



Rushmoor

Serious Violence Strategic Needs

Assessment

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Acknowledgements and thanks to contributors and in particular
Introduction, National Trends and Comparisons: Amy Devine, SCC
Risk & Protective Factors: Thomas Ruxton, HCC & Dave Creasey, PCC
Local Picture of Serious Violence: Deborah Balfour, OPCC, on behalf of HIOW Constabulary
Edited and produced by Danika Barber, IWC & Jackson Sweeting, VRU

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1. Introduction

1.1 Serious Violence Duty

Nationally, violent crime overall has seen a substantial decline since its peak in the mid-1990s, although some types of violent crime have seen increases since late 2014.¹ Much of this increase has been attributed to improvements in police recording and increased willingness of victims to report crimes, but some of the increases, especially for some high harm offences including robbery, are thought to be genuine.²

Offences involving knives or sharp instruments increased by 84% between the twelve month period ending June 2014 and the twelve month period ending June 2020.³ Violent offences involving knives and firearms account for less than 1% of recorded crime nationally. However, despite accounting for a small proportion of overall recorded crime, violent crime can have long-lasting impacts for individuals, families, communities, and results in significant costs to the health services, the criminal justice system, and the wider economy.⁴

Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would bring forward legislation introducing a new Serious Violence Duty (SVD) on responsible authorities which will ensure relevant services work together to prevent and reduce serious violence. The government also announced that it would amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and make sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime.

The SVD focuses on tackling the root causes of violence through a programme of early interventions with young people and local communities. Statutory partners will work together to tackle serious violence and share local knowledge and data to support an evidence-based, multi-agency, 'public health' approach to tackling violent crime.

As part of the duty, areas need to produce a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) to understand the picture of serious violence in the local area, as well as understanding some of the causes of violence. Outputs from the SNA should inform the local strategy, which should contain bespoke solutions to prevent and reduce serious violence in the area.

¹ Home Office: Serious Violence Strategy (2018), Online available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/serious-violence-strategy.pdf

² [Crime in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/crime-in-england-and-wales)

³ Home Office: Serious Violence Duty (2022), Online available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1125001/Final_Serious_Violence_Duty_Statutory_Guidance_-_December_2022.pdf

⁴ World Health Organization: World report on violence and health (2002), Online available at:

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/42495/9241545615_eng.pdf;jsessionid=E3274DB90E1A6AE274E60FF7986A5FB6?sequence=1

This local CSP SNA has been developed to feed into an overarching HIPS (Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, and Southampton) wide SNA, enabling local knowledge of the area to be fed into this work. Analysis of serious violence using police crime data supplied by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary was led by the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) analyst to ensure consistency in analysis and outputs across the HIPS area.

1.2 Definition of Serious Violence

The SVD does not set out a national definition of serious violence. It does, however, state that specified authorities need to work together to identify the kinds of serious violence that occur in their area, accounting for the factors set out in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2002. The primary guidance states that specified authorities do not have to focus on domestic violence, violence against women and girls (VAWG) or sexual violence; but states that there should be a focus on public space youth violence including homicide; violence against the person where it involves a knife or gun and areas of criminality where serious violence is a threat.⁵ This approach allows for local definitions to integrate geographical differences including the prevalence of violence in a specific area, the impact on the community and evidence-based SNAs.

In response to the SVD, a common definition of serious violence was agreed at the HIPS Strategic Violence Reduction Partnership to enable consistency. Where data is presented that differs from the below definition of serious violence it will be flagged.

The agreed HIPS wide serious violence definition used in this needs assessment is:

1. Most serious violence – existing definition (1a and 1b where it is GBH and above incl. death by dangerous driving). A full list of these offences can be found in Appendix 1.
2. Robbery (3a and 3b).
3. Possession of a weapon offences (7).
4. Public order (violent disorder [65] and riot [64/1] only).
5. Any violence with injury (1b) not included under MSV where a bladed implement was used.

It has been agreed that additional VAWG and domestic abuse crimes will not be included in the definition and SNA as there is already strategic focus and governance on these crime types across the HIPS area. This includes the Hampshire and Isle of Wight VAWG Task Group, Portsmouth Domestic Abuse Strategy⁶ and Southampton Domestic Abuse and VAWG Strategy. The decision is also in line with the primary VRU focus on violence by under 25s in public places.

⁵ Serious Violence Duty 2023: [*Serious Violence Duty - Statutory Guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115444/Serious_Violence_Duty_2023.pdf), pg. 15.

⁶ Which is currently being reviewed and updated following the recent national VAWG Strategy

1.3 About the Data

This Serious Violence SNA brings together information from a range of data sources, which will be outlined in relevant sections below. Where there are caveats around data and sources used, this will be included in the narrative.

The two main sources of data used in this report to understand the picture of serious violence are Home Office police recorded crime data for CSPs⁷ and incident level data provided by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. Due to the nature of ongoing police investigations, crime data may be subject to change and inconsistencies may exist between published and live data. The data provided by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary has been processed by the same analyst to ensure consistency across the different areas, therefore practices and subsequent figures produced may differ to what is produced by the police and local authorities. However, data cleaning constants have been agreed for consistency of this SNA and these are listed in Appendix 2.

Police recorded crime data only includes those crimes that have been reported to and recorded by the police, with 'hidden' crimes such as domestic abuse and hate crime more likely to be underreported than other offences, such as burglary.

Data sources data covering the period of April 2020 to March 2021 are likely to have been significantly affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Therefore, this should be considered when examining trends.

Where rates have been calculated, the ONS mid-year population estimates⁸ have been used unless otherwise stated. 95% confidence intervals for rates have been calculated where possible in an attempt to account for natural variation and to robustly evaluate if any differences between geographical areas are statistically significant.

1.4 A Public Health Approach

The aim of a public health approach is to use evidence to understand the underlying causes of a problem and then to target interventions to address the causes, focussing on both long-term and short-term solutions.

Adopting a public health approach to tackling the root causes of violence not only reduces the likelihood of individuals becoming a victim or perpetrator of violent crime, but also may improve long

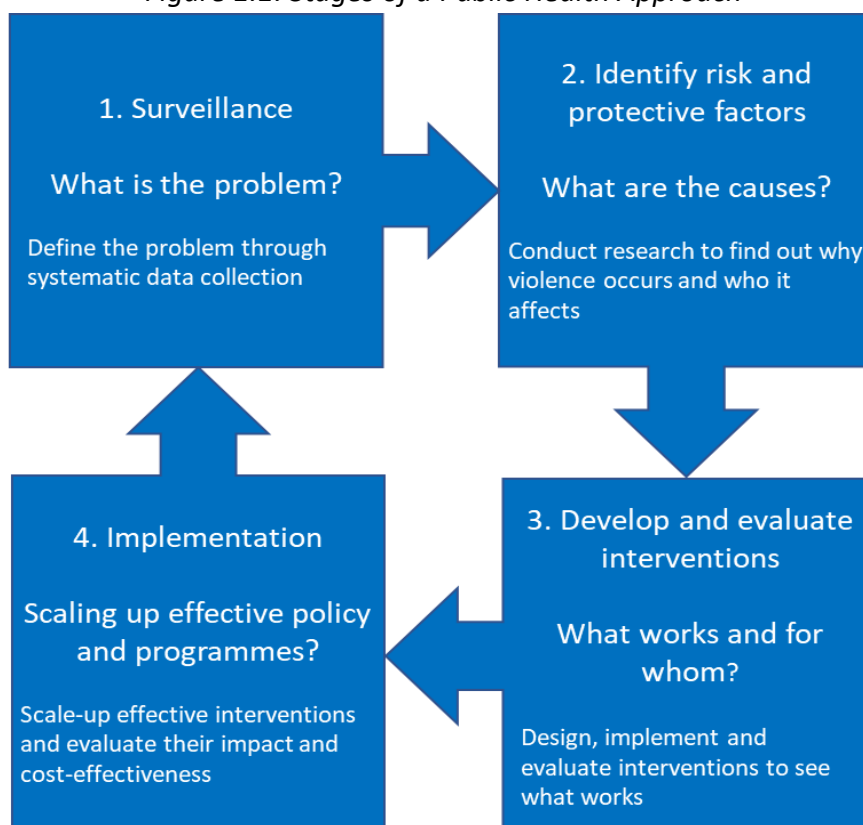
⁷ [Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/datasets/police-recorded-crime-and-outcomes-open-data-tables)

⁸ [All data related to Population estimates for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland: mid-2021 - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsandstates/populationestimates)

term health, education, and employment outcomes for individuals and across communities.⁹ There may also be positive impacts for the economy and wider society.¹⁰

The public health approach can be broken down into four key stages outlined in Figure 1.1; of which this SNA will cover stage 1 and 2.

Figure 1.1: Stages of a Public Health Approach



A public health approach aims to prevent violence by exposing a broad segment of the population to prevention measures to reduce and prevent violence at a population level. The approach also involves working with partners and other organisations to develop a multi-agency response.

Under a public health approach there are three levels of violence prevention. The target population decreases in size with progression from primary to tertiary prevention:

- Primary – focused on preventing violence before it happens; to reduce the number of new cases of violence in the population. Interventions usually target the general population or broad population groups such as young people of school age and are often aimed at increasing awareness or providing information about an issue.

⁹ Local Government Association: Public health approaches to reducing violence (2018). Available at: https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/15.32%20-%20Reducing%20family%20violence_03.pdf

¹⁰ Public Health England: A whole-system multi-agency approach to serious violence prevention (2019), Online available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/838930/multi-agency_approach_to_serious_violence_prevention.pdf

- Secondary – groups at risk of being a victim or perpetrator of violence. Individuals are likely to already be engaging in risky behaviours and may be known to a number of services. This is an opportunity to intervene to reduce the risk of further escalation at this stage.
- Tertiary – individuals already at harm or committing harm and experiencing poor health outcomes as a result. Individuals will be known to a range of services. At this level the focus is to minimise harm and prevent further involvement in violence.

1.5 Local Context

Rushmoor has a population of around 100,570, of which 10.9% are aged between 15 and 24. This is higher than the Hampshire average which has around 10.2% of the population aged between 15 and 24. The population density is 2,556 people per square kilometre, which is higher than the overall population density of Hampshire (381). Rushmoor is an urban area with the whole population living in areas classified as urban city or town.

More information about the Rushmoor population and its characteristics can be found within the JSNA Demography report produced by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Council Public Health Intelligence team. The demography report is a live website and is routinely updated when new data becomes available. The link to the report can be found here: [Microsoft Power BI](#).

2. Risk and Protective Factors Associated with Violence

Evidence reviews have been conducted which have identified the risk and protective factors of violence. Risk factors are those which are associated with an increased likelihood of being a victim or perpetrator of violence, whilst protective factors are associated with a reduced likelihood of violence.

