

# Serious Violence in York and North Yorkshire

## Strategic Needs Assessment 2025/26



Updated January 2026

Authored by SVD Analysts

Serious Violence Duty Working Group

## Foreword

*“Serious violence has a devastating impact on victims, families, and communities across the country and whilst we know that overall North Yorkshire is one of the safest places to live, we can’t be naïve in thinking serious violence doesn’t happen here – we know it does – and people across our county need to feel safe and be kept safe. As a Community Safety Partnership, we recognise that tackling serious violence is not solely a policing issue, it is a shared responsibility that demands a whole-system approach.*

*As a partnership of committed public sector agencies, Safer North Yorkshire Partnership and Safer York Partnership are proud to publish the 2025-26 North Yorkshire and York Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) in line with the Government’s Serious Violence Duty. In our partnership, we are committed to identifying those most at risk, supporting individuals and families and creating safe spaces where people can thrive.*

*This SNA continues to effectively identify the areas in York and North Yorkshire where Serious Violence is the most prominent and where we most need to focus efforts to tackle it. The partnership will continue to adopt a prevention and early intervention approach, using the SNA to review and inform our Response Strategy. This work is not easy, and the challenges can be complex. Through strong collaboration, shared purpose and focus on protecting our communities, we are making a difference. We will continue in our efforts to tackle Serious Violence across our county and help keep our communities safe and feeling safe.”*

Superintendent Ed Haywood-Noble, Chair of Safer York Partnership and Chief Superintendent Fiona Willey, Chair of Safer North Yorkshire Partnership



## Executive Summary

The purpose of the Needs Assessment is to understand the extent of Serious Violence throughout York and North Yorkshire through the analysis of characteristics, patterns of behaviour and the impact on the wider community. Our aims are to establish the risk factors that increase the likelihood of violence, and how these factors can be reduced through prevention and early intervention.

The following key findings show the picture of Serious Violence in York and North Yorkshire and highlight the factors that underpin violence; this is the first step to implementing a public health approach to tackling and reducing Serious Violence within our communities.

This Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) is an updated version of the SNA dated January 2025. It is a review of Police data, analysed in 6-month periods following the end of the relevant financial year, between April 2023 and September 2025. Where possible, data from other supporting sources covering the most up to date period available has been included to provide the most current picture of Serious Violence across York and North Yorkshire.

Between April and September 2025, **Zero** people lost their lives to violence in York and North Yorkshire. In the same period there were **3,180** serious violence offences committed. In addition to the tragic loss of life and impact that serious violence offences have on individuals, families, and the community, in monetary terms these offences have cost York and North Yorkshire over **£73 million** during April to September 2025.

## York and North Yorkshire Overview



### York

#### Deprivation

- York is less deprived Overall (in terms of IMD) than 88% of local authority districts in England. Ranked 251 out of 296 Local Authority Districts (Lower Tier)
- The score for Education and Training fell in the most recent IMD.
- York scores higher on most categories compared to North Yorkshire, showing lower levels of deprivation.
- York is less deprived than 90% of local authority districts in England for Income.



#### Employment

- 1.9% of the working population are in receipt of Jobs Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit.
- Only female claimants have seen a reduction in numbers, with no change for men.
- 13.3% of children are living in absolute low-income families, up from 12.7% in 2023, but 5.4% lower than the national average.
- The gross weekly pay of someone from York is below the average of Great Britain



#### Education

- As of August 2023, York Ofsted ratings were at a high level, and all secondary schools were rated as 'outstanding' or 'good'.
- State funded secondary schools' overall rate of absence was 9.9% and persistent absence was at 25.8%, higher than the national average.
- Only 1% of 16–17-year-olds were not in education or training.

- 16% use the free school meals scheme
- All special schools and the majority of primary maintained, and academy schools now meet the requirement to have an appointed Designated Teacher for 'Looked After Children'.



#### Substance Use

- York had a large proportion of those admitted to hospital for substance and alcohol misuse from the 2023 data.
- Under 1,000 people from York are in structured treatment for drug and alcohol use; 16% of those people had children living with them.
- Of children in need assessments in the year to March 2025 at assessment, alcohol misuse by a parent was relevant in 5% of cases and drug misuse in 4%.



#### Mental Health

- York now has a lower-than-average proportion of residents who were admitted to hospital due to self-harm injuries.
- Suicide Rates have decreased in the three-year period 2021 to 2023 to 2022 to 2024 and are below the national average.



#### Youth Offending

- York had 18% of all Youth Outcome Panel referrals in 2024.
- Unlike last year, York had a lower percentage of referrals than their percentage of the 10-17 population (ONS 2022 Mid-Year Population

Estimate). Using the same method of calculation, York is underrepresented by 20%.

- The overall percentage of referrals relating to females decreased to 26% in 2024
- 78% of the primary offences being committed by females related to Violence Against the Person; for males this was lower at 44%.
- There has been a decrease in the number and percentage of pre-teens referred to the YOP in 2024.



### Violence Against Women and Girls

- Half of women who are suspected of being victims of such crimes are non-visible to services and do not report crimes.



### Violence

- Although Serious Violence crime has seen an overall reduction, York is heavily influenced by the night-time economy and the academic year. The hotter weather in June may have had an impact on Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) & Gross Bodily Harm (GBH).
- Guildhall Ward continues to be the most at-risk Ward across York, featuring highest in offence volume amongst most crime types within York. This area should continue to be a priority area of focus.
- Administering poison (aka spiking) is significantly higher in the Guildhall Ward than any other Ward in North Yorkshire.
- York like all localities in North Yorkshire has seen an increase in Non-Fatal Strangulation offences.
- Possession of weapon offences has decreased, with Guildhall being the most at-risk Ward.
- Rape offences have decreased by 34%.



### Domestic Abuse

- Serious sexual offences have seen a slight reduction with 53% of offences recorded as having a 'stranger' or 'not known/no current suspect' as the offender victim relationship.

- York has seen an increase in the number of domestic offences comparing April to September figures and has the second highest rate of crimes at 4.46 per 1,000 of the population.

*Caveats: This document uses percentage change to compare a change in totals. However, in some instances these are to be viewed with caution given the low volume in numbers.*

*Abbreviations used in the overview are explained in the relevant sections throughout the document.*

## North Yorkshire



### Deprivation

- North Yorkshire is less deprived Overall (in terms of IMD) than 64% of local authority districts in England.
- Living Environment was a concern area, this can be partly explained due to the rural nature of the locality.
- Scarborough has more deprived areas than any other locality within North Yorkshire and has 8 LSOA's within the most deprived 10% of the country.
- North Yorkshire is less deprived than 91% of local authority districts in England for Crime.



### Employment

- 2% of the working population are in receipt of Jobs Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit.
- Both male and female claimants have seen a reduction in numbers.
- 14.1% of children are living in absolute low-income families, up from 12.7% in 2023, but still 4.6% lower than the national average.
- 80% of all people in North Yorkshire were economically active.



### Education

- 14% of school children are from a black and minority ethnic background which compares to a national figure of 38%.
- There has been a 21% decrease in missing episodes compared to Quarter 4 last year
- The overall rate of absence was 9.5% and persistent absence was at 29.6% for State funded secondary schools, between 2023 and 2024 – Higher than the national average but lower than York.

- 12% of Secondary School pupils responded to Growing Up In North Yorkshire (GUNY), that they have been the victim of violence or aggression and 8% have carried weapons.



- As of August 2023, North Yorkshire had 18 schools which were rated as 'inadequate', which is the lowest grading given by Ofsted. North Yorkshire has 336 Primary and Secondary schools.
- 16% of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

### Substance Use

- Over 2,560 people from North Yorkshire are in structured treatment for drug and alcohol use; 26% of those in treatment had children within the household.
- The rate of hospital admissions for substance misuse for 15-24 years olds is now lower than the national average.
- From 2023 NHS data, Scarborough and Harrogate had high levels of hospital admissions due to alcohol misuse, which can be expected due to the urban nature of these areas.



### Mental Health

- 0.9% adults recorded as having depression for FYE 2023/24, well below national average.
- Suicide Rates have risen in the three-year period 2021 to 2023 to 2022 to 2024. Which is higher than 95% of the country.



### Youth Offending

- North Yorkshire had 82% of all referrals to the Youth Outcome Panel in 2024.
- As has been the case in recent years, Scarborough District had a higher percentage of referrals than their percentage of the 10-17 population (ONS 2022 Mid-Year Population Estimate), although it is positive that the percentage of referrals relating to Scarborough District has reduced.

- Hambleton, Richmondshire and Selby are the other former District areas with a higher percentage of referrals in 2024 than their percentage of the 10-17 population.
- The overall percentage of referrals relating to females decreased to 22% in 2024 from 29% in 2023, with the percentages being 26% in York.
- Serious Youth Violence comprised 4% of all offences for North Yorkshire an increase from last year.



### Violence Against Women and Girls

- Half of women who are suspected of being victims of such crimes are non-visible to services and do not report crimes.
- A new national VAWG strategy from the government has recently been released. York and North Yorkshire are now reviewing this national strategy to inform a refresh of their local strategy and continues to work to the existing strategy and local strategic delivery plan in the meantime.



### Violence

- North Yorkshire has seen an overall reduction in violence offences figures comparing April to September figures to the same time-period last year.
- There has been a reduction across the most serious crimes; Homicide, GBH, Rape and Serious Sexual Offences.
- Increase of Non-Fatal Strangulation offences in all localities. Possible reasons for this are outlined in the Violence Profile later in this document.

- The most weapon possession offences were seen in Scarborough. Harrogate has had a 50% reduction in weapon offences when comparing April to September 2023 to 2025, this correlates with and knife bin installation.
- Castle Ward in Scarborough continues to be the most at-risk ward across North Yorkshire, featuring highest in offence volume amongst most crime types. This area continues to be a priority area of focus.
- Ryedale has seen an overall 22% (30) increase for violent offences. The increase has mainly been affected by Serious Sexual Offences and Non-Fatal Strangulation offences.

### Domestic Abuse



- In the period from April to September 2025, the localities of Hambleton and Ryedale had the largest percentage increase in offences, whilst Harrogate and Selby had the largest reductions. (Refer to Domestic Abuse section for full details).
- Scarborough is an outlier with notably higher per capita offence rates than other localities (7.23 per 1,000).

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*Abbreviations used in the overview are explained in the relevant sections throughout the document.*

## Introduction

The North Yorkshire Serious Violence Duty has been established to embed a public health approach to violence reduction in North Yorkshire. The Duty seeks to understand the risk factors that can lead to serious violence, and the impact this is having on members of our community.

To fully understand and to provide an effective response to the problem of serious violence, it is helpful to consider the range of 'violent harm':

- Actual Harm – physical and/or psychological harm has taken place.
- Intentional Harm – where harm was intended but did not occur.
- Potential Harm – where harm was not intended but their actions are such that risk of harm is a possibility.
- Cumulative Harm – the impact of repeated lower levels of harm from similar actions or the same offender, over an extended period.

Serious Violence is a multi-faceted problem, which requires a multi-agency approach and the full involvement of the community it affects. By looking at the wider risk factors which contribute to serious violence, such as deprivation, health issues, poor education, adverse childhood experiences and unemployment, we can fully understand the picture of why violence occurs and what prevention will fit the communities that require the duties involvement.

It is understandable those affected by and involved in violence are sometimes reluctant to engage with police led reform, and therefore a multi-agency response, tailored to our local communities will look at early intervention through several organisations. Whilst a strong law enforcement and offender management response will always be required, a public health model is better suited to achieve long-term benefits of reform.

'By adopting a public health approach violence can be prevented. A range of different interventions throughout the life course can reduce individuals' propensity for violence, lower the chances of those involved again and ensure that those affected by violence get the support they require'.

(Bellis et al 2012)

Violence is experienced on greater scale by communities who are more deprived and have fewer opportunities to break the cycle of violence. In recent years this has been exaggerated by the impact of COVID-19 and more recently the cost-of-living crisis. During this SNA the different risk factors of violence will be examined, and inequalities will be highlighted to ensure our approach is targeted to the local communities most at risk of serious violence.

## Definition of Violence

The Serious Violence Duty is not given a set definition of serious violence, and each local area is encouraged to set their own definition.

The definition of serious violence for York and North Yorkshire reflects issues found within the local area, and the impact and prevalence of different types of serious violence.

Therefore, for York and North Yorkshire, the following crimes are included in our definition of serious violence and were used during the Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA):

- Homicide
- Violence with Injury<sup>1</sup>
- Domestic Abuse
- Rape and Sexual Offences
- Weapon Related Violence; including Weapon Possession
- Arson Endangering Life
- Stalking and Harassment; non-domestic

Only certain offences as required for the Serious Violence Duty, have been analysed for each of the crimes listed above. For a full list of all offences analysed please refer to **Appendix C - Crime Offences Codes**.

In addition, the following areas of thematic interest are considered within the wider profile:

- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Young People
- Alcohol and Substance Misuse
- Mental Health
- Deprivation and Employment
- Education

Rationale:

Some categories were considered for inclusion but excluded due to being covered by governance structures elsewhere.

- All HO Classifications under the 'Violence without Injury' subgroup have been excluded as they do not involve serious violence.
- County lines activity has the propensity for violence; however, this has not been included as a separate theme as it will be covered in the Drugs Market Profile, Drugs Strategy and Drug & Alcohol SNA.

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<sup>1</sup> Endangering Life, Grievous Bodily Harm, Actual Bodily Harm, Administering Poison with Intent to Injure, Non-Fatal Strangulation and Suffocation

- Modern Slavery has not been included, however any incidents with serious violence linked to victims of modern slavery will be picked up within the data set and noted within the SNA.

**Our aims are:**

- To understand the extent of violence throughout North Yorkshire through the analysis of characteristics, patterns of behaviour and the impact on the wider community.
- To identify the risk factors that increase the likelihood of violence, and how these factors can be reduced through prevention, diversion, and early intervention.
- To establish effective interventions in a variety of settings and monitor the impact on reducing serious violence these interventions produce.

## **Public Health Approach**

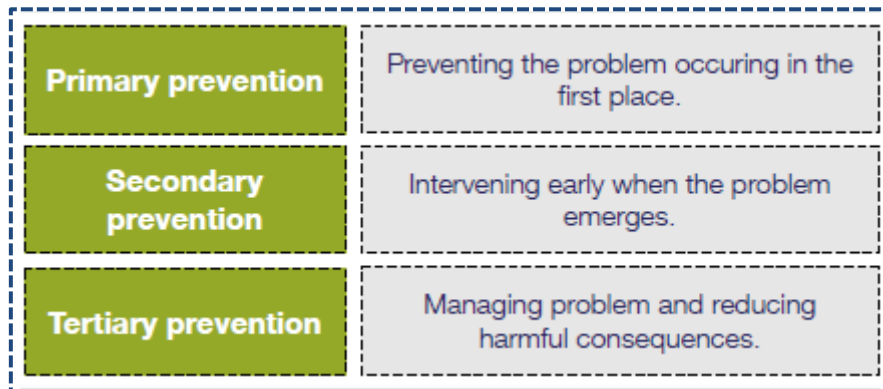
A Public Health approach is a multi-partner approach, utilising knowledge from specialist areas such as education, healthcare, and social services. A public health approach is defined by using data, intelligence, and case studies to identify the extent of serious violence and what impact this has on perpetrators and victims of crime, and the wider community. In using this approach interventions are not constrained by organisational or professional boundaries and focus on improving population health and wellbeing through long term solutions.

*‘Partnership is central to public health approaches because the breadth of population need requires intervention across many disciplines and services. Different partners have access to different skills, levers, and mechanisms to effect change’.*

*(Public Health England, 2019)*

Serious Violence can be prevented, and through the reduction of risk factors in common public health issues this can be sustainable. Due to the wide range of issues which contribute to serious violence, a public health approach naturally lends itself to the problem.

Public Health England’s public health approach to serious violence identifies the ‘5 C’s approach’ – collaboration, co-production, cooperation in data and intelligence sharing, counter-narrative, and community consensus. This approach will be applied within the York and North Yorkshire Serious Violence Duty.



Three levels of prevention are identified and can be applied to different cohorts of offenders or potential offenders. A high-risk cohort requires a reduction in offending and tertiary prevention, the at-risk cohort requires early intervention and therefore secondary intervention, and the low-risk cohort needs primary prevention.

Although the importance of preventative work is widely recognised, demand for services and years of cuts in funding has resulted in services responding at crisis point, rather than at an early intervention stage. By identifying the key risk factors, locations at risk and cohorts of offenders, targeted preventative solutions can be embedded into everyday work throughout the partnership services which already exist.

### Financial Cost of Violence

The financial cost of violence can have a significant impact on other areas of intervention and prevention, and the ability to tackle serious crime. By reducing serious violence, we can allow more funding for essential support to victims and offenders and allocate demand to areas which are most in need.

The cost of serious violence in York and North Yorkshire has been estimated by multiplying the number of recorded crimes by the unit cost of crime provided by the Home Office.<sup>2</sup>

The method takes into consideration factors such as anticipation of crime, such as defensive expenditure, consequences of crime, such as stolen property and victim services, and response to crime, such as police cost.

These unit costs have been adjusted to factor in inflation rates as the original publication was circulated in 2018 and values are from 2016. The Bank of England Inflation Calculator has been used to estimate this adjustment to September 2025 values and rounded to the nearest pound.<sup>3</sup>

Only certain break down of crimes within York and North Yorkshire’s definition of serious violence were available in the methodology, and so only these have been included.

<sup>2</sup> Home Office, *The Economic and Social Cost of Crime: Second Edition*, July 2018

<sup>3</sup> Bank Of England, *Inflation Calculator*, September 2025

Crime Type	April-September 2024			April-September 2025	
	Cost per crime (total unit cost)	Number of crimes	Total Cost	Number of crimes	Total Cost
Homicide	£4,441,298	7	£31,089,086	3 <sup>4</sup>	£13,323,894
Violence with Injury	£19,393	2,638	£51,158,734	2,553	£49,510,329
Rape Offences	£54,327	208	£11,300,016	142	£7,714,434
Serious Sexual Offences	£8,999	302	£2,717,698	265	£2,384,735
Arson	£11,622	18	£209,196	12	£139,464
<b>Total:</b>			<b>£96,474,730</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>£73,072,856</b>

The overall cost of serious violence in York and North Yorkshire, between April and September 2025, was approximately **£73,072,856**.

This figure can be reduced through the implementation of prevention and intervention, to prevent serious violence and reduce the financial and psychological impact of crime on victims and services.

As will be detailed in this report, **York and North Yorkshire has seen an overall 6% reduction in Serious Violence offences since the previous reporting period, and with-it potential financial savings. Homicide is of the greatest severity and has the highest financial cost, therefore is where we have seen the largest reduction.**

## National & Local Surveys

### National Crime Survey

The National Crime Survey<sup>5</sup> of England and Wales highlighted the perceptions of local police forces. When compared to 42 other police forces North Yorkshire Police was never below the national average and was within the top 5 forces for:

- Understanding local concerns
- Dealing with local concerns
- Police can be trusted in the local area

### Police & Crime Consultation

Some of the findings, In the most recent Police and Crime Plan Consultation Survey for York & North Yorkshire were.

- Over 4 in 10 (46%) respondents said they thought NYP is doing a 'good' or 'excellent' job in their area.
- Almost 8 in 10 (79%) respondents say they thought NYP is doing a positive job; 'fair', 'good' or 'excellent', in their area.
- 75% of respondents have some or a lot of confidence in NYP.
- Violent Crime and Sexual assault/violence were in the top five most supported priorities<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Includes attempted murder offences

<sup>5</sup> Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) estimates of personal and household crime, anti-social behaviour, and public perceptions, by police force area, year ending December 2024

<sup>6</sup> Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029, consultation report, York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority, Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning. N=1,685.

## Serious Violence Survey

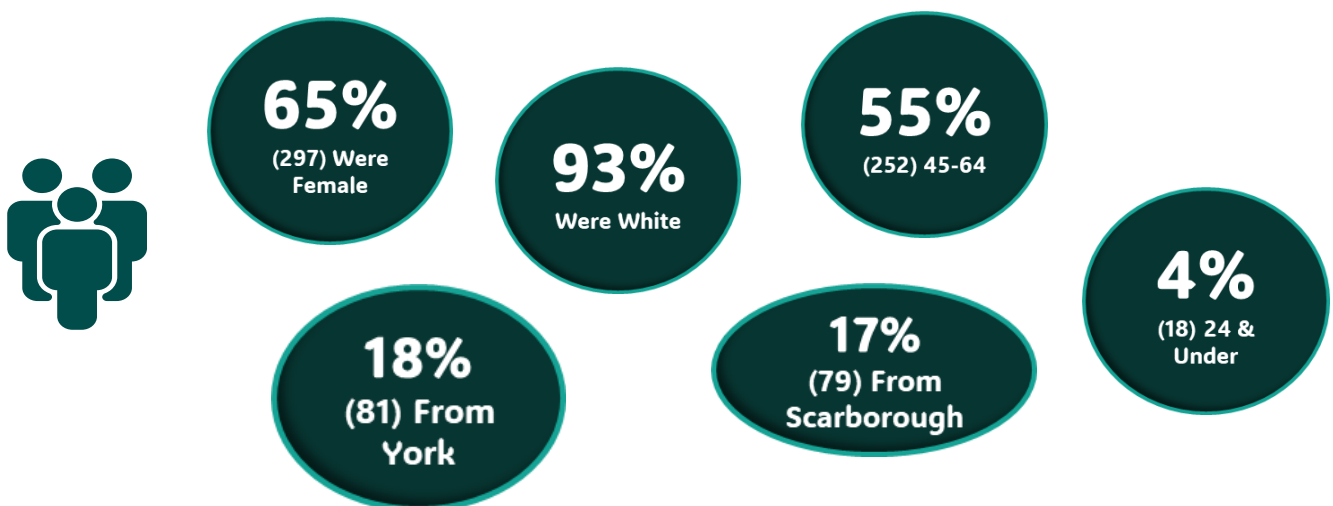
Following the initial serious violence survey undertaken in 2024, in May 2025, the York and North Yorkshire Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime (DMPFC) launched a new violence survey focussing on peoples' perceptions and experience of violence. The shorter survey ran between 27<sup>th</sup> of May and the 17<sup>th</sup> of July and will be reopened in the future at strategic times for a limited time period. These changes were made in order to increase the response rate for the survey.

Further changes included video messages promoted through a range of social media channels to a wider audience, including the handles of the DMPFC and York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority, and the use of social poster graphics with QR Codes. The aim was to obtain a wider audience than the previous year, so additional promotion was undertaken by the Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate's Community Engagement Team throughout North Yorkshire in June. We also asked our partners and providers who operate in schools, colleges, and youth settings, to promote in order to engage with younger demographics.

A total of **457 completed responses were received, a significant increase of 376** from the previous year. 22 partial responses were received but were incomplete and so they have not been included within the result figures.

