

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

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Published June 2026 (Version 1)

1. Introduction and Foreword

Statutory requirement:

Each elected local policing body must produce a report (an “annual report”) on—

(a) the exercise of the body's functions in each financial year, and

(b) the progress which has been made in the financial year in meeting the police and crime objectives in the body's police and crime plan.

I work with partners, including local authorities, communities and probation and prison services, to prevent crime and address the many challenges in the criminal justice system. I provide the link between communities and policing and I am working to improve policing standards to make Avon and Somerset Police (ASP) the police force that all our communities deserve and expect. This report details the initiatives I am leading with my office and ASP, along with work we are carrying out with partners to deliver against the Police and Crime Plan 2024-29.

As the voice of our communities, I hold the Chief Constable to account, and this report includes details of how we are working with the Police leadership to improve standards and deliver against the priorities in that Police and Crime Plan.

The last year was punctuated by a rise in community tensions, an increase in protest, a rise in hate crime, world events that furthered tensions and a proliferation of misinformation deliberately aimed at creating division. All of these factors make policing more difficult, and I have worked closely with the Police leadership to consider these changing factors while working to maintain law, order and safety for all of our residents.

This year also saw a government announcement to abolish the post of Police and Crime Commissioner from May 2028 and it should be acknowledged that despite that, my team has continued to work hard to deliver on our priorities. It is essential that we work with our Local Authorities and Combined Authority to ensure a smooth transition to a new governance model for 2028. We await the publication of the Police and Crime Bill to inform that transition.

This report is necessarily focussed on the delivery and achievements made in the last year but it is also essential to recognise what is delivered every day by Avon and Somerset Police to achieve the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan.

A single day in Avon and Somerset Police			
479	recorded crimes	835	999 calls
73	domestic abuse crimes	1,528	101 calls
9	rapes	955	incidents
37	offences of violence with injury	224	anti-social behaviour incidents
273	victims	96	calls relating to concern for safety
130	suspects/offenders	13	missing people
5	assaults on officers/staff	154	calls relating to road traffic incidents

The figures in this table are calculated based on the total crimes/incidents/calls for the year 2025/26 divided by the 365 days of the year.

This report measures progress against the priorities published in my plan and emerging priorities. The Police and Crime Plan was shaped by the views of residents and I am committed to ensuring we continue to listen and adapt to changing priorities, whilst ensuring delivery against the promises I have already made.

It is important to note that in addition to this report, an Annual Governance Statement is written as part of the Annual Statement of Accounts. For a full understanding, the two reports should be read together.

2. Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan

Priority 1 – Strengthen neighbourhood policing to provide a visible police presence, engage with communities, and tackle Anti-Social Behaviour.

The importance of neighbourhood policing is fundamental to my Plan. Almost every meeting I have with residents and every community meeting gives me the same message. Residents want ‘cops on the beat’. They want to see the presence of policing and recognise the positive impact this has on community safety and the reduction of crime. That is why I have delivered against this priority and also why I have put so much stall into neighbourhood police engaging with communities. Good relationships between police and communities’ fosters trust, builds support and delivers early intervention and prevention.

The Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee Neighbourhood policing remains the foundation of effective policing. It builds trust, enables the gathering of vital intelligence, and strengthens our ability to prevent harm. In Avon and Somerset, the move to establish geographically based Local Policing Areas under a unified command has aligned with the implementation of the Government’s Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee. Together, these complementary developments have enhanced the visibility of policing, improved responsiveness, and strengthened engagement with partner agencies, communities, and the public.

Over the past year, the neighbourhood policing workforce has been strengthened through the introduction of newly formed Neighbourhood Tasking Teams, with an additional 70 officers either deployed or in training, primarily within these teams, and with further deployment across wider neighbourhood policing roles, including Beat Managers, while Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) numbers have also been maintained. Each Local Policing Area is now supported by these dedicated Neighbourhood Tasking Teams, which provide a visible and proactive capability to tackle local priorities, prevent harm and support targeted activity, particularly in addressing anti-social behaviour (ASB) and repeat demand. At a national level, the introduction of the College of Policing’s Neighbourhood Policing Pathway (NPP) provides a specialist training and career framework, helping to standardise and professionalise neighbourhood policing across England and Wales, with Avon and Somerset selected as a pilot force for its implementation.

Collectively, these national and local initiatives have put more officers back on the beat, delivering community-led policing with locally known and accessible officers. This has supported a stronger focus on tackling ASB and contributed to safer town centres and public spaces.

Hotspot Action Fund As part of this delivery, we increased and managed the Hotspot Action Fund, supporting the delivery of over 16,000 hours of additional high visibility patrols in the areas across Avon and Somerset most impacted by ASB and serious violence. This represented a 60% increase in patrols over the previous year.

Patrol officers, through that local engagement with residents and businesses have disrupted ASB, arrested offenders, conducted searches, gathered community intelligence and reassured the public through a regular police presence.

This activity was supported by a range of problem-oriented policing (POP) initiatives including:

- Community Safety Days.
- Detached youth work sessions.
- Provision of youth hubs.
- Teachable moments patrols engaging with young people.
- Installation of bleed kits across multiple new sites.
- Education workshops for secondary school children regarding serious youth violence and ASB.
- Bespoke training delivered to secondary school practitioners in respect of knife crime and youth intervention.
- Sports diversionary sessions delivered young people, aimed at reducing ASB and youth violence offending.
- Street Ranger patrols within Business Improvement Districts, supporting crime reduction and prevention activities relating to both the nighttime economy and retail crime.

Targeted Action on ASB and Illicit Goods Neighbourhood Policing and ASB Teams have delivered a coordinated and intelligence-led approach to tackling persistent nuisance, criminality, and the sale of illicit tobacco and vapes across Avon and Somerset Police's area of responsibility.

Working closely with Local Authorities, Trading Standards, and community safety partners, teams have successfully secured multiple closure orders under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. These closures followed robust evidence gathering, including CCTV, intelligence logs, witness statements and enforcement records, demonstrating clear links between premises involved in criminal activity across Bristol, Taunton, and Weston-Super-Mare.

This cross-area approach has:

- Disrupted organised networks involved in the sale of illicit goods.
- Removed premises generating significant ASB and community harm.
- Delivered clear enforcement outcomes that acts as a deterrent.
- Strengthened partnership working and intelligence sharing across agencies.

This work is recognised good practice, demonstrating how strong partnership coordination and high-quality case building can deliver tangible improvements to community safety and confidence.

Implementation of a Force-Wide ASB Action Plan Over the past 12 months, my team has worked with Avon and Somerset Police to develop and begin implementing a comprehensive ASB Action Plan (2026–2031). This sets out a clear, long-term approach to reducing ASB, will build on what was achieved and reinforcing neighbourhood policing.

The plan adopts a victim-focused, partnership-led and problem-solving model, recognising the significant impact ASB has on communities and the need for a consistent, proactive response. It is built around four key pillars:

- Community engagement.
- Partnership working.
- Prevention and problem-solving.
- Organisational capability.

With approximately 82,000 ASB incidents recorded last year, this plan will build on what was achieved under the Hotspot Action Fund, by embedding a clear framework to reduce repeat harm, improve victim experience, and strengthen public confidence. Key elements of delivery include:

- Hot spot policing and targeted patrols in areas where ASB is most concentrated.
- Data-led identification of repeat victims and locations, enabling early intervention.
- Structured problem-solving plans supported by specialist teams.
- Strong multi-agency coordination through Community Safety Partnerships.
- Prevention-focused activity addressing root causes and vulnerability.

Increased Officer Training in ASB Tools and Powers Enhanced training and improved understanding of ASB tools and powers are enabling neighbourhood policing teams to take a more proactive and targeted approach to tackling harm within communities.

Officers and PCSOs are increasingly confident in the effective use of legislative powers, including Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) to manage repeat and high-harm offenders. This has strengthened the ability of Neighbourhood Policing Teams to intervene early, apply appropriate restrictions, and prevent further offending. For example, a persistent shoplifter was issued with a five-year CBO banning them from the Broadmead city centre area, following repeated thefts. This action demonstrates how these powers can:

- Impose clear and enforceable restrictions on behaviour.
- Disrupt ongoing offending and reduce harm to businesses and the public.
- Provide reassurance to communities that repeat ASB is being addressed decisively.

