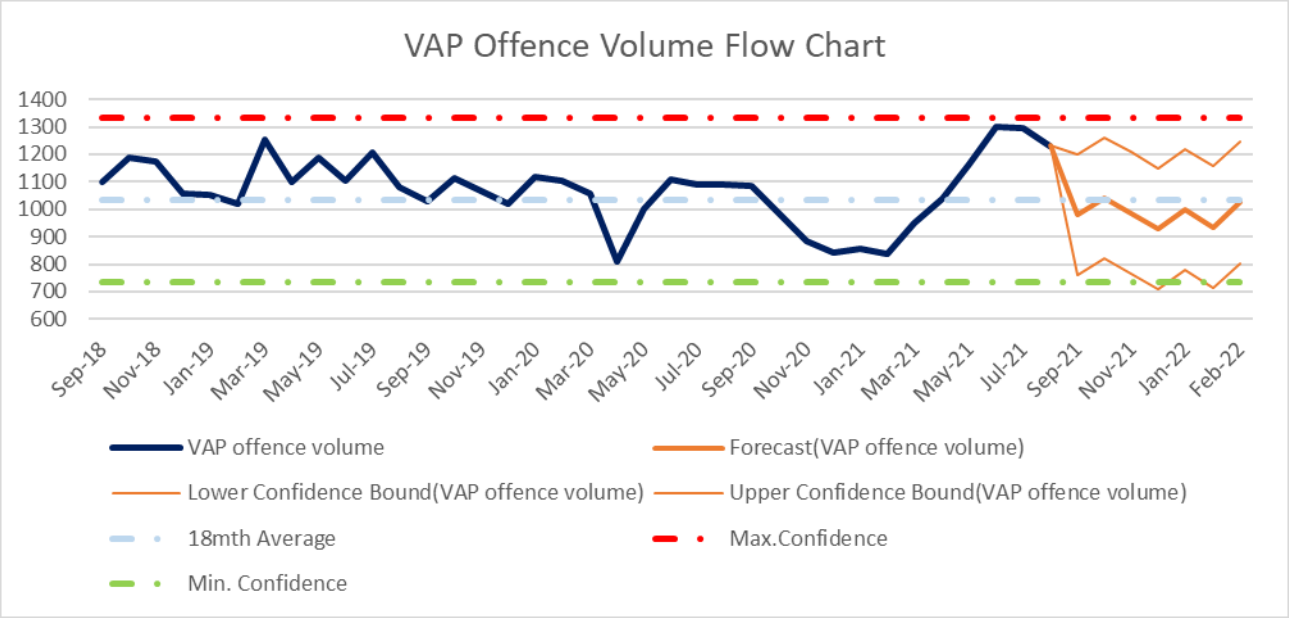
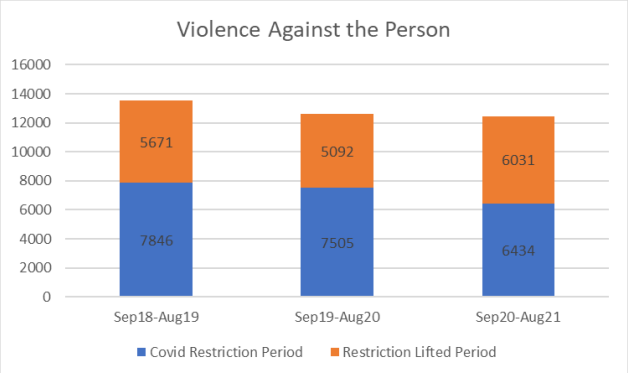


Figure 26: Violence Against the Person comparison chart



For the medium-term assessment period, VAP decreased with 132 fewer crimes recorded (or 1% fewer). There were two homicides in 2020/21, compared to five in 2019/20. Violence with injury underwent the largest decrease for the comparative periods, decreasing by 13% or 522 crimes. Stalking and harassment increased by 7%, or 273 crimes, and violence without injury made up 39% of domestic violence offences in 2020/21. This category increased by 3% or 133 offences.

The positive outcome rate for VAP offences in 2020/21 was 9%, decreasing from 13% in 2019/20. There were 837 VAP offences with the outcome of 'charged', 7% of all outcomes for this offence type. The number of outcomes recorded as 'victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified' was 40%, decreasing from 42% in the previous period.

Analysis of the victim's demographic information reveals that 2% of VAP victim data is not recorded. Females make up 55% of victims, higher than the local population of 49%. Unfortunately, 37% of victim ethnicity information was either not recorded (4%) or not stated (33%), increasing from 36% in 2019/20, making ethnicity comparisons difficult. However, white British victims made up 70% of those identified, as they did in 2019/20.

The most represented victim age group has changed from those aged 18-24 in 2019/20 to those aged 32-38 in 2020/21, accounting for 18% of age recorded victims, higher than the local population, of which this age group make up 8%. The recorded relationship of the victim to the offender reveals that 13% of offenders were ex-partners of the victim, with 24% of offenders being a family member or the current partner of the victim, and 23% described as a stranger.

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

In this period Nottingham city underwent a medium-term VAP reduction of 14% (1,071 fewer offences), slowing from a long-term decrease of 18% or 1,412 fewer offences.

Medium-term comparisons of VAP offences between localities indicate that this decrease was hindered by the central locality, showing a 1% increase or 19 more offences than in the previous year. The north locality accounted for 35% of all VAP crimes in this period, despite a 10% reduction in offending volume compared to 2019/20.

Wards with a volume increase of VAP in the medium-term were led by Bulwell Forest and Radford, with 60 and 30 more offences respectively, when compared to 2019/20. The wards with the largest VAP offence volumes in 2020/21 were Hyson Green & Arboretum and city centre, with 594 and 542 offences respectively.

The decreasing volume of medium-term offences was driven by reductions in violence with injury, which had decreased by 26% (652 fewer offences).

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

The medium-term reductions seen in the previous periods of 2020/21 reversed in this period when Nottingham underwent a medium-term VAP increase of 18% (939 more offences), and a long-term increase of 6% (or 360 more offences.)

Medium-term comparisons of VAP offences between localities indicated that this increase was being led by the north locality with a 23% increase (415 more offences), when compared to the previous year. The north localities accounted for 37% of all VAP crimes in this period.

Wards with a volume increase of VAP crime in the medium-term were led by the city centre (which accounted for 14% of all VAP in this period) having a 77% increase (354 more offences), while Bilborough experienced a 66% increase (156 more offences).

The increasing volume of offences was being driven by violence without injury, which had increased by 30% (553 more offences) and by stalking & harassment which experienced a medium-term increase of 17% (268 more offences).

The positive outcome rate for VAP offences after lifting of restrictions was 6%, decreasing from 13% in the same period during 2020. There were 281 VAP offences with the outcome of

'charged', 5% of all outcomes for this offence type. The number of outcomes recorded as 'victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified' was 38%, which was 6% less than in the same period in 2020.

Knife Crime

There are five key crime types that make up knife crime offences: Rape, robbery of personal property, robbery of business property, violence with injury, and violence without injury.

Between September 2018 and August 2021 there were 1,131 knife crime offences recorded in Nottingham by Nottinghamshire Police. With offences undergoing a decrease of 6% in 2020/21 over 2019/20, the overall volume of knife crimes over the three-year analysis period has gradually decreased, such that the average monthly volume of offences decreased to 29.1 per month over the 18 months prior to August 2021 from 32.2 offences in the 18 months prior to August 2020. The trend looks set to stabilise, since the average over the last 12 months is 29 offences per month.

Figure 27: Knife Crime Volume flow chart

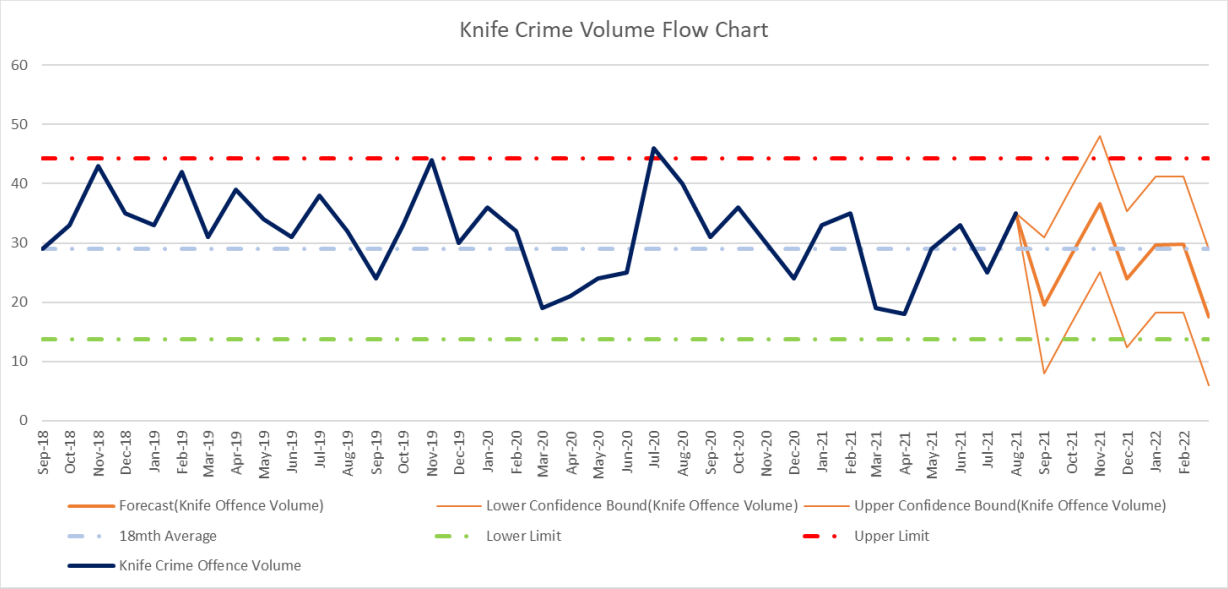
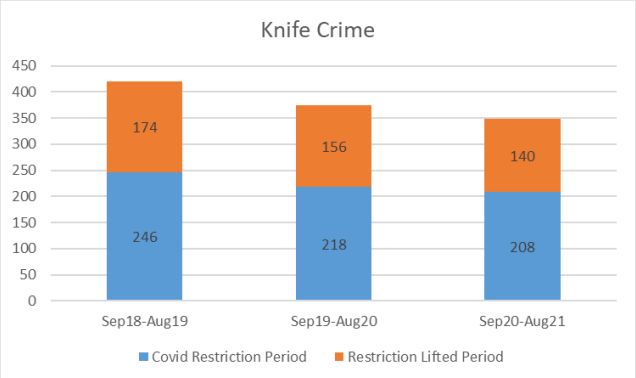


Figure 28: Knife Crime comparison chart



A long-term reduction of 17% (or 72 fewer offences) than in 2018/19 was noted in Nottingham. For the medium-term assessment period, knife crime decreased by 21 offences, a 6% decrease. Violence without injury was the only offence type to record an increase in the comparative periods, increasing by 125% (or 30 crimes). Robbery of personal property decreased by 25% (30 crimes), while violence with injury made up 55% of knife crime offences in 2020/21. This category showed a decrease of 8% (or 16 offences).

The positive outcome rate for knife crime offences in 2020/21 was 11%, decreasing from 22% in 2019/20. There were 36 knife crime offences with the outcome of 'charged', 10.4% of all outcomes for this offence type. The number of outcomes recorded as 'victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified' was 18%, decreasing from 24% in the previous period.

Analysis of the victim's demographic information reveals that victims are more likely to be male (73% where data is recorded). Ethnicity data is often not recorded or stated (27% of cases in total), although where provided, white British victims comprise 63%, as in 2019/20. The most represented victim age group were those aged 32-38 with 18% of records, higher than the local population, of which this category make up 9%. The relationship of the victim to the offender shows that 35% of offenders were strangers to the victim, with 12% of offenders being either the current partner, or a family member of the victim.

