



Doncaster
Council

Community and Environment (Crime and Disorder Committee) Overview and Scrutiny Presentation

16.02.23

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Topics to be covered

- Overview of Crime and ASB data
- Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) Priorities – Community Safety Strategy Key Action/Activity Updates
 - Tackling domestic and sexual abuse
 - Reducing anti-social behaviour
 - Reducing crime and re-offending
 - Tackling serious and organised crime
 - Reducing substance and alcohol misuse
 - Reducing violence and violent crime
- Safety for Women and Girls in Doncaster
- Safer Streets
- Cost of Living – impact on Crime and Disorder



Overall Crime Data

- Doncaster has seen an overall increase in reported Crime during the period considered, of 14.6%, which is similar to that seen across the Force as a whole at 12.3%.
- Reported crime increased across all of the considered period, with the exception of November. A significant increase on the previous equivalent period was seen in the first 8 months of the year. This is likely due to an increase in the number of acquisitive crimes (see section on the cost of living and acquisitive crimes for further details).
- February 2022 saw the largest comparable increase, followed by January 2022.
- Doncaster equates for 27.1% of SYP's total recorded crime, it is only exceeded by offending within Sheffield (38.7% of SYP overall crime).
- In the last year, Doncaster has seen an increase in almost all crime types, with the exception of Rape, Bicycle Thefts and Violent disorder. Residential Burglaries saw a 6.5% increase, with vehicle offences seeing a 28.4% increase compared to last year. Robberies increased by 27.3% and Shoplifting increased by 36.0%.

ALL CRIME	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change
Doncaster	37,287	42,714	14.6%
SYP Forcewide Crime	140,481	157,800	12.3%
Doncaster Crime as a % of Force	26.5%	27.1%	0.6%

All Crime Doncaster	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2021	2620	2408	3077	3051	3268	3172	3388	3008	3321	3478	3417	3079
2022	3309	3154	3548	3693	3858	3747	3769	3652	3526	3698	3370	3490
Change %	26.3	31.0	15.3	21.0	18.1	15.0	11.2	21.4	6.2	6.3	-1.4	13.3

Anti-Social Behaviour Data

- The current period saw a decrease in Force-wide Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents. Doncaster decreased by 17.9%, larger than the Force’s 15.4% decrease. Doncaster Council reports also indicate a decrease in reported ASB, however this is insignificant in comparison (-2.4%).
- The highest decrease 41.3% was noted in February 2022 compared to February 2021, the ASB categories that saw the highest reductions were Nuisance Neighbour (-35%), Animal Problem (-26%), and Abandoned Vehicles (-22%).
- All months across 2022 saw a decrease against the same month last year.
- Only street drinking ASB saw an increase against the previous period.
- Where this activity occurs in the City Centre, the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) is utilised. The aim of the PSPO is to address concerns related to vulnerable people in the city centre engaging in anti-social behaviour. The first approach is to always engage to moderate behaviour and connect people to mainstream services for support. In the first two years of the PSPO there have been over 50,000 interventions, resulting in 489 breaches of the PSPO, demonstrating the use of the PSPO as an important part of a wider multi-partner plan to change behaviour.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change
Doncaster ASB	6,936	5,692	-17.9%
SYP Forcewide ASB	29,343	24,811	-15.4%
Doncaster ASB as % of Force	23.6%	22.9%	-0.7%

Lived Experience and Engagement

- As a partnership we continually strive to improve public experience through actively listening and engaging with people in communities to gain a true picture of crime and disorder.
- It is important that those with 'lived experience' are listened to, ensuring that the concerns being raised are responded to and that people are kept informed.
- As part of the locality model, we support communities to identify their priorities and to put in place actions that help them build on opportunities and address gaps.
- The refreshed locality plans feature ASB and Community Safety in each area. These plans have generated over 17, 000 contacts which come from a variety of engagement, including the Appreciative Inquiries, Community representatives, stakeholders, social media, surveys and consultations and bespoke engagement.
- The police and partners have embedded the monthly Community Engagement Meetings, formally known as PACT in each area.
- Monthly Ward Member Meetings continue, as a forum to share information and intelligence in respect of local priorities and concerns.
- The SSDP Communications Plan continues to engage with communities to understand concerns; raise awareness of our work and provide increased visibility of partnership resources within communities.

