

Safer Newport Strategic Needs Assessment 2023



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Introduction

Safer Newport Community Safety Partnership

Safer Newport is Newport's Community Safety Partnership established under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) as a community safety partnership board providing strategic oversight and governance of identifying, preventing, and protecting community safety issues across the city.

Safer Newport delivers on emerging local community safety issues and problem solving regarding a range of themes including:

- Anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- Serious and organised crime (SOC)
- Safer Pill
- Safer City Centre

The Partnership also acknowledges the need to consider groups that are vulnerable and are at increased risk of crime abuse or harm directed towards them, such as, People Sleeping Rough, Gypsy, Roma-Traveller Communities, and Adults at Risk of Sexual Exploitation.

Gwent Police and Newport City Council (NCC) jointly chair the Partnership.

Safer Newport aims to ensure a partnership approach to preventing and tackling aspects of community safety across all areas of Newport and works closely with related boards and forums including the Gwent Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Board, the Area Planning Board and Counter Terrorism processes.

The vision for Safer Newport for 2024-2029 is 'to have a positive impact on the lives of our communities'.

Executive Summary and Key Findings

Safer Newport Community Safety Strategic Needs Assessment is a partnership commitment to ensuring that the needs, opinions, and experiences of Newport Residents are considered, analysed, and provide a suitable foundation for the Safer Newport Community Safety Plan 2024-2029.

As Wales's third largest city Newport has both opportunities and risks to manage. Newport is known as a gateway city, providing easy and quick access from England into Wales. This geography brings in a significant number of new people settling in Newport. According to the 2021 census data, Newport became the fasting growing unitary authority in Wales from 2011-2021.

Whilst Newport is growing, it is important to note that Newport is 70% rural, meaning that a significant portion of its 159,600 residents live within 30% of Newport land area. Population density such as this concentrates not only amenities and services but also infrastructural and community challenges.

Community Safety is a significant part of a resident's experience and welfare and can have direct impact on an individuals' quality of life and needs. The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act seeks to ensure the following.



1

These 7 wellbeing goals are a bedrock of Welsh Government's intention for Wales, both now and into the future. These goals are not intended to be considered in isolation, rather holistically considered for the mutual benefit of those living and working in Wales across all aspects of life.

Safer Communities in and across Wales can be and should be considered against these 7 wellbeing goals.

2

For example, we can consider this additional illustration to see how the spectrum of community safety needs could interact and connect to these 7 wellbeing goals. A more prosperous, cohesive, and more equal community would likely see a reduction in community safety issues, whether that be via perception changes or improvements in general area provision.³

There are therefore a multitude of ways in which we can and should approach Community Safety issues and needs.



¹ The Well-being of Future Generations | GOV.WALES

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² Safer Communities for Wales - Wales Safer Communities

³ <u>A review of evidence on socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome (summary) | GOV.WALES</u>

National and Social economic issues have been shown to have a direct impact on community safety and wellbeing. With the Covid pandemic and an ongoing cost-of-living crisis, the toll it takes on society cannot and should not be underestimated.⁴ Some of this can be seen via the data sets included within this SNA where dips and spikes of crime and needs of residents in Newport are illustrated.

You will observe within the following data sets that most comparable data shows Newport at a higher level of reported crime than the rest of the Gwent region. It is necessary to caveat this fact with Newport being demographically very different to other Local Authority areas in Gwent.

When compared to other similar forces in the UK⁵ Newport's rates for some crime types are average or below. Further comparison work will be done moving forward as part of annual reviews of the Safer Newport Community Safety Partnership.

Crime and the perception of crime has a direct impact on people's experience of a city, area or even street. As such, this SNA made sure to establish and include the perception of residents across the city with public surveys being completed over a 10-month period. We have seen 3646 responses to these surveys, including from businesses, partner agencies, community members and young people which were conducted via online, paper based and face to face group sessions. Overall residents reported that they feel safe in Newport, more so during the day than at night.

From crime data, partner data and public surveys the 3 priority areas identified for the Safer Newport Partnership are. Serious Organised Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour, and Vulnerable Groups.

These areas have been chosen based on the following,

1. Serious Organised Crime

Analysis of data, public and partner information related to serious violence, and areas of ASB indicates in Newport there are links whether directly or indirectly to serious organised crime.

2. Anti-Social Behaviour

Analysis of data, public and partner information shows that Anti-Social behaviour is consistently a concern across the city. Data associated with this area of community safety requires further consideration and as such will be a priority moving forward.

3. Vulnerable Groups.

As an increasingly diverse city there are groups of people which are, for various reasons, are at increased risk of crime abuse or harm directed towards them, such as, Children and Young People, People Sleeping Rough, Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Communities, Adults at Risk of Sexual Exploitation, and those experiencing any form of Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence. More depth and details on each can be found in the remainder of this document.

What has also been identified in the compilation of this SNA is that there are emerging areas or themes which do not have significant or broad enough data sets attached to them but need to be noted and monitored moving forward by the Safer Newport Community Safety Partnership. These emerging areas and themes can be found towards the end of this document on page 67.

From all the data gathered, it is also noted that we have identified data gaps and acknowledge that there is a bigger underlying picture we do not yet understand.

Therefore, a priority for Safer Newport and its subgroups will be to provide a continuation of analysis to all data and information contained within this document. There too will be an overarching priority to conduct a data gap analysis and development workstream.

⁴ Understanding the impact of the pandemic on crime | National Statistical (ons.gov.uk)

⁵ Compare your area | Police.uk (www.police.uk)

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It is important for the effectiveness and meaningfulness of this document that no single piece of data be considered in isolation or out of the context of this document.

What is a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA)?

A Community Safety needs assessment is a detailed evaluation of the current state of a variety of factors that contribute to community safety issues within a specific geographic area under the remit of the local authority. This assessment aims to identify the root causes, trends, and highlight key community safety themes such as Anti-Social Behaviour, Serious Violence and Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence. Analysis of data, which is both quantitative and qualitative, enables Safer Newport to develop a comprehensive understanding of the issue.

The assessment helps us determine the resources, policies, and strategies needed to effectively prevent and address community safety issues. It is acknowledged that collaboration between, Safer Newport's statutory partners including, Gwent Police, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB), Newport Youth Justice Service (YJS), South Wales Fire and Rescue Service (SWFR) and other stakeholders is essential to develop a targeted and evidence-based approach to identifying recurring themes of and improving community safety.

Whilst Safer Newport will have a direct responsibility for this SNA it is important to note the range of supporting Boards and Strategic Groups that all hold responsibility for action.

Contributing Legislation and Key Guidance

Crime and Disorder

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 one of a suite of UK legislation aimed to address and prevent crime and disorder. It introduced various measures such as Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), Parenting Orders, and provisions to tackle youth offending. The Act also emphasised partnerships between different agencies, like police and local authorities, working together in addressing crime and disorder issues in communities.

Serious Violence Duty 2022

Serious violence has a devastating impact on the lives of victims and families, instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society. Incidents of serious violence have increased in England and Wales since 2014. The Duty is a key part of the Government's programme of work to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence: taking a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence. The Duty aims to ensure that agencies are focussed on their activity to prevent and reduce serious violence whilst also providing sufficient flexibility so that the relevant organisations will engage and work together in the most effective local partnership for any given area.

Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003

The Antisocial Behaviour Act 2003 introduced measures to address and tackle antisocial behaviour. It amended existing laws to enhance the powers of authorities to deal with behaviours that were causing harm or distress to communities. The act also introduced other measures to address housing-related antisocial behaviour and to empower local authorities and police to act against those responsible.

Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Wales Act

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 aims to address and prevent gender-based violence. It provides a comprehensive legal framework to tackle issues such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, and other forms of violence against women. The Act mandates the development of strategies, support services, and training programs to raise awareness, protect victims, and hold perpetrators accountable. It also focuses on promoting collaboration between various agencies to ensure a coordinated response to these issues.

Domestic Abuse Act

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 covers England and Wales introduced to strengthen the legal framework around domestic abuse. It broadens the definition of domestic abuse to include not just physical violence, but also emotional, coercive, or controlling behaviour. The Act introduces protective measures such as Domestic Abuse Protection Notices and Orders, which aim to provide better protection for victims. Additionally, the act criminalises the non-fatal strangulation or suffocation of a partner or family member.

Methodology

This Strategic Needs Assessment adopts a public health approach that considers community safety across the entire population of Newport. A public health approach involves the adoption by all partners of a systematic and evidence informed process for understanding communities experience of safety and using evidence-based approaches that are evaluated for effectiveness to make positive changes. The first step is to understand the problem and issues in relation to community safety within a defined population.

Community safety is influenced by a wide range of factors across the conditions within which people are born, learn, work and age. This involves interactions with multiple agencies and organisations interacting as a whole system. Data has therefore been gathered from across the Safer Newport partnership including Gwent Police, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Newport City Council.

Population profile

Quantitative data has been gathered to describe the demographic characteristics of the population including age, sex, ethnicity, and sexuality. Community safety is also influenced by wider determinants such as education attainment, deprivation, and employment status. A summary of key indicators in relation to these wider determinants has been identified.

Prevalence of violence and risk factors for violence

Crime data has been analysed to understand the prevalence of violence within Newport using relevant comparators. This has focused upon three key themes of: Serious Violence; Anti-Social Behaviour and Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

Local data has also been gathered to understand the prevalence of protective factors that impact upon community safety and are important determinants for safe and resilient communities including housing status and school attendance.

Preventing violence happening in the first place (primary prevention) and intervening early to reduce further harm when it has occurred (secondary prevention) requires a shift to address the root causes of community safety concerns. Root causes will include vulnerability factors such as child exploitation, substance use, and adverse childhood experiences including domestic violence. Data is provided to understand at a local level the current prevalence of risk factors for community safety.

Qualitative insights

Quantitative data has been complimented with insights from people across Newport to strengthen and provide a more holistic understanding of community safety. This approach understands the importance of ensuring that the community voice is heard, and people can share their lived experience of safety.

A Community Safety Perception Survey has been undertaken which was available as an online survey and paper-based copies where needed. A total of 3646 survey and engagement responses were received with results analysed.

The findings of both the quantitative data and qualitative insights have been considered to establish key findings and emerging trends for consideration by the Safer Newport partnership. This will lead to the development of targeted and evidence-based interventions to address the specific community safety concerns in Newport.

Wellbeing of Future Generation Act

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is a piece of legislation in Wales, which aims to promote the long-term sustainability and well-being of both current and future generations. The Act introduces a framework that requires public bodies in Wales to consider the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of present and future generations when making decisions. It emphasises collaboration, integration, and prevention in policymaking to ensure that the choices made today have positive impacts on the well-being of people and the environment in the years to come. The Act also establishes a Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to monitor and advocate for the implementation of its principles.

Five ways of working

Throughout this Strategic Needs Assessment, the WBFG five ways of working have been considered. This threaded throughout the sections.



Supplementary Documents

As part of the extensive data and informational review, there is a sizable set of information that has contributed to this needs assessment and its findings. For ease of use this data and information can be found in supplementary documentation upon request by emailing, <u>onenewport@newport.gov.uk</u>.

About Newport

Profile of Newport

General information (2021 Census⁶ or Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019⁷)

Population	159,587	% of the Wales Population	5.1%
Population Density (population per km ²)	838	Area (km2)	217
% of people who identified as non-White	14.5%	% of the population are Female	50.9%
% of people are aged 65 and over	17.0%	% of people aged 16+ are LGBTQ+	2.88%
% of people aged 16+ have no qualifications	21.7%	% of people aged 16+ are economically inactive	39.3%
WIMD 2019 – Overall (% of LSOAs in most deprived 10%)	24.2%	WIMD 2019 – Community Safety Domain (% of LSOAs in most deprived 10%)	35.8%

A Community Well-being Profile⁸ (including six local area profiles) have been developed for Newport in support of the Gwent Well-being Assessment⁹.

The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (WIMD) is a measure of relative deprivation for small areas. WIMD is currently made up of eight separate domains (or types) of deprivation. Each domain is compiled from a range of different indicators.

⁶ ONS Census 2021 Maps

⁷ Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019

⁸ <u>Newport Community Well-being Profiles 2021</u>

⁹ Gwent Well-being Assessment

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Community Safety Issues

Community safety issues cover a range of crimes, behaviours, and concerns. These issues have all be identified as issues of concern within communities across Newport impacting on the public's experiences and perception of safety.

As a large city in Wales, Newport has a range of issues that impact directly on the public's experience, and feelings, of safety.

Via both quantitative and qualitative data obtained for this assessment we have been able to identify the 3 key police data sets community safety themes.

- 1) Anti-Social Behaviour
- 2) Serious Violence
- 3) Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Please see the following sections for more information and a summary of each area in relation to data used for this needs assessment.

