



**AVON &
SOMERSET**
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER

Performance Report

Quarter ending June 2024 (Q1 2024/25)

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

Action Fraud – is the UK’s national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where victims should report fraud if they have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber crime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

ASP – Avon and Somerset Police

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

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

CPS – [Crown Prosecution Service](#).

Cyber dependent crime – these are offences that can only be committed using a computer, computer networks or other form of information communications technology.

Domestic abuse – [is where a person is abusive towards another, they are personally connected and are 16 years of age or older.](#)

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

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

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

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

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

RASSO – rape and serious sexual offences.

SARA – scanning, analysis, response, assessment – a model of problem solving.

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

SOC – Serious and Organised Crime

Stop and search positive outcomes – in addition to crime positive outcomes (charge/summons or out of court disposal), this also includes arrest, voluntary attendance, drugs warnings and seizure of items.

National Police and Crime Measures

(Priorities for Policing)

Contribution of Avon and Somerset Police

Reduce Murder and Other Homicide

Measures Summary

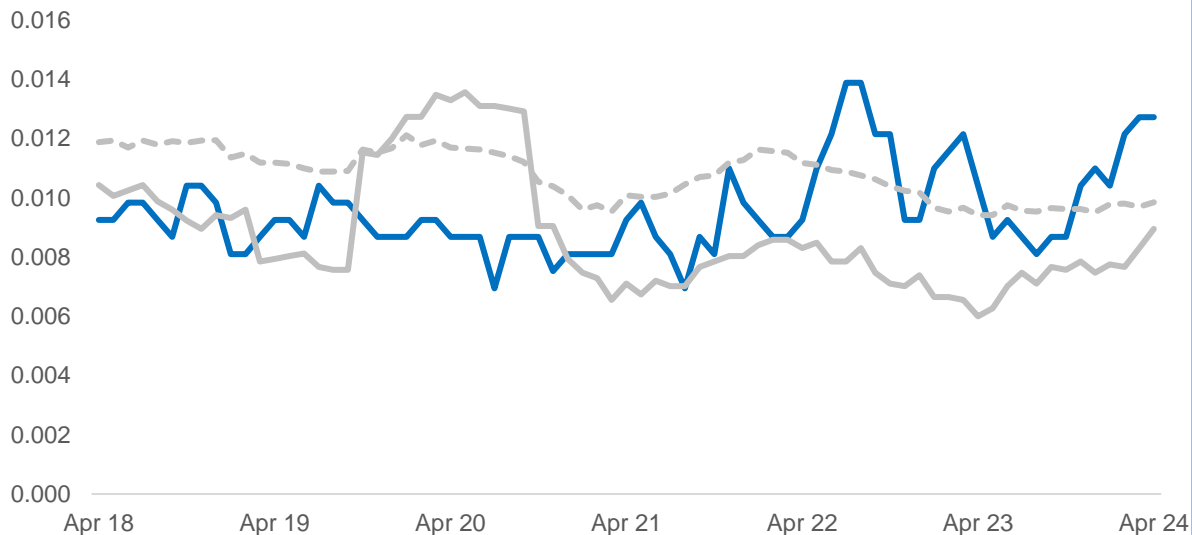
Local Measures	Trend / Outlook	Benchmark
Police recorded Homicide offences	Stable	7th/8 MSG (above MSG average rates)

Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Strategic Homicide Suppression Plan in place based on the 4Ps of prepare, prevent, protect, pursue.
2. ASP conduct Homicide Prevention Reviews following the national framework. A governance structure has been implemented around these to ensure outcomes are captured and actions progressed. This will identify rapid learning for ASP and partners from a prevention perspective.
3. The actions described below, in relation to serious violence, should also help prevent homicide.