Priority One – Tackling Domestic & Sexual Abuse – Key Work

- Expanded team to include new Heath DA workers, Gypsy traveller DA worker, Serial Perp and survivor liaison.
- OPCS awarded funding for Independent Sexual Violence Advocate/child sexual abuse support.
- Annual Report produced, which outlines focused work in Communities and improved communication campaigns.
- A group has been established to progress work in respect of the Sexual Abuse strategy, which will be 'all age' and will include sex workers.
- Commissioning ongoing to potentially increase the amount of available accommodation and increase accessibility for people with complex needs. New contracts to commence May 2023. Sanctuary Scheme has now commenced.
- Two Housing Options workers are also specialising in Domestic Abuse.
- Domestic Abuse Navigators have been mainstreamed; an additional Navigator has also been recruited.
- Review of MARAC process, which is due to report in March 23. This work commissioned after increase in cases.

Priority Two – Reducing Anti Social Behaviour – Key Work

- The SNS hub manages more complex cases with the most complex referred to (CMARAC).
- ASB Delivery Plan ensures proportionate & graduated response & has robust pathways for vulnerable victims
- Illegal off-road bikes & quads continues to be one of highest reported issues. Includes electric scooters - various partnership approaches to tackling this physical barriers, new signage and regular deployment of the off-road bike team.
- Early intervention and prevention work undertaken by the Community Area Teams is having a positive impact on the number of vulnerable victims. Although ASB incidents are increasing the number of victims is not.
- Exploit opportunities for funding to expand public realm & re-deploy camera capabilities. Successfully secured additional funding from Safer Streets R 4. CCTV Newsletter has been developed (circ in Dec)
- Multiple strands to the comprehensive plan to support people with complex lives, including re-launch of 'Real Help Scheme', aimed at raising funds from businesses & the public to support people experiencing homelessness.
- Council's enforcement team continually working across Borough to proactively identify fly tipping/littering incidents. Deal with offenders with Zero-tolerance approach.

Priority Two - Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour – City Centre

- During 2022, significant challenges relating to Youth ASB in the City Centre (not reflected in statistics). Issues raised by businesses include abusive language/behaviour, damage, violence, and formation of harmful alliances by young people.
- Businesses didn't feel listened to, loss of trust and confidence in services. Local approach adopted through formation of an ASB Partnership and develop of a Youth ASB Plan (co-design, co-produce, co-deliver)
- Range of prevention, intervention, engagement and enforcement activity undertaken – weekends of action, business and communities engagement, diversion activities, case management of young people, collaboration with head teachers and alternative provision providers for 1-2-1 support and link to Supporting Families programme.
- Grip established & broad range of positive outcomes achieved e.g. designing out issues in tunnels, right of way within Frenchgate, launch of Youth Zone and Youth Charter, reductions in ASB, damage and violence reported by businesses.
- Recognition of collaborative efforts and benefits for the ASB Partnership Group – awarded South Yorkshire Police Partnership Award.

Priority Three – Reducing Crime and Re-Offending – Key Work

- Group includes additional partners (including Localities) who can improve the offer to offenders who cause the greatest harm to communities.
- A referral pathway established to support identified cohorts and identify gaps.
- Each of the neighbourhood policing teams tackle Serious Acquisitive Crime through problem solving plans and identify priority patrol areas to manage crime hotspots.
- Doncaster's Integrated Offender Management team is recognised as standout team within South Yorkshire Police, and we continue to use specialist force resources such as the Roads Policing Team to reduce acquisitive crime in specific locations.
- Doncaster has made progress against the initial key milestones of the national IOM strategy. This approach calls for the identification of 3 distinct cohorts of offenders in the community.
- The theme group have prioritised working on the acquisitive crime and prolific offender elements of the national crime plan over the past year.
- Work in progress with YOS to drive additional activity around transitional arrangements & first-time entrants. Doncaster has dedicated PC working within youth offending service to share information and intervene at the appropriate level.
- A dedicated Youth Offending Team worker is also in place from the probation service to further support with transitions between the organisations.

