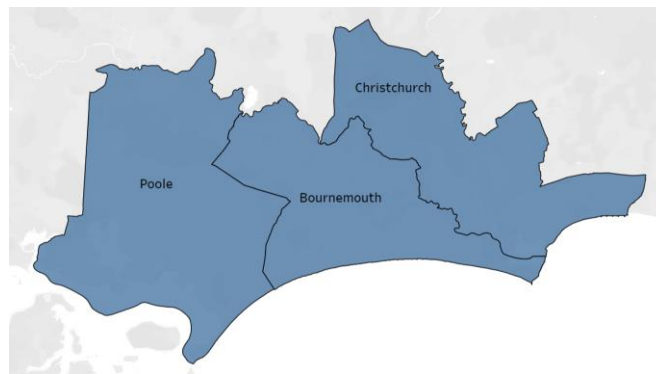




Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole



STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2023/24



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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 OVERVIEW OF CRIME AND DISORDER

- 1.1.1 Total crime in BCP, as recorded by Police, in 2021/22 was nearly 6% higher than the previous year. However, this increase can be explained, at least partially, by a “return to normality” following the easing of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions - total crime in 2020/21 was 9.5% lower than in 2019/20. This 6% increase is slightly lower than national averages, but significant fluctuations in some Community Safety Partnership (CSP) areas – which appear to be due to recording and counting – make exact comparison unsafe.
- 1.1.2 In the first six months of this year - April to September 2022- total recorded crime in BCP is essentially unchanged from the same period in 2021. However, within the effectively unchanged total, there are a variety of differing trends at the level of individual crime types – for example, *Public Order Offences* show a 17% fall and *Robbery* 16%, whereas *Possession of Weapons and Theft from the Person* offences show 47% and 50% increases respectively.
- 1.1.3 However, possibly the single most important objective conclusion within this *Strategic Assessment* is that different members of our community do not share an “equality of risk” to the threats underlying the recommended priorities. We fail to recognise this if we pool those at highest risk with a general population comprising a significant majority of individuals who are lower risk by virtue of age, gender, race, income, vulnerability, etc, and when and where they work, reside, study, or travel.
- 1.1.4 There are approximately 15 million visitors each year to the BCP area, spending £800 million locally. Popular press and tourism related journalists ascribe a visible “boom” in visitor numbers to UK seaside resorts due to the increased complexity and restrictions involved in international travel. It is likely that this trend will continue, now also given additional impetus by economic factors, maintaining employment in the sector, but putting more demand on local services including street cleansing, parks and greenspace maintenance, medical services, and community safety.
- 1.1.5 The Serious Violence Duty set out in the *Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022* will commence on 31st January 2023. Partnerships will then need to prepare and deliver a strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence in their area, with the deadline for publication of the strategy of 31st January 2024. The BCP CSP is well positioned to positively implement this duty, due to existing structures, processes, and resourcing.
- 1.1.6 The *Domestic Abuse Act 2021*, which received royal assent on 29th April 2021, created a statutory definition of Domestic Abuse based very much on the multi-agency definitions used for many years in BCP. Office for National Statistics data quantifies the hugely disproportionate role of sex as a risk factor in domestic homicides in England and Wales – in year ending March 2021, 63% of victims of domestic homicide nationally were women killed by men, and a further 25% men killed by men.

1.2 ADDITIONAL NEEDS AND RISK FACTORS

- 1.2.1 The risk of being a victim or perpetrator of crime and/or anti-social behaviour increases with the frequency and severity of exposure to risk factors and the number of risk factors present. The age at which the exposure occurs also has an impact; the younger the individual, the greater the impact. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) research links childhood traumas/experiences (such as abuse, neglect, and dysfunctional home environments) to long-term impacts on an individual's health, wellbeing, and life chances. Research demonstrates the importance of early intervention in order to mitigate some of the consequences of ACEs.
- 1.2.2 BCP has areas which are among the most and the least deprived in the country. BCP has nine areas in the most deprived 10% in England, where 16,000 residents live. The greatest levels of deprivation are in the wards of Boscombe West, Kinson, East Cliff & Springbourne, Alderney & Bourne Valley, and Muscliff & Strouden Park.
- 1.2.3 Many measures for young people compare favourably with the national average, but BCP has higher rates of fixed and permanent exclusions, children in need and first-time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System. These measures draw attention to the need for early intervention for young people at risk of poor outcomes including offending or becoming persistent/repeat offenders.
- 1.2.4 While drug related deaths have remained stable over the past three years, the rate of drug-related hospital admissions for 15–24-year-olds has been increasing since 2014/15 and is significantly higher than the England average. This suggests that drug-related harm could be a growing issue for young people.
- 1.2.5 BCP had a higher rate than the England average for a number of alcohol related hospital measures in 2020/21 (which is the most recent data), including: alcohol related hospital admissions, admission episodes for mental and behavioural disorders due to the use of alcohol, admission episodes for alcoholic liver disease. Many of these measures are associated with long term alcohol abuse, and this indicates that BCP may have a high proportion of dependent or risky drinkers.
- 1.2.6 BCP has a higher than England average rate for measures associated with poor mental health, for both adults and young people. This includes suicide rates, and emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm (for both adults and 10–24-year-olds).
- 1.2.7 Additional considerations specific at the time of preparation of this report include the impact of double-digit inflation on already vulnerable members of our community, and increasing numbers of refugees and asylum seekers housed in concentrated locations.
- 1.2.8 There are a number of gaps in our shared knowledge, particularly around the profile of youth offending and adult offender management, which are likely to be linked to needs associated with their offending behaviours. There are also gaps in shared knowledge around high harm offences, particularly child criminal exploitation, modern slavery and trafficking, and county lines. Having a better understanding will inform the partnership approach and allow opportunities for early intervention moving forward.

1.3 2023/24 RECOMMENDED PRIORITIES

1.3.1 As explained in Section 3, *Methodology*, below, significant data and analysis in late 2021 identified three recommended priorities that the partnership subsequently agreed to adopt. No data and analysis in late 2022 suggested that the principle of carrying forward the priorities for at least three years should be reviewed. This continuity was considered essential to ensure and monitor the effectiveness of interventions and initiatives. Indeed, this has been further confirmed by the *Serious Violence Duty* set out in the *Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022*, discussed in Section 7, *Crime*, below. The following priorities, as recommended to the partnership for 2022/23, are therefore further recommended for adoption in 2023/24:

- ☞ **Priority 1 *Tackle violent crime in all its forms***
- ☞ **Priority 2 *Keep young people and adults-at-risk safe from exploitation, including online risks***
- ☞ **Priority 3 *Work with communities to deal with antisocial behaviour (ASB) and crime hotspots, including drug dealing***

1.3.2 It is recommended that the following Principles are also adopted by the SaferBCP partnership.

- ☞ *Enhancing knowledge and understanding of crime and anti-social behaviour through better sharing of information, so we may address the human, social and environmental factors that drive them, the interventions likely to have positive impact, and the ways we may work with communities to prevent and combat them.*
- ☞ *Collaborating across agency boundaries to plan, commission and deliver jointly, and to improve our efficiencies for the benefits of BCP communities, with a clear focus on crime prevention, reduction of first-time entrants to the criminal justice system, and reduction of repeat and persistent offending.*
- ☞ *Ensuring victims and communities are central to the development, commissioning, and delivery of service, including in early education settings, and where there are complex and additional needs such as familial and personal substance misuse, poor mental health, learning needs and protected characteristics.*
- ☞ *Committed to developing a partnership that embraces equality and inclusivity.*
- ☞ *Operating a robust performance management framework to measure what works and how to be more effective.*

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 THE SAFER BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE (BCP) PARTNERSHIP

- 2.1.1 The partnership consists of an executive membership of statutory partners: BCP Council, Dorset Police, Our Dorset Integrated Care System, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority, and the National Probation Service. Additional partners, including voluntary and community sector representatives and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, form the wider partnership.
- 2.1.2 The Safer BCP Partnership was formed when the area of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole transitioned from the former unitary authorities of Bournemouth and Poole and the non-metropolitan district of Christchurch to a single unitary authority, BCP Council, on 1st April 2019.
- 2.1.3 Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory obligation to produce a strategic assessment annually. This document aims to assess crime, disorder, and community safety issues, highlight areas of increasing and reducing threat - and evaluate the partnership's current response to inform future priorities and work. It is recognised that this is a work in progress and work is ongoing to obtain datasets that will enhance our knowledge, particularly around reoffending, exploitation and factors that may increase the likelihood of a person becoming a victim or perpetrator of crime.
- 2.1.4 Each of the executive Community Safety Partnership agencies has a wider remit outside of their commitment to Community Safety and have published strategies or plans which set out their individual agencies corporate priorities, and are listed below.

2.2 BCP COUNCIL

- 2.2.1 Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council Corporate Strategy objectives are:
- Sustainable Environment
 - ensure sustainability underpins all of our policies
 - protect and enhance our outstanding natural environment
 - develop an eco-friendly and active transport network
 - tackle the climate and ecological emergency
 - promote sustainable resource management
 - Maximise access to our high-quality parks and open spaces
 - Dynamic Places
 - revitalise and reinvent our high streets and local centres
 - invest in the homes our communities need
 - create a sustainable, vibrant and inclusive economy
 - increase productivity through skills investment
 - develop sustainable infrastructure
 - support our businesses to operate more creatively
 - create a 21st century digital infrastructure
 - Connected Communities
 - strengthen the cultural identity of our towns and places
 - respect and engage with our diverse communities
 - encourage intergenerational interactions

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- reduce loneliness and isolation
- ensure our communities feel safe
- empower a thriving voluntary and community sector
- Brighter Futures
 - enable access to high quality education
 - be aspirational for our children in care
 - support parents and guardians to care for their children well
 - prevent harm through early intervention
- Fulfilled Lives
 - support people to live safe and independent lives
 - promote happy, active and healthy lifestyles
 - develop age-friendly communities
 - value and support carers
 - enable people to live well through quality social care
 - tackle homelessness and prevent rough sleeping
 - promote lifelong learning for all

2.3 POLICING:

2.3.1 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, which sets the strategic intent for policing in Dorset, sets out six priorities in their [2021-28 Police and Crime Plan](#):

- Cut crime & anti-social behaviour
- The police will provide a robust focus to cut crime and the constant grind of anti-social behaviour, so people across Dorset see a clear difference and feel safer. to better engage with young people to secure a brighter future.
- Make Policing more visible & connected
- To increase the number and visibility of police officers in our neighbourhood teams, so police can fulfil a prevention role and people and businesses across Dorset experience less crime. Contact and connectivity with the public to be improved.
- Fight violent crime & high harm
- To tackle organised crime, be tough on drugs and violent crime, and to tackle hidden harm issues that affect Dorset's communities, such as child abuse, domestic abuse, stalking and modern slavery.
- Put victims & communities first
- Support all victims, particularly those most at risk of harm – and build community strength by working with local agencies. Supporting volunteers, such as neighbourhood Watch, and increasing opportunities for young people.
- Fight rural crime
- To significantly increase the rural crime team and their capabilities and to have specific strategies to address those crimes and issues that most affect rural communities, and to tackle wildlife crime.
- Make every penny count

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- Resourcing and transforming the frontline and improving efficiency so that the police can spend more time out in their communities. ensuring robust oversight of financial, audit and governance arrangements.

2.4 FIRE & RESCUE

2.4.1 The Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority Community Safety Plan 2021-24 sets out their Priorities as:

- Help you to make safer and healthier choices– we want you to be more aware about the risks you face and support you and your business to be safer. We are committed to improving the wellbeing of you and your family.
- Protect you and the environment from harm– we will work with you to improve your safety and reduce the effect that day-to-day hazards and risks can have on you and your environment.
- Be there when you need us– we will continue to provide a professional and prompt response when an emergency happens.
- Make every penny count– we will continue to be a well-respected and trusted Service, offering excellent value for money.
- Supporting and developing our people– making sure our staff are at the centre of everything we do, are well led, and have the right knowledge and skills, is crucial to the success of our Service.

2.5 PROBATION

2.5.1 On 26 June 2021, the [Probation Services](#) unified, bringing 7,000 probation professionals into their new model, either directly in the Probation Services or employed by one of the organisations appointed to deliver Commissioned Rehabilitative Services to offenders.

- *Our priority is to protect the public by the effective rehabilitation of offenders, by reducing the causes which contribute to offending and enabling offenders to turn their lives around.*

2.6 OUR DORSET INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM (ICS)

2.6.1 Our Dorset ICS' key mission is:

- *to support people in Dorset to lead healthier lives, for longer.*

This mission sets out their ultimate purpose and defines what they aim to achieve every day, through every decision and every interaction.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 OVERVIEW

- 3.1.1 The preceding year's *Strategic Assessment* was produced with a broader range of inputs than was possible in earlier years, and this positive trend has been carried forward. However, despite the positive movements in both methodology and range of contributions, there are still gaps in our knowledge. These gaps are recorded separately, and we are working to address them going forward.
- 3.1.2 Despite these gaps the authors are confident they have been able to identify key strategic priorities for the partnership. In addition to these, a range of more specific concerns and recommendations have been identified for implementation or further research.
- 3.1.3 Where possible, most recent available data has been compared with previous years and with other geographical and national data.
- 3.1.4 The headline figures for crime types are from the Office for National Statistics - any slight differences between the figures used in this report and other reports using police data are due to the use of different reporting systems, and data being downloaded on different dates.
- 3.1.5 It is important to note that the Covid-19 pandemic impacted the data from March 2020, due to the unprecedented circumstances experienced, with periods of varying degrees of restrictions placed on people and businesses. Restrictions resulted in significant changes to the way people interact, and their freedom of movement, which in turn has changed criminal opportunities. For example, with more people working from home there were less vacant properties reducing the opportunities for residential burglaries, and shoplifting decreased while "non-essential" retail premises were shut. Although the increases in Domestic Abuse Violent Crime were broadly in line with pre-Covid trends, there is the concern that risk and harm were even higher during the period of restrictions on movement and opportunities to leave homes. Furthermore, the restrictions have resulted in more people using online platforms to work, shop, socialise and home-school during lockdowns. This led to increased opportunities for cybercrime and exploitation to take place.

3.2 THE MoRiLE

- 3.2.1 In addition to the analysis of key local and national datasets, the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) tool was used in 2021/22 to help inform the recommended priorities.
- 3.2.2 The tools developed by the MoRiLE programme provide an opportunity to standardise and strengthen the approach to prioritisation amongst Community Safety Partnerships. MoRiLE became a nationally accredited way of working for all Police forces and other law enforcement agencies such as the National Crime Agency, to inform their Strategic Assessments.
- 3.2.3 The key benefits of the MoRiLE process are:
- A transparent and informed decision-making process, that is multi-agency and secures buy-in from partners from an early stage.
 - Assessment of a range of different thematic areas and issues alongside each other.
 - Assessment of capability and capacity in relation to each thematic area.
 - Avoidance of bias in risk assessment.
 - Use of a common language in relation to threat, risk and harm.

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- A clear process that is easy to use and understand.
- 3.2.4 A key point of significance is that there is no direct mapping from MoRiLE ranking to partnership priority. CSP Priorities will differ due to a number of limitations of this process which are detailed in [Appendix A](#).
- 3.2.5 Significantly, a feature and possible weakness of the MoRiLE process is that it is easy to overlook the additional impact of the concentration – in time, in place, and in demographics - of some risks and threats. For example - Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents may score relatively low, partly due to 'low volumes' (acknowledging under-reporting), but also due to risk being statistically spread throughout the population, whilst in reality risk is concentrated in certain groups defined by vulnerability, ethnicity, faith, gender identity, or where and when individuals work, live, or travel. There are also limitations in the process where full datasets are not available.

3.3 ESCALATION AND REFERRALS

- 3.3.1 *Tactical Assessments* completed for the Partnership Coordination Group (PCG) identified areas which were experiencing higher levels of crime and disorder or had upward trends. In addition, concerns and issues were raised by partners and referred to the PCG. These were then assigned to *Task and Finish* groups to develop multi-agency action plans. Full advantage was taken of data and professional experience accumulated in this process in the preparation of this *Strategic Assessment*.

4.1.1 The area of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole is in the county of Dorset located on the south coast. The area has 33 Wards, shown in Map 1, and is served by a range of local agencies and those with pan-Dorset responsibilities, such as Dorset Police and Our Dorset Integrated Care System, and agencies with a wider area responsibility, such as Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Authority and National Probation Service. BCP Council was formed in April 2019.