The new approach and style of the survey led to a significant uptake, with the response rate over a shorter period of time up 18% compared to the previous survey. We still cannot state this survey represents the overall population of York and North Yorkshire, but instead it can be considered a snapshot of a few and can indicate general perceptions and concerns. Due to the new format, we cannot compare with the previous survey.

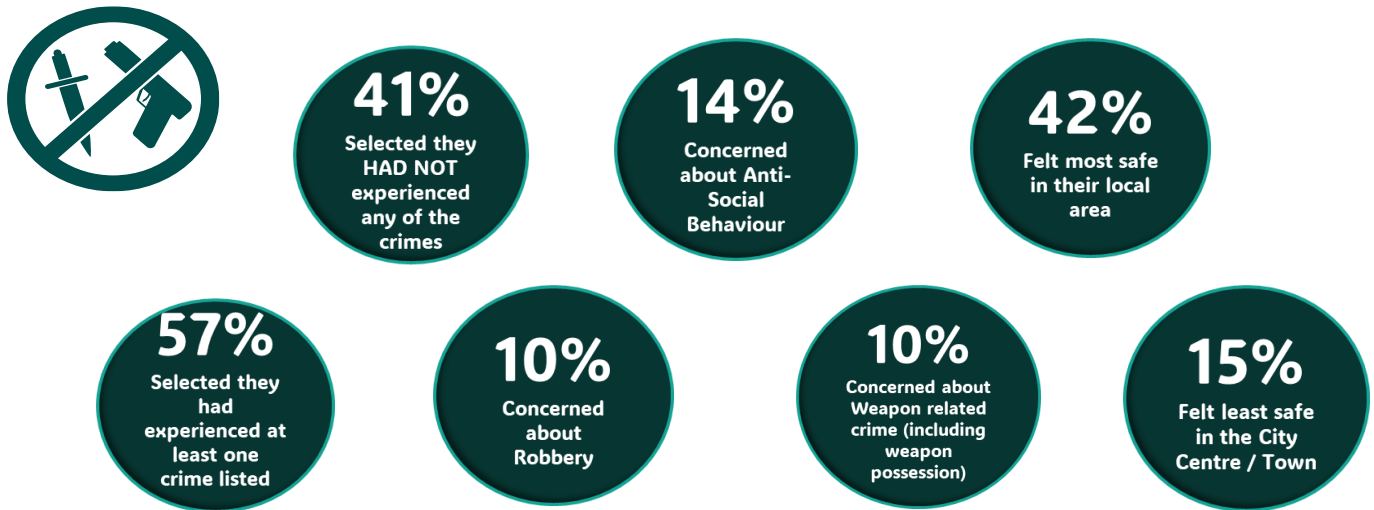
## Demographics



From the demographics collected, our respondents were mainly white females, aged between 45-64. Most of our respondents were from the York or Scarborough districts. Further work needs to be done to explore the best ways to engage more with the younger population of 24 & under in future surveys

as the low response rate is a recurrent issue. One possible method could be for youth workers to promote a QR code directly with the young people they are engaging with. This, along with some of the comments to Question 4 from people who work with young people, suggesting that young people are feeling unsafe and are not reporting incidents, could mean we are not accurately capturing the full picture. 58% of respondents did state they were from a rural area which means the survey findings do represent a good voice from North Yorkshires' rural community.

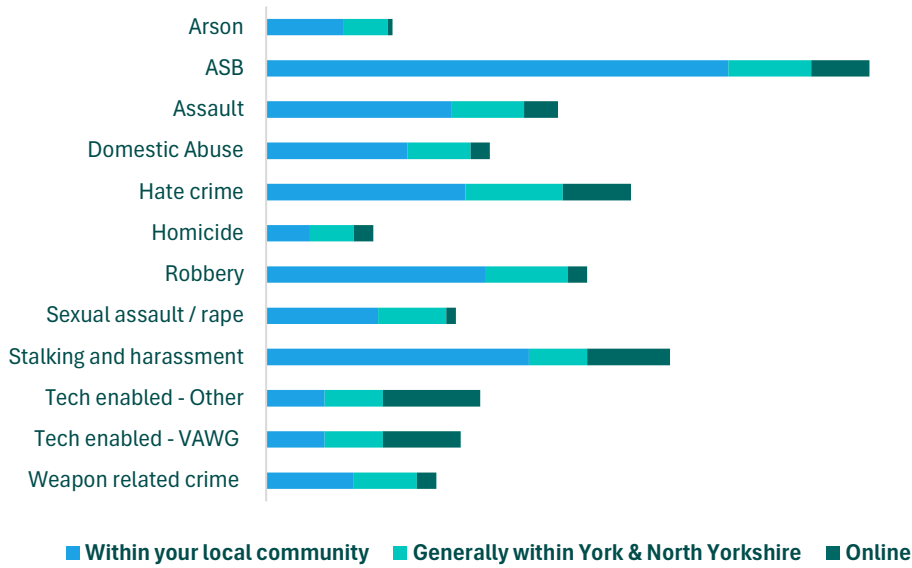
## Results



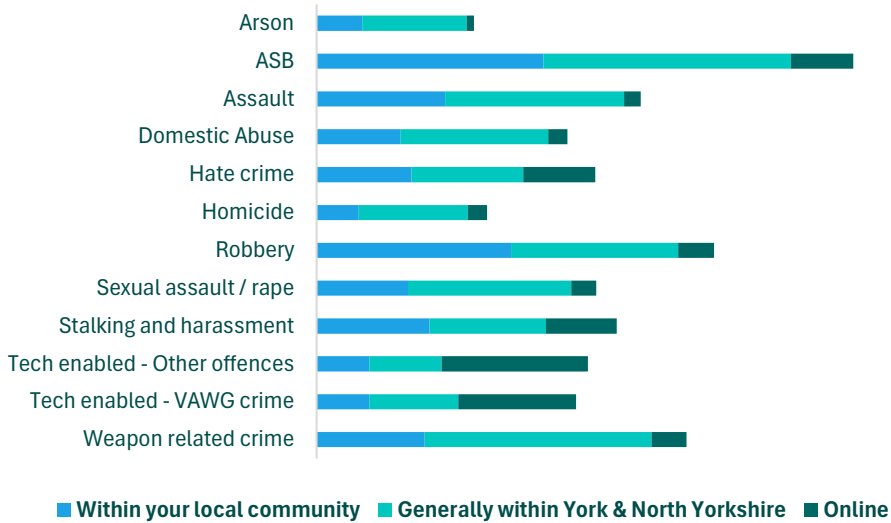
The survey consisted of 4 questions on respondents' perceptions and experience of crimes, that form part of the Serious Violence Duty (SVD) and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). It was found that there was some difference between what crime respondents were concerned about and what they were experiencing.

Stalking & Harassment and Hate Crime only saw 8% of the respondents' selections highlight their concern within York & North Yorkshire, locally or online. However, along with Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), (14%) Stalking & Harassment, (13%) and Hate Crime (11%) were one of the most experienced crimes by respondents from the list of crimes presented on the graphs below.

**Which crime did respondents, or an immediate family member, experience most?**



**Which crime were respondents most concerned about?**



The crimes respondents were most concerned about were ASB (14%), Robbery (10%) and Weapon related crime (10%). The themes of those who commented (83), seemed to be concerns around drug taking or supplying and road related issues like dangerous driving or “harassment” whilst on the roads. Some actually mentioned how they were not concerned about any of the crimes listed and had not witnessed or know anyone effected by any of the crimes listed.

42% of Respondents felt the safest in their Local Area by selecting 5<sup>7</sup> (most safe) on the scale. The majority selected 4 on the scale for Rural areas and outdoor spaces (40%) & Urban parks & green spaces (40%). The majority selected N/A for School (35%) and College / University (59%) which is expected with the demographics of the respondents. City Centres / town centres appear to be viewed as the least safe areas with most respondents selecting 3 on the scale (29%) and it was the option with the highest response rate for 1 (least safe) (15%). Pubs and bars also had most respondents choose 3 on the scale (27%), but respondents were more evenly distributed between feeling safe in this area and only 11% said they felt least safe.

**Respondents from Rural areas appear to be concerned and / or have experienced the same crimes as those from Urban areas.** 16% of respondents from an urban setting were most concerned about ASB and 13% of respondents who are from a rural setting were most concerned about ASB. This trend is repeated in what crime respondents have experienced. Urban respondents (12%) and Rural respondents (10%) had experienced ASB the most. **It is to be expected that ASB would be higher in urban areas, but this highlights that there are issues in both communities.**

When it came to respondents' perceptions of safe areas, there were a few differences when you look at just rural or urban responses. When asked to scale 'your local area' of those in a rural setting, most said they were '5 most safe' (49%). Of those from an urban setting most selected 4 on the scale (40%). 21% from rural communities selected 1, 2 or 3 on the scale compared to 27% from urban communities. This highlights although respondents do feel a degree of safety, **those from a more urban environment don't feel as safe in their local area as rural respondents.** There was also a difference in **public transport where those from a rural setting felt less safe than those from urban settings.** 41% of rural respondents selected 1,2 or 3 on the scale compared to 35% of urban respondents.

There was some deviation between different age brackets in responses as well. It must be stated that due to the limited number of respondents in some of the age categories this can only give us an indication and may not reflect accurately the picture within York & North Yorkshire. **ASB is consistently the crime all age groups are most concerned about.**

In those aged '45 & Over', Robbery (11%) & Weapon related crime (10%) followed the general trend being the other crimes they were most concerned about. As we move down into those aged 25-44, we see a more even split between the crimes. Hate crime, Robbery, Tech enabled - Other offences e.g. encouraging self-harm, sending flashing images to induce epileptic fit and Weapon related crime are all of equal concern (9%). Finally, in those aged 24 & under we see Stalking & harassment (11%) and Tech enabled - VAWG crime e.g. upskirting, deepfakes, revenge porn (10%) as the crimes that mostly concern them. This could be an indication that the younger generation are concerned about different types of crime to older generations.

**In all age categories, most respondents had either not experienced one of the crimes listed themselves or did not know an immediate family member who had experienced one of the crimes.** The biggest deviation from the general trend was with those aged 24 & under. 14% had not experienced any of the crimes listed, whilst Assault (11%), 'Tech enabled - VAWG crime e.g. upskirting, deepfakes, revenge porn' (11%) and Hate crime (10%) were the most experienced crimes.

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<sup>7</sup> Respondents could select how safe they felt on a scale from 1 (least safe) to 5 (Most safe) in 8 areas. Your local area, Rural areas and outdoor spaces, Urban parks and green spaces, City / town centre, Pubs / bars, School or nearby to school, College / University, Public transport

For those aged 25-44, 33% had not experienced one of the crimes listed, whilst ASB (14%), Stalking and harassment (9%), Hate Crime (7%) and Assault (7%) were the most experienced crimes. For those aged 45 & over 51% had not experienced any of the crimes listed, whilst ASB (8%), Hate Crime (6%) and Robbery (5%) were the most experienced crimes.

This highlights how age affects which crimes, and how much crime, different generations are experiencing. **Proportionately, we could be seeing that young people are experiencing crime more than the older demographics.**

**Appendix A - Survey Headline Figures Infographic** shows the headline figures and more findings of the survey.

## Locality

North Yorkshire is made up of two council areas, North Yorkshire, and City of York. York is an urban, densely populated area. North Yorkshire is largely rural area that consists of seven localities - Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmondshire, Ryedale, Scarborough, and Selby. Harrogate and Scarborough stand out as more demographically urban areas, however, are very different characteristically.

There are three universities within the region; University of York, York St. John University and Coventry University: Scarborough; York University is a large Russell Group university, which incorporates a large campus and many student accommodations.

There is one prison situated York and North Yorkshire which is an open prison for women over the age of 18. There are however many in the surrounding areas of Yorkshire and Humberside, including a young offenders institute and a high security prison. Those convicted within York and North Yorkshire will likely be sent to one of these regional prisons.

The new Labour government has also implemented a short-term measure, allowing certain prisoners to automatically be released on licence into the community after serving 40% of their sentence in prison. However, this change does not apply to all prisoners. Excluded are those serving sentences for certain sexual, violent, domestic abuse, terrorism, and national security offences.

## Population

North Yorkshire (including York) is England's largest county by area, covering over 3,100 square miles with a population of over 800,000.<sup>8</sup> Predictions by the ONS show that by 2032 the population could rise by 19% with Selby (11%) being the locality that could see the biggest population growth.<sup>9</sup>

North Yorkshire is the third least densely populated upper tier local authority in England; only Northumberland and Cumbria have fewer residents per square kilometre. Amongst a set of similar areas, known as statistical neighbours, North Yorkshire has the lowest population density by a considerable margin.

The 2021 census showed that the population of York and North Yorkshire is predominantly white: 92.8% in York and 96.7% in North Yorkshire; these are both higher than the national average showing that the region is not notably ethnically diverse.

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<sup>8</sup> Office for National Statistics, *Census 2021*, July 2022

<sup>9</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 24 June 2025, ONS website, statistical bulletin

Trends over the last decade indicate that the area is becoming marginally more ethnically diverse. York's white population sat at 94.2% in the 2011 census. This trend is expected to continue.

The female population is slightly larger; 51% in North Yorkshire and 52% in York. The age profile is very varied between the two localities; York hosts a much younger population and North Yorkshire has a higher-than-average age of residents.

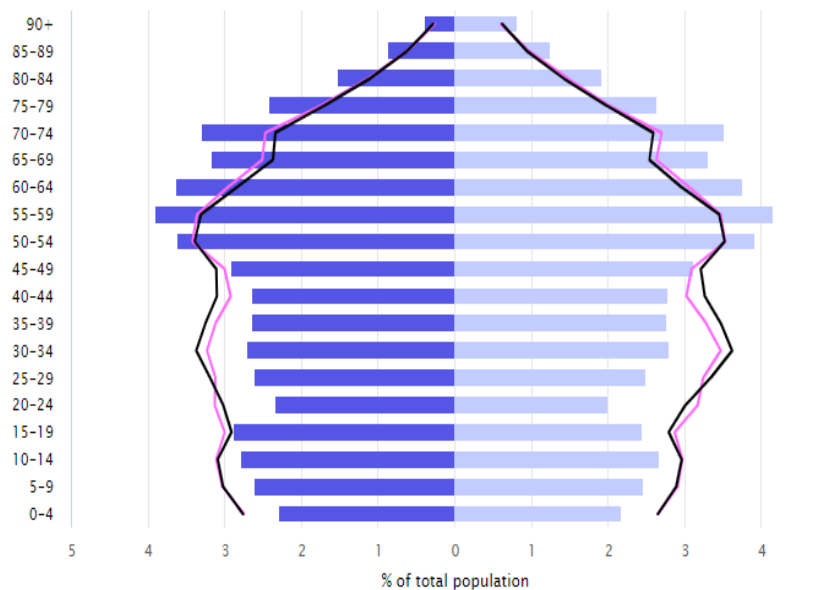
### North Yorkshire

The most recent census indicates that the approximate population of North Yorkshire is 615,500. The median age was 48.5; this average age is above the national average and represents an ageing population. The working age population is 60% of the total population.

As expected, Harrogate and Scarborough are the most densely populated localities; Harrogate hosts 26.4% of the overall population and Scarborough 17.6%.

Despite being the most populated areas, they recorded the smallest population growth in North Yorkshire, with Scarborough recording a 0.1% decrease since 2011. Richmondshire was the only other area with a decrease, falling 4.2%. The regional average was a population increase of 3.7%.

Selby recorded the largest increase with a 10.2% uplift in population growth, higher than the national average of 6.6%.



The wards of Scarborough Central and Eastfield, Crossgates & Seamer have the highest proportion of 25- to 34-year-olds. In Harrogate the wards with the highest amounts of 25- to 34-year-olds fell within the wards of Central Harrogate and Harrogate East.

This age group represents a large majority of those involved in criminality, at risk of being involved or a victim of crime. These areas will be highlighted further within the violence section of the needs assessment.

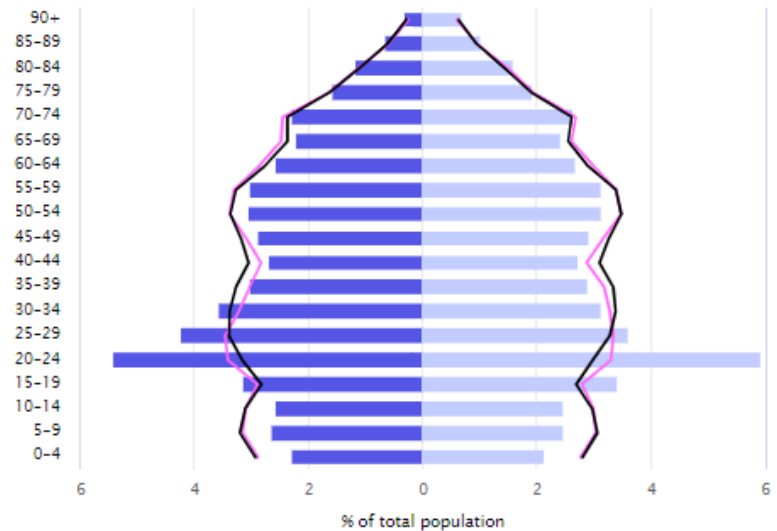
## York

The most recent 2021 Census indicated that the approximate population of York is 202,800, which increased by 2.4% from the previous census in 2011.

This was a smaller increase than the region at 3.7% and nationally at 6.6%.<sup>10</sup>

The urban population of York accounted for 84% of the total population.

The largest proportion of 15 to 24-year-olds are situated in the wards of Fulford, Heslington & University totalling 53.6%. This is expected due to the student accommodation and city centre attractions within this area.



Looking at the City of York age profile, it is clear to see that the age groups 15-19 and 20-24 are overrepresented, which shows the impact that York University has on the age demographic.

It is widely known that urban areas, with a student population and a younger age profile are more susceptible to higher levels of criminality, influenced by the younger population and the night-time economy.

Tang Hall and Fulford Road & Clementhorpe also have a high density of 15- to 24-year-olds, with the student population and young professionals spread out into these areas of the city.

The median age of York is 39, considerably lower than that of North Yorkshire, and the region.

The working-age population totalled 66.4% of the population, this is higher than North Yorkshire and again shows the average younger age represented in York.

## Risk and Protective Factors

### Poverty

The Social Metrics Commission 2024 report on UK poverty stated that the poverty rate is **now the highest it has been in the 21st Century**. The report estimated that in 2022/23 there were approximately 16 million people living in families in poverty. This is equivalent to more than 1 in 5 of the total population. The report also highlighted that child poverty has risen the most with more than a third, 5.2 million children estimated to be living in poverty. An almost five percentage-point increase since 2019/20.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), ONS Website, How life has changed in York: Census 2021, last accessed July 25.

<sup>11</sup> The Social Metrics Commission, *Measuring Poverty 2024*, October 2024

Current poverty levels are defined as people living in households with income more than 60% below the national median.

The median household disposable income in the UK was £36,700 for FYE 2024, a not statistically significant increase of 0.8% from FYE 2023. Although, the Median household disposable income for the poorest fifth of the population decreased by 2.6% to £16,800, largely because of a reduction in wages and salaries.<sup>12</sup>

The phrases ‘poverty’ and ‘deprivation’ are often used interchangeably however someone can be in poverty due to economic circumstance, they can also be classed as deprived due to a lack of any number of resources, not just financial.

Poverty affects people disproportionately, defining the social context into which some children are born, which create disadvantages from birth.

At the time of writing the Government is considering health and disability benefit reforms. From the Spring statement 2025, they estimate there will be an additional 250,000 people (including 50,000 children) in relative poverty after housing costs in 2029/30 as a result of modelled changes to social security, compared to the baseline projections. The report did not analyse the impact of the funding that would come to get people into work that may mitigate the poverty impact.<sup>13</sup>

Deprivation is measured nationally through the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Deprivation refers to people’s unmet needs, a lack of access to opportunities and resources which we might expect in our society. People can be considered to be in poverty if they lack the financial resources to meet their needs, whereas people can be regarded as deprived due to a lack of resources of all kinds, not just income.<sup>14</sup> The IMD looks at multiple dimensions of deprivation across seven individual domains. All 7 combine (weighted as indicated) to create the IMD, the official measure of deprivation in England.



Due to a change in datasets, methodologies and geographies, the outputs are less directly comparable to previous Indices. A higher score indicates a greater level of deprivation, and a rank of 1 indicates the most deprived area and a rank of 296 is the least deprived.

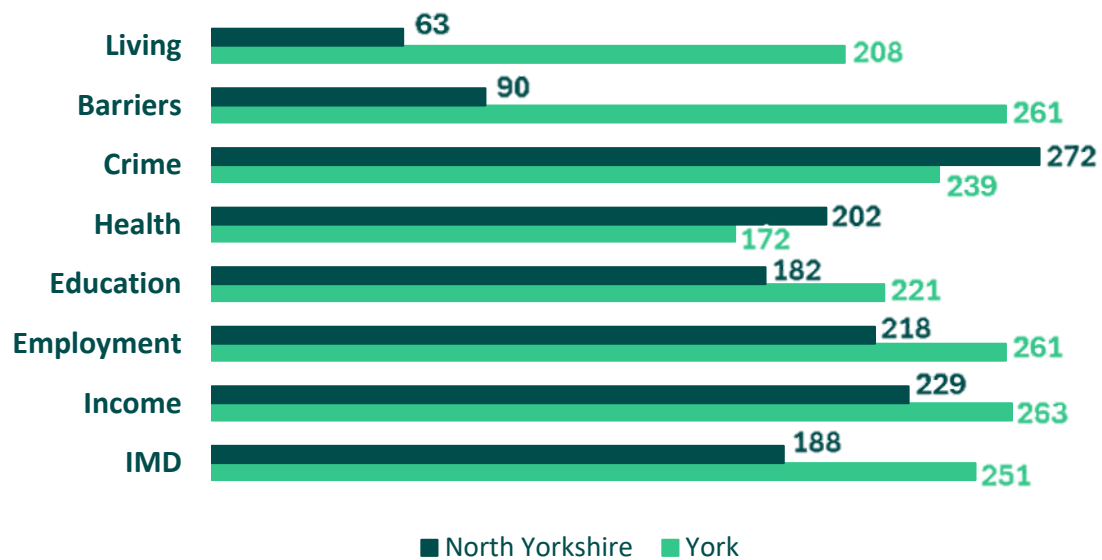
York and North Yorkshire are ranked quite highly across the averaged ranks and scores. **It shows on average there is not a significant problem with poverty or deprivation overall**, however this does not take away from the small pockets of areas which have localised issues. Similarly, both York and

<sup>12</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 2 May 2025, ONS website, statistical bulletin, Average household income, UK: financial year ending 2024

<sup>13</sup> Department for Work and Pensions, Spring Statement 2025 health and disability benefit reforms – Impacts

<sup>14</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, English indices of deprivation 2025, published Oct 2025

North Yorkshire have a positive rank of Income Deprivation Affecting Children. North Yorkshire is less deprived than 77% of local authority districts in England and York is 88% less deprived. This is of course an average and does not represent all households equally. This also does not reflect the current economic climate in which the cost-of-living crisis is affecting many households as fuel, food and other essentials are increasing in price. For each area the 'average score' or the 'rank of average score' will be used as it summarises the average level of deprivation across an area, based on the scores of all the neighbourhoods contained within and unlike some of the other measures, the highly deprived areas will not tend to average out.