Priority Four - Tackling Serious and Organised Crime – Key Work

- EPIC team deployed in key areas of OCG operation e.g. Mexborough, City Centre & Edlington.
- Frenchgate Centre has drop in centre for young people affected by exploitation and parents seeking help.
- Last 3yrs granted gang injunctions against members of OCG in Mexborough -placed restrictions on key nominals. The injunctions were reviewed last year and in many cases have continued.
- Successfully extended CCTV system in Mex using funding from the HO Safer Streets fund.
- Over last 12 months SYP undertaken high profile operations to disrupt the growth in firearms enabled crime, including visible deployments of armed response vehicles and the proactive investigation of reported incidents. This strategy has led to a reduction in reported incidents, the arrest and conviction of key individuals and the recovery of illegal firearms.
- The predominant areas affected by cannabis cultivations are based in Edlington and Hexthorpe. Enhanced capabilities for gathering intelligence have been used in a highly successful way to target premises used for this purpose. Results of operations have been publicised in local communities affected by power outages. The Partnership have also funded crime stoppers campaigns across Doncaster, designed to encourage anonymous reporting of suspicious premises.
- Cyber enabled crime saw an increase during the Covid pandemic. The focus of the Partnership has been to raise awareness of new frauds and ensure banks and financial institutions are following national guidelines in terms of suspicious transactions both within banks and using the internet.

Priority Five – Reducing Substance & Alcohol Misuse –Key Work

- ‘Rethink your Drink’ Campaign nominated for the Doncaster Chamber marketing Campaign of the Year. Nitrous Oxide communication campaign has been refreshed.
- Plans underway for recruitment of additional staff in EPIC and specialist YP treatment worker.
- Capacity of criminal justice intervention services increased (funding from National Drug Strategy). Services targeting those where substance misuse associated with offending.
- Established alcohol early interventions targeting higher risk drinkers in liaison with primary care - aims to tackle drinking problems early before people become physically dependent.

Intervention and Enforcement Work includes:

- Drugs warrants, drug dog operations and days of action.
- Complex lives (1-2-1 case support, outreach, drop-in every Friday morn, training for practitioners on harms associated with alcohol & drugs, early intervention campaigns and courses available through Aspire)
- Best Bar None scheme aimed at improving and maintaining standards in licensed premises is a foundation activity in the planning for Purple Flag status.
- Public Health plans to collaborate with VRU to reintroduce night time econ Safe Spaces in 2023.
- Establishment of the Combatting Drugs Partnership chaired by the Director of Public Health, taking long term view on reducing the impact of all aspects of drugs and substance misuse to reduce crime, improve quality of life and better coordinate the actions of enforcement and care and support services.

Safer Streets

- A project group consisting of key partners has now been established and each project in an area has an assigned lead.
- So far we have held five meetings as a group, the last meeting being on Tuesday 13th December 2022.
- A robust action plan has been developed to ensure the project is able to overcome any difficulties, reduce blockages and delays. Scheduled meetings to run monthly.
- Borough wide school offer underway working with our school partners in Primary, Secondary and 6th Form Colleges along with Children's Homes and Pupil Referral Units.
- Using the '**Think Forward**' crime and consequence programmes to deliver a transformational youth coaching programme to raise awareness of the risk of ASB & criminality - alongside developing a network of peer advocates & mentors to support young people, as part of a school wide package of support.
- Orders placed for £87k of CCTV equipment in January and all schemes scoped to identify camera locations.

Priority Six – Reducing Violence and Violent Crime – Key Work

- Doncaster's Evening and NTE Group is in place. Group has membership from SYP; DMBC Enforcement, Licensing, Business Regeneration and Town Centre Planning.
- Best Bar None assess ongoing. Following these accreditations planning to work towards Purple Flag status.
- South Yorkshire mapping exercise completed by South Yorkshire Futures around trauma informed schools & education settings. Info will help to prioritise work going forward to areas of most need.
- Extensive work ongoing to develop response to VAWG. eg. work has already taken place in the town centre.
- Round 4 of Safer streets awarded significant funding to improve our parks and open spaces.
- Doncaster highlighted as good practice in terms of use of solar lighting. Reducing the fear of women and girls using parks and open spaces during the evening.
- Successful ops to manage increased activity such as the World Cup and the Christmas / New Year period. Additional patrols to increase visibility, engagement and prevent Violent Crime.
- Number of successful prosecutions following murders and specific incidents of youth violence. Additional security has been engaged in the City Centre in response to serious violent crime.
- Knife crime operations are run routinely in the City and diversion has taken place in schools re violence/knife crime across schools in the borough. Knife Wands supplied to licenced premises and City Centre Taxi Marshals programme delivered.
- Licensed Premises and Hospitality Venues training & awareness event delivered & further events planned for 2023. Planning underway to provide ID Scanners in targeted licensed premises.