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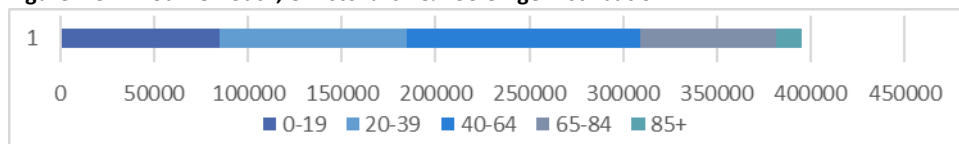
4.2 RESIDENTIAL

- 4.2.1 There were 173,842 households in the BCP area in 2021, and this is expected to grow to 180,413 by 2028, with around half of the growth taking place in Poole during this time.
- 4.2.2 Currently 64% are houses and 35% are flats (Census, 2011). There are 1,462 licensable Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) within BCP.

4.3 POPULATION

- 4.3.1 The most recent [ONS data](#) (2021) estimates the BCP population to be 400,300. The population is predicted to grow to 403,600 by 2028, a growth of 2%. It is expected that 24% of the local population will be aged over 65. The wards of Highcliffe & Walkford, Canford Cliffs, and Mudeford, Stanpit & West Highcliffe have the highest number of 65-year-olds. The highest number of 0 – to 15-year-olds are in Muscliff & Strouden Park, and Moordown, wards.

Figure 4.3.1: Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Age Distribution



- 4.3.2 Ethnicity data (2021) for BCP shows 82.4% of the population are White British, and 8% are other white. Asian and Asian British make up 1.1% of the population in BCP, and mixed and multiple ethnic groups make up 2.7%. 1.1% of the population are black. Over 85 languages are spoken across the BCP area.
- 4.3.3 Data on religion shows:
- 46.8% of the population of BCP are Christian
 - 42.2% have no religion
 - 1.7% are Muslim
 - 0.7% are Hindu
 - 0.7% are any other religion
 - 0.5% are Buddhist
 - 0.4 are Jewish
 - 0.1% are Sikh
 - (6.9% of people in BCP did not provide an answer in relation to religion in the ONS survey which provided this data).

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- 4.3.4 Data on sexual orientation is limited at a local level, however, data on marital status shows 2% of people in a same sex relationship.
- 4.3.5 Armed Forces statistics in 2021 estimate there are 15,894 veterans living in the BCP area, and 1,040 serving personnel.
- 4.3.6 The BCP area, like many Local Authorities, is currently involved in a number of different schemes which are providing support to refugees and/or asylum seekers. This includes the Afghan Resettlement Scheme and Bridging hotel, Home Office Asylum seeker accommodation, and the Homes for Ukraine refugee scheme. With the exception of the Homes for Ukraine Refugee Scheme, all are reliant on the use of hotels within the Bournemouth area to provide temporary accommodation.
- 4.3.7 The structure of the Homes for Ukraine refugee scheme means that the households are scattered across the BCP area within host families, and are not therefore situated in a cluster as the other refugees and asylum seekers are.

4.4 DEPRIVATION

- 4.4.1 45,400 people in BCP live in an area that is amongst the 20% most deprived in England under the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019, including 8,900 0 - 16-year-olds and 6,200 over 65-year-olds. BCP has 9 areas in the most deprived 10% in England where 16,000 residents live. The greatest levels of deprivation are in the wards of Boscombe West, Kinson, East Cliff & Springbourne, Alderney & Bourne Valley, and Muscliff & Strouden Park. Numerous threats to community safety, cohesion, and well-being, as described in the body of this report, are coterminous with these areas of most deprivation. Exceptions to this correlation include crimes and ASB linked to the Night Time Economy, to beaches and public spaces, and Domestic Abuse with victims aged 65 and over.
- 4.4.2 According to data from [Fingertips](#), 7,001 children in 2020/21 were in absolute low income in BCP. BCP performs favourably in this area in comparison to the England average, with 10.2% under 16s in absolute low-income families in BCP 2020/21, in comparison to 15.1% under 16s in absolute low-income families in England 2020/21.
- 4.4.3 Current unprecedented pressure on living standards, driven primarily by general inflation and specific increases in the prices of energy and food, disproportionately impacts members of our community concentrated in these most deprived areas. The pressure on living standards is discussed in section 3.4 below.
- 4.4.4 82,800 people live in an area that is amongst the 20% **least** deprived in England.

4.5 2022 COST OF LIVING SITUATION

- 4.5.1 Inflation in the UK, as measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) was 10.7%¹ in the 12 months to November 2022, down from 11.1% in October. These are historically high rates not experienced since 1981. Figures for wage claims across the private and public sectors currently average only 4%, leading to large falls in average living standards. As of November 2022, the government has committed to raise state retirement and welfare benefits payments in line with inflation.
- 4.5.2 However, the impact of this overall double-digit inflation is not uniform, neither internally with the different areas of household expenditure within the overall CPI, nor in the severity felt by different members of our community. In the twelve months to October 2022 the CPI inflation rate was 11.1%, but within that the rate for Housing, water, electricity gas and other fuels was 26.6%², and for Food and non-alcoholic beverages the figure was 16.2%. Members of our community in the lowest income brackets and in the most deprived areas already devote a significantly higher proportion of their total household income to exactly these elements, and are thus impacted by a higher effective rate of inflation than that suggested by the overall CPI.
- 4.5.3 Recent analysis by BCP Council³ observes that:
- ☞ *Nearly 50% of BCP households earn less than £30k p.a. and are struggling with costs.*
 - ☞ *30% of BCP households classified as 'fuel poor'.*
 - ☞ *Wards with highest % of households in fuel poverty correlate to our priority neighbourhoods.*
 - ☞ *Hardest hit are already on the lowest income/experiencing deprivation.*
 - ☞ *'Poverty Premium' average cost to BCP household is £384 - £440.*
- 4.5.4 BCP Council and partner initiative to help individuals, households, and economically vulnerable people during this sustained crisis, have included "warm welcome spaces" where members of our community can go to meet other people, and as an alternative to potential health- and life-threatening temperatures in their own homes.
- 4.5.5 The Household Support Fund (HSF) is funded by the government and administered by BCP Council. The fund is designed to provide short-term financial support in the form of food and/or utility vouchers to vulnerable households who are struggling to afford household essentials. Applications by residents within BCP Council are managed by Citizens' Advice residents.

¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/latest>

² <https://www.statista.com/statistics/281724/consumer-price-index-cpi-united-kingdom/>

³

<https://bcpcouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/HR/Shared%20Documents/Cost%20of%20living%20support%20presentation%20December%202022.pdf>

4.6 EMPLOYMENT

- 4.6.1 Currently 61% of the total resident population are of working age. Median annual pay for residents of, and people working in, BCP is slightly lower than the [national average](#). Data from [LG Inform](#) shows the unemployment rate in BCP for 2022 Q2 (12 months ending) at 4.4%. in comparison to 3.9% for England.
- 4.6.2 Both the Bank of England (BoE), and almost all other authoritative commentators, predict that the U.K. is facing its longest recession since records began, with the economic downturn expected to extend well into 2024. The BoE described the outlook for Britain's economy as "*very challenging*", noting that unemployment would likely increase to 6.5% nationally⁴.

4.7 EDUCATION

- 4.7.1 There are three universities in the BCP area:
- Bournemouth University, which has some 19,000 students, including approximately 3,000 from outside the UK. Its Talbot Campus is in Poole, adjacent to North Bournemouth. The university also has a "Lansdowne Campus" dispersed around central Bournemouth. It provides a significant amount of student accommodation, but privately renting students are concentrated in the Winton and Charminster areas of North Bournemouth.
 - The Arts University Bournemouth, with approximately 3,500 students, has a campus adjacent to Bournemouth University's campus in Poole, and has a number of accommodation blocks in and around Bournemouth University's "Lansdowne Campus". Students privately renting are again concentrated in the Winton and Charminster areas.
 - BCP's newest university is the AECC University College (formerly the *Anglo-European College of Chiropractic*) and has about 800 students. AECC's campus is in Boscombe.

⁴ <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/monetary-policy-report/2022/november/monetary-policy-report-november-2022.pdf>

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- 4.7.2 Within the state sector there are 70 Primary and Middle Schools, 20 Secondary, 4 Grammar (two single sex boys; two girls), and two providers of Further Education - Bournemouth Academy of Modern Music, and Bournemouth and Poole College. Bournemouth and Poole College has two main campuses, in Poole and in Bournemouth town centre, and a number of other sites. It currently has 11,000 full- and part-time students across a wide range of courses.
- 4.7.3 There are also 9 independent schools, and 13 Special Schools / Alternative Education providers split across the state and independent sectors.
- 4.7.4 There are 35 registered Language Schools in the BCP area - Brexit and travel restrictions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic are likely to have had a significant adverse impact on this sector.
- 4.7.5 Education, skills, and training is one of the domains included in the English Indices of Deprivation (2019). This domain measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population and is the most prevalent form of deprivation across all three towns in BCP. In this domain, 13 of 233 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) in BCP fall within the most deprived 10% in England. These LSOAs are in the following ward areas: Canford Heath, Hamworthy, Alderney & Bourne Valley, Kinson, East Cliff & Springbourne, and Burton & Grange.
- 4.7.6 [LG inform data](#) shows the permanent exclusion rate in BCP schools 2020/21 was 0.02% of pupils in primary schools, 0.18% of pupils in secondary schools, and 0.10% of pupils in special schools. The state school permanent exclusion rate in BCP was 0.09% of pupils. The fixed term exclusions rate in BCP 2020/21 was 1.57% of pupils in primary schools, 10.22% of pupils in secondary schools, and 4.70% in special schools. The fixed term exclusion rate in BCP state schools was 5.68% of pupils
- 4.7.7 During the 2020/21 academic year, 389 young people aged 16 to 18 who were identified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and 247 were successfully moved to education, employment or training. This last year has been more challenging than normal due to the Covid19 pandemic.

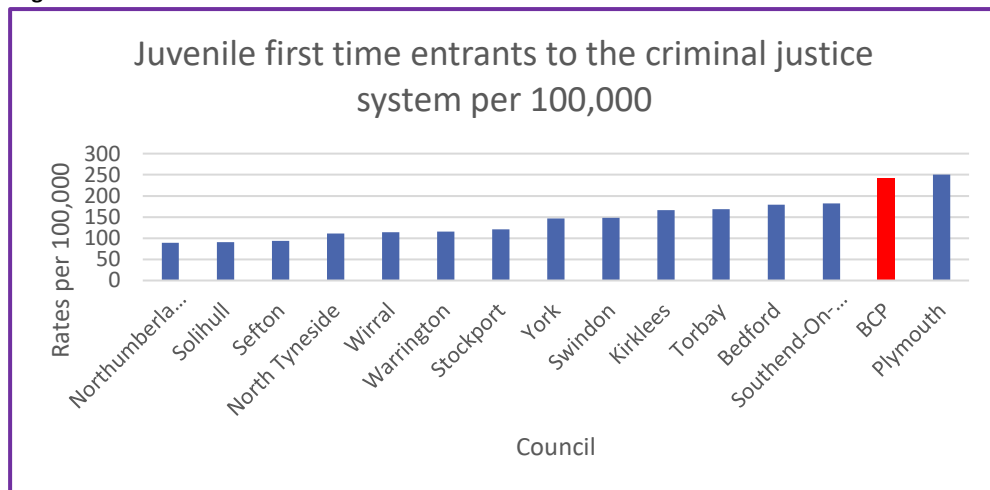
4.8 YOUNG PEOPLE

- 4.8.1 Overall, most children have a generally good start in BCP, comparing favourably with the national average in a number of key measures according to the [Local Authority Interactive Tool](#) and [Public Health England](#):
- Lower infant mortality rates lower than the national average (3.7 in BCP compared with 3.9 nationally per 1,000, 2018),
 - Lower proportion of children who are overweight or obese in reception (20% in BCP compared with 23% nationally, 2020),
 - Lower proportion of children in low-income families (12.7% in BCP compared with 19.1% nationally, 2020),
 - Higher population vaccination coverage for Dtap / IPV / Hib (95% in BCP compared with 93.8% nationally, 2020/21), and
 - Good school readiness as evidenced by achieving a good level of development at the end of reception (73.8% in BCP compared with 71.8%, nationally 2018/19).

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- 4.8.2 However, as per the theme running through this assessment, there will be children who are not having this experience and may face a number of adversities, making them more vulnerable to harm, including exploitation.
- 4.8.3 Children in the BCP area are less likely to be subject to Child Protection Plans or 'in care' than the National average, with:
- 304 children subject to Child Protection Plans (39.8 in BCP compared with 41.4 in England per 10,000 population of 0-17 years, 2021). This was however an increase from 2019/20, where 226 children were on Child Protection Plans in BCP.
 - 430 looked after children (56 in BCP compared with 67 in England per 10,000 population of 0-17yrs, 2021).
- 4.8.4 The rates of children in need and those who are first time entrants to the criminal justice system are higher than the national average and have increased since 2021:
- [394.6 per 10,000 children in need](#) in BCP compared with the [national average of 334.3 in 2022](#), a 12% increase from 2021.
 - [Data](#) shows juvenile first time entrants to the criminal justice system aged 10-17 in 2021 was 242 per 100,000 in BCP which is high in comparison to 147 in England. The chart below shows rates of juvenile entrants to the criminal justice system per 100,000 by council, comparing BCP to its CIPFA Nearest Neighbours⁵, which indicates that BCP's rates in this area are high.

Figure 4.8.4:



⁵ Bath and North East Somerset not included as their data was suppressed.

4.9 HEALTH

- 4.9.1 The [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#) (JSNA) is an assessment of the health and wellbeing needs of the local community to support the development of strategic plans and commissioning decisions.
- 4.9.2 8% of the population in BCP have a [disability](#) that limits their day to day activity a lot, whilst 10% are limited a little. This percentage varies considerably when also considering age groups:
- 13% of 65–74-year-olds are limited a lot.
 - 24% of 75–85-year-olds are limited a lot.
 - 47% of people of over 85 years are limited a lot.
- 4.9.3 On 1st October 2020 the Royal Bournemouth & Christchurch Hospital NHS Foundation Trust merged with Poole Hospital to become the University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust. Hospitals covered by the Trust include:
- Royal Bournemouth Hospital, Bournemouth.
 - Poole General Hospital;
 - Christchurch Hospital, Christchurch.
- 4.9.4 Emergency Departments are available at the Royal Bournemouth and Poole General hospitals. Both are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- 4.9.5 See Section 6 for details about mental health and substance misuse.

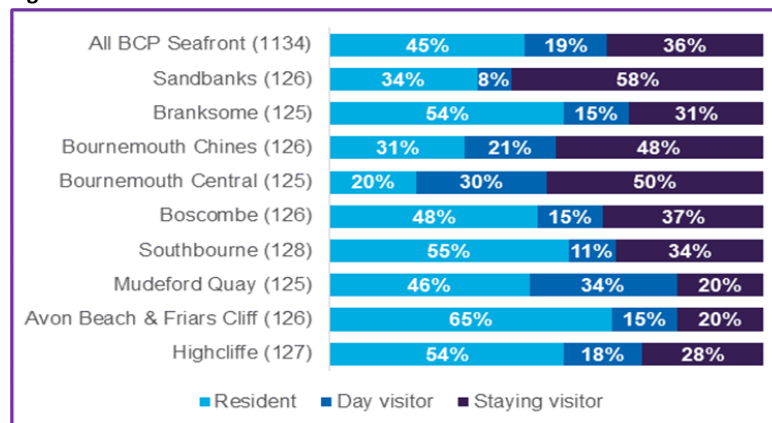
4.10 TRAVEL AND TOURISM

- 4.10.1 There are approximately 15 million visitors each year to the BCP area, spending £800 million locally, with nearly 8,000 jobs in BCP, equivalent to 5,790 full time roles, estimated to be linked to tourism.
- 4.10.2 The estimated tourist accommodation capacity in the BCP area is 23,824, including around 15,500 are in hotels, guesthouses, and B&B's, 2,264 in camping and caravans, 3,478 second homes, and 1,627 in Marina berths.
- 4.10.3 In usual times Bournemouth Airport flies to 25 different international destinations throughout the year and is used by more than 670,000 passengers.
- 4.10.4 Poole Harbour is the second largest natural harbour in the world, and BCP is also home to Christchurch Harbour. The Port of Poole had 208,000 passenger movements in 2018 with regular sailings from Poole to Cherbourg and Santander, and to Jersey and Guernsey and onwards to St Malo. Increasing numbers of cruises were departing from the port.
- 4.10.5 BCP has 15 miles of coastline including nine Blue Flag and fourteen Seaside Awards beaches.
- 4.10.6 The Seasonal Response Data and Partnership Review 2022 notes:
- 2021 saw an overall reduction in visitors to the BCP seafront this year from May to August 2022 (7.07 million in 2022, compared with 10.7 million in 2021).
 - Positively for the tourism economy, hotel occupancy levels this summer saw peaks of 98-99% during the two heatwaves, compared to peaks in 2021 of 96% over a reduced period.

