AVON & SOMERSET POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

# Performance Report

## Quarter ending March 2026 (Q4 2025/26)

## National Police and Crime Measures (Priorities for Policing)

## Contribution of Avon and Somerset Police

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# Glossary

**4P** – prepare, prevent, protect, pursue – a nationally recognised policing strategy for dealing with crime.

**Action Fraud now Report Fraud** – is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where victims should report fraud. They also provide the Report Fraud Victim Service which offers dedicated, and specialist help to victims of cyber crime and fraud. The service is run by the City of London Police.

**ASP** – Avon and Somerset Police

**Charge** – the formal accusation of an offence, put to a suspect after an initial investigation; this is the start of the prosecution and they will then have to appear at court. The police can make the decision to charge in less serious offences where the case would be dealt with at Magistrates Court.

**Clear Hold Build** – a framework for bringing the tackling of serious and organised crime threats into neighbourhood policing. It also involves partners and the community in delivering and sustaining reductions in serious organised crime and related crime. It combines enforcement activity ("Clear"), sustained visible policing and partnership presence ("Hold"), and long-term community resilience and problem solving ("Build").

**County lines** – is a term used when drug gangs from big cities expand their operations to smaller towns, often using violence to drive out local dealers and exploiting children and vulnerable people to sell drugs. These dealers will use dedicated mobile phone lines, known as 'deal lines', to take orders from drug users.

**Domestic abuse** – is where a person is abusive towards another, they are personally connected and are 16 years of age or older.

**Drug trafficking** – these are drug offences, other than simple possession offences, such as drug supply.

**MSG** – Most similar groups. These are groups of police forces that have been found to be the most similar to each other based on an analysis of demographic, social and economic characteristics which relate to crime. They are designated by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Fire & Rescue Service (HMICFRS). The forces 'most similar' to Avon & Somerset are Derbyshire, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Staffordshire and Sussex.

**NFIB** – National Fraud Intelligence Bureau

**Neighbourhood Crime** – defined in the national Beating Crime Plan 2021 as vehicle-related theft, domestic burglary, theft from the person and robbery of personal property.

**Operation Soteria Bluestone** – transforming the response to, and investigation of, Rape and Serious Sexual Offences to be victim-centred, suspect-focused and context-led.

**Problem-Solving Plan** – an approach which assumes that identifying and understanding the root causes of a problem – or conditions that allow it to continue – leads to an effective solution.

**RASSO** – rape and serious sexual offences.

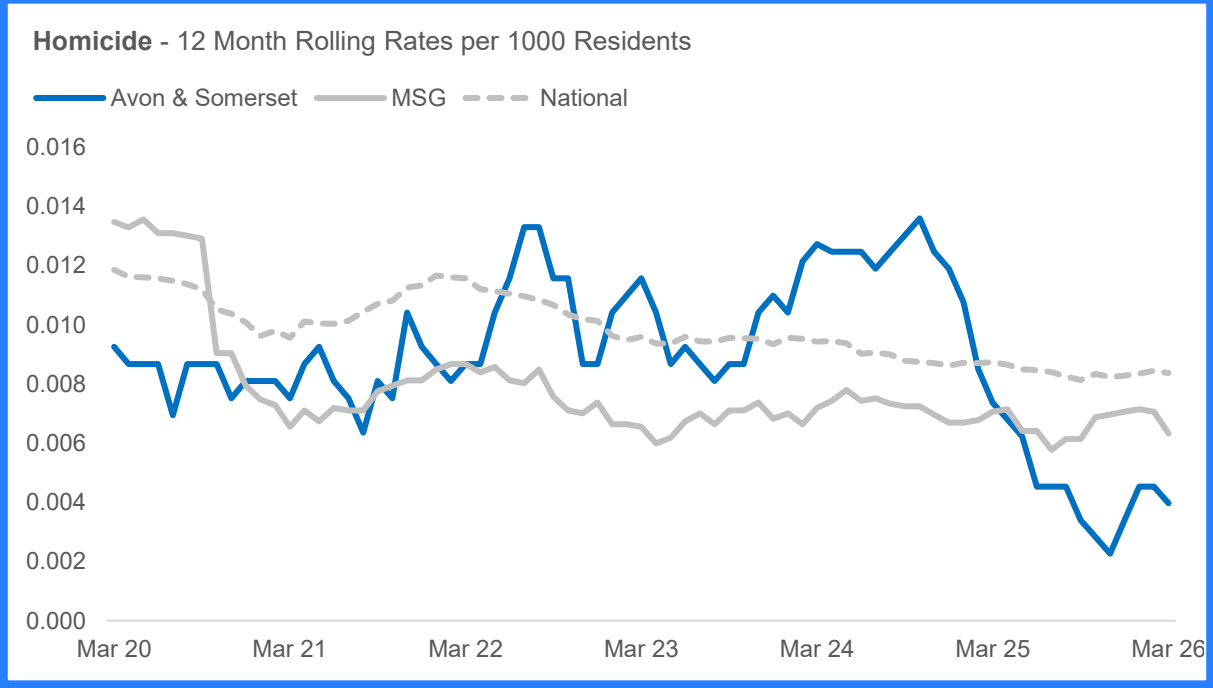
**Serious violence** – defined nationally these are offences that result in the death of a person, "endanger life" or "wounding offences".

