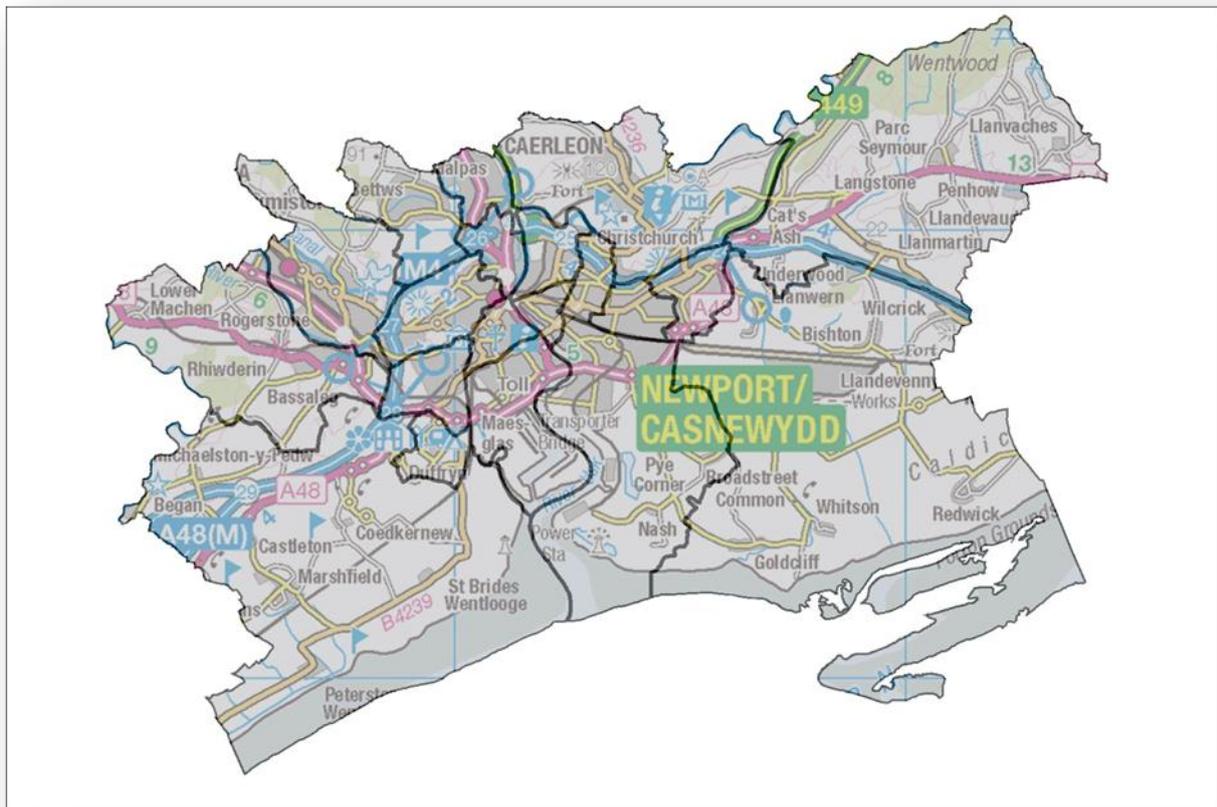


# Unified Needs Assessment Safe & Cohesive Communities 2015



## City of Newport

Edition 5  
December 2015

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## People in Newport live in a Safe and Cohesive Community

Ensuring that Newport is a safe and welcoming place for everybody is essential to the success of this city. People and communities have a better quality of life when they live free from bullying, harassment and violence and people contribute more to society when they feel safe at home and when out in the community. Confidence that Community Safety partners are dealing with local safety concerns and promoting an inclusive community is a key issue for Newport and the One Newport Local Service Board (LSB). Partners continue to work closely across the city to address the concerns faced by local people and communities.

The 12 months to September 2015 has seen an increase in crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), however there has been a significant reduction over the last five years. A continuation of this overall downward trend will ensure that over the next few years Newport will move in line with the average levels of crime and ASB for similar local authority areas across the country. However in order to achieve this emphasis needs to remain on reducing incidents, particularly in the city centre, of ASB, acquisitive crime, and violent crime. Challenging targets need to be set for the coming year and continued emphasis on Integrated Offender Management and Youth Justice needs to be maintained alongside prevention and intervention activities across all priority areas.

There appears to be little change shown in the data available in relation to public confidence. However empirical evidence still needs to be improved and refined and the surveys introduced in the previous year will continue in order to build on the data sets available. Public perceptions and confidence need to be built up across Newport through activities such as media campaigns and visible marketing campaigns along with confidence building across all sectors of the community and economy. The work of all partnerships and agencies needs to be reinforced through a concerted campaign to change perceptions of the city, both across Newport and beyond the city boundaries.

Newport City Council is leading on the Gwent wide Domestic Abuse Pathfinder Project, sponsored by the Welsh Government. This is drawing together resources across Gwent to better focus on the issue of domestic abuse and will assist in identifying current resource gaps and suggest recommendations on how capacity concerns should be managed. However, the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Unit within Newport is facing serious resourcing implications as organisations currently staffing this are subject to the loss of funding or changes to their grant conditions. The development of the Victim's Hub in Blackwood is also drawing resource away from this Unit.

The overall trend for deliberate fires has been downward. Work on targeted interventions continues alongside education through schools and the media. The successful multi agency ASB campaigns continue along with work in relation to grass fires in the spring and summer school holiday periods.

Alcohol and substance misuse continue to be a driver for crime and disorder and feelings of personal safety in some areas of the city. Alcohol in particular has been identified as one of the main drivers for crime, ASB and the perceptions of personal safety. A new or renewed emphasis on this continues to needs to be championed both through health and crime related activities.

Road Traffic Casualties across Newport are below the Wales average. Continued emphasis on current and past initiatives needs to be maintained with improved exchange of information and knowledge of existing schemes and protocols seen as areas for development.

Community Cohesion and trust between people underlie issues of crime and personal safety. A cohesive community where the safety of citizens and the responsibility for individual or group actions and behaviour is accepted by all not just individual agencies tasked with the responsibility to manage it or provide enforcement is one of the keys to improving public confidence and empowerment across the city. It is

imperative that all residents and visitors to the city feel safe in all situations whether at work, school, shopping, using parks and leisure facilities or in their own home and local community.

The city has long been an ethnically diverse area but its demographic make up has remained essentially stable for a significant period of time. We are proud in Newport that we have always experienced good inter-community relations in the city and it is vital that all of the people and agencies in the city continue to maintain this commendable social cohesion.

Asylum Seekers, Refugees, Migrants, and Hate Crime are closely interwoven with Community Cohesion. Although there is no evidence to date of serious inter-community conflict in Newport, extensive research conducted elsewhere in the UK has identified certain 'predictors' of both positive and negative community cohesion, many of which are in evidence in Newport at this time. It is vital therefore that the city's key delivery agencies (represented through the LSB) take a proactive approach to promoting social cohesion.

The key issues for Newport are identified as:

- Increasing public confidence in the police and local authority in how they manage crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly in the city centre
- Minimising the number of young people entering the criminal justice system
- Developing and supporting social and community cohesion and improving neighbourhood engagement, planning and integration of services to meet local needs
- Reducing the impact of alcohol and substance misuse on individuals, families and communities
- Continued focus on a multi-agency preventative approach for vulnerable children, young people and their families

*Please note – crime rates for 2014/15 have predominately increased due to the change in how crimes are recorded nationally.*

# Population Indicators

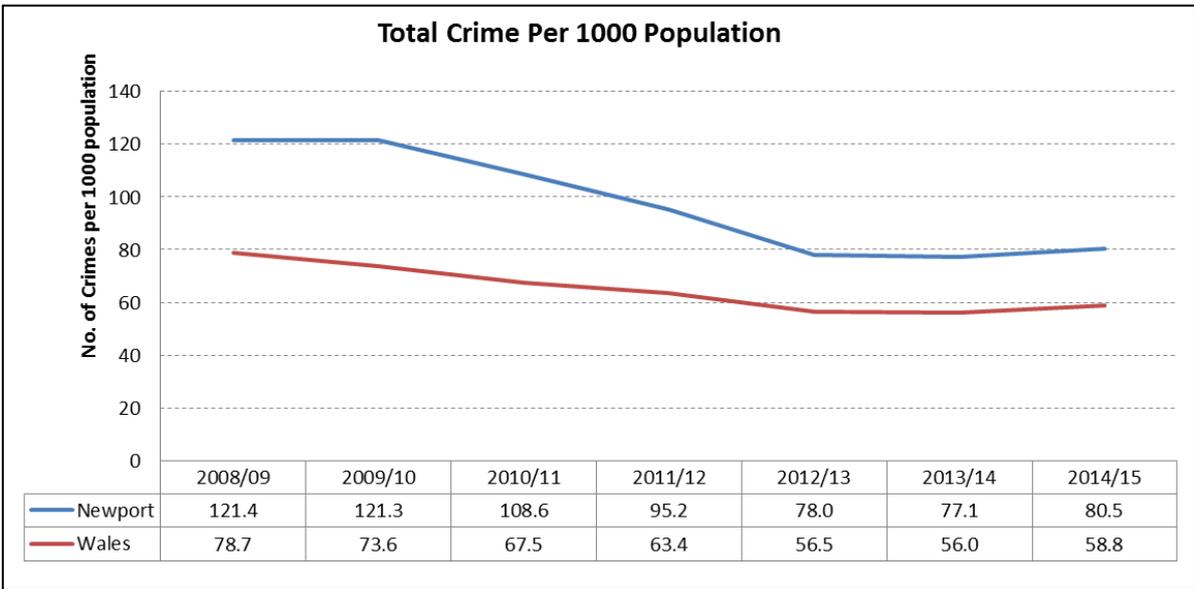
## All Recorded Crime

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Annual crime rate per 1,000 population (Recorded crime)

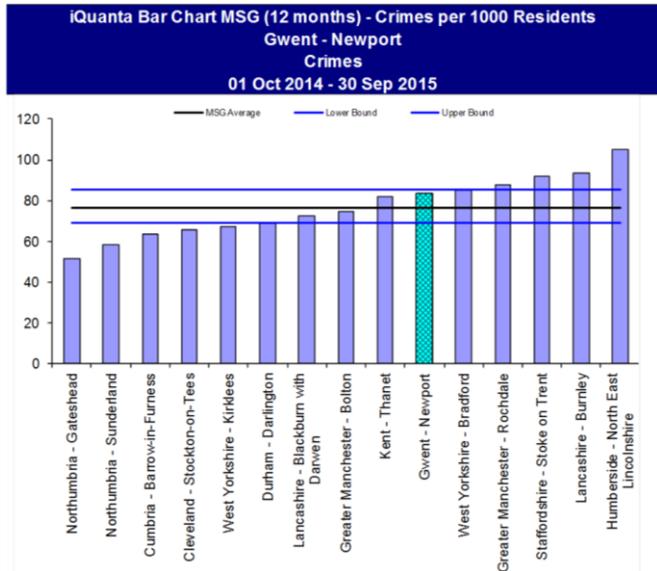
**Data Source:** Home Office / iQuanta

This indicator is the annual recorded crime rate per 1,000 population. It provides information in relation to all types of crime across Newport that are required to be recorded by the Home Office. It includes all types of violence, and property related crime as well as offences identified by the police that may not be subject of a complaint from an individual but are recognised as offences by statute or common law.

The analysis compares data in the 12 months from 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015.



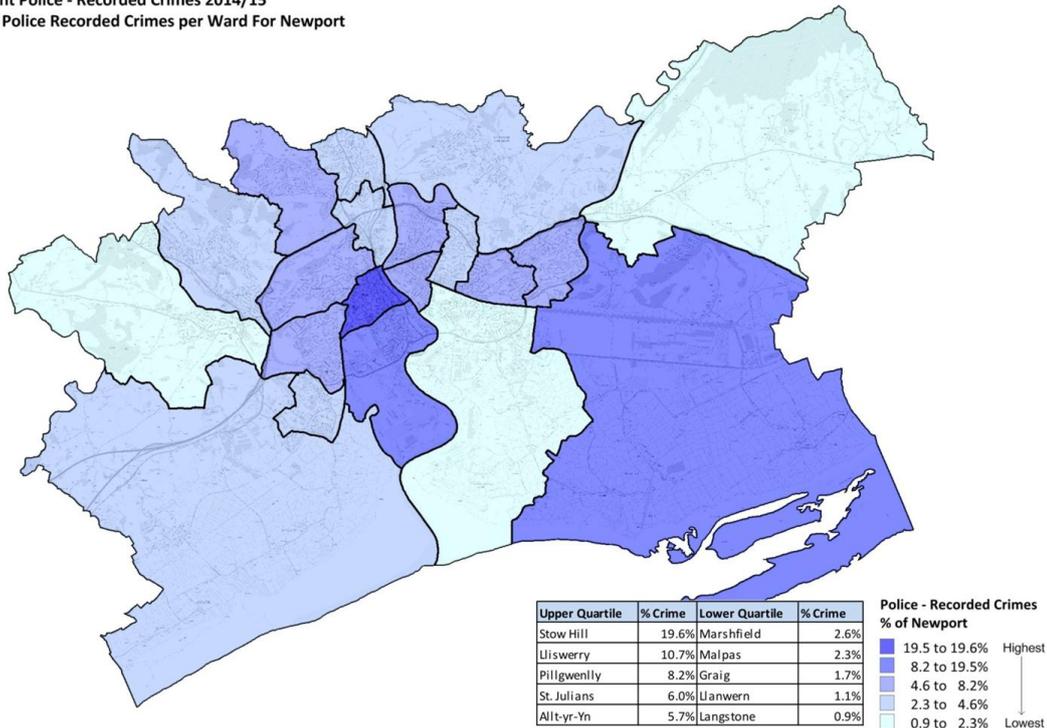
The indicator shows that crime in Newport has been decreasing year on year, with a slight increase in 2014/15, and at the end of September 2015 stood at 80.5 crimes per 1,000 residents. The average across Wales was 58.8.



The chart opposite shows how Newport has performed against other areas in the country. The Most Similar Group (MSG) groupings are produced by the Home Office using a number of data sources to create a measure of similarity.

The following map shows the crime rate by ward across the city:

Gwent Police - Recorded Crimes 2014/15  
% of Police Recorded Crimes per Ward For Newport



Analysis shows that there are various factors driving the current crime trend including an increase particularly in shoplifting and violent crime across areas of the city. Recently, shoplifting has expanded beyond the city centre and now includes Pill (predominantly the ASDA store) and Lliswerry ward (predominantly Spytty Retail Park).