This continued investment in training and capability is supporting a more consistent, confident and effective policing response to ASB across Avon and Somerset.

Illicit Vapes and Youth Safety Neighbourhood Policing Teams are playing a key role in a proactive, locally driven response to protect young people from the risks associated with illicit vapes.

Working closely with schools, local authorities, public health and academic partners, neighbourhood officers and PCSOs are supporting a coordinated approach across

selected secondary schools. This includes the collection and submission of confiscated vapes for testing, helping to identify harmful or illicit substances and build a clearer picture of local risk. This neighbourhood-led approach is delivering:

- Direct engagement with schools and young people, providing education and prevention messaging.
- Early identification of risks within communities, enabling swift intervention and safeguarding.
- Improved local intelligence, supporting action against those supplying illicit products.
- Visible partnership working, strengthening trust and confidence in neighbourhood policing.

By embedding this work within neighbourhood policing, teams are taking a preventative, community-focused approach, addressing risks early, supporting schools, and protecting young people before issues escalate into wider harm.

Improvements to Community Resolution and Early Intervention Improvements have been made to the Community Resolution process to enable faster, more effective early intervention at neighbourhood level. A new streamlined Community Resolution form has been introduced, improving consistency and ease of use. PCSOs are now empowered to issue Community Resolutions directly, increasing responsiveness and local problem-solving capability. This change is enabling:

- Swift action on emerging issues before they escalate.
- Resolving low-level ASB and disputes at the earliest opportunity.
- Reducing longer-term demand on policing services.
- Deliver more visible, responsive neighbourhood policing.

This approach ensures that concerns are addressed early, preventing them from developing into more serious and persistent community issues.

Voice Victim Awareness Course This course is a specialist, victim-focused Out of Court Resolution (OOCR) intervention delivered by RISE Mutual in partnership with UK police forces, including Avon and Somerset Police. The programme aligns with the Police and Crime Commissioner's strategy to strengthen the "Victim's Voice" in policing outcomes. Unlike traditional punitive measures, it is an educational, rehabilitative diversion for adult offenders who have committed low-level offences and are willing to take accountability. Its core aim is to humanise the impact of crime and is delivered as an alternative to formal prosecution – typically through a Conditional Caution or Community Resolution – the course is grounded in restorative justice, requiring offenders to confront the wider consequences of their actions.

Priority 2 – Reduce violent crime, with a specific focus on (a) male violence against women and girls and (b) serious youth violence

Male violence against women and girls

Tackling the root causes of male violence against women and girls (MVAWG) is a complex area where there has been limited research or developed understanding. My office is exploring possibilities with academics and other innovators in this area to develop a research and evidence led approach to the wider subject. Tackling the growth of misogyny and the significant influence of online influencers on young boys is a key area for research and understanding and I will elaborate on this approach in coming months. I have also focussed on several strands of work to prevent male violence against women and girls, support victims and survivors, and disrupt those who cause harm. This part of the report outlines some of that work, where it has been delivered locally with police and other partners, or nationally through my role as national lead for victims and MVAWG for the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC).

Prevention and Early Intervention With the support of my team, I have led a public awareness campaign on Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS). This campaign was a direct response to growing evidence of harm resulting from the normalisation of strangulation through harmful online content. It is clear that there are significant levels of public confusion around consent, legality and the impact on health from NFS. Supported by local and national experts, the campaign aimed to prevent harm before it escalates and improve understanding among the public and professionals.

The campaign reached over 3 million people on social media and had local and national media coverage. Some 688 professionals attended specialist training delivered at the start of the campaign. We are now working with partners to develop a second phase of activity locally and with national bodies to support wider awareness and learning.

Prevention was further strengthened through allocation from the Police and Crime Grant to directly fund partnership work focused on early intervention. Working with Local Authority Community Safety Partnerships, these interventions included education for children and young people on healthy relationships and consent; initiatives to improve safety in public spaces; and projects such as the Safe Space Bus in Weston super Mare. Investment in local data and intelligence also enabled earlier identification of risk and better targeted prevention.

Supporting Victims and Survivors In the last year, my office has commissioned victim support services for over 14,000 victims, including specialist provision for those affected by domestic abuse, sexual violence and exploitation. Additional funding and partnerships with NHS England and the Ministry of Justice expanded access to counselling, therapeutic and practical support, helping survivors recover from trauma and reduce repeat harm.

To strengthen accountability and improve outcomes, I commissioned an independent academic review of the police response to domestic abuse that analysed more than 115,000 cases. The review followed previous work on Rape and Serious Sexual

Offences (RASSO), underlining the need for context led, victim focused and perpetrator driven responses. This is now informing ongoing improvements in practice and approach by Avon and Somerset Police, but has also been recognised nationally with many other forces keen to observe how this is being implemented.

Disrupting Perpetrators I continue to commission the DRIVE perpetrator intervention programme, working closely with local authority partners. During the last year the service worked with more than 200 high risk perpetrators, combining direct perpetrator engagement, victim safeguarding and multi-agency risk management. This approach reduced risk, improved victim safety and strengthened protection for children.

Partnership and Leadership Through the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC), I have been able to substantially influence policy development and funding discussions linked to the national VAWG Strategy and I sit on the Government's VAWG Strategy Board. Locally, I have worked with the West of England Women's Commission, criminal justice partners and organisations such as Wesport, to explore and promote a whole system response to MVAWG. This developing partnership aims to build a network of organisations who work with children and young people, through sport and prevention activities, to provide safe spaces, delivering education and awareness of misogyny related issues.

Case Study: Somerset

Overview. Over the past year, Avon and Somerset Police (ASP) has delivered a comprehensive programme across Somerset to tackle Male Violence Against Women and Girls (MVAWG). The approach addresses prevention, protection, offender management, and improving confidence in policing.

Approach. The programme combines proactive policing, targeted safeguarding, and strong partnership working with communities and businesses. It focuses on early intervention, visible presence in high-risk settings, and engaging trusted local networks to reinforce zero tolerance of harassment, abuse, and misogyny.

Delivery

- Visible policing and early intervention: Targeted patrols in town centres, night-time economy areas, and major events to identify and disrupt concerning or predatory behaviour before escalation
- Safeguarding and exploitation: Joint working with partners to identify women at risk of exploitation, including through sex work and trafficking, providing safeguarding and pursuing offenders
- Community and business engagement: Collaboration with pubs, employers, sports venues, and community groups to promote clear behavioural standards and extend reach through trusted voices

Impact. This integrated approach has strengthened early intervention, improved safeguarding of vulnerable women, and increased visibility of policing in key areas. Partnership activity has reinforced shared responsibility for women's safety, contributing to improved confidence and a clearer stance against violence and misogyny.

Tackling MVAWG at sporting events Women and girls continue to experience harassment, abuse, and sexual violence at major sporting events, with low reporting driven by a lack of confidence that action will be taken. In response, ASP has

partnered with Bristol City and Bristol Rovers to improve understanding and enhance safety on matchdays.

Specially trained, highly visible officers have been deployed to engage with supporters and staff, raise awareness, and encourage reporting of misogynistic behaviour. Matchday feedback indicated that nearly a third of attendees had experienced or witnessed such behaviour, with many unclear on how to report incidents; insight that has informed a more targeted policing response.

Where offences occur, officers have taken robust action, supporting victims and addressing behaviours such as misogynistic chanting and harassment. Building on this approach, ASP will increase visible policing and reassurance patrols at major sporting events to further strengthen safety and confidence.

Serious youth violence

I assess serious violence within the statutory framework of the national Serious Violence Duty, using an evidence-led, partnership approach through the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). A pan-regional Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) informs decision-making, ensuring enforcement and investment are focused on areas of highest risk and harm. A central priority is serious youth violence, particularly knife crime, which remains a complex issue across Avon and Somerset. Incidents involving children and young people – both as victims and perpetrators – often occur in public spaces, are frequently linked to robbery, and disproportionately affect young males.