Homicide - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents

— Avon & Somerset — MSG - - - National



Comments

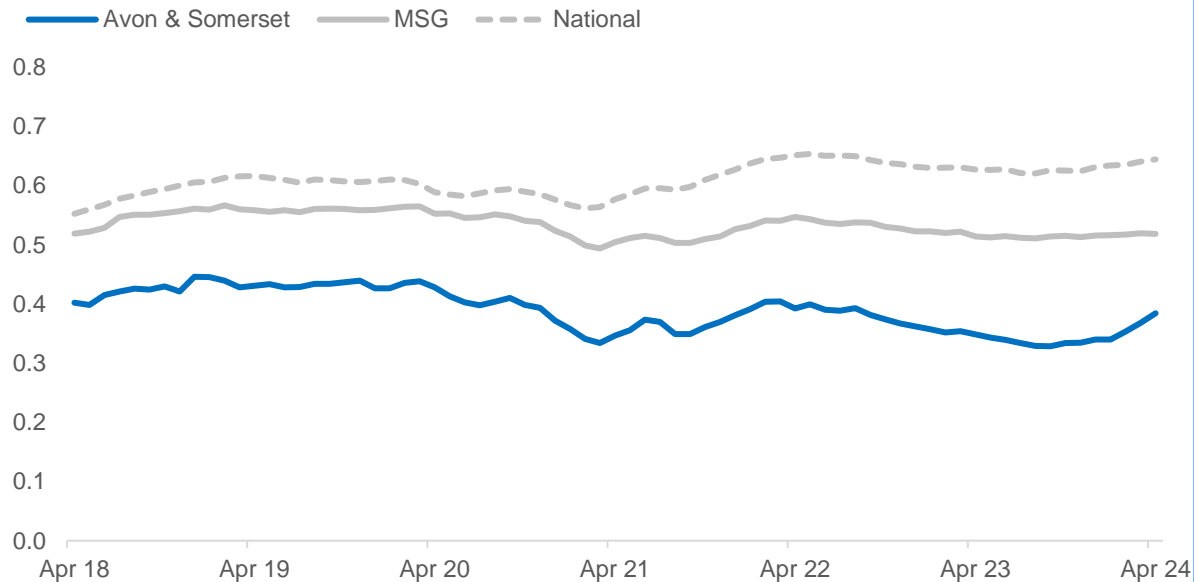
1. Over the last 6 years there were on average 1.4 homicides a month in Avon & Somerset. In the first three months of 2024 there were 10 homicides. One tragic incident period saw the death of three children in an isolated incident within a family.

Reduce Serious Violence

Measures Summary

Local Measures	Trend / Outlook	Benchmark
Police recorded serious violence offences	Reducing	4th/8 MSG (below MSG average rates)

Serious Violence - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents



Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Publication of a new local SOC strategy and strategic intent document following the release of a new Government strategy, due in October 2024.
2. Training for Lead Responsible Officers and Intelligence Managers for the identification and assessment of Organised Crime Groups.
3. Ongoing work with Bristol Safer Options team who link in with VRP and the most vulnerable SOC offenders in East Bristol.
4. Developing use of Serious Crime Prevention Orders including the process to allow for greater visibility and management of the orders.
5. As part of ASC Bleed kit partnership, we will be making 24hrs Public access catastrophic bleed kits to 550 -700 sites installed by the end of 2024.
6. Investment in community consequences-based young person training – to be delivered via agreed pathways by our Early Intervention Team once a partnership is agreed.
7. Further development of our force habitual knife carrier data and how local teams can pursue/prevent offending.