Repeat and Prolific offending is another factor that contributes to crime and ASB. The estimated rate of repeat offending (as a percentage of all offending) is currently about 45% (based on the assumption that what we know about known offenders applies equally to all offenders). This compares to an estimated rate of 36.6% for the same period a year earlier. It must be noted that this is only an estimate and measuring repeat offending rates can be carried out in a number of different ways. The method used for the calculation above is simply to look at all crimes with a named offender, and then working out the percentage of those offenders who are named in more than one crime.

The trend in the overall crime rate in Newport has deviated slightly from the Wales average trend, and the gap is closing. This indicates that the focus on crime reduction targets is working. However, the reason why Newport has historically had a relatively high crime rate are not fully understood and further research may be of benefit in providing clearer understanding of these factors.

They may include:

- the urban and diverse nature of Newport compared to other parts of Wales
- socio Economic factors unique to Newport
- links that Newport has with criminality elsewhere in the Gwent area and more widely across the country
- genuine higher levels of crime in Newport compared with other MSG areas
- different approaches to policing amongst members of the MSG
- differences in recording of crime
- differences in reporting of crime
- errors in the methodology and/or the data that is used to construct MSG comparisons

Other factors to consider include:

- The combination of vulnerable persons, multi occupancy housing, local service provision, and community cohesion may be factors that are contributing to and possibly driving, crime and disorder in hotspot areas across the city.

More detailed analysis is available in the [Safer Gwent Strategic Assessment](#).

For current initiatives, please refer to the sections on:

Acquisitive Crime

Violent Crime

Prolific offending

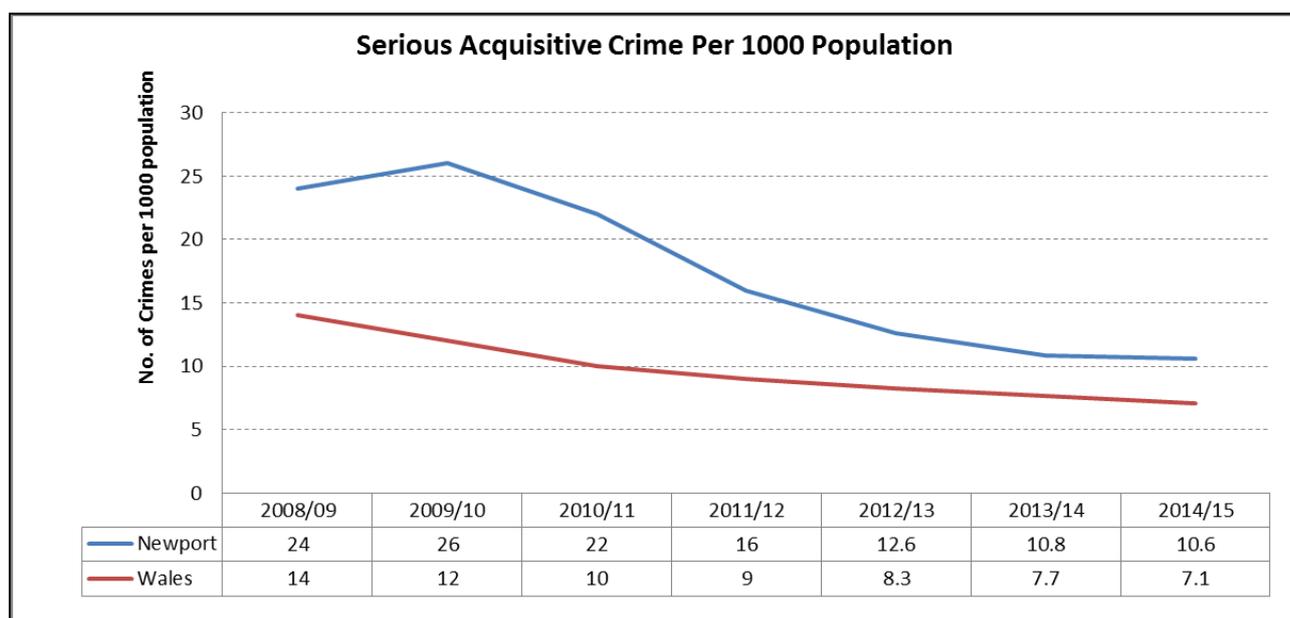
City Centre

## Acquisitive Crime

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Annual serious acquisitive crime rate per 1,000 population  
 Annual domestic burglary crime rate per 1,000 population  
 Annual shoplifting crime rate per 1,000 population  
 Quarterly thefts from motor vehicles  
 Quarterly metal theft crimes

**Data Source:** Home Office / Gwent Police / iQuanta

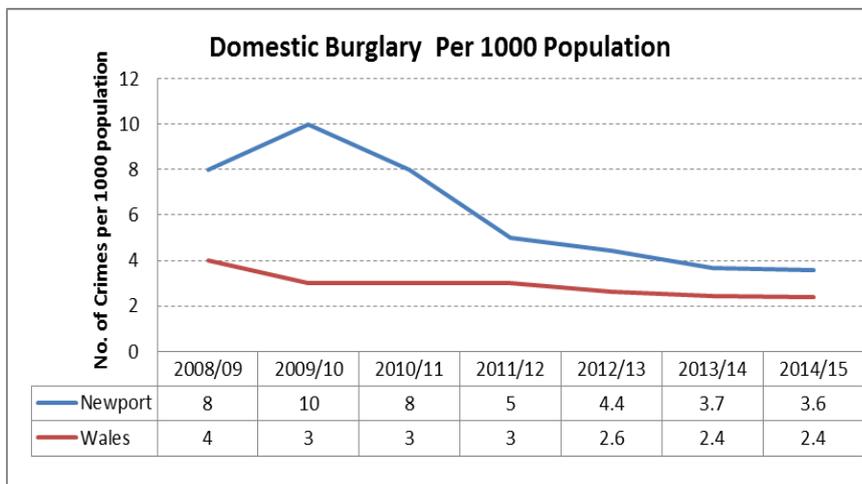
The main indicator is the annual rate per 1,000 population of Serious Acquisitive Crime in Newport compared to the Wales average. Acquisitive crime is made up a number of different crime categories: domestic burglary, robbery, theft from vehicle and theft of motor vehicle, and attempts to commit these offences. The analysis compares data in the 12 months from 1 October 2014 to September 2015.



There has been an overall decrease across all crimes classified as Serious Acquisitive Crime, and Newport has shown improvements against its Most Similar areas now being placed below the upper control limit.

The other indicators are:

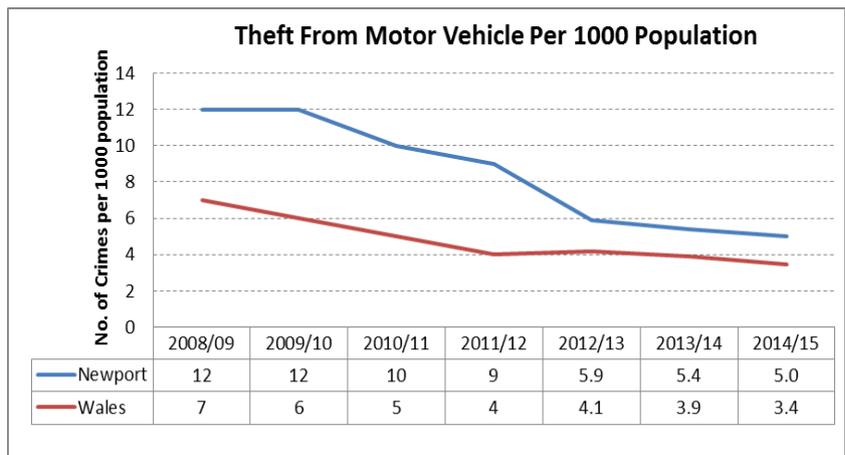
- The annual rate per 1,000 population of domestic burglary in Newport compared to the rate across Wales. Newport currently has a Domestic Burglary rate of 3.6 per 1,000 residents (12 months to September 2015). This is a slight improvement compared to the same period a year earlier. However, the rate per 1,000 in Newport has consistently been higher than the Wales average.



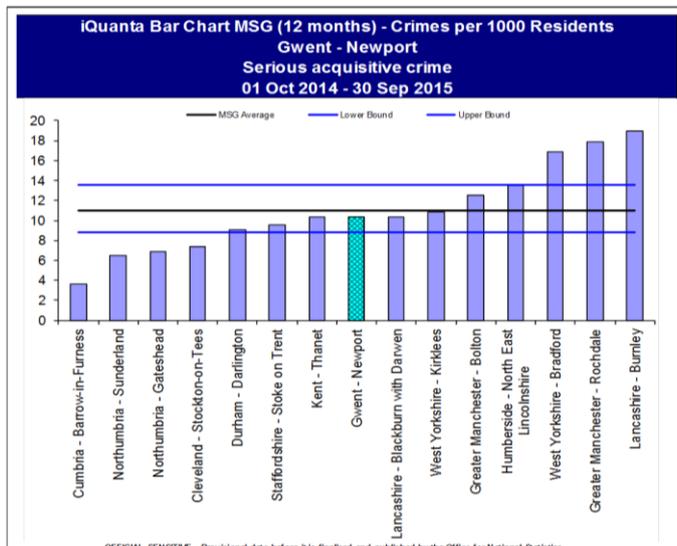
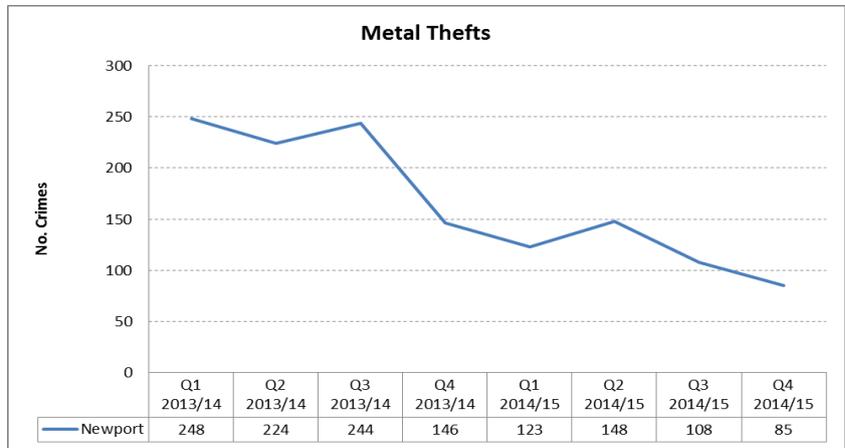
- The annual rate per 1,000 population of shoplifting in Newport compared to the rate across Wales. Shoplifting has fluctuated slightly over the last few years but has remained fairly static in the 12 months to September 2015 compared to the same period last year. However, the rate per 1,000 in Newport has consistently been higher than the Wales average.



- The annual rate of theft from motor vehicles in Newport compared to the rate across Wales. Thefts from Motor Vehicles have decreased in the 12 months to September 2015. The long term trend since 2006/07 is a decrease which is in line with the Wales national trend. However, the rate per 1,000 in Newport has consistently been higher than the Wales average.



- The quarterly rate of metal thefts in Newport. Metal theft has decreased significantly in the 12 months to September 2015 compared to previous quarters and the same period a year earlier, and shows a continued decrease since 20



The chart opposite shows how Newport has performed against other areas in the country covering the period up to September 2015. The Most Similar Group (MSG) groupings are produced by the Home Office using a number of data sources to create a measure of similarity. Note that this measure for Serious Acquisitive Crime only includes dwelling burglary, robbery, theft from vehicle and theft of vehicle.

Acquisitive crime is generally being reduced across the country with new initiatives and legislation being enacted around metal thefts and its disposal. Serious and prolific offenders are being monitored closely by the Newport Integrated Offender Management team and work with the probation service is continuing to make further improvements to this scheme. Although regular shoplifting offenders have been targeted in the city centre the work undertaken has raised the profile of offences and increased recording, city centre targeting has also caused displacement to other areas of the city. Socio economic factors relating to the economy are also thought to have a bearing on this increase.

A number of current initiatives are currently taking place, including:

- City centre Business Crime Partnership, with its digital communication system is being considered for out of town shopping areas along with a new business partnership IT solution.
- Regular meetings of City Centre Tactical Group discuss retail /business crime matters with information and intelligence passed to security staff and traders.
- Projects raising awareness about prevention tactics prior to offences being committed amongst traders continue.
- Increased cohesion between CCTV, Police and Traders.

To address high levels of shoplifting, an operation was set up to educate stores on the Newport retail park about their store security, hi-light good or bad practice and help them help themselves in reducing crime in their stores. Prior to this operation being set up, shop watch was introduced where participating stores signed up to information sharing where names and details of prolific offenders would be given to them as part of a crime prevention pack and this would be updated every other month. Following this, all participating stores have been given further information slides to educate staff around in house security measures, preventions and powers etc. Police cadets along with Cadro have then gone into the store over a 2 week period to try and steal from the stores. Feedback for each store on their positive and negatives, including cadet feedback is being arranged for the January 2016. Visibility patrols are also now being undertaken.