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

In this period Nottingham experienced a medium-term knife crime reduction of 3% (7 fewer offences), slowing from a long-term decrease of 15% (or 37 fewer offences.)

Medium-term comparisons of knife offences between localities indicated that this decrease was being hindered by the south locality with a 20% increase or 10 more offences than in the previous year. The central locality accounted for 33% of all knife crimes in this period.

Wards with a volume increase of knife crime in the medium-term were led by Bulwell and Clifton East, which had 6 and 4 more offences respectively when compared to 2019/20. The ward with the largest knife offence volume was Hyson Green & Arboretum with 29 offences.

The decreasing volume of offences in the medium-term was driven by reductions in robbery of personal property, which had decreased by 27% (21 fewer offences).

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

The medium-term reductions seen in the previous period of 2020/21 continued in this period when Nottingham underwent a medium-term knife crime decrease of 9% (14 fewer offences), and a long-term decrease of 20% or 35 fewer offences.

Medium-term comparisons of knife offences between localities indicated that this decrease was hindered by the north locality with a 28% increase (9 more offences), than in the previous year. The central and south localities each accounted for 31% of all knife crimes in this period.

Wards with a volume increase of knife crime in the medium-term were led by Bilborough (accounting for 8% of all knife crime in this period) with a 450% increase (9 more offences), and Hyson Green & Arboretum, which experienced the largest volume in 2021 despite a 26% decrease, with 17 offences in 2020.

The decreasing volume of offences was hindered by violence without injury offences, which increased by 46% (6 more offences). Violence with injury however, experienced a medium-term decrease of 11% (10 fewer offences).

The positive outcome rate for knife violence offences during lockdown was 6%, decreasing from 26% in the same period during 2020. There were 8 knife crime offences with the outcome

of ‘charged’, 6% of all outcomes for this offence type. The number of outcomes recorded as ‘victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified’ was 17%. This was 5% less than in the same period in 2020.

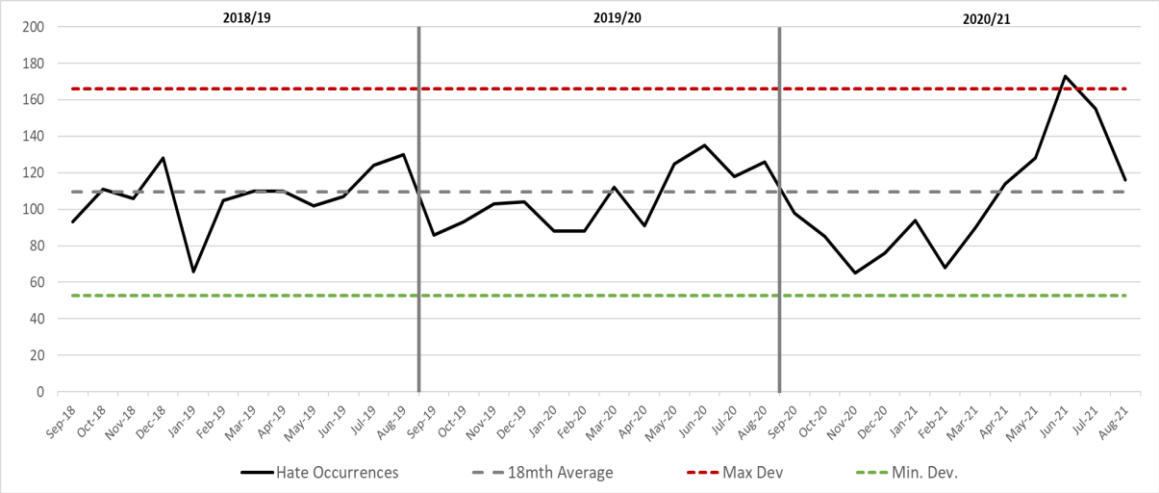
5.15 Hate Crime

Continued Impact of Coronavirus (1st September 2020 - 31st March 2021)

Hate occurrences incorporate both hate crimes and non-crime hate incidents. Hate occurrences have remained similar for the three-year analysis period, with the long-term comparison revealing a 2% decrease (30 fewer hate occurrences) from 1,292 between September 2018 to August 2019, to 1,262 during September 2020 to August 2021.

Specifically, hate crime increased over this period by 3% (or 25 offences), with hate non-crime reducing by 15%, 55 fewer incidents. For the three years of data, hate crime made up 71% of hate occurrences, with hate non-crime accounting for 29%.

Figure 29: Long-term comparison of hate occurrences



The chart at figure 29 shows hate occurrences by month from September 2018 to August 2021, with the 95% confidence intervals included. There was a slight increase in reports during the first lockdown (April 2020 to June 2020). However, these decreased gradually until the second lockdown in November to December. Hate occurrences then increased month on month from February 2021 to June 2021, tracking with the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.

Figure 30: Long-term view of hate occurrences

	Sep18-Aug19	Sep19-Aug20	Sep20-Aug21	Long term		Medium term	
				Volume +/-	%change	Volume +/-	%change
Crime	913	876	938	25	3%	62	7%
Non-crime	379	393	324	-55	-15%	-69	-18%
Total	**1292**	**1269**	**1262**	**-30**	**-2%**	**-7**	**-1%**

Hate Crime Delivery Plan:

Nottingham City Council has a target to reduce the number of repeat victims of hate crime by 10% by the end of March 2023. A repeat victim of hate crime is defined as anyone who experiences a hate crime or incident more than once in a 12-month period.

The target on repeat victimisation is challenging due to the nature of repeats, a large proportion of which are perpetrated by different and unidentified offenders. Incidents where the same victim is targeted by different offenders are often linked to victims' occupations – e.g. security staff in the night time economy, police officers, council staff and healthcare staff.

Incidents where the same victim is targeted by the same perpetrator often take place in neighbourhood settings. These incidents tend to be complex and the prejudice usually manifests as part of a larger picture of issues such as ASB, noise, and parking.

The Nottingham City Hate Crime Delivery Plan was developed after extensive consultation with victims, partners, communities and other stakeholders. It is a Partnership Plan and includes activity of all partners including voluntary sector organisations. The Delivery Plan uses the five key areas of focus identified in 'Action Against Hate', the UK government's plan for tackling hate crime (2016), to organise activity:

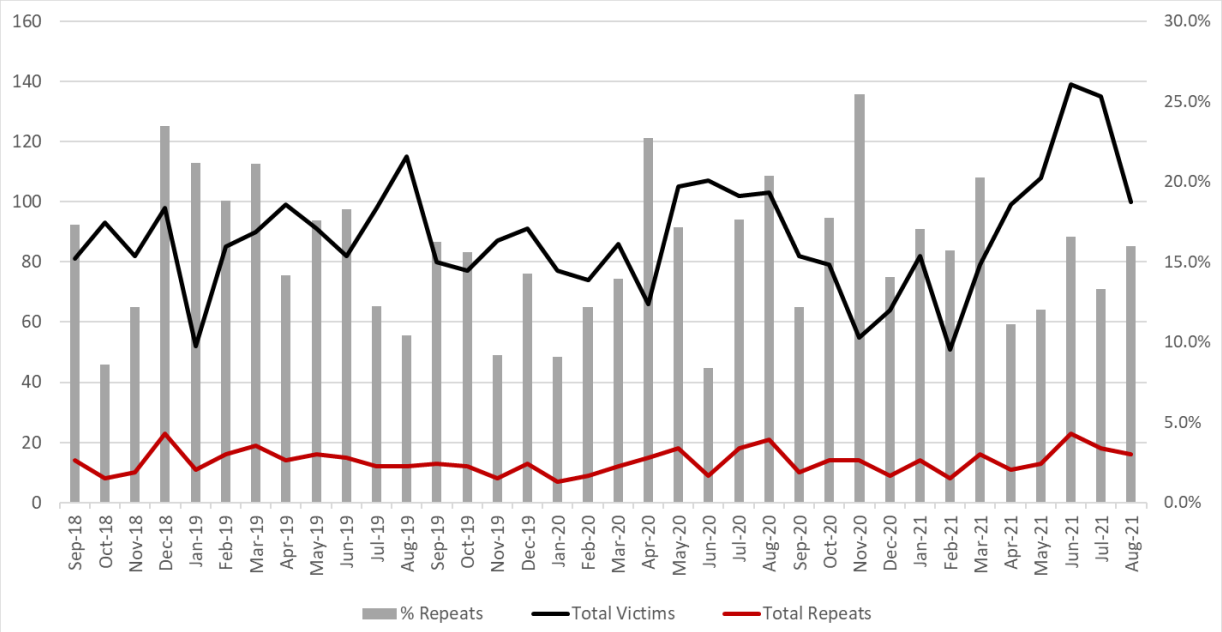
- Preventing hate crime by dealing with the beliefs and attitudes that can lead to hate crime.
- Responding to hate crime in our communities with the aim of reducing the number of hate crimes and incidents
- Increasing the reporting of hate crime.
- Improving support for the victims of hate crime
- Building our understanding of hate crime

The Delivery Plan is managed by the Hate Crime & Community Partnerships Board with updates provided to the CDP executive quarterly and to the CDP Board bi-annually. Performance on targets is also managed at Nottingham Hate Incident Performance Panel (NHIPP) – a multi-agency panel for case scrutiny and review of repeat victims of hate crime. Sitting alongside this governance structure is the City Voluntary Sector Hate Crime Network which meets quarterly.

Repeat Victims of Hate

The graph at figure 31 displays the total number of hate victims alongside repeat victims, as well as the proportion that were deemed to be a repeat victim. The proportion changes from month to month due to the varying level of hate occurrences. The percentage of repeat victims peaked in November 2020, with 55 victims of hate crime, of which 14 were repeat victims (25%).

Figure 31: Long-term view of repeat victims of hate crime



Medium Term

The medium-term comparison reveals a small decrease of 1% (or 7 occurrences). Public order offences increased by 54 offences, a 11% increase (from 504 to 558). Of those 1,062 offences, 71% were racially or religiously aggravated. Hate non-crime reduced from 392 to 324, a 17% reduction or 68 fewer incidents.

Figure 32: breakdown of hate occurrences for the medium-term comparison

Offence	2019/20	2020/21	Change	
			Volume	%
Arson and Criminal Damage	41	31	-10	-24%
Burglary	1	2	1	100%
Drug Offences			0	-
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	11	9	-2	-18%
Possession of Weapons	2		-2	-100%
Public Order Offences	504	558	54	11%
Robbery	2	4	2	100%
Sexual Offences	1	3	2	200%
Theft	4	7	3	75%
Vehicle Offences		1	1	-
Violence Against the Person	310	323	13	4%
Z_nsir	1		-1	-100%
Non-Crime	392	324	-68	-17%
Grand Total	**1269**	**1262**	**-7**	**-1%**

Public order offences accounted for 44% of hate occurrences during 2020/21, increasing from 40% during 2019/20 moreover; racially motivated public order offences accounted for 34% of

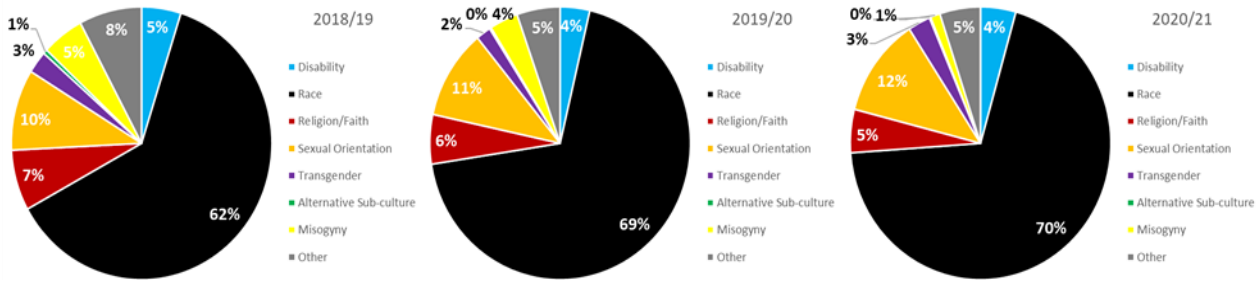
all hate occurrences (454). Violence against the person (VAP) accounted for 26% of hate occurrences, similar to the 24% noted during the previous period. Of the 339 VAP occurrences, 226 (67%) were motivated by race. Non-crime hate incidents made up for 26% of occurrences/strands.