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# Reduce Murder and Other Homicide

## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| Police recorded homicide offences | Stable | 2nd/8 MSG (below MSG average rates) |




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Refreshed Homicide Reduction Plan in place based on the 4Ps. This contains 18 areas of activity including below.
2. Serious Violence Strategic Meeting provides governance and direction of this work.
3. Homicide Prevention Reviews continue to be undertaken for all homicides (unless there is some other statutory review) and 'near-miss' cases, identify learning and making recommendations.
4. Other activity undertaken by ASP are vital in homicide reduction such as reducing domestic abuse, knife crime, organised crime, and through more effective management of offenders and mental illness.
5. Work undertaken to prevent serious violence (see below) should also support prevention of homicide as these are not distinct and isolated issues.

## Comments

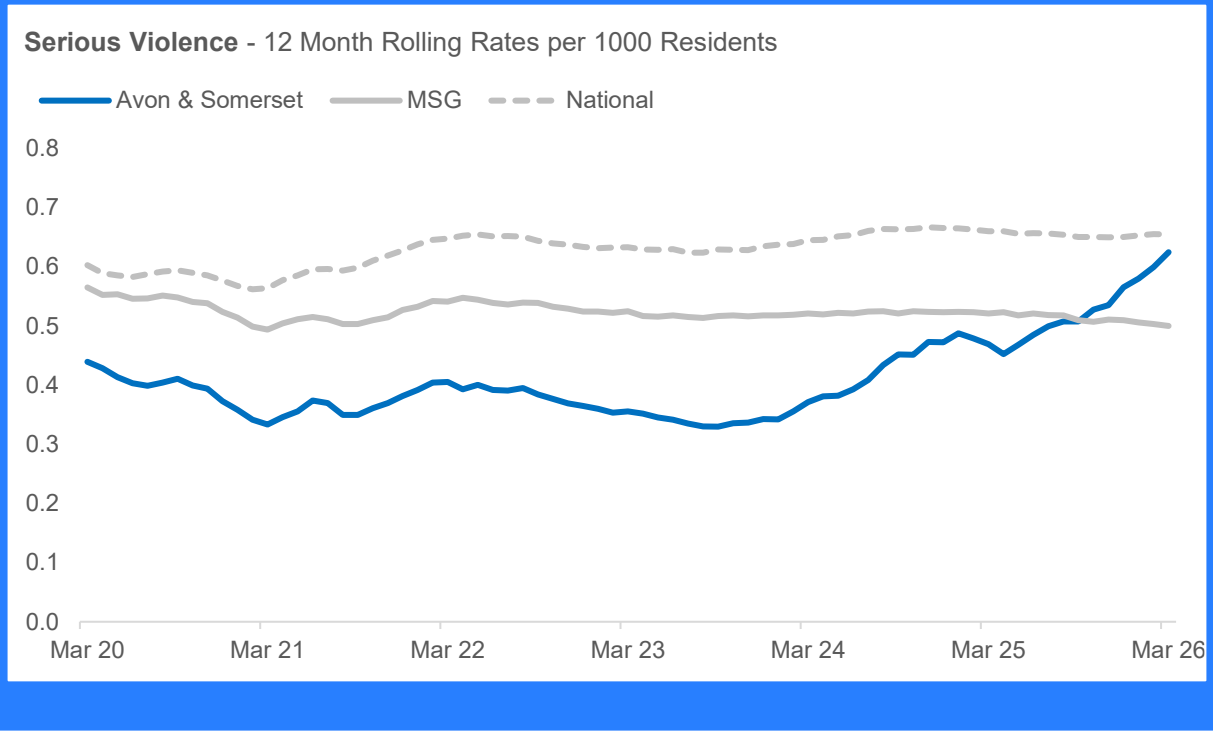
1. In the year ending March 2026 there were 7 homicides in Avon and Somerset.

