



**Vale of Glamorgan  
Local Service Board  
Unified Needs Assessment**

**Priority Outcome Nine –  
Community Safety**

**December 2013**

**Produced by the  
Business Intelligence Group**

---

## List of Tables

Table 1: Crimes per 1,000 residents, 2013 .....	5
Table 2: Recorded crimes in most deprived Wards, by WIMD 2011 .....	11
Table 3: Crime rate per 100 residents, by type and Ward, 2011.....	12
Table 4: Recorded ASBs, by category, 2011-12 and 2012-13.....	12
Table 5: Number of ASBs in the Vale of Glamorgan, by category, 2011-12 and 2012-13 .....	13
Table 6: Number of deliberate secondary fires, Vale of Glamorgan 2013 -14 – refuse fires .....	15
Table 7: Number of deliberate secondary fires, Vale of Glamorgan 2013 -14 - grass fires.....	15
Table 8: Estimated number of people in the Vale of Glamorgan who have experienced domestic abuse.....	17
Table 9: Referrals by ward, 2012-13.....	19
Table 10: Referrals by sex and age, Atal y Fro, 2012-13 .....	20

## List of Figures

Figure 1: Crimes per 1000 residents, 2010-2013 .....	5
Figure 2: Total recorded offences in the Vale of Glamorgan, 2008-09 to 2012-13.....	6
Figure 3: Monthly comparison, recorded crimes in the Vale of Glamorgan, 2011-12 and 2012-13.....	6
Figure 4: Crime rate per 1,000, by crime type, 2011-12 .....	7
Figure 5: Recorded crimes January to March, by offence group, 2011-12 and 2012-13 ..	7
Figure 6: Vale of Glamorgan strategic sectors .....	8
Figure 7: Recorded crime in the Vale of Glamorgan, by strategic area .....	9
Figure 8: Recorded crime by ward, 2011-12 and 2012-13 .....	9
Figure 9: Recorded crime by Ward, by crime type, 2012-13 .....	10
Figure 10: Number of deliberate fires, Vale of Glamorgan, 2010-11 and 2011-12.....	14
Figure 11: Referrals into substance misuse commissioned services, 2012-13.....	16
Figure 12: Number of Domestic Abuse referrals, Vale of Glamorgan, 2010-13.....	18
Figure 13: Children supported by Atal y Fro, by age, 2012-13 .....	21
Figure 14: Resident perception of local ASB levels, 2011-12 and 2012-13 .....	23
Figure 15: Resident perception of local crime levels, 2011-12 and 2012-13.....	23
Figure 16: Resident perception of local ASB levels, drinking and drugs 2011-12 and 2012-13.....	24
Figure 17: Victim satisfaction, South Wales Police, 2011-12 and 2012-13 .....	26
Figure 18: Satisfaction with follow up, by area, 2012 and 2013.....	27
Figure 19: Satisfaction with follow-up, Central area, by crime type, 2012 and 2013 ....	27
Figure 20: Age profile of victims of crime and offenders, Vale of Glamorgan, 2012-13 .	29

## Priority Outcome Nine

**Residents and visitors are safe and feel safe and the Vale is recognised as a low crime area.**

### Approach

To measure the extent to which the Vale of Glamorgan is a low crime area and how safe its residents and visitors feel, it was necessary to identify a set of indicators upon which to use as a basis for comparison.

### Indicators

The following indicators were identified based on the outcome performance measures for community safety from the Community Strategy:

Reported crime;  
Crime by type and area;  
Anti-social behaviour;  
Deliberate fires;  
Substance misuse;  
Domestic abuse;  
Crime perception;  
Victim satisfaction surveys; and  
Victim and offender profiles.

### Reported crime

One of the factors affecting how safe residents and visitors of the Vale of Glamorgan feel is the level of reported crime as this influences the perception of safety with some offences having a greater impact on community confidence than others. For example, anti-social behaviour (ASB) can have a significant impact on a person's own perception of safety compared to retail theft.

The reported crime and anti-social behaviour rates for the Vale of Glamorgan are lower than the South Wales Police Force average and lower than other areas of a similar demography.

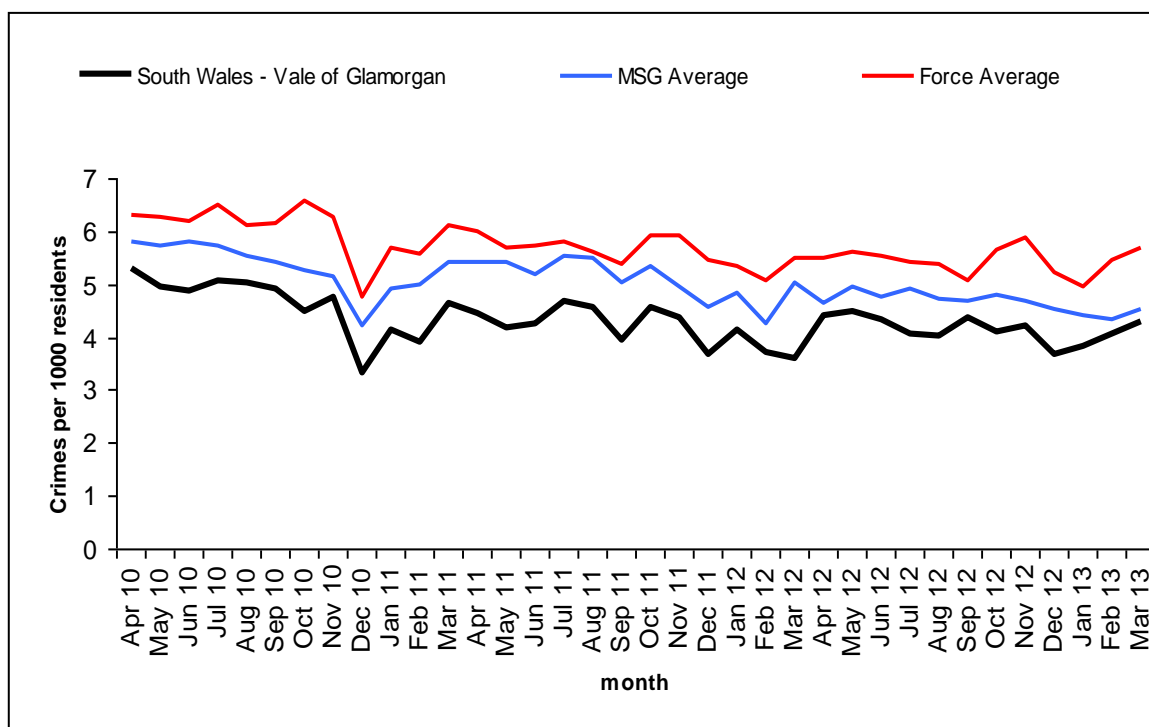
The following table and graph demonstrate the lower crime rate in the Vale of Glamorgan compared with the South Wales Police Force crime rate between April 2010 and March 2013. The table compares rates of crime in the Vale of Glamorgan to rates in the other 6 local authority areas which make up the South Wales Police Force area.

**Table 1: Crimes per 1,000 residents, 2013**

Rank	Local Authority/CSP area	Population (Census 2011)	Crimes per 1000 residents (to March 2013)
1	Neath & Port Talbot	139,812	48.770
<b>2</b>	<b>Vale of Glamorgan</b>	<b>126,336</b>	<b>49.827</b>
3	Rhondda Cynon Taff	234,410	51.584
4	Bridgend	139,178	52.500
5	Merthyr Tydfil	58,802	65.929
6	Swansea	239,023	67.292
7	Cardiff	346,090	90.999

Source: Iquanta

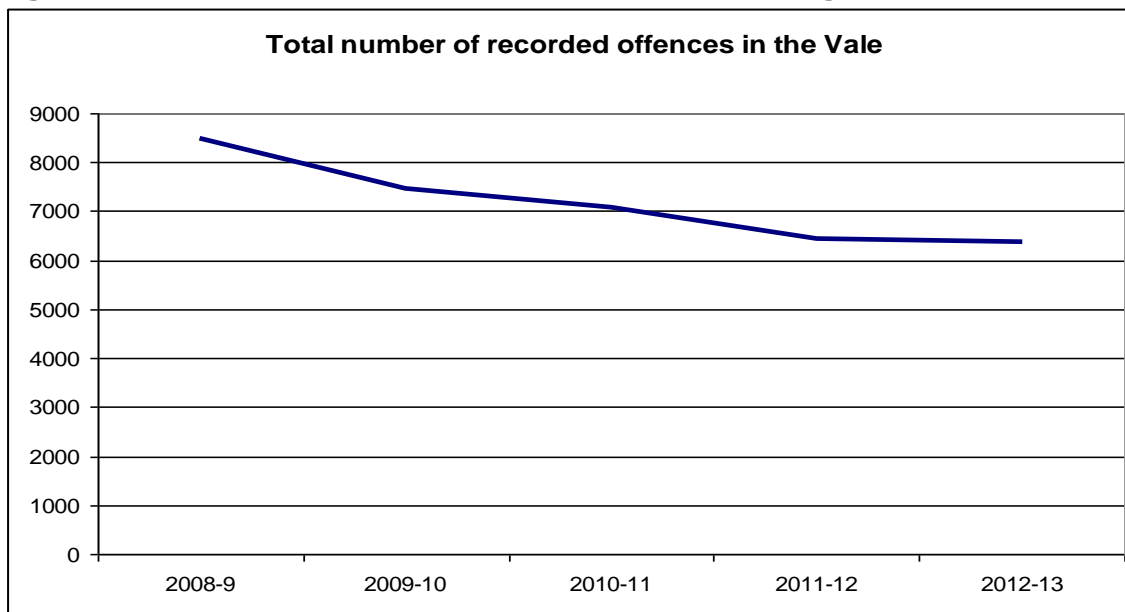
**Figure 1: Crimes per 1000 residents, 2010-2013**



