

# Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment

## Cumbria 2023



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## 1 Introduction

This Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment has been written and produced by Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council in consultation with analysts across Cumbria's Community Safety Partnerships.

The purpose of the assessment is to provide an overview of current issues relating to crime and community safety that have an impact on Cumbria's communities. Data have been gathered from local, regional and national sources and analysis has been undertaken to understand which Cumbrian communities have the greatest need for support to stay safe.

Topics covered include:

- crime and disorder;
- domestic abuse and sexual violence support;
- drug and alcohol misuse;
- fire safety;
- road safety.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales 2023 show that police recorded crime levels in England and Wales during 2020 and 2021 were substantially affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and restrictions on social contact. The survey also shows that post-pandemic trends are starting to emerge, with some crime types returning to their pre-pandemic levels while others may have been affected by changes in people's behaviour during the pandemic and the subsequent lifting of social restrictions. In line with the Crime Survey for England and Wales trends within this assessment look further back to include pre-pandemic offence levels.

It should be noted that since April 2018 the way that crimes are recorded nationally across police forces has changed, and as a result a single incident log can now result in more than one recorded crime. For example, a single incident involving violence could comprise two notifiable offences against one victim, such as assault and harassment. Prior to April 2018 the harassment would not have been recorded separately. Recorded crime figures continue to be used in this assessment rather than incident data as they paint a picture of the issues facing Cumbria's individuals and communities.

While best efforts have been made to provide analysis at a local level, this is not always possible. Some data are only available at a county wide or locality area level. Data at LSOA (Lower Super Output Area) are only available for a limited number of offence categories including all recorded crime, antisocial behaviour, hate crime, domestic abuse safeguarding records, domestic abuse crimes, stalking and harassment, violence against the person and violence against women and girls (VAWG).

Contextual information has been included where available. However, it should be noted that the reasons behind increases, decreases or fluctuations in crime rates are not always known.

Any ward data reflect boundary changes that were in place by December 2022.

This document provides a summary of findings. Additional data tables and charts can be found within [Appendix 2](#).

## 2 Key findings

### 2.1 Overview

This assessment looks at emerging trends in crime and community safety in Cumbria. The key findings are outlined below, and have been included for one or more of the following reasons:

- The volume of offences / incidents is high;
- There is an adverse impact on the community or community concern;
- The trend shows an increase over the last five years or compared to pre-pandemic rates;
- The trend shows an increase compared to the previous year;
- The rate is higher than that of the North West region and / or England and Wales.

The key findings from this Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment are:

- **Alcohol-related crime** accounts for a large proportion of all crime, one in seven offences in Cumberland in 2022-23 (14.7%) and one in six offences in Westmorland and Furness (17.0%). Trends show an increase in alcohol-related crime in Westmorland and Furness in 2022-23 compared to the previous year. Rates of alcohol specific mortality in males is particularly high in the Furness locality (Westmorland & Furness), where the rate of alcohol-related deaths exceeds the national figure (23.9 deaths per 100,000 population, compared to 14.9 for England). Additionally, the Furness locality area has the highest rate of alcohol specific hospital admissions of under 18 year olds.
- Crime statistics show a relationship between the current cost of living crisis and the level of crime in Cumbria with a clear increase in **acquisitive crime** in the last two years. There is a long established relationship between shoplifting and inflation and the increase in shoplifting offences over the last two years may be an indication of financial pressure within the community. Rates in the Carlisle locality area for shoplifting are higher than the regional and national rates. Residential burglary rates have also increased over the last year. While rates are relatively low, the fear of having their home broken into is one of the top five concerns for Cumbrian residents. There has also been an 11.5% increase in the number of reported fraud crimes in Cumbria since 2020-21.
- The misuse of drugs has a negative impact on individuals, families and communities and is often a symptom of wider societal issues. While rates for **drug related offences** (trafficking and possession) are lower than the regional and national average, the longer term five year trend shows an overall increase in the county, and increases are apparent in both the Cumberland and the Westmorland and Furness areas over the last 12 months. The rate of deaths related to drug poisoning is significantly higher (double) in Cumbria compared to the national average.
- There has been a steady increase in recorded **domestic abuse** related incidents and crimes. This is in line with the national picture and is likely to reflect the growing awareness and understanding of different types of domestic abuse (including coercive control) and the willingness of victims to come forward and report offences. Under

reporting may be a problem especially for male victims, those with disabilities, LGBTQ, young victims (16-18 years) and older victims (those aged 65+). Rurality is also a significant barrier for victims of domestic abuse, with services harder to access and rural societal structure making escape less likely; just over half of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness's population live within areas defined as rural by the Office for National Statistics.

- **Violent crime** accounts for a large volume of offences in the county, almost 17,000 recorded offences in 2022-23. The five year trend shows an increase in violence against the person offences across the county in line with the national picture, with rates highest within the Carlisle and Furness locality areas. Violent crime includes offences such as **VAWG** (violence against women and girls); increases may reflect improved recording practices and the impact of high-profile cases and campaigns on victims' willingness to report both recent and historical offences. The Carlisle and Furness locality areas have the highest levels of hospital admissions due to violence in Cumbria. These two areas account for 51.4% of all hospital admissions due to violence occurring in the county. However, it needs to be noted the violence may not have necessarily occurred in these locations and individuals could have travelled from other localities to receive treatment if these hospitals are geographically closer. Additionally, admissions could also include individuals who do not reside in Cumbria.
- There has been an increase in recorded **sexual offences** in 2022-23 compared to pre-pandemic but no significant change compared to the previous year. The longer term increase may reflect several factors, including the impact of high-profile cases and campaigns on victims' willingness to report both recent and historical offences. The rate in Cumberland for sexual offences in 2022-23 is higher than the national rate. It is likely that sexual offences are under-reported.
- **Antisocial behaviour** crimes are decreasing locally, regionally and nationally. Offences in Cumbria have reduced by -28.2% in the last 12 months, largely due to the success by Cumbria Police in implementing an antisocial behaviour risk assessment (ASBRA) process and the investment in neighbourhood policing. The multi-agency, proactive and collaborative approach by Local Focus Hubs across Cumbria has also contributed to the reduction in antisocial behaviour in recent years. Antisocial behaviour has a negative impact on communities, and despite the overall decrease it remains one of the top five concerns for Cumbrian residents.
- There has been an increase in recorded **hate crime** offences throughout 2022-23. The increase is thought to be a result of improvements in crime recording by the police and better identification of what constitutes a hate crime. The majority of hate crimes in 2022-23 were racially motivated. While the overall hate crime rate in Cumbria is lower than the national average, there is concern nationally about the increase in Antisemitic and Islamophobic hate crimes in the wake of the current Middle East conflict. According to the 2021 Census, Jewish and Muslim populations make up 0.5% of Cumbria's resident population.

## 2.2 Inequalities: who is at risk?

### **Deprivation**

- Those living in more deprived communities are more likely to be victims of all crime and to fear becoming a victim of crime. Crime rates and victim rates are significantly higher in the 20% most deprived areas compared to the 20% least deprived areas.
- Those living within the 20% most deprived communities in England have a higher risk of accidental dwelling fires and fire related injuries.
- Those living in deprived areas are more likely to have experienced or witnessed antisocial behaviour in the last 12 months compared to those in less deprived areas. Those with long-term physical or mental health conditions were more likely to have experienced or witnessed antisocial behaviour in the last 12 months compared to those without the same conditions.
- Those living in deprived areas are more likely to have experienced criminal damage compared to those in less deprived areas.
- Those living in deprived areas are more likely to die from alcohol-related causes or attend hospital for alcohol-related reasons.

### **Rurality**

- Farming communities are at risk of theft by organised crime gangs.
- Rurality is a significant barrier to victims of domestic abuse, with services harder to access and rural societal structure making escape more difficult; rural victims of domestic abuse are half as likely to report domestic abuse as urban victims.

### **Protected characteristics**

#### *Hate crime*

- Those from ethnic minority (including white minority) backgrounds, LGBTQ+ communities and people with disabilities are more likely to be victims of hate crime.

#### *Domestic abuse*

- Domestic abuse has a disproportionate impact on females.
- A large proportion of victims of domestic abuse are classified as at a High or Medium Risk level.
- The full extent of need amongst domestic abuse victims is not currently captured as under reporting may be a problem especially for male victims, those with disabilities, LGBTQ, young victims (16-18 years) and older victims (those aged 65+).
- Domestic abuse victims supported by Victim Support are more likely to be aged between 25 to 44 years.

#### *Victims and offenders*

- Victims of all recorded crime in 2022-23 are most likely to be female / transgender female, aged 21-40 years. Offenders are most likely to be male / transgender male aged 21-40 years. However, just over one in ten male / transgender male offenders are younger, aged 11-15 years (11.6%).
- Victims of violence against the person (alcohol-related) in 2022-23 are most likely to be male / transgender male or female / transgender female, aged 21-40 years. Offenders are most likely to be male / transgender male, aged 21-40 years.
- Offenders managed by the National Probation Service are most likely to be male and aged 35+ years.

### *Looked after children*

- Looked after children are more likely to go missing from home.

### *Sexual offences*

- Sexual offences have a disproportional impact on females. Females are most likely to be victims of sexual offences. Females are more likely to be victims of rape than males. Female victims of sexual offences are more likely to be aged 10 to 34 years.
- Male victims of sexual offences are more likely to be aged 5 to 34 years.
- Clients accessing Safety Net services (sexual and domestic abuse) are most likely to be female, aged 25+ years. A large proportion are aged 13 to 17 years.
- Victims of sexual violence referred to The Bridgeway are most likely to be female and aged 18+ years. A large proportion are aged 13 to 17 years.
- Victims of sexual violence referred to Victim Support are most likely to be female and aged under 24 years.

### *Drug and alcohol misuse*

- Young people referred to local authority support services for drug and alcohol misuse are most likely to be male, aged 15 to 17 years.
- Clients accessing Humankind drug and alcohol support services are most likely to be male and aged 35 to 49 years.
- Males are more likely to die from alcohol-related causes.
- Males aged 35-39 years and 45-49 years are more likely to die from drug poisoning causes.

### *Cybercrime and fraud*

- Females are more likely to be victims of fraud.
- Younger females (aged 20-29) are more likely to be victims of cybercrime.

### **Local concerns**

- The main concerns of Cumbria's residents include antisocial behaviour, burglary, rubbish or littering, vehicle theft and physical attacks by strangers.

## 2.3 Geographical differences

Cumbria is a relatively safe place in which to live, work or to visit. In many areas of the county levels of crime and community safety are better than those experienced nationally and / or regionally. However, evidence suggests that there are some areas of concern. Links between crime and deprivation are well documented and have long been understood. Across Cumbria there are 56 communities (Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)) that rank within the 20% most deprived in England according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019; 36 of these LSOAs are located within the Cumberland Council area and 20 are within the Westmorland and Furness Council area.

Analysis of crime and community safety data suggest that the locality areas with the highest crime rates are the Carlisle locality area within Cumberland, and the Furness locality area within Westmorland and Furness. The Carlisle locality area contains 13 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived, just over one third of all Cumberland's most deprived LSOAs. All 20 of Westmorland and Furness's most deprived LSOAs are found within the Furness locality area.

The wards which data suggest are least safe are shown below, by Unitary Authority area. It should be noted that the ward analysis is based on a limited number of categories (all recorded crime, antisocial behaviour, hate crime, domestic abuse crimes and safeguarding records, stalking and harassment, violence against the person, violence against women and girls). The number in brackets after the ward name shows the number of communities (LSOAs) within the ward that rank within the 20% most deprived in England.

### Cumberland

Castle Ward (3)  
Currock Ward (2)  
St Michael's Ward (1)  
Kells and Sandwith Ward (2)  
Moss Bay and Moorclose Ward (4)

Cumberland's least safe wards contain 12 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived; one third of all Cumberland's most deprived LSOAs.

### Westmorland and Furness

Old Barrow and Hindpool Ward (9)  
Penrith South (0)  
Kendal Nether (0)  
Kendal Strickland and Fell (0)  
Risedale and Roosecote (6)

Westmorland and Furness's least safe wards contain 15 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived; three quarters of all Westmorland & Furness's most deprived LSOAs.

Within Cumberland, the community panel areas with the highest crime rates are Petteiril, Carlisle West and Workington Together. These three community panel areas contain 21 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England; this is almost three fifths (58.3%) of all Cumberland's most deprived LSOAs.

### 3 Key statistics

Indicator	CUMBRIA	Cumberland	W'morland & Furness	North West	England & Wales	Cumberland vs NW / E&W	W'morland & Furness vs NW / E&W
<b>All incident logs</b>	31,220	18,374	12,542			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	62.3	67.1	55.2	n/a	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>All recorded crime (excluding fraud)</b>	38,805	22,833	15,524			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	77.5	83.4	68.4	107.5	93.6	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Alcohol-related crime (all)</b>	6,057	3,358	2,634			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	12.1	12.3	11.6	n/a	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>ACQUISITIVE CRIME</b>							
<b>Burglary (residential)</b>	988	560	428			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	2.0	2.0	1.9	3.9	3.2	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Burglary (business and community)</b>	593	320	269			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.4	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Shoplifting</b>	2,031	1,242	786			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	4.1	4.5	3.5	5.3	5.7	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Theft of a motor vehicle</b>	302	185	112			n/a	n/a
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	0.6	0.7	0.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Theft from a motor vehicle</b>	451	262	185			n/a	n/a
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	0.9	1.0	0.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>DRUG AND ALCOHOL MISUSE</b>							
<b>Drug trafficking &amp; possession</b>	1,145	644	463			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	2.3	2.4	2.0	3.9	3.0	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Alcohol specific mortality (males, all ages)</b>	116	61	55			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per DSR 100,000 population (2017-19)</i>	14.6	22.4	10.5	19.3	14.9	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Alcohol specific mortality (females, all ages)</b>	51	27	24			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per DSR 100,000 population (2017-19)</i>	6.2	9.5	8.3	10.1	7.1	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Alcohol specific hospital admissions (all ages)</b>	2,890	1,685	1,205			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per DSR 100,000 population (year 2021/22)</i>	555.0	607.0	486.0	815.0	626.0	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Alcohol specific hospital admissions (&lt;18 yrs)</b>	105	55	50			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per DSR 100,000 population (year 2018/19 to 2020/21)</i>	37.9	35.0	41.8	40.1	29.3	vs E&W	vs E&W
<p>Key: Trend over 5 years = increase = no change = decrease = not comparable</p> <p>NW / E&amp;W comparison = worse = similar = better = unavailable</p>							

Key statistics, continued ...

Indicator	CUMBRIA	Cumberland	W'morland & Furness	North West	England & Wales	Cumberland vs NW / E&W	W'morland & Furness vs NW / E&W
<b>VIOLENCE</b>							
<b>Violence against the person</b>	16,905	9,873	6,829			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	33.8	36.1	30.1	43.3	35.4	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Alcohol-related Violence Against the Person</b>	4,021	2,207	1,780			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	8.0	8.1	7.8	n/a	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Stalking &amp; harassment</b>	5,800	3,546	2,157			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	11.6	13.0	9.5	16.0	11.9	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Violence Against Women &amp; Girls (VAWG)</b>	9,378	5,719	3,520			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	40.6	45.5	33.5	n/a	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Hospital admissions violence (inc SV)</b>	365	200	165			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per DSR 100,000 population (year 2018/19 to 2020/21)</i>	28.2	27.4	29.2	61.6	41.9	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>DOMESTIC ABUSE</b>							
<b>Domestic abuse safeguarding records</b>	8,272	4,708	3,322			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	16.5	17.2	14.6	n/a	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Domestic abuse related incidents and crimes</b>	9,814	n/a	n/a			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	19.6	n/a	n/a	26.0	24.4	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>SEXUAL VIOLENCE</b>							
<b>Sexual offences</b>	1,717	984	662			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	3.4	3.6	2.9	3.6	3.3	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Sexual Offences (alcohol-related)</b>	310	181	113			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	0.6	0.7	0.5	n/a	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<b>Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)</b>	723	407	286			vs NW	vs NW
<i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	8.0	8.0	7.3	7.5	n/a	vs E&W	vs E&W
<p>Key: Trend over 5 years = increase (red), = no change (yellow), = decrease (green), = not comparable (orange)</p> <p>NW / E&amp;W comparison = worse (red), = similar (yellow), = better (green), = unavailable (grey)</p>							

Key statistics, continued ...

Indicator	CUMBRIA	Cumberland	W'morland & Furness	North West	England & Wales	Cumberland vs NW / E&W	W'morland & Furness vs NW / E&W
<b>ROAD SAFETY</b>							
Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022</i>	320 0.6	170 0.6	150 0.7	0.4	0.5	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
<b>ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND REOFFENDING</b>							
Antisocial behaviour <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	4,922 9.8	2,843 10.4	2,039 9.0	19.2	17.3	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Criminal damage (including arson) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	4,998 10.0	3,123 11.4	1,865 8.2	10.3	8.9	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Reoffending levels (average number of reoffences per reoffender) (October 2020 to Sept 2021)	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.6	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
<b>VULNERABLE PEOPLE</b>							
Individual hate crimes <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	898 1.8	527 1.9	360 1.6	n/a	2.5	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Missing from home - Reports (all ages) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	3,837 7.7	2,005 7.3	1,741 7.7	n/a	n/a	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Missing from home - Individuals (all ages) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	2,220 4.4	1,240 4.5	918 4.0	n/a	n/a	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Vulnerable Adult (18+ years) referrals <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	5,684 13.8	3,040 13.7	2,231 11.9	n/a	n/a	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Vulnerable child (<18 yrs) referrals <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	7,720 85.4	4,026 78.7	3,077 78.4	n/a	n/a	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
<b>FIRE SAFETY</b>							
Fires (all) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	1,271 2.5	727 2.7	544 2.4	n/a	n/a	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W
Fires (deliberate) <i>rate per 1,000 population, 2022-23</i>	470 0.9	313 1.1	157 0.7	n/a	n/a	vs NW vs E&W	vs NW vs E&W

Key: Trend over 5 years = increase (red), = decrease (green), = no change (yellow), = not comparable (orange) | NW / E&W comparison = worse (red), = better (green), = similar (yellow), = unavailable (grey)

Note: Geographical location is not known for all police recorded offences, therefore the sum of offences for the unitary authority areas of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness may not sum to that of the Cumbria total.

## 4 Crime and Community Safety

Please note that the geographical location is not known for all police recorded offences, therefore the sum of offences for the unitary authority areas of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness may not sum to that of the Cumbria total.

### 4.1 Crime Overview

*Data source: Office for National Statistics Crime Survey for England and Wales*

Nationally two different sources of information are used to understand trends in crime. These sources are the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) and Police recorded crime data. Both sources are useful in building a picture to help assess the impact on communities. The CSEW records all types of crimes experienced by individuals and households, including crimes that may not have been reported to the Police. While Police recorded crime does not tend to be a good indicator of general trends in crime, it can however provide more insight into lower volume but higher harm offences, including those that the CSEW does not cover or capture well.

The CSEW for the year ending March 2023 indicates that compared with the year ending March 2020 (pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic), total crime decreased by -15%. Findings show that:

- Overall theft decreased by -20%; the largest reduction was seen in theft from the person (-33%), but falls were also seen in “other theft of personal property” (-31%), domestic burglary (-30%) and vehicle-related theft (-18%).
- Criminal damage decreased by -33%.
- Fraud returned to pre-coronavirus pandemic levels (no significant change); this suggests previous increases in fraud may have been specific to the coronavirus pandemic period rather than a sustained change in trends.
- Despite no significant change in fraud overall there was a +549% increase in advance fee fraud from 60,000 to 391,000 offences nationally, while bank and credit account fraud decreased by -14%.

Police recorded crime in England and Wales in the year ending March 2023 exceeded pre-coronavirus pandemic levels. Police recorded crime includes crimes against people, households, and businesses in both residential and non-residential settings, such as non-domestic burglary, societal crimes such as drug taking, and crimes against children. Police recorded crime volumes are higher than those committed against individuals only. The 6.7 million crimes recorded were 11% higher compared with the year ending March 2020 (6.1 million offences). This overall increase was largely influenced by rises in the offence categories that are most subject to changes in reporting and recording practices. Therefore, these estimates should be treated with caution as they are unlikely to reflect a genuine increase in crime.

Nationally police recorded crime data show some areas where there have been increases in the last year, although they remain below the pre-coronavirus pandemic levels:

- Recorded robbery offences are -17% lower than the year ending March 2020 (pre-coronavirus pandemic), but an increase of +13% compared with the year ending March 2022.
- Recorded offences involving knives or sharp instruments (excluding Devon and Cornwall Police) decreased by -7% compared with March 2020 but increased +5% since March 2022.
- Homicides decreased by -16% compared with March 2020 but increased +14% since March 2022. It should be noted that homicide is a relatively low-volume offence and therefore numbers will fluctuate.
- Offences involving firearms (excluding Devon and Cornwall Police) decreased by -2% compared with March 2020, but there was a rise of +13% compared to March 2022. This rise was largely attributed to an increase in offences involving imitation firearms which rose +19% since the year ending March 2022 and was the most prevalent principal weapon used in these offences in the last year.

Nationally Police recorded sexual offences rose by +20% compared with the pre-coronavirus pandemic year ending March 2020. It is important to note when interpreting Police recorded sexual offences that these figures may reflect several factors, including the impact of high-profile cases and campaigns on victims' willingness to report both recent and historical incidents. For a subset of Police Forces supplying data to the Home Office Data Hub, one fifth (21%) of all sexual offences in the year ending March 2023 had taken place over a year prior to the incident being recorded.

From data gathered by both the CSEW and police recorded crime to March 2023, post-pandemic trends are starting to emerge. Some crime types are returning to pre-pandemic levels while others may have been affected by changes in the behaviour of individuals during the pandemic and the subsequent lifting of social restrictions. It should be noted that CSEW data collected during this period include experiences of crime in the 12 months before the interview month and therefore include crimes committed during the coronavirus pandemic and as early as April 2021 and therefore some additional caution must be taken when using CSEW data. Lower than normal response rates may also potentially have an impact on data quality. (*Office for National Statistics, 2023*)

Research suggests that people living in deprived areas are more likely to be victims of crime. Anyone can be a victim of crime, but research shows that a person's chances of falling victim to crime varies significantly depending on a range of variables including age, where they live and economic deprivation. Crime rates and victim rates are significantly higher in the 20% most deprived areas compared to the 20% least deprived areas, and it is not only crime itself that disproportionately affects the lives of those in deprived areas, the fear of crime is also far greater. (*Civitas, 2018*).

Across Cumbria there are 56 communities (Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)) that are within the most deprived in England; 36 of these LSOAs are within the Cumberland Council area and 20 are within the Westmorland and Furness Council area. The table below illustrates how many LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England sit within each community panel or locality area in Cumbria. (*Office for National Statistics, 2019*).

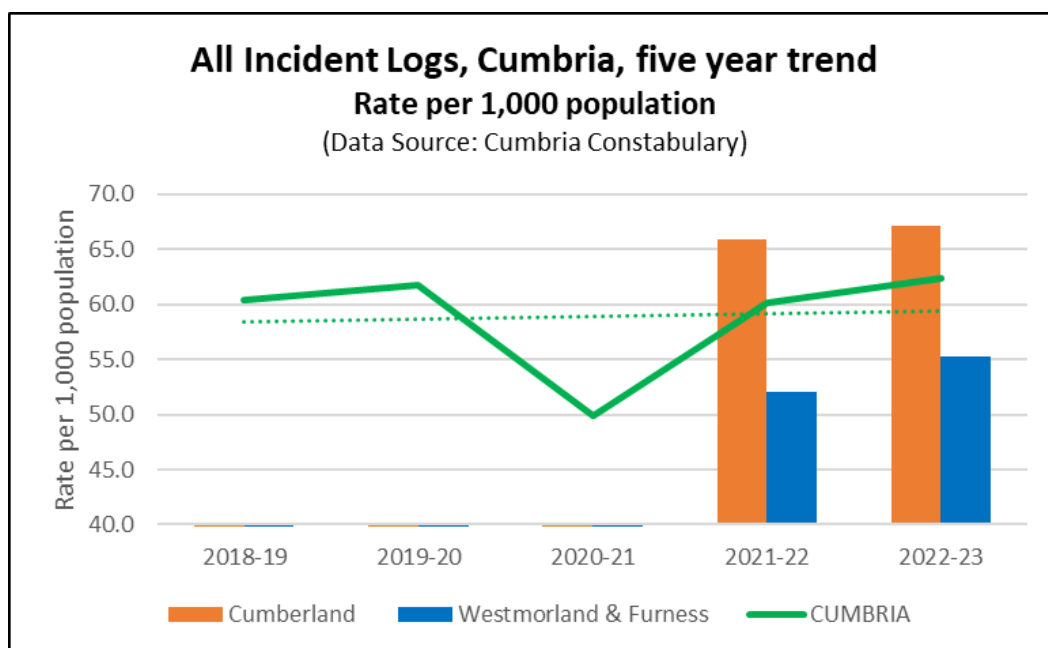
Cumberland Community Panel Areas	Total LSOAs	20% most deprived*	Cumberland Locality Areas	Total LSOAs	20% most deprived*
Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	24	1	Allerdale	60	12
Carlisle West	20	6	Carlisle	68	13
Fells & Solway	17	0	Copeland	49	11
Lakes to Sea	27	3	<b>Total Cumberland</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>36</b>
Petteril	20	6	<b>Westmorland &amp; Furness Locality Areas</b>		
South Cumberland	25	5	Furness	49	20
Whitehaven & Coastal	24	6	Eden	36	0
Workington Together	20	9	South Lakeland	59	0
<b>Total Cumberland</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>Total Westmorland &amp; Furness</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>20</b>

\*Number of LSOAs (2019) in the Community Panel / Locality Area within the 20% most deprived in England (IMD, 2019)

## 4.2 All Incident Logs

Data source: *Cumbria Constabulary*

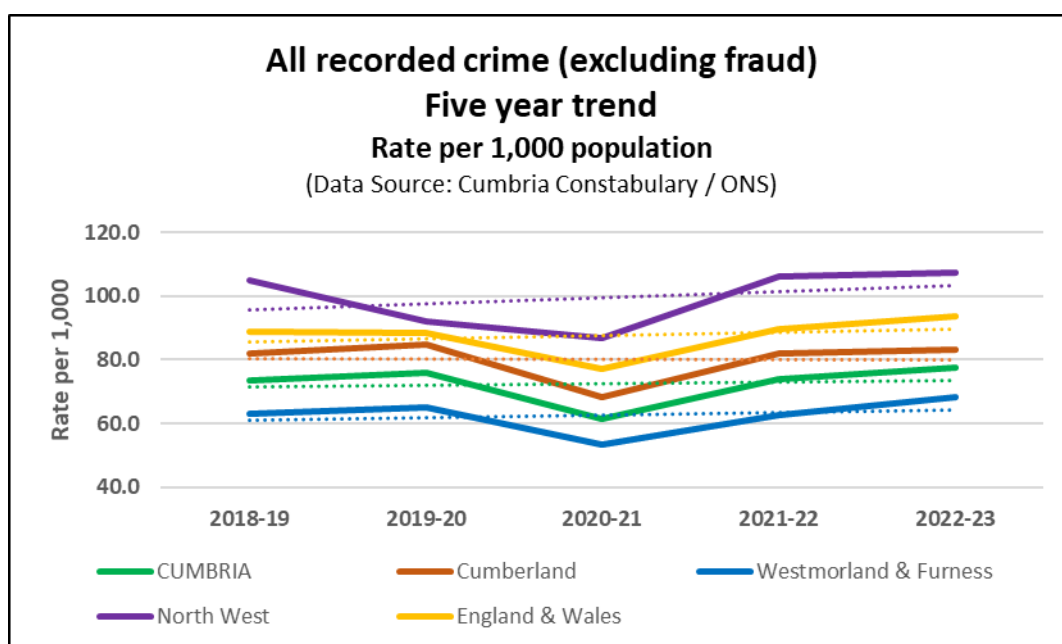
The trend chart below indicates a slight rise over five years in the count of incident logs recorded at the point of contact. An incident can result in one or more crimes being recorded, for example a single incident involving violence could include two notifiable offences against one victim such as assault and harassment. The opposite can also be true, in that a number of incident logs can be created (for example from different callers) about one incident, which later results in one crime being recorded. Alternatively, there may be no crime recorded if the incident is outside the jurisdiction of Cumbria Constabulary or it transpired that no crime had in fact occurred. It should be noted that an incident can relate to a number of issues, such as a missing person report or a road traffic collision. The number of incident logs will therefore vary from the number of recorded crimes.



During 2022-23 there were 31,220 incident logs in Cumbria. Three fifths of these were in Cumberland (58.9%; 18,374) and two fifths in Westmorland and Furness (40.2%; 12,542). Although data are not available to show a longer term trend at Unitary Authority level, data over two years indicate that all incident logs increased by +1.8% (+331 incident logs) in Cumberland in 2022-23 compared to the previous year, and by +6.1% (+723 incident logs) in Westmorland and Furness. Within Cumberland the Carlisle locality area has the highest rate in 2022-23 (78.7 per 1,000 population), higher than both the Cumberland and Cumbria rate (67.1 and 62.3 per 1,000 respectively). The Furness locality area has the highest rate within Westmorland & Furness at 75.4 per 1,000 population, higher than both the Westmorland and Furness and Cumbria rate (55.2 and 62.3 per 1,000 respectively).

### 4.3 All Recorded Crime (excluding fraud)

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics



Police recorded crime in Cumbria increased in line with the national (England and Wales) picture. As with the national picture this overall increase is likely to be influenced largely by rises in the offence categories that are most subject to changes in reporting and recording practices and should be treated with caution as they may not reflect a genuine increase in crime.

The impact that government public health restrictions had during the coronavirus pandemic on levels of police recorded crime can be clearly seen on the graph, with all areas seeing a dip in 2020-21 followed by an increase in recorded offences in 2022-23 compared to 2018-19 pre-pandemic. In total, 38,805 offences (excluding fraud) were recorded in 2022-23. Three fifths of these were in Cumberland (58.8%; 22,833), a rate of 83.4 per 1,000 population; two fifths were in Westmorland and Furness (40.0%; 15,524), a rate of 68.4 per 1,000 population. The rates for both Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness are below the rates for the North West (107.5 per 1,000) and England and Wales (93.6 per 1,000) in 2022-23. Geography is not recorded for a small proportion of offences (1.2%; 448). The largest increase over five years is in Westmorland and Furness at +9.8% (1,381 recorded offences).

While the overall picture shows an increase, the exception is the Cumberland Unitary Authority area which appears to have had no noticeable change over a five year period. However, there are three community panel areas in Cumberland with rates for all recorded crime that are higher than both the North West and England and Wales rate. These are Carlisle West (148.1 per 1,000); Petteril (136.9 per 1,000) and Workington Together (116.9 per 1,000). These community panel areas between them contain 21 LSOAs that are within the 20% most deprived in England. Within Cumberland the five wards with the highest rates for all recorded crime all contain communities (Lower Super Output Areas) that are within the 20% most deprived within England; these wards are Castle, Currock, St Michael's, Kells and Sandwith, Moss Bay and Moorclose and between them cover 12 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. Castle Ward has the highest rate of all wards in Cumberland (360.9 per 1,000); this is significantly higher than both the regional and national rate.