Knife crime is rarely isolated; it is closely linked to wider vulnerabilities, including criminal exploitation and involvement in organised drug supply. Many individuals are both victims and offenders, requiring a nuanced, preventative response at critical stages in their development. While overall crime in Avon and Somerset is slightly below the national average, levels remain higher than the wider South West, with violence rates broadly in line with national benchmarks. In response, I prioritise a balanced approach that combines targeted enforcement with early intervention, prevention and strong partnership working, bringing together statutory agencies and community partners to address root causes, support those affected and create safer pathways for children and young people with the aim of delivering sustained reductions in serious violence and improving community confidence.

The Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) The VRP acts as a regional, multi-agency alliance dedicated to diagnosing and tackling the root causes of serious violent crime and my office hosts its core regional staff. I continue to chair the VRP Board which convenes specialist partners and local authorities. Collectively we work to identify and understand the underlying causes of local violent crime and provide an effective response to reduce it. Operating under the statutory mandates of the UK's Serious Violence Duty, the VRP works with partners to shift the focus away from reactive enforcement toward early intervention, education, and public safety.

In the last year, £1.6 million was allocated to Avon and Somerset by the Home Office to support the reduction of serious youth violence within our communities. This fund

was used to implement 38 different interventions aimed at supporting children and young people who are at risk of, or currently involved in, serious youth violence. The types of activities delivered throughout the year included:

- Educational inputs into schools and other settings talking about the danger of carrying knives, health and wellbeing, exploitation and other topics.
- Engaging with young people in the community to talk about exploitation, youth violence and healthy relationships.
- Sports mentoring programmes such as Box Champions.
- Provision of youth community hubs across Somerset.

Together, these interventions were able to reach 28,818 children and young people during 2025/26, 506 over 24-year-olds and 1,841 parents/carers and professionals.

The Avon and Somerset VRP hosted the annual national Violence Reduction Partnership conference in September 2025, convening representatives from VRPs across England alongside the Home Office and key national stakeholders. The event provided a strategic platform to showcase the impact and innovation of local partnership work in Avon and Somerset, while also facilitating constructive dialogue on emerging opportunities and shared challenges. It strengthened engagement with national partners and helped shape the forward trajectory of violence reduction efforts locally and nationally.

Prevention Panels We have supported the implementation of the Home Office funded Young Futures Prevention Panel pilots within North Somerset and Somerset. They aim to identify and support children and young people on the brink of criminality. To date, these panels have discussed more than 100 children and young people with the majority being referred into appropriate support services.

Knife Crime I received dedicated funds from the Home Office to target prevention/reduction activities within identified knife crime problem areas from October 2025 to March 2026. Multiple interventions were implemented during this time including:

- Safe space and targeted outreach work within recreational areas.
- Dedicated street and night-time patrols throughout Bristol.
- The Reach Out Programme which works with young people aged 15-25yrs old who are identified as at risk/involved in serious youth violence and youth offending.

In addition to the above, further funding for Avon and Somerset communities was secured under the 2025/26 Home **Office Hyperlocal Knife Crime Fund**. This has enabled £224,000 to be directed towards the delivery of preventative initiatives and targeted interventions in knife crime hotspots in Bristol, including improved lighting, CCTV, and physical infrastructure to make public spaces safer as well as targeted outreach work with young people, to divert them from criminal activity and focusing on prevention before harm happens.

Tackling Knife Carrying in Neighbourhoods Alongside early education and prevention, a strong neighbourhood policing approach plays a key role in tackling of

concern. This proactive work has been intelligence-led, enabling officers to identify local issues, target individuals causing harm and recognise vulnerable young people who may need safeguarding or diversion into support. Knife sweep operations are also a tactic conducted in parks and other public spaces where weapons may be hidden.

Engagement is central to the approach; our Police Officers and PCSOs engage with children and young people in schools, youth clubs and community settings to raise awareness of the risks and consequences of carrying a knife, supported by pop-up information stands and community events. This activity has been further strengthened by additional Home Office-funded patrols in areas with higher levels of ASB and serious violence. Between May and October 2025, this targeted work led to 54 stop searches and the seizure of seven weapons, demonstrating the impact of combining enforcement with prevention and engagement.

Case Study Examples: Knife Crime Prevention Initiatives

1. Lifeskills Interactive Knife Crime Scenario

Overview. Launched in March at Bristol's Lifeskills safety education centre, this interactive scenario introduces primary school children (Year 6) to the risks and consequences associated with knife crime.

Approach. The initiative uses immersive, decision-based learning to help children navigate realistic scenarios and understand how to respond safely.

Delivery

- Children are guided through different situations, choosing the safest course of action.
- Education includes where to seek help if concerned about knife-related behaviour.
- Over 5,500 visitors since launch; expected to reach 11,000 visitors during the 2025/26 academic year
- Funded through a partnership between Avon and Somerset Police, Avon Metals and Lifeskills, with additional contributions from retailers failing police test purchase operations.
- Confiscated knives are removed from surrender bins, smelted into metal ingots and sold commercially.

Impact

- Ensures access for children from all backgrounds.

Case Study Examples: Knife Crime Prevention Initiatives

2. Safer Together: Creative Storytelling to Tackle Knife Violence

Overview. Safer Together is an innovative educational resource developed by community interest company Unique Voice in partnership with Avon and Somerset Police and Crimestoppers. Originally created in Bristol, it has grown into a national resource used by schools and community organisations.

Approach. The initiative uses creative storytelling to engage young people in meaningful conversations about knife crime. At its core is a short film co-created by 15 young people, reflecting the real-life impacts of knife crime on individuals, communities and future opportunities.

Delivery

- Over 600 students participated in preliminary workshops and creative sessions
- A professional training package accompanies the film for teachers, youth workers and community leaders

Impact. The programme equips professionals and young people to:

- Facilitate safe, empathetic discussions about knife crime
- Encourage reflection and positive decision-making

3. Counter Punch Programme (Bristol)

Overview. The Counter Punch Programme is an initiative funded by Avon and Somerset Police and delivered in partnership with Empire Fighting Chance. It supports vulnerable young people aged 11–25 in Bristol who are at risk of involvement in crime and serious youth violence.

Approach. The programme uses non-contact boxing and 1:1 mentoring to build trust, discipline and resilience. It takes a trauma-informed approach, recognising that many participants face challenges such as mental health issues, school exclusion, inequality and social isolation.

Delivery.

- Delivered through a structured three-phase programme, each participant is supported by a dedicated Coach Mentor who provides tailored support.
- Alongside boxing activities, mentors help young people access opportunities in education, employment and training.

Impact.

- The programme aims to divert young people away from crime, improve wellbeing and support re-engagement with positive pathways.
- It builds confidence, strengthens life skills and helps participants achieve more stable, long-term outcomes.

4. Property Redirection Scheme (Somerset)

Overview. The Property Redirection Scheme is an innovative initiative aimed at reducing serious youth violence by tackling a key barrier to engagement: lack of access to resources among economically disadvantaged young people. It ensures that those most at risk can participate in diversionary and supportive activities.

Approach. The scheme repurposes property seized by police, items that would otherwise be destroyed, and redistributes them to young people facing financial barriers. By aligning unused assets with individual needs, it enables equitable access to existing support and intervention programmes.

Delivery. Seized items are allocated on a case-by-case basis to support tailored interventions. This includes pairing resources with mentoring or structured activities where appropriate to maximise impact. Examples included fishing equipment combined with mentoring support, and provision of creative resources to support engagement and wellbeing

Impact. The scheme has demonstrated tangible outcomes at an individual level, including reductions in violent behaviour and improved engagement with support services. It has also supported positive interactions with police, including enabling voluntary interviews.

By converting unused assets into meaningful interventions, the scheme provides a cost-effective and practical model for improving access, strengthening engagement and supporting better outcomes for vulnerable young people.

5. Blunt Truth Workshops

Overview. The Blunt Truth programme delivers targeted workshops for older students (Year 8 and above) across Bristol, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset and Wiltshire.

Approach. The sessions combine education on the consequences of knife crime with practical, life-saving skills.

Delivery.

- One-hour interactive workshops
- Delivered by trained professionals, including healthcare practitioners
- Exploration of the real-life, long-term consequences of knife crime.
- First aid training, including managing severe bleeding.

Impact.

- Strengthens awareness of risks and consequences.
- Empowers young people with practical skills to respond to emergencies.
- Builds resilience and responsibility among participants.