Comments

1. ASP benchmark well against the MSG group of forces, based on rates of serious violence per 1,000 residents.

Disrupt Drugs Supply and County Lines

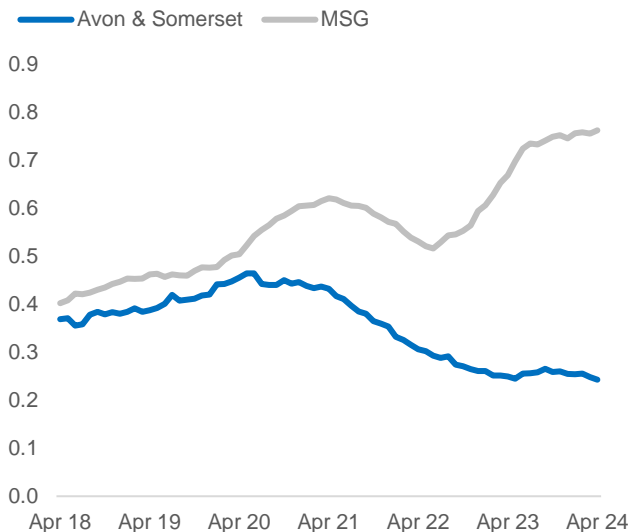
Measures Summary

Local Measures	Trend / Outlook	Benchmark
Number of drug trafficking offences	Reducing	8th/8 MSG (below MSG average rates)
Number of all drugs disruptions	Stable	Not available
Number of county lines disruptions	Stable	Not available

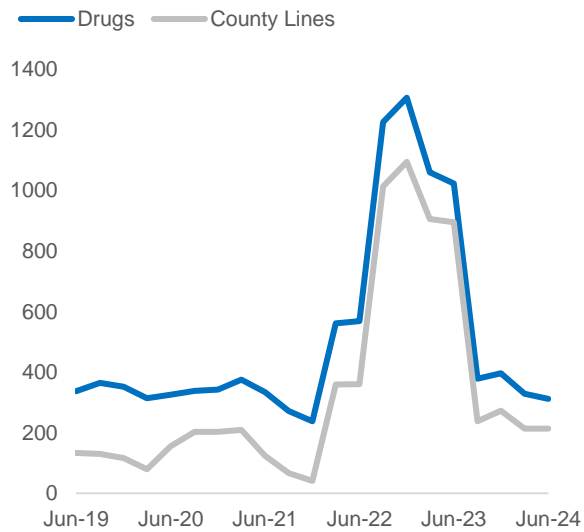
Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. ASP are running additional training for officers including the Children's Society training on exploitation. This aims to change the mindset to County Lines, recognising the vulnerability of people involved and taking a partnership approach to solving the issues.
2. The Op Remedy County Lines team have built a good reputation nationally by targeting and taking positive action against offenders, this includes obtaining Slavery Trafficking Prevention Orders. These relationships have resulted in better intelligence sharing and as a result multiple drugs lines being taken out at source. ASC will continue to work interdepartmentally, with other police services and with partner agencies, to identify areas of concern in order to identify and target line owners.
3. Finalisation of an Operational Inclusion document for partner agencies that will allow for more timely information sharing of proactive jobs and pre-planning of resources – being led by Somerset County Council.

Drug Trafficking Crime - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents



Drugs and County Lines Disruptions - 12 Month Rolling Rates



Comments

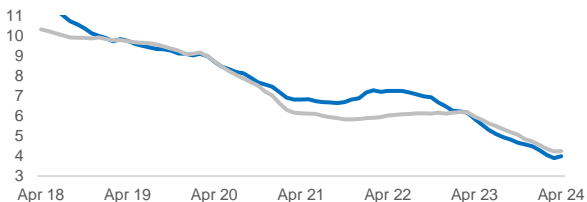
1. The force has a lower rate of drug trafficking offences per 1000 residents, compared to the MSG forces. This may indicate less proactive identification of the offending, however ASP also think that a problem in the process of how they record drug crimes is leading to the lower rates.

Reduce Neighbourhood Crime

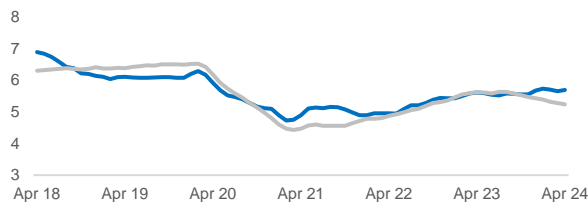
Measures Summary

Local Measures	Trend / Outlook	Benchmark
Police recorded residential burglary offences	Reducing	3rd/8 MSG (similar to MSG average rate)
Police recorded vehicle crime offences	Stable	6th/8 MSG (higher than MSG average rate)
Police recorded personal robbery offences	Stable	8th/8 MSG (higher than MSG average rate)
Police recorded theft from the person offences	Stable	2nd/8 MSG (similar to MSG average rate)