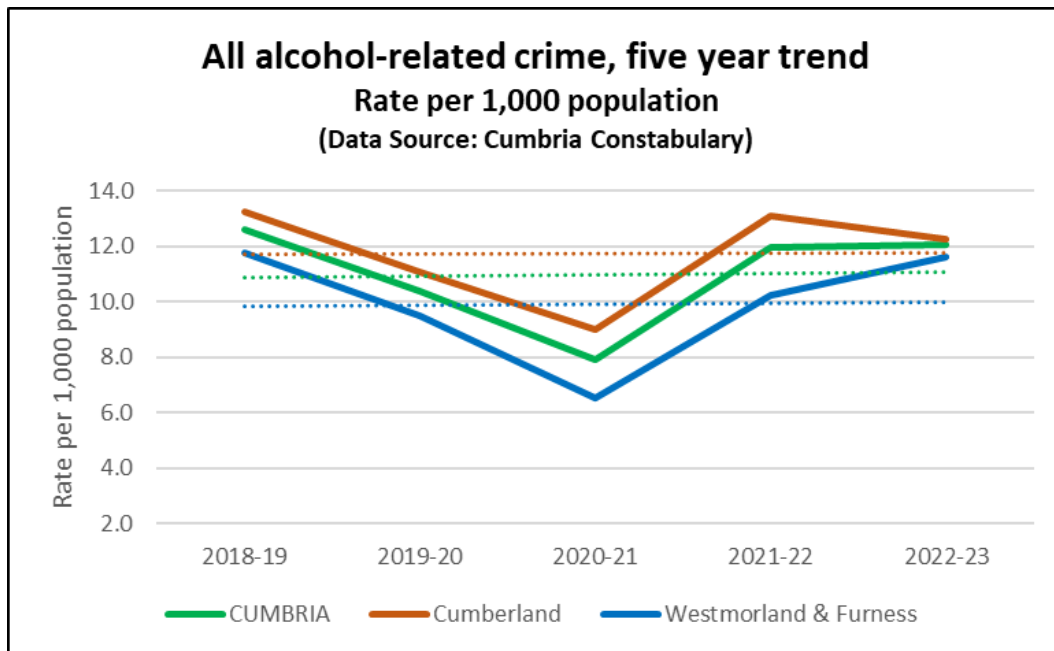
The Furness locality area has the highest rate in Westmorland and Furness for all recorded crime in 2022-23 (96.3 per 1,000), similar to the England and Wales rate (93.6 per 1,000). The Furness locality contains 20 communities within the 20% most deprived in England. Within Westmorland and Furness the five wards with the highest rate for all recorded crime are Old Barrow and Hindpool, Penrith South, Kendal Strickland and Fell, Kendal Nether, Bowness and Lyth. Old Barrow and Hindpool Ward has the highest rate of all wards in Westmorland and Furness at 260.8 per 1,000 population (2,941 recorded offences in 2022-23), almost three times higher than the England and Wales rate (93.6 per 1,000); this ward contains nine communities within the 20% most deprived in England and Wales.

Victims of all recorded crime in 2022-23 are most likely to be female / transgender female, aged 21-40 years. Offenders are most likely to be male / transgender male aged 21-40 years. However, just over one in ten male / transgender male offenders are younger, aged 11-15 years (11.6%).

#### 4.4 All Alcohol-Related Crime

Health and crime are not separate issues. Alcohol is a significant issue in relation to health and also a significant concern in relation to crime in Cumbria featuring in 15.6% of all recorded crimes, 23.8% of all violence against the person offences and 18.1% of all sexual offences in 2022-23. *Data source: Cumbria Constabulary*

The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners estimate that a large volume of crime and antisocial behaviour is linked to misuse of alcohol. There are also links between substance misuse and crime with estimates that half of all homicides and half of all acquisitive crimes nationally are drug related.

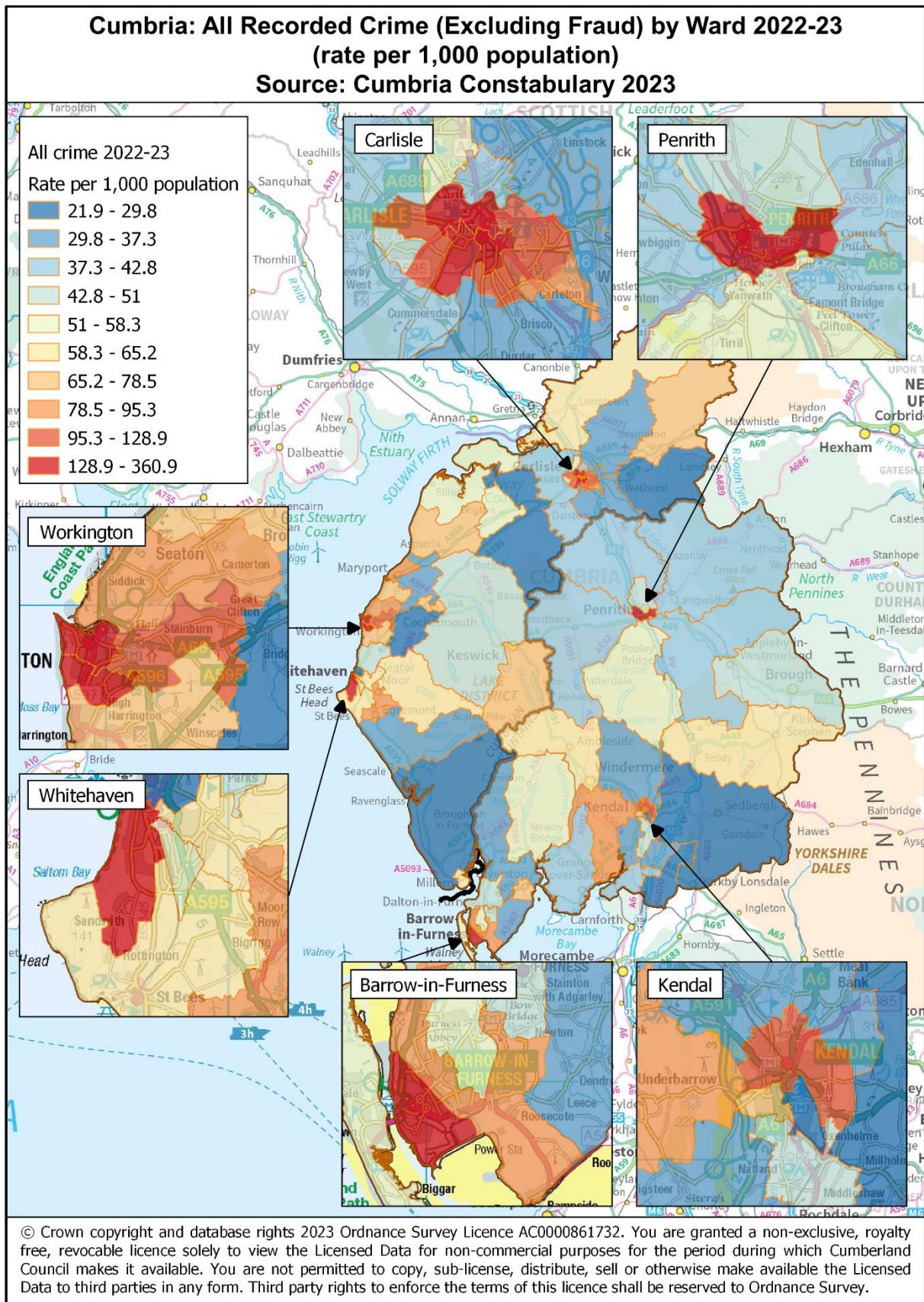


Levels of alcohol-related crime decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic, largely due to periods of lockdown and the closure of the night time economy. Levels increased in 2021-22 following the relaxation of restrictions. Overall, the longer term trend for alcohol-related crime has remained largely unchanged over a five year period with levels now similar to 2018-29.

Alcohol-related offences totalled 6,057 in 2022-23 in Cumbria (3,358 Cumberland; 2,634 Westmorland and Furness). At a county level, there was a slight increase compared to 2021-22 (+1.1%; +68 offences). The picture is slightly different at a unitary authority level, with a decrease in Cumberland in 2022-23 compared to 2021-22 (-6.5%; -233 offences) and a large increase in Westmorland and Furness (+13.3%; +310 offences) bringing the Westmorland and Furness rate (11.6 per 1,000) closer to the Cumbria (12.1 per 1,000) and Cumberland (12.3 per 1,000) rates. The decrease in Cumberland appears to be largely driven by a decrease in the Allerdale and Copeland locality areas (-7.1%, -84 offences and -22.1%, -204 offences respectively) and the increase in Westmorland and Furness mainly the result of an increase in the Furness and South Lakeland locality areas (+6.4%, +74 offences and +28.9%, +241 offences respectively). The reason for the decrease in the Allerdale and Copeland locality areas and increase in the South Lakeland locality area is not known. Within Cumberland, the Carlisle locality area has the highest rate in 2022-23 (14.0 per 1,000) while within Westmorland and Furness, the highest rate is found in the Furness locality area (18.2 per 1,000).

Alcohol-related crime accounts for a large proportion of all crime, one in seven offences in Cumberland in 2022-23 (14.7%) and one in six offences in Westmorland and Furness (17.0%).

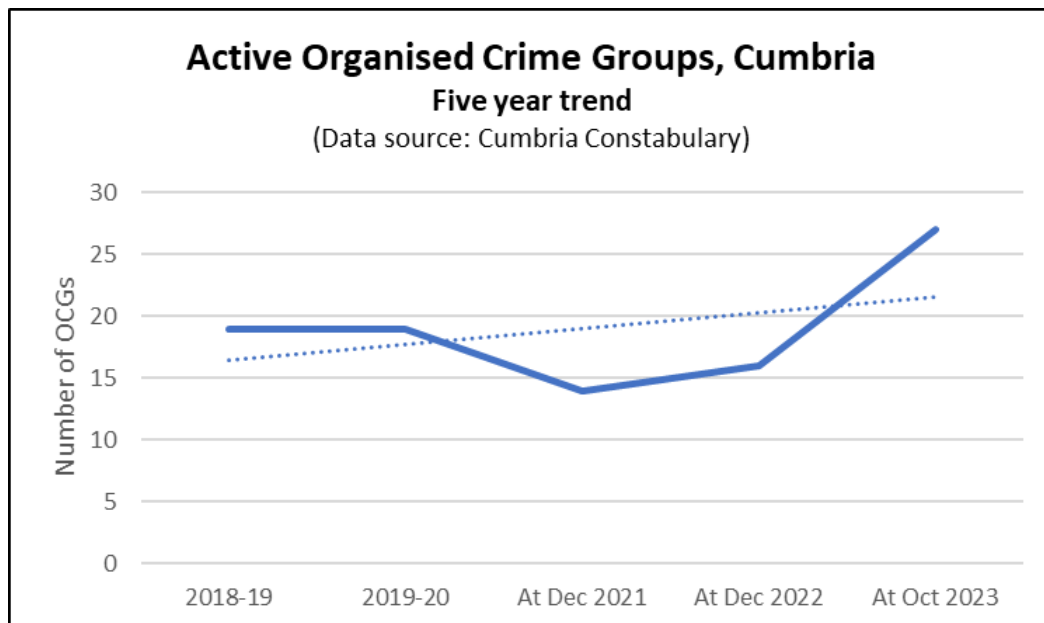
## 4.5 Cumbria - All Recorded Crime Map (excluding fraud) by Ward



## 4.6 Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime has a devastating impact on the population of the UK: it exploits the most vulnerable people, undermines communities and has a corrosive effect on the economy. Serious Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) are involved in a range of serious crimes including money laundering, large scale drug dealing and human trafficking (*National Crime Agency, 2023*). The Home Office estimates that the social and economic cost of fraud to individuals in England and Wales is £4.7 billion per year and the social and economic cost of organised fraud against businesses and the public sector in the UK is £5.9 billion (*HM Treasury and Home Office, 2021*). The financial impact is likely to have increased since these figures were published.

The latest available figures for Cumbria at October 2023 identified 104 OCGs in Cumbria, 27 of which were active, with 190 identified members. The number of active OCGs decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic in line with the overall decrease in crime during that period. However, the overall trend indicates an increase in active OCGs of +42.1% (+8 active OCGs) compared to 2019-20 and +68.8% (+11 active OCGs) compared to December 2022.



The increase is likely to be a result of improvements in recording. Historically, organised crime suspects were not recorded with a direct tag on police force systems. Education across the organisation has increased around the impacts of serious and organised crime and there are more OCGs mapped than five years ago. Demand is expected to increase over the next few years as Cumbria Police apply MoRiLE (Management of Risk in Law Enforcement) assessment to determine the threat and harm linked to serious and organised crime and identified OCGs. Risk will be easier to understand and identify which is likely to result in an increase in the number of mapped and scored OCGs.

Four out of five active OCGs at October 2023 were involved in drug supply (81.5%; 22 OCGs), with four (14.8%) involved in County Lines drug supply. Two OCGs (7.4% of active OCGs) were involved in Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking.

## 4.7 Acquisitive Crime

Trends in acquisitive crime (for example theft, fraud and robbery) have shown a decline over the past few years. However, while rates have not returned to pre-pandemic levels, there have been some increases in the 12 months to March 2023.

The exact causes are to be determined, but it is possible that the increases in burglary and shoplifting could be a result of the gradual drift back to more conventional working patterns following the pandemic with fewer people working at home. It is also possible that the sharp rise in second hand car prices, which is partly driven by the restricted supply of new cars, is encouraging an increase in car theft. The current cost of living crisis is also likely to be having an impact as there is a long established relationship between shoplifting and inflation. The impact of acquisitive crime on victims can be significant, especially families and individuals already under pressure, and affects how safe people feel within their own homes or communities. (*Crest Advisory, 2023*)

The current picture in Cumbria for burglary, shoplifting and vehicle theft is outlined in the following sections.

### 4.7.1 Burglary

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics*

#### **Burglary (residential)**

Police data show 988 residential burglaries recorded in Cumbria in 2022-23 (560 Cumberland; 428 Westmorland and Furness), a decrease of -28.1% (-386 offences) compared to 2019-20 but an increase of +8.6% (+78) compared to the previous year.

Residential burglaries increased by +5.5% (+29 offences) in Cumberland in 2022-23 compared to the previous year. The rate of 2.0 per 1,000 population remains better across the unitary authority area than both the North West rate (3.9 per 1,000) and the England and Wales rate (3.2 per 1,000), with the highest rate found in the Carlisle locality area (2.2 per 1,000) and the lowest in the Copeland locality area (1.8 per 1,000). Data are not available at community panel or ward level.

Westmorland and Furness saw a larger increase in 2022-23 compared to the previous year, +12.9% (+49 offences). The rate per 1,000 population for the unitary authority area increased by +0.2 to 1.9 per 1,000 population but remains lower across the authority than both the North West rate (3.9 per 1,000) and the England and Wales rate (3.2 per 1,000). Furness has the highest rate (2.4 per 1,000) and Eden the lowest (1.0 per 1,000). Data are not available at ward level.

Fear of having their home broken into is one of the top five concerns for Cumbrian residents.

#### **Burglary (business and community)**

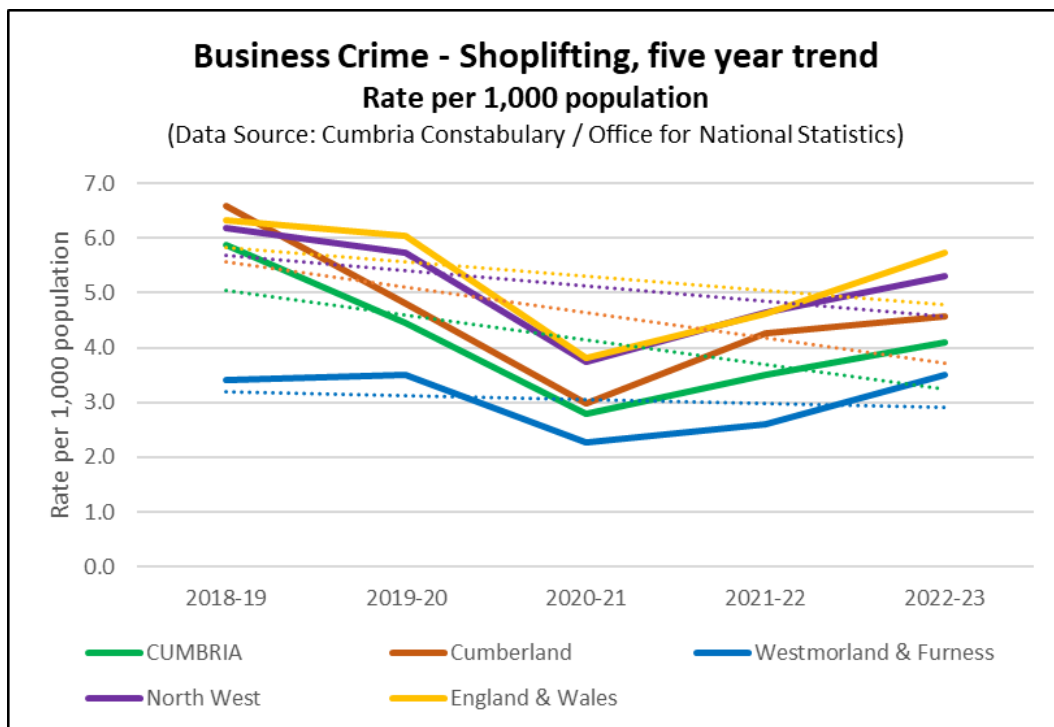
During 2022-23 police recorded burglary (business and community) offences totalled 593 (320 Cumberland; 269 Westmorland and Furness). This was a decrease of -24.7% (-195) compared to 2019-20 pre-pandemic, but an increase of +8.6% (+47 offences) compared to the previous year.

Burglary (business and community) offences increased by +15.5% (+43) in Cumberland in 2022-23 compared to the previous year but remained steady in Westmorland and Furness. The rate for Cumbria and each unitary authority area is 1.2 per 1,000 population, lower than the rate for the North West region (1.4 per 1,000) and England and Wales (1.4 per 1,000). Within Cumberland the Allerdale locality rate is higher than the regional and national rate at 1.5 per 1,000. Furness had the highest rate within Westmorland and Furness at 1.3 per 1,000.

#### 4.7.2 Business Crime - Shoplifting

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics

Recorded business crimes increased by +13.3% to 5,230 offences in 2022-23, an increase of +612 recorded offences compared to the previous year. Shoplifting was the most frequently recorded offence, accounting for almost two fifths of the total in Cumbria (38.8%; 2,031 offences).



During 2022-23 Cumbria Police recorded 2,031 shoplifting offences in Cumbria (1,242 Cumberland; 786 Westmorland and Furness). In line with the regional and national picture, this was a decrease across the county compared to pre-pandemic levels (-8.5%; -189 offences compared to 2019-20) but an increase compared to the previous year (+17.2%; +298). While rates are generally lower than the pre-pandemic period, the exception is Westmorland and Furness where the rate is now similar.

Within Cumberland, the Carlisle locality area rate (6.0 per 1,000 population) is higher than the rate for the North West region (5.3 per 1,000) and England and Wales (5.7 per 1,000). The rate in the Allerdale locality area (4.5 per 1,000), while lower than the regional and national rate, is higher than the pre-pandemic 2019-20 rate of 3.7 per 1,000. The Allerdale and Carlisle localities contain 25 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England and the increase over the last 12 months may be an indication of financial pressures within the community.

The Furness locality within Westmorland and Furness has the highest rate for shoplifting within the unitary authority area in 2022-23 at 4.0 per 1,000 population. This is an increase of +28.3% (+60 offences) compared to the previous year although it remains below both the regional and national rate (5.3 and 5.7 per 1,000 respectively). The Furness locality contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England and the increase over the last 12 months may be an indication of the impact of the cost of living crisis on the community.

#### 4.7.3 Theft of / from motor vehicles

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary*

##### **Theft of a motor vehicle**

Motor vehicle theft in Cumbria in 2022-23 totalled 302 offences (185 Cumberland; 112 Westmorland and Furness), a rate of 0.6 per 1,000 population, now equalling the pre-pandemic rate. The offence rate in Cumbria, although low (0.6 per 1,000) has increased in 2022-23 compared to the previous year (0.4 per 1,000).

In Cumberland (rate 0.7 per 1,000), the highest rate and the largest increase compared to the previous year is in the Carlisle locality area (0.9 per 1,000 population vs 0.7 per 1,000 in 2021-22). Within Westmorland and Furness (rate 0.5 per 1,000) the highest rate is in the Furness locality (0.8 per 1,000); the Furness locality rate has more than doubled compared to 2021-22 (0.3 per 1,000). The reason behind the increase in the Furness locality area is unknown.

##### **Theft from a motor vehicle**

During 2022-23 Police data show 451 recorded offences of theft from a motor vehicle (262 in Cumberland; 185 in Westmorland and Furness), an overall rate of 0.9 per 1,000 population. While rates have not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels, there has been an increase of +18.1% (+69) in recorded offences across the county compared to the previous year (Cumberland +20.7%, +45 offences; Westmorland and Furness +14.9%, +24).

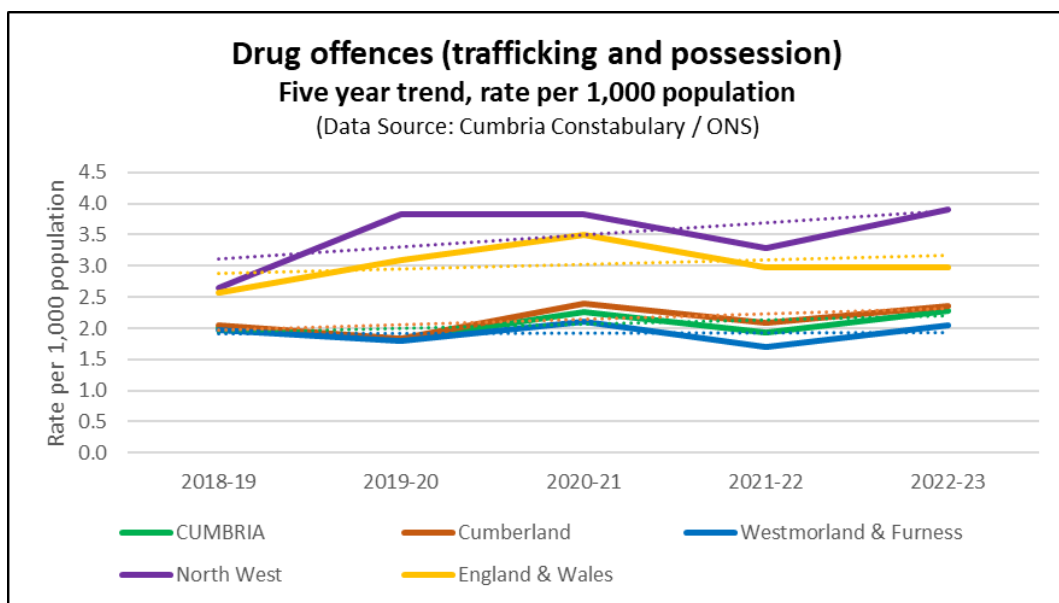
Within Cumberland the highest rate and largest increase compared to the previous year is found in the Carlisle locality area (1.4 per 1,000 vs 1.2 per 1,000 in 2021-22). Within Westmorland and Furness the highest rate is found in the Eden locality area (1.2 per 1,000); this rate is 50% higher than the Westmorland and Furness rate (0.8 per 1,000). The rate in the Eden locality area is likely to be linked to the area being the focus of criminals targeting rural and farming vehicles such as quad bikes. Cumbria Constabulary has invested in a Rural Crime Team who are focusing on this, especially around Organised Crime Groups that often travel from out of the county with this intent.

Theft from motor vehicles is one of the top five concerns for Cumbrian residents.

## 4.8 Drug-Related Offences (trafficking and possession)

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics

The CSEW estimates that approximately one in 11 adults aged 16 to 59 years (9.2%; approximately 3 million adults) and approximately one in five adults aged 16 to 24 years (18.6%; approximately 1.1 million adults) reported using drugs in the year ending June 2022. The Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) highlights how the misuse of drugs has a negative impact on individuals, families and communities, and is often a symptom of wider societal issues. While the proportion of the population who are affected by drug misuse is relatively small, its impacts are significant and often felt across the wider community. This section provides information about Police recorded drug offences (trafficking and possession). More detailed analysis of drug and alcohol use can be found in the [Cumbria Drug and Alcohol JSNA](#).



Drug offences (trafficking and possession) have seen a steady rise in the North West and England and Wales over the last five years. The picture is a little more mixed locally. During 2022-23 Cumbria Police recorded 1,145 drug trafficking and possession offences (644 Cumberland, 463 Westmorland and Furness). Five year trend data indicate an increase in Cumberland but very little overall change in Westmorland and Furness. However, compared to the previous year, increases are apparent in both Cumberland (+13.0%; +74) and in Westmorland and Furness (+20.6%; +79). Rates for the unitary authority areas (Cumberland 2.4 per 1,000; Westmorland and Furness 2.0 per 1,000) and all locality areas remain below the rate for the North West (3.9 per 1,000 population) and England and Wales (3.0 per 1,000). Within Cumberland, the Allerdale and Carlisle locality areas have the highest rates (both 2.6 per 1,000); these areas contain 25 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. Within Westmorland and Furness, the Furness and Eden locality areas have the highest rates (both 2.3 per 1,000); Furness contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

## 4.9 Drug and Alcohol-Related Misuse and Support

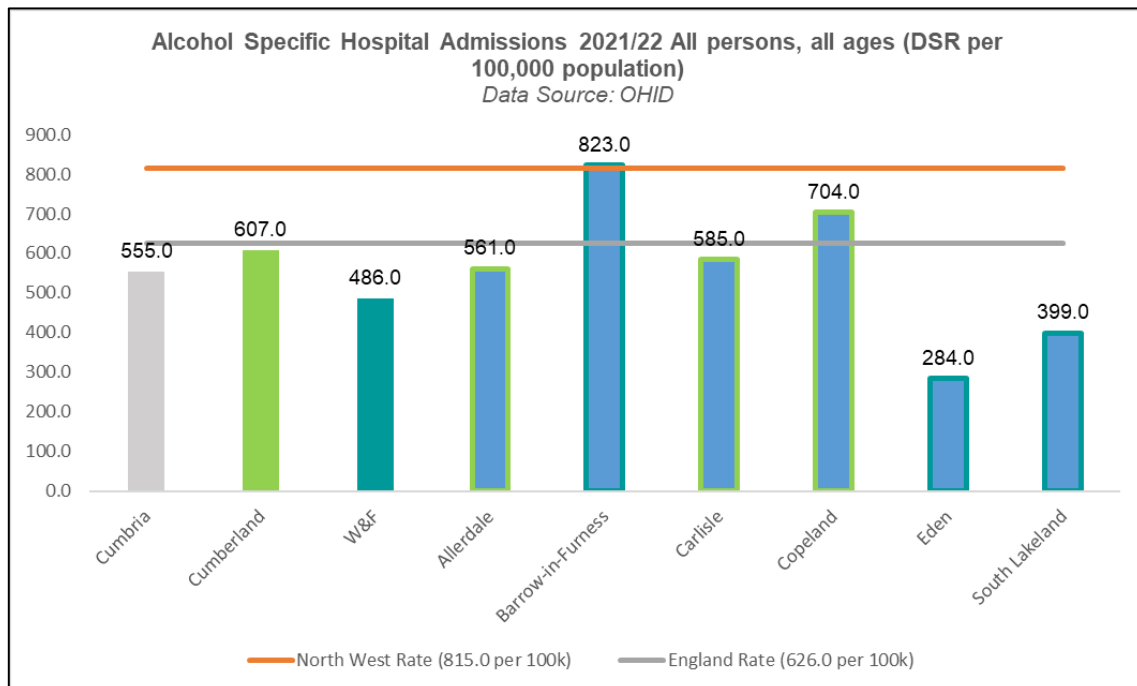
### 4.9.1 Alcohol Specific Hospital Admissions

Data Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), Local Alcohol Profiles

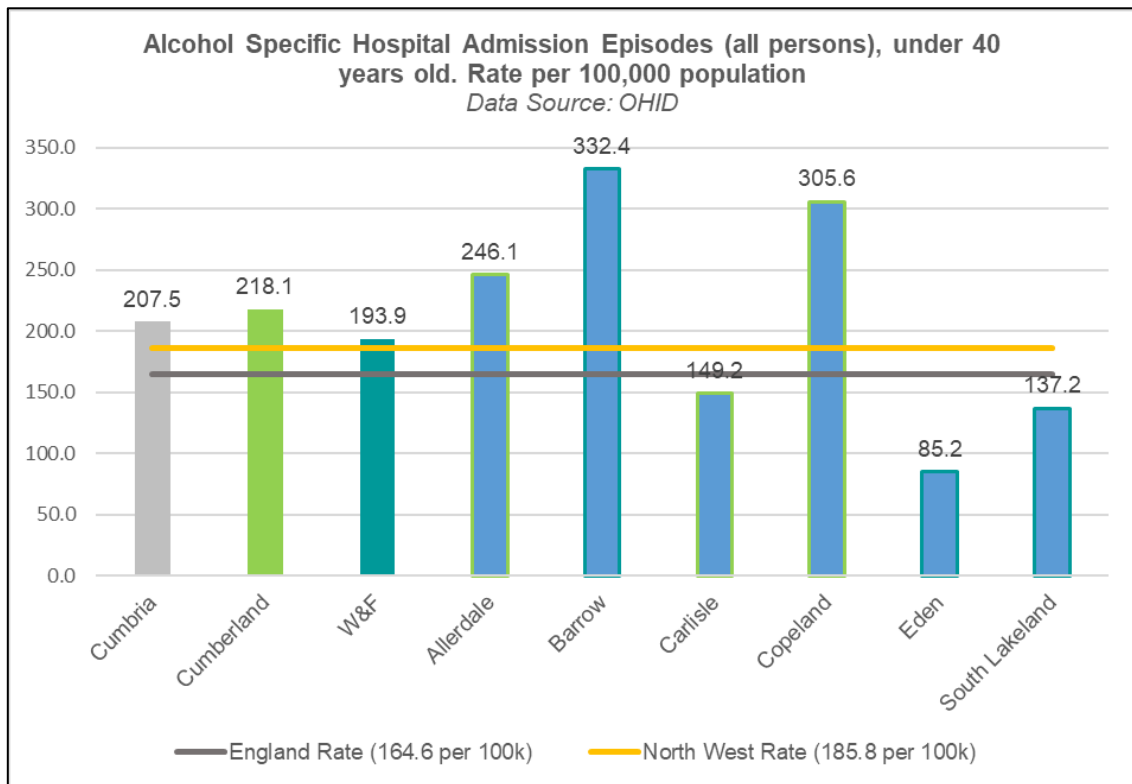
There were 2,890 alcohol specific hospital admissions in Cumbria during the 2021/22 period (latest available data), 1,685 of which occurred in Cumberland and 1,205 in Westmorland and Furness. All areas of Cumbria have seen an increase in admissions compared to the previous year except for the Carlisle locality area.

Alcohol Specific Hospital Admissions (all persons)				
Data Source: OHID				
	2019/20	2021/22	Difference	
<b>Cumbria</b>	<b>2730</b>	<b>2890</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>Increase</b>
<b>Cumberland</b>	<b>1605</b>	<b>1685</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>Increase</b>
<b>W&amp;F</b>	<b>1125</b>	<b>1205</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>Increase</b>
Allerdale	470	530	60	Increase
Barrow-in-Furness	505	560	55	Increase
Carlisle	725	660	-65	Decrease
Copeland	410	495	85	Increase
Eden	165	180	15	Increase
South Lakeland	455	465	10	Increase

Alcohol specific hospital admissions occur in Cumbria at a rate of 555 per 100,000 population. This is better than the national rate of 626, however the areas of Barrow-in-Furness (Westmorland and Furness) and Copeland (Cumberland) exceed this.

