



**ANNUAL  
STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT  
REVIEW  
2019/20**

*Real People, making a real difference*

**AIM AND PURPOSE**

The purpose of a Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) is to enable the partnership to set strategic priorities for the coming year in order to direct the focus and efforts of partnership resources in the short, medium and long term for maximum beneficial outcomes.

The Safer Arun Partnership (SAP) SIA 13<sup>th</sup> annual review will again look at how we work in partnership to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Arun, specifically by focusing on how we reduce associated risks and vulnerabilities for individuals, communities and local neighbourhoods.

The SAP strategic vision and priorities contribute to the current Safer West Sussex Partnership Priorities, the Chichester District Council Community Safety Partnership, and also contributes to other strategies including the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner and Health and Wellbeing Partnerships.

**REVIEW OF 2019/20 PRIORITIES**

The Partnership Plan priorities are a standing item on the Safer Arun Partnership meeting agenda.

Five (5) partnership objectives were agreed for 2019/20, as listed below:-

- Serious Violence
- Serious and Organised Crime
- Community Resilience
- Improving Public Confidence
- Tackling Anti-social Behaviour

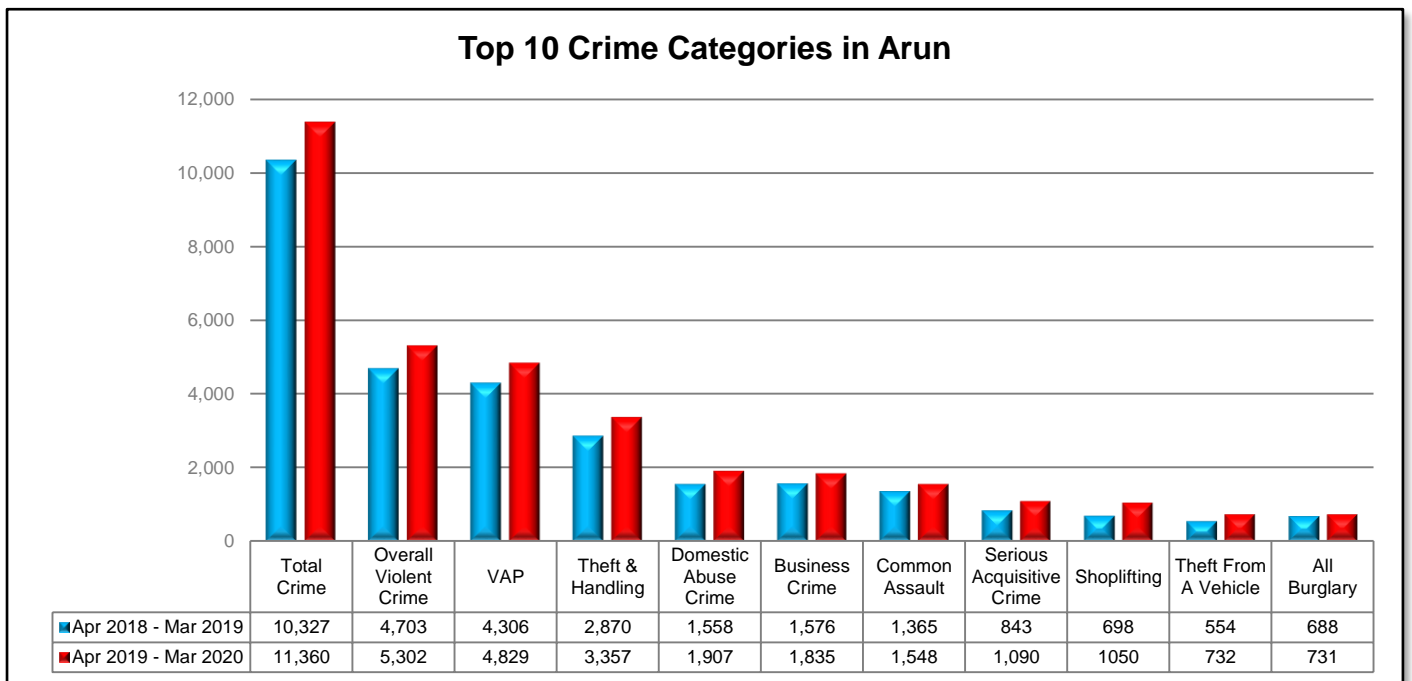
**CRIME: CURRENT CONTEXT IN ARUN**

In assessing crime in Arun for the purposes of this SIA, the figures used show the levels of reported crime over the 12 months from April 2019 to March 2020 (inclusive). Where comparisons are shown, this equates to the same period between 2018 to 2019.

In Arun, crime has increased by 10% during the period April 2019 to March 2020 when likened to the same period the previous year. This compares to an increase of 8.9% across the Sussex Police force area for the same periods.

Some of the key findings from the crime statistics are:

- **Overall Violent Crime** contributed to 46.6% of total crime in Arun. This was an increase of 12.7% (+599 offences) between 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- **Violence Against the Person** remains the top individual offence in Arun. A total of 4,829 offences were recorded, accounting for 42.5% of total crime. This was an increase of 12.1% (+523 offences) between 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- **Serious Knife Crime** rose from 40 to 85 incidents, an increase of 112.5% between 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- **Theft from a Motor Vehicle** incidents increased by 32.1% (+178 offences) between 2018/19 and 2019/20. June to September 2019 in particular saw an increase of 111% (+205 records) when compared to the same 4 month period the previous year.



Crime figures provided by CSP Monthly Police Reports – see Appendix A for all crime and breakdown.

Throughout 2019/20, the Safer Arun Partnership has made extensive efforts to encourage the reporting of crime and place based nuisance. Consistent messaging has been issued by the Council’s Community Safety team and Arun’s Prevention Policing team that incidents must be reported to allow appropriate intervention and action to be taken. These messages have been put out to the public, partner agencies, local business partnerships, and community groups. The introduction and distribution of the ‘reporting crime and anti-social behaviour’ card sets out who to report incidents to and in what circumstances. Feedback from partners has been that this has provided clarification and encouraged people to report; a possible contributory factor to the increase in reported incidents in Arun.

## **SERIOUS VIOLENCE**

### **Key objectives in 2019/20:-**

- Addressing County Lines operations in Arun.
- Raising awareness of cuckooing and the vulnerability of those individuals targeted by developing partnership initiatives and campaigns.
- Development of intelligence sharing practices between agencies to highlight concerns at the earliest opportunity and to allow early interventions.
- Assessing the impact of drug related harm within local communities and developing shared solutions to reduce vulnerability and associated negative impacts.

