

# COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE 2018/19

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MARCH 2019



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### KEY FINDINGS

The aim of this document is to provide the East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership with the most up to date evidence in order to set strategic priorities for the forthcoming year and aid in producing an action plan to address those priorities. It should be noted that this report is unable to report local police data as robustly as in previous years due to the introduction of Athena and the associated quality assurance process delaying release of data to partners. However, both national data and input from lead officers within the constabulary and other statutory agencies have informed this document, as well as the recommended partnership datasets<sup>1</sup>.

Whilst current restrictions in access to police recorded data make it difficult for the partnership to fully understand violent crime locally, there have been noted national increases in some subsets of violence. These increases have also been evidenced through health data locally and this should be addressed with reference to the new National Violence Strategy.

While the volume of police recorded Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is in general decline across the district, there is persistent levels of youth ASB incidents of the 'Nuisance' classification in certain locations across East Cambridgeshire. It is important that the partnership acknowledge those areas of high volume and in particular, recent increases in Littleport.

East Cambridgeshire saw a significant increase in both the number of deliberate and accidental fires in the past year. Littleport West ward experienced the most fires in total in 2018 (22), an increase of 57.1% from 2017. Over one-fifth (21.3%) of all deliberate fires in East Cambridgeshire occurred in Littleport East & West wards. This increase in fires was seen in other areas across the County.

A briefing on Modern Slavery that was delivered to ECCSP in 2018/19 supported the need to enhance knowledge and intelligence regarding this issue locally. The partnership has taken some of the key findings within this briefing forward within their draft action plan and it is important that the partnership continues to develop this through 2019/20.

Analysis has showed an increase in the number of recorded Domestic Abuse incidents between 2016/17 (769) and 2017/18 (871) across the district. However the volume remains in line with the year before – 2015/16 (877).

There is an overlap of priorities across local partners (as can be seen in table 1) in particular on two areas

- The need to support those most vulnerable individuals, where potential harm is high,
- Focusing on those geographical areas of high volume incidents, where the cumulative impact is highest.

Given that some of this work is co-ordinated and/ or delivered at a County level through the existing delivery groups, this Partnership should be mindful of taking on actions that add value over and above that which is already in process.

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<sup>1</sup>Home Office, CSP guidance

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100408115503/http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/regions/regions00.htm>

The partnership has worked hard over the last twelve months to develop a draft action plan for existing and on-going activity. There are a number of opportunities within this to develop community awareness around specific issues raised within this strategic assessment, where this awareness across the partnership or community may be currently limited. There also remains some new and emerging issues, such as County Lines, which need to be understood in greater detail with support of the East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership (ECCSP).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the key findings of this document it is recommended that the partnership work to two overarching priorities over the course of the three year plan. The partnership should also note the thematic recommendations for potential delivery throughout this document that can help guide the 2019/20 action plan. The overarching priorities for the partnership should be:

### **1) Working to tackle local issues of high harm.**

- The partnership should investigate whether the noted national increases in violent crime is also evident in East Cambridgeshire. In particular further analysis is needed of relevant local Emergency Department and Ambulance callout data and police data to establish the nature of serious violence in the district in order for the response to be effective. It is likely that activity can be delivered through the local delivery of the Serious Violence Strategy.
- The partnership should use the recommendations of the Modern Slavery briefing received and build on work to date in this area. This includes enhanced information sharing within the CSP and across relevant organisations to minimise the risk that areas and people vulnerable are being missed.
- The partnership should continue to support the countywide work to tackle County Lines and organised crime activity.

### **2) Understanding risk and vulnerability of individuals (*people*) and locations (*places*) and helping communities respond to this.**

- Within this priority area, the partnership should look to use the key findings of this strategic assessment, future analysis the Problem Solving Group (PSG) and the delivery group to identify particular locations that require a partnership response to tackle a particular problem e.g. increases in fires and ASB related issues in Littleport
- The partnership should focus on those community safety issues where specific vulnerabilities to victimisation have been identified e.g. Scams.
- The partnership should support opportunities for community interventions to protect the most vulnerable (e.g. Community Eyes and Ears, working with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership, volunteer initiatives, grant funding for projects, parish council involvement)

Reduce hate crime – particularly consider ways the partnerships can support awareness of hate crime and the ways in which it can be reported locally. The partnership can also look to engagement with minority groups; the ECCSP needs to establish more routine engagement with a wider variety of minority groups, embedding formal feedback and insight from a variety of minority groups going forward.

## INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW OF EXISTING PRIORITY AREAS

The aim of this strategic assessment is to support the East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership (ECCSP) in understanding local community issues and to develop priorities that will help to guide partnership activity through 2019/20. These priorities are guided by local issues and need but the ECCSP also should also continue to work to support broader priorities across the county.

Table 1 below helps to summarise those areas and broader themes where there is some existing cross-over between local district level priorities and partners that work across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This can help to guide ECCSP to deliver evidence-led local activity but also help to deliver outcomes against county wide priorities.

**Table 1: Overlap between priorities across police, district council, county council and OPCC**

	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner	Police	Cambridgeshire County Council	East Cambridgeshire District Council
People	<p>Safeguarding the vulnerable</p> <p>Attacking criminality</p>	<p>Child Abuse Child Exploitation Modern Slavery Domestic Abuse Mental Health (cross-cutting theme)</p> <p>Improve quality of investigations Serious sexual offences Dwelling burglary</p>	<p>A good quality of life for everyone The best start for Cambridgeshire's children</p>	<p>A Fantastic Place to Live, Work and Visit</p>
Places	<p>Preventing crime &amp; reassuring the public</p>	<p>Counter-terrorism Tackle root causes of offending Maximise partnership community safety responses Enhanced problem solving approach</p>	<p>Thriving places for people to live</p>	<p>A Fantastic Place to Live, Work and Visit</p>
Organisational focus	<p>Transformation</p>	<p>Force collaboration e.g. BCH, national specialists Develop agile working, force estates strategy</p>		

This assessment sets out to review a range of community safety issues thematically. For each topic, the report will summarise local information and knowledge whilst acknowledging existing interventions and possible recommended future activity, where appropriate.

## TOPICS

### ACQUISITIVE CRIME

#### ISSUES

With the introduction of Athena, Cambridgeshire Constabulary have had a major change in data processes. This has impacted the ability to publish and share data as there has been a higher requirement for quality assurance processes. During this time, routine data sharing with the Research Group has been paused. Some national Home Office Returns have been submitted, although that data is still being treated as draft.

Using the national data as an indicator for acquisitive crime the following summary has been produced by the Office for National Statistics with data up to and including June 2018<sup>2</sup>;

1. The Crime survey for England and Wales (CSEW) reported an increase of 8% in total theft offences. (Non-police data)
2. Police recorded data reported a 2% increase in burglary
3. Police recorded data reported a 7% increase in vehicle offences
4. Both burglary and vehicle offences are thought to be generally well-reported by victims and well-recorded by the police, therefore these increases are considered likely to be genuine.

#### INTERVENTIONS

Cambridgeshire Constabulary are producing a vehicle crime video which will be shared with partners and then made publicly available. This will help raise awareness and promote ways in which to reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

**Table 2: ECCSP Interventions and Outcomes: Acquisitive Crime (Dwelling Burglary Focus)**

Intervention	Outcome
Op Hunter monthly events	Community crime prevention awareness.
Daily E-Cops messaging	Create community awareness in relation to criminal activity in their area.
Force Burglary Day of Action 6th Feb	Crime prevention advice and discounted security products offered to the public.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The partnership should consider whether this is an area in which it can truly add further value in terms of acquisitive crime as a separate priority. The majority of the activity is 'business as usual' and interventions, and mechanisms exist for the approach to be multi-agency and timely.

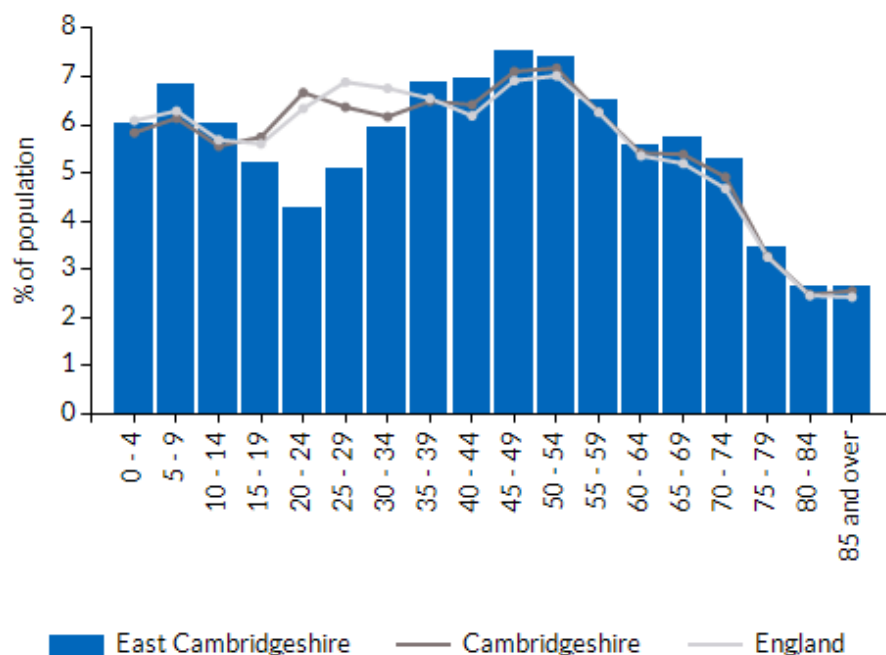
<sup>2</sup> Office of National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingjune2018>

## ISSUES

The ECCSP draft action plan refers to rogue trading which falls under the heading of scams, or more broadly speaking fraud as referred to by key national crime statistics. A scam is a type of fraud. Action Fraud describes fraud as being ‘when trickery is used to gain a dishonest advantage, which is often financial, over another person.’ Whilst anybody can be a victim of a scam or fraud, those most vulnerable in the community are often targeted by scammers. National statistics indicate the volume of fraud has remained relatively stable over the past year<sup>3</sup>.

The demographic groups identified by the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) as most likely to be victims of fraud are in the age groups 45-54 and 75+ as well as higher income households (of £50,000 or more)<sup>4</sup>. In terms of the demography of East Cambridgeshire, the age groups specified constitute over 20% of the of the East Cambridgeshire population which forms a higher proportion than that of Cambridgeshire and England (see Figure 1 below).

**Figure 1: Age group breakdown of 2017 population estimates for East Cambridgeshire, compared with Cambridgeshire and England<sup>5</sup>**



Source: ONS

However as the nature of scams is now vastly diverse (from online operations, scam mail to in person activities) it is important to acknowledge that anyone can be a victim regardless of age or economic background.

<sup>3</sup> Office of National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2018#little-change-in-the-volume-of-fraud-offences-in-the-last-year>

<sup>4</sup> Office of National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/overviewoffraudstatistics/yearendingsmarch2016#which-groups-in-society-are-most-likely-to-be-victims-of-fraud>

<sup>5</sup> Cambridgeshire Insight, Cambridgeshire Population Estimates, Available as interactive report via <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/population/report/view/a980666a84774b22ad2a19b50d4c7b6a/E07000009/>



Financial scamming is a problem that can affect everyone but certain groups within our communities are more vulnerable to becoming a victim of a scam. There are<sup>6</sup>:

- Older people who are targeted more often by certain scams such as doorstep, mail, telephone and investment scams. Older people who have no other form of social support are more likely to listen to a sales pitch. This type of contact is more likely to expose older people to scammers.
- Socially isolated individuals as they are often invisible to local services and their involvement in scams may remain hidden. Loneliness amongst those that are socially isolated may encourage someone to respond favourably to an approach from a scammer.
- Those with Dementia and cognitive impairment may lack financial literacy skills and judgement meaning that they may be targeted by scammers. Dementia causes a fluctuation of mental capacity, which can make it difficult for people to understand risk and apply caution to decision making. This makes people with dementia at increased risk of responding to a scam.

Referrals from the National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team<sup>7</sup>, which tackles mass marketing mail scams in particular, were reported as remaining low for the East Cambridgeshire area to date. Victims that were referred by the NTS Scams team have had information or in person support provided to them by the Cambridgeshire County Council Community Protection team.