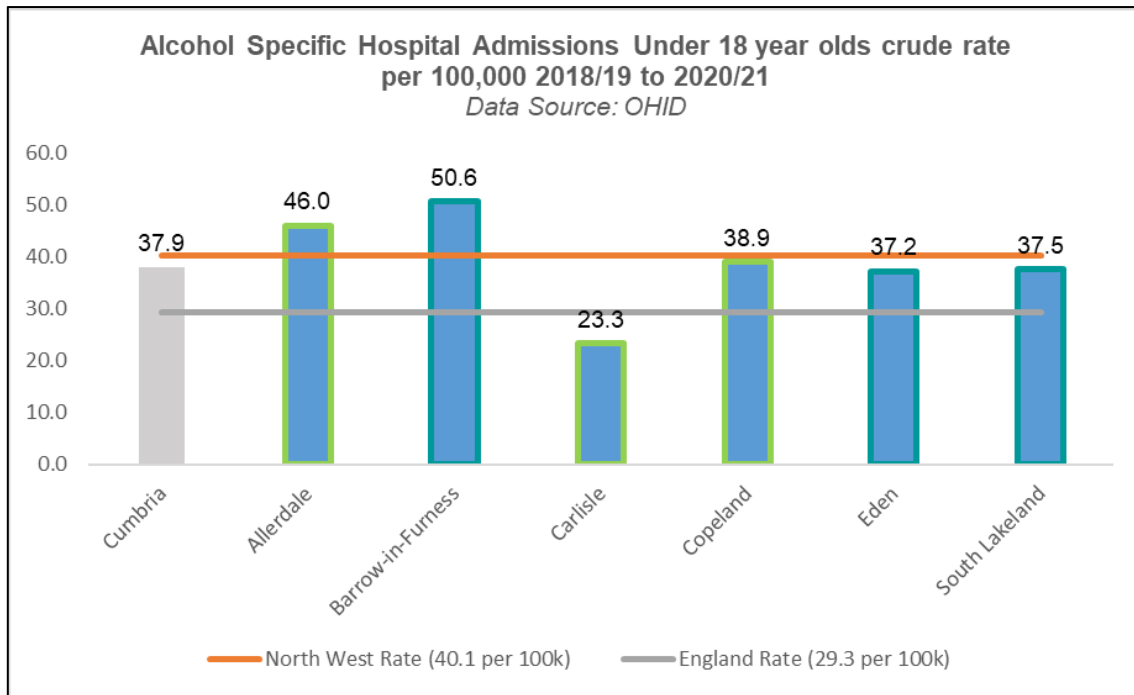


The rate of hospital admission episodes for individuals aged under 40 years old is statistically worse than the national figure (164.6 per 100,000 population) in the former district areas of Barrow (Westmorland & Furness), Allerdale (Cumberland) and Copeland (Cumberland);

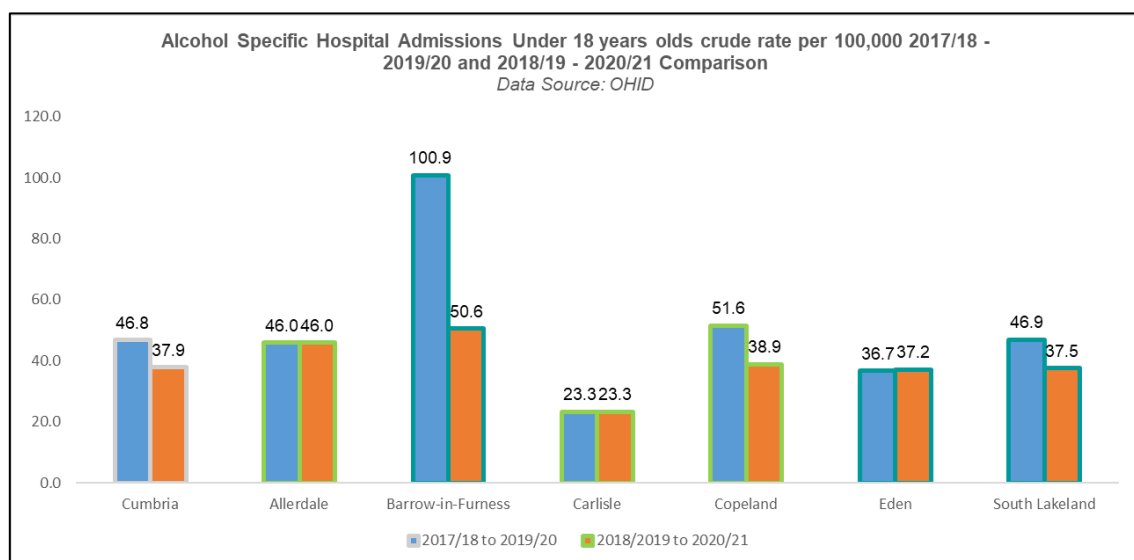


There were 105 admissions of under 18 year olds for alcohol specific reasons in Cumbria during the period 2018/19 to 2020/21. This is a decrease compared to the previous reporting period (2017/18 to 2019/20, decrease of 30 admissions).

Hospital admissions of individuals aged 18 years and under related to alcohol occur in Cumbria at a rate of 37.9 per 100,000 population. The former district area of Barrow in -Furness (Westmorland and Furness) has the highest rate of 50.6.



However, when compared against hospital admissions data for the previous reported period (2017/18 to 2019/20) a significant decline can be seen in Barrow-in-Furness in particular, suggesting an improving situation within the area.



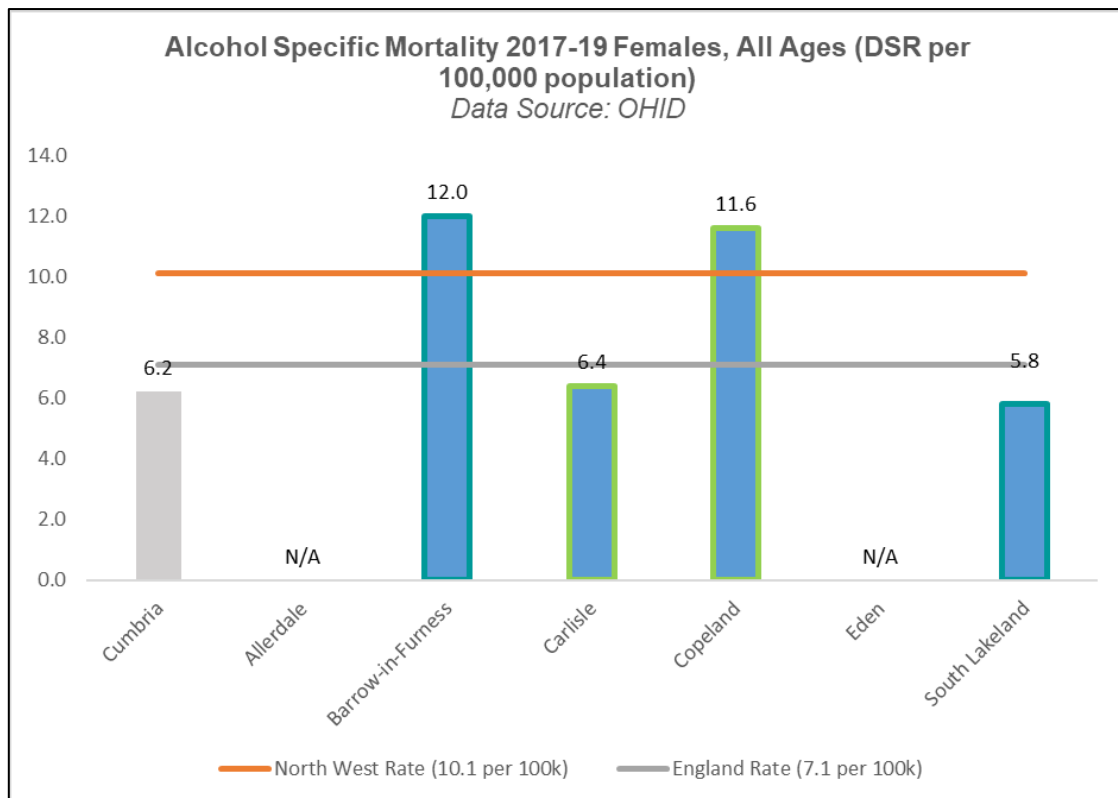
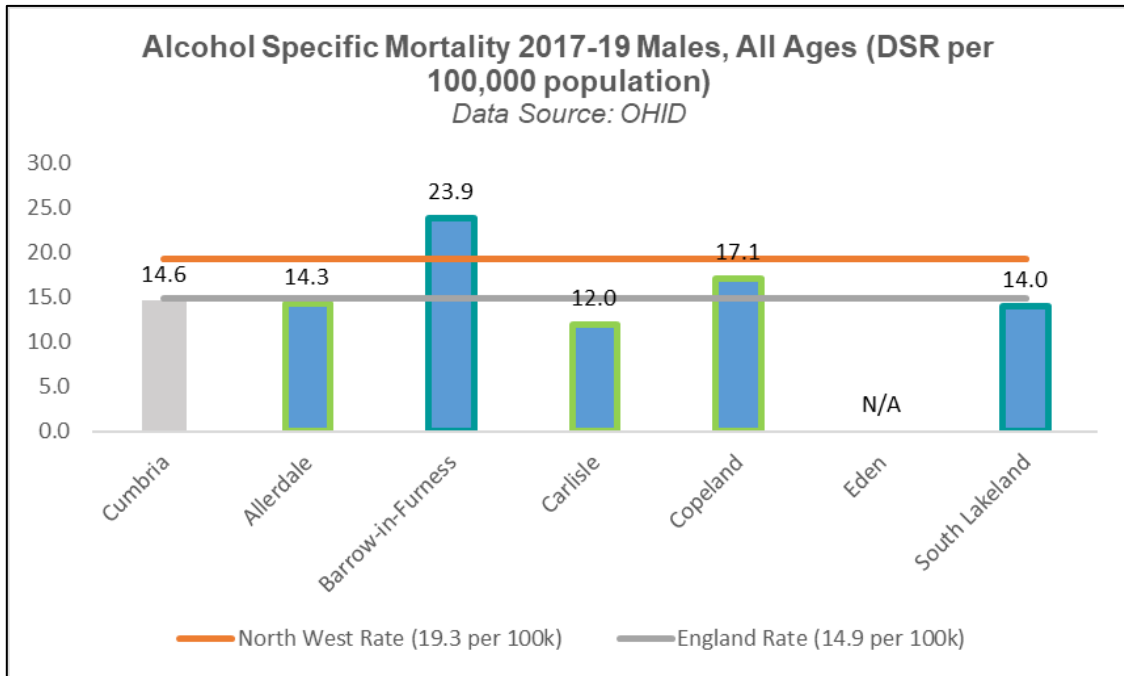
#### 4.9.2 Alcohol Specific Mortality

Data Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), Local Alcohol Profiles

The most recent Cumbria Drug and Alcohol JSNA (2022) states that there are an estimated 5,337 adults (aged 18+) who are dependent upon alcohol in Cumbria (equating to 1.31 per 1,000 of the population).

The most recent data shows there were 84 deaths in Cumbria that were a result of alcohol specific conditions during 2021. Unfortunately, it is not possible to break this information down

to lower geographical levels, however figures relating to the years 2017-2019 can be shown to the former district footprints (Locality level for Westmorland and Furness). The following charts show alcohol specific deaths per 100,000 population (Directly Standardised) for both males and females (please note for areas with low numbers it is not possible to determine the rate per 100,000 population and are denoted as 'N/A').



The rate of alcohol specific mortality in the former districts of Barrow-in-Furness (Westmorland and Furness) and Copeland (Cumberland) for both males and females exceed the national rates, as was also seen in alcohol related hospital admissions figures.

Alcohol Change UK (2023) states that individuals living in deprived areas are more likely to die from alcohol related causes or attend hospital for alcohol related reasons. Alcohol Change UK suggest a reason for this is that less affluent communities tend to have increased numbers of residents with complex needs and a lack of support services.

The 2019 Indices of Deprivation (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) classified 12 of Westmorland and Furness’s 144 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) as being within the 10% most deprived areas in England. These areas are all located within Barrow-in-Furness.

The Indices of Deprivation (2019) classified 14 of Cumberland’s 177 LSOAs as being within the 10% most deprived areas in England. Of these 14, 3 were located within the Copeland area.

The rates of alcohol-related deaths in Cumbria are higher amongst men, than women, as can be seen from the above charts.

The total number of alcohol specific deaths per each unitary organisation for the period 2017-2019 can be found in Appendix 2.

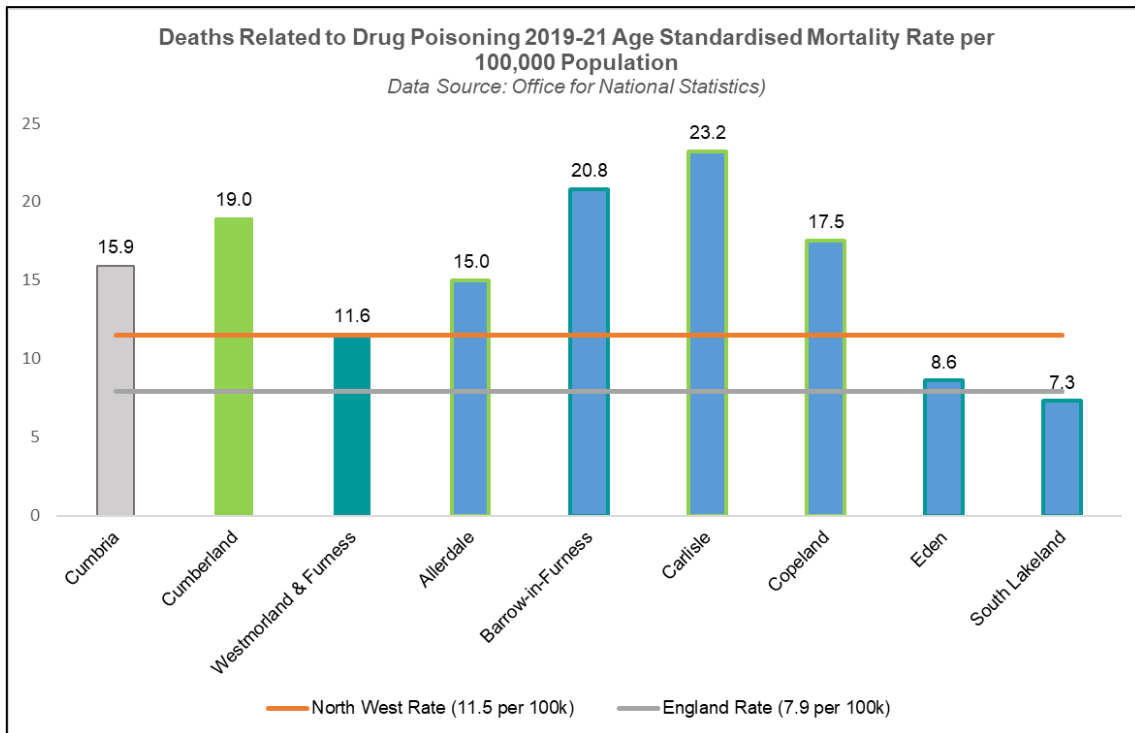
#### 4.9.3 Deaths Related to Drug Poisoning and Drug Misuse

*Data Source: Office for National Statistics- Deaths Related to Drug Poisoning / Cumbria Drug & Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment*

Cumbria’s Drug and Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2022) identifies that over the last 10 years, drug deaths have been increasing in Cumbria. In 2021 (the latest data available), there were 65 registered drug poisoning deaths in Cumbria, with 43 related to drug misuse (66.2%).

<b>Deaths Related to Drug Poisoning and Deaths Related to Drug Misuse (2021)</b>			
<i>Source: Office for National Statistics</i>			
	Deaths Related to Drug Poisoning	Deaths related to Drug Misuse	Deaths related to Drug Misuse Percentage
<b>Cumbria</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>66.2%</b>
Cumberland	40	25	62.5%
Westmorland & Furness	25	18	72.0%

The rate of deaths related to drug poisoning is significantly higher (double) in Cumbria than the national average at 15.9 per 100,000 compared to 7.9. Across the former district areas, Carlisle has the highest rate of 23.2 per 100,000, closely followed by Barrow-in-Furness at 20.8. Rates of deaths related to drug poisoning are significantly higher than the national average in the areas of Allerdale, Barrow-in-Furness, Carlisle and Copeland.



Cumbria’s Drug and Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2022), highlights that nationally, most drug poisoning deaths are male with rates more than double compared to females, 115 per million v 54 per million respectively; the highest rates of deaths are in those aged 45 to 49 (often referred to as “Generation X” at 136.6 per million. Following local analysis of drugs deaths in Cumbria, most drugs deaths were males aged between 35-39 years and 45-49 years.

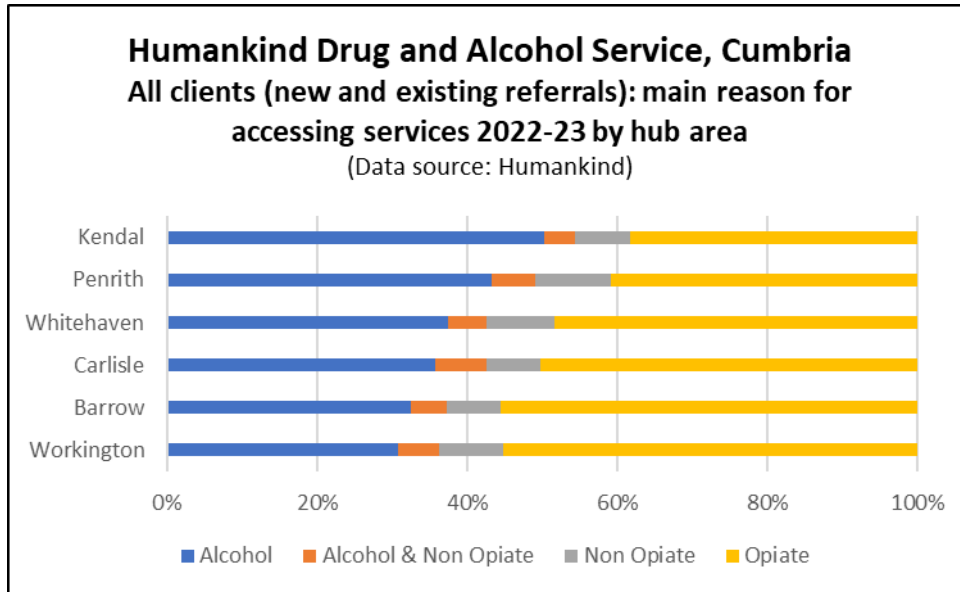
For further detail regarding Deaths related to Drug Poisoning please refer to Cumbria’s Drug and Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2022). A link to the assessment can be found in the *Useful Links and Supporting Information* section.

#### 4.9.4 Drug and Alcohol Support: Humankind

*Data source: Humankind*

Humankind provide interventions and structured treatments to people with drug and alcohol support needs. During 2022-23 Humankind supported 2,979 people in total, both new and existing clients; these figures are based on individuals in a structured episode of care, ie those clients on the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS). Humankind took over supporting people with drug and alcohol support needs from Unity Drug and Alcohol Service in October 2021. As a result data for 2021-22 covers part of the year only.

During 2022-23, clients accessed services for a number of drug and alcohol support reasons as shown in the chart below. County-wide, half accessed services as a result of opiate misuse (50.5%; 1,503 clients), and just over one third for alcohol misuse (36.2%; 1,077 clients). The chart below shows that the Kendal hub area had the largest proportion accessing services for alcohol misuse (50.3%; 150 clients) and the Barrow-in-Furness Hub the largest proportion accessing services for opiate misuse (55.5%; 365 clients).



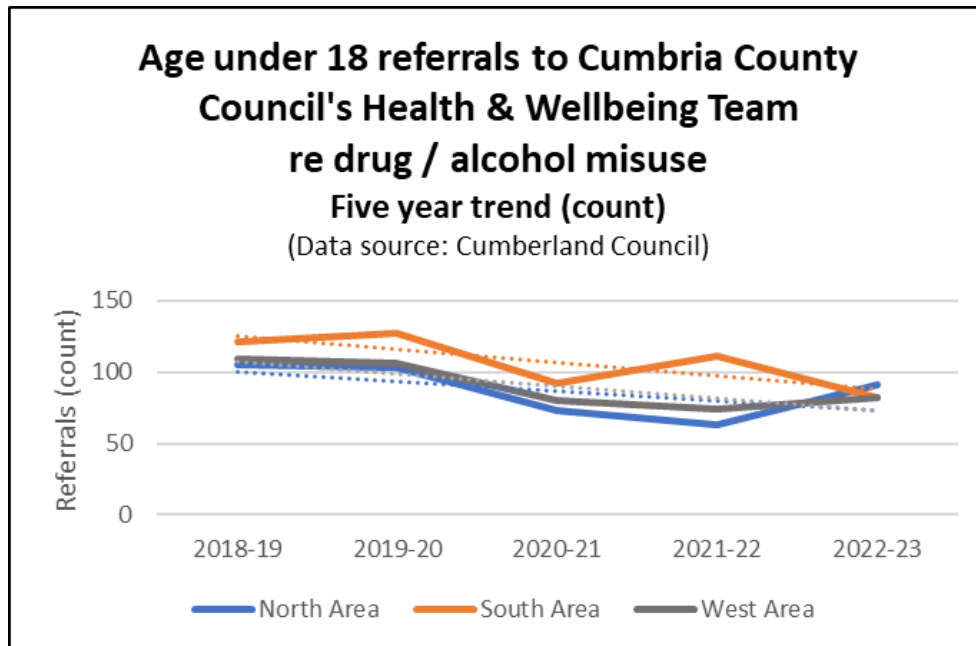
Supported clients in 2022-23 (2,979 clients) increased compared to the number supported in 2019-20 pre-pandemic (+12.3%; +327 clients). A large increase in the cohort receiving support for alcohol issues mainly accounts for this increase, and is the result of a number of reasons: during 2022-23, the first full year that Humankind took over the contract, new pathways were introduced into the service to increase alcohol numbers; Humankind also supported the increase of non structured / Tier 2 alcohol clients into structured treatment; and there was increased capacity for staff in terms of those holding an alcohol caseload so that more referrals could start treatment. Two in five of those supported in 2022-23 were new referrals (1,248). Almost two thirds of new referrals in 2022-23 (65.0%; 811 clients) are receiving support for alcohol misuse or alcohol and non opiate misuse; this compares to 53.5% of new referrals accessing support in 2019-20. The Kendal hub has the largest proportion of new referrals receiving support for alcohol or alcohol and non opiate misuse in 2022-23 (77.1%; 108 clients)

The Barrow-in-Furness and Carlisle Hub areas had the highest rate per 1,000 population in 2022-23 for new and existing clients receiving support (9.8 per 1,000 and 7.9 per 1,000 respectively), both exceeding the Cumbria average (5.9 per 1,000). Barrow-in-Furness and Carlisle hubs also have the highest rates for new clients receiving support (3.8 and 3.4 per 1,000 respectively).

Almost half of clients supported by Humankind in Cumbria 2022-23 were aged 35 to 49 (49.3%). One in three were female (35.1%) and two in three male (64.9%). The Penrith and Kendal hub areas had the largest proportions of female clients (45.6% and 41.5% respectively).

#### 4.9.5 Drug and Alcohol Support: Under 18s

Data source: Cumberland Council



The reduction in referrals in 2020-21 compared to 2019-20 is attributed to reduced opportunities for young people to access drugs and alcohol during lockdown, and young people not being in schools. There was also a break in service in the North area due to a temporary staffing gap. Services were extended during lockdown so that sessions can now be delivered over WhatsApp, which some young people have preferred. While the graph above shows that referrals have remained below pre-pandemic levels, this is now starting to change. Figures for April to September 2023 (not included above) suggest that referrals will return to pre-pandemic levels.

Young people referred to local authority support services in 2022-23 were most likely to be aged 15-17 years, and this age band accounted for two thirds of all referrals (67.5%). One in 10 were aged 13 years (10.2%). Two out of three referrals were male (65.0%); one out of three female (34.6%). However, there were variations across the county: in the North males made up three out of four referrals (74.7%), while the West area had the largest proportion of female referrals (43.1%).

#### 4.10 Rural Crime

Data source: NFU Mutual / ONS / Cumbria Constabulary

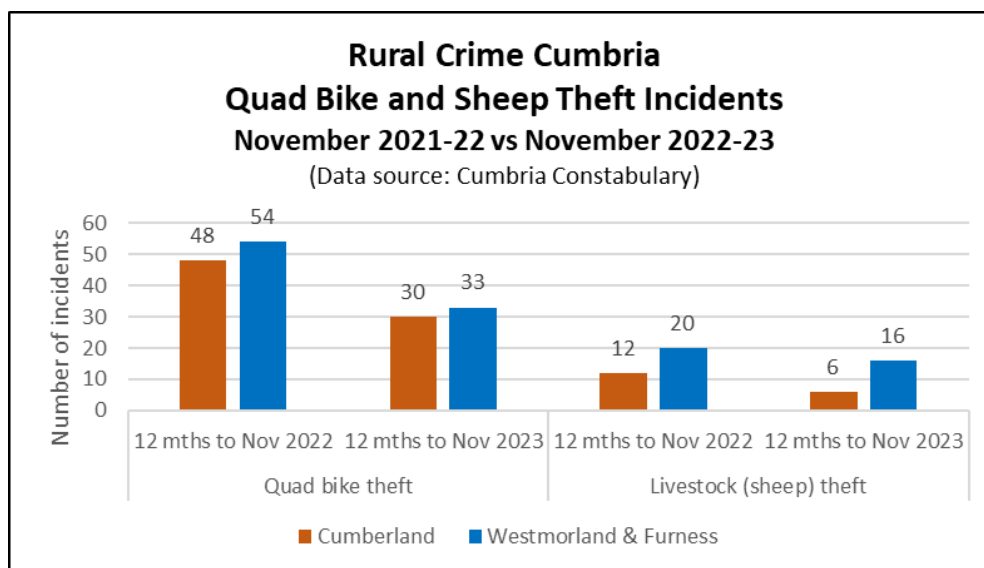
Rural crime continues to blight rural communities according to the NFU Mutual's Rural Crime Report 2023, and many farmers have experienced the loss of farm machinery, vehicles, fuel or GPS units. The report suggests that rural crime is controlled by organised and often international gangs, and world events and new illicit markets have an impact on the demand for stolen machinery. The current climate puts additional pressure on farming families who may feel vulnerable knowing that homes and workplaces are being watched and is an additional pressure for rural communities on top of the current cost of living crisis. Global

Positioning Systems (GPS) are vital to modern farming and without the sophisticated equipment to guide tractors and combines, farmers can face severe delays and disruption to important harvesting and cultivating work, with long waits for replacement kit. An additional problem facing UK farmers is attacks on livestock by dogs. UK farm animals worth an estimated £1.8m were killed or injured by dogs in 2022, with the cost of dog attacks on livestock increasing more than 50% between 2019 and 2022 as puppies purchased over the pandemic came of age.

NFU Mutual estimate that rural theft cost the UK £49.5m in 2022, up +22.1% on the previous year. Estimates put the cost for the North West region at £3.2m, an increase of +11.8%.

Within Cumbria the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector is responsible for 14,000 direct jobs which is 5.6% of all employment, compared to 1.3% for England (5.2% Cumberland, 6.1% Westmorland and Furness) (*ONS Business Register Employment Survey 2022*). There will be more indirect employment through casual labour and self-employed contractors. The sector comprises 4,765 local business units representing 17.7% of all local units compared to 3.5% for England (17.1% Cumberland, 18.3% Westmorland and Furness) (*ONS UK Business Counts 2023*) and contributes £381m in Gross Value Added to the local economy; this is 3.2% of all GVA compared to 0.6% for England (*ONS Regional Economic Activity: GVA(B) by Industry, 2021 current prices*).

Figures from Cumbria Constabulary show that quad bike and sheep theft offences have decreased in the 12 months to November 2023 compared to the previous year. The figures relate to the number of crimes, not the total volume of quadbike or livestock taken. The reduction is likely to reflect work done by the police Rural Crime team.



## 4.11 Cybercrime

### 4.11.1 Fraud and computer misuse

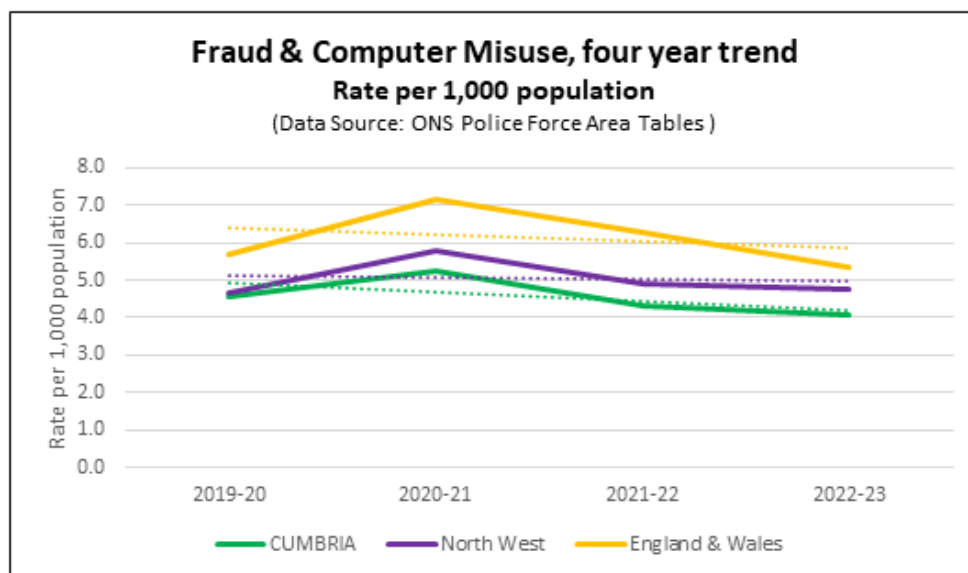
Data Source: *ONS Crime in England & Wales: Police Force Area Data Tables*

The data referred to in this section is based on experimental statistics available from the Office of National Statistics. It includes the number of fraud and computer misuse offences referred

to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau by Action Fraud. Please note this information is available to county level only.

A substantial increase in fraud and computer misuse cases were reported during the financial year 2020-21, where the COVID-19 pandemic saw fraudsters taking advantage of behaviour changes during the pandemic, for example more individuals making online purchases (Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessment for Cumbria 2020-21). However, the data for the succeeding two years (2021-22 / 2022-23) shows a small decrease in fraud and computer misuse crimes.

Since 2019, there has been a -10.3% decrease in crimes in Cumbria; a decrease from 2,282 crimes during the year 2019-20 and 2,046 during the year 2022-23). This compares with an increase of +3.4% in fraud and computer misuse crimes for the same period in the North West Region.



#### 4.11.2 Fraud and cybercrime

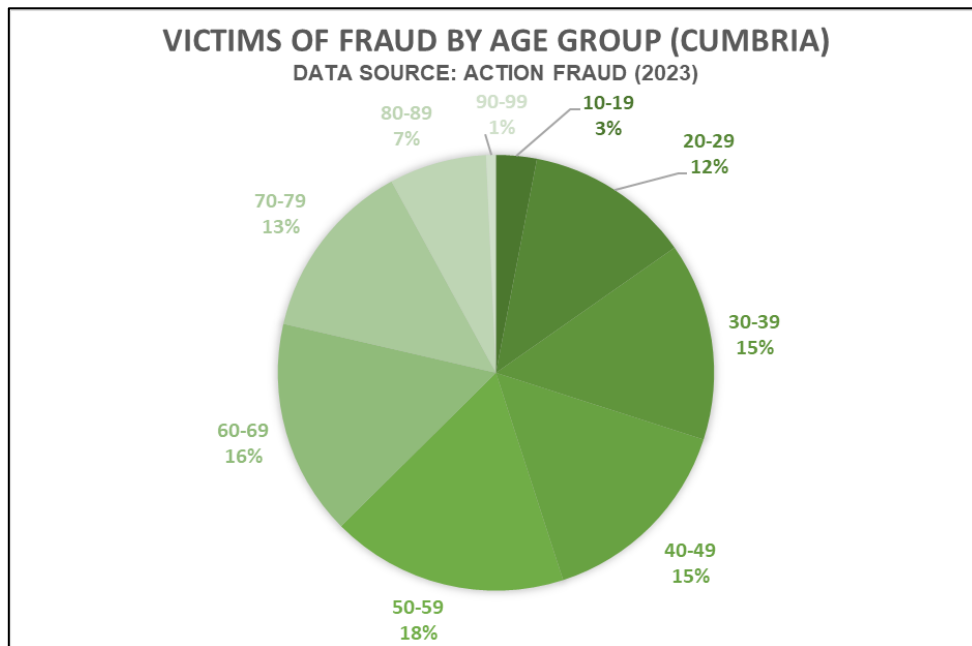
*Data Source: ONS Crime in England & Wales: Police Force Area Data Tables and Action Fraud*

In Cumbria the number of reported fraud cases has increased by +11.5% from 2020-21 (2,081 in 2022-23 compared to 1,866 in 2020-21). Whilst there has been an increase in fraud cases this equates to a rate of 4.2 per 1000 population, which is lower than the North West figure (5.3).