Figure 33: Breakdown of hate occurrences by offence and hate strand during 2020/21

Offence	Disability	Race	Religion/ Faith	Sexual Orientation	Transgender	Alternative Sub-culture	Misogyny	Other	Total Offence	Proportion
Burglary - Residential		2							2	0%
Criminal Damage	1	19	4	4				2	30	2%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society		6		2	1				9	1%
Other Sexual Offences					1			1	2	0%
Other Theft		1	1	2	1				5	0%
Public Order Offences	13	454	27	45	10		8	25	582	44%
Rape					1				1	0%
Robbery of Personal Property		2		1	1				4	0%
Shoplifting		2							2	0%
Stalking and Harassment	13	126	13	25	8		1	8	194	15%
Theft of Motor Vehicle				1					1	0%
Violence with Injury	2	31	4	9	2			2	50	4%
Violence without Injury	4	69	7	12	1			2	95	7%
Non-Crime	25	209	12	55	11	2	7	27	348	26%
Total Strand	**58**	**921**	**68**	**156**	**37**	**2**	**16**	**67**	**1325**	**100%**
Proportion	**4%**	**70%**	**5%**	**12%**	**3%**	**0%**	**1%**	**5%**	**100%**	

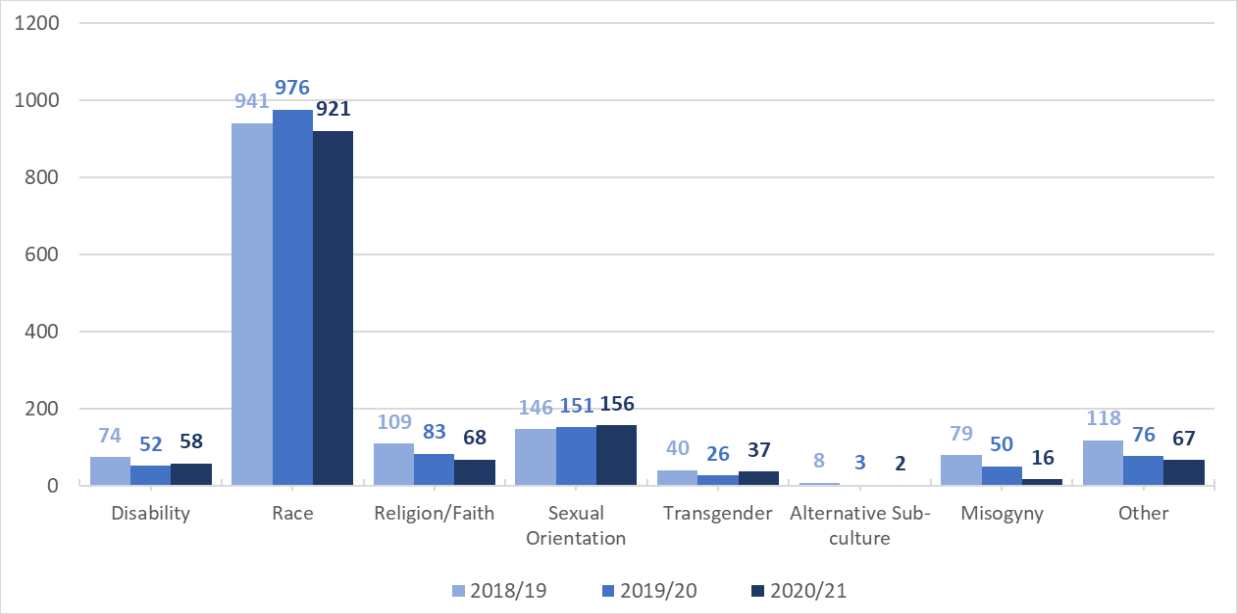
For the latest 12-month period of September 2020 to August 2021 there were 1,262 hate occurrences, withing which 1,325 hate strands were identified (as a hate occurrence can have multiple hate strands, the total number of strands is likely to be greater than the total number of hate occurrences). The charts at figure 34 break down offence types by strand, highlighting the top 10 volumes. Hate motivated by race accounted for 70% of occurrences, as in 2019/20 (69%), but was higher than the 62% noted for the 2018/19 period. Sexual orientation was the second most common hate strand, with 12%.

Figure 34: Breakdown of hate strands by year



Hate occurrences by the motivated strand are displayed in the chart at figure 35 for the three periods. Hate motivated by race reduced by 6% (or 55) and transgender hate occurrences had the largest percentage increase with 42% more during 2020/21 compared to 2019/20 (an increase of 11). Misogyny and religion/faith hate occurrences have reduced year on year, an 80% and 38% reduction respectively for the long-term comparison.

Figure 35: Comparison of hate strands by year



Wards

Figure 36: Medium-term comparison of hate occurrences by ward

Ward	2019/20	2020/21	Change		Trend by month (Sep20-Aug21)	Rate per 1,000 People
			Volume	%		
Aspley	50	48	-2	-4%		2.5
Basford	61	61	0	0%		3.6
Berridge	95	68	-27	-28%		4.0
Bestwood	58	60	2	3%		3.4
Bilborough	50	61	11	22%		3.7
Bulwell	54	43	-11	-20%		2.6
Bulwell Forest	50	54	4	8%		3.9
Castle	10	1	-9	-90%		0.4
City Centre	215	234	19	9%		10.0
Clifton East	36	53	17	47%		3.1
Clifton West	18	10	-8	-44%		0.9
Dales	109	84	-25	-23%		4.9
Hyson Green & Arboretum	107	95	-12	-11%		4.8
Leen Valley	24	31	7	29%		3.5
Lenton & Wollaton East	62	59	-3	-5%		2.5
Mapperley	42	42	0	0%		2.6
Meadows	30	35	5	17%		3.7
Radford	54	67	13	24%		4.1
Sherwood	46	58	12	26%		3.6
St Ann's	73	77	4	5%		5.1
Wollaton West	25	21	-4	-16%		1.4
Total	**1269**	**1262**	**-7**	**-1%**		**3.8**

The city centre area had the largest volume of hate occurrences for all three years, which is likely down to the dense population, high footfall and concentration of night time economy (NTE) venues.

Hate occurrences increased by 9% (or 19 offences) in 2020/21 compared to 2019/20, with ASB giving rise to 22% of all hate occurrences in 2018/19, reducing to 17% during COVID-19 restrictions, and rising to 19% during 2020/21 as society reopened and restrictions eased.

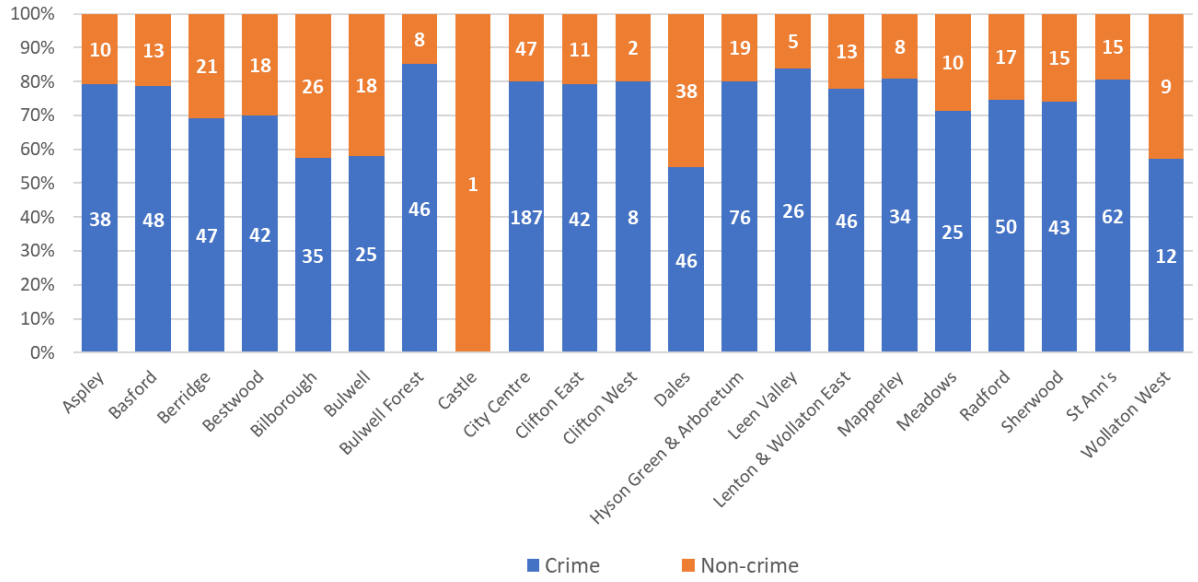
During restrictions, levels of hate crime remained static, however displacement of offences across the city was observed, rather than a concentration in the city centre. Hyson Green & Arboretum had the second highest volume of hate occurrences, accounting for 8% during 2020/21, although offences here reduced by 11% (or 12 occurrences).

The trend lines show the peaks in hate occurrences for the last 12-month period, with 15 of the 21 ward areas showing a peak either in June 21 or July 21, which correlates with the peak in occurrences seen in July 21 on the line graph at figure 31. This peak is likely due to lifting of restrictions and an increase of socialising in the NTE both in the city centre and communities. Many instances of hate crime are perpetrated against security staff in the NTE, with offenders under the influence of alcohol.

The rate of hate occurrences by population reveals the city centre to have the highest rate, with 10.0 hate occurrences per 1,000 people. St Ann's had the second highest rate with 5.4 hate occurrences per 1,000 people.

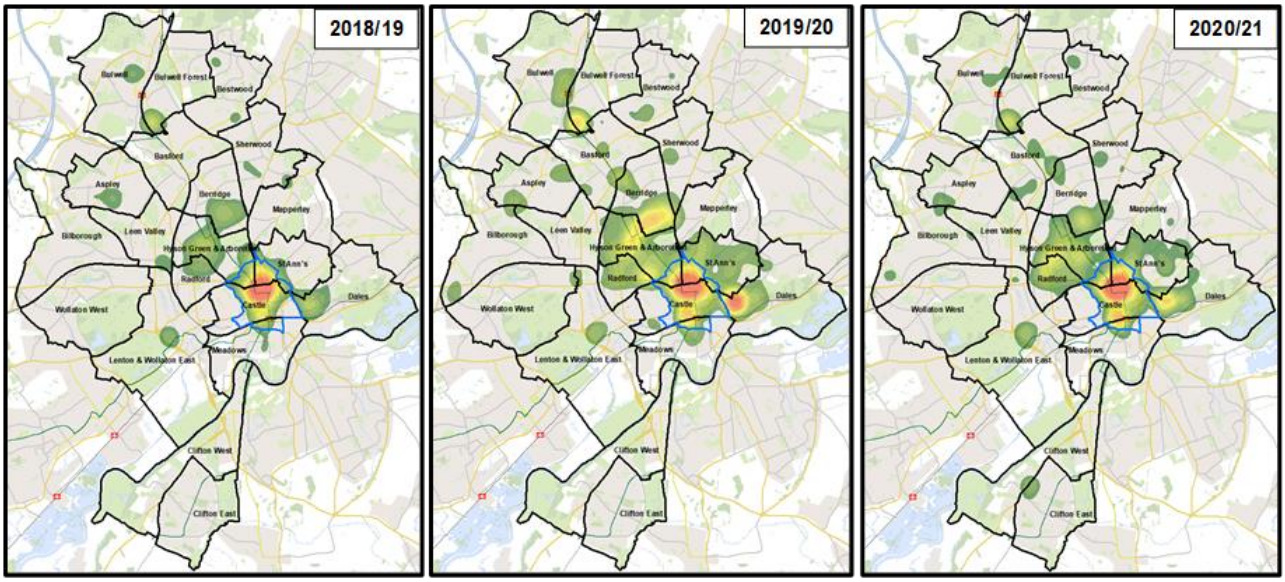
The chart below displays a breakdown of hate occurrences by hate crime and non-crime hate incident by ward, with volumes displayed, and proportional breakdowna in the y-axis.