Priority 3 – Prevent crime by working together with other organisations and the public to build safer communities

I continue to focus on the prevention of crime by addressing the underlying drivers, reducing repeat offending linked to vulnerability, and strengthening early intervention for children and young people. Delivery has been supported through commissioned services, Police and Crime Grant funding, and Home Office investment, with strong partnership working across policing, local authorities, health and the voluntary sector.

To strengthen understanding of what works in prevention, my office developed The Learning Loop: an in depth review of cohorts supported through commissioned services. The first cycle, completed in late 2025, focused on high risk domestic abuse perpetrators supported by the Home Office funded, DRIVE programme. This work informed improvements to local pathways, including the introduction of a direct referral route into DRIVE for incidents involving non-fatal strangulation. It also strengthened system wide understanding of repeat police calls to domestic abuse incidents and the prevalence of unmet learning needs among offenders. A second cycle began in April 2026, focusing on women involved in the criminal justice system and supported by the Nelson Trust, with early analysis highlighting links between childhood family instability and later experiences of unhealthy relationships and domestic abuse victimisation.

Preventing repeat retail crime remained a priority, recognising the close link between shop theft, substance misuse and wider vulnerability. In North Somerset, I supported an ‘offender to rehab’ pilot with ASP, the Local Authority and *With You*, providing tailored treatment packages to address the root causes of offending. We also supported the development of a Police and Crime Grant funded initiative offering enhanced peer support for prolific female offenders, delivered through Somerset’s Drug and Alcohol Service and linked to safe spaces for women in Taunton and Bridgwater.

Just over £100,000 of my Police and Crime Grant funding enabled a wide range of prevention activity delivered by local authorities. This included early intervention with children and young people around substance misuse, harmful behaviour and healthy relationships; partnership problem solving to address crime and ASB linked to specific locations; evidence led harm prevention using shared data and community engagement; youth justice and substance misuse interventions; professional and carer training; and community safety initiatives such as the Weston-super-Mare Safety Bus providing welfare and medical support in the town centre.

I also funded preventative child exploitation work delivered by the Willow Team in schools across Bath and North East Somerset. This included tailored sessions addressing misogynistic attitudes among boys and delivery in specialist education settings, with sessions adapted to pupils’ needs and frequently leading to further engagement and referrals.

I continued to support the Drug Education Programme through Integrated Non-Custodial Services. This NHS led, preventative intervention offers people found in possession of drugs for personal use, a one off behaviour change session helping to prevent escalation of substance misuse and allowing sign posting.

Designing Out Crime Avon and Somerset Police's 'Designing Out Crime Team' continues to work closely with partner agencies to prevent crime through early intervention and effective environmental design. Recent examples of this work include:

- The team received commendations for their sustained contribution to designing out crime from the earliest planning stages of the Brabazon development in Filton. Beginning in 2004, their involvement has helped embed crime prevention principles into what is now a major strategic development with a large music arena, transport hub, retail facilities, university campus, hotels and significant residential development.
- The team lead a collaborative, multi-agency response to the theft of life-saving equipment from fire stations, which was later used in attacks on ATMs. The work not only supported effective investigation, but also reduced the risk of further offending and protected critical infrastructure.

Be Home Safe Team The Avon and Somerset Police's 'Be Home Safe Team' continues to provide practical support to victims across Avon and Somerset, helping to prevent repeat victimisation through tailored home security improvements. The team offer options for door reinforcement, the installation of doorbell cameras, window locks and other targeted measures to improve safety and reassurance for victims.

Problem Solving and Evidence-Based Policing A new Problem Solving Team has been established which supports local Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) by developing and delivering structured problem-solving plans aimed at preventing crime and ASB. The team has already delivered training across the NPT workforce and is now focused on improving the quality and consistency of problem-solving plans.

Priority 4 – Support victims to ensure they get the help they need when they need it

I have continued to strengthen support for victims across Avon and Somerset by embedding new long-term contracts, reinforcing specialist provision, and improving how victims access help. From April 2025, four new five-year victim support contracts went live, alongside continued grant funding for specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence services. This has provided greater stability for providers, improved partnership working, and ensured that services better meet victims' needs throughout their recovery.

Improving access to support Our partnership with the Lighthouse Safeguarding Unit (LSU) continued to provide a consistent entry point to support for victims navigating the criminal justice system. In the last year, LSU supported over 37,000 victims. With additional Ministry of Justice funding, my office worked with LSU and TONIC to redesign Lighthouse's [website](#) using direct feedback from victims. The new site is clearer, more accessible and easier to navigate, helping victims and professionals quickly understand what support is available and how to access it.

The **"We're Here" campaign** was a dedicated initiative created to reassure survivors of rape and sexual assault that they are not alone. Funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and NHS England, the campaign aimed to raise awareness of the trauma-informed, expert support services available across the region. Developed alongside local councils and universities, the campaign had an underpinning message that survivors will be believed and supported, regardless of whether they choose to report the incident to the police. The campaign connected individuals with specialised local organisations that offer confidential, professional care. Key partners included the Somerset and Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support (SARSAS), which provides a free helpline and counselling, and The Bridge, a sexual assault referral centre offering medical and emotional aid. Safe Link also collaborates to provide dedicated advocacy for survivors of sexual violence.

Supporting the most vulnerable From April 2025, Unseen's modern slavery support service moved from short term grants to a five-year contract. This has enabled Unseen to strengthen how it captures outcomes and records exploitation types, building a clearer local picture for future prevention activity. During the year, Unseen supported 95 victims, with 81% reporting they were better able to cope with and recover from their experiences. Enhanced partnership working has also increased referrals, while ensuring services remain sustainable as demand grows.

Children and young people affected by crime remained a clear priority. The Young Victims Service (YVS) supported more than 580 children and young people, providing timely, one to one emotional and practical help without a waiting list. Most children completing support were assessed as better able to cope and move forward with daily life. Stronger links with Youth Justice Services and local prevention panels helped identify children at risk earlier, ensuring they were supported first and foremost as victims.

Coordinated local provision The newly commissioned Avon and Somerset Victim Service (ASVS), a partnership between Victim Support, Resolve West and Stand

Against Racism & Inequality (SARI), completed its first year. The focus was on building shared ways of working, clear referral pathways and local engagement. ASVS supported 4,456 victims during the year, helping them understand criminal justice processes and access housing, health and specialist services. Hate crime support was strengthened through SARI's local expertise, while Resolve West continued to deliver restorative justice, including in serious and complex cases.

Safe Link Plus continued to provide Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) support for victim survivors of sexual violence, including tailored provision for women involved in street sex work through its partnership with One25. Despite sustained high demand, referrals were triaged quickly and no waiting list developed. New flexible support options allowed survivors to remain connected to help while avoiding unnecessary pressure during lengthy criminal justice processes.

I also funded specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence services through grants, enabling people to cope, recover and rebuild their lives. Feedback from victims consistently highlighted feeling listened to, supported and able to move forward.

Demand and impact Overall demand across Ministry of Justice funded services have marginally increased, with more than 52,000 victims supported during the year. Over 40,000 reported improved ability to cope and greater resilience following support. We continue to work closely with Avon and Somerset Police, local authorities and the voluntary sector to respond to this demand in a timely, joined up and victim centred way. Looking ahead, we will consider the challenge of transformation to a new governance model. There is a need for improved outcome data, stable long-term commissioning and strengthened partnerships to further tailor services and these principles must be part of a future service.

Victim Information Pack and Victim Voice Survey Avon and Somerset Police have created a clear, easy-to-use [Victim Information Pack](#) and a [Victim Voice Survey](#). The pack explains victims' rights under the Victims' Code and has been designed using plain language, simple explanations and a practical layout. The Survey give victims and witnesses a clear, safe and anonymous way to share their experiences of policing and support services.

Priority 5 – Improve standards of policing so that people receive a fair and effective service

Holding the Chief Constable to account for the performance of Avon and Somerset Police (ASP) is central to my role, supported by a structured programme of scrutiny and governance. This includes a range of scrutiny committees, strengthened by the valuable contribution of community volunteers who provide independent challenge and insight across key thematic areas.