¹¹ ¹² ¹³

Figure 2.1 outlines risk and protective factors of violence. These factors can also be set out in an ecological framework (Figure 2.2 overleaf), which emphasises that no single risk or protective factor can explain why someone, or groups of people, are at higher risk of violence than others. It is the interaction between the different risk factors at the individual, relationship, community, and societal

¹¹ Houses of Parliament: Early Interventions to Reduce Violent Crime. (2019) Available at: <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/POST-PN-0599/POST-PN-0599.pdf>

¹² World Health Organisation: Preventing violence (2004). Available at: <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241592079.pdf>

¹³ McNeish, D. & Scott, S. Tackling and preventing serious youth violence: a rapid evidence review (2018). Available at:

level that influences the level of risk.¹⁴ It should be noted that some indicators could fit into multiple categories within the ecological framework (Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.1: Risk and Protective Factors for Violence

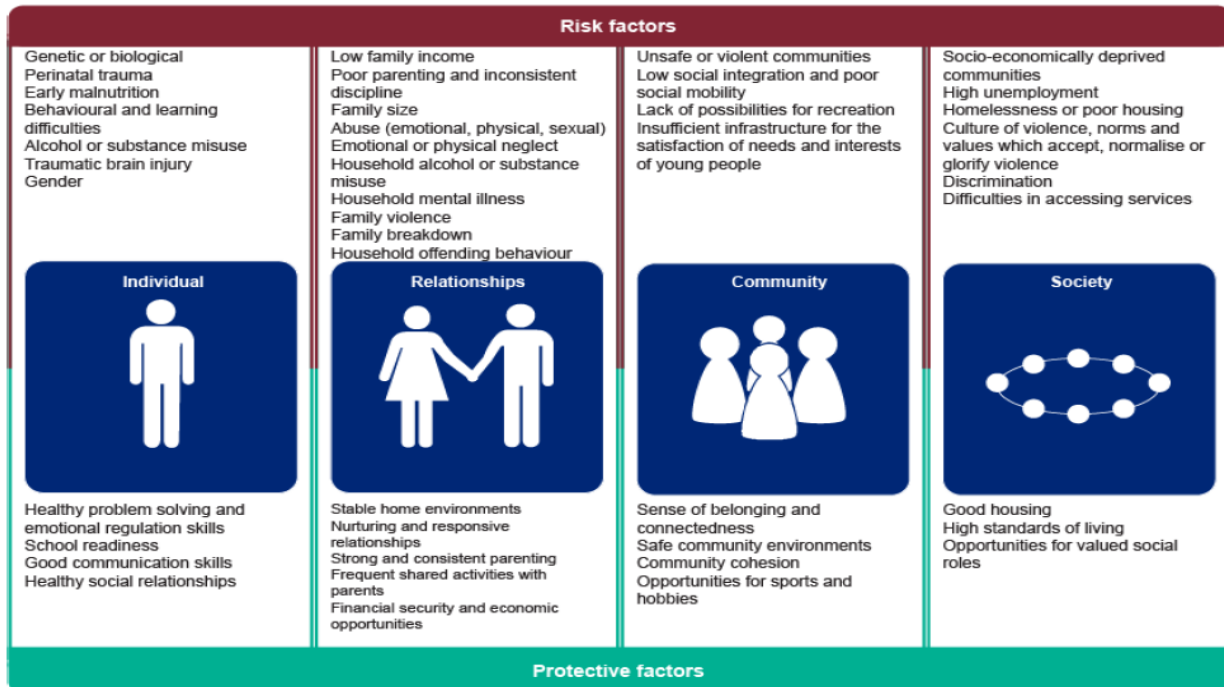
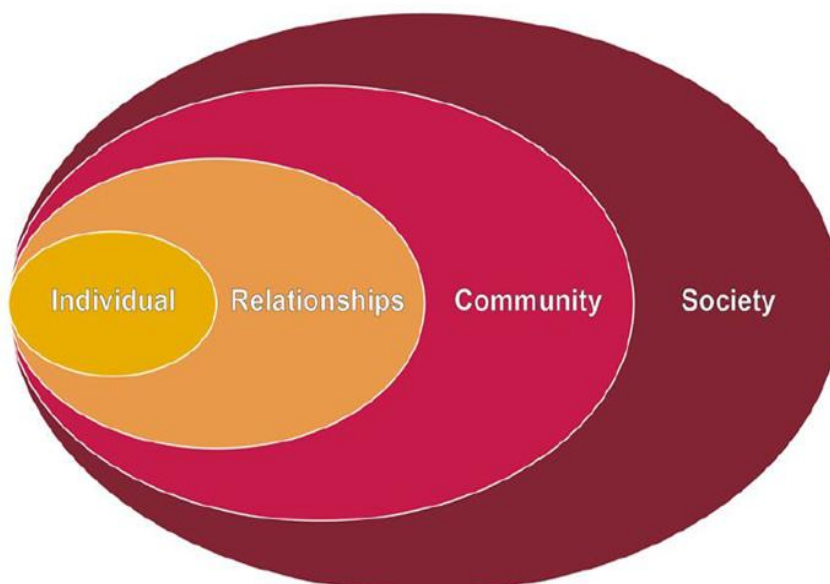


Figure 2.2: Ecological Framework for Violence



¹⁴ Local Government Association – Public Health Approaches to reducing violence (2018) – Online Available at: <https://www.local.gov.uk/public-health-approaches-reducing-violence>

One set of risk factors which have been highlighted by multiple studies is Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).^{15 16 17} Research into ACEs suggests that these risk factors are cumulative, meaning that the more factors that are experienced, the greater the risk of all forms of violence. In addition to those outlined above, ACEs include:

- Emotional, physical, and sexual abuse.
- Emotional or physical neglect.
- Violence against household members.
- Living with household members who were substance abusers, mentally ill, suicidal, or imprisoned.
- Having one or no parents or experiencing parental separation or divorce.
- Bullying or exposure to community or collective violence.

Risk factors have also been suggested which relate specifically to serious youth violence¹⁸ and knife crime:¹⁹

- Individual factors: past exposure to violence, impulsiveness, low school achievement, poor problem-solving skills, and, for knife crime only, fear of crime and to increase social status.
- Relationship factors: delinquent peers, parental conflict, limited parental monitoring and supervision.
- Community factors: housing instability, poor neighbourhoods, gang activity and crime.
- Societal factors: norms about the acceptability of violence, limited education and economic support and opportunities.

It should be emphasised that many children and young people experience these risk factors and do not become involved in or develop a propensity for violence. However, risk and protective factors outlined in this section have been found to increase or decrease the likelihood of an individual or groups becoming involved in violence at a population level. It is important to monitor the risk factors, as if these worsen, we may see subsequent increases in serious violence. Research and collaborative working by HIPS analysts have contributed to a framework to monitor risk and protective factors, allowing CSPs to identify issues which may require focus.

¹⁵ Local Government Association: Public health approaches to reducing violence. (2018) Available at: https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/15.32%20-%20Reducing%20family%20violence_03.pdf

¹⁶ Bellis *et al.* *Adverse childhood experiences and sources of childhood resilience: a retrospective study of their combined relationships with child health and educational attendance*, *BMC Public Health* (2018), 1:18

¹⁷ Anda *et al.* The enduring effects of abuse and related adverse experiences in childhood. A convergence of evidence from neurobiology and epidemiology, *Child: Care, Health and Development* (2006), 2:32

¹⁸ McNeish, D. & Scott, S. Tackling and preventing serious youth violence: a rapid evidence review (2018). Available at: <https://www.dmss.co.uk/pdfs/addressing-serious-youth-violence-in-london-a-rapid-evidence-review.pdf>

¹⁹ The Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (2013) Knife Crime interventions 'What works?' Available at: https://www.sccjr.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/SCCJR_Report_No_04.2013_Knife_Crime_Interventions.pdf

2.1 Monitoring Risk & Protective Factors

Within this section around the risk and protective factors of serious violence, the data was benchmarked using 95% confidence intervals. Hampshire was benchmarked against the England average when data allowed, and Rushmoor was benchmarked against the Hampshire average. The key can be seen below:

Table 2.1: Benchmark Key

	Better
	Similar
	Worse

Table 2.2: Community and Societal Measures

Community / Societal Measures	IMD 2019 - Average Score	Income deprivation affecting children	Anti-social behaviour incidents rate per 1,000	All crime rate per 1,000	Victims of crime (aged 0-17 years) per 1000
Age Group	All	All	All	All	0-17 years
Year	2019	2019	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Source	DLUHC	DLUHC	InterAct	InterAct	Interact
England				93.1	
Hampshire	12.7	0.10	7.8	61.4	39.5
Rushmoor	15.9	0.11	9.0	81.0	46.0

Overall, Rushmoor has a low level of deprivation compared to England but is one of the most deprived districts in Hampshire. It was ranked 193 out of 317 local authority districts across England (where rank 1 had the highest level of deprivation) and ranks worse than the Hampshire average. There are pockets of deprivation within the district, with pockets of higher levels of deprivation located in Aldershot Park, Aldershot town centre and Cherrywood in Farnborough. Rushmoor ranks similar than the Hampshire average when looking at income deprivation affecting children. Focusing on police recorded crime, Rushmoor ranks worse than the Hampshire average for total crime rate, anti-social behaviour incidents and rate of children who were victims of crime.

Table 2.3: Family and Relationship Measures

Family / Relationship Measures	Lone parent households with dependent children (per 1,000)	Homelessness - households with dependent children owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act due to DA (per 10,000)	% Children in Relative low income families	Eligible for school meals (per 1,000)
Age Group	All	Households with under 18s	Under 16 years	School headcount
Year	2021	2023/24	Year end 2023	2024
Source	Census	GOV.UK	Gov.UK	DfE
England	69.0	56.1	28.9	246.0
Hampshire	54.1	40.9	14.0	175.5
Rushmoor	63.4	23.9	14.0	191.6

Family / Relationship Measures	Unemployed: Percentage of people claiming Universal Credit who are out of work	Domestic Abuse related incidents and crimes (per 1,000)	Children whose parents are receiving DA support (0-16) (rate per 10,000)	Percentage Privately owned property
Age Group	All	16+ years	0-16 years	All
Year	Mar-24	2023/24	2022/23	2021
Source	Nomis	InterAct	Stop Domestic Abuse	Census
England	3.8			61.3
Hampshire	2.3	12.4	68.2	69.6
Rushmoor	3	14.4	79.0	60.5

Looking at family and relationship factors, Rushmoor ranks worse than the Hampshire but similar to the England average for percentage of properties which were privately owned. Rushmoor ranks worse than the Hampshire but better than the England average for rate of lone parent households with dependent children, rate of children eligible for free school meals and unemployment rate. Rushmoor ranks similar to the Hampshire average but better than the England average for percentage of children in relative low-income families. Rushmoor ranks better than the Hampshire and England average for the number of households with dependent children who were owed a homelessness duty. Rushmoor

ranks worse than the Hampshire average for rate of domestic abuse related incidents and crimes and similar to the Hampshire average for rate of children whose parents are receiving domestic abuse support.

Table 2.4: Education Factors

Education	Percentage of sessions missed recorded as unauthorised absence at state-funded primary, secondary & special schools	Percentage of pupils who had been suspended at state-funded primary, secondary & special schools	Percentage of pupils who were permanently excluded at state-funded primary, secondary & special schools	Average Attainment 8 score for all pupils in state-funded schools
Age Group	Under 16 years	Under 16 years	Under 16 years	16 years
Year	2023	2022/23	2022/23	2023
Source	LAIT/GOV.UK	LAIT/GOV.UK	LAIT/GOV.UK	LAIT/GOV.UK
England	2.42	9.33	0.11	46.4
Hampshire	1.72	9.12	0.07	45.9
Rushmoor	1.69	10.53	0.09	47.1

Focusing on education factors, Rushmoor ranks better than both the Hampshire and England average for percentage of sessions missed for unauthorised absence. Rushmoor ranks worse than both the Hampshire and England average for suspension rate. Rushmoor ranks similar to both Hampshire and England for the percentage of pupils who were permanently excluded and suspension rate. Rushmoor ranks better than the Hampshire average but similar to the England average for average attainment of pupils at the end of key stage 4.

Table 2.5: Young People at Risk Factors

Youth offending	Proportion of young offenders who re-offend (% from cohort)	Children assessed by YOT (10-18) (rate per 1,000 aged 10-18)
Age Group	10-17 years	10-18 years
Year	2021/22	2019-21
Source	Gov.UK	HCC Youth Offending Teams
England	32.2	

Hampshire	31.9	6.2
Rushmoor	*	6.1

Rushmoor ranks similar to the Hampshire average for the rate of children assessed by youth offender teams. The data for the proportion of young offenders who re-offend has been suppressed due to small numbers.

Table 2.6: Mental Health and Vulnerability Factors

Mental Health, Self harm & Vulnerability	Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm	Smoking prevalence 15+	Percentage of missing episodes (under 18 years)	Missing episodes for adults (per 1000)
Age Group	All ages	15+	Under 18s	18+
Year	2023/24	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Source	Fingertips	Fingertips	InterAct	InterAct
England	117	14.7	N/A	N/A
Hampshire	161.3	12.7	1.5	2.4
Rushmoor	179.5	15.3	0.9	1.8

Rushmoor ranks similar to the Hampshire average but worse than the England average for emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm. Rushmoor ranks worse than both the Hampshire and England average for smoking prevalence in those aged 15 plus. Rushmoor ranks better than the Hampshire average for the rate of missing episodes for both adults and under 18s.