### **County Lines**

Most of the country is now aware of the term 'County Lines' and its inference to drug networks passing drugs from urban areas to coastal and suburban towns. This often involves the use of children or vulnerable adults transporting the drugs between locations. A feature of the county lines operation is often violence, used to take over the homes of vulnerable people and 'cuckooing' the property.

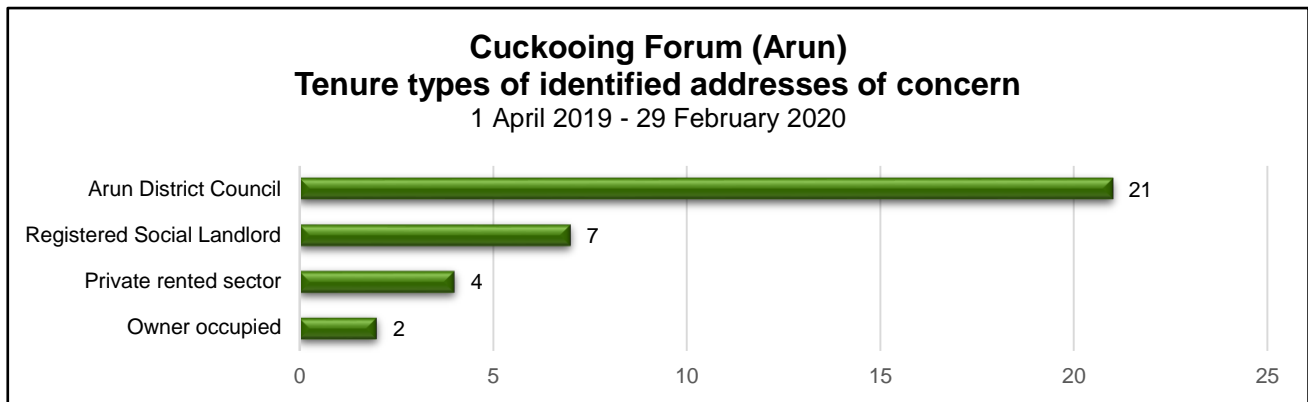
Since the emergence of County Lines in Arun, the Community Safety team has worked hard with local Policing partners to address this threat to our community and established an Arun & Chichester multi-agency Cuckooing forum. This forum reviews addresses which are actively being cuckooed for the supply and use of Class A drugs, or a property or individual at risk of being cuckooed.

The meeting uses a Red, Amber, Green (RAG) risk management framework to identify the levels of concern and priority, which are:

- Red** High risk; active and evidenced cuckooing, imminent risk of harm and action needed to reduce risks.
- Amber** Medium risk; suspected and/or previous evidence of cuckooing which requires active monitoring but no assessed as imminent risk.
- Green** Low risk; with no current evidence of active cuckooing but potentially could escalate based on previous intelligence and information and therefore the need to monitor.

The initial approach of this forum was to safeguard vulnerable adults at risk who may not always have the ability to control what is occurring. However, evidence has lent itself to those that are more complicit and an enforcement approach to disrupt the supply and demand of drugs in Arun.

Since April 2019, 38 individuals have been discussed at this forum; 34 of which reside in Arun. These addresses cross various tenure types and locations throughout the district. The following graphic illustrates the tenure of the occupants and highlights the vulnerability of social housing tenants, accounting for 82% of addresses:



In respect of the Arun District Council (ADC) property locations: Rustington = 2, Bognor Regis = 8 and Littlehampton = 11. This is a significant shift from 2018/19 where the primary focus was on addresses in Bognor Regis. Whilst it is acknowledged that a more robust enforcement approach has made Bognor Regis a hostile place for drug supply, it may have inadvertently made Littlehampton more vulnerable.

Arun District Council and Sussex Police have made use of the following tools to tackle and reduce drug related harm in our communities:-

- Community Protection Warnings
- Community Protection Notices
- Criminal Behaviour Orders
- Closure Orders

Both teams have given support to other agencies, including registered social landlords, to identify risk and potential of harm and to utilise these powers where possible.

An example of the proactive use of these tools is the Closure Order obtained in August 2019 against a privately owned property in Littlehampton. This was applied for due to concerns regarding drug use and supply. The case was classified as a 'stated case' by the Courts due to it being the first Closure Order issued at an owner occupied property.

It is recognised that partners use different reporting systems and that information may not be shared or provided in a timely way outside of meeting cycles. In a bid to create a single platform for multi-agency information sharing, the Cuckooing forum adopted ECINS as a secure and co-ordinated case management system for its meetings since June 2019. This has enabled operational efficiency in the sharing of real time information to respond to known harm and risks.

External partners and Police staff have been trained by ADC Community Safety staff on the use of ECINS. Positive feedback was given by all partners. Adult Social Care manager stated, "serious case reviews consistently highlight the issue of information sharing and that this single system could be the solution to reduce future harm occurring by the means of joined up working and information sharing".

The Cuckooing forum recognises that many of the individuals linked to county lines supply or cuckooing have little or sporadic engagement with drug and alcohol treatment services. They are often given free drugs by drugs syndicates in exchange for their compliance.

The information, advice and support charity Change, Grow, Live (CGL) do not currently have clinical premises to deliver substitute prescribing in the east of the district. All individuals scripted into their services must travel to Bognor Regis for clinician reviews and to collect repeat medication. The complexity and chaotic nature of homeless and/or those dependent on Class A drugs, will regularly not have the funds to travel, therefore impacting on engagement with drug and alcohol treatment services and with notable barriers to access, compared to those living close to the clinical facilities in Bognor Regis.

Joint Police and ADC Safeguarding officer welfare visits have been undertaken to encourage engagement with Change Grow Live (CGL) for drug and alcohol treatment and to respond to any risks identified.

In a bid to disrupt drug supply and demand in Arun and Chichester, the Community Safety team have been proactively involved with policing partners as part of 'National Intensification' weeks. These involve 'days of action' to disrupt criminality linked to OCG's and to raise public awareness. This highlights to both partners and the public the types of activity considered to constitute serious and organised crime and the effects on communities.

Training has also been organised and undertaken by ADC frontline officers and was extended to partnership staff so that they can champion the knowledge within their organisations. A visit has been undertaken to Surrey Police to their assertive outreach project that seeks to support individuals subject to partial closure orders to maintain their tenancy and to support engagement with services to support their needs by the way of providing rapid response to those at immediate risk.