Formal and informal accountability is maintained through regular engagement: weekly meetings between myself and the Chief Constable, bilateral meetings between my Deputy and the Deputy Chief Constable, and routine four-way discussions focused on policing standards and priorities. The monthly Governance and Scrutiny Board (GSB) provides the formal mechanism for recording and tracking accountability.

We continue to work with ASP leadership to respond to the declaration of Institutional Racism and drive progress towards becoming an anti-racist organisation. This includes ongoing collaboration with volunteers and criminal justice partners to address disproportionality in the wider criminal justice system. A multi-agency workshop in February reviewed progress to date, with next steps now being developed and the PCC continuing to convene the Local Criminal Justice Board.

Operationally, we are prioritising improvements in domestic abuse response rates, while programmes such as Bright Light continue to support wider improvements in service quality and the Constabulary's response to crime.

Performance

Response Timeliness. ASP continues to deliver strong performance in its Control Rooms, ensuring the public receives a rapid and reliable response. Over the past year, 97% of 999 calls were answered within 10 seconds, meeting the national standard, with an average answer time of just one second. This means that in critical situations, calls are picked up almost immediately (note, performance is measured from the point at which calls are transferred from the BT emergency operator).

Performance on the non-emergency 101 service has also improved significantly, with average answer times reduced to 52 seconds: a one-third reduction on the previous year. These outcomes have been supported by targeted improvements to capability and consistency, including:

- Introduction of a new Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system to improve call routing and access to services.
- Implementation of an enhanced quality assurance framework to strengthen oversight and identify development needs.
- Full rollout of Enhanced Video Response (EVR), enabling remote resolution of incidents and improving frontline capacity.

Together, these changes are improving service efficiency, quality, and responsiveness to the public.

Investigative Standards. ASP has a clear focus on improving the quality of investigations and case file management. Efforts in this area have included strengthening the skills and capabilities of both investigators and their supervisors, including piloting a development programme for first-line investigative supervisors. The programme recognises the critical role supervisors play in providing effective leadership, professional direction and assurance, and in driving high-quality, timely investigations and case files. This has been supported by a new Quality Assessment Tool which is used to more consistently assess and provide feedback on supervisor reviews. In the last year ASP's positive outcome rate for crimes has increased to 11.4%. While there is a clear ambition to improve further, this is 19,800 positive outcomes in the last year, an increase of 2,600 from the previous year.

Trauma Informed Policing. In 2025, ASP assessed its progress towards becoming a trauma-informed organisation and was rated as 'trauma sensitive'. This has involved embedding a trauma-informed approach across policies and practices, with a focus on clarity, choice, safety, trust, and empowerment. The Constabulary has introduced a "trauma tracker" tool, enabling managers to monitor exposure to traumatic incidents and provide timely, targeted support. It also supports more informed wellbeing conversations in one-to-ones. Further initiatives include developing trauma-informed champions, improving processes such as the return of evidence to victims of rape and sexual assault, and piloting virtual reality technology to support staff recovery following traumatic incidents.

Workforce Representation. In 2025, ASP co-produced its Culture & Inclusion Strategy 2026-30, setting clear targets to improve workforce representation, particularly in relation to ethnicity and gender. Delivery is supported by ongoing community engagement through the Outreach Team, including targeted events, careers activity, and digital engagement to promote policing careers. The Constabulary is also strengthening internal recruitment processes to mitigate bias, including standardising interview question banks and enhancing quality assurance across shortlisting and selection. Partnership working with the University of the West of England is expanding entry pathways into policing, including bursary support for students from Black and ethnically minoritised backgrounds to achieve Level 3 qualifications. Whilst progress is being made, improving workforce representation to better reflect the communities served across the Avon and Somerset area remains a high priority.

Accountability

Independent Custody Visiting (ICV). This programme provides independent assurance of the welfare of people detained in custody, the conditions in which they are held and that their rights and entitlements are being observed. Community volunteers conduct regular unannounced visits of ASP's custody suites and in the last year, these volunteers have conducted over 100 visits.

The ICV scheme drives continuous improvement for conditions in custody by meeting with ASP three times a year and maintains focused scrutiny on areas

highlighted by the inspectorate such as communication following sleeping reviews, the treatment of vulnerable and neurodiverse detainees, children in custody, and detainee transport arrangements, helping to strengthen compliance, transparency and public confidence in custody practice.

Independent Scrutiny of Police Powers Panel (ISoPPP). Community volunteers come together with my office to examine the use of stop and search, use of force including Taser and the use of police body worn video. The ISoPPP has met on a quarterly basis and reviewed 98 cases (5 of which were Special Case Reviews) in the last year. The ISoPPP recently underwent an internal review to challenge how volunteer feedback is captured, analysed and acted upon. A new feedback and reporting process, implemented at the end of 2025, has already resulted in:

- A number of Structured Feedback Exercises (SFEs), where officers will receive reflective feedback on their conduct or decision making in specific reviewed incidents.
- Several items of organisational learning now being fed into training and professional development.
- Recognition of Good Work letters issued to individual officers.

Independent Scrutiny of Police Complaints Panel (ISPCP). Community volunteers come together with my office to examine complaints made against ASP. The ISPCP has met on a quarterly basis and reviewed 104 complaint files in the last year. A key development has been the introduction of an Individual Learning Tracker, ensuring that feedback arising from complaints is provided directly to complaint handlers. ASP's Professional Standards Department is responsible for ensuring organisational learning feedback, including identifying areas for improvement and recognising positive practice. This approach reinforces accountability and provides assurance that learning is actively embedded in practice. The ISPCP also look at performance data and relevant recommendations from HMICFRS such as Police Integrity Inspection. Looking ahead, a new feature of the panel's work from 2026 is the introduction of clearly defined, evidence-based recommendations, aligned to meeting themes. This strengthens the panel's ability to drive targeted improvement and monitor progress over time as part of its ongoing accountability and assurance function.

Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) Scrutiny Panel. Out of Court Disposals (OOCs) enable the police to deal proportionately with low-level offences without recourse to court, delivering swift resolution while maintaining offender accountability. A multi-agency scrutiny panel, comprising criminal justice and victim service partners, meets quarterly to review OOC use. Over the past year, 96 cases were examined, with 20% assessed as inappropriate, primarily highlighting the need to clarify guidance on the use of Outcome 22 (educational interventions). The panel's thematic scrutiny has driven improvements in several areas:

- **Disproportionality:** Strengthened collaboration with the CPS to increase use of Chance to Change deferred prosecutions, including agreed protocols for borderline cases and improved identification of missed opportunities

- **Child focus:** A targeted deep dive responding to inspection findings, enhancing victim focus and supporting the Youth Justice Service inspection framework.
- **Shop theft:** A review of out-of-court versus court disposals, prompted by Magistrates' concerns, to improve consistency and better account for vulnerability, including homelessness.

The panel also reviewed all Community Resolutions for sexual offences and undertook annual scrutiny of conditional cautions relating to domestic abuse and hate crime.

Tackling Disproportionality Independent Scrutiny Board. The OPCC has continued to facilitate this Independent Scrutiny Board, bringing together local experts with lived experience to scrutinise work to deliver recommendations of the Tackling Disproportionality report. The Board has met quarterly to scrutinise programme delivery, data and conducted a deep dives into the following topics:

- Youth justice.
- Workforce representation.
- The role of the Crown Prosecution Service and national research to address disproportionality.
- Impact of the new police Stop & Search Policy.
- The Chance to Change Deferred Prosecution Programme.

The ISB drew on work of the ISOPPP and the OoCR Scrutiny Panels to enhance their scrutiny through the insights of these specialist independent scrutiny panels. The ISB Annual Report will be published in Summer 2026.

Meeting the Strategic Policing Requirement

The Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) defines the most significant national threats to public safety and must be taken into account by Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) when setting Police and Crime Plans. It provides a clear framework linking local policing activity to national priorities, setting out the capabilities, preparedness, and partnerships required to respond effectively.

The current SPR identifies seven national threats: terrorism; serious and organised crime; national cyber incidents; child sexual abuse; public disorder; civil emergencies; and violence against women and girls. While many risks can be addressed locally, these threats often require coordinated, multi-force responses, supported by regional collaborations, national agencies, and wider partners to ensure an effective and resilient policing response.

