



**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date Monday 26 June 2023
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 1A/1B, County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

**Items which are open to the Public and Press
Members of the public can ask questions with the Chair's agreement,
and if registered to speak.**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held 18 April 2023 (Pages 3 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Fire Home Safety Update: (Pages 11 - 24)
 - (i) Report of the Corporate Director of Resources.
 - (ii) Presentation by Keith Carruthers, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service.
7. Nuisance Off Road Motor Bikes and Quads: (Pages 25 - 40)
Presentation by Nicola Bowman, Casualty Reduction Co-Ordinator,
Durham Constabulary.

8. Safe Durham Partnership ASB Strategic Group Update:
(Pages 41 - 72)
Report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change, presented by Joanne Waller, Head of Community Protection Services.
9. Quarter Four Performance Management Report: (Pages 73 - 88)
Report of the Chief Executive, presented by Tom Gorman, Corporate Scrutiny and Strategy Manager.
10. Refresh of Work Programme 2023-24 for the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee: (Pages 89 - 102)
Report of the Corporate Director of Resources, presented by Stephen Gwilym, Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer.
11. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Helen Lynch

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
16 June 2023

To: The Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor P Heaviside (Chair)
Councillor J Charlton (Vice-Chair)

Councillors V Andrews, P Atkinson, D Boyes, R Crute, L Fenwick, C Hampson, K Hawley, N Jones, C Lines, D McKenna, L Maddison, E Mavin, J Miller, D Nicholls, R Potts, J Quinn, A Simpson, A Sterling and D Sutton-Lloyd

Co-opted Members: Mr D Balls and Mrs A Paterson

Co-opted Employees/Officers: Chief Fire Officer S Helps, Chief Superintendent R Allen and Superintendent L Gosling

Contact: Martin Tindle

Tel: 03000 269 713

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of **Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Tuesday 18 April 2023** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor J Charlton (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors P Heaviside, V Andrews, P Atkinson, D Boyes, J Cairns, C Hampson, C Lines, D McKenna, C Martin, E Mavin, D Nicholls, D Oliver, J Quinn, A Reed, A Simpson, D Sutton-Lloyd and C Varty (substitute for J Miller)

Co-opted Employees/Officers:

Chief Fire Officer S Helps, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service and Chief Inspector V Martin, Durham Constabulary.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Fenwick, M McGaun, J Miller, A Reed and M Wilson and from co-opted member D Balls and Superintendent L Gosling.

2 Substitute Members

Councillor L Hovvels as substitute Member for Councillor M Wilson and Councillor C Varty as substitute Member for Councillor J Miller.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2023 were confirmed by the Committee as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

The Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred to minute number 6 and confirmed that the comments made by the Committee in respect of County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service's Community Risk Management Plan had been sent to the Chief Fire Officer as the Committee's formal response to the consultation.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties

There were no items from Co-opted Members or interested Parties.

6 Road Safety Update

The Committee received a presentation from Angela Redmond, Road Safety Manager which provided an update in respect of road casualty performance in 2021 and 2022, provided an update of child casualties in County Durham and highlighted current initiatives and outline objectives moving forward (for copy of slides see file of Minutes).

The Road Safety Manager referenced road casualty statistics for County Durham for the period 2018-2022 together with average statistics for the period 2010-2014. Whilst stating that the data summary appeared to show a positive downward trend, there were still unacceptable numbers of killed or seriously injured people which has remained static. In considering the summary data for 2022, members noted a 2% reduction in injuries across all categories whilst remaining concerned that serious injuries and fatalities had increased slightly.

Members were advised that considering year on year trends across County Durham, injuries tended to occur around the main urban centres including Durham City, Peterlee, Chester-le-Street, Consett, Stanley, Bishop Auckland and Newton Aycliffe. The presentation contained heat maps which provided a visual representation of these statistics across County Durham.

The main age groups for casualties remained 16 to 30 year olds with car occupants the largest category by some way. In respect of causation factors and the fatal 4 the highest remained failure to look (46%); speeding (15%) and drink/drug driving (14%).

Members were provided with details of the education undertaken with schools to promote safer and considerate parking messages to parents and carers as well as encouraging active school journeys. This frequently involved supporting pupils to leaflet drop the areas around their schools in order to raise awareness of the concerns. Reference was also made to the launch of the DCC road safety team Facebook page which offered an opportunity to utilise social media to promote the wide range of road safety activity undertaken by the road safety team as well as promoting road safety messages from partner agencies within the County Durham and Darlington Casualty Road Safety Partnership.

The Road Safety Manager concluded her presentation by reporting upon the enforcement activity and engineering works which aimed to contribute to road safety and reduce road casualties.

Cllr Hovvells thanked the Road Safety Manager for her presentation and suggested that as part of the ongoing engineering works, the council should examine road markings in key areas particularly around junctions and schools which may need upgrading or repainting. She also referenced the “mini police” initiative involving young pupils at Wheatley Hill School who assisted in monitoring car parking/traffic issues in the locality and suggested this initiative could be considered for roll out elsewhere in the county. The Road Safety Manager reported that this initiative was part of the safer schools project which was being extended in Newton Aycliffe to introduce a “walking bubble” within a 400 metre radius of a local school.

Cllr Hovvells also asked about the role of traffic enforcement officers and whether it was possible to have a heat map indicating where they were operating. The Road Safety Team leader indicated that he would examine the availability of this information and report back to committee in due course.

Cllr Boyes expressed concern regarding the content of the report and presentation. He suggested that this painted a much more positive picture than that which he experienced in his employment. He suggested that driving habits had deteriorated since the absence of traffic volumes during the COVID-19 pandemic. He had sent dash Cam footage for a number of incidents which he had experienced around bad driving.

Cllr Mavin referenced information within the presentation around speeding and enquired whether the council was considering extending the 20mph zones in towns and villages including around schools. The Road Safety Manager indicated that that initiative had been time limited and dependent on resource availability.

Cllr Martin asked if traffic enforcement officers were issuing fines to motorists to deter parking around schools. He also asked if any comparative data for road casualties was available for neighbouring local authorities to allow benchmarking to be undertaken. The Road Safety Team leader indicated that detailed data was available through Durham insight which would allow members to drill down and examine statistics in their electoral divisions.

Cllr Lines suggested that a societal change was needed to encourage a reduction in car usage in towns and villages particularly for short journeys. He referenced a wide range of initiatives that the council was promoting in respect of active travel.

Cllr Oliver suggested that the density and increase in town and villages sizes nationally appeared to result in the introduction of more 30/20mph zones but that this practice appeared not to be replicated in County Durham. The Road Safety Manager indicated that this was a matter for the strategic traffic management team to give consideration to as it required a step change in road infrastructure which would have to be undertaken within legislative parameters.

In view of the concerns raised by members around 20mph speed limits and the 20's plenty initiative, the Chair suggested that consideration be given to an informal briefing session on the subject as part of the 2023/24 Work Programme.

Resolved:

That the Committee note the information contained within the report and presentation and an informal session on the 20's plenty initiative be included in the 2023/24 SSCOSC Work Programme.

7 Quarter 3 Performance Management Report 2022-23

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive which presented an overview of progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework and highlight key messages to inform strategic priorities and work programmes from October to December 2022 (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager reported that most of the performance issues detailed within the Quarter 3 performance report related to antisocial behaviour.

Reference was made to the selective licencing scheme introduced in April 2022 and that 6712 properties were now fully licenced representing an estimated 24% of all properties covered by the scheme. A further 1600 applications were in the system equating to a further 6% of properties. A number of members expressed concern at the apparent low number of properties registered in the scheme and sought clarification as to what the council was doing to both encourage take up and take enforcement action against those landlords who were eligible to register within the scheme but had failed to do so. Members questioned the success of the scheme against the initial objectives and if more enforcement action needed to be taken or whether the scheme had sufficient staff resources to deliver it.

The Head of Community Protection advised members that a pragmatic approach had been taken to the introduction of the selective licencing scheme with the priority for staff being to identify landlords and encourage them to sign up to the scheme. Whilst acknowledging that the scheme was time limited and that an evaluation would need to be undertaken of the scheme's success towards the end of the initial phase, the teams would look to increase the enforcement activity when appropriate. It was suggested that an informal briefing might be needed for members on this issue.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager reported that the annual survey to assess public confidence in Police and Local authority plans to tackle ASB had been undertaken within January 2023 and that the results were analysed and an update report was to be included within the Quarter 4 performance management report on the results.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager reported the Government's recently announced anti-social behaviour action plan launched on 27th March 2023. Under these plans 16 areas in England and Wales will be funded to support either new "hotspot" police and enforcement patrols in areas with the highest rates of antisocial behaviour or trial a new "immediate justice" scheme to deliver swift and visible punishments. A range of further measures were announced as part of the launch and details of these were being examined and could be reported to a future meeting of the committee.

During the discussion which followed members expressed concern around how resources for the trailblazer areas would be allocated and utilised. In response, members were advised that funding around these initiatives would be allocated to Police and Crime Commissioners.

Cllr Boyes expressed his disappointed at the continued reporting under the performance management framework by way of exception and also the fact that most of the performance indicators were tracker with little or no targets or outputs through which success could be measured. By way of example, he referenced drug and alcohol treatment completions which under the previous performance management framework were reported on a quarterly basis within the reports. Under the new arrangements these performance statistics were no longer reported thus placing the committee at risk of not knowing whether the commissioned services were delivering the outcomes originally anticipated.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Manager explained that the recently appointed Head of Corporate Affairs was reviewing the existing performance management framework and reporting processes. A new system of reporting would be introduced from 2023/24 Q1 and member comments on the new system would be welcomed. He assured Councillor Boyes that he would raise the committee's concerns in respect of drug and alcohol treatment performance with the service and request for performance information to be circulated to the committee.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

8 Safe Durham Partnership ASB Strategic Group Update

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change that provided an update on the ongoing work of the ASB Strategic Group (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Head of Community Protection reported that the final Anti-social Behaviour Strategy had been published on the Safe Durham partnership website and thanked the committee's contribution to its development. The ASB group were currently developing an action plan to support implementation of this strategy and outlining key priorities for the year ahead. This would be subject to a further report to the SSCOSC as part of the 2023/24 work programme.

Members were also advised of the work being undertaken to develop ASB dashboards which would enable the council and partners to plot ASB incidents within areas and assist in identifying emerging local priorities, hotspot areas and inform associated action planning.

The Head of Community Protection reported an ongoing review of the future provision of mediation services which are available to deal with lower-level neighbourhood disputes, community or familial conflict as a tool for early intervention and an approach to enforcement. A consultation process with partner organisations had been undertaken and early feedback had indicated a desire for a further period of monitoring for six months to understand the demands for mediation services and allow time to consider how these could be provided across the partnership. Progress on this initiative would continue to be reported to the committee.

The Head of Community Protection referenced the Government's recently announced anti-social behaviour action plan launched on 27th March 2023 and reported earlier in the meeting. She indicated that the detail of the plan was being examined by the Safe Durham Partnership and a response to the government consultation was being prepared. This would be circulated to the committee once signed off.

The Chair of the Committee referred to the considerable amount of work that members had undertaken in developing the SDP ASB strategy and reiterated the importance of having a single point of contact for reporting incidents of ASB. The Head of Community Protection reminded members that there were existing confidential reporting lines for the public to report ASB but acknowledged that more work was needed to raise public confidence in these processes. Members questioned whether more powers could be given to community wardens and other council staff to address ASB. Reference was made to a trial responders pilot in Weardale involving "blue light" services which may be extended to involve frontline local authority staff although this would need to be considered carefully.

At the conclusion of the presentation members suggested that further information on the community trigger mechanism for reporting ASB and how associated complaints were escalated would be useful for the Committee.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That under Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely discussion of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

10 Probation Service Update

The Committee received a presentation from the Head of County Durham and Darlington Probation Services which provided an update on performance, staff attrition and retention, restorative justice and reducing reoffending data (for copy of slides see file of Minutes).

During consideration of the report Cllr Heaviside expressed his disappointment at the large degree of time lag in respect of the data submitted to the Committee.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

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**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

26 June 2023

Home Fire Safety



**Report of Keith Carruthers, Director Community Risk Management,
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of a presentation from County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) on home fire safety.

Executive summary

- 2 The presentation attached in Appendix 2 will aim to provide Members with an overview of community fire safety activity with a focus on home fire safety visits.

Recommendation

- 3 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within this report and presentation.

Background

- 4 CDDFRS undertake a wide range of fire safety activity in relation to homes, communities and businesses across the county. This activity includes free home fire safety visits (previously known as Safe and Wellbeing Visits) which are predominately delivered by staff including Community Safety Officers and firefighters from local fire stations who during a visit will check for working smoke alarms, provide advice on keeping residents safe from fire within their homes and plan a safe escape in the event of an emergency. Following visits, referrals linked to fire risk within the home can also be made to partner agencies for wellbeing support linked to residents.
- 5 Information within this presentation is linked to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan priority “Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community” and CDDFRS Community Risk Management Plan presented to the Committee at its meeting on 27th February 2023.
- 6 Appendix 2 to this report contains a presentation to provide Members with an overview of fire safety activity by CDDFRS and further details of home fire safety visits that are undertaken by the service. Keith Carruthers, Director of Community Risk Management, CDDFRS is scheduled to be in attendance to deliver the presentation attached in Appendix 2 and respond to questions from the committee.

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 7 Information with this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan strategic objective to promote being safe and feeling safe in your community.

Conclusion

- 8 The attached presentation provides an opportunity for members to receive information on community fire safety activity.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- Community Risk Management Plan, Annual Consultation – Safer and Stronger Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 27th February 2023

Contact: Stephen Gwilym

Tel: 03000 268140

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None

Finance

None.

Consultation

None.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None

Human Rights

None.

Climate Change

None.

Crime and Disorder

Information with this report aims to contribute to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan strategic objective to promote being safe and feeling safe in your community.

Staffing

None

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None

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County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

Home Fire Safety Visits

Keith Carruthers

Director Community Risk Management

   @CDDFRS
www.ddfire.gov.uk



Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV)



Core Components of HFSV

1. Home Fire Detection (smoke and heat) incorporating Assistive Technology
2. Kitchen safety
3. Fires and Heaters (safer heating)
4. Smoking-Related Fires
5. Electrical Safety
6. Clutter and Hoarding
7. Medicines and Medical Devices
8. Escape planning
9. Arson/Deliberate Fires/ASB



Targeting

- Partner referral
- Targeted address list
- Self referral
- Hot Strike (following an incident)



Referral Pathways and Safeguarding

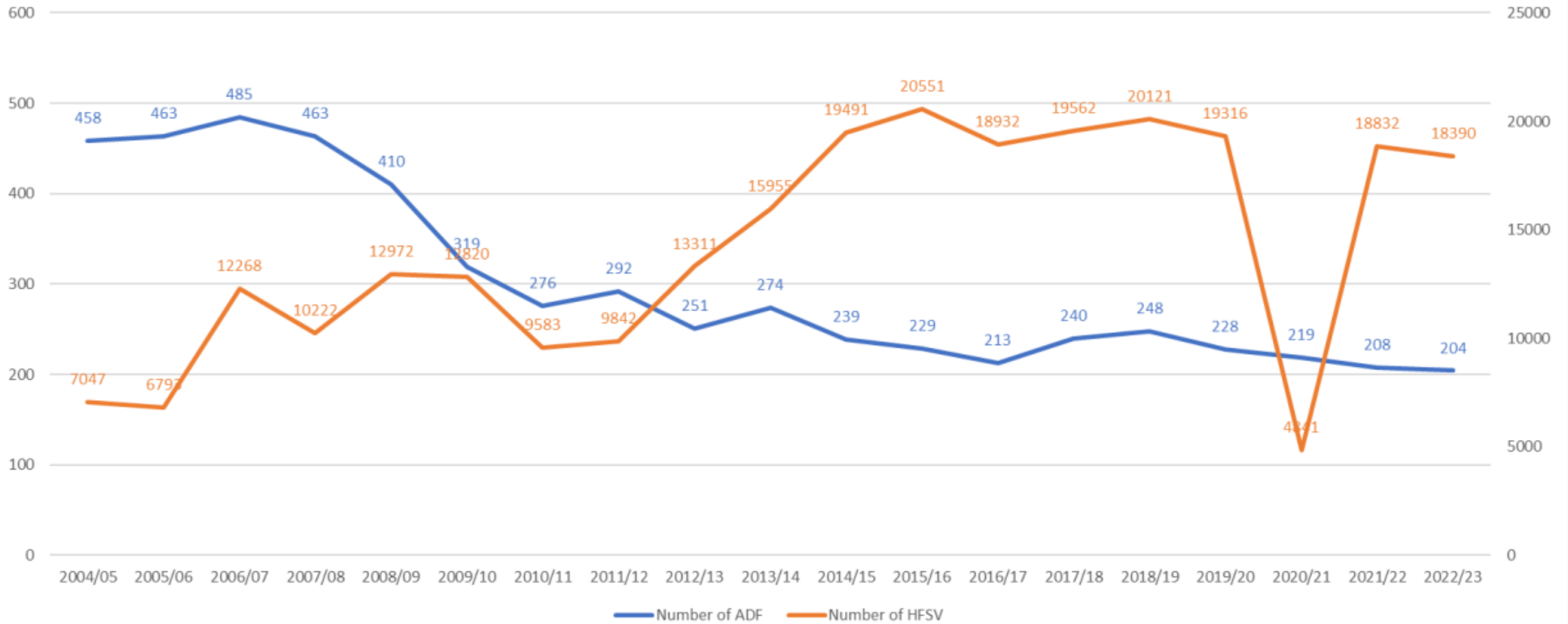


Eyes Wide Open

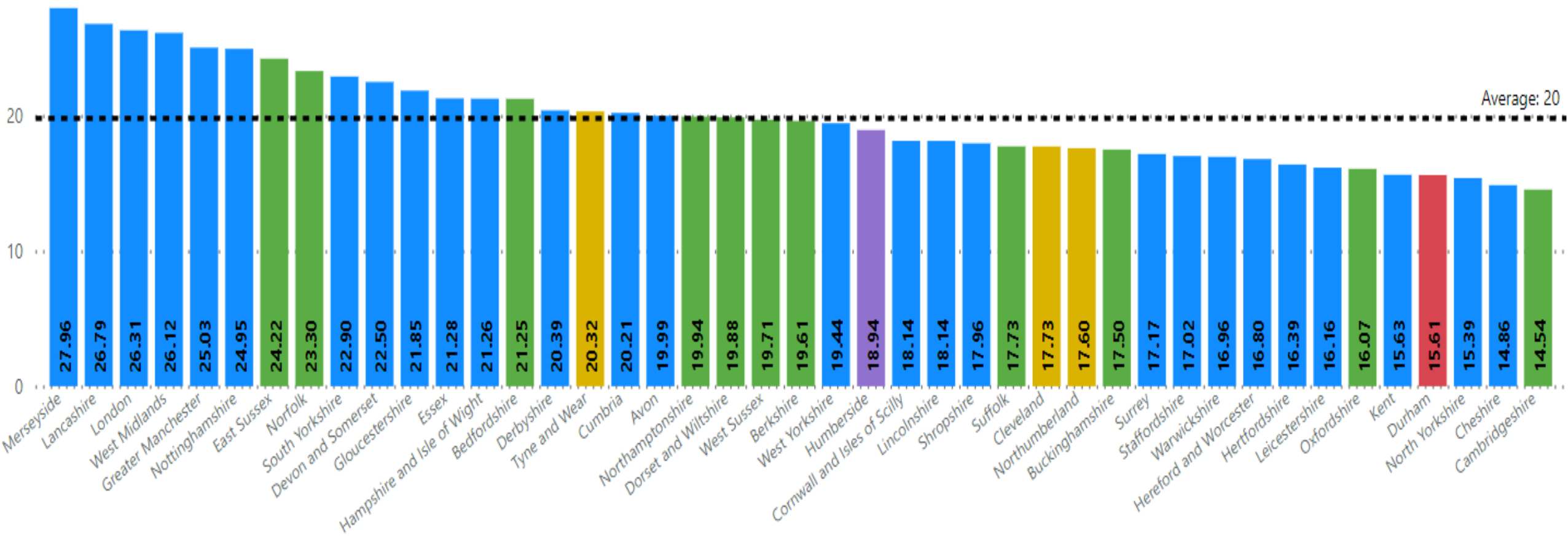


EYES WIDE OPEN

Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires and HFSV for period 2004/05 – 2022/23