#### Key operational achievements:

- Proactive partnership working between the Community Safety team and Police's Arun Prevention Team.
- Sustained commitment from partner agencies to attend the Cuckooing meeting to holistically risk assess and respond to known harm.
- Clinical space funding facilitated by SAP for increased access to drug and alcohol treatment in Littlehampton (CGL).
- Police & ADC Safeguarding lead officer Safeguarding visits.
- Plethora of Safeguarding training organised for staff, elected members and partnership staff to include Cannabis, Contextual Safeguarding, Modern Slavery, Prevent Extremism, Online Safety, Domestic Abuse, Signs of Safety (Child Safeguarding) and Adult Safeguarding.

#### Barriers:

- The need for improved links with British Transport Police (BTP) to identify county lines operatives travelling to and from the area.
- Lack of action/sense of urgency of social landlords to respond to drug related harm.
- Delay in CGL launching the use of Littlehampton clinical space that has been funded by Safer Arun Partnership. At the time of writing, CGL have not indicated a definitive start date although the space at Dove Lodge has been fitted and is ready for use.
- Gaps in understanding as to what the overall drug demand is in Arun.

### **Recommendations:**

Whilst it is acknowledged that county drug lines are a major factor to violent crime within Arun, there are other activities which should be classified as serious offences and cause substantial harm to our communities. Categories include modern slavery and human trafficking, cyber-crime, fraud, money laundering, child sexual and criminal exploitation and abuse, and illegal firearms.

For 2019/20 the Safer Arun Partnership separated SoC and Serious Violence into two separate categories. It is proposed that this continues when setting priorities for 2020/21 to create a strong focus on the work needed to tackle all such activities and will allow for opportunities to raise awareness amongst the public as to specific areas of risk.

- Carry out risk assessment of needle exchange provision facilities within the district to assess whether suitable to meet current need.
- Re-commissioning of CGL contract - current service provision to include outreach to persistently work with vulnerable individuals who do not engage or use drug and alcohol treatment / recovery services to minimise harm e.g. for cuckooing victims and multi-agency safeguarding responses.
- To consider replicating the Surrey Catalyst Cuckooing project.
- To consider funding early intervention programme into schools (year 6) to raise awareness of exploitation, drugs, and criminal justice intervention - light touch approach that may be too late for year 6 (age 11) upwards.
- Supporting schools with options to reduce drug harm - e.g. knife arches (metal detectors), drugs dog visits.
- To acknowledge the 'voice of young person' identified during outreach work to consider youth provision and access to this. Financial implications in Arun.
- Explore appetite of SAP to see drugs and alcohol as a public health issue.
- Consider how to increase knowledge of overall drug demand and links to associated crime.

### **Child Exploitation**

The public debate of knife and gun crime has intensified in the past two years and a rise in recorded violence and changing drug markets driving up demand is increasingly associated with violence and exploitation of children and vulnerable adults. The Government's Serious Violence strategy of 2018 highlighted the need for a multi-agency approach of prevention and early intervention to reduce harm and to protect communities and vulnerable individuals.

In respect of children, there is a real blurring of the lines between victim and offender. When considering children be recognised as victims of violence and criminal exploitation, it is also the case that this same exploitation makes them perpetrators of crime which presents a huge challenge for safeguarding, policing and criminal justice services.

It is acknowledged that children who are subject to school exclusions are at higher risk of being exploited. Locally, it is important to note that the Alternative Provision College (APC) in Littlehampton takes in pupils from a wide geographical area, beyond Arun, for those young people excluded from mainstream school roll. The Community Safety team has established good links with the APC to respond to known concerns regarding weapons and incidences of violence and known peer association, of which will be addressed later in this report under Contextual Safeguarding.

Child Exploitation (CE) can be defined as 'an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to control, coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person'. This can be by 'building an emotional connection with a child to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse or exploitation' (NSPCC, 2015).

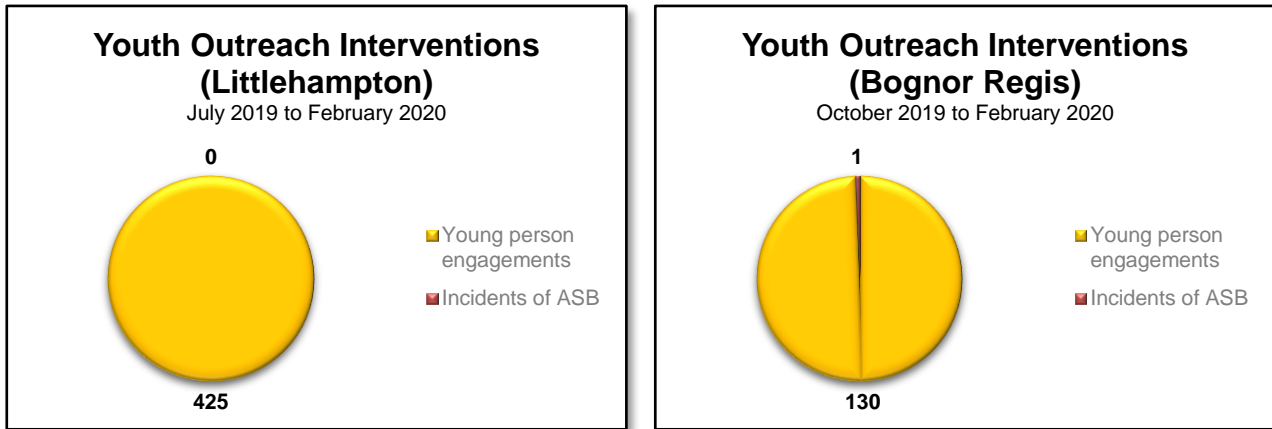
More recently exploitation has been expanded to consider criminal exploitation which is to take advantage of vulnerable people and forcing them to engage in various forms of criminal activity. This can involve a young person being involved with offending such as theft and robbery and developing a criminal record, withdrawing from school and being involved with gangs and at risk of increased involvement and risk of violence.

In respect of crime data and local hotspots in 2018/19, the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) passported funds to enable the commencement of a 12-month detached youth work project in Littlehampton. The allotted funds are linked to the Serious Violence strategy, with the objective to divert children and young people away from criminal exploitation. In September 2019, additional funds were provided from the PCC to enable a six-month project in Bognor Regis to scope the need for a similar project.