IMD25 LAD Summary Ranks out of 296; a higher score means lower levels of deprivation.

### York

**York is less deprived overall than 88% of local authority districts in England.** The overall IMD average score for York is 11.814. The range in England scoring from the least deprived at 5.914 to the most deprived at 43.467.

York is ranked 251 out of 296 Local Authority Districts (LAD) (Lower Tier), meaning York is the 46<sup>th</sup> least deprived LAD in England. York is the least deprived LAD within the Yorkshire and Humber region.

The domain on which York ranks the best is Income, in which it ranks 34<sup>th</sup> least deprived local authority in England, showing the possible higher incomes available in the City of York. **It is less deprived than 90% of local authority districts in England.**

York has a ranking of 239 for crime making it in the top 60 for least deprived and making it less deprived than 76% of LADs. Whilst the IMD shows relatively low amounts of crime, it is important to analyse which crimes are happening within this area, something that will be focused on in the violence profile of this report.

As mentioned above, it is hard to directly compare from the previous IMD 2019 due to a difference in methodology and therefore should be treated with caution. York's deprivations scores have only improved in three of the seven domains. The domains in which York's scores decreased, meaning less deprivation, were Education Skills and Training, Barriers to Housing and Services & Living Environment.

**As will be discussed further in the document, children's education plays a significant part in the road**

**to becoming involved in criminality and the IMD indicates of possible improvement in this area. York is less deprived than 82% of local authority districts in England in education.**

### North Yorkshire

Since the last IMD conducted in 2019, North Yorkshire has become a singular council and therefore the old districts are no longer available in the 2025 release and have been averaged out across the much larger North Yorkshire LAD.

**North Yorkshire is less deprived overall than 64% of local authority districts in England.** The overall IMD average score for North Yorkshire is 15.799. The range in England scoring from the least deprived at 5.914 to the most deprived at 43.467. North Yorkshire is therefore ranked 188 out of 296 local authority districts, meaning that North Yorkshire is the 109<sup>th</sup> least deprived LAD in England.

The domain that North Yorkshire ranks best in is crime, in which it is the 25<sup>th</sup> least deprived area out of the 296 LADs. **North Yorkshire is less deprived than 91% of local authority districts in England** on this domain. This shows that overall North Yorkshire have very low levels of crime compared to the national picture and can be an area of less concern. This however is generic, and local, up to date crime data categorised as serious violence will be further explored in the violence profile.

The domains in which North Yorkshire ranked the worst were **barriers where North Yorkshire is more deprived than 62% of LADs and Living where North Yorkshire is more deprived than 72%.** Barriers to Housing and Services is something that North Yorkshire will be disadvantaged at due to the geographical nature of the county. There is a vast amount of small rural villages where many services are not easily accessible due to locations and transport. Living Environment deprivation is highlighted in both rural and urban areas of the county and represents the proportion of households in poor quality or without necessary functions such as central heating.

### **Employment**

Nationally the unemployment rate, increased 0.1 percentage points from the previous quarter to 4.7% from May to July 2025.<sup>15</sup> The unemployment rate for those aged 16 and older in North Yorkshire was 2.0% for the year ending March 2025 approximately 6,000 people. The unemployment rate for those aged 16 and over in York for the year ending March 2025, was also 2.0% approximately 2,000 people.<sup>16</sup>

Nationally there has been a decrease in the amount of people claiming either Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) or Universal Credit (UC). The UK Claimant Count for August 2025 increased on the month but decreased on the year to 1.686 million (4.4%). Overall men had seen a small decrease to 4.8% from August 2024, but the number of women claiming decreased to 4% down 0.4%.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 16 September 2025, ONS website, statistical bulletin, Employment in the UK: September 2025

<sup>16</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 17 July 2025, LI01 Regional labour market: local indicators for counties, local and unitary authorities

<sup>17</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 16 September 2025, CLA01: Claimant Count

In financial year ending (FYE) 2024, there were 2.72 million children aged 0 to 15 in families in Relative low income and 2.34 million children aged 0 to 15 in Absolute low-income families across the United Kingdom. This accounts for 22% and 19% respectively.<sup>18 19</sup>

Unemployment can impact a person's living circumstances; the most extreme example is someone becoming homeless because of their financial situation. Across York & North Yorkshire for the year ending March 2024 there were approximately 1,147 households threatened with homelessness and were owed a prevention duty and 2,619 households in total were assessed and owed a duty in North Yorkshire. With 487 and 736 respectively for York. 28.2% were households with children in North Yorkshire and 6.8% in York. Both below the 32.4% average for England.<sup>20</sup>

### North Yorkshire

As of August 2025, 7,145 people are in receipt of either JSA or UC. This accounts for 2% of the population, aged 16+, and showed a 940 decrease in claimants from the previous year. 54% of the claimants were male and male claimants have seen a smaller reduction of 305 from August 2024 to 3,865. Whereas female claimants have decreased by 635 to 3,280.<sup>21</sup>

For FYE 2024 North Yorkshire had 14,177 children living in Absolute low-income families; this is 14.1% of all children living within North Yorkshire, up from 12.7% in 2023. The national median rate for the United Kingdom sat at 18.7%, and so North Yorkshire had a lower than national average rate.<sup>22</sup> The Westminster Parliamentary Constituency of Scarborough and Whitby has the largest proportion with 3,409 (22.3%) up from 20.7% the previous year. The lowest area proportion was in Wetherby and Easingwold at 7.4%.<sup>23</sup>

North Yorkshire is a relatively economically stable county. From April to March 2025 80% of all people in North Yorkshire were economically active. North Yorkshire have proportionately more men (84.7%) than females (75.7%) economically active<sup>24</sup>

In the last quarter of 2021, a total of 538 households across North Yorkshire were officially recorded as being threatened with homelessness or as homeless; although this figure sits below 1% of the population of North Yorkshire. **Nearly two in four (38%) of these households were from Scarborough and one quarter (25%) from Harrogate.**<sup>25</sup>

### York

In York, the percentage of people aged 16 years and over who were employed sat at 52.5% as estimated in the 2021 census. This was a decrease of 3.0% since 2011.

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<sup>18</sup> Relative low income: This refers to people living in households with income below 60% of the median in that year. Absolute low income: This refers to people living in households with income below 60% of median income in a base year, usually 2010/11. This measurement is adjusted for inflation.

<sup>19</sup> Department for Work & Pensions, Children in low income families: local area statistics, financial year ending 2024, Published 27 March 2025

<sup>20</sup> Government Statistical data set, last updated, 22 July 2025, Detailed local authority level tables: financial year 2023-24

<sup>21</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), Labour Market Profile - North Yorkshire, August 2025

<sup>22</sup> Department for Work & Pensions, *Children in low income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2024*, Published 27 March 2025

<sup>23</sup> Department for Work & Pensions, *Children in low income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2024*, Published 27 March 2025

<sup>24</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS, Labour Market Profile - North Yorkshire Apr 2024-Mar 2025

<sup>25</sup> Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, *Statutory Homelessness: Detailed local authority-level tables*, September 2022

As of June 2023, 2,565 people were in receipt of either JSA or UC; this is 1.9% of the working age population of York. This figure has not seen a statistically significant change as it has only reduced 35 from the previous year.

54% of claimants were male with no change from last year. Female claimants have shown a reduction in numbers from the prior 12 months but there was no change for men.<sup>26</sup>

For FYE 2024 York had 4,064 children in absolute low-income families; this equates to 13.3% of the under 16 years old population of York. This has increased by approximately 400 from the year previous and is 5.4% lower than the national average. The Westminster Parliamentary Constituency of York Central has the largest proportion with 2,669 (17.4%) up 1.7% from the previous year. This is still lower than Scarborough and Whitby but is higher than the other North Yorkshire Constituencies.<sup>27</sup>

According to the ONS annual survey of hours and earnings the gross weekly pay of someone from York is £711, this is below the average of Great Britain (£729.80).<sup>28</sup> In 2021 over 20% of working people in York earned less than the living wage, which places 13% of York's children in low-income families.<sup>29</sup>

## Education and School Absenteeism

Systems of support are crucial to protect children from being drawn into criminality. A child's full attendance in good quality education is a significant protective factor against the risk of young people being involved in or becoming a victim of serious violence.

Children struggling in education are particularly vulnerable. Those who are persistently absent, suspended, excluded or attending alternative education settings are far more likely to be victims of and to engage in violent behaviour than their peers. For example, **74% of excluded pupils and 40% of those in pupil referral units report perpetrating violence, compared to just 16% of the average across the population.** Children with special educational needs, particularly cognitive or learning difficulties, are similarly at heightened risk.<sup>30</sup>

The drivers of violence are complex, and concern is not only for children who become offenders, but also those who become victims of violence.

The term 'serious youth violence' implies a one-way relationship where youths commit violence, but there are children who are victims of violence and many who are experiencing violence as a victim and offender at the same time.'

*Neal Hazel, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Salford*

67% of 13-17 year olds are concerned about being a victim of violence from other young children. This may be exacerbated by the fact that exposure to real-life violence on social media has become the norm, rather than the exception with 70% of teenager children (aged 13-17) encountering some form of real-world violence online in the last 12 months. The most frequently observed content is

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<sup>26</sup> Office for National Statistics, *CC01 Regional labour market: Claimant Count by unitary and local authority (official statistics in development)*, 16 September 2025 & 15 October 2024

<sup>27</sup> Department for Work & Pensions, *Children in low income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2024*, Published 27 March 2025

<sup>28</sup> ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024

<sup>29</sup> City of York Council, *York Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, 2021*

<sup>30</sup> Youth Endowment Fund Survey of 10,000 teenage children – Who is affected by Violence Report 1 2024

footage of fights involving young people.<sup>31</sup> **It is recommended that this is included in future Serious Violence analysis and to involve partners such as Youth Commission.**

Nationally there is an average 6.38% absence rate for the Autumn term 2024/25, a decrease from 6.69% in autumn 2023/24. Although Severe absentees<sup>32</sup> has increase to 2.04% from 1.97%. The majority of absence was due to illness, which accounted for 3.31% of possible sessions. The level of illness absence also reduced compared to autumn term 2023/24 but remained higher than the pre-pandemic levels.<sup>33</sup> The overall absence rate for the full 2023/24 academic year was 7.1%, down from 7.4% in 2022/23.<sup>34</sup>

A review into child support systems shows that stigmatisation is a significant factor into a child's journey into violence. Practitioners who label a child as 'risky' or 'offender' can influence their self-identity, having a negative impact on the child's perception towards themselves and the system.<sup>35</sup> In contrast to this, it is widely known that positive relationships with practitioners and easy access to the right support can protect against violence, and encourage healthy behaviours in young people.

A survey by the Youth Endowment Fund of over 10,000 teenage children (**aged 13-17**) highlighted the consequences for children involved in violence are varied. Most commonly, they face repercussions from parents (39%) or school authorities (32%), with 20% reporting school exclusion and 10% involving the police. However, **21% of those who committed violence say there was no response from adults at all.**<sup>36</sup>

**The concerning element is the lack of proactive support.** Even though adults in authority find out about most cases of violence, **only 10% of those who committed violent behaviour report were offered support or training to help them better manage their actions in the future.** Only 12% say they were offered support or training after perpetrating serious violence that was repeated and led to injury. This highlights a **critical gap in addressing the root causes of violence** and preventing its recurrence.<sup>37</sup>

An estimated 12.8% of all people **aged 16 to 24 years** in the UK were not in education, employment or training (NEET) in April to June 2025. This is up 0.3 percentage points compared with January to March 2025 and up 0.1 percentage points on the year.

An estimated 13.1% of young men (down 0.1 percentage points on the quarter) and 12.4% of young women (up 0.7 percentage points on the quarter) were NEET. There were 948,000 young people who were NEET in total, an increase of 24,000 on the quarter. This increase was largely caused by young women, with an increase of 25,000 on the quarter, while young men saw a decrease of 1,000.<sup>38</sup>

Nationally the number of pupils eligible for free school meals has continued to increase, to 25.7% for the academic year 2024/25, up from 24.6% in 2024. This represents almost 2.2 million pupils.<sup>39</sup>

One of the priorities in the new Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029 is to focus on Prevention and Early Intervention. The aim is to tackle the root causes of crime in York and North Yorkshire through

<sup>31</sup> Youth Endowment Fund Survey of 10,000 teenage children – [Role of Social Media](#) Report 2 2024

<sup>32</sup> A pupil enrolment is identified as a severe absentee if they miss 50% or more of their possible sessions.

<sup>33</sup> Department of Education, *Pupil Absence in Schools in England: Autumn term*, March 2025

<sup>34</sup> Department of Education, *Pupil Absence in Schools in England: Academic year 2023/24*, September 2025

<sup>35</sup> Department of Education, *The Role of Systems of Support in Serious Youth Violence: Evidence and gaps*, June 2023

<sup>36</sup> Youth Endowment Fund Survey of 10,000 teenage children – [Role of Social Media](#) Report 2 2024

<sup>37</sup> Youth Endowment Fund Survey of 10,000 teenage children – [Role of Social Media](#) Report 2 2024

<sup>38</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), published 21 August 2025, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\), UK: August 2025](#)

<sup>39</sup> Department of Education, *Schools, pupils and their characteristics*, Academic year 2024/25, 5 June 2025

education, community programmes and early intervention, to prevent crime before it occurs and intervene early when it does.

In York and North Yorkshire, this has seen the creation of a working group currently chaired by York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA) Policing, Fire and Crime (PFC) Directorate. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an operational forum for all partners agencies/services involved in working with schools, colleges and youth settings on the prevention and early intervention agenda. It will allow coordinated responses to current issues affecting schools, communities and youth settings.

The YNYCA PFC has also secured an additional £185k p/a for prevention and early intervention from 1st April 2025 to invest additional funding in key existing commissioned services to deliver targeted, proactive and reactive engagement in schools, to identify those at risk and intervene and coordinate programme of activity across York and North Yorkshire supporting a further 185 individuals to access 'case management' provision from:

- Change Direction: Young People's Diversion Scheme – North Yorkshire Youth
- Restorative Justice Service – Restorative Solutions (RS)
- Child Sexual & Criminal Exploitation Parent Liaison Officer (PLO) Service

Due to how recent this is, we cannot measure the effectiveness, however future Serious Violence analysis will monitor progress going forward.

#### **Op Divan**

- Programme in York and North Yorkshire organised by North Yorkshire Police. It is aimed at young people who have been or are thinking of using or carrying knives and or offensive weapons.
- Identifies young people to offer them support, education and diversion opportunities.
- There has been a recent project (April 2024 – May 2025) looking at data between 2018-2024 and the evaluation employed a retrospective cohort design to assess its effectiveness in reducing knife carrying among young people.
- It found that Op Divan was associated with **significant reduction** in crimes involving knife and weapons compared to the matched control group.

#### **North Yorkshire**

North Yorkshire hosts 295 state registered primary schools, 158 of which are Local Authority maintained and 137 are academies or free schools. 48% of primary schools have fewer than 100 pupils and 21% have fewer than 50. There are 41 secondary schools, 12 of which are Local Authority maintained and 29 are academies or free schools.<sup>40</sup>

Roughly 81,322 children attended North Yorkshire schools in 2024/25 academic year. 14% of school children are from a black and minority ethnic background which compares to a national figure of

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<sup>40</sup> North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, Schools Safeguarding Self-Assessment Audit (SSA) 2024 –2025

38%.<sup>41</sup> In Quarter 4 of 2024/25, Over 100 different languages are spoken, and there has been a 21% decrease in missing episodes compared to Quarter 4 last year.<sup>42</sup>

**North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership conducted research which highlighted that in the average North Yorkshire classroom of 30 children, by the age of 15 one would regularly smoke, one would have taken at least one drug in the last month and six would have had an alcoholic drink in the last seven days.**<sup>43</sup>

Levels of deprivation can have an impact on children's school journey, from lack of resources to going to school without a proper diet, which has been proven to decrease a child's ability to focus. Free school meals enable children to get the nutrients they need. Approximately 14,068 pupils use the free school meal scheme (15.61%).<sup>44</sup>

As stated previously, non-attendance at school can considerably affect a child or young person's prospects and can enable them to slip into a cycle of poor behaviour. For North Yorkshire state funded secondary schools, between 2023 and 2024, the overall rate of absence was 9.5% and persistent absence was at 29.6%, higher than the England average of 8.9% and 25.6%, however slightly lower than the overall rate within York. The Overall rate for state funded Primary is 5.2%, lower than the England average (5.5%) and the York average<sup>45</sup>

In 2019/2020, an estimated 39 Children were at risk of child sexual exploitation and 57 at risk of child criminal exploitation.<sup>46</sup>

The 'Growing up in North Yorkshire (GUNY) Survey' 2024 found that for Secondary school pupils in Years 8 & 10, 95% of pupils responded that they '**usually**' or '**always**' feel safe at home and 68% said they 'usually' or 'always' feel safe at school/college. 12% of pupils responded that they **have been the victim of violence or aggression** in the area where they live in the last 12 months, while 12% said they are 'not sure' if they have been. 8% of pupils responded that they **have carried weapons** when going out at least 'sometimes'.<sup>47</sup>

It is vital that all children across the county have access to quality education; educational settings are where children can form good relationships with teachers and other practitioners and gain trust in support services.

As of August 2023, North Yorkshire had 18 schools which were rated as 'inadequate', which is the lowest grading given by Ofsted.

When looking at secondary schools in the same period, 18% of schools were rated as 'required improvement' or 'inadequate'. Nationally this figure sat at 19%, and so North Yorkshire is not proportionally underachieving when the comparison is made. However, as mentioned above, the impact that schools, and more significantly secondary schools, have on supporting a young person is crucial to their on-going well-being.

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<sup>41</sup> Department of Education, Schools, pupils and their characteristics, Academic year 2024/25, 5 June 2025

<sup>42</sup> North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYCSP) Annual Report 2024 / 2025

<sup>43</sup> North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, *Being Young in North Yorkshire 2021-2024*

<sup>44</sup> Department of Education, Schools, pupils and their characteristics, Academic year 2024/25, 5 June 2025

<sup>45</sup> Gov.uk, All schools and colleges in North Yorkshire, Pupil absence in schools in 2023 to 2024

<sup>46</sup> North Yorkshire Safeguarding Child Partnership, *Being Young in North Yorkshire 2021-2024*

<sup>47</sup> Healthy Schools North Yorkshire, County GUNY 2024 Report

## York

York has a total of 63 state-funded schools: 50 primary, nine secondary, two special, one alternative provision and one nursery. Of the 63 schools 11 (17%) were rated as outstanding and 46 (73%) good.

None of the secondary schools in York were graded as ‘requires improvement’ or ‘inadequate’.

Of the 50 primary schools, 5 (10%) were rated as ‘requires improvement’, which is just above the national average however due to the small number associated with this figure it is not an accurate comparison.

As stated above, non-attendance at school can considerably affect a child or young person’s prospects and can enable them to slip into a cycle of poor behaviour. For York state funded secondary schools, between 2023 and 2024, the overall rate of absence was 9.9% and persistent absence was at 25.8%, higher than the England average of 8.9% and 25.6%. The Overall rate for state funded Primary is 5.4%, lower than the England average (5.5%). The persistent absence rate (13.1%) is also lower than the national average (14.6%)<sup>48</sup>

Data from August 2025 shows that York had 10 children aged 16-17 who were claiming out of work benefits<sup>49</sup>, which is less than 1% of the Year 12-13 age group. This suggests that there is not a significant problem with children within York failing to attend school long term.<sup>50</sup>

Of the 27,203 pupils recorded in state schools of York, approximately 4,246 pupils use the free school meal scheme; this is 16% of the total.

## **Children in Care**

The Prison Reform Trust suggests that a disproportionate number of children in custody come from a care background. Fewer than 1% of all children in England are in care, but almost half of children (49%) who entered custody in 2023–24 was in care — **the highest proportion in the last fifteen years**. Inspectors have raised concerns that **children continue to be inappropriately placed in custody** at times of crisis because there are no available alternatives, and that children remain there because they don’t have a suitable bail address.<sup>51</sup>

The complex needs of children in care, and their potential living environment can result in a risk of offending and serious violence. Children can be placed in multiple households, and in areas with higher levels of criminality and deprivation.

Across England, new children’s homes and demand for these homes, continues to rise. There were 4,010 children’s homes of all types as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. This was a 15% increase (520 homes) from the previous year (3,490). In total, children’s homes of all types were registered for 15,700 places. This represents a 9% increase in potential capacity since 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, compared with a 7% increase in 2023–24, when there were 14,500 registered places in total.

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<sup>48</sup> Gov.uk, All schools and colleges in York, Pupil absence in schools in 2023 to 2024

<sup>49</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), NOMIS, Labour Market Profile -York, ONS Claimant count by sex and age, August 2025

<sup>50</sup> Department of Education, Schools, pupils and their characteristics, Academic year 2024/25, 5 June 2025

<sup>51</sup> Prison Reform Trust, *Bromley Briefings February 2024*, November 2024

Out of the 12.7 million children living in England, around 400,000 (3%) are in the social care system at any one time, including children in need and children with child protection plans. Nearly 84,000 of these children are in care.<sup>52</sup>

A total of 83,630 were children looked after (CLA) in March 2024. This is down by 0.5% on the 2023 statistics. 33,050 children entered the 'looked after' category during the 12 months; this is down 0.5%.

**Two thirds of children looked after started to be looked after due to abuse or neglect**

2% were convicted or were subject to youth cautions or youth conditional cautions during the year - the same as last year and down slightly from 3% in 2020. **Older children are more likely to offend - 4% of those aged 16 or 17 years - the same as last year but down from 6% in 2020.**

This suggests that whilst some children in care may carry more risk and protective factors than the average child, the trend does not show that they are always more likely to be committing serious violence offences.

**Males are more likely to offend than females** - 3% of males were convicted or subject to youth cautions or youth conditional cautions during the year compared to 1% of females - a similar pattern to previous years.<sup>53 54</sup>

For CLA aged 5 to 16 years (43,540 children), a Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) score<sup>55</sup> was reported for 77% of them. Of the 43,540 children, 41% had scores which were a cause for concern (up slightly from 40%).