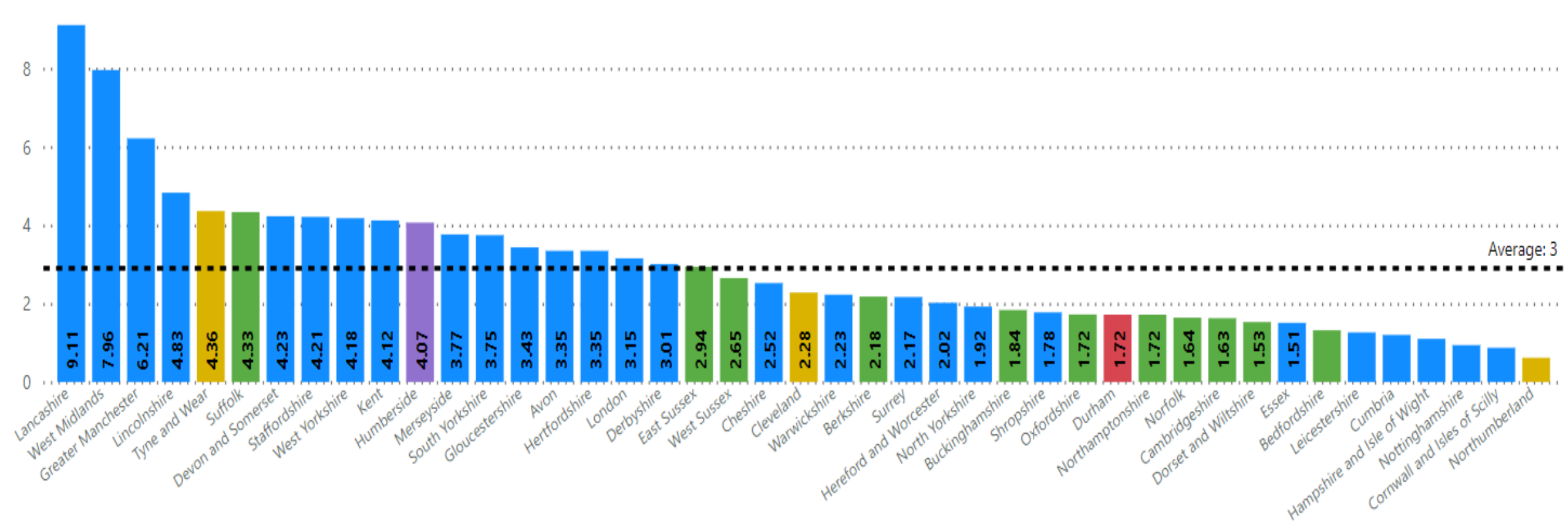
Accidental Dwelling Fires Q1/Q2 2022/23 per 100,000 Population



Fire and Rescue Service

Other FRS	Group 2	Neighbour	Statistical neighbour	Durham FRS

Casualties – Accidental Dwelling Fires Q1/Q2 2022/23 per 100,000 Population



Fire and Rescue Service

Other FRS	Group 2	Neighbour	Statistical neighbour	Durham FRS



County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

Questions

   @CDDFRS
www.ddfire.gov.uk





Councillor Update 26th June 2023

Nicola BOWMAN

Casualty Reduction Co-ordinator





Background

- Significant number of complaints regarding nuisance vehicles
- Not just ASB - crimes
- Not just a police issue
- Multi Agency Working group formed





Partnerships

- Increases range of legislation and procedures available
- Wider range of intelligence gathering opportunities
- Opportunities for target hardening





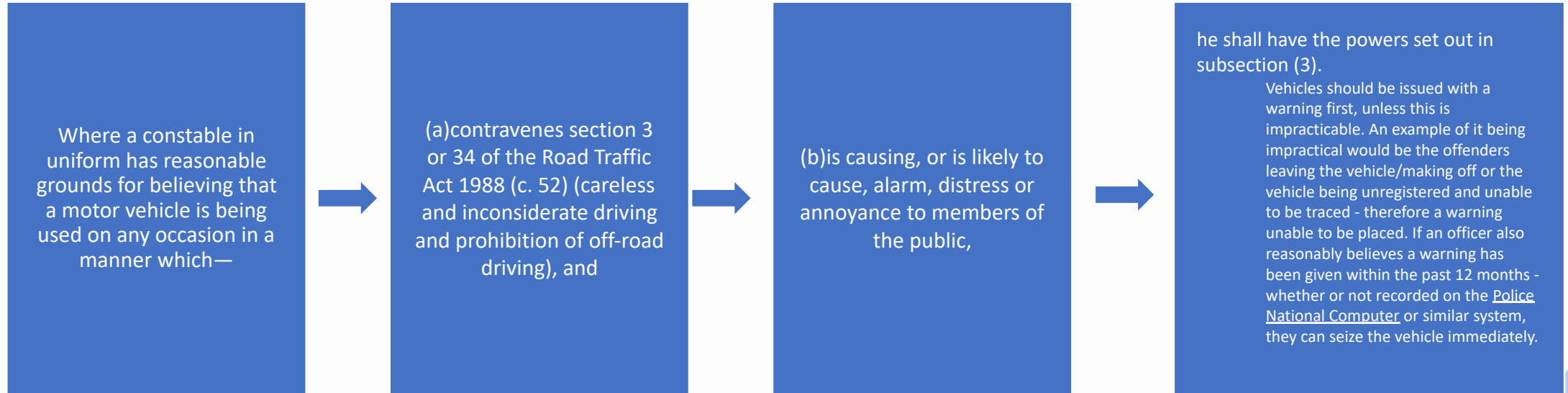
What is Anti-Social Use

- Relates to vehicles used in a manner causing alarm, distress or harassment
- Applies to motorbikes, quads, E-Scooters and 4x4 vehicles
- Can be dealt with by both PC's and PCSO's





Definition:



Definitions cont/d....

- **Driving**

in this section has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic Act 1988.

[Road Traffic Act 1988 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

-

- **Motor vehicle**

means any mechanically propelled vehicle, whether or not it is intended or adapted for use on roads

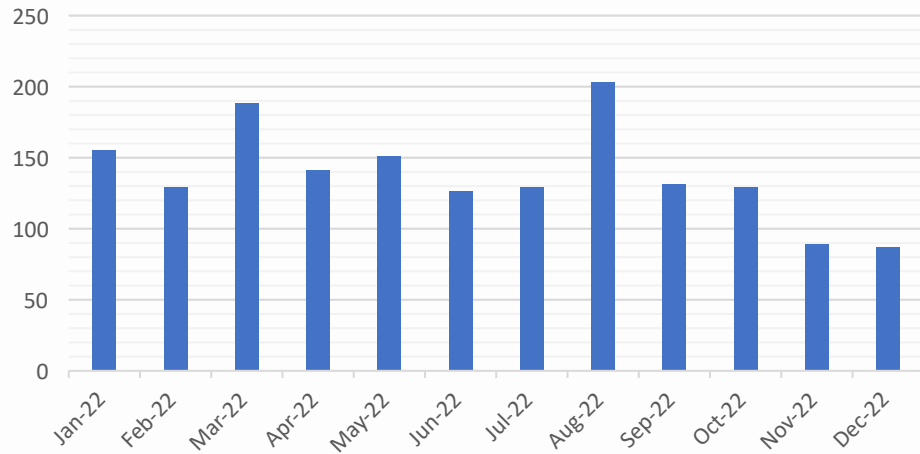
- **Private dwelling house**

does **not** include any garage or other structure occupied with the dwelling house, or any land appurtenant to the dwelling house.

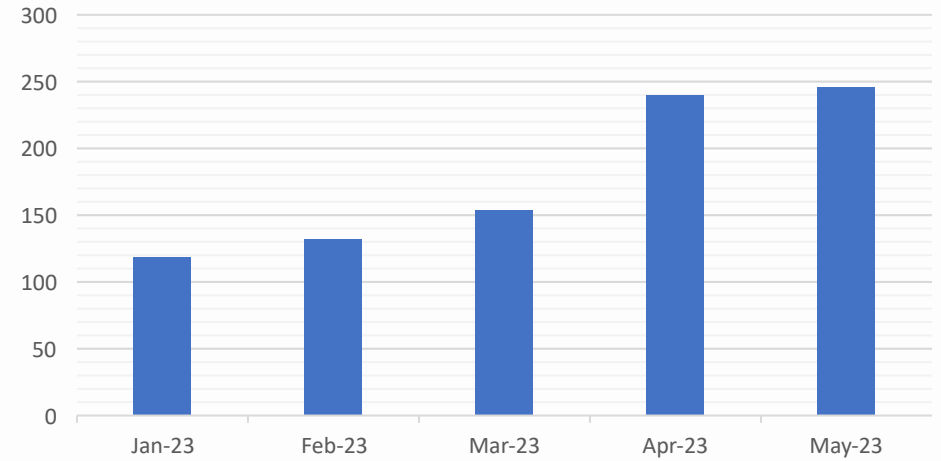
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Calls received 2022



Calls received 2023





WHY?

- Increased publicity
- Awareness of reporting mechanisms
- Confidence in action being taken



Altogether Better Policing



L02-22

WARNING



Anti-social use of motorised vehicles will lead to further action being taken. Vehicles will be seized without further warning.

Pursuant to Police Reform Act S.59





- Seizures of vehicles

- PCSO's can issue warnings and seize vehicles under Police Reform Act 2002
Only PC's can seize under Op Takeaway
- Reporting for offences
- Retention and crushing of bikes
- Further actions
- Work with auction houses





OP ENDURANCE TOOLKIT

Introduction

Off road vehicle nuisance is a widespread problem across the force area. Bike section consists of 5 officers for Durham and with resourcing issues and competing demands therefore mean that it is no longer an option for the motorcycle section to simply deploy off road motorcycles in response to e-mails from local staff and the capacity to self deploy is extremely limited. In the light of this Op Endurance has evolved as a way to encourage local problem solving at source using a range of tactics to reduce off road vehicle nuisance; the deployment of off road motorcycles is only small part of the range of tactics available.

There are thirteen tabs below that offer pointers as to how you can help develop a problem solving approach:

- Introduction
- Where
- Intel
- Open Source
- Prevention
- Enforcement
- Young People
- Housing
- RIPA
- Misc
- Venues
- Off Road Patrols
- Contacts

Please consider all of your options when dealing with off road vehicle complaints. Where problems persist compile a problem profile to record all of your actions, identify intelligence gaps, highlight prevention, intelligence, enforcement and reassurance opportunities. Off road motorcycle support is one tactical option but be prepared to demonstrate what else has been done locally in an effort to resolve the problems, be realistic about what you expect off road motorcycle patrols to achieve, 'waving the flag' with off

- Introduction
- WHERE**
- INTEL
- Open Source
- Prevention
- Enforcement
- Young People
- Housing
- RIPA
- Misc
- Venues
- Off Road Patrols





What next?

- Section 59 warnings and seizures (post incident)
- Community Protection Warning's / Community Protection Notices
- Inform housing
 - tenancy warnings
- Driving Offences
- Criminal Behaviour Orders
- Closure Orders
- Safeguarding reports – children
- Social Media / footage circulation



Altogether Better Policing

Motorcycle Section

- 5 bike officers & 1 Sgt
- Investment in department
- No longer panacea
- NPT's
- Operations /abstractions



Durham Roads & Armed Policing
Published by Christopher Milburn · 24 May at 17:50 · 🌐



Durham Roads & Armed Policing
Published by Christopher Milburn · 7 June at 14:39 · 🌐



Durham Roads & Armed Policing
Published by Christopher Milburn · 22 May at 17:41 · 🌐



Durham Roads & Armed Policing
Published by Durham Policing · 1549/1790
Vehicle seized suspect stolen, no insurance and on false plates.



Reporting Methods



Ongoing incidents

- Call 101
- Live Chat
- Local Authorities

If not ongoing

- Local NPT contacts
- Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
- Keep in the Know
- Op Endurance email





Altogether Better Policing

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

26 June 2023

**Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Strategic
Group Update**



**Report of Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods
and Climate Change**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the ongoing work of the ASB Strategic Group.

Executive summary

- 2 It was requested by Committee that a report be brought to every meeting on the progress of the work of the ASB Strategic Group.
- 3 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an overview of the ASB Strategic Group priorities and work areas and the development of the ASB Strategy.

Recommendation

- 4 Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
 - (a) Note information contained within the report from the ASB Strategic Group and comment accordingly.

Background

5 The aims of the ASB Strategic Group are to:

- Provide strategic leadership and direction, co-ordination and oversight for the Safe Durham Partnership's response to anti-social behaviour across County Durham.
- Deliver the strategic outcomes under the Safe Durham Partnership Plan that promote being safe and feeling safe in your community specifically focusing on the work area of anti-social behaviour.
- Ensure the actions of the group positively impact on residents and the wider communities in:
 - (i) being and feeling safe and that those actions improve their emotional and physical wellbeing.
 - (ii) improving personal resilience and overall community's resilience, confidence and cohesion.

Key Issues

6 At the last meeting of the group on the 17 April 2023 further consideration was given to a number of key issues including:-

(a) Home Office ASB Action Plan

- The Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan (Home Office) was published on 27 March 2023 and sets out the government's approach to stamping out anti-social behaviour and restoring the right of people to feel safe in, and proud of, their local area. A link to the plan is included as part of the background papers.
- The plan is an ambitious and wide-reaching new approach that will give Police and Crime Commissioners, local authorities, and other agencies the tools to tackle the blight of anti-social behaviour.
- As part of the ASB Action Plan, the Government launched a consultation on community safety partnerships and anti-social behaviour powers.
- The purpose of the consultation was to:
 - i. seek views on the relationship between Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), with the aim of enhancing the accountability model of CSPs

- ii. consider how CSPs and PCCs work together to tackle antisocial behaviour, with the aim of strengthening this co-operative working.
 - iii. The consultation also considered the expansion of antisocial behaviour powers, and whether amendments are required to ensure they are being used effectively.
 - iv. The consultation ended on 17 May 2023 and Durham County Council as well as other key partners have submitted separate responses to the consultation exercise. The outcome of the consultation exercise will be reported through to this Committee in due course.
- In addition, the Government intend to take a zero-tolerance approach, including cracking down on the illegal drugs that blight Communities.
 - In particular, the government will be taking decisive action to ban nitrous oxide by making it a Class C drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. Control under the 1971 Act means that it will be unlawful to possess, supply, import, export or produce the substance, unless an exemption applies (for example, for use in healthcare) or the person undertaking the activity holds an appropriate licence.
 - An open consultation commenced on 2 May 2023 and invites views on which exemptions should apply. The government will take a final decision on the appropriate approach taking account of the consultation responses. The open consultation can be found using the following link:-
<https://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/EKNTX3/>

(b) ASB Trailblazer Pilots

- To support the Government's ASB Action Plan, 16 trailblazing places have been identified across England and Wales which includes County Durham and Darlington.
- The 'trailblazer' areas will receive funding from the Home Office to pilot urgent action to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).
- Funding will be provided to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for County Durham and Darlington over next two years to deliver a new Immediate Justice service where perpetrators of ASB will be made to repair the damage they inflict on victims and communities within 48 hours of being handed an out of court disposal by the Police.

- Additional funding will also be provided to the OPCC over the next two years to work with councils and others to deliver ‘hotspot’ policing and enforcement.
- To progress the pilot initiative an ASB Action Plan is being formulated by the OPCC with involvement from key partners within the ASB Strategic Group. In addition, funding bid proposals are currently being prepared for further consideration by the OPCC to support the delivery of the Action Plan.

Durham County ASB Delivery Plan

- 7 Following on from the publication of the Durham County ASB Strategy, the ASB Strategic Group are currently developing a local ASB delivery plan around the 8 key principles set out within the strategy and will focus primarily on five key priorities issues in the year ahead which have been identified from local data and incident reporting.
- 8 Data dashboards are now available with overlays which are co-terminous with the areas of each of the Multi Agency Problem Solving groups (MAPS). This enables us to plot ASB incidence within each area and assist in identifying emerging local priorities, hotspot areas and inform action planning.
- 9 A performance update document for the period March 2022 – February 2023 is attached in Appendix 2 and identifies the following priorities for action during the coming year:-
 - Deliberate Fires
 - Criminal Damage
 - Flytipping
 - Noise
 - Intimidation / Harassment / Abuse
- 10 In addition, and notwithstanding the above key local priorities, further work is ongoing to clarify the ‘unknown nuisance’ reports which are significant in number. The Data and Performance Team will continue to work with strategic partners regarding the quality of data so that the dashboards can present the best available information going forward.
- 11 Whilst the Durham County ASB Strategy readily supports the Government’s approach to tackling anti-social behaviour, our delivery plan will reflect our local priorities and will also have direct links to the emerging ASB Action Plan that will be developed by the OPCC around the specific ASB trailblazer outcomes.

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 12 Information within this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership Plan to reducing crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour.

Conclusion

- 13 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an update on the work of the ASB Strategic Group and feed into the relevant processes.

Background papers

- [Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)
- [Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community \(countydurhampartnership.co.uk\)](https://countydurhampartnership.co.uk).
- [Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2021-25](#)
- [County Durham Vision 2035](#)

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Joanne Waller

Tel: 03000 260924

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Duty to consider crime and disorder implications.

Finance

None.

Consultation

The ASB Strategic group will continue to engage in consultation on the development of any local strategies and action/delivery plans as well as government proposals around tackling anti social behaviour.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Human Rights

None.

Climate Change

None.

Crime and Disorder

Information with this report provides an overview of the newly re-established ASB Strategic Group, a sub group of the Safe Durham Partnership and the actions agreed from the discussion items within the agenda to help positively impact on Crime, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour within the County.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.

Appendix 2

Attached as a separate PDF document

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ASB Strategic Group

Performance Update March 2022 – Feb 2023



Better for everyone





Antisocial Behaviour Overview

Overview ASB

ASBMap

Change...

Pareto...

Databases

Select Year & Month

Multiple selections

Organisation

All

COVID related

All

MSOA

All

Reports

51,404

SPLY (Same period last year)

58,179

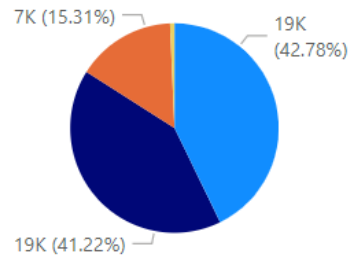
Change from SPLY

-6775

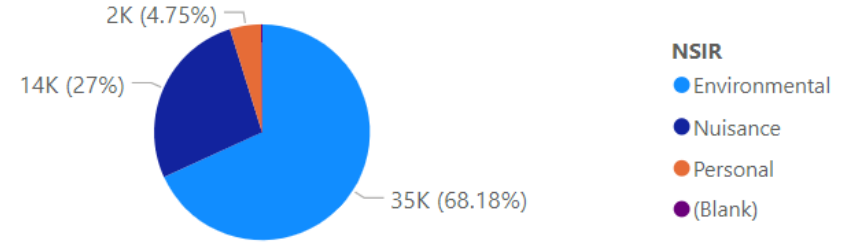
Change

-11.65%

Reports by Organisation



NSIR categories



NSIR

Environmental

Nuisance

Personal

(Blank)

MAPS

- Select all
- City of Durham
- East
- North
- South

Personal

2,445

5%

SPLY

3,100

Change from SPLY

-655

Change

-21.13%

Personal

Personal SPLY Personal



Personal

Nuisance

13,888

27%

SPLY

15,652

Change from SPLY

-1764

Change

-11.27%

Nuisance

Nuisance SPLY Nuisance



Nuisance

Environmental

35,071

68%

SPLY

39,427

Change from SPLY

-4356

Change

-11.05%

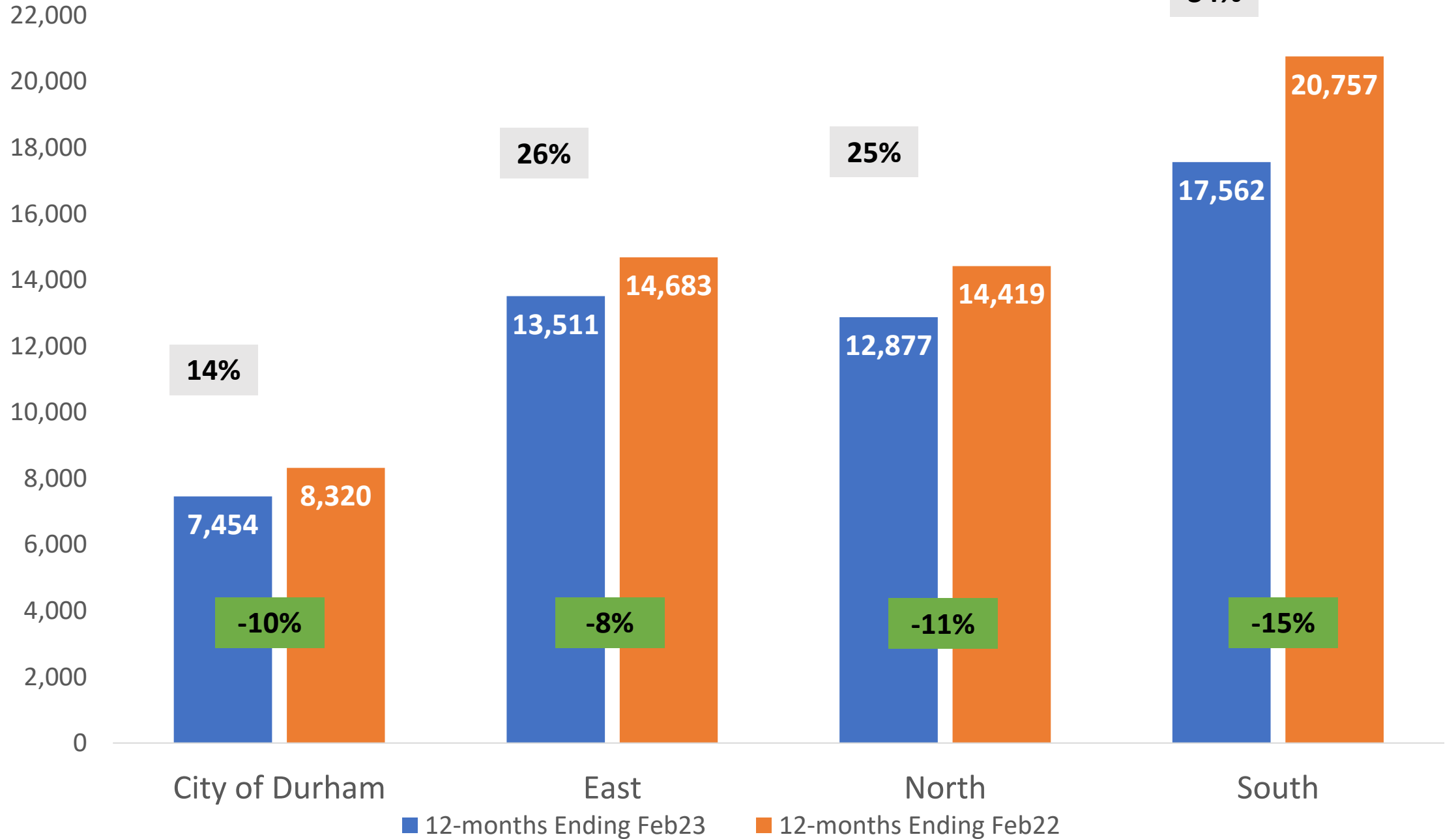
Environmental

Environmental SPLY Environmental



Enviro...