Source: Iquanta

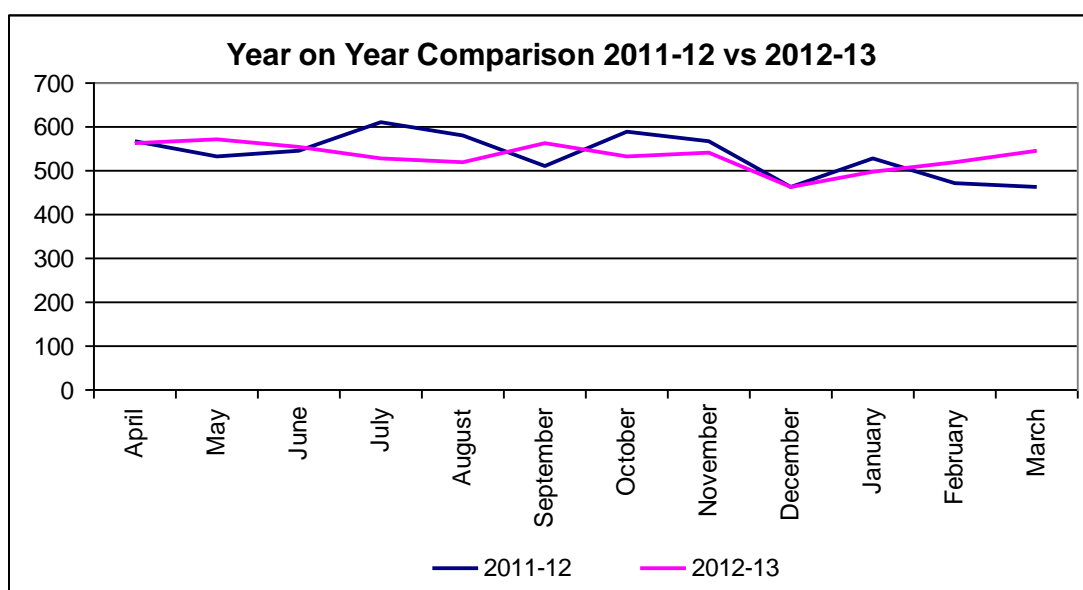
The following chart shows that the total number of recorded offences for the Vale of Glamorgan is continuing to decrease which is consistent with the crime rate per 1000 residents and the current census population figures.

**Figure 2: Total recorded offences in the Vale of Glamorgan, 2008-09 to 2012-13**



Source: South Wales Police NICHE system

**Figure 3: Monthly comparison, recorded crimes in the Vale of Glamorgan, 2011-12 and 2012-13**



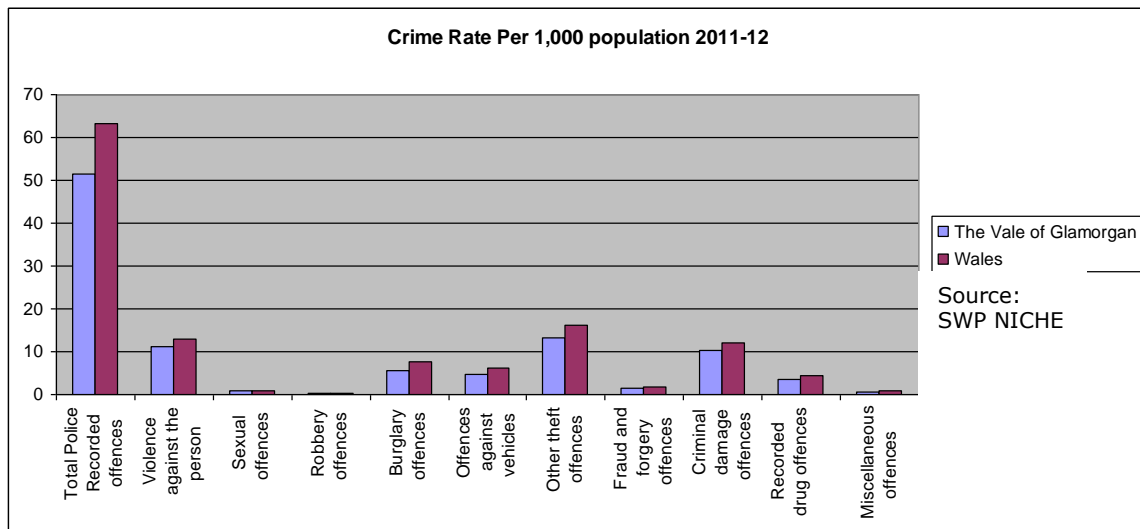
Source: South Wales Police NICHE system

There was an increase in the number of reported crimes in the period January – March 2012-13 primarily due to an increase in ‘theft from a motor vehicle’ (25 offences), ‘dwelling burglaries’ (24) and ‘violence against the person’ (16) and ‘other theft’ offences returning to the level recorded previously in the year. However, there has been an overall reduction in crime for 2012/13.

## Crimes by type

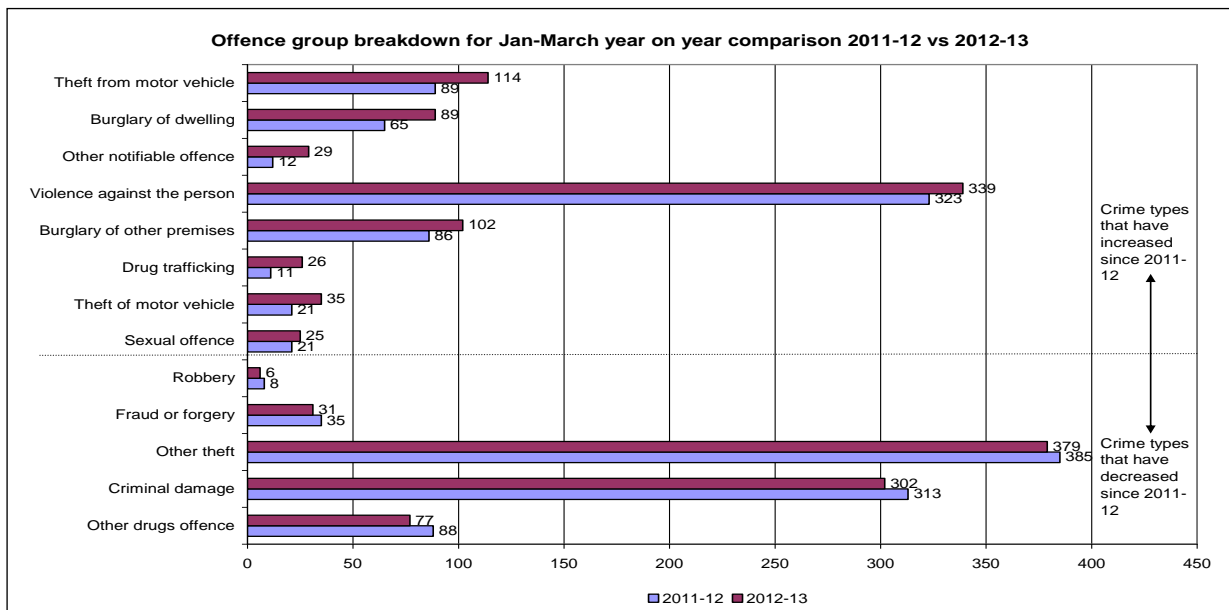
The graph below shows that the main types of crime reported within the Vale of Glamorgan in 2011/12 were 'other theft', 'violence against the person' and 'criminal damage'. The proportion of 'sexual offences' within the total crime rate for the county was very low.

