

# CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH NEEDS ASSESSMENT: VICTIMS, SUSPECTS AND OFFENDERS: 2019/2020

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

VERSION: FINAL  
OCTOBER 2020

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Additional Contributions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data supplied by;</li> <li>• Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Performance Team</li> <li>• The Cambridgeshire Victim and Witness Hub</li> <li>• Cambridgeshire Office of the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner</li> <li>• BeNCH Community Rehabilitation Company</li> <li>• Youth Offending Service Cambridgeshire &amp; Peterborough</li> <li>• National Probation Service</li> <li>• HMP YOI Peterborough</li> </ul>
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report aims to provide an overview and profile of the available data related to victims, suspects and offenders in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as recorded by criminal justice organisations and victim support services. It was commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The primary purpose of this update to the Victim and Offender Needs Assessment was to provide a broad overview of the data for the most recent year (2019) in order to inform the next police and crime plan and support the countywide thematic delivery groups.

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) approach has been taken, such that this report provides a shared evidence base for all authorities responsible for community safety in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It informs commissioning decisions.

This report builds on the existing knowledge and work Cambridgeshire Research Group has produced on behalf of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. It continues to use the same approach and has oversight from the key responsible authorities.

A range of data sources have been utilised, some of which are ‘administrative datasets’, or ‘casework datasets’, rather than research or bespoke data collected for this purpose. There are therefore a number of caveats for understanding and drawing conclusions from the analysis. Throughout the document attention will be drawn to data issues. This includes, but is not limited to, changes within the assessments, adjusted recording and extraction of data due to a variety of changes in practice, IT software and platforms and organisational changes. Overall it should be noted:

- The data only represents those known to services.
- There are missing or unknowns within each dataset to varying degrees, impacting on the analysis.
- Some fields are based on self-reporting others professional judgement or perceptions.
- All data collection and recording is subject to human error, and whilst the cleansing process has identified and removed where appropriate obvious errors, errors will remain within the datasets.
- A further description of the methodology used is provided within the appendices.

The executive summary will separate the key findings into three sections; a general section looking at the overall number and profile of individuals’ resident in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough known to the Criminal Justice System (CJS), a victim summary and a suspects/offenders summary. These last two have a natural split into two distinct areas within the CJS. This does not negate the fact that some individuals could have been both victims and offenders over time. However, the analysis of the overlap was beyond the scope of this document.

## FINDINGS

### General findings about people in the Criminal Justice System

Each data set has been analysed separately as much as is practical. Personal information was not included within the data shared with the research group. It should be noted that in reality there is likely to be overlap between the categories, both across suspects and offenders but also victims and suspects / offenders. Some individuals are recorded multiple times within data sets. For the analysis each dataset had duplicates within them removed.

#### ***Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Residents***

*Police victim cohort (2019)*  
**36,845**

*Police suspect cohort (2019)*  
**13,293**

*First Time Entrant to YOS (2019)*  
**149**

*BeNCH CRC cohort (Jan 2020)*  
**1,709**

*NPS cohort (May 2020)*  
**968**

As the data is reliant on administrative and existing data sets not all cohorts have comparable information. This has remained an issue since the first needs assessment produced locally by the Research Group.

This original analysis provides a guide to the scale of those in contact with the criminal justice system in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

It should be noted that within the total datasets provided not all individuals are resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, this is most notable in the police and prison data. 10% of victims and 12% of suspects in the cohort were resident outside this area. For Peterborough Prison only 13% of female and 56% of males were released to accommodation in the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough area.

#### ***Prison Populations (December 2019)***

*Peterborough (males & females)*  
**1,168**

*Littlehey (males only)*  
**1,200**

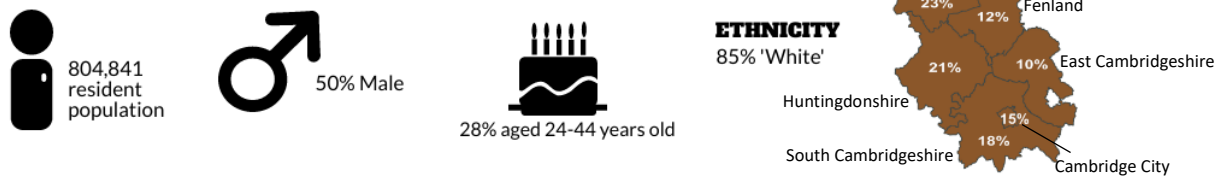
*Whitemoor (males only)*  
**452**

This report aims to provide an overview of the demand on services by including the full data to give an estimate of the scale of each cohort. However, in order to understand the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough picture a subset of just those resident in this area is the main focus of the analysis.