The top fraud crimes reported in Cumbria were Online Shopping & Auctions and Advanced Fee Frauds. Action Fraud (2021) advise key enablers of cybercrime are phishing emails and weak or repeated passwords.

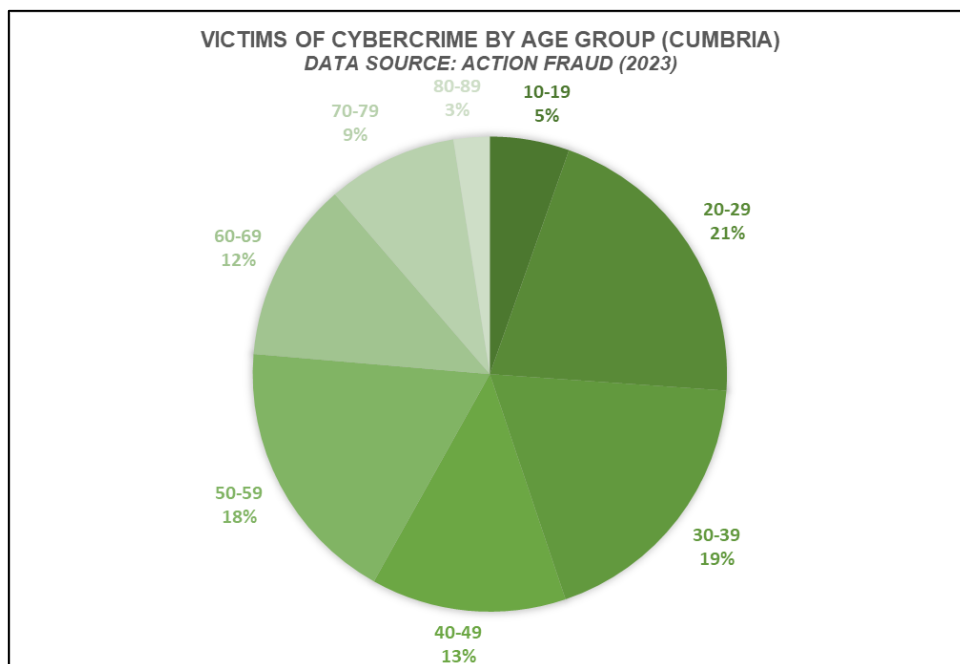
Unlike many other types of crime, fraud and cybercrime, by their nature, are often committed anonymously, with the offender frequently not having a specific target in mind (ONS, Characteristics of Victims 2023). The following pie chart shows the distribution of fraud

victims by their age group. The majority of victims fell within the 50 to 59 age bracket (18%), however there is a relatively level distribution across each nine year age category between the ages 20 years and 70 years.



A marginally larger proportion of fraud victims in Cumbria were female; 43% compared to 40% male (17% unknown).

For the period 2022-23, 220 cybercrime cases were reported in Cumbria. This is an increase of +86 reported compared to the previous year (134, 2021-22). The majority of cybercrime victims in Cumbria fell within the 20-29 age bracket, with a larger proportion of female sufferers (47%), compared to male (39%) (14% unknown).



The top three Cybercrimes in Cumbria (2022-23) are:



Fraud and Cybercrime total losses for Cumbria (2022-23) were:

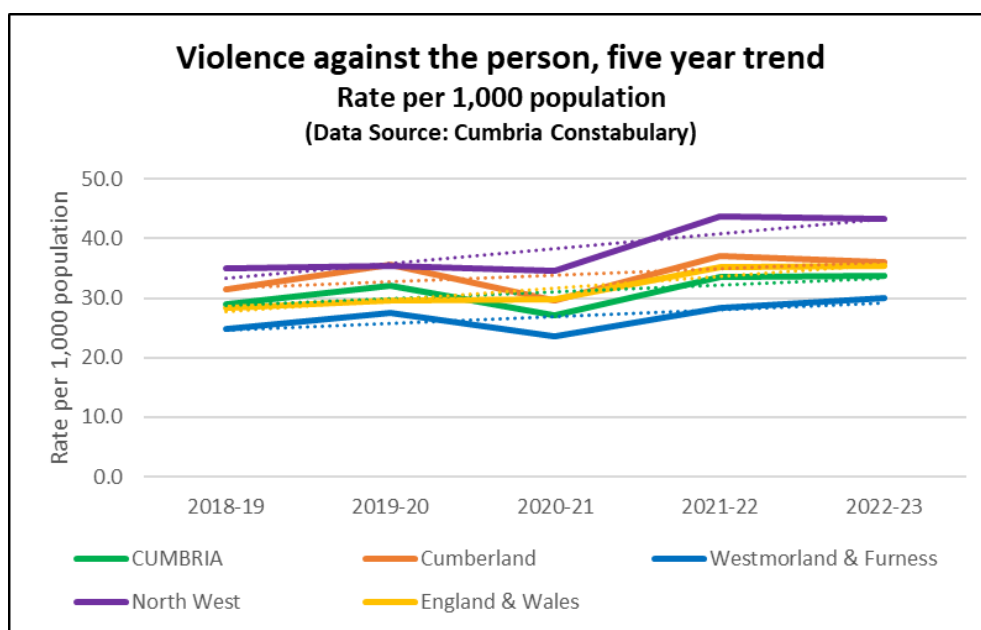
- £10.5m reported fraud Loss
  - The average fraud loss for Cumbria is £5,046
- £16,900 total cybercrime losses
  - The average cybercrime loss for Cumbria is £77

## 5 Violent Crime

### 5.1 Violence Against the Person

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics

Nationally (England and Wales) violence against the person offences in the year ending March 2023 increased +20% compared with the pre-coronavirus pandemic year ending March 2020 and a slight increase compared to the year ending March 2022 (+1%). The local picture is similar showing a steady increase over a five year period and an increase of +0.6% (+93 offences) across the county in 2022-23 compared to the previous year. The increases are thought to be driven largely by improvements in police recording practices.



Police data show 16,905 violence against the person offences recorded in Cumbria in 2022-23. While the rate per 1,000 population across Cumbria is lower than the North West rate (43.3 per 1,000), the rate for Cumbria (33.8 per 1,000) and Cumberland (36.1 per 1,000) is similar to the rate for England and Wales (35.4 per 1,000).

Within Cumberland, three community panel areas have rates for violence against the person that are higher than both the national and regional rate; these are Carlisle West (59.1 per 1,000), Petteril (63.3 per 1,000) and Workington Together (47.5 per 1,000). Violence with injury increased by +3.7% (+102) offences in Cumberland in 2022-23 compared to the previous year, making up over one quarter (28.9%; 2,849) of all violence against the person offences in Cumberland. The five wards with the highest rates in Cumberland (Castle, Currock, Kells and Sandwith, St Michael's, Moss Bay and Moorclose) all have rates higher than the regional and national average. The five wards contain 12 communities (LSOAs) within the 20% most deprived in England and are all located within urban areas.

Within Westmorland and Furness the Furness locality rate (46.4 per 1,000) for violence against the person offences is higher than both the North West (43.3 per 1,000) and England and Wales rate (35.4 per 1,000). The five wards with the highest rates in Westmorland and Furness (Old Barrow and Hindpool, Penrith South, Kendal Strickland and Fell, Kendal Nether,

Risedale and Roosecote) all have rates higher or similar to the regional and national average. All five wards are situated within urban areas. Old Barrow and Hindpool Ward and Risedale and Roosecote Ward between them contain 15 communities (LSOAs) within the 20% most deprived in England. Violence without injury offences in Westmorland and Furness increased by +10.9% (+257 offences) in 2022-23, making up just under two fifths (38.3%; 2,618) of all violence against the person offences in Westmorland and Furness.

## 5.2 Alcohol-Related Violence Against the Person

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary*

In 2022-23 Cumbria Police recorded 4,021 violence against the person offences that were alcohol-related (Cumberland 2,207; Westmorland and Furness 1,780). Recorded alcohol-related violence against the person offences decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic largely due to social restrictions and the closure of the night time economy, and increased in 2021-22 following the relaxation of restrictions. Overall, the longer term trend for alcohol-related violence against the person offences has remained largely unchanged over a five year period with levels now similar to 2018-29.

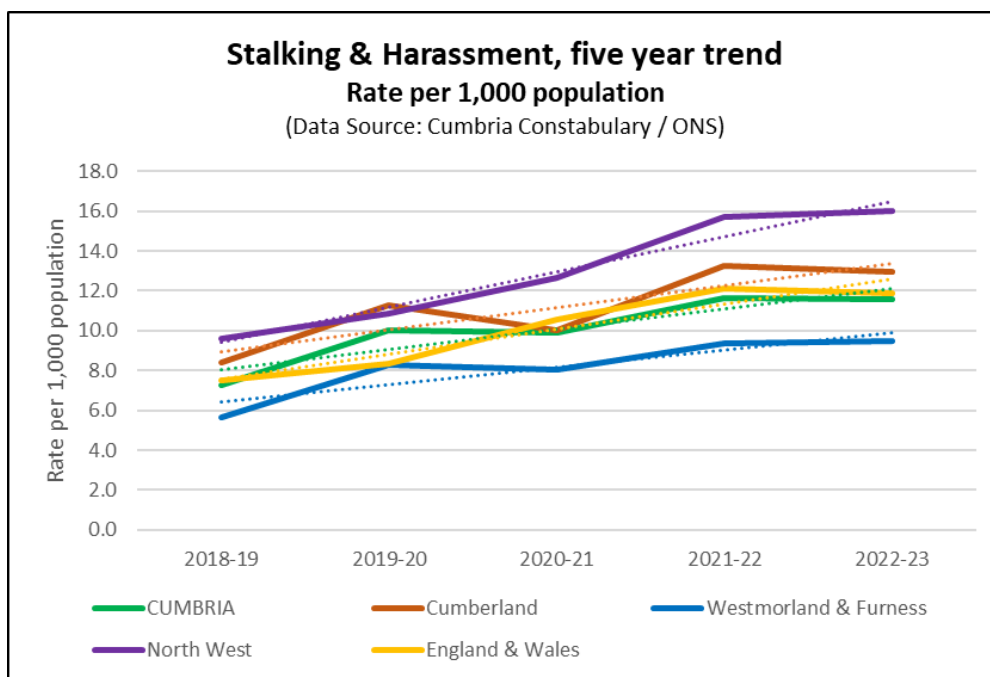
Alcohol-related violence against the person offences accounted for one in four (23.8%) of all violence against the person offences in Cumbria in 2022-23 (Cumberland, 22.4%; Westmorland and Furness, 26.1%). Across Cumbria, the crime rate was 8.0 per 1,000 population. Within Cumberland (8.1 per 1,000), the highest rate is within the Carlisle locality area (9.0 per 1,000). Within Westmorland and Furness (7.8 per 1,000) the highest rate is within the Furness locality area (12.5 per 1,000). Alcohol-related violence against the person offences are a subset of all violence against the person offences. More information on violence against the person offences can be found here: [Violence Against the Person](#).

Victims of violence against the person (alcohol-related) in 2022-23 are most likely to be male / transgender male or female / transgender female, aged 21-40 years. Offenders are most likely to be male / transgender male, aged 21-40 years.

## 5.3 Stalking and Harassment

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics*

Nationally stalking and harassment offences in the year ending March 2023 increased +43% compared to the year ending March 2020 and a slight fall (-1%) from the year ending March 2022. There have generally been increases since the year ending March 2012, though this was partially influenced by changes in Home Office Counting Rules and improved recording practices across this period.



This trend is reflected in Cumbria, with a steady increase over a five year period. 5,800 stalking and harassment offences were recorded in Cumbria in 2022-23 (3,546 in Cumberland; 2,157 in Westmorland and Furness; 97 unknown geography), overall this is a decrease of -0.6% compared to the previous year.

However, it is estimated that 4.9% of women aged 16 years and over were victims of stalking in England and Wales in the year ending March 2022. In Cumbria this could equate to 10,552 women aged 16+ years (5,733 Cumberland, 4,819 Westmorland and Furness). This suggests that stalking and harassment offences may be under reported. It should be noted that CSEW survey figures are based on six months of data collection from the face-to-face CSEW between October 2021 and March 2022. Some caution needs to be taken due to the impact of the reduced data collection period and lower response rates on the quality of the estimates. (ONS, 2022)

Almost half of all offences in 2022-23 related to harassment (46.0% (1,630 offences) in Cumberland; 46.1% (995 offences) in Westmorland and Furness) while around one third related to malicious communications (34.2% (1,211 offences) in Cumberland; 32.3% (696 offences) in Westmorland and Furness). One in 20 offences related to controlling or coercive behaviour (5.9% (210 offences) in Cumberland; 5.4% (117 offences) in Westmorland and Furness).

The stalking and harassment rate in Cumberland in 2022-23 (13.0 per 1,000 population) is higher than the national rate (11.9 per 1,000) although lower than the North West rate (16.0 per 1,000). However, three community panel areas have rates higher than both the national and regional rates. These are Carlisle West (19.3 per 1,000); Petteril (21.0 per 1,000) and Workington Together (17.1 per 1,000). Between them these community panels contain 21 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. The five wards with the highest rates in Cumberland (Moss Bay and Moorclose, Castle, Currock, St Michael's, Morton) all have rates

higher than the regional and national average. These five wards contain 12 LSOAs that sit within the 20% most deprived in England.

Stalking and harassment offence rates are higher in the Furness locality area (15.6 per 1,000) in Westmorland and Furness than the England and Wales rate (11.9 per 1,000) and similar to the North West rate (16.0 per 1,000). Furness contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. The five wards with the highest rates for stalking and harassment (Old Barrow and Hindpool, Kendal Nether, Risedale and Roosecote, Ormsgill and Parkside, Penrith South) all have rates higher than the national average and either higher or similar to the North West average. 18 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England sit within these wards.

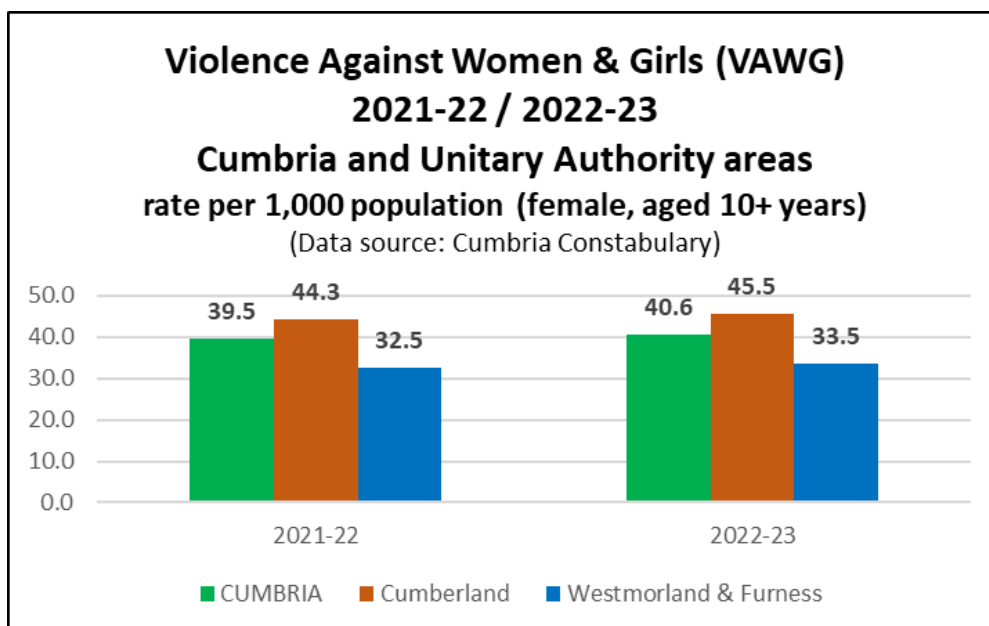
#### 5.4 Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics*

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is an umbrella term used to cover a wide range of abuse types that affect more women and girls than men and boys. These include domestic homicide, domestic abuse, sexual assault, abuse experienced as a child, female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage and harassment in work and public life. It should be noted that many of these forms of abuse also affect men and boys.

In the 12 months to March 2022 it is estimated that 6.9% of women aged 16 years and over were victims of domestic abuse in England and Wales, 3.3% were victims of sexual assault and 4.9% were victims of stalking (ONS, CSEW). One quarter of women aged 18 to 74 (24.8%) surveyed in 2021-22 had experienced abuse before the age of 16; in Cumbria this could equate to 44,316 women aged 18 to 74 years (24,310 in Cumberland; 20,006 in Westmorland and Furness). CSEW figures are based on six months of data collection from the face-to-face CSEW between October 2021 and March 2022 and some caution needs to be taken with the survey data due to the impact of the reduced data collection period and lower response rates on the quality of the estimates. (ONS, 2022)

Local data from Cumbria Constabulary show 9,378 recorded offences related to VAWG in 2022-23 (5,719 in Cumberland, 3,520 in Westmorland and Furness), an increase of +2.8% (+259 offences) compared to the previous year (+2.6%, +145 Cumberland; +3.1%, +105 Westmorland and Furness). For VAWG related offences in Cumbria the victim must be female and the age at crime must be 10+ years. The increase in VAWG offences may reflect improved recording practices and the impact of high-profile cases and campaigns on victims' willingness to report both recent and historical incidents. Over three fifths were in relation to violence against the person offences (62.5%; 5,865); one quarter public order offences (24.3%; 2,276) and around one in eight were related to sexual offences (13.2%; 1,237). Public order related offences increased by +5.7% in 2022-23 in Cumbria compared to the previous year (+4.4% Cumberland, +7.9% Westmorland and Furness).



In Cumberland, VAWG rates in 2022-23 are highest in the Carlisle locality area (50.6 per 1,000 population, female 10+ years). Three community panel areas have VAWG rates higher than both the Cumberland and Cumbria average (Carlisle West, 69.0 per 1,000; Petteril 78.4 per 1,000; Workington Together 61.4 per 1,000), while the rate in Whitehaven and Coastal (45.2 per 1,000) is similar to the Cumberland rate and higher than the Cumbria rate. These four community panel areas between them contain 27 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. The five wards with the highest VAWG rates in 2022-23 (Castle, Harraby South, Currock, Moss Bay and Moorclose, St Michael's) between them contain 11 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

In Westmorland and Furness the VAWG rate in 2022-23 is highest in the Furness locality area (51.3 per 1,000 population, female 10+ years). Furness contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. The five wards with the highest VAWG rates in 2022-23 (Old Barrow and Hindpool, Penrith South, Kendal Nether, Ormsgill and Parkside, Risedale and Roosecote) between them contain 18 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

In March 2023 Cumbria Constabulary launched its second *#CallitOut* public consultation survey, aimed primarily at women and girls within Cumbria to establish how safe they felt in certain situations. 1,956 responses were received. Key findings indicate that women and girls feel less safe at night, particularly in their local neighbourhood or nearest town centre, the most frequent reason for feeling unsafe being groups of people hanging around. Respondents reported experiencing inappropriate behaviour or language (74.4%), wolf whistling (52.5%), cat calling (41.8%) and sexual harassment (38.8%) with those living in the Furness locality most likely to say they had experienced these issues, and those living in the Copeland locality the least likely, as can be seen in the following table.

Have you ever experienced any of the below	Cumberland locality area			Westmorland & Furness locality area			Unknown*	Cumbria
	Allerdale	Carlisle	Copeland	Furness	Eden	South Lakeland		
Wolf Whistling	52.30%	49.10%	48.60%	61.00%	50.00%	58.60%	75.00%	52.50%
Cat Calling	38.50%	40.50%	37.30%	50.70%	42.70%	44.70%	56.30%	41.80%
Sexual Harassment	39.00%	37.10%	34.10%	41.30%	40.00%	41.00%	81.30%	38.80%
Inappropriate behaviour / language	73.70%	75.00%	75.10%	77.00%	70.50%	73.00%	93.80%	74.40%

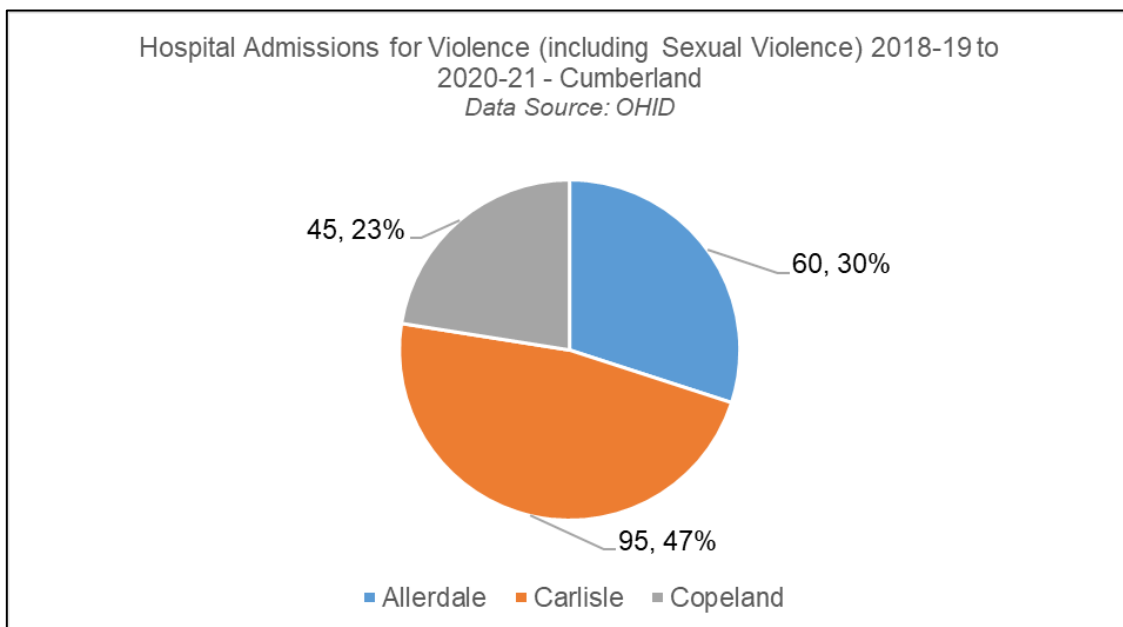
\*Those where the district is unknown have been excluded from colour coding.

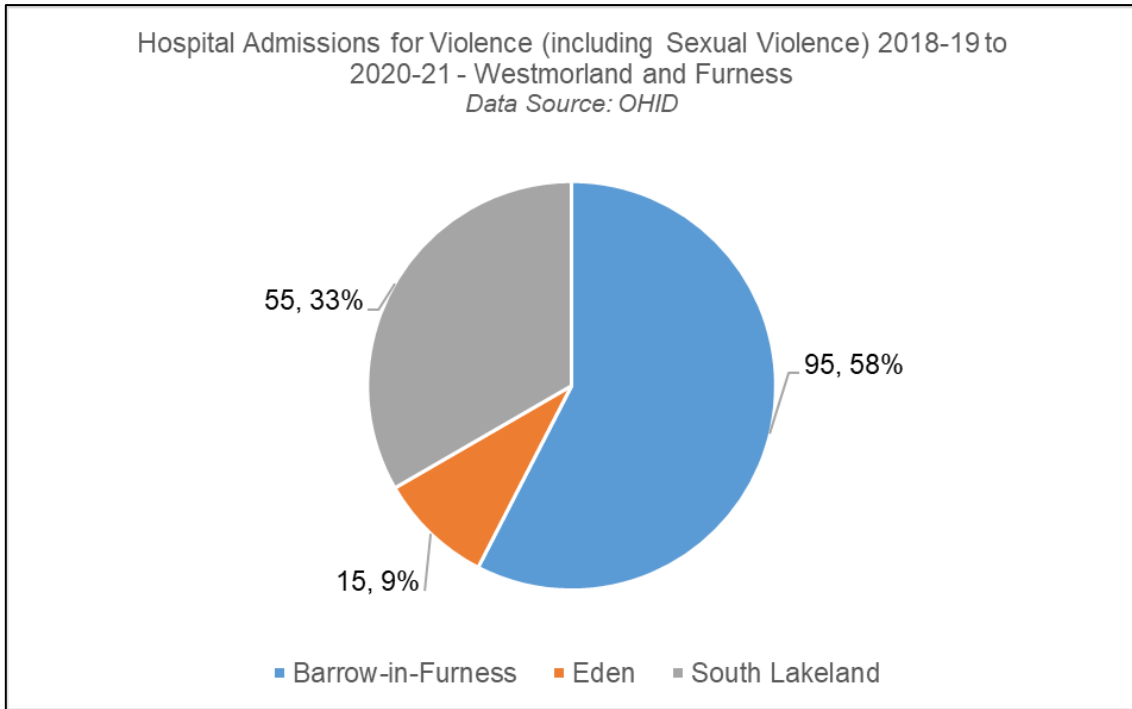
Respondents reported being a victim of certain types of crime including harassment (27.6%), other sexual assault (16.6%), domestic abuse (15.8%), drink spiking (13.4%), assault (non-sexual) (12.9%), stalking (12.8%), indecent exposure / flashing (12.3%), rape (8.0%) and up skirting (3.8%), with those aged under 25 years more likely to say they had experienced these offences. Almost half of all respondents who had been a victim of an offence had not reported the offence(s) to any agency, the most frequent reasons being that they did not think any action would be taken, thinking the matter would not be taken seriously or believing it would be difficult to prove.

## 5.5 Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence)

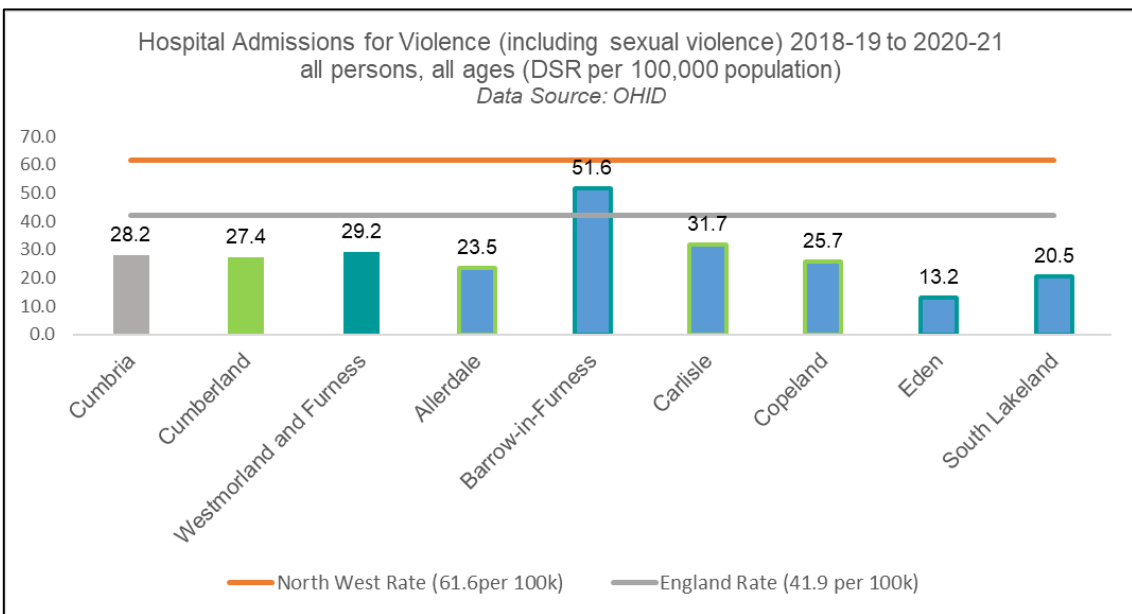
Data Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), Public Health Profiles

The latest available data shows that in Cumbria, during the period 2018/19 to 2020/21 there was a total of 365 hospital admissions due to violence (including sexual violence), 200 occurring in the Cumberland unitary area and 165 in Westmorland and Furness. The areas of Barrow-in-Furness (Westmorland and Furness) and Carlisle (Cumberland) recorded the highest levels. These two areas account for 51.4% of all admissions occurring in Cumbria.

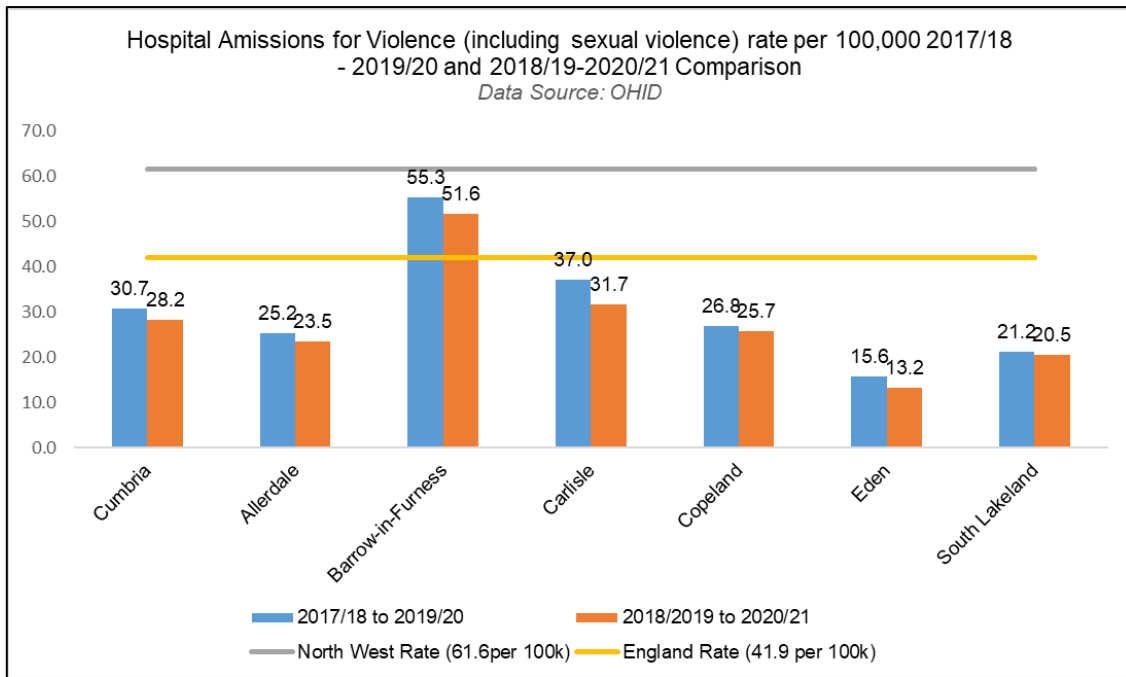




Barrow in Furness (Furness Locality) has the highest rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 population compared to all other areas in Cumbria, with a rate of 51.6, exceeding the national rate of 41.9.



However, when compared against the previous reporting period (2017/18 to 2019/20) the rates of hospital admissions per 100,000 population do reflect small decreases across all areas in Cumbria.



Please note the violence may not have necessarily occurred in the same location an individual attends hospital for treatment. A person may travel from other localities to receive treatment if a hospital is geographically closer. Admissions could also include individuals who do not reside in Cumbria.