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- 4.10.7 Recent surveys and analysis by the Insight Team⁶ included questions to determine whether beachfront users were residents of the BCP Council area, day visitors or working in the BCP Council area, or staying visitors (overnight or on holiday). The report concludes that *“Just under half (45%) said that they were residents of the BCP area, more than a third (36%) were staying visitors and the remainder (19%) were day visitors. This is quite different to the visitor profile in 2019, when more than half of those interviewed (56%) were staying visitors. The remainder were split almost equally between residents (21%) and day visitors (23%). The 2021 visitor profile is more similar to the profile of the 2017 Bournemouth and Poole visitor survey which was consistent with previous Bournemouth seafront visitor surveys.”*
- 4.10.8 Differentiation between different areas of the BCP beachfront were evident in the report, shown in Figure 4, breakdown of visitor types to different areas of BCP beachfront in Aug 2021.

Figure 4.10.8:



- 4.10.9 Further, Bournemouth Town Centre has achieved and retained its [Purple Flag accreditation in 2022](#) for its evening and night-time economy (ENTE), which it first won in 2010. The award aims to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of town and city centres between the hours of 17:00 & 05:00. Bournemouth has had steady growth in this international award and has three core agenda themes at ‘*excellent/outstanding*’. Work has now started on the Full Renewal for 2023 and this is in progress.
- 4.10.10 BCP Council Licensing has seen an increase of new applications for premises licences in recent years. In 2018 and 2019 on average thirty-five new applications per year were received, in 2020 this increased to 70 and in 2021 120 were received. To date (December 2022) 73 new premises license applications have been received. These are for a variety of establishments; the majority of applications are for new restaurants serving alcohol. Applications have included off licenses, a pleasure boat, and a few new bars/clubs.

⁶ Seafront Visitor Survey 2021, August 2021, Insight Team BCP Council [Seafront Visitor Survey 2021 \(amazonaws.com\)](#)

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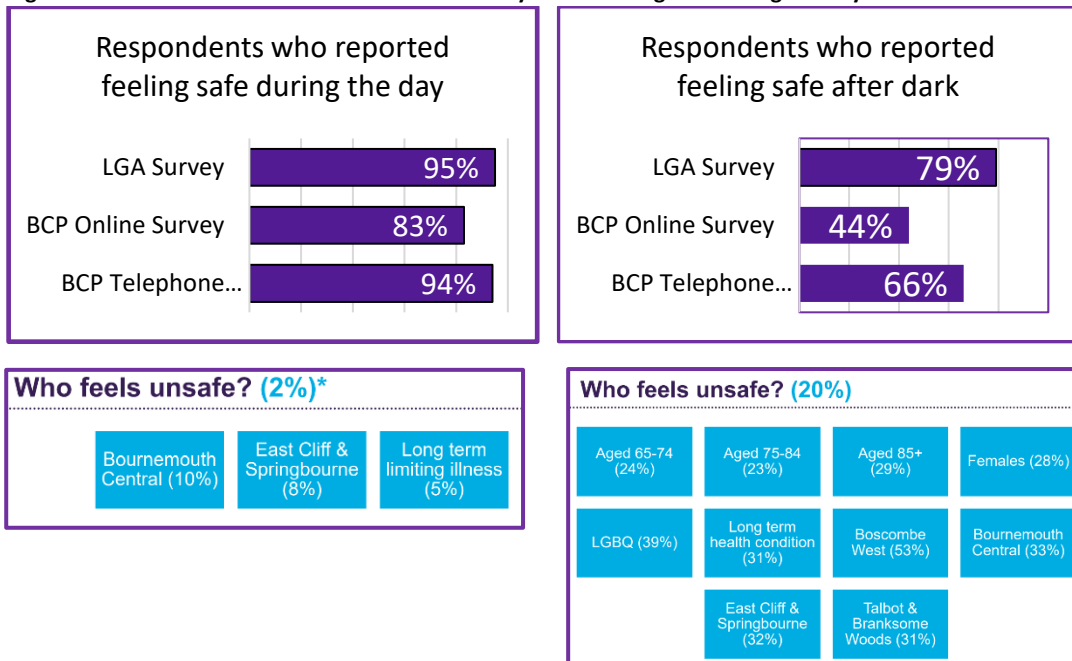
- 4.10.11 High business costs and rising inflation are posing challenges to the night-time Economy, as are cost-of-living pressure on consumers who may increasingly stay at home and choose the cheaper option to purchase alcohol in supermarkets, building on the well-established habit of 'pre-loading'. Staffing also remains a challenge with the post-Brexit impact on immigration.
- 4.10.12 Placemaking has been an important theme throughout 2022 with the recovery of the night-time economy at its core. Placemaking refers to every aspect of how we lead our lives within the community, with implications reaching wider than simply how the community looks. According to the [Project for Public Spaces](#), *"Placemaking inspires people to collectively reimagine and reinvent public spaces as the heart of every community. Strengthening the connection between people and the places they share, placemaking refers to a collaborative process by which we can shape our public realm in order to maximize shared value."*

5 RESIDENTS' SURVEY

5.1 2021 SURVEY

- 5.1.1 BCP Council Residents' Survey 2021, undertaken by the Consultation and Research Team, used both online and telephone surveys to collect data. This is the first survey of its kind for BCP Council and provides residents' views on the local area and council services. The survey provides baseline information which will be used to measure satisfaction and perceptions over time.
- 5.1.2 The survey has a confidence interval of +/- 2.5% which means that, if it were practical to ask every resident to take part, there is a 95% chance the true answer would be within 2.5% of the result obtained in this survey. Some survey results have been benchmarked against the LGA resident satisfaction with council poll.
- 5.1.3 As can be seen from Figure 3 most respondents felt safe during the day, although those living in Bournemouth Central, East Cliff & Springbourne and those with long-term limiting illnesses were most likely to indicate that they felt unsafe during the day. BCP respondents were less likely to feel safe than LGA respondents, and those who completed the online survey were less likely to feel safe than those who completed the telephone survey. Those living in Boscombe West, Bournemouth Central, East Cliff & Springbourne and Talbot & Branksome Woods were less likely to feel safe after dark. Females were more likely to feel unsafe after dark, as were those with long term health conditions, LGBTQ+ and over 65s.

Figure 5.1.3: Results from the BCP Residents' Survey 2021: Feeling safe during the day:



- 5.1.4 Overall, 12% of respondents had a high perception of ASB in their area. Respondents in Boscombe West (49%) were most likely to have a high perception of ASB than any other area or demographic group, followed by those who were LGBTQ+ (30%).

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5.1.5 The ASB with the largest proportion of residents thinking it was a very or fairly big problem were:

- Rubbish or litter lying around (24% phone, 57% online)
- People using or dealing drugs (24% phone, 45% online)
- People being drunk or rowdy in public places (20% phone, 37% online)
- Groups hanging around in the streets (18% phone, 36% online)
- Vandalism, graffiti, and other deliberate damage (16% phone, 39% online).

6 ADDITIONAL NEEDS / RISK FACTORS

6.1 OVERVIEW

- 6.1.1 Research⁷ has shown that the risk of being a victim or perpetrator of crime and/or anti-social behaviour increases with the frequency and severity of exposure to risk factors and the number of risk factors present. The age at which the exposure occurs also has an impact; the younger the individual, the greater the impact. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) research links childhood traumas/experiences (such as abuse, neglect, and dysfunctional home environments) to long-term impacts on an individual's health, wellbeing, and life chances. A British study⁸ found that those who had experienced four or more ACEs were significantly more likely to exhibit behaviours such as smoking, harmful alcohol use, drug misuse, risky sexual behaviour, or being a victim or perpetrator of crime. This growing body of research demonstrates the importance of early intervention in order to mitigate some of the consequences of ACEs, while providing a trauma informed approach when working with young people and adults who experienced ACEs as a child.

6.2 SUBSTANCE MISUSE OR ABUSE

- 6.2.1 While some people are able to drink alcohol responsibly, drug and alcohol misuse and dependence can have a far reaching and devastating impact on individuals and communities. However, there is evidence to suggest that being in treatment for substance misuse improves health outcomes, family relationships and reduces levels of offending. As of August 2021, it has been estimated that for every £1 spent on treatment, £4 will be saved from reduced demands on health, emergency, law enforcement and prison services. In section 7.1.10, below, we note strong empirical data linking acquisitive crime with drug use and dependency.
- 6.2.2 Problematic drink and drug use among under-18s rarely occurs in isolation and is frequently a symptom of wider problems. [Evidence](#) suggests that effective specialist substance misuse interventions contribute to improved health and wellbeing, better educational attainment, reductions in the numbers of young people not in education, employment, or training (NEET) and reduced risk-taking behaviour.
- 6.2.3 The most recent data available from the Crime Survey of England & Wales (CSEW 2019/20) found that overall drug use had remained stable [nationally](#). Young people (aged 16-24 years) were more likely to use drugs, with 21% reporting taking drugs in the last year compared with 9.4% of all adults (16-59 years). Cannabis was the most popular drug for both age groups (18.7% of 16-24 years and 7.8% of 16-59 years), while powder cocaine was the second most popular for 16-59-year-olds (2.6%), and nitrous oxide for the 16-24-year-olds (8.7%).

⁷ E.g., Pycroft, A & Bartollas, C (eds.) (2014) Applying complexity theory: whole systems approaches in criminal justice and social work. Bristol: Policy Press

⁸ Bellis, M. A., Hughes, K., Leckenby, N., Perkins, C., & Lowey, H. (2014). National household survey of adverse childhood experiences and their relationship with resilience to health-harming behaviours in England. *BMC medicine*, 12(1), 72.

6.2.4 Hospital admissions due to substance misuse (15-24 years) have been gradually increasing in BCP since 2012/13-2014/15. Numbers are small, so three-year averages are used. LG inform data shows BCP had a rate of 146.88 per 100,000 in 2018/19-2020/21, which was significantly higher than the England average (81.2 per 100,000). Further, hospital admissions due to substance misuse (15-24 years) in BCP rank on the higher end of the middle of the scale in comparison to BCP council's CIPFA Nearest Neighbours⁹. CIPFA Nearest Neighbours are a group of local authorities which are statistically nearest BCP council. Comparing Nearest Neighbours help us determine if a value is high or low in comparison to other areas with similar demographics. The below chart shows where BCP ranks in comparison to its CIPFA Nearest Neighbours for hospital admissions due to substance misuse (15-24 years) 2018/19-2020/21.

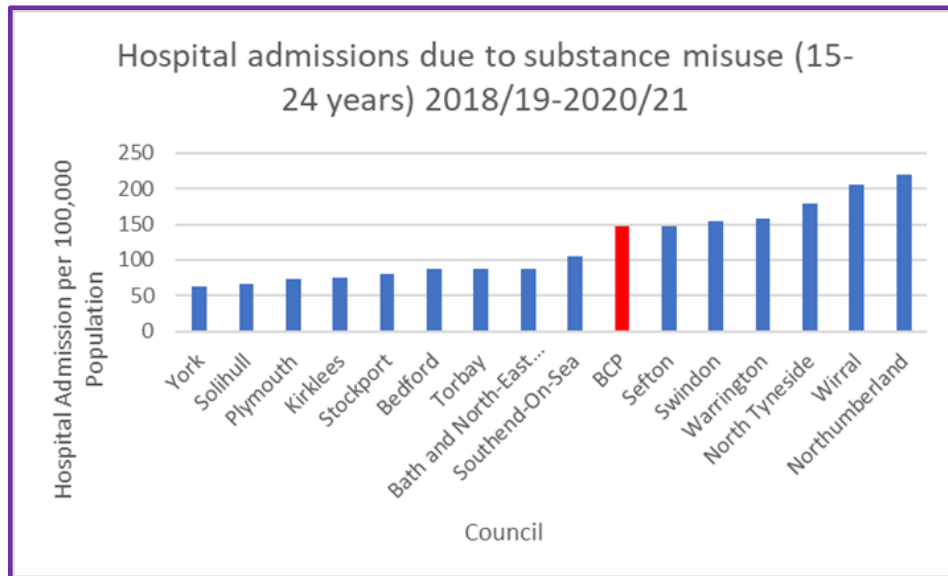


Figure 6.2.4

⁹ [CIPFA Nearest Neighbours Model](#) uses statistical processes to identify a local authority's nearest neighbours. The factors upon which classifications are based must provide a balanced representation of the authorities' traits. The variables employed in the assessment are descriptive characteristics of the area each authority administers; they are not a reflection of the way in which resource of services are considered. The Nearest Neighbours tool includes 40 metrics using a wide range of social-economic indicators.

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- 6.2.5 The number of drug-related deaths in [England and Wales](#) during 2021 were at their highest since records began in 1993. Locally, the number of drug-related deaths¹⁰ across the BCP area rose to 40 in 2021, from 27 in 2020. Bournemouth experienced the highest number of deaths (35), an increase of 12 compared to 2020. Christchurch remained constant, and Poole saw an increase of 1. The chart below shows the total number of drug related deaths (DRDs) in BCP January 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

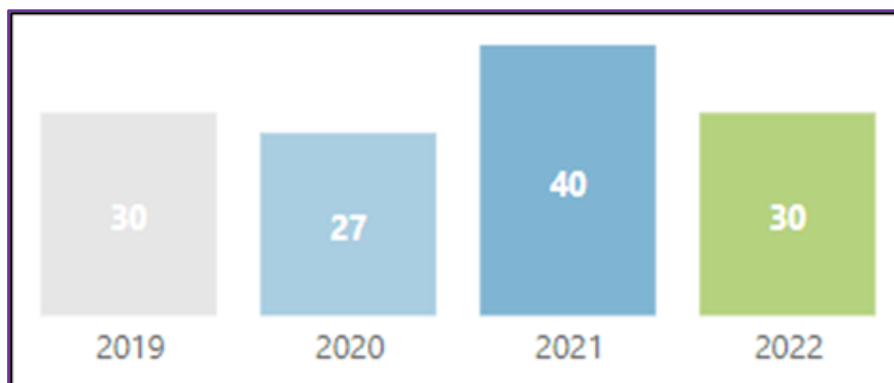


Figure 6.2.5 - Drug Related Deaths by Year in BCP

- 6.2.6 The following chart shows the number of DRDs in BCP at the same point in each year. The figures in 2022 are lower than in October 2021, although higher in than in previous years.

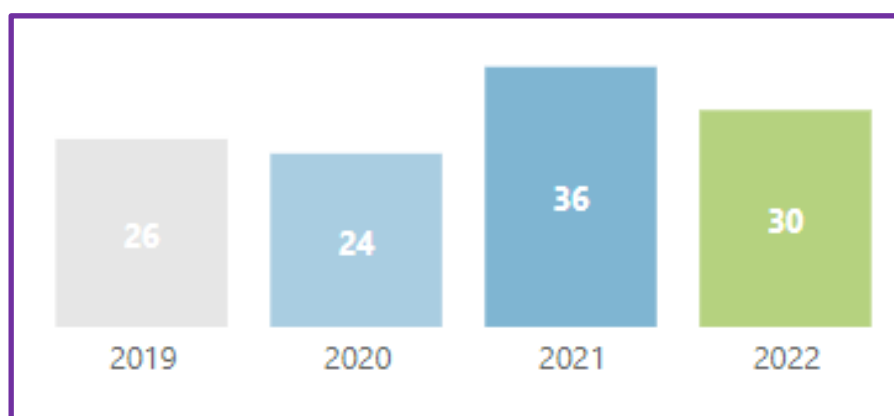


Figure 6.2.6 - Number of drug related deaths from January to October 2019-2022

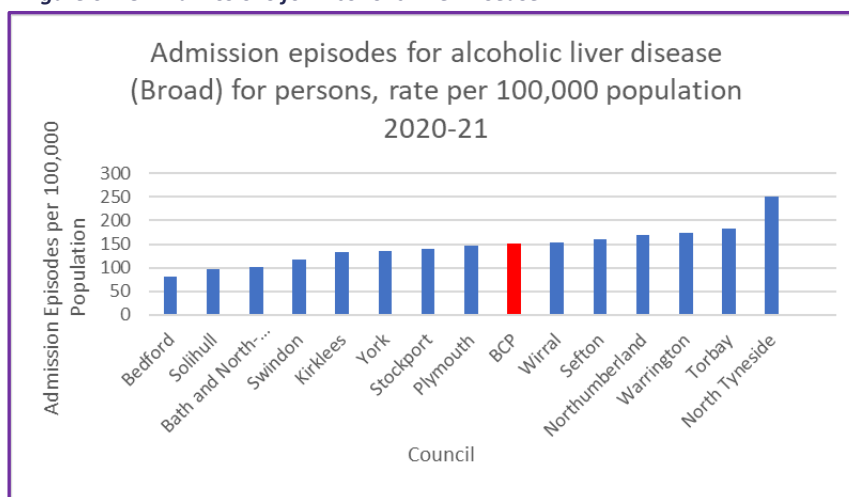
- 6.2.7 Of the suspected drug related deaths between January and October 2022, 22 were male and 7 females. The majority of DRDs (12) were in the 41–50-year-old age bracket, with another 8 people aged between 51 and 70. 5 People were aged 31-40, and 4 people were under 30. Heroin and other opiates remain the primary contributory drug to the majority of the DRDs¹¹

¹⁰ Note the BCP figures 2021 and 2022 are *suspected* drug related deaths – awaiting toxicology, pathology and coroner’s conclusions. The data is from Public Health Dorset, 2021/22 data is not ratified and not for the public domain.