I have given due regard to the SPR through its integration within Priority 5 of the Police and Crime Plan: improving policing standards. This alignment ensures coherence between national and local priorities and supports the Chief Constable in maintaining the necessary capabilities and appropriate operational readiness. ASP undertakes an annual self-assessment of its preparedness against SPR requirements. This is reviewed through the Constabulary's Management Board

and subsequently scrutinised by me at the Governance and Scrutiny Board to ensure robust oversight and assurance.

3. Additional Priorities

Community cohesion

Maintaining community cohesion in our region faces ongoing challenges driven by international events, social media misinformation, economic pressures, and national issues presenting at a local level. These issues have contributed to recent spikes in hate crime, social disconnection, and renewed protest albeit most of the latter has been lawful and largely peaceful.

Working closely with local authorities, community leaders, and partners, I am actively supporting efforts to address these tensions. There has been a concerning rise in race and religion based hate crime across the Bristol area, alongside anti-immigration protests and counter-demonstrations that have had a significant impact on affected communities. Misinformation – particularly around immigration, exploited at a national level – has further intensified these concerns.

In response, we have prioritised strengthening neighbourhood policing and community engagement. I have contributed to Bristol's strategic coordination group on community cohesion and engaged with other local authorities to support joint working. Alongside policing and civic leaders, we have issued clear, consistent messages condemning hate and discrimination, while ensuring lawful protests are managed proportionately and hate crime is addressed robustly.

This work is complemented by wider partnership activity, including Bristol City Council's Reflections on Community Cohesion report, which sets out long-term, locally driven approaches under the "One City, Many Communities" vision, and the ongoing contribution of organisations such as Stand Against Racism and Inequality (SARI).

While challenges remain, I will continue to work in partnership to strengthen trust, support communities, and address the underlying drivers of tension

Road Safety

Too many people continue to be killed or seriously injured on our roads, while the network is also exploited by criminals. Currently, critical road safety data is fragmented, limiting the ability to respond quickly and effectively.

TORO Roads is a new digital tool that integrates data and insight to enable earlier, more targeted intervention, improve collaboration across police, local authorities and communities, enhance transparency, and reduce administrative demand.

The system supports two key priorities:

- **Road safety:** Identifying high-risk locations and patterns (e.g. speeding, repeat collisions, near misses) to better target enforcement, education and preventative action.
- **Crime prevention:** Enabling identification of high-risk drivers and vehicles linked to criminality, supporting targeted enforcement and strengthening the role of roads policing in wider crime reduction.

Together, this provides a more proactive, intelligence-led approach to preventing harm and tackling crime on the road network. It is being introduced in three phases and will benefit a range of road safety partners:

- Tier One: Secure, police-only application providing enhanced collision data and person/vehicle risk assessment.
- Tier Two: Enables data sharing with local authorities, including collision data, near-miss reports, and community concerns, supported by road risk scoring.
- Tier Three: Public-facing platform offering access to non-sensitive collision data, improving transparency and reducing FOI demand.

Business Crime

Business Crime Plan. Working with ASP, we are developing a business crime plan that will address ways of targeting different strands of business and retail crime. Crimes covered in this area range from cyber crime and fraud to shoplifting, robbery and theft from vehicles. In developing this plan, we are attempting to recognise and reflect the differences for large businesses, high street outlets, retail parks, large shopping malls, and self-employed businesses. We will share details in the next few months. We also host a Business Crime Forum that has brought together local business crime leads with ASP. We are reviewing the operation of the forum as part of the development of the Plan while ensuring local leads continue to be supported.

Operation Anomic. This is a police-led, multi-agency initiative aimed at addressing anti-social behaviour associated with street drinking in Weston-super-Mare town centre. The operation is highly visible and reassurance-focused, with an emphasis on engagement, signposting to support services and partnership working, alongside the proportionate use of police powers where necessary.

Fight Back Against Crime Event. The Bristol Neighbourhood Policing Team co-hosted and I attended the first *Fight Back Against Crime* event in Bristol, held at Cabot Circus. The event brought together a wide range of partners from across the country to share best practice and discuss collaborative solutions to tackle retail crime across Avon and Somerset.

Rural Crime

Rural Crime Forum. The rural crime forum brings together my office with ASP and representatives from the NFU, the Environment Agency and other rural business and community partners. It has met several times during the year and has proved an effective forum for highlighting opportunities for prevention, and supporting the apprehension of criminals targeting rural businesses or communities. The forum has also focussed on information sharing and we are working with ASP to ensure information networks are increasingly compatible.

Operation Aboard. This operation was a complex, cross-border rural crime investigation related to thefts of high value farming equipment across South West England and South Wales between March and November 2025. Led jointly by Avon and Somerset Police and Gwent Police, with support from the Regional

Organised Crime Unit, more than 50 officers executed coordinated warrants on a single day. The Rural Crime Team played a key role in the investigation, providing specialist expertise and producing a community impact statement to reflect the significant harm caused to farming communities. As a result six people have been charged and are due to appear in court in June 2026. Since these arrests, there has been a marked reduction in high value rural thefts, indicating a significant disruption to criminal activity that had affected rural communities for many years.

Operation Shogun. Over the past year, the Rural Crime Team has delivered a series of targeted operations to address hare coursing and poaching. In November 2025, one such operation was carried out in Frome, Somerset, in close partnership with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team, 15 local farmers and gamekeepers, focusing on land surrounding the Mells Estate. The area had experienced a notable increase in poaching, resulting in significant financial and emotional impact on the local rural community. During the operation, the Rural Crime Team used drone technology to identify vulnerable locations and direct officers, while farmers and PCSOs conducted patrols of known poaching hotspots. As a result of this coordinated activity, reported poaching offences in the Mells area reduced by 100%. This outcome demonstrates the effectiveness of proactive, partnership based working and highlights the importance of taking rural crime seriously as a priority that can cause substantial harm if left unaddressed.

Operation Ragwort. A coordinated, multi-agency initiative led by South West Police Forces to target organised rural crime, agricultural equipment theft, poaching, and environmental crimes. Op Ragwort is one of a number of regional policing operations that the five Chief Constables and their Police and Crime Commissioners jointly direct. In June 2026 Avon and Somerset Police coordinated a day of action in South Somerset. Tactics included stop-checks on rural roads and agricultural transport routes to disrupt the movement of stolen machinery, plant equipment, and cloned vehicles; Road Policing officers and DVSA staff were also on hand to check the road worthiness of stopped vehicles. Two men were arrested and stolen vehicles, suspected cloned parts, drugs, and high-value watches seized. The men, aged 20 and 25, were arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to steal; one also for possession of Class B drugs, and the other for possession with intent to supply and driving while disqualified. Four additional men were arrested for related offences and will attend voluntary interviews.

4. List of Annexes

1. Performance data.
2. Summary of Grants Issued and Commissioned Activity in 2025/26.
3. Ministry of Justice General Funding 2025/26 £1,907,792.90 – DA/SV/IDVA/ISVA Uplift (the below includes £95,486.64 of OPCC funding)
4. Glossary of Terms.