ASB Reports by MAP Area

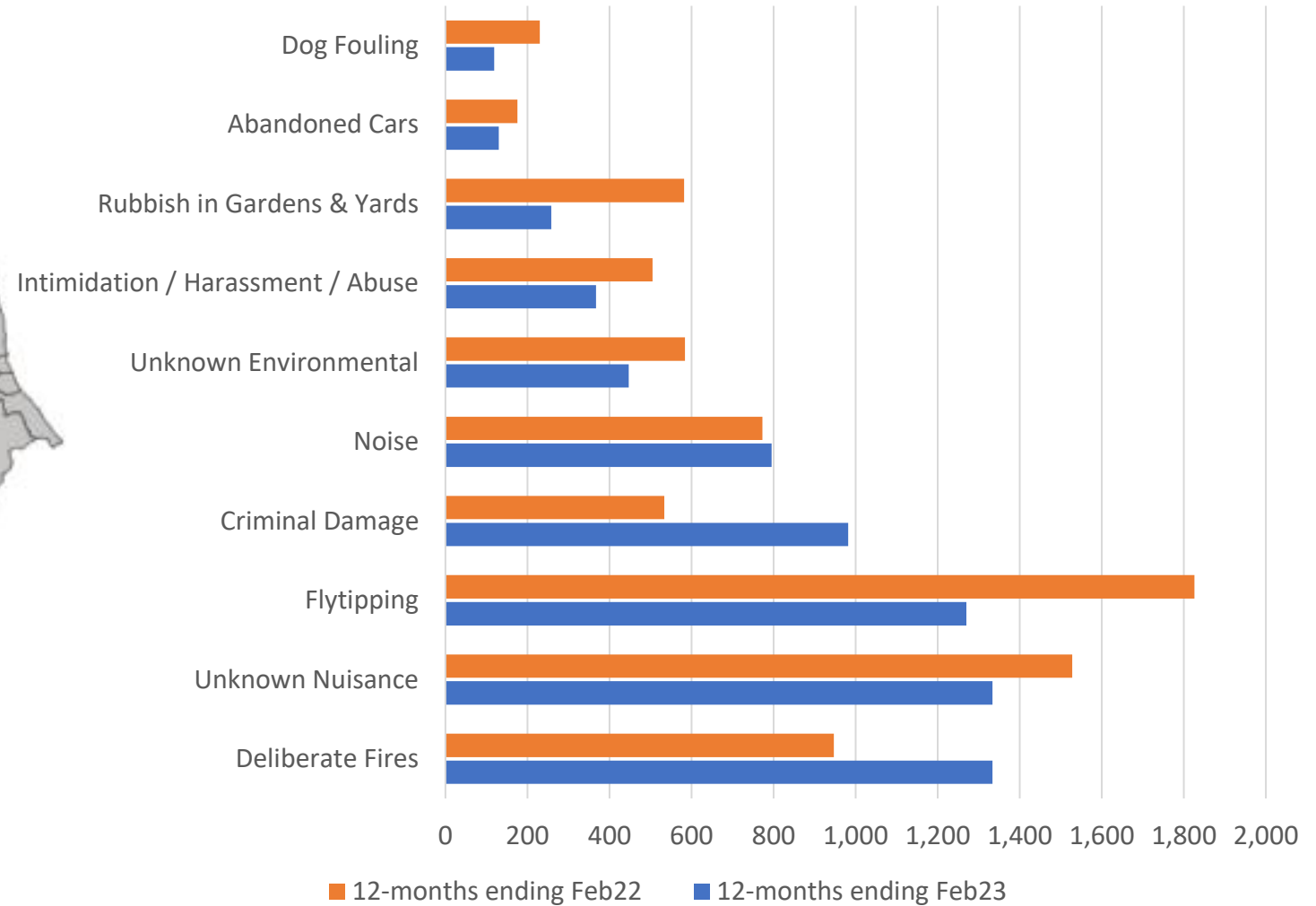


City of Durham MAP – 14% of reports

ASB Incidents by MSOA



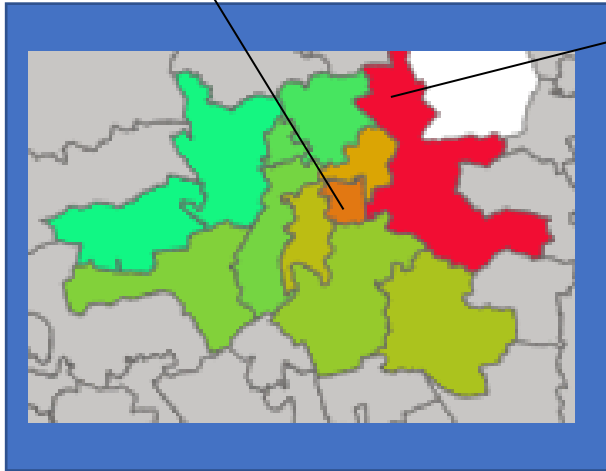
Top 10 ASB Categories



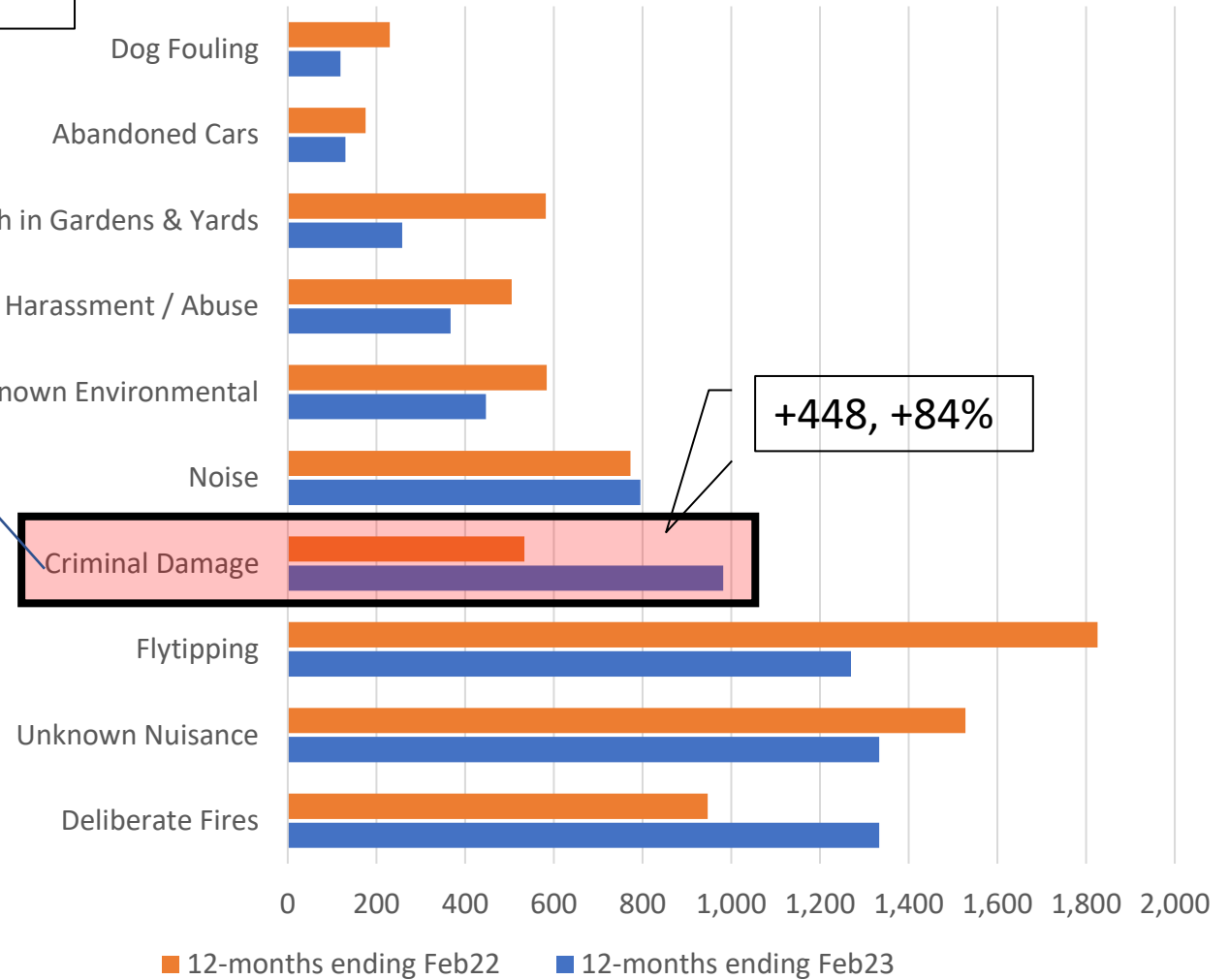
City of Durham MAP – 14% of reports

Gilesgate Moor

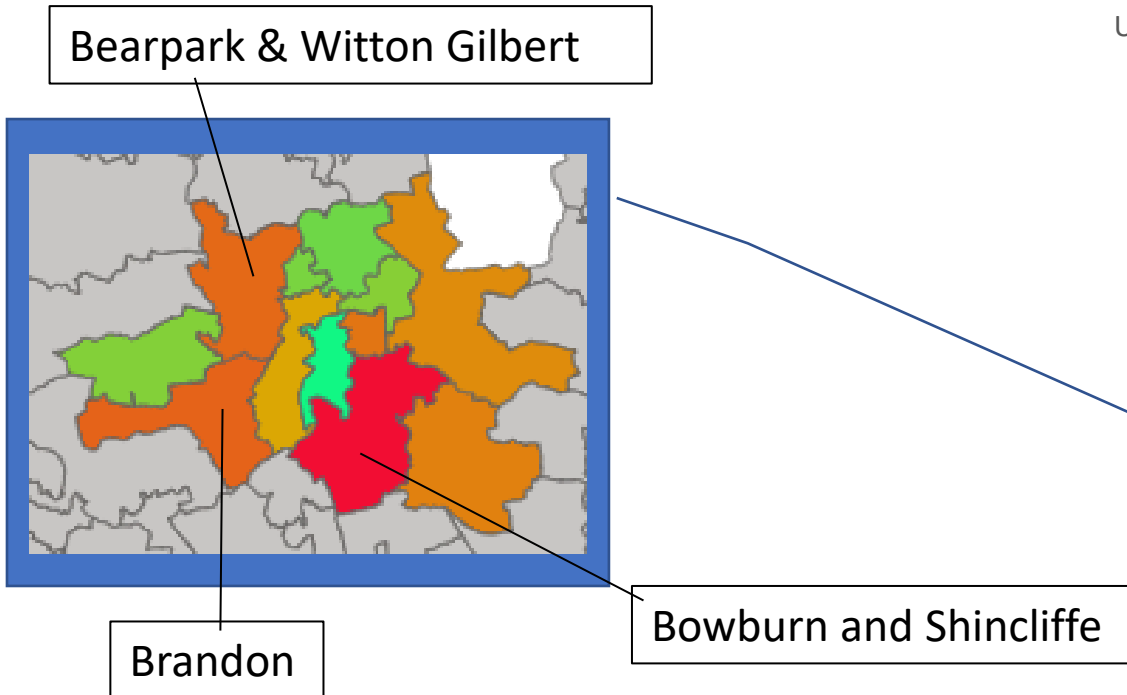
Sherburn & West Rainton



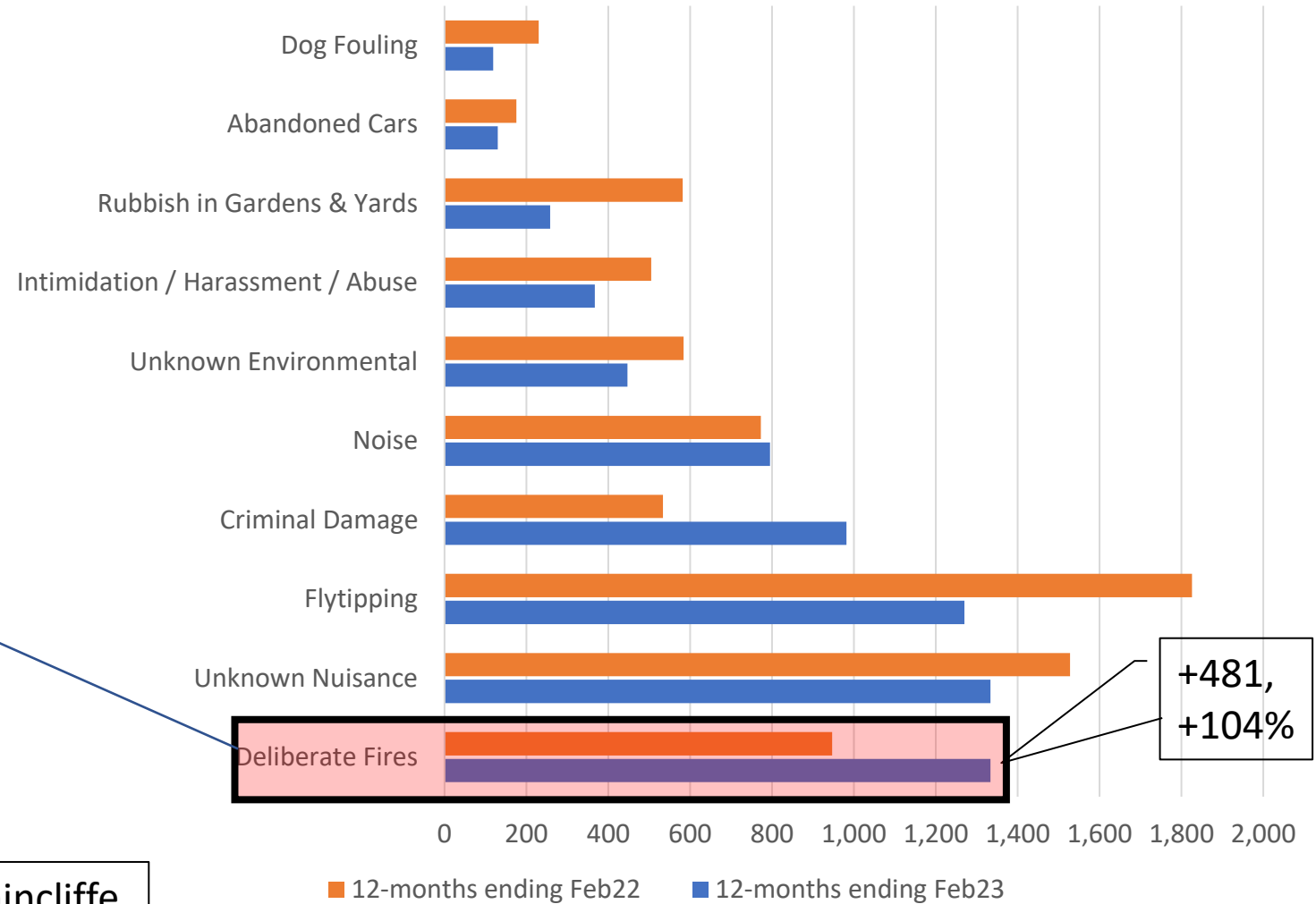
Top 10 ASB Categories



City of Durham MAP – 14% of reports



Top 10 ASB Categories

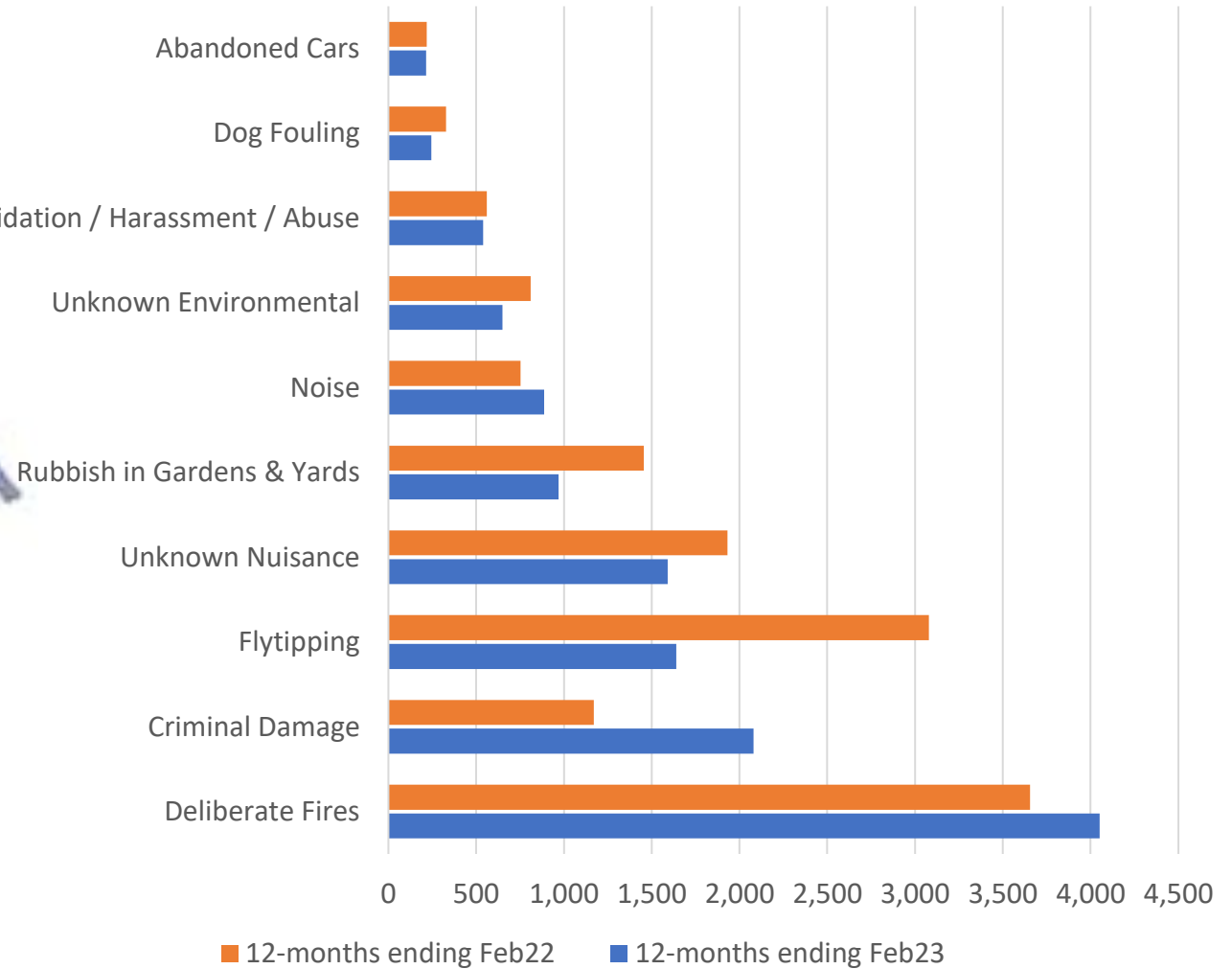


East MAP - 26% of reports

ASB Incidents by MSOA

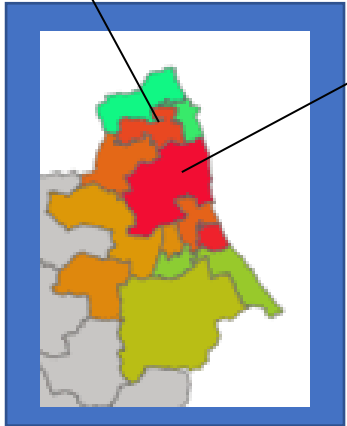


Top 10 ASB Categories



East MAP - 26% of reports