Low levels of referrals and reporting does not necessarily indicate a low level of rogue trading and scams activity in the East Cambridgeshire area, but could instead be indicative of a lack of reporting.

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## INTERVENTIONS

ECCSP are a board member of the newly established Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP). The partnership has committed to the charter<sup>8</sup> which underpins the partnership and are participating in the CAPASP action plan.

The community Eyes and Ears campaign has included Scams in the topics covered. 1,000 copies of the Community Eyes and Ears booklet were distributed to Parish Councils, Library's, Sheltered Housing and other areas of public domain in East Cambridgeshire. The e-Booklet was also sent to Police, Fire and Rescue, Other authorities to be displayed on websites or used for copying.

The Little Book of BIG Scams has been published and distributed throughout East Cambridgeshire with an associated local media campaign and the CSP Officer Shona McKenzie has Completed Friend against Scams Training.

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<sup>6</sup> Financial Scamming: Our campaign and research to date, The National Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice and The Chartered Trading Standards Institute,

<https://www.tradingstandards.uk/media/documents/policy/research/scam-booklet-final-draft.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Scams Team, National Trading Standards, <https://www.nationaltradingstandards.uk/work-areas/scams-team/>

<sup>8</sup> Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership, <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CAPASP-charter.pdf>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- The ECCSP should continue participation in the CAPASP action plan; making the most of connections with other local organisations who share the goals of limiting the impact of scams in East Cambridgeshire.
- A systematic means of monitoring scams related referrals and outcomes linked to the Community Eyes and ears campaign is needed. This could provide more detailed local insight as to the scams specific impact of this initiative. Likewise the insight from the CAPASP should be routinely shared within the partnership.

## DOMESTIC ABUSE

### ISSUES

National data, primarily through the CSEW, suggests there has been little change over recent years in the prevalence of domestic abuse. Currently estimated at 21% of all people will have experienced domestic abuse since the age of 16 years. Which breaks down as 16.4% experienced some sort of partner abuse and 8.4% experienced abuse by a family member.

Although police recording of domestic abuse incidents has increased, which will in part reflect both changes in the definition of domestic abuse, public awareness of what constitutes it and police recording of it. At a national level, to the year ending June 2018, there was a 22% increase in the total number of domestic abuse-related offences recorded by the police.

### Trend in reporting

The table below presents the data as recorded by Cambridgeshire Constabulary for East Cambridgeshire district. It shows an increase in the number of recorded incidents between 2016/17 and 2017/18. However, the volume remains in line with the year before – 2015/16. At the time of writing there was no reason identified for the lower number in 2016/17. The changes in the recording of crimes, as mentioned above, account for a large proportion of the increase in the police recorded crimes. This has been detailed in previous reports<sup>9</sup>. Further changes in the offences and the definition in domestic abuse creates a situation where over the years the numbers reflect slightly different things.

**Table 2: East Cambridgeshire recorded domestic abuse crime and incident data**

Year (April - March)	Total number of incidents	Rate of incidents per 1,000 population	Total number of crimes	Total number of crimes per 1,000 population
2010/11	820	9.8	173	2.1
2011/12	669	8.0	179	2.1
2012/13	661	7.9	195	2.3
2013/14	730	8.6	226	2.7
2014/15	766	9.0	276	3.2
2015/16	877	10.2	327	3.8
2016/17	769	8.9	414	4.8
2017/18	871	10.1	479	5.5

Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

<sup>9</sup> Cambridgeshire Domestic Abuse Information, Cambridgeshire Insight  
<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/communitysafety/topics/domestic-abuse/>

Please note that the above figures may differ from previous publications where data has been updated and population estimates/forecasts have been re-calculated.

### Domestic Homicides

This year East Cambridgeshire CSP has had its first domestic homicide that meets the criteria for a Domestic Homicide Review.<sup>10</sup> The Partnership will follow the national protocols in order to discharge this duty. The Partnership will need to review the findings of the review once the Home Office has accepted it.

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## INTERVENTIONS

The following is a brief overview of the activity that has taken place this year to tackle domestic abuse.

**Table 3: ECCSP Interventions in 2018/19 to tackle domestic abuse**

Intervention	Outcome
White Ribbon Campaign The White Ribbon Campaign (WRC) is a global movement of men and boys working to end male violence against women and girls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gained “White Ribbon Accreditation” for East Cambridgeshire District Council</li><li>• Trained 30 Ambassador and Champions in “White Ribbon Awareness”</li></ul>
General Awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raised awareness through re-launch of “Community Eyes and Ears” scheme</li><li>• Raise awareness through Community HUBS</li><li>• Media coverage focusing on Minority Groups</li><li>• Links on ECDC Website of reporting mechanisms</li></ul>
Frontline training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All CSP and Housing staff completed Domestic Abuse Training</li><li>• All CSP and Housing staff completed training in Awareness of Forced Marriage</li><li>• All ECDC staff attend Safeguarding training</li><li>• 2 Members of staff attended DV Shelter Course</li><li>• CSP officer member of DASVA partnership and single Point of Contact for ECDC</li><li>• Re-Launch “Ask Angela” Campaign, all taxi drivers Safeguarding Trained and aware of DV</li></ul>

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership is a multi-agency approach in this area to tackling these issues consistently across a two-tier area. The partnership engages with the county delivery group, which also has an action plan.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

The partnership will follow the existing protocols for the Domestic Homicide Reviews and work with the County Partnership to embed any recommendations that come from them.

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<sup>10</sup> Domestic Homicide Review Statutory Guidance, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/revised-statutory-guidance-for-the-conduct-of-domestic-homicide-reviews>

The Partnership should consider the following actions for the forthcoming year that would support the County Action plan. The focus is on engaging with organisations that are represented on the Partnership;

- DA champions – Encourage each organisation to identify their champion for county meetings which would enable greater buy-in and impact from the County led action
- Each board member to promote within their respective organisations to increase awareness raising
- Each board member to confirm that their respective organisations has a Domestic Abuse employee policy

## OFFENDING

### ISSUES

Nationally there have been reports of considerable issues with probation services. Both the NPS (National Probation Service) and local CRCs (Community Rehabilitation Companies) are reportedly struggling to rehabilitate and manage the risk of offenders.<sup>11</sup> Both services are struggling with resources and the ability to involve the voluntary sector in the rehabilitation of clients. It is not clear whether this is reflected locally.

Caseload data from BeNCH (Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire) CRC provides an image of the number of offenders on the caseload on a given date. The latest snapshot from May 2018 suggests that there has been a reduction in the number of offenders from East Cambridgeshire being monitored by the CRC from 97 in February 2017 to 88. The number of male offenders has reduced from 81 to 73, whilst the number of females has remained consistent. The reason for the reduction in the number of offenders on the CRC caseload is unclear but it should be pointed out that the numbers are reflective of a point in time and do not reflect how many offenders are monitored by BeNCH CRC over time. This trend data can be seen in table 3. The issues experienced by East Cambridgeshire offenders are not measurable over time as the assessment process changed from 2017 to 2018. However, the most recent assessment results still present a variety of issues among the cohort. East Cambridgeshire offenders generally have a higher level of need compared with other districts in the county. For example, East Cambridgeshire CRC clients have the highest level of child issues with 27% compared with the lowest level of 13% in South Cambridgeshire. East Cambridgeshire has one of the lowest level of offenders with a disability with 33% but the joint highest with a learning difficulty at 10%.

Perhaps most significantly, 43% of East Cambridgeshire offenders have been assessed as having domestic violence issues. This includes both perpetrators and victims. This rate is the highest of all districts in the county.

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<sup>11</sup> HMIP Report, <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2017/12/HMI-Probation-Annual-Report-2017-2.pdf>

**Table 4: Offender Issues as at May 2018**

		Cambridgeshire		Cambridge City		East Cambridgeshire		Fenland		Huntingdonshire		South Cambridgeshire
All	Number of Offenders	1008		250		88		269		244		157
Gender	Male	853	85%	212	85%	73	83%	223	83%	209	86%	136
	Female	155	15%	38	15%	15	17%	46	17%	35	14%	21
Issues	Child Issues <sup>12</sup>	166	16%	41	16%	24	27%	43	16%	38	16%	20
	Suicide / self harm <sup>13</sup>	65	6%	13	5%	4	5%	12	4%	26	11%	10
	DV Issues <sup>14</sup>	353	35%	90	36%	38	43%	80	30%	89	36%	56
	Accommodation-Status - Homeless or not settled <sup>15</sup>	193	19%	60	24%	18	20%	40	15%	44	18%	31
Disability	Yes	359	36%	101	40%	29	33%	89	33%	90	37%	50
	No	503	50%	114	46%	38	43%	152	57%	119	49%	80
Disability Description	Learning Difficulties	70	7%	15	6%	9	10%	13	5%	17	7%	16
	Mental Illness	284	28%	83	33%	27	31%	60	22%	76	31%	38

Source: BeNCH CRC Data, May 2018

In terms of the offence category, there have been slight changes over time, as shown in the table below. Among the caseload there has been a decrease in the two most prominent offence categories, acquisitive and violence. Most other offence categories have remained stable.

**Table 5: CRC Offence Category Year on Year; East Cambridgeshire**

		February 2017		May 2018	
Offence category	Acquisitive	23	24%	17	19%
	Drugs	7	7%	8	9%
	Motoring	12	12%	13	15%
	Other	13	13%	17	19%
	Robbery	0	0%	0	0%
	Sexual	1	1%	0	0%
	Violence	41	42%	33	38%

Source: BeNCH CRC Data, Feb 2017 & May 2018

The Offender Group Reconviction Scale (OGRS) scores below highlight the risk of re-offending among the offenders on the caseload. East Cambridgeshire has a low percentage of high risk offenders, with only 5% of the caseload deemed at the highest risk. This is among the lowest of all districts in Cambridgeshire. Conversely East Cambridgeshire has some of the highest rates of low and medium risk offenders of districts in Cambridgeshire, as shown in the table below.

<sup>12</sup> Equates to where the offender description "Includes "Child Concerns" or "Risk to Children" or "Child Protection" or "Looked After Child" or "Common Assessment Framework"

<sup>13</sup> This is where the assessor has determined that there has been an attempt or thoughts of an attempt"

<sup>14</sup> Equates to where the offender description includes "Domestic Abuse Victim" or "Domestic Abuse Perp" or "Domestic Abuse History"

<sup>15</sup> Not settled in permanent accommodation - Includes "Homeless, unsettled accommodation, transient accommodation"

**Table 6: Re-Offending Risk**

OGRS 3 Score	Cambridgeshire		Cambridge City		East Cambridgeshire		Fenland		Huntingdonshire		South Cambridgeshire		Peterborough		Constabulary	
Low <25	287	28%	46	18%	31	35%	78	29%	74	30%	58	37%	210	32%	497	30%
Medium 25-40	212	21%	41	16%	21	24%	69	26%	45	18%	36	23%	109	17%	321	19%
High 41-79	414	41%	125	50%	32	36%	95	35%	107	44%	55	35%	270	41%	684	41%
Very High 80+	95	9%	38	15%	4	5%	27	10%	18	7%	8	5%	63	10%	158	10%

Source: BeNCH CRC Data, May 2018

Further data from BeNCH CRC provided in September 2018 details the number of offenders sentenced in each year that are managed by the Cambridgeshire office. The table below shows the period January 2015 to September 2018. The trend for East Cambridgeshire indicates that there is an increase in offenders being sentenced and placed under supervision generally. Within this there are certain offence types increasing in regularity and others are decreasing. For example, the number of offenders being sentenced for motoring offences has increased significantly from 2017 to 2018, despite only having figures until September 2018. This is reflective nationally with a 3% increase year on year in vehicle offences, due largely to a 10% increase in the subcategory of “theft or unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle”.<sup>16</sup> Other offences types, such as violence and acquisitive offences, have risen consistently from 2015 and are appear set to rise again in 2018.

**Table 7: Offence Categories for East Cambridgeshire Probation Clients**

Offence Category	2015	2016	2017	2018 (Jan – Sep)
Acquisitive	7	4	9	13
Drugs			4	4
Motoring	1	5	4	16
Other	3	3	9	12
Robbery				1
Violence	4	7	22	15
Grand Total	15	19	48	61

Source: BeNCH CRC, September 2018

A table of the top 10 most frequent offences committed among the CRC caseload in East Cambridgeshire for 2018 are shown below.