Crime Data

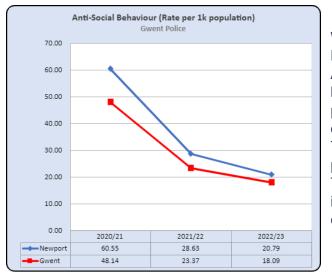
All crime data detailed below has been provided by Gwent Police. Overall crime in Newport sits above the Gwent average, though the gap has closed over the last 12-18 months. Newport's density and deprivation index impacts on crime data we can see below. <u>Please note that data below is reported incidents to the police and as such we should note that there will be more incidences that go unreported and will be experienced by the public and residents of Newport and may not be captured in the crime data below.</u>



For the purposes of this Strategic Needs Assessment the following crime data will focus on the 3 key areas outlined above in relation to their impacts on Community Safety.

1. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is conduct that has caused – or is likely to cause – harassment, alarm, or distress to any person. ASB impacts on individuals and communities. The impact of ASB can be low to severe based on individual impact and community impacts on quality of life and perception of safety as a result. Oftentimes ASB will be low level, non-criminal activity. Whilst non-criminal the effects on communities can be significant. ASB also can be a precursor for more serious and violent crime types.



Whilst this data shows us a steep decline of ASB in Newport, ASB still remains above the Gwent average. Antisocial behaviour is often known to be exasperated by limited alterative activities, especially for young people. This heightened level in 2020/21 would demonstrating this with most activities being closed. The decline correlates to reopening of facilities and programmes for engagement and diversions in place. This decline could also be considered in line with an increase or levelling up to more serious and violent crime incidents.

It is important to note that this is reported crimes and as such many aspects of ASB will be felt by communities and impact on daily life without being reported and recorded as a crime. Please consider this data set in relation to following sections of this SNA.

2. Serious Violence

Serious Violence is defined as 'specific types of crime such as homicide, knife crime, and gun crime and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in gangs and county lines drug dealing. It also includes emerging crime threats faced in some areas of the country such as the use of corrosive substances as a weapon.'10

The Knife Angel

The Knife Angel is a statue created from confiscated or surrendered knives by Police Forces across England and Wales (including Gwent Police) and was created to highlight the impacts of violent behaviour. The Knife Angel was situated in Friars Walk for the month of November 2022. As a Community Safety Partnership, Safer Newport committed to support the Knife Angel's Legacy by becoming an active contributor of the National Anti-Violence Charter for UK cities and towns. As part of this, Safer Newport pledges to work in partnership to reduce violence and aggressive behaviour through continued and sustained educational efforts and to increase intolerance to violence in all its forms throughout Newport's communities.

Crime data

It is important to note that UK Home Office requirements have called for regional partnership responses to the Serious Violence Duty and have required that there be a Regional Strategic Need Assessment and Strategy to be completed. Please review the attached in conjunction with this SNA.

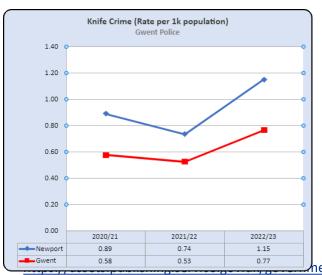




Gwent Serious Gwent Serious

Violence Duty SNA 20 Violence Duty Strateg: (Link will be added once published)

Newport Crime Categories	Population	154,676	156,447	159,658	% Change (previous year)	
Categories	Year	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23		
	No. of people	0	2	3	50.0%	
	Rate per 1k population	0.00	0.01	0.02	47.0%	



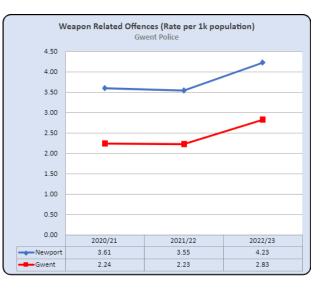
From the data above it is seen that since the end of covid restrictions and lockdowns, the incidents of knife crime have increased. This is likely due to a resuming of 'normal' life, increased social gatherings and a return to nighttime economy activities.

nent/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/s

erious-violence-strategy.pdf p14 Safer Newport - Strategic Needs Assessment 2023 **Final Version**

The use of weapons has been a rising issue over the years with cases increasing steadily. Once again Newport's figures remain above the Gwent average for this crime set. However, Newport is not alone, and we know that weapon related crimes have been increasing across the UK over the last few years with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) reporting a 21% increase from September 21-September **22**¹¹.

Grievous Bodily Harm by its name indicates the severity of these offences. From the graph we can see that within the scope of Serious Violent Crime data, this is the most significant in terms of occurrences. More than 100x that of homicide. Violent crime and its increase within Newport have a direct impact on perceptions of safety within. Please see the below section on 'The Voices of Citizens and Partners.'



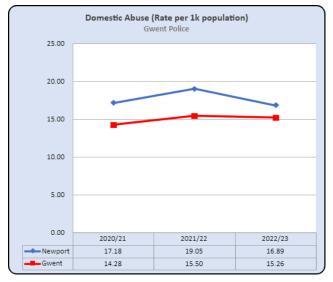


¹¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/knife-and-offensive-weapon-sentencing-statistics-july-to-september-2022#:~:text=The%20recent%20police%20recorded%20crime,in%20year%20ending%20September%202022. Safer Newport - Strategic Needs Assessment 2023 **Final Version**

3. Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence is a three-pronged approach to tackling violence and abuse within homes and public spaces.

- Violence Against Women: This refers to any act of gender-based violence that results in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women which are rooted in unequal power dynamics between genders.
- Domestic Abuse: This is a pattern of controlling behaviour by one person against another person whom they have an intimate connection with be that a partner or family member. It can involve physical, emotional, psychological, and financial abuse, and is aimed at establishing power and control over the victim.
- Sexual Violence: This encompasses any non-consensual sexual act or behaviour inflicted on an individual against their will. It includes rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and any unwanted sexual advances or actions that violate a person's autonomy and dignity.
- Areas of Honour Based Abuse, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation all sit within this area as all are predominately experienced by women highlighting these crimes as a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) issue.



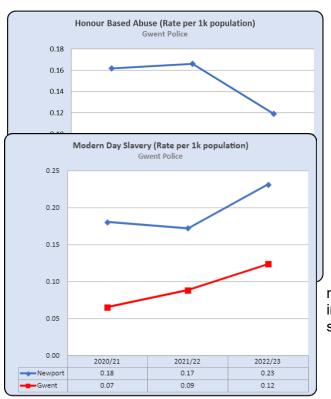
Domestic abuse saw a significant impact from Covid in Newport and across the UK Reporting and disclosures were all impacted by lockdowns, lack of easy access to services and being in further isolation with their abuser. A lasting impact of cases reported has seen that the complexity and severity of these cases has increased significantly with more sector support required. Impacted on this crime data, it is the fact that many cases of DA will go unreported to police, and many will suffer in silence.

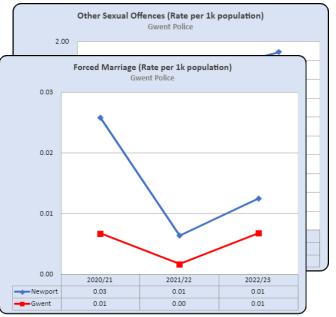


UK wide there has been an increase over the last few years in reports and prosecutions of rape and the data for Newport echoes this trend. Serious Sexual Violence attacks and Rape have a lasting impact on community safety and in particular women's sense of safety both in public and private settings. We know that within Newport there are hotspot areas for this crime category and whilst work has been done to mitigate some of these risks, there is still more to be done. Issues around the justice system in relation to rape offences is well publicised, with the Justice system and this publicity will give rise to reporting increase as we more see prosecutions and convictions increase. These crime type can be considered as other touching, exposure and predatorial behaviour. This rise is much like the above rape statistics in that public perception and concern has grown of with this crime and as such is more reported by the public. National and international campaigns have led to greater public awareness and indignation.

This data set shows the number of police reports of Modern Day Slavery, of which the categories are sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude, Criminal exploitation, and can include organ removal; forced begging; forced benefit fraud; forced marriage and illegal adoption.¹² This is placed

within the VAWDASV crime section as globally 71% of victims are women and girls, and often includes abuse of many kinds including sexual for both male and female victims. This data for Newport would need to be further considered to measure impact and resources needed.





As can be seen with many of the other data sets, Newport's figures on HBA are significantly higher than the Gwent average, it is likely that this is due to Newport's profile of higher levels of diversity and population density. HBA is a multifaceted issue and one that, due to its elevated level of risk, is under reported. We can therefore anecdotally assume that individual lived experience of Honour Based Abuse is significantly higher than is reported.

A spike in reporting and discovery of this crime could be linked to the limited travel options and lack of options for abroad marriages to take place during the pandemic. Again, much like HBA, this crime will

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¹² <u>6.3679_PH_Modern Slavery further materials (publishing.service.gov.uk)</u>

be under reported due to cultural community expectations and repercussions. Newport's levels once again remain high in compassion to Gwent due to population profile.

Community and Social Determinants

In addition to the crime data outlined and detailed above it is important that crime is not seen in isolation but rather as part of systemic community and social influences. Below are details of five additional areas that need to be considered.

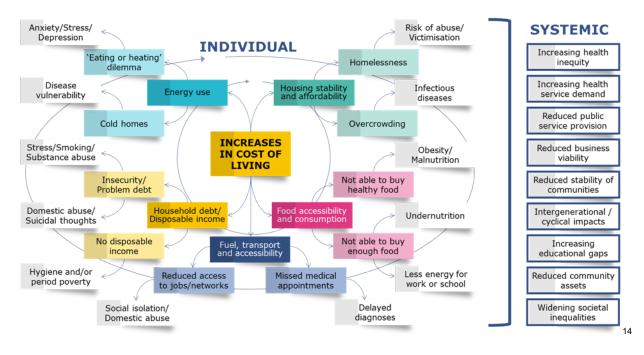
Newport Geography

According to the 2021 census data, Newport became the fasting growing unitary authority in Wales from 2011-2021.

Whilst Newport is growing, it is important to note that Newport is 70% rural, meaning that a significant portion of its 159,600 living in 30% of Newport land area. Population density such as this concentrates not only amenities but also issues.

Cost of living

The cost-of-living crisis impacts upon wider social factors beyond finances.¹³ Social issues and challenges contribute to health and community factors. The impact is varied and wide. With impacts not limited to community safety, this work is a key part of the ongoing work of Gwent as a Marmot Region.



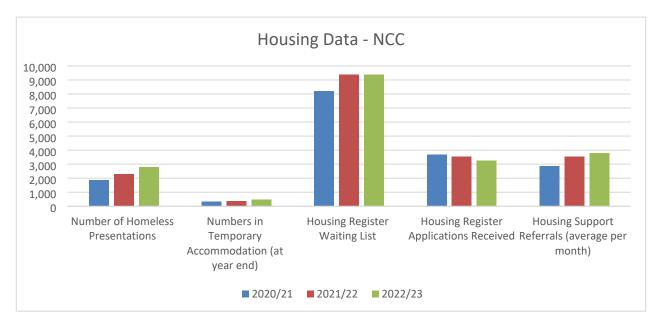
¹⁴ The cost-of-living crisis is a public health issue | British Politics and Policy at LSE

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¹³ <u>https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/the-cost-of-living-crisis-is-a-public-health-issue/</u>

Housing Needs

Housing need, issues or difficulties alone are not precursors for Community Safety issues. However insecure housing can contribute and increase risk and perception of community safety issues. Research shows that stable housing options and ownership can have a positive impact on communities as a whole and reduce crimes and risks of criminal activity within a community.¹⁵



Rough Sleeping

Whilst the graph shows a decline in rough sleeping in Newport over the last 3 years. Support services and Housing interventions have contribute to this decline.



Impacts on community safety can be perception with increasing rough sleeping and the public feeling less safe, but this also puts a vulnerable group of individuals at an increased risk of abuse and violence. ¹⁶

Asylum Seekers and Refugees.

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¹⁵ <u>https://academic.oup.com/ej/advance-article/doi/10.1093/ej/uead040/7190617?login=false</u>

¹⁶ <u>"It would take your soul away": Major new research from Crisis reveals the inhumanity faced by people</u> <u>sleeping rough in England | Crisis | Together we will end homelessness</u>

Whilst the Home Office have now moved to a system of full dispersal, Newport has been a traditional dispersal area, bringing into the city a variety of nationalities and cultures. However, due to the trauma many suffer on their journey to the UK Asylum seekers and refugees are often vulnerable and isolated. This can make them a target for recruitment into crime or a victim of abuse and hate. Public perception of asylum seekers and refugees also has an impact.

Asylum seekers arrived.	Refugees (Granted

Table 1: Asylum seekers arrived in Newport and granted leave to remain.