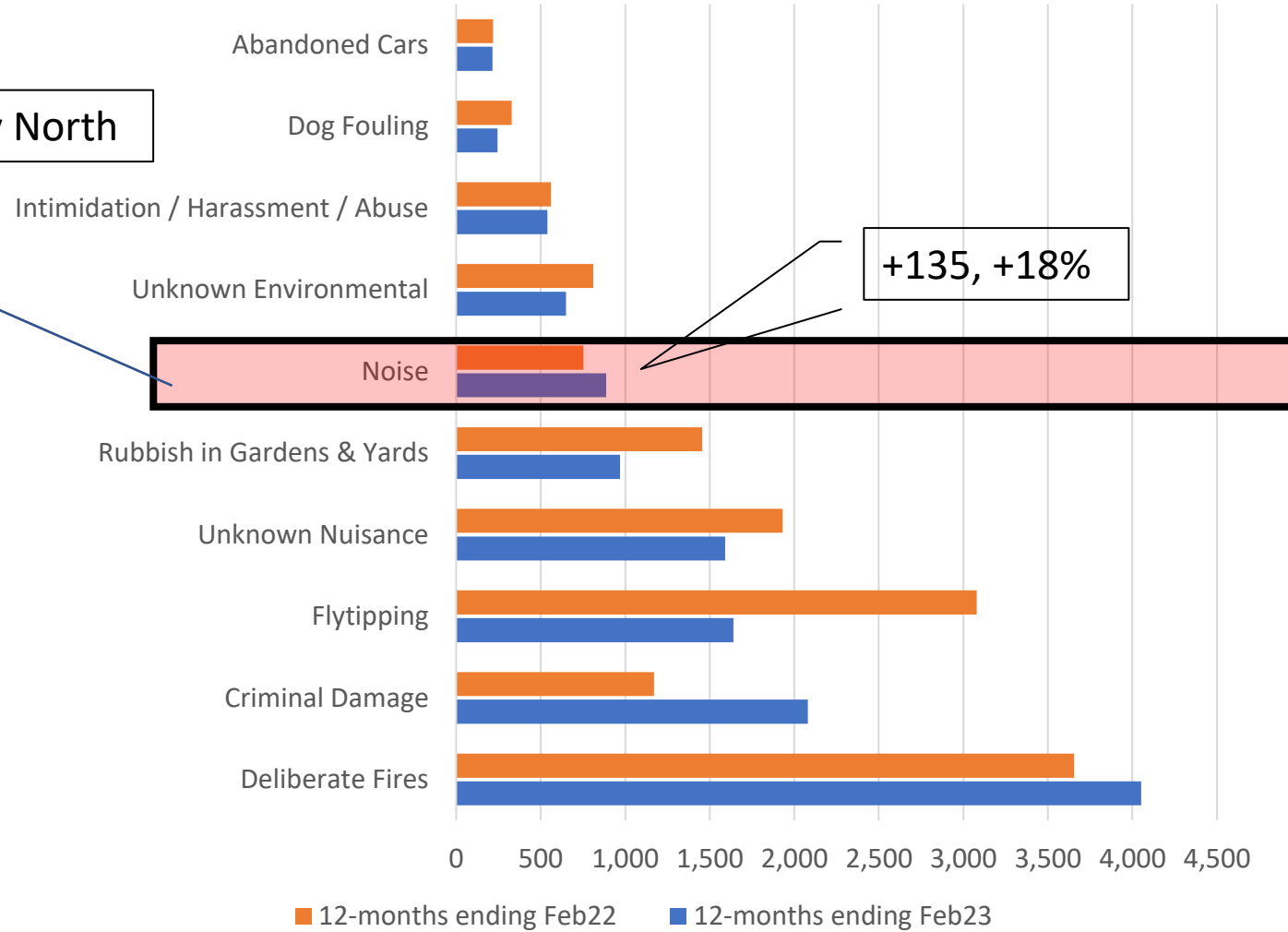
Dalton-Le-Dale & Deneside



Easington Colliery North

Horden

Top 10 ASB Categories

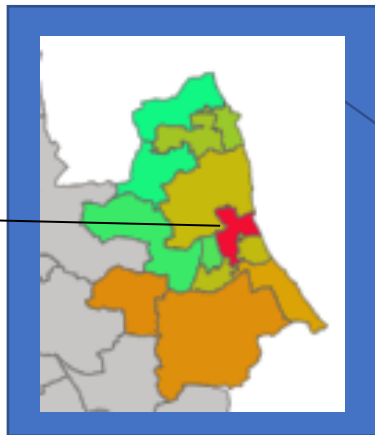


+135, +18%

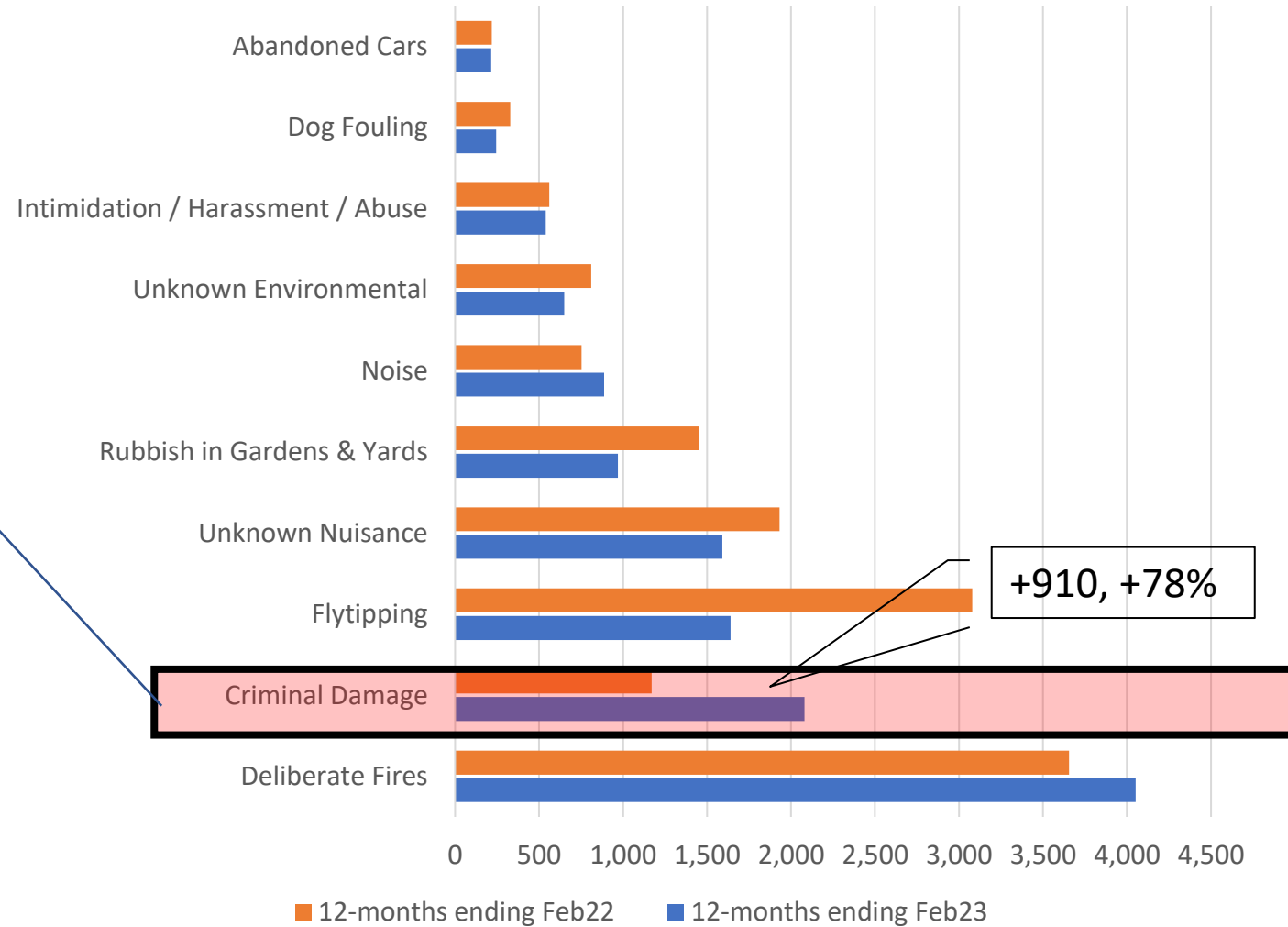
12-months ending Feb22 12-months ending Feb23

East MAP - 26% of reports

Top 10 ASB Categories

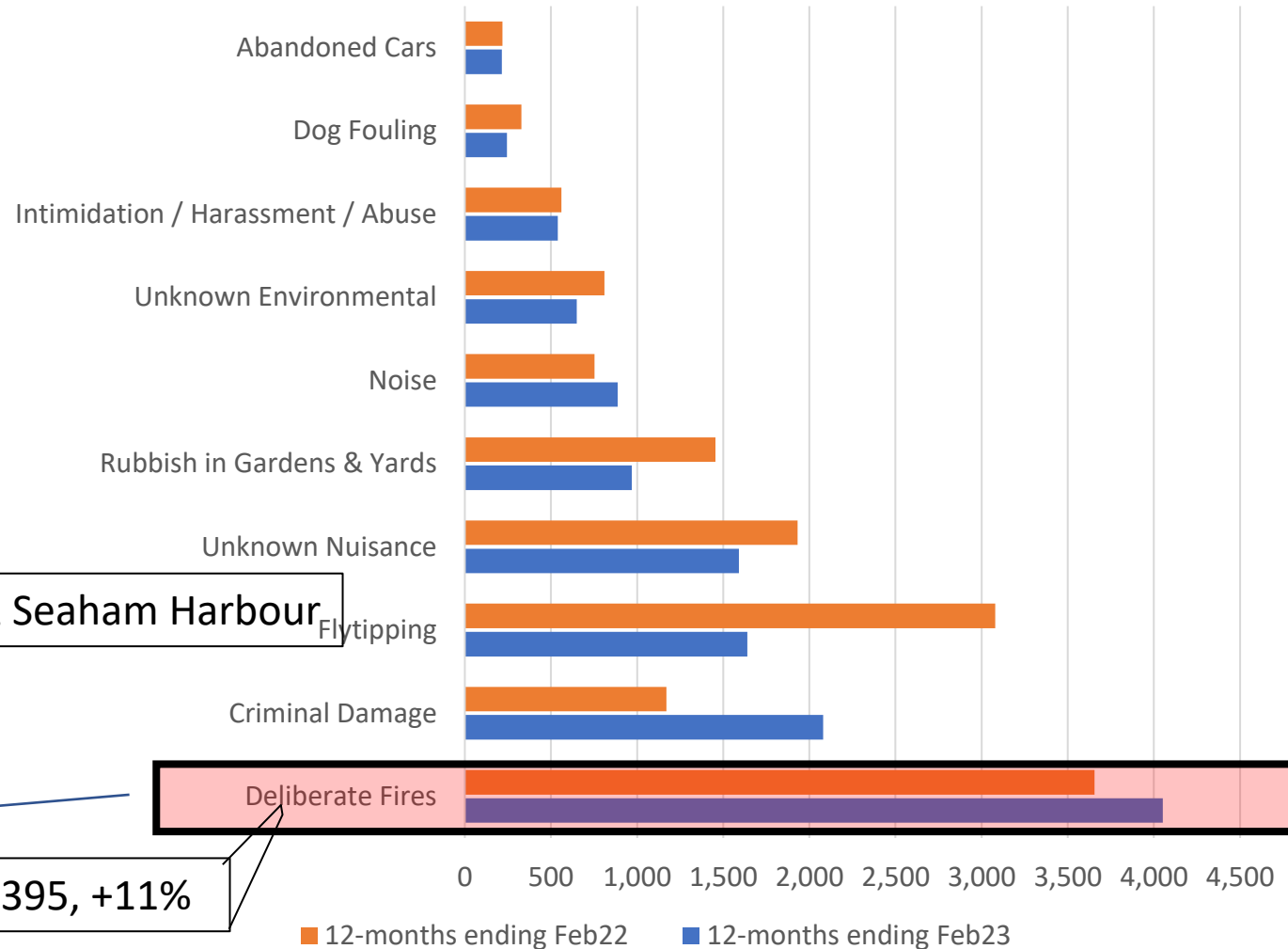


Easington Colliery South

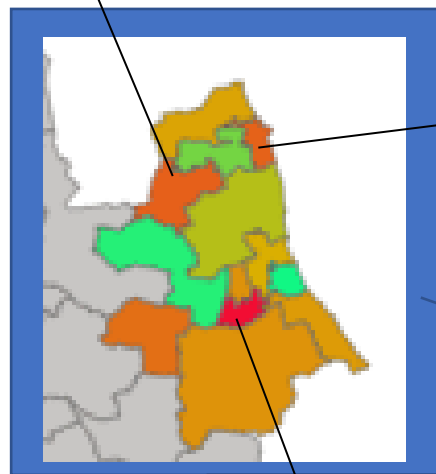


East MAP - 26% of reports

Top 10 ASB Categories



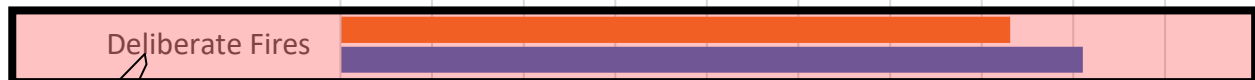
Murton South & South Hetton



Dawdon & Seaham Harbour

Passfield & Shotton

+395, +11%



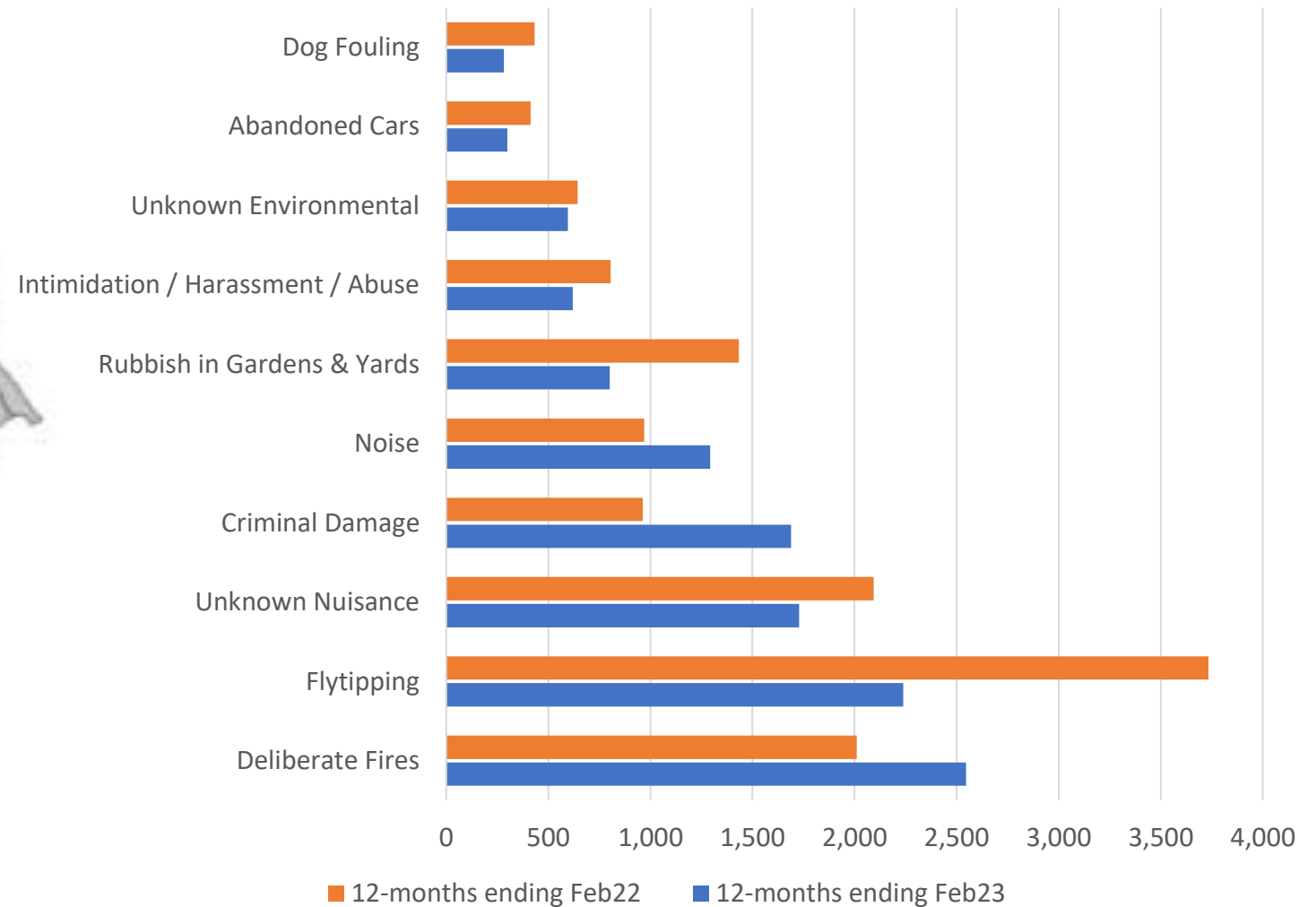
12-months ending Feb22 12-months ending Feb23