Violent Crime Data

Violence Against Person offences saw an increase of 9.5% compared to the previous period, with increases in all VAP sub groups.

	Doncaster			SYP Force		
	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change
Violence Against Person Offences						
Total VAP	14,079	15,414	9.5%	52,293	57,358	9.7%
Death Serious Inj by Illegal Driving	1	2	100.0%	13	15	15.4%
Homicide	3	4	33.3%	17	23	35.3%
Stalking and Harassment	4,905	5,240	6.8%	19,041	20,342	6.8%
Violence with Injury	3,916	4,368	11.5%	14,198	16,188	14.0%
Violence without Injury	5,254	5,800	10.4%	19,024	20,790	9.3%

Knife Crime & Firearms

- The number of Knife crime offences has increased by 18.4% compared to the previous period. This is however slightly less significant than the Force wide increase of 13.5%.
- The number of Firearms offences has increased by 25.5% compared to the previous period. This is however still less than the rest of the Force, where there has been an overall reduction in Firearms offences by 39.0%.

KNIFE CRIME	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change	FIREARMS OFFENCES	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change
Doncaster Knife Crime	752	890	18.4%	Doncaster Firearms Offences	157	197	25.5%
SYP Forcewide Knife Crime	2,989	3,394	13.5%	SYP Forcewide Firearms Offences	510	709	39.0%
Doncaster Knife Crime as % of Force	25.2%	26.2%	1.0%	Doncaster FO as % of Force	30.8%	27.8%	-3.0%

Most Serious Violence

The number of Most Serious Violent offences has slightly decreased by 1.0% compared to the previous period. This is in contrast to the Force which actually saw an increase of 4.2%.

MOST SERIOUS VIOLENCE	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change
Doncaster MSV	496	491	-1.0%
SYP Forcewide MSV	1,707	1,779	4.2%
Doncaster MSV as % of Force	29.1%	27.6%	-1.5%

Safety for Women & Girls in Doncaster – key activity



Initial Violence against women and girls survey complete and findings shared with partners.

Community led VAWG group established. VAWG survey (not including DA) was relaunched – almost 1300 responses to date. Community led VAWG vigil took place in November.



We have increased capacity for non domestic abuse stalking advocates through Victim support. Supported 8 women up to and including December. Work is ongoing on referral processes.



Safer Streets work – awarded significant funding to improve our parks and open spaces. Work carried out to date using a combination of solar lighting with CCTV has done much to reduce the fear of women and girls using parks and open spaces during the evening. Additional work on Bentley Park funded by VRU CSP grant.

Safety for Women & Girls in Doncaster – key activity



VAWG Delivery Plan in draft with mapping against domestic and sexual abuse work to avoid duplication.



Ask for Angela re-launched with dedicated webpage on Councils website. Poster reprint is planned and will include other information in relation to DA / SA, spiking etc

Expansions of City centre Taxi Marshals at high visibility, high footfall / waiting areas including the train station to each weekend until end of March '23.



Supported the re-establishment of the Best Bar None scheme for licensed premises. Further training and awareness sessions for premises will be taking place in February and March.



Safety for Women & Girls in Doncaster – key activity



Purchased personal attack alarms and safety packs for victims, currently being distributed via DA services and community groups.

Food parcels for sex workers delivered throughout winter as agreed through the Amber Project.