Other indicators to consider include:

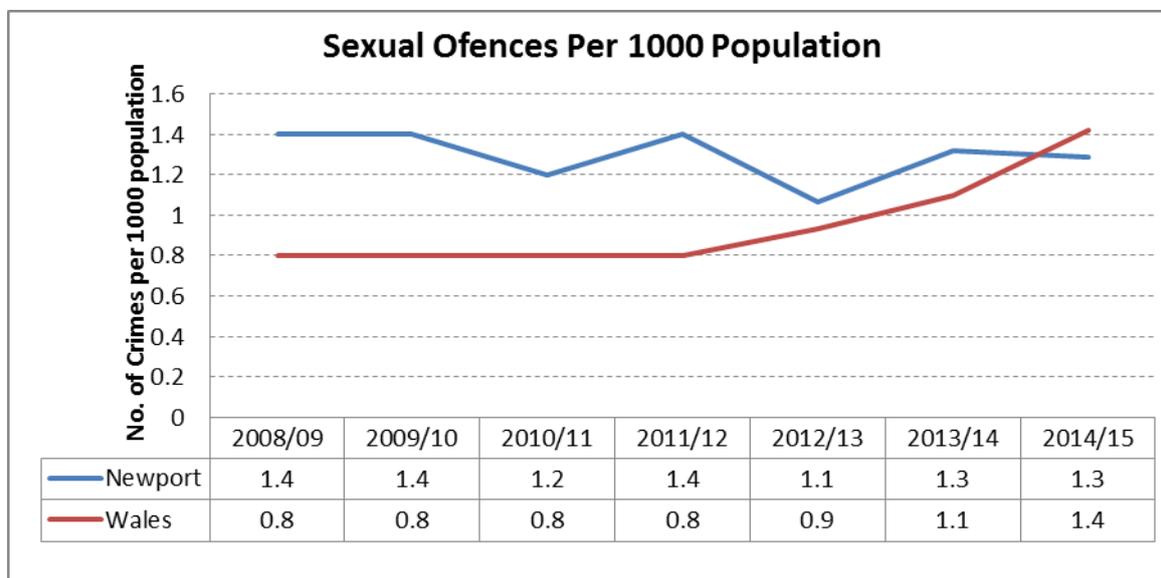
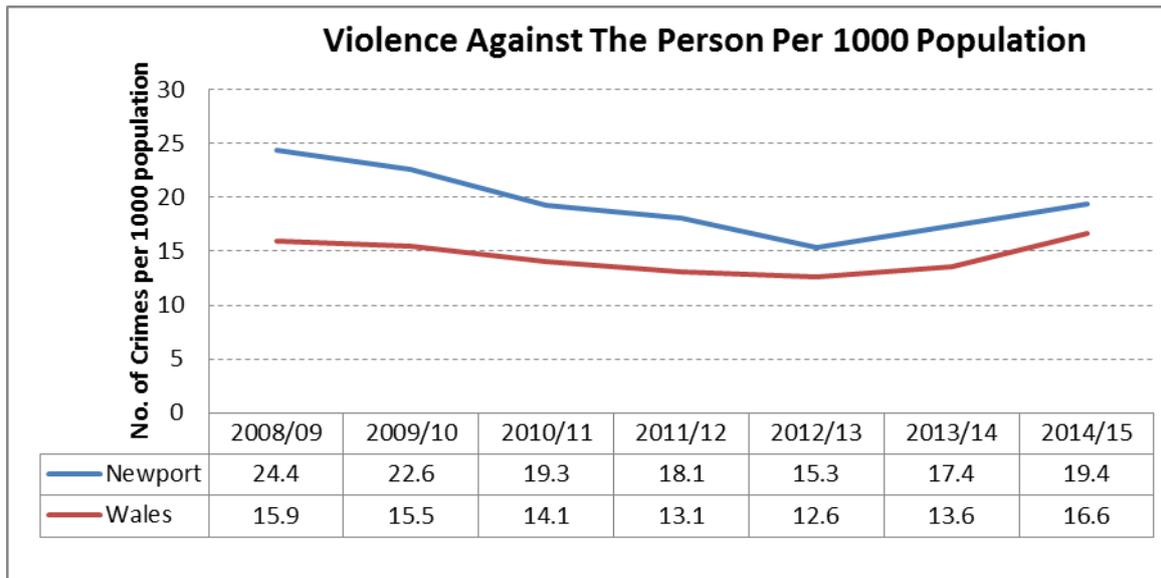
- Acquisitive crime by ward and street
- Acquisitive crime national comparison / MSG comparison
- Crime density by ward
- Victims of acquisitive crime by age / gender / social economic
- Offenders of acquisitive crime by age / gender / social economic

## Violent Crime

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Violence against the person rate per 1,000 population  
Sexual offence rate per 1,000 population

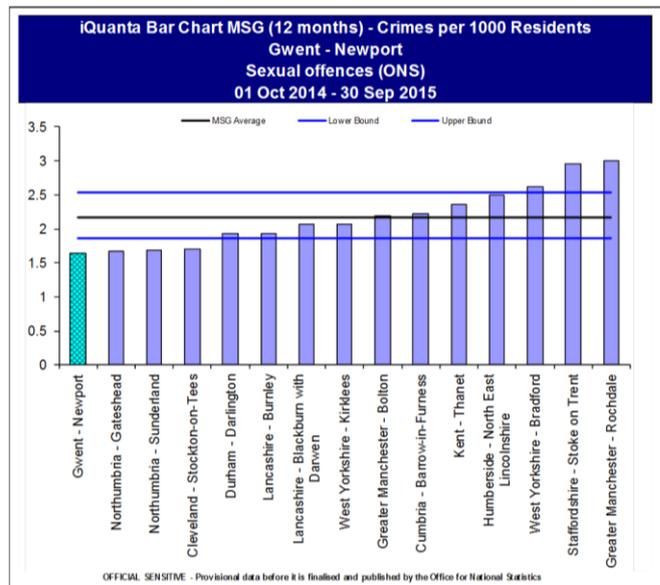
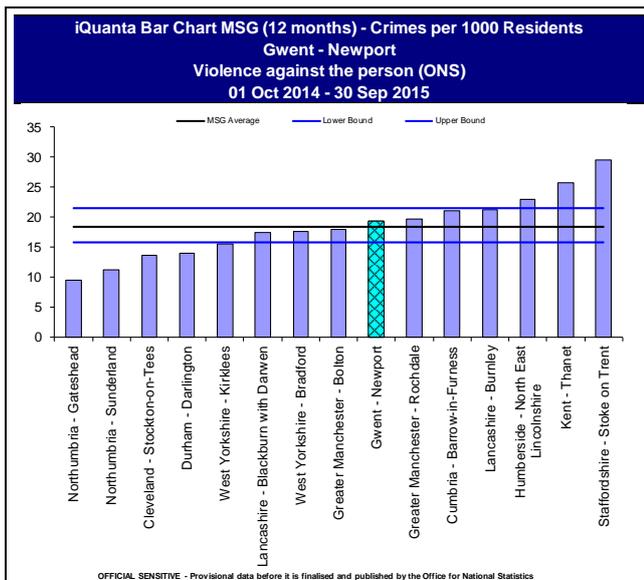
**Data Source:** Gwent Police / iQuanta

The indicators show the annual rate per 1,000 population of Violence Against the Person (VAP) in Newport and the annual rate per 1,000 population of Sexual Offences in Newport compared to the Wales average. The analysis compares data in the 12 months from 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015.



There has been a slight increase in Violence Against the Person (VAP) offences during the 12 months to September 2015, with an overall decrease over the last 5 years.

The following charts show the Most Similar Group (MSG) for violent crime and sexual offences and cover the 12 month period up to September 2015. These two charts have been compared to the same charts for the same 12 month period one year earlier in order to identify year on year change.



\*Please note that the iQuanta group of recorded violence has changed with some data such as Public Order Offences having now been removed.

Activity in the city centre is a major contributor to violent crime. A proactive stance to public order has resulted in less recorded incidents of violent crime causing an injury but increased recording of minor assaults.

The main contributing factors towards violent crime are alcohol fuelled violence and domestic violence. Outside of the city centre, the main areas for violent crime are Clarence Place and Chepstow Road in the Victoria ward. There are three smaller hotspots in Bettws, Pill and Cromwell Road in the Lliswerry ward.

Current initiatives include:

- Weekly city centre tactical group meeting
- Enhanced briefing and information for night time economy staff e.g. door staff, Street Pastors, Pub Watch
- Increased use of multi agency visits and enforcement activities
- Formation of a local authority responsible bodies group addressing all licensing activities and problem premises/outlets
- Proactive multi agency enforcement activities linked to the taxi trade, licensing and associated offending
- Increased police visibility at targeted times and locations

Areas of development include:

- Increased use of current targeted interventions
- Development of socio and economic interventions relating to the city centre and its users
- Analysis of both Domestic Abuse/Violence data and NTE data in the city centre should be considered.
- Crimes of Sexual Violence should be monitored to anticipate and address any changes required in single agency or partnership activity

Other factors to consider include:

- Monthly time series of police recorded violent crime
- Violent crime by type of violence
- Monthly hospital accident and emergency data
- Monthly hospital admissions data
- Monthly ambulance data

- Violent crime by ward
- Violent crime by street
- Violent crime density (per 1,000 population)
- Victims of violent crime data by age/gender/ethnicity
- Offenders of violent crime by age/gender/ethnicity/social economic status
- Data on dealing with violent crime (arrests, justice data, etc)

## Prolific Offending

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Rate of adult re-offending  
 Number of conviction prolific and other priority offender re-offending

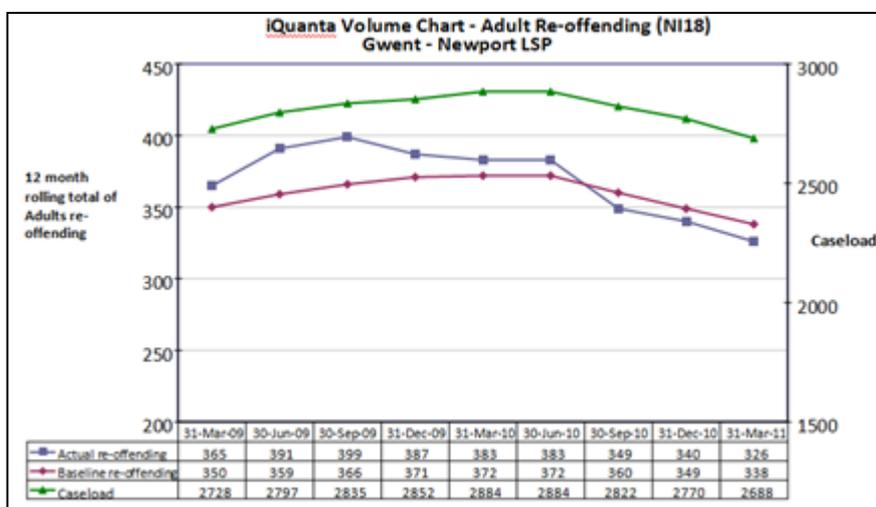
**Data Source:** Ministry of Justice Youth and Adult / iQuanta / Gwent Police

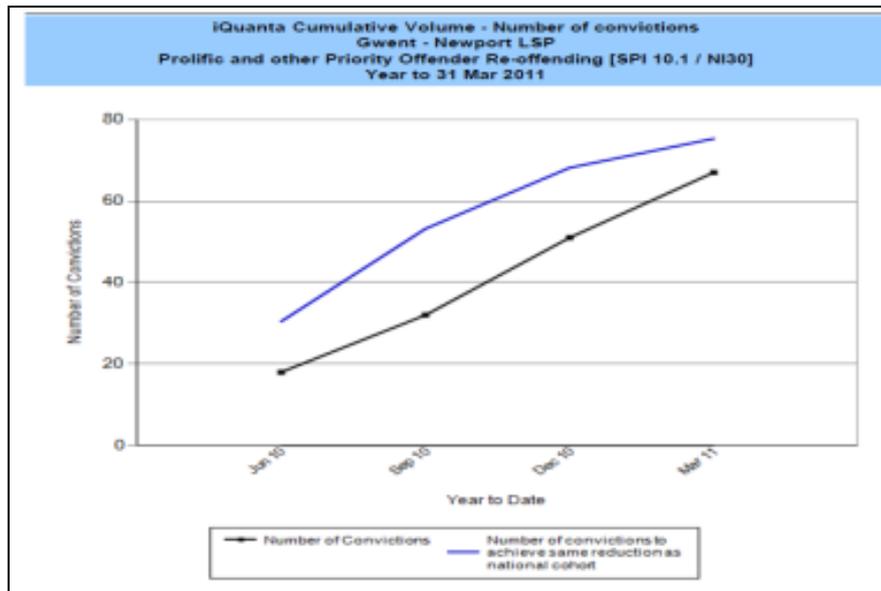
The indicators used to analyse re-offending are divided between young persons and adults. Information in relation to young persons is found under [Youth Justice](#).

Rate of adult re-offending - this is the iQuanta NI18 measure as published by the Home Office. It is designed to track the level of adult re-offending at a local level. It tracks the actual rate of adult re-offending against a baseline level (an expected level based on past trends) and the number of offenders who are being managed by the local probations service (case load). A re-offence is counted where an offender commits an offence within 3 months of the end of a quarter and this offence is proven by a conviction or caution within 6 months.

Number of convictions prolific and other priority offender re-offending - this is the iQuanta NI30 measure as published by the Home Office. It is designed to track the level of reoffending for a cohort of local prolific offenders who are being managed by the probation service and other agencies. It tracks the actual cumulative rate of reoffending against a baseline level (an expected level based on a national reduction target). The most prolific offenders in Newport are managed as part of an Integrated Offender Management (IOM) approach.

The analysis compares data up to March 2011.





As of March 2011, the level of adult re-offending in Newport was below the baseline for the predicted level of re-offending. Prolific and other priority offender re-offending data shows that the cumulative level of re-offending is below the target level. This is a good indicator of the success of the Integrated Offender Management approach that has been adopted in Newport.

Both sets of data show positive trends that are below their respective baselines. This is likely to be due to the success of the Integrated Offender Management approach that has been introduced in Newport. However, other intelligence suggests that prolific and repeat offenders are still very active in Newport and are responsible for an unknown but high volume of crime. This may be a factor contributing to the high levels of crime that Newport records as identified in the section All Recorded Crime.

Current initiatives include:

- Consolidation of the monthly migration meeting
- Weekly meetings of operational multi agency staff ensuring swift action on non compliance and continued offending
- Community Safety Priority and Prolific Offending (CSPPPO) accommodation fund

Areas of development include:

- Identification of possible future partners and key stakeholders in the development of a broader range of diversionary activities linked to the process of early intervention
- Continued emphasis on the transition between youth and adult offenders

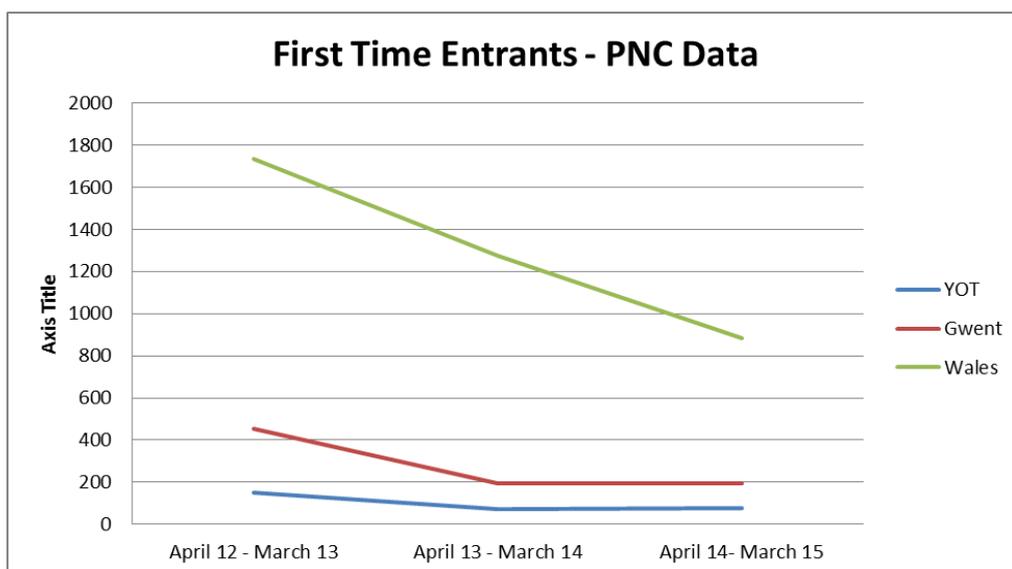
There are indications to suggest that more and more offenders are being housed in Newport from other parts of Gwent contributing to crime and disorder however at present no empirical evidence has been made available to confirm this.