North MAP - 25% of reports

ASB Incidents by MSOA



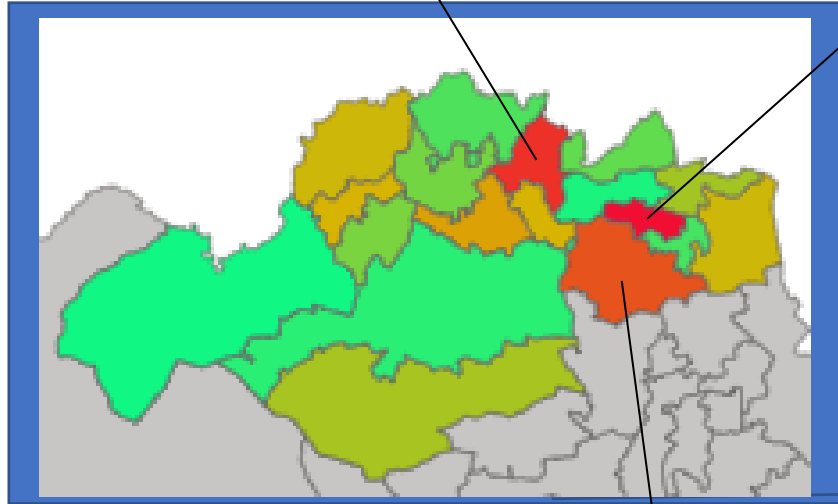
Top 10 ASB Categories



North MAP - 25% of reports

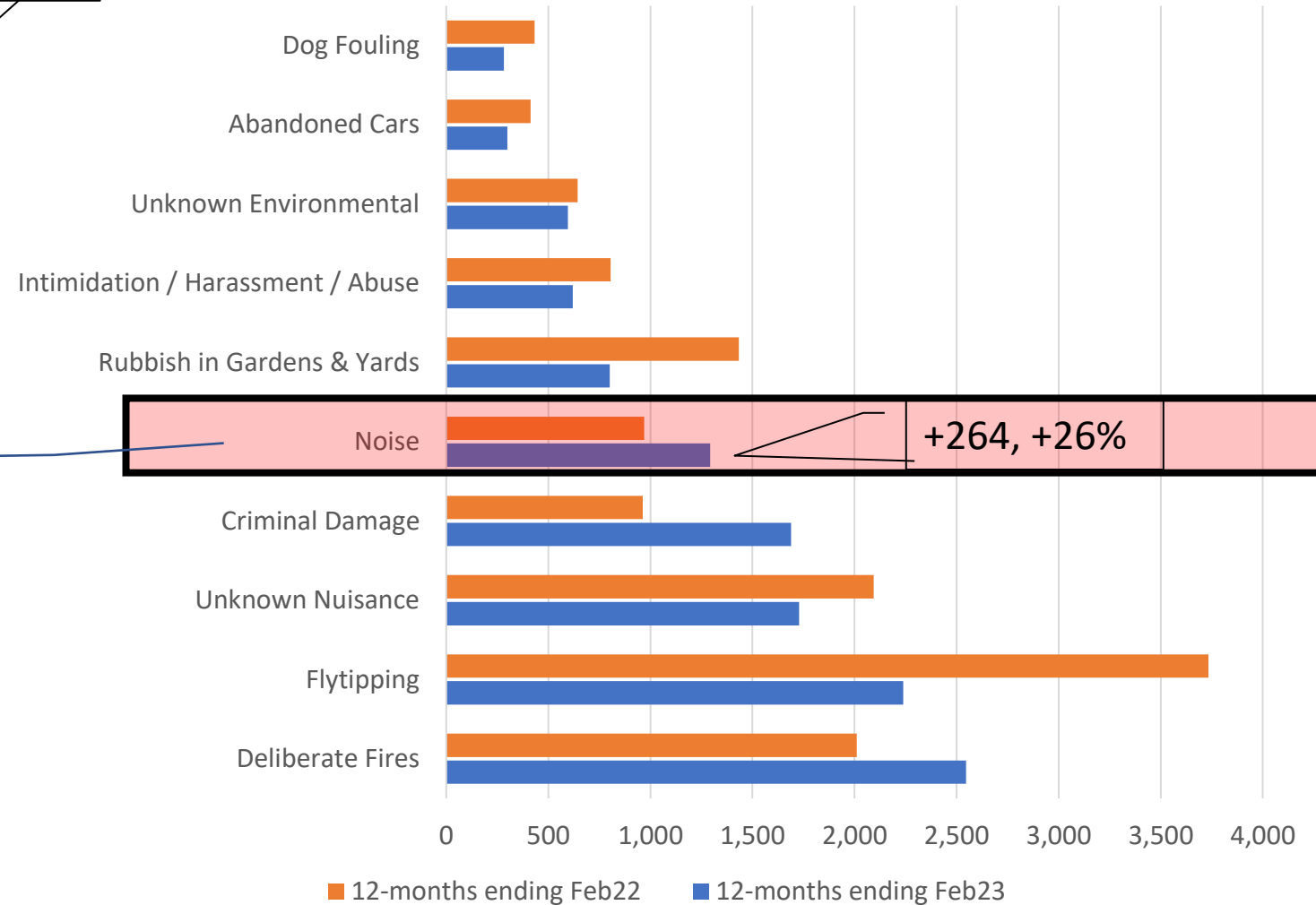
Stanley North & Kip Hill

Chester-Le-Street West & Pelton

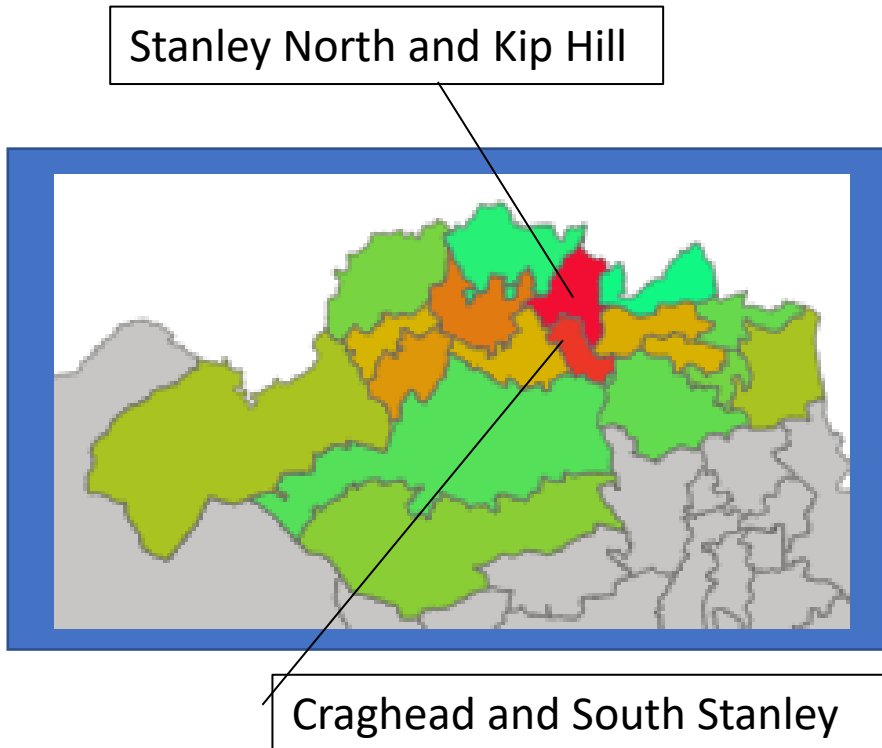


Sacriston and Walridge

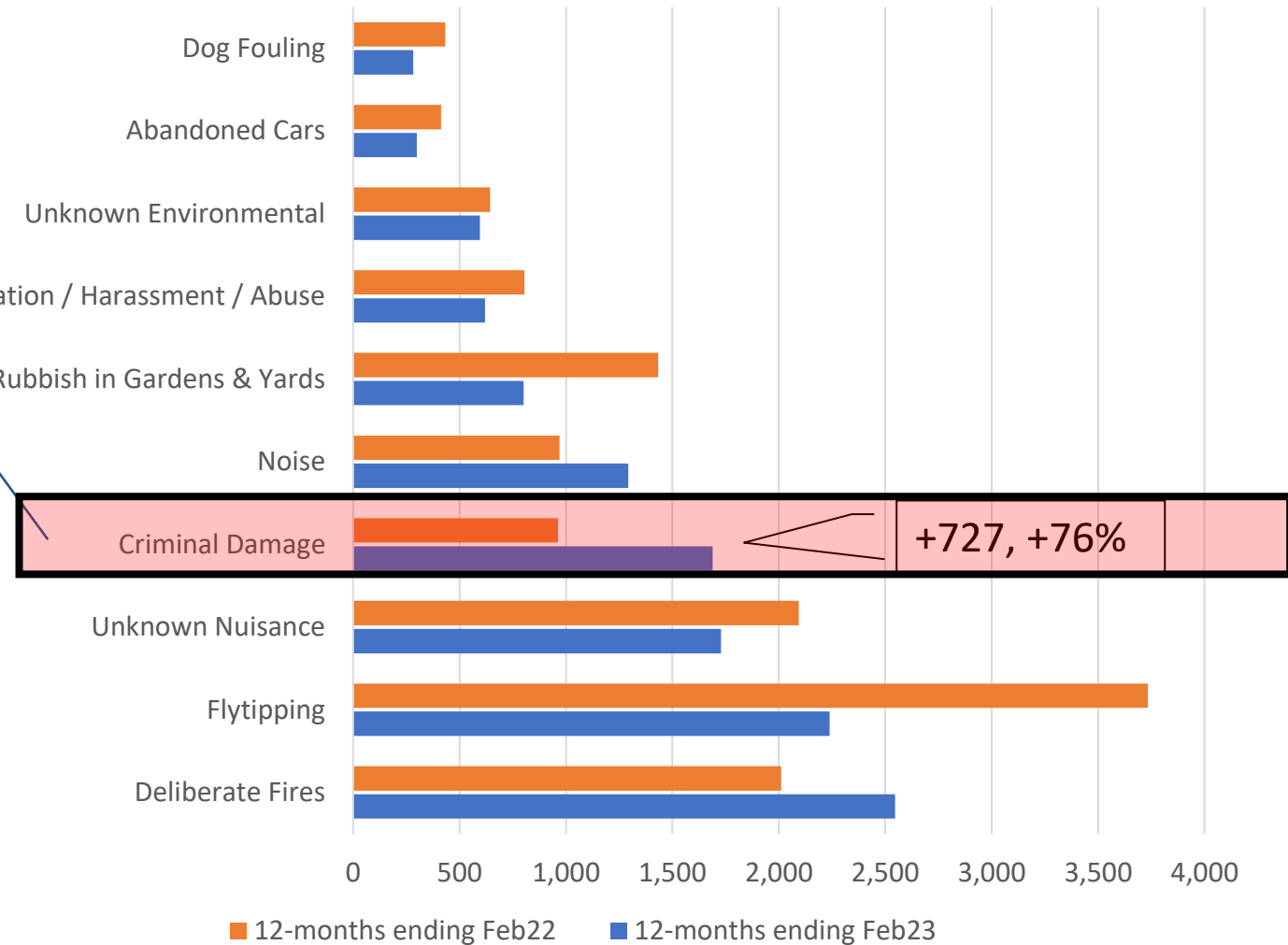
Top 10 ASB Categories



North MAP - 25% of reports

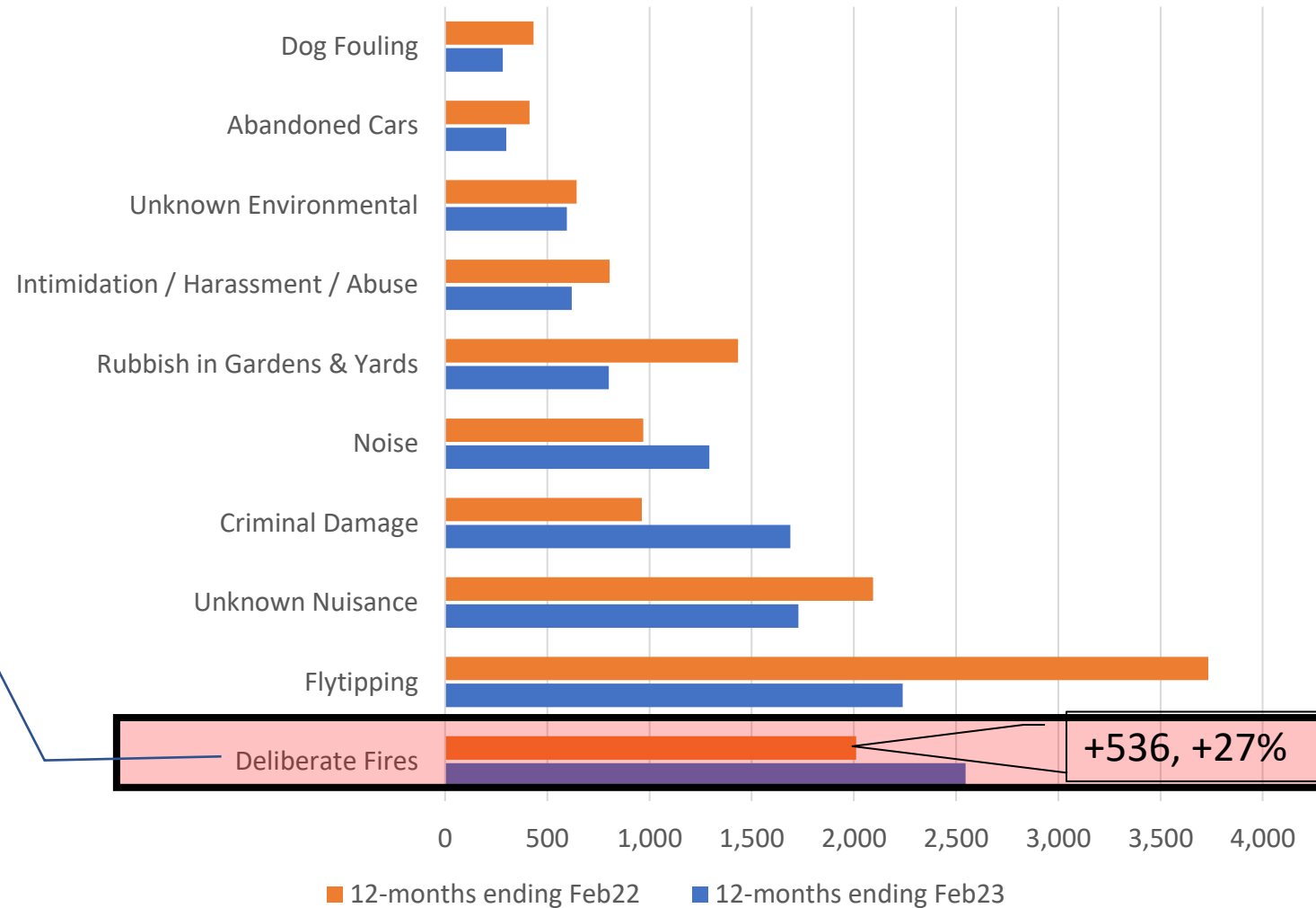


Top 10 ASB Categories

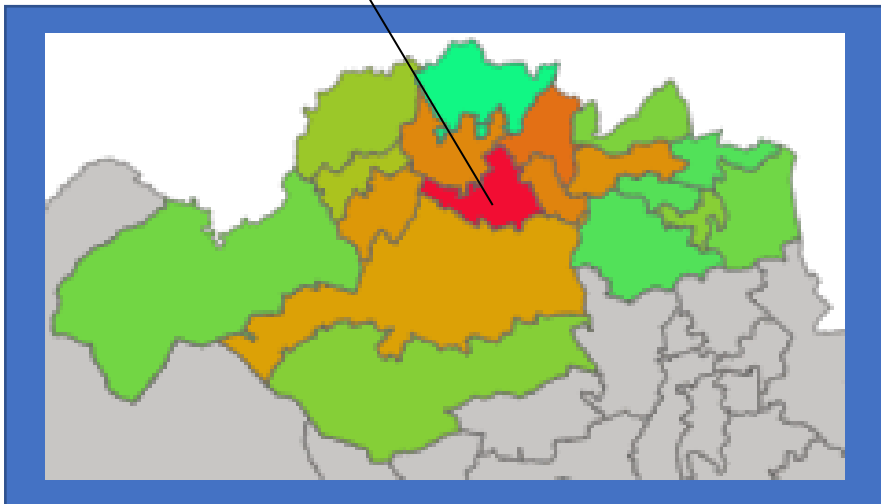


North MAP - 25% of reports

Top 10 ASB Categories



Annfield Plain South & South Moor



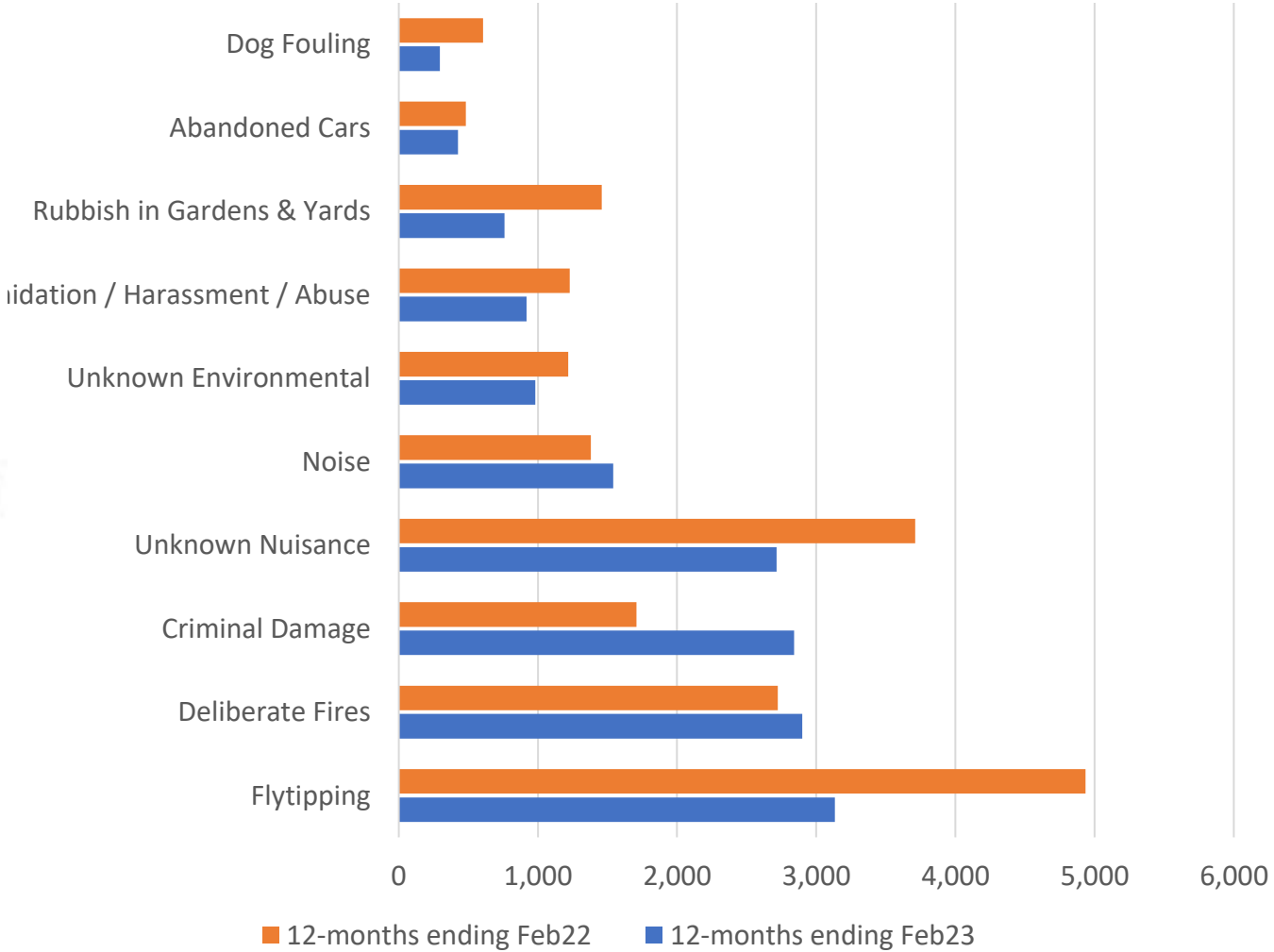
South MAP - 34% of reports

ASB Incidents by MSOA

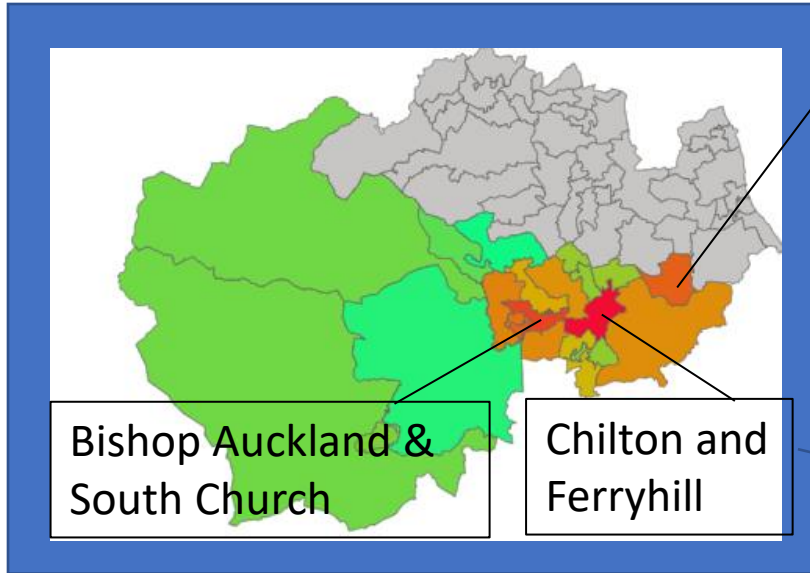


Page 63