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# Reduce Serious Violence

## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| Police recorded serious violence offences | Increasing | 7th/8 MSG (above MSG average rates) |




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. ASP SOC Forum being introduced to:
   - ensure accurate threat/risk oversight through governance. It will support evidence-based resource prioritisation and multi-agency coordination.
   - Strengthen accountability for Lead Responsible Officers' 7 4P plans.
   - Improve cross-department coordination across all SOC-related functions.
   - Provide a dedicated space for scrutiny, learning and best practice beyond BCU Tasking capacity.
2. Implement new OCG management policy to increase accountability and accurate mapping.
3. In alignment with the Serious Violence Strategy, a 4P plan has been developed to address serious organised crime and OCG management.
4. Initiate VRP Delivery Plan that has now been signed-off by Home Office.
5. VRP to commence roll-out of 35 interventions with a predicted reach of over 20,000 children & young people.
6. Continuing to pilot government's Young Futures Prevention Panels in Somerset and North Somerset.

## Comments

1. In the year ending March 2026 there were 1,102 serious violence crimes recorded in Avon & Somerset.
2. The last two years have seen a significant increase: this is believed to be due to improved crime recording.

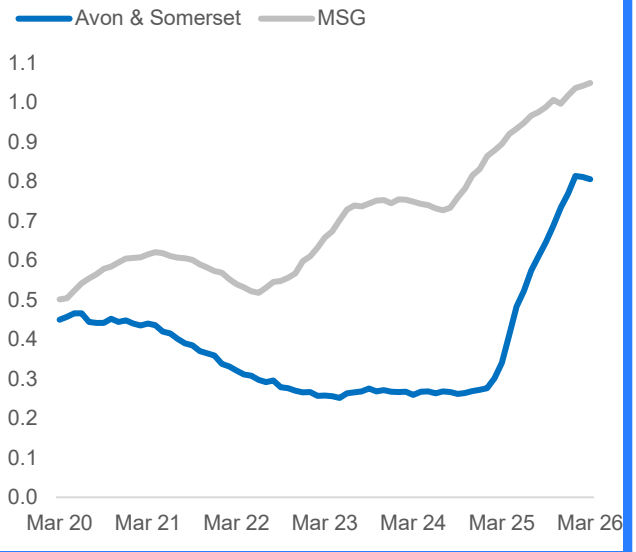
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# Disrupt Drugs Supply and County Lines

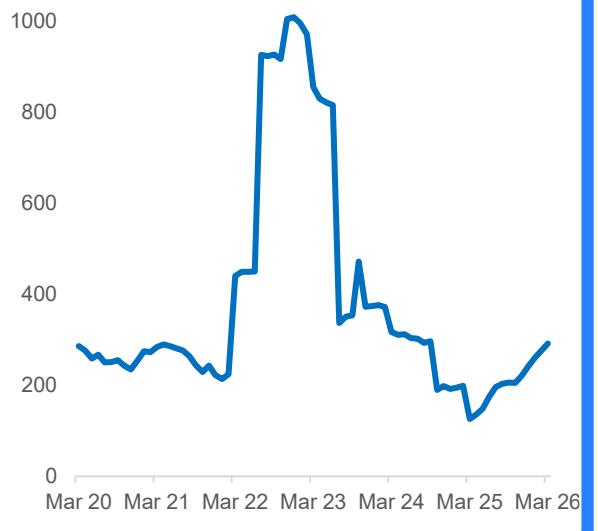
## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| Number of drug trafficking offences | Stable | 7th/8 MSG (below MSG average rates) |
| Number of drugs disruptions | Stable | Not available |

**Drug Trafficking Crime -**
12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents




**Drugs Disruptions -**
12 Month Rolling




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Avon & Somerset Constabulary employ a 4P, intelligence led approach, working through local and regional tasking processes including:
2. Detailed attribution of deal lines through telecoms and bulk messaging analysis, and development of evidential packages for targeted enforcement and disruption.
3. Disruption of locations used for drug supply (including cuckooed addresses), as well as targeted covert investigations against identified Organised Crime Groups supplying drugs at wholesale level.
4. Working with partner agencies to identify and protect exploited children and vulnerable adults linked to County Lines.
5. Delivery of prevention operations focusing on schools, hotels, taxis, vapes, fast parcels, and public awareness materials to disrupt supply routes and exploitation opportunities.
6. Implementation of the Clear Hold Build framework in priority neighbourhoods.
7. Active response to adulterated or contaminated drug supply, including rapid intelligence development, early warning dissemination to partners, health services, and communities, and targeted enforcement against identified supply chains.