**There is a real need for organisations to prioritise accurate recording and sharing of data in order for the sector to fully support victims, suspects and offenders. The quality of the data continues to be a barrier to understanding the needs of people. This in turn reduces the effectiveness of interventions to reduce victimisation and offending.**

Figure 1: Summary of the demographic profile of the different datasets analysed within this report and includes the general population statistics from the 2011 census for comparison.

## Census population statistics 2011



## Victims in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 2019

% of those where data was available



## Suspects in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 2019

% of those where data was available



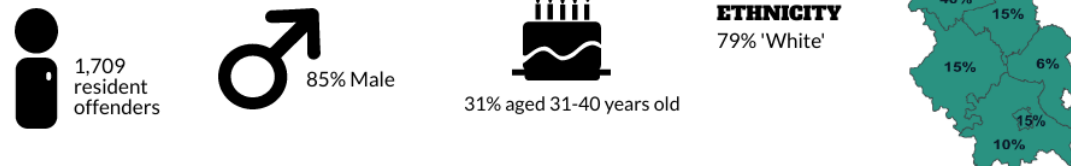
## First Time Entrants to Youth Offending in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 2017-2019

% of those where data was available



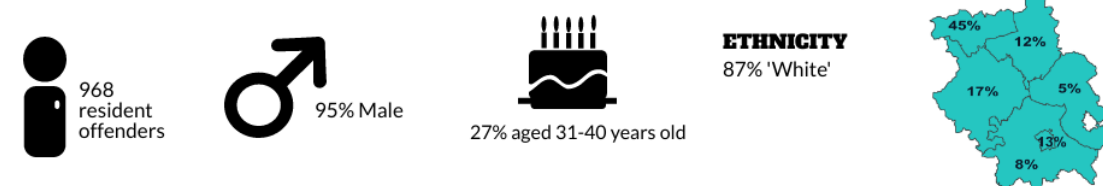
## Adults under the local Community Rehabilitation Company resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 2020

% of those where data was available



## Adults under National Probation Service resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 2020

% of those where data was available



## Summary of victims

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As in previous years the true number of victims remains unknown, therefore the same holds true for understanding the full picture in relation to their support needs. The data analysed in this report provides a profile of the victims known to the police and those accessing the Victim & Witness Hub and specialist services commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Victimisation rates vary with risk factors associated with personal, household and local area characteristics. National data shows there is a higher victimisation rate amongst young people, in particular males aged 16-34. Employment status is also associated with higher levels of victimisation, being higher among those who were unemployed, those on long-term sick leave and students.

### Key Points;

- Applying the Crime Survey for England and Wales victim prevalence estimate to the local population infers that more than 120,000 Cambridgeshire & Peterborough residents could have experienced a crime in the past year. With police recorded victims resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough in 2019 at 36,845 this suggests the volume of victims not reporting to the police is clearly high.
- Victimisation rates were higher in the urban areas of Cambridge City and City of Peterborough. Given national evidence this is unsurprising and consistent with previous patterns seen.
- Victimisation rates were higher for those aged 18-39, with the 25-29 age group at highest risk.
- Domestic abuse was the most common vulnerability marker with 16.4% of all victims having experienced a domestic abuse-related offence in 2019. Domestic abuse victims were more likely to be repeat victims, female and aged 30-39 at the time of the offence.

The Victims' Hub was created in October 2014 when the Ministry of Justice transferred responsibility for commissioning victim services to the local Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), leading to a complete review of victim services. In June 2016 the Victims' Hub merged with the Witness Care Team to become the Victim and Witness Hub. The Victim and Witness Hub has established pathways to support victims resident within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, irrespective of whether they have reported the crime to the police, via universal and specialist support services.

The extent to which an offence impacts on an individual varies considerably depending on the offence type and the victim's characteristics. Greater offence severity and/or victim vulnerability can require more intensive or specialist support due to high levels of harm. Factors that influence the extent of impact on victims and their requirement for support include:

- Offence severity
- Victim's existing support network
- Personal circumstances/ characteristics e.g. age, disability, financial circumstances etc.
- Previous victimisation

In 2019/20 the Victim and Witness Hub offered emotional and practical support to 4,717 victims of crime; with 2,756 victims accepting. Letters or emails were sent to all victims (where safe to do so) who declined the offer of support when they reported their crime to police. This ensures if their needs change they know how and where to access support.