	Asylum seekers arrived. in Newport	Refugees (Granted leave to remain)
April 21 to March 22	198	168
April 22 to March 23	191	126
April 23 to January 24	199	176

Table 2: overview of total numbers of accommodated asylum seekers in Newport from March2021- January 2024

Mar-	Apr-	May-	Jun-	Jul-	Aug-	Sep-	Oct-	Nov-	Dec-	Jan-	Feb-	Mar-
21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	22	22	22
444	457	428	415	417	414	425	431	426	436	438	429	

Mar- 22	Apr- 22	Мау- 22	Jun- 22				Oct- 22	Nov- 22	Dec- 22	Jan- 23	Feb- 23	Mar- 23
445	483	491	485	483	489	483	483	460	463	450	444	429

Mar- 23										
429	437	437	430	437	425	416	398	362	345	362

Children and Young People

The number of children living in Newport is 31,410¹⁷ It is the intention of Welsh Government to ensure that children's rights to be safe, healthy and to flourish are a top priority.¹⁸ As such Newport's youngest residents will be considered, in their own right, as part of this SNA. Children and young

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¹⁷ <u>Community Wellbeing Profile 2019 - Newport Population</u>

¹⁸ <u>CCFW-FGCW-Report-English_01.pdf</u> (childcomwales.org.uk)

people can be more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, and as such need to be considered in more detail.

Education Data

Education in Newport is made of 57 schools under the following categories.

- Primary Schools
- Secondary Schools
- Independent / Church Schools
- Special Schools
- Pupil Referral Units

School Year Groups	Nursery*	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
October 2023	1494	1975	1943	2080	2131	2066	2026	2068
Newport Pupils Total ¹⁹	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Grand Total
**	2007	2020	1976	1977	1992	865	682	27,308

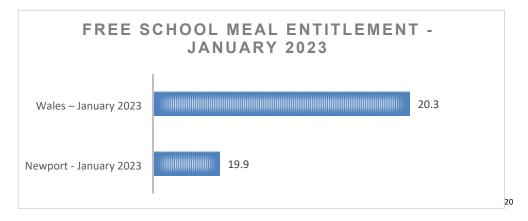
*Nursery count includes AM & PM sessions and 'rising 3' pupils

**Includes pupils in Learning Resource Bases

Below are some education-based statistics to better enable us to consider and reflect on the needs of Children and Young People in Newport and ensure their safety and protection.

It is noted that a need of robust data sets for education related to community safety to be established in line with additional data work already identified. This will enable future iterations of Safer Newport Community Safety Strategic Needs Assessments to be more rounded and considered. This will include the need for Welsh Government National data sets to be obtained for comparison and considerations.

Free School Meals



Newport is currently ranked in 11th position for the % of pupils entitled to free school meals.

Newport is in line with all Wales average % of pupils entitled to free school meals. This data can be used as an indicator for poverty but can also be underestimated due to families that do not claim this benefit.

Attainment data

²⁰ https://www.gov.wales/schools-census-results-january-2023-html#130502

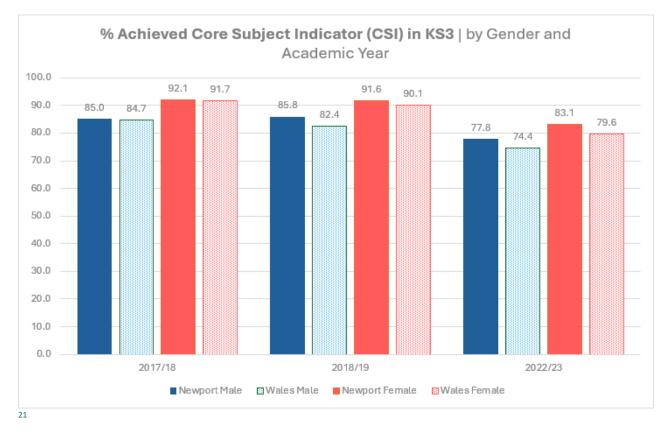
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¹⁹ Pupil numbers | Newport City Council – October 2023

The below data set show Newport attainment data in comparison to Welsh average achievement data.

Key Stage 3 Attainment Data



The data above shows Newport's attainment of Core Subject qualifications at Key Stage 3 remain above the Welsh average.

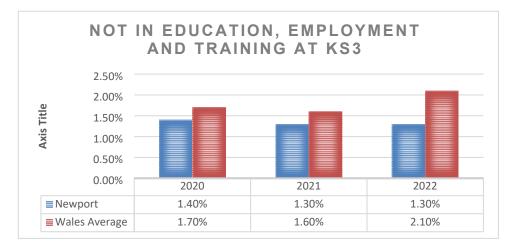
Key Stage 4 Attainment Data

Attainment data for Key Stage 4 is due to be released shortly and will be added to this section once available.

Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET)

The graph below shows the total percentage of pupils at the end of year 11 classed at Not in Education, Employment and Training.

²¹ Academic achievement of pupils at Key Stage 3: September 2022 to August 2023 | GOV.WALES Safer Newport – Strategic Needs Assessment 2023 Final Version



For 2022, the published Welsh Government Year 11 NEET figure in Newport was 1.3%, equating to 22 young people identified as NEET out of the total number of Yr11 cohort of 1717. This placed the local authority in joint 2nd position in Wales. The 2022 figure remains below the Wales average for the seventh consecutive year.

Young People who are recognised as NEET can have a higher probability of becoming social excluded or vulnerable to involvement in crime.

Exclusion data

Fixed term exclusions (up to 5 days) per 1000 pupils: 2015-2022

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Newport	40.9	38.3	37.5	36.1	24.6	27.9
Wales	30.9	34.4	36.6	41	28.7	27.6
Newport ranking	19 th	15 th	11 th	11 th	8 th	11 th (joint with Merthyr Tydfil)

Fixed term exclusions (over 5 days) per 1000 pupils: 2015-2022

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Newport	1.8	1.5	0.9	0.9	0.08	0.4
Wales	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.1
Newport ranking	16 th /15 th (joint with Powys)	11 th /12 th (joint with Swansea)	5 th	4 th	Data supressed	1 st (joint with Cardiff)

Permanent exclusions per 1000 pupils 2015-2022

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Newport	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.6
Wales	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3
Newport ranking	14 th	14 th	10 th	22 nd (joint with Blaenau Gwent)

Within Newport LA, fixed term exclusion over five days is low. There has been a specific focus to re-engaging pupils back into school as quickly as possible. Permanent exclusions remain too high. The reduction of these remains a priority for the local authority. A newly developed 'Harmful Behaviours' protocol has also introduced to support the prevention of permanent exclusions. Newport LA has always sought to work collaboratively with all schools to seek an alternative to

permanent exclusion and the weekly secondary Managed Move Panel is integral to this. However, despite the strength of this panel and the multi-agency work that is continuing to develop, rates of permanent exclusion were above the Wales average both in the academic years 2020-21 and in 2021-22.

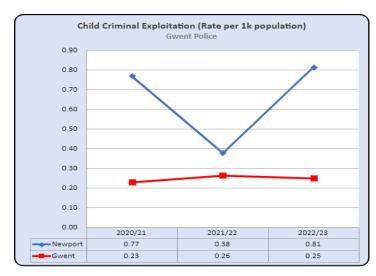
The ongoing collaboration of Education Service representatives along with NCC Youth Justice Service and Gwent Police is proving to have impact, particularly around supporting young people at risk of or who are being criminally exploited.

Children and Community Safety

Children and young people can be more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, and as such need to be considered in more detail.

Criminal Exploitation.

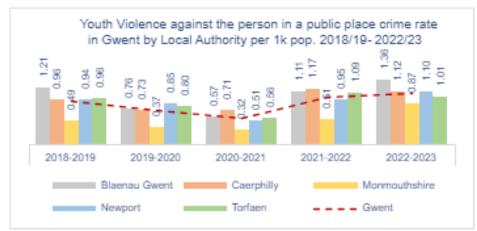
Criminal exploitation is child abuse where children and young people are manipulated and coerced into committing crimes.



This data set shows a significant increase in children within criminal exploitation. Links to this data set need to be considered within a wider context of, deprivation and need and further links into serious violence and organised crime groups.

Public Space Youth Violence

Youth violence against the person crime rate in Gwent has risen by 19% between 2018-19 and 2022-23. When comparing the 5-year average crime rate by local authority Blaenau Gwent has the highest with 1.00 crime per 1k pop., followed by Caerphilly with 0.94, Torfaen with 0.88, Newport with 0.87 and finally Monmouthshire with 0.51.



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When comparing the 5-year average volume of crime in each local authority Caerphilly has the highest number with 169, followed by Newport with 135, Torfaen with 82, Blaenau Gwent with 69 and Monmouthshire with 48.²²

Youth Justice Service

The Youth Justice Service (YJS) is central to the Youth Justice System. There is a YJS in every local authority in Wales and England set up with the intention of reducing the risk of young people offending and re-offending, and to provide counsel and rehabilitation to those who do offend. Youth offending teams engage in a wide variety of work with young offenders aged 10 to 17 years to try and achieve their aims. Locally, the service brings together staff from a wide range of organisations including the local authority, police, probation service, health, and specialist project workers. By working together, sharing knowledge, skills, and experience, they aim to help young people make the right life choices and reduce youth offending.

Youth Justice Service Interventions	2020/202 1	2021/2022	2022/202 3
Preventative Workstreams	131	194	220
Out of Disposal Workstreams	116	73	76
Statutory Court Workstreams	49	30	30
Year Totals	296	297	326

 ²² Serious Violence Duty Strategic Needs Assessment for Gwent 2024.
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Health – Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board is the operational name of Aneurin Bevan University Local Health Board. The Health Board was established on the 1st of October 2009 and covers the areas of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, and Torfaen.

The below details hospital admissions based on assault type and age below.

Whilst numbers below have shown some areas where Newport is above the Welsh average, these have seen a decline in recent years. This needs to be considered more moving forward to monitor noted increases, particularly around Young People and Violent Assaults.

	Assault by sharp o	Assault by sharp object (ICD10 code - X			
Local Authority Name	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22		
Newport	5.17	7.03	1.92		
Wales	3.17	2.87	2.37		

Summary of Wales Hospital Admissions for violence (Assault by sharp object - ICD10 code - X99) by Local Authority area, rates per 100,000 and covering 2016/17 to 2021/22

	All Violence & Assaults (ICD10 codes - X91-X99; Y00-Y09)				
Local Authority Name	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22		
Newport	52.37	37.07	28.76		
Wales	31.40	20.70	21.96		

		Young People (Under 25) - Assault by sharp object (ICD1) code - X99)					(ICD10
Local Name	Authority	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
Newport		4.24		6.25		0.00	
Wales		3.20		3.19		2.86	

Summary of Wales Hospital Admissions for violence (Assault by sharp object - ICD10 code - X99) by Local Authority area, rates per 100,000 and covering 2016/17 to 2021/22

		Young People (Under 25) - All Violence & Assaults (ICI codes - X91-X99; Y00-Y09)				CD10	
Local Name	Authority	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
Newport		65.74		31.25		33.33	
Wales		37.68		23.23		27.41	

Public Protection

Illegal Tobacco

The sale of illegal tobacco is a threat to communities and businesses. Recorded intelligence within the National Trading Standards Intelligence Database for the Newport area, shows significant threats from organised crime groups running illegal tobacco pop-up shops in previously empty properties.

Officers in the last three years have:

- Submitted 444 reports to the intelligence database. (19% of all reports)
- Seized 1.5 million cigarettes and 225 kilos of tobacco with a retail value of £1,088,250.
- Seized cash, vaping products, and cannabis.
- Frozen 2 bank accounts with a value of £122,000.
- Closed 32 shops using ASB legislation, delivering a £1.5 million impact on the profits of the crime groups.
- Undertaken 11 investigations leading to 7 prosecutions.

Officers have raised concerns that other criminality may be operating within the crime groups including supply of illicit drugs, offensive weapons, money laundering, human trafficking, grant fraud, and other regulatory issues.

Illegal Disposable Vapes

In a similar vein to illegal tobacco, illegal disposable vapes represent an increasing threat to local communities and businesses. Organised crime groups have realised the potentially lucrative market and have either diversified their illegal tobacco activities to include illegal vapes or set up vape only shops which have a set dressing of legal vapes but are established to sell illegal vapes. In the past three years officers have:

- Submitted 61 reports to the intelligence database.
- Seized or removed from sale 2,344 illegal disposable vapes.
- Taken one successful prosecution.

In contrast to the results of underage test purchase sales of illegal tobacco which are rare, the sale of vapes (legal or illegal) to underage volunteers are high. In the last three years, out of 39 attempted underage test purchases of vapes 13 sales were made representing a failure rate of 30%. This propensity to sell vapes to underage persons is reflected in the increasing use of vapes among young people including when at school.