Increased engagement with the South Yorkshire Travel Safe Partnership and have secured free advertising space across their estate to promote SYP No More campaign and other campaigns when necessary

Cost of Living – impact on Crime and Disorder

Acquisitive Offences

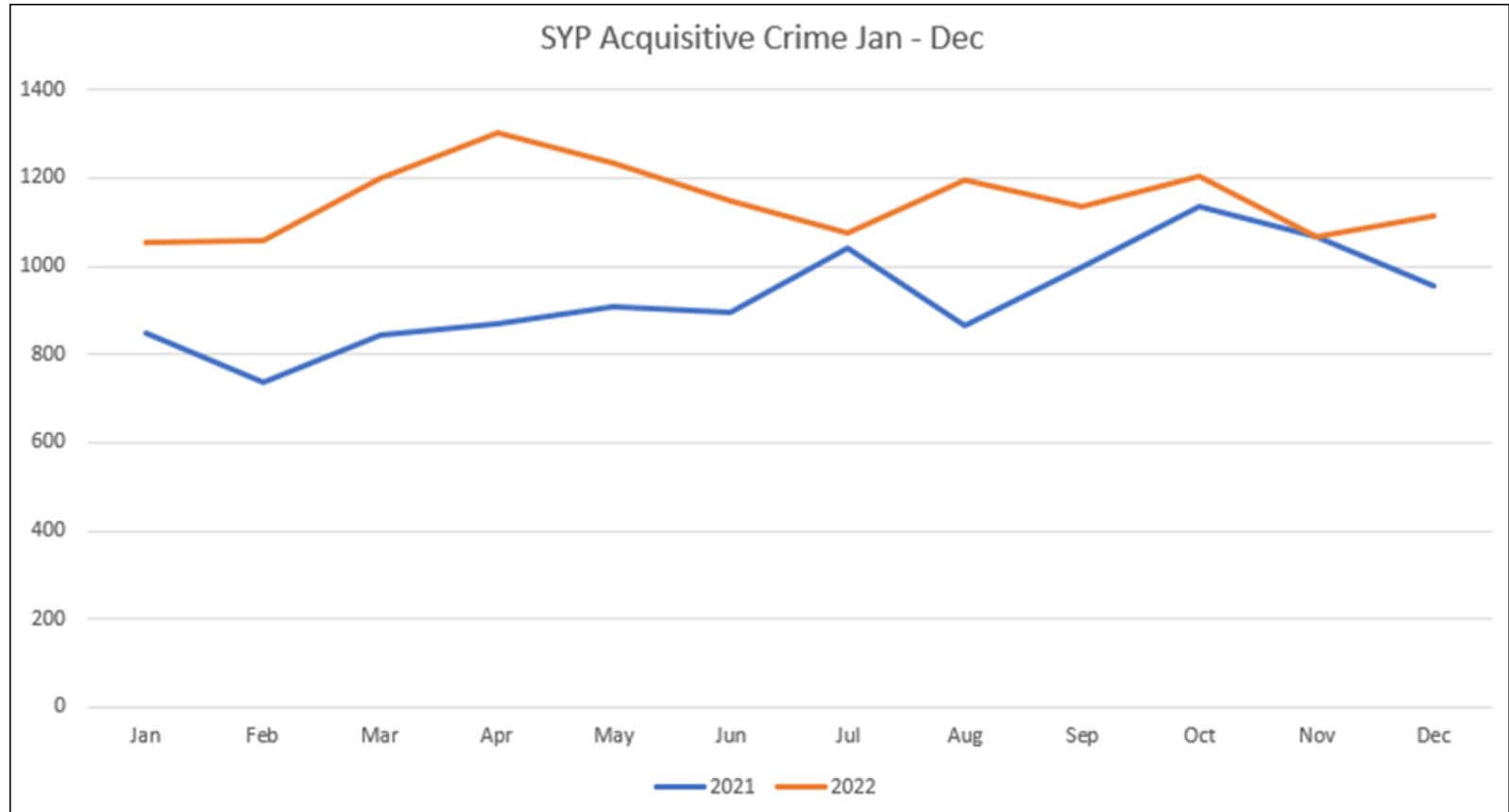
- Some of the largest increases were seen in Acquisitive crimes, with Robbery, Thefts and Vehicle Offences seeing the largest rise in offences with the exception of Possession of Weapons.
- Residential Burglaries saw a 6.5% increase, with vehicle offences seeing a 28.4% increase compared to last year. Robberies increased by 27.3% and Shoplifting increased by 36.0%. Bicycle thefts were the only acquisitive crime types to see a reduction
- The rise in these types of offences is likely due to the increased cost of living and the need to make quick money by any means to pay for outstanding bills etc. and still maintain a similar quality of life.