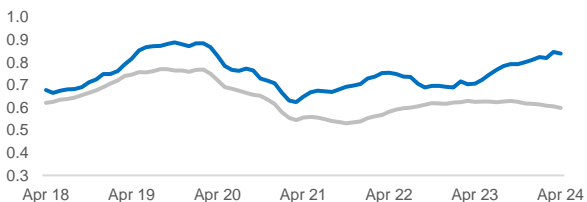
Residential Burglary - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Households



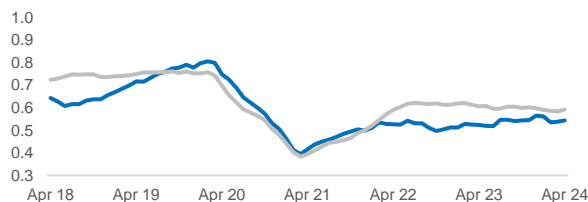
Vehicle Offences - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents



Personal Robbery - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents



Theft from the person - 12 Month Rolling Rates per 1000 Residents



Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. The new burglary lead held a workshop mapping the journey of a burglary to identify opportunities for improvement, this will inform a final version of the 4Ps plan. This will be accompanied by a strategic problem-solving plan (utilising the SARA model) and a dashboard to track progress and performance.
2. Development of a 4P plan for vehicle crime. There are links with burglary and recent proactive operations have tackled keyless thefts and dwelling burglaries, where vehicles are stolen. Proactive work will continue in 2024.
3. There is correlation between youth violence, gang affiliation and weapons enabled robbery our ongoing work within Op Hardy and with partners is directed at disrupting and deterring young people committing robberies.
4. Neighbourhood policing and Integrated Offender Management are working together to target harden hotspots and to disrupt and deter offenders of business robbery.
5. A cohort of SPOCS is being developed to drive improved investigative standards and the early identification of trends, methods of operation (MO) and prolific offenders.

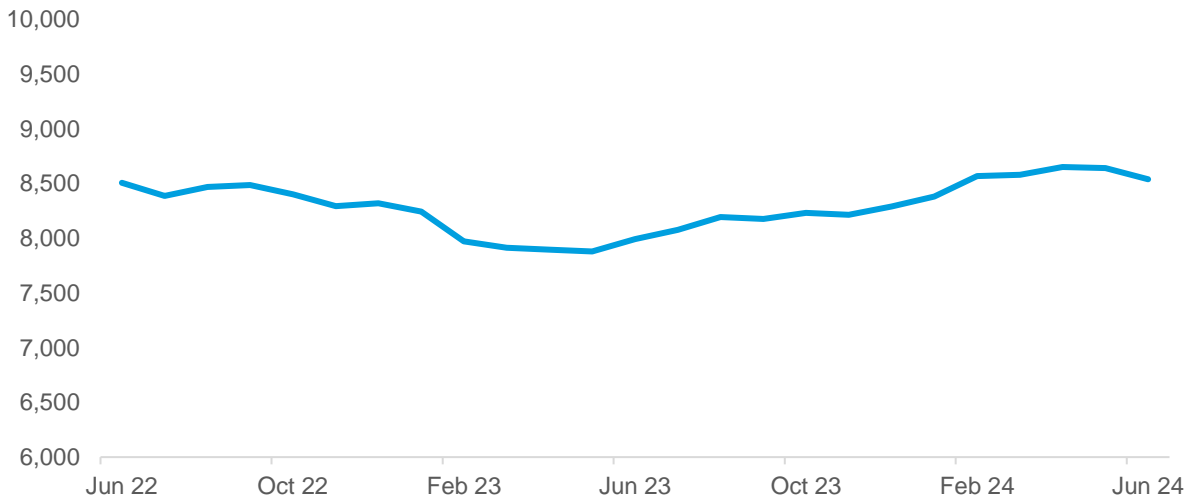
Comments

1. Recorded neighbourhood crimes saw large reductions during the COVID-19 lockdown periods with the exception of robbery which remained more stable. However, since then neighbourhood crime has been increasing, with the exception of burglary.