Environmental Protection

The Environmental Protection team continues to deliver Pollution Control, nuisance investigation and fixed penalty notice enforcement, working in partnership with numerous partner agencies. Notable updates.

32 Community Protection Warnings issued since January 2022

- 66 Fixed Penalty Notices issued by the Community Protection team since January 2022
- Continues to contribute to multi-agency Waste Crime project work & Operations to detect Waste carrying offences and provide advice & enforcement where necessary.
- Contributes to partnerships: Event Safety Advisory Group, Wentloog Stakeholder Group, Marshfield working group, Living Levels working group, Pollution Expert Panel. Fly Tipping Action Wales

The Environmental Protection team has identified potential immigration, Modern Day Slavery, money laundering, harassment & intimidation offences associated with cases of nuisance, and Anti-social Behaviour they are investigating, and multi-agency partnership working & intelligence sharing is ongoing.

Nighttime economy

Night-time economies are an important part of our towns and cities including Newport city centre. Most people enjoy a night out safely and sensibly and can create a rich vibrate and cultural environment. However, the night-time economy can be associated with issues, predominantly around alcohol fuelled violence and crime and antisocial behaviour.

To ensure Newport has a Safe Nighttime Economy Officers have work closely with both the Licensing Trade and Responsible Authorities.

Officers in the last three years have:

- Obtained Purple Flag status highlighting that Newport City Centre has met or surpassed the standards of excellence in managing the evening and nighttime economy.
- Inspected approximately 2780 taxi drivers and vehicles during Nighttime Work.
- Undertaken 47 Nighttime enforcement operations ensuring compliance.
- Undertaken 12 Licensing reviews / interventions have on Licenced premises.
- Provided approximately 2500 Safeguarding training courses (CSE) to the taxi trade.

Officers have raised concerns that other criminality may be operating within the crime groups including supply of illicit drugs, money laundering, human trafficking, CSE and other regulatory issues.

Empty Properties on the City Centre.

As previously highlighted, there have been a significant number of premises utilised in the City Centre for 'Cannabis Grows'. Colleagues from Gwent Police executed warrants at various premises, seizing large numbers of Cannabis Plants/associated equipment and many arrests have been made. This issue clearly highlighted how vulnerable some business premises and unused flats above the ground floor are to criminality. The key objective is to work together as a partnership to understand who owns the respective properties and protect them from further illegal use.

Gwent Police have been working with Newport City Council's Environment and Public Protection Teams, City Centre Manager, and other key partners in response to these threats.

A database has now been compiled containing all the premises in the City Centre, utilising the knowledge across the partnerships and other systems, each property is being RAG rated based on the information known. The critical element is to establish those premises at 'High Risk' of illegal or criminal use. in February 2024 partners conducted a scoping exercise in the city to assist with the risk grading process.

Gwent Police will be working with NCC officers to encourage business owners to report concerns in the future to ensure early identification and action.

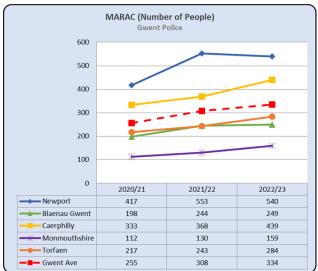
The database will allow a constant up to date record of all the premises in the City Centre which can be amended to reflect a change of use.

Colleagues in CCTV will be briefed on any premises identified as at risk or vulnerable to ensure any concerns are identified and addressed in a timely manner.

Additional VAWDASV Information

The below data is intervention data related to perpetrators of VAWDASV and, in particular Domestic abuse.

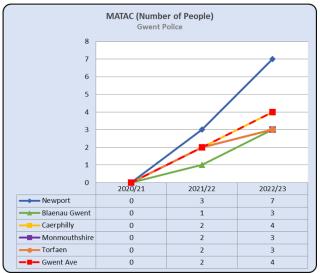
VAWDASV (MARAC and MATAC)



A MARAC is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.

After sharing all relevant information they have about a victim, the representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victim and turn these into a co-ordinated action plan. The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim. The MARAC will also make links with other fora to

safeguard children and manage the behaviour of the perpetrator. At the heart of a MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety. The victim does not attend the meeting but is represented by an IDVA who speaks on their behalf. Newport Data sits clearly above the Gwent average with notable spikes related to lockdowns and their impacts on victims of DA.



MATAC refers to the Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination process of identifying and tackling serial perpetrators of domestic abuse perpetrators. The overarching objectives of the MATAC are to safeguard adults and children at risk of domestic abuse and to reduce the offending of domestic abuse perpetrators.

** Caveat is the figures are estimates on the basis that Police and Probation have not really rolled out a "referral process" for MATAC yet. Because it is a pilot that has been running for the last 2 years, nominations were based on professional judgement initially until the RFG tool we use was introduced. So initially, capacity was set at 5 for the east and 5 for the west then for the last financial year when the RFG

tool kicked in, capacity was increased to 10 for the west and 10 for the east.

Adults at Risk of Sexual Exploitation

Horizon Exploitation Support Service based within Cyfannol Women's aid provides information, advice, support and advocacy services to adults and young people in Gwent who are currently, or are at risk of, experiencing sexual or financial exploitation.

The service is open to all adults and young people regardless of the environment in which they are being exploited, for example: Street-based, Parlours/brothels, Online, Home, People who have been trafficked,

People providing telephone service.23

Below are the numbers of women who have been supported by Horizon service.

- 2020- SEASS supported 15 people.
- 2021- Horizon supported 96 people.

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²³ Horizon Exploitation Support Service - Cyfannol Women's Aid Safer Newport - Strategic Needs Assessment 2023

- 2022- Horizon supported 47 people
- 2023- Horizon supported 81 people.

Probation Service

Gwent MAPPA

Gwent MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by individuals who have committed the most serious sexual, violent, and terrorist offences (MAPPA-eligible individuals) under the provisions of sections 325 to 327B of the Criminal Justice Act 2003. They bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services in each of the 42 Areas in England and Wales into what is known as the MAPPA Responsible Authority. There are 4 categories of MAPPA-eligible individual:

- Category 1 –subject to sex offender notification requirements.
- Category 2 mainly violent offenders sentenced to 12 months or more imprisonment or a hospital order.
- Category 3 individuals who do not qualify under Categories 1, 2 or 4 but whose offences pose a risk of serious harm.
- Category 4 terrorism convicted and terrorism risk individuals.

There are three levels of management to ensure that resources are focused where they are most needed: generally, those presenting the higher risks of serious harm.

- Level 1 is where the individual is managed by the lead agency with information exchange and multi-agency support as required but without formal MAPPA meetings.
- Level 2 is where formal MAPPA meetings are required to manage the individual.
- Level 3 is where risk management plans require the attendance and commitment of resources at a senior level at MAPPA meetings.

The following data is Gwent Wide. ²⁴

MAPPA-eligible individuals on 31 March 2023

	Category 1: Subject to sex offender notification requirements	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	810	138	-	948
Level 2	13	11	13	37
Level 3	1	0	1	2
Total	824	149	14	987

²⁴ <u>Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) annual reports 2022 to 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total)

	Category 1: Subject to sex offender notification requirements	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	13	17	24	54
Level 3	3	0	1	4
Total	16	17	25	58

Category 1 cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	36
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Category 1 who have had their life time notification revoked on application

Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders

Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO)	53
SHPO with foreign travel restriction	0
Notification Order	1

Number of individuals who became subject to sex offender notification	0
requirements following a breach(es) of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)	

Level 2 and 3 individuals returned to custody

Returned to custody for breach of licence	Category 1: Subject to notification requirements	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	8	6	9	23
	2	0	0	

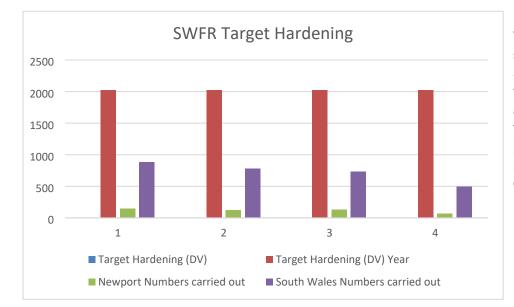
Level 3	2	0	0	2
Total	10	6	9	25

Breach of SHPO	
Level 2	0
Level 3	1
Total	1

Total number of individuals subject to sex offender notification requirements	158
per 100,000 population	

South Wales Fire and Rescue

South Wales Fire and Rescue data has specific links into VAWDASV and ASB crime types specifically.



Target hardening is a service provided by SWFRS to support victims of domestic abuse by securing their home and by providing them with personal protective equipment.



Gwent Police data shows that Criminal Damage and Arson have risen over the last few years but have not spiked significantly above the Gwent average, or within Gwent as a whole. There is a plateauing of this within Gwent with a slight decline in Newport. Criminal Damage and Arson have significant impacts on Community Safety and Community feelings of safety within a given area.

The specific areas of fire related activity relate more to ASB are.

- All Deliberate fires. 3 types.
- Malicious false Alarms.
- Attack on crews.

The below data is broken down to the 3 fire stations in Newport.

Breakdown b	v financial	vear and	current financial	vear to date
Dicalcaonii b	, maneral	, car arra	carrent internetation	Jean to date

	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Mar 2022	Mar 2023
Total Fires Attended	306	321	273	211	233	361
Primary Fire	85	89	85	64	80	100
Accidental Dwelling Fires Attended	7	20	24	20	23	25
Secondary Fire	221	232	188	147	153	261
Deliberate Fire	264	239	213	168	171	274
Deliberate refuse fires attended	182	145	136	122	124	164
Deliberate grass fires attended	26	61	29	16	8	60
Deliberate Vehicle fires attended	37	13	28	17	17	12
Special Service Call	141	132	119	117	120	138
Total RTCs Attended	35	39	31	20	26	27
Automatic False Alarms	321	287	305	315	302	372
Malicious False Alarms	22	16	33	18	24	23
Attack on Crews	0	0	1	0	1	1
Total Deaths and Injuries In Fires	0	3	2	1	1	2

Maindee FRS

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Breakdown by financial year and current financial year to date

	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Mar 2022	Mar 2023
Total Fires Attended	337	346	297	297	261	356
Primary Fire	102	109	102	94	80	100
Accidental Dwelling Fires Attended	30	19	25	16	20	23
Secondary Fire	235	237	195	203	181	256
Deliberate Fire	270	285	227	245	198	298
Deliberate refuse fires attended	170	159	138	162	127	181
Deliberate grass fires attended	43	55	34	21	26	48
Deliberate Vehicle fires attended	29	52	42	39	23	31
Special Service Call	144	96	138	125	123	144
Total RTCs Attended	52	39	39	27	24	29
Automatic False Alarms	203	178	170	128	180	184
Malicious False Alarms	11	16	19	14	25	19
Attack on Crews	0	1	0	3	1	1
Total Deaths and Injuries In Fires	0	4	6	2	4	0

Breakdown by financial year and current financial year to date

	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Mar 2022	Mar 2023
Total Fires Attended	226	211	229	172	266	249
Primary Fire	66	72	83	57	83	89
Accidental Dwelling Fires Attended	24	21	29	26	26	22
Secondary Fire	160	139	146	115	183	160
Deliberate Fire	175	153	175	125	207	204
Deliberate refuse fires attended	122	96	95	88	133	89
Deliberate grass fires attended	12	27	32	16	36	55
Deliberate Vehicle fires attended	20	16	29	15	26	40
Special Service Call	133	102	129	106	129	137
Total RTCs Attended	48	43	30	18	25	25
Automatic False Alarms	195	149	192	186	185	185
Malicious False Alarms	8	8	10	2	15	14
Attack on Crews	0	1	3	0	1	0
Total Deaths and Injuries In Fires	3	5	0	0	4	1

CONTEST

The aim of CONTEST, the UK's counter-terrorism strategy, is to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK, its citizens, and interests overseas, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. It is an ideologically agnostic approach designed to tackle current and emerging threats.

CONTEST consists of four elements: Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare.

Partnership arrangements

Within Newport there are specific partnership arrangements for counter terrorism. These are subject to Home Office monitoring and Council scrutiny and are discharged through our Prevent and Protect Partnership Board. Whilst these statutory responsibilities sit outside of the Community Safety Partnership, there are very clear linkages between each partnership, specifically when looking at communities at risk, vulnerability, susceptibility, and organised crime.

Assessing risk

Counter terrorism risk is assessed at the local, regional, and national level. Data and intelligence are assessed, and a range of mitigations are agreed and put in place to reduce risk in the area. The nature of this data and intelligence is such that it is not included within the Strategic Needs Assessment.

Channel

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being susceptible to being drawn into extremism.