Table 2.7: Substance Misuse Factors

Substance Misuse	Alcohol specific hospital admissions under 18yrs	Admission episodes for alcohol related conditions per 100,000 population (Narrow)	Deaths from drug misuse
Age Group	Under 18s	All ages	All
Year	2020/21 - 22/23	2022/23	2020-22

Source	Hospital Episode Statistics via OHID	Fingertips	Fingertips
England	26	475	5.2
Hampshire	35	343	3.5
Rushmoor	*	*	4.9

Rushmoor ranks similar to both the Hampshire and England average for alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18s and deaths from drug misuse. The trend for deaths from drug misuse remains similar to what was observed in 2019-21. Data around hospital admissions and admission episodes for alcohol specific and related conditions was not available as Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust did not submit HES data for 2022/23 so this could not be calculated.

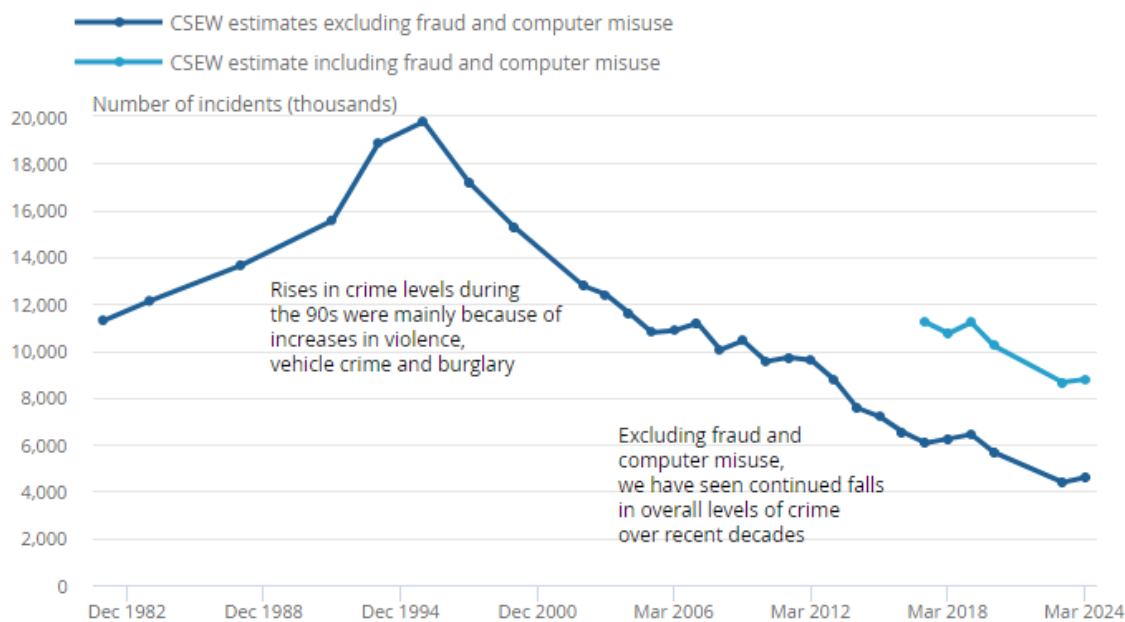
Overall, Rushmoor ranks similar or worse when compared to the Hampshire average for most of the identified risk and protective factors. This suggests there is a higher risk of involvement in serious violence across the district compared to the Hampshire average. Rushmoor has the third most risk and protective factors ranking worse than the Hampshire average only behind Havant and Gosport. While there is a higher risk of involvement in serious violence across the district compared to the Hampshire average, there are areas in Rushmoor which are likely to have an amplified risk of involvement through the overlapping of poor risk and protective factor outcomes. These areas are Aldershot town centre, Aldershot Park and the Cherrywood area of Farnborough.

3. National Trends

Police recorded crime can be impacted by changes in recording practices, policing activity and public reporting of crime. Therefore, it is important to consider other sources of information when examining crime trends, such as the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW)²⁰. However, police recorded crime provides a better measure for higher-harm, but lower-volume offences such as less common types of violence (for example, robbery, offences involving firearms, knife-enabled crime and homicides).

²⁰ Office for National Statistics – Crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2024. Available online via: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2024>

Figure 3.1 - Crime Estimates from the CSEW, Years Ending December 1981 to March 2024
England and Wales, annual estimates



Since the mid-1990s there have been long-term falls in overall CSEW crime estimates (Figure 3.1), but these vary by crime type. Rises in crime levels during the 90s were primarily driven by increases in violence, vehicle crime and burglary.²¹

Latest estimates from the CSEW for headline crimes (which includes theft, robbery, criminal damage, fraud, computer misuse and violence with or without injury) show that there have been no significant changes over the last year (ending March 2024). But the CSEW shows that estimated volumes in the year ending March 2024 were 22% lower compared to the year ending March 2017.

However, the number of robberies, offences involving knives or sharp instruments and offences involving firearms have increased over the last year. Notably, police recorded knife-enabled crime in the year ending March 2024 increased by 4%. A notable increase was also seen in the number of robberies involving a knife or sharp instrument (increase of +13% compared to the previous year).

Additional national headlines include: ²²

- The police recorded 1.4 million offences of violence with or without injury in the year ending March 2024, a -2% decrease compared with the year ending March 2023 (approximately 1.4 million offences). This decrease could be linked to the changes in counting rules introduced in June 2023.

²¹ Office for National Statistics – Crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2023. Available online via: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2023>

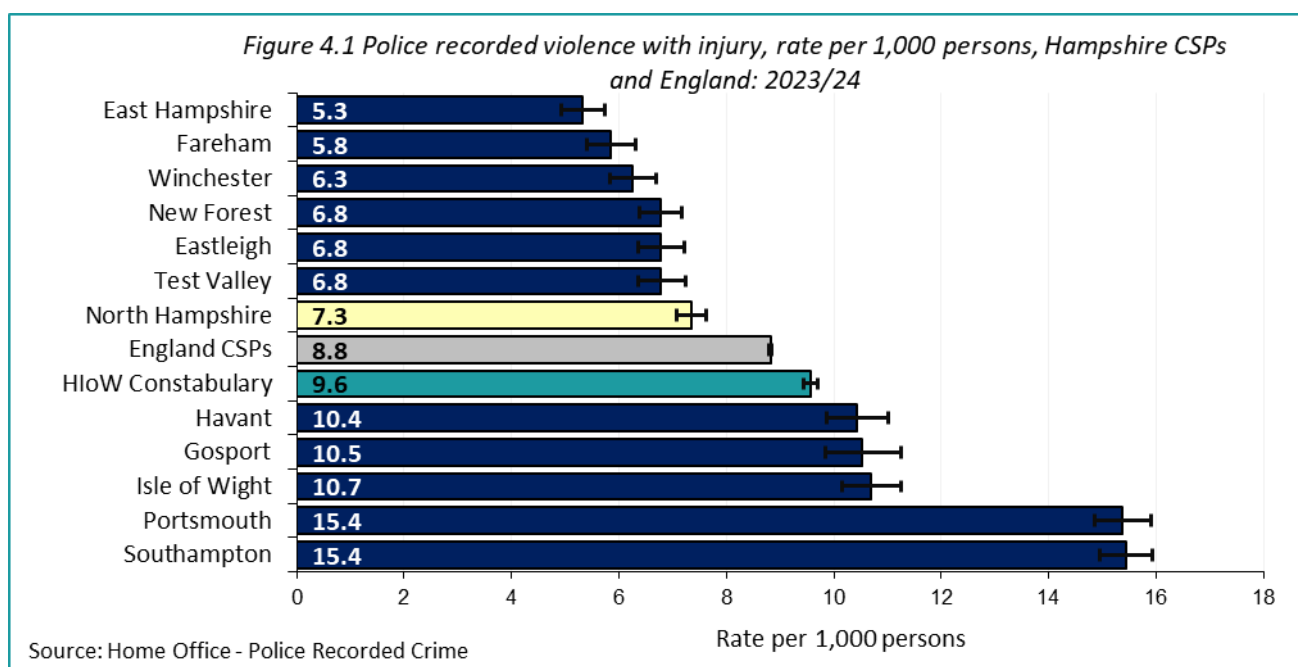
²² Office for National Statistics – Crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2024. Available online via: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2024>

- The number of homicides were similar (583 offences) compared with the year ending March 2023 (581 offences).
- Offences involving knives or sharp instruments (excluding Greater Manchester Police) increased by +4% (to 50,510 offences) compared with the year ending March 2023 (48,409 offences).
- Offences involving firearms (excluding Devon and Cornwall Police) increased by +6% (to 6,268 offences) compared with the year ending March 2023 (5,917 offences), attributed mainly to a +24% increase in imitation firearms.
- Robbery offences increased by +8% (to 81,019 offences) compared with the year ending March 2023 (75,012 offences).
- Shoplifting offences rose by +30% (to 443,995 offences) compared with the previous year (342,428 offences).

4. Comparison with Other Areas and Long Term Trends

This section compares the rate of some key violence categories for North Hampshire²³ with other CSPs in Hampshire, the HIPS average, and the England average. The rates were calculated using Home Office data for crimes²⁴ and population estimates from the Office for National Statistics²⁵ and may not exactly match data from local extracts used in section 5. Furthermore, the total for HIPS is higher than the sum of all the districts due to a number of crimes that were unassigned to districts. In this section it has not been possible to break down the headline data for Basingstoke, although the serious violence totals are available as these were calculated separately for this profile.

In 2023/24, 2897 violence with injury offences were recorded by the police for North Hampshire, giving a rate of 7.3 per 1,000 population (Figure 4.1). This is lower than the HIPS and England averages (9.6 and 8.8 per 1,000 respectively).



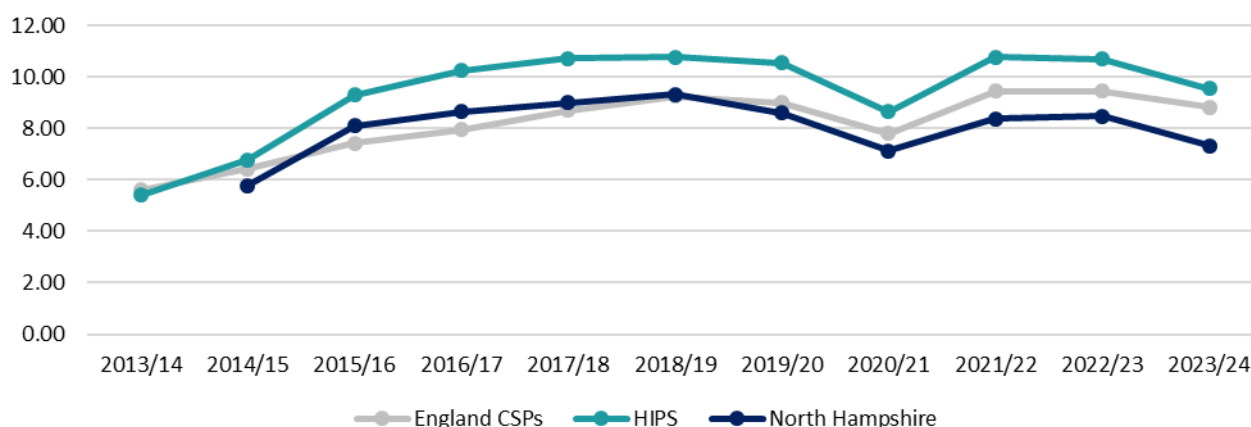
²³ The headline data for police recorded crime cannot be broken down from North Hampshire to the separate districts.