The Littlehampton project has been operational from July 2019. The project comprises weekly outreach by Arun Community Church (ACC) in known areas where CE was believed to be taking place. Intervention seeks to signpost and engage young people into local positive community leisure provision. It also works to provide harm reduction information in respect of drug and alcohol awareness and to ensure that any concerns regarding safeguarding are reported to reduce known harms and risk.

Interventions undertaken by youth outreach projects in Littlehampton and Bognor Regis:-





It should be noted that the number of engagements with young people recorded is likely to be higher than the number of individuals seen. It is most probable that many will have been seen on multiple occasions.

On a positive note, there is a very low number of anti-social behaviour incidents witnessed by outreach workers across the district. It was a common thread from the young people spoken with that they felt they have “nowhere to go” and are keen to access “somewhere warm we can go” in areas identified by the local communities as ‘hot spots’ for young people congregating, visible drug use and criminal damage.

The implementation of this outreach provision and the absence of reports of youth ASB provides an evidence base to verify that there is no sustained pattern of youth crime in Arun.

In the infancy of the Littlehampton outreach project staff identified cannabis use to be a common feature amongst the young people they interacted with. In light of this, training was sourced and funded by the Community Safety team to ensure that outreach workers could provide harm reduction advice and to enable meaningful discussions with young people from a health promotion aspect. This was also later identified in the Bognor Regis project. It is a concern that there is a recognised gap locally of drug and alcohol provision for young people and this needs to be taken into consideration by WSCC when the commissioning of current drug and alcohol services is reviewed in 2020/21.

### Contextual Safeguarding

Child Protection has traditionally focused on harm and neglect occurring within in the home, but the concept of Contextual Safeguarding lends itself to risks occurring in the community as a place-based harm approach. Developed by Dr Carlene Firmin as a holistic approach to tackling peer on peer exploitation and gang-violence in London, Contextual Safeguarding considers the context beyond individual children and their families such as those related to schools, peer groups and neighbourhoods.

An example of contextual safeguarding was illustrated by the 2015 the West Sussex Children's Safeguarding Board serious case review into child sexual exploitation at Wick Parade, Littlehampton. This related to young teenage girls frequently visiting a local address, using illegal

drugs and having sex with older men. In late summer of 2019 concerns re-emerged. The Community Safety team undertook liaison with key statutory partners to raise awareness of the possible exploitation of children, young people and adults and potential harm.

In considering the Contextual Safeguarding principles of a placed based concern, a scoping meeting was convened to discuss the thematic issues. Representatives from agencies including WSCC Children's Social Care, Education, Police, Youth Offending, Licencing and local Secondary Schools (one of whom was integral to reporting concerns that resulted in the serious case review).

The consensus at the meeting was that there was insufficient information to suggest a wider scale issue as was the case previously. However, there were concerns regarding drug dealing and consumption among young people, and the potential for them to be drawn into exploitation as part of this. One of the actions recorded at the meeting was to try to engage with the community in a more meaningful way about a range of issues that could be making young people in that community vulnerable to harm.

This will remain a priority for 2020/21. Action is being taken to proactively design and deliver communications for public messaging with the community in the area about general wellbeing and safety and helping parents/carers/communities (to include young people) to understand the threats they may face when engaging in risky behaviours. This work is engaging with students from the Littlehampton APC to ensure that the voice of the young people is captured to identify their worries and how we can respond.

Chilgrove House in Wick is an ADC Housing building. The ground floor hosts a large open plan room, separate to the residential units. In 2019, it was agreed by the Council that this room should be utilised as a community space and is currently used by the Littlehampton and Chichester Citizens Advice. In considering the serious case review that occurred in Wick, it is our intention that the community engagement will make use of Chilgrove House as a pivotal place to ensure inclusivity in an area recognised as being socially marginalised.

In considering the principle of Contextual Safeguarding as a placed based harm approach, to include young people's relationship spheres that includes schools, community and peer abuse it will be a priority for 2020/21 to establish an Arun Peer Group Conference (PGC). This approach has been agreed by the District & Boroughs who attend the WSCC Contextual Safeguarding steering group and is to be embedded from May 2020. This follows the successful implementation in Worthing of this forum to discuss young people at risk.

Due to the volume of young people seen through the Littlehampton outreach project, past youth violence and known youth ASB arising from the Alternative Provision College (APC), it is our recommendation to pilot this approach in Littlehampton first before assessing the necessity for a similar project in Bognor Regis. Agencies to be involved will include local secondary schools, APC, Arun's ASB team, Police PCSO, Children's Social Care and Youth Justice.

**Needs Analysis and future recommendations**

It is a concern that there is a recognised gap locally for drug and alcohol provision for young people. Change, Grow, Live (CGL) are the commissioned service for young people and adults in West Sussex. As previously noted, all of the outreach sessions undertaken consistently report the visibility of cannabis use and young people normalising its use. It is not known to the report author of waiting lists and access to this provision in Arun.

Whilst the outreach sessions have not seen evidence of youth anti-social behaviour, there is therefore no evidence base to justify further funding the outreach provision which will end on expiry of the current projects; March 2020 in Bognor Regis, and July 2020 in Littlehampton.

In considering the approach of early intervention it is the belief of the Council's Community Safety team that there needs to be a focus on early intervention. This could be achieved by the success of the REBOOT scheme, launched by the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner in 2019 and implementation of an intervention programme with schools (year 6 upwards) for those identified as at emerging risk of criminal justice involvement and by virtue all forms of exploitation. It is for discussion that the existing outreach provider, Arun Church, may be able to work to deliver some of the targeted work they current deliver in primary and secondary youth work settings by working in partnership with the Community Safety team, if further funding was available under the Serious Violence strategy.

**SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME (SoC)****Key objectives in 2019/20:-**

- To create effective training and publicity campaigns for both partners and the public as to the types of activity considered to constitute serious and organised crime and the effects on communities.

Serious and organised crime (SoC) is difficult to tackle. It is broad and varied in nature, hidden away and causes much harm to people (HM Office, NCA, Tackling Serious Organised Crime, 2019). The aim of HM Government's 2018 SoC strategy is to protect citizens and our prosperity by leaving no safe space for serious and organised criminals to operate within the UK and overseas, online and offline. It seeks a greater focus on the most dangerous offenders and highest harm networks, building capabilities to tackle a range of crime types replacing a previous model which focused on a 'threat based' approach.