Figure 37: Breakdown of hate occurrences by ward during 2020/21



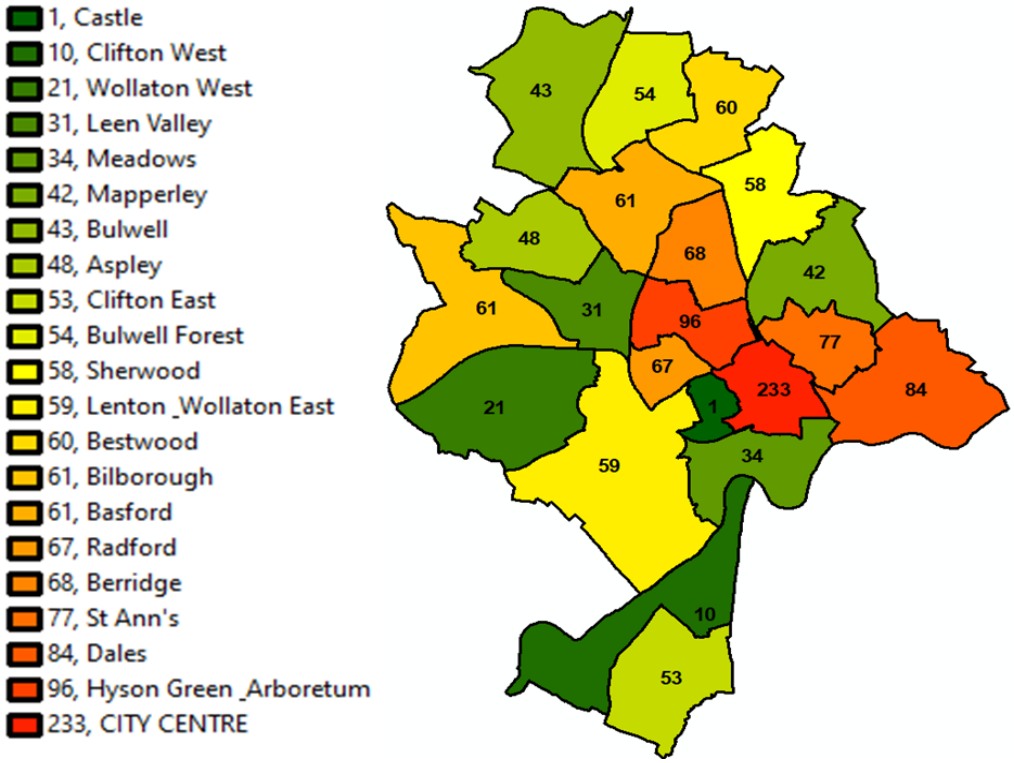
The heat maps at figure 38 reveal hotspots for hate occurrences for each of the three-year periods analysed. The city centre boundary is the blue line, with the predominant hotspot within this area. The dispersal of hate crime into neighbourhoods is noted in the second and third maps.

Figure 38: Heat maps for hate occurrences by year



The map below displays hate occurrences by volume for each ward, as well as being colour graduated to demonstrate high (red) to low volume (green). This map helps provide a visualisation of the volume of hate occurrences for each ward and provides clarity as to which areas are most problematic.

Figure 39: Hate occurrences by ward during 2020/21



The positive outcome rate for hate offences decreased during 2020/21 to 12%, a reduction of 8% from the comparative periods (20%). However, it is noted that this decline is due in part to many incidents still being investigated (specifically, 204 hate crimes with the outcome UU unresolved).

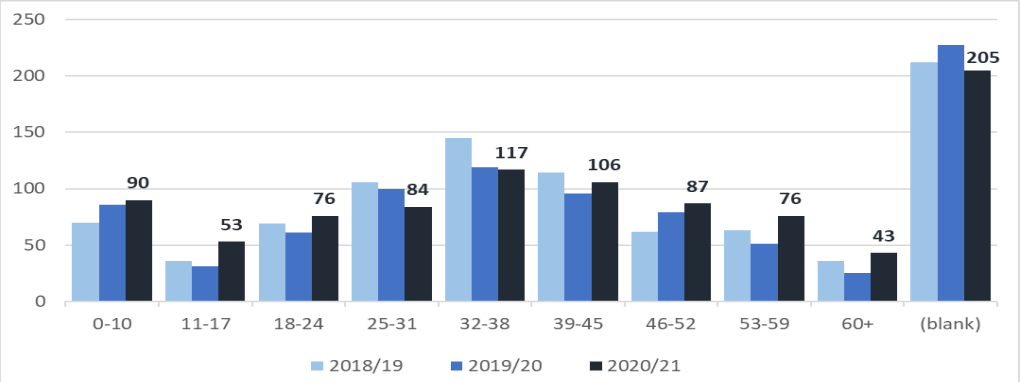
Figure 40: Positive outcome rate for hate crimes by year

Hate Crime	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Positive Outcome	20%	20%	12%

Victims

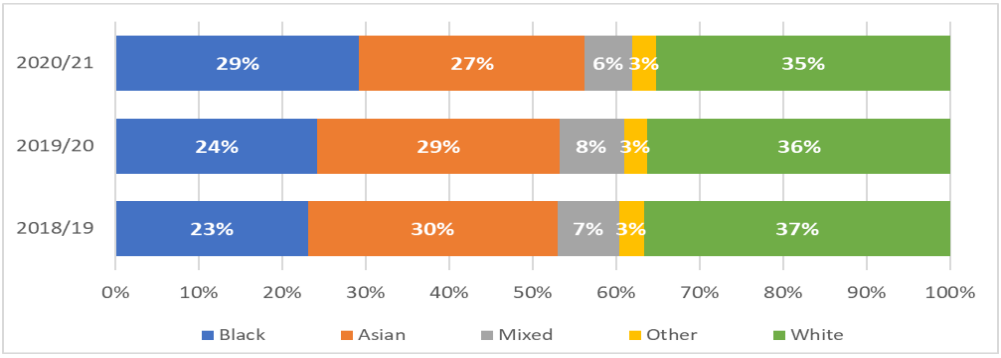
As a person's characteristics are the motivating factor for hate crime, victim data is valuable, however there are flaws in recording, and details are not recorded for every case. Of the 2,727 hate victims during the last three-year period, where data was recorded, 44% of victims were female, 55% male, and 1% reported as indeterminate. 58% of victims were aged between 25-52, with those aged 32-38 accounting for 18% of all victims.

Figure 41: Victims by age band for the last three years



47% of victims did not have their ethnicity recorded. This is concerning as race-related hate consistently shows the largest proportion of hate occurrences reported in Nottingham. Where data is provided, it is represented in the chart below. Victims who are Black have increased as a proportion from 23% in 2018/19, to 29% in 2020/21, consistent with the pie charts shown at figure 34. Part of the increase in racially-motivated hate may have been in reaction to the Black Lives Matter movement, which saw protests and solidarity with the Black community across the UK (including Nottingham), following the 2020 killing of George Floyd in the USA.

Figure 42: Victim ethnicity breakdown by year



43% of victims described the offender as a stranger, and 18% of victims reported that their neighbour was the offender.

Perpetrators of hate crime (where information is recorded) are more likely to be male (71%) and aged between 32-38 - similar to the victim age demographic. Offenders who were White British accounted for roughly 75% during the three-year period. Available data indicates that 34% of offenders were stranger to the victim, and 21% were described as a neighbour of the victim.

The Lifting of Restrictions (1st April 2021 - 31st August 2021)

Short Term Comparison

For the short-term period of June 2021 to August 2021, compared to the same period in 2020, hate occurrences increased by 17% (or 65 occurrences.) Hate crime increased by 24% (66 additional offences) with non-crime hate incidents remaining broadly the same.

Figure 43: Short-term breakdown of hate occurrences

Hate occurrence	2019/20	2020/21	Change	
			Volume	%
Crime	271	337	66	24%
Non-crime	108	107	-1	-1%
Total	**379**	**444**	**65**	**17%**

The main driver of this increase is public order offences, which have increased by 40% (or 58 crimes.) This is due to the economy reopening and people socialising more, particularly in the night time economy. Almost one third (30%) of public order offences in the three-month period occurred in the city centre.

In the last 12-month period, 17 wards experienced a peak in hate occurrences in the short-term period between June 2021 to August 2021. Moreover, 19 wards had a peak in hate occurrences during the period of restrictions being lifted.

Figure 44: Short-term breakdown of hate crimes

Offence Tpye	2019/20	2020/21	Change	
			Volume	%
Criminal Damage	15	11	-4	-27%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	1	2	1	100%
Other Theft		2	2	-
Possession of Weapons	2		-2	-100%
Public Order Offences	146	204	58	40%
Robbery of Personal Property	1	2	1	100%
Shoplifting	1		-1	-100%
Stalking and Harassment	57	64	7	12%
Theft from the Person	1		-1	-100%
Theft of Motor Vehicle		1	1	-
Violence with Injury	17	12	-5	-29%
Violence without Injury	30	39	9	30%
Hate Non-Crime	108	107	-1	-1%
Total	**379**	**444**	**65**	**17%**

As restrictions have lifted, this has allowed the opportunity for increased socialising, which in turn provides more opportunity for hate and discrimination.

Racially motivated hate accounted for 66% of occurrences, although this was a decrease of 5% (or 14 occurrences) compared to the same period in 2020. Transgender hate increased by 600% for the short-term comparison (18 additional occurrences.) Disability hate increased by 140% (14 additional occurrences.)

Figure 45: Short-term comparison of hate strands

Strand	2019/20	2020/21	Change	
			Volume	%
Disability	10	24	14	140%
Race	308	294	-14	-5%
Religion/Faith	23	22	-1	-4%
Sexual Orientation	48	55	7	15%
Transgender	3	21	18	600%
Alternative Sub-culture	1	2	1	100%
Misogyny	10		-10	-100%
Other	14	25	11	79%
Total	**417**	**443**	**26**	**6%**

NHIPP

Following a manifesto pledge to reduce repeat hate crime by 10%, this pledge was adopted by NCC, and Nottingham Hate Incident Performance Panel (NHIPP) was formed to provide scrutiny of incidents of concern.

NHIPP consists of a group of approximately 25 members from fields within key areas of speciality from NCC, Victim Care, Fire Service, Nottingham City Homes and Police. Cases discussed by the panel are identified by Police hate crime officers that meet on a monthly basis to review and discuss pathways for resolution through interventions discussed. The purpose is to further enhance knowledge profiles enabling better engagement with both victim and perpetrator on a tractable basis.

The purpose of the panel is to consider all possible avenues to address both victim and offender options and mitigate risk by utilising positive practices focused on 3 key elements: Victim, offender, and location.

Chaired by a Police inspector, cases are presented for discussion with a view to procurement and intervention by specialist service providers that appraise, regulate, and coordinate services available within their disciplines. Moreover, the panel offers pathways where impasse may be prevalent by focusing and coordinating interventions as a group.