Measures Summary

Local Measures	Trend / Outlook	Benchmark
Investigate 100% of all cyber dependant crime disseminated to forces	Stable (100%)	Not available
Provide 100% of all cyber dependant crime victims with specialist advice	Stable (100%)	Not available
Action Fraud Offences	Stable	Not available

Action Fraud offences disseminated to Avon and Somerset Police - 12 Month Rolling



Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Promotion of fraud-awareness, linking to national campaigns, to increase public understanding of offending methods and to deliver appropriate crime prevention advice. This includes the use of the Cyber Escape Room experience.
2. Engagement in the launch of a national database of Cyber volunteers (ASSEMBLE) to ensure that specialist skills are available across policing. This includes the recent recruitment of Fraud volunteers with specific industry expertise.
3. Running a Cryptocurrency 6-month project to understand demand, knowledge and technical expertise requirements as well as focussing on the new powers contained in the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 giving enhanced ability to seize cryptocurrency believed to be the proceeds of crime or to be used to facilitate crime.
4. ASP will be a pilot an App to guide front line officers through forensic extraction of digital data using the most appropriate methods.
5. Recruit Digital Media Advisor to provide specialist knowledge and advice around all investigations.
6. Regional collaboration to prepare for and ensure compliance with ISO standards and new Forensic Science Regulator's Code of Practice.

Comments

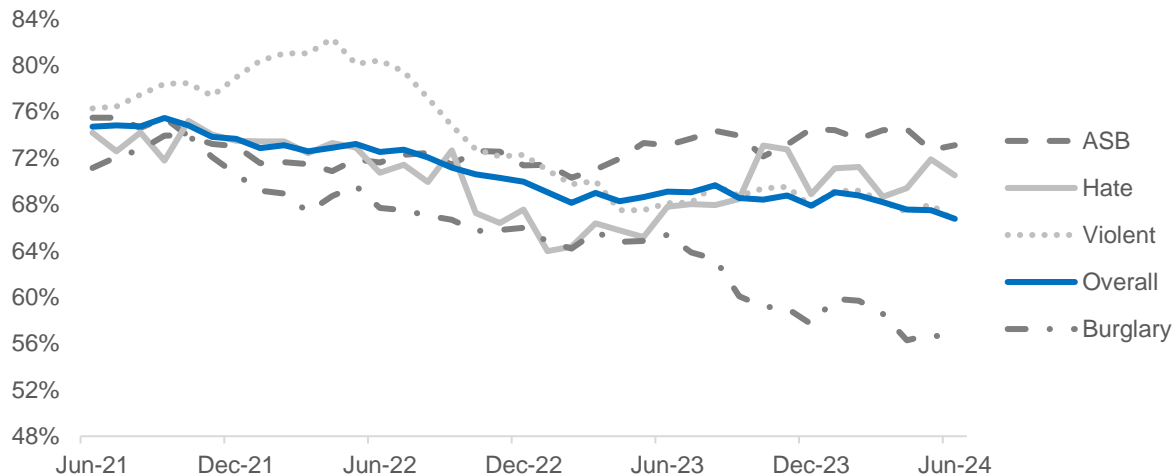
1. There is no local measure for the national focus on 'Confidence in the law enforcement response to cyber crime' and 'the percentage of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack'.