Specialist services also provided support to victims where appropriate, primarily supporting victims of medium and high risk domestic abuse and victims of serious sexual violence. Elderly victims of property-related crime were also proactively offered bespoke target hardening by a specially commissioned charity.

Figure 2: Victim Summary Infographic<sup>1</sup>

# Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Victim Update 2020

Date of Publication: October 2020

## Personal Victims known to the Police: 2019

This includes all individuals recorded as victims (excluding businesses) or associated victims by Cambridgeshire Constabulary between 1st January and 31st December 2019.

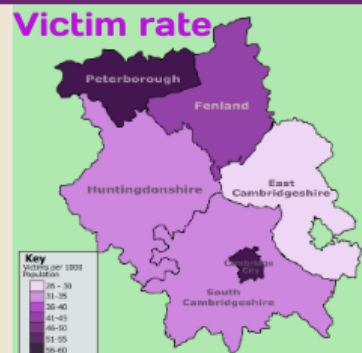


an additional **4,050** victims experienced an offence in county but lived outside of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

**361 or <1%**

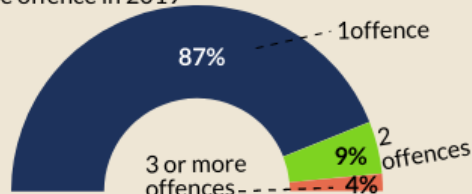
of total victims were 'associated victims'

### Victim rate



### Repeat Victimization

The majority of victims (87%) experienced just one offence in 2019



### Top 3 Offence Types

- **Violence Against the Person - 38%**
- **Theft - 19%**
- **Arson & Criminal Damage - 11%**

### Top 5 Nationalities

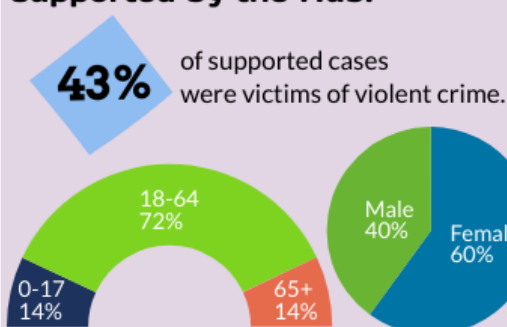
- **British**
- **Polish**
- **Lithuanian**
- **Romanian**
- **Portuguese**

## Victim Services - new referrals: Apr 2019 - Mar 2020

### Victim & Witness Hub:



### Profile of the 2,756 victims supported by the Hub:



### Proactive victim support:

All victims not requesting support upon reporting a crime are contacted (where safe to do so) to remind them it is still available. In 2019/20, Hub staff sent:



### Specialist Victim Services - number of new referrals:

- IDVA (Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors): **1,979**
- Migrant victims of exploitation: **421**
- Elderly burglary victims: **1,167**

- Young victims of crime: **228**
- Victim Pathfinders (mental health): **219**
- Restorative Justice: **100**

- Survivors of sexual violence
- Emotional support & helpline: **457**
- ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advocates): **315**
- ChISVA - children & young people's ISVA: **150**

Produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group  
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<sup>1</sup> A definition of 'associated victim' was not available at the time of writing.



## Summary: Suspects and Offenders

Some of the issues within the reducing offending agenda are long-standing, well-known and understood in the partnership landscape. This report provides an update on the latest data and draws together information across the system.

It remains true that most individuals within the criminal justice system have complex and multiple needs. The data shows that there are common overlaps such as finance and accommodation. Without a more integrated approach to supporting those needs the system will not fully achieve its objectives of reducing offending and re-offending. This is a particularly visible issue for those with high criminogenic needs, commonly seen in acquisitive crime offender cohorts.

The figures below give an indication of the proportions of the cohorts who had multiple needs;

- 88% of First Time Entrants to Youth Offending Service (FTE of YOS) - five or more areas.
- 73% of adults assessed by BeNCH Community Rehabilitation Company - four or more needs.
- 87% for adults assessed by the National Probation Service (NPS) - four or more needs

There were more data gaps than expected across the sources, however, improved data quality is pivotal to gaining a comprehensive understanding of suspects. Some areas of need, for female offenders for example, may benefit from more focused analysis of need and existing services in order to identify gaps and potential areas for improvement and development.