²⁴ [Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/data-and-data-sets/police-recorded-crime-and-outcomes-open-data-tables)

²⁵ [Estimates of the population for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/people-population/population/population-in-the-uk)

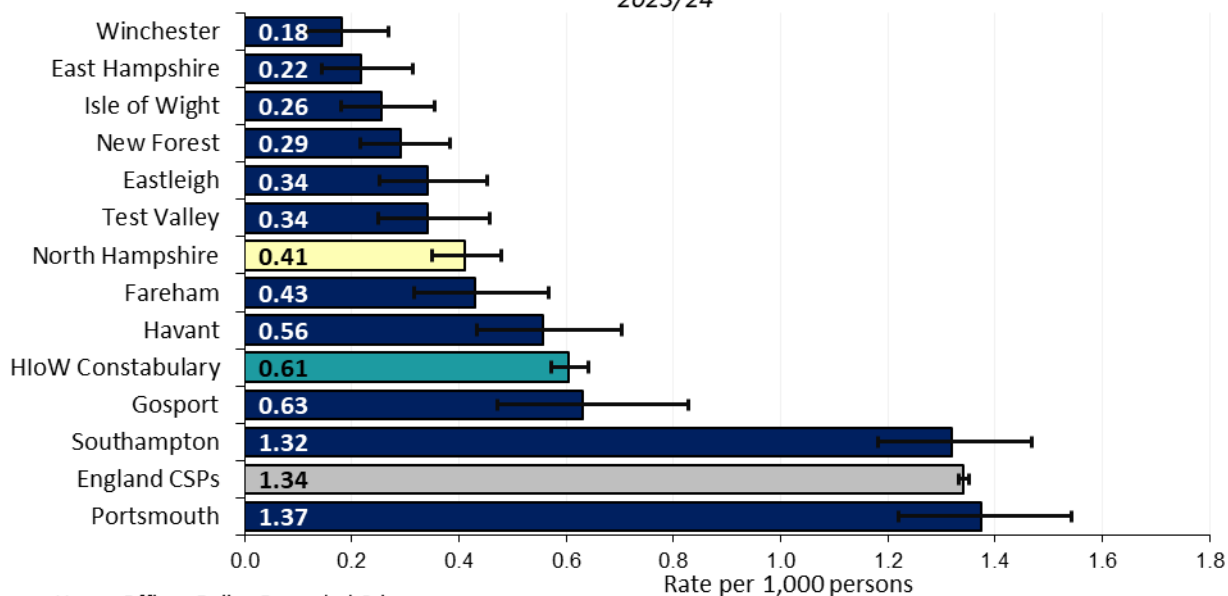
North Hampshire has had a lower rate compared to the HIPS average over the last decade but follows the same trend as HIPS and England (Figure 4.2).

Figure 4.2: Police Recorded Violence with Injury, Rate per 1,000 for North Hampshire, HIPS and England: 2013/14 - 2023/24



There were 162 robberies recorded in North Hampshire, giving a rate of 0.41 per 1,000. This is similar the HIPS average and significantly lower than the England average (0.61 and 1.34 per 1,000 respectively, Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3: Police recorded robbery, rate per 1,000 persons, Hampshire CSPs and England: 2023/24

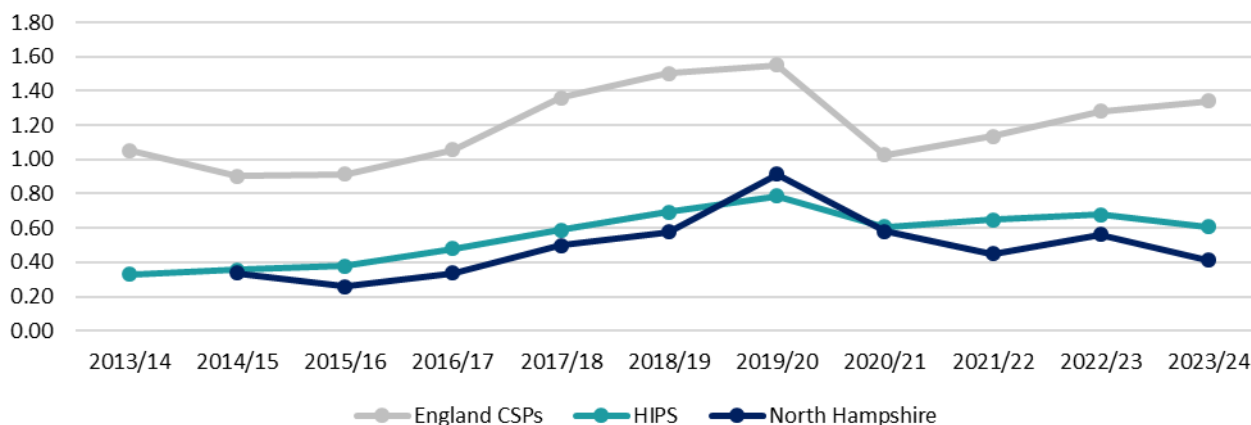


Source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

The rate of robberies in North Hampshire has been increasing overall since 2015/16 with a peak in 2019/20 dropping during 2020/21 & 2021/22, most likely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The rate for North Hampshire has decreased during the last financial year. The North Hampshire rate has

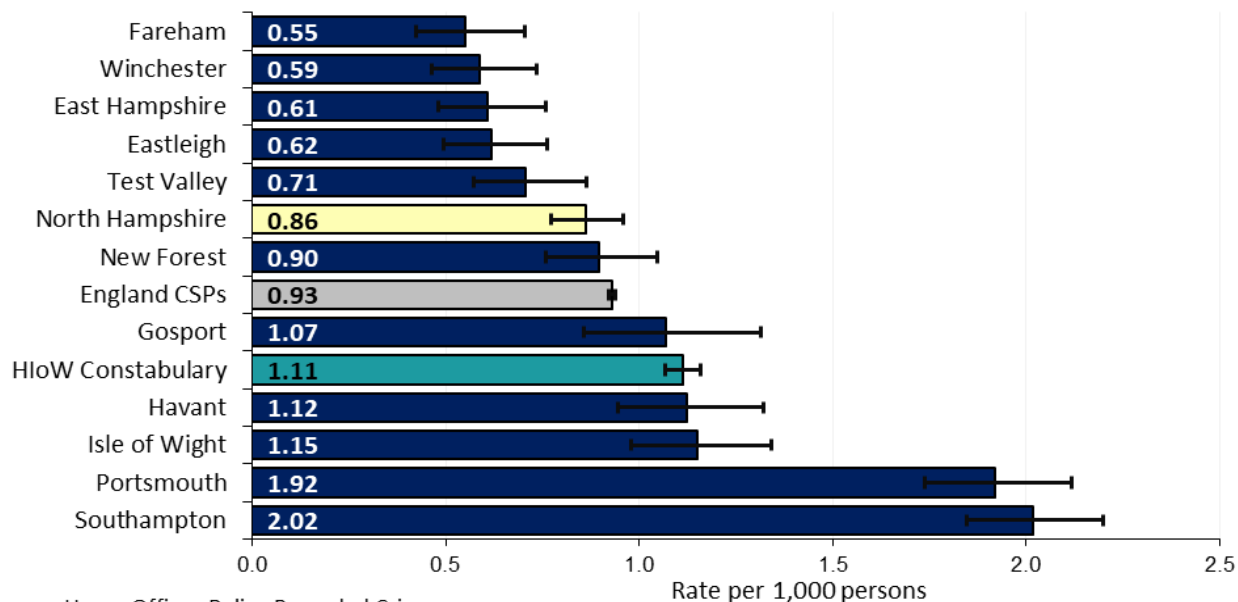
remained lower than that of the HIPS average over the last decade, with the exception of 2019/20. (Figure 4.4).

Figure 4.4: Police Recorded Robbery, Rate per 1,000 for North Hampshire, HIPS and England: 2013/14 - 2023/24



In 2023/24, 340 possession of a weapon offences were recorded by the police, giving a rate of 0.86 per 1,000 population (Figure 4.5). This is lower than the HIPS average but similar to the England averages (1.11 and 0.93 per 1,000 respectively).

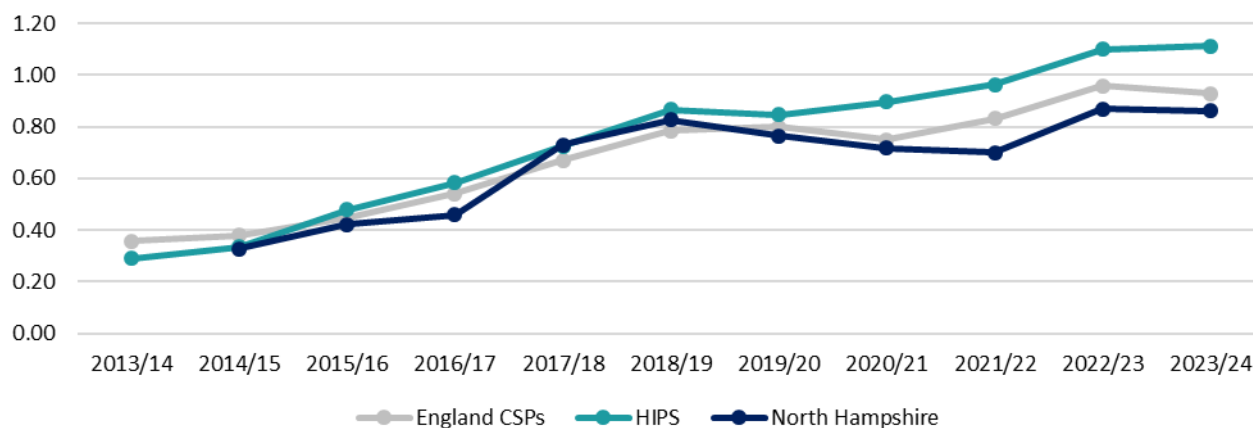
Figure 4.5: Police recorded possession of weapons offences, rate per 1,000 persons, Hampshire CSPs and England: 2023/24



Source: Home Office - Police Recorded Crime

The rate of possession of a weapon offences for North Hampshire has been on an overall upward trend since 2014/15 and has remained lower than the HIPS average with the exception of 2017/18 (Figure 4.6). The rate of possession of a weapon offences is likely to be influenced by police activity and it is not possible to say with certainty that this represents more weapons in the community.

Figure 4.6: Police Recorded Possession of a Weapon, Rate per 1,000 for North Hampshire, HIPS and England: 2013/14 - 2023/24



5. Local Picture of Serious Violence

5.1 How Does Rushmoor Compare to Other Areas?

Using the definition for serious violence set out in section 1.2 of this document, there were n269 serious violence offences in Rushmoor in 2023/24. Rushmoor accounts for 5% of the total volume of serious violence in the HIPS area, which is a proportionate amount as Rushmoor accounts for 5% of the HIPS population. This gives a rate of 2.6 per 1,000 (figure 5.1), which is the second highest rate behind Southampton and Portsmouth. This almost level with the HIPS average (2.5 per 1,000).

Figure 5.1: Police Recorded Serious Violence, Rate per 1,000 persons, Hampshire CSPs: 2023/24