**Figure 4: Crime rate per 1,000, by crime type, 2011-12**



Source: Iquanta

**Figure 5: Recorded crimes January to March, by offence group, 2011-12 and 2012-13**



Source: Iquanta

The graph above illustrates those offences which have increased since 2011/12 and those which have decreased. 'Theft of motor vehicle' has seen the biggest

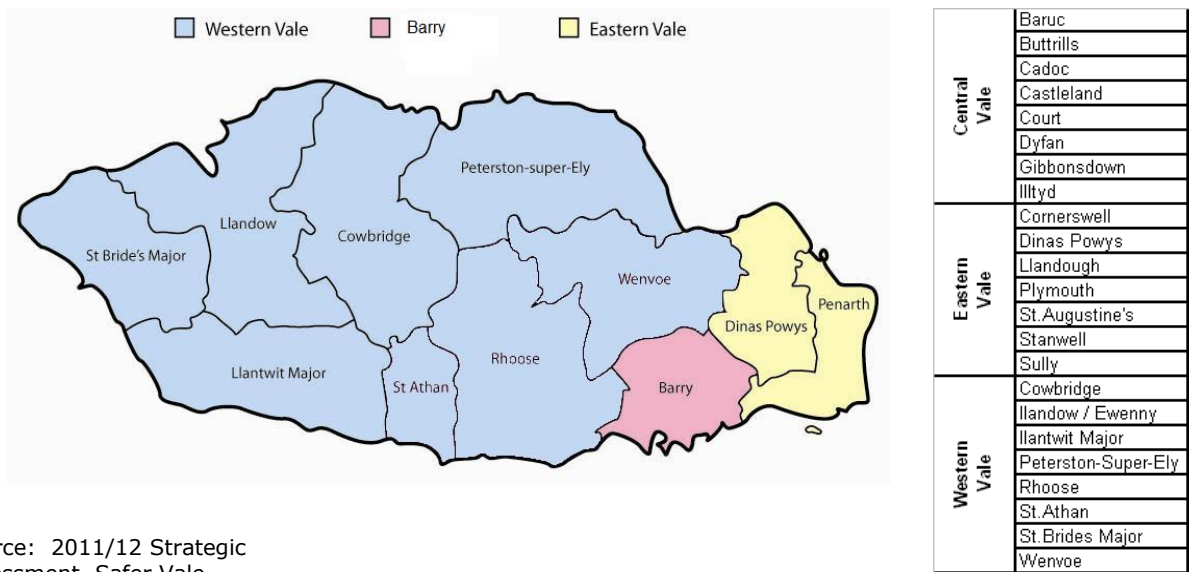
percentage increase, whilst drug offences have reduced. Due to the low levels of reported crime in the Vale of Glamorgan, any increase in reporting will appear as large percentage variances year on year.

The seasonality of crimes is difficult to accurately profile as the level of offences is dependent on a number of factors, such as the weather conditions, the status of prolific offenders (on remand or not) as well as the time of the year. In general terms, over the last two years, the level of 'violence against the person' offences has peaked during the summer months (July and August) and 'burglary dwelling' offences have peaked in October and November.

### Crimes by area

The Vale of Glamorgan can be divided into three strategic sectors – Central Vale, Eastern Vale and Western Vale, as shown on the map below. Population density varies considerably across the County and the most populated areas contain approximately 71.4% of the population yet account for only 20% of its geographical size. This therefore has an impact on crime rates in certain areas.

**Figure 6: Vale of Glamorgan strategic sectors**



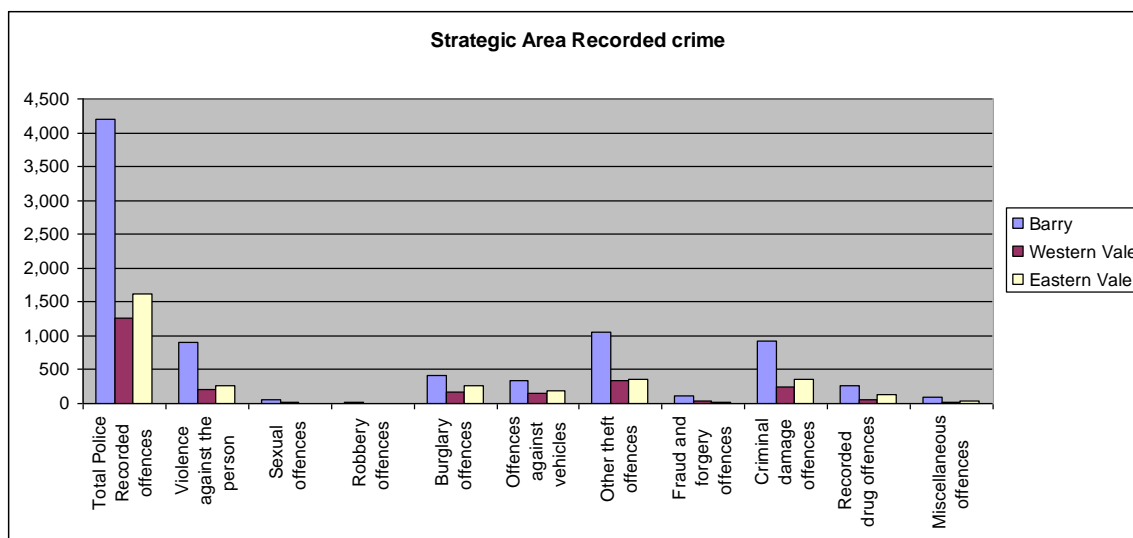
Source: 2011/12 Strategic Assessment, Safer Vale

Source: Safer Vale

The following graph shows recorded crime in the Vale of Glamorgan by strategic area and crime type.



**Figure 7: Recorded crime in the Vale of Glamorgan, by strategic area**



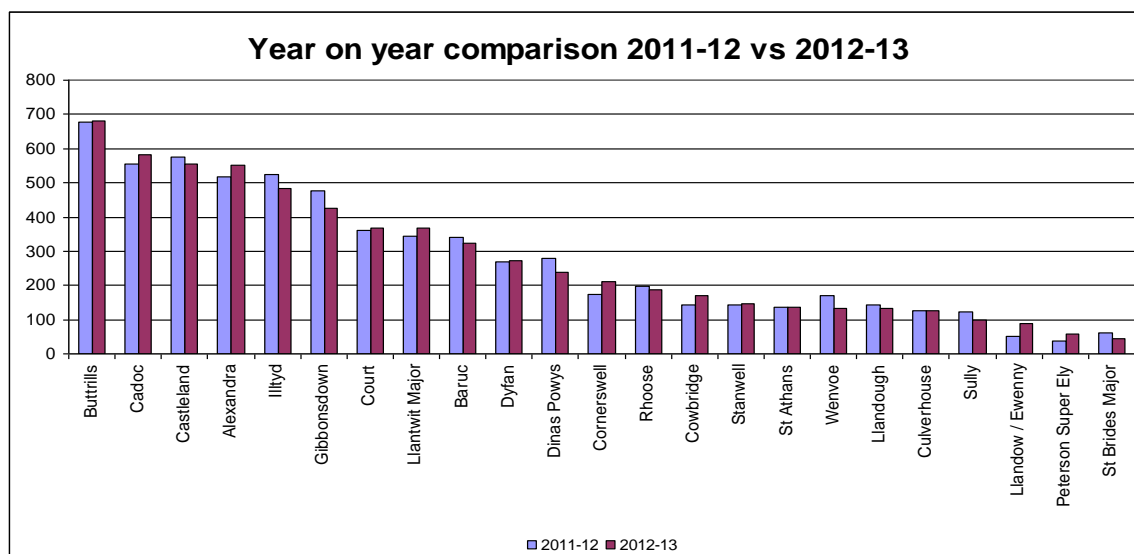
Source: NICHE Police system for 2011/12

'Other theft', 'violence against the person' and 'criminal damage' were the top three recorded crime types for all three strategic areas of the Vale of Glamorgan in 2011/12.

Analysis of crime rates can also be broken down further to show recorded crime by ward in the Vale of Glamorgan. The following graph compares crime levels over 2011 – 2013 per police beat area. There were 11 beats where crime had increased slightly from 2011/12 to 2012/13 and there were 11 where there were reductions.

**Figure 8: Recorded crime by ward, 2011-12 and 2012-13**

Note: South Wales Police class Culverhouse Cross as within the Wenvoe ward. Alexandra is the beat name for the wards of Plymouth and St Augustine.