¹¹ Note the figures are subject to coroner’s conclusions and may change.

6.2.8 Nationally liver disease is the third leading cause of premature death among people of working age (18 to 65 years)– there was a 43% increase in alcoholic liver deaths between 2001 and 2019, and almost 21% between 2019 and 2020. Further, the rate of admission episodes for alcoholic liver disease (broad)¹² per 100,000 in BCP (2020-21) was 150.2, compared with the average in England of 128 per 100,000 ¹³(2020-21). Although BCP rates are notably higher than the average in England, when rates are considered alongside BCP’s CIPFA Nearest Neighbours, BCP is slightly over the median suggesting that rates are within an acceptable range.

Figure 6.2.8 – Admissions for Alcoholic Liver Disease



¹² Broad definition: A measure of hospital admissions where either the primary diagnosis (main reason for admission) or one of the secondary (contributory) diagnoses is an alcohol-related condition. This represents a Broad measure of alcohol-related admissions but is sensitive to changes in coding practice over time.

(LG Inform, 2020-21, Admissions episodes for alcoholic liver disease (Broad) for persons, [Data and reports | LG Inform \(local.gov.uk\)](#), accessed 7/11/2022)

¹³ BCP rates of alcohol related hospital admissions have been significantly worse than England average since 2013/14.

6.2.9 National trends suggest a concerning disparity between the rates of admission episodes for alcoholic liver disease (broad) for male and female members of the population in England. The average rate for males (2020-21) is 176 per 100,000, whilst the average rate for females (2020-21) is 83 per 100,000. This trend is reflected in BCP, with males having a higher rate of admission at 167 per 100,000 population, in comparison to females at 134 per 100,000 population.

6.2.10 Alcohol related hospital admissions (narrow)¹⁴ have been increasing steadily in BCP since 2017/18. [Local Alcohol Profiles](#) show that the rates of alcohol related hospital admissions in BCP are significantly worse than the England average; this is a long-term trend. In 2020/21, the rate of alcohol related hospital admissions in BCP was 591 per 100,000 in comparison to the rate in England of 456 per 100,000. BCP also scores on the higher end of the scale in comparison to CIPFA nearest neighbours¹⁵:

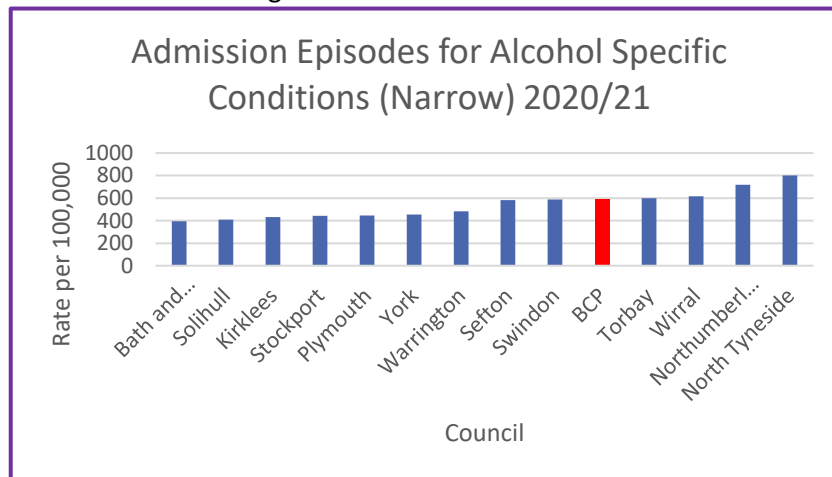


Figure 6.2.10 – Admissions for Alcoholic Specific Conditions

¹⁴ Narrow definition - A measure of hospital admissions where the primary diagnosis (main reason for admission) is an alcohol-related condition.

¹⁵ Southend and Bedford removed as no data available.

6.2.11 Admission episodes for mental and behavioural disorders due to the use of alcohol have also been increasing since 2017/18. The most recent rate for admission episodes for mental and behavioural disorders due to the use of alcohol is 138 per 100,000. This is high in comparison to BCP's CIPFA Nearest Neighbours.

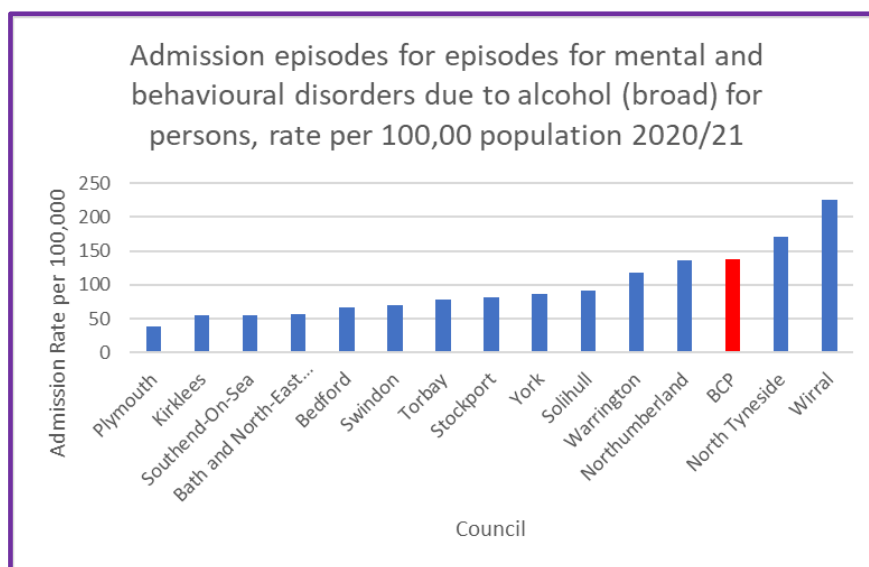


Figure 6.2.11 – Admission Episodes for Alcoholic Related Mental & Behavioural Episodes

- 6.2.12 Dorset Police data for drink- and drug-related driving offence arrests show a disproportionate concentration in the BCP area. Although we are unable to quantify the impact of resourcing and enforcement, the figures show a significant disparity between BCP and Dorset, suggesting elevated substance use in BCP in comparison to the wider county.
- 6.2.13 Adult residents of BCP have access to a range of local and national [drug and alcohol support services](#). From 1st November 2021 the primary local provider commissioned by BCP Council to support both adults and young people are [We Are With You](#), formerly Addaction.
- 6.2.14 During the period 1st October 2021 – 30th September 2022, 2,475 adults accessed treatment in BCP (1,409 for opiate misuse, 473 for non-opiates, 593 for primary alcohol misuse), and 74 young people engaged in specialist treatment. Of those accessing treatment in the period, Public Health Dorset data identified 3 referrals with the referral source as a Drug Rehabilitation Requirement Court Order. The number of referrals with the referral source as an Alcohol Treatment Requirement Court Order was 5.
- 6.2.15 According to the [National Drug Treatment Monitoring System](#), between July 2021 and June 2022 there were 83 young people in structured treatment in the BCP area, this is a decrease of 35 compared to the period ending June 2021
- 6.2.16 The National Drug Treatment and Monitoring System reported that between April 2021 and March 2022, there were 1,400 clients (18 and over) in treatment for opiate use, 503 clients (18 and over) in treatment for non-opiate use, and 671 clients (18 and over) in treatment for alcohol use.

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- 6.2.17 Bournemouth has continued to be active with their Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) programme throughout 2022 and is now looking at potential change to a BCP-wide CAP with an initial focus on off-licences and universities (18-25 age group). The CAP actions have centred around working with schools to raise awareness of alcohol and drugs. A training and awareness programme was developed for small off-licences which was delivered in partnership with Tesco and supported by the police and BCP Council Licensing. During the Covid-19 pandemic the CAP maintained a flow of information to support businesses; now the focus is on re-establishing projects.
- 6.2.18 The Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Team (DACT) has been successful in securing over £400,000 (2021/2022) for additional drug treatment crime and harm reduction activity. The aim of the funding is to support improvements to reduce drug related offending and deaths. This will be achieved locally by increasing access to naloxone, increasing residential rehabilitation placements, trialling Buvidal medication for some people, implementing a team of outreach workers, increased capacity for Out of Court Disposals, offer specialist counselling and increase structured support and aftercare provision for people within the criminal justice system. Joint working will take place with the Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Team, and within custody and court settings as well as the community.
- 6.2.19 The BCP DACT was also successful in securing over £688,000 government funding to support for those with drug and alcohol support needs to get the help they need to rebuild their lives. The local project includes a team of workers who actively engage with people in temporary/emergency accommodation, through outreach to access treatment and, continue to support people until they are stable enough to access services on their own. The team is made up of recovery workers, nurses, and prescribers. Outcomes for the project include improved health and wellbeing for people with complex needs. 2-year funding has been confirmed to deliver the project. In the first six months of the project commencing, 189 individuals have been assessed by the team, with 165 commencing treatment. 42% are aged between 35–44 years-old, with 5% being under 25 years old and 72% of individuals are male. 87% of individuals have primary opiate misuse and 55% of mental health issues.
- 6.2.20 The offer of Naloxone has been extended and approved for all frontline workers in BCP Council who will be offered training through the commissioned community drug and alcohol provider (We Are With You) and the option to carry either injectable Naloxone or nasal (Nyxoid). Since the start of the Naloxone project (2016), up to 31/1/2022, 1,588 kits have been issued to people in drug treatment, and 745 to those that are not in drug treatment (family, friends, people who use opiates but who are not in treatment).
- 6.2.21 BCP Council staff who come in to contact with people at risk of opiate overdose can now voluntarily choose to attend naloxone training and subsequently carry a kit. Council staff are offered a choice to carry Nyxoid (nasal naloxone) or Prenoxad (injection naloxone).
- 6.2.22 BCP started a project (February 2022, for a twelve-month period) with Alcohol Change UK about identifying individuals with cognitive impairment due to alcohol misuse and pathways of services for them. Cognitive impairment is a general term used to describe the range of damage to cognitive function resulting from heavy drinking or the associated lifestyle. Alcohol Change UK reports that cognitive impairment is common in people who drink dependently and can have a wide range of causes. The effect of cognitive impairment can impact on the help people receive from services due to the way they can be mistakenly interpreted. Further, cognitive impairment is a frequent factor in the exploitation of individuals, which has been highlighted in a number of Serious Case Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews.

- 6.2.23 Potentially 1,575 people in BCP could have some form of alcohol related brain damage. BCP Council is part of a national project run by Alcohol Change UK to improve the ways services identify and address the needs of cognitively impaired drinkers. To date, an online workshop has taken place in BCP which was targeted primarily at those who encounter dependent drinkers in their work. The workshop included anonymous client case studies from local practice to highlight the impact that cognitively impaired dependent drinkers are having on local services. The workshop (one of 24 held across the country) also explored the problems that local agencies are having with identification, testing, screening, and assessment, linking with specialist brain injury or memory services, using legal powers, and generally managing this group of clients. An online national survey has also taken place. Information has contributed to a national document called *'The Blue Light Project Identifying and Addressing Cognitive Impairment in Dependent Drinkers'* 2022.
- 6.2.24 Nitrous Oxide (NOS) has become an increasingly popular recreational drug at festivals, nightclubs, and parties, nationally. Used to induce laughter and hallucinations, the gas is not illegal to possess and can be purchased online. The British Medical Journal reports concern from medical professionals regarding increasing numbers of serious complications, including nerve damage and paralysis from NOS use. The 2019-20 Crime Survey for England and Wales found that almost 9% of 16-24 year olds said that they had taken NOS in the previous year, up from 6.1% in 2012-13. Latest available data from the ONS¹⁷ indicates that there were eight deaths in England and Wales in 2019 in which NOS was mentioned on the death certificate.
- 6.2.25 Harry Sumnall, Professor in Substance Use at Liverpool John Moores University, wrote: *"The key thing is that there's about half a million people using nitrous oxide, and it's the second most popular drug after cannabis. And for younger pupils aged 11-15, that's school children in England, it's the third most popular drug . . . some of the deaths caused by nitrous oxide are related to the methods of administration, so rather than being a direct toxic effect it could be, for example, through filling a plastic bag with gas, putting it over their head, or, for example, using a surgical mask . . . there are individuals who use high amounts, and those are usually the individuals admitted into hospital and A&E"*.¹⁸
- 6.2.26 As at early 2023, the Home Office is reported to preparing legislation that will include the prohibition of the sale or possession of NOS.

¹⁷<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/adhocs/13688deathsinvolvingnitrousoxideenglandandwales2010to2019registrations>

¹⁸ <https://www.bmj.com/content/378/bmj.o2155>

6.3 MENTAL HEALTH

- 6.3.1 Good mental health is an asset associated with positive outcomes for individuals and communities, whereas poor mental health is associated with a variety of adversities. The relationship between poor mental health and other aspects such as substance misuse is complex. For example, someone may self-medicate if they are unable to access treatment, or the use of substances may result in a decline in mental health. Similarly, [research](#) has shown that while over half of prisoners have poor mental health, the crimes were often committed for other reasons, such as poverty, homelessness, substance misuse and unemployment.
- 6.3.2 Research has also found that people with mental health problems are considerably more likely to be victims of crime than the general population. [Research](#) by Mind found that people with severe mental health problems were found to experience high rates of sexual and domestic violence and were four times as likely to be victimised by their relatives and acquaintances than those from the general population.
- 6.3.3 The rates of school pupils with social, emotional, or mental health needs stayed the same in BCP 2020-21 at 2.9%. This rate was not significantly different from the [England Average](#), which was 2.8% in 2021.
- 6.3.4 The rate of hospital admissions for self-harm (ages 10-24) has been rising since 2016/17 in BCP. However, rates dropped from 815 per 100,000 in BCP 2019/20, to 798 per 100,000 in BCP 2020/21. This reflects a national trend, with the admission rates for self-harm also dropping in England from 2019/20 (439 per 100,000) to 2020/21 (422 per 100,000). Admission rates for self-harm in BCP are significantly higher than in England, and [recent trends](#) suggest that rates are continuing to increase.
- 6.3.5 The [rates of in-patient stays](#) in secondary mental health services in BCP has been decreasing since 2018. There was a notable decrease in rates in BCP between 2018/19 (315 per 100,000) to 2019/20 (238 per 100,000). This is slightly lower than the average in England (241 per 100,000).
- 6.3.6 Fingertips shows that the suicide rate in BCP (12.7 per 100,000) was significantly higher than the England average in the years 2019-21 (10.4) . Suicide rates are also significantly higher in BCP than the majority of its comparators, as shown in the graph below.