## Comments

1. In the year ending March 2026, ASP recorded 1,421 drug trafficking offences. ASP have identified and corrected a crime recording issue which explains the large increase in the last year.
2. In the year ending March 2026, ASP recorded 292 drug disruptions.

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# Reduce Neighbourhood Crime

## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| Police recorded residential burglary offences | Stable | 8th/8 MSG (above MSG average rate) |
| Police recorded vehicle crime offences | Stable | 7th/8 MSG (above MSG average rate) |
| Police recorded personal robbery offences | Increasing | 8th/8 MSG (above MSG average rate) |
| Police recorded theft from the person offences | Stable | 2nd/8 MSG (below MSG average rate) |




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. ASB Plan agreed with PCC and published: setting a 5-year approach to reduce ASB and tackle neighbourhood crime through problem solving, case reviews, and risk assessment.
2. Neighbourhood Tasking Teams (NTTs) providing a proactive capability in Neighbourhood Policing.
3. Embed new Problem-Solving Plan (PSP) approach supported by a refreshed Problem-Solving Team and enhance management and governance.
4. Business crime strategy being developed.
5. Continued high-visibility patrols in town centres, building on Safer Summer Streets/Winter of Action.
6. Op Anomic model shared across two further areas as best practice for tackling theft, crime, and ASB.

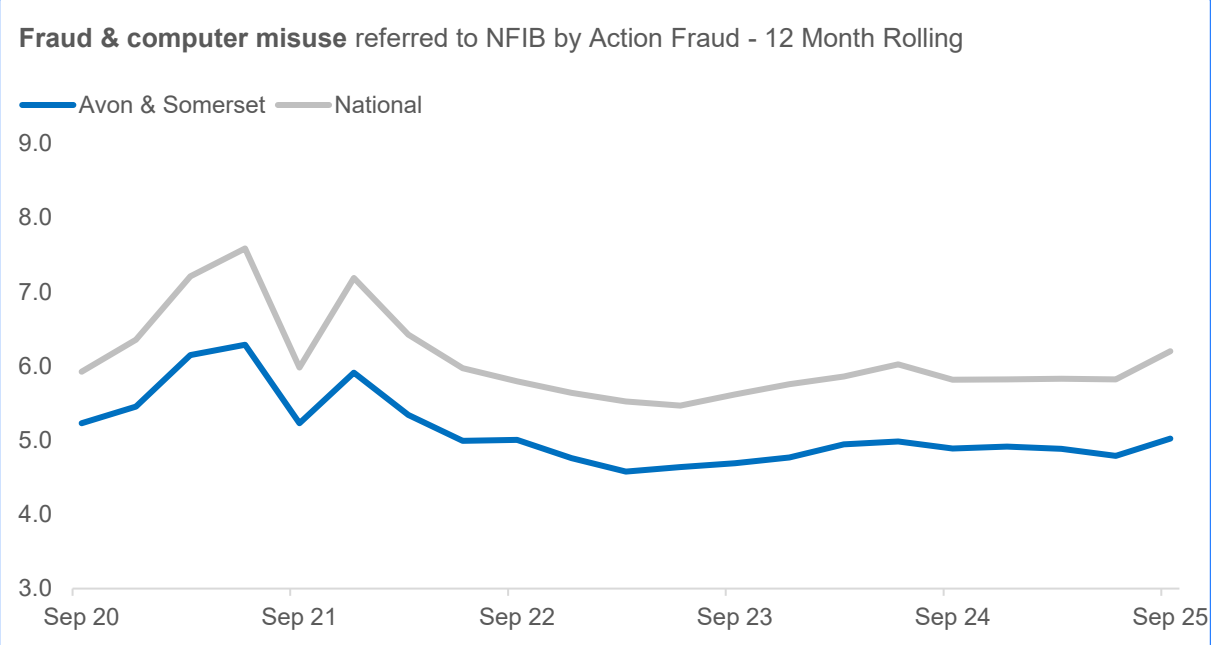
## Comments

1. In the year ending March 2026, the number of crimes recorded in Avon & Somerset were:
   - Residential burglary – 4,756
   - Vehicle offences – 9,162*
   - Personal robbery – 1,534
   - Theft from the person – 719
2. Recorded neighbourhood crimes saw reductions during the COVID-19 lockdown period but have started to increase again since then.
3. *A crime recording issue in the most recent year is likely to have made the number of vehicle offences appear lower than it should be.