Source: Iquanta

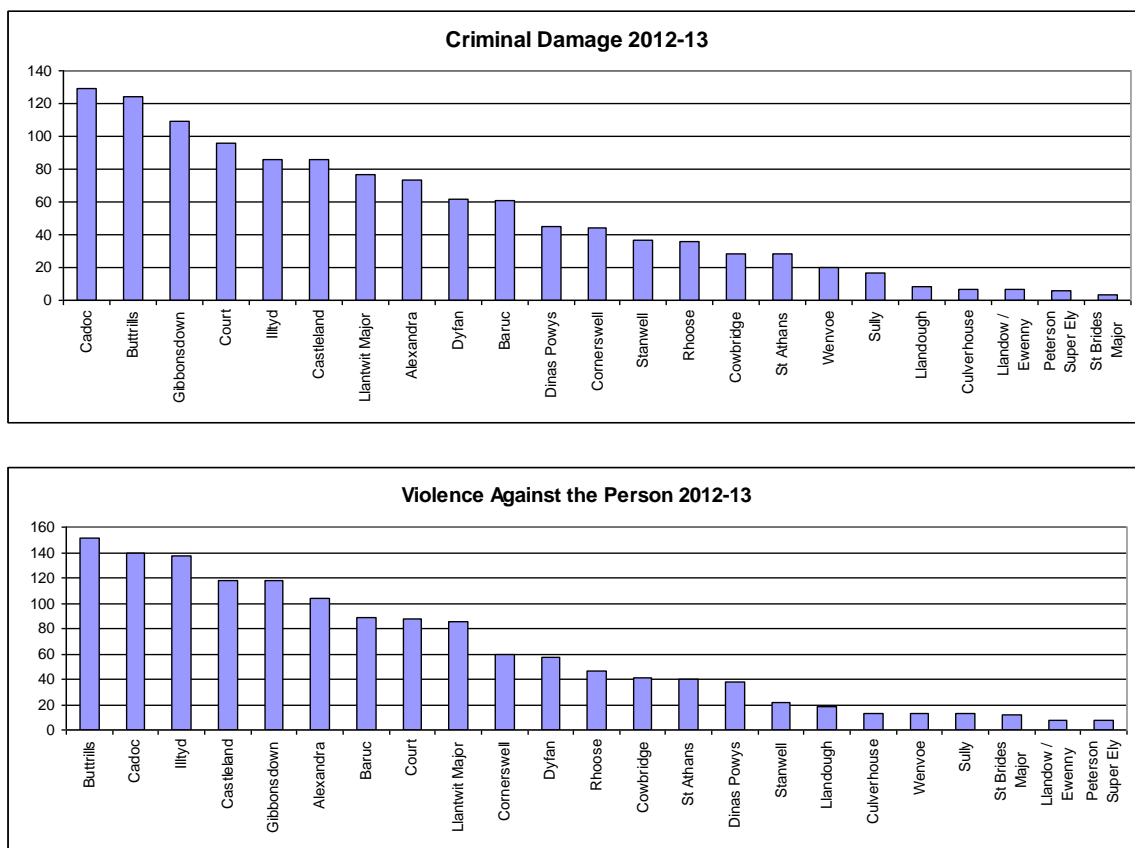
The greatest increases in crime rates from 2011/12 to 2012/13 (in absolute terms) occurred in Cornerswell (due to an increase in 'violence against the person' and 'theft from vehicle offences'), Llandow & Ewenny (due to an increase

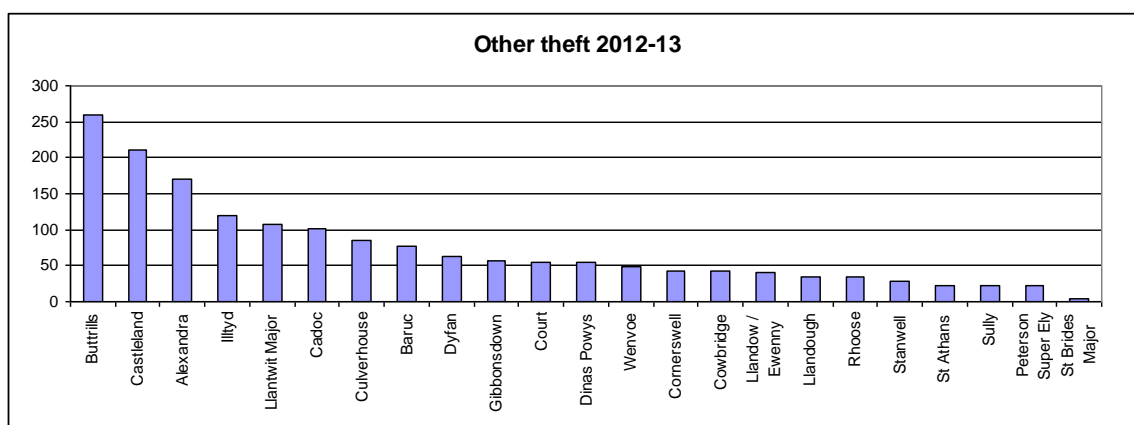
in 'other theft' offences) and Alexandra (due to increases in 'other theft', 'theft from vehicle', 'violence against the person' and 'non dwelling burglary' offences).

The greatest reductions (in absolute terms) occurred in Gibbonsdown (due to a reduction in 'criminal damage' offences), Dinas Powys (due to a reduction in 'criminal damage' and 'violence against the person' offences) and Illyd (due to a reduction in 'fraud', 'theft from vehicle', 'other theft' and 'other drug offences').

The graphs below show the number of recorded crimes by ward for 'violence against the person', 'criminal damage' and 'other theft' offences. As shown earlier, these offence types were the top three recorded crime types in the Vale of Glamorgan in 2011/12. The graphs also show that, in areas where the greatest increases in crime rates overall were identified (Cornerswell, Llandow and Ewenny and Alexandra), the number of crimes were not the highest observed in the Vale of Glamorgan. This is despite the fact that increases in the identified crime types caused these areas to have the largest increases in crime overall. It is important that these increases in certain crime types in certain areas are identified and these indicators continue to be monitored as when analysing crime figures overall in the Vale, these areas may not be identified as areas where crime is an issue due to the lower overall numbers.

**Figure 9: Recorded crime by Ward, by crime type, 2012-13**





The graphs above also identify a number of wards where crime rates in 2012/13 for 'violence against the person', 'criminal damage' and 'other theft' offences were highest in the Vale of Glamorgan despite in some cases a reduction in these crime types being observed from 2011/12 to 2012/13. For example, as stated earlier there was a reduction in 'criminal damage' offences in Gibbonsdown yet the area still had the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest overall number of 'criminal damage' offences in 2012/13.

It can therefore be stated that there are two issues to focus on, firstly the wards which observe the highest levels of crime for certain types of offences and secondly, the wards which observed the highest increases in certain offence types despite having a lower overall crime rate.

Analysis of the above graphs also suggests that there is a correlation between the highest rates of recorded crime at beat level, to the areas with the most deprivation as identified in the Introduction and Executive Summary chapter and according to the 2011 Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD). Buttrills, Cadoc and Castleland score in the top 20% of deprived wards in the Vale of Glamorgan and the following graph shows the number of recorded crimes in these areas in 2012/13, along with the percentage of total offences in the Vale of Glamorgan that occurred in these areas.

**Table 2: Recorded crimes in most deprived Wards, by WIMD 2011**

Recorded Crime for 2012/13		
Beat Name*	Total occurrences	% of total occurrences
Buttrills	682	10.9%
Cadoc	582	9.3%
Castleland	556	8.9%

Source: South Wales Police Corporate Governance

29.1% of all recorded crime in 2012/13 occurred in these three wards and Barry accounted for 59.6% of all recorded crime in 2012/13.

The areas of Cadoc and Buttrills have the most recorded crime in 2012/13 for 'violence against the person', 'criminal damage' and 'other theft' offences overall.

The following table uses the WIMD 2011 data together with analysis for 2010/11, to show that these three areas had a higher recorded crime rate per 100 residents compared to the Vale of Glamorgan average.

**Table 3: Crime rate per 100 residents, by type and Ward, 2011**

Ward	Crime Type			
	Violent Crime	Dwelling burglary	Theft	Criminal Damage
Buttrills	1.54	1.76	0.92	1.62
Cadoc	1.4	1.63	0.76	1.64
Casteland	1.41	2.93	0.84	1.7
<b>Vale Average</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.41</b>	<b>0.59</b>	<b>1.03</b>

Source: South Wales Police Corporate Governance

## Anti-social behaviour

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is an action likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress. It may involve unruly and drunken behaviour, threatening and abusive language in a public place, graffiti or criminal damage. All of this has a great effect on how people feel about the area in which they live or visit.

The following information is Police data which while accurate does not provide a full picture of ASB in the Vale of Glamorgan. Referrals are now being received by the ASB unit within the Safer Vale Partnership from outside agencies, such as Housing Associations, Llandough hospital and Council departments. The ASB unit are proactively promoting the referral process with other agencies in order to cross reference referrals which will improve problem solving opportunities.

**Table 4: Recorded ASBs, by category, 2011-12 and 2012-13**

Recording Category	2011/12	2012/13	Percentage improvement or decline in behaviour
<b>ASB 17 Environmental</b>	178	160	-10%
<b>ASB 18 Nuisance</b>	2619	1628	-38%
<b>ASB 19 Personal</b>	1242	1289	+4%
Total referrals received	4039	3077	-24%

Source: NICHE Police system

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2011 the Home Office changed the ASB recording categories from 17 to 3 and the above table shows these three groups. Overall there was a drop of 24% in anti-social behaviour incidents from 2011/12 to 2012/13 in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The following table shows the Force class flags that identify varying aspects of ASB occurrences. It is important to note that multiple flags can be assigned to a single incident and the total number of flags should not be compared between years.