<sup>16</sup>ONS, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2018>

**Table 8: Most frequent offences committed by East Cambridgeshire Offenders 2018**

Offence Description – Top 10	Count
Common and other types of assault	10
Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	10
Criminal Damage (£5000 or less) and Malicious Damage	5
Other frauds (Category)	4
Driving Licence Related Offences	4
Misuse of Drugs (Custom and Excise/Misuse of Drugs Acts)	4
Stealing from shops and stalls (shoplifting)	3
Send comms/article of indecent/offensive nature	3
Malicious wounding and other like offences (misdemeanours)	3
Offences against Public Order (Summary)	2
Other Theft	2
Total	50

Source: BeNCH CRC, September 2018

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## INTERVENTIONS

The majority of the tackling re-offending work is delivered at a county or force level, through the delivery groups, such as the reducing re-offending delivery group.

Locally the PSG tackles specific low level/risk offending. Recent interventions by the ECCSP have included issuing warning notices to dissuade repeat offending behavior.

Overall, the number of East Cambridgeshire offenders that are open to Integrated Offender Management cohort remains low.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is recommended that the partnership continues to support the delivery of work at a County level where appropriate and it aligns with the local priorities.
- Further, it is recommended that the Partnership review the delivery and ascertains if there are local gaps to address.

## VICTIMISATION

### ISSUES

Local police data forms a key element of insight into local victims of crime, and as such this is affected by the data publication delays outlined in the introduction.

Victim support continues to be provided across Cambridgeshire County by the Victim and Witness Hub. At the time of writing the Victim and Witness Hub could not readily provide a district level breakdown of the victims supported; in part due to the fact that victims supported need not specify their district of residence for all types of support (for reasons of confidentiality). Contemporary analysis of victims across the County is not available at present.

Repeat victimisation has been acknowledged as difficult to quantify, and methodological changes have attempted to address this within the Crime Survey for England and Wales in recent years<sup>17</sup>. The ONS has acknowledged that repeat incidents are more common in violent offences.

### INTERVENTIONS

The ECCSP problem solving group is in the position to identify repeat victims of crime or antisocial behaviour locally and could refer individuals on to other partners for additional support.

The PSG has not formally reported specific repeat victims encountered this financial year to date, and follow up that has taken place regarding any repeat victims.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- PSG has opportunity to identify repeat victims of crime and antisocial behaviour at a local level using insight from across member organisations. Best practice for identifying the most at risk repeat victims in a PSG setting needs to be identified in support of this activity.
- Consider what available sources of local insight into victims in East Cambridgeshire may be available.

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<sup>17</sup> ONS, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2018>



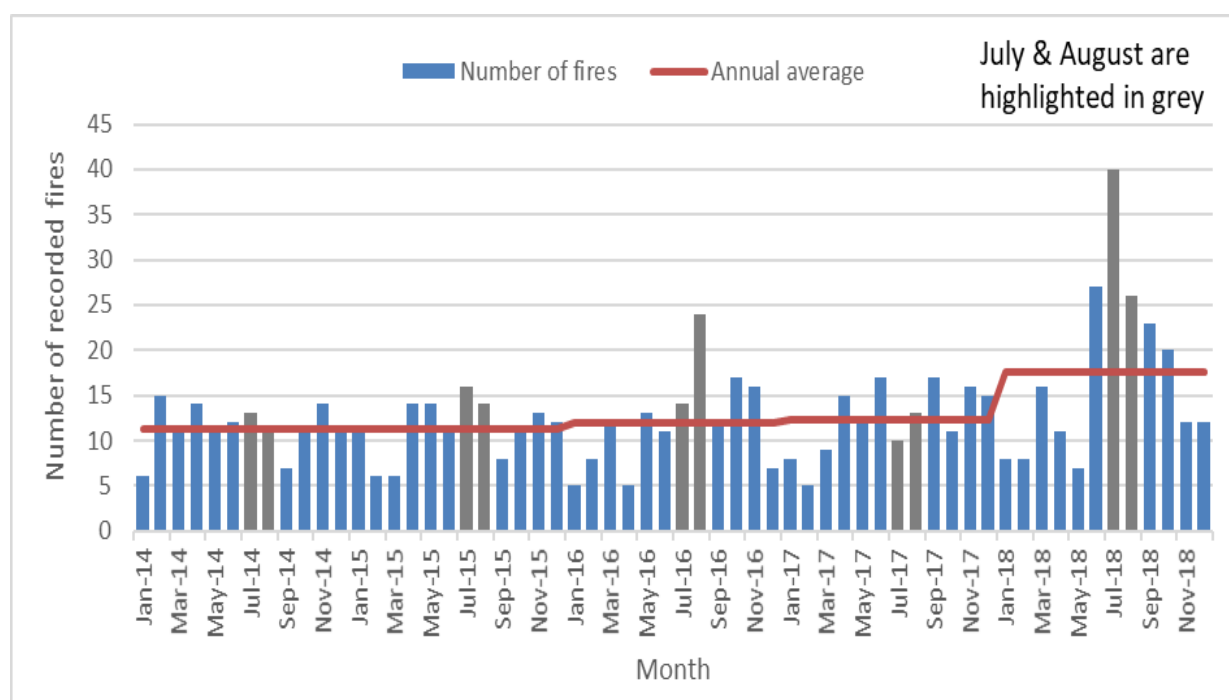
## ISSUES

Fires in East Cambridgeshire

The number of Fires in East Cambridgeshire increased from an average of 12.3 per month in 2017 to 19.1 per month in 2018. This was a 54.8% increase, resulting in 2018 seeing a substantially higher number of fires recorded than previous years. This should be seen in the context of East Cambridgeshire experiencing the second lowest average number of recorded fires per month in 2018 in the County, with only Cambridge City experiencing a lower average in 2018 (18.2). However, in previous years it recorded a lower average number of fires per month than Cambridge City. The figure below highlights the substantial increase in the number of fires seen over the summer months in 2018, compared to previous years. July 2018 saw a recorded 40 fires in the district, which is more than double the average number of fires in the same month over the last four years.

East Cambridgeshire saw a significant increase in both the number of deliberate fires and accidental fires. The number of fires that were deemed by the Fire and Rescue Service to have been started by accident rose by 51.1% in 2018 from 2017. Whereas the number of fires deemed to have been started deliberately rose by just 9.3% across the district. Littleport West Ward experienced the most fires in total in 2018 (22), an increase of 57.1% from 2017. Over one-fifth (21.3%) of all deliberate fires in East Cambridgeshire occurred in Littleport East & West wards. There were also large increases in the number of fires in Bottisham, Cheveley and Downham Villages wards.

**Figure 2: Number of Fires in East Cambridgeshire, recorded by Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service**



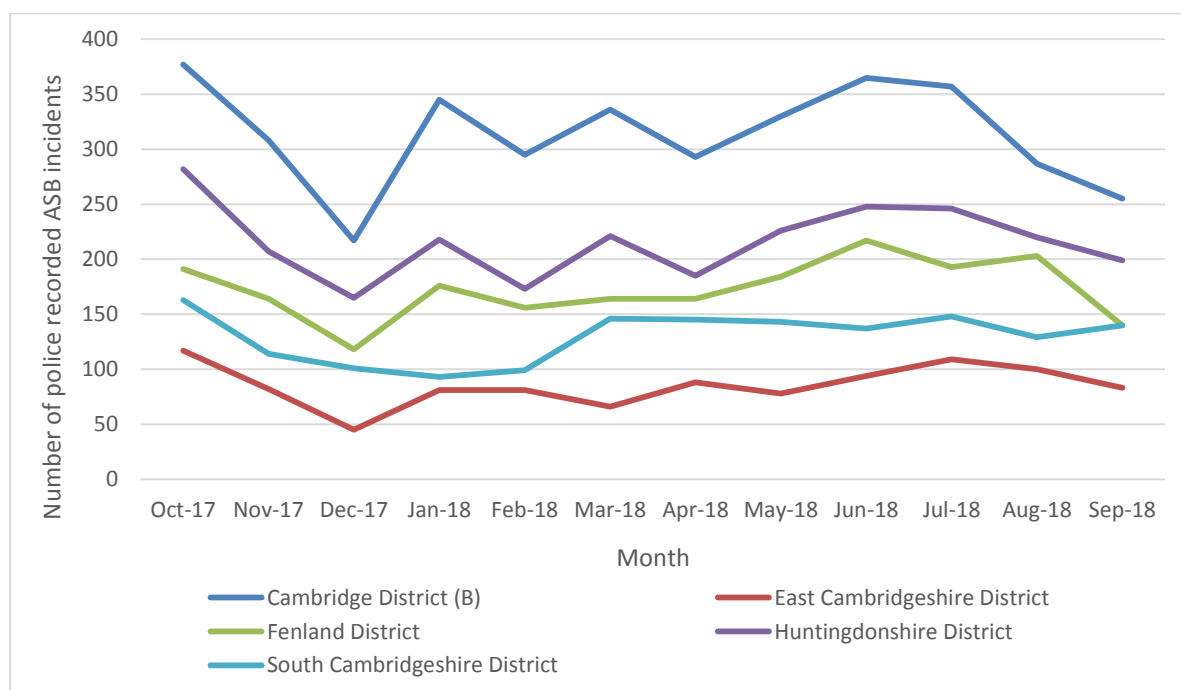
Source: Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

### Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Nationally, police recorded ASB incidents decreased by 11% in the year to September 2018, compared to the previous year. A review<sup>18</sup> in 2012 found a wide variation with the quality of recording of anti-social behaviour in the UK, therefore ASB data should be interpreted with caution. However, the Crime Survey for England & Wales (CSEW)<sup>19</sup> estimated that 36% of respondents had experienced or witnessed ASB in their local area in the latest survey year, which was an increase from the previous year (31%). It was also the highest percentage since the data was first collected in the year ending March 2012.

There were a total of 1,373 police recorded ASB incidents in East Cambridgeshire from January–November 2016, compared to just 898 incidents in the same months of 2018, a decrease of 34.6%. There were reductions in the number of police recorded ASB incidents in all wards except; Cheveley, Ely West and Littleport West wards. The volume of anti-social behaviour incidents in East Cambridgeshire does however remain the lowest in the County compared to the other districts. Whilst the decreasing trend is positive, the overall total contains several types of ASB. It would be useful to examine the types of ASB occurring and assess those which pose highest risk.

**Figure 3: Police recorded ASB incident data, by district and month**



Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary

The number of police recorded anti-social behaviour incidents in East Cambridgeshire has fallen from 946 incidents between April and November 2017 to 670 incidents in the same months of 2018. The table below shows which wards had the highest number of ASB incidents in the months April to November in 2017 and 2018. Most wards saw a decrease in the number of ASB incidents, however Littleport East (3.8%) and Littleport West (9.1%) were the only two wards to see an increase in the number of ASB incidents, as seen in the table below.