As traditional hierarchies and methods have fragmented with emerging technological advances, some organised crime groups (OCGs) may now capitalise on networking for multiple crime types using the means of coercive control, recognising the need to align agencies for a cohesive one system approach. However, some OCGs are more loose formed as networks who may socialise and offend together or involve smaller groups who each have a specific role to play, such as in the supply and distribution of drugs.

Arun District Council seeks to work jointly with local partners in accordance with the Safer West Sussex Partnership agreement for 2020/21 which is:

- Focusing on new data, intelligence and assessment capabilities to penetrate and better understand serious and organised crime
- Build up resilience within communities to reduce opportunities for exploitation by serious and organised crime
- Use preventative methods and education to divert more young people from serious and organised crime
- Establish a single whole-system approach, integrating more closely with the private sector to pool resources, develop new capabilities and design out vulnerabilities

The work of this partnership to focus on known and emerging threats can only be achieved by sharing information and data and working together to devise and deliver local solutions and targeting resources accordingly. Locally, the Safer Arun Partnership, Arun & Chichester SoC group, and the Arun and Chichester Cuckooing forums demonstrate strong, trusting, effective and collaborative partnership working to gather and share intelligence on organised criminal groups that are operating in our local area and across county borders.

In 2018 Sussex Police launched the Partnership Intelligence Form in 2018 to enable partner agencies such as ADC to submit information, to help detect and respond to crime and to protect those most vulnerable in our community. The information provided helps the Police to develop a richer picture of what it is that we, as staff, see as we undertake our daily duties. Some of what is witnessed may be linked to criminal activity. This could be drug related harm, child exploitation, modern slavery or human trafficking.

Training sessions have been delivered to frontline staff in critical ADC departments to help increase staff confidence to reports concerns that they may encounter so this can be proactively shared with Sussex Police's specialist Divisional Intelligence Unit (DVU) who sensitively manage intelligence to respond accordingly.

### **Modern Slavery**

There is evidence that organised crime groups make the exploitation of vulnerable adults integral to drug dealing operations. Beyond county lines, victims are exploited in forced begging, cannabis cultivation, and low-value, high-frequency acquisitive crime.

There is a recognised commonality across crime types that require a similar response and modern slavery referrals to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), child exploitation (county lines and online child exploitation), fraud, economic and money laundering (using students, and professionals to remove the link to criminality) and illegal drugs (supply, demand leading to increase of drug deaths). Modern Slavery (MS) involves the recruitment, transportation and then the compulsory labour or domestic servitude which may be 'hidden in plain sight'.

West Sussex County Council (WSCC) is a first responder into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) process and has a duty to notify the Home Office if anyone working within the council identifies a person who may be a victim of slavery or trafficking. WSCC District & Borough Councils are legally obligated under s.52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 also have this duty to notify.

To help raise awareness, WSCC launched single point of contact (SPOC) training to develop champions amongst statutory organisations to clarify the process of notifying, known as the NRM and legislative framework. In November 2019, as part of Safeguarding month, training was provided for ADC staff, elected members and other partners to help ensure that all frontline staff recognise the signs of Modern Slavery and respond accordingly.

Modern Slavery remains an on-going priority for 2020/21 and will focus on promoting awareness of the links associated with criminality. This accords with the West Sussex County Council pledge to eradicate Modern Slavery.

The Arun & Chichester SoC priority for 2020/21 is Modern Slavery.

## **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**

### **Key objectives in 2019/20**

- The formation of a Joint Action Group (JAG) to bring together statutory and non-statutory groups to reduce community based nuisance and disorder.
- Strong working relationships between relevant partners and community groups to support local communities.
- Creation of effective reporting pathways for non-statutory partners to report place based nuisance and disorder to ensure effective responses.

Arun's Joint Action Group (JAG) reformed in May 2019, bringing together statutory agencies and community groups to discuss and tackle place based nuisance and disorder. Amongst the non-statutory groups that take part are Neighbourhood Watch groups, business partnerships, registered social landlords, town councils, and local foodbanks. This has allowed a diverse range of representation to highlight concerns within local areas.

The focus, initially, was to bring groups together to assist in identifying and actively responding to negative issues that our communities face and looking at which group is best placed to carry out actions. Information sharing helped to bring issues to the attention of statutory agencies and allowed appropriate intervention and/or enforcement to take place. However, over time, JAG meetings became more about the Police and Council informing others of actions and operations they were taking rather than partners undertaking direct actions themselves.

Therefore, it was agreed to amend the structure of JAG effective from February 2020. The group is now set up to run as a local communications network with participants being responsible for

representing their communities and reporting place based issues on their behalf. Communication will extend to a two-way pathway, with representatives promoting JAG agreed community safety messages and activities.

Statutory agencies such as the Police, Arun District Council, and WSCC take responsibility for responding to matters of a high / immediate priority as and when they arise. This occurs as a matter of course and is not reliant on JAG involvement.

Local Action Teams (LAT) for Littlehampton and Bognor Regis town centres were also established, via JAG, during 2019. These aimed to bring a co-ordinated local response to problematic behaviour affecting traders, residents and visitors in defined town centre locations. These teams enhance working relationships between partners at a very local level and provides a more targeted response and support mechanism.

The Littlehampton LAT meets regularly and is being led through a combination of ADC Community Safety and Police Prevention teams. Attendance includes housing, licensing, economic regeneration officers, the traders partnership, the APC, and youth outreach provision. Work is ongoing to achieve buy in from mental health and substance support services. This approach has helped to identify areas of concern and individuals involved, allowing targeted actions to be devised and allocated.

Bognor Regis' LAT has not been as structured as Littlehampton. The initial issues noted were dealt with via a cohesive and co-ordinated approach and saw a quick decline in challenging behaviour. It was also felt that the issues were not seen as challenging as those taking place in Littlehampton. As a result, communication between LAT agencies has continued in a more informal manner but has still seen effective sharing of information and joint interventions.

Steps were also taken during 2019 to allow partners to effectively report place based nuisance and disorder. The 'Community Concerns Reporting Form' was devised and made available via the Council's Community Safety webpage and was also provided directly to all parish councils. It allows community organisations to report persistent and widespread disorder. A number of reports have been made using this method resulting in issues of concern to local groups could be looked into and dealt with at an early stage.

Communities are becoming more resilient due to the clear reporting pathways created. The inclusion of non-statutory bodies within JAG and the extension of working relationships between statutory agencies has definitely seen an easing of tensions between these groups. The openness of discussions and feedback on operations and enforcement action given by SAP members to outside groups has created a feeling of trust, thus allowing more interactions and sharing of information.