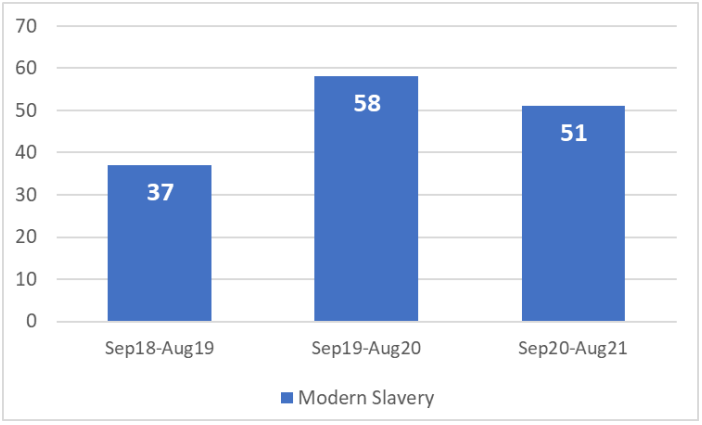
After recent review, the NHIPP process now focuses on repeat victims of hate crime in line with the partnership target and in the context of the above challenges.

Repeat hate crime incidents caused by the prevalence of escalating neighbourhood disputes, as well as individual occurrences, are recognised with concerns that if left without clear processes or positive interventions, these would likely lead to increased propensity for other ASB and criminality.

5.16 Modern Slavery & Exploitation

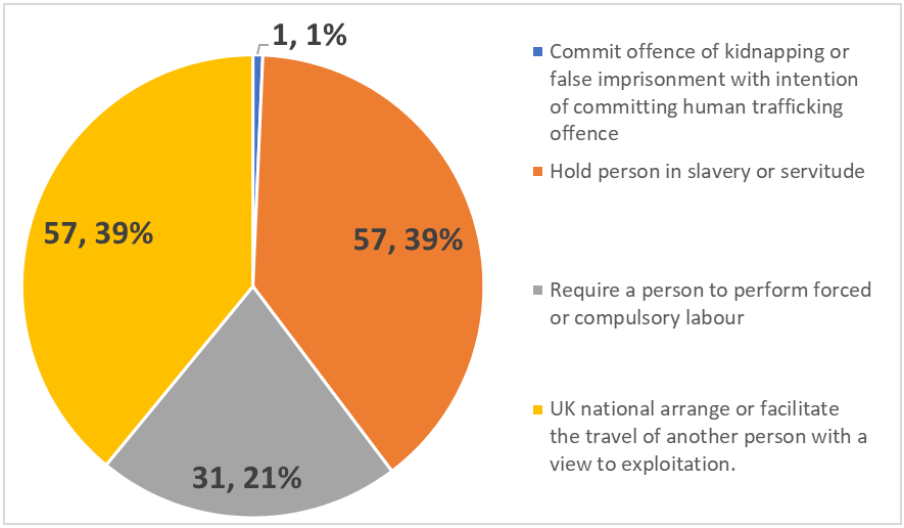
Nottinghamshire Police crime data reveal 146 modern slavery offences for the three-year period to August 2021. There were 51 modern slavery offences for the latest 12 months (September 2020 to August 2021), 7 fewer than the medium-term comparison period (September 2019 to August 2020), or a 12% reduction. Over the long-term comparison, there has been an increase of 38% (or 14 offences) compared to September 2018 to August 2019.

Figure 46: Modern slavery offences in Nottingham



A breakdown of offences over the three-year analysis period shows that 39% (57 offences) were for 'holding a person in slavery or servitude', followed by 'UK national arrange or facilitate the travel of another person with a view to exploitation', which also accounted for 39% (57 offences).

Figure 47: Breakdown of modern slavery offences in Nottingham



Analysis was conducted on victim data in Nottingham during the three-year period. Of the 146 total offences, 37% (or 54 offences) did not have any victim data available. For data that was recorded and analysed, victims tended to be male, accounting for 86% (79), while 14% (13) were female. The age of victims was predominately younger people, with 46% (44) aged between 11-17, and 80% (76) of victims aged between 11-31. In respect of nationality, 40%

(37) of victims were from the United Kingdom, followed by 16% (15) from Romania, and 12% (11) were Albanian.

Modern Slavery Response: Nottingham City Council

Slavery Exploitation Team (SET) Overview

SET has dedicated officers who work with partners to identify and tackle exploitation, modern slavery, and trafficking, and to offer support to survivors. To strengthen a multi-agency approach to identification, prevention and management of cases, the team established a Slavery Exploitation Risk Assessment Conference (SERAC) in 2019. The SERAC unites statutory and non-statutory agencies to discuss suspected or known cases, and to plan a joint response to manage risk and stage intervention. Discussions also feed into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and Police investigations.

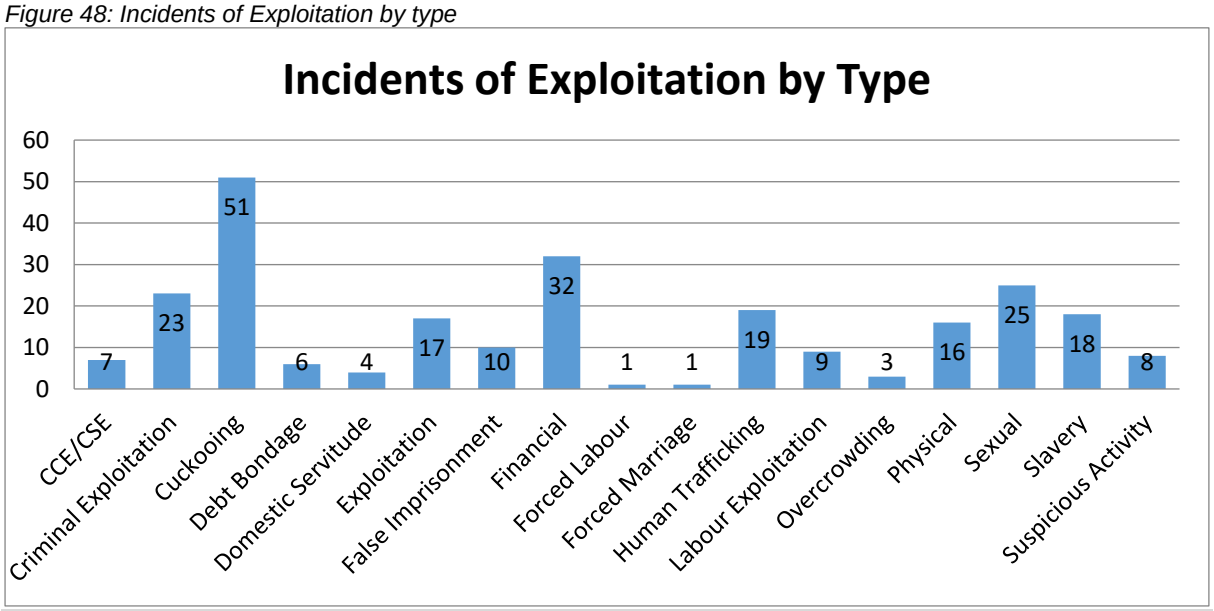
Outside of the SERAC arena, SET triage referrals, liaise with other agencies, conduct low-level investigations, offer specialist guidance to professionals, and advocate for survivors. The team also delivers awareness-raising sessions and support Police on pre-planned operations to provide a survivor-centred approach from first interventions, in both business settings and dwellings.

Outcomes for survivors have included referrals into the NRM, moving into areas identified as 'safe' by Police colleagues, arrests of criminals under the Modern Slavery Act 2015, implementing suitable support (finances managed by money carers, substance misuse support, mental health support, referrals to charities, etc), advocacy, and increased security (alarms, place of interest markers, safe and well visits from Community Protection Officers, etc).

SET Case Typology and Trends (September 2020 – August 2021)

Following a return to remote working at the end of September 2020 due to COVID-19, referrals dipped in October, then remained at a steady rate until March 2021, when referral rates nearly doubled following the easing of restrictions.

Figure 48: Incidents of Exploitation by type



In total, there were 141 referrals to SET during the specified time period, often with a number of different types of exploitation identified per case. The most common referral has been cuckooing (i.e. taking over the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base for drug dealing) which was found in 51 instances, followed by financial exploitation with 32, and sexual exploitation with 25.

Other case types include child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, debt bondage, domestic servitude, exploitation, false imprisonment, forced labour, forced marriage, human trafficking, labour exploitation, overcrowding, physical, slavery, and suspicious activity.

All individuals referred to SET had at least of one the following vulnerabilities:

- Care leaver or in the care system
- Intellectual/physical/learning disability
- Homelessness
- Little or no education
- Little or no interaction with peers
- Long term health condition
- Poor mental health/cognitive impairment
- Substance misuse
- Unemployment
- Unsettled family networks

Fluctuations in referral volumes appear to be due to partner agencies adopting varying levels of face-to-face interactions, and responding in different ways to the challenging conditions of the pandemic. As restrictions have eased, professionals have implemented alternative ways of working which has led to an increase in referrals, as cases have come to light.

Response to Challenges Posed by COVID-19

The Slavery Exploitation Team have continued to deliver services whilst largely working remotely, with professionals referring known or suspected victims of exploitation, slavery, or trafficking so the team can establish the wider background and work with partners to implement action plans. The team also advises on cases involving children when requested by social services, as well as extending its reach into the south conurbation.

Monthly SERAC meetings have been successfully delivered remotely to ensure concerns are addressed and suspected victims do not remain hidden. The SERAC continues to be well supported by managers from a variety of agencies, and in a recent review 100% of responses agreed the involvement of SET and SERAC has had a positive impact on organisational outcomes.

It appears likely that the increase in referrals to SET will continue. The economic position of unskilled workers is likely to worsen, as businesses reduce staff levels in an increasingly challenging financial environment. This will leave people vulnerable to exploitation, especially those without recourse to public funds.

5.17 Substance Misuse

Anecdotally, it is understood that substance misuse was impacted by COVID-19, both in the operation of the underground market, and the ways in which drugs are dealt, as well as how

they are consumed in society. It is, however, difficult to quantify precisely how the pandemic has impacted alcohol habits and substance misuse, as many key data sets only cover pre-pandemic periods, so understanding the level of use (and therefore treatment need) locally is challenging.

Using most recent available data in conjunction with anecdotal feedback from local service managers, clinical leads, police analysts, and other channels of intelligence (such as the local drugs monitoring group), this section will provide commentary to identify key themes and trends.

Drug Misuse Crime Survey England and Wales

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) provides only pre-pandemic data, with the latest available dataset covering the period up to 2018/19. Results from the latest available survey indicated the following (using age bracket 16-59, unless stated otherwise):

- 9.4% (1 in 11) or approximately 3.2 million people had taken a drug in the previous year[8]
- 21% (1 in 5) or 1.3 million of those aged 16-24 had taken a drug in the previous year
- 3.4% or 1.1 million people had taken a Class A drug, with Class A drug usage slightly less than the previous period of 3.7%
- The most commonly used drug was cannabis (7.8% or 2.6 million using the drug in the previous year), followed by cocaine - used by 2.6% during the same period

It is likely cannabis and cocaine remain the most commonly-used drugs, including during the period covered by this document. However, the extent to which usage of these substances has changed during the pandemic is difficult to determine.

According to Office of National Statistics population estimates (2019), Nottingham has a high proportion of people aged between 16-24 (78,592 people), accounting for 22% of Nottingham's population, while 33% are aged between 15-29 (109,305)[9]. This is nearly double the national average of 12% for those aged 16-24, and much higher than the average of 18% for those aged 15-29. This difference is in part due to Nottingham's large student population.

Extrapolating from the CSEW results, it is likely that Nottingham has a much higher level of drug use compared to the national picture, owing to the high proportion of people aged 16-24, and the increased propensity of this group to use drugs. It is likely that in Nottingham there are approximately 21,161 people aged 16-59 who have used a drug in the last year, and around 16,504 of those are likely to be aged between 16-24.

In terms of frequent drug users (those taking a drug more than once a month in the last year) the survey found that 2.1% of those aged 16-59 were frequent drug users, compared to 4.3%

[8] Home Office, Drugs Misuse: Findings from the 2019/20 Crime Survey for England and Wales (2021) - https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/drugmisuseinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020

[9] Analysis of population estimates tool (2020) - https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/analysisofpopulationestimatestool

of those aged 16-24. If these estimates are applied to Nottingham's population figures, it could be assessed that Nottingham may have roughly 4,727 frequent drug users aged 16-59, and it is likely that 3,379 of these will be 16-24.