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Frequency of re-offending rates  
 Number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System

**Data Source:** Youth Justice Board (Youth Offending Service Newport)

In England and Wales, young people aged between 10-17 years of age can be held criminally responsible for their actions. The indicator on first time entrants (FTE) into the Youth Justice System (YJS) provides an indication of number of first time offenders dealt with by Newport and Gwent. Nationally (in England and Wales), the majority (60%) of proven youth offending is dealt with in court with the rest dealt with by the police through reprimands or final warnings. It is estimated that during 2009 youth offending cost the economy between £8.5 to £11 billion<sup>1</sup>.

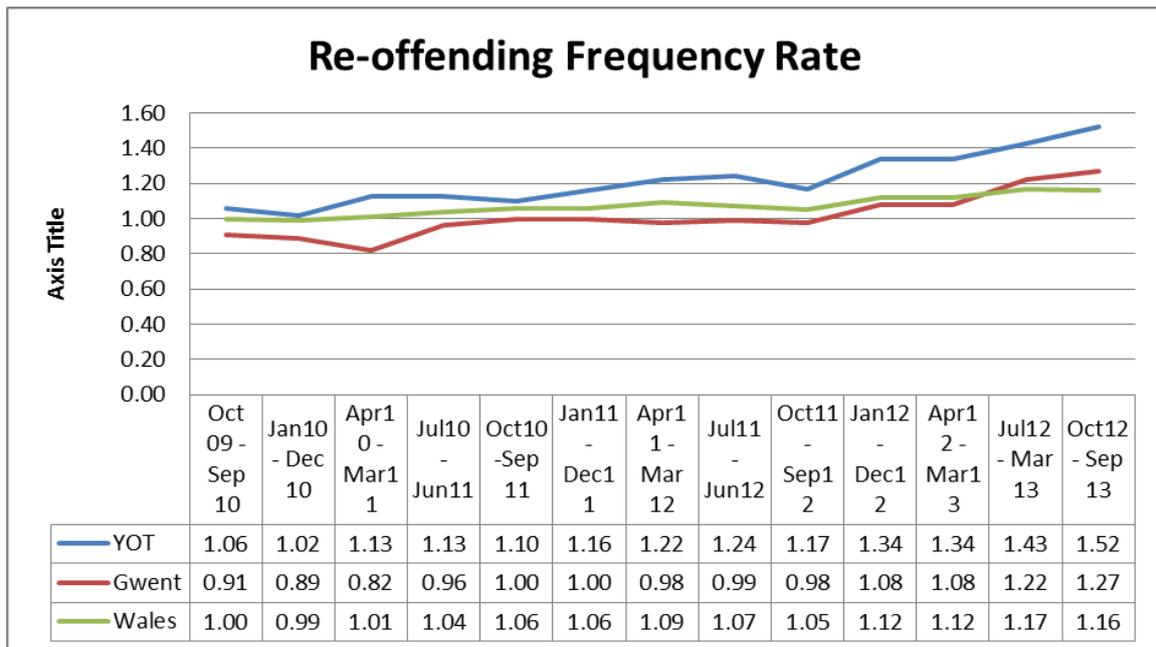
The frequency of re offending indicator focuses on tracking a cohort of young offenders who were in the criminal justice system between January to March in a given year. The data then tracks this cohort over a period of time (3, 6, 9 and 12 months) to identify those that re-offend and the frequency of re-offences. The frequency of re-offences is calculated by the number re-offences over the number tracked within a cohort.



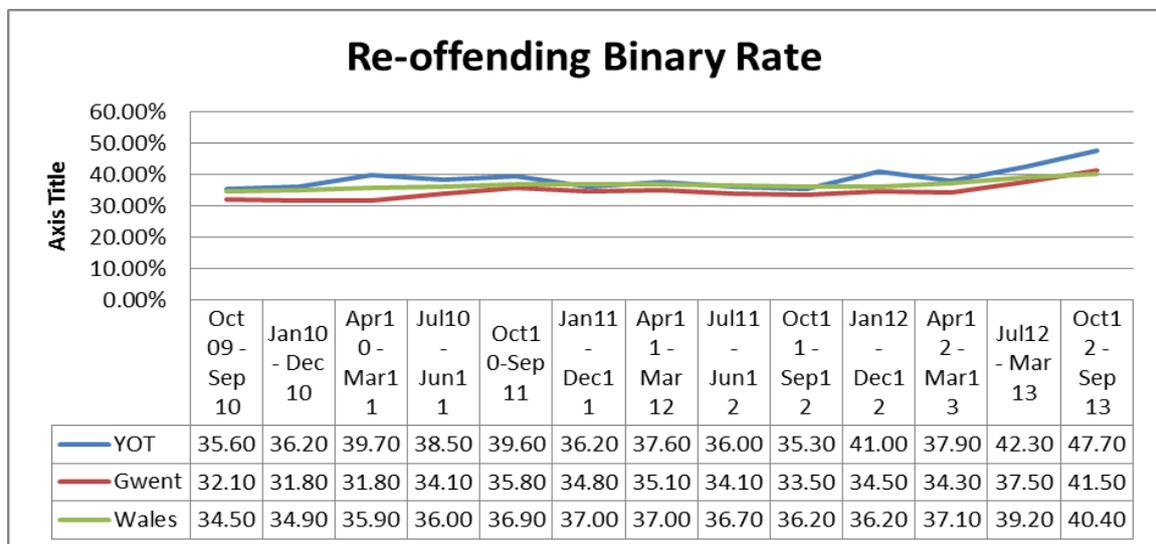
Between April 2013 and March 2014, there was a 3.4% increase in the number of FTE compared to the same period the previous year. This is in comparison to a 0.3% increase in Gwent and a 30.8% decrease across Wales. Though an increase has been recorded this relates to 3 young people, and the general trend over past years is very positive as illustrated below.

YJB information evidenced that there were 76 FTEs in 2014/15. This is being closely monitored by the YOS, and internal information indicates for Q1 and Q2 of 2015/16 there have been 26 FTEs into the system, so early indication is that the number of FTEs will fall significantly again in 2015/16.

<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Justice/National Audit Office, Report by the Controller and Auditor General, HC 663 session 2010-11, *The Youth Justice System in England and Wales: Reducing offending by young people*, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010



Unfortunately information relating to re-offending rates is always historic and can only give an indication of trends and possible direction of travel. In 2014/15, the frequency of reoffending (the number of new offences committed by the cohort) increased from 1.13 to 1.22 compared to the same period in the previous year and again to 1.34 in the same period of 2012/2013. This is compared to an increase from 0.82 to 0.98 to 1.08 for Gwent and an increase from 1.01 to 1.09 to 1.12 for Wales. Newport young people were offending more frequently than other parts of Gwent or Wales. The more recent data shows an increase in re-offending, which is higher than the rest of Gwent and Wales.



The binary rate for Newport (the number re-offending) fell from 39.70 to 37.60 and increased slightly to 37.90 for 2010-11 and 2011-12, whereas the binary rate for Gwent has increased from 31.80 to 35.10 and the Wales figure has increased from 35.9 to 37.00 to 37.10. Over the three years Newport has had a higher number of young people re-offending than Gwent or Wales even though the percentage is very small in recent years having decreased significantly from 2010 - 2011.

More recent trends indicate that the binary rate has increased from 35.3 to 47.7 when comparing the period October-September 2011/12 against October-September 2012/13. The binary rate for Gwent has increased from 33.5 to 41.5 and for Wales the binary rate has also increased from 36.2 to 40.4.

It is important to note actual numbers for this indicator are

- October -September 2011/12: 340 young people in the cohort, 120 reoffenders and 399 re-offences
- October-September 2012/13: 214 young people in the cohort, 102 reoffenders and 325 re-offences.

In April 2014 a Bureau system was introduced by Gwent Police in order to ensure that young people were dealt with consistently across Gwent. Those young people in Newport, who admit to commission of an offence with a low gravity score and have not been in trouble previously, are referred to the Team around the Family for a Community Resolution. The victim of the offence is contacted and offered the opportunity to participate in a restorative justice conference. Young people who commit serious offences directly enter the Criminal Justice System, however, the remainder are referred to the Bureau where, following assessment and contact with the victim, a decision is made regarding the most appropriate disposal. The Bureau decision is reached and agreed by an Inspector from Gwent Police, a Youth Offending Service manager and a community volunteer.

In order to monitor the effectiveness of these Out of Court Disposals (OCD), a process has been put in place to follow-up the young people after 6 and 12 months to assess whether they re-offend (the Criminal Justice Strategy group has oversight of this). With regard to the young people in the Q1 cohort (April to June 2013) the average rate for re-offending after 6 months for Bureau and Prevention was 13.7%.

Youth Crime Prevention funding has been targeted at preventing offending and anti-social behaviour (ASB) by funding the Youth Service I zone provision; detached youth workers and Positive Futures to respond to identified problem areas by engaging young people and providing diversionary activities. Whilst this provision does have a positive impact on reducing ASB, monitoring is not joined up across agencies, with a lack of information sharing being evident - that said these provisions are generally for universal provision and for groups. The YOS needs to supplement this with individual work, and to tie this closely with preventions and this is part of the current work plan.

Monthly performance monitoring now takes place in the YOS to supplement the quarterly YJB statistical information. This information is presented to the Management board at every meeting and enables and ensures robust oversight of performance in general, and that every opportunity to divert young people away from the criminal justice system is pursued.

In 2015/16, historic re-offending information evidences a continuance of the trend of falling numbers of young people in the cohort, though the number re-offending has increased as has the frequency of their offending. It is important to note that Newport, as a city with very high levels of deprivation, very high NEETS and the highest number of Local Authority residential homes in Wales is likely to evidence different trends than its immediate neighbouring authorities. Since April 2015, the YOS runs a monthly list of those young people who have re-offended since the last month (live tracker), and using this re-offending toolkit information, completes deep dives into a selection of those re-offenders cases to ascertain whether there are any patterns or trends which can be identified, or any areas of practice in need of development or to be

shared as good practice. This has led to a working group of staff focussing on developing specific interventions on theft and assault, as they were the most commonly committed offences in Q1 of 2015/16.

It is noted that the Looked After Children population in Newport is over represented in the re-offending cohort, with a number actually being part of our 'prolific' cohort. This is being addressed via increased partnership working with childrens services and residential staff , and the recent use of Restorative Officers for Looked After Children (ROLAC) workers who are offering more intensive support to this population and are working closely with residential homes to increase the use of restorative approaches to manage the offending behaviour.

Various multiagency partnerships and for a exist to discuss and plan for the most needs of the young people who offend, and who can assist in supporting them in to education, employment, into health or substance related support and/or housing.

Following the poor Inspection in 2014, the YOS has and is working hard to drive up performance and effectiveness across a range of areas and a detailed improvement plan is in place to support improvement. This is monitored by the Youth Justice Board and local Management Board.

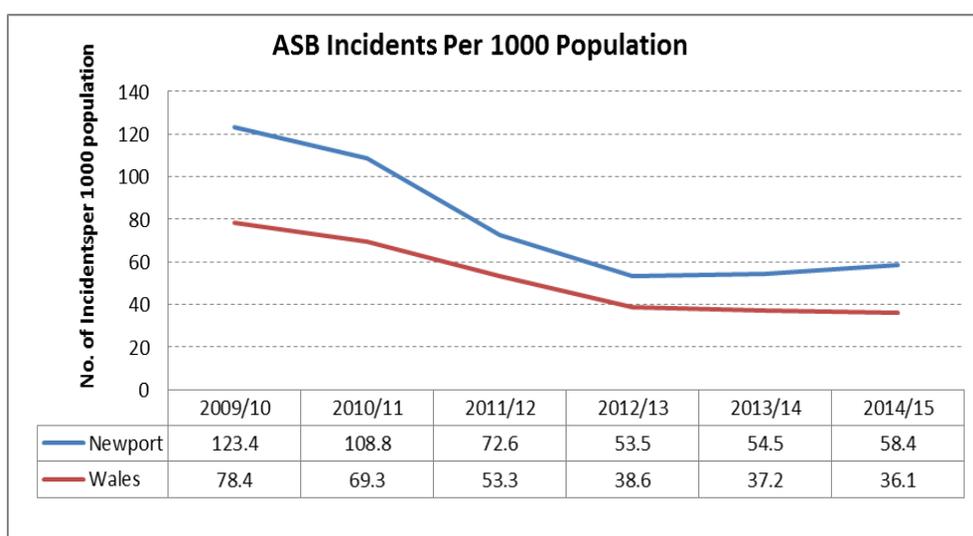
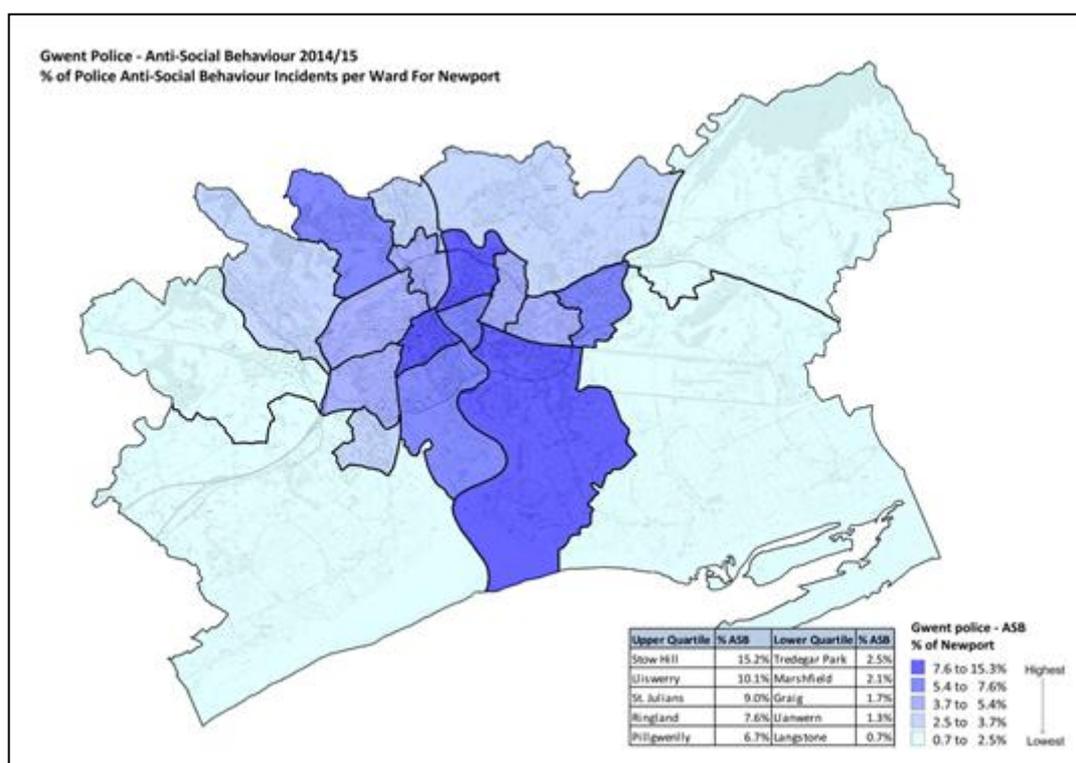
## Anti-Social Behaviour

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) rate per 1,000 residents  
Quarterly ASB rates

**Data Source:** Gwent Police /Newport City Council / Newport City Homes

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) rate per 1,000 residents – This indicator is the rate of police recorded ASB in Newport compared with the rate across Wales. The source of this data is the Home Office and a warning is always published with ASB data because they have not been signed off as a National Statistic. This does not mean the data is inaccurate but it has not gone through the required rigorous statistical methodology tests.