## **Recommendations:**

- To continue to grow participation in JAG, with the inclusion of further agencies and community groups.
- To consider providing information on JAG community safety messaging to the Council's members who, as representatives of their wards, are ideally placed to share information and demonstrate the partnership initiatives.
- To undertake a multi-partnership approach to attending community events.
- Enhance partnership working between SAP agencies and parish councils who are often the first point of contact for local communities.
- Arun's Community Safety team to consider including elected members in community safety bulletins to allow them to advocate partnership working and information.
- To undertake a community safety survey to include residents, visitors and businesses to ascertain the principal areas of concern locally. The results may be used to formulate appropriate SAP responses and direct resources.

## **IMPROVING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE**

### Key objectives in 2019/20:-

- Development of effective public communication campaigns and the use of social media to highlight partnership initiatives and actions.
- Management of public perception of crime and disorder in Arun whilst developing strategies to reduce fear of crime.

In taking steps to improve public confidence, SAP identified the need to effectively communicate with residents, businesses and visitors. Feedback from these groups previously highlighted feelings of not knowing what the authorities were doing to tackle local concerns which, in turn, created unease and a fear of crime and nuisance behaviour. Whilst the SAP membership works to make the district a safer place, if the work is not communicated to its users then both fear and worry increase.

Therefore, steps have been taken over the past 12 months to vastly improve the way in which we communicate our partnership work. The use of social media has been central to this. Public and community safety messages have been shared via the Council's media accounts, with partners and JAG members resharing and disseminating the information wider. Social media is a great tool in this day and age in sharing messages but does miss sections of the community. As a result, partners have actively made use of the 'good old' methods of communication – hand delivery and display of notices. Neighbourhood Watch have been particularly proactive in delivering copies of campaign literature to homes, whilst parish and town councils also utilise their community notice boards to display information.

During 2019/20, JAG devised several awareness campaigns which reached large sections of the district and were well received. These included:-

- **Report it cards**  
Providing specific information on how and who to report crime, ASB, drug litter and various other issues to.
- **Vehicle breaks prevention top tips**  
In direct response to a spate of thefts from motor vehicles across Arun.
- **Have a safe Halloween**  
Safety tips and 'no trick or treaters' posters.
- **Christmas safety messages**  
Three different messages ran over consecutive weeks in the run up to Christmas including crime prevention tips and personal safety message.
- **Be scam aware**  
Raising awareness of scams and fraud.

A particular focus of the strategy to improve public confidence is to be open and transparent when providing information. By addressing and highlighting the issues that are particularly prevalent to Arun, rather than ignoring them, the public are assured that the agencies and authorities are aware and acting accordingly.

2019/20 also saw efforts made to promote the fact that agencies are not working in silos. It is important that the public see the joint efforts and multi-agency approach to tackling crime, nuisance and disorder. As demonstrated during a recent (March 2020) multi-agency meeting with the residents of Netley Court, Littlehampton, where youth ASB was occurring. By illustrating to residents the inter-agency communication and how enforcement options dove tail based upon such exchanges, residents were afforded a sense of reassurance.

The monitoring of social media platforms continues and allows agencies to pick up on community tensions at an early stage. There is regular communication between partners when issues are noted, permitting the correct agency to identify potentially hostile situations and intervene early.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Council's Community Safety team will set up its own social media account to aid the sharing of SAP, JAG and partnership community safety messaging.
- To re-establish the joint communications network between Arun District Council and Arun Prevention Policing team.
- To further promote SAP, JAG and the LATs to the public, illustrating the multi-agency approach to detect and prevent nuisance behaviour.
- Devise a rolling programme of actions and messages on behalf of SAP addressing Arun specific issues.



**TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)**

Key objectives in 2019/20

- To achieve 95%, or higher, early interventions by ASB team.
- Agree protocols with partners relating to the intervention of young perpetrators of ASB and responsibility for managing risk.
- Multi-agency working with partners and housing providers to reduce the escalation of ASB.

Monthly Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Sussex Police data reports (Appendix A) shows that levels of ASB have declined across West Sussex (-588 offences or -4.1%) during 2019-20 when compared directly with the figures from the previous year. Within West Sussex, Arun has the highest number of reported ASB incidents (2,646 or 19.3% of recorded ASB in West Sussex). However, it is noted that this figure is a significant decrease of 605 (-18.6%) reported incidents in Arun compared to the same period the previous year (April to March), evidencing the success of the dedicated programme of early interventions with perpetrators to tackle and reduce community nuisance.

Arun’s Prevention policing and the Council’s ASB team have been formally recognised for their astute use of CPWs and CPNs. These tools have been used to address anti-social behaviour and drug related harm. Working alongside each other, the teams have identified perpetrators of ASB at an early stage and, by utilising these warnings and notices, reduced the harm caused to communities.

The following graphic shows the numbers issued across Arun during 2019/2020 via a combination of Sussex Police, ASB team, and the Council’s housing service:-