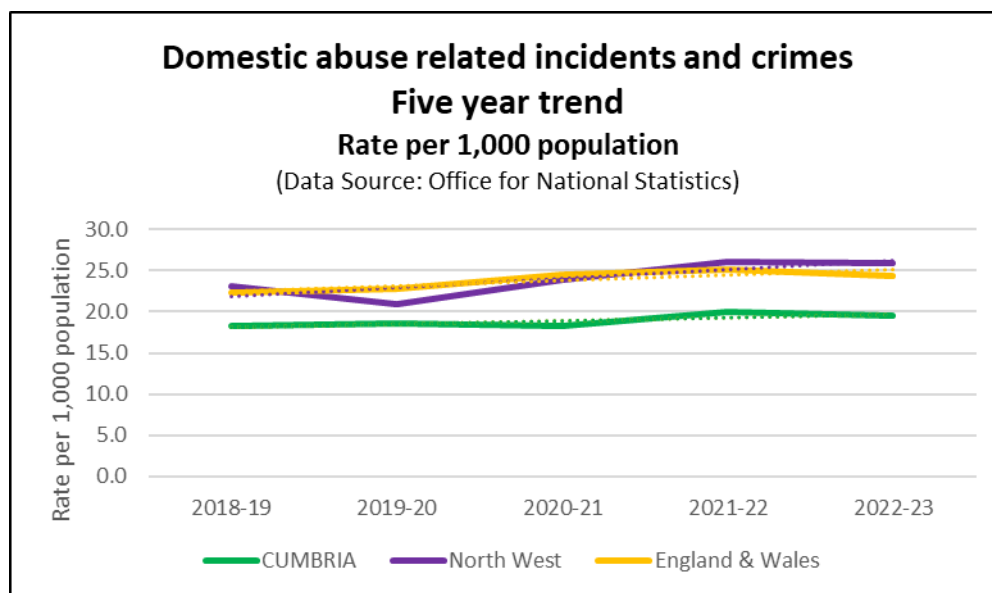
## 6 Domestic Abuse

It is estimated that 6.9% of women aged 16 years and over were victims of domestic abuse in England and Wales in the year ending March 2022. In Cumbria this could equate to 14,859 women aged 16+ years (8,073 Cumberland, 6,786 Westmorland and Furness). CSEW survey figures are based on six months of data collection from the face-to-face CSEW between October 2021 and March 2022. Some caution needs to be taken due to the impact of the reduced data collection period and lower response rates on the quality of the estimates. (ONS, 2022)

### 6.1 Domestic abuse related incidents and crimes

Data source: Office for National Statistics

Crimes recorded under the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) that were identified as domestic abuse related, and incidents (domestic abuse reported to / investigated by the police that did not result in a crime being recorded under the NCRS) have seen a steady increase nationally (England and Wales), regionally and locally over the five years between 2018-19 and 2022-23. Data are not available by unitary authority or locality area.



In Cumbria 9,814 domestic abuse related incidents and crimes were recorded in 2022-23, a rate of 19.6 incidents and crimes for every 1,000 people in the population. This is a slight decrease of -1.8% (-176 incidents and crimes) compared to 2021-22 but an increase of +6.0% (+554 incidents and crimes) compared to 2019-20.

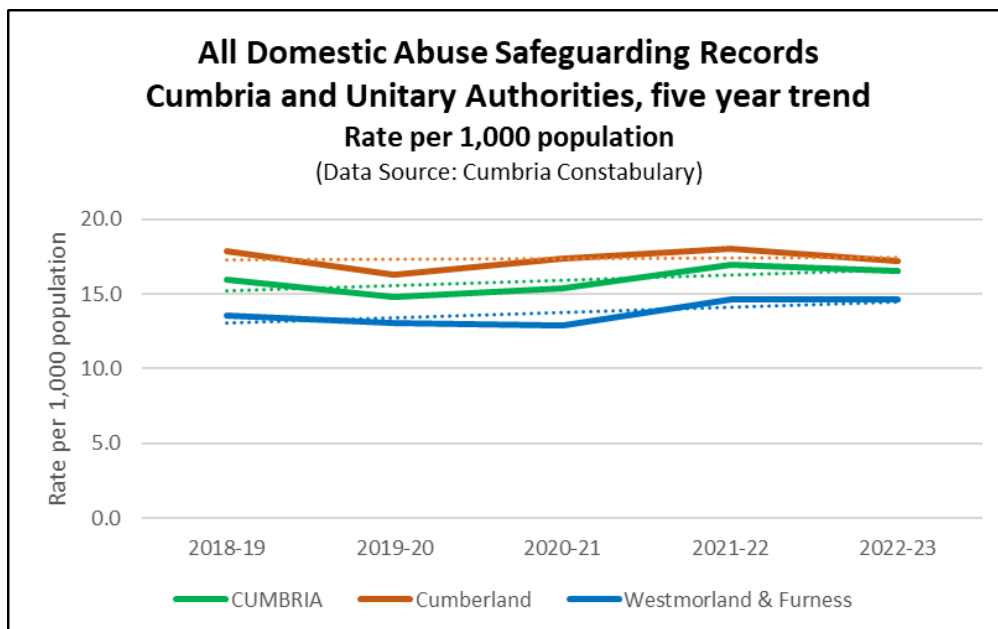
Compared to 43 police force areas across England and Wales, Cumbria is ranked as having the 16th lowest rate of domestic abuse related crimes and incidents in 2022-23 placing the county within the second lowest quintile overall. Cumbria's rate of domestic abuse related crimes and incidents in 2022-23 (19.6 per 1,000 population) is similar to or lower than that of the statistically similar police force areas of Lincolnshire (20.5 per 1,000), Norfolk (22.5 per 1,000) and North Wales (27.0 per 1,000), and lower than the rate for both the North West region (26.0 per 1,000) and England and Wales (24.4 per 1,000).

The steady increase in domestic abuse incidents and crimes shown in the five year trend is thought to reflect police forces improving their identification and recording of domestic abuse incidents as crimes, and an increased willingness by victims to come forward.

## 6.2 Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Records

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary*

While the domestic abuse related incidents and domestic abuse crimes chart in the previous section provides a useful comparison between Cumbria and the regional and national picture, domestic abuse safeguarding records provide a comprehensive picture at a local level. Safeguarding records include all identified domestic abuse crimes, reported incidents and cases where domestic abuse is identified. Domestic abuse safeguarding records and incidents are not reported nationally in their entirety, and therefore national and regional comparisons are not available.



During 2022-23 a total of 8,272 domestic abuse safeguarding records were created across Cumbria (4,708 Cumberland, 3,322 Westmorland and Furness, 242 location unknown). This represents a steady increase across the county over a five year period. Although the trend in Cumberland appears to be relatively static, this could be influenced by the volume of safeguarding records without a geographical allocation.

In terms of risk levels, one in seven domestic abuse safeguarding records in Cumbria (14.8%; 1,222) were categorised as high risk in 2022-23; Cumberland has the largest proportion of the county's high risk records (9.2%; 761); one in twenty are within Westmorland and Furness (5.0%; 410). Over half of all safeguarding records in the county are medium risk (53.6%; 4,431) again with the largest proportion in Cumberland (29.7%; 2,456) with just over one fifth in Westmorland and Furness (22.3%; 1,847). The remainder (31.7%; 2,619) are standard risk; almost one in five in Cumberland (18.0%; 1,491) and one in eight in Westmorland and Furness (12.9%; 1,065).

Within Cumberland, the rate of domestic abuse safeguarding records per 1,000 population in 2022-23 is higher than the Cumbria and Cumberland average (16.5 and 17.2 per 1,000 respectively) in three community panel areas (Carlisle West, 27.5 per 1,000; Petteiril 29.5 per 1000; Workington Together, 24.1 per 1,000). Between them these three community panel areas contain 21 of Cumberland's communities (LSOAs) that are within the 20% most deprived nationally. The five wards with the highest rates in 2022-23 all have rates higher than the Cumbria and Cumbria average (Currock, Castle, St Michael's, Moss Bay and Moorclose, Kells and Sandwith); these five wards contain collectively 12 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

Furness locality within Westmorland and Furness has the highest rate for all domestic abuse safeguarding records in 2022-23 at 23.8 per 1,000 population; this rate is higher than the Cumbria and Westmorland and Furness average (16.5 and 14.6 per 1,000 respectively). Furness contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. Rates in Eden (10.9 per 1,000) and South Lakeland (10.7 per 1,000) locality areas are the lowest in the county. The five wards with the highest rates in 2022-23 all have rates higher than the Westmorland and Furness Cumbria average (Old Barrow and Hindpool, Ormsgill and Parkside, Kendal Strickland and Fell, Penrith South, Risedale and Roosecote); 18 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England are contained within these wards.

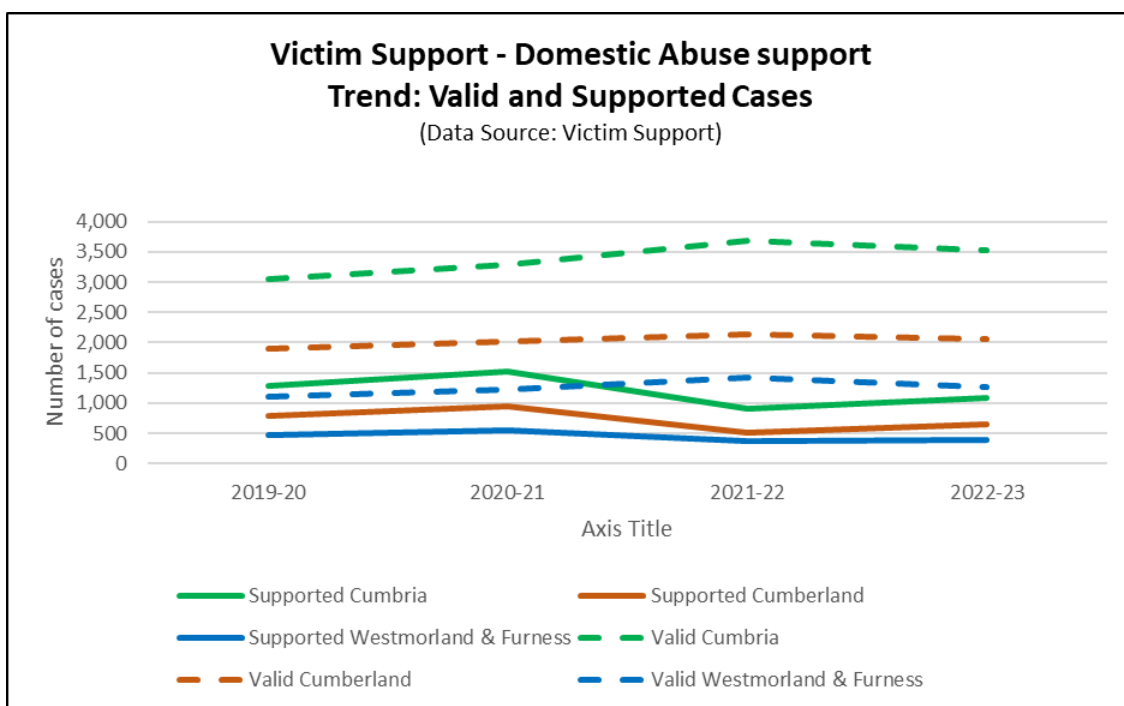
Safeguarding records in 2022-23 affected 11,262 victims. The victims were most likely to be aged 25-34 years (29.8%; 3,351) or 35-44 years (26.0%; 2,929). The majority identified their ethnic group as White British (74.0%; 8,335). Victims from Asian, Black, Mixed and Other ethnic groups including any other White background made up a relatively small proportion (2.9%; 323). However, ethnicity is either not stated or not known for almost one quarter of victims (23.1%; 2,604), and these figures could therefore be higher. Three quarters of the victims were female (76.0%; 8,564) and almost one quarter male (23.5%; 2,637). Demographic data are not available by former district or unitary authority level.

The Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Needs Assessments 2022-23 for Cumberland and for Westmorland and Furness highlighted the likelihood that the full extent of need amongst domestic abuse victims is not currently captured as under reporting may be a problem especially for male victims, those with disabilities, LGBTQ, young victims (16-18 years) and older victims (those aged 65+). The assessments also highlight rurality as a significant barrier for victims of domestic abuse, with services harder to access and rural societal structure making escape less likely resulting in rural victims of domestic abuse being half as likely to report abuse as urban victims. Just over half of Cumberland's population (51.7%) and over half Westmorland and Furness's population (54.6%) live within areas defined as rural by the Office of National Statistics.

## 6.3 Domestic abuse support

### 6.3.1 Victim Support – Domestic Abuse Support

All cases referred to Victim Support will be eligible for an offer of support but not all individuals will take up that offer of support, and despite best efforts Victim Support may not always be able to successfully contact a victim. This is the reason for the difference between the number of valid cases and the number of people supported in the chart below. The number of people supported refers to those who have received a service from Victim Support.



Reports of domestic abuse increased during the COVID-19 pandemic as people were restricted to their homes. The number of valid cases referred to Victim Support continued to increase after the restrictions were lifted as victims may have been more able to report abuse or talk to somebody. During 2022-23 Victim Support provided support to 1,091 people (659 Cumberland, 383 Westmorland and Furness). This is an increase of +19.6% (+179 supported cases) compared to the previous year. The gap between the number of valid and supported cases reached a peak in 2021-22 due to capacity issues including staffing, recruitment and complex cases that required more time. These issues are now being resolved resulting in fewer gaps in service provision and capacity. However, there is still a gap between valid and supported cases, and longer term trend data over four years suggest an overall increase in valid cases and a decrease in supported cases. Supported cases are linked to risk level, with increasing levels of engagement linked to higher risk levels, and the longer term decrease in supported cases may be linked to a higher proportion of standard risk domestic abuse cases. In 2022-23, medium and high risk cases made up two thirds of valid cases (67.0%) but just over three quarters of supported cases (78.3%).

Within Cumberland, the Carlisle locality area had the highest rate for domestic abuse supported cases (3.0 per 1,000 population). Within Westmorland and Furness, the highest

rate was in the Furness locality area (2.4 per 1,000). Higher rates in these locality areas reflects the higher rates of domestic abuse offences in the Carlisle and Furness locality areas.

Domestic abuse victims supported by Victim Support are most likely to be aged between 25 to 44 years. The majority of supported victims across Cumbria are female (81.2%) and one in nine victims are male (11.7%). Gender is not given or unknown for the remainder. However, there are some variations by locality area, with larger proportions of male victims supported in Furness (15.4%), Eden (19.4%) and South Lakeland (13.0%). A male Independent Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocate (IDSVA) works county-wide and while the corresponding uptick in engagement from male clients may be due in part to the work being undertaken it is not entirely clear at this stage why the locality areas within Westmorland and Furness have larger proportions of male victims taking up support. This is something that will be reviewed in future assessments.

There are some cases where both domestic abuse and sexual violence are present. Due to the way crimes are recorded and how the system works some of those cases may be recorded twice and there will be a small element of overlap between the sexual violence and domestic abuse cases supported by Victim Support.

## 7 Sexual Violence

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics*

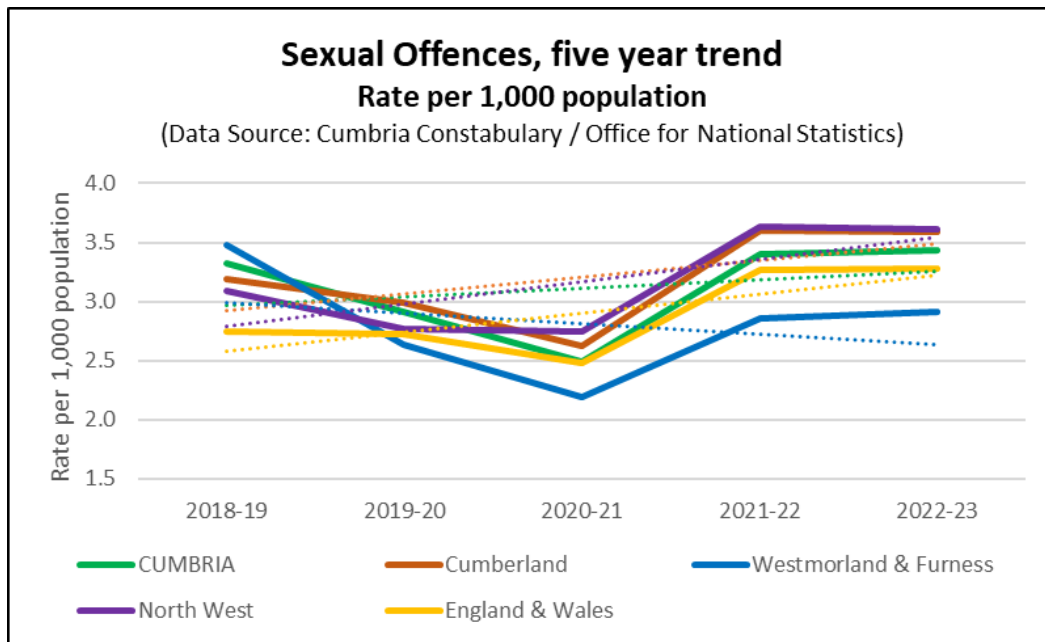
It is estimated that 3.3% of women aged 16 years and over were victims of sexual assault in England and Wales in the year ending March 2022. In Cumbria this could equate to 7,107 women aged 16+ years (3,861 Cumberland, 3,246 Westmorland and Furness). CSEW survey figures are based on six months of data collection from the face-to-face CSEW between October 2021 and March 2022. Some caution needs to be taken due to the impact of the reduced data collection period and lower response rates on the quality of the estimates. (ONS, 2022)

### 7.1 Sexual Offences

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics*

Police recorded sexual offences increased by +20% nationally in 2022-23 compared with the pre-coronavirus pandemic year ending March 2020 according to the Crime Survey for England and Wales. The increase in police recorded sexual offences may reflect several factors, including the impact of high-profile cases and campaigns on victims' willingness to report both recent and historical incidents. For a subset of forces supplying data to the Home Office Data Hub, one in five (21%) of all sexual offences in the year ending March 2023 had taken place over a year prior to the offence being recorded. Sexual offences recorded by the police do not provide a reliable measure of trends in these types of crime as improvements in police recording practices and increased reporting by victims have contributed to increases in recent years. The figures do, however, provide a good measure of the crime-related demand on the police. (ONS, *Crime Survey for England and Wales*).

Local data provided by Cumbria Police show 1,717 recorded sexual offences in 2022-23 (984 Cumberland; 662 Westmorland and Furness). Similar to the national picture, this is an increase of +18.0% across the county (262 recorded offences) compared to 2019-20 but no significant change compared to the previous year. The rate, both nationally and locally, shows an increase over the last five years. The exception is the Westmorland and Furness area which appears to show a decrease. However, the Westmorland and Furness rate is influenced by a particularly high rate in 2018-19; the reason for this is unclear.



The overall rate for sexual offences in 2022-23 in Cumbria (3.4 per 1,000 population) is similar to the England and Wales rate (3.3 per 1,000) but lower than the North West region rate (3.6 per 1,000). The rate in Cumberland (3.6 per 1,000) is similar to the North West but higher than the national rate, while the rate in Westmorland and Furness (2.9 per 1,000) is lower than both the regional and national rates. Within Cumberland, the Allerdale and Carlisle locality areas had the highest rates (both 3.7 per 1,000), similar to the North West rate, but higher than the national rate. The Allerdale and Carlisle locality areas contain 25 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England. Within Westmorland and Furness the highest rate was seen in the Furness locality area (3.8 per 1,000). Furness contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived nationally.

Estimates from the Crime Survey from England and Wales 2022-23 indicate that 2.1% of people aged 16 years and over had experienced sexual assault (including attempted offences) in the last year. Applied to Cumbria's population, this could equate to 4,796 individuals across the county suggesting that sexual offences could be under-reported. The CSEW also highlights the issue of under-reporting, with survey estimates suggesting that fewer than one in six victims of rape or assault by penetration reported the crime to the police. Reported rape offences in Cumbria totalled 528 in 2022-23, and accounted for three in ten (30.8%) of all reported sexual offences.

The CSEW for 2021-2022 highlights that victims of sexual offences are most likely to be female (86% nationally). Females are more likely to be victims of rape (91%) than males (9%). For female victims of rape, the perpetrator was most likely to be an intimate partner (46%), whereas for male victims of rape the perpetrator was most likely to be an acquaintance (38%). Female victims of sexual offences were disproportionately more likely to be aged 10 to 34 years than other age groups; for example while 5% of the female population were aged 15 to 19 years, this age group accounted for 24% of police recorded sexual offences where the victim was female. Male victims of sexual offences were disproportionately more likely to be aged 5 to 34 years than other age groups; for example, while 6% of the male population were aged 10-14 years, this age group accounted for 19% of police recorded sexual offences

where the victim was male. It should be noted that the CSEW data for 2021-22 are based on six months of data collection between October 2021 and March 2022, therefore some caution should be taken when using these data because of the impact of the reduced data collection period and lower response rates on the quality of the estimates. (*Office for National Statistics*)

## 7.2 Alcohol-Related Sexual Offences

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary*

Alcohol-related sexual offences in Cumbria in 2022-23 totalled 310 offences (181 Cumberland; 113 Westmorland and Furness), an increase of +39.6% (+88 offences) compared to 2019-20 (pre-pandemic), and +7.6% (+22 offences) compared to the previous year. Alcohol-related sexual offences accounted for one in six (18.1%) of all sexual offences in Cumbria in 2022-23 (Cumberland, 18.4%; Westmorland and Furness, 17.1%). One in four sexual offences in the Furness locality were alcohol-related in 2022-23 (22.5%; 58 alcohol-related offences).

The rate per 1,000 population in 2022-23 for alcohol-related sexual offences is 0.6 per 1,000 population in Cumbria (Cumberland 0.7 per 1,000; Westmorland and Furness 0.5 per 1,000). Within Cumberland, the highest rate is within the Carlisle locality (0.8 per 1,000). Within Westmorland and Furness the highest rate is within the Furness locality (0.9 per 1,000). Alcohol-related sexual offences are a subset of all sexual offences. More information on sexual offences can be found here: [Sexual Offences](#).

## 7.3 Child Sexual Abuse / Child Sexual Exploitation

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary*

Child Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation data prior to 2020-21 are not comparable as a result in changes to recording practices. It is not considered reliable to look at trend data over a shorter period of time as data were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-21.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a subset of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) data.

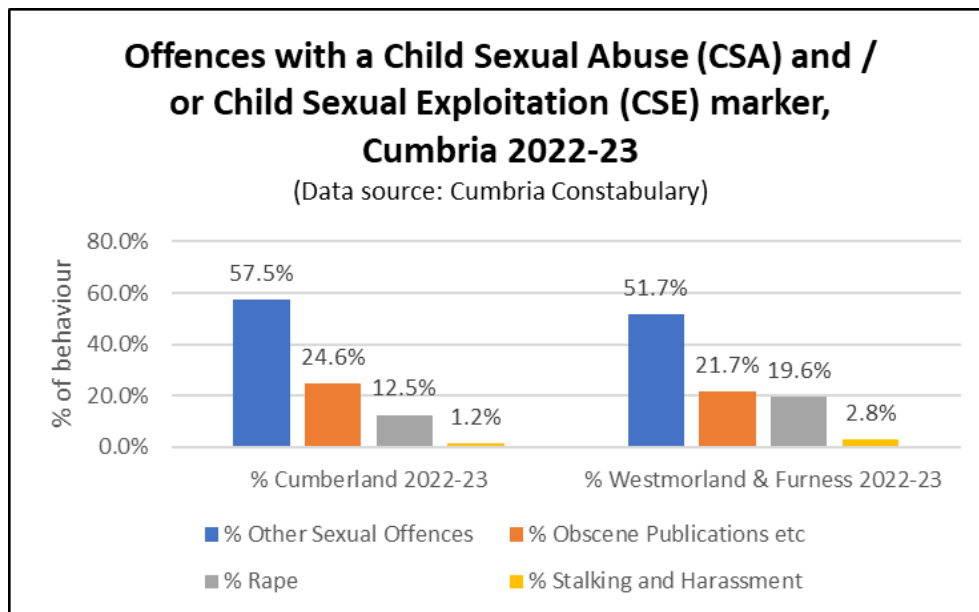
Crimes with a Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) marker totalled 723 in 2022-23 (407 in Cumberland; 286 in Westmorland and Furness). This was a rate of 8.0 per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years which is slightly higher than the rate for the North West region (7.5 per 1,000). England and Wales data are incomplete for 2022-23 and therefore cannot be compared. CSA crimes decreased by -10.7% (-87 offences) in Cumbria in 2022-23 compared to the previous year, the reason for this is unclear. In the Cumberland unitary authority area the rate in 2022-23 was highest in the Allerdale locality (9.7 per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years), higher than the overall rate for Cumbria (8.0 per 1,000) and the North West (7.5 per 1,000). Within Westmorland and Furness, rates were higher than the North West rate in both the Furness locality (8.6 per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years) and the Eden locality (8.0 per 1,000).

Child Sexual Exploitation offences totalled 196 in 2022-23, an increase of +4.3% (+8 offences) compared to the previous year. This is a rate of 2.2 per 1,000 population (aged 0-17 years)

and is higher than the North West rate (1.7 per 1,000). Data are not available by unitary authority or locality area.

CSA and CSE offences are generally expected to increase year on year, primarily driven by cyber enabled platforms but also due to increased school engagement and improvements to recording standards. Historic reporting has been fairly consistent over the last five financial years, accounting for between 32% and 38% of all recorded offences.

The main CSA / CSE offence types are outlined in the chart below.



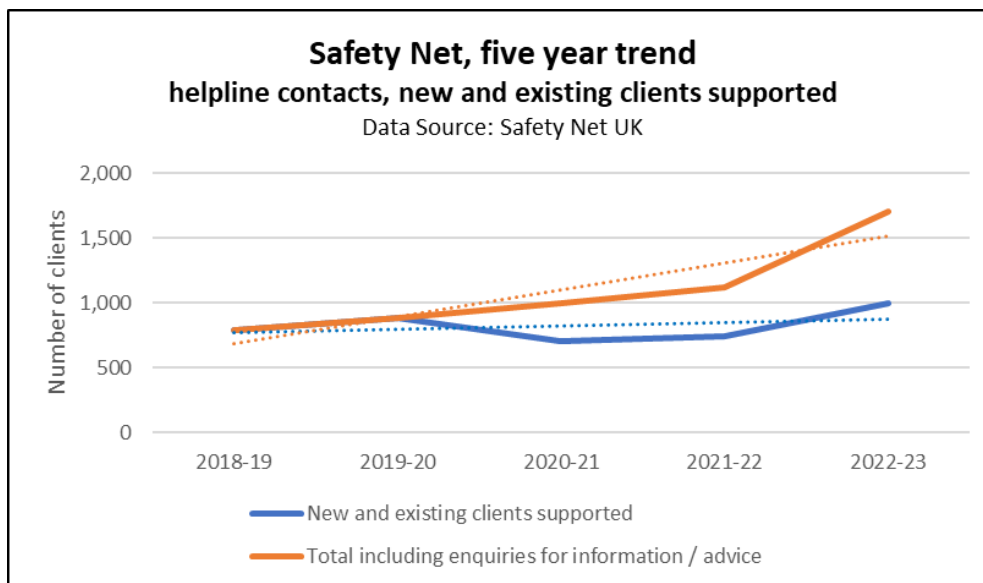
## 7.4 Sexual Abuse Support

Sexual abuse has wide ranging negative impacts on victims and their families. Survivors can suffer from depression, anxiety, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Common side effects include nightmares, panic attacks, self-harm and thoughts and attempts of suicide. In response to their traumatic experiences survivors often suffer from a range of complex feelings, including anger, shame, and guilt. They commonly exhibit poor self-care and have low levels of confidence and self-esteem, as well as poor physical and mental health. Adults and young people also often turn to drugs and alcohol as coping strategies. Children often exhibit challenging behaviour and find it difficult to express their thoughts and feelings. They can have outbursts of anger and aggression or may become very withdrawn and find it difficult to communicate and form relationships with others. This often has a major impact on their education, with children and young people finding it difficult to engage in their studies and attend school or college. (*The Birchall Trust*) Providing support to victims of sexual abuse is an important step towards recovery. The following sections outline support provided to victims of sexual abuse in Cumbria.

### 7.4.1 Referrals to Safety Net

Data source: Safety Net

Safety Net supports the recovery of those affected by rape, exploitation, sexual and domestic abuse across Cumbria. The number of people supported has been increasing steadily over the last five years as can be seen in the chart below, with the total number of new and existing clients supported in 2022-23 (998 individuals) increasing by a third (+34.5%; +256 clients) compared to the previous year and helpline enquiries for information and advice almost doubling compared to the previous year (+89.8%; +336 helpline enquiries).



There are various reasons why the number of people helped by Safety Net are increasing every year: Safety Net has expanded the schools service to 10 schools across Cumbria, increasing the number of referrals from young people; cuts to and closure of some public services has driven demand; Safety Net's profile has improved as a result of communications and partnership work; and national campaigns are also raising the awareness of domestic and sexual abuse with more people understanding the impact of abuse.

The number of children and young people aged 0-17 years supported by Safety Net in 2022-23 has doubled (+98.0%; +196 individuals) compared to the previous year. Children and young people (0-17 years) accounted for two out of five clients supported by Safety Net in 2022-23 (39.7%; 396 clients), an increase of +12.7 percentage points compared to 2021-22. Children and young people aged 13-17 years made up four out of five of all children and young people (0-17 years) supported in 2022-23 (79.3%; 314 clients), this is an increase of +10.8 percentage points compared to the previous year. The rise in children and young people supported includes an increase in young girls seeking services in response to sexual assault and rape. Safety Net has also seen an increase in sexual activity amongst children under 16, including sexting and sending nude images.

Safety Net services mainly cover the northern and western areas of Cumbria. Four out of five clients supported (81.9%; 817 clients) are within Cumberland, with the largest proportion in the Carlisle locality (41.3% of all clients; 412). One in six clients supported (16.2%; 162) are

within Westmorland and Furness, the majority within the Eden locality area (13.4% of all clients 134). A very small proportion are within the Furness and South Lakeland locality areas (2.8%; 28 clients).

The majority of clients supported by Safety Net are female (79.0%); one in five are male (20.0%). The majority of clients are aged 25+ years (51.1%), and a large proportion aged 13 to 17 years (31.5%). Referral source data indicate that one in four new and existing clients self-referred in 2022-23 (24.2%; 242) and a further quarter were referred via education services (23.4%; 234), this is likely to reflect the awareness raising work being carried out in educational settings. The majority of clients supported identified their ethnic origin as White British (95.0%); this reflects the wider Cumbria picture (94.9% of usual residents in Cumbria identified their ethnic group as White British in the 2021 Census).

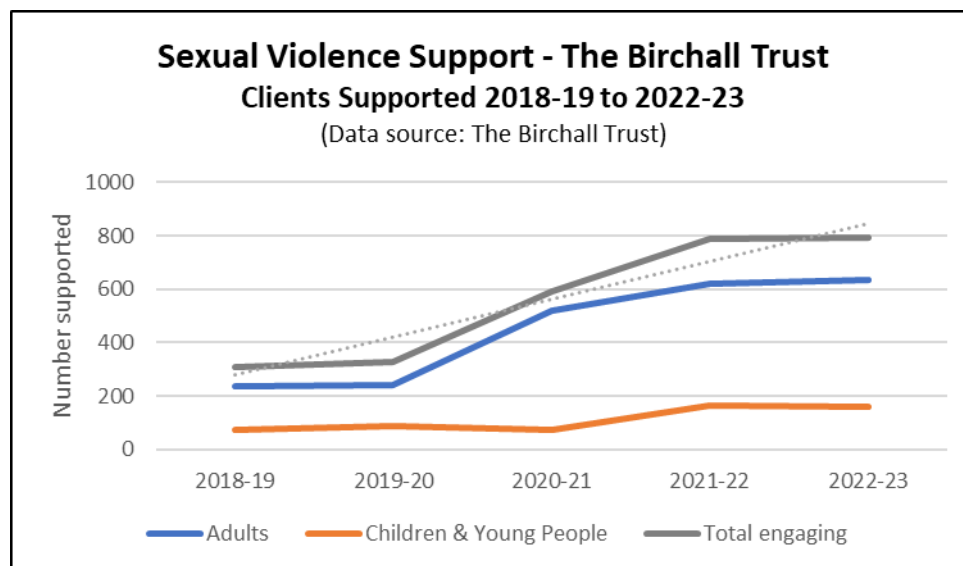
Outcomes for Safety Net's clients in 2022-23 include improved health and wellbeing, reduced symptoms of trauma, improved personal safety and emotional resilience, and greater awareness around online safety.