For 19- to 21- year-olds 27% were in education (6% higher education, 21% education other than higher education) and 27% were in training or employment or an apprenticeship; **39% were not in education, employment or training (NEET), compared to an estimated 13% of all young people aged 19 to 21 years old.**

In York and North Yorkshire, **the number of Children in Care (CiC) referred to the Youth Justice Service Panel decreased significantly in 2024**, compared with 2023 and formed a lower percentage of the overall cohort. In 2023 CiC formed 13.5% of the overall cohort and this decreased to 9.3% in 2024.

## York

In the year to September 2025 York has 235 young people within the care system which has stay roughly consistent throughout the last 12 months but has dropped from 238 from the period last year.<sup>56</sup> Throughout the pandemic when national rates of children in care rose, York's figures remained comparatively stable.

## North Yorkshire

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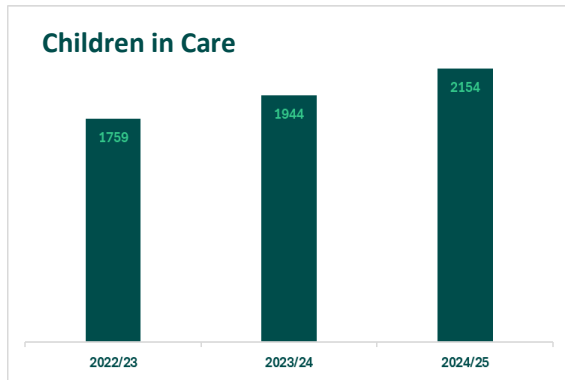
<sup>52</sup> OFSTED, *Main findings: children's social care in England 2025*, Updated 5 August 2025

<sup>53</sup> Department for Education, *Children looked after in England including adoptions Reporting year 2024*, Published November 2024

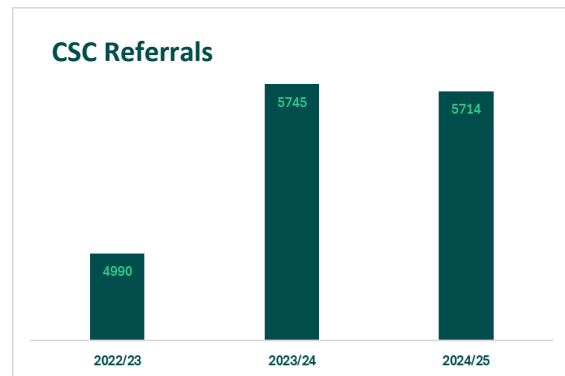
<sup>54</sup> Offending rates are collected for children aged 10 years or over – 41,550 children in 2024.

<sup>55</sup> (SDQ) scores - *The SDQ is a behavioural screening questionnaire. Its primary purpose is to give social workers and health professionals information about a child's wellbeing. A score of 0 to 13 is considered normal, 14 to 16 is borderline, and 17 to 40 is a cause for concern.*

<sup>56</sup> City of York Council, *York Open Data – Number of Children in Care*, September 2025



The annual increase of the number of children in care continued into 2025 and at the end of Q1 2025/26, there were 571 children in care, compared to Q4 2024/25 with 565 children in care.



However, Q1 2025-26 saw the lowest quarterly number of referrals to Children Social Care (CSC) for 2 years with 1,292 recorded and is 234 (-15%) fewer referrals than in Q1 2024/25. Despite the reduction in the number of overall referrals, there was a high number of children referred at risk of significant harm, demonstrated by the 757 strategy meetings held and 486 S47 child protection investigations undertaken.<sup>57</sup>

North Yorkshire No Wrong Door was established to support young people on the edge of care, to give them more stability. The intervention has seen a positive impact on reducing the number of children in care.

The 2024/25 Safeguarding Children report for North Yorkshire has pointed out that after identifying it as an area for development in 2022/2023, at present, all special schools and the majority of primary maintained and academy schools now meet the requirement to have an appointed Designated Teacher for 'Looked After Children' (Children in Care).

## Substance Use

The impact of alcohol and illicit drug use is far reaching, affecting the outcomes of individuals, family members and wider communities.

Of children in need, in the year ending March 2025, out of the 513,250 national episodes with an assessment factor<sup>58</sup>, 14% were recorded as having issues with alcohol misuse and 14% were recorded as having drug misuse as relevant to the case. In York, alcohol misuse by a parent was relevant in 5% (84) of cases, drug misuse in 4% (66).<sup>59</sup>

<sup>57</sup> North Yorkshire Council, Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Public Document Pack 17 September 2025

<sup>58</sup> Factors identified at the end of assessment are additional factors that social workers record as being relevant in a case.

These figures are based on assessment factors recorded against individual episodes of need, which begin when a child is referred to children's social care services and is assessed as being in need of children's social care services. Each unique factor is counted once against a given episode, irrespective of the number of times the same factor was recorded in that episode. However, as a child can have more than one episode of need during the year (ending 31 March), the same child can be recorded more than once for a given factor.

The majority of children have more than one unique factor recorded for each episode of need. It should be noted that not all episodes have factors recorded, but this has improved over time. Nonetheless, there can be differences in the recording practices between local authorities therefore this data should be treated with caution and shouldn't be taken to represent the national, regional or local authority level prevalence of particular issues.

<sup>59</sup> Department of Education, *Characteristics of Children in Need*, March 2025

In North Yorkshire the numbers were higher; 17% (997) of children in need assessments identified alcohol misuse by a parent, and 13% (753) with drug misuse as a factor.<sup>60</sup>

For the same period in 2024 there was no change nationally. North Yorkshire has seen a drop by 1% from 18% for alcohol misuse but an increase of 1% from 12% for drug misuse. York has the same picture where alcohol misuse being recorded dropped from 7% but drug misuse increase from 5%.<sup>61</sup>

In the last SNA, it was stated that North Yorkshire had a substantially higher rate of hospital admissions due to substance misuse for 15–24-year-olds compared to the national average.

**North Yorkshire has improved and is now lower than the national average (47.4 per 100,000) for year ending March 2024 at 19.7 per 100,000. York is higher at 26.5 per 100,000.<sup>62</sup>**

**There is a higher-than-average percentage of parents in drug treatment living with children; 24% locally vs 18% nationally<sup>63</sup>**

Young people's drug and alcohol use is especially concerning, as it may cause damage to the developing brain, interfere with normal developmental challenges and further exacerbate existing problems for those vulnerable. In this explanation, a young person is considered as someone under the age of 18.

There are strong links between illicit drugs and health inequalities and poverty. Illicit drug misuse is a significant risk factor for a number of acute and chronic health conditions, reduced life expectancy, lower quality of life, and a range of social and economic issues such as unemployment, homelessness, exposure to criminal activity and violence.<sup>64</sup>

## Drugs

From the latest NHS data provided, it tells us that between April 2021 and March 2023 in York and North Yorkshire there were 337 admissions, where the primary diagnosis was solely related to taking substances, other than alcohol. The age group 20-29 were responsible for the most admissions with 100 over the two years. The next being 30-39 with 69 admissions.

York had the largest proportion of patients, with 80. Scarborough was the highest within North Yorkshire with 75 admissions. Hambleton and Harrogate both had 55 admissions over the period.

Of the total admissions, 19 patients were admitted more than once due to the same condition. Unlike the trend for alcohol admissions, females had the largest proportion of incidents accounting for 54%.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> Department of Education, *Characteristics of Children in Need*, March 2025

<sup>61</sup> Department of Education, *Characteristics of Children in Need*, March 2024

<sup>62</sup> Department of Health and Social Care, *Fingertips, Public Health Profiles*, 04 March 2025

<sup>63</sup> NDTMS, *Viewit - community adult profiles*, Jan 2024

<sup>64</sup> North Yorkshire County Council, *Illicit Drugs Needs Assessment 2022*, December 2022

<sup>65</sup> NHS North Yorkshire and York, *Alcohol and Substance Hospital Admissions – Excludes Craven*, July 2023

County Lines drug dealing is a modern and competitive market, which can increase tensions between rival 'gangs' and between drug lines.

Whilst there is sporadic feuding between Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) in North Yorkshire, the level of violence is not significant.

The national picture assesses that within County lines those most at risk of violence are young cuckooing perpetrators, victims of cuckooing and adult dealers involved in dealing for county lines.<sup>66</sup>

## York

Unlike the rates in alcohol dependence, drug misuse in York is well below the national average, for all types of illegal substances.

In the year to end January 2024, there were 620 adults in structured treatment for drug misuse; 67% (415) were opiate users, with the remaining being non-opiate users. This has fallen from the same time in 2023 where 665 adults were in structured treatment and 68% (450) were opiate users. 14% (15) of opiate users were recorded as exiting treatment successfully. This was higher for non-opiate users at 28% (40). However, both metrics have been steadily dropping since 2022. When we look at all drug use Males (23%, 40) have more successful exits than females (20%, 15).<sup>67</sup>

## North Yorkshire

In the year to January 2024, there were 1,375 adults in structured treatment for drug misuse; 61% (840) were opiate users, with the remaining being non-opiate users. Like York this has slightly decreased since the same time in 2023 where 1,325 adults were in structured treatment and 64% (845) were opiate users. 47% (100) of opiate users were recorded as successfully exiting treatment. A significant increase from 2023 of 35% (65). This was higher for non-opiate users at 51% (185) again a significant increase from 2023 of 45% (140).<sup>68</sup>

## Alcohol

From the latest NHS data provided, it tells us that between April 2021 and March 2023 in York and North Yorkshire, there were 9,172 patient admissions where primary or secondary diagnoses were attributed to alcohol. There was a decrease of 404 admissions from 2021/22 to 2022/23. Of the total patients 1,560 were admitted more than once due to the same set of conditions.<sup>69</sup>

The age range of patients with the most admissions sat between 50 to 69. With the maturity of these age groups, it could suggest that these admissions are due to more serious alcohol dependencies than that of younger age groups, who are more frequently casually drinking. Men were admitted more than women; however, this was only by a small margin.

## York

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<sup>66</sup> NCLCC County Lines Strategic Assessment 2020-2022

<sup>67</sup> Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, *National Drug Treatment Monitoring System*, March 2024, last accessed November 2025

<sup>68</sup> Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, *National Drug Treatment Monitoring System*, Jan 2024, last accessed November 2025

<sup>69</sup> NHS North Yorkshire and York, *Alcohol and Substance Hospital Admissions – Excludes Craven*, July 2023

York had 2,855 admissions over the two-year period, showing the highest figures for all York and North Yorkshire.

Comparing York to national data, York shows higher rates of alcohol related admissions at 771 per 10,000 of the population compared to 174 per 10,000 in England in the 2023/24 year.<sup>7071</sup>

In the year to January 2024, there were 335 adults in structured treatment for only alcohol misuse, a decrease from 375 in 2023. 34% (80) of people successfully exited treatment. 15% (35) of those in treatment are parents living with children; this shows the impact that alcohol dependency can have on the wider family. This though has dropped significantly from 21% (60) in 2023, highlighting the improvements in York with alcohol.<sup>72</sup>

York's most recent drug and alcohol profile suggested that 84% of people who are alcohol dependant are not in treatment. The number of adults in active treatment has reduced year on year over the last decade; down from 813 in 2009/10.<sup>73</sup>

The figures relate to those admitted to a ward due to conditions such as alcoholic liver disease and unintentional injuries, rather than A&E admissions and whilst these figures allow us to understand those who are struggling with alcohol daily, it however may not give us an insight into those who are committing serious violence within York and North Yorkshire.

Trends within urban areas, such as York, show that violence being committed in the night-time economy are often committed by those who are travelling into the cities and towns for the weekend, or the evening, and are abusing alcohol in a 'binge drinking' manor, causing violent behaviour.

### North Yorkshire

Within North Yorkshire, the localities with the highest admissions for alcohol related conditions were Scarborough (2,855 admissions) and Harrogate (2,042 admissions), which is expected due to the more urban nature of these places.<sup>74</sup>

In the year to January 2024, there were 1,185 adults in structured treatment for only alcohol misuse, an increase from 1,145 in 2023. 60% (445) of people successfully exited treatment. 24% (185) of those in treatment are parents living with children, higher than York's proportion. This, like York though, has dropped from 26% (200) in 2023.<sup>75</sup>

### **Mental Health**

The links between mental health and violent criminality is complex, and often not a focus for individual services. Nationally, the NHS Talking Therapies for Anxiety and Depression programme (TTAD) had 1.76 million people referred in with 1.22 million engaging with treatment and 672,000 finishing the

<sup>70</sup> Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, Collection Alcohol Profile, updated 4 February 2025

<sup>71</sup> The indicators used are a new set of attributable fractions and so differ from that previously published (NHS data). The 2024/25 SNA may have used different metrics.

<sup>72</sup> Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, *National Drug Treatment Monitoring System*, Jan 2024, last accessed November 2025

<sup>73</sup> City of York Council, *Drug and Alcohol Needs Assessment*, January 2022

<sup>74</sup> NHS North Yorkshire and York, *Alcohol and Substance Hospital Admissions – Excludes Craven*, July 2023

<sup>75</sup> Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, *National Drug Treatment Monitoring System*, Jan 2024, last accessed November 2025

treatment. In all local areas of England, the number of women referred outnumbered men. It was found that recovery and improvement rates varied between social groups, people living in more deprived areas were less likely to experience improvement or recovery after TTAD than those living in less deprived areas.<sup>76</sup>

The most recent mental health survey for children and young people was done in 2023. It found that 20% of children aged 8 to 16 had a probable mental disorder. 445,000 people were in contact with children and young people's mental health services in November 2023, up from 362,000 two years earlier in November 2021. This number has been steadily increasing in recent years.<sup>77</sup>

As seen in the Poverty section of the SNA, Health is given a weighting of 13.5% in the Indices of Deprivation, relating to the populations risk of premature death or experiencing an impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health.

Health and Poverty can become a risk factor into criminality by forcing a situation on someone, where they feel that they need to use illegal means to support their lifestyle or families. It can often be the reason people fall into the cycle of alcohol and substance misuse.

The ONS has monitored relationships between the prevalence of depression and the rising cost of living. Its data shows that rates of depression were higher among those who found it hard to afford housing costs or energy bills, and higher among renters than homeowners. The ONS notes that these relationships may not reflect causation.<sup>78</sup>

Mental ill health and other pressure in someone's lived experience can cause people to believe that they have no further options left to them, with suicide being one of the biggest killers in the UK.

Nationally, in England and Wales, 6,190 suicides were registered in 2024, 11.4 suicide deaths registered per 100,000 people, a similar rate to 2023, with 11.3 suicide deaths registered per 100,000 people. When comparing 2023 and 2024, the rate of suicides registered increased in four of nine regions in England. **The largest increase was in Yorkshire and The Humber with the rate of suicides registered increasing from 12.2 to 13.7 suicide deaths registered per 100,000 people and is still higher than the national average.**<sup>79</sup>

When looking at 13 to 17-year-olds, a recent Youth Endowment Fund report found for teenage children in England and Wales, directly involved in serious violence, nearly two-thirds (62%) of those who had committed violence in the past year that resulted in a victim needing medical treatment (by a doctor or hospital) had also hurt themselves or considered suicide, compared with just 12% of teenage children not involved in such violence. It also found that **most teenage children experiencing violence and mental health issues aren't receiving treatment.**<sup>80</sup>

### North Yorkshire

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<sup>76</sup> UK Parliament, House of Commons Library, Mental health statistics: prevalence, services and funding in England, Research Briefing, Published Friday, 01 March, 2024

<sup>77</sup> UK Parliament, House of Commons Library, Children and young people's mental health: policy and services (England), Research Briefing, Published Friday, 26 January, 2024

<sup>78</sup> UK Parliament, House of Commons Library, Mental health statistics: prevalence, services and funding in England, Research Briefing, Published Friday, 01 March, 2024

<sup>79</sup> Office of National Statistics, Suicides in England and Wales: 1981 to 2024, Deaths from suicide in England and Wales, analysed by sex, age, area of usual residence of the deceased, and suicide method, October 2025.

<sup>80</sup> Youth Endowment Fund, Children, violence and vulnerability 2025, Mental health and experiences of violence

North Yorkshire had 239 suicides deaths between 2022 and 2024. Up from 202 in the three-year period 2021 to 2023.<sup>81</sup>

Suicide rates for North Yorkshire for the period 2022-2024 is 14.1 per 100,000 people. **This is higher than 95% of the country.** The England average for this period was 10.9 per 100,000 people. For Males it is 22.1 per 100,000 and for females it is 6.4 per 100,000.<sup>82</sup>

For the FYE 2023/24 there were 4,581 (0.9%) adults recorded as having depression<sup>83</sup> in North Yorkshire. Well below the 1.5% England average and a drop from 5,124 for FYE 2022/23.<sup>84</sup>

While there is not a direct link between mental health and serious violence, it is widely accepted that mental health can lead to substance abuse and as discussed above, this can become a risk to being involved in criminality.

### York

In 2021, 48.5% of residents described their health as 'very good'. This had increased slightly since the previous census.<sup>85</sup> Emergency hospital rates for intentional self-harm for 2023/24 were 91.8 per 100,000 persons. This is now lower than the regional rate of 114.2 per 100,000, and the national rate of 117.0/100,000.<sup>86</sup> The 2024/25 SNA highlighted how the rate did used to be above the national rate.

York had 46 suicides deaths between 2022 and 2024. This is down from 52 in the three-year period 2021 to 2023 and the opposite to North Yorkshire.<sup>87</sup>

Suicide rates for York for the period 2022-2024 is 8.7 per 100,000 people, lower than the national rate. For Males it is 14.5 per 100,000 still below the national rate of 16.8 per 100,000.<sup>88</sup>

## **Violence Against Women and Girls**

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) refers to any act of violence or abuse that disproportionately affects women or girls and is usually perpetrated by men; however we recognise that men and boys can also be victims of these crimes and women can be perpetrators.<sup>89</sup>

It is clear to say that anyone can be affected by violence, however the offences included in the VAWG definitions are those in which women and girls are overrepresented in victim numbers.

Offences included in the definition are sexual offences, stalking, domestic abuse, so-called honour-based abuse, and revenge porn. These are just a few examples of the types of crimes disproportionately experienced by women and girls. The offenders of these crimes can be partners, children, acquaintances or strangers and victims can be from all backgrounds, age, sexualities, and race.

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<sup>81</sup> Office for National Statistics, Suicides in England and Wales by local authority, October 2025

<sup>82</sup> Department of Health & Social Care, Fingertips, Public health profiles, October 2025

<sup>83</sup> Definition: The percentage of patients aged 18 and over with depression recorded on practice disease registers for the first time in the financial year.

<sup>84</sup> Department of Health & Social Care, Fingertips, Public health profiles, Depression: QOF incidence - new diagnosis, October 2024

<sup>85</sup> Office for National Statistics, *Census 2021 – How York has Changed*, January 2023

<sup>86</sup> City of York Council Public Health team, City of York Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-2028, September 2025

<sup>87</sup> Office for National Statistics, Suicides in England and Wales by local authority, October 2025

<sup>88</sup> Department of Health & Social Care, Fingertips, Public health profiles, October 2025

<sup>89</sup> North Yorkshire Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner, Strategy to address violence against women and girls in North Yorkshire & City of York June 2022-2024

Labour's 2024 manifesto pledged to halve VAWG in a decade. This pledge forms part of the Government's wider mission to "Halve serious violent crime and raise confidence in the police and criminal justice system to its highest levels, within a decade".<sup>90</sup>

A recent report from the National Audit Office (NAO) concluded that "Violence against women and girls is a significant and growing problem, affecting one in 12 women and causing significant harm. The Home Office leads the Government's efforts to address VAWG, but to date these efforts have not improved outcomes for the victims of these crimes or the safety of women and girls more widely."<sup>91</sup>

20% of all police-recorded crime was related to VAWG in 2022-23. The mean number of days from police referring a rape case to the Crown Prosecution Service and the Crown Prosecution Service authorising a charge in the 3-month period April to June 2024 was 158 days. This is compared to a mean average of 46 days for all crime.<sup>92</sup>

According to the NAO, there was a 264% increase in the number of police-recorded rape and sexual assault offences during 2009/10 to 2023/24.<sup>93</sup>

Over 1 in 4 women will be a victim of sexual assault or attempted assault in their lifetimes.<sup>94</sup>

Nationally there has been an increase in reports of coercive and controlling behaviour; 45,310 offences in the year ending March 2024 compared to 43,774 and 41,039 during the previous two years.<sup>95</sup> This trend is **not** followed in York and North Yorkshire. Police records show that in the year ending March 2024 there was a 22% decrease in offences compared to the previous year.<sup>96</sup> **This is an area to explore further.**

For the year ending March 2024, 1 in 5 women and around 1 in 11 men aged 16 years and over has been a victim of stalking. Highlighting the difference in prevalence for women. Younger people were also more likely to be stalking victims.<sup>97</sup>

Women's Aid 2022 found that 93.7% of all women had experienced street harassment, including whistling, leering and sexually explicit language. Behaviour that impacted the victims' long-term actions such as avoiding areas and not going out alone.<sup>98</sup>

Behaviours such as these are also moving online, with social platforms such as Instagram and TikTok being used to promote hatred towards women and spread derogatory language and attitudes.

Stalking and Harassment offences in York and North Yorkshire have been reviewed and detailed further in this report.

Each year more than 75,000 people in the UK are at high and imminent risk of being murdered or seriously injured as a result of domestic abuse.<sup>99</sup>

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<sup>90</sup> House of Commons Library, Violence against women and girls in 2025, Insight, Published Tuesday, 27 May 2025

<sup>91</sup> National Audit Office, Tackling violence against women and girls, January 2025

<sup>92</sup> Home Office, National Audit Office, Report Tackling violence against women and girls, SESSION 2024-25 31 JANUARY 2025

<sup>93</sup> House of Commons Library, Violence against women and girls in 2025, Insight, Published Tuesday, 27 May 2025

<sup>94</sup> Home Office, National Audit Office, Report Tackling violence against women and girls, SESSION 2024-25 31 JANUARY 2025

<sup>95</sup> Office for National Statistics, *Domestic Abuse Prevalence and Trends*, November 2024

<sup>96</sup> North Yorkshire Police, *Police Recorded Data*, March 2023

<sup>97</sup> ONS, 'I feel like I am living someone else's life': one in seven people a victim of stalking, 26 September 2024

<sup>98</sup> Women's Aid, *The Domestic Abuse Report, 2022*

<sup>99</sup> SafeLives, Marac national dataset, 2023

The key findings from the North Yorkshire and City of York SafeLives' Strategic Needs Assessment found that for 2021/22 their prevalence tool estimates 32,500 adult victims of domestic abuse. 13,689 is the total number Adult and Child Victims, 76.5% were female and 1,512 victims were under 18.<sup>100</sup>

The SafeLives review in 2022/23 highlighted that in York and North Yorkshire an estimated 118,000 adult victims have experienced domestic abuse at any point; 79,000 (67%) of these are estimated to be female. This shows the extent that women as victims are outnumbered within the domestic abuse landscape and demonstrates the need for a focus on VAWG offences.