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

Measures Summary

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

Victim Satisfaction - 12 Month Rolling Rate



Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. Operation Soteria Bluestone (see below slide) will support victims of domestic abuse-related RASSO.
2. Improve the management, monitoring and enforcement of all protective orders, including Domestic Violence Protection Orders, Non-Molestation and Restraining Orders.
3. Additional staff have been moved to support the processing of Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme to reduce backlogs and deal with the 200% increase in demand over the last two years.
4. Learning from joint NFA (no further action) Panel to be discussed and actioned. This panel is attended by ASP leads for RASSO, DA and Stalking, along with the CPS and Independent Sexual/Domestic Violence Advisors (ISVAs/IDVAs).
5. Funding has been agreed for a further four Independent Stalking Advisory Caseworkers to support victims.
6. Co-locating ISVAs in police premises to enable closer working with police and improved victim services.

Comments

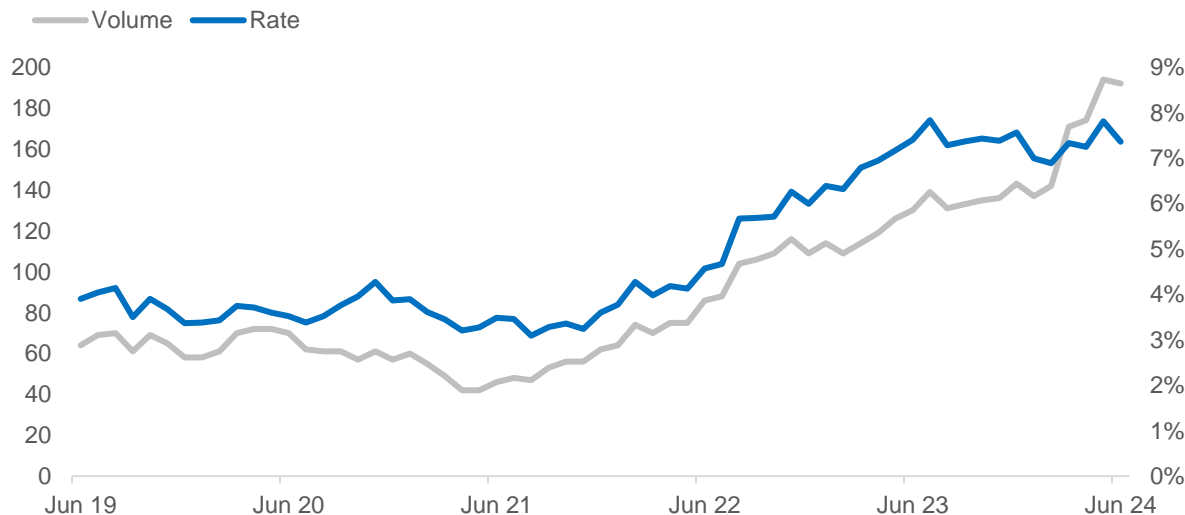
1. Dwelling burglary shows higher satisfaction levels than all burglary (78% vs 43%).
2. There is no existing domestic abuse victim satisfaction survey currently in place in Avon and Somerset.

Better Criminal Justice Outcomes for Rape Cases

Measures Summary

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

Rape - Charge & Summons Volume and Rate - 12 Month Rolling



Planned Action to Drive Performance

1. The continued ways of working in line with Operation Soteria Bluestone model for rape and serious sexual offences (RASSO). Updated RASSO Investigative Skills Development Programme accreditation. ASP are sending representatives to the "train the trainer events" later this month, with first delivery of this updated course to Bluestone investigators in November.
2. The NPCC Soteria team has provided feedback on ASP's self-assessment with suggested improvements which will be explored around working with the CPS and court backlogs.
3. Development of the RASSO Problem Profile has started applying the national Soteria guidance.

Comments

1. There has been a sustained improvement in the number and volume of charge and summons since the end of 2021. This is directly attributable to Project Bluestone.
2. There has been a recent increase in the volume of rape offences recorded and finalised by ASP – this is attributable to improved crime recording. The effect of this is that an increase in charges does not equate to an increase in rate. In the year ending June 2023 130 charges was a rate of 7.4% whereas the most recent year had 192 charges and the same rate of 7.4%.