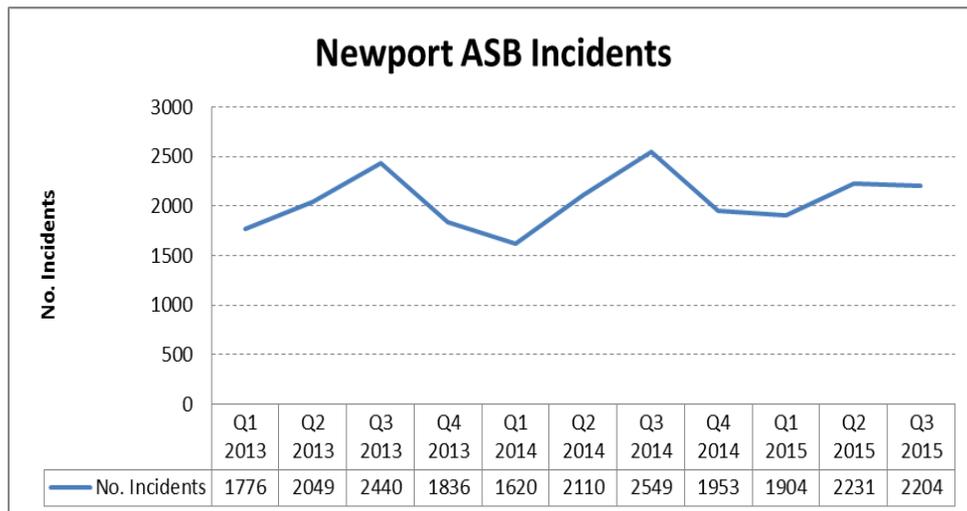
Monthly/Quarterly ASB rates – This data shows the number of ASB incidents recorded on a monthly or quarterly basis by the police and City Council. The data for Newport City Homes is the number of cases opened during the periods not the actual number of calls received, and once a case is opened repeated calls would be logged against the same open case.



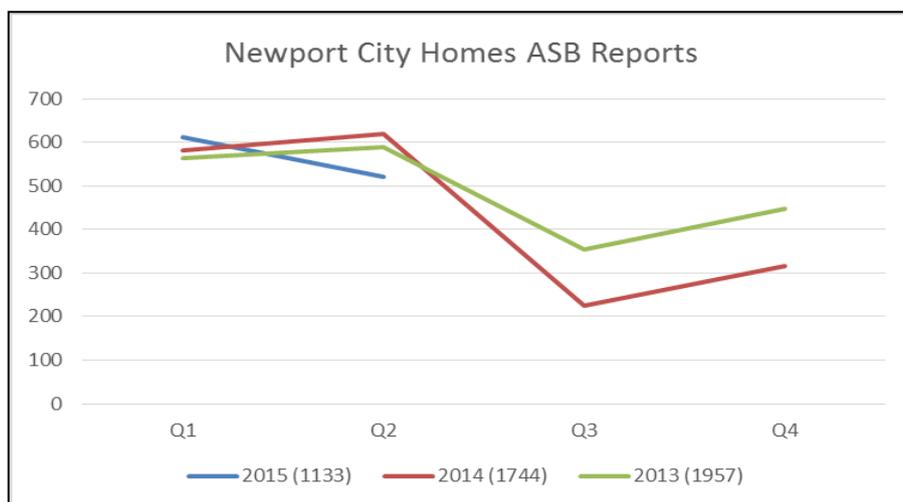
The Year to Date (YTD) trend to September 2015 shows that Police recorded ASB has increased compared to the previous 12 months, but has decreased significantly in the last 5 years.

The Year to Date (YTD) trend for 2015 shows that Council recorded ASB has decreased compared to the previous year. On a quarterly basis, ASB incidents fluctuate depending on the time of the year.

*\*Please note that the ASB data has been downloaded from the police.uk website and although there is no reason to question the robustness of the data, it is not classed as a National Statistic in the same way that crime data is.*



The year to date trend for 2015 figures for Council reported ASB show there has been an increase of some 80 Anti-Social Behaviour related calls throughout Newport with the Christmas and New Year period still to be recorded.



The year to date (YTD) trend for 2015 shows that Newport City Homes recorded ASB has decreased compared to the previous year. Between 2013 – 2014 there was an increase in Q2 of 4% (summer months) and a reduction of 11% in Q3. For the first two quarters of 2015 there is a current reduction of 5.7%.

There are a number of factors that are driving these trends, including ‘seasonal factors’ such as off road bike related ASB, school holidays, Halloween, Bonfire Night and the Christmas period. Past experience shows that to a greater extent these drivers can be planned for and minimized through a proactive partnership approach. Each ward area within the city has its own individual and specific problems which impact on the number of calls generated.

Annually, Newport City Council together with its partners address these seasonal variations through a joint approach in problem solving. In 2015 the Halloween and Bonfire Night dates fell on the weekend which prevented in many cases any intervention and diversionary work to be completed which did have some impact on the ASB throughout the city. Since April 2015 there have been 70 ASBI’s issued with a further 73 ABC/FBC’s issued all of which have been agreed at 76 CASAM’s with our partners. There has been 1 CPN and PSPO issued in the Marshfield and City Centre areas respectively. These actions have had an impact on the ASB throughout the area.

“Signal Crime” factors - Signal Crime is a concept that links the look and feel of a neighbourhood to the levels of minor crime and ASB in a neighbourhood; shabby looking, run down neighbourhoods are a trigger for low level crime such as vandalism, graffiti, criminal damage and ASB.

Socio-economic factors such as employment, education, housing can be a widespread driver in towns and cities across the whole country and there is no single solution. This needs to be addressed in partnership with all agencies.

Current initiatives include:

- Street Team and the I Zone Mobile provisions provide outreach across the city to ensure young people are aware of, and can be signposted to attend provision within their local area.
- Diversionary sessions are delivered in hotspot areas to provide engagement opportunities
- Positive Futures Friday Night diversionary Projects and Street Team engaging young persons in sporting activities
- Positive Futures have set up provision in Caerleon in partnership with Newport City Homes in response to ASB issues in the area
- I Zone Mobile provision now operating five nights a week in identified areas
- ASB operational group is working well with more partners involved.
- ASB shared Data Portal now includes regular updates on the latest news, information requests and events as well as weekly reports from Gwent Police.

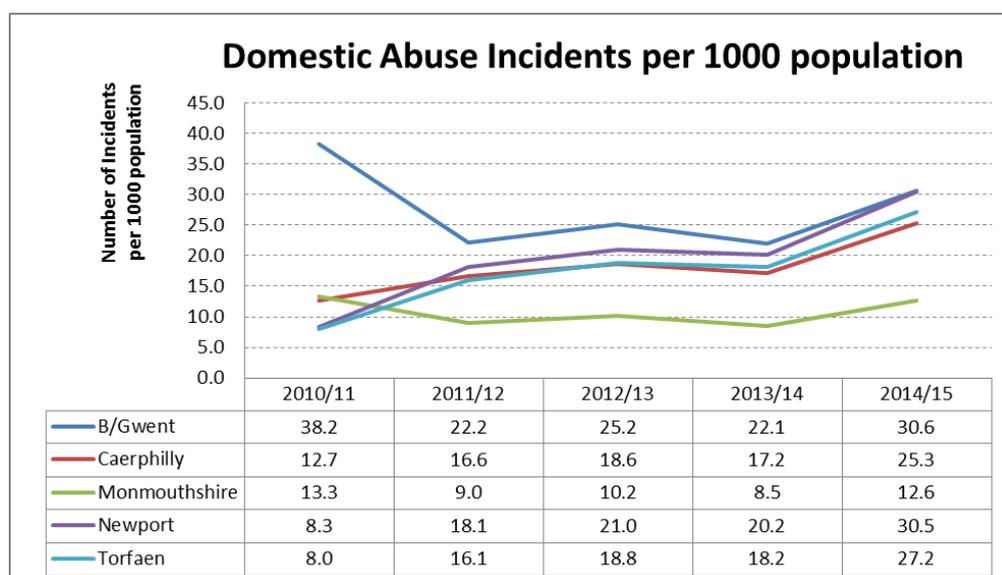
## Domestic Abuse

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Annual rate (per 1,000 residents) of Domestic Abuse  
Annual rate (per 1,000 residents) of Domestic Violence

**Data Source:** Home Office / Gwent Police

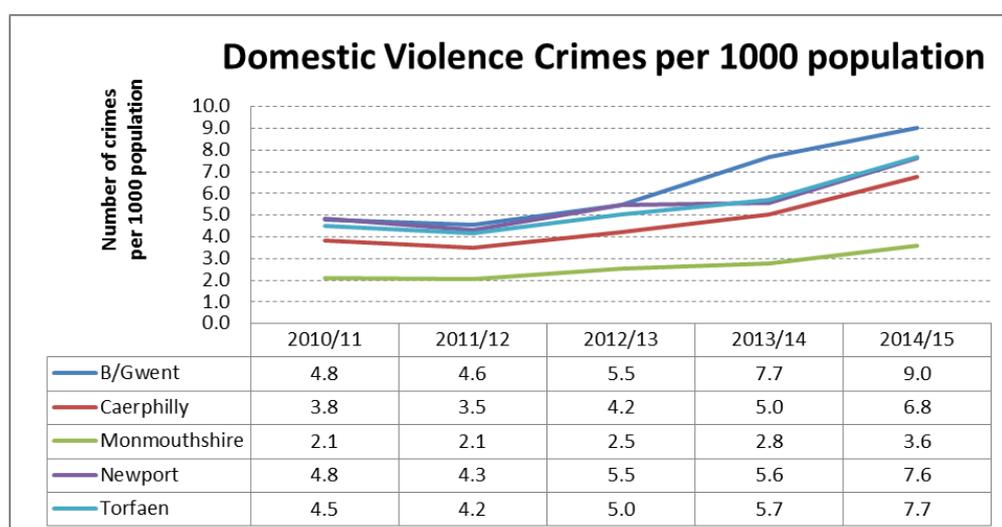
According to the British Crime Survey at least 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will experience domestic abuse during their life time. Although, the statistics imply there are fewer male victims, some studies have suggested that this is because male victims are less likely to report being a victim of domestic abuse due to social stigmas.

There are two sets of data that reflect domestic violence/abuse. One set of data collected records the 'reported incidences of domestic violence', whilst the other indicator provides a measure of 'reported domestic abuse incidences'. To fully understand the complexity of the issue both sets of data should be considered in tandem. Analysing domestic violence incidents alone would not provide a full picture of domestic abuse as it only measures violent behaviour and doesn't take into account other forms of domestic abuse that include emotional, financial and sexual abuse.



### Domestic Abuse

The data shows that there has been a significant increase in the number of recorded Domestic Abuse incidents in the last 12 months, from 2,942 in 2013/14 up to 4,448 in 2014/15 (51.2%).



### Domestic Violence

The data shows that there has been a recent increase in recorded Domestic Violence despite a previous year on year decrease. The number of domestic violence crimes has increased from 813 in 2013/14 up to 1,111 in 2014/15 (36.7%).

A key factor to consider when analysing this data is how domestic abuse is defined by different agencies. A lack of a consistent agreement on how to define domestic abuse can lead to inaccuracies in the recording of data. For example, changes made to the crime recording system by the police will have a knock on impact on the definition and hence how this data is collected.

Key contributory factors to the recent increase in reported incidences might have been a heightened awareness and understanding amongst both key front line workers and people in society who are either victims of domestic abuse or are close to such people. Domestic abuse now has a much higher profile on the policy agenda both nationally through the publication of the Welsh Government's Domestic Abuse Strategy as well as locally through the development of work-based policies for domestic abuse. Initiatives such as Clare's Law and the daily DACC (Domestic Abuse Conference Call) are both good examples.

Studies indicate that periods such as Christmas and school summer holidays, alcohol, sporting events, financial pressures, pregnancy and post childbirth may all contribute to domestic violence and abuse. The 2010 Newport KAFKA report into Domestic Abuse indicated that about half of all offenders of Domestic Abuse had either a drug, alcohol or mental health problem, and that over half of them had been in trouble with the Police in the past. Wards with the highest levels of deprivations also had the highest levels of Domestic Abuse.

Current initiatives include:

- Clare's Law
- Daily Domestic Abuse Conference Calls (DACC) and MARAC procedures
- Launch of a dedicated Domestic Abuse Unit by Gwent Police
- Newport Domestic Abuse Unit
- Multi agency data collation, sharing and training of frontline staff and their managers
- Adoption of the KAFKA and 10,000Safer Lives recommendations and related initiatives across Newport services
- Newport City Council achieved White Ribbon status

Despite the progress made in terms of current practice there are still gaps in service delivery that require further development relating to:

- Implementation of perpetrator programmes prior to enforcement
- Further training and re-training for key partners to raise awareness of the domestic abuse and violence agenda
- Implementation of the findings of the pan Gwent Domestic Abuse Pathfinder Project

Further detailed data is required as there is a reliance on police data, which only records reported incidences of domestic violence and does not pick up developing issues around domestic abuse. Initial data gathering from third sector organisations in Newport indicates that a proportion of victims do not report Domestic Abuse or Violence to the police. National data for Domestic Abuse is not available and therefore it is not possible to make comparisons with national or regional rates. Data in relation to BME populations is currently not available and recognised as a development need. DASH data has not been analysed due to lack of resources.