When it comes to teenagers, abuse issues may arise when they first begin to explore romantic relationships. A Youth Endowment Fund survey found that, **two in five teens in relationships have experienced emotional or physical relationship abuse**. For those who reported forms of emotional abuse, **15% said they'd been subjected to physical or sexual abuse – including being forced or pressured into sex, physically hurt or having explicit images of them shared online**.<sup>101</sup>

A new national VAWG strategy - [Freedom from violence and abuse: a cross-government strategy to build a safer society for women and girls](#) - and supporting documents were published on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025 . York and North Yorkshire are now reviewing this national strategy to inform a refresh of their local strategy and continue to work to the existing strategy and local strategic delivery plan in the meantime.

### North Yorkshire

In North Yorkshire 62,000 adult females are estimated to have experienced domestic abuse at some point since the age of 16; this equates to 20% of North Yorkshire's female population. 17,000 or 5% of these victims will have experienced this abuse in the last year.

SafeLives has conducted research that shows that double the number of victims who are visible to services, were non-visible.<sup>102</sup>

### York

In York an estimated 17,000 adult females are estimated to have experienced domestic abuse at some point since the age of 16; this equates to 16% of York's female population. A lower proportion than that of North Yorkshire. 4,500 or 4% of these victims will have experienced abuse within the last year.

SafeLives research has concluded that in York there is double the number of victims who are visible to services, who are non-visible.<sup>103</sup>

**The high number of non-visible victims in York and North Yorkshire highlights the need for further support in these areas to give women and girls the confidence and space to come forward and report these crimes.**

## **York & North Yorkshire VAWG Strategy**

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<sup>100</sup> North Yorkshire and City of York Domestic Abuse Strategy 2024-2028

<sup>101</sup> Youth Endowment Fund, Children, violence and vulnerability 2025, Violence in relationships

<sup>102</sup> SaveLives, *North Yorkshire and City of York: Public Health Approach to Ending Domestic Abuse*, July 2023

<sup>103</sup> SaveLives, *North Yorkshire and City of York: Public Health Approach to Ending Domestic Abuse*, July 2023

The strategy was established to tackle the root causes of VAWG through prevention, strengthen the local multi-agency approach, increase public confidence and trust in police, enhance support services for victims and facilitate behaviour change by perpetrators.

To support the strategy and enable continuous feedback from those with lived experiences an online survey was launched in July 2023. Analysis conducted in 2024 reviewed 117 completed responses, 88% being completed by female participants.

Positively, 78% of these respondents stated that they did tell someone about what had happened to them; this is 3% higher than those who completed the initial 2022 survey. Of the 15 respondents who stated that they did not tell anyone, the most common reasons included: being unaware that it was a crime, or normalisation, minimisation and acceptance of the behaviour experienced; embarrassment and shame; thinking they would not be believed; and worrying about wider consequences such as financial, housing or work-related implications.

There was an increase from the 2022 survey of 30% to 38% of respondents who reported the incident to the police. However, trust in the Police needs to be improved throughout York and North Yorkshire to support victims in being able to comfortably report offences, which will increase the ability to direct victims to the support they require.

Of those who did report to the police, there were some good examples provided of positive responses from the police including: immediate action taken, specifically the arrest and removal of the perpetrator; polite, supportive, compassionate, non-judgemental and empathetic responses from some officers; and being offered referral onto support services were also reported.<sup>104</sup>

These qualities in policing need to be standard practice to ensure victims can be heard and believed.

Trauma awareness should begin with the Police and extend across the criminal justice system and into support services throughout York and North Yorkshire. This requires more understanding and further training for those in a public facing role.

#### **York & North Yorkshire Positive Action:**

In April 2024, the former Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (now YNYCA PFC Directorate) North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council jointly commissioned a new package of support services for all victims and survivors, perpetrators and their children to deliver a 'Whole System Approach' to Domestic Abuse.

The Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme reported 6% more successful exits in year ending March 2025 in comparison to 2023/24, with over half feeling their lives are more stable and resilient to maintain positive behaviour change. 100% had a positive view of the service. For the period before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024, **77% of perpetrators reduced offending in the 12 months following completion of the +Choices programme compared to the 12 months before.**<sup>105</sup>

There was a 9% increase in referrals made into adult victim's community-based services from 2023/24 to 2024/25, with 96% of those who self-assessed after a successful exit, leaving with reduced risk.

<sup>104</sup> York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority, addressing violence against women and girls, what did you tell us is important?, last accessed November 2025

<sup>105</sup> York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA), Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate, reoffending figures, 2025

The 'Just a Kiss' film series was launched on 12th October 2023 to raise awareness of how stalking and harassment can manifest, targeting young people aged 16-24 years. There have been over 11,000 YouTube views of the 'Just a Kiss' episodes by the end of January 2026.

## Youth Justice

Services for young people continue to see consistently high levels of demand.

It is widely accepted that children and young people who experience violence themselves as victims, are more at risk of becoming the perpetrator of a violent offence.

Violence continues to shape the lives of too many teenage children. The Youth Endowment Fund's report into young people's experiences of violence shows that, in the past year, nearly one in five (18%) said they had been a victim, one in eight (13%) admitted to carrying out violence themselves, and half (50%) told us they had witnessed violence being committed against someone else. For many, these were not isolated incidents: almost two-thirds of victims and perpetrators said violence had happened more than once, and around one in five reported it happening at least five times.<sup>106</sup>

**A small but worrying proportion (2.1%) reported carrying a weapon in the past year.** Among them, almost a third (32%) had carried a kitchen knife and 23% a zombie knife or machete – equivalent to 20,000 13-17-year-olds across England and Wales.

When teenage children caused serious harm to others (where the victim required treatment from a doctor or at a hospital), there were responses from adults in authority in almost all cases (90%). **Nearly three in 10 said they got into trouble at school (29%), and around a quarter said they were either excluded from school (24%) or the police were involved (24%). Yet fewer than four in 10 said they were offered support to stop it from happening again (39%).** This imbalance suggests that while punishments are common, offers of help to address the underlying causes are far less consistent.

**This is the case for England and Wales. It is recommended that this is something to be looked at in York and North Yorkshire to see if there is support provided locally.**

Nationally, the latest update for First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the Criminal Justice System for year ending December 2024 states that, the number of juvenile first-time offenders convicted of an indictable offence was around 3,700. It was around 4,100 in 2014.

In the same period, **the proportion of juvenile offenders convicted of an indictable offence who were first-time offenders has increased (from 22% to 47%).** This is due to a 65% decrease in the total number of distinct juvenile offenders (from around 25,200 to around 8,900), meaning that whilst the number of juvenile first-time offenders has remained broadly stable, the proportion of juvenile offenders they represent has increased.<sup>107</sup>

<sup>106</sup> Youth Endowment Fund, Children, violence and vulnerability 2025, Report 1 The scale of violence affecting children

<sup>107</sup> Ministry of Justice, First time entrants (FTE) and Offender Histories: 2024

The latest rate (per 100,000 of the 10-17 population) locally, for the 12 months ending September 2024 is **188** (105 young people) in North Yorkshire and **108** (18 young people) in York. These rates compare with the National rate of **160**.

Between April 2016 and September 2024, the number of FTE's in North Yorkshire has decreased by **44%** and by **71%** in York.

The number of FTEs is being impacted by the national ongoing issue with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), who set a minimum disposal outcome for young people that are referred back from Court into the Youth Outcomes Panel. This prevents the consideration of an out of court disposal.

As of 1st February 2025, a Child Information Form (CIF) must be completed by police for cases that meet certain criteria. This should enable YJS to intervene well in advance of court and avoid unnecessary referrals back to the Panel for Youth Caution /Youth Conditional Caution and in some cases, to make public interest arguments to avoid prosecution.

At the time of updating this strategy, the Crown Prosecution Service's stance is that all cases adjourned from Court for discussion at the Youth Outcome Panel must receive either a YC or YCC.

This means that young people who have been charged to Court without any previous experience of the criminal justice system, must now be adjourned from Court and miss out on the opportunity to engage in preventions / early intervention work that would prevent them entering the criminal justice system as a First Time Entrant (FTE).

A further change has seen all motoring offences (that are often dealt with in Court through an outcome that does not include any Youth Justice Service (YJS) now included in the FTE data. This can see a young person receive a fine or conditional discharge and subsequently be recorded as a FTE even though YJS have had no involvement in the case. Further work focussing on diversionary activity is taking place locally to try and address this issue.

The Youth Outcome Panel has been operating since 2017 and is used to consider the most appropriate disposal for children and young people who have committed a criminal offence. The panel aims to ensure disposals are:

- Proportionate to the crime committed.
- Effective in reducing first time entrants to the criminal justice system.
- Effective in reducing the risk of further offending.

The data below refers to referrals to the YOP between year ending December 2023 to 2024.

The panel sat on 27 occasions in 2024, relating to 183 referrals **an increase from 2023** when the panel sat on 25 occasions during 2023 relating to 223 referrals. **The Change Direction programme maybe having an impact on the number of referrals.** North Yorkshire (82%) is seeing a greater proportion of the referrals compared to York (18%). There has been a decrease in the number and percentage of pre-teens referred to the YOP in 2024, with 15 referred during the year compared with 21 in 2023. In 2023 for the first time since 2020, four referrals were made relating to 10-year-

old children, this year there were zero (0). Overall, **80% of referrals related to young people aged 14 or over (as at the panel date), with 15 being the age at which most referrals were received.**

Whilst Outcome 22 remained the single most frequently recommended outcome, **the proportion of recommended outcomes outside of the formal criminal justice system decreased** from the 71.5% in 2023 to 51.9%. This change during 2024 is a result of the **number of Youth Conditional Cautions (YCC's) increasing** from 50 in 2023 to 72 in 2024 - 39.3% of all 2024 outcome recommendations.

Outcome 22 was introduced in response to recommendations in the Lammy Report. It is a Police outcome that can be used when the police decide to defer prosecution until a child or young person has been given the opportunity to engage with an intervention activity, which is aimed at keeping them out of the criminal justice system.

Outcome 22 has largely replaced the use of a Community Resolution Disposal (CRD) as a YOP outcome recommendation. An Outcome 22 provides a significantly longer period to work with a young person, up to 16 weeks, compared with 4 weeks for a CRD. This enables a greater opportunity to build a relationship with a young person, increasing the chances of preventing further offending.

One change seen in 2023 was the introduction of Outcome 22 Reviews. When the Panel has a long and/or complex discussion and it is concerned that the young person may not engage with the Outcome 22 programme, it asks for a review so that the Panel can monitor engagement and take the appropriate action quickly if engagement is not sufficient. In 2024, 8 reviews took place. In each case, it was agreed that either the sessions had been completed or were successfully being completed.

## York

In 2024 York had 18% of referrals, compared with 27% in 2023. **York is underrepresented by 20% when compared to the relevant 10-17 population.**<sup>108</sup> A change from the last SNA which noted, York had been overrepresented in the last 3 years.

The percentage of young people referred, when broken down to locality level, highlights significant differences between York and North Yorkshire's local areas.

The percentage of females represented in the YOP was 26%, a decrease from 36% last year. The best national comparison would be to look at First Time Entrant data, females in the 2023 York and North Yorkshire cohort is significantly higher than that in the national average. **This has been seen in North Yorkshire for some years and is subject to ongoing scrutiny within its Youth Justice Service.**

78% of the primary offences being committed by females related to Violence Against the Person; for males this was lower at 44%. Whilst males are attributed to a much wider range of offences, these can also be more serious than their female counterparts.

A theme of recent cohorts with violence offences committed by females, is they generally relate to assaults against known female peers or Emergency Workers. **This is a theme that has been highlighted in recent years and an area where further focused work has taken place. Recent data in 2025 suggests this has had a positive impact.**

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<sup>108</sup> Percentage of referrals compared to percentage of the 10-17 population, ONS 2022 Mid-Year Population Estimate.

We have seen an overall decrease assaults on emergency workers as detailed in the violence profile later on, so it should be explored if this is trend is also being seen by Youth Justice.

### North Yorkshire

In 2024 North Yorkshire had 82% of referrals. These percentages are higher compared to the amount of 10 – 17-year-olds represented in North Yorkshire (77%).

The percentage of young people referred, when broken down to local level, highlights significant differences between York and North Yorkshire.

District 2024	10-17 Population	% of 10-17 Pop.	% Referrals
Craven	4,848	6.7	4.0
Hambleton	7,478	10.4	<b>11.4</b>
Harrogate	16,468	22.9	20.4
Richmond	4,271	5.9	<b>7.4</b>
Ryedale	4,767	6.6	3.4
Scarborough	9,048	12.6	<b>21.6</b>
Selby	8,560	11.9	<b>13.6</b>
York	16,453	22.9	18.2
North Yorkshire	71,893	100.0	100.0

As has been the case in recent years, Scarborough District had a higher percentage of referrals than their percentage of the 10-17 population (ONS 2022 Mid-Year Population Estimate). Although it is positive that the percentage of referrals relating to Scarborough District has reduced from the high of **26.6%** seen in 2021, it remains the most overrepresented location in 2024, with the percentage of referrals (21.6%) being **71%** higher than its proportion of the York & North Yorkshire 10-17 population (12.6%).

Hambleton, Richmondshire and Selby are the other former District areas with a higher percentage of referrals in 2024 than their percentage of the 10-17 population.

Conversely, only 2.7% and 3.4% of children and young people referred to the Panel in 2023 and 2024 were from Ryedale District, which has 6.6% of the York & North Yorkshire 10-17 population. We will have to see if these figures change due to the increase in violent offences seen in the in the last six months (April-September 2025) in Ryedale.

The significance overrepresentation of Scarborough can be linked to the deprivation levels found within this locality. The IMD 2025 shows that Scarborough has eight LSOAs in the most deprived 10% nationally. North Yorkshire had only a further two LSOAs within this deprivation scale; these were in Harrogate and Selby.

### Serious Youth Violence (SYV)

Data produced by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) shows that for the year ending December 2024, SYV comprised **4% of all offences for North Yorkshire. This is an increase from the figure of 3% in 2023.** However, the rate of SYV in North Yorkshire (2.5 per 10,000) has been below that seen in the Regional (5.9 per 10,000) and National (6.2 per 10,000) figures. This has been the case for the last three years.

It should be noted that the YJB has slightly different crimes included in their Serious Violence compared to the Serious Violence Duty. The Youth Justice Board’s operational definition of Serious

Youth Violence (SYV) is any drug, robbery or violence against the person offence that has a gravity score of 5 or more. Gravity scores range from 1 (least serious) to 8 (most serious).

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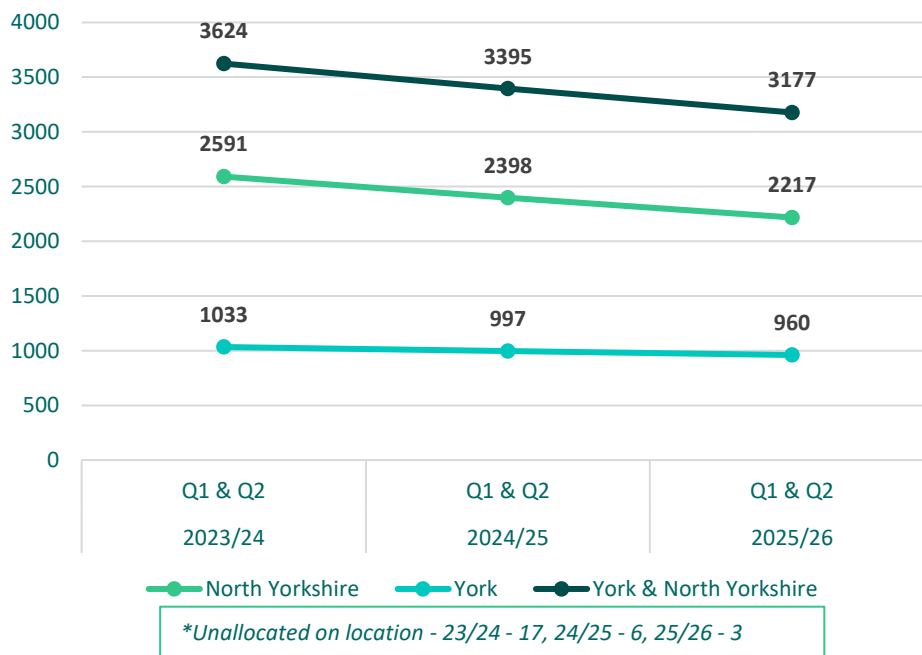
## Violence Profile

Between April to September 2025, York and North Yorkshire, have seen a total of 3,180 serious violence offences. Compared to the same time-period of the previous year, this shows an **overall 6% reduction in violent offences**.<sup>109</sup>

Offence Category	2023/24		2024/ 25		2025 / 26
	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2
Arson	17	13	18	19	12
Homicide <sup>^</sup>	2	5	7	4	3
Possession of Weapons	196	197	228	189	205
Rape Offences <sup>*</sup>	237	237	208	192	142
Serious Sexual Offences	362	277	302	308	265
Violence with injury	2827	2391	2638	2303	2553
<b>Total</b>	<b>3641</b>	<b>3120</b>	<b>3401</b>	<b>3015</b>	<b>3180</b>
	<b>6761</b>		<b>6416</b>		

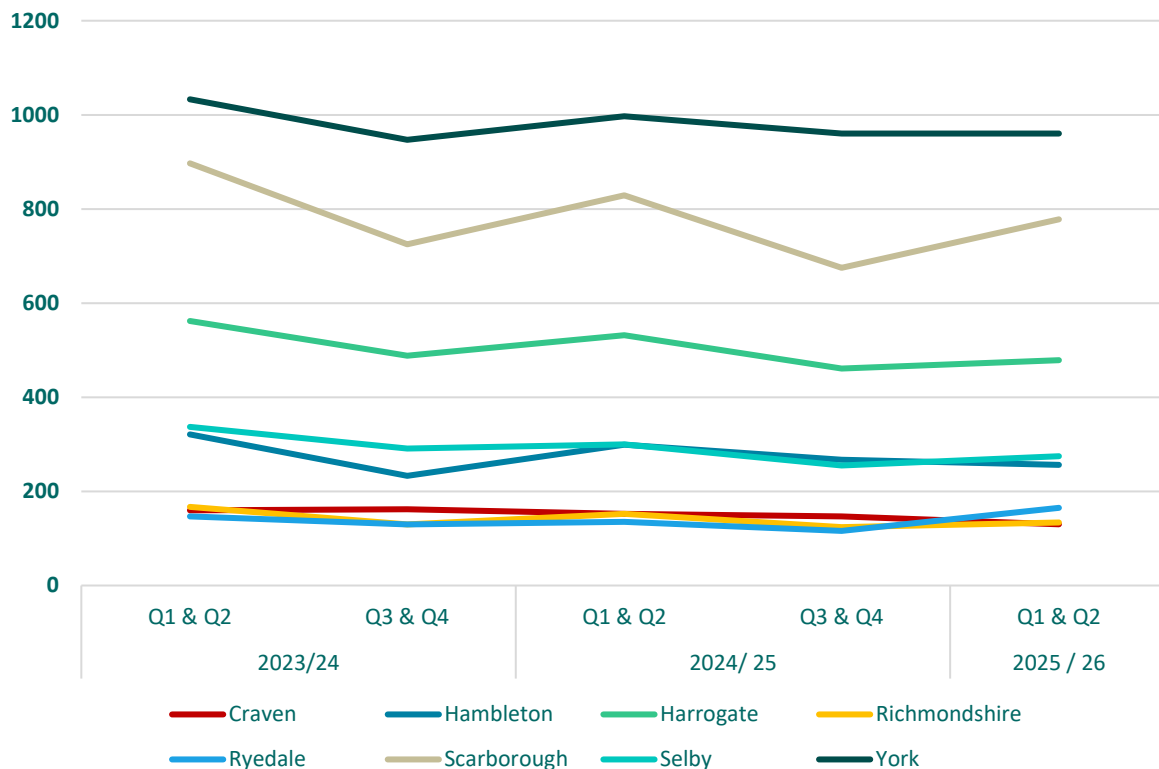
<sup>^</sup>Includes murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, corporate manslaughter  
<sup>\*</sup>Includes attempted rape

**All the listed crimes have reduced when comparing to the same time-period of the previous year.** When we compare from the previous six months of 24/25 however, Violence with Injury and Possession of Weapons have increased. The graph below shows how for **overall violent crime there has been a drop for the period April to September for the last 3 years.**



<sup>109</sup> All offences / crime counting in this section has been done by Committed Date, Financial Year.

That trend has been mirrored in all localities apart from Ryedale. **Between April and September 2025, Ryedale had 165 violent crimes, an increase of 22% from 135 for the same period last year.** Craven and Hambleton recorded the biggest reduction of 14%.



*\*Unallocated on location – 23/24 (Q1&2) 17, 23/24 (Q3&4) 14, 24/25 (Q1&2) 6, 24/25 (Q3&4) 10, 25/26 (Q1&2) 3*

When looking at the trend over time, we can see the violent crime reducing from 2023/24 to 2025/26 in **all areas apart from Ryedale**. There is also a seasonal trend to various degrees across all the localities where the **6-month period April to September is higher than October to March**. Scarborough appears to have the most noticeable seasonal trend. One possible reason for this could be the impact of tourism in the area.

Area	2025/26 Q1 & Q2	Per 1,000	2021 Census Population
Craven	130	2.28	56,927
Hambleton	256	2.82	90,690
Harrogate	479	2.94	162,670
Richmondshire	134	2.69	49,776
<b>Ryedale</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>3.02</b>	54,707
<b>Scarborough</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>7.16</b>	108,735
Selby	275	2.99	91,988
North Yorkshire	2217	3.60	615,491
<b>York</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>4.73</b>	202,821
York & North Yorkshire	3177	3.88	818,312
Unallocated	3	N/A	N/A

Scarborough has the most offences per 1,000 of the population at 7.16. This is well above the regional average of 3.88. York also has one of the highest rates per 1,000 at 4.73.

Out of the more rural areas, Ryedale has the most offences per 1,000 at 3.02, likely to be due to the recent increase in offences.

Scarborough was highlighted last year as one of our most at-risk areas and had detailed analysis conducted as part of the last SNA. As figures show, it continues to be an area of significant concern, although the reduction over time of offences could indicate that initiatives in the area are having an impact.

Recorded disruption activity in relation to the Clear Hold Build site at Barrowcliffe (Op Spirit) reflects the planned days of action in the site where a number of warrants were executed and arrests made in relation to violent crime and drug offences.

## Homicide

In line with the Home Office crime recording rules, Homicide figures include Murder, Attempted Murder, Manslaughter and Corporate Manslaughter.<sup>110</sup>

In this most recent six-month period (Apr-Sept 2025), there were three (3) Homicides, all were attempted murder. **There were Zero (0) Murders.**

Offence Category	2023/24		2024/ 25		2025 / 26
	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2
Murder	0	2	3	3	0
Attempted Murder	2	3	3	1	3
Corporate Manslaughter	0	0	1	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>		

There were **three attempted murders** within this six-month period (Apr – Sept), which is the same total as the same period last year.