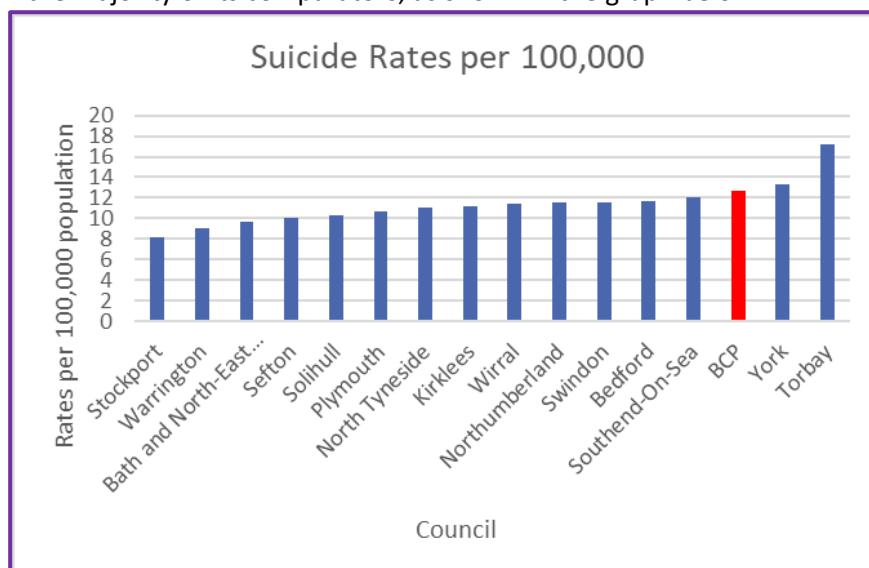


Figure 6.3.6 – Suicide Rates

- 6.3.7 Fingertips data shows that the suicide rate for [males](#) in BCP was 19 per 100,000, in comparison to 16 per 100,000 in England. This is higher than the rate for [females](#) of 6 per 100,000 in BCP, in comparison to 5 per 100,000 in England.

6.4 MISSING PERSONS

- 6.4.1 Dorset Police have had a Missing Support Team (MST) in place in BCP since November 2020, who note the following challenges and emerging trends:
- Some adult care settings appear to report individuals missing based on a policy decision of them being away from the residency for a time (some 24, 48 or 72 hours)
 - Truancy and children leaving school is starting to show repeat direct calls from educational establishments.
 - Medical settings appear to report individuals as missing when they do not return to authorised leave from MH establishment.

6.5 HOMELESSNESS

- 6.5.1 Previous research has shown that homeless people often have additional or complex needs that increase their vulnerability, particularly in relation to being a victim or perpetrator of crime. An example is recent [research](#) (published in 2020) by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government with people who are currently or recently have slept rough or were at risk of having to sleep rough. This research highlighted these vulnerabilities:
- 82% had a current mental health vulnerability
 - 65% had been a victim of crime in the previous six months
 - 60% had a current substance misuse need
 - 53% had spent time in prison
 - 50% had long-standing physical impairment, illness or disability
 - 35% had experienced domestic abuse
 - 26% had been in care
 - 21% had been homeless before they were 16 years old
 - 19% had a learning disability

- 6.5.2 The Government Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has taken a snapshot of those sleeping rough sleeping¹⁹ on a single night in the autumn since 2010 to gain an idea of the number of people rough sleeping in England. There are limitations, as this does not account for those who find places that are well hidden or are sleeping in outbuildings etc, and it will be an under-estimate. However, it does give an idea of trends and a base to start from. The most recent count was in Autumn 2021, where there was estimated to be 2,440 individuals sleeping rough on that single night. This is down by 9% from the previous year, and down 49% from the peak in 2017. However, it is up by 38% since 2010. At the same time, the number of people estimated to be in emergency and short-term accommodation in November 2021 is down 56% from the same period the previous year. However, this snapshot does not provide a definitive number of people affected by homelessness in England as the term 'homelessness' is much broader than sleeping rough.
- 6.5.3 In contrast to national trends, rates of rough sleeping in BCP went from 25 in 2020 to 29 in 2021, an increase of 16 percent. Despite this increase, rough sleeping rates remain considerably lower than the year prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic. During the Pandemic, a national scheme 'Everyone In' was launched, where local authorities were asked to immediately house rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping to protect their health and stop wider transmission of the Covid-19 virus. This scheme contributed to a 65% reduction in rough sleeping rates in BCP, from 72 rough sleepers counted in Autumn 2019, to 25 in 2020.
- 6.5.4 [Data](#) shows that between 2017 and 2021, the majority of rough sleepers reported in England have been males, a trend which is reflected in BCP. Further, [statistics](#) show that most of those rough sleeping in England are aged 26 and over, which is also the case in BCP.

¹⁹ 'People sleeping rough' are defined as follows: People sleeping, about to bed down (sitting on/in or standing next to their bedding) or bedded down in the open air (such as on the streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments). People in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, or 'bashes' which are makeshift shelters, often comprised of cardboard boxes). The definition **does not include** people in hostels or shelters, people in campsites or other sites used for recreational purposes or organised protest, squatters or travellers. **Bedded down** is taken to mean either lying down or sleeping. **About to bed down** includes those who are sitting in/on or near a sleeping bag or other bedding.

7 CRIME

7.1 OVERVIEW OF CRIME

- 7.1.1 The latest available Office for National Statistics data summarising Police recorded total crime per CSP area is for the twelve-month period ending June 2022²⁰. It indicates a 4% increase against the previous period, compared to a 6% increase in the Dorset County area. The average increase for all 353 CSP (and unassigned) areas is a 12% increase. Eighteen CSP areas have statistically significant increases of 25% or more, concentrated in a few Police force areas, and contributing relatively large absolute numbers to the national total. Eight CSP areas showed statistically significant decreases of 5% or more – six of the eight were in just two Police force areas, suggesting that reporting and recording practices may be a factor.
- 7.1.2 However, the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) data for the year ending June 2022²¹ shows a slightly different picture, with total crime for the year ending June 2022 8% lower than the pre-coronavirus pandemic year ending March 2020 (since the CSEW is traditionally based on face-to-face interviews, data collection was disrupted during the period of COVID related restrictions). In particular, data shows theft decreasing by 19% compared with pre-pandemic levels, with the accompanying report noting that: *“while it is too early to say whether this represents a new long-term trend, it does suggest a sustained impact of coronavirus”*.
- 7.1.3 Total crime in BCP, as recorded by Police, in 2021/22 was nearly 6% higher than the previous year. However, this increase can be explained, at least partially, by a “return to normality” following the easing of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions - total crime in 2020/21 was 9.5% lower than in 2019/20. Total crime in BCP in the first six months of this year (April to September 2022) is at virtually identical levels to the same period in 2021/22.
- 7.1.4 Available data on fraud and computer misuse offences referred to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau by Action Fraud indicates that the rate in the Dorset Police force area (therefore BCP plus Dorset County), year ending June 2022, was 6 per thousand population. This is in alignment with national figures, but above the South West regional average. There was a significant fall from the previous year in all Police force areas in England and Wales, with a national average reduction of 21% - Dorset’s reduction was 14%, the second smallest of any of the 43 areas.

²⁰ [Recorded crime data by Community Safety Partnership area - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingjune2022#main-points)

²¹

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingjune2022#main-points>

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- 7.1.5 In the first six months of this year - April to September - total recorded crime in BCP is essentially unchanged from the same period in 2021:

Table 7.1.5: Recorded Crime in BCP (Police Data):				
	2021 April - September	2022 April - September	Difference	Change Percentage
Total Crime	17,095	16,925	-170	-0.99%

- 7.1.6 However, within the effectively unchanged total, there are a variety of differing trends at the level of individual crime types:

Table 7.1.6: Recorded Crime in BCP (Police Data):				
SELECTED CRIME TYPES	2021 April - September	2022 April - September	Difference	Change Percentage
Pedal Cycle Theft	606	453	- 153	- 25.25%
Public Order Offences	1,429	1,181	- 248	- 17.35%
Robbery	178	150	- 28	- 15.73%
Drug Offences	355	325	- 30	- 8.45%
Criminal Damage	2,086	1,942	- 144	- 6.90%
Dwelling Burglary	594	560	- 34	- 5.72%
Violence Against the Person	6,583	6,340	- 243	- 3.69%
Total Crime	17,095	16,925	- 170	- 0.99%
Serious Sexual Offences	606	602	- 4	- 0.66%
Sexual Offences	707	712	+ 5	+ 0.71%
Total Theft	3,314	3,544	+ 230	+ 6.94%
Vehicle Crime – Theft Of	274	308	+ 34	+ 12.41%
Most Serious Violent Crime	72	84	+ 12	+ 16.67%
Shoplifting	975	1,166	+ 191	+ 19.59%
Vehicle Crime – Theft From	1,056	1,305	+ 249	+ 23.58%
Possession of Weapons	85	125	+ 40	+ 47.06%
Theft from the Person	129	194	+ 65	+ 50.39%

7.2 SERIOUS VIOLENCE

- 7.2.1 In the 2018 Serious Violence Strategy²², the government defined serious violence 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*”.
- 7.2.2 The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 includes a wide breadth of measures²³. Most significantly for the work of Community Safety Partnerships, it imposes a Serious Violence Duty that requires:
- Local Authorities;
 - Police;
 - Fire & Rescue authorities;
 - Specified Criminal Justice agencies;
 - Health Authorities . . .
- to work together to formulate an evidence based analysis of the problems associated with serious violence in their local area, and then produce and implement a strategy detailing how they will respond to those particular issues.
- 7.2.3 The Serious Violence Duty measures in the *Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022* will commence on 31st January 2023. Partnerships will then need to prepare and deliver a strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence in their area, with the deadline for publication of the strategy of 31st January 2024.
- 7.2.4 In BCP there have been recent overall reductions in two of the crime types associated with ‘most serious violence’, *Robbery* (down 15.73%), and *Drug Offences* (down 8.45%), and an increase in a two others – *Possession of Weapons* (up 47.06%) and *Most Serious Violent Crime* (up 16.67%) – see section 7.1.6 above. However, these ‘headline’ figures are not particularly useful without further detail detection of drug and weapons offences are in significant part a measure of Police activity; absolute numbers of the most serious violent crimes are low and therefore random statistical variation expected; there are a range of characteristics and significant variation of levels of risk within the overall category of “robberies”; and Possession of Weapons numbers are exclusive of crimes where a weapon was used in a more serious crime.
- 7.2.5 A report by BCP council (December 2022) showed that over a 12-month period Dec 2021-Nov 2022 there were 531 occurrences related to knife crime in BCP reported to police:
- Within that, 203 occurrences were deemed to involve the physical presence of a knife.
 - Demographic information relating to these 203 occurrences showed that the majority of these occurrences involved male suspects (93.6% of offences) and male victims (85.2% of identified victims)²⁴.

²²https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/serious-violence-strategy.pdf

²³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/police-crime-sentencing-and-courts-bill-2021-factsheets>

²⁴ 30.5% of occurrences in the dataset had no victims. Of occurrences where there was a victim, 85.2% of these were male.)

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- 10–19-year-olds were disproportionately represented in the dataset, making up 25.2% of the suspects, and 20.1% of victims.
- 50.7% of the database were classed as ‘Violence S47 and Less Serious Offences’, and 45% of the database involved possession offences.
- 10–19-year-olds were disproportionately represented within possession offences; 40.2% of suspects involved in possession offences were aged 10-19.
- 9.4% of the dataset involved ‘Violence S20 and More Serious Offences’. Within this category of offences, 26% of suspects were aged 20-29, and 21% were aged 10-19. 40% of victims were aged 20-29 and 30% were aged 10-19.

7.2.6 Analysis of Crimes and Incidents across BCP in 2022 involving catapults showed peaks in May / June and September / October. There was a significant concentration in a very small number of specific neighbourhoods.

7.2.7 Tactical Assessments over the summer of 2021, particularly for the Problem Solving (SARA) group covering Bournemouth Gardens, highlighted robberies perpetrated by young people as a concerning issue. This observation was reinforced by information from hospitals in respect of young people attending with significant injuries. The robberies fell into one of three categories:

- Drug related – typically unreported.
- Opportunistic targeting of other young people for personal property such as phones.
- Apparently spontaneous robberies involving significant violence, typically following a random interaction that becomes confrontational.

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- 7.2.8 Data from hospital Emergency Departments (EDs) is collected, and this is referred to as [Cardiff Model](#) data. The aim is to use other data sources to complement police data. Unfortunately, no data has been collated at RBH since October 2021, but this is due to be rectified from April 2023, when the Poole and Bournemouth sites will be working from a unified emergency department system.
- 7.2.9 After removing victims who were identifiably injured outside of the BCP area (often the locations are blank or ambiguous, such as “High Street”), 213 victims of non-accidental injuries were treated at Poole General Hospital (PGH) between January and October 2022. The largest single demographic identifiable was males aged 16-24 (27% of all patients attending), followed by males aged 25-34 (15%). Overall, 72% of attendees were male, and 28% female:

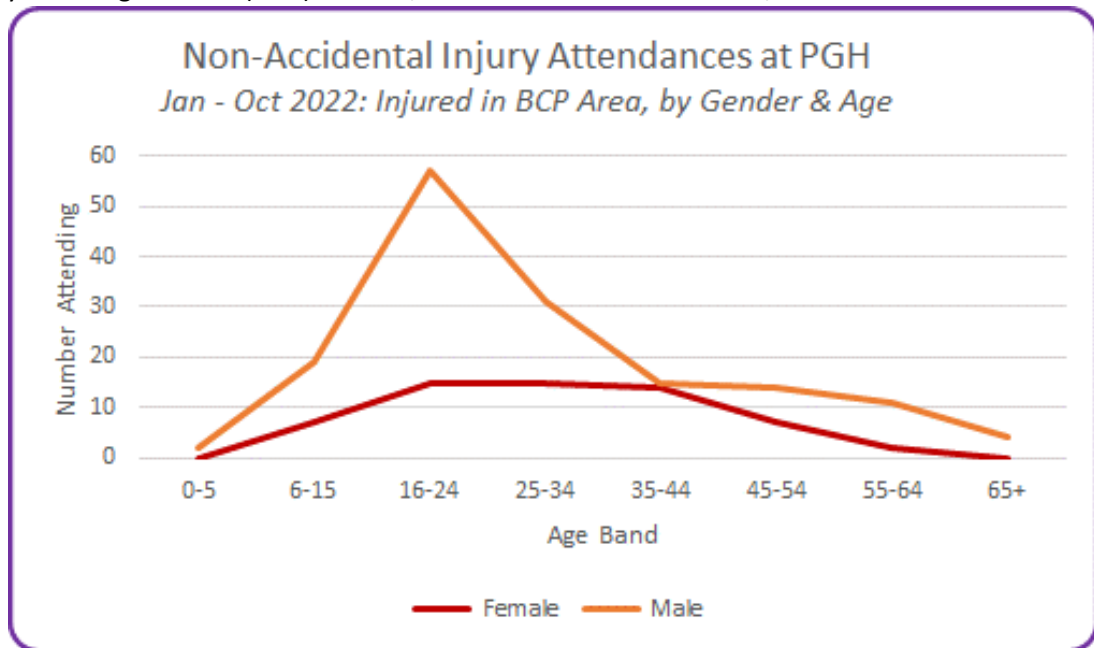



Figure 7.2.9 – Non-Accidental Injury Attendances at PGH, by Gender & Age

- 7.2.10 Data is insufficiently complete to identify the prevalence of injury resulting from Domestic Abuse, or relationships (if any) between victim and assailant. However, inference can be drawn from the location of the assault – for female attendees at PGH Emergency Department the location of the assault, where known, was “Home” in 34% of instances – for males the figure was 9.6%.

7.3 DOMESTIC ABUSE

7.3.1 The *Domestic Abuse Act 2021*, which received royal assent on 29th April 2021, created a statutory definition of Domestic Abuse based very much on the multi-agency definitions used for many years in BCP. The new definition is as follows:

- ‘Abusive behaviour’ is defined in the act as any of the following:
 - physical or sexual abuse
 - violent or threatening behaviour
 - controlling or coercive behaviour
 - economic abuse
 - psychological, emotional or other abuse.
 - For the definition to apply, both parties must be aged 16 or over and ‘personally connected’. ‘Personally connected’ is defined in the act as parties who:
 - are married to each other
 - are civil partners of each other
 - have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated)
 - have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated)
 - are or have been in an intimate personal relationship with each other
 - have, or there has been a time when they each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child
 - are relatives.
-  **(It should be noted that data used in the preparation of this *Strategic Assessment* is based on the pre-existing definition, however for all practical purposes this change does not devalue historic data).**

7.3.2 Other measures introduced by the Act that are of relevance to the Community Safety Partnership include:

- New Domestic Abuse Protection Notices (DAPN) to provide immediate protection following a domestic abuse incident, and new Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPO) to provide flexible, longer-term protection. These effectively improve and replace existing DVPNs and DVPOs.
- Placing a duty on local authorities to give support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in Refuges and safe accommodation;
- Requiring local authorities to grant new secure tenancies to social tenants leaving existing secure tenancies for reasons connected with domestic abuse.