**Table 5: Number of ASBs in the Vale of Glamorgan, by category, 2011-12 and 2012-13**

<b>Anti Social Behaviour category</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>
<b>Alcohol related</b>	1004	933
<b>Animals</b>	184	115
<b>Begging</b>	6	9
<b>Behaviour</b>	1531	1585
<b>Damage</b>	466	375
<b>Disorder</b>	180	212
<b>Drugs</b>	331	121
<b>Fire</b>	39	44
<b>Fireworks</b>	24	21
<b>Fly Tipping</b>	11	7
<b>Games</b>	31	56
<b>Graffiti</b>	23	15
<b>Homophobic/racial</b>	40	42
<b>Litter</b>	34	33
<b>Neighbour</b>	509	645
<b>Noise</b>	304	411
<b>Off Road riding/driving</b>	54	64
<b>Other</b>	109	151
<b>Prostitution</b>	1	1
<b>Throwing objects</b>	132	233
<b>Truancy</b>	1	0
<b>Vehicles</b>	436	271
<b>Verbal abuse</b>	290	443
<b>Youth</b>	962	1000

*Source: NICHE Police system*

## Hate crime

In 2012/13, there were 113 incidents of hate crime reported across the Vale of Glamorgan. This was a reduction from the 147 hate crime occurrences reported in 2011/12. These occurrences were related to race (83), religion (0), disability (17), sexual orientation (13) and transgender (2). It is important to note that a single occurrence could involve more than one hate related factor. Over 70% of the hate occurrences and recorded hate crimes in the Vale of Glamorgan occurred in Barry.

## Victims of ASB

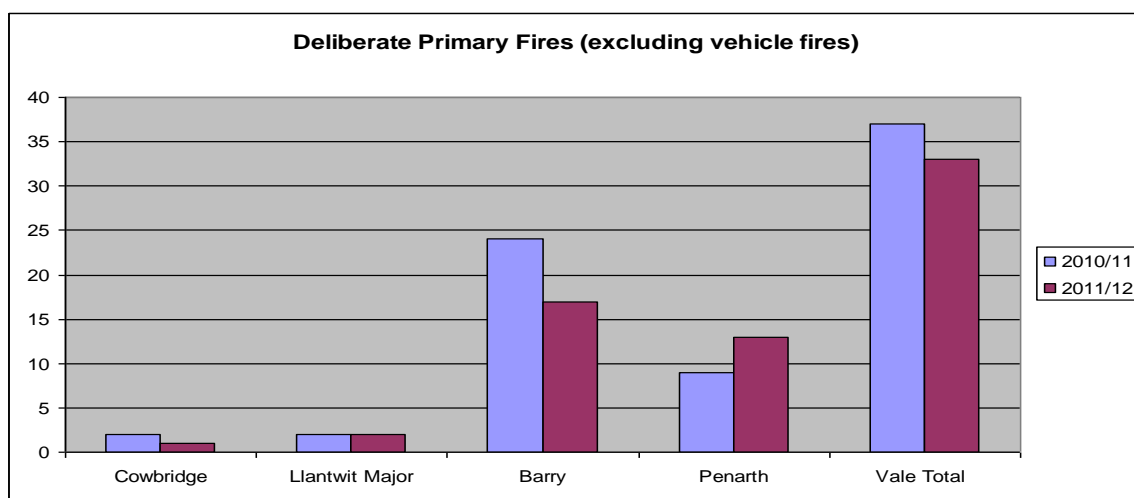
The victims champion commenced work within the Safer Vale ASB team in July 2012. The victims champion aims to contact every victim of ASB and hate crime in the Vale of Glamorgan through a referral system within the ASB unit. The type of support offered by the victims champion includes emotional support, information, practical support, specialist's services and advocacy. The support areas that are offered can be delivered in a variety of ways, and in any combination. To date the victims champion has made contact with 100% of ASB victim referrals that have been made.

## Deliberate fires

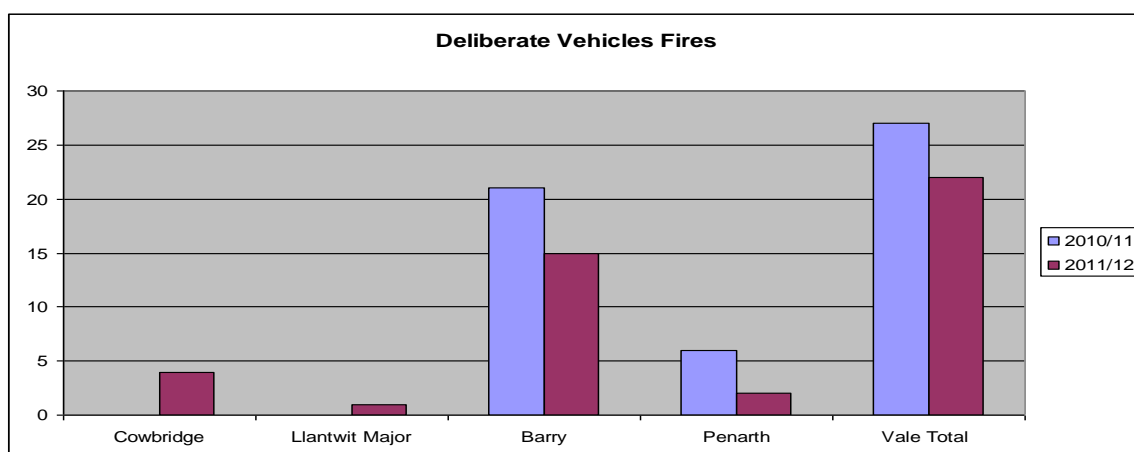
Incidents of deliberate fire are one of the categories of ASB and can be categorised into primary and secondary deliberate fires. Deliberate primary fires include all fires in buildings fit for occupation and those under construction, vehicles and outdoor structures, fires involving casualties, rescues or injuries and fires attended by 5 or more pumping appliances.

The following graphs show the number of deliberate primary fires in the Vale of Glamorgan categorised by fires attended by the four fire stations that are located in the Vale of Glamorgan. The graphs show that overall deliberate primary fires decreased by 11% and deliberate vehicle fires 19% from 2010/11 to 2011/12.

**Figure 10: Number of deliberate fires, Vale of Glamorgan, 2010-11 and 2011-12**



Source: South Wales Fire and Rescue Service



Source: South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

Deliberate secondary fires are reportable fires that include fires to refuse, grassland, derelict buildings and derelict vehicles. The following tables show the number of deliberate secondary fires in the Vale of Glamorgan categorised by fires attended by the four fire stations that are located in the Vale for refuse fires and grass fires.

**Table 6: Number of deliberate secondary fires, Vale of Glamorgan 2013 -14 – refuse fires**

Station	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14												2013/14 Total
			April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	
Cowbridge	3	4	0	2	0	0	0	0							2
Llantwit Major	5	8	1	0	1	1	0	0							3
Barry	62	57	8	4	6	8	4	6							36
Penarth	23	5	1	0	0	3	1	0							5
Other Station	5	6	0	1	2	1	0	0							4
Vale of Glamorgan Total	98	80	10	7	9	13	5	6							50
Total: other UA's	2766	1797	158	170	165	299	209	164							1165

Source: South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

**Table 7: Number of deliberate secondary fires, Vale of Glamorgan 2013 -14 – grass fires**

Station	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14												2013/14 Total
			April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	
Cowbridge	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	1							3
Llantwit Major	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Barry	27	1	2	0	2	12	2	1							19
Penarth	14	4	1	3	1	0	2	2							9
Other Station	5	5	0	1	3	1	0	0							5
Vale of Glamorgan Total	53	12	3	6	6	13	4	4							36
Total: other UA's	2291	1020	589	307	220	349	79	45							1589