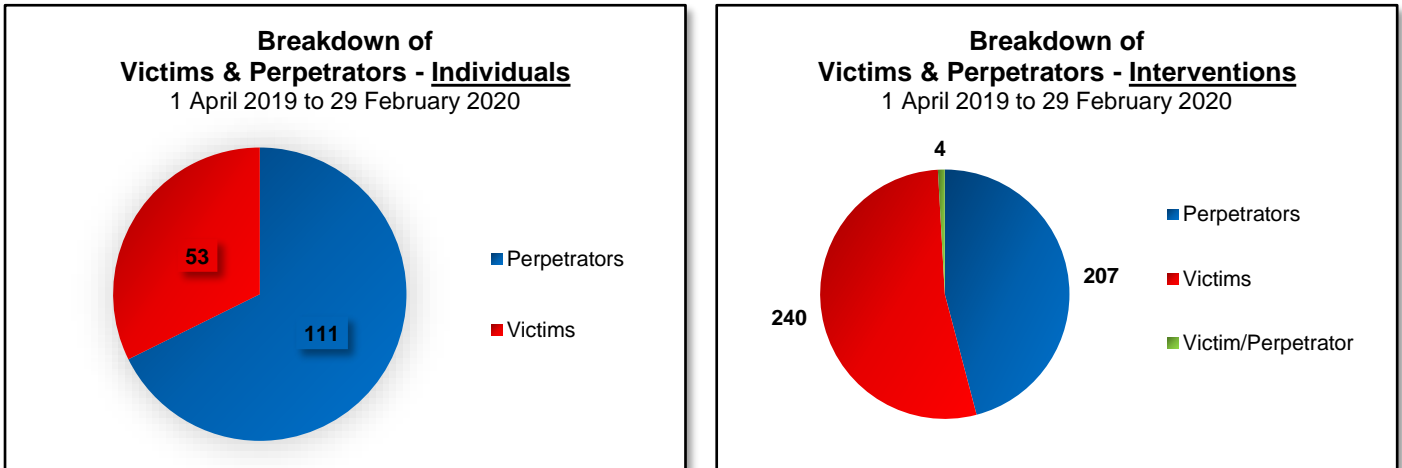


It should be noted that it is likely that the figures above are less than the actual numbers issued. This is due to discrepancies in the recording of cases and the warnings/notices issued due to the fact that agencies record details in very different ways. As stated earlier in this report, the

identification of ECINS being a suitable platform for storing and sharing cross agency information will allow these cases to be stored in a single place which will allow for greater accuracy.

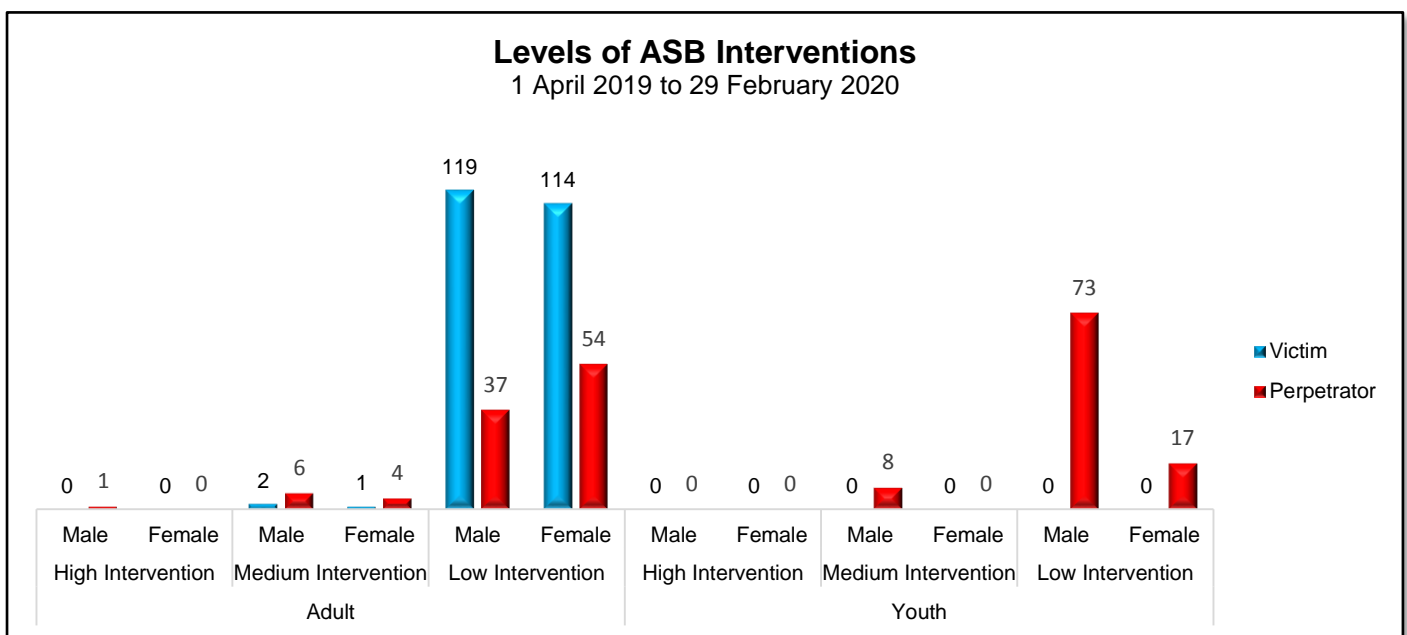
**Arun DC Anti-Social Behaviour Team Performance**

ASB by Victim and Perpetrator (ASB Caseworker data):-



In a reversal from last year’s figures, the number of individual perpetrators is significantly higher than that of individual victims of ASB. In terms of intervention work undertaken, 2019/20 saw caseworkers carrying out a fairly even split between victims and perpetrators: 53% of intervention work was with victims of ASB and 46% of interventions with perpetrators.

The following chart is a breakdown of the number of ASB interventions that caseworkers have conducted since 1 April 2019 by levels of intervention, gender and age:-



A key feature of the ASB team's work is the proactive early stage interventions with both adults and young people. This is proven to be successful at a local level as evidenced by the low numbers of cases advancing to medium and high risk. Adults continue to show a higher number of interactions as many cases may involve issues between neighbours living in close proximity to one another.

The ASB team have provided support to the following housing providers across a range of tenure types from 1 April 2019 to 29 February 2020:-

Housing Provider	Number of Interventions	Percentage (%)	Difference from 2018/19
Arun District Council	135	26%	-462
Private Let	18	4%	-232
Owner Occupier	121	24%	-151
No Fixed Abode	48	9%	-133
Registered Social Landlord (RSL)	129	25%	-62
Unknown	62	12%	-70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>513</b>		-1,110

*For information, it is noted that the figures contained within the overall review of the Council's ASB team performance, above, are significantly lower all-round than those collated for 2018/19. This can be attributed to the following factors:-*

- *The Housing team appointing a dedicated ASB resource.*
- *A temporary in year reduction in resources to one ASB Caseworker and one Senior ASB Caseworker.*
- *Due to resourcing demands for much of 2019, the Senior Caseworker completed a dual role that included day to day management of cases. This high demand meant that stats were not completed for a period of 4 months from June to September 2019.*
- *Substantial work with Police colleagues on the use of CPWs and CPNs.*

The ASB team was set a target of achieving a 95%, or higher, success rate on early intervention. For the performance period 1 April 2019 to February 2020 the team saw a re-offending rate of 6%. This equates to 207 individual perpetrators, of which 13 re-offended (assessed against compliance with Acceptable Behaviour Contracts or higher enforcement).

**Key operational achievements:-**

- Formal recognition received by officers from the Arun Prevention policing team and the Council's Senior ASB caseworker for their proactive use of Community Protection Warnings to target, tackle and disrupt County Lines drug activity on the district.
- Successful recruitment of a permanent Senior ASB Caseworker and ASB Caseworker for Bognor Regis.