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- 7.3.3 Domestic Abuse Violent Crime data used in the preparation of this *Strategic Assessment*, and historically by relevant strategic groups in BCP, includes Assault, Sexual Assault, and Harassment offences, within the context of Domestic Abuse.
- 7.3.4 Nationally, there was a 7.7% increase²⁵ in domestic abuse-related recorded crimes in the year ending March 2022, this following a 6% increase the previous year and reported in last BCP Strategic Assessment. However, given improvements (in some Police force areas) in recording, and changes in the confidence of victims to report, it is not safe to draw conclusions about “real world” changes in the scale and prevalence of domestic abuse-related crime.

²⁵

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesoverview/november2022>

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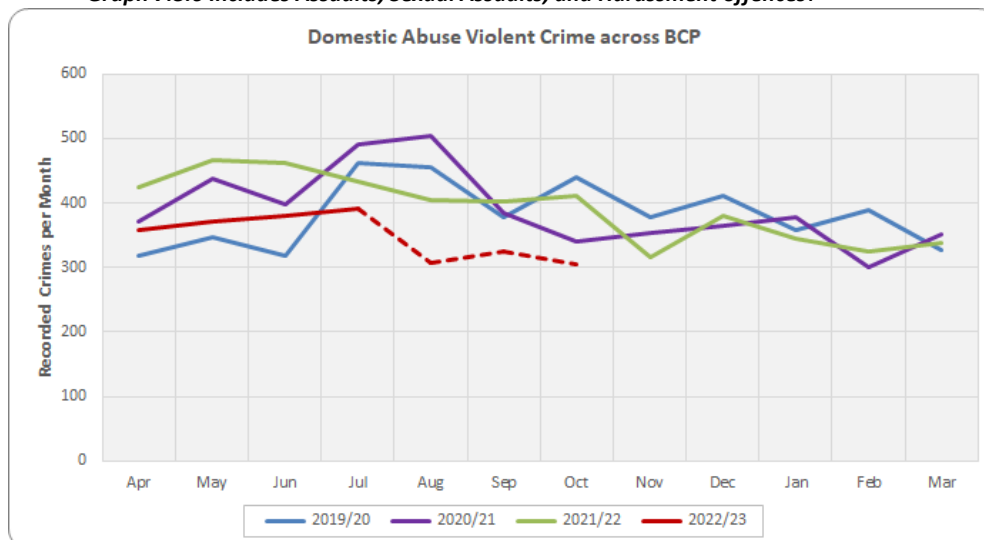
- 7.3.5 Office for National Statistics data for year ending March 2021²⁶, published in February 2022 and, quantifies the hugely disproportionate role of sex as a risk factor in domestic homicides in England and Wales:

Table 7.3.5.1 - Homicides classed as Domestic (numbers):						
Sex of victim	Sex of principal suspect	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Male	Male	17	13	14	29	28
Male	Female	12	11	15	7	11
Female	Male	83	89	105	83	72
Female	Female	5	3	4	2	3
TOTAL		117	116	138	121	114

Table 7.3.5.2 - Homicides classed as Domestic (percentages):						
Sex of victim	Sex of principal suspect	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Male	Male	14.53%	11.21%	10.14%	23.97%	24.56%
Male	Female	10.26%	9.48%	10.87%	5.79%	9.65%
Female	Male	70.94%	76.72%	76.09%	68.60%	63.16%
Female	Female	4.27%	2.59%	2.90%	1.65%	2.63%
TOTAL		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

- 7.3.6 DA Violent Crime (Assaults, Sexual Assaults, Harassment) totals in BCP for 2021/22 were essentially unchanged from the previous year. The total for April-July 2022 is 15% lower than the same four-month period in 2021 – parallel data for Dorset County shows a 10% fall. Unfortunately, the most recent DA crime and incident data from August 2022 to the date of production of this Strategic Assessment is unreliable due to technical issues (it is marked with a dashed line in the following graph).

Graph 7.3.6 Includes Assaults, Sexual Assaults, and Harassment offences:



²⁶

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/appendixtableshomicideinenglandandwales>

- 7.3.7 However, although Domestic Abuse medium term trends in BCP and in the Dorset County area may be very similar, it is striking that DA Violent Crime numbers, and DA Incident totals per 1000 population aged 16 and over, are significantly higher in BCP. However, these rate-per-thousand differences for DA Incidents (49% higher in BCP) and DA Violent Crime (44% higher) are lower than the overall (all) crime rates per thousand total population, which are 70% higher²⁷ in BCP than Dorset County.

Table 7.3.7 - 12 Months To 31 July 2022 - Rate per Thousand population²⁸ aged 16 and over		
	BCP	Dorset County
DA INCIDENTS	18.64	12.52
DA VIOLENT CRIME	13.47	9.34

²⁷ONS Crime by CSP (cross checked as accurate to data used elsewhere in this document:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/recordedcrimedatabycommunitysafetypartnershiparea>

²⁸ ONS Estimates of the population for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, mid 2020, released 25 June 2021:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland>

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- 7.3.8 The combined total of Police-recorded DA Incidents and DA Violent Crime, per thousand population, is higher in the pan-Dorset area than the regional and national averages, and significantly higher than in Police force areas considered 'similar'²⁹:

Table 7.3.8.1 - Number and rate of Police recorded DA-related Incidents PLUS DA-related Crimes, Year Ending March 2022:		
	Combined Incidents + Crimes	Rate per 1,000 Population
DORSET	21,085	27
SURREY	11,800	10
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	19,080	22
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	12,732	20
WARWICKSHIRE	13,457	23
THAMES VALLEY	47,742	20
SOUTH WEST REGION	116,355	21
ENGLAND AND WALES	1,500,369	25

The striking variation is accounted for by a higher rate of recording Incidents (as opposed to DA crimes) in the Dorset Police area, with the ratio of Crimes to Incidents being lower in Dorset and DA Violent Crime, per thousand population, appearing 'mid pack' in terms of national averages and Police force areas considered 'similar':

Table 7.3.8.2			
- Percentage of DA-related Incidents PLUS DA-related Crimes that were classified as DA-related Crimes		Number and rate of Police recorded DA-related Crimes, Year Ending March 2022:	
	Percentage	Crimes	Rate per 1,000 Population
DORSET	45%	9,477	12
SURREY	76%	8,952	7
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	64%	12,219	14
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	60%	7,625	12
WARWICKSHIRE	57%	7,614	13
THAMES VALLEY	58%	27,469	11
SOUTH WEST REGION	59%	68,587	12
ENGLAND AND WALES	61%	910,980	15

²⁹

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesdatatool>

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- 7.3.9 However, notwithstanding similarities and differences between Police and Local Authority / CSP areas, there are significant variations within the BCP area itself. Overall DA Violent Crime has a strong correlation to the most deprived areas in our community – geographical analysis revealed that domestic abuse reported to the police appears to correlate with deprivation, as shown in Map 7.3.9, although differences in levels of contact with services who identify the abuse, and population densities, may well also be factors:

Map 7.3.9 - Locations: DA flagged Violent Crime locations with female victim, with address in the BCP area, aged 16+, twelve month period to July 2022.

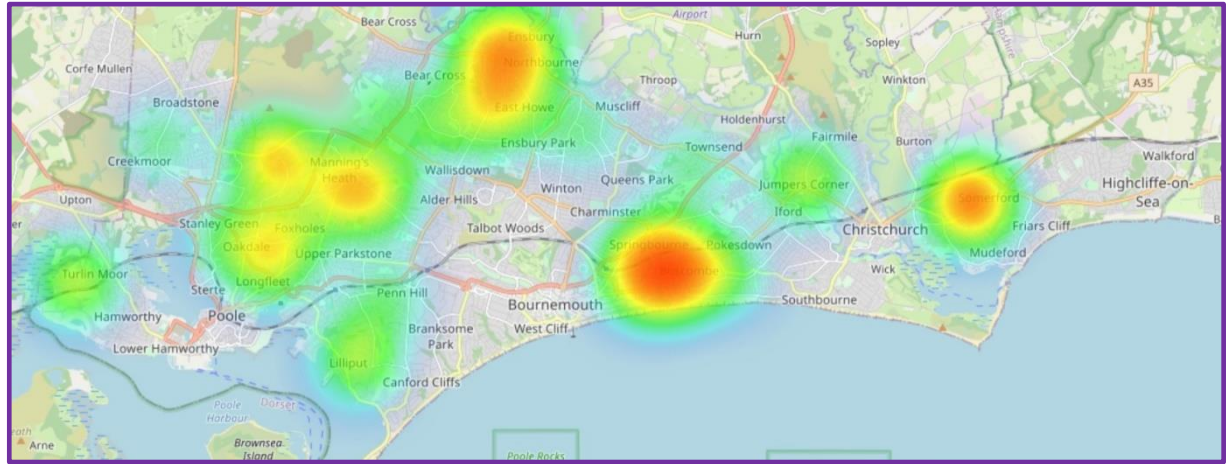
Inset: Index of Multiple Deprivation – most deprived areas (LSOAs) across BCP.



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7.3.10 The correlation of DA flagged Violent Crime with indices of deprivation appears especially true of young female victims aged 16 and 17 under (possibly reflecting the “watering down” effect of Night Time Economy locations and hotels for victims aged 18 and over, creating a different type of hotspot):

Map 7.3.10 - Locations: DA flagged Violent Crime locations with female victim aged 16 or 17, with address in the BCP area, twelve month period to July 2022.



7.3.11 Previous analysis for the victim age group 16 & 17, showed that all the perpetrators were male and a disproportionate percentage of them were known to the Partnership Coordinating Group and SARA groups covering the priority areas in BCP, such as Bournemouth Gardens and Poole Bus Station. This may indicate that vulnerable young people are spending time in these public spaces and members of the public are witnessing the domestic abuse and reporting it. In only about 5% of recorded cases in the sample did the abuse appear to be the first occasion in which the young person came to partners’ attention; in 40-45% of cases there were numerous prior involvements with partner agencies. The most common risk factors included:

- Poor mental health (17%);
- Learning difficulties (13%);
- Previous family trauma such as bereavement (8%);
- Victim of previous abuse; pregnancy or having a child; DA at home; physical / emotional abuse by parents.

7.3.12 Victims over 65 years were more evenly distributed across the BCP conurbation Police recorded DA Violent Crime, with victims aged 65 and over, and not limited to a focus on intimate- / ex-intimate partners, showed, for example, hotspots centred on Highcliffe, and in an area spanning Christchurch and Southbourne. Highcliffe and Walkford is the BCP ward with both the highest absolute number of residents aged 65 and over (4,496), and the highest as a percentage of the overall population (44%). East Southbourne & Tuckton has the ninth highest number (2,945) and fourth highest percentage (34%). However, there does not appear to be a direct relationship when all 33 wards are considered, so other factors are significant.

7.3.13 Further analysis found evidence of different types of domestic abuse with victims aged 65 and older, including:

- Long term coercive and controlling behaviours.
- Violence associated with mental health and dementia appeared a major contributing factor, presenting a significant proportion of cases.
- Exploitative relationships between younger females and frequently vulnerable, older males.

- 7.3.14 There are two Refuge facilities in BCP which are used to accommodate people from across the country, so demographic data is unlikely to directly reflect the community. Of the 38 Refuge service users one was male. Other demographics for Q2 2022/23 are:

Table 7.3.14.1 - Refuge Service User - Age Distribution 2022/23 Q2:							
	16-17	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
Number	0	5	16	7	3	2	0
Percentage	0%	15%	48%	21%	9%	6%	0%

Table 7.3.14.2 - Refuge Service User - Ethnicity 2022/23:				
	White / White British	Black African	Asian	Other
Number	22	2	4	6
Percentage	65%	6%	12%	18%

- 7.3.15 Early feedback from the Citizens Advice service is that they are seeing more instances of Domestic Abuse that they perceive as linked to, or exacerbated by, cost of living pressures as described in section 4.5, *2022 Cost of Living Situation*, above.

7.4 'HONOUR BASED' ABUSE & FORCED MARRIAGE

- 7.4.1 The term 'Honour Based Abuse' (HBA) relates to the offender/s interpretation of the motivation for their actions. The Crown Prosecution Service definition is:

☞ *"An incident or crime involving violence, threats of violence, intimidation coercion or abuse (including psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse) which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of an individual, family and/ or community for alleged or perceived breaches of the family and/or community's code of behaviour."*³⁰

- 7.4.2 HBA and violence cuts across all cultures and communities. It affects people of all ages, but often begins early in the family home. Girls and women are particularly at risk; however, boys and men are also affected and may be at heightened risk if there are factors around disability, sexuality, and mental health.
- 7.4.3 It can be distinguished from other forms of abuse and violence, as it is often committed with some degree of approval and/or collusion from family and/or community members. Women, men, and younger members of the family can all be involved in the abuse. Victims are more likely to be abused multiple times by multiple perpetrators.

³⁰ <https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/so-called-honour-based-abuse-and-forced-marriage-guidance-identifying-and-flagging>

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7.4.4 In the year ending March 2022, there were 2,887³¹ HBA-related offences recorded by the police in England and Wales. This was an increase of 6% compared with the year ending March 2021 (when there were 2,725 offences) and was the second consecutive annual increase (albeit smaller, at 6% rather than the previous year's 18% rise).

7.4.5 However, the Home Office urges caution in interpreting the increase, as a range of factors may be significant:

- ☞ General improvements in Crime Recording;
- ☞ Police improving their identification of what constitutes HBA;
- ☞ More victims coming forward to report;
- ☞ Genuine increases.

7.4.6 The 2,887 HBA-related offences recorded by Police in England and Wales break down by type as follows:

Table 7.4.6 - HBA-related offences by offence category, in England and Wales, year ending March 2022:	
Offence Category	Percentage
Controlling and coercive behaviour	17%
Assault with injury	14%
Assault without injury	14%
Threats to kill	9%
Malicious Communications	8%
Rape of a female aged 16 and over	6%
Kidnapping	6%
Stalking	6%
Harassment	5%
Cruelty to children/young persons	2%
Public fear, alarm or distress	1%
All other offences	11%
Total	100%

³¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statistics-on-so-called-honour-based-abuse-offences-england-and-wales-2021-to-2022/statistics-on-so-called-honour-based-abuse-offences-england-and-wales-2021-to-2022>

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- 7.4.7 As noted earlier, data re HBA-related offences must be treated with caution, but comparing Dorset Police force areas with the 'similar' areas considered in the Domestic Abuse section earlier:

Table 7.4.7 - HBA-related offences by Police Force Area, year ending March 2022:	
DORSET	19
SURREY	21
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	43
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	-
WARWICKSHIRE	10
THAMES VALLEY	85
SOUTH WEST REGION	155
ENGLAND AND WALES	2887

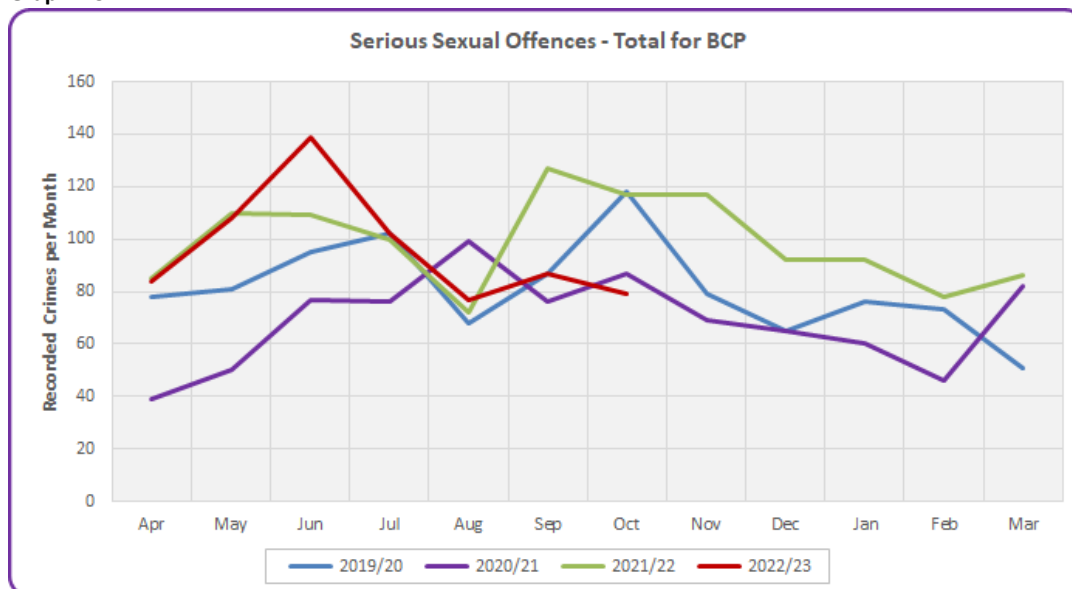
- 7.4.8 In the twelve months to November 2022, Police recorded 17 HBA-related offences in the BCP area, three of which had victims aged 17 or under. No Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) or Forced Marriage crimes were recorded.
- 7.4.9 The Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022 will come into effect in early 2023 – it raises the age of marriage and civil partnership to 18 in England and Wales. This means that 16 to 17-year-olds will no longer be able to marry or enter a civil partnership under any circumstances, including with parental or judicial consent. However, non-registered religious and cultural 'marriages' are known to take place in the UK, and are neither reported nor captured by statistics, a significant barrier to protection, safeguarding, and child welfare³².