**There were zero (0) homicide offences in the April - September 2025 period that were knife enabled.**

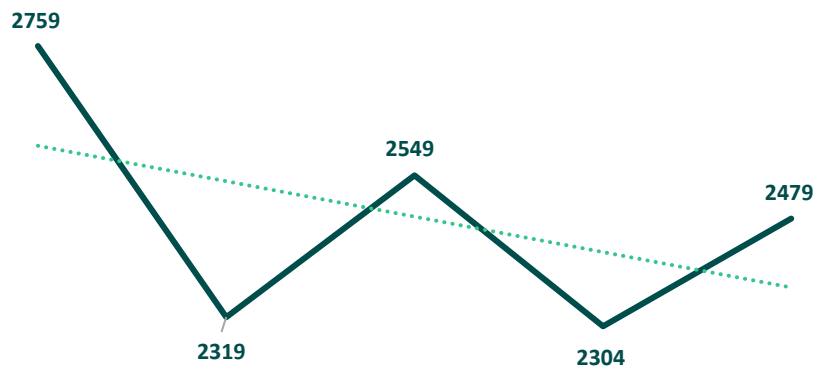
The small number of offences hinder meaningful analysis.

## Violence with Injury

Overall, Violence with Injury has seen a **3% decrease**, in comparison to April to September data of the previous year, and it is showing the **seasonal trend where Q1 & Q2 are higher than Q3 & Q4**. The overall linear trend shows how it has been **decreasing since 2023/24**.

The figures used in this section are Violence with Injury offences excluding constables and emergency workers. The assaults on emergency workers will be looked at separately, in more detail, in a later section.

<sup>110</sup> Home Office, Crime Recording Rules for Front line Officers and Staff, 2025/26



Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2
2023/24		2024/25		2025/26
2759		2319		2479
2549		2304		

— Totals    ..... Linear (Totals)

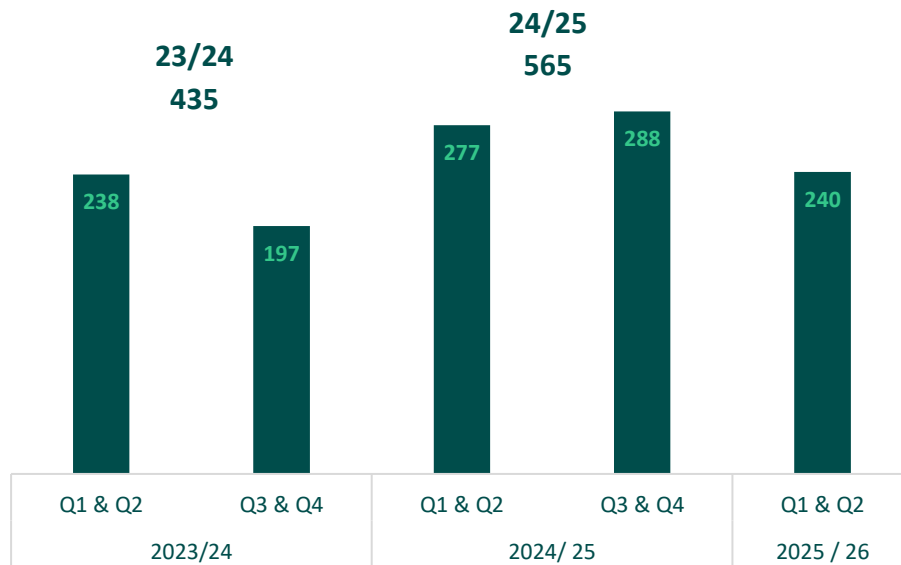
**Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) and Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) have reduced** when comparing April to September 2025 to the same period last year. Administering Poison has increased by a count of eight.

Non-fatal Strangulation has been seeing a steady increase from 2023/24 to 2025/26, having become a distinct criminal offence on 07/06/2022. **Reasons for this may need to be looked at further.**

Offence Category	2023/24		2024/25		2025/26
	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2
Administering Poison	64	71	56	70	64
Actual Bodily Harm	2353	1942	2100	1814	1891
Grievous Bodily Harm	238	197	277	288	240
Non-fatal Strangulation	104	109	116	132	284
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2759</b>	<b>2319</b>	<b>2549</b>	<b>2304</b>	<b>2479</b>

## Grievous Bodily Harm

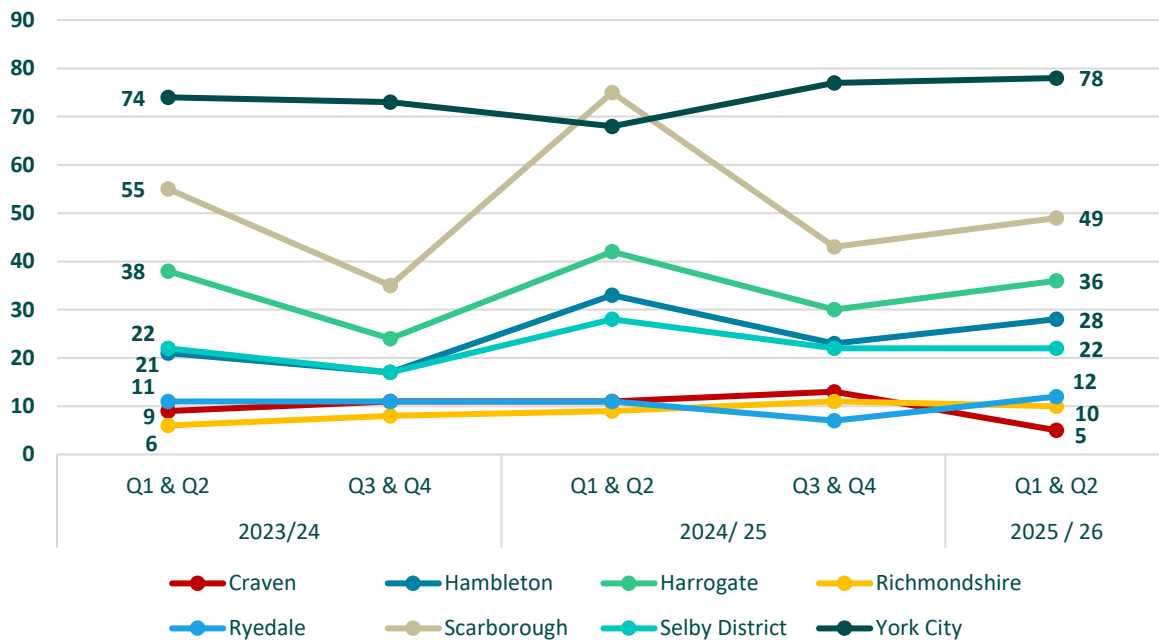
Between April to September 2025, Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH), malicious wounding and wounding with intent **has decreased from the previous 6-month period (Oct-Mar) and from the same period in 2024/25.** Offences are higher than the 2023/24 periods so the next six months will show if the trend is decreasing.



Common themes in the GBH offences were that domestic abuse or alcohol were recorded as being linked to the offence.

York (78) and Scarborough (49) have had the most recorded offences. With Craven (5) and Richmondshire (10) the least. The area in **York where the offences are highest continues to be the Guildhall ward**, an area that contains both retail and night-time economies in the city centre. The area in **Scarborough where the offences are highest is the Castle ward**, an area already identified and looked at in last year’s SNA.

When comparing to the same period last year, **York was the only locality to have a moderate increase**. When comparing to the previous six months, Scarborough has increased, however this can be expected from the seasonal trend. Only Richmondshire and Craven decreased.



Hambleton is an area of concern considering, the number of offences per 1,000 is the highest at 0.31 per 1,000 of the population outside of York (0.38 per 1,000) and Scarborough (0.45 per 1,000). Hambleton is smaller than more urban localities such as York, Scarborough and Harrogate.

Knife crime has been highlighted as one of our concern areas, and when looking at all violence with injury offences (both ABH & GBH), it is recorded that **3% have 'Bladed Implement'** as a weapon.

### North Yorkshire

Scarborough locality continues to have the highest number of offences. Common strands are alcohol, drugs and domestic abuse. **The most common place for the offence to occur is in a public place.**

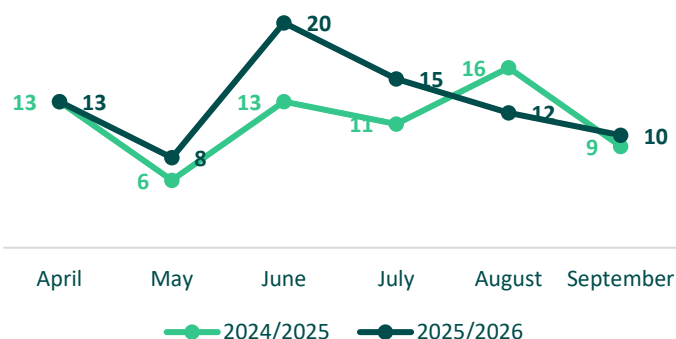
Within Scarborough, **Castle Ward continues to be the Ward** which has a significantly higher level of offences than other Wards. This has not changed since the previous reporting year, **although this 6-month period is the lowest for offences since the start of the data capture in 2023/24.** Offences in the Castle locality vary in day and time. On the latest UK Local Area deprivation Index Castle ward has a Lower-layer Super Output Area (LSOA) within its boundaries, where fewer than 1% of neighbourhoods in England are more deprived (ranked 167 out of 33,755 neighbourhoods).<sup>111</sup> This locality contains the train station, Scarborough castle, much of the retail premises and NTE locations, and access to the beach, thereby key to the tourist economy.

However, GBH offences were relatively consistent throughout the months April to September. This aligns with Actual Bodily Harm offences. More detailed analysis has been conducted on this area in the last SNA.

Alcohol and domestic abuse form common strands for offences in Hambleton. The Wards with the most offences within Hambleton **continue to be Thirsk and Northallerton Central & North.** Both areas have hospitality venues. Offences in Northallerton North have all happened on a Thursday or Friday night, however there was no one clear theme for the offences.

### York

**York has increased for GBH offences to 78 from 68 for the same period last year,** it also increased from the last 6-month period, however by only one offence. Offences peaked in June and July, which differs from last year when the most offences were recorded in August.



Of those that occurred in June, roughly just over a third were recorded as being alcohol related. The most offences were recorded on a Saturday, however it is roughly consistent throughout the week, and most are recorded as overnight. *This should be taken with caution due to data quality.* It was the warmest June on record for England, so this could have led to more daytime drinking.

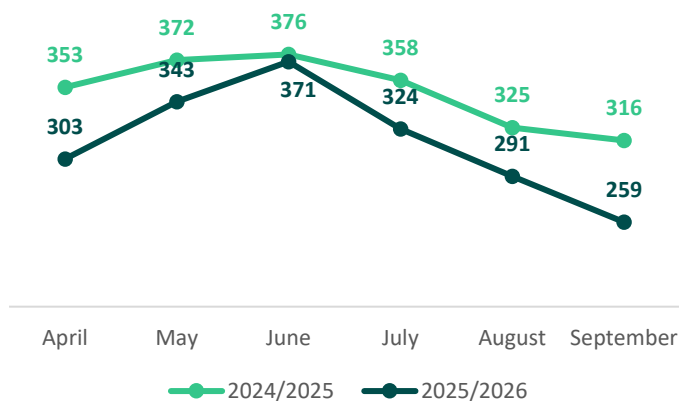
<sup>111</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, English indices of deprivation 2025, last accessed Nov 2025

Over half of offences happened within two Wards: **Guildhall and Micklegate**. These are in the York city centre where there is a busy night-time economy. As expected, most of these offences occurred in a public place over the weekend, overnight and into the early hours of the morning.

**A multi-agency operation project** funded through the Serious Violence Duty and initiated and led by North Yorkshire Police, has engaged with licenced premises, with additional efforts and deployments made on key dates. For example, a multi-agency operation with City of York council and York Business Improvement District (BID) was conducted on the weekend of Ebor Races.

## Actual Bodily Harm

Between April to September 2025 there were 1891 Actual Bodily Harm offences. With Domestic abuse being a more common theme recorded as being related to the offence than with GBH. Most offences were recorded as taking place overnight between the hours of 2200hrs and 0500hrs. As mentioned previously, caution must be taken due to data quality. **There has been a reduction in recorded offences from the same period last year** (2100), but there has been a slight increase from the previous six months, October to March (1814).



Offences peak in June, roughly following the same trend as last year.

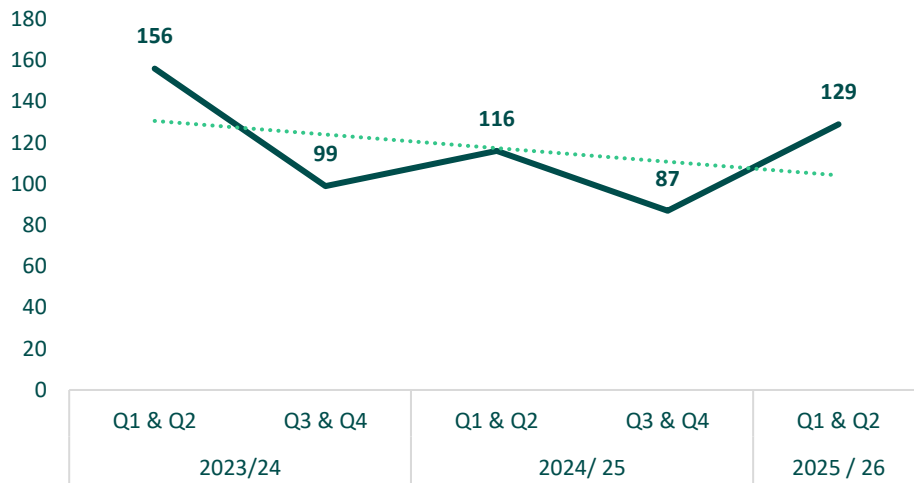
York has the most offences (549), along with Scarborough (467). All areas have fewer recorded offences than the same period last year, apart from Ryedale, that has seen an increase of 6 offences. Harrogate reduced the most, recording 59 fewer offences.

## North Yorkshire

Within North Yorkshire, ABH tends to follow the same pattern as GBH. The Scarborough locality continues to have the highest number of offences. Common factors are alcohol, mental health and domestic abuse. **ABH tends to have more youth related offences than GBH**. Over half of the offences occurred in a public place.

**Castle Ward has the most offences (129) and against the overall trend has increased** when comparing to April to September last year. There has, however, been a fall over time. The next six months will give a clearer indication if this is a longer-term trend. June is the month when more ABH offences were recorded (26) than last year (15) which almost accounts for the overall increase. **The force Tactical Assessment for July 2025 identified June heatwave temperatures as being linked to increased use of licenced premises.**

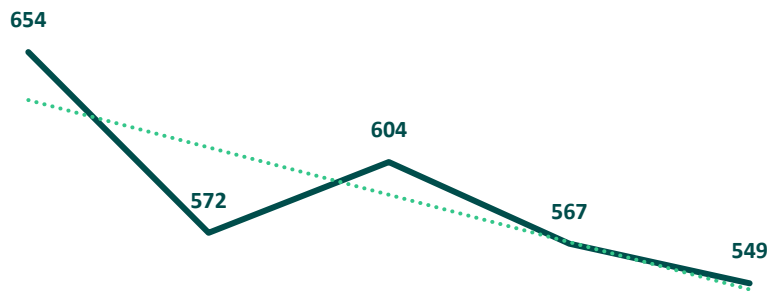
### ABH - Castle Ward, Scarborough



Ryedale did not follow the overall trend and increased from 2024 to 2025 when comparing the six-month period April to September. The wards with the most offences are Malton and Pickering East. **The current number of offences are higher than April to September 2023 and 2024 in those areas.** Again, alcohol and domestic abuse are common factors. With no specific pattern for time or day of the week offences are recorded.

### York

In the period April to September 2025, York had 549 ABH offences recorded. This is a reduction from the same time last year and from the previous six-month period (March-October). Most were recorded as being on a Saturday, and in a public place. A lot of the offences had alcohol and domestic abuse recorded as factors.



Year	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4
2023/24	654	572
2024/25	604	567
2025/26	549	-

Guildhall (115) and Micklegate (93) have the most offences but do align with the overall trend and have reduced from the same period last year. Guildhall has also reduced from the last six months

(October-March). Micklegate however, has increased but shows more signs of a seasonal trend where the period April to September is higher.

## Non-Fatal Strangulation

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 284 of Non-Fatal Strangulation offences. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 shows a **145% increase in offences**. There has also been an increase of 152 offences from the previous six months (October to March).

In North Yorkshire, all localities have seen an increase from the previous April to September period. Scarborough and York not only have the most offences but have seen the biggest increase in number of offences as well. As a proportion, Harrogate and Ryedale are the two localities that have had a significant increase in offences. **Ryedale has a rate of 4.02 per 10,000 and is one of the highest along with Scarborough at 5.79 per 10,000.**

York has seen an 89% increase in offences between 2024/25 and 2025/26. The area where offences are highest is the Guildhall ward with the offence count having risen by 14 from the same period last year.

Locality	2023/2024 Q1 & Q2	2024/2025 Q1 & Q2	2025/2026 Q1 & Q2	Difference
Craven	10	7	13	6
Hambleton	11	3	21	18
Harrogate	12	18	44	26
Richmondshire	4	12	19	7
Ryedale	2	4	22	18
Scarborough	29	27	63	36
Selby	9	7	30	23
York	27	38	72	34

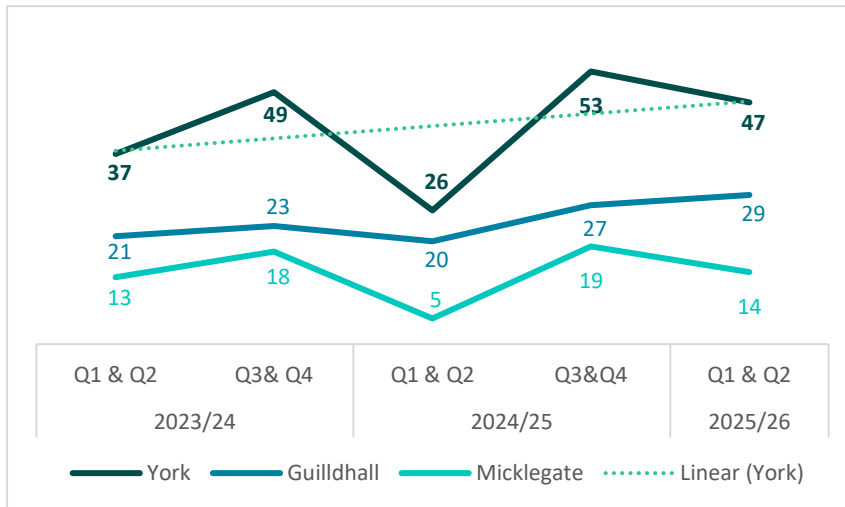
A common theme associated to Non-Fatal Strangulation offences is domestic abuse. As seen in a later section, overall, domestic abuse crime has decreased from year ending March 2024 to 2025, however, recorded offences of non-fatal strangulation have risen. Non-Fatal Strangulation as a specific offence came into effect in 2022. This trend could be viewed as a positive development and reflective of improved recognition of the seriousness of strangulation within abusive relationships and could demonstrate that the legislation is being actively and appropriately applied.

The increase in these specific offences, set against a backdrop of declining overall domestic abuse related crime, could highlight an increased awareness among victims, police, and prosecutors and that it is being identified and addressed as a distinct criminal act.

## Administering Poison

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 64 Administering Poison offences. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 shows a **14% increase in offences**. However, it is a drop of six offences from the previous six months (October – March). When looking at April to September 2023 though we can see that it has only increased by 4 offences. When

comparing the periods October to March 2023/24 and 2024/25 the number of offences is similar. It could be that April to September 2025 was low and now trends have gone back to normal.



York remains significantly higher than the other localities in North Yorkshire. Scarborough did increase by one, but the other localities have all seen a decrease or have stayed the same from the same period last year. **York has increased by 21 offences.** The highest number of offences has historically been in the Guildhall Ward and

continues to be. The rise in York is **mainly down to the rise in Guildhall by nine offences and by Micklegate which has also risen by nine offences.** Unlike the overall trend, Guildhall did slightly increase from the previous six months.

Nearly all the crimes in Guildhall were recorded as being associated with licenced premises, occurring on a Thursday or the weekend. Most offences occurred overnight between the hours of 22:00hrs and 04:00hrs and in the evening between 1800hrs and 2100hrs. (As previously stated, caution must be taken due to data quality). This correlates with the Night-Time Economy. Alcohol and Drugs are common themes recorded as being associated with nearly all the offences.

**Spiking is captured in this data and therefore an increase isn't necessarily a negative.** Recent research by Drinkaware and Anglia Ruskin University found that, "around half of incidents are not reported to police because people don't see the point".<sup>112</sup> This means it is an under reported offence and the recorded numbers may not be reflecting the true prevalence of the crime. Offences could be affected by awareness raising in the area which leads to more people reporting the offence.

#### What is spiking?

"Spiking is when someone puts alcohol or drugs into another person's drink or body without their consent or knowledge. It can be done through drinks, drugs, food, needle or other means.

The motives are varied, including to incapacitate or cause distress to the victim, or to assist in the commission of a further offence for example a theft, robbery or sexual offence."

It is captured under 'Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy'.

<sup>112</sup> Dr Lata Gautam and Dr Agatha Grela Anglia Ruskin University, Drink Spiking Research Findings, November 2024

## Assault on Emergency Workers

The Assault on Emergency Workers (Offences) Act came into effect in 2018,

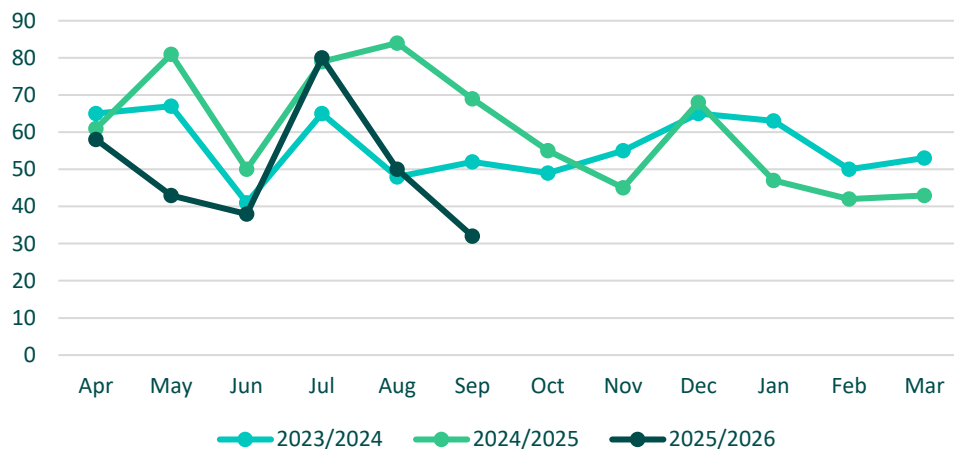
Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 317 assaults against Emergency Workers, a mean average of 53 assaults per month. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 shows a **23% reduction in offences**.