<sup>18</sup> By Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS)

<sup>19</sup> ONS, Crime in England and Wales,

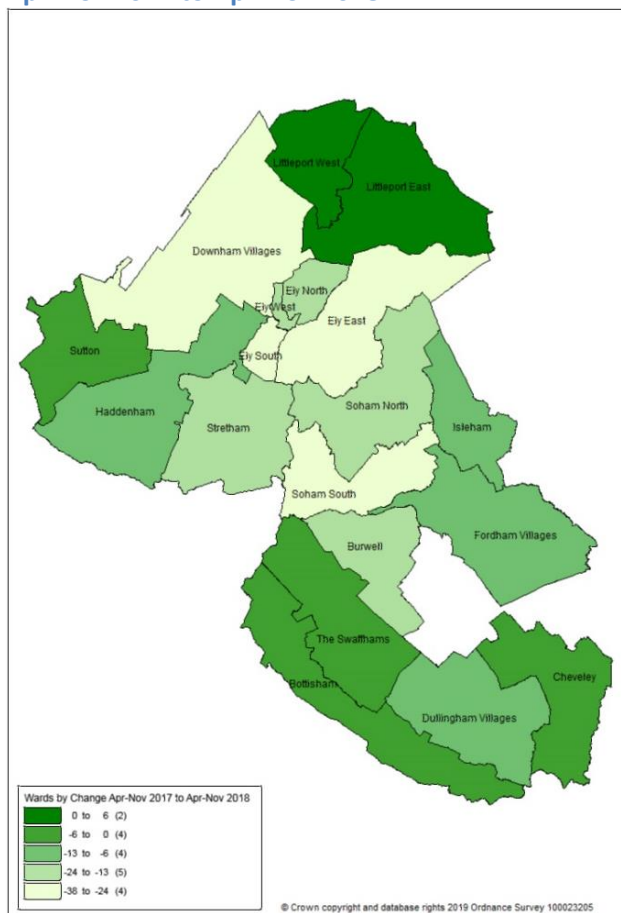
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2018>

**Table 9: Number of Police recorded ASB incidents, by Ward**

Ward	All ASB Apr-Nov 2017	All ASB Apr-Nov 2018	Change 2017 to 2018
Littleport West	66	72	+6
Littleport East	78	81	+3
The Swaffhams	11	9	-2
Cheveley	17	14	-3
Sutton	34	29	-5
Bottisham	22	16	-6
Isleham	13	6	-7
Haddenham	48	39	-9
Dullingham Villages	17	5	-12
Fordham Villages	29	16	-13
Soham North	42	25	-17
Stretham	40	23	-17
Burwell	48	30	-18
Ely North	76	52	-24
Ely West	73	49	-24
Downham Villages	52	25	-27
Ely South	53	22	-31
Ely East	142	110	-32
Soham South	85	47	-38

Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

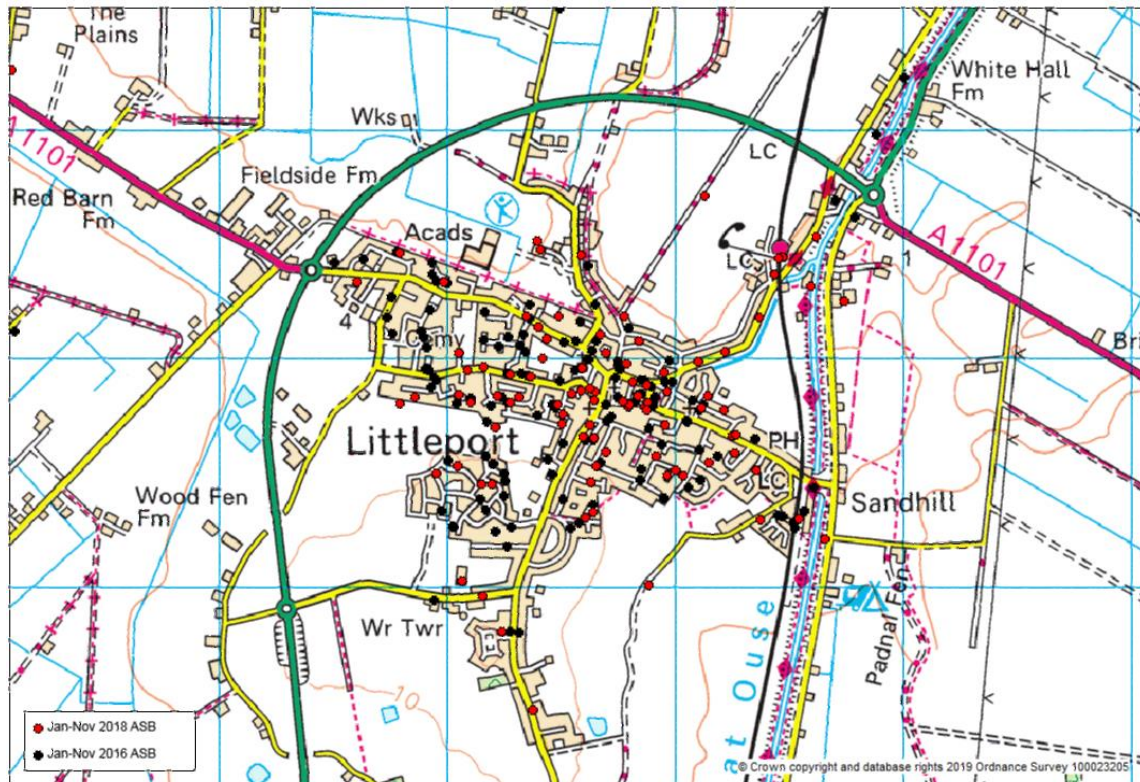
**Figure 4: Thematic map showing change in number of police recorded ASB incidents by Ward, from Apr-Nov 2017 to Apr-Nov 2018**



Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

As previously described above Littleport wards have experienced an increase in recorded ASB incidents from 2017 to 2018. However, in Littleport East ward between January and November 2016, 132 incidents of ASB were recorded. In the same period in 2018 this figure decreased to 99 incidents of recorded ASB indicating a mixed trend.

**Figure 5: Map showing ASB incidents in Littleport, Jan-Nov 2016 and Jan-Nov 2018**



Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

Conversely, the number of recorded ASB incidents in Littleport West ward has increased from 80 incidents between January and November 2016 to 83 incidents between January and November 2018. Overall, the whole of Littleport saw a 14% decrease in the number of ASB incidents from 2016 to 2018. Figure 5 (above) shows the locations of the ASB incidents in each of the two years.

Soham has seen a large decrease of 63% in the number of Police recorded ASB incidents across both Soham North and Soham South Wards from Jan-Nov 2016 (237 incidents) to Jan-Nov 2018 (87 incidents).

Ely wards saw an overall decrease of 24% in the number of ASB incidents from Jan-Nov 2016 (420 incidents) to Jan-Nov 2018 (321 incidents).

## INTERVENTIONS

Engagement with the community in Littleport has been aimed at listening to concerns and raising awareness of reporting mechanisms. The ECCSP PSG has also had Littleport as a frequent agenda item, bringing together insights from various partner organisations.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Seek actions to address the causes of deliberate fire setting in Littleport, taking place in a timely manner to pre-empt the seasonal aspect of fire activity.
- Carry out more general fire prevention measures in Bottisham, Cheveley and Downham Villages in a timely manner to pre-empt the seasonal aspect of fire activity.
- While the volume of ASB in East Cambridgeshire remains low, it is recommended to examine the types of ASB occurring and assessing those which pose the highest risk in greater detail to focus further intervention.

## YOUTH

As youth issues have been specified in the existing ECCSP priorities and action plan across various items, this section will draw upon available sources referencing youth age groups. Reporting of Child Exploitation has also been noted in the existing ECCSP Action Plan but is encompassed by County Lines issues later in this document.

## ISSUES

### Youth Offending: Cambridgeshire Youth Offending Service (YOS)

The most recent figures suggest a reduction in the number of first time entrants (FTE). Figures from the recent Offender Needs Assessment 2017 showed that in the year 2016 (January to December) there were 25 FTEs. In comparison, in the year Oct 17 to September 18 there were just 17 FTEs recorded in East Cambridgeshire. This reduction appears to follow a general downward trend from 34 FTEs in 2012. This is also reflected nationally where latest figures to 2017 show a continued downward trend with a 85% decrease in the past 11 years and a further 11% in the past year.<sup>20</sup> The most common age for a first time offence remained aged 16 as was the case in 2017. This is also consistent across all districts in Cambridgeshire.

Of note is the lower than average ratio of female to male first time entrants in East Cambridgeshire. In East Cambridgeshire there were only 2 female FTE's accounting for just 12% of FTEs. Only Cambridge City has fewer female FTEs.

**Table 10: Cambridgeshire First Time Entrants Oct 17 to Sep 18**

	Cambridgeshire		Cambridge City		East Cambridgeshire		Fenland		Huntingdonshire		South Cambridgeshire	
Number of FTE	132		26		17		33		32		24	
Male	112	85%	24	92%	15	88%	28	85%	28	88%	17	71%
Female	20	15%	2	8%	2	12%	5	15%	4	13%	7	29%

Source: YOS, Oct 17 to Sep 18

### *Offence Types*

Most young first time entrants to the justice system commit one offence but several in East Cambridgeshire committed more than one offence when first entering the justice system. For this reason it is difficult to measure the actual first offence of an FTE. For example, a young person

<sup>20</sup> Youth Justice Statistics 2016/17, Youth Justice Board, [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/676072/youth\\_justice\\_statistics\\_2016-17.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/676072/youth_justice_statistics_2016-17.pdf)

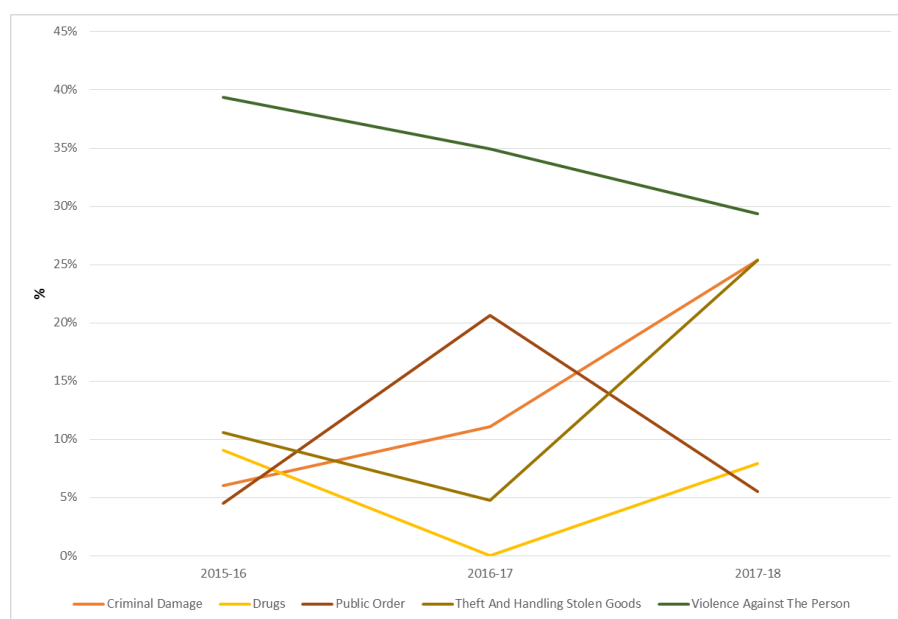
convicted of committing arson and criminal damage at the same time would only show up once in the list of first time entrants but they have committed two offences. For this reason the following table shows all offences committed by first time entrants in the most recent year of data.

**Table 11: FTE Offences (Source: YOS, Sep 17 to Oct 18)**

Offence Description	Count of Offence	%
Violence against the person	8	28%
Theft and handling Stolen Goods	7	24%
Public order	4	14%
Criminal Damage	3	10%
Vehicle Theft / Unauthorised Taking	2	7%
Domestic burglary	1	3%
Other	1	3%
Drugs	1	3%
Arson	1	3%
Fraud And Forgery	1	3%
Total	29	-

National trends suggest that the types of offence are changing with more offences for possession of weapons and drug offences and a reduction in criminal damage, motoring and theft offences. Due to low numbers it is difficult to plot with any degree of accuracy whether this is the case in East Cambridgeshire but the graph below highlights how figures can fluctuate year on year.<sup>21</sup> Figure 6 below presents a mixed trend for East Cambridgeshire which is to be expected with low number of young offenders.

**Figure 6: Most prevalent offence types committed by young offenders in East Cambridgeshire 2015-2018**



Source: YOS

<sup>21</sup> Youth Justice Statistics 2016/17 , Youth Justice Board,  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/676072/youth\\_justice\\_statistics\\_2016-17.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/676072/youth_justice_statistics_2016-17.pdf)

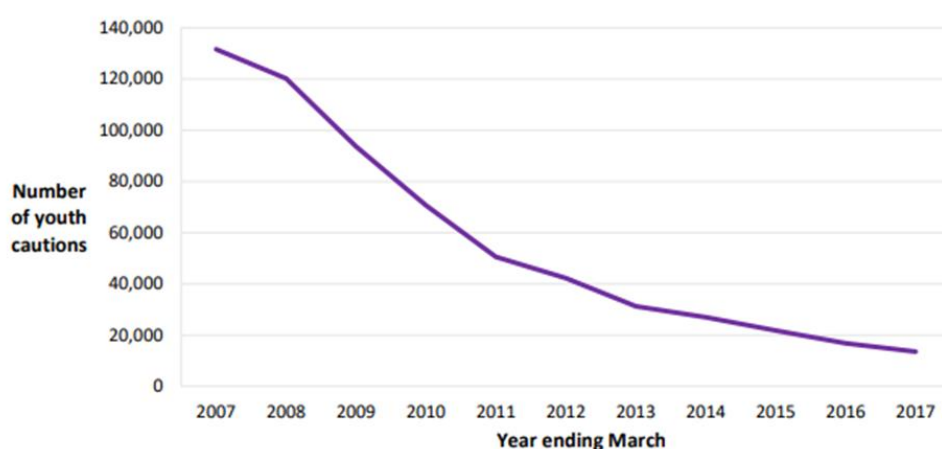


### Offence Outcomes

The latest locally available data indicates a downward trend in total outcomes for young offenders. From September 15/16 to September 17/18 there has been a mixed trend with an increase one year from 46 to 62 followed by a reduction the following year to 45.