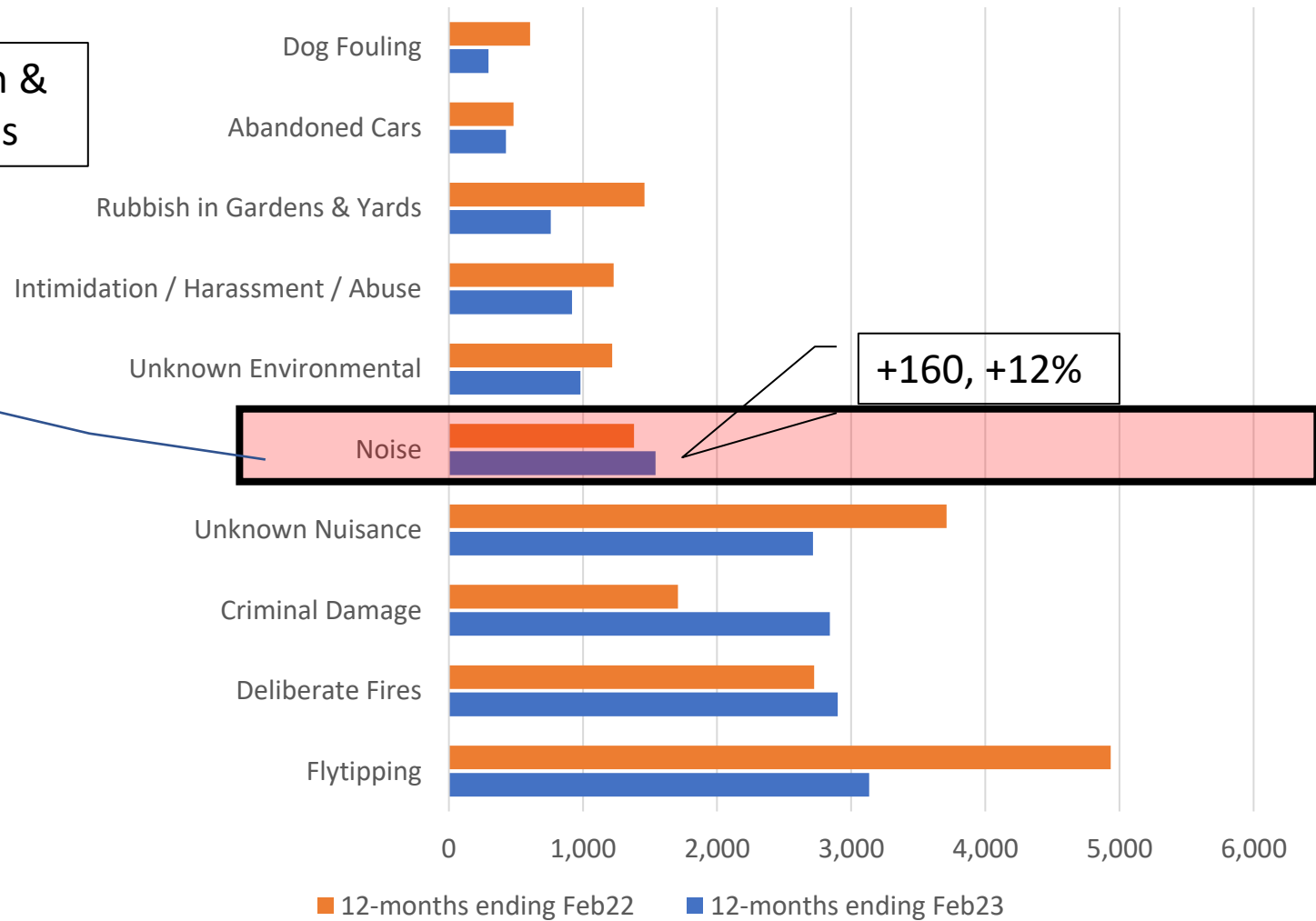
Top 10 ASB Categories



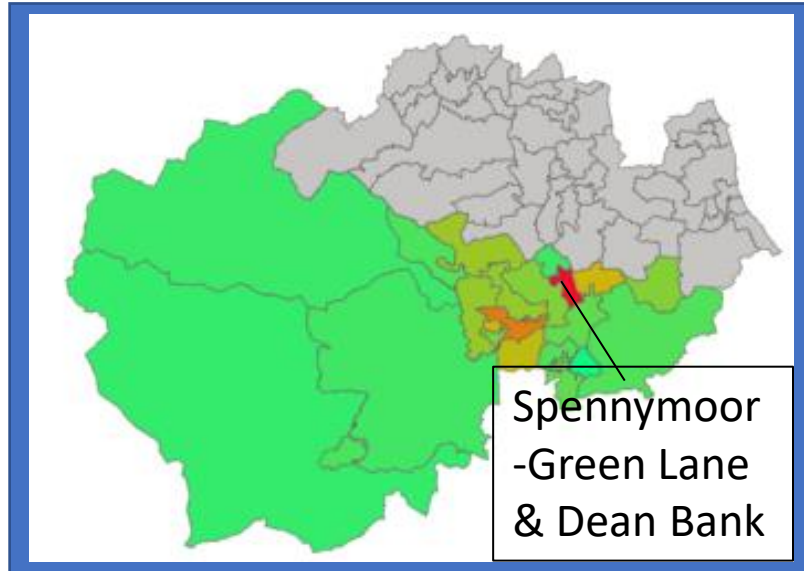
South MAP - 34% of reports



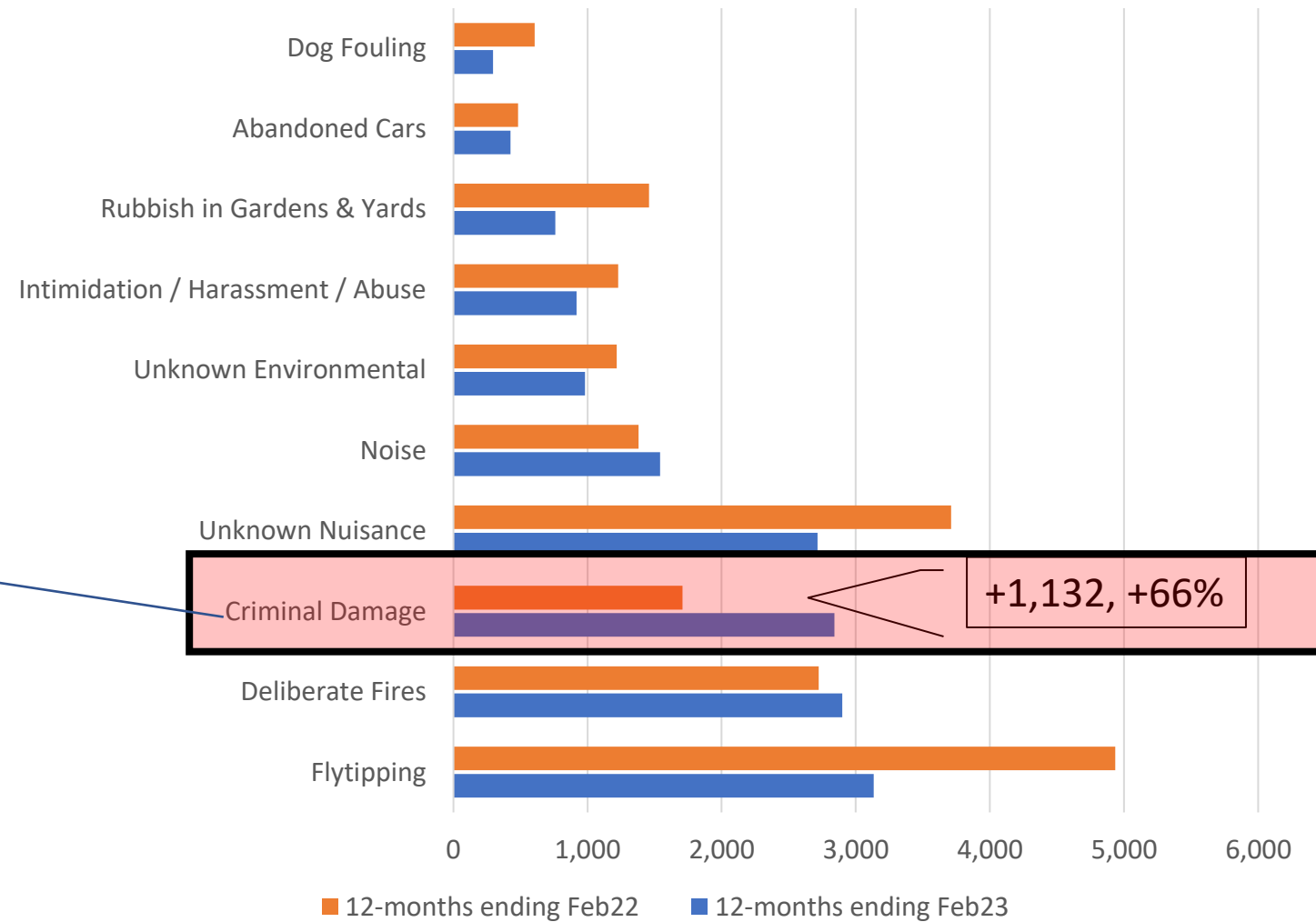
Top 10 ASB Categories



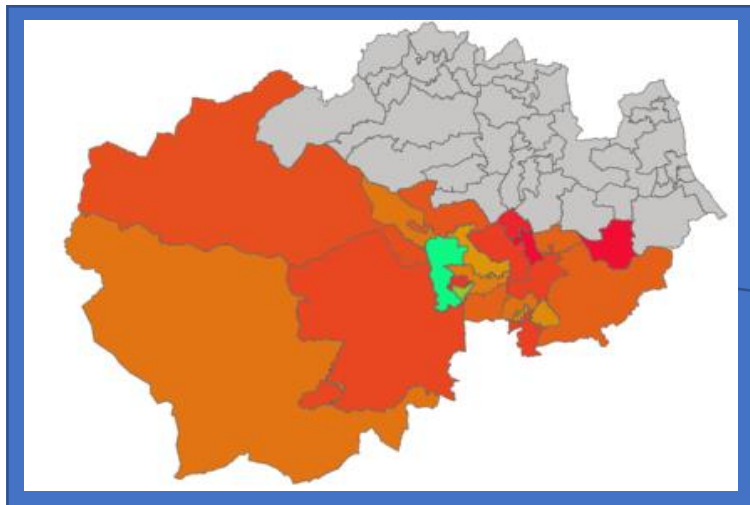
South MAP - 34% of reports



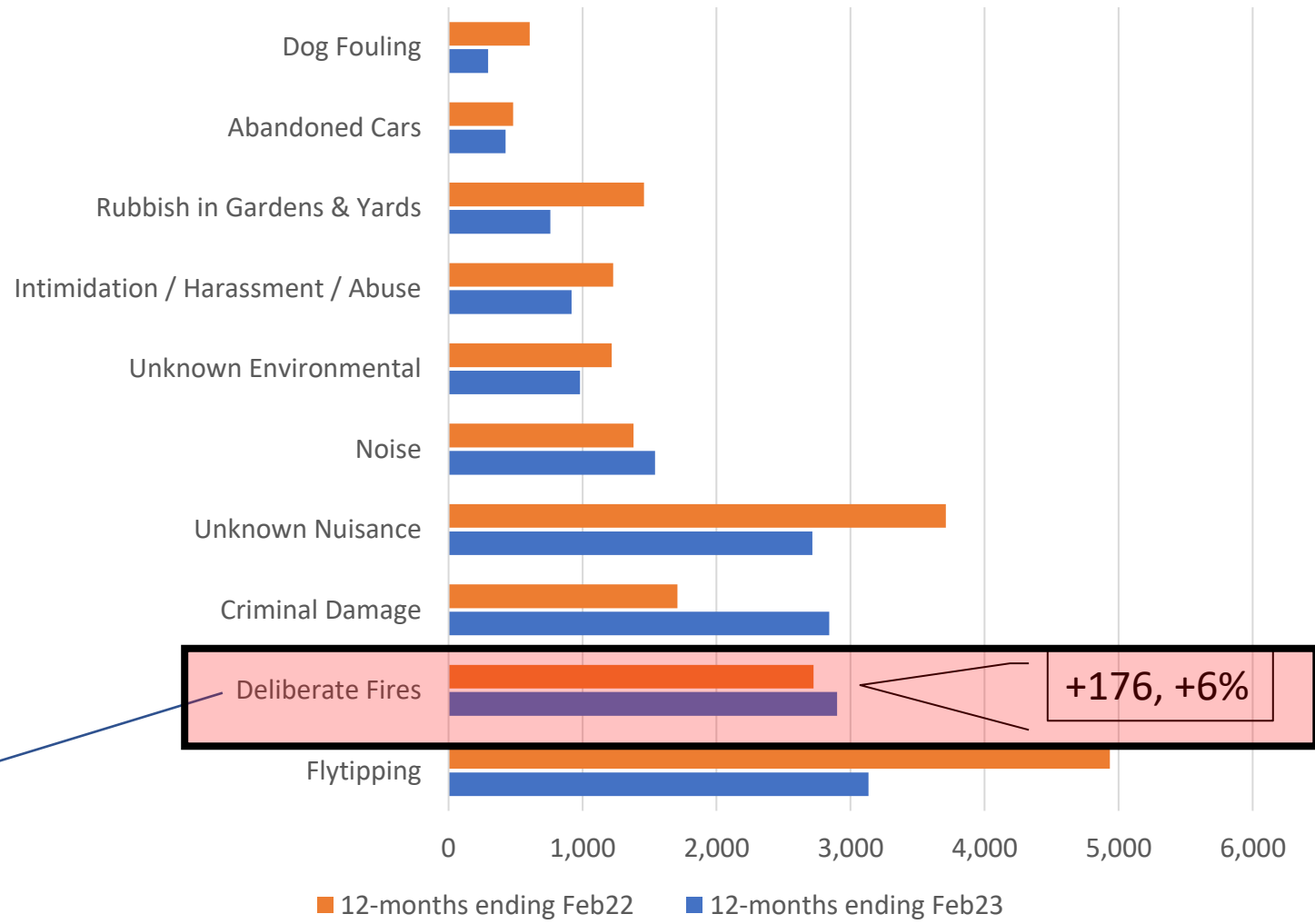
Top 10 ASB Categories



South MAP - 34% of reports



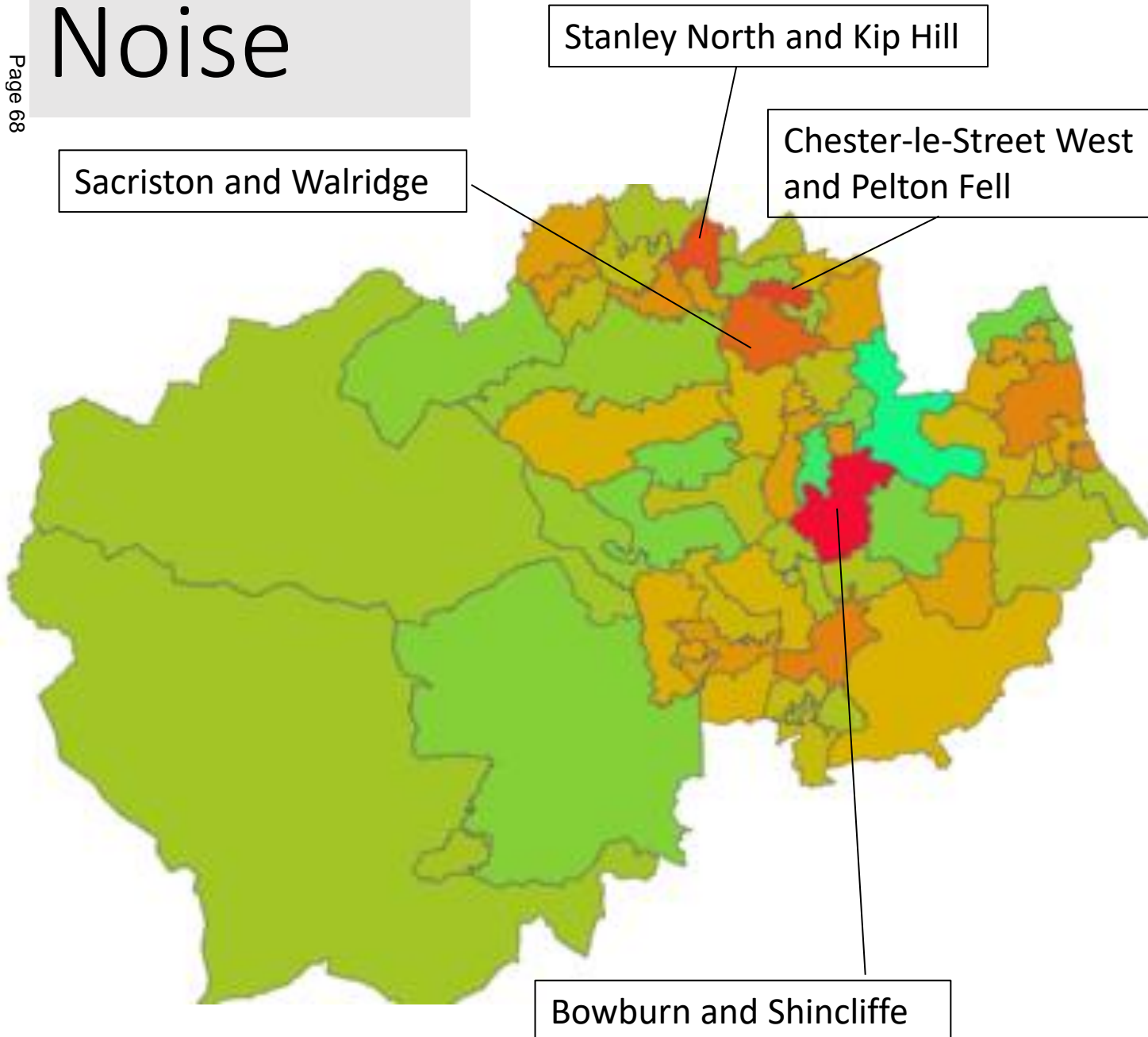
Top 10 ASB Categories



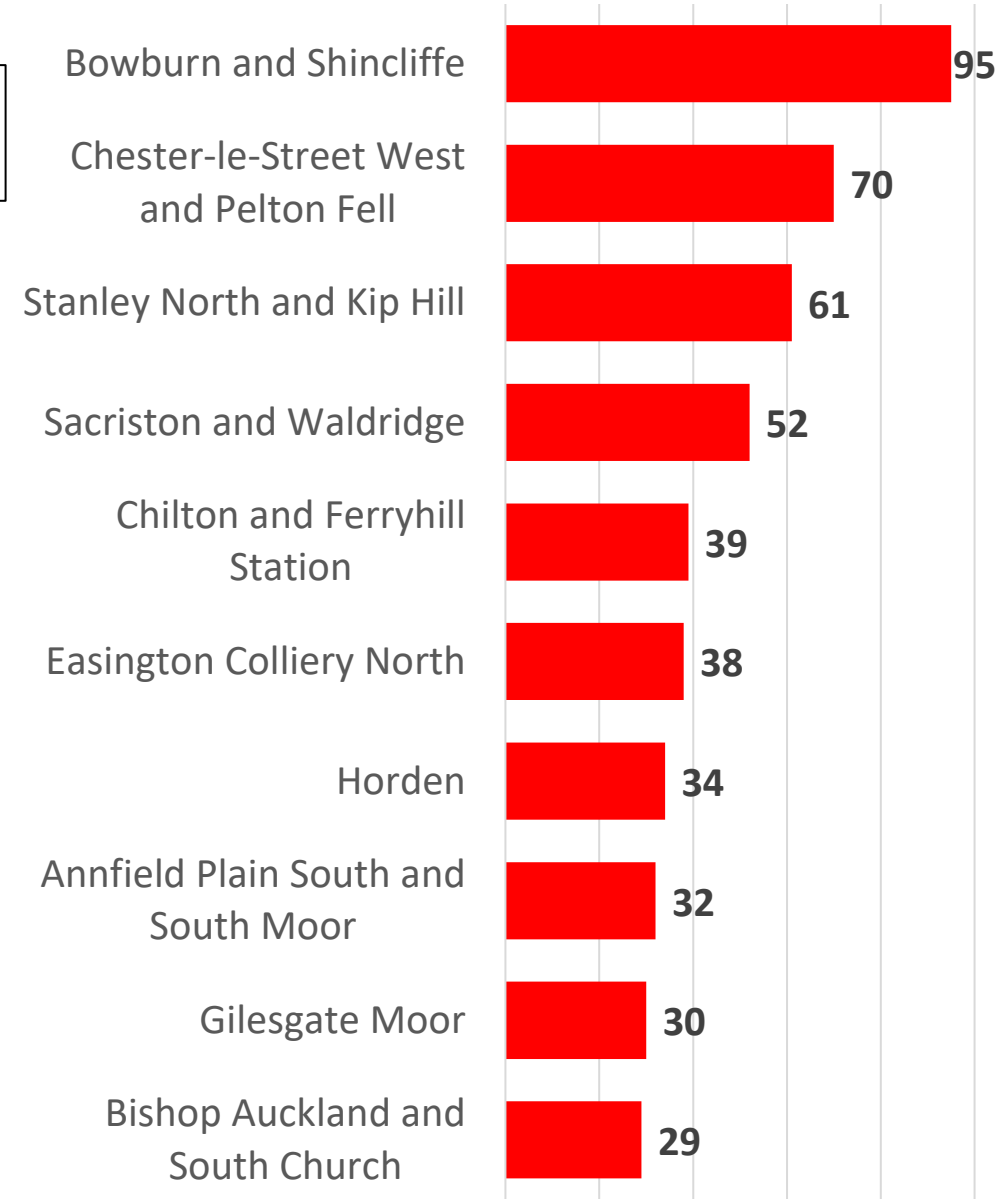
Noise

	Mar21 – Feb22	Mar22 – Feb23	No. increase	% increase
City of Durham	773	795	+22	+3%
East	752	887	+135	+18%
North	970	1,293	+323	+33%
South	1,381	1,541	+160	+12%
	3,876	4,516	+640	+17%

Noise



Increases By MSOA

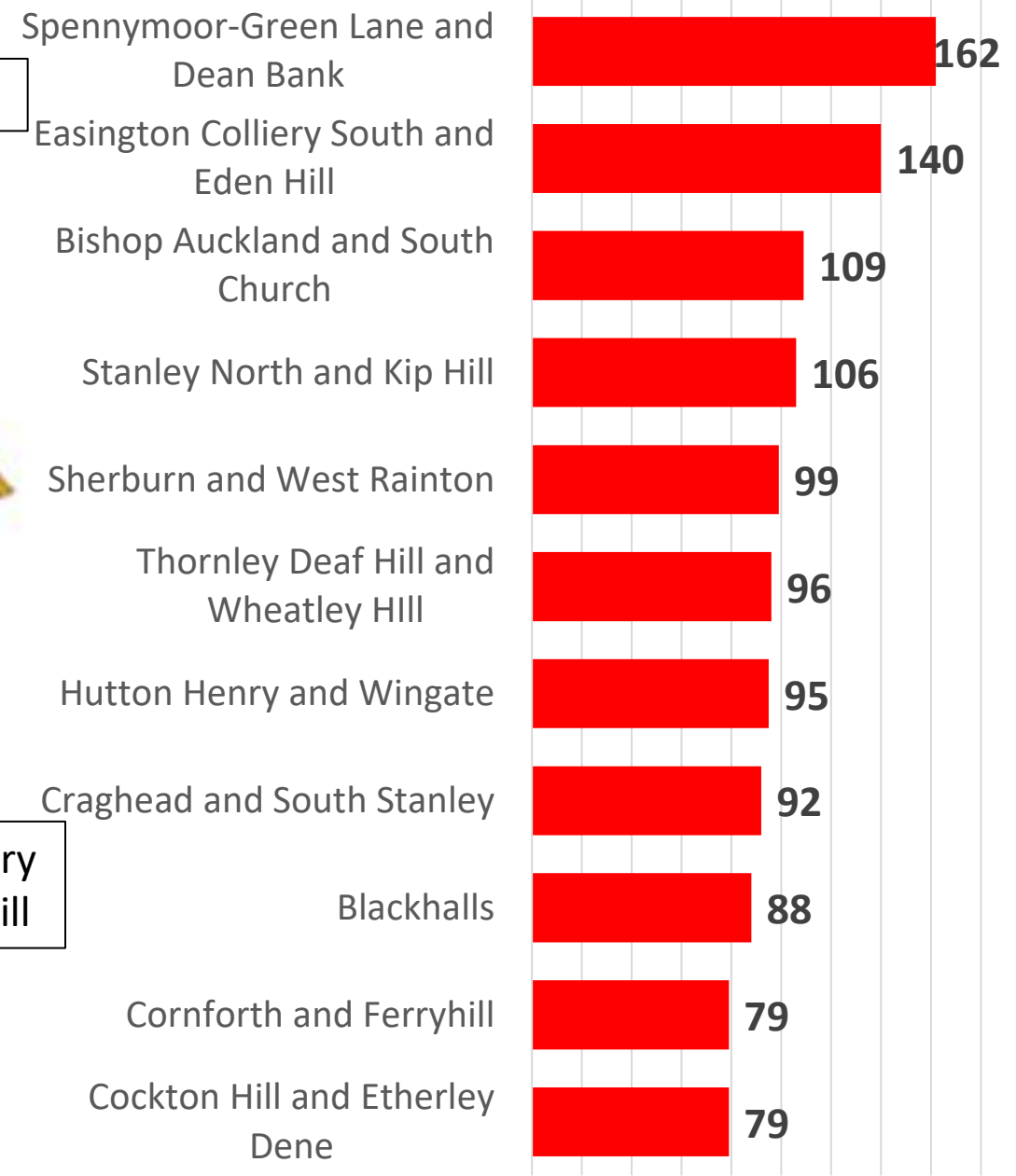
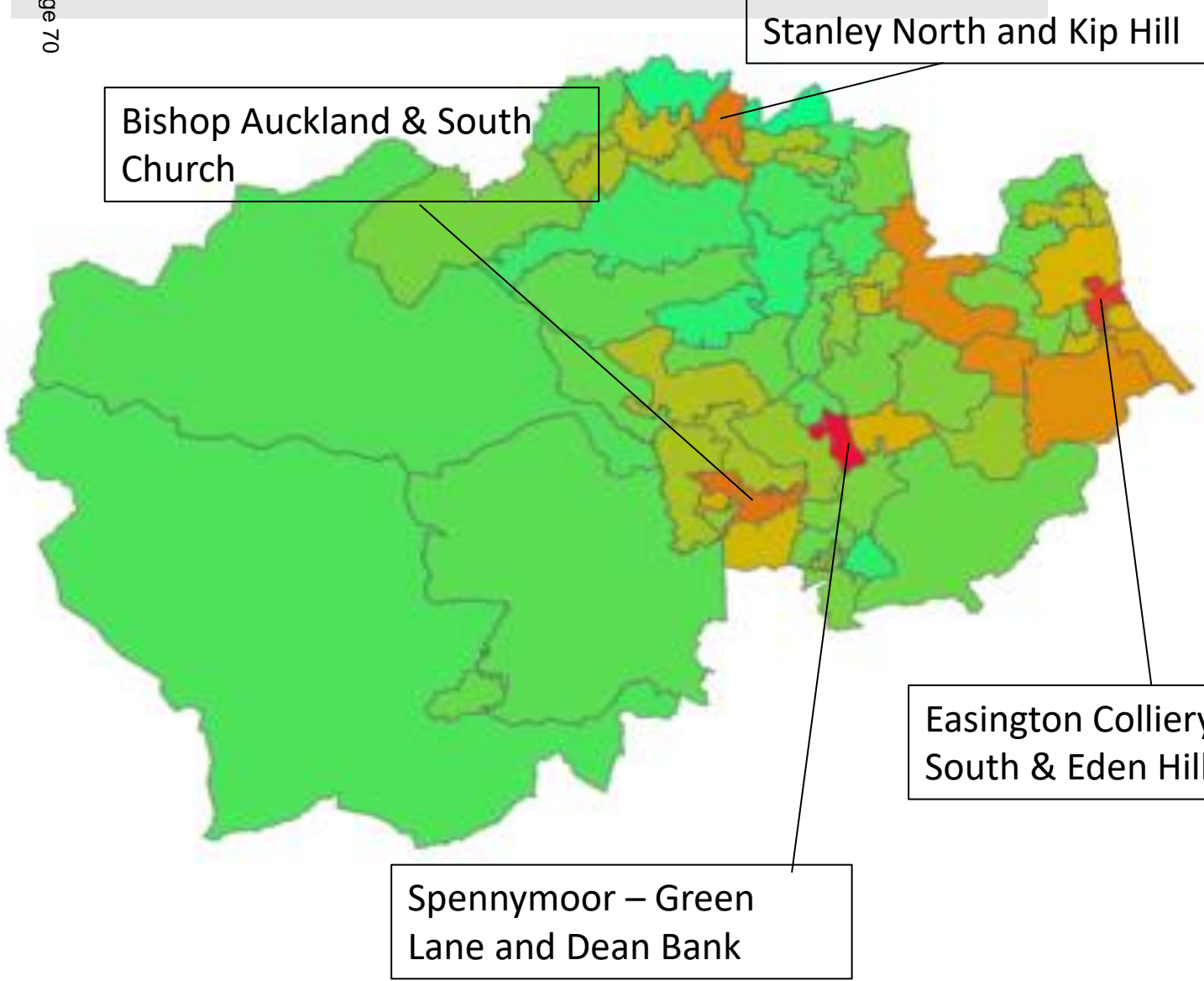