Locality	2023/24 Q1 & Q2	2024/25 Q1 & Q2	2025/26 Q1 & Q2	Difference
Craven	14	5	8	3
Hambleton	15	37	12	-25
Harrogate	53	77	40	-37
Richmondshire	7	9	2	-7
Ryedale	6	10	9	-1
Scarborough	95	112	119	7
Selby	24	38	17	-21
York	122	123	110	-13
Unallocated		3		-3
<b>Total</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>-97</b>

In North Yorkshire, Scarborough shows a different trend to the other areas, with year on year increases from 2023/24 through to 2025/26. Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmondshire and Selby all have fewer offences in 2025/26 than in 2023/24, **with a marked reduction between 2024/25 and 2025/26 in the Hambleton, Harrogate and Selby areas**. Given the low number of offences in Ryedale any changes are unlikely to be due to anything other than normal fluctuation.

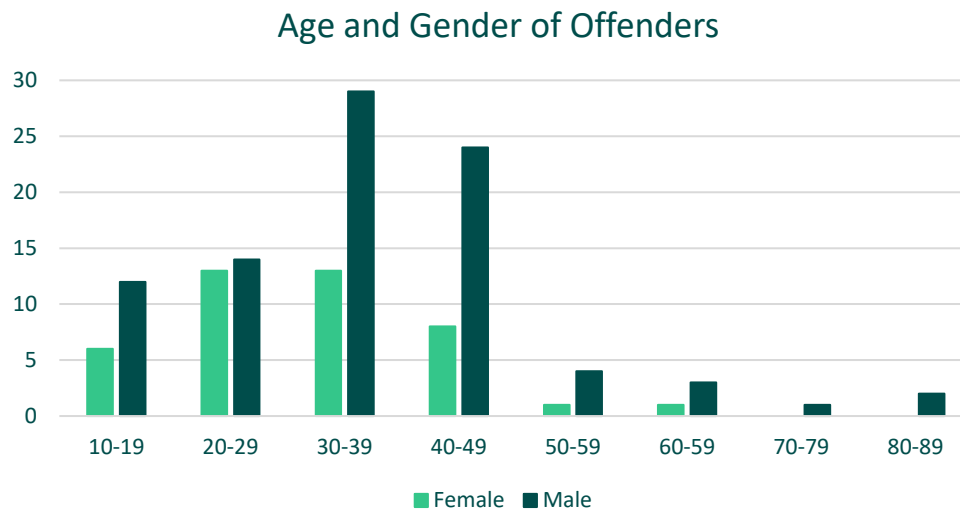
York has seen a moderate reduction in offences between 2024/25 and 2025/26. The area where offences are highest is the Guildhall ward, an area containing both the retail and night-time economies in the city centre.

### Assaults on Emergency Workers



Section 39 (Assault or Assault by Beating) offences account for the greater part of the fall in offences by volume, having fallen by a quarter (83 offences) from 2024/25 to 2025/26. Assaults occasioning Actual Bodily Harm also fell by one fifth (17 offences). Should patterns for the remainder of 2025/26 follow the trend of previous years, a seasonal up-tick can be anticipated in the second six-months of the year, with the annual total likely to be lower than in 2024/25.

The chart below shows the age and gender profiles of identified offenders for offences in the first two quarters of 2025/26. Male offenders are more than twice as common as female offenders. In



the 20-29 age group, there is little difference in the numbers of male and female offenders, however a long tail of older male offenders differentiates the age profile, and this is reflected by a median average age of 31 years for female offenders and 36 years for males.

Assaults on emergency workers tend to be secondary events to the primary incident, with alcohol, drugs and mental health issues forming common strands for primary incidents. Although the most frequent place for such assaults to occur is in public open space, around one in four happen in Emergency Services or medical buildings (usually police stations or hospitals).

### Existing plans

Op Hampshire is a national operation focusing on Assaults on Emergency Workers. Op Hampshire was brought about to gauge the scale and range of assaults, ensure all Forces were recording assaults consistently, inform policy and practice, improve officer safety standards and understand the impact on victims. The overall aim is to support officers and to move away from accepting assaults as ‘part of the job’.

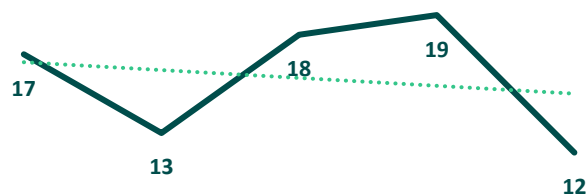
North Yorkshire Police have embedded Op Hampshire within their priorities and continue to support victims as well as explore further restorative justice opportunities for offenders, in particularly with Youth Justice Services.

The latest figures from Op Hampshire show we are seeing the lowest volume since 2022, for the month of October, for assaults on officers. The most common theme related to the offence is Alcohol.

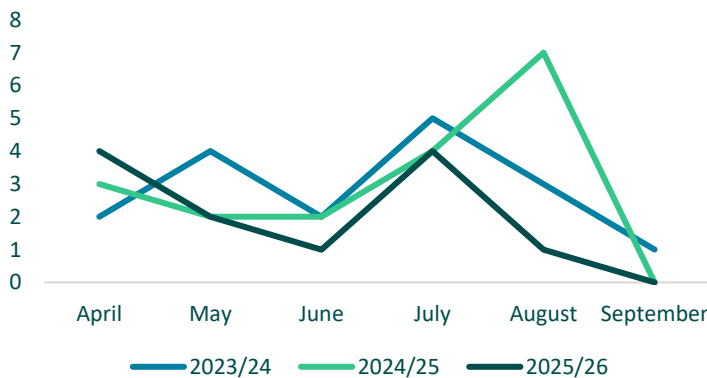
North Yorkshire Police have started to deliver a fully immersive Cultural Awareness Programme, that looks at the effect that black history has on policing approaches today. The course highlights that there are officers within North Yorkshire Police who are subjected to hate crime and assault whilst trying to perform their duty. **This is an element that is not looked at in this section but is recommended as something to be monitored going forward.**

### Arson – Endangering Life

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 12 Arson – Endangering Life offences. The numbers of Arson-Endangering Life are small, but there has been a **significant decrease from the same period last year** and on the previous six months.



Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q1 & Q2
2023/24		2024/25		2025/26



The months with the most offences were April (4) and July (4).

The offences were evenly spread between the more urban localities of Scarborough, Harrogate and York.

No specific Ward had the most offences.

### Possession of Weapons

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 205 Possession of Weapon offences, a mean average of 34 offences per month. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 shows a **10% reduction in offences.**

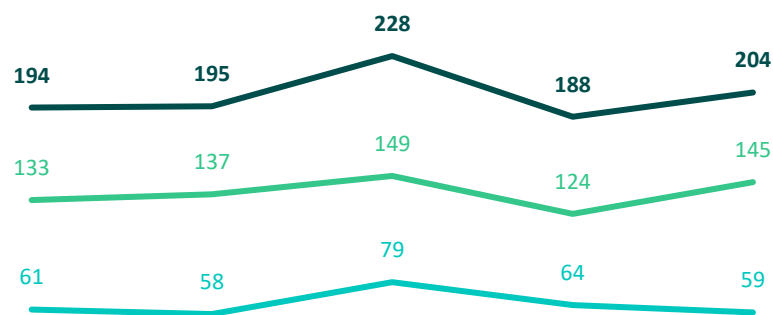
There is, however, a slight increase from the last six-month period of 16 offences. Looking at last year, April to September was higher than October to March. If that pattern continues, this year NYP will see a drop in offences over the next six months.

Unlike previous years, there was a peak of 49 offences in July, with the rest of the months roughly consistent.

In the period April to September 2025, 19 offences related to firearms offences with the majority being an imitation firearm or air weapon. York and North Yorkshire do not have any issues with firearms as part of serious violence.

Over a third were where a blade, point or an offensive weapon were used to threaten, with a similar number of offences when comparing the same period last year. Most of the offences (just over half) were either having or in possession of a blade or point or an offensive weapon. This is where the decrease in offences has been seen.

Most of the offences related to possession of bladed implement or offensive weapon in a **public place** (129).



2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Q1 & Q2	Q1 & Q2	Q1 & Q2
Q3 & Q4	Q3 & Q4	

— York — North Yorkshire — York & North Yorkshire

*\*Unallocated on location – 23/24 (Q1&2) 2, 23/24 (Q3&4) 2, 24/25 (Q1&2) 0, 24/25 (Q3&4) 1, 25/26 (Q1&2) 1*

### North Yorkshire

**Harrogate has had a 50% reduction in offences** when comparing April to September 2023 to 2025. This has coincided with the installation of a knife bin in the area in January 2023, however direct causation can't be evidenced.

Craven, Hambleton and Richmondshire were the other

localities in North Yorkshire to have seen a fall in offences from April to September 2024 to 2025.

Although the overall trend is down, Scarborough is an area that goes against that trend. **Offences have increase by 51% since the period April to September 2023 to 2025.** There was a dip last year

Locality	2023/2024 Q1 & Q2	2024/2025 Q1 & Q2	2025/2026 Q1 & Q2	Difference
Craven	2	14	9	-5
Hambleton	11	18	11	-7
Harrogate	36	22	18	-4
Richmondshire	7	15	10	-5
Ryedale	10	7	10	3
Scarborough	45	60	68	8
Selby	22	13	19	6
York	61	79	59	-20

between October and March, so that may occur again this year. Scarborough also has the highest rate per 1,000 of the population (0.63) than the other localities including York.

Ryedale and Selby were the other localities to increase but the changes are unlikely to be due to anything other than normal fluctuation.

Within the Scarborough locality, Castle Ward records the most offences. This correlates with the ABH and GBH offences. **This is significantly higher than any other Ward in North Yorkshire.** Castle Ward has almost double the number of offences from the next ward, also in Scarborough, Ramshill.

### York and North Yorkshire Knife Bins

There are currently 17 knife bins installed in North Yorkshire (excluding York) and as of December 2025 **5,373 knives had been collected** through the bins.

Harrogate has had a singular bin as a pilot project from January 2023 and has collected 2,465 knives as of December 2025. The other 16 knife bins were installed in February 2024 and are located in Selby, Tadcaster, Ripon, Knaresborough, Boroughbridge, Skipton, Settle, Stokesley, Northallerton, Thirsk, Richmond, Colburn, Malton, Pickering, Scarborough and Whitby.

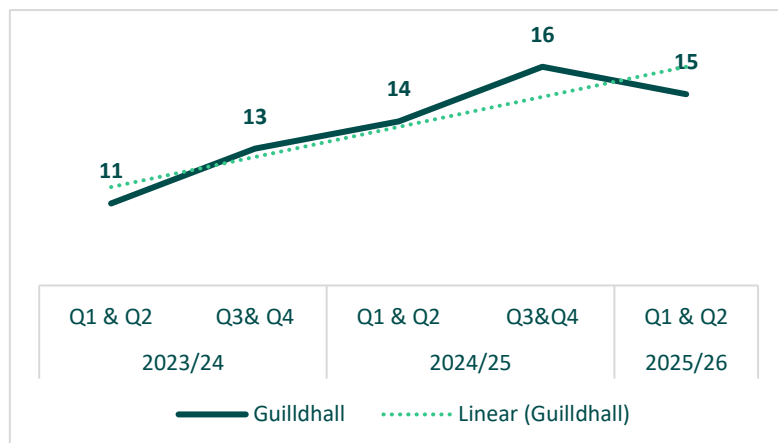
York had three bins located in Acomb, Clifton and Heworth, previously installed in February 2024. For the month ending January 2026 **313 knives had been collected** from all three bins. Clifton and Acomb are no longer operational, and it is being decided where the most strategic location for these bins will be.

There will be a more detailed breakdown from each location in the intervention impact report for 2025/26.

North Yorkshire Police also run knife amnesties throughout the year as part of the national Op Sceptre, separately from the knife bin project.

### York

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 59 Possession of Weapon offences. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 25% reduction in offences.** The most offences were recorded in Guildhall Ward, which correlates to GBH & ABH offences. Where York overall has seen a reduction, Guildhall has seen a slight increase in offences. This increase has been going up in the area since 2023.



The highest volume occurred in July and then offences fall in August and September. This is different to previous years where higher volumes were seen in the later months.

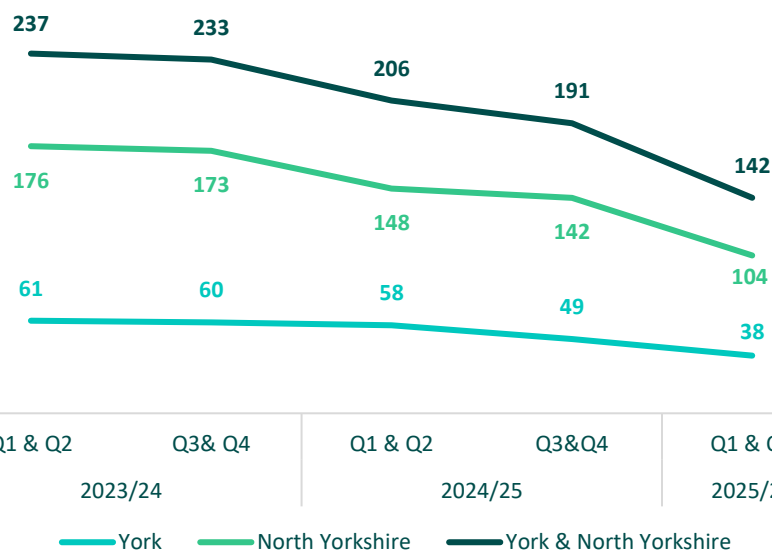
NHS hospital data has been requested and shared in order to obtain a more rounded view on knife crime. However, work is ongoing within our local health care providers around recording standards, so that accurate data is available.

We have been able to obtain hospital admissions from stab injuries from ambulance data. This did show an increase but there needs to be caution taken as the data does not capture all hospital admissions and the intentional stab injuries cannot be separated from the accidental.

## Rape

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 142 Rape offences, a mean average of 24 offences per month. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 32% reduction in offences. There is also a 26% reduction from the previous six months.** A bladed implement was recorded as being present in some of these offences.

Victims can take time to report these offences, so numbers can change and may increase when the data is re-run in the future.



*Unallocated: 2023/24, Q1&Q2, 0 - Q3&Q4, 4 - 2024/25, Q1&Q2, 2 - Q3&Q4, 1 - 2025/26, 0*

York and Scarborough Localities have the highest number of offences, however Scarborough per 1,000 of the population at 0.30 makes it the locality with the most offences relative to its population.

The most common victim-offender relationship is 'Acquaintance' (27%). 'Stranger' accounts for 14% of offences. **85% of Rape offences related to females aged 16 or older.**

### North Yorkshire

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 104, Rape offences in North Yorkshire (excluding York). Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 30% reduction in offences.**

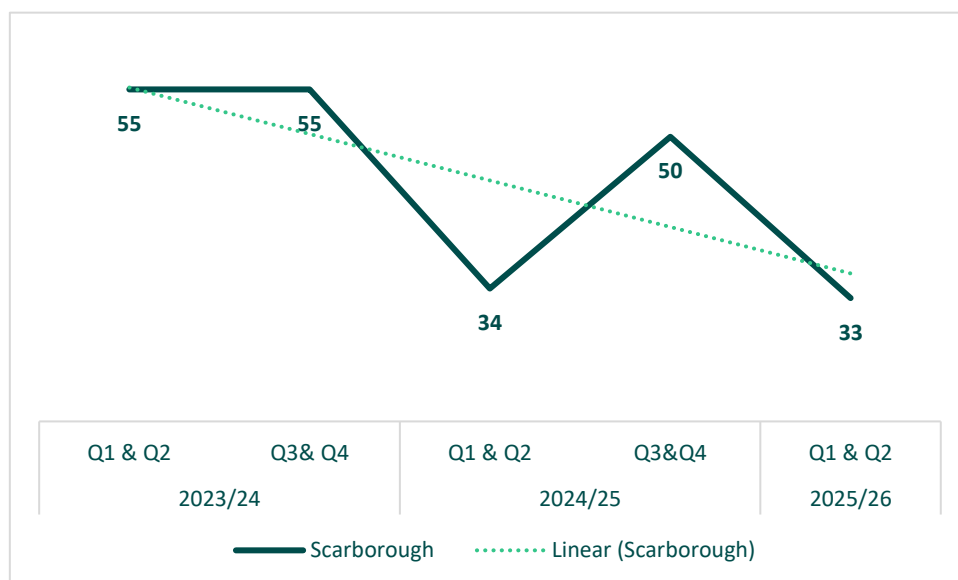
There has also been a reduction by 38 offences from the last six months (October to March).

All localities in North Yorkshire have seen a reduction, apart from Craven which has stayed constant.

Locality	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	Difference
	Q1 & Q2	Q1 & Q2	Q1 & Q2	
Craven	8	6	6	0
Hambleton	23	20	16	-4
Harrogate	42	42	24	-18
Richmondshire	11	13	8	-5
Ryedale	12	10	6	-4
Scarborough	55	34	33	-1
Selby	25	23	11	-12
York	61	58	38	-20

The locality with the biggest reduction by count was Harrogate. Selby has roughly halved its offences.

As mentioned above, Scarborough has the most offences and has only slightly reduced but has seen a larger reduction from the last six months. The Ward with the most recorded offences is Castle. Castle has remained consistent in the number of offences since 2023. Scarborough appears to record higher numbers when other Wards have spikes in offences.



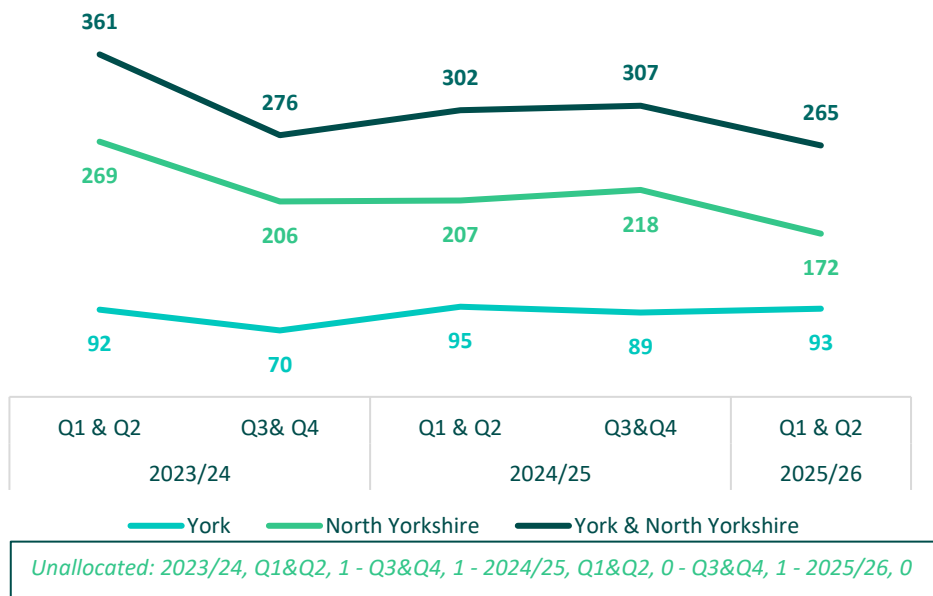
### York

Between April to September 2025 there were 38 Rape offences in York. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 34% reduction in offences.**

**In the last SNA, Heworth recorded the most offences with 11, but in the most recent period has seen a significant reduction. Guildhall however has increased and is now the Ward with the most recorded offences.**

### Serious Sexual Offences

Between April to September 2025 there were 265 Serious Sexual offences, a mean average of 44 offences per month. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 12% reduction in offences. There is also a 14% reduction from the previous six months.**



### North Yorkshire

Between April to September 2025, there were 172 serious sexual offences in North Yorkshire (excluding York). Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 17% reduction in offences.**

Harrogate recorded the most offences. Scarborough has the highest rate per 1,000 of the population at 0.49. Harrogate and Ryedale were the only localities to go against the overall trend and have an increase in offences.

Within Harrogate the wards with the most offences are Killinghall, Low Harrogate and Granby. Killinghall has increased by eight offences and Granby has increased by three. Low Harrogate has reduced by two.

Locality	2023/2024 (Q1 & Q2)	2024/2025 (Q1 & Q2)	2025/2026 (Q1 & Q2)	Difference
Craven	18	8	2	-6
Hambleton	31	25	20	-5
Harrogate	67	43	56	13
Richmondshire	15	13	9	-4
Ryedale	21	8	16	8
Scarborough	94	87	53	-34
Selby	23	23	16	-7
York	92	95	93	-2

The Castle Ward continues to be the highest offending locality and has more than double the number of offences to any other ward in Scarborough. However, for the period April to September, there has been a reduction in offences since 2023.

29% of offences were recorded as having a 'stranger' or 'not known/no current suspect' as the offender victim relationship.

### York

Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 93 serious sexual offences in York. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 2% reduction in offences.**

Comparing to the previous 6-month period (October 24 to March 25) there has been a slight increase of four offences. York does appear to have a slight seasonal trend though where April to September have been higher than October to March.

Guildhall (23) and Micklegate (17) have recorded the most offences.

**53% of offences were recorded as having a ‘stranger’ or ‘not known/no current suspect’ as the offender victim relationship.**

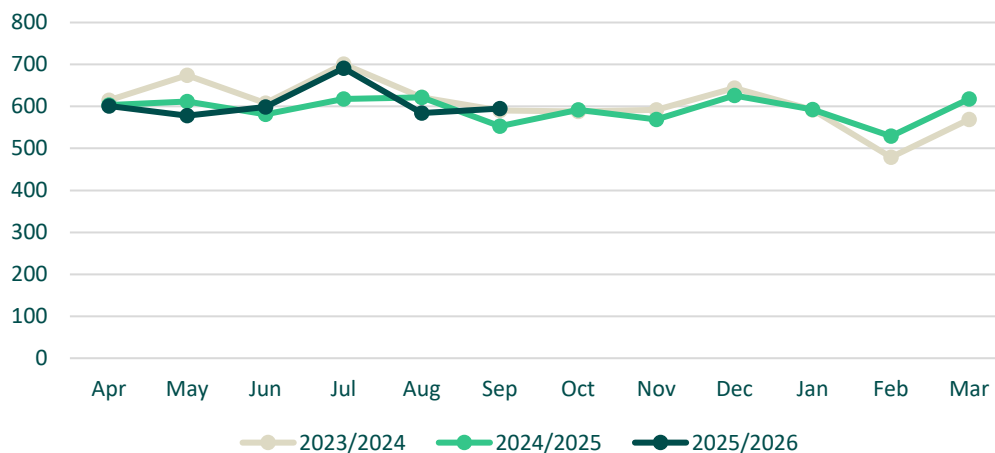
The York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate (PFC) commissions a countywide Counselling and Talking therapy service to support victims of crime (of any age) to cope and recover. **575 referrals were received between April – December 2025.** **Approximately 90% of referrals relate to Sexual or Domestic abuse.**

## Domestic Abuse

In England and Wales, the police recorded 1,350,460 domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes in the year ending March 2025, this was a similar number to the previous year (1,349,747). **The number of domestic abuse crimes recorded in this period was 816,493, a 4% reduction compared with the previous year (851,062).** This represents a second year-on-year decrease since records began in 2015, although caution is needed when comparing domestic abuse-related recorded crime data with previous years because of changes in police recording practices.<sup>113</sup>

North Yorkshire Police recorded crime data shows there were 3,648 Domestic Abuse offences in York and North Yorkshire, between April and September 2025. **Although there was a marginal increase in recorded offences in comparison with April to September 2024, taking seasonal fluctuations into consideration, the underlying trend is stable.**

Domestic Abuse - Recorded Offences



<sup>113</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), published 26 November 2025, ONS website, article, Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales: year ending March 2025.