As these figures are based on pre-pandemic data, they are estimates only. However, in terms of proportion of population, the analysis provides a rough guide as to the likelihood of local usage. Not all who take drugs will require substance misuse treatment, however all should have access to harm reduction advice in order to minimise harm and reduce the risk of overdose.

Dame Carol Black Review

Parts one and two of the Dame Carol Black Review of Drugs set out the substantial costs of illicit drug use in England, with the total cost in harm reaching £19.3 billion in 2017/18[10]. Drug-related crime is the biggest driver of these costs, with recorded offences carried out by drug users reaching £9.3 billion for the same year. The associated harms of drug misuse and death cost up to £6.3 billion, whilst the cost of drug treatment and prevention only totalled £553 million.

A significant amount of the costs (86% according to the review) come from opiate and crack users (OCU), with roughly 314,000 OCU nationally as of 2016/17 (from latest available estimate data). The OCU cohort costs are around 50 times greater compared to those who use other drugs (non-opiate). This cohort also accounts for around 50% of those in structured treatment, and contribute to record levels of drug-related deaths – heroin deaths reached highest levels since records began.

Nottingham has had a large cohort of OCU that first emerged during the 1980s and 1990s, with many of these clients now considered to be an ageing cohort – not necessarily because of their age, but rather, in terms of the longevity and entrenched nature of their drug use. Long term OCU are likely to have very poor health outcomes due to the nature of heroin addiction and associated lifestyle factors. As of 2016/17, Nottingham had roughly 2,700 OCU, with a rate of 11.8 OCU per 1,000 people, above both the East Midlands average of 8.2, and the national average of 8.8.

Using the latest available data from Liverpool John Moores University for OCU by local authority (period up to 2016/17), alongside data from Public Health England's National Drugs Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) up to March 2021, an estimate of the local treatment penetration rates can be assessed[11].

Utilising this data shows the penetration rate or unmet treatment need for the three age groups displayed in the chart at figure 49.

[10] Review of Drugs evidence relating to drug use, supply and effects, including current trends and future risks (2020) - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/882953/Review_of_Drugs_Evidence_Pack.pdf

[11] Public Health England, National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (2021)

Figure 49: OCU treatment need estimates

Nottingham (2016/17) OCU estimates	Age Band		
	15-24	25-34	35-64
% of Nottingham population who are OCU	0.4%	1.3%	1.7%
Rate of OCU per 1,000 people	4.4	12.7	16.8
OCU in treatment by age group (2020/21)	25	234	1125
OCU by age estimates (2016/17)	334	664	1717
Unmet treatment need by age group	93%	65%	34%

The unmet treatment need for OCU aged 15-24 is roughly 93%. For those aged 25-34, the treatment need is around 65%, and for those aged 35-64 the treatment need reduces to roughly 34%. Whilst it is important to seek engagement with all OCU who need treatment, particular focus should be placed on identifying those in the two younger age groups, as this will potentially prevent people becoming long-term entrenched users, and help to reduce the future cohort of OCU Nottingham treatment services see in the future, reducing the cost on the local authority going forward.

NDTMS data for Nottingham reveals a year-on-year increase in heroin users also using crack cocaine since 2013/14, with a decline in those using heroin alone (although there has also been a reduction in these users for the latest period of 2020/21). Numbers in treatment for opiate use had increased during the initial pandemic period, and peaked for the last seven years in April 2020 with 1,443 opiate users in treatment (rolling 12-month figure). This was because of local services prioritising and retaining clients in treatment, particularly this more complex and vulnerable cohort. Numbers in treatment have now reduced as services have returned to a more typical way of operating.

Nottinghamshire Police intelligence reveals heroin purities have reduced slightly from pre-pandemic levels when the average was 45%, reducing to an average of 39% in more recent months. Purities are monitored regularly and communicated to front line services, in order to spread harm reduction messages to those in treatment.

Alcohol

During 2020/21, the pandemic eventuated a substantial change to the way people consumed alcohol, with pubs, clubs, and bars closed for extended periods of time, and many people having more free time due to furlough, lockdown restrictions, and tiers imposed in autumn 2021. This resulted in people drinking at home more frequently, and is likely to have resulted in elevated intakes, perhaps serving as a coping mechanism due to boredom, or because of the absence of oversight and limits ordinarily imposed by venue staff. Additionally, younger adults who came of legal drinking age during the pandemic had limited opportunity to visit premises serving alcohol, and therefore may have reduced tolerances or different attitudes to alcohol consumption.

Accurately measuring alcohol consumption among populations is difficult although one study from University College London compared drinking habits in March/April 2020 to March/April

2021[12]. The results found that 34.4% of people reported a change in their drinking habits over the last year, with 49.1% of those drinking more alcohol than before. The study also found that of those who changed their alcohol consumption, men were more likely to report an increase in alcohol consumption than women (51.6% of men vs 46.6% of women), and people of all ages had increased their drinking similarly.

There were also reductions in the level of alcohol consumption, with two-fifths (40.1%) of heavy drinkers reporting a decrease in their alcohol intake. Nine in ten (91.5%) of young adults (aged 18-29) who were drinking heavily a year ago reported a decrease in their drinking; for heavy drinkers aged 30-59 the decrease was 37.5%, and for those aged 60+ it was 35.5%. The authors of the report suggested that the increase in drinking for many may have been more circumstantial as opposed to a conscious decision to consume more alcohol, whilst a reduction in drinking among some young people may have been a consequence of the closure of most licensed premises.

Nottingham's population has suffered from alcohol-related harm for many years, with the local authority performing poorly in many relevant measures. Public Health England Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPES) reveal Nottingham to have some of the worst indicators of alcohol related harm in the East Midlands and England.

For key indicators such as alcohol related mortality, Nottingham had a rate of 42.9 alcohol related deaths per 100,000 people, putting it in the worst 25th percentile in England, and above both the East Midlands average of 37.1 and the England average of 35.7 per 100,000[13]. Admission episodes for alcohol related conditions (narrow measure) show Nottingham had 1,692 admissions during 2019/20, with a rate of 665 per 100,000 people compared to the East Midlands average of 562 and the national average of 519.

Alcohol can create both short-term and long-term harms, in terms of drinking to excess and becoming intoxicated, which can lead to harm via riskier behaviour, as well as drinking at harmful levels regularly over years or decades, which increases chances of alcohol-related health conditions. Data appears to demonstrate that Nottingham's population is suffering with such harms. The impact of harmful drinking is increased in areas of high deprivation, with Nottingham ranking among the most deprived local authorities in England, with an average placing of 10th for the indices of deprivation[14].

The University of Sheffield provide estimates for the number of adults in England with an alcohol dependency potentially in need of specialist treatment. The latest estimates only cover the period up to 2018/19 and therefore it is difficult to know the size of this cohort for the 2020/21 period. The data reveals Nottingham to have a mid-point estimate of 5,039 dependant drinkers aged 18+[15]. This is roughly 1.92% of Nottingham's adult population, increasing by

[12] UCL Covid-19 Social Study (2021) - Over a third have changed their drinking habits over the past year | UCL News - UCL – University College London

[13] Public Health England, Local Alcohol Profiles for England (2021) - Local Alcohol Profiles for England - Data - PHE

[14] National statistics, English indices of deprivation (2015) - https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015

[15] Public Health England, Estimates of the number of alcohol dependent adults in each local authority in England (2021) - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alcohol-dependence-prevalence-in-england

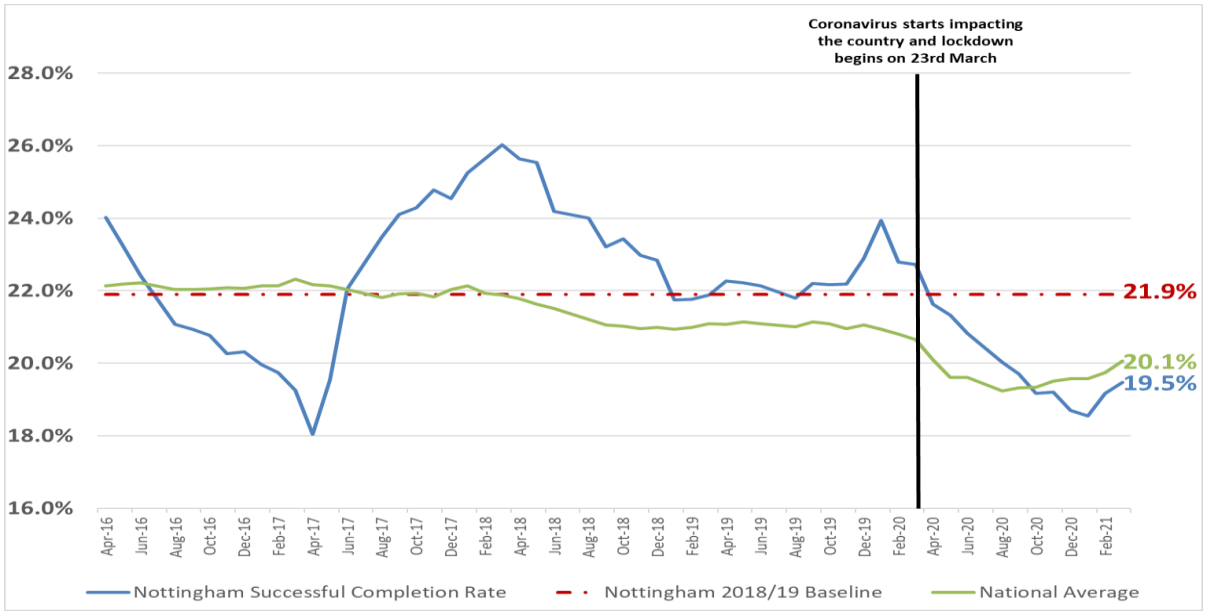
0.07% compared to 2017/18, and the 20th largest proportion among the 151 English local authorities. How this cohort's drinking habits have changed during the pandemic is unknown as is whether this cohort has increased or remained the same or reduced.

NDTMS Performance Data

For clients of Nottingham's various substance misuse services, those in structured treatment (a comprehensive package of concurrent or sequential specialist drug and alcohol focused interventions) will have their data shared with NDTMS – assuming consent is granted.

This allows for analysis and insight into drug trends, and for monitoring of service performance. The substance misuse target in the Partnership Plan for 2020-23 states successful completions at the end of the four-year period will exceed or equal that of the baseline year of 2018/19 (21.9%). Furthermore, there will also be an expectation that the rate of successful completions will remain at or above the national average during this period. NDTMS data for the current financial year are restricted statistics and cannot be made public, therefore the chart at figure 50 only displays data until the end of 2020/21.

Figure 50: Nottingham substance misuse performance



Nottingham performed consistently during 2019, with performance beginning to drop off from January 2020. Performance then decreased month-on-month to a low of 18.5% in January 2021, but has since recovered during the rest of the financial year, with the year-end performance at 19.5% in March 2021.Performance has continued to increase during the 2021/22 financial year.

For the rolling 12-month period up to March 2021, there were 2,511 clients in treatment, of which 489 successfully completed, a rate of 19.5%. This is below the national average of 20.1%, and also below the baseline target of 21.9%. Nottingham substance misuse providers prioritised retaining clients in treatment during the start of the pandemic and first lockdown, as clients in contact with treatment services benefit from the protective factors this provides.

This led to a reduction in successful completions, and a decline in the successful completion rate during 2020. This approach was also used in other areas of the country, with the national average following a similar pattern to that of Nottingham, as shown in the graph.

The number of clients in treatment up to March 2021 was 2,511 64 fewer clients (a 2% reduction) than in March 2020, and 112 fewer (a 4% reduction) than in March 2019. Numbers in treatment remained high during the pandemic period, as clients were typically retained in treatment to minimise harm and associated risks with leaving. This resulted in a 16% reduction in successful completions, 96 fewer completions.