In terms of the most common outcome, it tends to fluctuate year to year. The graph below shows the national trend in the number of youth cautions since 2007. Table 6 below shows the previous three years of outcome for young offenders in East Cambridgeshire. The table reflects the national downward trend in youth cautions although other outcomes are becoming more prevalent.

**Figure 7 Trend in youth cautions given to children and young people, England and Wales, 2007-2017<sup>22</sup>**



Source: Ministry of Justice

**Table 12: YOS Outcomes Trend**

Outcome	2015/16	2016/17	2017/2018
Referral Order	11	15	13
Youth Caution	10	5	8
Youth Caution + Conditions	9	24	10
Youth Rehabilitation Order	6	8	4
Youth Conditional Caution	5	5	4
Conditional Discharge	3	1	4
Fine	1	2	2
Reparation Order (YOT)	1	0	0
Absolute discharge	0	2	0
Total	46	62	45

Source: YOS

While we don't have any statistics on young offenders and their needs locally, national studies suggest that 91% of violent young offenders have experienced abuse or loss, 40% of female and 25%

<sup>22</sup> Youth Justice Statistics 2016/17, Youth Justice Board, [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/676072/youth\\_justice\\_statistics\\_2016-17.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/676072/youth_justice_statistics_2016-17.pdf)

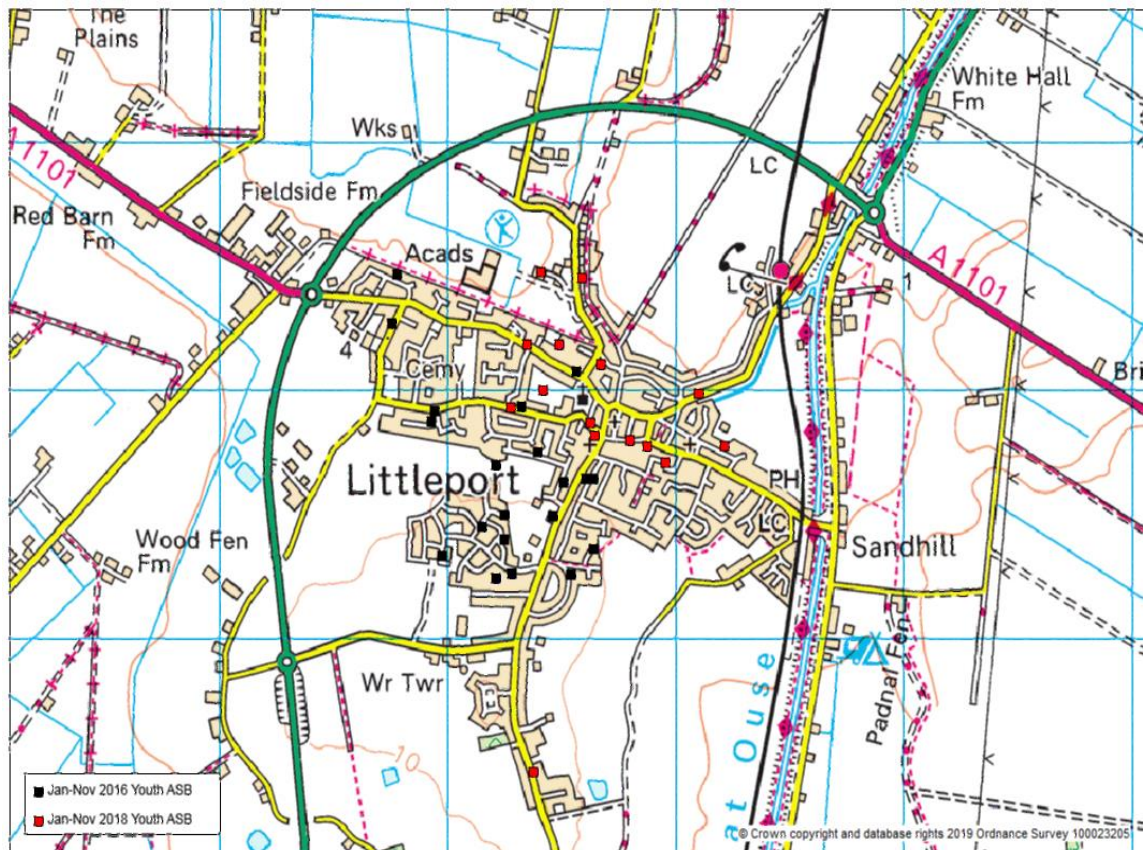




in more detail below. Littleport West ward saw an increase in the number of ASB incidents and those with a Youth Marker.

The number of Youth ASB incidents recorded in Littleport has increased from 23 between Jan-Nov 2016 (9 in Littleport East & 14 in Littleport West) to 26 between Jan-Nov 2018 (8 in Littleport East & 18 in Littleport West). The location of incidents of ASB that were assigned a youth marker has changed and can be seen in the Figure below. The majority of the youth ASB incidents in 2016 occurred in the south-west of Littleport, with the youth ASB incidents in 2018 tending to be located in the north-east.

**Figure 9: Map showing ASB incidents with a youth marker in Littleport, Jan-Nov 2016 and Jan-**

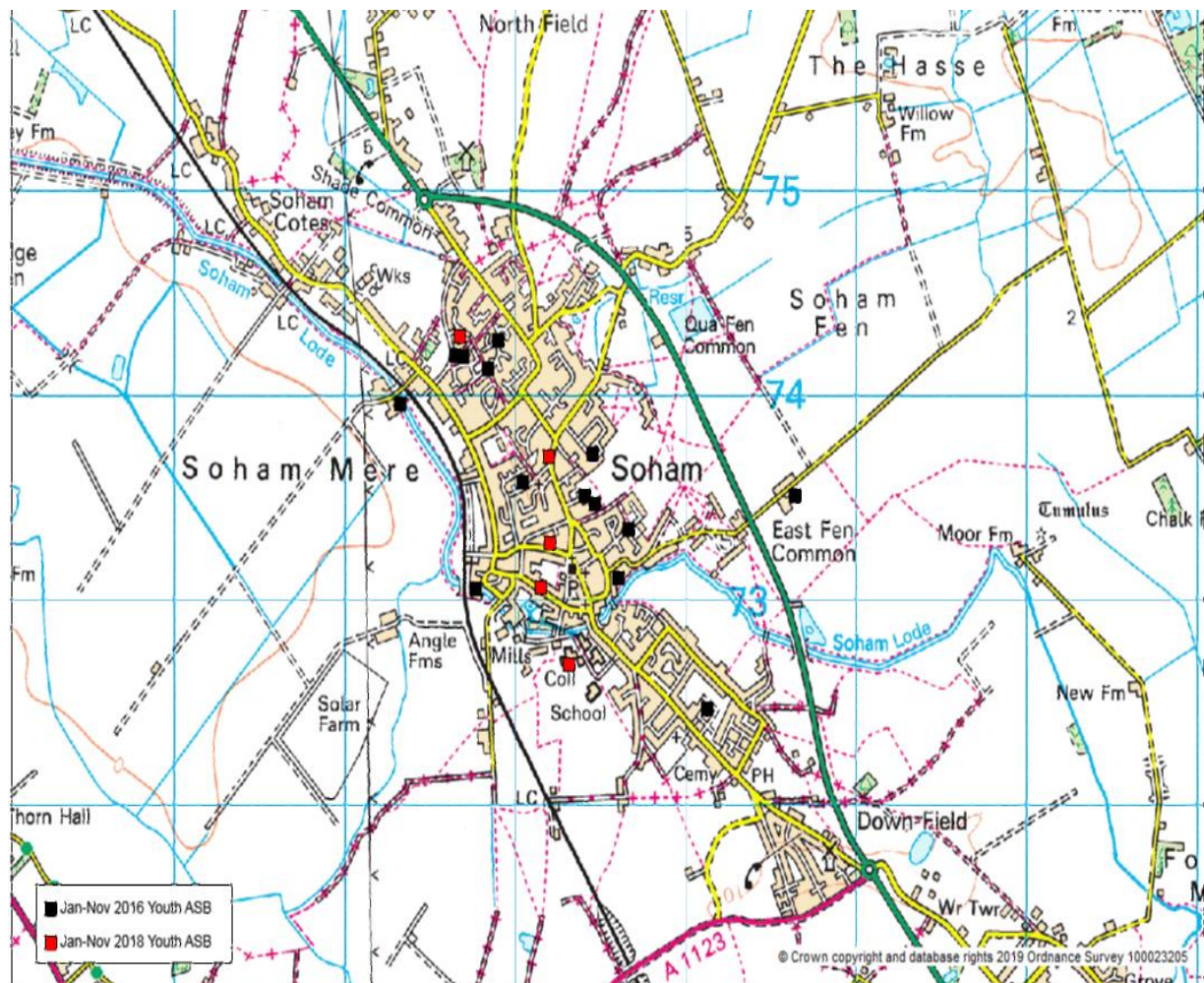


Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

Of those ASB incidents in Littleport East & Littleport West wards that had a youth marker, 65% of those between Jan-Nov 2016 were classed as nuisance ASB. This figure rose to 96% in 2018. This matches the pattern of Youth ASB seen in the district, as 73% of the incidents with a youth marker between Jan-Nov 2016 were classed nuisance ASB. This figure rose to 92% of ASB incidents with a youth marker between Jan-Nov 2018. (See Appendix B for more detail on this breakdown).

There was a decrease from 16 youth related ASB incidents in 2016 to 6 in 2018 across Soham wards. The figure below shows where the incidents took place in both years.

**Figure 10: Map showing ASB incidents with a youth marker in Soham, Jan-Nov 2016 and Jan-Nov 2018**

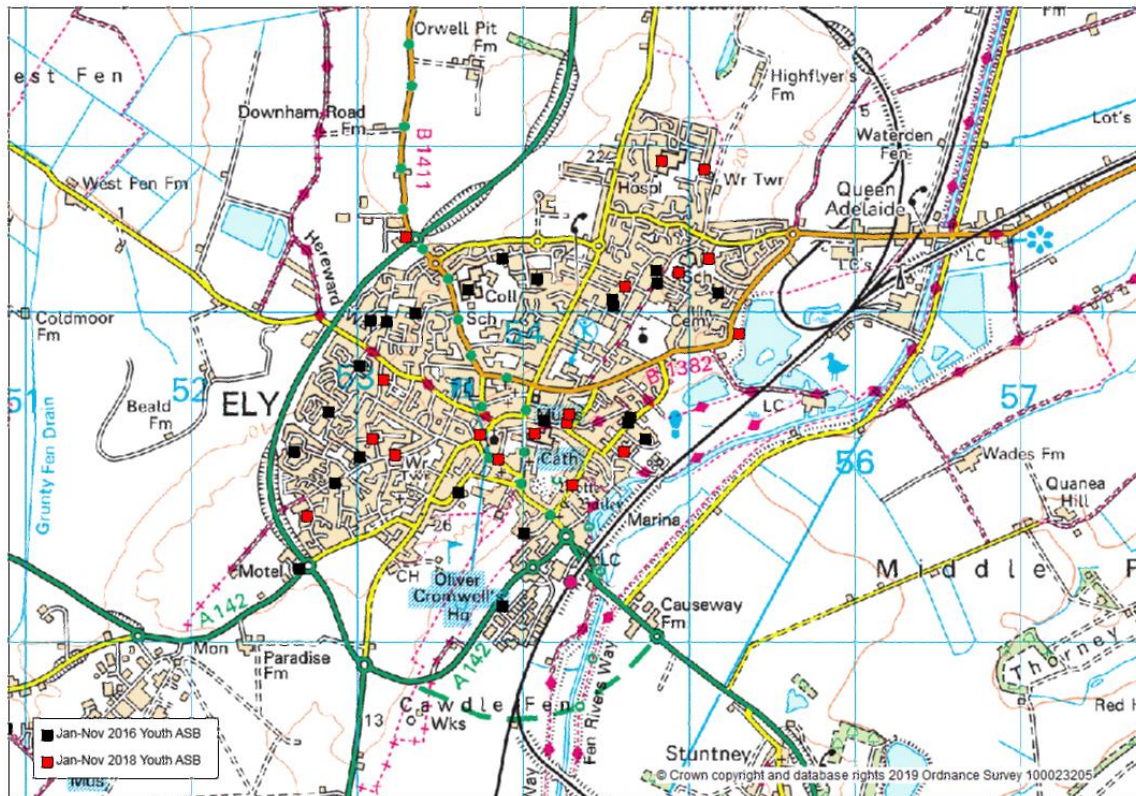


Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

In Ely there was a decrease in the number of Youth ASB incidents from 29 in 2016 to 25 in 2018, however there were increases in the number of youth ASB incidents in Ely East ward (from 10 to 12) and Ely West ward (from 3 to 4). The figure below shows where the incidents took place in both years.