Further details can be accessed here: [Safety Net Impact Report 2022-23](#)

#### 7.4.2 Referrals to The Birchall Trust

*Data source: The Birchall Trust*

Data provided by The Birchall Trust covers support provided to individuals in the Furness and South Lakeland locality areas in addition to Lancaster and Morecambe.



During 2022-23 The Birchall Trust provided advice, information and support to 795 people (634 adults and 161 children and young people). This is similar to 2021-22 (787 people supported), but a very large increase compared to 2019-20 pre-pandemic (+241.6%; +466 individuals supported). There are a number of reasons for the increase in the number of people that have been helped. Capacity has increased as a result of additional funding secured and fundraising events, allowing turnover to double. In recognition of unmet demand, The Birchall Trust's operating model has been changed based on National Institute for Health and Care

Excellence (NICE) recommendations in terms of addressing trauma; this has resulted in a higher turnover of cases and enabled more people to be seen. A new Wellbeing Service was introduced in 2020-21 to address the needs of survivors who were experiencing the impact of trauma, and this has contributed to the number of people provided with support by The Birchall Trust. Community engagement work has increased the profile of The Birchall Trust; this has led to an increase in waiting lists but is a better reflection of demand. A number of external factors have also increased demand, such as the “Me Too” campaigns and other high profile cases.

There is a significant demand for work with children and young people. However, there are difficulties in terms of delivery, including ongoing challenges in recruiting play therapists in South Cumbria. In addition resources for working with children and young people are dependent on non-statutory sources of income. Post COVID-19 pandemic there has also been demand for more complex cases involving peer on peer and sibling sexual abuse. The complexity of these cases results in a higher level of resourcing required.

Data provided by The Birchall Trust reflect the number of people who accessed long term support through Counselling or Wellbeing Services and do not include one off pieces of work, principally advice, advocacy and referral support. These forms of support will be recorded and available in future years.

Areas of activity were broadened by The Birchall Trust in 2022-23 strengthening the approach to preventative work and community engagement which has led specifically to the expansion of work in schools providing Staying Safe and Cyber Abuse training to school children. Public education programmes have also increased with more events and public information campaigns. The work done by The Birchall Trust has had positive outcomes, with 59% of clients reporting an improvement in feeling safe and secure, 58% reporting a reduction in anxiety, 80% reporting that their health and wellbeing had improved, and 80% reporting improvements in their strengths and resilience.

The majority of clients supported in 2022-23 were female (69.8%; 555 individuals); one in eight were male (12.7%; 101 individuals); gender was not provided for 14.3% (114 individuals). Rape was the most common primary offence for which support was provided in 2022-23 (37%).

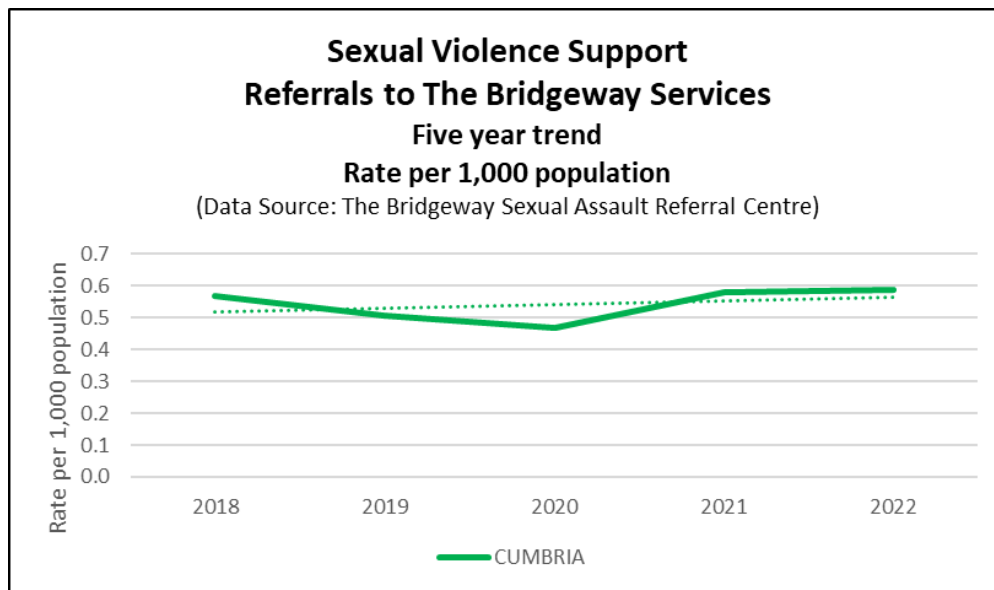
### 7.4.3 Referrals to The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre

*Data source: The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre*

The Bridgeway Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) is located in Penrith, Cumbria and provides coordinated, forensic, counselling and aftercare services to men, women and children who live in Cumbria or who have been raped or sexually assaulted within Cumbria.

Referrals to The Bridgeway have remained relatively consistent over the last five years overall. 294 referrals were received during 2022, similar to the number received in 2021 (290). Of the 294 referrals in 2022, 165 were from Cumberland, 101 from Westmorland and Furness. A small number were from out of area (26) or unknown (2). The chart below shows a dip in

referrals in 2020; in line with other services this is likely to be a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Referral numbers have since returned to levels similar to pre-pandemic years.



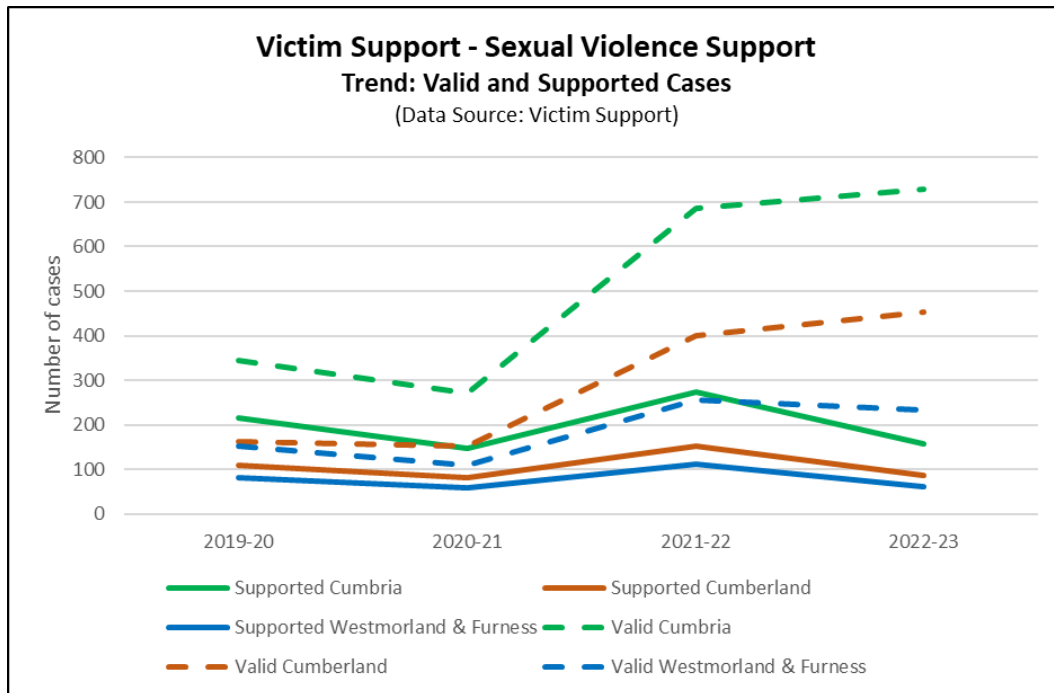
Within Cumberland, the largest number of referrals came from the Carlisle locality area (0.7 per 1,000 population), while in Westmorland and Furness the largest number came from the Furness locality area (0.6 per 1,000). Higher rates in these locality areas ties in to higher rates of sexual offences in the Carlisle and Furness locality areas.

Victims referred to The Bridgeway in 2022 are most likely to be female (86.4%; 254). Seven out of 10 (70.4%; 207) are aged 18+ years. One in 10 (10.5%; 31) are aged 0-13 years, while one in five (19.0%; 56) are aged 13 to 17 years. Referral source data show that over half were referred to The Bridgeway by the Police (51.2%; 151) while three in 10 were self-referrals (29.5%; 87).

#### 7.4.4 Referrals to Victim Support – Sexual Abuse Support

Data source: Victim Support

Nationally and locally reports of sexual violence decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic. With the easing of restrictions victims may have been more able to safely disclose, report or talk to someone. This is reflected in the chart below, with an increase in demand for sexual violence support in 2021-22.



All cases referred to Victim Support will be eligible for an offer of support, but not all individuals will take up that offer, and despite best efforts it may not always be possible to successfully contact a victim. This is often the difference between the number of valid cases and the number of people supported. However, there can also be other reasons. For instance, the chart above illustrates that the proportional increase in the number of valid cases in 2021-22 was not matched by a proportional increase in those receiving support. This is likely to be the result of a number of factors. Firstly, as with the sector more widely there were staffing and recruitment challenges which would have had an impact on engagement and supported levels with existing staff managing greater numbers while newer staff were trained. In addition much of the support during the pandemic would have been telephone based or virtual, and as restrictions were eased face to face support recommenced which takes more time and reduces overall capacity. Other factors such as support at court would also have recommenced more fully which again takes up quite a lot of resource. Although valid cases may have increased this also means that there will be a higher number of more complex medium/high risk cases which by definition take more time/support. This coupled with the impacts on staffing resource had an impact on overall capacity in 2021-22.

In 2022-23, the gap between valid and supported cases continued to increase. Valid cases increased by +6.1% (+42 cases), but the number of supported cases saw a large decrease (-42.3%; -116 cases) from 275 supported cases in 2021-22 to 158 supported in 2022-23. However, this is more do with recording than with need or demand. As with other areas and

the national picture there have been issues with ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Adviser) capacity. Victim Support have implemented a holding list which is based on the principle of need and risk level rather than referral date. All clients receive an offer of support close to the referral date and are then triaged based on need. Clients with lower support needs are then placed on the list and then due to the way the system works will be recorded as not in support. Those who are in support will have the highest priority needs.

Within Cumberland, the Carlisle locality area had the highest rate for supported cases (0.38 per 1,000 population). Within Westmorland and Furness, the highest rate was in the Furness locality area (0.34 per 1,000). Higher rates in these locality areas reflects the higher rates of sexual offences in the Carlisle and Furness locality areas.

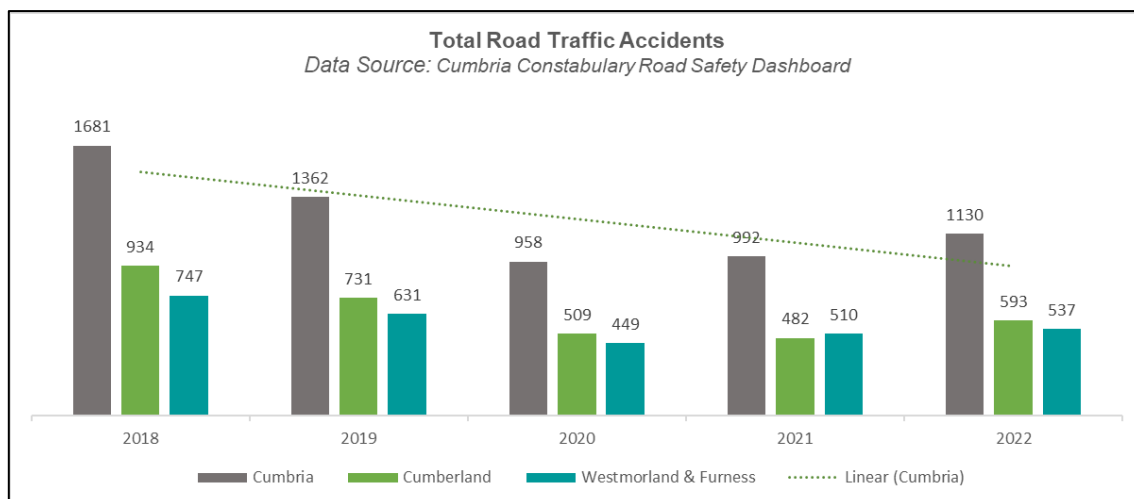
Clients provided with support in Cumbria in 2022-23 were most likely to be aged under 24 years (48.1%; 76 individuals). The majority were female (81.8%); males made up 6.3% while gender is not known for the remainder. The majority identified their ethnic background as White (81.0%); only a small proportion identified as Asian, Black or Mixed ethnic background (1.3%), however as ethnicity is not stated for a large proportion (17.7%) it is difficult to gauge whether any particular ethnic group is under-represented.

There are some cases where both domestic abuse and sexual violence are present. Due to the way crimes are recorded and how the system works some of those cases may be recorded twice and there will be a small element of overlap between the sexual violence and domestic abuse cases supported by Victim Support.

## 8 Road Safety

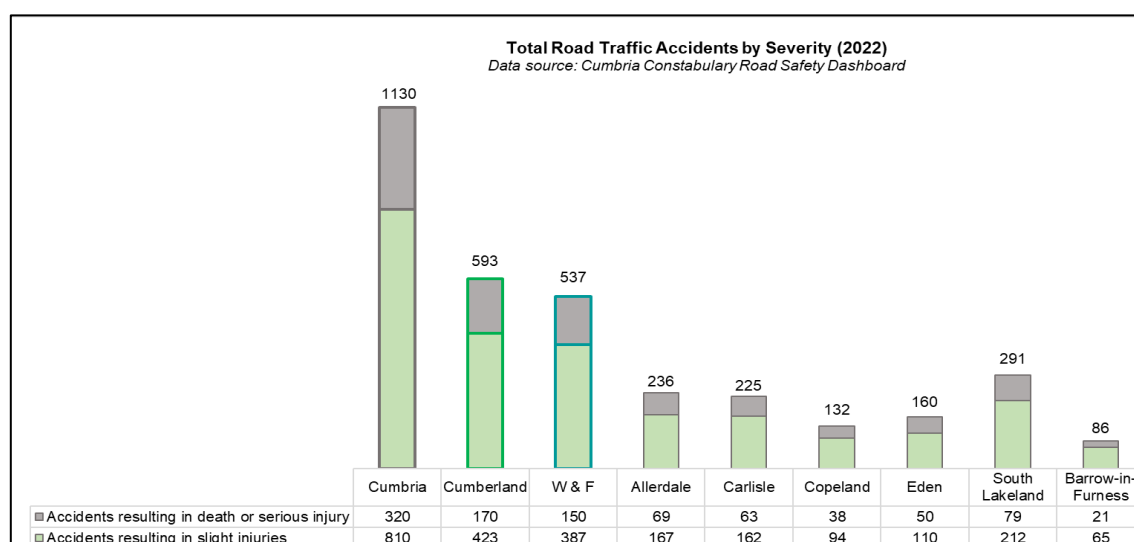
Data Source: Cumbria Constabulary Road Safety Dashboard and Department for Transport Road Traffic Statistics

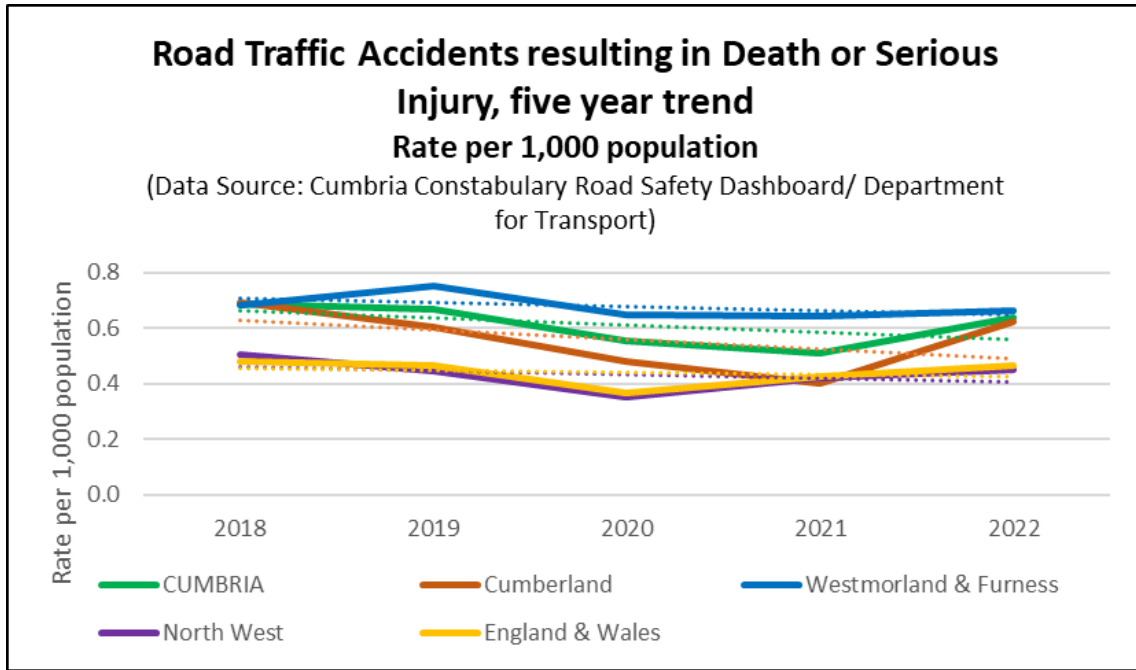
During the year 2022, 1,130 road traffic accidents occurred within Cumbria. Since 2018 Cumbria has seen an overall decline in road traffic incidents of 32.8% (-36.5% decline in Cumberland Unitary area and -28.1% in Westmorland and Furness).



28.3% (320) of Cumbrian road accidents during 2022 resulted in death or serious injury of an individual, occurring at a rate of 0.6 per 1,000 of the population. This is slightly higher than the North West regional rate of 0.4. Westmorland and Furness had the highest rate of accidents (resulting in death or serious injury) per 1,000 population at 0.7.

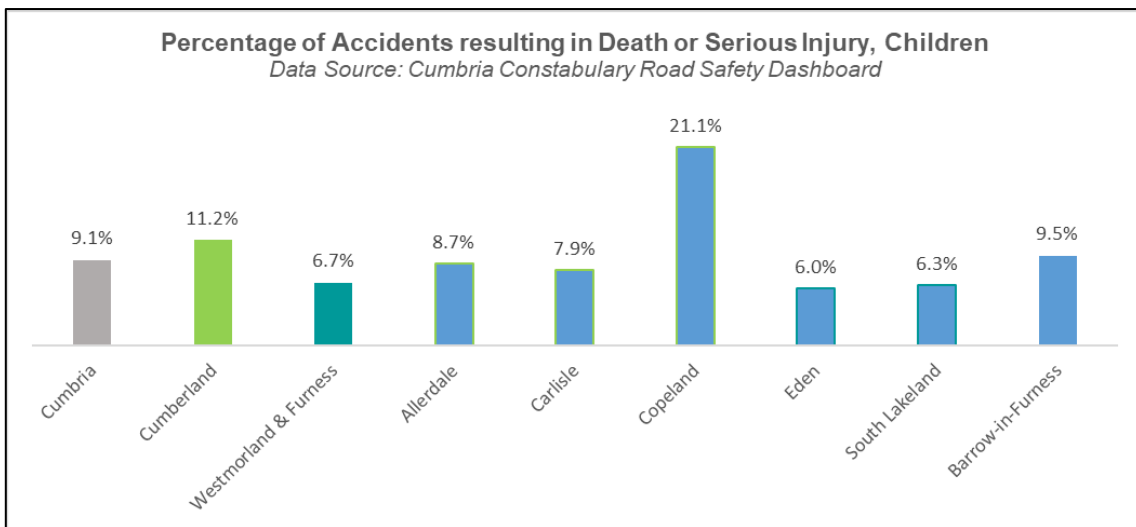
The areas of Eden (Westmorland and Furness), South Lakeland (Westmorland and Furness) and Allerdale (Cumberland) had the highest rate of accidents resulting in death or serious injury per 1,000 population (Eden: 0.9 / South Lakeland: 0.8 / Allerdale: 0.7).





Please refer to Appendix 2 for charts detailing the rates per 1,000 population broken down by former district area, compared against national and regional levels.

9.1% of accidents in Cumbria that resulted in death or serious injury involved children (11.2% in Cumberland unitary area / 6.7% Westmorland and Furness).



## 9 Offending and Reoffending

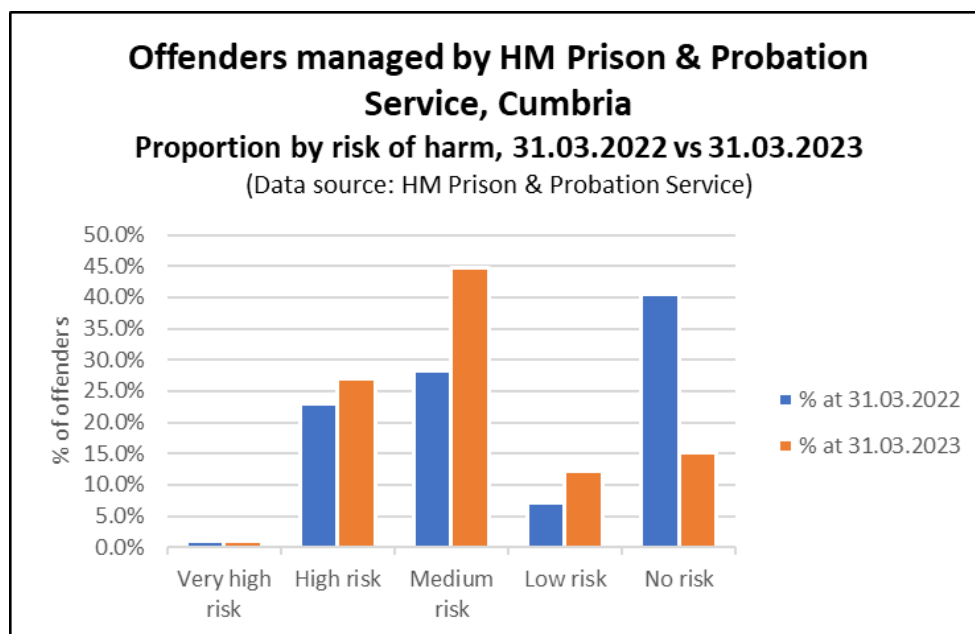
### 9.1 HM Prison and Probation Service

Data Source: HM Prison and Probation Service

Offenders managed by the Probation Service in Cumbria totalled 1,837 at 31 March 2023. This figure shows a point in time, representing all persons with live convictions and is not a summary of the total number of offenders managed during the year. The number managed is similar to the previous year.

Until June 2021 probation services were split between the public and private sector. National Probation Service (NPS) figures for 2022 onwards are not directly comparable to previous years as figures from 2022 include offenders previously managed by the Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Service (CLCRC). It is not possible to combine previous CLCRC and NPS data as they represent slightly different geographical areas, and therefore it is not possible to look at the longer term trend.

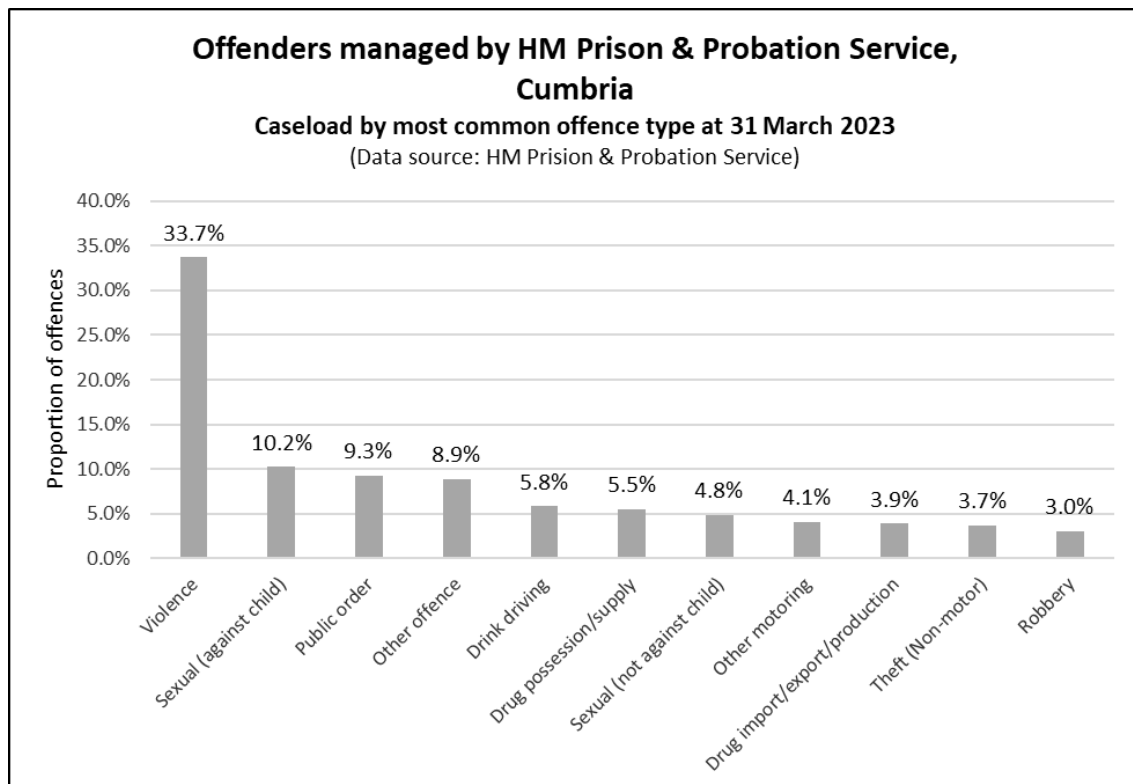
At 31 March 2023, almost three in 10 offenders (28.0%; 515) were assessed as being at high or very high risk; this is an increase +4.0 percentage points compared to the previous year. Almost half (44.7%; 821) were assessed as medium risk, an increase of +16.4 percentage points. One in eight (12.1%; 223) were low risk, an increase of +5.0 percentage points compared to the previous year. At the same time the proportion of no risk offenders decreased by -25.4 percentage points (15.1% at 31.03.2023 vs 40.5% at 31.03.2022). These changes are likely to reflect work done by the NPS to check and record risk levels to ensure that risk levels are correct and reflective of offences.



The majority of offenders managed by the NPS are male (86.9%). One in eight are aged 18-25 years (12.0%), one third are aged 26-35 years (34.0%), and over half are aged 35+ years (54.0%). Seven out of ten were not in custody (71.9%). One third (34.1%) were Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA) cases which is likely to reflect the proportion of high

and very high risk offenders. MAPPA are a set of statutory arrangements to assess and manage the risk posed by certain sexual and violent offenders.

The chart below shows the proportion of the most common offence types. As an offender can have more than one offence type recorded against them the total number of offence types exceeds the number of offenders. The chart below is based on 1,870 offences in total, with violence offences accounting for one third of all offence types (33.7%). Violence offences include 54 sub-categories of offence types including assault, breach of restraining orders, murder, wounding, and possession of offensive weapons amongst others.



It is not possible to split data by locality or community panel area as the geographical location of one in four offenders at 31 March 2023 is either out of area, no fixed abode or unknown.

## 9.2 Youth Offending

### 9.2.1 Youth Offending: Custodial Sentences

(Data source: Cumberland Council)

Youth Offending: Custodial Sentences					
Nr of individuals	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Cumberland				2	2
Westmorland & Furness				0	2
<b>Cumbria total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
Nr of sentences	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Cumberland				2	2
Westmorland & Furness				0	2
<b>Cumbria total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

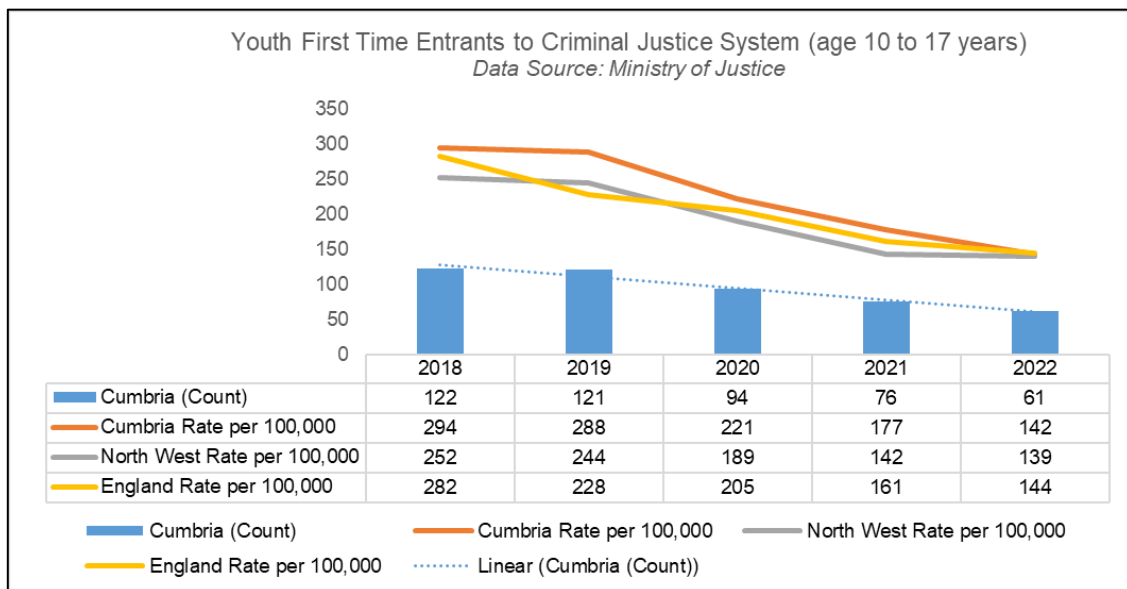
Nationally custodial sentences for young people continue to decrease. This is an ongoing trend that is not associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, instead it has more to do with sentencing decisions and guidance issued to Magistrates and the “Child First Offender Second” approach. The slight increase in 2022-23 compared to the previous year is a result of serious offences being committed by a very small number of young people. This is not a trend that is considered to be a cause for concern at this point in time but is something that will be monitored by Cumberland Council’s Youth Justice Service.

### 9.2.2 First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System

(Data source: Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales)

The following information refers to First Time Entrants (FTE) into the Criminal Justice System. An FTE is defined as an offender aged between 10 to 17 years, who has received their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction for an offence processed by a police force in England or Wales (or by the British Transport Police). Penalty notices for disorder, other types of penalty notice, cannabis warnings and other sanctions given by the police are not counted (Youth Justice Statistics Glossary).

The Youth Justice Statistics published annually show that FTEs in Cumbria have shown a steady decline in recent years with 122 recorded for the year 2018, compared to 61 for the year 2022 (latest data available), an overall decrease of -50%.



Please note Youth First Time Entrants to the criminal justice system information is only available to County Level.

In recent years Cumbria has seen the adoption of the Child First, Offender Second (CFOS) Approach, which has introduced more preventative measures in tackling Youth Offending. Youth Justice argue that a Child First approach is imperative due to the mental health, education and abuse and exploitation challenges that are a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. CFOS is built on a set of policies and practice principles, with the underlying objective to treat children in a child-friendly and appropriate way. The main themes are:

- Prevention (Positive Promotion)- The advocacy of the promotion of positive behaviours, outcomes, services and opportunities for all children within and outside of the Youth Justice System.
- Diversion- Diverting Children out of the formal Youth Justice System and into positive interventions
- Intervention- All intervention should be child-friendly and child-appropriate. Policy makers and practitioners should prioritise children’s participation and engagement in the design and review of services.