Source: South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

## Substance misuse

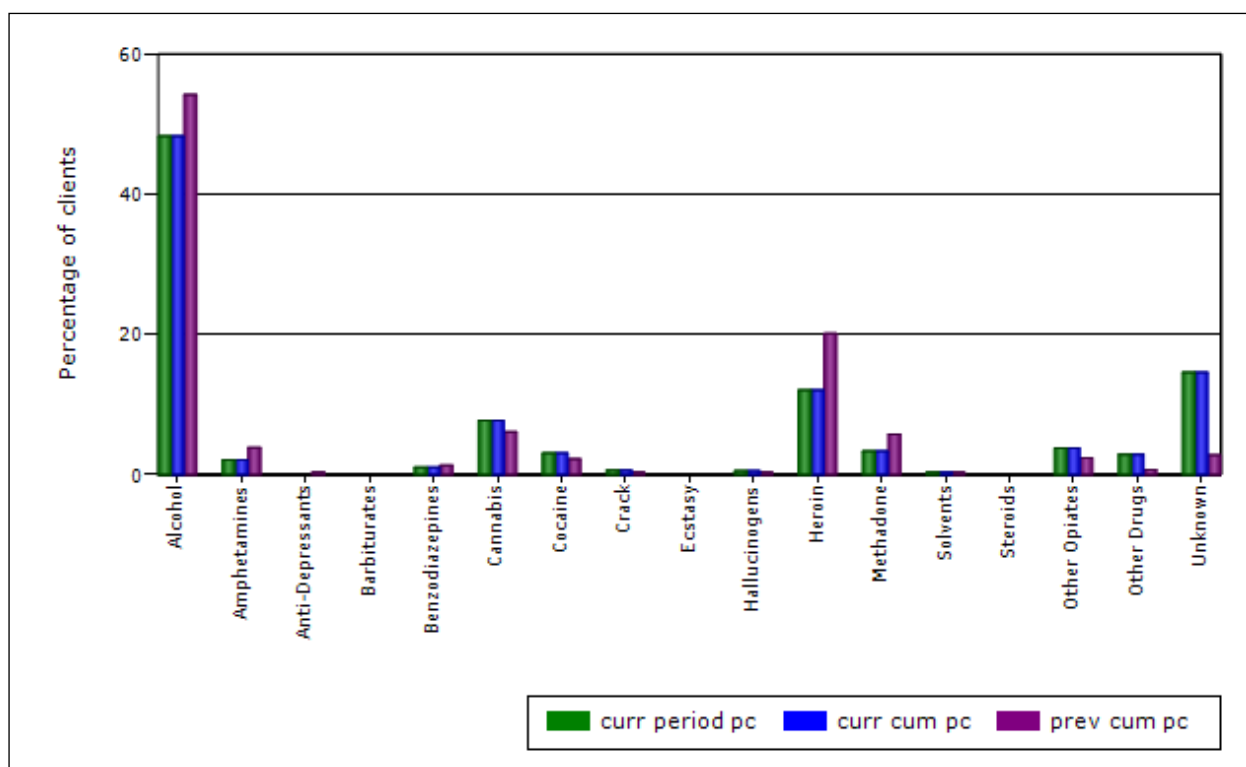
The following table shows referrals for those over 18 into all substance misuse commissioned services in the Vale of Glamorgan. It highlights that alcohol remains the substance which is the cause of the most referrals into treatment across the Vale of Glamorgan, with heroin and cannabis the next most prevalent substances. Between 2012 and 2013 there is an increase in referrals marked 'unknown'. It is likely 'unknown' refers to novel psychoactive substances such as mephedrone and other cathinones which have shown an increase in prevalence across Wales in the last 18 months. This is backed up by anecdotal evidence provided by substance misuse providers.

Individual referral data by ward is not available however most services in the Vale of Glamorgan are based in the Barry area. Re-commissioning exercises will take place over the coming months and outreach will be a priority to ensure equity of access to services across the County in the future.

**Figure 11: Referrals into substance misuse commissioned services, 2012-13**

*Note: Current period pc and Current Cum pc = 1/4/12 – 31/3/13*

*Previous cum pc = 1/4/2011 – 31/3/12*



Source: Vale of Glamorgan Substance Misuse team

The Cardiff and Vale Area Planning Board (APB) has a specific alcohol related sub group, and an action plan. This aims to raise awareness and capacity within generic services around alcohol use alongside a suite of other measures to address alcohol use and ensure services are available for those who require them.

The impact of alcohol on crime statistics and anti-social Behaviour is highlighted elsewhere in this report, and as such this is a priority area of focus for the future.



Also in relation to alcohol, the APB have dedicated funding for test purchasing across both localities to ensure low levels of underage sales of alcohol are maintained. The programme is operated on a partnership basis with Trading Standards and South Wales Police.

In 2012/13, 160 Test Purchase operations were carried out in the Vale of Glamorgan, with 6 failures.

The continued high profile presence of both Trading Standards and South Wales Police in conducting these checks has resulted in very low levels of infringement, which is a welcome decrease from 2011/12 when 14% of premises tested made sales to underage volunteers. Both departments also give free advice and guidance to businesses selling alcohol. Although firms are not failing test purchases that frequently, it would seem that many of their systems need updating and improving and the feedback from businesses has been that they would welcome further update training and feedback sessions from the responsible authorities, which is over and above what is currently offered by both departments.

## Domestic abuse

It is estimated that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men<sup>1</sup> experience domestic abuse. The Home Office definition of domestic abuse includes persons aged 16 and over experiencing coercive, controlling or threatening behaviour. Using 2011 census data for the 16+ population of the Vale of Glamorgan and the statistics above, 20.99% of the Vale of Glamorgan's population (i.e. the size of Penarth) would experience domestic abuse as defined by the Home Office.

**Table 8: Estimated number of people in the Vale of Glamorgan who have experienced domestic abuse**

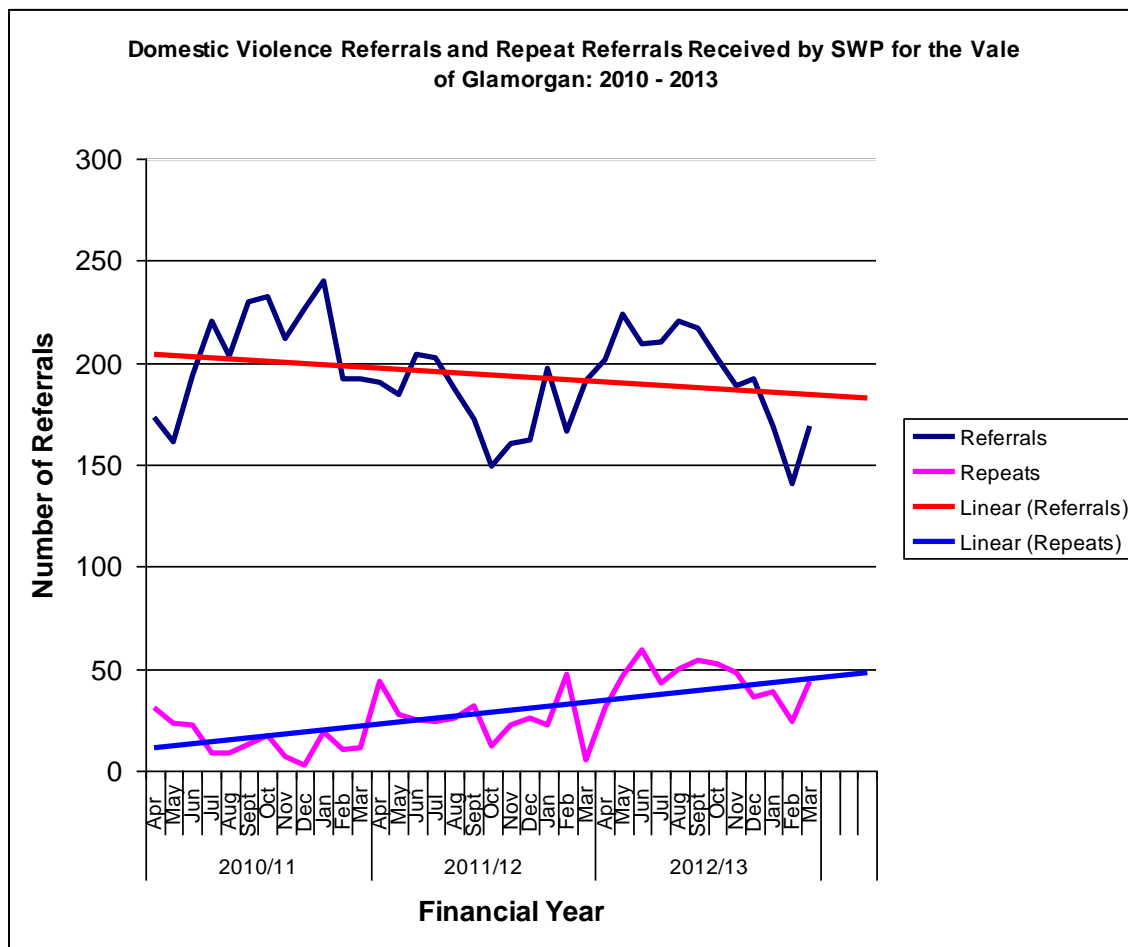
	Total	Males	Females
Vale Population aged 16+	102,504.00	49,357.00	53,147.00
Statistically experience Domestic Abuse	21,512.92	8,226.17	13,286.75

*Source: Safer Vale, based on Census 2011 and Women's Aid statistics*

---

<sup>1</sup> womensaid.org.uk.

**Figure 12: Number of Domestic Abuse referrals, Vale of Glamorgan, 2010-13**



Source: Safer Vale

The above graph demonstrates the number and trend of domestic abuse referrals received by South Wales Police from 2010 – 2013. There were 2,343 referrals received for the Vale of Glamorgan for year end 2013. The number of repeat referrals is increasing despite the falling referral numbers. This can be attributed to a number of factors: that victims are more willing to report repeat incidents, that families are seeking specialist support earlier, or that victims are unwilling to report to the police. There is no seasonal trend in the number of referrals; however analysis of referrals across all local authorities within the South Wales Police Force area show that in 2012 the majority of referrals received were between the months of May – September.