# Tackle Cybercrime

## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| Action Fraud Offences | Decreasing | Below national rates |




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Business leads for Söze Programme are developing training programme for the roll out to all CID staff.
2. All Digital Media Advisors (DMAs) have now been embedded into their respective CID teams. Line managers have been informed of the responsibilities and core functions of the DMA role; Cyber Supervisors will maintain monthly check-ins with DMA and line managers to identify any improvements that could be made in the process.
3. Increased training and capability of Cyber team in specialist functions where demand is increasing.
4. Cyber Team developing interactive sessions at UWE to provide student officers with core digital investigation skills to build confidence in digital processes and strengthen the force's capability in an increasingly tech-driven environment.
5. Testing of an automated Niche robot that flags stalking cases involving fear of violence and prompts investigators to consider Cyber Team engagement was successful. Being expanded to all stalking cases.

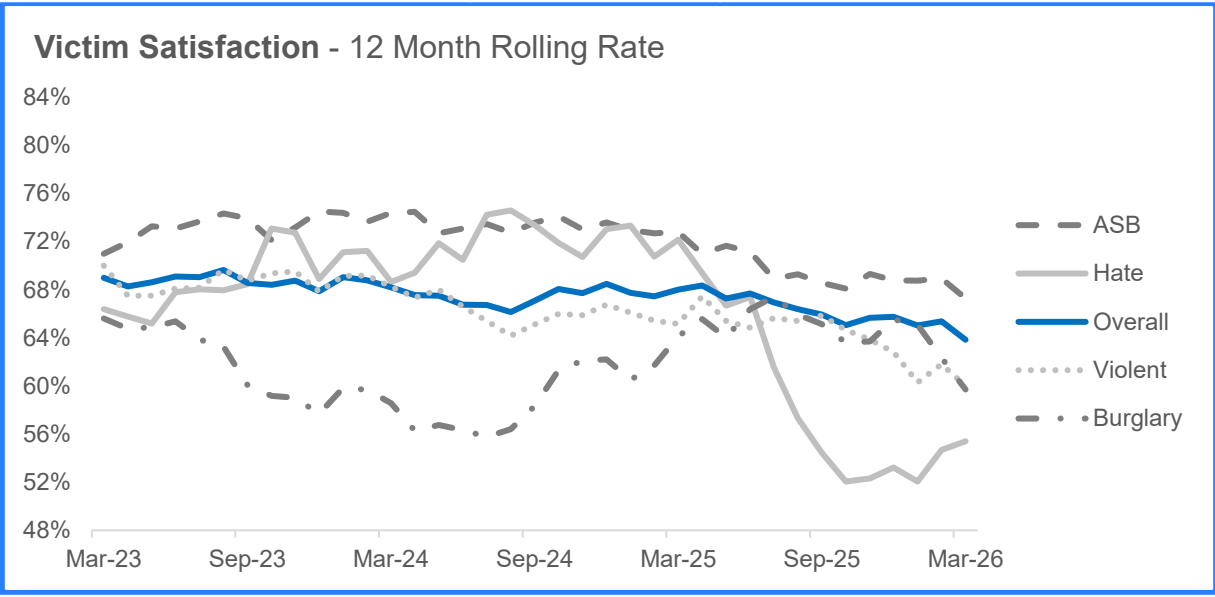
## Comments

1. A new national fraud and cybercrime reporting system, Report Fraud, was launched in December 2025 to replace Action Fraud and the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB). During the transition period recorded cybercrime and fraud data is not being provided.

# Improve Victim Satisfaction, with a Focus on Victims of Domestic Abuse

## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| ASB victim satisfaction rate | Reducing | Not available |
| Hate crime victim satisfaction rate | Stable | Not available |
| Overall victim satisfaction rate | Reducing | Not available |
| Violent crime victim satisfaction rate | Reducing | Not available |
| Burglary victim satisfaction rate | Stable | Not available |




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Due to link between football tournaments and DA a 4P plan has been developed to strengthen the response during the FIFA Men's Football World Cup. Includes temporary Op Balearic where an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor attends calls with officers.

2. DA Single Points of Contact in each BCU looking at continuous improvement opportunities e.g. DA car, allocation Sergeant.