Annex 1 – Performance data

Overarching measures

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	Sparkline	Trend	Performance range
Decrease in the percentage of people who are victims of crime (CSEW)	11.1%	14.0%	14.6%		↑	→ ←
Recorded crime	150,629	168,148	174,749		↑	↑
Recorded harm	1,112,593	1,114,860	1,167,254		↑	↑
Increased public confidence in police (local survey)	63.0%	62.2%	59.0%		↓	→ ←
Increased public confidence in police (CSEW)	65.6%	67.7%	69.9%		↑	→ ←
Increased feelings of safety - during the day (local survey)	96.1%	96.4%	95.0%		↓	↓
Increased feelings of safety - after dark (local survey)	71.4%	70.7%	68.9%		↓	↓

Priority 1

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	Sparkline	Trend	Performance range
Recorded crime - hate crime	4,943	5,879	6,664		↑	↑
Decrease in proportion of people estimated to have experienced or witnessed ASB (CSEW)	38.6%	39.0%	44.5%		↑	→ ←
Recorded ASB incidents	73,062	75,426	81,727		↑	↑
Increased victim satisfaction - ASB	74.4%	72.8%	67.3%		↓	↓

Priority 2

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	Sparkline	Trend	Performance range
Increased public confidence in police from females (local survey)	63.1%	62.3%	59.2%		↓	→ ←
Recorded knife crime	1,590	1,562	1,659		↔	→ ←
Increased positive outcome rate for MVAWG	9.3%	8.6%	8.5%		↓	→ ←
Increased positive outcome rate for serious youth violence	18.5%	16.4%	18.1%		↔	→ ←
Increase in recorded MVAWG crime	35,601	39,661	41,623		↑	↑

Priority 3

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	Sparkline	Trend	Performance range
Decrease in proportion of offenders who reoffend	24.9%	27.0%	27.0%	None	↑	N/A
Decrease in average number of reoffences per reoffender	3.9	4.0	5.2	None	↑	N/A
Increase in drug trafficking recorded crime	506	597	1,419		↑	↑
Decrease in the number of collisions that involved death or serious injury	435	453	809		↑	↑
Increase the proportion of crime outcomes that are Out of Court Resolutions	3.3%	2.6%	2.3%		↓	↓

Priority 4

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	Sparkline	Trend	Performance range
Increased victim satisfaction - all	68.2%	68.0%	63.8%		↓	↓
Increased victim satisfaction - burglary	58.6%	64.1%	59.7%		↑	↔
Increased victim satisfaction - hate crime	68.7%	72.2%	55.4%		↓	↓
Increased victim satisfaction - violent crime	68.2%	65.2%	60.0%		↓	↓

Priority 5

Key Performance Indicator	2024	2025	2026	Sparkline	Trend	Performance range
Increase in agreement that the police would treat you with respect (CSEW)	80.2%	83.6%	85.6%		↑	↑
Increase in agreement that the police would treat you fairly (CSEW)	55.6%	64.3%	56.3%		↔	↔
Increase in agreement that police are doing an excellent or good job (CSEW)	46.4%	49.9%	56.2%		↑	↔
Increase in agreement that police can be relied on when needed (CSEW)	45.8%	48.4%	52.4%		↑	↔
Increase in agreement of happiness at work	65.5%	62.4%	62.3%	None	↓	N/A
Increased employee engagement rate	58.2%	55.5%	53.9%	None	↓	N/A
Reduced disproportionality in Stop and Search - Asian ethnicity	1.4	1.4	1.6		↔	↑
Reduced disproportionality in Stop and Search - Black ethnicity	6.8	6.8	7.1		↑	↑
Reduced disproportionality in Stop and Search - Mixed ethnicity	3.2	3.1	2.5		↓	↔
Reduced disproportionality in Stop and Search - Other ethnicity	2.7	3.1	3.1		↑	↔
Reduced disproportionality in Use of Force - Asian ethnicity	0.6	0.8	0.8		↑	↔
Reduced disproportionality in Use of Force - Black ethnicity	4.3	4.4	4.0		↓	↔
Reduced disproportionality in Use of Force - Mixed ethnicity	1.2	1.5	1.6		↑	↑
Reduced disproportionality in Use of Force - Other ethnicity	0.9	1.4	1.3		↑	↑
Increased workforce representation - Asian ethnicity	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%		↔	↑
Increased workforce representation - Black ethnicity	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%		↔	↑
Increased workforce representation - Mixed ethnicity	2.0%	1.9%	2.0%		↔	↔
Increased workforce representation - Other ethnicity	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%		↓	↓
Increased agreement with 'the force respects individual differences'	68.8%	65.4%	63.0%	None	↓	N/A
Increased positive outcome rate	11.2%	10.4%	11.4%		↔	↔

Positive outcomes

	Number of positive outcomes				
Crime type	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar-26	Trend	Performance range
All crime	16,312	17,184	19,796	↑	↑
Victim-based crime	12,547	13,462	15,548	↑	↑
MVAWG	3,168	3,342	3,527	↔	↑
Serious youth violence	306	293	346	↔	↑
Drug trafficking	317	352	373	↑	↑
Residential burglary	216	225	250	↔	→←
Vehicle offences	241	301	330	↑	↑
Robbery - personal	98	108	153	↑	↑
Theft from the person	17	6	9	↓	→←
Shoplifting	2,469	2,920	4,190	↑	↑
Robbery - business	109	191	296	↑	↑

Positive outcome rate				
Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar-26	Trend	Performance range
11.2%	10.4%	11.4%	↔	→←
9.3%	8.8%	9.7%	↔	→←
9.3%	8.6%	8.5%	↓	→←
18.5%	16.4%	18.1%	↔	→←
72.2%	54.5%	26.8%	↓	↓
5.3%	5.0%	5.4%	↔	→←
2.5%	3.0%	3.6%	↑	↑
7.1%	7.6%	10.2%	↑	↑
1.9%	0.8%	1.3%	↔	→←
16.2%	16.1%	24.1%	↑	↑
16.1%	17.3%	22.0%	↑	↑

Annex 2 – Summary of Grants Issued and Commissioned Activity in 2025/26

Grant	Recipient	Service / Project
Lighthouse Integrated Victim Care £890,333.78 (approximately 12% of the total Lighthouse budget)	Avon and Somerset Police who contribute the other 88%	Victims who are vulnerable, intimidated, persistently targeted or experience serious crime are offered practical and emotional support and guided through the criminal justice process by specially-trained staff. The service has teams made up of both police staff and independent support workers and volunteers.
Adult Support Service & ASB Support Service £708,395.15	Victim Support	Emotional and practical support for victims of crime and ASB.
Children and Young People Support Service & ASB Support Service – Young Victims' Service £240,246.65	North Somerset Youth Offending Team	A specialist advocacy support service for victims of crime and ASB up to the age of 18 and victims of crime and ASB aged 18-25 where additional needs are identified.
Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) Service £380,776.97 (plus £135,999 from NHS England and £50,103 from Bristol City Council)	Safelink	A service that offers advice and practical and emotional support including a safe place to talk, access to counselling, support attending Sexual Health Services and help with medical attention. They provide support for all people, irrespective of age or gender, who have been victims of rape and sexual abuse. They also can help with supporting the family and practical problems such as help with housing, benefits, and employers.
Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) – The Bridge £276,299 (NHS England led contract with contribution from NHS England and Avon and Somerset Police)	University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust	Specialist medical, forensic, practical and emotional support for anyone who has been raped or sexually assaulted. Available both to those who report to the Police and those who do not. Includes specialist paediatric support.
Sexual Assault and Abuse Therapies Service (SAAS) £129,961.22 Annual contribution	Led by NHS England	Specialist therapeutic services for survivors of sexual assault and abuse of any age, provided by an Alliance led by SARSAS with The Greenhouse, Southmead Project, and Womankind.
Victims of Exploitation Services £238,220	Contribution to the exploitation services commissioned by five Local Authorities	The OPCC contributes towards individual Local Authority specialist support to victims of child exploitation. Each Local Authority has developed a tailored local area service provision. These services provide a mixture of statutory and preventative provision that sit within multi-agency teams up until the age of 18 years. Within Bristol for Young People and families who are at risk or who have experienced high level of extra-familial harm (inc. radicalisation). The service will respond to those up to the age of 25.
Supported Accommodation (£163,598 funded by Somerset Council and Probation Service – no contribution from OPCC)	Julian House	Delivering housing support in accommodation for people leaving prison, people on probation or managed via the Integrated Offender (IOM) Scheme, with a local connection to Somerset.
Modern Slavery Support Service £30,862.94	Unseen UK	Specialist support service for victims of modern slavery before engaging in nationally commissioned services as well as the period after that support ends. Available both to those who report to the police and those who do not.
Emergency Services Mental Health Triage (EST) £135,193 (plus contributions from Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and Avon Fire)	Avon and Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust (AWP)	Funding for mental health professionals to provide specialist mental health advice to the police. This service is co-located with health partners in the ambulance control room. They have access to relevant health systems, offering advice and support to police officers