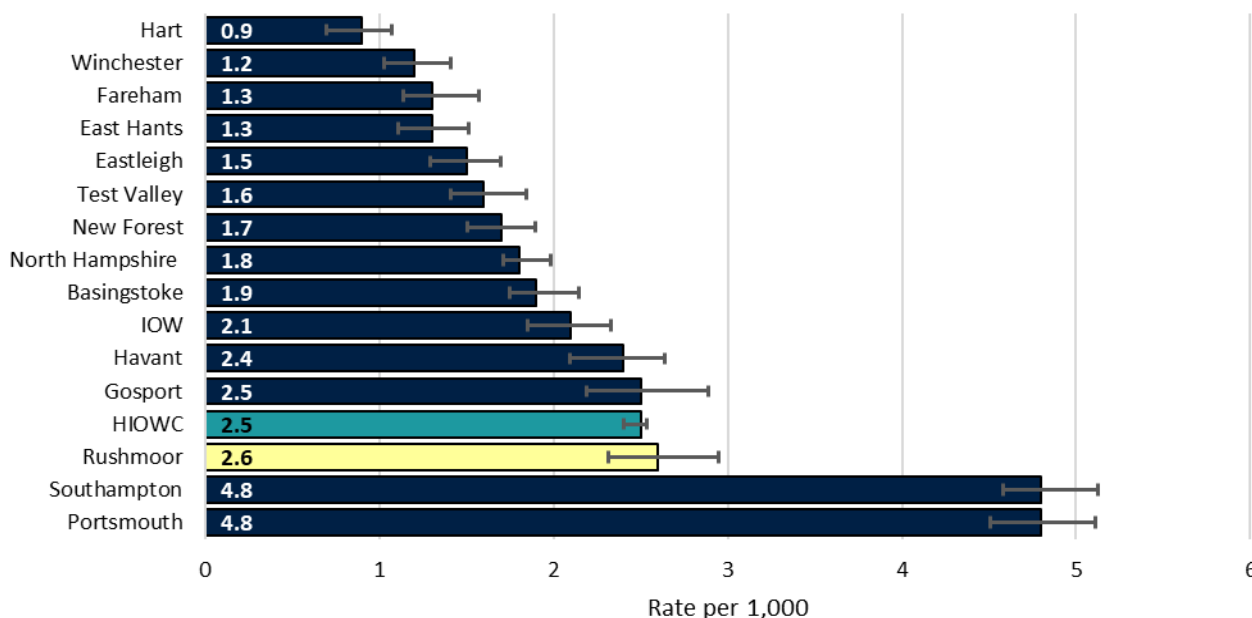


Figure 5.2: Police Recorded Serious Violence for Rushmoor: 2019/20 - 2023/24

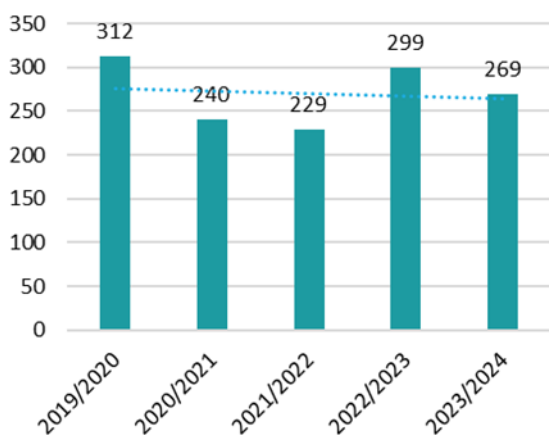
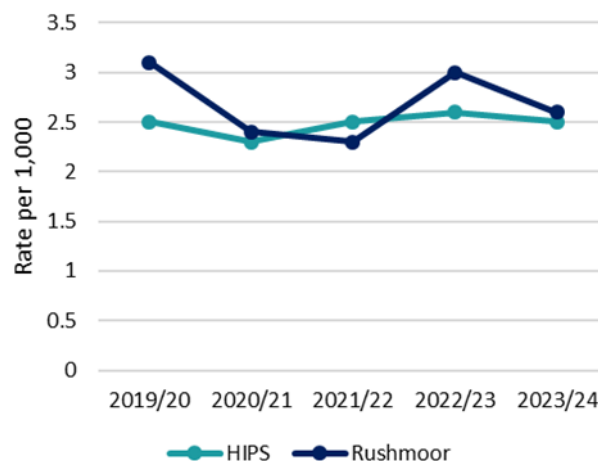


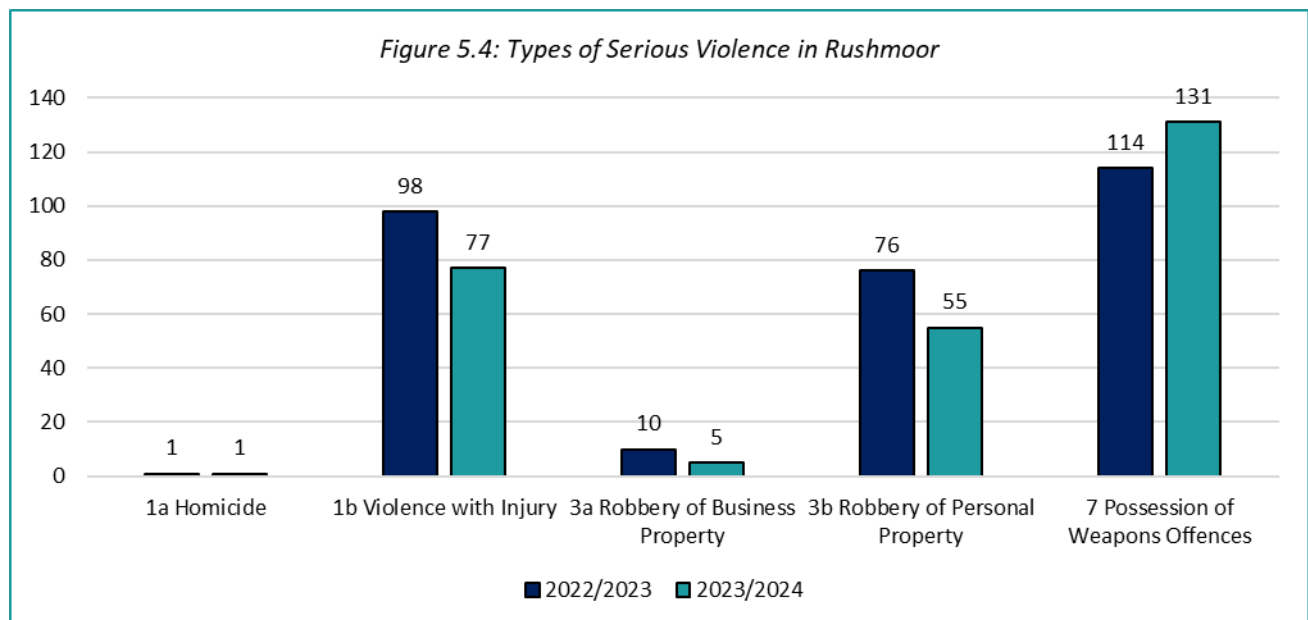
Figure 5.3: Police Recorded Serious Violence for Rushmoor and HIPS: 2019/20 - 2023/24



Levels of serious violence in Rushmoor have reduced by 10% (n30, Figure 5.2) since 2022/23. These levels are 14% (n43) lower than pre-COVID levels in 2019/20. Figure 5.3 shows that Rushmoor had a relatively similar rate of serious violence to HIPS over the last five years.

5.2 What Has Happened in the Last Year?

Of the n269 serious violence offences recorded in Rushmoor during 2023/24, 49% (n131) were possession of weapons offences. This is the most prominent offence classified as serious violence. This was higher than the wider HIPS figures, which recorded 45% of all serious violence offences as possession of weapons offences. Following possession of weapons offences, violence with injury (29%, n77) and robbery of personal property (20%, n55) were the most prominent serious violence offences recorded. The same pattern was also recorded across the HIPS area.



When compared to the previous twelve months, possession of weapon offences was the only offence to record an increase, rising by 15% (n17) to n131 in 2023/24. Violence with injury reduced by 21% (n21), falling from n98 in 2022/23 to n77 in 2023/24. Similarly, robbery of personal property fell by n21 (28%) occurrences. Robbery of business property fell slightly by n5 occurrences. Homicide remained the same at n1 occurrence in 2023/24. Since homicide is a low volume, high severity crime, this is important to monitor, although the volume of these offences continue to be far lower than other serious violence offences. Finally, there were no public order offences recorded across either financial year.

Figure 5.5 below depicts the count of serious violence occurrences broken down by lower super output area (LSOA). Each LSOA has a population of between 1,000 and 3,000 persons.²⁶ Cream coloured areas demonstrate LSOAs where no serious violence occurrences were recorded in Rushmoor in the last year, while the darker blue areas recorded the greatest number of serious violence occurrences across the year, which are more concentrated around the Aldershot and Wellington areas.

The map displays the following locations and roads:

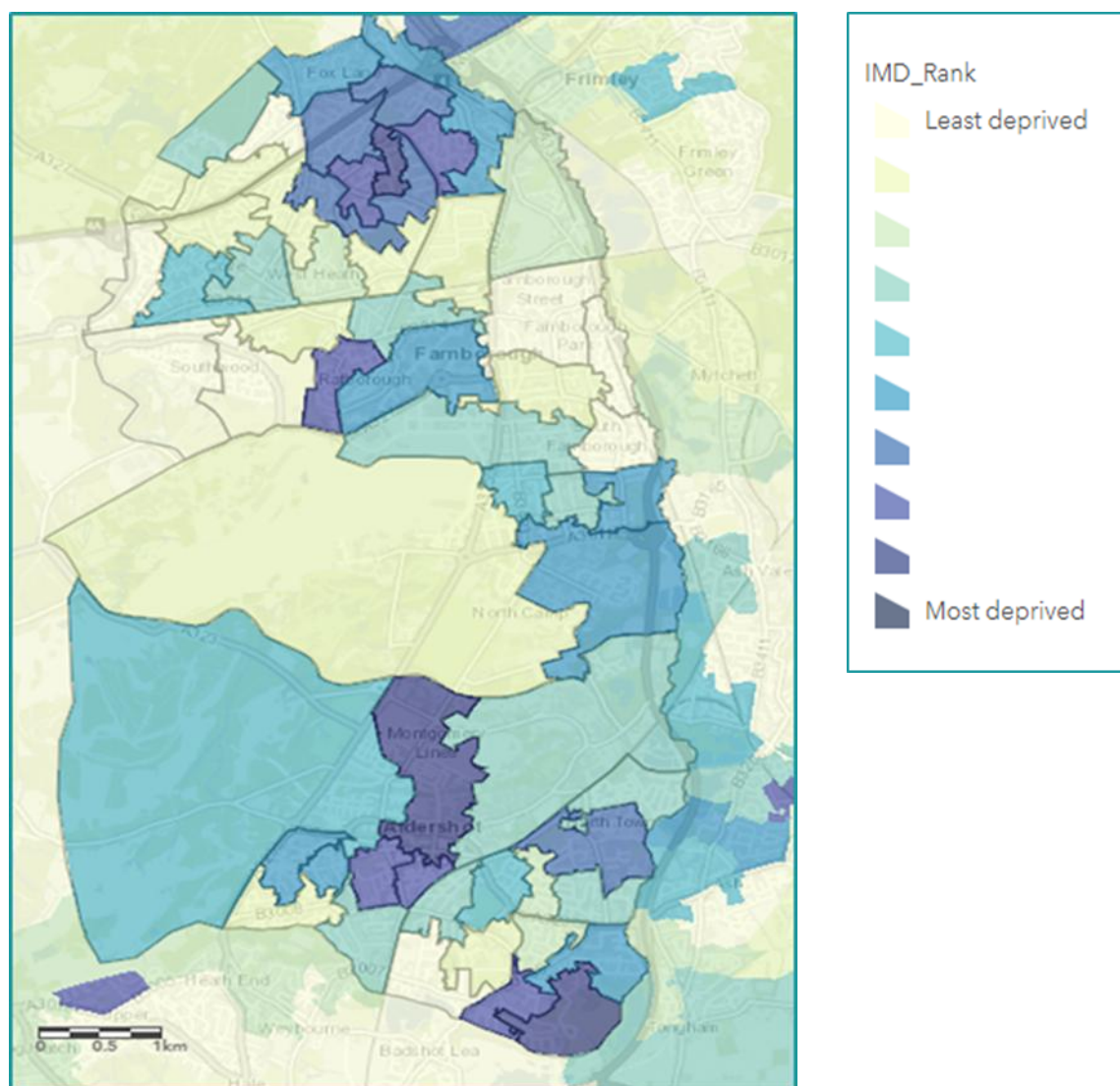
- Locations:** Farnley, Farnley Gre, Farnborough North, Farnborough, South Farnborough, North Camp, Aldershot, North Town, Heath End, Weybourne, Badshot Lea, Upper Hale, Hog Hatch, Minley Road, Cove, West Heath, South Wood, Raborough, Watts Common, Montgomery Lines, Farnborough Airport, Farnborough Street, Fleet Road, A3014, A3017, A3018, A3019, A3020, A3021, A3022, A3023, A3024, A3025, A3026, A3027, A3028, A3029, A3030, A3031, A3032, A3033, A3034, A3035, A3036, A3037, A3038, A3039, A3040, A3041, A3042, A3043, A3044, A3045, A3046, A3047, A3048, A3049, A3050, A3051, A3052, A3053, A3054, A3055, A3056, A3057, A3058, A3059, A3060, A3061, A3062, A3063, A3064, A3065, A3066, A3067, A3068, A3069, A3070, A3071, A3072, A3073, A3074, A3075, A3076, A3077, A3078, A3079, A3080, A3081, A3082, A3083, A3084, A3085, A3086, A3087, A3088, A3089, A3090, A3091, A3092, A3093, A3094, A3095, A3096, A3097, A3098, A3099, A3100, A3101, A3102, A3103, A3104, A3105, A3106, A3107, A3108, A3109, A3110, A3111, A3112, A3113, A3114, A3115, A3116, A3117, A3118, A3119, A3120, A3121, A3122, A3123, A3124, A3125, A3126, A3127, A3128, A3129, A3130, A3131, A3132, A3133, A3134, A3135, A3136, A3137, A3138, A3139, A3140, A3141, A3142, A3143, A3144, A3145, A3146, A3147, A3148, A3149, A3150, A3151, A3152, A3153, A3154, A3155, A3156, A3157, A3158, A3159, A3160, A3161, A3162, A3163, A3164, A3165, A3166, A3167, A3168, A3169, A3170, A3171, A3172, A3173, A3174, A3175, A3176, A3177, A3178, A3179, A3180, A3181, A3182, A3183, A3184, A3185, A3186, A3187, A3188, A3189, A3190, A3191, A3192, A3193, A3194, A3195, A3196, A3197, A3198, A3199, A3200, A3201, A3202, A3203, A3204, A3205, A3206, A3207, A3208, A3209, A3210, A3211, A3212, A3213, A3214, A3215, A3216, A3217, A3218, A3219, A3220, A3221, A3222, A3223, A3224, A3225, A3226, A3227, A3228, A3229, A3230, A3231, A3232, A3233, A3234, A3235, A3236, A3237, A3238, A3239, A3240, A3241, A3242, A3243, A3244, A3245, A3246, A3247, A3248, A3249, A3250, A3251, A3252, A3253, A3254, A3255, A3256, A3257, A3258, A3259, A3260, A3261, A3262, A3263, A3264, A3265, A3266, A3267, A3268, A3269, A3270, A3271, A3272, A3273, A3274, A3275, A3276, A3277, A3278, A3279, A3280, A3281, A3282, A3283, A3284, A3285, A3286, A3287, A3288, A3289, A3290, A3291, A3292, A3293, A3294, A3295, A3296, A3297, A3298, A3299, A3300, A3301, A3302, A3303, A3304, A3305, A3306, A3307, A3308, A3309, A3310, A3311, A3312, A3313, A3314, A3315, A3316, A3317, A3318, A3319, A3320, A3321, A3322, A3323, A3324, A3325, A3326, A3327, A3328, A3329, A3330, A3331, A3332, A3333, A3334, A3335, A3336, A3337, A3338, A3339, A3340, A3341, A3342, A3343, A3344, A3345, A3346, A3347, A3348, A3349, A3350, A3351, A3352, A3353, A3354, A3355, A3356, A3357, A3358, A3359, A3360, A3361, A3362, A3363, A3364, A3365, A3366, A3367, A3368, A3369, A3370, A3371, A3372, A3373, A3374, A3375, A3376, A3377, A3378, A3379, A3380, A3381, A3382, A3383, A3384, A3385, A3386, A3387, A3388, A3389, A3390, A3391, A3392, A3393, A3394, A3395, A3396, A3397, A3398, A3399, A3400, A3401, A3402, A3403, A3404, A3405, A3406, A3407, A3408, A3409, A3410, A3411, A3412, A3413, A3414, A3415, A3416, A3417, A3418, A3419, A3420, A3421, A3422, A3423, A3424, A3425, A3426, A3427, A3428, A3429, A3430, A3431, A3432, A3433, A3434, A3435, A3436, A3437, A3438, A3439, A3440, A3441, A3442, A3443, A3444, A3445, A3446, A3447, A3448, A3449, A3450, A3451, A3452, A3453, A3454, A3455, A3456, A3457, A3458, A3459, A3460, A3461, A3462, A3463, A3464, A3465, A3466, A3467, A3468, A3469, A3470, A3471, A3472, A3473, A3474, A3475, A3476, A3477, A3478, A3479, A3480, A3481, A3482, A3483, A3484, A3485, A3486, A3487, A3488, A3489, A3490, A3491, A3492, A3493, A3494, A3495, A3496, A3497, A3498, A3499, A3500, A3501, A3502, A3503, A3504, A3505, A3506, A3507, A3508, A3509, A3510, A3511, A3512, A3513, A3514, A3515, A3516, A3517, A3518, A3519, A3520, A3521, A3522, A3523, A3524, A3525, A3526, A3527, A3528, A3529, A3530, A3531, A3532, A3533, A3534, A3535, A3536, A3537, A3538, A3539, A3540, A3541, A3542, A3543, A3544, A3545, A3546, A3547, A3548, A3549, A3550, A3551, A3552, A3553, A3554, A3555, A3556, A3557, A3558, A3559, A3560, A3561, A3562, A3563, A3564, A3565, A3566, A3567, A3568, A3569, A3570, A3571, A3572, A3573, A3574, A3575, A3576, A3577, A3578, A3579, A3580, A3581, A3582, A3583, A3584, A3585, A3586, A3587, A3588, A3589, A3590, A3591, A3592, A3593, A3594, A3595, A3596, A3597, A3598, A3599, A3600, A3601, A3602, A3603, A3604, A3605, A3606, A3607, A3608, A3609, A3610, A3611, A3612, A3613, A3614, A3615, A3616, A3617, A3618, A3619, A3620, A3621, A3622, A3623, A3624, A3625, A3626, A3627, A3628, A3629, A3630, A3631, A3632, A3633, A3634, A3635, A3636, A3637, A3638, A3639, A3640, A3641, A3642, A3643, A3644, A3645, A3646, A3647, A3648, A3649, A3650, A3651, A3652, A3653, A3654, A3655, A3656, A3657, A3658, A3659, A3660, A3661, A3662, A3663, A3664, A3665, A3666, A3667, A3668, A3669, A3670, A3671, A3672, A3673, A3674, A3675, A3

²⁷ 2021 LSOA Boundaries

The below map shows indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) data in Rushmoor. IMD data is a relative measure of deprivation, meaning it shows whether an area is more deprived than another, but does not quantify the data. The indices themselves are comprised of seven distinct indicators, including income, education and living environment.

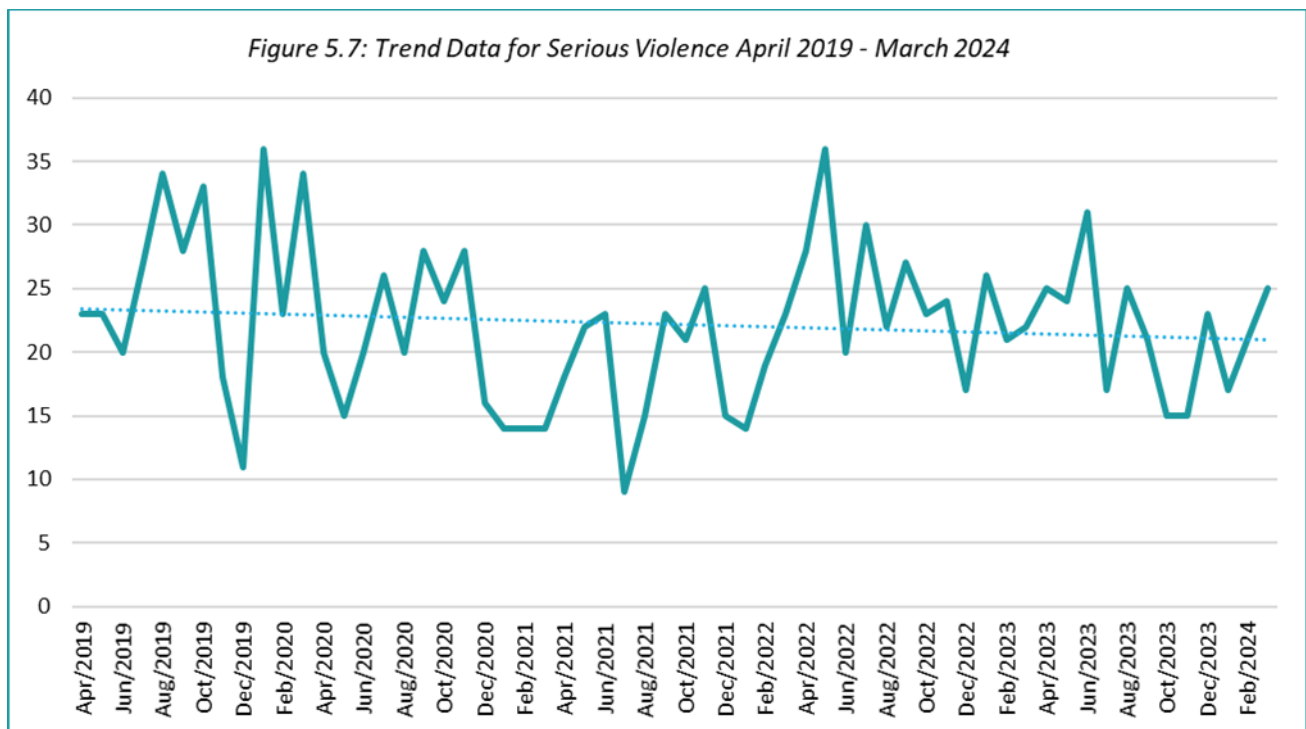
When the IMD map of Rushmoor is compared to the above map of serious violence occurrences, many of the areas highlighted as areas with more serious violence also rank as more deprived on the IMD scale. This is particularly clear when looking at the blue areas with seven or more incidents were recorded and the darker blue areas on the IMD map. This indicates a link between levels of deprivation and the location of serious violence incidents in Rushmoor.

Figure 5.6: Map of Rushmoor Showing the Indices of Multiple Deprivation Rank by LSOA.



5.4 When Is Serious Violence Happening?

Figure 5.7 demonstrates the trend in serious violence occurrences in Rushmoor in the five year period between April 2019 and March 2024, covering offences committed by individuals of all ages. The lowest dips are in December 2019 and July 2021, however there are no consistent seasonal patterns across the five years. The two most prominent peaks are January 2020 and May 2022. Long term trend analysis suggests that serious violence fluctuates across the year with no consistent substantial peak months or seasonality consistently represented.



During 2023/24, more serious violence took place in the month of June (n31) than any other month. This may, in part be attributed to the good weather experienced in 2023. The monthly peaks may also be influenced by specific police operations or areas of focus, driving up specific occurrences due to increased focus on one issue. The peaks are, however, relatively small, with no month recording less than n15 serious violence occurrences across the year.

When considering serious violence across Rushmoor, the most occurrences happen on a Thursday (n48), Sunday (n45), and Saturday (n43). There is an increase in offending from 14:00 – 20:59, during which 42% of occurrences take place. This is closely correlated with school finishing times, a trend which is evident across the HIPS area. There is a further increase from 23:00 – 02:59, which accounts for 20% of offending. This increase is likely linked to the night time economy (NTE) in the local area. The greatest number of offences occurred between 20:00 and 20:59 (n21), this is an increase of n3 (17%) offences during the same hour in 2022/23. The greatest number of offences in a single hour took place between 18:00 and 18:59 on Thursday (n6) and 19:00 and 19:59 on Sunday (n6).

Figure 5.8: Serious Violence by Day and Time, 2022/23

Weekday	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Total
Mon		1	1		1		1		1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	3	28
Tue	4	5	1			2		3	1	2		1	2		2	2	2		3	1	3		1	2	37
Wed		3	1	1							4			2	1	1	3	4	3	1	3	2		1	30
Thu		3	2	1	1				1	1	2	4	1	5	2	3	3	3	6		3	2	2	3	48
Fri	1		1	3	1		1		1		1	2	2	1	1	2	1	3	3	3		2	1	1	31
Sat	3	3	3	4	1			1		5	1	1	2		1	3	4		2	1	4		2	2	43
Sun		1	3	1	1	1				1	1		2	3	5	2	2	1	2	6	5	2	2	4	45
Total	8	16	12	10	5	3	2	4	4	10	10	9	11	12	14	15	16	13	20	13	21	9	9	16	262

5.5 What are the Associated Factors?

During the 2023/24 financial year, a total of n269 serious violence occurrences were recorded in Rushmoor. The following is a breakdown of the associated factors linked to these serious violence occurrences, and a comparison to the 2022/23 period. These factors, however, are not consistently applied to occurrences and should, therefore, be considered only a representation of associated factors in the area.

Figure 5.9: Table Showing Factors Associated with Serious Violence.