The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people susceptible to extremism by:

- identifying individuals at risk
- assessing the nature and extent of that risk
- developing the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned

Sections 36 to 41 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 set out the duty on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism.

The Voices of Citizens and Partners

A key part of the development of this Strategic Needs Assessment is the voices and perceptions of the public, key partners, and business of Newport. Without these views it is not possible to establish a true reflection of the impact of community safety issues and to establish clear ways of prevention moving forward.

To do this there have been a variety of engagement opportunities. They are outlined below.

Engagement	Method	Period	Responses
City Centre Safety Survey	Bus Wi-Fi	19 th April – 31 st July 2023	1450
Citizens Panel Survey	Online* and Paper	1 st August – 28 August 2023	185
Community Safety Perception Survey	Online* and Paper	31⁵t July – 10 September 2023	105
Community Safety Perception Survey	Bus Wi-Fi*	14 th September - 19 October 2023	1836
Youth Forum /Council Community Safety Focus Group	In person	17 th November 2023	10
Safer Newport - Community Safety Partnership Survey	Online*	15 January -16 th February 2024	4
Community Safety Business Survey	Online* and in person	15 January -16 th February 2024	24
Community Safety Perception Survey – Community Languages**	Online*	15 January -16 th February 2024	17
Community Safety Survey – Councillors	Online*	15 January -16 th February 2024	0
Focus Group – The Sanctuary, Newport	In Person	30 th January 2024	15
Total			3646

* All online and paper engagement has been open in both English and Welsh

** Community Language list - Cymraeg (Wales), Čeština (Czechia), English (United Kingdom), Magyar (Hungarian), Polski (Polish), Русский (Russia), Româna (Romania), Slovenčina (Slovakia), Türkçe (Turkish), Үкраїнська (Ukraine), বাংলা (Bengali), ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi Indian, 中文 – 汉语 (Chinese), Arabic, Urdu

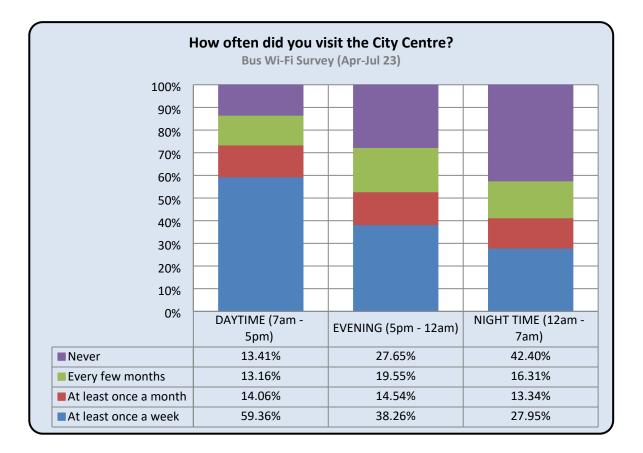
Consultation Surveys

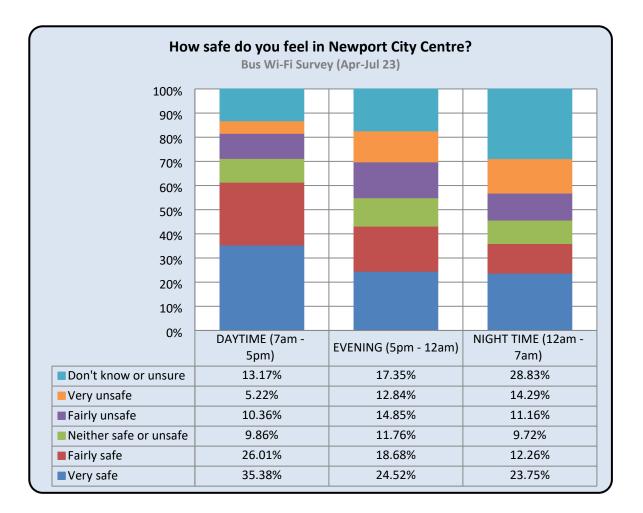
There has been a great number of public responses to our surveys with 3,642 members of the public and 4 partner organisations responding. Full responses can be requested via our full data pack request as stated on page 5.

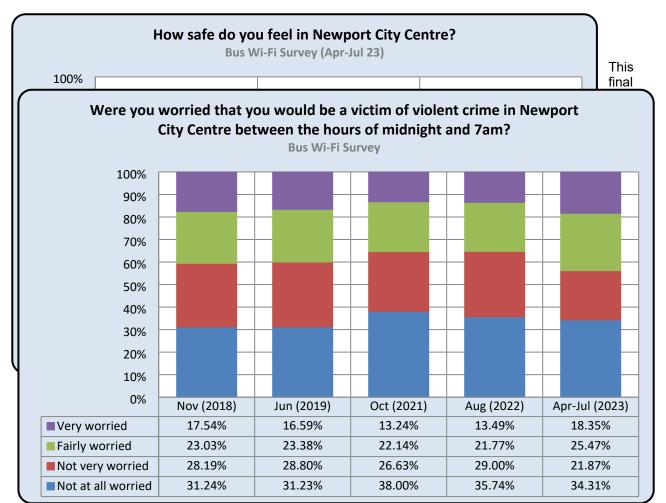
The surveys sought to gain an understating of the public's feelings, experiences, and perceptions of safety within Newport. The questions were focused on the City Centre, the area in which they live prioritisation of council spending and organisational concerns.

City Centre Safety Survey

This Survey was publicly available via Bus Wi-Fi and was focused on safety within the City Centre, with questions based on day and night differences of perception or experience of safety.







graph shows the changes in safety perception in the city centre over the last 5 years.

Community Safety Perception Survey

This section combines the responses from the following surveys.

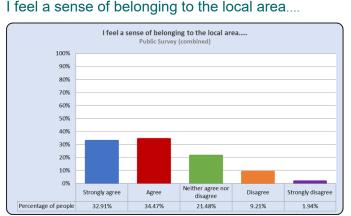
Citizens Panel Survey	Online* Paper	and	1 st August – 28 August 2023	185
Community Safety Perception Survey	Online* Paper	and	31 st July – 10 September 2023	105
Community Safety Perception Survey	Bus Wi-Fi*		14 th September - 19 October 2023	1836

This survey was made available to the public key findings of these surveys combined are below and broken down into the following 3 sections.

- 1 Community Cohesion
- 2 Community Safety
- 3 Prioritisation

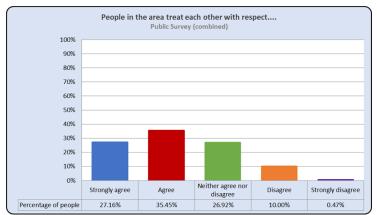
1. Community Cohesion

The following questions were asked to establish public perceptions and experience of Community Cohesion and belonging.



The combined results show that 67.37% of respondents agreed that they felt a sense of belonging to the local area, which compared to 55.77% from the public wide survey, 67.93% from the Citizens Panel, and 67.98% from the Bus Wi-Fi Survey.

People in the area treat each other with respect....

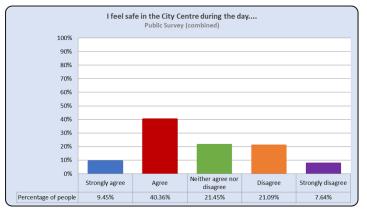


The combined results show that 62.61% of respondents agreed that people in the area treat each other with respect, which compared to 44.44% from the public wide survey, 63.04% from the Citizens Panel, and 63.45% from the Bus Wi-Fi Survey.

2. Community Safety

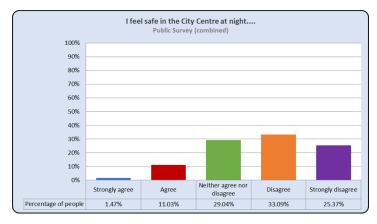
Safer Newport – Strategic Needs Assessment 2023 Final Version The following questions were asked to establish public perceptions and experience of safety and were asked separate questions relating to night and day and areas around the city.

I feel safe in the City Centre during the day....



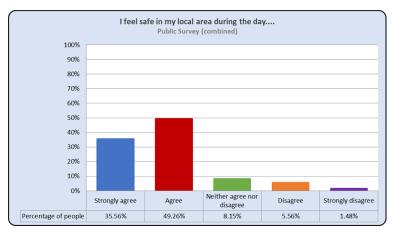
The combined results show that 49.82% of respondents agreed they felt safe in the City Centre during the day, which compared to 35.56% from the public wide survey, and 56.76% from the Citizens Panel.

I feel safe in the City Centre at night....



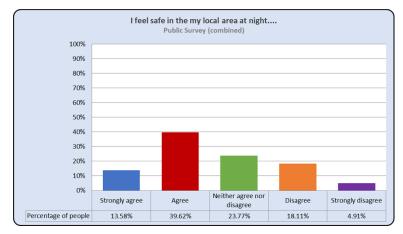
The combined results show that 12.50% of respondents agreed they felt safe in the City Centre at night, which compared to 8.99% from the public wide survey, and 14.21% from the Citizens Panel.

I feel safe in my local area during the day....



The combined results show that 84.81% of respondents agreed they felt safe in their local area during the day, which compared to 75.86% from the public wide survey, and 89.07% from the Citizens Panel.

I feel safe in my local area at night....



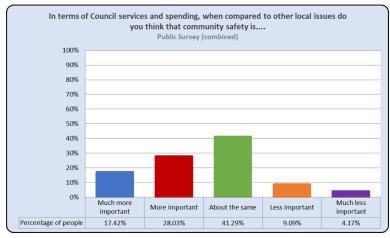
The combined results show that 53.21% of respondents agreed they felt safe in the City Centre at night, which compared to 48.84% from the public wide survey, and 55.31% from the Citizens Panel.

Through Bus Wi-Fi we only asked if they felt safe in their local area (regardless of day or night), with 62.53% agreeing they felt safe.

3. Prioritisation

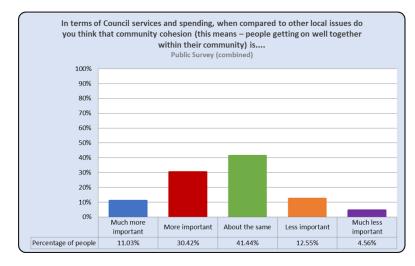
The following questions were asked to establish public opinion on the role community safety has regarding public spend and emphasis they feel the council ought to place on this issue.





The combined results show that 45.45% of respondents agreed that community safety is much more or more important in terms of Council services and spending, when compared to other local issues, which compared to 48.19% from the public wide survey, and 44.20% from the Citizens Panel.

In terms of Council services and spending, when compared to other local issues do you think that community cohesion (this means – people getting on well together within their community) is....



The combined results show that 41.44% of respondents agreed that community cohesion is much more or more important in terms of Council services and spending, when compared to other local issues, which compared to 45.68% from the public wide survey, and 39.56% from the Citizens Panel.

Community Safety Perception – Newport Youth Forum.

Newport Youth Forum's November meeting involved a focus group session on Community Safety. A summary of the discussion is below.

Question	Summary of responses	
Q1: In General, how safe do you feel in Newport?	Familiarity – Family/ Roots – Used it.	
Q2: What makes you feel more or less safe?	Less Safe – Increase of electric vehicles (Scooters/Bikes)	
Q3: Do you feel safe in school?	No – Harassment / Sexism – Racism	
Q4: As a female do you feel safe? Or do you feel particularly unsafe as a female?	Unsafe – Sexism/harassment	
Q5: As a male do you feel safe? Or do you feel particularly unsafe as a male?	No answer here	
Q6: Do you feel safe as a member of the LGBTQ+ community?	No – Lack of awareness. – Discrimination	
Q7: What are your top 3 community safety concerns?	 Women's Safety Dangerous Vehicles Unknown groups approaching / targeting young people in City Centre 	

Community Safety Perception Survey – Community Languages

This survey was made available to the public in 15 languages. There were 17 responses to this survey in the following languages.