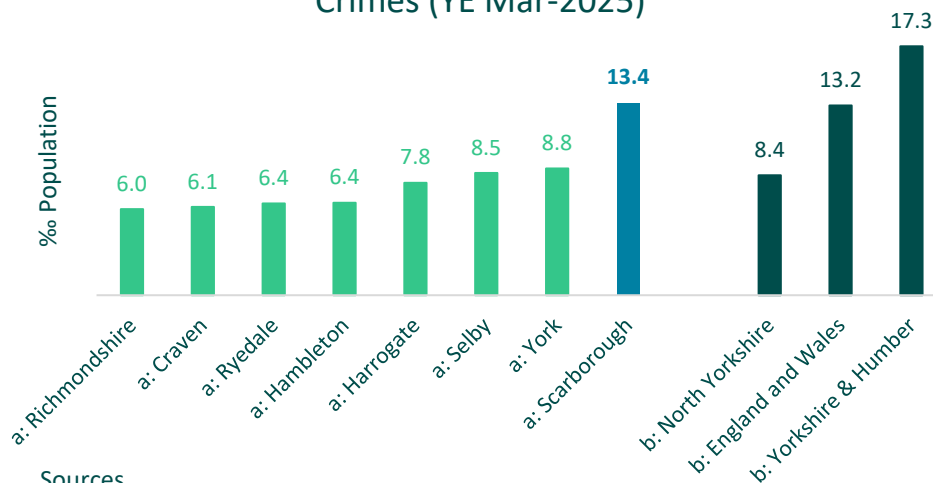
In the period from April to September 2025, the localities of Hambleton and Ryedale had the largest percentage increase in offences, whilst Harrogate and Selby had the largest reductions. Increased offences in rural localities might be a positive reflection of the focused and targeted work that has been completed by IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services) in rural communities.

District	Q1 Q2 2023/2024	Q1 Q2 2024/2025	Q1 Q2 2025/2026	Difference	per 1000 Popn	Variance % Popn
Craven	190	183	201	18	3.45	-20%
Hambleton	380	299	335	36	3.54	-18%
Harrogate	653	622	589	-33	3.46	-20%
Richmondshire	192	154	150	-4	3.00	-31%
Ryedale	154	194	216	22	3.84	-11%
Scarborough	861	790	798	8	7.23	67%
Selby	416	435	417	-18	4.36	1%
York	946	903	934	31	4.46	3%
Not allocated	18	9	8	-1	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3810</b>	<b>3589</b>	<b>3648</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>-</b>

In North Yorkshire, Scarborough is an outlier with notably higher per capita offence rates<sup>114</sup> than other localities; in the period from April to September 2025, the incidence of domestic abuse related crimes in Scarborough was more than twice as high as in the lowest locality, Richmondshire.

Although some caution should be taken when comparing locally sourced data with regional and national figures (due to potential differences in the capture of data), it is worth noting that for the year ending March 2025, Scarborough had an offence rate of 13.4 offences per 1000 population, slightly higher than the England and Wales rate of 13.2 offences per 1000 population rate, this contrasts with a rate in North Yorkshire of 8.4 offences per 1000 population.<sup>115</sup>

### Rate of Police Recorded Domestic Abuse Related Crimes (YE Mar-2025)



Sources

a: NYP data b: Domestic Abuse Data Tool

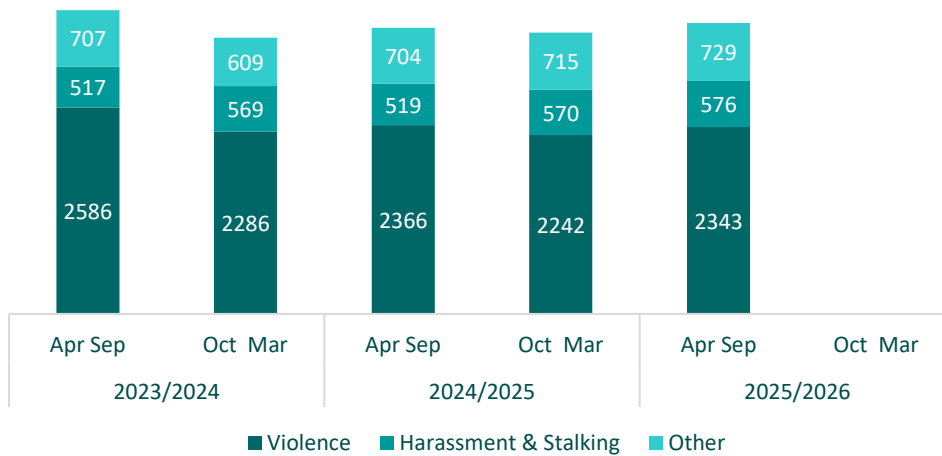
<sup>114</sup> ONS mid-year population figures 2024 used for per capita figures in domestic abuse section

<sup>115</sup> Domestic abuse in England and Wales – Data tool, ONS Centre for Crime and Justice Release date:26 November 2025

### Recording of Domestic Abuse Offences

There have been changes in the recording of harassment offences, with a reversal of recording rules introduced in 2017. North Yorkshire Police have followed the new recording protocol since July 2023. These changes mean that it is no longer necessary to record a course of conduct offence of harassment along with a principal crime of higher severity. Disaggregating domestic abuse related crimes to differentiate offences, **shows for April to September 2025 that Violence (excluding Harassment and Stalking) fell by 9% in comparison to the same period in 2023.** In contrast, for the same comparison periods, **Harassment and Stalking increased by 11%** and other offences increased by 3%.

### Domestic Abuse - Recorded Offences

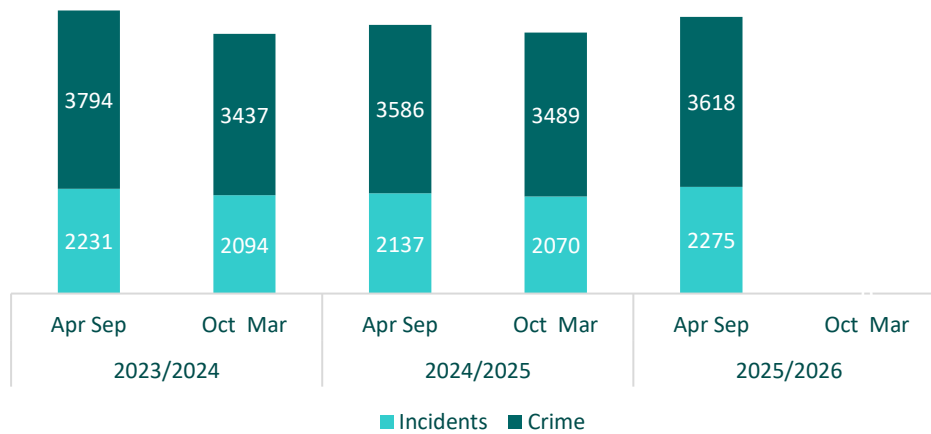


### Domestic Abuse Incidents

Police recording of domestic abuse occurrences includes crimes (incidents for which a crime has been recorded) and incidents that were not classified as crimes. In the period April to September 2025, North Yorkshire Police figures show both categories were higher than in the same period in

2024. The proportion of domestic abuse related incidents for which a crime was recorded fell from 63% to 61% between the two periods.

### Recorded Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes

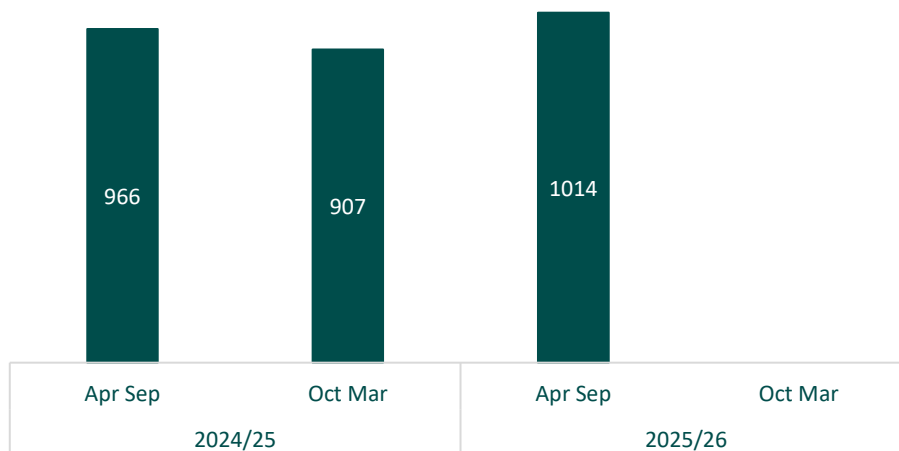


### North Yorkshire Police’s internal processes

In August 2024, the recording of domestic abuse offences were reviewed for recording compliance. A statistically significant sample of records were assessed, with a Compliance Result of 98.3%, graded as Excellent.

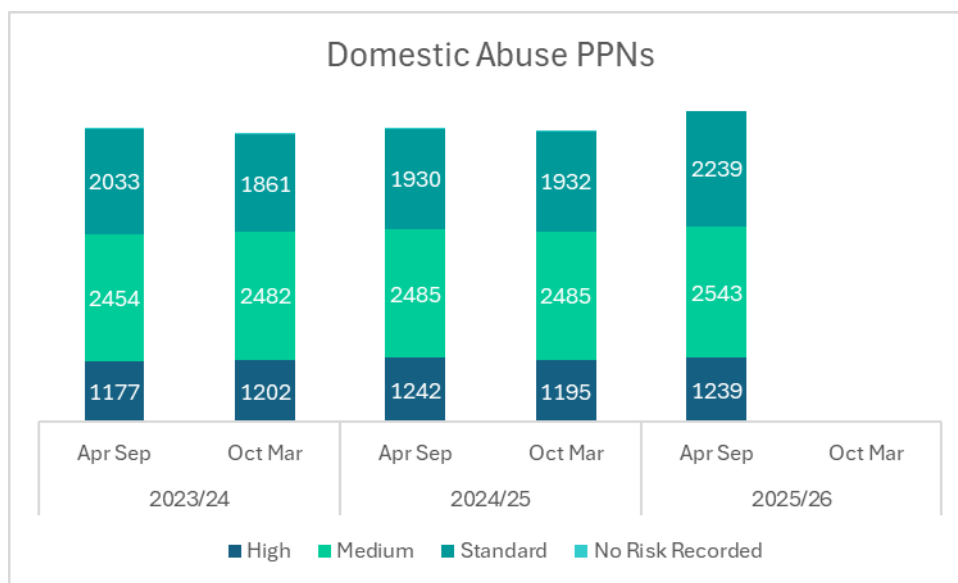
Previous reports identified that between 2019 and 2024, there was an increase of nearly 60% for cases heard at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). The most recent time-series data compiled by North Yorkshire Police starts in January 2024. This shows an upward trend in the numbers of cases heard and is reflected by the 12% increase between the 2024 and 2025 April to September recording periods. In the most recent recording period, approximately 31% of cases were for repeat victims, 71% were referred by the police and 67% had children in the household, with more than 1,500 children in affected households.

### MARAC Cases Discussed



Domestic Abuse (DA) **Public Protection Notices (PNN)** increased by 6% in the period April to September 2025 in comparison with the same period in 2024, this is mostly driven by an increase in

medium and standard risk referrals, with the number of high-risk referrals maintaining similar volumes over the last four reporting periods.



### Personal Characteristics

Both in York and North Yorkshire, ex-partners and partners account for the majority of domestic abuse offences (37% and 36% respectively). This highlights the need for continued vigilance and support when a relationship has ended.

The proportion of female victims was 73% and male victims 26%, although male victims make up a much smaller proportion of MARAC cases (7%) and High Risk PPNs (14%).

Just under half of victims are aged between 25-34 years (23%) and 35-44 years (22%), these proportions appear to have remained relatively stable over time.

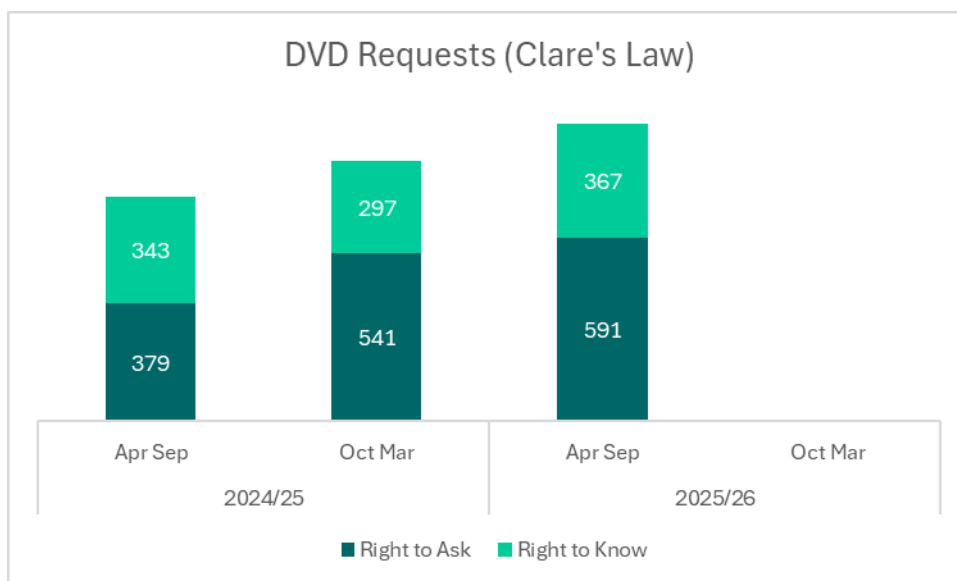
### External influences

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS), sometimes known as Clare's law, received statutory footing under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The DVDS is intended to reduce intimate partner violence by opening routes for the police to disclose a person's history of abusive behaviour to those who could be at risk.

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme recognises two procedures for disclosing information:

- The '**Right to Ask**' route, which enables members of the public to make a direct request to the police for information. If an application is being made on behalf of someone else, the only individual with entitlement to information is the Person at Risk and not the Applicant
- The '**Right to Know**' is where the Police take a proactive decision to disclose information to protect a potential victim.

Previous reports identified that between 2019 and 2024, there was an increase of over 140% for DVDS applications. The most recent time-series data compiled by North Yorkshire Police starts in January 2024 and shows a continuing upward trend with requests increasing by around one third when comparing the periods April to September 2025 and 2024. This is indicative of the increased awareness and confidence in the scheme.



### The Wider Context

The [Domestic abuse in England and Wales – Data tool](#) contains a wealth of information and detail at significant junctures through the Criminal Justice System, from recording to prosecution and conviction. A meticulous interrogation of this tool would present the opportunity for a better understanding of domestic abuse in York and North Yorkshire.

### Partners and Commissioned Services

IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Services) are still experiencing large demands on their services for adult victims and survivors of domestic abuse. Referral numbers remain significantly higher than pre-Covid levels, with around **10,000 referrals received a year** for the last four years; with a peak of just over 12,000 referrals received in 2022/23 alone. In addition, there has been a **significant increase (by approximately 45%)** in contact through other methods such as via LiveChat and an increase in Inappropriate referrals and referrals with incorrect or missing contact info which creates additional work. This has caused a backlog of referrals and the need to prioritise High-Risk referrals. So, although there has been reduction in Referrals received the 6-months April to September 2025 compared to the same period in 2024 by 15%, **it is expected that this will increase, once the referrals backlog is cleared.** To avoid further unnecessary demand on IDAS, awareness raising with referrers on the importance of accurate and detailed information to be included on referrals to be continued to be communicated and time-frame expectations managed to minimise negative impacts.

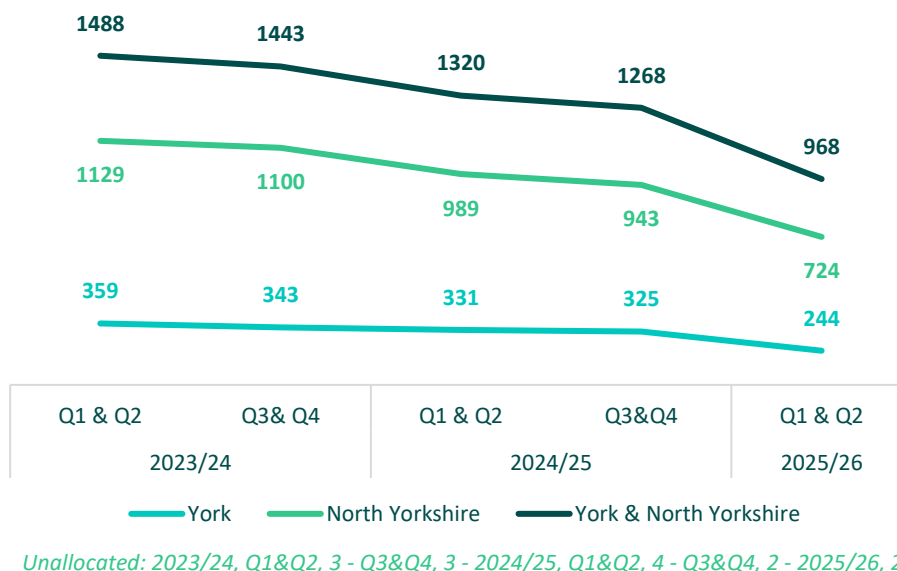
Since April 2024, the YNYCA PFC have also commissioned IDAS to deliver specialist support for children & young people aged 10 to 16 years who have been impacted by domestic abuse within their family, or are displaying inappropriate or abusive behaviour themselves (also known as Child or Adolescent to Parent Violence or Abuse “CAPVA”) towards family members. Specialist support is also available for older young people displaying abusive behaviours within their own intimate relationships with other young people. **The Service has received nearly 200 Referrals (198) in the 6-months April to September 2025 which is a 17% increase on the same 6-month period last year.** Around 2/3 of all cases supported are impacted by CAPVA where support is also provided to the parent/s and other affected family members.

## Stalking & Harassment

There have been national changes to the recording of Stalking & Harassment as directed by the Home Office<sup>116</sup>. Where a stalking/harassment crime has been disclosed by a victim at the same time as reporting other crimes committed by the same offender, in most cases the principal crime would be recorded. However, this does not mean that the other crimes are forgotten. All crimes will be documented within the crime record and investigated fully.

Between April to September 2025, there were 970, Stalking & Harassment offences, a mean average of 162 offences per month. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 **shows a 27% reduction in offences**. When comparing figures to the previous six months there is a **24% reduction**.

This contrasts with the Stalking and Harassment Domestic Abuse figures seen above where there has been an increase. This highlights how the proportion of Non-Domestic Stalking and Harassment has reduced.



<sup>116</sup> This form of recording was previously the case, aligned to other types of crime recording, but the rule was amended between 2017 and 2023, where each conduct of stalking, harassment or controlling/coercive behaviour was counted. However, at the same time the Home Office have made several adjustments to the principal crime table to reflect the seriousness of stalking/harassment offences, essentially moving these offences higher up the principle crime table.

To enhance services by North Yorkshire Police with regards to Stalking and Harassment, a newly dedicated Stalking Support Team was established in April 2024. This could be having an impact on the volume of Stalking & Harassment offences.

All areas have seen a decrease when comparing April to September data, with many areas seeing significant reductions.

Counted within these figures are breaches of Orders and Injunctions.<sup>117</sup> Approximately 6% of the offences are breaches.

Approximately 9% of offences were recorded as being committed by a Stranger. Most of these offences were committed by an acquaintance to the victim. Under half of the offences were recorded as domestic.

The most common outcomes for these offences are that 'Victim declines/withdraws support' or 'evidential difficulties'.

Analysis of Stalking offences only does change the picture slightly. Between April to September 2025, there were a total of 381, Stalking offences, a mean average of 64 offences per month. Comparing figures from April to September for 2024 and 2025 shows a **17% reduction in offences**. When comparing figures to the previous six months there is a **22% reduction**.

Locality	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	Difference	
	Q1 & Q2	Q1 & Q2	Q1 & Q2	Count	%
Craven	71	67	41	-26	-39%
Hambleton	148	113	93	-20	-18%
Harrogate	255	254	174	-80	-31%
Richmondshire	89	70	34	-36	-51%
Ryedale	95	65	59	-6	-9%
Scarborough	317	263	201	-62	-24%
Selby	154	157	122	-35	-22%
York	359	331	244	-87	-26%

When comparing April to September data, all localities have still reduced apart from Ryedale, which has increased by two offences.

**87% (331) offences were recorded as being domestic.** Roughly 4% were recorded as 'stranger' regarding relationship to the victim. Again, 'Victim declines/withdraws support' was the most common outcome.

Due to the low numbers of non-domestic incidents, which are classed as the most serious types of stalking, and the low numbers of stranger stalking incidents, it can be concluded that non-domestic stalking is much less prevalent in York and North Yorkshire, in terms of volume.

## Interventions

Within York and North Yorkshire there are a range of commissioned services by various partners which look to address many of the confounding factors to Serious Violence. Work is ongoing to map out all indirect existing interventions and their impact on our main priorities.

<sup>117</sup> Includes the offences: Breach of a restraining order, Breach of conditions of injunction against harassment and Breach of Stalking Order/Interim Stalking Order.

For Interventions initiated by the Serious Violence Duty please see Appendix B which details the projects funded from the 2023 - 2025 SVD funding budget. There was £320,693.70 allocated, which funded 11 projects. It also details the 8 projects that have been receiving funding for 2025/26. The document will be updated at financial year end to review the impact of those projects and look forward to 2026/27.

## **On the Horizon**

Updated national guidance for the SVD is expected from April 2025. The full details of this are yet to be announced.

## **Appendices**

**Appendix A - Survey Headline Figures Infographic**

**Appendix B – Interventions**

**Appendix C - Crime Offences Codes**