Figure 11: Map showing ASB incidents with a youth marker in Ely, Jan-Nov 2016 and Jan-Nov



Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

## INTERVENTIONS

### Young offenders

- YOS has been participant in the ECCSP PSG.

### Youth ASB

- Work carried out in Littleport with the support of the District Teams, Parish Councils and Youth Provision.
- District Team set up sessions for Young People who were causing ASB in Littleport and Ely Leisure Village over the summer period. All young people participating successfully completed the programme.

## RECOMMENDATION

- ECCSP to embed Youth ASB specific interventions for Littleport, in line with the proportion of ASB attributed to Youth in this area.

### ISSUES

#### Hate Crime

Although the level of hate crime reported to the police, both locally and nationally, remains low, the increase over the last two years has been well documented<sup>24</sup>. Nationally in recent years the levels of racially or religiously aggravated assault with and without injury have risen significantly with 2018 seeing the highest recorded figures on record for both. The impact of hate crime varies but can be quite substantial, particularly where it is ongoing. Local police recorded hate crime data is currently not available to report on due to changes owing to the introduction of Athena and the associated quality assurance process delaying release.

The Cambridgeshire County Council Research team developed and released an online survey to find out about experiences of hate crime affecting the LGBT+ community in South Cambridgeshire, but open to residents in other areas to complete. Since the survey opened in October 2018 there have been 4 submissions from East Cambridgeshire residents. While this number is too small to draw wider conclusions, all respondents from East Cambridgeshire responded that they did not report the most recent incidents of discrimination or harassment affecting them (to police or any other organisation). This is in line with the survey responses from residents of other areas.

While reported crime is only indicative of the true extent of this issue, the absence of reliable crime figures does leave the status of this issue locally unclear.

#### Minority Community Engagement

Minority Community Engagement in East Cambridgeshire has largely been focused on engagement with the Traveller Community. The interventions relating to this have been outlined below.

### INTERVENTIONS

Interventions that are currently planned to address hate crime include the following:

- Information about hate crime to be sent to all secondary schools
- Raise awareness through Community Eyes and Ears Training of Young People
- To build confidence and skills in young people encouraging them to report concerns while supporting their peers.
- To set up 3rd Party Reporting Centres in East Cambridgeshire; 1 in Ely and 1 in Littleport.

The outcomes of these interventions are yet to be reported.

Interventions that have taken place in terms of engagement with the Traveller Community are as follows:

- Twice weekly meetings on sites Traveller sites

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<sup>24</sup> ONS, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/crimeinenglandandwalesappendixtables>

- Set up of community centre on Earith site, and secure fencing around the site boundary with resident's participation.
- Supported families with the enrolment of children into local schools, this included appeals.
- Extensive use of Social media and local printed press to publicise positive outcomes; this has received positive feedback.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Partnership should consider ways it can support awareness of hate crime and the ways in which it can be reported locally.
- There is opportunity for the partnership to continue use of the rolling LGBT+ survey; promoting it so that responses from East Cambridgeshire Residents can help shape future partnership work.
- Upcoming exit of the UK from the European Union is expected to impact on this issue and so will be relevant to monitor at a local level going into 2019/20. The partnership needs to find rapid ways to identify and address occurrence of hate crime in the local area.
- Engagement with minority groups; the ECCSP needs to establish more routine engagement with a wider variety of minority groups, embedding formal feedback and insight from a variety of minority groups going forward.

## MODERN SLAVERY

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### ISSUES

The ECCSP received a briefing on Modern Slavery, published September 2018. This briefing highlighted the potential for information sharing among partnership organisations, which could build a clearer picture of where victims of Modern Slavery reside in East Cambridgeshire. The information gathered for this briefing will not be repeated here, but the key findings and recommendations from this briefing are provided below.

An update has since been provided regarding Exploitation of sex workers in East Cambridgeshire, from Nick Skipworth, Cambridgeshire Constabulary tactical lead for sexual exploitation under slavery.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary scan sex worker adverts and identify those which cause concern for the individuals advertised in terms of their welfare or risk of third party exploitation. This scanning has been occurring over the last 12 months and covers Cambridgeshire. Visits have taken place when exploitation or welfare issues have been noted.

No visits have occurred in East Cambridgeshire, whereas other areas have seen a large number of visits. It is known that sex workers frequently change location as do workers exploited by third parties.

The following key ingredients are needed for this activity:

- A market / demand – indicated by levels of online advertising
- Accommodation - usually very short term lets (a week or less)
- Transport links

With reference to East Cambridgeshire, one major adult services website carries no adverts for the Ely area and other smaller ones are limited. Short term lets are less prevalent in East Cambridgeshire compared to other Cambridgeshire Districts. On-street sex working has not come to light in East Cambridgeshire and is generally more present in urban areas.

#### Key Findings from the Modern Slavery in East Cambridgeshire briefing 2018

- Key changes to relevant legislation came into force in 2015. At a national level Modern Slavery is increasingly being evidenced, both in terms of potential victims and verified crimes.
- Although it is difficult to quantify the extent of the problem nationally, there has been work to do this, for example the Modern Slavery Police Transformation Programme<sup>25</sup>. The most common nationalities that are potential victims are also resident within East Cambridgeshire. An overlap between legitimate businesses registered in East Cambridgeshire and contexts where modern slavery is prevalent was identified; namely construction and agriculture (seasonal workforce).
- Modern Slavery does align with ECCSP and wider priorities, particularly in terms of a victim focused approach.
- Operation Pheasant demonstrates how an integrated partnership approach, which includes information sharing can help address not only slavery threats and risks but also wider social factors which impede the wellbeing of the community. This includes housing issues. The experience of colleagues in Fenland district acknowledge best practice of outcome focused models for partnership working.
- Based on the experience of colleagues in Fenland it is possible to develop a detailed view to assess whether MS may be occurring in East Cambridgeshire. However sharing of information within the CSP is not consistently or routinely in place. This means that it was not feasible to generate a clear evidence base of places and people at risk to MS in East Cambridgeshire to date.
- Some of the CSP partner organisations did document their existing activities around MS for this briefing. It is unclear whether further activities beyond those documented here are taking place among these organisations to tackle MS.

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<sup>25</sup> National Police Chief's Council, Modern Slavery Police Transformation, [https://www.npcc.police.uk/Publication/MSPTP\\_Annual\\_Report\\_to\\_310318.pdf](https://www.npcc.police.uk/Publication/MSPTP_Annual_Report_to_310318.pdf)

- The data needed to highlight where MS may be occurring within East Cambridgeshire has not been forthcoming for this briefing. A lack of information sharing across relevant organisations in East Cambridgeshire presents a risk that victims of modern slavery are not identified.

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## INTERVENTIONS

- The ECCSP delivery group has identified an immediate need to train members of partner organisations especially members of the Delivery Group, ensuring there is an equal level of awareness of the issue across all partners.
- Intelligence provided by cooperating local businesses suggest there is a need for significant work to be carried out in this area
- The current youth cohort at risk is being mapped on E-CINS, and work is underway to identify and track vulnerable migrant workers who are employed seasonally.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations as per the briefing on Modern Slavery are as follows:

- Establish a clear understanding of existing partner organisation activities around MS and the impact on their responsibilities, through more regular information sharing.
- Agree a across partnership tactical approach to identify and disrupt slavery in accordance with the national and countywide Slavery Strategy.
- Enhance information sharing within the CSP and across relevant organisations to minimise the risk that areas and people vulnerable to MS are being missed.
- Develop a clearer picture of East Cambridgeshire in terms of MS, as an evidence base from which to work as a partnership.

Further recommendations have arisen as the delivery group is being established; particularly a need to train members of partner organisations so that all have an equal level of knowledge and awareness of this issue from the outset.

## ADDITIONAL ISSUES TO ADDRESS

### VIOLENT CRIME - NATIONAL VIOLENCE STRATEGY

The term 'violent crime' refers to a broad range of offences and includes crime types such as harassment and other offences where no injury was sustained, through to grievous bodily harm (GBH) and murder. An analysis of 'violent crime' as an entire category as if it were a homogenous group would not be useful and does not produce insight for the Partnership. Therefore this section will pick out those issues that are most significant in terms of risk, harm or volume impact in East Cambridgeshire.

This year (2018/19) the focus nationally has been on serious violence with the publication of the government's national Serious Violence Strategy in April 2018<sup>26</sup>.

The Serious Violence Strategy clearly sets out its message that serious violence is not solely a law enforcement issue. but is to be tackled by local partnerships, health, social care, housing, youth services and the local community. It represents a very significant programme of work involving a range of Government Departments and partners, in the public, voluntary and private sectors.

It highlights the following four areas:

- Tackling County lines and drugs misuse
- Early intervention and prevention
- Supporting Communities and Local Partnerships
- Effective Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Response

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## ISSUES

### Risk of victimisation of violent crime

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW)<sup>27</sup> has estimated that 1.7% of adults aged over 16 had been the victim of a violent crime in the year to March 2017 (data released February 2018). The data shows how small a proportion of the population are at risk of becoming a victim of violence. Nationally there has been an overall decrease in total violence over the long term as shown by the Crime Survey for England and Wales, however, there has been a shift toward more serious violence. The key change within national violent crime statistics most recently released is in terms of higher-harm types of violence. In particular an 8% increase in the number of police recorded offences involving knives or sharp instruments and a 15% rise in admissions to hospital in England for assaults involving a sharp instrument has been highlighted<sup>28</sup>.