Prior analysis of occurrence data for 2009 – 2011 identified 54% of all domestic incidents occurring in 6 of the 8 wards of Barry. Further partnership work is required to update this data for period April 2011 – March 2013. The same analysis also identified wards where the most repeat referrals were received. These were Court, Castleland, Gibbonsdown and Cadoc, with 48% of all repeat referrals. Again this analysis relates to the 2009-2011 period and would need to be repeated to identify if changes to services and awareness campaigns are having an impact in these areas.

## Onward referral

All referrals to the Police trigger a Police Protection Document (PPD1) where there is concern for a vulnerable adult, child protection issue or domestic violence. All domestic violence incidents are risk assessed by the Police Public Protection Unit in Cowbridge.

In 2012/13, the number of referrals received by social services concerning the above issues was 121, of which 119 referrals were received from the Police, 1 from hospital and 1 from a relative. There were 117 children under the age of 16 included in these referrals.

**Table 9: Referrals by ward, 2012-13**

Number of Referrals	Ward
23	Cadoc
17	Castleland
16	Court
9	Buttrills
9	Llantwit Major
6	Dyfan
6	Illtyd
6	Stanwell
6	St. Augustine's

*Source: Vale of Glamorgan Council - social services*

43% of all referrals to social services were from the wards of Cadoc, Castleland and Court which supports the trend observed in 2009-2011 where these wards had the highest number of repeat referrals. As stated earlier, further work is required to assess whether this is also the case for the period 2011-13. However it can be suggested that a link exists between a higher number incidents of domestic abuse that are reported and the most deprived wards in the Vale of Glamorgan and further analysis may be required to understand the reasons for this trend.

Along with referrals to social services, referrals can also be made to Atal y Fro (formerly Vale of Glamorgan Women's Aid), the organisation received 296 referrals in 2012/13 as shown in the following table.

**Table 10: Referrals by sex and age, Atal y Fro, 2012-13**

\* Initial assessments were conducted with each client, some of these were conducted where clients were anxious and upset so only vital information relevant to their ongoing safety plan was recorded.

(Excluding clients supported by the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor)			
Of Which	Male	26	9%
	Female	270	91%
Age Range	Female	Male	
Under 18	7	1	
18-24	87	5	
25-59	169	17	
60+	6	2	
Not Known	3	1	*

Source: Atal y Fro

40% of initial assessments made indicated victim alcohol and drug use and referrals are made to the Entry into Drug and Alcohol Service where appropriate.

The service is seeing an increase in referrals for victims aged 50 and over and this is being monitored in 2013/14 as specialist accommodation support is required.

Atal y Fro record the sources for their referrals as follows:

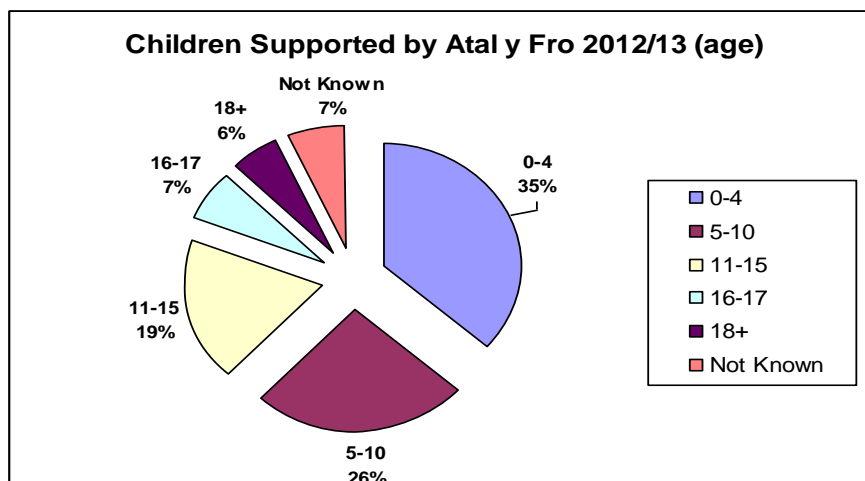
Self	110
Housing (LA & RSL)	36
Health Authority	13
Social Services	55
Police	21
PPD1 received direct	21
Probation	5
Other voluntary agencies	10
Solicitor	7
Other Women’s Aid	10
Other source (family/friends)	29
Not known	19

Referrals can be received from different sources for the same client and there were 40 multiple referrals for the same clients in 2012/13.

The number of referrals recorded by Atal y Fro from social services is lower than the number of referrals received and reported by social services to the Safer Vale Partnership (117 compared to 55 above). It is not known whether the other 62 referrals to social services are included in the ‘self’ referral or other referral data above.

The 296 initial assessments made by Atal y Fro highlighted 469 children within these households. It is difficult to identify which of these children would have been included in the 117 figure from social services. Not all of these children would have been classed as 'children in need', but all of the 'children in need' would have been referred to specialist services delivered by Atal y Fro.

**Figure 13: Children supported by Atal y Fro, by age, 2012-13**



Source: Atal y Fro

The above chart shows that 61% of the children supported by Atal y Fro are under 10 years of age. The number of 'children in need' subject to domestic abuse in the Vale of Glamorgan from 2010 – 2011 was above the Welsh average. However there was a reduction of 35% in 2012 which may be attributed to the specialist children's services provided by Atal y Fro from 2011 onwards.

## High risk referrals

Referrals where there is an immediate concern for a victim's safety are classed as high risk and are automatically sent to the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) and the Vale of Glamorgan's Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). This conference is attended by senior partnership representatives of police, social services, probation, housing, youth offending service, IDVA, domestic abuse services, mental health and drug or alcohol services to create a support plan for each case.

In 2012/13, 255 cases were referred to the MARAC which included 321 children. 9 of these cases were for male victims and 31% were repeat referrals which is consistent with MARAC guidelines and other local authority areas in the South Wales Police Force area. Only 4 cases were from BME referrals.

The IDVA supports those victims who wish to engage with the service. Their support includes assistance through the legal process and in 2012/13, the IDVA supported 68 victims and was involved in 65 cases where there was a criminal charge against the perpetrator.

Since the merger of Cardiff and Vale Special Domestic Violence Courts the partnership cannot obtain case data for the Vale of Glamorgan alone.

Figures for cases across Cardiff and the Vale, show that in 2012/13, there has been a decline in the number of domestic abuse defendants coming before the courts. The reporting period February – July 2013 saw a further 7% reduction in cases. This contradicts the work of IDVAs and support agencies that are not experiencing a significant decline in the number of victims. Analysis in the number of cases recommended for 'no further action' may indicate a training and quality issue with evidence gathering. This may also have an impact on the number of overall referrals received and the number of victims wishing to pursue their complaints.

## Target hardening (Sanctuary Scheme)

The Sanctuary Scheme allows victims of domestic abuse to remain in their own home by providing additional security measures in the property. The objective of target hardening is to reduce the need for temporary accommodation and re-housing. The Sanctuary Scheme was launched in December 2012 and to date has provided support to 34 victims. The total cost of the target hardening scheme up to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 was £3,496 with approximate savings to the Council of £54,880 in the provision of temporary accommodation.

## Crime perception

The data including in this chapter shows levels of crime including ASB, substance misuse and domestic abuse in the Vale of Glamorgan. However, there can often be a disparity between the levels of crime observed in an area and the levels of crime that residents perceive there to be. Ensuring residents do not feel the Vale of Glamorgan is a high crime area is equally important to making sure residents and visitors feel safe.

The South Wales Police Compass Survey (previously called the Community Satisfaction Survey) was hand delivered by PCSO's to specified but randomly selected addresses within the wards they serve. This approach eliminates outbound postage costs whilst maintaining visibility. The volume of surveys distributed was specifically targeted in order to obtain sufficient responses to provide a representative sample of residents in Central division. The results have been weighted by age/gender according to 2011 mid-year estimates and the following results are for the Vale of Glamorgan only.

2,760 surveys were distributed (120 in each of the 23 wards) and 729 were returned equalling a 26.4% response rate. Plymouth ward had the best response rate with 36.7% and Court had the least number of responses with 9.2%. The analysis below shows results of the survey concerning resident's perception of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse in the Vale of Glamorgan.