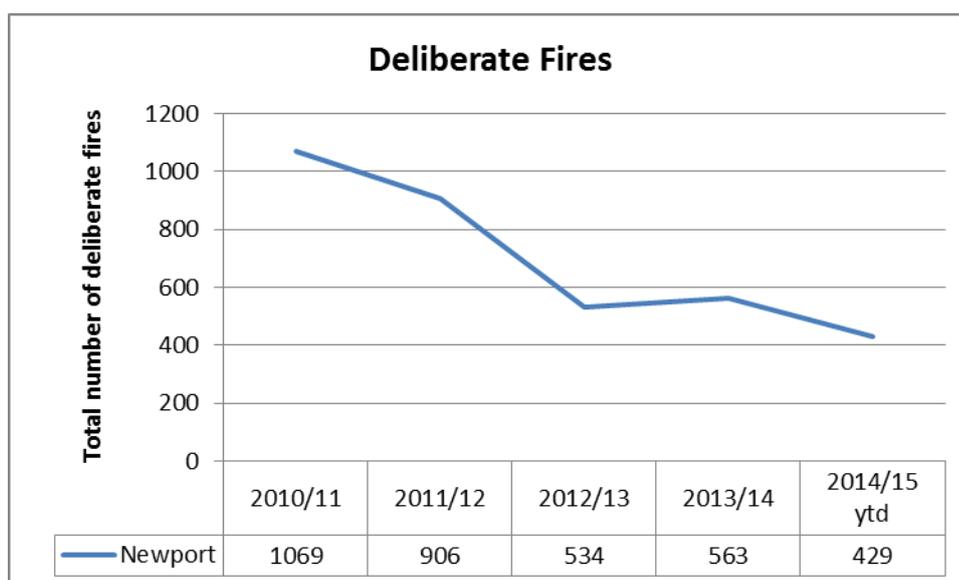
## Deliberate Fires

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** All deliberate fires  
Deliberate primary and secondary fires by ward

**Data Source:** South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

All deliberate fires – this indicator shows the number of deliberate fires in Newport recorded by South Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

Deliberate primary and secondary fires by ward – this data breaks down deliberate fires by primary and secondary type and shows deliberate primary and secondary fires by ward. The data for 2014/15 is year to date from 01/04/14 – 28/11/14.



Over recent years the number of deliberate fires across Newport is decreasing. The same downward trend can be seen across all deliberate fire types as well as police recorded arson. However, within the overall downward trend there are pockets of increases, which are shown in the ward data.

### Deliberate Primary Fires

Ward	Financial Year					Total
	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/14	2014/15 ytd	
Liswerry	17	23	12	15	14	81
Pillgwenlly	22	13	6	9	7	57
Bettws	15	16	5	5	7	48
Victoria	17	10	8	10	1	46
Alway	15	17	4	5	3	44
Stow Hill	16	6	5	11	1	39
Ringland	14	6	8	6	4	38
Marshfield	11	4	7	3	5	30
Tredeggar Park	5	5	4	7	4	25
Beechwood	4	6	2	6	1	19
Gaer	4	3	5	4	3	19
Caerleon	9	6	0	3	0	18
Allt-yr-yn	5	6	3	3	1	18
Shaftesbury	7	2	5	1	2	17
St. Julians	2	4	7	1	1	15
Langstone	4	2	4	3	2	15
Llanwern	2	1	5	3	3	14
Malpas	6	2	0	1	2	11
Graig	1	3	2	3	1	10
Rogerstone	0	5	2	1	1	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>564</b>

Primary fires are classified as buildings, outdoor structures like fences, grassland and vehicles. Bettws, Marshfield, Malpas and Shaftesbury have all shown increases in the number of primary fires this year with Lliswerry, Pill, Ringland, Gaer, Llanwern, Rogerstone and St. Julians likely to exceed 2013/14 levels by the end of this financial year.

### ***Deliberate Secondary Fires***

Ward	Financial Year					Total
	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/14	2014/15 ytd	
Lliswerry	102	65	69	52	73	361
Ringland	106	73	46	44	38	307
Bettws	81	87	61	36	34	299
Tredegar Park	93	59	22	59	25	258
Alway	75	64	21	26	21	207
Victoria	55	51	36	33	21	196
Pillgwenlly	57	59	35	28	15	194
Gaer	55	36	19	31	16	157
Stow Hill	36	35	29	30	15	145
Beechwood	34	34	11	16	15	110
St. Julians	33	34	8	21	12	108
Allt-yr-yn	37	29	17	17	6	106
Shaftesbury	26	33	12	10	23	104
Marshfield	22	21	14	13	12	82
Caerleon	13	30	8	6	8	65
Rogerstone	17	15	11	9	10	62
Malpas	20	19	12	2	8	61
Graig	17	11	4	18	5	55
Llanwern	8	9	5	11	2	35
Langstone	6	7	2	2	8	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>2937</b>

Secondary fires are classified as skips, wheelie bins and loose refuse. Lliswerry has seen a dramatic rise in the number of secondary fires along with Shaftesbury, Langstone and Malpas. Rogerstone and Caerleon are already showing slight increases and Bettws, Beechwood and Marshfield are likely to exceed 2013/14 levels by the end of the financial year.

A number of hotspot areas are identified across the city:

- Ringland - in the area of Ringland Centre and Cot Farm Circle.
- Moorland Park
- Pillgwenlly - in the areas around Potter, Temple, James and Alma Streets.
- Maesglas - High ASB activity with fires being unreported
- Bettws

These hot-spot areas have been communicated to partner agencies to co-ordinate enforcement and diversionary activities to attempt to control levels of activity.

The increase in secondary fires during the early part of the year can be linked to the sustained period of good weather. This led to an increase in the number of loose refuse and grass fires which can be directly linked to youths deliberately setting fires in Bettws, Ringland and Lliswerry

In 2014, a tactical group was established to co-ordinate youth inclusion and diversionary activities across Newport. This collaborative approach has enabled us to identify trends and hot-spot areas and apply an appropriate long term intervention. Through shared intelligence and statistical analysis this group delivered simultaneous diversionary activities based on previous incident levels at key hot-spot areas across the city during the Operation Bang period.

# Public Confidence

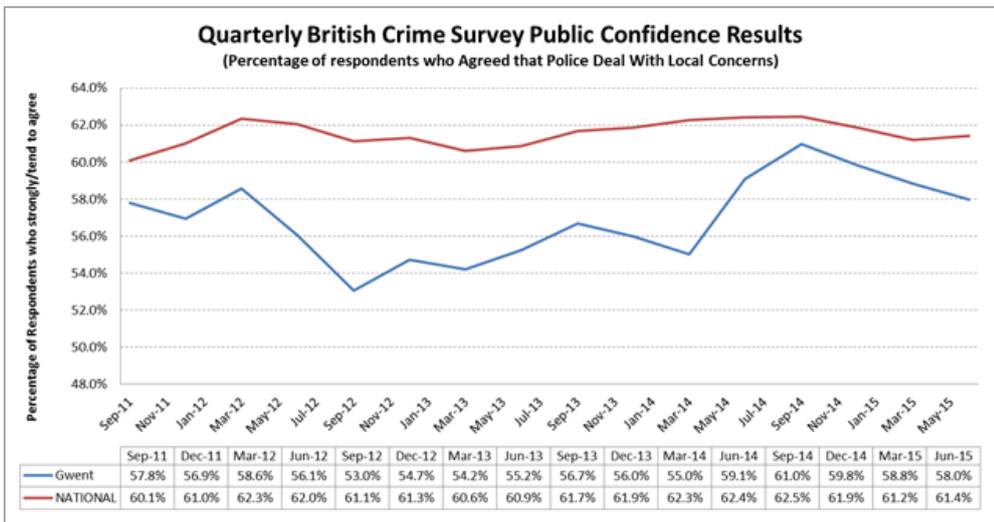
**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Public confidence levels (Gwent only)  
 Number of people who agree the police and local public services are successfully dealing with crime and ASB in their local area (public confidence levels in Newport)  
 Number of people who feel safe in their local area

**Data Source:** British Crime Survey / Involve Newport Citizens Panel Survey

Public confidence levels (Gwent only) – This data shows the results of the British Crime Survey (BCS) public confidence question. BCS is carried out at a Gwent level and results for Newport are not available. There is no evidence to suggest that Newport is significantly different to the Gwent result, but invariably there is variation across police forces.

Public confidence (Newport) - this data shows the percentage of people who agree or disagree the police and local public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area. The data is obtained from the Involve Newport citizen’s panel survey.

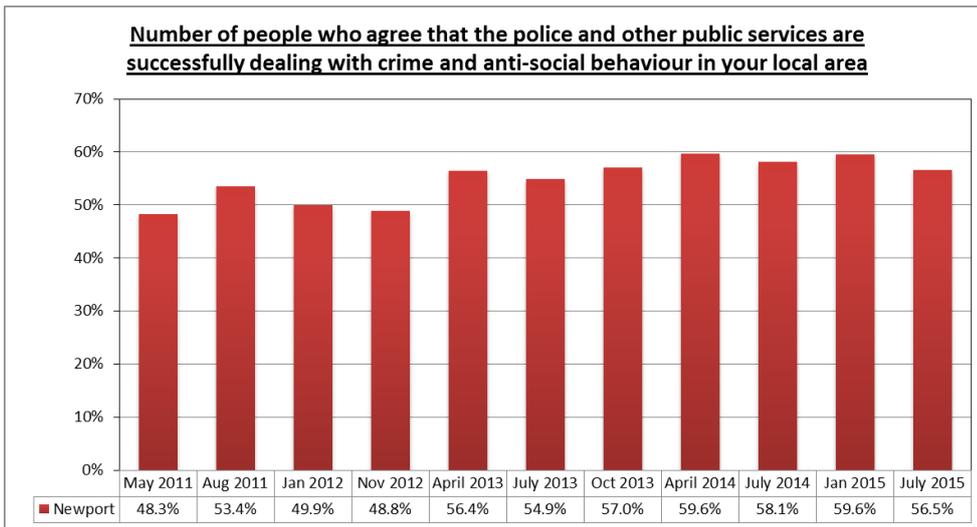
Number of people who feel safe in their local area – This data shows the percentage of people who report feeling safe in their local area during the day and night time. The data is obtained from the Involve Newport citizen’s panel survey.



Current survey results indicate that public confidence in Gwent Police in the year ending May 2015 stands at 58%. Results have fluctuated over previous years so it is difficult to establish a reliable trend.



The percentage of people who feel safe in their local area during the day and night has fluctuated over the last few years. The number of people who feel safe during the day has increased slightly in 2015 compared to the same period last year, however the number of people who feel safe during the night has slightly decreased.



Information received from the Involve Newport Citizens Panel has fluctuated over the last 12 months, however the latest data for 2015 indicates a confidence level of 56.5% which has decreased compared to previous surveys.

Around 62% of all crime is unreported to the police, but this varies depending on the type of crime. The main reason for not reporting crime is because the matter is trivial or it has been dealt with privately. Residents taking the lead on dealing with trivial matters locally or at a community level is a model that is well recognised and encouraged, and where this occurs there will always be a gap between reported crime and BCS crime. This should not be a cause for concern and often little action is required other than to encourage local communities and neighbourhoods to take the lead on local issues that can be resolved between individuals. The main concern is where individuals have developed a high level of tolerance towards behaviour that really should not be tolerated.

There are a number of current initiatives in place including increased visibility and problem solving in the city centre. A multi-disciplinary group has been established to set out the vision and scope for the strategic management of the City Centre. This group will be responsible for developing a coordinated approach by all partner organisations to develop an action plan for improving the city centre at night. An initial assessment is being carried out against best practice standards to agree actions and implement service improvements. Work will also be undertaken to identify the reasons for current perceptions of the city centre from the day to night transition and engage stakeholders in helping to identify the solutions.

Where police and partner organisations can make a difference is when victims feel unable to report a crime when they should be reporting it. Fear of reprisal, fear or dislike of the police and “tried to report it but police not interested” are often the main barriers to reporting. This issue needs to be addressed to ensure people are confident they can report a crime when necessary.

Communicating the decrease in recorded crime and increasing public confidence needs to be managed. Increased multi agency co-operation and activity in the exchange of low level community intelligence may assist in improving public confidence in all agencies responses to community problems.

## City Centre Safety

**Data Set (Population Indicator):** Quarterly crime rate in Newport city centre  
 Quarterly anti-social behaviour (ASB) rate in Newport city centre  
 Number of people who feel safe in the city centre

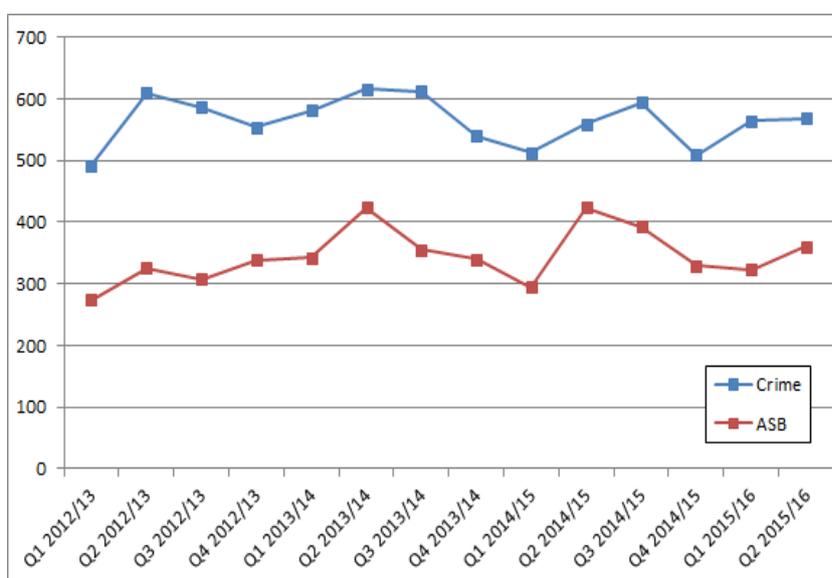
**Data Source:** Gwent Police / Newport City Council and Gwent Police / Involve Newport Citizens Panel

Quarterly crime and ASB in Newport city centre – this is the level of crime and ASB in the city centre. The majority of ASB and crime in the city centre occurs during the night time economy (NTE) hours.

Number of people who feel safe in the city centre – this is the number of people who reported feeling safe in the city centre during the day and night. This information is taken from the Involve Newport Citizens Panel. The surveys are issued on a quarterly basis.