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<sup>26</sup> HM Government, Serious Violence Strategy, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-strategy>

<sup>27</sup> ONS, Violent Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/thenatureofviolentcrimeinenglandandwales/yearendmarch2017>

<sup>28</sup> ONS, Crime in England and Wales, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2018#whats-happened-to-the-volume-of-crime-recorded-by-the-police>



**Figure 12: Key National statistics on violent crime**

The police recorded 1.2 million (1,167,998) violence against the person offences in the year ending March 2017<sup>2</sup>, an increase of 18% compared with the year ending March 2016 (992,246 offences):

- violence without injury accounted for 41% (474,006 offences)
- violence with injury accounted for 40% (465,765 offences)
- stalking and harassment accounted for 19% (226,754 offences)
- death or serious injury – unlawful driving accounted for 0.06% (749 offences)
- homicide accounted for 0.06% (724 offences)

Source: ONS - The nature of violent crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2017

### Serious violence with injury

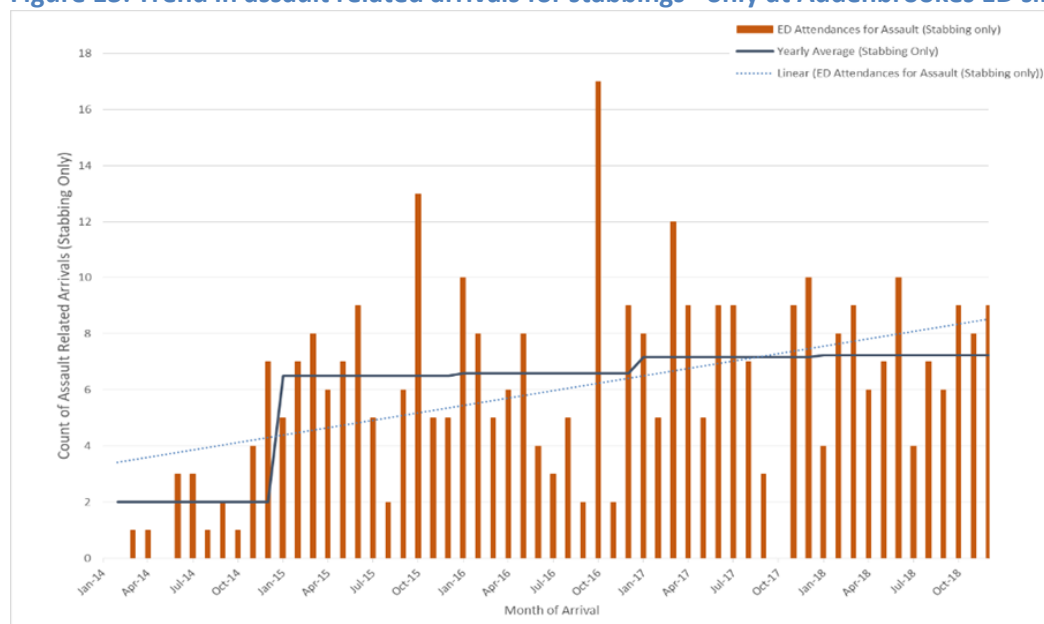
In order to gain a greater understanding of the more serious violence, not associated with domestic abuse, the Research Group investigated the national data and theories and local data. Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV) continues to support monitoring of trends in violence locally by capturing attendance of local Emergency Departments (ED) due to assault.

Of the Emergency Departments (ED) serving the population of East Cambridgeshire, data is currently available from Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge and Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn, and is summarised below.

### Addenbrookes ED data analysis

There has been an increase in assault related arrivals in recent years, with the proportion of arrivals resulting in a hospital admission increasing over the monitoring period. Without further investigation it is hard to infer too much from this trend. However, national research has previously indicated that injury resulting in admission could be used as a proxy for severity of the assault. There has also been a marked increase in ED attendance due to stabbing, as shown in the figure below.

**Figure 13: Trend in assault related arrivals for stabbings\* only at Addenbrookes ED since 2014**



Source: Addenbrookes Emergency Department

\*Victim assaulted with a Knife/other sharp object, or Glass/Bottle

39% of assault incidents culminating in an arrival at Addenbrookes ED occurred in a public place in 2018, which has been the most common location type in each of the past five years. The proportion of assaults occurring in either the home (not necessarily victims home) or in a licensed premise has been rising since 2015 and stood at 15% and 16% respectively in 2018. The number of assaults occurring in educational establishments (such as schools) has also been on the rise in recent years, up 44% in the past year. It should be noted that some of the rises may be due to better recording of incident location by A&E receptionists.

In terms of victims of stabbing overall, the age and gender of those arriving at Addenbrooke's ED from 2014 to 2018 are predominantly Males in their 20s.

#### Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn

There has been an increase in the number of assault related arrivals at the ED, up from 458 in 2016 to 556 in 2018 (21% increase). However, it is difficult to infer how many of those attending the ED are residents of East Cambridgeshire or if the assault occurred in East Cambridgeshire. There has also been a 13% increase in the number of stabbing victims<sup>29</sup>, from 2016 to 2018.

In 2018, Over one-quarter (28%) of all victims treated at QEH ED were in their 20s (a drop from 36% in 2016), with 71% of those being males. Overall, males accounted for 73% of all the victims treated in 2018, which was a slight increase from 2016 (70%). The proportion of attendances by victims over the age of 40 increased between the two years from 22% in 2016 to 29% in 2018. This suggests that it is not an increase in assaults on young people that is behind the rise in assault related attendances at QEH ED.

#### Ambulance Callouts for Assault

Local Ambulance callouts for assaults can also indicate the areas where violence with injury has been occurring. As the table below shows, the count of ambulance callouts to East Cambridgeshire for Assault remains low relative to other districts in Cambridgeshire.

**Table 13: Ambulance callouts for assault 2014 – 2018\*;**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Cambridge	272	286	215	222	184
East Cambridgeshire	49	73	55	59	38
Fenland	182	221	170	157	132
Huntingdonshire	204	197	131	137	104
South Cambridgeshire	75	80	82	62	53
Unknown & Outside Cambridgeshire	564	616	484	426	353
All callouts for Assault (Total)	1346	1473	1137	1063	864

Source: East of England Ambulance Trust

<sup>29</sup> Involving knife/other sharp object, or glass/bottle

\*2018 covers Jan-Nov 2018 Ambulance Callout data, as the December data is awaiting release at the time of writing. 2018 Police recorded VAP and Violence with Injury across the Cambridgeshire force area is to year ending September 2018 only (this is the latest data release available at time of writing) (Equivalent 2014 statistics are not available).

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## INTERVENTIONS

To date the ECCSP has responded to the National Violence Strategy as follows:

- Kevin Napier CSP Chair and Shona McKenzie CSP Officer attended Home Office Conference on National violence strategy, looking at what this means at a local level so actions can be set through the CSP Action plan (2019 onwards).
- Work with the Schools, District Team and other Partners from the Problem Solving Group while using information through ECINS to identify individuals at Risk.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- ECCSP to seek and support ways to monitor incidence of violence at a local area.
- ECCSP to set a clear action plan for 2019 onwards in response to the National Violence Strategy.

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## SUBSTANCE MISUSE

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### ISSUES

At a national level, statistics indicate a long term decline in drug<sup>30, 31</sup> and alcohol misuse. Some local level analysis to district level is featured in the Local Alcohol Profile published by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Public Health Intelligence Team. Across the indicators included to district level in May 2018, East Cambridgeshire was broadly marked as having lower levels of concerning alcohol misuse indicators than national or county reports<sup>32</sup>. East Cambridgeshire was not highlighted as significantly worse than national average for key measures of drug misuse in the most recent update to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Core Dataset<sup>33</sup>

There has been a change of provider for Substance Misuse support in East Cambridgeshire and surrounding districts from October 2018. While the previous provider was not able to provide data at district level, the new provider Change Grow Live (CGL) has agreed to provide the Cambridgeshire County Council Research team a district level summary of numbers in treatment and successful completions across the main substance types<sup>34</sup>. This will be made available for the next annual strategic assessment. In the meantime anecdotal growth of demand in East Cambridgeshire and the support of vulnerable clients in Ely and Littleport in particular has been reported as ongoing.

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<sup>30</sup> Home Office/ONS, Drugs Misuse, Findings from the Crime Survey of England and Wales, [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/729249/drug-misuse-2018-hosb1418.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729249/drug-misuse-2018-hosb1418.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> NHS Digital, Statistics on Drugs Misuse in 2018, <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-drug-misuse/2018>

<sup>32</sup> Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Public Health Intelligence, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Alcohol Profile Summary, <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Cambs-Pboro-Alcohol-Profile-Summary-Report-20180306-Final.docx>

<sup>33</sup> Cambridgeshire and Peterborough JSNA Core Dataset, [https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/CP\\_JSNA\\_CDS\\_FINAL\\_Upd\\_20181123.pdf](https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/CP_JSNA_CDS_FINAL_Upd_20181123.pdf)

<sup>34</sup> Namely Opiates; Alcohol only; non opiates and alcohol and non-opiates.

The new provider is developing plans to colocate with other services and use a mobile interventions unit which can deliver interventions in more remote locations, including more rural parts of East Cambridgeshire.

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## INTERVENTIONS

ECCSP interventions related to substance misuse issues are listed below:

- Work with the Schools, District Team and other Partners from the Problem Solving Group while using information through ECINS to identify individuals at Risk
- Provide training to Partners through the “Community Eyes and Ears” scheme

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- ECCSP to ensure all partners are aware of the changes in service provisions and referral pathways.

## COUNTY LINES

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### ISSUES

The proliferation of the drug lines throughout the UK has caused a variety of safeguarding issues, particularly as vulnerable people are targeted in this form of crime. Beyond the community implications of drugs being supplied to an area, violent assault is also strongly associated with this type of crime. Indeed while drugs are acknowledged as a key driver of increased violence, there is evidence that County Lines dealers are more violent than the local dealers who have previously run drug markets.<sup>35</sup>

County lines was addressed directly in the government’s national Serious Violence Strategy in April 2018, which included a county lines action plan. This had an emphasis upon awareness raising across frontline practitioners in key sectors including health, housing, education, social care and youth offending.

A national Crime Agency Briefing on the threat update for County Lines<sup>36</sup> (published November 2018), was included in this action plan. This briefing was based on returns from Police forces across England and Wales as well as the British Transport Police<sup>37</sup>. Some key aspects of this briefing included:

- High levels of violence associated with County Lines knife carrying

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<sup>35</sup> “Good evidence suggests this would drive up violence: County Lines dealers are more violent than the local user/dealers who previously ran markets; and crack-cocaine is the drug most linked to violence.” Home Office Home Office, Serious Violence Strategy, <https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Violence%20Strategy%20and%20County%20Lines%20Action%20Plan%20-%20Nick%20Hunt.pdf>

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/832-county-lines-violence-exploitation-and-drug-supply-2017/file>

<sup>37</sup> <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/832-county-lines-violence-exploitation-and-drug-supply-2017/file>

- Carrying weapons widely occurring in County Lines activity
- Cuckooing practiced, but also targeting other accommodation types more recently (for example caravan parks)
- Children most frequently encountered victims of County Lines exploitation
- Emerging issue of companies being complicit, e.g. taxis, fast food outlets and car hire firms

A subsequent intelligence assessment from the NCA published in January 2019 has highlighted a pattern of children being targeted in 'importing areas' from an earlier age (<11)<sup>38</sup> and app-based taxi-companies being utilised.

#### National Crime Agency Statistics: National Referral Mechanism

The statistics for those already identified as involved in County Lines nationally is available from the National Crime Agency. In cases of potential exploitation, services may refer individuals to the National Referral Mechanism for assessment and support. Referral statistics are collated and reported by the National Crime Agency, and the most recently published national statistical reports highlight that the a key component of referrals for minors was potential labour exploitation, encompassing county lines drug supply<sup>39</sup>.

#### Cambridgeshire Missing, Exploitation and Trafficked Hub data

More locally, a comparison of the 2017/18 financial year with 2018/19 to date, the Cambridgeshire Missing, Exploitation and Trafficked Hub reports engagement with a consistently higher number of individuals affected by Gang Exploitation and CSE in Cambridgeshire. More detailed figures specific to East Cambridgeshire are not available at the time of writing.

#### School Absence and Exclusion

In terms of young people at risk of involvement in County Lines activity, school absence and exclusion is a potential flag. The DFE collated attendance data is shown below for Secondary Schools serving East Cambridgeshire. The proportion of sessions missed due to Exclusion (without alternative provision) as reported by the DFE is also shown below. The latter has being highlighted as an important area of risk for county lines activities as young people excluded from school are known to be targeted for exploitation<sup>40</sup>.