³² <https://karmanirvana.org.uk/campaigns/current-campaigns/end-child-marriage/>

7.5 SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- 7.5.1 In the twelve-month period to October 2022, there 1,141 recorded Serious Sexual Offences in the BCP area, compared 1,042 in the preceding twelve month period, an increase of 9.5%. There were 848 in the twelve-month period to October 2020, which equates to 34% increase in two years. The corresponding increases in Dorset County were 31% and 51% respectively.

Graph 7.5.1:



- 7.5.2 National data is that Police recorded sexual offences have risen by 21% compared with the pre-coronavirus pandemic year ending March 2020. This continued increase to 196,889 offences is the highest annual figure recorded in England and Wales. However, the ONS states that: *“caution is needed when interpreting these figures as they may reflect a number of factors including the impact of high-profile cases and campaigns on victims’ willingness to report incidents”*³³.
- 7.5.3 Serious Sexual Offence rates per 1000 population, 12 Months to 31st October 2022, are 35% higher in BCP than in Dorset County. Latest available ONS data (to June 2022), assessing all sexual offences, has the rate per thousand population 40% higher in BCP:

Table 7.5.3 - Rate per Thousand population		
	BCP	Dorset County
SERIOUS SEXUAL OFFENCES	2.87	2.12
ALL SEXUAL OFFENCES (ONS) ³⁴	3.53	2.52

³³

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingjune2022#main-points>

³⁴

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/recordedcrimedatabycommunitysafetypartnershiparea>

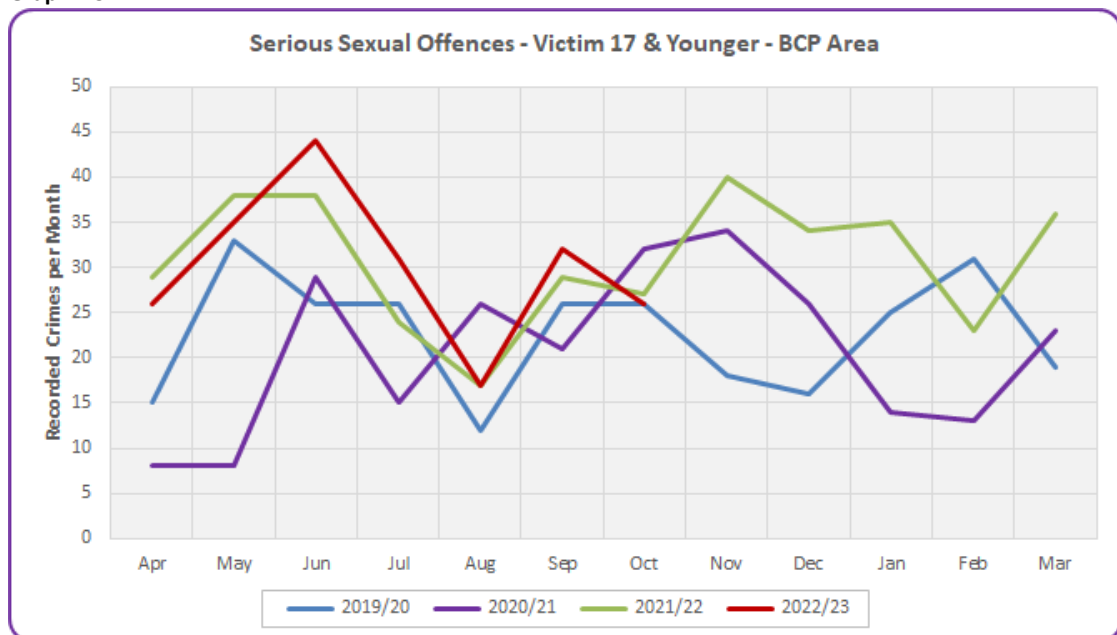
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- 7.5.4 Regular Tactical Assessments through the summer of 2021 highlighted ongoing aggressive and persistent sexual propositioning of female children and young people in public places, especially near Bournemouth beach. There is evidence that this was rarely reported, and then only in the most extreme cases, which could indicate that this behaviour has become normalised for both perpetrators and victims. The information provided to the group appeared to suggest that offenders may often be visitors to the town and part of all male groups.
- 7.5.5 In 2022 the Multi-Agency Command Centre monitored the seafront, using CCTV, Seafront Rangers, security, and partners, and identified a decrease in sexual harassment incidents, compared to 2021. CSAS and Dorset Police stepped in and arrested, where necessary, perpetrators. It was noted that the predominant offenders are male groups from outside the BCP area. The victims were mostly female and under 18. The decrease in sexual harassment incidents might also be associated with the slight decline in visitor figures, as the easing of Covid enabled more holidaying abroad.
- 7.5.6 Serious Sexual Offence rates per thousand population (in relevant age range) for different age groups, looking at the twelve month period ending 31st October 2022:

Table 7.5.6 - Rate per Thousand population		
Serious Sexual Offences	BCP	Dorset County
Victim aged 17 & Under	4.96	4.67
Victim 18 & Over	2.29	1.55

- 7.5.7 Serious Sexual Offences trend – victim aged 17 or younger:

Graph 7.5.7:



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- 7.5.8 In previous sections we refer to “inequality of risk” and a very relevant example is evident in the disproportionate age related overall risk of being a victim of sexual violence associated with younger residents of, and visitors to, the BCP area.
- 7.5.9 There was an increase nationally in reports and reporting (in traditional and in social media) of both drink and needle spiking following the relaxation of COVID related restrictions and the return of “nights out”. High level data for the BCP area based on looking at a specific crime – *Cause administer poison / noxious thing with intent to injure / aggrieve / annoy* – suggests a very significant October / November 2021 peak, with 56 recorded crimes across these two months (analysis excluded DA flagged crimes). Key repeat locations were all associated with the NTE. There are less pronounced April / May and September / October peaks also evident in 2022 data so far. However, there is no forensic corroboration – one potential difficulty with achieving a positive test result is the speed at which it is possible for the test to be sought and conducted. However, professional medical opinion is that administration of relevant drugs by syringe in an environment such as a nightclub, without the victim being aware or the perpetrator detected, whilst not impossible, would be very challenging.
- 7.5.10 One of the Task & Finish Groups focussed on a priority geographical area and reporting to the PCG, noted in late 2022 an individual block of student accommodation as a repeat location for sexual violence. Further fact finding will take place in early 2023, to guide the design of initiatives to address the issues this raises.
- 7.5.11 Bournemouth Town Watch is continuing to develop initiatives as part of a community led response to support broader female safety issues. The Safe Bus, which provides a safe place for people to go when they are vulnerable in Bournemouth town centre, is usually open from 10:00 to 05:00 on Saturday nights from March to December. It is under review, with the potential to move to a fixed base as more cost effective.

7.6 HATE CRIME

- 7.6.1 Hate crime is a personal crime as it is motivated by characteristics that a person cannot change. Police recorded hate crime is recorded in three different ways:
- Racially & religiously aggravated crimes are specific Home Office classifications where the offence is motivated by hostility towards members of a racial or religious group – there are currently five racially or religiously aggravated offences, each of which has one or more equivalent non-aggravated equivalent offence. (The Law Commission published recommendations in December 2021 to reform hate crime laws to remove the disparity in the way hate crime laws treat each protected characteristic – race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and transgender identity).
 - Crimes that are flagged as hate crimes, because there is a perception or evidence that the victim has been targeted because of their race, religious beliefs, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
 - Hate incidents are any incidents which may or may not constitute a crime, which is perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hatred based upon their race, religious beliefs, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

- 7.6.2 Nationally, hate crime has been increasing year-on-year since 2012/13³⁵. In the year ending March 2022, there were 155,841 hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales, a 26% increase compared with the previous year. There were increases across all five strands of hate crime, ranging from 19% for race hate crimes, to 56% for transgender hate crimes. However, some element of the increase appears to be driven by the lower levels of crime recorded by the police in the year ending March 2021, due to the impact of COVID 19 related public health restrictions.
- 7.6.3 An additional driver for year-on-year increases in recorded hate crime numbers is believed to be improvements in recording by Police forces nationally following a review by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services in 2014. It is therefore difficult to assess whether the most recent increases are a continuation of this trend towards higher quality data, or whether they reflect disturbing real underlying increases.
- 7.6.4 Nonetheless, we know that hate crimes are significantly under reported, from national studies, and from local experience - in late 2019 a consultation session was held with members of a particularly impacted group within our community in BCP to discuss reasons for not reporting hate crime. Explanations provided included:
- Lack of understanding of what might constitute a crime,
 - The speed with which crimes and incidents occur, with the victim unable to note, for example, vehicle registration numbers,
 - Fear of harassment and threats escalating to serious assault if the victim gets their mobile phone out to call 999 at the time,
 - The commonality of experiencing hate crime, *"If I reported it every day, I'd get nothing else done."*
- 7.6.5 Despite the across the board increases in reported crimes, the response in terms of criminal justice outcomes is patchy – for example, whilst there were 1,009 prosecutions for disability hate crime in England and Wales in 2016/17, there were 345 in 2021/22³⁶. In the same period the number of recorded disability hate crimes rose from 5,254 to 12,905³⁷. In 2021/22 an average of 2% of disability hate crimes in England and Wales resulted in a charge or summons, lower than all other types of hate crime, and equivalent non-hate crimes.

³⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2021-to-2022/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2021-to-2022>

³⁶ <https://www.disabilitynewsservice.com/police-admission-of-failure-on-disability-hate-crime-is-not-enough/>

³⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2021-to-2022/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2021-to-2022>

- 7.6.6 In BCP, the increases in recorded hate crime have not broadly been in alignment with the national picture. However, given the national data quality issues touched upon in section 7.6.3 above, and the volatility of smaller numbers, this divergence is not unexpected:

Hate Crimes recorded by Police				
	BCP 2020/21	BCP 2021/22	BCP % Change	National % Change
Race	526	575	+ 9.32%	+ 18%
Religion				+ 36%
Sexual orientation	73	99	+ 35.62%	+ 40%
Disability	72	68	- 5.56%	+ 40%
Transgender	10	9	- 10.00%	+ 53%
TOTAL	681	751	+ 10.28%	+ 26%

Table 7.6.6 - Race & Religion BCP figures are aggregated Racially / Religiously aggravated crime PLUS Hate flagged - Religion/Belief PLUS Hate flagged - Racial.

- 7.6.7 In respect of non-crime hate incidents, a December 2021 judgement³⁸ by the Court of Appeal deemed unlawful existing College of Police guidance on the basis of its disproportionate interference with the freedom of expression protected by Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The specific case being considered involved Police contact with an individual holding gender critical beliefs, who had expressed those beliefs on social media. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 includes provisions that enable the Home Secretary to issue a statutory code of practice to the police about the recording and retention of personal data relating to non-crime hate incidents - this code is expected to be published in late 2022 or early 2023.
- 7.6.8 Non-crime hate incidents in BCP - given volatility associated with low reported numbers, and under reporting as discussed in section 7.6.4 above, the authors do not have sufficient confidence in the following data to recommend it as evidence sufficiently robust to guide policy:

Table 7.6.8 - Non-Crime Hate Incidents recorded by Police			
	BCP 2020/21	BCP 2021/22	BCP % Change
Race	52	57	+ 9.62%
Religion	4	6	+ 50.00%
Sexual orientation	12	6	- 50.00%
Disability	13	5	- 61.54%
Transgender	2	3	+ 50.00%
Unknown Hate Type	34	51	+ 50.00%
TOTAL	117	128	+ 9.40%

³⁸ <https://www.college.police.uk/article/court-appeal-hate-crime-guidance-ruling>

7.7 CRIMINAL & SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

- 7.7.1 Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) occurs when vulnerable children are targeted to carry out criminal activities. It does not always involve physical contact and can occur using technology and is often a feature of drug-related crime, particularly county lines. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a type of sexual abuse where a child or young person is exploited and given gifts, money, affection, or attention in return for performing sexual activities. Again, CSE does not always involve physical contact and can occur through the use of technology.
- 7.7.2 The Covid-19 pandemic created challenges for child protection services and other front-line services, with changes to the services they provide and, in some cases, less face-to-face appointments. Additionally, the pandemic meant that children and young people spent more time online, for schooling and socialising, and potentially unsupervised. [Research](#) has found that Covid-19 restrictions hampered the ability of front-line services to risk-assess exploitation and exacerbated the potential for county lines exploitation and other harm to remain hidden.
- 7.7.3 The September 2021 report into Child Exploitation (CSE) in the BCP area³⁹ found that of the 74 young people suffering harm or at risk of harm, 55% (41) were for criminal exploitation, 23% (17) were for both criminal and sexual exploitation and 22% (16) were for sexual exploitation, Table 4.

Table 7.7.3:

A breakdown of the number of Young People on the BCP Child Exploitation Profile on 31st August 2021

	Sexual	Sexual and Criminal	Criminal	Totals
Suffering harm	4	9	16	29
At Risk of Harm	12	8	25	45
Potential Concerns	4	10	14	28
	20	27	55	102

³⁹ Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in the BCP Council Area, Management Information Team, BCP Council.

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- 7.7.4 There is currently no breakdown for the children affected or at risk of criminal exploitation only and this is an area where more information is needed.
- 7.7.5 The report gave a breakdown of characteristics for the 33 young people affected by or at risk of harm from sexual exploitation. Most were female (29 of 33), and the peak ages were 15 and 17 years. While 23 were White British, the other 10 were various ethnicities. Nearly half were in Care (Looked after) and the remainder were known to Social Services, either as 'Child in Need' or under 'Child Protection plans'. Further analysis is needed to be clear if young people were already 'Children in Need' before they were identified with exploitation concerns or if Child Exploitation was the primary reason for social care involvement.
- 7.7.6 The report identified some common themes, the two most dominant were sexual relations with older males and drug & alcohol misuse. Further themes included online communication, unexplained money or gifts, frequently going missing, sharing indecent images, and associating with others of concern.
- 7.7.7 In cases where sexual relationships with older males were mentioned, these ranged in age from slightly older teenagers to adult males in their thirties or forties. In at least four of the cases, multiple references to males of various ages are made. In this research, there was only one female perpetrator identified and she was found to have encouraged a young person to attend a situation in which she then had sex with two older males. Where names were mentioned, these were usually only first names.
- 7.7.8 While there was plenty of evidence of vulnerability, risk-taking and exploitation in various forms, very few links arose across all the different accounts. This leaves a general result of many different victims, many different perpetrators, and many different physical and online locations
- 7.7.9 The report notes:
- ☞ *Both the presence of recurring themes and occurrences of young people taking part in harmful activities, mean that in the view of the analyst, there is sufficient information to conclude that Child Sexual Exploitation should continue to be acknowledged as a serious problem occurring in a variety of guises for young people in the BCP area.*
- 7.7.10 Multiple active County Line networks were identified. The majority were linked, or had been previously, to violent behaviour/threats and/or possession of knives/weapons/firearms. Links to cuckooing addresses were common, as was the exploitation of children – with the children either local or from outside the area.

7.8 MODERN SLAVERY & HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- 7.8.1 Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking (MSHT) is a complex crime covering all forms of slavery, trafficking, and exploitation. Trafficking includes recruiting, transporting, or harbouring a person with a view to exploiting them. Modern slavery crimes may involve a wide range of abuses or crimes and victims may not be aware that they are being trafficked or exploited and may have consented to elements of their exploitation. This can make it harder for the police, local authorities, or agencies to detect MSHT.
- 7.8.2 The most common form of exploitation in the UK is coerced criminality, although labour and sexual exploitation and domestic servitude are also commonly identified, but these types of crime are under reported. The [National Crime Agency](#) found that in 2020/21, restrictions associated with the pandemic limited certain activities and caused offenders to exploit people in other ways. They found lockdowns likely contributed to a rise in cases relating to county lines offending, with victims being more visible.