### Crime and ASB in the city centre

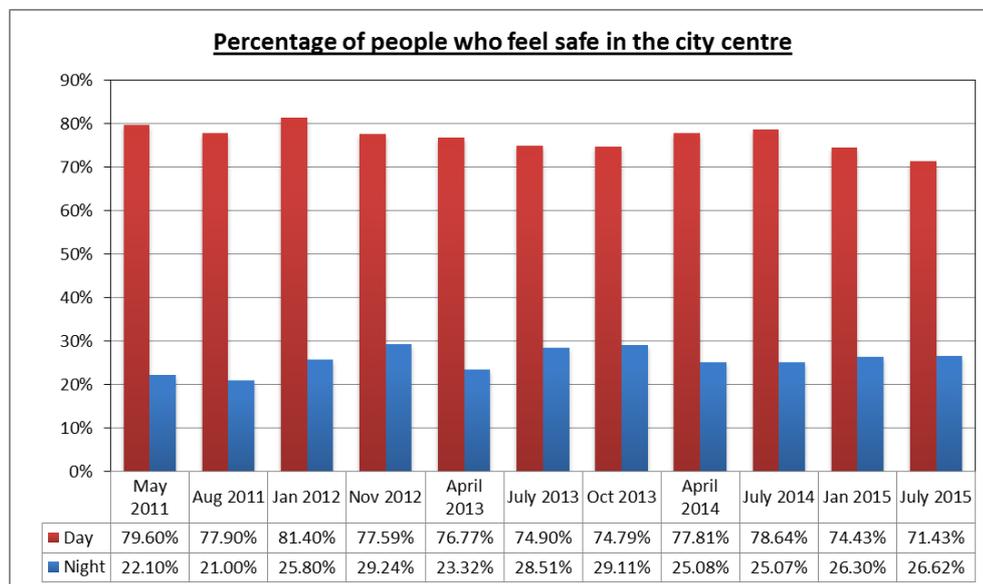
In the 12 months to September 2015 there has been a slight rise in city centre crime from 2,224 to 2,236 (0.54%). Quarters 1 and 2 2015/16 have seen an increase in both city centre crime and ASB. This rise needs to be monitored in quarter 3 and quarter 4 and further consideration given to closer analysis. Crime and ASB per quarter over the years are fairly static with peaks seen usually in Q2 after lows in Q1.



In the 12 months to September 2015 there has been a slight reduction in city centre ASB from 1,414 to 1,406 (0.57%). Year to date issues in the City Centre (April to November 2015) are similar to previous years with Shoplifting the priority offence (16.3% of all offences in City Centre) followed by Other Theft (14.5% of total - including bags and phones in both the Night Time Economy and daytime) and violence against the person/ Public order offences (over 35% of all offences in total). Shoplifting in the city centre has decreased from 253 to 247 (2.4%) over the year to date. The largest rise has been in Violence without injury offences (+47.6%) but this increase has been seen across all Gwent and the majority of England and Wales mainly due to more ethical recording practises and classifications of crime. There has been an overall Year to Date (April – November 2015) decrease in ASB of 3.2% (-31 incidents). Night Time Economy incidents (8pm-6am) have accounted for 47% of all incidents in the City Centre and have decreased by 4.5% over the year to date (-21 incidents from 464 to 443). Daytime incidents (6am-8pm) have fallen by a smaller margin of 2% (-10 incidents from 510 to 500).

Location hotspots in the city centre are very similar to previous years and are similar for Crime and ASB. The streets of Commercial Street, Cambrian Road and High Street are the top 3 in terms of both crime and ASB. Priority locations include various shops on Commercial Street (Shoplifting offences), Inside and outside the Courtyard licensed premises (Crime and ASB – Although majority occur on the street outside the

premises), the Royal Gwent Hospital (ASB and disorder offences and theft offences) and McDonalds, High Street (mainly youth ASB inside and outside premises). Please note, analysis has indicated that since the opening of the Friars Walk Development incidents of ASB (youth related mainly during early evenings) and shoplifting offences (priority premises is Debenhams) have increased and the location is becoming a hotspot for the City Centre.



City centre perception

The results show that the majority of residents feel safe in the city during the day time. However, the number of people who feel safe in the city centre during the night time is low.

The latest information available indicates that in July 2015, 71.4% of respondents felt safe in the city centre during the day which is a decrease on previous months. This is likely to be due to the recent development work going on in the city centre prior to the opening of Friars Walk. During the night time, this figure was much lower at 26.6% although this has increased compared to previous months. It is anticipated that both sets of figures will increase over the next few months and years as the redevelopment of the city centre is completed.

In the July 2014 survey, respondents were asked how often they visited the city centre. The majority of responses show that most people visit the city centre at least once a week during the day time. However, visits to the city centre at night are much less frequent. Both sets of data show that people feel less safe in the city centre at night time. This may be based on people’s actual experience or the negative perceptions of the night time economy.

The following are some of the current initiatives taking place across the city centre:

The new operating model of Policing for Gwent went live in April 2015. This resulted in a dedicated City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team, supported by 2 dedicated PC Ward Managers.

The team have embraced the use of new legislation namely the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This has allowed the introduction of dispersal orders when required to prevent Anti-Social Behaviour within the City Centre, together with the issue of 17 Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions, 1 Criminal Banning Order and 2 Closure Orders on premises which attracted high levels of Anti-Social behaviour. More recently we have seen the introduction of the Public Space Protection Order which will assist officers when dealing with aggressive begging.

The City Centre Team was the first to trial the use of Body Worn Video within the Gwent Police area. This innovative approach to policing will help to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour whilst increasing public confidence and victim satisfaction.

Partners involved in dealing with the city centre continue to hold a weekly briefing and de briefing meeting supported by a weekly city centre debrief report.

Gwent Police have established a City Safe team to deal with the night time economy in the city centre on a Friday and Saturday night. This is supported by a weekly licensing briefing report.

Other initiatives to be considered include the Purple Flag scheme, and the Business Improvement District providing City Centre Ambassadors to meet and greet.

Areas of development include:

- Making the pedestrianised zone within the City Centre an actual pedestrianised zone. The absence of a physical barrier to prevent vehicles entering the zone is inhibiting safety on the City Centre. Officers have issued in excess of 650 tickets which has had no effect on the issue.
- Increasing or adopting coverage of major roads and arteries by the CCTV monitoring station and making it into a multi agency operations room for the city, making fuller and more comprehensive use of the facilities.
- Increased activity in relation to exchange and provision of information and intelligence with traders, licensees and security staff.
- Consider the use of Design Out Crime Principles to provide safe (safer) zones and journeys home and around the city at all times of the day and night.
- To target locations and address issues through a range and mix of increased partnership visibility, surveillance and traffic management.
- Consider how to maintain multi agency partnership work on the city centre.

Emerging and current issues include:

- A large number of service providers are concentrated in and around the city centre leading to a daily influx of people who are receiving treatment for offending, drug addiction, alcohol addiction, etc. This has an impact on crime and ASB in the city centre and particularly along Lower Dock Street
- The concentration of services will continue to grow with the introduction young person's accommodation on Lower Dock Street
- Cluster of Multiple Occupancy Housing around the city centre
- Royal Gwent Hospital has emerged as a hotspot
- Hotspot of Friars Walk Shopping area where recent increases seen in both shoplifting levels and youth related ASB.

Priority must be given to improving the city centre and making it a more attractive place to visit, both during the day and night time. This will have an impact on the number of people coming into the city centre, and also on crime and disorder through the 'signal crime' effect.

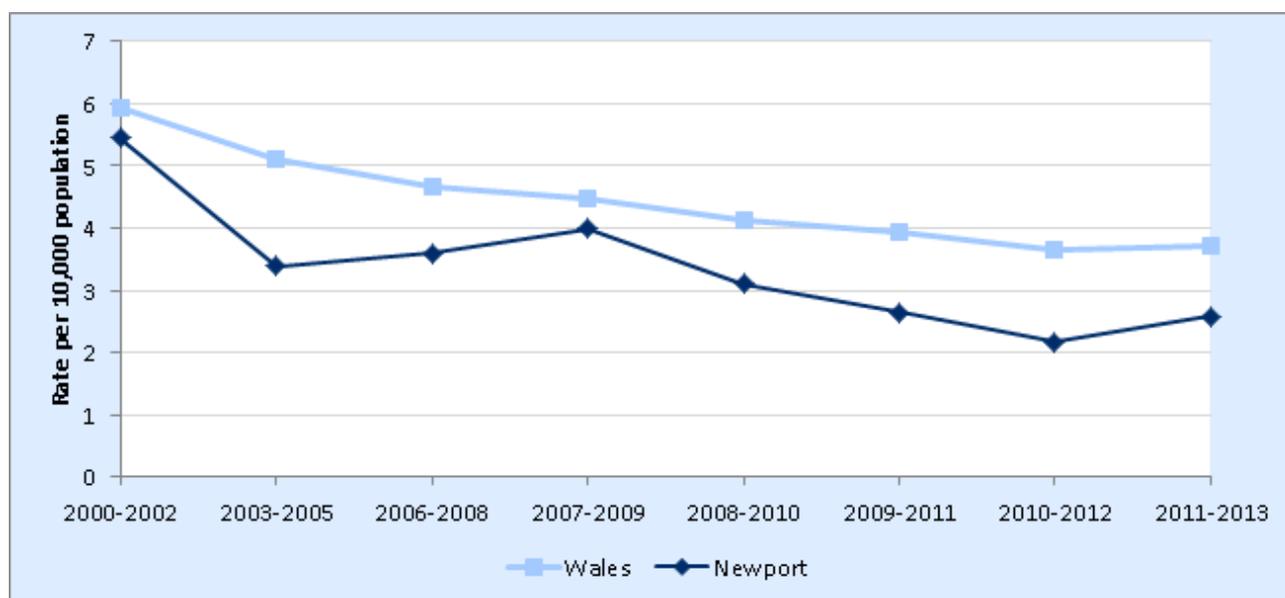
## Road Safety

**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Number of people killed or seriously injured on roads

**Data Source:** [Welsh Government](#)

This indicator shows the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads in Newport. The data is sourced from road accident and casualty statistics recorded by police authorities. The rate is given per 10,000 population. The graph shows the latest data for Newport and shows the change in time compared to the change in Wales.

Please note, this data series differs from the one used in previous UNAs. The previous data set was the Annual Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) injury or death rate per 1,000 population.



*Source: Local Area Summary statistics – Newport, Welsh Government, November 2014*

Since 2007-09 the average rate at which people were killed or seriously injured on roads has decreased, and between 2011-13 the rate remained below the Wales average.

No specific new initiatives or factors have been identified that account for the lower than Wales average trends around road safety. Newport has been involved in numerous road safety initiatives over a number of years that may have been instrumental in reducing the number of accidents.

Current initiatives include:

- PLAS Plus Cymru, subsidised by the Welsh Government and with a good success rate, could be promoted amongst young drivers
- Youth Offending Service (YOS) motor projects, and fire service projects
- OPTIONS seatbelt initiative that aims to educate not just prosecute drivers for failing to wear a seatbelt
- Local speed awareness signs and speed enforcement by Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) officers
- Capita Symonds motorcycle riding lessons, kerbcraft training at primary schools, speed awareness campaigns at primary schools in conjunction with NPT's, cycling proficiency schemes, etc
- South Wales Fire Service has a motorcycle initiative supported by the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) which can be offered to our mature target group

Areas of development include school related incidents, including parking problems which escalate to community problems as well as danger to young children's welfare. An increase in use in Newport of the OPTIONS seatbelt initiative may assist in further injury reductions.

There are no significant factors that have been identified that may be specifically related to lower than Wales average of RTC's, however contributory factors to on-going reported collisions may include:

- Off road bikes
- Horses
- School gate parking drop off/pick up
- Mobile phone use
- Speeding on estates and minor roads
- Warning / awareness signage indicating changing / new layouts of junctions

## Hate Crime

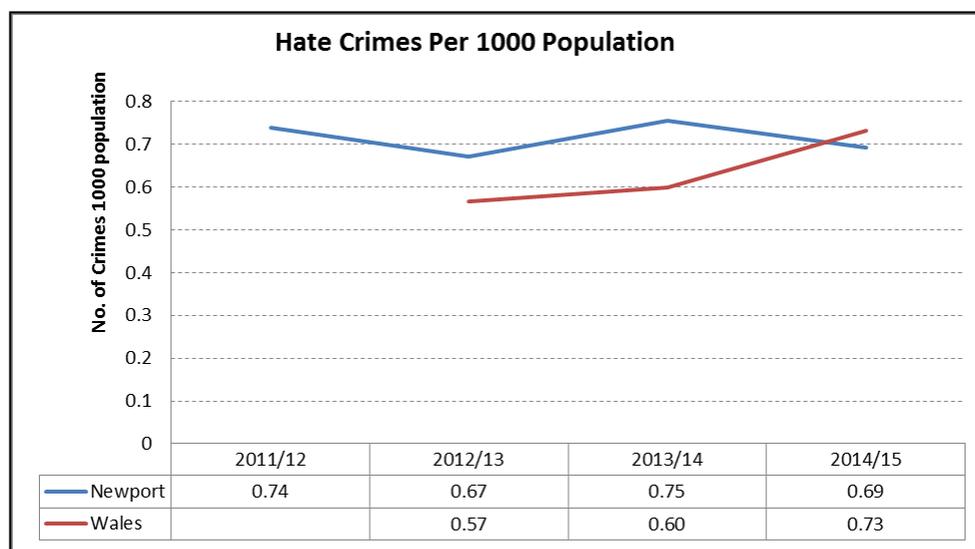
**Data Set(s) (Population Indicator):** Annual police reported hate crime per 1,000 population

**Data Source:** Gwent Police

The definitions of Hate Crime and Incidents from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) are:

A Hate Crime is defined as: “A criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s actual or perceived disability, race, religion and belief, sexual orientation and transgender”

A Hate Incident is defined as: “Any non-crime incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on actual or perceived disability, race, religion, and belief, sexual orientation and transgender”.



Note: National Hate Crime data has previously been published by ACPO and is available from [http://report.it.org.uk/hate\\_crime\\_data](http://report.it.org.uk/hate_crime_data). The 2011/12 data was the first data set to be published by the Home Office. In addition to this consistency across the time series has been difficult to maintain due to a number of reviews of Hate Crime data and some resulting re-grading of certain crimes. In view of this please treat the above time series with caution and as an indicator only.

The number of recorded hate crimes has remained fairly consistent since 2010/11. The most recent data shows an increase from 99 in 2010/11 (0.7 per 1,000 population) up to 104 in 2011/12 (0.74), 118 in 2012/13 (0.67) with a slight fall to 110 in 2013/14 (0.75). The number of hate crimes in 2014/15 decreased slightly to 101 (0.69). However, the number of hate incidents has increased slightly, from 203 incidents in 2013/14 to 226 incidents in 2014/15. The rate of hate crime in Newport has been, and continues to remain above the Wales average. The most recent data appears to show that Newport is moving closer to the national average.

Hate Crime has been analysed by the type of hate that is being exhibited. The most recent data for 2013/14 shows that racial hate crime stands at 90, 6 for religion, 2 for disability, 3 for sexual identity and 13 for sexual orientation. It is worth noting that some hate crimes may include more than one characteristic.