	Serious Violence Occurrences			
	2022/23 (Rushmoor)	Change from 2022/23 (Rushmoor)	2023/24 (Rushmoor)	2023/24 (HIPS)
Public Place	183 (61%)	-16% (n.29)	154 (57%)	2942 (59%)
Bladed Implement	96 (32%)	14% (n.13)	109 (41%)	1911 (38%)
Domestic Flag	34 (11%)	-24% (n.8)	26 (10%)	518 (10%)
Licensed Premises	31 (10%)	-32% (n.10)	21 (8%)	383 (8%)
Alcohol	23 (8%)	-39% (n.9)	14 (5%)	499 (10%)
Drugs	11 (4%)	64% (n.7)	18 (7%)	230 (5%)
Hate Crime	2 (1%)	150% (n.3)	5 (2%)	42 (1%)

Figure 5.9 contains the number of times each flag was applied to an occurrence during the last financial year. It also includes the 2022/23 financial year for comparison. The middle column represents the change in usage of the flag between the 2022/23 financial year and 2023/24. The final column contains the number of times the flag was attached to occurrences across the HIPS area in the 2023/24 financial year.

In comparison to the wider HIPS figures, there are no substantial differences between the percentages of offences each flag is applied to in Rushmoor. The bladed implement flag was applied to 41% of occurrences in Rushmoor, which is slightly higher than the 38% of occurrences it was applied to across HIPS. The largest difference is for the alcohol flag; it was applied in 5% of cases in Rushmoor but 10% across HIPS. For domestic and licensed premises, the flag is applied to the same percentage of offences as the wider HIPS area (10% and 8% respectively). Overall, there are no flags for which Rushmoor is substantially above or below average for the wider HIPS area.

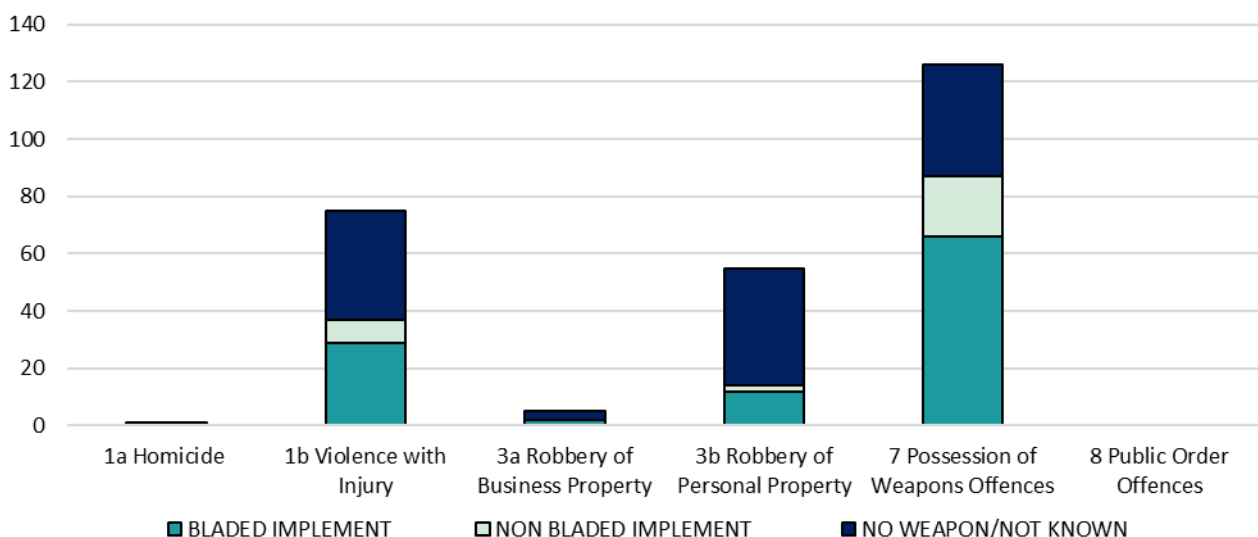
The public place flag is the most commonly applied associated factor, indicating the majority of serious violence occurrences in Rushmoor take place in a public setting. This flag is particularly important as the Serious Violence Duty highlights specific focus on offences that occur in public places, although the definition used here does not exclude domestic offences. When looking at all occurrences in 2023/24, 57% (n154) were recorded as happening in a public place. This is a 16% (n29) decrease in comparison to the previous financial year.

The largest increase has been in the application of the bladed implement flag (n13, 14%). In 2023/24, 41% (n109) of all serious violence occurrences in Rushmoor were recorded as involving a bladed implement. This demonstrates that, while there has been an increase in recorded offences in Rushmoor involving a bladed implement, the majority of serious violence in Rushmoor does not include a bladed implement of any kind.

Of all serious violence incidents in Rushmoor, 10% (n26) had the domestic flag applied, suggesting they are in some way linked to domestic violence. Compared to the 2022/23 financial year, there was a 24% (n8) decrease in the number of domestic flags applied to occurrences in Rushmoor. There was also a decrease in the number of licensed premises applied to occurrences in Rushmoor. In 2022/23, n31 (10%) of all serious violence occurrences in Rushmoor were flagged as involving a licensed premises; in 2023/24, this decreased to n21 (8%). This is an n10 (32%) decrease across the two years. These numbers are relatively small, but they do suggest a decrease in the number of serious violence occurrences taking place in licensed premises and the wider night time economy in Rushmoor.

The alcohol flag was applied to reported offences a total of n14 (5%) times, a decrease of n9 (39%) occurrences compared to the previous year. On the contrary, drug flags were used n7 more times, with a total of n18 (7%) of occurrences being flagged as drug related crime in Rushmoor. As the numbers are small, percentages may appear inflated. Finally, the hate crime flag showed little deviation from the previous financial year, increasing only slightly by n3. It is known, however, that hate crime is consistently underreported and this may not, therefore, be representative of the true number of hate crimes that took place.

Figure 5.10: Offences Involving a Weapon, 2023/24



5.6 Who is Committing Serious Violence

Across the 2023/24 financial year, there were a total n180 individuals identified as suspects of serious violence. A breakdown of offences with no suspect details is provided in appendix C. Where suspect details are recorded 88% (n158) were recorded as male, whilst 10% (n18) were recorded as female, suggesting males are considerably more likely to be a suspect of serious violence in Rushmoor. This is slightly higher than the HIPS average which recorded 83% of suspect as males. Among males, those aged 18-24 and 35-44 were most likely to be recorded as a suspect. Among females, those aged 25-34 were most likely to be recorded as a suspect of serious violence in Rushmoor, during 2023/24.

Figure 5.11: Age Band of Serious Violence Offenders, 2023/24

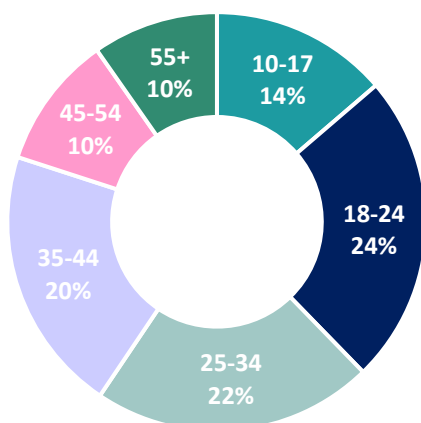
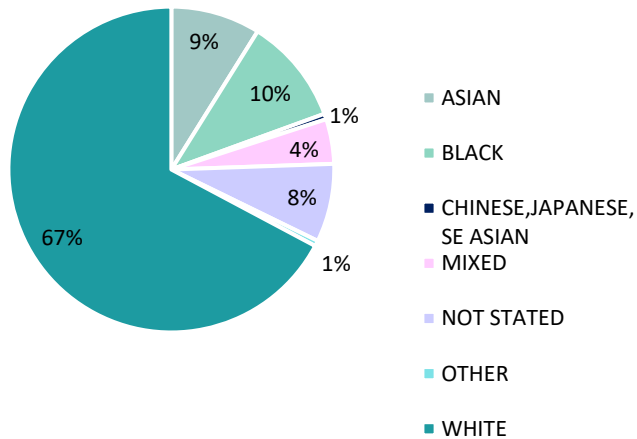


Figure 5.12: Gender of Serious Violence Offenders, 2023/24

88% male - 10% female

Of these individuals, 38% (n67) were recorded as being under the age of 25. This is consistent with the 2022/23 financial year which n66 (33%) suspects of serious violence under the age of 25, with just the proportion increasing slightly during 2023/24. The most populated age band was 18-24 which accounted for 24% (n42) of all suspects in Rushmoor during 2023/24, and was subsequently the age band with the largest increase since 2022/23 (20%, n7). Conversely, the 25-34 age band recorded the largest decrease since 2022/23, with there being n54 (27%) in 2022/23 reducing to n38 (22%) in 2023/24, a reduction of 30% (n16). The 35-44 age band saw a reduction of n7 (16%) to n37 (20%) suspects in 2023/24. The remaining age bands stayed fairly consistent to the previous financial year, with 45-54 slightly reducing by n2 (10%) suspects and 55+ increasing by only n1 (6%) suspect.

Figure 5.13: Suspect ethnicity, 2023/24



Where ethnicity is recorded for suspects of serious violence, 67% (n121) are defined as White, either by self-defined or officer-defined ethnicity. This was followed by 10% (n19) of individuals defined as Black and 9% (n16) are defined as Asian. It is important to note, however, that 13% (n23) of suspects did not self-define their ethnicity (or were not given the chance to). Where this is the case officer-defined ethnicity is used.

5.7 Who are the Victims of Serious Violence?

Across the 2023/24 financial year there were a total of n158 individuals identified as victims of serious violence. Where victim details were recorded, 71% (n112) were recorded as being male, while 27% (n43) were defined as female. This suggests that males are considerably more likely to be victims of serious violence in Rushmoor. Across the year, n91 occurrences recorded the victims either as 'NOT STATED' or 'THE STATE', this is likely due to the high number of possession of weapons offences recorded, which often do not have victim details. Among males identified as victims of serious violence, those aged 35-44 were most commonly recorded, followed by 18-24. For female victims the most common age band was 25-34.

Figure 5.14: Age Band of Serious Violence Victims, 2023/24

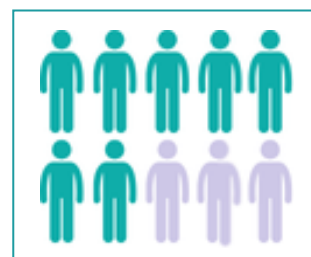
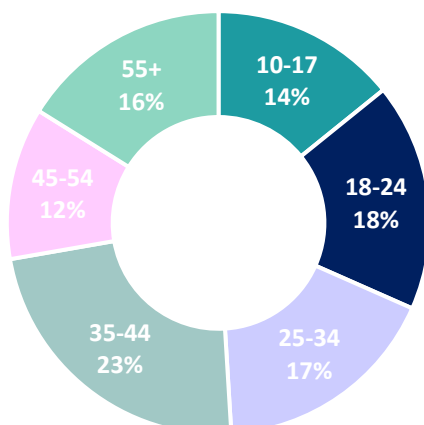
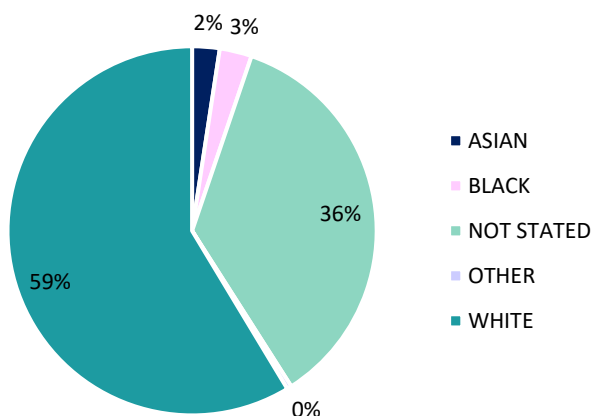