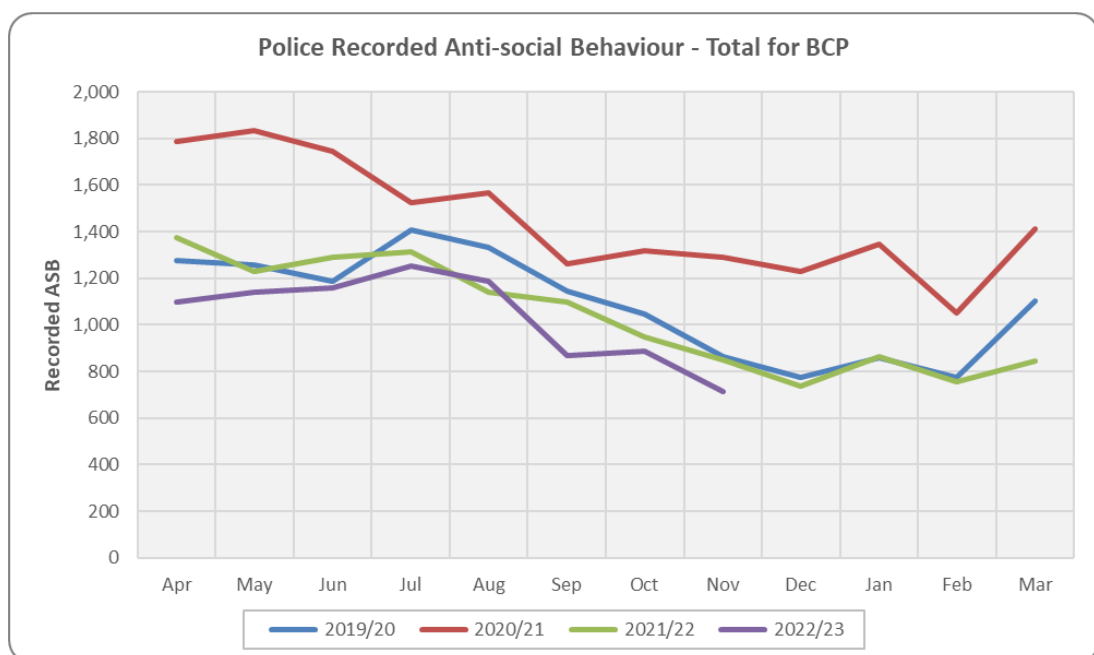
8 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

8.1 ASB OVERVIEW

- 8.1.1 Anti-social behaviour (ASB) refers to a wide range of behaviours, from environmental issues such as litter or dog mess, through to personal nuisance such as noise. This category may also include criminal offences such as arson, criminal damage, and public order, depending on the severity of the incident and the effect on the person experiencing it. ASB datasets have limitations, detail is often not recorded, and different types may be merged into one category making it harder to understand what behaviours are causing a problem. ASB is also a subjective issue - what one person finds to be a nuisance, another may not even notice.
- 8.1.2 Nationally the police recorded 1.2 million incidents of anti-social behaviour in the year ending June 2022.⁴⁰ This was a 16% decrease compared with the year ending March 2020 (1.4 million incidents) and a 35% decrease compared with the year ending June 2021 (1.8 million incidents). Levels of ASB incidents were particularly high in the year ending June 2021, in part, because of people reporting breaches of coronavirus restrictions in their local area since the start of the pandemic, which most police forces logged under ASB on their crime and incident recording systems.

8.2 ASB IN BCP

- 8.2.1 A higher level of ASB was recorded locally through 2020/21, and especially so during the Covid restriction period of April to June 2020.
- 8.2.2 From 1st December 2021 to 30th November 2022, 11,514 ASB incidents were recorded by the Police in the BCP area. This is a 19.3% decrease compared with the previous year (14,276 incidents).



Graph 8.2.2

⁴⁰ [Crime in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/crime-in-england-and-wales)

- 8.2.3 The BCP Council Residents' Survey 2021 asked participants whether they found specific types of ASB to be a very or fairly big problem. The survey was conducted in two ways, via phone and online, which resulted in different proportions for each ASB type. However, the two biggest perceived issues for both surveys were rubbish/litter lying around and people using or dealing drugs.
- 8.2.4 Analysis undertaken in 2020 showed alcohol related incidents accounted for at least 7.5% of total anti-social behaviour across BCP. Whilst a conurbation-wide issue, the top five areas affected by alcohol related anti-social behaviour were shown to be Bournemouth town centre, Poole Town, Westbourne & West Cliff, Boscombe West, and East Cliff & Springbourne.
- 8.2.5 The night-time economy has an impact particularly in the Bournemouth town centre area, however, Poole Town, Boscombe West, and East Cliff & Springbourne wards also emerged with relatively high proportions of alcohol related anti-social behaviour. This is likely to be indicative of street drinking and other factors such as rough sleeping and youth related disorder.
- 8.2.6 Multi-agency Task and Finish Groups continue to assess and problem solve specific issues in geographic areas. Recently this partnership approach has been seeking to address youth related disorder and domestic abuse in West Howe; drug dealing/taking and prostitution in East Cliff & Springbourne; and disorder related to hotels/HMO's (Houses in Multiple Occupation) in the West Hill area.
- 8.2.7 There are times when ASB related to the student community in the BCP area increases, such as when students start their course, complete exams, and end of term, when parties are common in areas of high student housing particularly in Winton and Charminster. This leads to increased complaints of noise and anti-social behaviour. Noise and ASB Legislation is used where necessary to help ensure regular disturbances do not continue from the same location and Bournemouth University employ Community Wardens who engage with students and permanent residents to help educate on responsibilities and reporting routes.

8.3 SEASONAL RESPONSE

- 8.3.1 Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole benefit from award winning beaches and beautiful open spaces. During the summer season, the tourist economy is boosted by being a busy resort area with increased visitor numbers. To provide effective management of additional demands over the last two years, core services have been allocated additional funding and overall co-ordination through the Seasonal Response programme. This has provided co-ordination of multi-agency service and enhancement to services such as waste collections, traffic management and promotion of safety of open spaces. Following the success of the multi-agency delivery over Summer 2021, funding was allocated to continue the programme in 2022. Seasonal Response delivery ran from 9th April 2022 to 4th September 2022.
- 8.3.2 To support enforcement and manage the safety of residents and visitors on seafronts, security contractors supported BCP teams this summer. Security provisions started 27th May 2022 to 5th June for Jubilee weekend and half term, then restarted from 1st July 2022 to 4th September 2022. This included daytime patrols focused on key areas - namely the Lower Gardens, Bournemouth Pier, Boscombe Pier and Sandbanks. Evening patrols covered 7pm to 3am to monitor identified hot spots where core BCP resource was reduced at those times.

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- 8.3.3 BCP Community Safety Accredited Scheme (CSAS) Officers were also drafted into the Seasonal Response Plan at peak times specifically when amber and red triggers were hit in order to support Seafront staff in the eviction of campers and enforcement of breaches of bylaws.
- 8.3.4 A total of 143 warnings were issued for breach of bylaws across the Seafront during the summer. This included 139 tent eviction notices for overnight camping on the beaches, three cyclists received formal warnings for cycling along the promenade, and one warning was issued for pier jumping.
- 8.3.5 A number of challenges faced by security, CSAS, Civil Enforcement Officers and Seafront staff have been noted, and these have informed discussions in respect of a potential Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for the seafront and open spaces.
- 8.3.6 Evidence is currently being collated and assessed as part of the consideration of a potential PSPO for the seafront and open spaces. A PSPO could potentially support the management of visitor behaviour and enforcement of unlawful activity in providing a framework which would include immediate Fixed Penalty Notices and powers of arrest if necessary.
- 8.3.7 Police recorded a decrease in crimes in the open spaces of Bournemouth Square, Central Gardens, Lower Gardens, Pier Approach and Seafront when compared to 2021.
- 8.3.8 Whilst crime and ASB overall was reduced this summer, there was an increase in hostility towards resort staff at peak demand, with security attending various incidents.
- 8.3.9 Anti-social behaviour under Bournemouth Pier was particularly challenging this season with police being called on several occasions to attend. Due to the location clear visual imaging through CCTV was not always possible. Options for additional CCTV coverage as well as fencing around the pier during peak times are being explored as a means of further mitigation.

9 ENFORCEMENT FOR ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DISORDER

9.1 COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICES

- 9.1.1 The Community Protection Notice (CPN) can be used to deal with ongoing problems or nuisances which are having a detrimental effect on the community's quality of life by targeting those responsible. Initially, a Community Protection Warning (CPW) must be issued to make the individual aware their behaviour is not acceptable and what behaviour is required to stop and by when. If there is evidence that they are not adhering to the warning, then a CPN can be issued.
- 9.1.2 From the data it appears the CPWs are having the desired effect to prevent anti-social behaviour; of 77 CPWs issued between 1st December 2021 and 30th November 2022, only 5 led to a CPN. However, other actions and tools may have been used alongside the CPW to instigate a change in behaviour. If the behaviour of an individual escalates beyond CPW or CPN, in some instances a Civil Injunction may be applied for.
- 9.1.3 More than half of the CPW letters (41) were regarding street ASB (aggressive begging, street drinking or intimidating behaviour causing harassment, alarm or distress).
- 9.1.4 There were six CPWs issued in relation to County Lines and cuckooing; five for exploitation; and a further three for exploitation relating specifically to prostitution.
- 9.1.5 Eight CPW's were issued for drug dealing, and drug related activity including at premises.

9.2 CIVIL INJUNCTIONS

- 9.2.1 The injunction under Part 1 of the *Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014* is a civil power to deal with anti-social individuals. The Council ASB team follow an escalation process and injunctions are only considered when other informal approaches (including CPWs & CPNs) have not worked to prevent the behaviour.
- 9.2.2 Between December 2021 and November 2022, nine injunctions have been obtained (including two interim injunctions). During this period the types of prohibitions/behaviours where an injunction has been granted include:
- Street ASB;
 - Aggressive behaviour and harassment;
 - Noise nuisance and drunken behaviour;
 - Threatening behaviour towards commercial premises.

9.3 CLOSURE NOTICES AND ORDERS

- 9.3.1 Closure Notices and Orders are only used as a means of last resort when other actions have failed to address nuisance anti-social behaviour and disorder relating to a specific premises.
- 9.3.2 The Closure Orders applied for by the Council ASB team and granted by the Courts over the last year were for serious disorderly behaviours relating to drug taking and dealing. From December 2021 to November 2022 there were ten Closures.

9.4 COMMUNITY CONSEQUENCES SCHEME

- 9.4.1 Frequently incidents of anti-social behaviour and public nuisance involve young persons; it is important that this is addressed before the level of unacceptable behaviour is considered criminal. Community Consequences is a progressive 3-stage partnership scheme to tackle anti-social behaviour, whilst also highlighting to parents and guardians the impact on the whole community.
- 9.4.2 The stages can be summarised as follows:
- C1 - A letter is sent to the parents/guardians highlighting concerns. If there are no further incidents in the next six months, the record is automatically deleted. However, if a second incident occurs within that six-month period, then it moves to C2.
 - C2 – A personal visit to the home will be made by a member of the local Neighbourhood Policing Team and Council ASB team to outline concerns and offer support and guidance in preventing further behaviour.
 - C3 – A letter from the Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant outlining the fact that this is the third incident, that the behaviour has not changed and is still having an impact on the community. At this stage other partners such as Social Services, Education, and Housing Landlords will be notified of concerns and there will be an invitation to an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) Clinic.
- 9.4.3 Between December 2021 and November 2022, the Council ASB team recorded 104 cases at C1 stage, 19 at C2; and eight ABCs have been explored.

10 ISSUES EMERGING FROM THE MoRiLE

10.1 RED & AMBER THREATS TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10.1.1 The following issues that fall within the direct remit of the Community Safety Partnership scored “very high” (RED) or “medium high” (AMBER) in the MoRiLE methodology 2021:

Public Place Violence in Bmth town centre Night Time Economy
Possession of Weapons - "Youth Knife Crime"
Domestic Abuse Violent Crime
Drug Related Deaths
Serious Sexual Offences - 'Stranger' Assaults
Serious Sexual Offences - Victim 17 and under
Child Sexual Exploitation
Alcohol Related Violence / Alcohol Related Assaults
County Lines / Criminal Exploitation
Fraud – Bank; Credit Card; Consumer; Retail
ASB - Environmental and Total
Possessions of Weapons
ASB - Nuisance and Personal
Residential Burglary
Robbery
Criminal Damage

APPENDIX A – MoRiLE, HIGH LEVEL VIEW

The tools developed by the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) programme provide an opportunity to standardise and strengthen the approach to prioritisation amongst Community Safety Partnerships, using a robust and accredited framework that has been tried and tested by the law enforcement community.

The programme developed a process for all law enforcement agencies that provides a standardised approach and common language for understanding risk, involving more than 300 UK and international agencies. In October 2016, MoRiLE became a nationally accredited way of working for all Police forces and other law enforcement agencies such as the National Crime Agency, to inform their Strategic Assessments. Recognising the value that this standardised approach could offer to CSPs, a partnership strand was added to the national programme in 2016.

There are currently two MoRiLE matrices in wide-scale use, thematic and tactical, as well as a number of additional MoRiLE products at varying stages of development, which include organisational and operational models. It is the thematic level matrix that is relevant to the CSP production of annual Strategic Assessments. This will be the third year that the core methodology of the CSP Strategic Assessment covering the BCP geographical area will be the partnership thematic MoRiLE.

The key benefits of the MoRiLE process are:

- ☞ A transparent and informed decision-making process, that is multi-agency and secures buy-in from partners from an early stage;
- ☞ Assessment of a range of different thematic areas and issues alongside each other;
- ☞ Assessment of capability and capacity in relation to each thematic area;
- ☞ Avoidance of bias in risk assessment;
- ☞ Use of a common language in relation to threat, risk, and harm;
- ☞ A clear process that is easy to use and understand.

A key point of significance is that there is not a direct mapping from MoRiLE ranking to partnership priority. CSP Priority Themes will differ due to:

Significantly, a feature / possible weakness of the MoRiLE process is that it is easy to overlook the additional impact of the concentration – in time, in place, and in demographics - of some risks and threats. For example - Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents may score relatively low, partly due to ‘low volumes’ (acknowledging very significant under-reporting), but also due to risk being statistically spread throughout the population, whilst in reality risk is concentrated in certain groups defined by vulnerability, ethnicity, faith, gender identity, or where and when individuals work, live, or travel.

Some thematic areas already have a specific partnership organisation concentrating on the issue. For example, Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking - the Dorset Anti-Slavery Partnership leads; and Drug Related Deaths – Public Health Dorset.

We follow recommended best practice, and break issues down wherever possible for application of the MoRiLE. This means that we may subsequently group issues to prioritise them in a logical manner. Thus ‘Youth Knife Crime’ may need to be considered in alignment with wider issues such as County Lines.

Output from the MoRiLE may not fully recognise problems with data, lack of intelligence, and known under-reporting. Home Office multipliers⁴¹ attempt to estimate the degree of under-reporting of violence in our communities – these vary from about 1:1 for the most serious violence (homicide and

⁴¹ “*The economic and social costs of crime*”, 2nd Edition Research Report 99, Home Office July 2018.

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serious wounding), meaning that there is negligible under recording of this type of crime; through to 3.4:1 for Rape (in other words, best available estimates suggest that less than 30% of rapes are reported to Police), 16.5:1 for other Sexual Offences . . . and 53.6:1 for Fraud!

There may, in addition, be slightly lower rated thematic issues where the CSP is nonetheless well positioned as a result of partnership coordination to undertake initiatives.

Themes that impact on the way people feel about the area they live in and may be detrimental to community cohesion, do not necessarily score highly through the MoRiLE process. In Section 3.2, *Methodology*, above, we remarked that this 2022/23 *Strategic Assessment* has been produced with a broader range of inputs than was possible in previous years - and this satisfactorily addresses this potential issue.

The nuts and bolts – Inputs:

Each individual threat / harm is assigned a value in each of the following categories:

1. IMPACT (HARM):

- a. Physical
- b. Psychological
- c. Financial
- d. Community
- e. Public Expectation
- f. Environmental

2. LIKELIHOOD:

- a. Frequency
- b. Volume
- c. Trend
- d. Forecast

3. CONFIDENCE:

- a. Intelligence Assessment
- b. Thematic Area Knowledge

4. ORGANISATIONAL POSITION:

- a. Reputation & Politics
- b. Economic Cost
- c. Capacity
- d. Capability.