The implementation of the Child First, Offender Second approach in Cumbria may be a reason for the decrease in the number of Youth First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice system in the area.

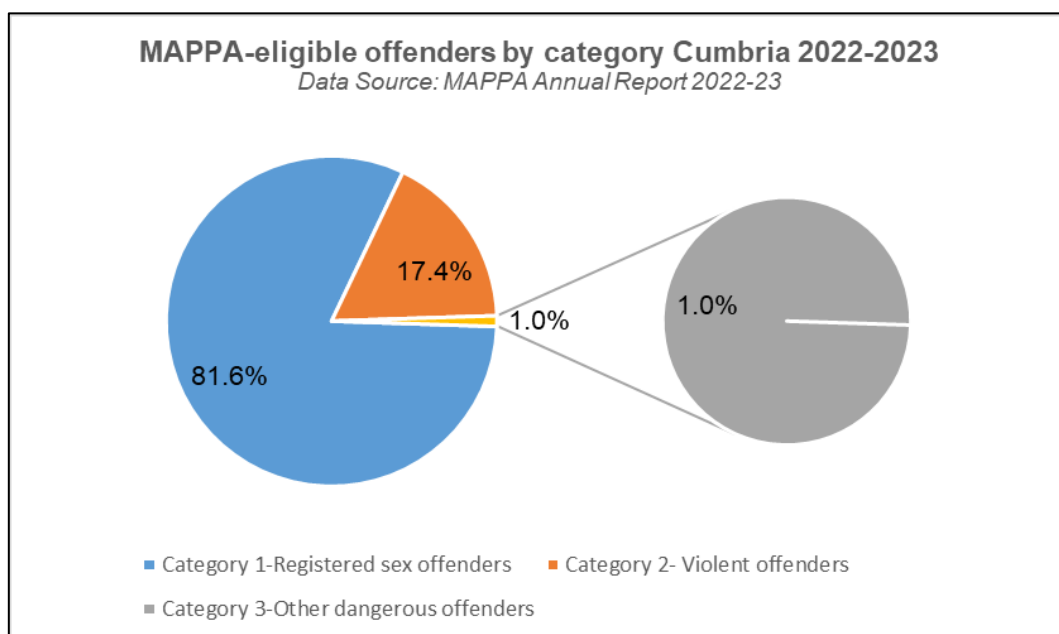
### 9.3 Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

*Data Source: Ministry of Justice and Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service (MAPPA Annual Report 2022-23)*

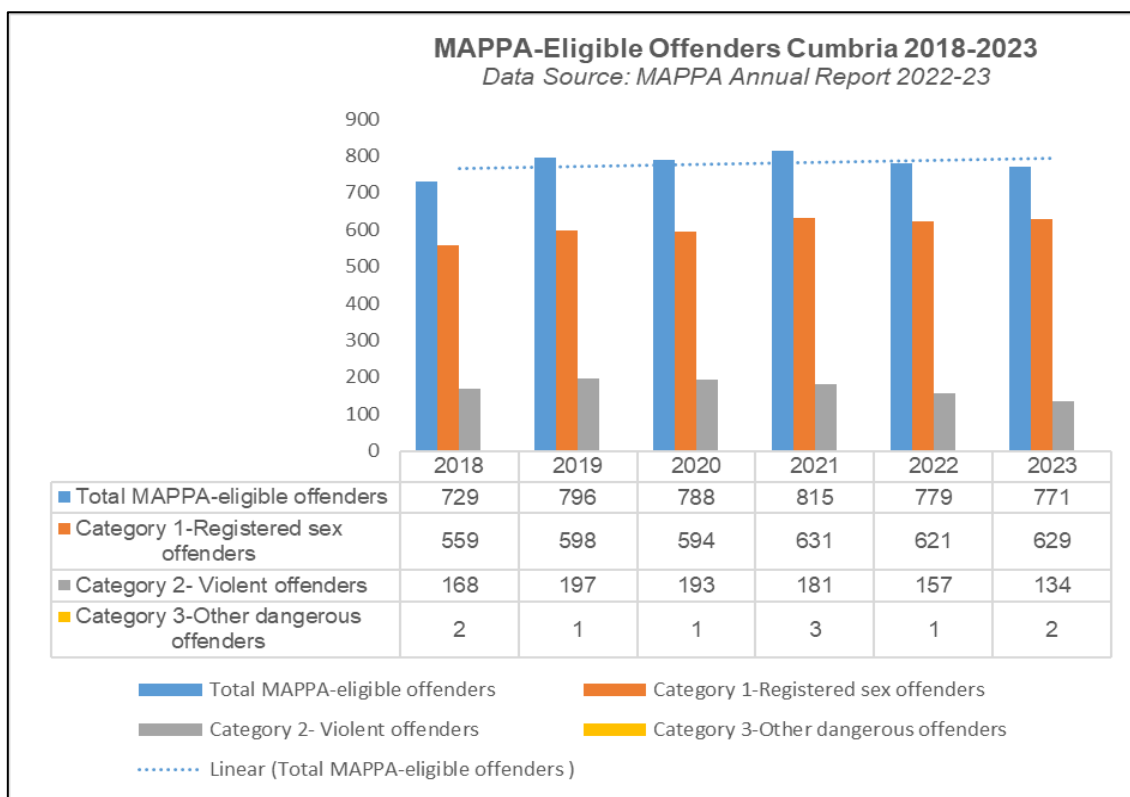
MAPPA are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by the most serious sexual, violent and terrorist offenders (MAPPA-eligible offenders). The arrangements bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services to form a MAPPA Responsible Authority. The Responsible Authority works with other agencies who have a Duty to Cooperate, such as Social Services, Health Services, Local Housing and Youth Offending Teams.

The following figures only include MAPPA-eligible offenders living in the community. They do not include those residing in prison or detained under the Mental Health Act. Please note information relating to MAPPA is only available to county level.

As at 31 March 2023 there were 771 MAPPA-eligible offenders residing in Cumbria. This is a small decrease compared to the previous year (779). 81.6% of MAPPA-eligible offenders fall into the registered sex offender category.



The following chart shows the total number of MAPPA-eligible offenders residing within the county since 2018, broken down by offender type.



The numbers of MAPPA-eligible offenders who fall into the Registered Sex Offender category (Category 1) shows a small, but continual increase since 2018, as can be seen from the above chart.

The MAPPA Annual Report (2022-23) stresses that the associated processes within Cumbria benefit from effective co-working of all statutory multi-agency partners and describes the work of the newly introduced *Cumbria MAPPA Continuous Improvement Group*. This groups aims to facilitate focused operational improvements through the MAPPA partnership work in the area.

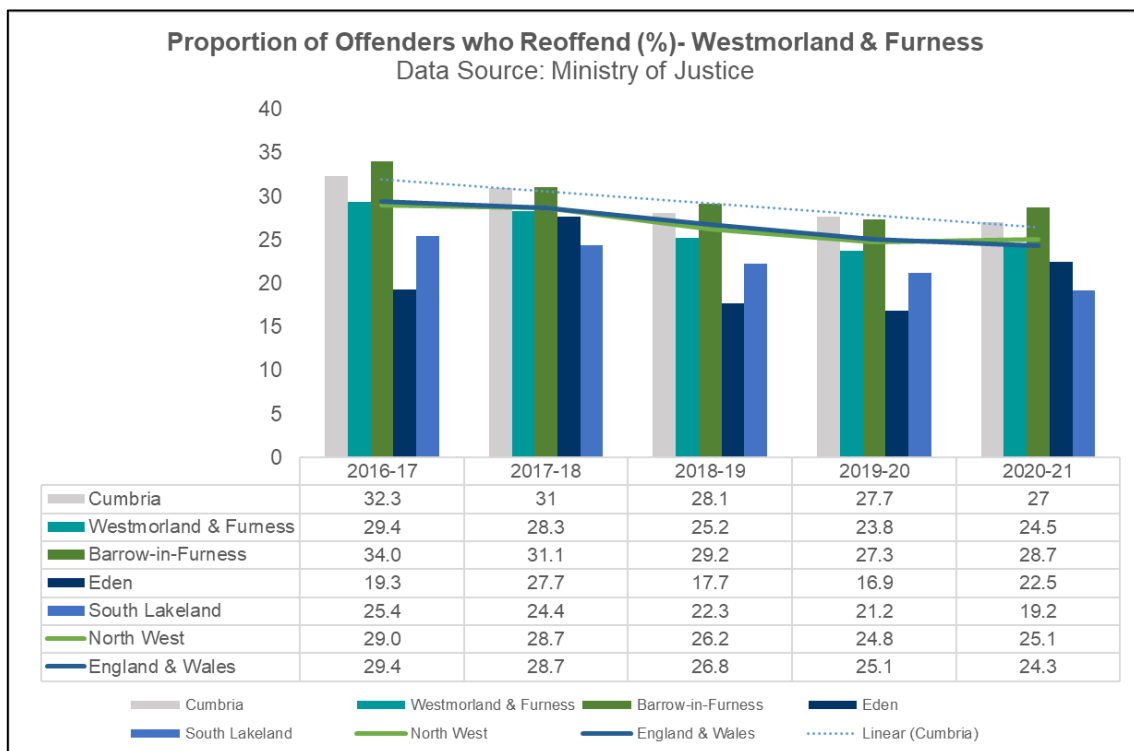
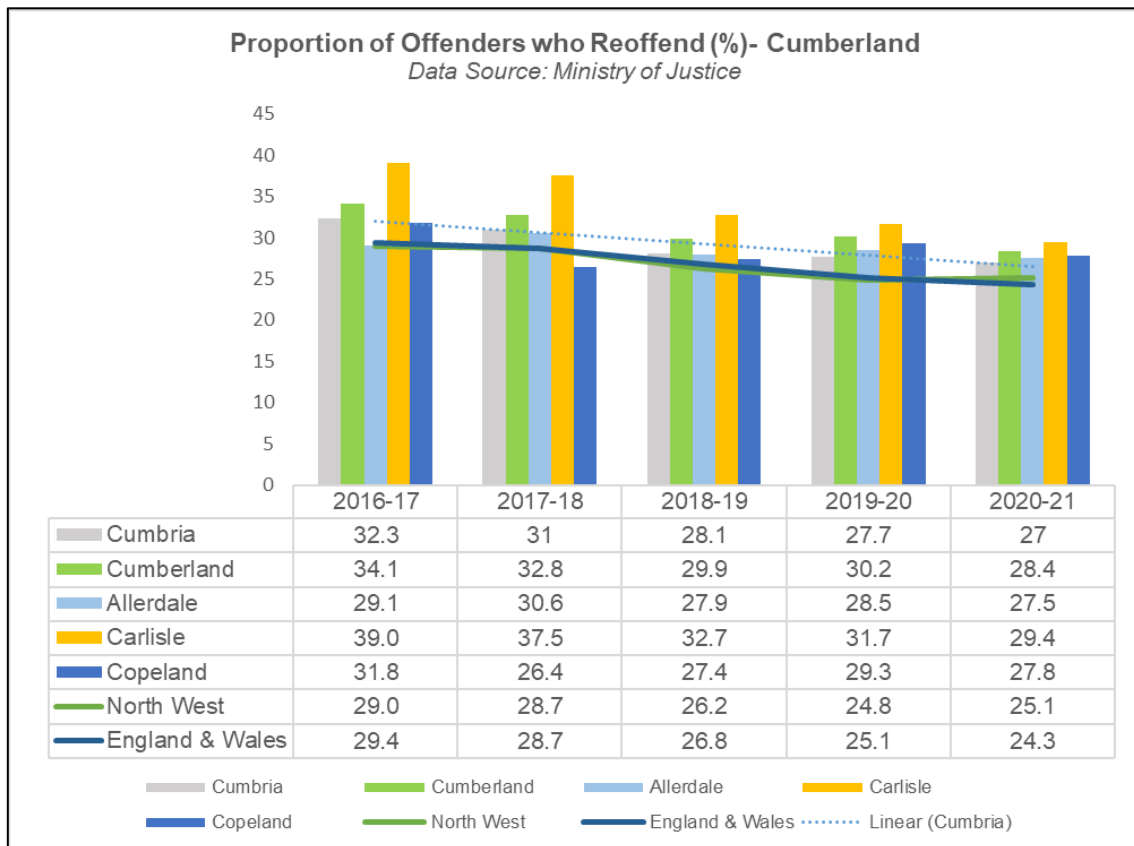
For more detailed information relating to MAPPA please refer to the 2022-23 Annual Report (a link can be found in the references section of this report).

#### 9.4 Ministry of Justice – Reoffending

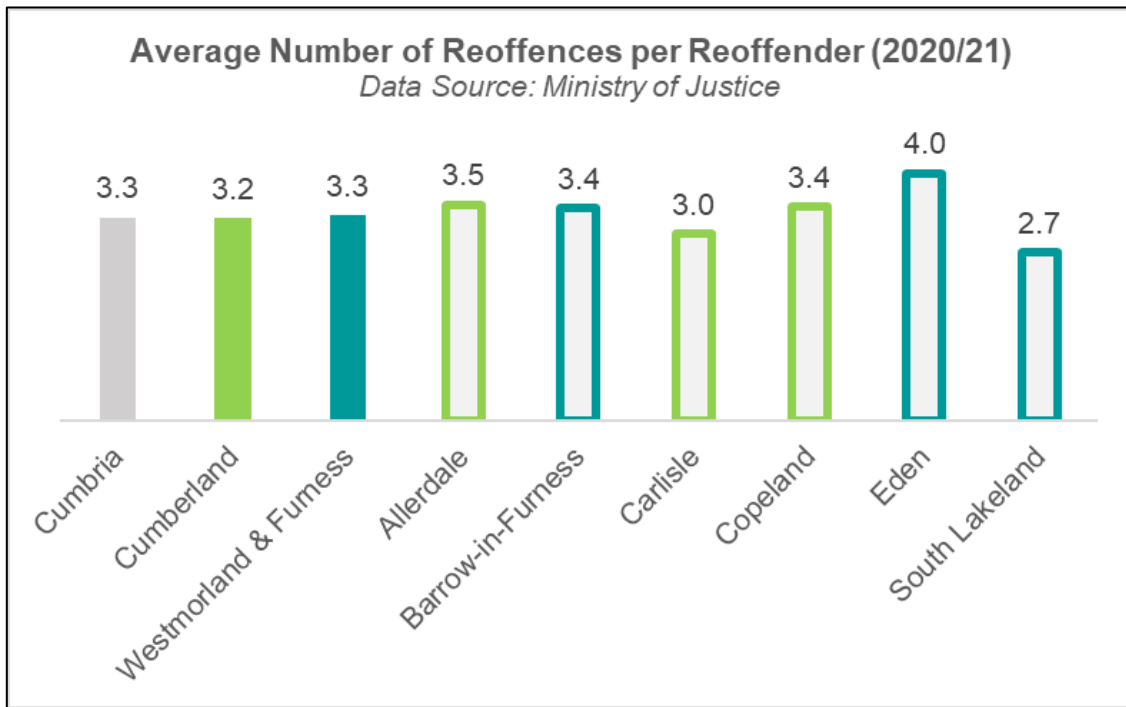
Data Source: Ministry of Justice, Proven Reoffending Statistics

During the period 2020-21, 27% of offenders reoffended within Cumbria. This is consistent with the previous year (2019-20) where the same proportion was reported. For the Cumberland Unitary area, the highest levels of reoffending were reported in the former Carlisle City Council footprint (29.4%). However, the data demonstrates a declining trend for the area since 2016 (compared with 39% in 2016/17).

In the Westmorland and Furness Unitary area the highest levels of reoffending occurred in the former Barrow-in-Furness District Area (now Furness Locality) of 28.7%. However, as with Carlisle the data shows a steady decline since 2016 (compared with 34.0% in 2016/17).



The average number of reoffences per reoffender in Cumbria is 3.3. The former Eden district area (now Eden locality area) has the highest average of 4.0 reoffences per reoffender.

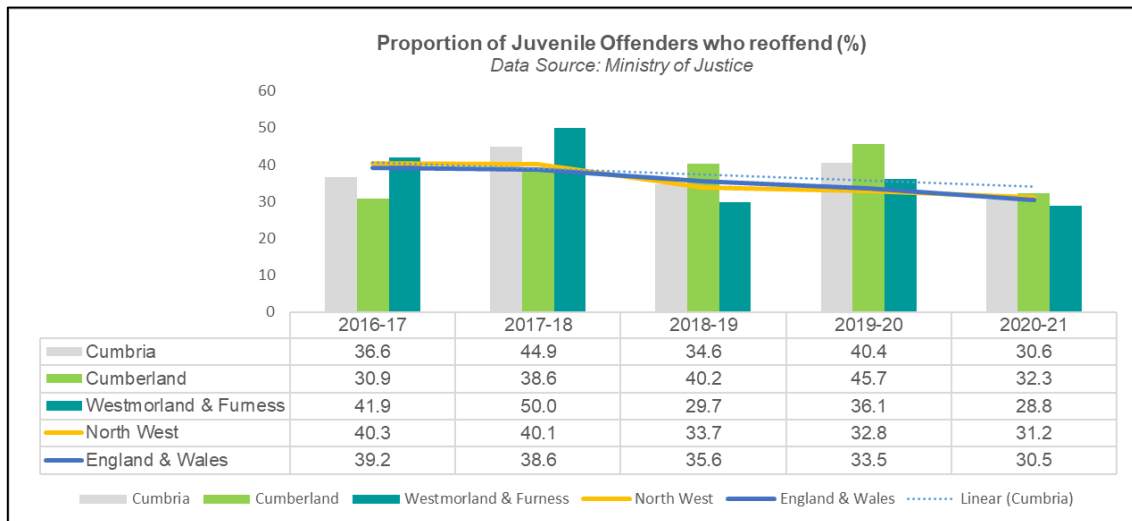


Please note the average number of reoffences per reoffender over time (since 2018) can be found in Appendix 2.

## 9.5 Youth Reoffending

Data Source: Ministry of Justice, Proven Reoffending Statistics

The proportion of juvenile offenders who reoffend was 30.6% in Cumbria during the year 2020/21, compared to 40.4% the previous year (2019/20). It has not been possible to provide information to all former district level (due to suppression of low values), however the Unitary Council figures have been calculated:



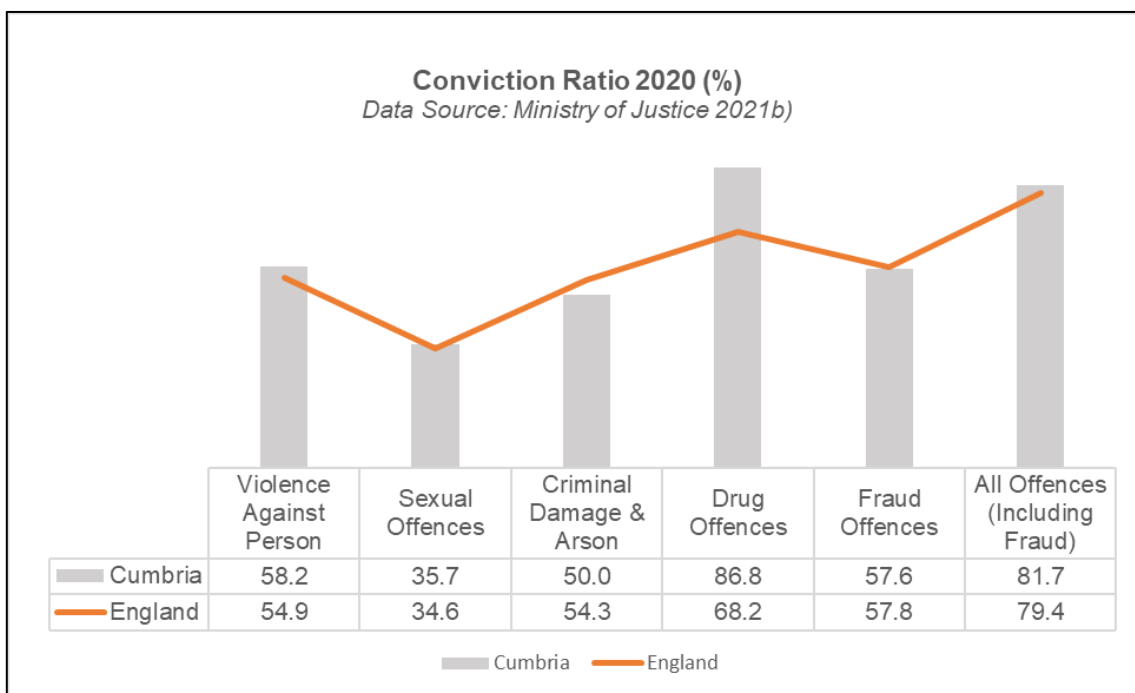
Overall, both Unitary Council Areas have seen reductions in Juvenile Reoffending levels since 2016; -54.3% reduction in Cumberland and -74.6% in Westmorland and Furness (-66.4% Cumbria wide). The data shows a spike in juvenile reoffending in the Westmorland and Furness area during 2017/18, however since then rates have fallen far below this peak. The reductions seen in Juvenile Reoffending may also be due to the implementation of the Child First, Offender Second approach referenced in the *First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System* section.

## 10 Prosecutions and Convictions

Data Source: Ministry of Justice, Criminal Justice System Statistics

Information relating to Prosecutions and Convictions is available to Cumbria level only and provides data up to 2020. Court outcome data for the most recent years is not yet published by the Ministry of Justice.

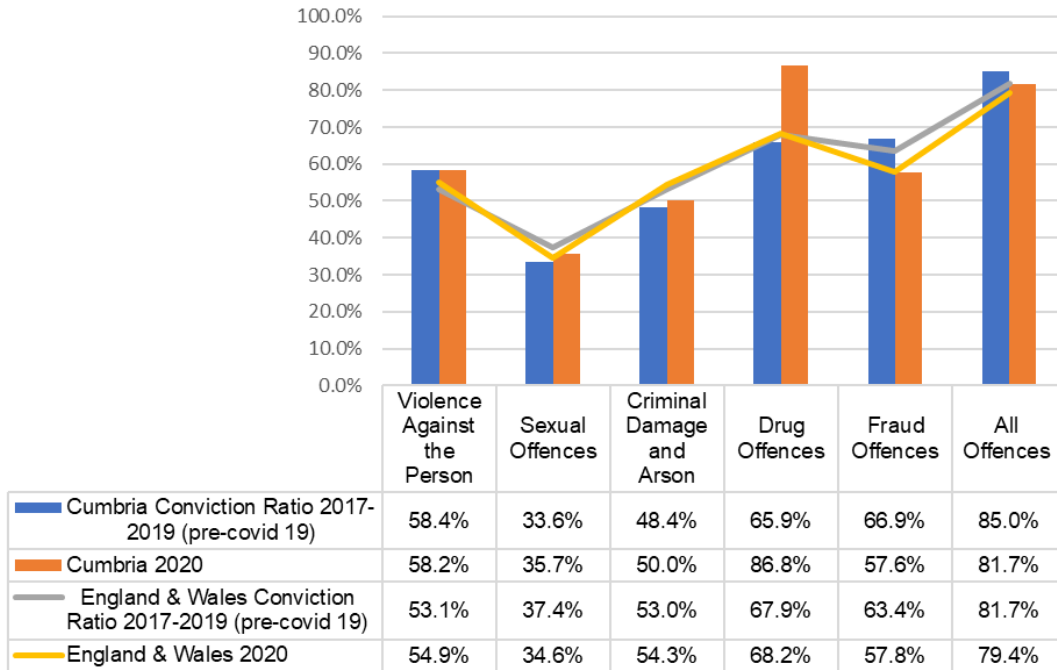
The latest available data shows that Cumbria has an overall conviction ratio (all offence groups, including fraud) of 81.7%. This is slightly higher than the national ratio of 79.4%. The conviction ratio is calculated by determining the number of convictions as a proportion of the number of court proceedings. This gives a measure of the relative number of defendants who are found guilty within a given year for a certain offence, when compared with the number who are prosecuted that year for the same offence.



As the information shown in the above chart refers to court proceedings that took place within the COVID-19 lockdown period, which resulted in several operational changes to court hearings (for example virtual/remote through the assistance of technology) a comparison to pre-pandemic years has been included (to provide greater assurance to the data).

### Conviction Ratios- Pre Covid 19 Comparison (2017-2019 v 2020)- Cumbria

Data Source: Ministry of Justice 2021b



Experian Mosaic data (2023), estimates that approximately 59.8% of residents aged 18+ years living in Cumbria have confidence that the Crown Prosecution Service is effective at prosecuting people (© Experian 2023 - All rights reserved). The two unitary authority areas are similar (59.6% of residents aged 18+ years in Cumberland, and 60.2% in Westmorland and Furness).

## 11 Community Impact

### 11.1 Local Concerns

Community safety questions asked as part of the Crime Survey for England and Wales have highlighted that the main concerns facing Cumbria’s residents are antisocial behaviour, burglary, rubbish or littering, thefts from vehicles and attacks by strangers. The table below shows the top five concerns by locality area.

Crime Survey for England and Wales Top five local concerns by residents (Data source: © Experian 2023 - All Rights Reserved)						
Concern Ranking	Cumberland Locality Areas			Westmorland & Furness Locality Areas		
	Allerdale	Carlisle	Copeland	Furness	Eden	South Lakeland
1	Antisocial behaviour	Antisocial behaviour	Antisocial behaviour	Antisocial behaviour	Home being broken into	Home being broken into
2	Home being broken into	Home being broken into	Home being broken into	Home being broken into	Antisocial behaviour	Antisocial behaviour
3	Rubbish or litter	Rubbish or litter	Rubbish or litter	Rubbish or litter	Rubbish or litter	Having things stolen from car
4	Having things stolen from car	Physical attack by strangers	Having things stolen from car	Physical attack by strangers	Having things stolen from car	Having car stolen
5	Physical attack by strangers	Being mugged and robbed	Physical attack by strangers	Being mugged and robbed	Being mugged and robbed	Rubbish or litter

Although instances of antisocial behaviour are decreasing across the county, it is still one of the main concerns of Cumbria’s residents. Overall, one third of residents consider antisocial behaviour to be a problem (34.5%), this ranges from just over one quarter in the Eden locality area (27.3%) to two fifths (40.8%) in the Furness locality area. Similarly, residential burglaries are showing a decreasing trend but is still a concern shared by one in three Cumbrian residents (34.1%), ranging from two in five in the Furness locality area (39.6%) to just over one quarter in the Eden locality (28.3%).

Previous Crime and Community Safety Strategic Assessments include data from the Police public consultation survey. Data from the latest survey (Autumn 2023) are not yet available for this assessment.

### 11.2 Antisocial Behaviour

#### 11.2.1 Antisocial Behaviour

*Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Home Office and Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities*

Antisocial behaviour (ASB) takes many forms and includes criminal and non-criminal behaviour. Examples could include:

- threatening, harassing or unruly behaviour such as drunkenness and loitering in public spaces;
- drug use – and the mess and disruption that can go with it;
- vandalism, graffiti, fly-tipping and littering;

- disruptive neighbours consistently playing loud music or letting their dog bark all night. (*Home Office / DLUHC, 2023*)

ASB has a negative impact on communities. Despite often being described as “low-level crime”, existing evidence suggests that ASB can result in a range of negative emotional, behavioural, social, health and financial impacts. These include negative mental health effects, avoidance behaviours and decreased economic productivity. Demographics and personal circumstances were associated with different types of ASB that were likely to be experienced or witnessed. Those living in the most deprived areas were more likely to have experienced or witnessed ASB in the last 12 months compared to those in less deprived areas. Those with long-term physical or mental health conditions were more likely to have experienced or witnessed ASB in the last 12 months compared to those without the same conditions. (*Home Office, 2023*)

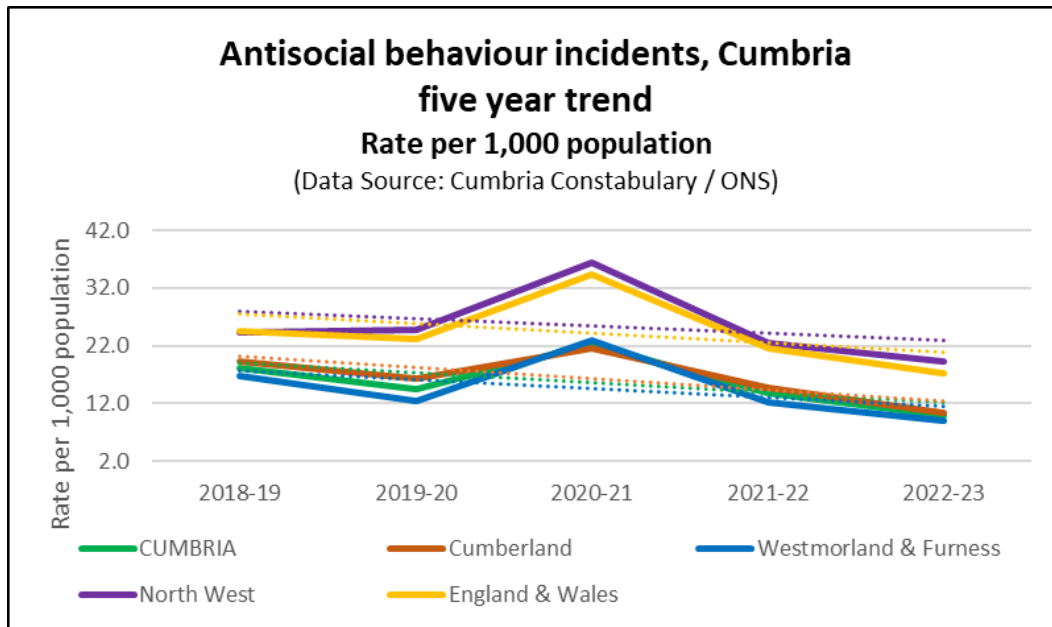
In 2022-23 ASB incidents in Cumbria fell by -28.2% (-1,936 incidents) compared to 2021-22. ASB incidents totalled 4,922 in 2022-23 (2,843 Cumberland; 2,029 Westmorland and Furness). During the COVID-19 pandemic all breaches of COVID-19 regulations were classed as ASB which resulted in an increase in ASB in 2020-21 and potentially some of the incidents in 2021-22.

Overall, the trend over five years is showing a decline in ASB both locally, regionally and nationally, and the ASB rate in Cumbria and its unitary authority areas is lower than that of England and Wales and the North West region. Various interventions have contributed to the decrease in antisocial behaviour incidents in Cumbria, including implementing an antisocial behaviour risk assessment (ASBRA) process and the police force investment in neighbourhood policing. The introduction of 33 new ‘localities’ covering the whole of the county with at least one Community Beat Officer (CBO) and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) dedicated to each area has had a positive impact, an example being Maryport where antisocial behaviour has almost halved since patrols started. Grant funding has also been received in 2022-23 from the Home Office Safer Streets Fund to implement schemes to tackle antisocial behaviour and neighbourhood crime.

Local Focus Hubs have also had a positive impact on antisocial behaviour. Each locality area within Cumbria has a Local Focus Hub, established a number of years ago in Cumberland and more recently in Westmorland and Furness. The Hubs, which are an approved delivery agency on behalf of Safer Cumbria are made up from a range of partners including the police, local authorities, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service, probation, local registered providers of social housing, mental health services, liaison and diversion, third sector agencies and other partners as necessary. The Hubs promote partnership working to prevent antisocial behaviour and crime and disorder, engage with local communities to proactively identify complex problem areas, and tackle issues having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of the local community. Local assessments are made on a monthly basis to identify people and places that are vulnerable to criminal activity and anti-social behaviour, and to agree areas for where intervention is required. The assessment is based on crime and incident data over the past month, as well as any emerging community tensions, other intelligence or significant events.