**Table 14: Overall Absence Rate (% of possible sessions) for Secondary Schools serving East Cambridgeshire\*, 14/15 to 16/17 Academic year**

Establishment Name	Overall % Absence Rate (Sessions) 14/15	Overall % Absence Rate (Sessions) 15/16	Overall % Absence Rate (Sessions) 16/17
Bottisham Village College	5.1	4.0	4.0
Soham Village College	4.7	4.6	4.5
Witchford Village College	5.9	5.5	6.5

Source: DFE

\*Data is not currently available for Littleport & East Cambs Academy

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/993-nac-19-095-county-lines-drug-supply-vulnerability-and-harm-2018/file>

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics/2018-nrm-statistics>

<sup>40</sup> Violence and Vulnerability Unit, county lines- a national summary of emerging best practice, May 2018, <https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/County%20Lines%20National%20Summary%20-%20Simon%20Ford%20WEB.pdf>

**Table 15: Overall Exclusion Rate (% of possible sessions) for Secondary Schools serving East Cambridgeshire\*, 14/15 to 16/17 Academic years**

Establishment Name	% Sessions Excluded 14/15	% Sessions Excluded 15/16	% Sessions Excluded 16/17
Bottisham Village College	0.05	0.06	0.04
Soham Village College	0.04	0.01	0.00
Witchford Village College	0.08	0.10	0.10

Source: DFE

\*Data is not currently available for Littleport & East Cambs Academy

## INTERVENTIONS

ECCSP interventions related to County Lines issues are listed below:

- Working with Dave Sargeant from the MET hub team on a County Lines Mapping exercise for East Cambridgeshire
- Delivering training to over 50 Partners around the issues connected to County Lines
- Raise awareness through “Community Eyes and Ears”
- Work with the Schools, District Team and other Partners from the Problem Solving Group and sharing information through ECINS to identify individuals at Risk

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prioritise support of mapping exercise for East Cambridgeshire to develop a clear evidence base of people and places most vulnerable.
- Use this mapping exercise to inform next steps in terms of prevention and awareness raising, for example in any relevant schools

## APPENDIX A. SOURCES

Beyond Youth Custody, Is the justice system retraumatising vulnerable young people  
<http://www.beyondyouthcustody.net/justice-system-retraumatising-vulnerable-young-people/>

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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/729249/drug-misuse-2018-hosb1418.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729249/drug-misuse-2018-hosb1418.pdf)

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Office of National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales, Year ending September 2018,  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2018#little-change-in-the-volume-of-fraud-offences-in-the-last-year>

Office of National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales Overview of Fraud Statistics,  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/overviewoffraudstatistics/yearendingmarch2016#which-groups-in-society-are-most-likely-to-be-victims-of-fraud>

NHS Digital, Statistics on Drugs Misuse in 2018, <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-drug-misuse/2018>

Scams Team, National Trading Standards, <https://www.nationaltradingstandards.uk/work-areas/scams-team/>

The National Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice and The Chartered Trading Standards Institute, Financial Scamming: Our campaign and research to date, , <https://www.tradingstandards.uk/media/documents/policy/research/scam-booklet-final-draft.pdf>

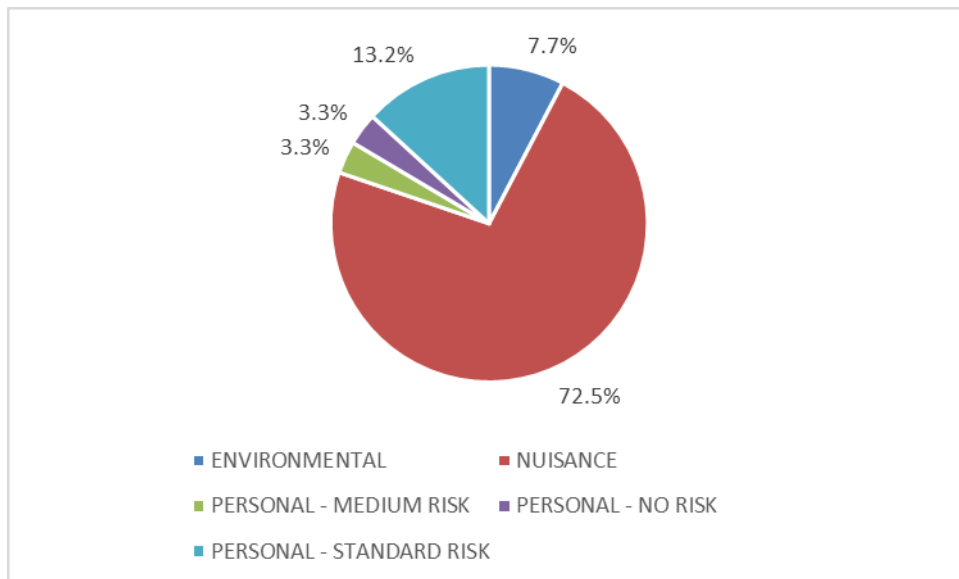
Violence and Vulnerability Unit, county lines- a national summary of emerging best practice, May 2018, <https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/County%20Lines%20National%20Summary%20-%20Simon%20Ford%20WEB.pdf>

Youth Justice Board, Youth Justice Statistics 2016/17 , , [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/676072/youth\\_justice\\_statistics\\_2016-17.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/676072/youth_justice_statistics_2016-17.pdf)



## APPENDIX B. ASB INCIDENT BREAKDOWN

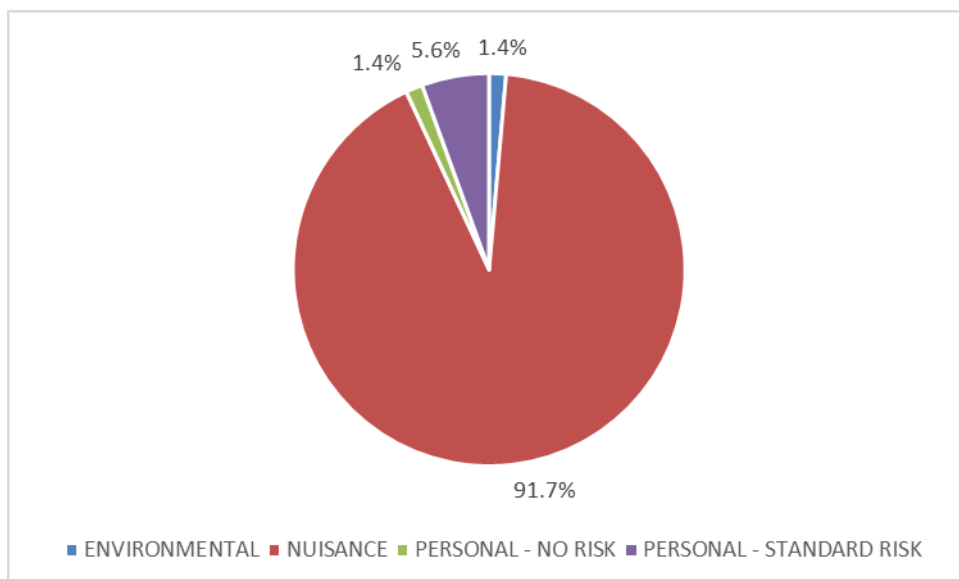
Figure 14: Proportion of Jan-Nov 2016 ASB incidents with a youth marker, by classification



\*No Risk category denotes no risk assessment was completed.

Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

Figure 15: Proportion of Jan-Nov 2018 ASB incidents with a youth marker, by classification



\*No Risk category denotes no risk assessment was completed.

Source: Cambridgeshire Constabulary/ Cambridgeshire Research Group

Figure 16: Classifications of ASB (Source: National Standard for Incident Recording 2011)

### **ASB: PERSONAL**

'Personal' is designed to identify ASB incidents that the caller, call-handler or anyone else perceives as either deliberately targeted at an individual or group or having an impact on an individual or group rather than the community at large.

It includes incidents that cause concern, stress, disquiet and/or irritation through to incidents which have a serious adverse impact on people's quality of life.

At one extreme of the spectrum it includes minor annoyance; at the other end it could result in risk of harm, deterioration of health and disruption of mental or emotional well-being, resulting in an inability to carry out normal day to day activities through fear and intimidation.

### **ASB: NUISANCE**

'Nuisance' captures those incidents where an act, condition, thing or person causes trouble, annoyance, inconvenience, offence or suffering to the local community in general rather than to individual victims.

It includes incidents where behaviour goes beyond the conventional bounds of acceptability and interferes with public interests including health, safety and quality of life.

Just as individuals will have differing expectations and levels of tolerance so will communities have different ideas about what goes beyond tolerable or acceptable behaviour.

### **ASB: ENVIRONMENTAL**

'Environmental' deals with the interface between people and places. It includes incidents where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings including natural, built and social environments.

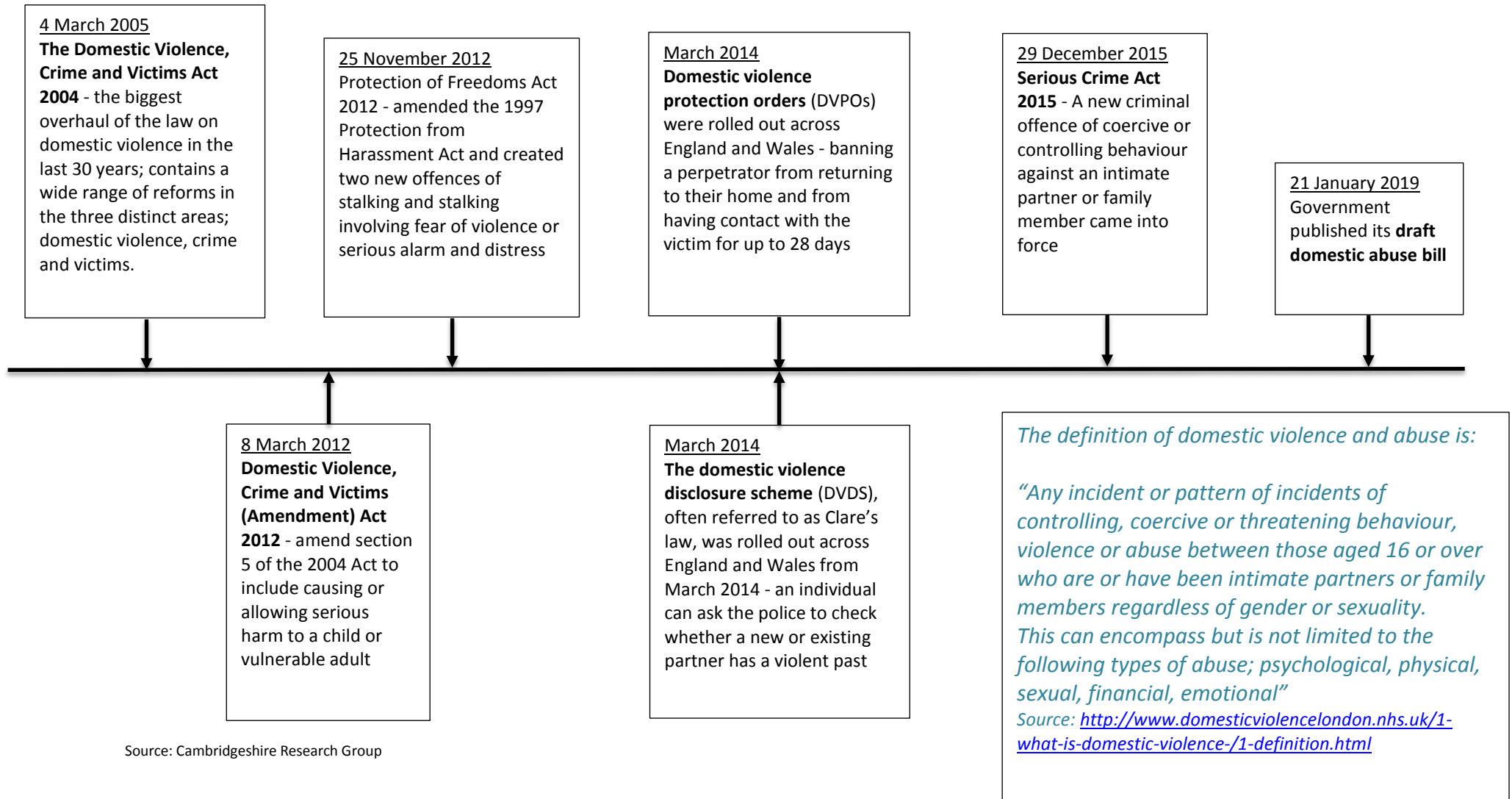
This category is about encouraging reasonable behaviour whilst managing and protecting the various environments so that people can enjoy their own private spaces as well as shared or public spaces.

People's physical settings and surroundings are known to impact positively or negatively on mood and sense of well-being and a perception that nobody cares about the quality of a particular environment can cause those effected by that environment to feel undervalued or ignored.

Public spaces change over time as a result of physical effects caused, for example, by building but the environment can also change as a result of the people using or misusing that space.

Source: The National Standard for Incident Recording;  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/116658/count-nsir11.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/116658/count-nsir11.pdf)

## APPENDIX C. TIMELINE OF HOW THE DOMESTIC ABUSE LAWS IN THE UK HAVE CHANGED OVER TIME



Source: Cambridgeshire Research Group