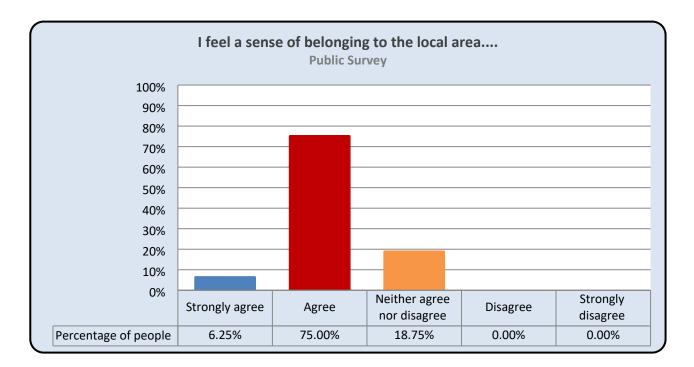
Language	Number of respondents.
Čeština (Czechia)	1
Русский (Russia)	6
Үкраїнська (Ukraine)	9
English	1

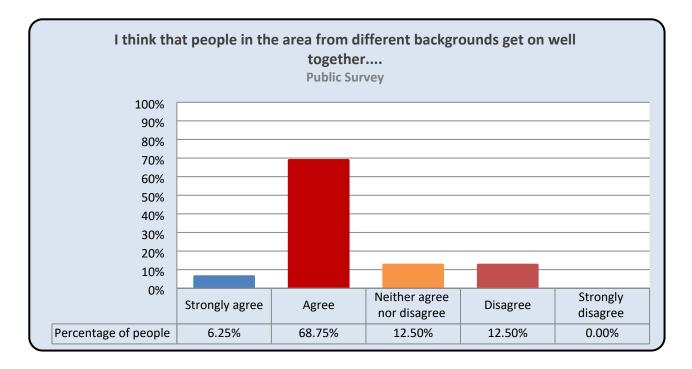
The responses to this survey are broken down into the following 3 sections.

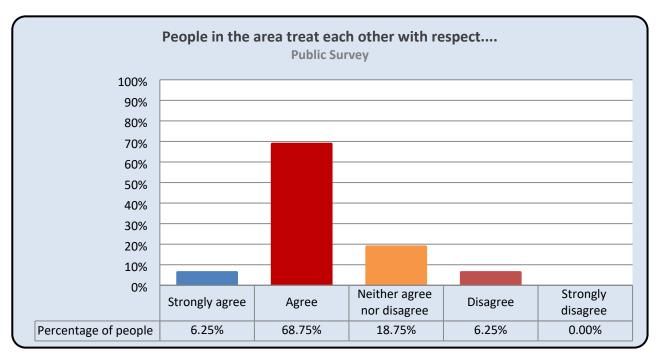
- 1 Community Cohesion
- 2 Community Safety
- 3 Prioritisation

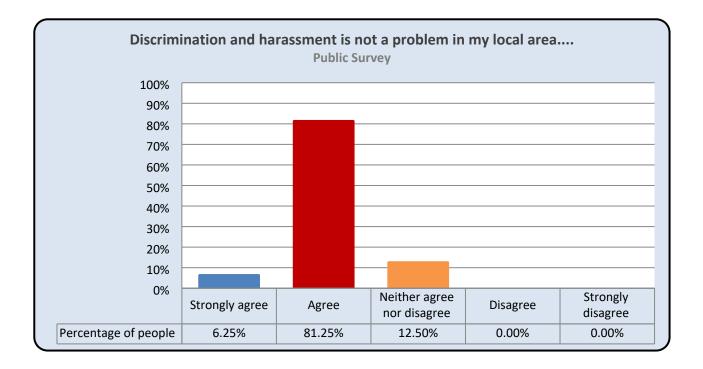
1. Community Cohesion

The following questions were asked to establish public perceptions and experience of Community Cohesion and belonging.



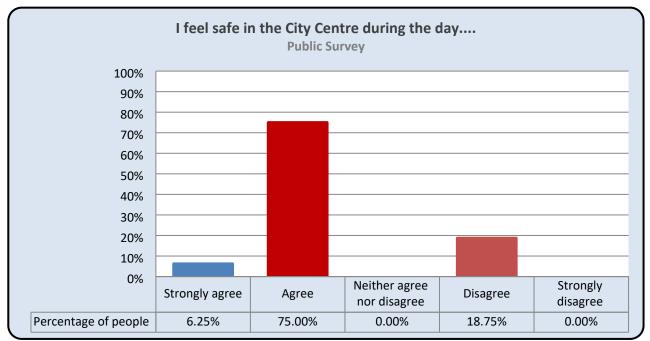


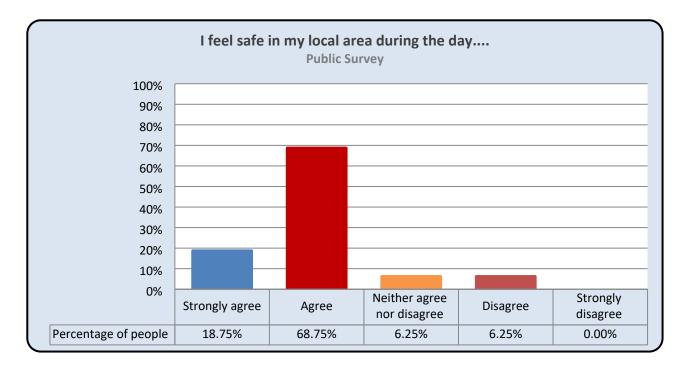


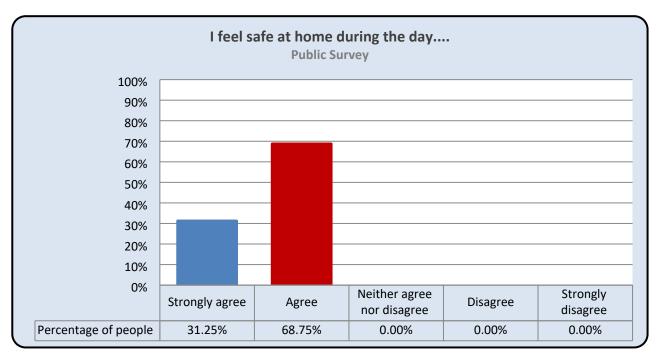


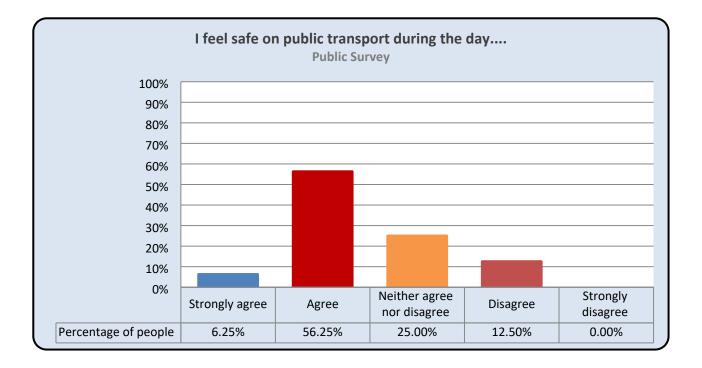
2. Community Safety

The following questions were asked to establish public perceptions and experience of safety and were asked separate questions relating to night and day and areas around the city.



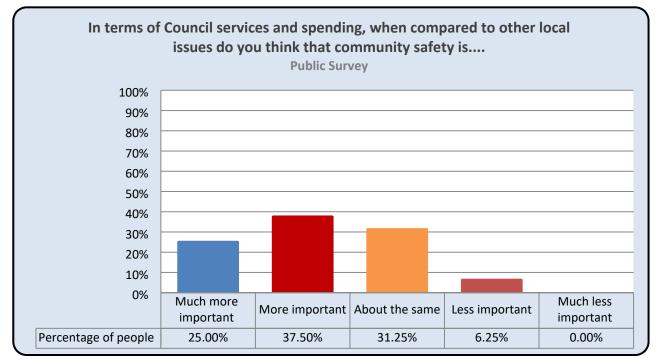


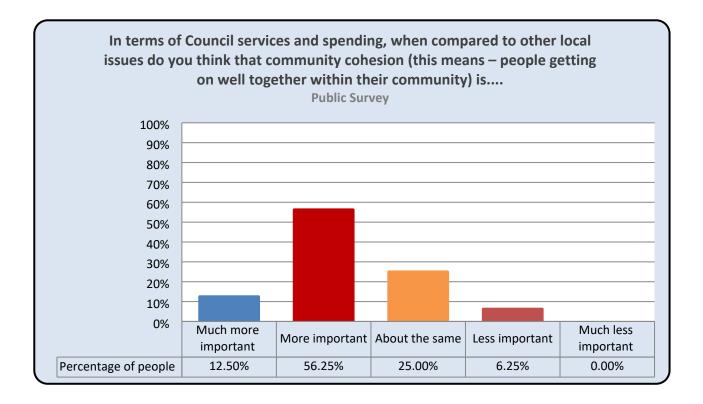




3. Prioritisation

The following questions were asked to establish public opinion on the role community safety has regarding public spend and emphasis they feel the council ought to place on this issue.





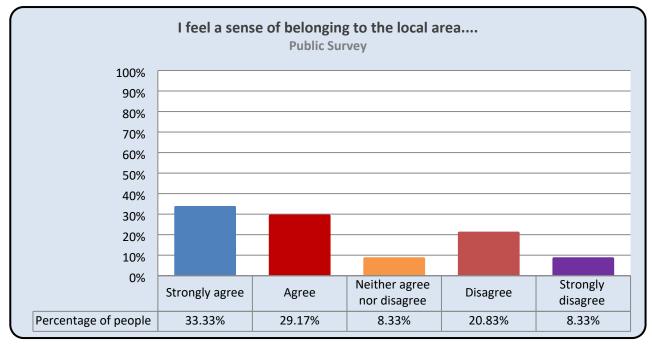
Community Safety Perception Survey – Businesses

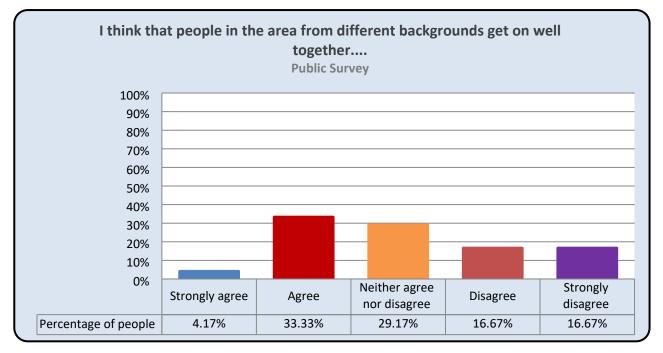
The responses to this survey are broken down into the following 3 sections.

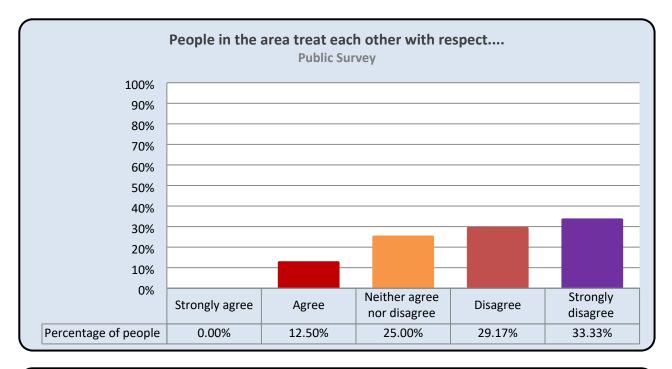
- 1 Community Cohesion
- 2 Community Safety
- 3 Prioritisation

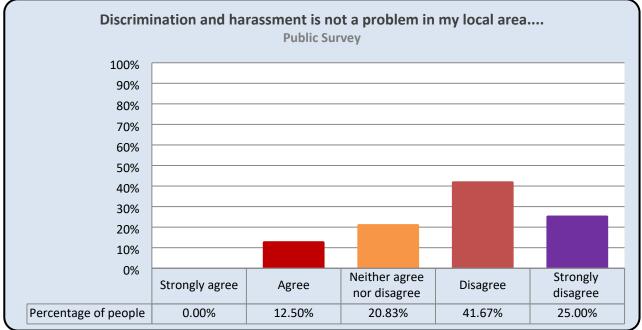
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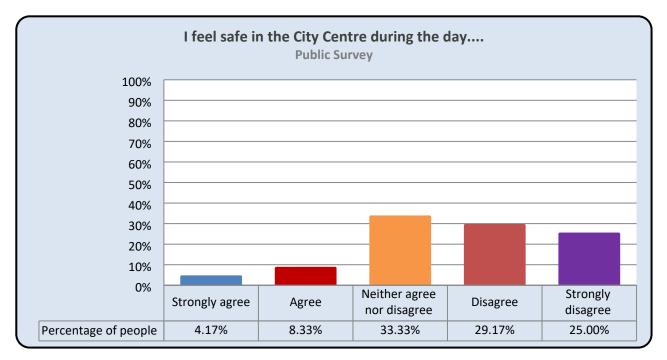