### Key Points;

- There are processes in place to manage high risk domestic perpetrators. However, when considering system level rehabilitation needs, understanding the level of domestic abuse perpetrators via the offender data is difficult as the data does not allow filtering down into how many of the offences are marked as domestic abuse. This is a current gap.
- No data available to provide information on the level of service engagement for offenders.
- Accommodation remains a key need for offenders. The impact of no accommodation or inappropriate accommodation is an important driver of re-offending. Education, training & employment, mental health and substance misuse remain substantial concerns.
- There is a continued reducing trend of FTE into the system. Speech & language and mental health concerns were flagged in 75% and 72% of cases respectively.

Generally, the separate parts of the Criminal Justice System (CJS) provide separate and distinct performance analysis but this holds back from a system-wide understanding and approach. This analysis, taken within the context of other assessments relating to vulnerability, highlights the following key themes;

<b>Complexity of needs linked to vulnerability.</b>	<b>A need for a better integration of services.</b>
<b>Importance of data collection, linkage and sharing.</b>	<b>Importance of prevention.</b>
<b>Need for education and training for those working with vulnerable groups.</b>	

As the approach to out of court disposals and community sentencing evolves, in line with the Government's recently published White Paper<sup>2</sup>, it will be important to ensure that the needs identified through these mechanisms are also built into future analysis.

<sup>2</sup> 'A smarter approach to sentencing' MoJ September 2020

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/918187/a-smarter-approach-to-sentencing.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/918187/a-smarter-approach-to-sentencing.pdf)



Figure 3: Suspect/Offender Summary Infographic

# Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

## Suspect / Offender Update 2020

Date of Publication: October 2020

### Suspects known to the police: 2019

This includes all individuals recorded as suspects at any stage of the process excluding those eliminated by Cambridgeshire Constabulary between 1st January and 31st December 2019

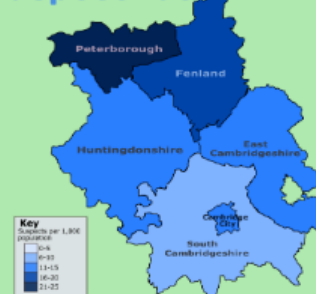


There was also an additional 1,780 out of county suspects

#### Top 5 Nationalities

- British
- Lithuanian
- Polish
- Romanian
- Portuguese

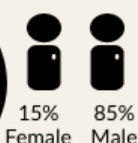
#### Suspect rate



### Adult Clients known to probation services: March 2020

#### Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

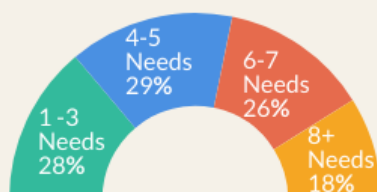
CRC Client cohort resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough - January 2020 Caseload.



#### Main Offence Types

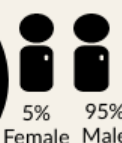
Violence 34%  
Acquisitive 21%  
Motoring 19%

Assessed needs as associated with offending behaviour for CRC cohort:



#### National Probation Service (NPS)

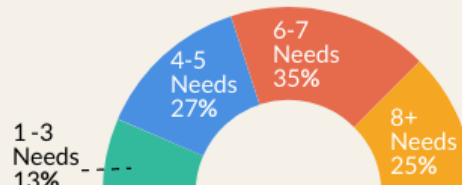
NPS Client cohort resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough - May 2020 Caseload.



#### Main Offence Types

Violence 38%  
Sexual 30%

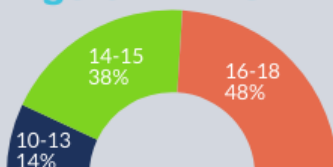
Assessed needs as associated with offending behaviour for NPS cohort:



### First Time Entrants (FTE's) known to the Youth Offending Service: 2017-2019

FTE Client cohort resident in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough - 2017-2019 inclusive

#### Age of FTE's



#### Average severity score for offence

Cambridgeshire - 3  
Peterborough - 3.5

Scale: 1 least severe - 8 most severe

#### Main Offence Type

Violence 44%