Acquisitive Crime Offences	Doncaster			SYP Force		
	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change	Jan 2021 – Dec 2021	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	% Change
Burglary	2,843	3,100	9.0%	10,126	11,629	14.8%
Business	665	781	17.4%	2,616	2,894	10.6%
Residential	2,178	2,319	6.5%	7,510	8,735	16.3%
Robbery	399	508	27.3%	1,547	1,805	16.7%
Business	37	53	43.2%	120	185	54.2%
Personal	362	455	25.7%	1,427	1,620	13.5%
Theft	5,191	6,679	28.7%	18,879	23,482	24.4%
Bicycle	363	303	-16.5%	1,049	983	-6.3%
Other	2,581	3,386	31.1%	9,847	11,971	21.6%
Shoplifting	2,044	2,779	36.0%	7,136	9,421	32.0%
Theft from the Person	203	211	3.9%	847	1,107	30.7%
Vehicle Offences	2,726	3,499	28.4%	10,530	13,089	24.3%
Aggravated Vehicle Taking	23	38	65.2%	100	134	34.0%
Interfering with a Motor Vehicle	441	692	56.9%	1,595	2,452	53.7%
TFMV	1,227	1,458	18.8%	5,131	5,340	4.1%
TOMV	1,035	1,311	26.7%	3,704	5,163	39.4%
Total	11,159	13,786	23.5%	41,082	50,005	21.7%
% of All crime	29.9%	32.3%	2.4%	29.2%	31.7%	2.5%

Cost of Living – impact on Crime and Disorder

- Shoplifting is a significant issue within the City and is not reflected in the statistics as businesses are not reporting current level of offences (issues link to reporting times and lack of confidence).
- Businesses report that reductions in staff numbers reduce their ability to report incidents.
- This trend is also appearing in local communities who have reported increased shoplifting within the Localities engagement. The increase is likely to be significantly lower than the reality with food, clothes and toiletries being the main items stolen.
- Shoplifting offences are being committed across ages and communities and there are also links to organised crime.

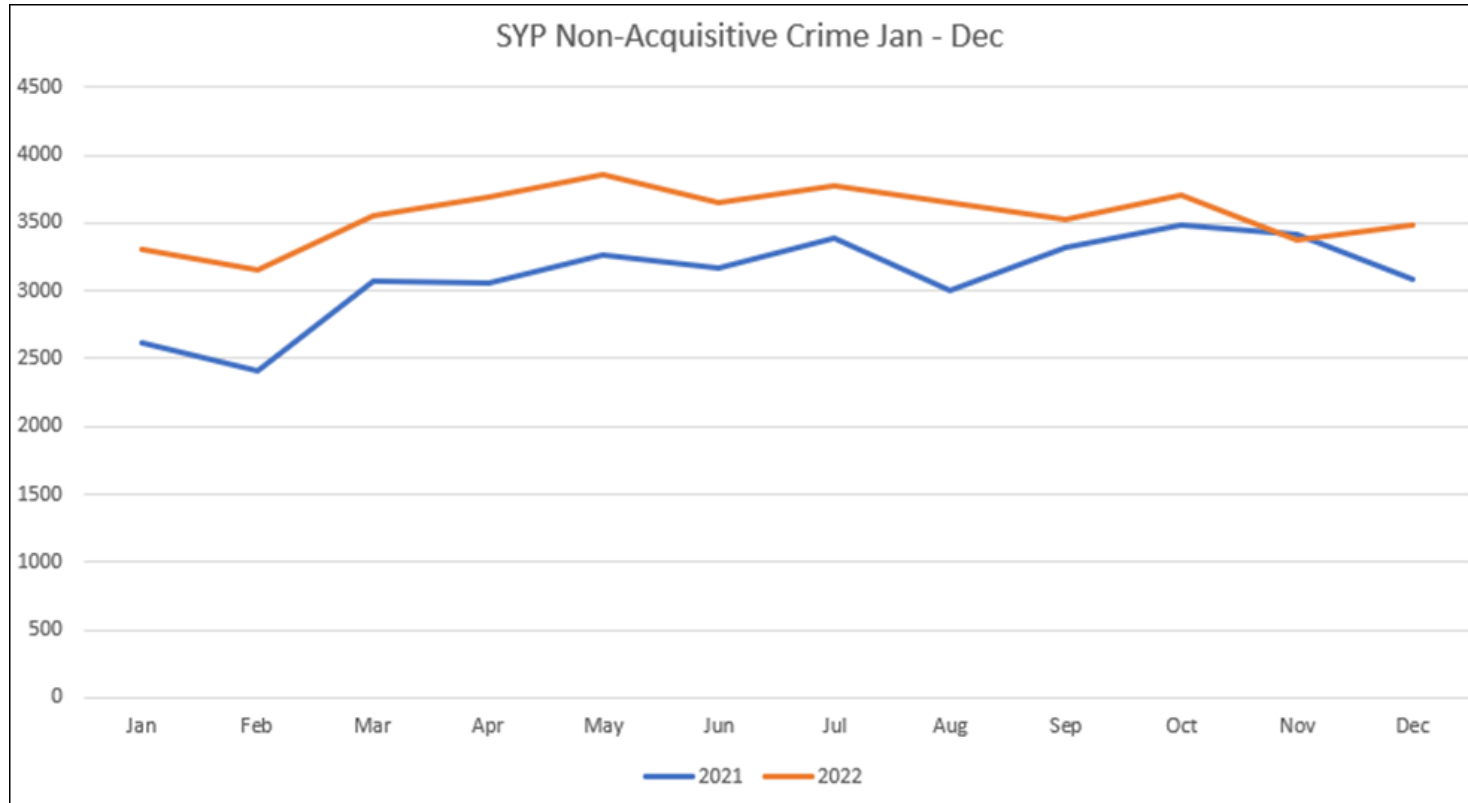
Cost of Living – impact on Crime and Disorder