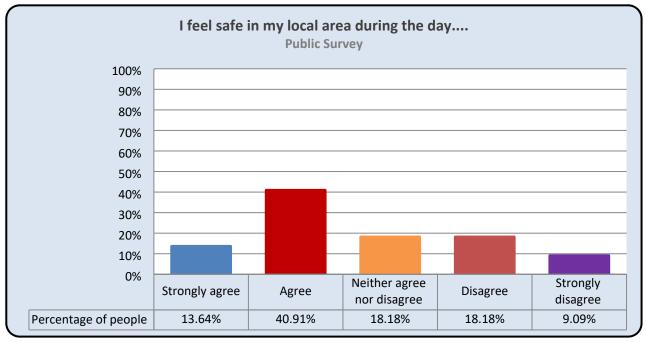


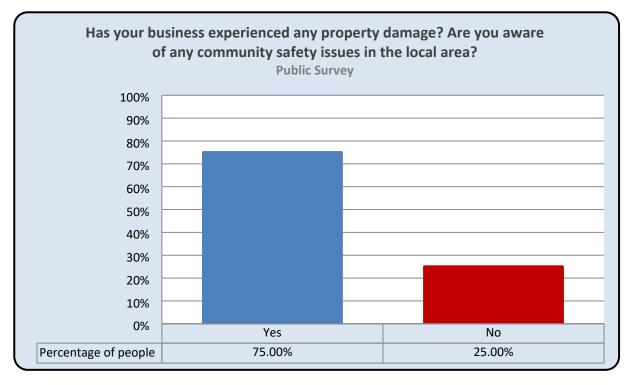


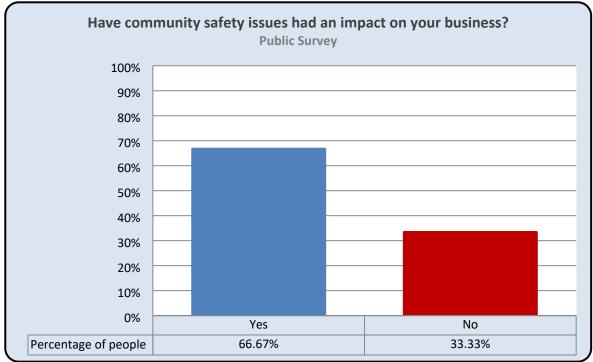
2. Community Safety

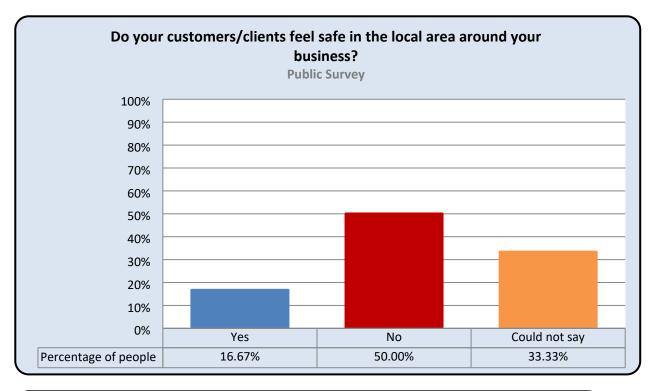
The following questions were asked to establish public perceptions and experience of safety and were asked separate questions relating to night and day and areas around the city and impacts on their business.







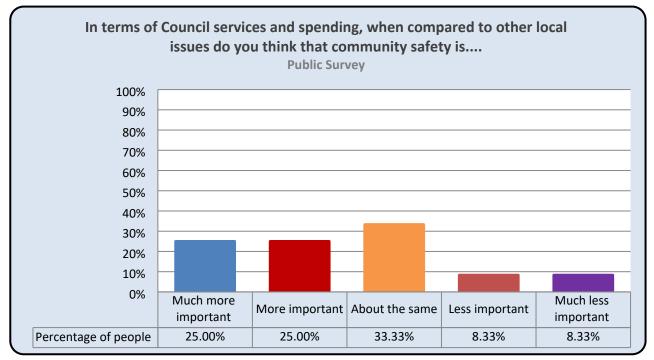


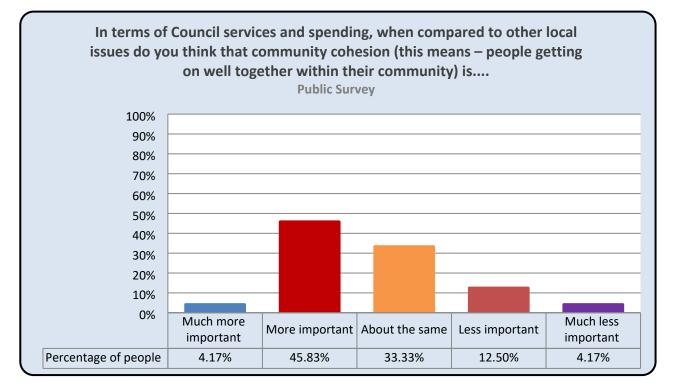




3. Prioritisation

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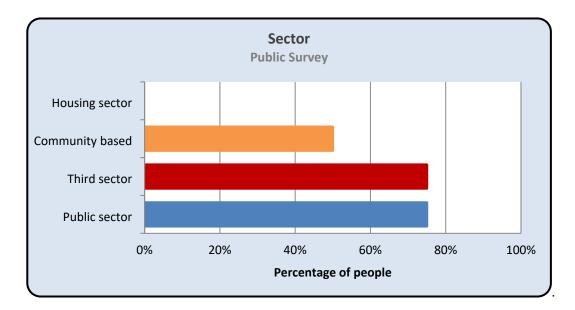


Safer Newport - Community Safety Partnership Survey

Safer Newport Partners conducted this survey to ensure the views of the various sectors and organisational experiences were captured.

Key findings of these surveys combined are below and broken down into the following 3 sections.

- 1 Concerns
- 2 Interventions
- 3 Prioritisation



1. Concerns

The following questions were asked to establish partnership and experience of their organisational community safety concerns and their impacts. Firstly, they were asked what their organisational top 3 Community Safety concerns were.

Concern 1

Organisation

ASB	1
Vulnerable young people at risk of criminal exploitation, associated risks of this, criminal activity and ASB and lack of hope, education, employment.	2
Vulnerable young people at risk of criminal and sexual exploitation including anti-social behaviour	3
Lack of understanding of British culture and law	4

Concern 2

Organisation

	1	
Serious Organised Crime		

exploitation.	
Lack of available positive adults to engage with young people out of hours, in the community to help address issues earlier. Priority concerns include drugs, vaping - that causes damage to their physical and mental health.	3
Anti-social behaviour	4
<u>Concern 3</u>	<u>Organisation</u>

Lack of young people engagement services to support, deter, and educate on mental and physical health, being active, positive, to address vaping, drug and alcohol misuse, electric bikes, risks of

Violence and Disorder	1
Traveller encampments on site at Newport Live, safety of staff and customers	2
Traveller encampments at Newport Live sites - violence towards staff	3
Hate crime	4

The above lists show constantly how ASB, Vulnerable groups and Violence are key concerns. Following this question each organisation also provided reasons for these concerns.

Reasons

Organisation

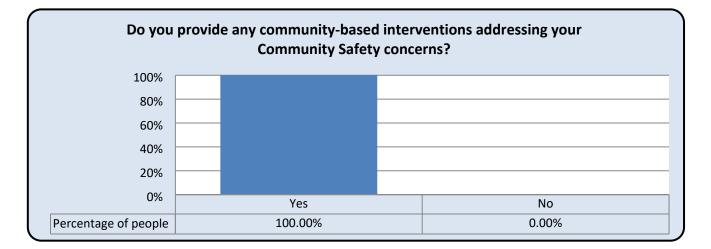
2

Responsibility for teams that can support improvements.	1
As a charity with Positive Futures as a key programme working multi agency with Council and PSB partners, we see regularly increasing lack of hope, fears over safety of children and young people in their community, a lack of engagement services and more trusted adults on their doorstep to engage, support, and educate them on other positives and future direction / opportunities. Points one and two would be covered in this statement. The traveller aspect is more operational at Newport Live, and causes thousands of costs, damage, safety concerns, abuse and danger to staff and customers. It can affect some of the City's major events and plans at the NISV site and takes too long to move and address.	2
Newport Live is a registered charity that serves Newport community. Positive Futures specifically supports young people who are vulnerable and at risk of exploitation. Our priority is to build relationships and provide interventions as early as possible. We support young people and engage them well, but we need to be part of a multi-agency to addressing such societal issues. Many young people do not feel safe and are vulnerable so need safe spaces to go with trusted adults. Over the past 12 months the Irish travelling community have caused significant damage and have been extremely abusive to operational staff. It has had a huge financial impact and has caused significant stress to staff manning sites.	3

Some of our participants have been criminalized due to lack of understanding of cultural expectations and British law. I am also concerned that our client group struggle to navigate anti- social behaviour in their neighbourhood and are often victims of Asb and hate crime but do not feel that they can report it due to fear of repercussions and fear of police	4
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2. Interventions

For this this section, partnership organisations were asked if they provide any community-based interventions addressing the Community Safety concerns listed above.



All organisations responding to this survey show they have interventions that respond to the concerns they have noted above.

All organisations were then asked to list what interventions they provide.

Interventions

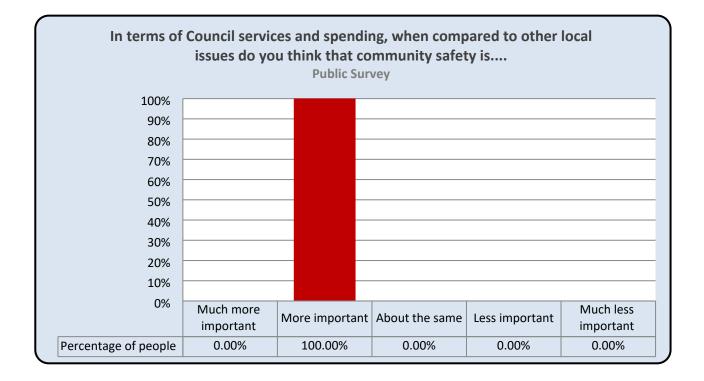
Organisation

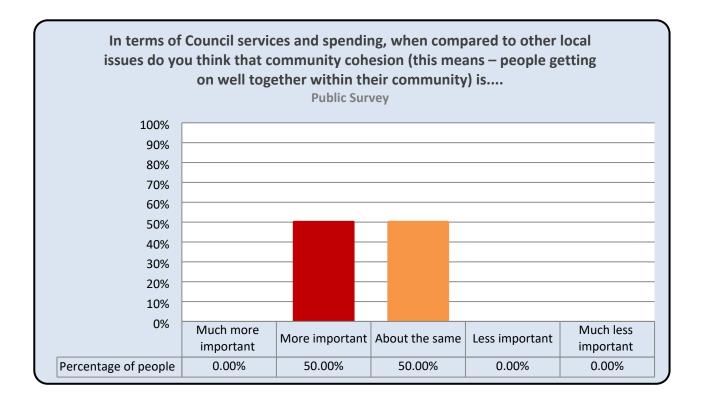
Delivery of Public Protection services. There are many interventions.	1
We provide 1:1 referral support to young people via Education, YJS, and Social Services but there are too many to support, and numbers and need is growing each year. Positive Futures also provides open access community youth engagement and sport projects and sessions for free to young people in Ringland, Pill, Bettws, St Julians, Maindee and Duffryn with engagement, trusted adults, contextual safeguarding, workshops, wellbeing, opportunities to be supported and mentored. We also offer Aspire alternative education to 36 x pupils Lliswerry, Llanwern, and John Frost. We also offer qualifications, and volunteering pathway to employment for many young people.	2

We provide open access community-based provisions each night of the week for young people to access free of charge. Currently Bettws, Ringland, Pill, Maindee, St Julians, Duffryn. These sessions offer a safe place for young people with the same staff who regularly turn up. Significant contextual safeguarding concerns are noted and shared. We also provide 121 interventions for young people referred via Social Services, Preventions, Barnardo's due to their significant levels of need, trauma experienced and concerning behaviours they may be displaying.	3
We attempt to raise awareness through discussion and sharing information within our drop-in session	4

3. Prioritisation

Next, all partners were asked to identify how significant they feel Community safety and Community Cohesion is to the council's spending priorities. They were also asked to identify any other areas they believe the council could focus on.





Additional Services for council spend.

Organisation Sustainable and community embedded prevention work. 1 Basic functions for residents (bins, roads, leisure/parks/nice place to live (some aspiration in the city), education, vulnerable) Health and Wellbeing - access to healthy food, less takeaways 2 (planning), more walk/cycle/places to be active outdoors, leisure and wellbeing facilities, childhood obesity, life expectancy. I feel all council areas links back to Community Safety - if bins left out there are more fires etc. People should feel safe in their home wherever they are. The way people act and behave relates to 3 so many other issues (mental health, poverty, ACES). Poor community safety is the product of a number of poorly addressed social needs earlier down the line. I would like to see more investment into bilingual information on community safety issues 4

Focus Group – The Sanctuary

This session was held at The Gap Centre Stow Hill in January 2024. The Sanctuary is a project that provides a welcome and support for refugees and asylum seekers in Newport.²⁵ Over the course of the day Newport City Council Officers sat with individuals and groups of people to discuss their perceptions of safety in Newport.