Just over 70% of all hate crime takes place in five wards. These are Stow Hill, Lliswerry, Pill, Victoria, Alway and Ringland. The data does not quite reflect this because it is based on crimes per 1,000 residents, rather than actual volume. Tredegar Park appears in the top five based on rate per 1,000, but the actual volume of hate crime in this ward is lower than several other wards (currently standing at 3 crimes between April to October 2012). Most of the hate crime in Newport over the last 12 months has been reported in the Stow Hill ward. This is predominantly linked to the city centre, and may not therefore reflect any residential hate crime. The two wards with the highest volume of hate crime outside the city centre are Pill and Victoria.

These two wards have the highest levels of ethnic diversity in Newport and therefore the hate crime is likely to reflect some underlying community tensions in these areas.

Although race and religiously motivated hate crime feature highly in the reported crime figures, reports such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission's "Hidden in Plain Sight – Inquiry into disability related hate crime" state that disability related hate crime is under reported. Local community groups such as Newport People First identify a need for people with learning disabilities to report and get help. Part of the awareness raising work through the short videos has been targeted at disability hate crime.

Occasionally, localised matters such as proposals for gypsy / traveller sites or groups of new arrivals in Newport can cause a public reaction which negatively affects certain sections of society. These matters may not be consistent but they can be serious and require a high level, multi-agency response. Available data from the Hate Crime Forum supports that as they show that there was a monthly spike in third party reported hate crime (13 reports compared to a monthly average of 4) at the same time as local protests against a proposed gypsy / traveller site.

Global and national incidents can also increase community tensions leading to a spike in hate incidents i.e. increased activity from the extreme far-right, increased media attention on global events (particularly around terrorism). During times of heightened tensions, NCC and Gwent Police ensure that we are in touch with affected communities in order to provide reassurance and support to our communities.

Current initiatives include:

- A Case Handling Group has been established to facilitate a multi-agency approach to supporting the victims of hate and to ensure problems are dealt with effectively. This case handling group has been acknowledged as good practise by Welsh Government.
- Launch of three 'Talk About It' centres for people with learning disabilities. These centres provide a number of services, one of which includes the ability to report hate crime using an easy to read reporting forms and people are trained to deal with issues.
- The production of 4 short videos to highlight what a Hate Crime might look like and the importance of reporting.
- Victim Support (VS) has been funded by Welsh Government to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party national reporting centre and the Forum has realigned our reporting systems to support VS.

Opportunities for development include:

- Better multi-agency support around schools and communities - schools are trialling a new recording system for prejudice based bullying across not only race and religion but all protected characteristics. Education services, youth services and other voluntary and public bodies can then address not only individual instances but any emerging themes.
- Need for case handling support e.g. to call and organise multi agency meetings. This may be covered by the development of web based conference call facility for agencies to records actions and contact each other so full information is available in real time.
- Greater awareness and promotion of the confidential reporting system.
- 'Talk About it Centres' have already been mentioned in the initiatives section above. It has been suggested that these are not being as effective as they could be in terms of reporting Hate Crime and the role of these centres in relation to Hate Crime needs to be re-emphasised.
- Increase awareness and training delivery (to be done in partnership with Victim Support).

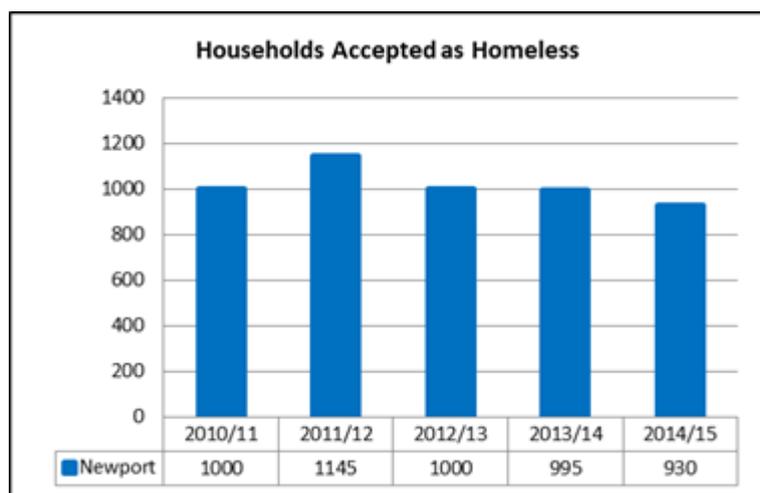
- Development of a protocol on engaging with affected communities in the event of local, national and international tensions as currently it is being done on an informal basis.

## Homeless & those at risk of becoming homeless

### Homelessness

**Data Set (Population Indicator):** Number of Households Accepted as Homeless

**Data Source:** [Stats Wales - Homelessness](#)



The information presented here is based on Welsh local authorities' actions under the homelessness provisions of the Housing Act 1996. This covers the decision as to whether or not there is an obligation under the Act for the local authority to help the household. That is whether the authority accepts that the household is eligible, unintentionally homeless and falls within a priority need group. In this case the household is accepted as statutory homeless.

The information is based on a quarterly statistical return completed by local

authorities in Wales. From April 2002 onwards the return was revised and extended to collect information about the age and ethnicity of applicants, the types of household accepted as homelessness and the length of time households stay in temporary accommodation.

The number of households accepted as homeless in 2010/11 was 1000. This increased to 1145 in 2011/12. Since then there has been a slight decrease year on year with the number being 930 in 2014/15.

The services provided by the City Council have focused heavily in recent years on preventing homelessness and seeking to intervene at the earliest opportunity in order to seek to ensure that accommodation is either sustained or suitable alternatives are secured prior to an individual household being made homeless. This is referred to as homeless prevention and the success of prevention is outlined by the table below:

HOMELESS PREVENTIONS	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Potential Homeless Households	294	260	250	249	325
Successful Prevention	156	144	154	143	167
% of Successful Preventions	53.1	55.4	61.6	57.4	51.4

The rate of homeless prevention has been consistent and has proven to be effective in managing the overall level of homeless as the number of decisions made on homeless applications received has dropped, with more households being support and guided into alternative housing before they become homeless thereby removing pressure from statutory services.

The Council policy and focus has meant there has been a greater emphasis placed on prevention of homelessness. At an early stage the housing officers work with a client who is at risk of homelessness, and target advice and support to prevent them from losing their accommodation. Homelessness, as a housing need, is in most cases symptomatic of other needs that place pressure on individuals' ability to maintain

their homes/tenancies. Preventing homelessness is often reliant on finding appropriate support for these issues before they result in potential homelessness. Such support may include offering access to mediation services and signposting to relevant agencies where additional support has been identified i.e. debt advice/support, mental health support, substance misuse agencies, etc. This is in line with the legislative changes brought into effect in April 2015 and continues to be developed, improved and enhanced by the Council. The options used to prevent homelessness include:

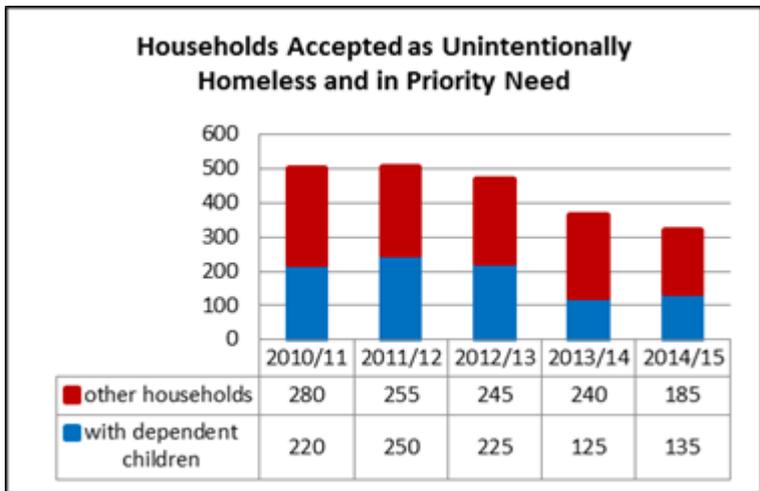
- Help to secure alternative private rented housing
- Help to secure supported housing
- Help to secure existing accommodation
- Mediation
- Provision of support to help to sustain existing accommodation
- Payment of rent arrears where landlords are willing to then retract any notice issued

A range of options have been put in place in order to pro-actively seek to help individuals either at risk of being made homeless or being homeless and these run alongside clear and consistent policies, procedures and processes that enable staff to respond swiftly in all instances.

## Homeless and in Priority Need

**Data Set (Population Indicator):** Number of households accepted as eligible, unintentionally homeless and in priority need

**Data Source:** [Stats Wales - Homelessness](#)



This indicator is based on Welsh local authorities' actions under the homelessness provisions of the Housing Act 1996. This covers the decision as to whether or not there is an obligation under the Act for the local authority to help the household. That is whether the authority accepts that the household is "eligible, unintentionally homeless and falls within a priority need group". In this case the household is accepted as statutory homeless.

The information is based on a quarterly statistical return completed by local

authorities in Wales. The Welsh Government introduced secondary legislation (starting from 1 March 2001) extending the priority need categories.

The number of households with dependent children (or pregnant women) accepted as eligible, unintentionally homeless and in priority need was 220 in 2010/11. In 2011/12 this increased to 250 then decreased to 225 in 2012/13. In 2013/14 this decreased further to 125. In 2014/15 a slight increase to 135 was seen, however overall over the 5 years a decrease of 38% has been seen.

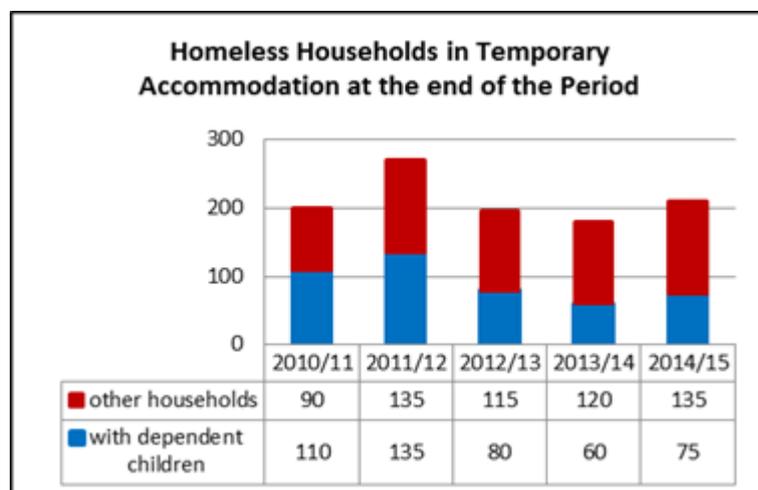
The number of households without dependent children has also varied over the last five years. In 2010/11 280 households were accepted. This decreased year on year and in 2014/15 this stood at 185. Overall over the 5 years a decrease of 34%.

Changes to legislation came into effect in April 2015 and this placed a duty upon the Council to seek to prevent homelessness from occurring where there is a risk of an individual being made homeless within 56 days. In addition, where individuals are homeless, the Council has a legal obligation to attempt to relieve homelessness. Guidance has been issued on this and the Council is now working towards this and is implementing the legislation as required.

## Homeless and in Temporary Accommodation

**Data Set (Population Indicator):** Number of homeless households living in temporary accommodation at the end of the period

**Data Source:** [Stats Wales - Temporary Accommodation](#)



This indicator is based on Welsh local authorities' actions under the homelessness provisions of the Housing Act 1996. This covers the decision as to whether or not there is an obligation under the Act for the local authority to help the household. That is whether the authority accepts that the household is "eligible, unintentionally homeless and falls within a priority need group". In this case the household is accepted as statutory homeless. The information is based on a quarterly statistical return completed by local authorities in Wales.

Information is also collected about statutory homeless households that are in temporary accommodation; sometimes referred to as "households in accommodation arranged by authorities under homelessness legislation". Temporary means that they have not been found suitable accommodation in a settled home. In other words the accommodation can still be in a self-contained dwelling (for example with a private landlord, or in registered social landlord or local authority owned properties) as well as in non-self-contained accommodation (for example hostels, refuges and bed and breakfast).

The number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation at the end of the period in 2010/11 was 110. An increase to 135 was seen at the end of 2011/12. This number reduced to 80 in 2012/13 and again to 60 in 2013/14. An increase to 75 was seen in 2014/15 however overall there has been a reduction of 32% over the 5 years.

The number of households without dependent children in temporary accommodation at the end of 2010/11 was 90, this then increased to 135 in 2011/12. A reduction was seen in 2012/13 to 115 then a slight increase to 120 in 2013/14. A further increase to 135 was seen in 2014/15. This is an increase of 50% over the 5 years.

## Long Term Health

There is no statistical data to show the long term health issues of the homeless and those of risk of becoming homeless. However, the Gwent Homeless and Vulnerable Groups Health Action Plan (HaVGHAP) Healthcare Needs Assessment for Homeless People published in April 2014 has some relevant information for consideration. Within the health needs assessment the following key themes emerged:

- High levels of physical and mental health problems and substance misuse were apparent, including co-occurring mental illness / substance misuse;
- 23% of respondents wanted more support for their mental health problems, and talking therapies were the most commonly requested type of help;
- The need for dental services that are easier to access came through strongly;
- 1 in 10 of the survey respondents were not registered with a GP which indicates there is room for improvement in ensuring homeless people are accessing primary healthcare services;
- The use of A&E and hospital inpatient stays amongst homeless people is higher than in the general population. In addition, 1 in 10 of those who were hospital inpatients said they were discharged without a safe place to go;
- Long waiting times / inability to get fast access for some substance misuse services were mentioned and almost a third of those using drugs said they would like more support to help them address their drug use;
- It was apparent that healthy lifestyle factors which impact on health are an issue, with high rates of smoking and poor nutrition highlighted;
- Perceived negative attitudes of health care staff towards drug users and being treated differently. Similarly, some described feeling uncomfortable attending appointments when they knew they would be singled out as a rough sleeper due to their appearance. Both these issues were cited as reasons for delaying access to services
- Some participants suggested that a dedicated drop-in / open access healthcare service for homeless people could be successful in getting people to access help earlier. In addition, the value of staff with shared experience or who were understanding of their situation was discussed;

On a positive note, many homeless people and service providers were extremely complimentary about both healthcare services they had received and other supporting services (e.g. homelessness and substance misuse services). Contact with a supportive service or professional is likely to be beneficial in ensuring good outcomes and adherence with a treatment regime. There are also several examples of health care services currently provided by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board that aim to meet the needs of homeless people in particular, and which provide a firm basis for further development.

There is likely to be room for improvement in the joined up delivery of services in order to achieve better outcomes for homeless people. The literature review should be drawn upon to inform future planning and delivery of healthcare services for homeless people in Gwent.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Gwent Homeless and Vulnerable Groups Health Action Plan (HaVGHAP) Healthcare Needs Assessment for Homeless People published in April 2014

## Contact Details

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