Although the beginning of 2022 was already trending above that of 2021, a surge in incidents can be seen during February/March 2022, after Russia invaded Ukraine and had a knock-on effect on the cost of living regarding gas and oil prices among other things.

*Doncaster only data

Cost of Living – impact on Crime and Disorder



When looking at all other crime types, an increase on last year can be seen but it less pronounced during the early months of the year. During the second half of 2022, offences trended much closer to figures seen in 2021, although still with a increase on the previous period.

*Doncaster only data

In Summary

- The Community Safety Strategy 2022-25 reflects the priorities and actions the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership will deliver. Updates regarding key work across each Theme Group have been provided today.
- Doncaster has seen an overall increase in reported Crime during the period considered, of 14.6%, which is similar to that seen across the Force as a whole at 12.3%.
- The current period saw a decrease in Force-wide Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents. Doncaster decreased by 17.9%, larger than the Force's 15.4% decrease. Doncaster Council reports also indicate a decrease in reported ASB, however this is insignificant in comparison (-2.4%).
- Some of the largest increases were seen in Acquisitive crimes, with Robbery, Thefts and Vehicle Offences seeing the largest rise in offences with the exception of Possession of Weapons. The rise in these types of offences is likely due to the increased cost of living and the need to make quick money by any means to pay for outstanding bills etc. and still maintain a similar quality of life.
- Work is progressing well in respect of the Safer Streets initiative. A robust Action Plan is in place and orders have been placed for £87k of CCTV equipment with all schemes scoped to identify camera locations.
- A community led VAWG group has been established. VAWG survey (not including DA) was relaunched – over 700 responses to date.
- VAWG Delivery Plan in draft form with mapping against domestic and sexual abuse work to avoid duplication.
- Expansions of City centre Taxi Marshals at high visibility, high footfall / waiting areas including the train station to each weekend until end of March '23.

Glossary of Terms

Acronym	Meaning
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CMARAC	Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DA	Domestic Abuse
EPIC	Encouraging Potential Inspiring Change
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice
HO	Home Office
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MSV	Most Serious Violence
NTE	Night Time Economy
OCG	Organised Crime Group
OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
PACT	Partners and Communities Together
SA	Sexual Abuse
SSDP	Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
VAP	Violence Against the Person
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VRU	Violence Reduction Unit
YOS	Youth Offending Service

Questions ?

“Making Doncaster Safer Together”

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