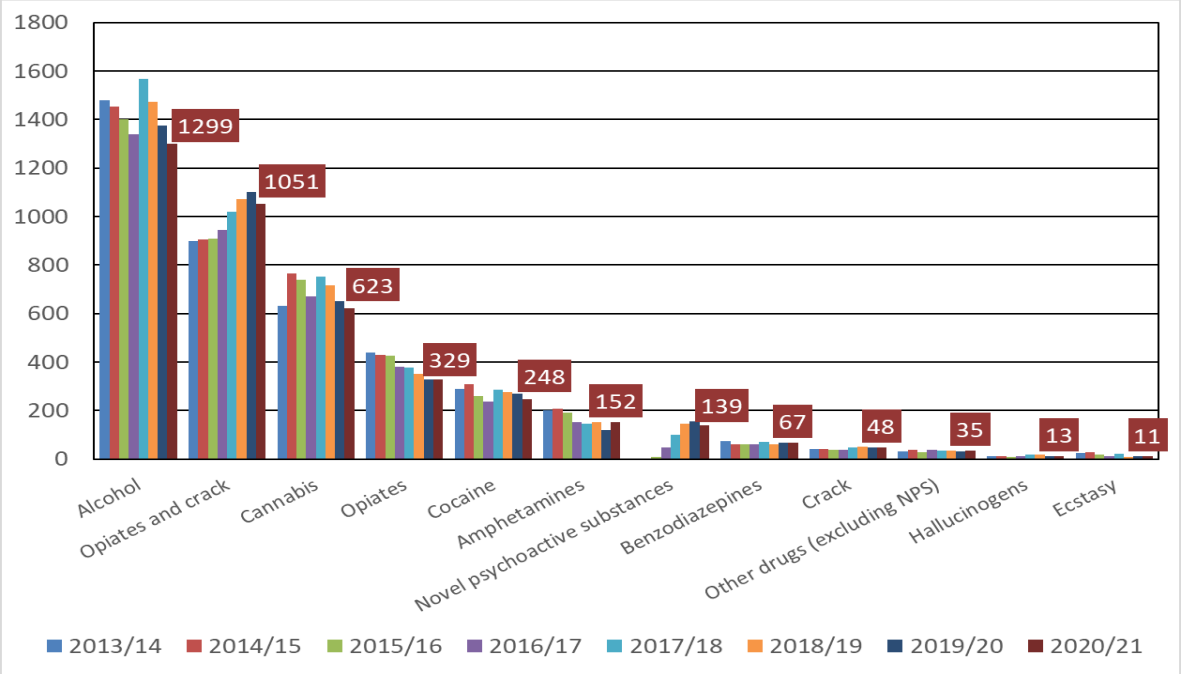
The main driver in the reduction was the opiate cohort which saw a 32% reduction in March 2020 compared to March 2021 (34 fewer completions), whilst alcohol-only performance saw a decrease of 22% for the same period (60 fewer completions.) The pandemic created extremely challenging social situations, with many people losing work, or being furloughed, as well as suffering from social isolation and loss impacting people's health and wellbeing. These pressures are unlikely to have created ideal conditions for successful completion of treatment, and hence a drop-off in completions.

Re-presentations to treatment for alcohol-only clients also increased during the 2020/21 period. Again, this will likely have been due to people struggling during the lockdown periods, and although much of the night time economy was closed or restricted, drinking at home became increasingly normalised. Re-presentations for the other three drug cohorts (opiate, non-opiate, and alcohol and non-opiate) remained steady and comparable to previous years. Rolling 12-month data for treatment dropouts remained consistent, with 24% of clients dropping out of treatment during 2019/20, compared to 23% during 2020/21.

Demographic data for those in treatment varies for each of the four main cohorts. However, looking at the treatment population more broadly, 70% (1,749) of those in treatment as of March 2021 were male, with 30% (762) female. The ethnicity of the treatment population shows 76% are white British, with 5% Black and 5% Asian. The age of clients in treatment reveals a peak in those in the age band of 40-44, with 479 or 19%. Those aged between 30-54 accounted for nearly 77% of the in-treatment population.

When clients enter structured treatment, they cite their most problematic substances. The chart at figure 51 displays in order from high to low the most-commonly cited substances. Alcohol has typically been the most problematic substance, which can be anticipated as it is legal, affordable, and readily available. Alcohol citations reduced during 2020/21, as those in alcohol-only treatment reduced. Opiates were the most-commonly cited substance, with 1,380 people in treatment for these (mainly heroin). As previously mentioned there has been an increase in those using both opiates and crack and a reduction in those using heroin without crack. This local trend is also reflected nationally. Citations of cannabis, cocaine, and crack cocaine are consistent with previous years.

Figure 51: Nottingham clients 1st, 2nd and 3rd most problematic drug citations during 2020/21



Substance Misuse Provider Managerial Feedback

There has been a greater demand for substance misuse services in 2020/21, as drug supply is blighted by uncertainty. Coronavirus played a part in creating this uncertainty, and for obvious reasons, UK grown and supplied substances were more consistent in supply than those requiring international supply lines.

Substance misuse sources across Nottingham continue to see cannabis users largely unaffected by the pandemic, reporting dependence and requiring interventions. Suggestions of "stronger" supplies are yet to be seen. Club drugs were seen little of during the pandemic however as students (younger population) return to the city and clubs open up, more drug use and referrals to services are occurring, including for ketamine, ecstasy and stimulants. Stimulants, such as cocaine powder, continue to be common place across Nottingham with varied quality. Daily dependence is less common than binge use, and tragic consequences including death, is a growing national concern which has also affected Nottingham. Less common stimulants, such as crystal meth, have been seen whilst amphetamine referrals changed little, dedicated to a small subgroup more common in rural areas.

Synthetic cannabinoids (mamba) remains the most unpredictable substance taken in Nottingham. The effects of this drug are wider ranging, from no discernible effect, to being toxic enough to cause death, as seen in the early months of 2021. The pandemic has not helped the predictability of strength or content, whilst the low cost has driven its use amongst some of the most vulnerable. Nottingham substance misuse services continue to provide/adjust treatment intervention to address mamba use with some success, particularly inpatient detoxification. The growing presence of substance misuse practitioners within mental health settings are focussing harm reduction efforts upon this particularly vulnerable group, prone to mamba use. Effective early warnings remain a priority as does access to support that reduces the attraction of such a sedating substance. This includes treatment but also, importantly, welfare, housing and social support.

(Continued overleaf)

The Class A heroin and crack population continue to seek treatment and take advantage of substance misuse services provided in Nottingham city. The city can be rightly proud of the response to the challenge set by the Covid-19 pandemic, remaining open throughout. Recognising the vulnerability of the population, access was increased to meet demand, introducing the shortest wait for treatment ever seen in Nottingham. Since that early surge, numbers have stabilised with the vast majority of Class A drug users in treatment across Nottingham. This has enabled Nottingham substance misuse services to manage the variations in supply, purity and potential contamination. This has varied through the year with only recent months suggesting greater predictability in purity, however there may be possible future impact from changes in Afghanistan.

Nottingham city services continue to prioritise retention of service users in harm reduction services. 2020 ONS data suggests, despite all the pressures, less citizens died of drug-related deaths than in 2019, potentially a result of the whole system effort during the pandemic, from needle exchange to substitute prescribing, to blood borne virus interventions. The responsiveness of Nottingham city to the drug death challenge is robust from Naloxone to Hepatitis C treatment, coordinated and supported by commissioners.

In regard to emerging trends, the prevalence of dependence resulting from substances sourced from legitimate prescribers (doctors), pharmacists, the internet, friends and family is ever growing and ever more problematic. Whether tramadol or pregabalin (originally for pain), internet benzodiazepines for self-diagnosed mood issues, this cohort is increasingly common and problematic. Substance misuse services are best placed to treat those individuals but need a whole system response, primary care ideally involved.

In regard to alcohol problems, it remains the predominant substance leading to seeking treatment. The national picture of increasing numbers of problematic alcohol users is evident in Nottingham. Lockdown related alcohol problems, exacerbated by furlough, have been observed. Alcohol problems continue to affect all socio-economic groups, all age and genders, interventions utilising prescribing and/or counselling therapy continue to be needed and provided. In 2020 6,983 alcohol specific deaths occurred in England. In Nottingham, alcohol deaths continue. However, an important intervention has seen the increase of substance misuse presence within Nottingham hospitals with the hope and expectation being better identification of alcohol users in need of treatment. Nottingham City Alcohol lead has responded to the increased demand with greater awareness of interventions that can be delivered by primary care colleagues providing up to date accessible advice. During the pandemic, the treatment system continued to provide alcohol interventions, mostly remotely, with flexible dynamic partnerships with community colleagues, including GP's and pharmacists providing some home detoxification. Alcohol related problems are expected to continue to dominate the substance misuse referrals as Nottingham citizens continue to be affected by the pandemic and its long-term effects. Substance misuse services will continue to adapt to meet this need.

Nottingham city treatment services will continue to be flexible to whatever challenges the city's substance misusing population have. 2020/21 has required flexibility and services have risen to the challenge from leading mamba alerts to staying open when faced with a pandemic emergency.

Drug Related Deaths

Drug-related deaths (DRDs) have increased year-on-year in England since 2012, and reached another record high in 2020, increasing by 6% (or 249 additional deaths), from 4,312 to 4,561[16]. In total, England accounted for 95% of DRDs for the latest period, with deaths in Wales making up the remaining 5%. For each year in the last decade, around two-thirds (66%) of all DRDs were considered a result of drug misuse. Deaths registered in 2020 follow a similar pattern, with 2,996 relating to drug misuse, of a total of 4,561 DRDs. Drug misuse accounts for 70% of male and 57% of female DRDs.

The highest volume in 2020 was seen in the North West, with 771 deaths, with the highest rate in the North East, with 156.1 deaths per 1 million people. The East Midlands had the lowest volume of deaths in England, with 321, and one of the lower rates, with 69.4 deaths per 1 million people.

Local authority DRD data uses a rolling aggregated method over 3 years due to most local authorities having small numbers of drug poisoning deaths; the combination of 3 years' data allows for more accurate information,supporting more reliable calculations, and enabling data to be released

Figure 52: All drug poisoning deaths in 2020 alongside the mortality rates per 1 million of the population

Area	Deaths	Rate
England	***4312***	***79.3***
Wales	***224***	***76.4***
North East	389	156.1
North West	771	110.8
Yorkshire and the Humber	550	106.7
East Midlands	321	69.4
West Midlands	433	77.9
East	386	64.3
London	432	49.4
South East	575	64.6
South West	455	86.4

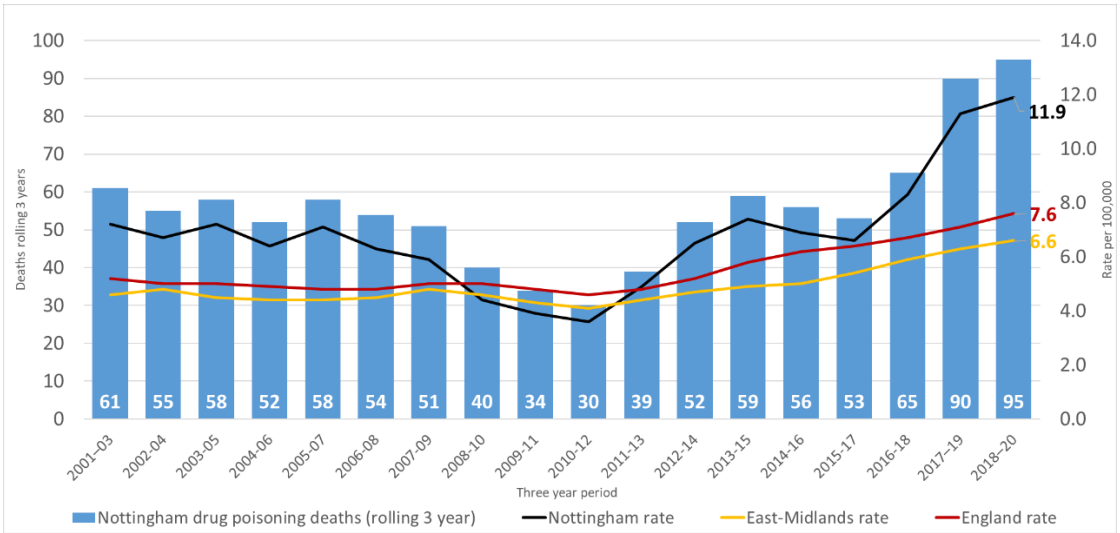
Figure 53: All drug poisoning for the rolling three-year period of 2018-2020 alongside the mortality rates per 100,000 population

Area	Deaths	Rate
East Midlands	911	6.6
Derby	61	8.2
Leicester	78	8.4
Nottingham	95	11.9
Rutland	1	:
Derbyshire	180	7.8
Leicestershire	98	4.8
Lincolnshire	150	7.2
Northamptonshire	102	4.7
Nottinghamshire	146	6.1

Nottingham had 95 drug poisoning deaths for the 2018-20 period, increasing from 90 during 2017-19. The rate of deaths in Nottingham is the highest for the East Midlands with 11.9 deaths per 100,000 people, increasing from 11.3 for the previous period. Nottingham's rate is higher than both the England average (7.6) and the East Midlands average (6.6).