Criminal Damage

	Mar21 – Feb22	Mar22 – Feb23	No. increase	% increase
City of Durham	534	982	+448	+84%
East	1,170	2,080	+910	+78%
North	962	1,689	+727	+76%
South	1,708	2,840	+1,132	+66%
	4,374	7,591	+3,217	+74%

Criminal Damage

Increases By MSOA

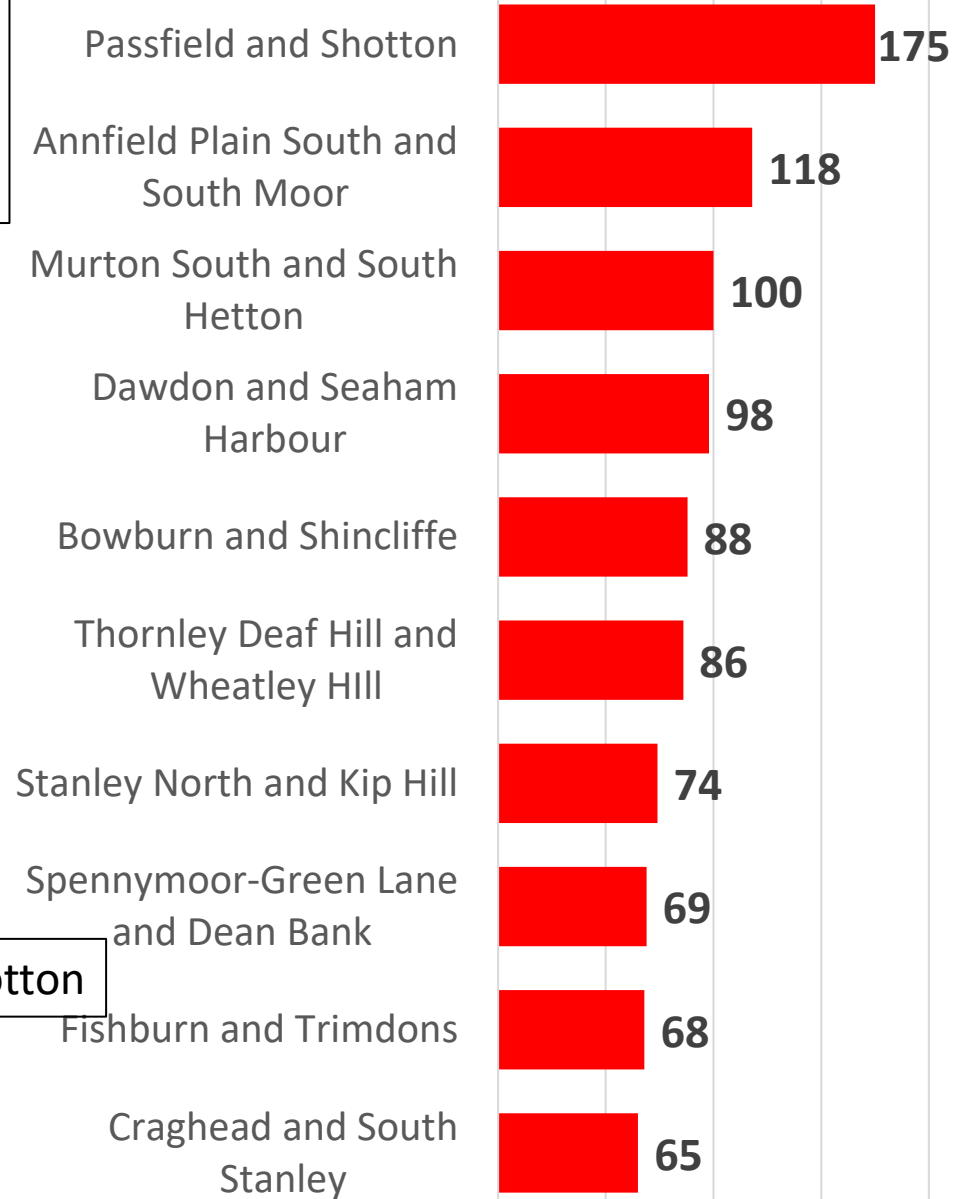
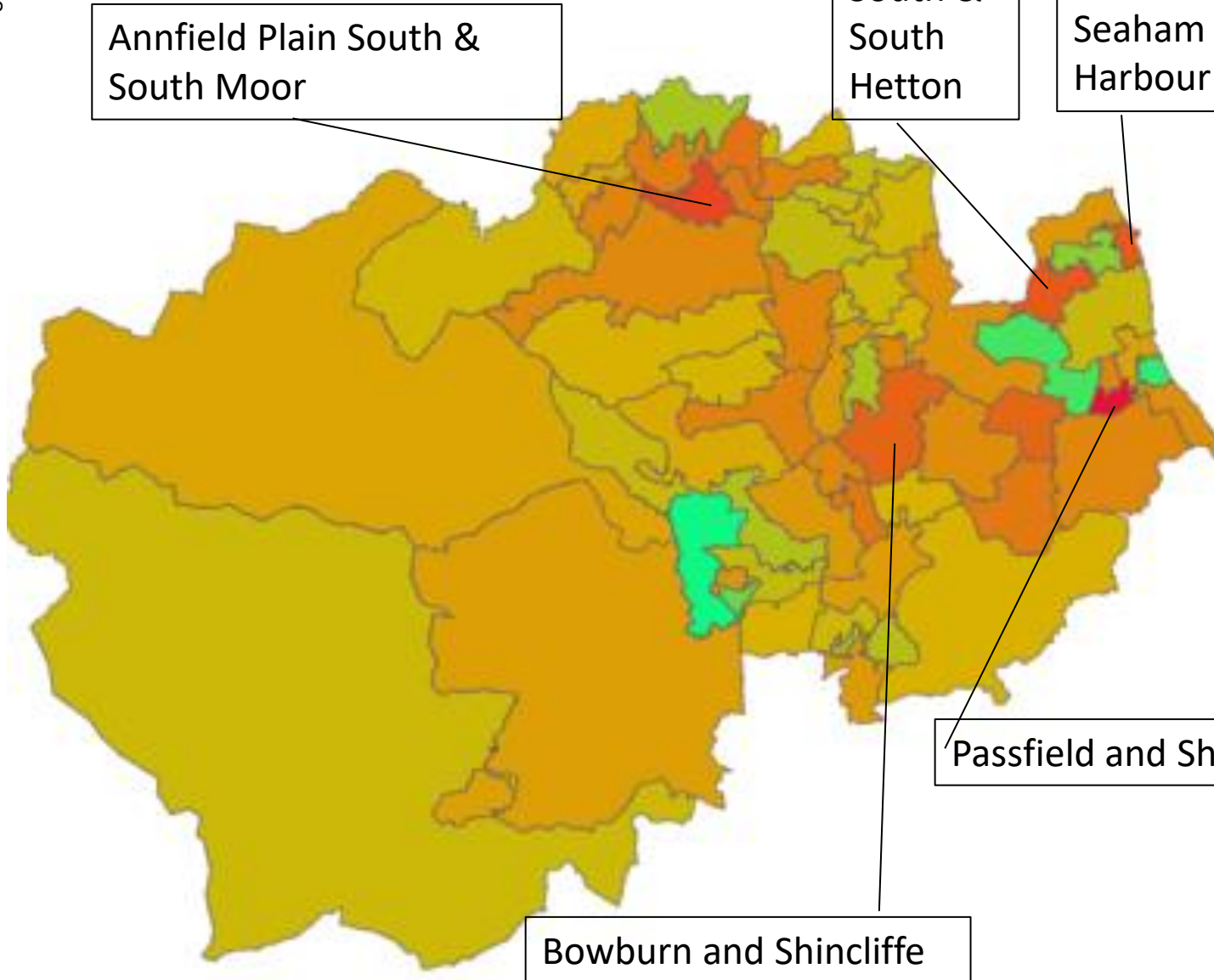


Deliberate Fires

	Mar21 – Feb22	Mar22 – Feb23	No. increase	% increase
City of Durham	947	1,334	+387	+41%
East	3,656	4,051	+395	+11%
North	2,011	2,547	+536	+27%
South	2,723	2,899	+176	+6%
	9,337	10,831	+1,494	+16%

Deliberate Fires

Increases By MSOA



**Safer and Stronger
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

26 June 2023

**Quarter Four, 2022/23
Performance Management Report**

Ordinary Decision



Report of John Hewitt, Chief Executive

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide.

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present an overview of progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework and highlight key messages to inform strategic priorities and work programmes.
- 2 The report covers performance in and to the end of quarter four, 2022/23, January to March 2023.

Executive Summary

- 3 This report is structured around a performance framework which reflects our current [Council Plan](#) (2022-2026), and its format has been developed to provide greater focus on how the council is contributing to achieving the people's vision.
- 4 The performance report is structured around two main components.
 - (a) State of the County indicators to highlight areas of strategic importance and reflected in both the [County Durham Vision 2035](#) and the [Council Plan](#).
 - (b) Performance of council services and progress against major initiatives as set out in the [Council Plan](#).
- 5 Performance is reported on an exception basis with key messages against the five thematic areas within the Council Plan 2022-2026: our economy, our environment, our people, our communities, and our council. It is broken down into national, regional and local picture, things that are going well, areas which require attention and other areas to note.
- 6 The [Council Plan](#) has undergone its annual refresh and the plan for 2023-2027 was approved by Council on 22 February. The performance framework is now being adjusted accordingly and will form the structure of this performance report from quarter one, 2023/24.

Context

7 2022/23 continues to be a challenging period and this report sets out the council's continued strong performance. COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and the cost-of-living crisis have all impacted on our residents, our businesses and the council. The current cost-of-living crisis has steadily worsened over the last 12 months. High inflation, currently at 10.1%¹, has largely been driven by the rise in the cost of fuel and energy bills, which is being impacted significantly by world events, including the war in Ukraine. This is having a triple impact.

- (a) Impact on our residents. High inflation is outstripping wage and benefit increases, so income is falling in real terms. This is driving demand for services which support people facing financial hardship or who are in crisis, as well as services provided to vulnerable people such as social care for children and adults.

We are receiving more contact from households seeking financial assistance, with a continuing high volume of applications for Welfare Assistance. Both elements of our scheme increased during 2022/23, although the increase in claims for Daily Living Expenses² was more significant (10,812 this year, compared to 4,875 last year) than the increase in claims for Settlement Grants³ (1,576 claims this year, compared to 1,310 last year). We are continuing to support residents through the crisis with various initiatives and funds, including our Council Tax Reduction Scheme, food and fun initiatives, food surplus activity and 'cutting the cost of the school day' initiative.

- (b) Increased costs for the council. Premises and transport increased in line with higher energy costs and fuel prices, most noticeably across service areas such as waste and Home to School Transport. Contract prices were also affected, and more contracts reflected changes in demand.

We created a £10 million Budget Support Reserve to assist with inflationary pressures within 2022/23.

- (c) Reduced income for the council. Users of council services may seek to save money resulting in a fall in income from discretionary services such as leisure centres and theatres. We estimate that during 2022/23 our income will be under budget by £1.858 million.

8 The council's low tax raising capacity continues to place pressure on our budgets. If core spending power 'per dwelling' across the county was raised

¹ UK Consumer Price Index for 12 months to March 2023. Indicative [modelled consumer price inflation estimates](#) suggest that the CPI rate would have last been higher in October 1981, where the estimate for the annual inflation rate was 11.2%.

² helps people whose circumstances change unexpectedly and who do not have access to money. It provides help with daily living expenses (for up to seven days) – includes food, travel and some clothing (restrictions apply).

³ helps people stay in their home, or move back into housing, after living in supported or unsettled accommodation, e.g., when leaving care of having been made homeless. It includes help towards beds and/or bedding, furniture, white goods (for example, cooker, fridge, washing machine), kitchen equipment, floor coverings, curtains, removal costs.

to the England average of £2,360 (+£167), the council would receive an additional £42 million each year.

- 9 Budget pressures of around £79 million are expected during 2023/24. This is due to factors such as the 9.7% uplift in the National Living Wage, energy costs, pay awards, high levels of inflation and higher demand across social care services.
- 10 Pressures will be partly financed by the additional £57 million received from the Local Government Settlement and from council tax and tax base increases, with the remainder split £12 million from savings and by utilising £10 million from the MTFP Support Reserve.
- 11 Despite this challenging financial environment, the 2023/24 budget includes:
 - support for low-income households through our Council Tax Reduction Scheme
 - maximisation of health and social care funds for the benefit of our vulnerable clients
 - significant investment in capital expenditure with a £770 million capital programme, the most ambitious the council has ever agreed.

Recommendation

- 12 That Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes:
 - (a) the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter four performance;
 - (b) the continuing impact of COVID-19 pandemic recovery and the external international factors driving inflation and cost-of-living on the council's performance; and
 - (c) the actions being taken to address areas of underperformance including the significant economic and well-being challenges because of the pandemic and other external factors.

Analysis of the Performance Report

- 13 The areas identified in this section are contributory indicators linked to the priorities of the Council Plan. Performance is reported on an exception basis with key messages against the five thematic areas within the Council Plan 2022-2026.

Our communities

- 14 The aim of this priority is to ensure our communities are well connected and supportive of each other, with vibrant and accessible towns and villages which are well-used, clean, attractive and safe. We will support our most vulnerable residents, particularly those isolated or financially vulnerable. We will maintain a strong focus on tackling poverty throughout the cost-of-living crisis.

Going Well

- 15 The council and its partners continue to take action on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), with the latest data showing a 15% fall in ASB. During quarter three, increases were identified across specific ASB types which were being masked by larger falls elsewhere. These areas were the focus during quarter four, and data shows that over the last quarter deliberate fires reduced by 67% and criminal damage by 4%. During quarter four, Durham Police was selected to participate in a [two-year trailblazer project aimed at delivering the Government's Anti-Social Behaviour \(ASB\) Action Plan](#). Further detail will be included in future reports.
- 16 28% of properties covered by our selective licensing scheme (launched 1 April 2022) are fully licenced, and a further 5% have submitted applications.

Risk Management

- 17 Effective risk management is a vital component of the council's agenda. The council's risk management process sits alongside our change programme and is incorporated into all significant change and improvement projects. The latest report can be found [here](#).

Background papers

- County Durham Vision (County Council, 23 October 2019)
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s115064/Draft%20Durham%20Vision%20v10.0.pdf>

Other useful documents

- Council Plan 2022 to 2026 (current plan)
<https://www.durham.gov.uk/media/34954/Durham-County-Council-Plan-2022-2026/pdf/CouncilPlan2022-2026.pdf?m=63796952367360000>
- Quarter Three, 2022/23 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s171720/Item%205%20Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20Q3%202022-23.pdf>

- Quarter Two, 2022/23 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s166398/Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20Q2%202022-23%20v2.1.pdf>
- Quarter One, 2022/23 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s161902/Corporate%20Performance%20Report%20Q1%202022-23%20Revised.pdf>
- Quarter Four, 2021/22 Performance Management Report
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s157533/Year%20End%20performance%20report%202021-22.pdf>

Author

Steve Evans

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable.

Finance

Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Equality measures are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Climate Change

We have declared a climate change emergency and consider the implications of climate change in our reports and decision-making.

Human Rights

Not applicable.

Crime and Disorder

A number of performance indicators and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Staffing

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health indicators has been included to monitor staffing issues.

Accommodation

Not applicable.

Risk

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly performance management report.

Procurement

Not applicable.



Durham County Council Performance Management Report Quarter Four, 2022/23



1.0 Our Communities: National, Regional & Local Picture

- 1 Durham is one of 16 police force areas selected to participate in a [two-year trailblazer project aimed at delivering the Government's Anti-Social Behaviour \(ASB\) Action Plan](#). The project's main focus will be the roll out of a new Immediate Justice service, where perpetrators of ASB will be made to repair the damage they inflict, and greater 'hotspot' policing and enforcement (funded by the Home Office). The plan will also crack down on illegal drugs, ban nitrous oxide and expand the use of drug testing on arrest.

1.1 Council Activity: Going Well

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 2 ASB continues to be defined through three strands: environmental⁴ ASB (70% of the total), nuisance⁵ (26%) and personal⁶ (4%).
- 3 Reports of ASB reduced by 15% during the 12 months ending 31 March 2023, compared to the same period last year. Although all strands showed decreases, deeper analysis has highlighted increases across specific ASB types which are being masked by larger falls elsewhere. These types are criminal damage, noise and deliberate fires.
- 4 These three areas have been identified as priorities by the ASB Strategic Group, alongside fly-tipping which, although decreasing, remains the most frequently reported ASB type. Over the last quarter, there has been a noticeable decrease in reports of deliberate fires (67% reduction on the same period last year) and a more modest decrease in relation to criminal damage (4% fewer). Reports of noise has remained static (-0.4% fewer).
- 5 The data is a combination of data from the council, the police, fire service and Believe Housing. Following a change in national recording rules in September, the police have changed how some types of ASB are recorded. Some personal ASB is now recorded as a crime of Harassment (section 2 only) and some nuisance ASB is now recorded as a public order offence.
- 6 Following this change, the overall volume of police reported ASB reduced, with corresponding increases across harassment and public order. Previous data cannot be retrospectively changed so it appears that there has been a decrease in police

⁴ Criminal damage/vandalism/graffiti, environmental cleanliness (e.g., litter, dog-fouling, fly-tipping (both public and private land), abandoned shopping trolleys, discarded drug paraphernalia), abandoned cars, pollution (smoke, light, smells)

⁵ Noise, rowdy behaviour, nuisance behaviour, drug/substance misuse/dealing, stray animals, deliberate fires, vehicle nuisance

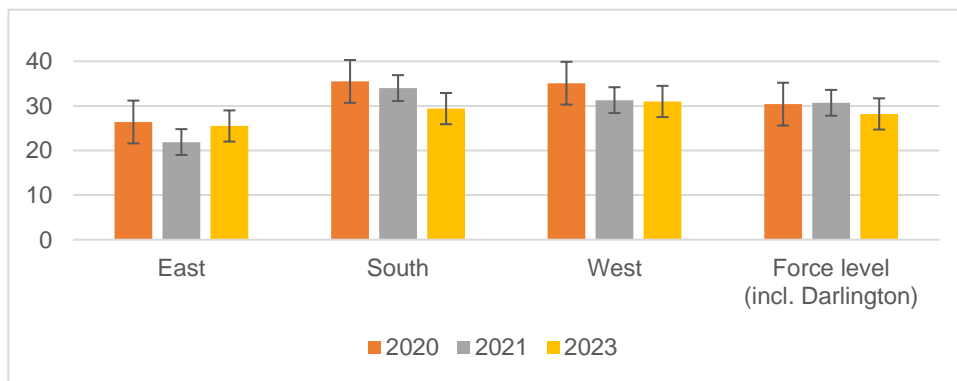
⁶ Intimidation, harassment, abuse

recorded ASB. We are working to incorporate both harassment and public order crimes into our data set so we can monitor the situation more effectively.