Question	Summary of responses
Q1: Do you feel safe in Newport?	Respondents said yes overall however noted the following. - Problematic Areas – Pill - Homelessness
Q2: Do you feel safe where you live?	Again, in general yes sighting - Quiet area - Security Systems
Q3: What makes you feel safe/unsafe?	For safety. o Family o Community o Police patrols o Multicultural City For unsafe o Police Raids o Gangs of Young People o Homelessness
Q4: Do you use public transport? Do you feel safe?	Whilst many felt safe on public transport several respondents stated that they faced discrimination from bus drivers.
Q5: Apart from feeling safe – what is important to you that the council focus on?	Overwhelmingly housing was the biggest concern for this group of people, with families living in hotels and unstable accommodation. Second to this was street cleanliness.
Q6: Are there any problems you face accessing Newport City Council?	Lack of Access to Alternative Languages and easy face to face support.

²⁵ The Sanctuary | The Gap Wales Safer Newport – Strategic Needs Assessment 2023 Final Version

Interventions and Activities

There are a variety of ongoing intervention and activities seeking to meet the needs of the Newport Population. Some of these are supportive, diversionary, or mandated.

Newport Live - Positive Futures programme

Positive Futures is a youth engagement programme, which uses sport and physical activity to engage children and young people who live in areas of high deprivation, and who need additional support in their lives.

Established in Newport with Home Office funding in 2002, the programme has developed considerably in recent years, with strong strategic leadership from Newport Live (charitable trust) and the Office of the Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner. Positive Futures covers the whole of Newport (as well as some areas of Gwent), working collaboratively with multiple like-minded partners, organisations, and Council services.

The team consists of youth work trained, sport for development professionals, working with and alongside a Youth Justice Worker (embedded into the team). Weekly training, advice, and support by an ABUHB Clinical Psychologist, leads to trauma and psychologically informed practice and support to children and young people. The team are all local people, relatable role models, with their own lived experiences, and they have developed excellent trusted relationships with children, young people, families, and communities.

Positive Futures offers:

- 1:1 mentoring for young people referred in via services and partnerships.
- Targeted group work and closed diversionary support for young people.
- Open access diversionary provision delivered in communities every week.

More information can be found on our website Newport Live | Positive Futures and through our socials on:

- Facebook: Newport Live Positive Futures
- Twitter: @positivefutures
- Instagram: @pos_futures

VAWDASV Services

Across Gwent and Newport there is a variety of service and provision provided by the Specialist Sector to support Men, Women, Children, Young People and Families. A full list of these provisions can be found <u>Gwent VAWDASV Services Directory (gwentsafeguarding.org.uk)</u> here.

South Wales Fire and Rescue

The South Wales Fire and Rescue Services, REFLECT Project is building partnerships throughout South Wales to successfully educate and build awareness around the Fire Services key messages with young people aged between 11-25. The project aims to raise awareness of the consequences of actions by engaging with children and young people in a targeted Introduction approach. The target audience is.

- Those who are known to offend,
- Those at risk of offending
- Those involved in Anti-Social behaviour.

- Those displaying risky or challenging behaviour.

Probation Service

As part of the Wales Reducing Reoffending plan 2022-2025 the following interventions are available.

- **Training**, **skills**, **and work** working closely with partners to create new opportunities for prisoners and prison leavers to earn and learn.
- Drugs and alcohol addiction working in partnership to develop and deliver an integrated substance misuse treatment pathway across Wales providing continuity in care for prison leavers and those on community sentences.
- Family, accommodation, and readjustment to society supporting people in our care to rebuild and maintain family ties, secure, and keep accommodation, and reintegrate into society.
- Public security through engagement and compliance monitoring people on probation rigorously and ensuring they understand the consequences of not complying with an order of the court.
- Education Training & Employment: Working to join up ETE through the gate, increasing provision and enhancing ETE opportunities for those in the community.
- **Families and Significant Others**: Working with our partners to promote family ties and contact through embedding refreshed standards and strengthening our approach.
- Finance, Benefit and Debt, including Gambling harms: Working closely with our commissioned St Giles Wise service, DWP, Welsh Government and the Money and Pension Service to improve the financial circumstances of People on Probation and address crime related harms resulting from gambling.
- **Substance Use**: Working with our partners to ensure that the services we commission deliver the best outcomes for those who need access, and for our wider communities. A further key priority of this workstream is improving the use of Drug Rehabilitation Requirements and Alcohol Treatment Requirements.
- Health and Mental Health: Working closely with Public Health Wales and Local Health Boards to ensure we improve outcomes for people on Probation, including continuity of care from custody to the community and encouraging the effective use of the Mental Health Treatment Requirement when appropriate.

Regional Reducing Reoffending Plans - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Wales RRP annual summary sets out some key achievements over the last year.

Newport City Council

Newport City Council are recipients of Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Funding to directly provide support and interventions in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and preventions of Anti-Social Behaviour. 2023/2024 provision has seen direct funding of sport diversionary activities for refugees and asylum seekers and also ASB Schools workshops to discuss ASB issues and ensure the voice of the learner is gained to support ongoing work in this area.

• Pill Master Plan

The Master Plan presents the ambitions of the community of Pill and identifies a series of projects that will support the realisation of the community vision for the area. As a strategic document the intention is that it guides agencies in the allocation of resources, influence and expertise and provides a basis for collaborative working within Pill. Whilst focusing on Commercial Road, the Master Plan also identifies other key areas of importance to the community, including green spaces and community facilities.²⁶

• <u>YJS</u>

The Youth Justice Service works with young people aged 10-17 to support young people and with the aim of reducing the risk of young people offending and re-offending, and to provide counsel and rehabilitation to those who do offend. This is done in a variety of ways but based within.

- Preventative workstream
- Out of dispersal work
- Statutory Court wok
- Rough Sleeping outreach.

The Rough Sleeper team in the Council works with third sector agencies, the Councils Housing department, and the Housing Support Grant team to support people who are rough sleeping into accommodation and to access support services and intervention to help reduce rough sleeping in the city. The teamwork with agencies who support people who rough sleep, people who rough sleep with substance use issues and people who rough sleep and who are exploited in one form or another. We collect data on the number currently out to report to Welsh Government and we work closely with other departments in the Council producing reports on numbers and issues and to look at gaps in service to try and meet the individual's needs.

The team operates in a multi-agency way working and liaising with many other departments in the Council and third sector partners, these include: working with the Cleansing department to remove discarded bedding, tents, and drug paraphernalia; working with the Police if people are reported missing; working with partners in a Hub run every Thursday between 4pm-6pm for people at risk of homelessness to be able to get advice and support; working with partners to operate a breakfast run checking on the welfare of people out first thing in the morning; running the cold weather provision when the temperatures drop to freezing and below for 3 consecutive nights where we support people rough sleeping into a venue overnight so they aren't at risk on the streets. Referrals for anyone at risk of rough sleeping or who are spotted out rough sleeping can be made

Safer Newport is committed to working with partners on an ongoing basis to maintain mapping and identify areas of good practice and identify any gaps and opportunities for further provisions that may be noted.

Emerging Themes

via the Streetlink app or to the NCC-Rough Sleeper in box.

In the process of exploring data and information that has been submitted, some key issues that have been emerging over the last year have been identified.

²⁶

https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s25666/06%20Master%20Plan%20Cabinet%20report%20 May%2023.pdf?LLL=0

These areas do not yet have a completed data set to consider and so will be highlighted below as areas to consider moving forward and to reflect on their impact on community safety. They have been linked to the key priorities of this SNA and as such will be considered by the associated Subgroups under Safer Newport CSP.

1. E Bikes and Scooters²⁷

Links to Anti-Social Behaviour, Serious Organised Crime and Vulnerable Groups

2. Operation Forester – Cannabis Grows

Links to Serious Organised Crime and Vulnerable Groups

3. Vaping in CYP

Links to Serious Organised Crime and Vulnerable Groups

4. Dogs behaving in a dangerous manner.

Links to Anti-Social Behaviour

5. Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Links to Vulnerable Groups

²⁷ E bike/Scooter data

The global electric scooters market size was estimated at USD 37.07 billion in 2023 and is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 9.9% from 2023 to 2030. With their benefits ranging from environmental to financial. It is easy to see why their growth has increased. However most uses of eScooters remain illegal under current regulations, with impacts on safety both physically on streets and roads and within connection to crime such as drug running and supplying. EScooters and bikes despite their benefits, hazardous serious injury and deaths occurring as a result of use.

Key Findings

As the third largest city in Wales, Newport experiences significant challenges regarding Community Safety. Whilst crime data shows us that Newport is higher in all crime types in comparison to the rest of Gwent. Newport is the only city in the region and as such a direct comparison the Gwent does not present a realistic picture. Additional Comparisons need to be considered across simper UK police forces moving forward.

Community Perception of Community Safety in Newport is positive, with people generally feeling safe in the city in the daytime but have increased concerns at night. Community cohesion is positive also based on the responses with most respondents feeling a sense of belonging. Overall, most respondents also believe that Community Safety is a key priority and should be considered as such by the council and its spending and policy decisions.

Based on this SNA 3 priority areas identified are.

- 1. Serious Organised Crime
- 2. Anti-Social behaviour
- 3. Vulnerable Groups.

These areas have been chosen based on the following,

1. Serious Organised Crime

Analysis of data, public and partner information related to serious violence, some areas of ASB indicates in Newport there are significant links wither directly or indirectly to serious organised crime.

2. Anti-Social Behaviour

Analysis of data, public and partner information shows that Anti-Social behaviour is consistently a concern across the city. Data associate with this area of community safety requires further consideration and as such will be a priority moving forward.

3. Vulnerable Groups.

As an increasingly diverse city there are many groups of people which are, for various reasons, at a higher risk of are at increased risk of crime abuse or harm directed towards them, such as, Children and Young People, People Sleeping Rough, Gypsy Traveller Communities, Adults at Risk of Sexual Exploitation and those experiencing any form of Violence against Women, Domestic Ause and Sexual Violence.

Next Steps

Recommendations

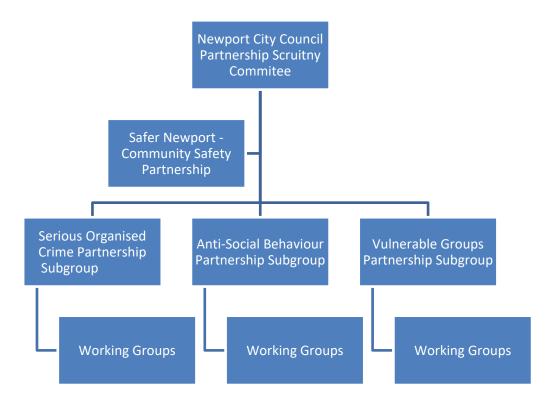
Based on the data and consultation response above, Safer Newport CSP should ensure that data mapping based on data gaps identified in this document. It is noted that we have identified data gaps and acknowledge that there is a bigger underlying picture we do not yet understand. As such a priority for Safer Newport and its subgroups will be to provide a continuation of analysis to al data and information contained within this document. There too will be an overarching priority to conduct a data gap analysis and development workstream.

Governance

Safer Newport Community Safety Partnership is a required function of Newport City Council Crime and Disorder Act (1998) as a community safety partnership board providing strategic oversight and governance of identifying, preventing, and protecting community safety issues across the city.

Internally the work of Safer Newport CSP is overseen and scrutinised by Newport City Council Partnerships Scrutiny Committee.

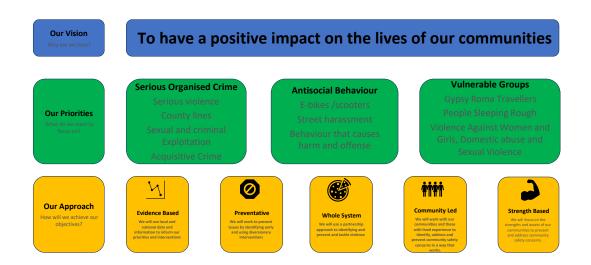
Safer Newport has Subgroups attached to Safer Newport Community Safety Partnership, to oversee and ensure effective responses to the identified key priority areas. More information is found below.



Safer Newport Community Safey Plan 2024-2029

Safer Newport – Strategic Needs Assessment 2023 Final Version

Safer Newport Community Safety Plan 2024-2029



Serious Violence Duty Strategy

UK Home Office requirements have called for regional partnership responses to the Serious Violence Duty and have required that there be a Regional Strategic Need Assessment and Strategy to be completed. Please review the attached in conjunction with this SNA.





Gwent Serious Gwent Serious Violence Duty SNA 20 Violence Duty Strateg