**Recommendations:**

- To achieve a 5%, or less, re-offending rate for 2020/21.
- Undertake close engagement with parish councils and business groups to help early identification of localised ASB.
- 1 April 2020 sees the Councils new PSPO come into effect; ASB Caseworkers to enforce the restrictions, alongside policing colleagues, to reduce place based ASB.
- To continue the innovative use of Community Protection Warnings and Notices where appropriate.

**PROPOSED SAP VISION AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2020/21**

***“To work in partnership to proactively and reactively reduce the risk of harm and vulnerability associated with crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour for identified individuals, communities and neighbourhoods.”***

It is proposed that the SAP priorities for 2020/21 remain the same as 2019/20, reflecting the issues in Arun and allowing the partnership to build on the work that has been done in these areas:-

**Serious Violence**

- Assessing and tackling County Lines operations in Arun.
- Raise awareness of cuckooing and the vulnerability of those individuals targeted by developing partnership initiatives and campaigns.
- Enhancement of intelligence sharing practices between agencies to highlight concerns at the earliest opportunity and to allow early intervention.
- Assessing the impact of drug related harm within local communities and developing shared solutions to reduce vulnerability and associated negative impacts.
- To consider drug demand and the impact this has on criminal behaviour in Arun.

**Serious & Organised Crime**

- To create effective training and publicity campaigns for both partners and the public as to the types of activity considered to constitute serious and organised crime and the effects on communities.

**Community Resilience**

- To further develop and utilise the Joint Action Group (JAG) forum to raise awareness of the collaborative efforts between statutory and non-statutory groups to reduce community based nuisance and disorder.
- Ongoing engagement between partners and community groups to support local communities.
- Ensure that reporting pathways for non-statutory partners remain open and accessible to ensure effective responses.
- Empowering communities to take ownership of local issues and to feel safe in reporting and accessing statutory support.

**Improving Public Confidence**

- To continue developing effective and engaging public communication campaigns and the use of social media to highlight partnership initiatives and actions.
- Address public perception of crime and disorder in Arun whilst developing strategies to reduce the fear of crime.

**Tackling Anti-social Behaviour**

- To achieve 95%, or higher, early interventions by ASB team.
- To enhance working protocols and early identification of young perpetrators of ASB with partners and the responsibility for managing risk.
- Multi-agency working with partners and housing providers to reduce the escalation of ASB.

**GLOSSARY**

<b>ADC</b>	Arun District Council
<b>ASB</b>	Anti-Social Behaviour
<b>CBO</b>	Criminal Behaviour Order
<b>CCG</b>	Clinical Commissioning Group
<b>CGL</b>	Change, Grow, Live (local drug and alcohol provider)
<b>CJS</b>	Criminal Justice System
<b>CPN</b>	Community Protection Notice
<b>CPW</b>	Community Protection Warning
<b>CSC</b>	Children's Social Care
<b>CSP</b>	Community Safety Partnership
<b>DAAT</b>	Drug and Alcohol Team
<b>DCLG</b>	Department for Communities and Local Government
<b>Drug Offences</b>	Possession, use, sale or furnishing of any drug or intoxicating substance or drug paraphernalia, which is prohibited by law
<b>Drug Possession</b>	Having one or more illegal drugs in one's possession, either for personal use, distribution, sale or otherwise
<b>Drug Trafficking</b>	Sale and distribution of illegal drugs
<b>DV</b>	Domestic Violence
<b>DWP</b>	Department of Works & Pensions
<b>E-CINS</b>	Empowering Communities Inclusion and Neighbourhood Management System
<b>EI</b>	Early Intervention
<b>HISS</b>	Hate Incident Service Support
<b>HWBB</b>	Health & Wellbeing Board
<b>IDVA</b>	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
<b>IMD</b>	Index of Multiple Deprivation
<b>IPEH</b>	Integrated Help & Earliest Provision (previously Think Family programme)
<b>Lifecentre</b>	Supporting survivors of rape and sexual abuse
<b>MARACs</b>	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences
<b>MEOG</b>	Missing, Exploited and Operational Group
<b>NEETs</b>	Not in education, employment, or training
<b>OCG</b>	Organised Crime Group
<b>PCC</b>	Police and Crime Commissioner
<b>PCSO</b>	Police Community Support Officer
<b>PPO</b>	Prolific and other Priority Offender
<b>PPVC</b>	Public Place Violent Crime
<b>PSA</b>	Public Service Agreement
<b>RSL</b>	Registered Social Landlords
<b>SAP</b>	Safer Arun Partnership
<b>SIA</b>	Strategic Intelligence Assessment
<b>SMART</b>	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time
<b>SOC</b>	Serious and Organised Crime
<b>SV</b>	Sexual Violence
<b>SWSP</b>	Safer West Sussex Partnership
<b>VAAC</b>	Voluntary Action Arun & Chichester
<b>WSCC</b>	West Sussex County Council
<b>YOS</b>	Youth Offending Service

## APPENDIX A: Data Source – CSP Monthly Police Reports

	Arun Performance (Rolling Year) up to March 2020		
	<u>2018</u> 01-Apr-18 to 31-Mar-19	<u>2019</u> 01-Apr-19 to 31-Mar-20	% (no.) difference
All Crime	10,327	11,360	+10%
BCS Comparator Crime	3929	4123	+4.9%
Serious Acquisitive Crime	843	1090	+29.3%
Vehicle Interference or Tampering	129	175	+35.7%
Theft from a Vehicle	554	732	+32.1%
Theft of a Motor Vehicle	205	262	+27.8%
Theft of a Pedal Cycle	248	223	-10.1%
Theft from a person	92	72	-21.7%
Shoplifting (Theft from a Shop)	698	1050	+50.4%
Violent Crime	4703	5302	+12.7%
Serious Violent Crime	112	111	+0.9%
Serious Sexual Offences	238	300	+26.1%
Violence Against the Person	4306	4829	+12.1%
Assault with less serious injury	1197	1206	+0.7%
Robbery of personal property	72	87	+20.8%
Criminal Damage: Dwelling/Building/Vehicle + Other	1346	1138	-15.4%
All Burglary	688	731	+6.2%
Drug Offences (Possession, Trafficking and Supply)	269	339	+26%
Arson	84	105	+25%
Racially Aggravated Crime	62	76	+22.6%