- 7 During quarter four, Durham Police was selected to participate in a [two-year trailblazer project aimed at delivering the Government's Anti-Social Behaviour \(ASB\) Action Plan](#). Further detail will be included in future reports.

Public confidence that the Police and Local Authorities are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them

- 8 Data from the most recent survey shows a smaller proportion of respondents agree that the police and local authority are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them. However, the rate is an estimate from a sample survey and as it is within the estimated confidence intervals of +/-3.5pp it is possible the decrease is due to random sample variation.



- 9 East, South and West are the three police localities that make up County Durham. With the exception of the East in 2021, there has been no significant difference between each of these areas over the last three years.
- 10 The latest survey also asked residents, 'What do you feel is the single, biggest issue, negatively impacting on your local community at this time?'. The main themes identified at force level were ASB, youth-related ASB and drug-related ASB. However, the top three issues identified as having the greatest negative impact on individuals were speeding and driver related ASB, general negative view of the police and police behaviour and off-road bikes.

Selective Licensing Scheme

- 11 The scheme was launched in April, and to date, 8,226 (28%) of the 29,000 (approx.) eligible private sector properties are now fully licensed. Applications have been received and are being processed for a further 1,527 properties. Work is underway to compare 2021 census data against the 2020 modelling data, areas of low compliance will be targeted by the enforcement team.

Community Action Teams (CAT) and Community Safety Teams

- 12 Following community engagement and partner intelligence in response to issues of anti-social behaviour in Coundon and Leeholme, the CAT were able to focus their work on dealing with rubbish accumulations on streets, waste grounds and in gardens; dog fouling; anti-social behaviour and smoke nuisance. Our response included:
- 79 notices were issued against 25 different issues/properties
 - 35 Community protection warnings and notices together with 5 fixed penalty notices were issued for fly-tipping and dog fouling incidents
 - Fire safety and smoke nuisance advice was provided to over 120 residents and businesses
 - 8 empty properties were brought back into use
 - Other actions undertaken included community litter picks and visits to 3 local schools to raise awareness of fire safety, anti-social behaviour and environmental improvements initiatives.
- 13 In January, the follow-up review of the Easington Colliery CAT project was undertaken. A number of issues were identified around rubbish accumulations, open to access properties, drainage complaints and defective properties identified, resulting in section 106 legal notices being issued on 38 issues/properties.
- 14 Our community safety teams have been in local communities addressing residents' concerns about access to derelict buildings, carrying out work to limit access of off-road bikes to footpaths. Liaised with residents on a number of issues including loan sharks, financial and general support available to address the cost of living crisis. We also liaised with our partners on reports of adult exploitation and reports of fires and criminal damage, and target hardening of areas to prevent nuisance vehicles causing damage to green spaces and to prevent unauthorised encampments.

1.2 Council Activity: Other Areas to Note

ASB in Selective Licensing Areas (in effect from 1 April 2022)

- 15 The rate of anti-social behaviour incidents (per 10,000 population) within selective licensing designated areas⁷ was 170 for the period October to December 2022. This is 32% below the target of 224 incidents; and is 67% lower (-114 incidents) than the previous reporting period (July-September 2022). The main reason for the decrease

⁷ This is a specific sub-set of ASB. It differs in that it does not contain stray dogs, stray horses, abandoned shopping trolleys, graffiti, criminal damage or pollution. It is also limited to council, fire and police data whereas overall reports of ASB contain some housing association data.

is a reclassification of some police reported ASB incidents to crimes. We are reviewing the baseline position to agree a solution for comparable back data.

Key to Symbols

Performance against target and previous performance		Performance against comparable groups		Direction of Travel	
✓	meeting or exceeding	✓	Performance is better than national or north east	↑	higher than comparable period
○	within 2%	×	Performance is worse than national or north east	→	static against comparable period
×	more than 2% behind	S	Performance is the same as national or north east	↓	lower than comparable period

NB: oldest data in left column

Types of indicators

There are two types of performance indicators throughout the report:

1. Key target indicators – targets are set as improvements can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners; and
2. Key tracker indicators – performance is tracked but no targets are set as they are long-term and / or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners.

National Benchmarking (N)

We compare our performance to all English authorities. The number of authorities varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils, e.g., educational attainment is compared to county and unitary councils, however waste disposal is compared to district and unitary councils.

North East Benchmarking (NE)

The North East comparator is the average performance from the authorities within the North East region - County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees, South Tyneside, Sunderland.

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at performance@durham.gov.uk

Our Communities

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
Respondents who agree that police and local authorities are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter to them <i>(confidence intervals +/-3.5pp)</i>	28.2% (2023)	Tracker -	30.7% <i>(2021)</i> ○	30.4% <i>(2020)</i> ○	-	-	→	n/a	n/a	→	Yes
Overall crime rate per 1,000 population	27.5 (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	23.6 x	24.3 x	-	-	↓	↑	↑	↑	Yes
Rate of theft offences per 1,000 population	6.6 (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	5.8 x	6.6 ○	-	-	↓	↑	↑	↑	Yes
Proportion of all offenders who re-offend in a 12 month period (%)	30.6% (Apr-Jun 19)	Tracker -	n/a	n/a	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No
Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%)	33.5% (2019/20)	Tracker -	n/a	n/a	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No
First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 (per 100,000 population aged 10 to 17)	147 (Oct 20-Sep 21)	Tracker -	n/a	n/a	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No
% of violent crime incidents which were alcohol related	33.3% (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	32.2% ○	31.7% ○	-	-	→	↑	→	→	Yes
No. of alcohol seizures	194 (Apr-Jun 2018)	Tracker -	n/a	n/a	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No
% of successful completions of those in alcohol treatment	31.1% (Feb 22-Jan 23)	Tracker -	37.8% x	27.3% ✓	-	✓	↑	→	→	↓	Yes
% of successful completions of those in drug treatment – opiates	5.3% (Feb 22-Jan 23)	Tracker -	6.3% ✓	5.9% ○	-	✓	→	→	→	↓	Yes

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
% of successful completions of those in drug treatment – non-opiates	32.2% (Feb 22-Jan 23)	Tracker -	35.5% x	29% ✓	-	✓	↑	↓	→	↓	Yes
Reports of anti-social behaviour	51,504 (Apr 22-Mar-23)	Tracker -	60,854 ✓	36,127 x	-	-	↑	↑	↓	↓	Yes
Reports of environmental anti-social behaviour	35,931 (Apr 22-Mar-23)	Tracker -	41,834 ✓	20,606 x	-	-	↑	↑	↓	↓	Yes
Reports of nuisance anti-social behaviour	13,356 (Apr 22-Mar-23)	Tracker -	15,840 ✓	13,612 ✓	-	-	↓	↓	↓	↓	Yes
Reports of personal anti-social behaviour	2,217 (Apr 22-Mar-23)	Tracker -	3,180 ✓	1,909 x	-	-	↓	↓	→	↓	Yes
% anti-social behaviour incidents which were alcohol related	7.1% (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	10.5% ✓	13.7% ✓	-	-	↓	↓	↓	↓	Yes
No. of ASB enforcement action taken	6,077 2022/23	Tracker -	4,651 ✓	2,636 ✓	-	-	↑	↑	↑	↑	Yes
% of Harbour ⁸ clients feeling more confident in themselves on case closure	87% (Oct-Dec 22)	Tracker -	81% ✓	-	-	-	↓	↑	↑	↑	No
% of Harbour ⁸ clients feeling their quality of life has improved on case closure	83% (Oct-Dec 22)	Tracker -	76% ✓	-	-	-	↑	↑	↑	↑	No
% of children and young people completing an intervention with Harbour ⁸ and reporting feeling safer	84% (Oct-Dec 22)	Tracker -	84% ○	-	-	-	→	↑	↓	→	No

⁸ Harbour - a specialist domestic abuse service that helps people living in County Durham. Harbour provides support to both victims of domestic abuse and perpetrators of abuse

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
Children and young people reviewed as at risk to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	45 (Oct-Dec 22)	Tracker -	n/a	n/a	-	-	↑	↓	n/a	n/a	No
No. of people KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of fatalities	6 (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	4 x	5 x	-	-	→	→	→	↑	Yes
No. of people KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of seriously injured	26 (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	51 ✓	41 ✓	-	-	↓	↑	↑	↓	Yes
No. of children KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of fatalities	0 (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	1 ✓	0 ○	-	-	↓	→	→	→	Yes
No. of children KSI in road traffic accidents - No. of seriously injured	2 (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	7 ✓	4 ✓	-	-	↓	↓	→	→	Yes
Achieve 100% licensing of private rented sector properties covered by the Selective Licensing Scheme by 2027	28% (Jan-Mar 23)	Tracker -	new PI	new PI	-	-	new PI	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
No. of fully licensed private rented sector properties in the selective licensed areas	8,226 (Jan-Mar)	Tracker -	new PI	new PI	-	-	new PI	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
Reduce ASB rates (per 10,000 population) within the Selective Licensing Scheme areas by 10% (against the 2021 baseline)	170 (Oct-Dec 22)	224.27 x	249.19 x	new PI	-	-	↓	↓	↓	↓	Yes

Other relevant indicators

Performance Indicator	Latest data (period covered)	Performance compared to:					Direction of Travel - last four reporting periods				updated
		Period target	12 months earlier	Pre-COVID	N	NE					
Reduce the overall suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	15.8% (2019-21)	Tracker -	14.3% x	14.3% x	x	x	↑	↑	↑	↑	No
Increase % of older people still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement / rehabilitation services	88.3% (Jan-Dec 22)	84.0% ✓	88.7% ○	85.8% ✓	✓	✓	↑	↑	↑	↓	Yes

Item:

**Safer and Stronger
Communities Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

26 June 2023



**Work Programme 2023/24 for
the Safer and Stronger
Communities Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

Report of Paul Darby Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SSC OSC) with a work programme for 2023/2024.

Executive summary

- 2 SSC OSC review their work programme each year to reflect the objectives and associated outcomes and actions identified within the Council Plan and Safe Durham Partnership Plan and in the context of the County Durham Vision 2035.
- 3 The proposed SSC OSC work programme has been framed around the shared County Durham Vision 2035 based on the three strategic ambitions of 'more and better jobs', 'long and independent lives' and 'connected communities'. The SSC OSC work programme also reflects the six strategic priorities of the Safe Durham Partnership Plan.
- 4 This year the Council Plan has been refreshed to reflect the political changes in the Council since May 2021 and new initiatives on the environment and climate change. In addition, overview and scrutiny work programmes are designed to be flexible to accommodate items which may arise throughout the year.

Recommendations

- 5 SSC OSC is recommended to:
 - a) Receive and comment on the proposed SSC OSC work programme for 2023/24
 - b) Agree the SSC OSC work programme for 2023/2024 and the flexibility it offers to respond to emerging issues.

Background

- 6 SSC OSC has a focus on community safety and service improvement and this will continue in 2023/24. The Committee will also contribute to policy development where it can add value and insight.
- 7 The current overview and scrutiny committees work programmes are informed by:
 - Council Plan
 - Cabinet’s Notice of Key Decisions
 - County Durham Vision for 2035
 - Partnership plans and strategies
 - Performance and budgetary control data
 - Changes in government legislation
 - Local priorities
- 8 The County Durham Partnership agreed a Vision for County Durham 2035 which sets out our strategic direction and what we would like to achieve by this date. The Vision was developed with partner organisations and the public and is structured around three broad ambitions for the people of County Durham.
 - More and better jobs
 - People live long and independent lives
 - Communities are well connected and supportive of each other
- 9 Each ambition contains a number of objectives together with some council specific objectives. Following the refresh of the Council Plan in April 2022, it is now structured around five objectives which capture the three ambitions:
 - Our Economy
 - Our People
 - Our Communities
 - Our Environment
 - Our Council

Council Plan 2023 - 2027

- 10 The Council Plan is the primary corporate planning document for the county council. It details Durham County Council's contribution towards achieving the objectives set out in the Vision for County Durham 2035 together with its own ambitious agenda. It provides a summary for members, partners and the public of our priorities for the county and the main programmes of work that we will undertake to help achieve these priorities. The Plan will now be refreshed each year to reflect the integration of corporate and financial planning.
- 11 Both the Vision for County Durham and the Council Plan are structured around the three ambitions which are mentioned above. An additional ambition of an excellent council has been developed for the Council Plan to capture the corporate initiatives that the council has identified and wants to undertake to transform its operations and enable achievement of the ambitions within the vision. Within this context, the ambition of Connected Communities is linked to the remit of the SSC OSC and includes the following:
- a) Connected Communities
 - (i) All children and young people will have a safe childhood.
 - (ii) Our towns and villages will be vibrant, well used, clean, attractive and safe.
 - (iii) Communities will come together and support each other.

Safer and Stronger Communities OSC

- 12 In addition to providing a scrutiny role for activity of the council, SSC OSC is the designated Crime and Disorder Committee for the purposes of Part 3 of the Police and Justice Act 2006. The Committee is therefore responsible for scrutinising the work of the Safe Durham Partnership.
- 13 During 2022/2023, SSC OSC held six scheduled meetings, two special meetings and five informal sessions. Within this period the committee has provided consultation responses to the Safe Durham Partnership Board in respect of the draft Anti-social Behaviour Strategy and County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service's Community Risk Management Plan. The committee also considered quarterly performance reports and presentations and reports in relation to the following areas:
- a) Overview activity

- (i) County Durham Youth Justice Service
- (ii) Open Water Safety
- (iii) Alcohol and Drug Harm Reduction Group
- (iv) Home Fire Safety
- (v) Horden Together Initiative
- (vi) Safety of Women at Night (SWaN) and Safer Streets Programme
- (vii) Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group Annual Report
- (viii) Community Protection Service
- (ix) Public Protection Service
- (x) Road Safety
- (xi) Anti-Social Behaviour Strategic Group
- (xii) Probation Service
- (xiii) Civil contingency planning and Storm Arwen review

b) Consultation

- (i) Safe Durham Partnership ASB Strategy
- (ii) County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service's Community Risk Management Plan

c) Informal Briefing Sessions

- (i) Arson Suppression Group
- (ii) Anti-Social Behaviour Powers and Interventions
- (iii) Exploitation
- (iv) Empty Properties and ASB
- (v) ASB Performance Dashboard

Areas for Consideration in the SSC OSC Work Programme

- 14 Paragraph 13 of this report identifies activity undertaken by the committee during 2022/23. The committee is asked to consider areas for further progress updates and review topics to be included in the work programme for 2023/2024 in light of the current Council Plan, Safe Durham Partnership Plan and the Vision for County Durham 2035.
- 15 Within this context, Members of the SSC OSC are asked to agree the proposed work programme for 2023/24 that is attached at appendix two. The work programme is very comprehensive drawing on topical areas across the remit of the committee and it should be noted that it is also flexible to accommodate emerging issues throughout the municipal year.

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 16 Information with this report aims to contribute to activity to reducing crime and disorder within the county.

Conclusion

- 17 The work programme report identifies areas of work that fall within the remit of SSC OSC.

Background papers

- [Council Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27](#)
- [A Vision for County Durham 2035](#)
- [Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2021-25](#)

Contact: Stephen Gwilym

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None

Finance

None

Consultation

None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None

Climate Change

None

Human Rights

None

Crime and Disorder

Information with this report aims to contribute to activity to reducing crime and disorder within County Durham.

Staffing

None

Accommodation

None

Risk

The Overview and Scrutiny work programme is an important element of the Council's governance and risk management arrangements.

Procurement

None

Appendix 2: Draft SSCOSC Work Programme

Attached as a separate document.

<p>Overview and Scrutiny Draft Work Programme 2023/24</p> <p>Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Lead Officer: Stephen Gwilym</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Officer: Clare Luery</p> <p>SPG Contact: Julie Bradbrook</p> <p>The Committee has responsibility for the ambition of connected communities and those actions and priorities relevant to the Committee’s role as the designated Crime and Disorder Committee under Part 3 of the Police and Justice Act 2006</p>	<p>Note:</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Review – A systematic six monthly review of progress against recommendations/action plan</p> <p>Scrutiny/Working Group – In-depth review/light touch review</p> <p>Overview/progress – Information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review</p> <p>Performance/Budget – Ongoing quarterly monitoring performance reports/budgets</p>
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Item	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
O/S Review				
Scrutiny/Working Group (light touch / in-depth review)				
ASB Strategy - Delivery Plan Update	7 September 2023	Safe Durham Partnership	Information on the SDP’s ASB Strategy Delivery Plan and performance metrics	
ASB Strategy - Delivery Plan Performance Update	26 Feb 2024			

Overview/Progress				
Combating Drugs Partnership	TBC	Amanda Healy/Jane Sunter	To provide the Committee with information regarding the establishment of the Combating Drugs Partnership and the associated Health Needs Assessment and priorities.	
Fire Safety	26 June 2023	Keith Carruthers (CDDFRS)	Awareness of Home Fire Safety activity undertaken by CDDFRS	
Nuisance Vehicles/Off Road Bikes	26 June 2023	Nicola Bowman (Durham Constabulary)	Provide the committee with progress on activity to tackle nuisance quad and off-road bikes	Requested following presentation to the Committee's meeting in December 2021
Prevent Strategy: Countering terrorism, radicalisation and violent extremism	7 September 2023	Police with support from SDP Lead officer Jamie Riley	Committee to receive report on the partnership's progress in meeting the statutory duties contained within	Link to strategic priority within SDP Plan

			the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and an update on partnership working.	
Horden Together	7 September 2023	Julie Bradbrook/Owen Cleugh	Provide the Committee with an update on progress with the Horden Together and safer streets initiatives.	
Open Water Safety	7 September 2023	Kevin Lough	Members will receive a progress update on activity on Open Water Safety within the County. This will also include work with the city safety group	Information will build upon the presentation to the Committee's meeting in September 2021.
Civil Contingency Planning and Storm Arwen Review	7 September 2023	Kevin Edworthy	To consider a progress report on implementation of recommendations within the Storm Arwen Improvement Plan	Requested within response to service following Special SSC OSC on 20 May 2022.
Domestic Abuse Plan and Strategy	2 November 2023	Jane Sunter	Update report on the Domestic Abuse strategy and action plan.	Update from report to Sept 2022 meeting and cross cutting area with CYP OSC

Serious Violence Strategy	2 November 2023	Ch Supt Alastair Simpson		Contact Durham Constabulary to facilitate report to SSC OSC
County Durham Youth Justice Plan	11 December 2023	Martyn Stenton/Dave Summers	To appraise members on activity of the County Durham Youth Justice Service.	
Public Protection Service – Enforcement and Intervention Activity	11 December 2023	Owen Cleugh	Report on enforcement and intervention activity by the Public Protection Service	
County Durham & Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP)	TBC	CDDFRS	Members to consider and provide a response to consultation the CRMP	TBC confirmed by , once timeframe is known. Completed 27 February 2023
Safe Durham Partnership Refresh of Partnership Priorities	26 February 2024	Safe Durham Partnership	SSC OSC commentary on the refresh of the SDP Priorities as part of the consultation process	
Probation Services	16 April 2024	Karen Blackburn	Progress report on delivery of probation services within County Durham	

Reducing Re-offending	16 April 2024	John Graham (Probation Service)	Report on activity of the SDP Reducing Re-offending Group	Link to strategic priority within the SDP Plan
Road Safety	16 April 2024	Dave Lewin	Annual update on Road Safety Activity by the Council and Road Casualty Reduction Partnership.	Link to strategic priority within SDP Plan
Hate Crime	TBC	Hate Crime Action Group	To receive progress update on activity of the Hate Crime Action Group and its action plan.	Linked to activity within the SDP plan and report to SSC OSC in November 2020.
Arson Suppression Group	TBC		To receive an overview of the SDP approach to tackling arson through activity of the Arson Suppression Group.	Awareness to members and to be delivered through an informal session
Modern Slavery	TBC	Heidi Gibson	To gain an understanding of the council and partnership approaches to tackling modern slavery.	Awareness to members and to be delivered through an informal session.
Performance				
Performance Quarterly reporting	2022/23 – Q4 report – 26 June 2023	Tom Gorman, Corporate Strategy	To provide members with progress towards achieving the key	

	2023/24 Q1 – November 2023 2023/24 Q2 – February 2024 2023/24 Q3 – April 2024	and Performance Manager	outcomes of the council’s corporate performance framework	
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