Figure 5.15: Gender of Serious Violence Victims, 2023/24

71% male – 27% female

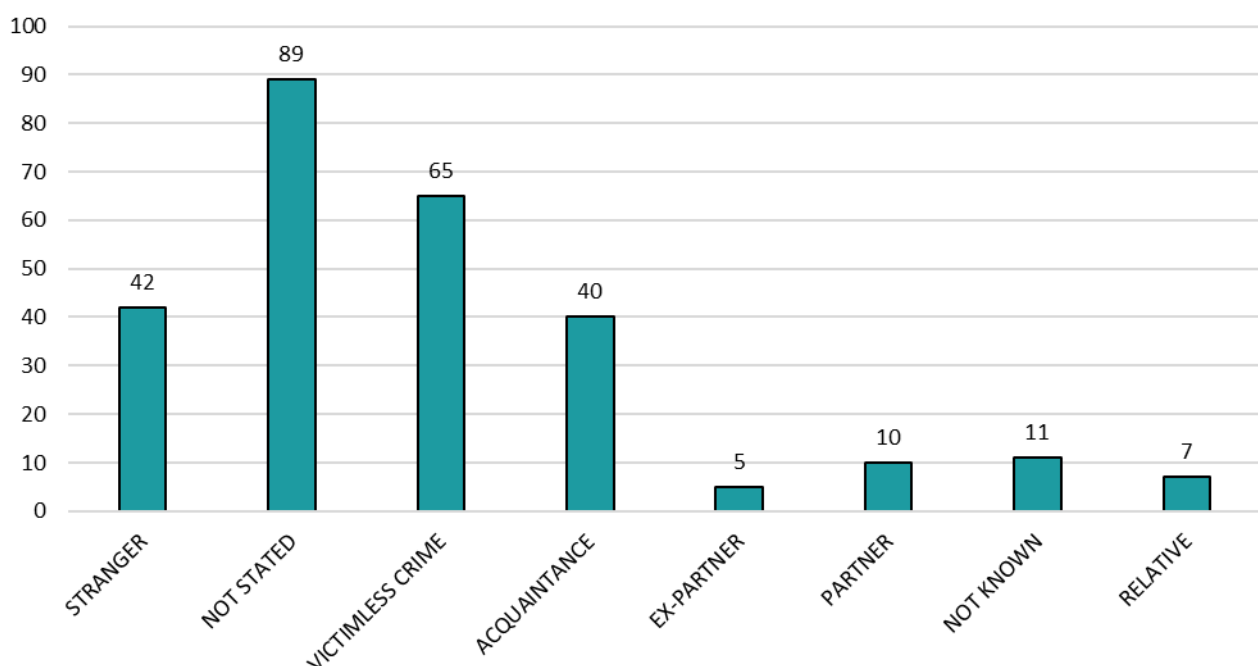
Of these individuals, those under the age of 25 account for 32% (n50) of all victims in Rushmoor. This is a slight decrease of n6 (11%) victims since 2022/23, which recorded 28% (n56) of all serious violence victims under the age of 25. The 25-34 age band saw the largest disparity with the previous financial year, reducing by 37% (n17) to n29 (17%) in 2023/24. The most populated age band was 35-44 which contained n36 (23%) victims in 2023/24. The 45-54 and 55+ age bands stayed relatively consistent with slight variation (decreasing by n1, 5%, and n3, 11% respectively).

Figure 5.16: Victim Ethnicity, 2023/24



Where ethnicity is recorded for victims of serious violence, 59% (n146) were recorded as White, either by self-defined or officer-defined ethnicity. This was followed by 36% (n89) who had no ethnicity stated. It is important to note, however, that 38% (n95) of victims of serious violence did not self-define their ethnicity, and where this is the case officer-defined ethnicity is used where possible.

Figure 5.17: Offender/Victim Relationship, 2023/24



The offender/victim relationship was recorded for n269 serious violence occurrences in Rushmoor. The most common offender/victim relationship recorded was victimless crime (24%, n65). Victimless crime is any criminal offence that has no identifiable victim. In the case of the serious violence definition, a key victimless crime is possession of weapons offences. Since possession of weapons offences account for 49% (n131) of all serious violence occurrences in Rushmoor, it is unsurprising that victimless crime accounts for 24% of occurrences where the offender/victim relationship is recorded. Following this, the second most common relationship recorded was stranger, accounting for 16% (n42) of serious violence offences. This suggests more serious violence offences in Rushmoor are committed by a stranger rather than an acquaintance (15%, n40), partner/ex-partner (6%, n15), or relative (2%, n7).

5.8 Who are the Repeat Victims and Suspects?

A total of n22 (12%) of individuals recorded as a suspect of a serious violence offence in Rushmoor have been linked to more than one serious violence offence in the 2023/24 financial year. Among these individuals, 59% (n13) were under the age of 25 and 82% (n18) were male. Conversely, a total of n12 (8%) of all individuals or premises recorded as victims of serious violence were aggrieved of more than one offence in the 2023/24 financial year.

5 Summary

Overall, Rushmoor ranks similar or worse when compared to the Hampshire average for most of the identified risk and protective factors. This suggests there is a higher risk of involvement in serious violence across the district compared to the Hampshire average. Rushmoor has the third most risk and protective factors, ranking worse than the Hampshire average only behind Havant and Gosport. While there is a higher risk of involvement in serious violence across the district compared to the Hampshire average, there are areas in Rushmoor which are likely to have an amplified risk of involvement through the overlapping of poor risk and protective factor outcomes. These areas are Aldershot town centre, Aldershot Park and the Cherrywood area of Farnborough.

When taking in national crime data it is important to use other sources as well as police recorded crime, which may be effected by recording procedures and policing activity. Nationally there has been a consistent decrease of all crime types as in March 2024, crime estimates were 22% lower than those in March 2017. Although robberies remained similar in 2023/24, there was an increase in robbery involving knives or sharp implements increasing, with a 4% increase noted by police records. There was also an increase in firearm related offences.

Despite evidence suggesting that overall levels of violence are likely to have reduced slightly over the last decade, some categories of serious violence are thought to have been less affected or unaffected by changes in recording practices, such as robbery and homicide offences.²⁸ While there had been increases in robbery in North Hampshire between 2015/16 and 2019/20, the levels dropped in 2020/21, likely due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and have remained at a low level compared to 2019/20. In 2023/24 there was a homicide in Rushmoor, which is the same as the year before.

While the headline data is only available at the North Hampshire level, North Hampshire has a lower rate of violence with injury, robbery, and possession of a weapon than the HIPS and England Averages.

There has been a 15% increase in possession of a weapon offences in Rushmoor since 2022/23, although this is influenced by police activity and it is not possible to say with certainty that this represents a similar increase in weapons in the community.

There were 269 serious violence offences in Rushmoor in 2023/24, which accounted for 5% of the total serious violence in the HIPS area. Rushmoor's rate of serious violence was very slightly higher than the HIPS average, though had the third highest rate of all districts across HIPS, but was still substantially lower than the Portsmouth and Southampton rate. There has been a 10% decrease in serious violence since 2022/23 but levels are still higher than 2020/21 and 2021/22.

While the rate of serious violence in Rushmoor is higher than the HIPS average, Rushmoor has a small population and so there are relatively low numbers of serious violence offences. This means that the following profile should be interpreted with caution as patterns are more susceptible to change, and percentage changes will be large even when the numerical change is small. The main offences that

²⁸ [Crime in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/crime) and [Crime in England and Wales QMI - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/crime)

make up serious violence are possession of a weapon (49%), violence with injury (29%), robbery of personal property (20%).

Levels of serious violence were higher in Farnborough and Aldershot than other parts of Rushmoor and 57% were known to have taken place in public areas. There are no clear seasonal trends, although there are higher levels Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, mostly between 2pm and 9pm. Of all occurrences in Rushmoor, 8% of serious violence flagged as linked to licenced premises and 5% involving alcohol use by the suspect. A further 7% involved drug use by the suspect, and 41% involved a bladed implement.

The most common offender/victim relationship was victimless (24%, n65), this was followed by stranger (16%, n42) and acquaintance (15%, n40). Suggesting there is slightly more serious violence offences being committed by strangers than those where there's an established relationship between the offender and victim.

Of all suspects, 88% (n158) were recorded as male and 38% (n67) were under the age of 25. Among males, those aged 18-24 and 35-44 were most likely to be recorded as a suspect. Among females, it was those aged 25-34. Of these suspects, 12% (n22) have been linked to more than one serious violence offence during 2023/24.

Of all victims, 71% (n112) were recorded as male and 32% (n50) were under the age of 25. Among males identified as victims of serious violence, those aged 35-44 were most commonly recorded, followed by 18-24. For female victims the most common age band was 25-34. Of these victims, 6% (n9) were aggrieved of more than one serious violence offence during 2023/24 in Rushmoor.

Appendix A: Definition of Serious Violence

Home Office crime code	Home Office crime description
1/1	Murder of persons aged 1 year or over; genocide or crime against humanity
1/2	Murder of persons under 1 year of age
4/1	Manslaughter
4/2	Infanticide
2	Attempted murder; attempted genocide or crime against humanity
37/1	Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking
4/12	Causing serious injury by dangerous driving.
4/13	Cause death by driving without due care/consideration over prescribed limit specified controlled drug
4/3	Child destruction
4/4	Causing death by dangerous driving
4/6	Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs
4/8	Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving (w.e.f 18.08.08)
5/1, 5/1D	Wounding with intent to do GBH
5/1S	Wounding with intent to do GBH - PC / PCSO
5/1T	Assault on emergency worker (not police): wound/cause GBH W/I to GBH or resist arrest
5/27	Torture
5/6	Causing bodily injury by explosion
8/1, 8/1N	Malicious wounding: wounding or inflicting GBH
8/1S	Malicious wounding: wounding or inflicting GBH - PC / PCSO
8/1T	Assault on emergency worker (not police): malicious wounding or inflict GBH with or without weapon.
8/33	Racially aggravated malicious wounding or GBH
8/46	Racial/religious aggravated malicious wounding or GBH (only use if both or can't determine whether racial or religious)
8/59	Racially and/or religiously aggravated wounding/GBH

Appendix B: Notes About Data Cleaning & Processing

Data fields to be included in the following were agreed in partnership to ensure the effective completion of a series of community safety partnership (CSP) level SNAs and a HIPS wide SNA built from the same data and analysis. This ensures a more sustainable approach to partnership working moving forwards.

Data was extracted according to valid review date (VRD), which means all crimes categorised as such during the 2023/24 financial year are included. However, the temporal analysis and five year trend data is based on the start date of these occurrences, excluding historic offences from these sections only. All data was extracted from Business Objects. Several steps were taken by the VRU Analyst to ensure the data quality was maximised for partnership SNA purposes:

- Duplicate occurrence numbers were excluded from the data set.
- Victim and suspect data was extracted using the cleansed occurrence numbers.
- All start times of 00:00 changed to 'NOT STATED'.
- Time band columns were added to group start times into 6 hour and 1 hour time bands for temporal analysis purposes.
- The day of the week is identified using the start date data field for temporal analysis and a new column was added to reflect this. This process was then repeated for the month.
- Easting and Northing values were isolated in order to map the occurrences on CMS. Where there are missing data points, '0' was added.
- Trend data ranging from April 2019-March 2024 was extracted to track long term trends.
- Key word searches of occurrence summaries were conducted to identify missing domestic violence flags, and these are added in.
- In all associated factor data fields, where there was missing data, 'NOT STATED' was added.
- Where missing, the district location of an offence is identified using other data fields and added. Where this was not possible, 'NOT STATED' was added.
- All missing dates of birth for victims and suspects changed to 'NOT STATED'.
 - DOB used to calculate the age of the victims and suspects. These are used to group into age bands in order to sort individuals into over and under 25 years old.
 - These were then used to isolate occurrences involving suspects under 25 years old.
- Victim and suspect self-defined and officer-defined ethnicity are extracted using unique identification numbers.
- Isolated individuals identified as repeat victims or suspects based on unique identification numbers.
- Victim and suspect data were sorted by district according to the data field connecting to the unique occurrence number.
- Pivot tables were created for all appropriate data fields and visualisations of the data were created.

Appendix C: Breakdown of Offences in Rushmoor during 2023/24 with No Suspect Details Provided

	Number of Offences with No Suspect Details	Percentage of Offences
1b Violence with Injury	17	22%
3a Robbery of Business Property	2	40%
3b Robbery of Personal Property	34	62%
7 Possession of Weapons Offences	44	34%