Examples of issues tackled by the Local Focus Hubs include identifying hardship and signposting to services such as foodbanks, raising awareness of suicide, tackling fly tipping in

the Allerdale locality via Operation Respect, taking a proactive, long term holistic approach to problem solving in supporting victims of antisocial behaviour, identifying and providing support for additional problems to create positive life outcomes. Success has also been seen with a small number of prolific offenders, a group according to the Home Office that despite making up a minority of all offenders were responsible for nearly half of all sentencing occasions in 2021. The multi-agency, proactive and collaborative approach by the Hubs has contributed to the reduction in antisocial behaviour rates in recent years.



However, there are some areas of the county where rates for ASB in 2022-23 were higher than or similar to both the England and Wales rate (17.3 per 1,000) and the North West region rate (19.2 per 1,000). In Cumberland, these were the community panel areas of Carlisle West (19.3 per 1,000) and Petteril (20.3 per 1,000); each of these areas include six communities (LSOAs) within the 20% most deprived in England. The five wards with the highest rates in Cumberland (Castle, Currock, Kells and Sandwith, St Michael's, Harraby North) contain in total nine communities within the 20% most deprived in England. Within Westmorland and Furness the ward with the highest rate for ASB in 2022-23 is Old Barrow and Hindpool (42.6 per 1,000); this ward contains nine communities within the 20% most deprived in England.

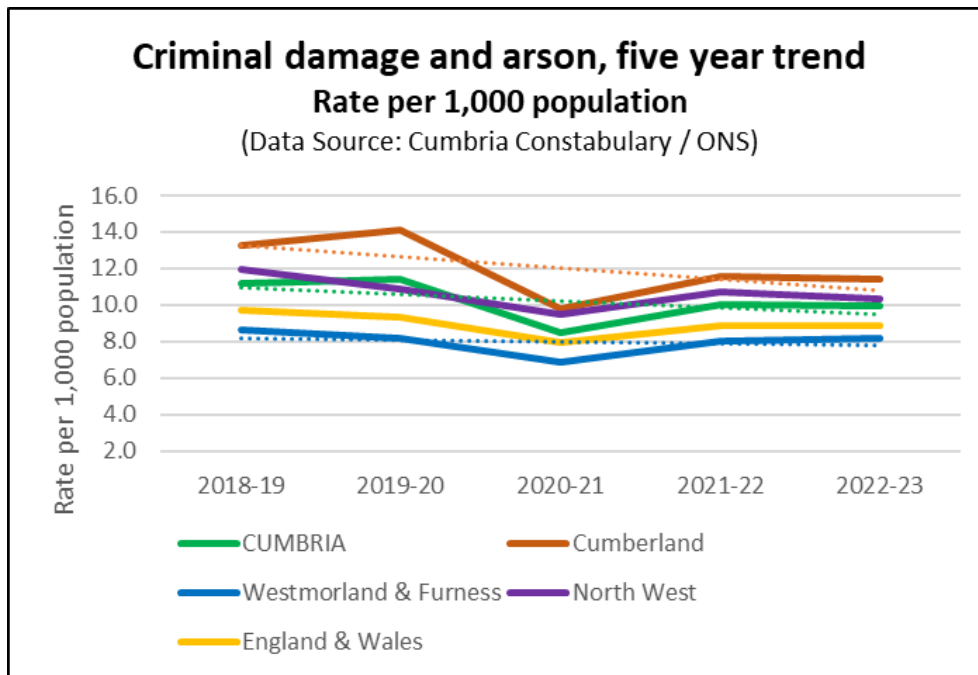
The majority of ASB incidents in 2022-23 (79.3%; 3,905 incidents) were related to nuisance. Approximately one in 18 were related to the environment (5.7%; 279) and one in seven were personal ASB incidents, an incident that deliberately targets an individual or group of people (15.0%; 738).

While antisocial behaviour incidents are decreasing, it remains one of the top five concerns for Cumbrian residents.

### 11.2.2 Criminal damage (including arson)

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Office for National Statistics

Criminal damage results from any person who, without lawful excuse, destroys or damages any property belonging to another. This includes intentional destruction and damage as well as reckless behaviour resulting in destruction or damage (CSEW). Figures for criminal damage, including arson, show an overall decrease over a five year period. Offence rates dipped during the COVID-19 pandemic in line with associated societal restrictions and have not returned to pre-pandemic levels.



Reasons for the continued reduction nationally are unclear. One theory was that it was due to under reporting, but the Crime Survey for England and Wales which is based on interviews with random members of the public rather than raw crime statistics also reports a reduction in criminal damage. It could also be that assets are more protected from vandalism, making them more difficult to destroy or deface, for example bus shelters with reinforced panels. Within Cumbria, the introduction by Cumbria Constabulary of the antisocial behaviour risk assessment (ASBRA) process and the police force investment in neighbourhood policing is likely to have had a positive impact on criminal damage offences. The multi-agency, proactive and collaborative approach by Cumbria's Local Focus Hubs is also likely to have contributed to the reduction in criminal damage offences.

While offences are declining, there were still 4,998 criminal damage (including arson) offences recorded by Cumbria Police in 2022-23 (3,123 Cumberland; 1,865 Westmorland and Furness) and this is likely to have a significant impact on the affected communities. Criminal damage can affect people's quality of life as it damages or destroys things that they need or care about. It can also make people feel less safe, and it can have an economic impact in terms of repairing or replacing items, and potentially higher insurance premiums. Arson offences made up a small proportion of the total in 2022-23 (3.6%; 181).

The overall rate in Cumberland 2022-23 for criminal damage (including arson) is 11.4 per 1,000 population. This is higher than both the North West rate (10.3 per 1000) and the England and Wales rate (8.9 per 1,000). The Carlisle locality has the highest rate at 14.2 per 1,000 equating to 1,564 offences in 2022-23. The Allerdale locality area (9.9 per 1,000) is similar to the regional rate although worse than the national rate. The Copeland locality (9.1 per 1,000) is similar to the national rate but better than the regional rate.

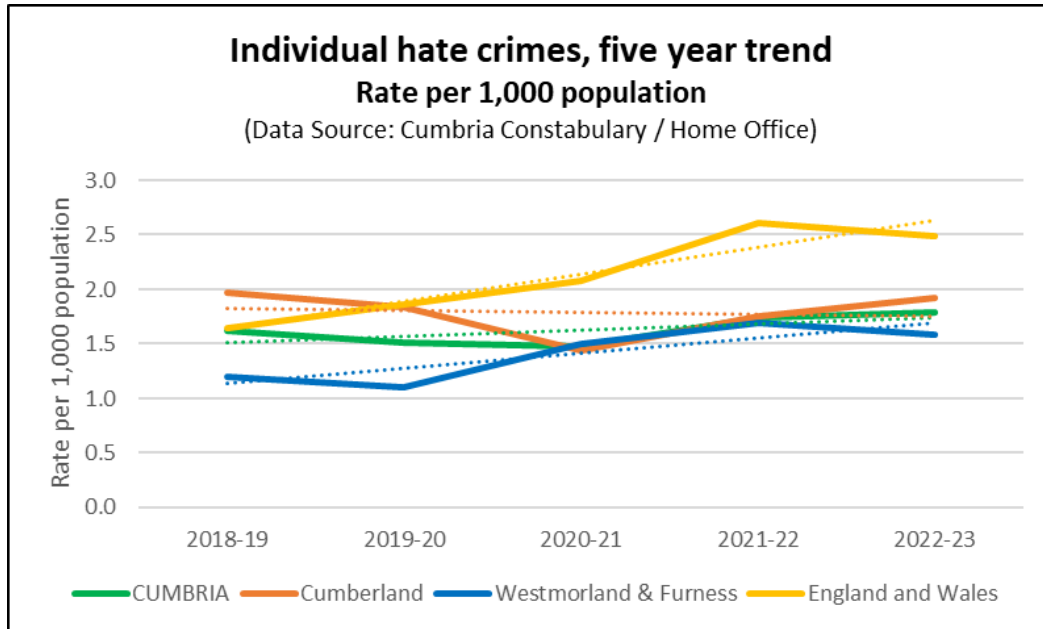
The rate in Westmorland and Furness in 2022-23 for criminal damage (including arson) is 8.2 per 1,000. This is better than the North West (10.3 per 1,000) and England and Wales rate (8.9 per 1,000). However, the rate in the Furness locality (12.1 per 1,000) is worse than both the national and regional rate, and almost double the rates for the Eden locality (6.8 per 1,000) and the South Lakeland locality (6.4 per 1,000). Research by Civitas (2018) suggests that criminal damage is between twice and three times as common per head in deprived areas. The Furness locality area contains 20 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

## 12 Vulnerable People

The following sections cover hate crime, missing from home reports, vulnerable child and adult referrals, and modern slavery.

### 12.1 Hate Crime

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary / Home Office



Hate crime is defined as ‘any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic’. The main categories are based around a person’s actual or perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender. (Home Office, 2023)

Individual hate crimes totalled 898 in Cumbria in 2022-23, an increase of +3.0% (+26 offences) compared to the previous year and shows an overall increase over five years. The increase in recorded hate crime offences are thought to have been driven by improvements in crime recording by the police and better identification of what constitutes a hate crime.

As with the national picture, the majority of hate crimes in Cumbria in 2022-23 were racially motivated, accounting for three fifths of all hate crimes (59.0%; 530). This is an increase of +9.1% (+44 offences) compared to the previous year. However, the proportion of racially motivated crimes in Cumbria is smaller than the national proportion (59% vs 70.0%) and is likely to reflect the smaller proportion of resident population from ethnic minority (including white minority) backgrounds (5.1% in Cumbria compared to 25.6% in England and Wales).

Sexual orientation hate crimes accounted for one fifth of all hate crimes (19.4%; 174) and disability related hate crimes accounted for 16.5% of all offences (148). According to the 2021 Census, 19.8% of the resident population in Cumberland and 18.7% in Westmorland and Furness are considered disabled under the Equality Act; this is a higher proportion than in England and Wales (17.5%).

While the hate crime rate in Cumbria in 2022-23 (1.8 per 1,000 population) is lower than the England and Wales rate (2.5 per 1,000), there are some geographical exceptions. The community panel areas of Carlisle West and Petheril have rates higher than the national average (4.2 and 3.8 per 1,000 respectively). The five wards in Cumberland with the highest hate crime rates contain eight LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England and four have populations from ethnic minority backgrounds that are larger than the Cumbria average (5.1%): these are Castle (17.6%); Currock (16.0%); Kells and Sandwith (5.1%); Keswick (8.9%); Harraby South (8.2%).

Within Westmorland and Furness the hate crime rate in Furness (3.2 per 1,000) is higher than in England and Wales (2.5 per 1,000). Four wards have rates higher than the national average. Between them these wards contain 15 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England and three have populations from ethnic minority backgrounds that are larger than the Cumbria average (5.1%): Old Barrow and Hindpool (7.1%); Kendal Strickland and Fell (10.0%); Risedale and Roosecote (3.8%); Kendal Nether (6.6%).

There is concern nationally about the increase in Antisemitic and Islamophobic hate crimes in the wake of the current Middle East conflict. According to the 2021 Census, Jewish and Muslim populations make up 0.5% of Cumbria's resident population.

## 12.2 Missing From Home

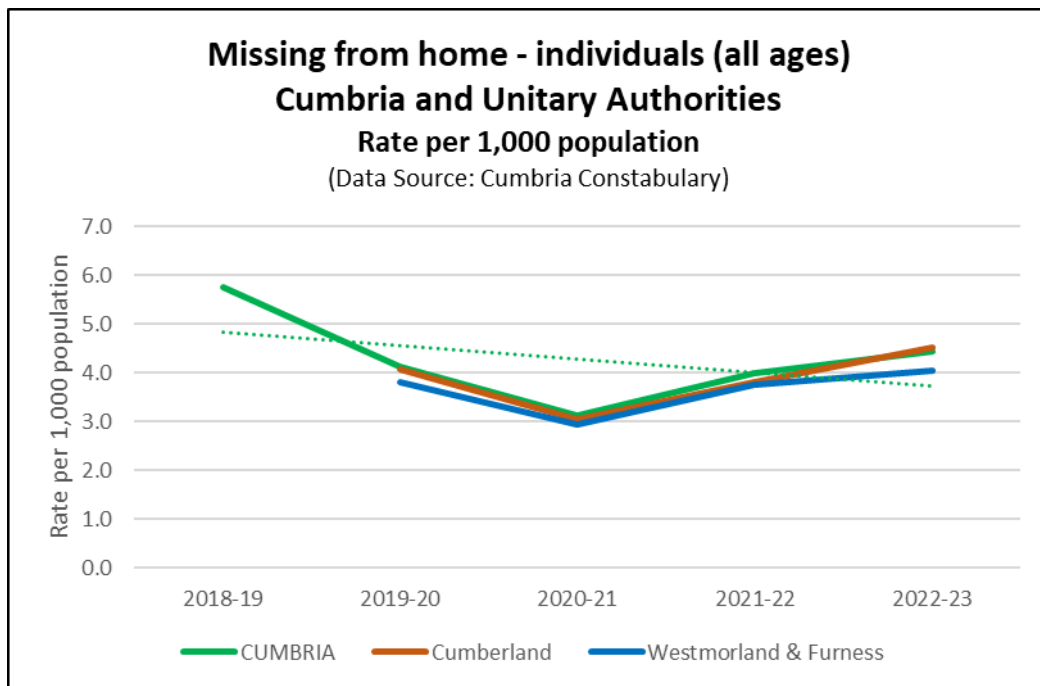
Individuals are missing if their whereabouts cannot be established, or if the circumstances are out of character, or the context suggests the person may be subject to crime or at risk of harm to themselves or another. Children and young people can go missing for a number of reasons. There can be issues in the home or education environment that cause a child or young person significant stress, leading them to believe that their only option to protect themselves is to leave. There can also be circumstances that entice a child or young person to leave their home or education environment, such as criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation or peer pressure. Children and young people who are missing may be in serious danger and are vulnerable to crime, abuse, sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, abduction, radicalisation and missing education. According to the Department for Education, looked after children are more likely to go missing; the perceived lack of control over their lives and lack of involvement in key decision making can lead to them running away to re-establish some control. (*Safeguarding Network, 2023*)

For adults, some of the most common reasons to go missing are: diagnosed or undiagnosed mental health issues; problems at home and relationship breakdown; many adults with dementia will go missing. (*Missing People, 2023*)

During 2022-23 the number of missing person reports (all ages) received by Cumbria Constabulary totalled 3,837 (2,005 Cumberland; 1,741 Westmorland and Furness), a rate of 7.7 per 1,000 population. Data for England and Wales for 2022-23 are not yet available, but missing person reports in Cumbria have been higher than the national rate over the last four years. The reason for this is unknown. Missing person reports show an increasing trend, and another slight increase in 2022-23 compared to the previous year (+1.8%; +68 reports). However, there are differences between the Unitary Authority areas, with the number of missing person reports in 2022-23 increasing by +10.5% (+190 reports) in Cumberland, and

decreasing by -4.3% (-78 reports) in Westmorland and Furness compared to the previous year.

A person may go missing more than once, and therefore the number of missing person reports will be higher than the number of individuals. During 2022-23 the number of missing individuals (all ages) totalled 2,220 (1,240 Cumberland; 918 Westmorland and Furness). While the five year trend in Cumbria shows a decrease in the number of missing individuals, there has been an increase in 2022-23 compared to the previous year of +11.3% (+226 individuals). This increase is more marked in Cumberland (+18.7%; +195) compared to Westmorland and Furness (+7.9%; +67).



Across the county, just over two fifths of missing individuals were aged under 18 years (42.8%; 951 individuals under 18 years); 524 of these were in Cumberland, and 397 in Westmorland and Furness, the geographical location of the remaining 30 is unknown. The number of missing individuals under 18 years has increased by +16.0% (+131) across Cumbria, with the largest increases in the Allerdale and Carlisle locality areas (+46.4%, +56 and +33.2%, +65 respectively). During 2022-23 demand decreased in relation to children missing from care homes and from foster care placements. The reason for the overall increase in the number of missing children is unclear.

### 12.3 Vulnerable Child and Adult Referrals

Data source: Cumbria Constabulary

Vulnerable child and adult referral data prior to 2019-20 are not comparable as a result in changes to recording practices. It is not considered reliable to look at trend data over a shorter period of time as referral data were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic period. While the pandemic had limited impact on vulnerable adult referrals, the impact on vulnerable child referrals was greater due to limited reports coming through from schools.

Vulnerable adult referrals (people at risk of abuse or neglect because of their needs for care and support) totalled 5,684 in 2022-23, a decrease of -9.1% (-569) compared to the previous year and a rate of 13.8 per 1,000 population aged 18+ years. As an adult can be referred more than once during a 12 month period, the number of individuals is lower than the number of referrals. 5,168 individuals were the subject of vulnerable adult referrals in 2022-23, a decrease of -6.3% (-349 individuals) compared to the previous year. This may not represent a reliable decrease in the volume of vulnerable adults as the full impact of the pandemic, while thought to be limited, is unknown. As a large number of vulnerable adult referrals are not allocated to a locality area, it is not accurate to calculate totals and rates by unitary authority or locality area. National data are not available for comparison.

Vulnerable child referrals totalled 7,720 in 2022-23, a decrease of -10.0% (-856 referrals) compared to the previous year. This is a rate of 85.4 per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years. A child may be referred more than once during a 12 month period, and therefore the number of individuals will be fewer than the number of referrals. Individuals totalled 7,608 in 2022-23, a decrease of -8.1% (-667 individuals). However, this may not represent an actual decrease in the volume of vulnerable child referrals and individuals as the full extent of the impact of the pandemic is unknown. As there are a large number of vulnerable child referrals and vulnerable child individuals in 2022-23 where the locality area is unknown, it is not accurate to calculate totals and rates by unitary authority or locality area. National data are not available for comparison.

## 12.4 Modern Slavery

*Data Source: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify Statistics (Q1 2023)*

Modern slavery can take many forms, such as the trafficking of people, forced labour, servitude and slavery. *Anti-Slavery International* provide the following definition:

*“When an individual is exploited by others, for personal or commercial gain. Whether tricked, coerced or forced, they lose their freedom.”*

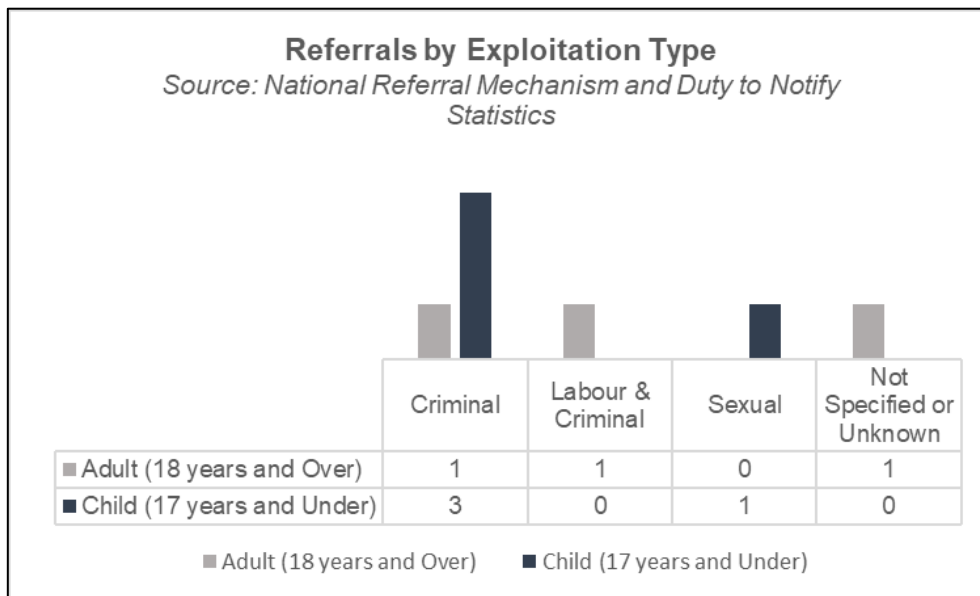
(Anti-Slavery International 2023)

The information covered in this section refers to potential victims of modern slavery referred into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). The NRM is a framework for identifying potential victims and ensuring they receive appropriate support. Individuals may not always be aware that they are being trafficked or exploited and could have consented to some parts of their exploitation.

The latest available information (April 2023-June 2023) shows that there were 12 referrals via the NRM where Cumbria Constabulary are the responsible police force for the associated investigations:

<b>Number of Modern Slavery Referrals (April 2023-June 2023)</b>				
<i>Data Source: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify Statistics, Table 8)</i>				
	<b>Adult (over 18 years old)</b>	<b>Child (17 years old or under)</b>	<b>Not Specified or Unknown</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cumbria	5	6	1	<b>12</b>
England	1,827	1,562	184	<b>3,573</b>

The referrals of possible modern slavery victims in Cumbria equates to 0.33% of all referrals made in England during the period 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023. For the referrals where Cumbria Constabulary has been the 'First Responder' (7), it is possible to break the information down by exploitation type. Please note it is not possible to determine the exploitation type for the referrals where Cumbria Constabulary was not the First Responder. It is for this reason that the figures shown in the following bar chart do not total 12.



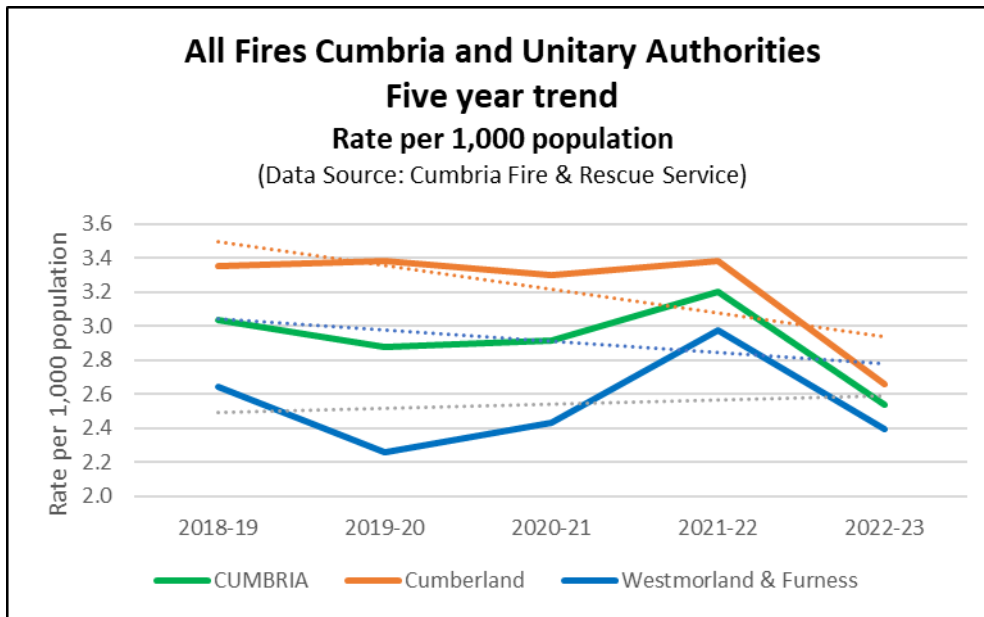
For information relating to age, gender and Nationality of victims (where Cumbria Constabulary was the First Responder), please refer to the following table:

<b>Gender and Nationality of Modern Slavery Victims (where Cumbria Constabulary is First Responder). April 2023- June 2023.</b>						
<i>Data Source: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify Statistics, Table 14)</i>						
Exploitation Type	Age at exploitation	Gender	Nationality			Total
			Albanian	UK	Vietnamese	
<b>Total</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Criminal</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
	Adult (18 or over)		1	0	0	1
		Male	1	0	0	1
	Child (17 or under)		0	3	0	3
		Male	0	3	0	3
<b>Labour &amp; Criminal</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
	Adult (18 or over)		0	0	1	1
		Male	0	0	1	1
<b>Not specified or unknown</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
	Adult (18 or over)		0	0	1	1
		Male	0	0	1	1
<b>Sexual</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
	Child (17 or under)		0	1	0	1
		Female	0	1	0	1

### 13 Fire Safety

Data source: Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service

All fires and deliberate fires saw an overall increase in 2021-22 before a subsequent drop in 2022-23 to levels last seen in 2016-17. The easing of COVID-19 lockdown restrictions is considered a factor in the 2021-22 increase. Although lockdown restrictions were lifted people were unable to travel globally resulting in larger than usual numbers of tourists visiting Cumbria.



Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service recorded 1,271 fires in 2022-23, a rate of 2.5 per 1,000 population across the county. The rates were higher than the county average in the community panel Areas of Workington Together (4.2 per 1,000 population), Carlisle West (3.8 per 1,000) and Petteril (3.3 per 1,000) and in the locality area of Furness in Westmorland and Furness (3.2 per 1,000).

Research by Liverpool John Moores University (2022) indicate that deprived areas typically have a higher risk of accidental dwelling fires and fire related injuries. This higher risk appears to be illustrated in Cumbria. Within Cumberland the five wards with the highest rates for all fires all contain communities (Lower Super Output Areas) that are within the 20% most deprived within England; these wards are Castle (7.4 per 1,000), Seaton (6.9), Belle Vue (4.9), Moss Bay and Moorclose (4.3), Longtown (4.2) and between them cover 10 LSOAs within the most deprived in England. Deliberate fires are highest in the wards of Seaton (4.6 per 1,000), Castle (3.7), Belle Vue (3.4), Moss Bay and Moorclose (2.9), Harraby South (2.7), again covering 10 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

In Westmorland and Furness, Old Barrow and Hindpool Ward has the highest rate for all fires (6.0 per 1,000 population); this ward covers nine LSOAs within the most deprived in England. Deliberate fires are highest in the wards of Old Barrow and Hindpool (2.8), Risedale and Roosecote (1.8), Walney Island (1.6), Coniston and Hawkshead (1.3), Ormsgill and Parkside (1.2). Four of these wards cover 19 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived in England.

While the rate of fires and deliberate fires in Cumbria is showing a decrease over the last 12 months, the longer term five year trend in Westmorland and Furness is showing a slight increase although retaining rates lower than the Cumbria average.

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[accessed: November 2023]

## 15 Useful Links and Supporting Information

College of Policing and the National Police Chiefs' Council (2022)  
Police Race Action Plan. The plan aims to address: disparities affecting Black people; lower levels of trust and confidence in the police among some Black people.  
<https://assets.college.police.uk/s3fs-public/Police-Race-Action-Plan.pdf>

Cumbria County Council (2022)  
Cumbria Drug and Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment  
<https://cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/536/671/4674/17217/17226/44985152658.pdf>

Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment for Cumberland Council, September 2023  
<https://cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/536/671/4674/17217/17222/45191141037.pdf>

Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment for Westmorland and Furness Council, September 2023  
<https://cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/536/671/4674/17217/17222/45191141410.pdf>

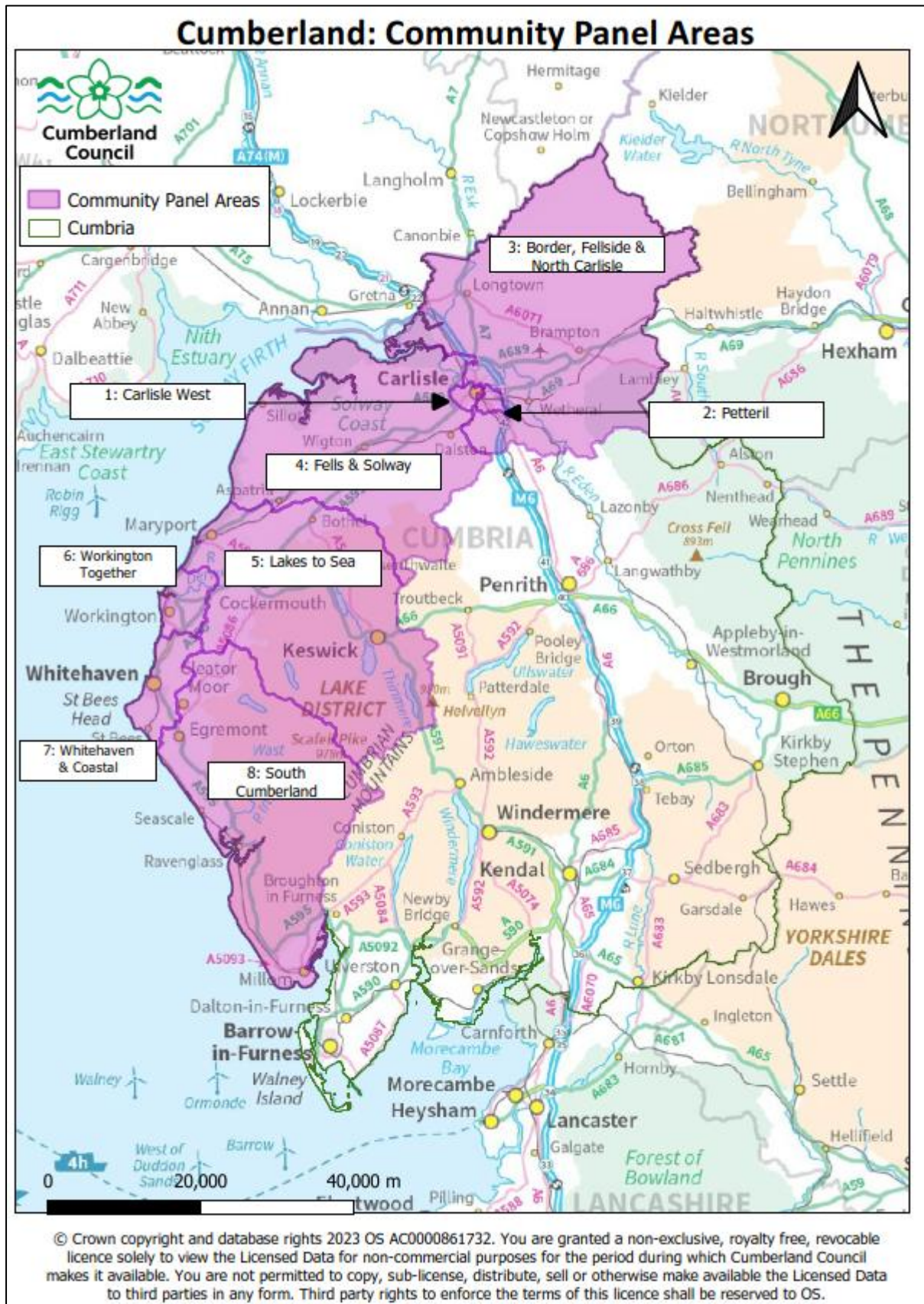
Office for National Statistics dashboards  
Dashboards relating to Violence Against Women and Girls: domestic abuse; sexual offences; stalking and harassment; honour-based abuse; sexual exploitation; child abuse.  
<https://vawg.gss-data.org.uk/dashboards/>

University of Leeds (2022)  
[Understanding the Geospatial and Contextual Patterns of Rural Domestic Abuse](#)  
The recommendations from the University of Leeds report and how these are aligned to Cumbria's domestic abuse action plan can be accessed via the following link: [STAR report recommendations alignment](#)

## 16 Acronyms

ASB	Antisocial behaviour
ASBRA	Antisocial Behaviour Risk Assessment
CBO	Community Beat Officer
CFOS	Child First Offender Second
CFRS	Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service
CLCRC	Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Service
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSEW	Crime Survey for England and Wales
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
DSR	Directly Standardised Rate
FTE	First Time Entrant
GPS	Global Positioning Systems
GVA	Gross Value Added
IDSVA	Independent Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocate
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation
ISVA	Independent Sexual Violence Advisers
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
LGBTQ	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (or questioning)
LJMU	Liverpool John Moores University
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MoRiLE	Management of Risk in Law Enforcement
NCRS	National Crime Recording Standard
NDTMS	National Drug Treatment Monitoring System
NFU	National Farmers Union
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NPS	National Probation Service
NRM	National Referral Mechanism
OCG	Organised Crime Group
OHID	Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls

## Appendix 1 – Community Panel Map



## Appendix 2 – Supporting Data

Appendix 2 contains additional data tables and charts linked to this assessment. It is a separate document that can be accessed here:

<https://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Community-Safety-CCSSA-Cumbria-2023-Appendix-2.pdf>