Grant	Recipient	Service / Project
and Rescue Service – BNSSG ICB is the Lead Commissioner)		and partner agencies such as Avon Fire and Rescue Service and South West Ambulance Service Trust with a view to ensuring suitable pathways are identified at the earliest opportunity.
Addictions Driven Prolific Shoplifter Pilot £17,500	North Somerset Council	Delivery of an addictions driven prolific shoplifter pilot in order to reduce retail theft and associated losses, improve treatment uptake and completion, reduce unnecessary police deployment, custody events, A&E use and court activity, as well provide a model for Somerset wide expansion and potential longer-term commissioning.
Police and Crime Grant £697,642	Individual grants issued to the five Community Safety Partnerships	Supporting various Community Safety projects which contribute towards delivery of the PCC's priorities.
Integrated Non-Custodial Service (INCS) £581,092 (plus investment from NHS England who are the lead commissioner)	AWP	Service supporting individuals at the point of arrest whose offending is linked to substance or alcohol misuse.
Appropriate Adults Service £78,520.36 (plus contributions from the 5 local authorities totalling £73,650.90)	The Appropriate Adult Service (TAAS)	Service to support and safeguard the welfare and rights of vulnerable adults detained or interviewed by the police.
Tackling Youth Violence and Exploitation £38,887 PCC's reserve fund	Grants issued to the three local authorities (Bath & North East Somerset, Somerset and South Glos)	Grant funding to support tackling Youth Violence and Exploitation.
Violence Reduction Unit/ Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) £1,353,231 Home Office funded + £34,960 PCC's reserve fund	Grants issued to the five local authorities	Multi-agency work, using a public health approach, to tackle serious violence. Funding is allocated on basis of an agreed funding formula. A range of posts and interventions are funded which work with young people, parents/carers and professionals to prevent and reduce serious violence.
Violence Reduction Unit/VRP £352,011.61 Home Office Funded	VRP Hub	OPCC centrally retained funding to deliver the VRP Hub strategic co-ordination and grant management functions across Avon and Somerset. Includes staffing costs, branding/communications, meeting/conference costs and Evaluation.
Serious Violence Duty £109,712.80 Home Office Funded	Grants issued to the five local authorities	Funding to support introduction of new statutory Serious Violence Duty. This funding contributes to staffing costs and interventions working with young people, parents/carers and professionals to prevent and reduce serious violence.
Serious Violence Duty £15,000 Home Office Funded	VRP Hub	OPCC centrally retained funding for VRP Hub staffing costs to support introduction of new statutory Serious Violence Duty.
Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Interventions – DRIVE £575,993.45 (Home Office Funding £575,993.45 + Local Authority contributions from Bristol, South Glos and North Somerset £123,000)	Cranstoun Ltd, NextLink, SafeLives and Skills for Justice (Evaluation)	A specialist domestic abuse perpetrator programme for the most prolific and high-harm offenders. Running across South Glos / Bristol and North Somerset. Includes specialist IDVA recruitment to support victims of perpetrators.

Grant	Recipient	Service / Project
Hotspot Response £64,445.89 Home Office Funded	OPCC	OPCC Staffing costs associated with managing this grant.
Hotspot Response £1,255,907.02 Home Office Funded	Avon and Somerset Police	Hotspot Patrol Activity and analytical capability costs.
Hotspot Response/ Hyperlocal £544,960.09 Home Office Funded	Various Providers and Four Local Authorities	Avon and Somerset Police/ Bath & North East Somerset Council/ Bristol City Council/ North Somerset Council/ Somerset Council/ Wesport/ Somerset Community Foundation Problem Orientated Policing initiatives in hotspots.
Local Integration of Women's Services £119,641 Ministry of Justice Funded	The Nelson Trust	The aim of a Whole System Approach is to assess the needs of women at risk of or in contact with the justice system at the earliest opportunity and to provide gender responsive, co-ordinated multi-agency support to divert her away from offending or reoffending. This funding has created a role to understand the ability for this to happen locally in Avon and Somerset.
Ministry of Justice Strategic Commissioning Fund £37,008.50	<i>Various</i>	Non-Fatal Strangulation Campaign and delivery of training sessions £19,960. Victim Care Website Re-design and Lived Experience work £14,389. Lone Working Apps £2,659.50.
Ministry of Justice domestic abuse and sexual violence victims uplift 2025/26 funding – DA/SV/IDVA/ISVA Uplift £1,907,792.90 + £95,486.64 (funded by the OPCC)	<i>Various</i>	<i>See Annex 3</i>
Total	£10,910,080.97	

Please note the 2023/24 MoJ Victims Commissioning Core (formula based) Grant Funding provided was £1,920,872.07 and part funded some of the above victims services.

Annex 3 – Ministry of Justice General Funding 2025/26 £1,907,792.90 – DA/SV/IDVA/ISVA Uplift (the below includes £95,486.64 of OPCC funding)

Provider	Amount
SafeLink - ISVA	£520,776.90
Bristol City Council/North Somerset Council/South Glos Council (NextLink) - IDVA	£739,069.80
BANES Council (Southside) – IDVA	£76,662.50
BANES Council (Julian House) – IDVA	£35,798.46
Somerset Council (You Trust) – IDVA	£115,759.35
The Green House/ Somerset Phoenix Project – DA/SV	£67,357.92
WomanKind – DA/SV	£43,002.75
Somerset and Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support (SARSAS) – DA/SV	£84,525
ManKind Initiative – DA/SV	£8,400
Southmead Project – DA/SV	£30,377.87
Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) – DA/SV	£16,537.50
Southside Family Project – DA/SV	£22,727.25
Opoka – DA/SV	£19,425
Voices – DA/SV	£21,000
North Somerset Council - Young Victims Service – DA/SV	£47,250
Victim Support – DA/SV	£20,605.72
NextLink – DA/SV	£27,101.76
SafeLink – DA/SV	£27,101.76
Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS)/ Reclaim – DA/SV	£39,900
The Nelson Trust – DA/SV	£19,950
1625 Independent People – DA/SV	£19,950
Total	£2,003,279.54

Annex 4 – Glossary

APCC	Association of Police and Crime Commissioners: a national body that supports PCCs.
ASB	Anti-social behaviour is behaviour which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person; or behaviour capable of causing nuisance or annoyance.
ASP	Avon & Somerset Police
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
CSEW	Crime Survey for England and Wales
Cyber crime	Cyber crime can be put into two distinct categories. Cyber-dependent – crimes that can be committed only through the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) devices, where the devices are both the tool for committing the crime, and the target of the crime. For example developing and propagating malware for financial gain or hacking to steal. Cyber-enabled – traditional crimes which can be increased in scale or reach by the use of ICT. This is where fraud and cyber crime significantly overlap.
Disproportionality of the use of police powers	This looks at the number of people subject to the power, in each of the five ethnic groups, and then compares this to the total resident population of that ethnic group in Avon and Somerset (based on 2021 Census data) to give a 'rate'. The disproportionality figure displayed is the ratio of how many times more a person, who is Other than White, has had the power used against them compared with White people. An important point of note is that between 2011 and 2021 the number of people who are White grew at a smaller rate than other ethnic groups. If these growth rates have continued in the same way then the disproportionality figures would be slightly smaller than they are when comparing to the 2021 census data.
Hate crime	A crime where the offender has either demonstrated or been motivated by hostility based on a person's race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or transgender identity.
HMICFRS	His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services
Local authorities	There are five local authorities in Avon and Somerset: Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset, South Gloucestershire.
(M)VAWG	Male violence against women and girls (known nationally just as VAWG)
OPCC	Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
Positive outcome rate	Positive outcomes are counted as Home Office defined outcomes 1-4, 6-8 and 22 which are: charge/summons, cautions/conditional cautions for youths or adults, offences taken into consideration, penalty notice for disorder (PND), cannabis/khat warning, community resolution or diversionary, educational or intervention activity. The rate is the percentage of all outcomes which are positive.
Public confidence	This is measured by either a local survey or the CSEW.
Rural crime	any crime occurring in a rural area which directly or indirectly affects a farming or rural business or the rural communities. Rural means a close association with or dependence upon the land within that location.
Victim-based crime	The majority of crimes are "victim-based" but state offences, such as drug crime, do not count.
Victim satisfaction	As measured by a local telephone survey of a sample of victims of ASB, burglary, hate crime and violent crime.

MORE INFORMATION



For the full report and an interactive version visit www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk

Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner

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