3. Trial of new Crime Management Unit. CMU will improve allocation decisions, so victims receive the right service, and investigations occur in the right area.

4. Continued improvement work in relation to Domestic Violence Protection Notice scheme which has seen an increase of 65% in Q4 this year compared to Q4 last year.

## Comments

1. There is no existing domestic abuse victim satisfaction survey currently in place in Avon and Somerset.

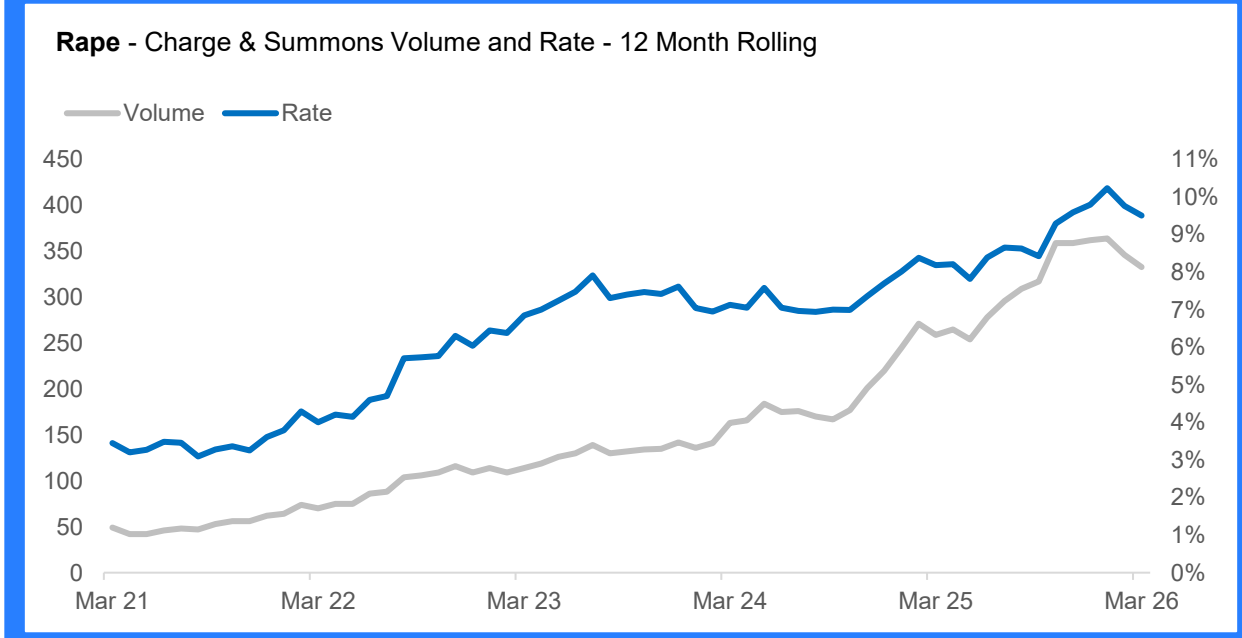
2. Victim satisfaction for year ending March 2026:
- ASB – 67.3%
- Hate – 55.4%
- Overall – 63.8%
- Violent – 60.0%
- Burglary – 59.7%

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# Better Criminal Justice Outcomes for Rape Cases

## Measures Summary

| Local Measures | Trend / Outlook | Benchmark |
|---|---|---|
| Charge volumes for rape offences | Increasing | Not applicable |
| Charge rate for rape offences | Increasing | 5th/8 MSG (similar to MSG average rates) |




## Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Training plan for all CID staff to Specialist Sexual Assault Investigators Development Programme within 3 years.
2. Justitia Pilot final results expected by end of quarter 1. This pilot works with an external expert to help ensure effective interview techniques and the ability to maximise the amount of RASSO relevant evidence (RRI) elicited in Early findings show it is effective in many interviews. Links to the wider review of ABE interviewing and skills.
3. New collaboration with Courts listing team, CPS and ISVA service to improve case progression, ensuring victim voice is represented, and prioritising where risk is identified.
4. Local implementation of the national Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and Action Plan.

## Comments

1. There has been a sustained improvement in charge and summons, since the end of 2021, because of Bluestone/Soteria.
2. Increases in the volume of rape offences recorded and finalised by ASP attributable to improved crime recording. In the year ending March 2026 333 charges was a rate of 9.5%.
3. In 2025 117 ASP rape cases appeared at Crown Court for trial, of which 48 (41%) resulted in conviction.