[16] ONS, Deaths related to drug poisoning in England and Wales: 2020 registrations (2021) - https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsrelatedtodrugpoisoninginenglandandwales/2020

Figure 54: Drug related deaths data for the latest period of 2020



Although the rolling three-month data both for volume and rates reveals a worrying upward trend, data by year is slightly more positive. DRDs reduced by 38% from 40 deaths in 2019 to 25 deaths in 2020, or 15 fewer deaths. This, as touched upon earlier, is potentially because of a holistically co-ordinated approach with multiple partners and agencies involved.

This data is unlikely to cover the pandemic period due to an average turnaround of a coroner inquest being roughly 189 days, therefore around half of these deaths will have occurred in the previous year (2019), and the majority will have occurred before the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in the UK.

Nottinghamshire Police Crime Data

Drug offences recorded in Nottingham by Nottinghamshire Police for the three-year analysis period reveal a year-on-year reduction. The long-term comparison (of September 2018 to August 2019 with September 2020 to August 2021) shows a reduction of 638 drug offences, a 22% decline. The medium-term comparison (September 2019 to August 2020 with September 2020 to August 2021) also reveals a reduction in these offences, with 331 fewer offences, or a 13% decrease.

Drug offences are driven more broadly by the level of Police activity and how much resource and time are dedicated to detection of these offences. For the three-year analysis period, 49% (3,819) of drug offences were for possession of cannabis, with 32% (2,478) for possession of drugs excluding cannabis, 18% (1,384) were for trafficking in controlled substances, with a further 1% (53) for other drug offences.

Possession offences are typically people in possession of drugs for personal consumption, whereas trafficking in controlled substances usually involves larger quantities of drugs, often found when officers have pulled over a vehicle and searched the occupants, or where a search warrant has been issued for a suspected cannabis grow, or drug den.

Organised Criminal Groups (OCGs) are largely responsible for trafficking and supply of drugs, with active markets across Nottingham. Local intelligence reveals OCGs often use violence and intimidation to maintain their grip on markets and to keep up their reputations with competing gangs and dealers. Part one of the Dame Carol Black Review of Drugs found that

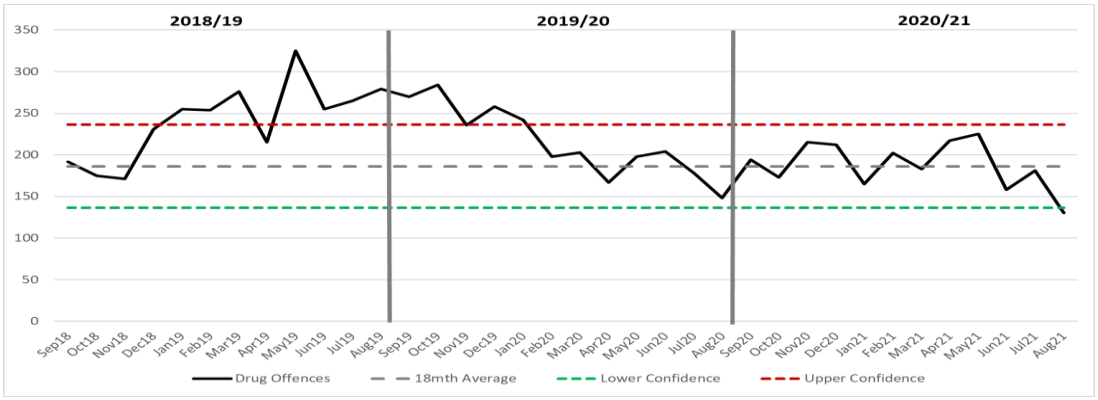
drug-related violence was a key contributor to increases in serious violence, with county lines also a significant factor[17]. An examination of drug offences in Nottingham reveals weapons (such as knives and machetes) being used by suspects, and additional methods of forced labour and cuckooing may also be utilised, impacting on vulnerable individuals who are exploited by these groups.

Figure 55: Drug offences in Nottingham for the three year-period

Drug Offences	Sep18-Aug19	Sep19-Aug20	Sep20-Aug21	Long term		Medium term	
				Volume +/-	%change	Volume +/-	%change
Possession of Drugs	2406	2151	1793	-613	-25%	-358	-17%
Trafficking in Controlled Drugs	487	435	462	-25	-5%	27	6%
Total	**2893**	**2586**	**2255**	**-638**	**-22%**	**-331**	**-13%**

The trend in drug offences in Nottingham is displayed in the chart at figure 56, which shows a gradual decrease from the financial year of 2018/19 through to 2019/20. Offences had already begun to decrease before the first lockdown in March 2021, with offences levelling off for the rest of the year and into 2020/21. The upper and lower confidence limits and average cover the last 18-month period. Offences reached a three-year low during August 2021 with 130 offences. This is set against the lifting of all Coronavirus restrictions and the reopening of the night time economy, wherein drugs are typically consumed in pubs, bars, or clubs – an increase in offences would be anticipated.

Figure 56: Drug offences in Nottingham by month



[17] Review of Drugs evidence relating to drug use, supply and effects, including current trends and future risks, Dame Carole Black, (2020) - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/882953/Review_of_Drugs_Evidence_Pack.pdf

Figure 57: Table of emerging trends & concerns around drugs

	Emerging Trends & Concerns - Nottinghamshire Police		
Substance	Synthetic Cannabinoid Receptor Agonists (SCRA)	Commonly used by homeless community In 2021 spate of deaths that could be linked to SCRA	
	Cannabis cultivation	Albanian OCGs linked to numerous cultivations Targets for robbery 'Premium' strands targeted at younger market Edibles have become commonplace - home producers and dealers using online supply. Risk - May be tempting to children as often wrapped as copies of well-known confectionary items or in baked goods Forensics have shown some to contains SCRA THC Lean (cannabis syrup) readily available - target market is young people	Usage expected to increase
	Vaping	THC, CBD, SCRA Associated risks as origin and content cannot be guaranteed. Collapses reported where SCRA was unknowingly vaped	
	Ketamine	Popular in NTE though often overlooked. No purity data available	
	MDMA	Tablet & crystal form	
	2CB & DMT	Intelligence stated 2CB has been sold as MDMA	
	Nitrous Oxide	Readily available. Young people believed to be predominant user group	
	Class A user market also contains Pregabalin, Benzodiazepines, Diazepam, Xanax, Flualprozolam and Modafinil		
Method	Dark Web / Internet Purchases	Becoming more common, esp. amongst young people.	
	Business Cards	Students targeted using business cards, loyalty cards and rewards or deals	
	County Lines	Young people from the City continue to be recruited to deal outside of the force area (and also locally). Often linked to OCGs.	
	Spiking	Huge recent increase in report of spiking, including injection. Coincides with return of student population Awaiting forensic results to identify substances used	

Current Picture for Young People by Change Grow Live (CGL)

Current Problems

CGL report receiving referrals from services outside of the statutory environment. These services are seeing young people with multiple complex needs, including either substance misuse, or being impacted by someone else's misuse. This has led to the identification of a gap where these young people are being identified, however safeguarding protocols are not being followed. CGL are concerned that there is a cohort of young people who are not identified via NDTMS, and potentially not receiving interventions or support. CGL are currently trying to bridge these gaps with relevant services.

An increase of referrals for children being impacted by substances (mainly alcohol) has been seen since restrictions eased. Several referrals have been received from primary schools where children have been impacted by parental alcohol use. This is a worrying trend but is reflective of findings since easing of restrictions regarding the increase of alcohol use among adults. CGL continue to monitor referrals and are supporting primary schools around this.

CGL continue to engage in Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) meetings, as they are a useful tool for the service - ensuring they are involved at the appropriate time and allowing intelligence to be shared.

Emerging trends

Young people have used a variety of drugs over the past 18 months, with consumption decreasing at the start of lockdown, and increased usage and new trends emerging as restrictions eased. Illicit Xanax was identified as a trend, with young people engaging in Bar Parties, and subsequent escalation to the use of solvents and ketamine was seen.

Edibles and SCRAs are the current areas of concern and there is intelligence to suggest that some children have brought them into Alternate Provision education settings (AP) where they have been used. Unconfirmed intelligence suggests some young people/young adults have experienced serious side effects, resulting in hospitalisation. Particular concerns have emerged around packaging, variable potencies, and underreporting from mainstream educational settings. The reasons for this underreporting are unknown. Further emerging trends are an increase in vaping and some young people reporting using THC vapes. Schools have requested training in relation to this issue, and up to date information on all trends is available via the CGL website.

How has the treatment system adapted

Restrictions have necessitated daily staff meetings, and the service began delivering telephone interventions with service users. This evolved into video calls and pre-recorded group work sessions which meant parents unable to attend usual sessions were able to engage. Social media apps and accounts were updated and improved, enabling the team to cascade important safeguarding messages. Although interventions and messages can be delivered digitally, feedback from young people has been that face to face is preferable, therefore a hybrid model has been designed to enable a mixture of face to face contact to build relationships, followed by video or digital appointments, where safe to do so. This has enabled flexibility for both staff and services users, and has been a positive change.

The service has recovered from the impact of Coronavirus and although referrals have not increased back up to pre-pandemic levels, the causes of this are recognised and are being addressed.

6. Priorities for 2022/23

6.1 Recommended priorities for 2022/23

It is recommended that the following areas should be a priority for the partnership in 2022/23:

- Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence
- Prevent
- Substance Misuse and treatment, including early intervention and information for young people
- Vulnerability and Exploitation
- Hate Crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour

6.2 Rationale and scoring matrix

A scoring matrix based on elements from the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) assessment method has been utilised to provide rationale for the above recommendations, based upon the arguments and findings in this document. The matrix and scoring is detailed below.

Thematic area / Type of risk	Risk to individual	Risk to public	Risk to organisation	Risk of financial impact	Risk to reputation / public perception	Total
Scored between 1-5. 1 being low, 5 being high.	Considering risk to both physical and mental wellbeing of the individual	The risk to the public from these issues	Risks of not responding, including likelihood of additional impact if issue not dealt with in a timely manner, and effect on other related services	Risk of financial impact if issue not addressed, considering funding received for these areas and volume of incidents/cases.	Assessment of reputational risk if response to issue is diluted or not made.	Total score
Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence	5	1	5	5	4	20
Prevent	4	4	4	3	5	20
Substance misuse and treatment	5	2	4	5	3	19
Vulnerability & Exploitation	5	1	5	3	4	18
Hate Crime	4	1	4	3	4	16
Anti-Social Behaviour	3	2	4	2	3	14