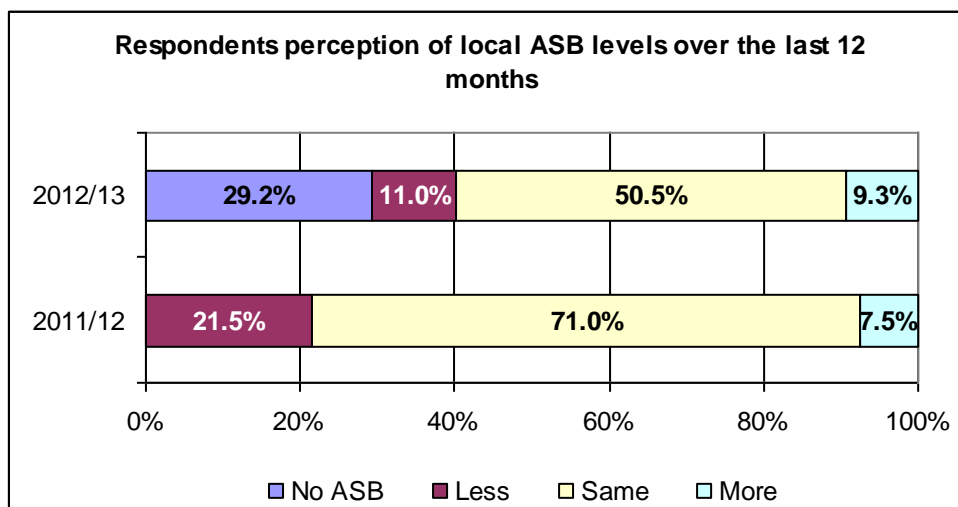
Just under 3 out of 10 (29.2%) respondents said there is no ASB in their local area with a further 11.0% stating that ASB levels have fallen in the area. 9.3% of respondents did state that there has been an increase in ASB in their local area (an increase of 1.8% in comparison to the previous year's survey results).

St Augustine's ward had the highest proportion of respondents to say that there is more ASB in their local area indicating that vandalism and graffiti are a problem together with rubbish and litter, dog fouling and parking.

In reality force figures show that ASB has dropped by approximately a third this calendar year in comparison to last calendar year.

**Figure 14: Resident perception of local ASB levels, 2011-12 and 2012-13**

Note: Extra category of "there is no ASB in my local area" added to 2012/13 survey



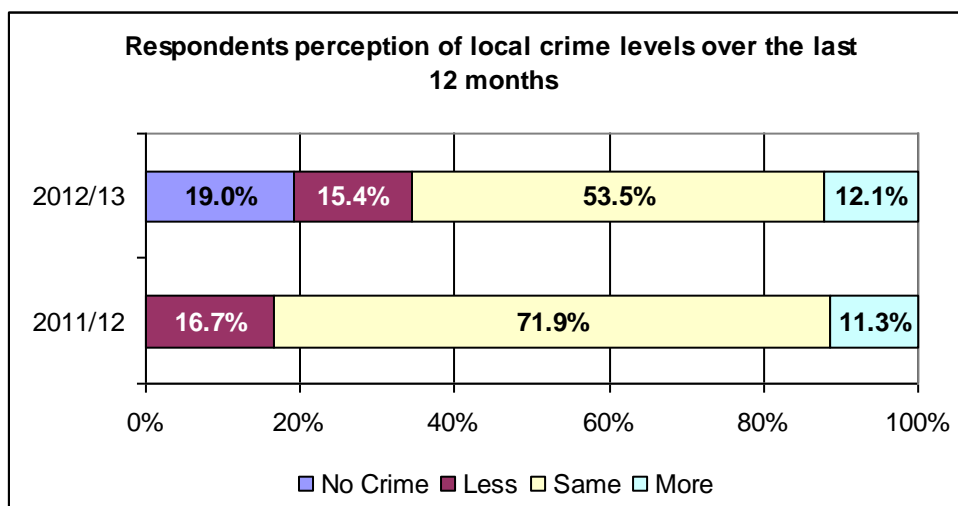
Source: South Wales Police Compass Survey

A fifth (19.0%) of the Vale of Glamorgan’s respondents perceive there to be no crime in their local area with an additional 15.4% of residents stating that there is less crime in their local area.

However, 12.1% of respondents said that there is more crime over the last 12 months. This is slightly more than the perception last year (11.3%).

**Figure 15: Resident perception of local crime levels, 2011-12 and 2012-13**

Note: Extra category of "there is no crime in my local area" added to 2012/13 survey



Source: South Wales Police Compass Survey

The percentage of people who perceive drunk/rowdy behaviour to be a fairly/very big problem in their local area has increased significantly this year in comparison to last year. The Vale of Glamorgan has seen an increase of 9.8% and the wards where this appears to be of most concern are Castleland and St Athan.

The levels of perception of drug use/dealing have also increased this year in comparison to last year. 11.5% of respondents in the Vale of Glamorgan perceive this to currently be a fairly/very big problem in their local area.

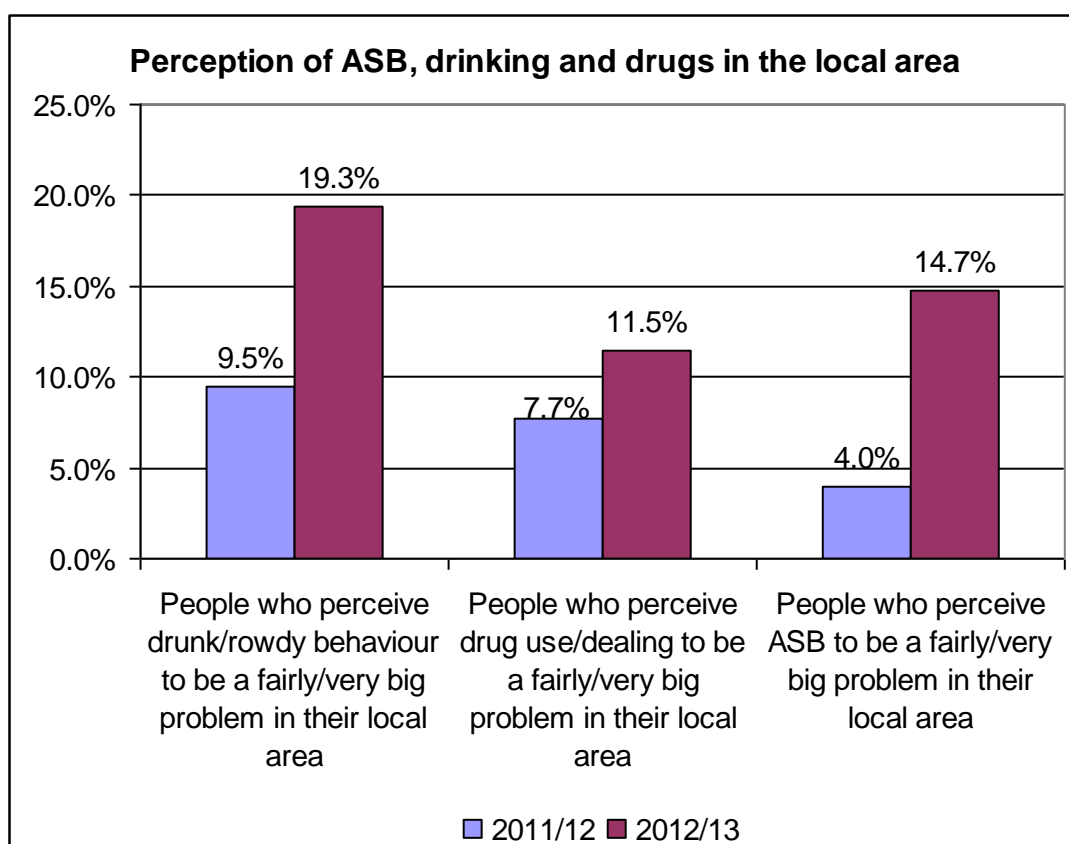
Perception of ASB levels in the Vale of Glamorgan can also be broken down into the perception of different types of ASB. This is calculated by scoring responses around the following issues:

- noisy neighbours or loud parties,
- teenagers hanging around on the streets,
- rubbish and litter lying around,
- vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles,
- people using or dealing drugs,
- people being drunk or rowdy in public places,
- abandoned or burnt out cars.

Perception of ASB in the Vale of Glamorgan has changed significantly since the previous survey and there has been an increase from 4.0% to 14.7% in 2012/13 (+10.7%).

The most significant increases have been around perception of drunk/rowdy behaviour (+9.8%), noisy neighbours (+9.5%), vandalism/graffiti (+8.8%), rubbish & litter (+8.1%) & teenagers hanging around (+7.6%).

**Figure 16: Resident perception of local ASB levels, drinking and drugs 2011-12 and 2012-13**



Source: South Wales Police Compass Survey



The Vale of Glamorgan School Pupils Needs Assessment 2013 asked pupils several questions relating to safety and 93% of respondents stated that they felt very safe or quite safe in the area they live in. For Primary school pupils, 'getting lost', 'strangers', 'gangs' and 'being bullied' were the most common answers given when pupils were asked what they worry about when they are out. When asked what makes you feel unsafe in the area where you live the top answer given was 'crime' followed by 'older children', 'bad lighting' and 'graffiti or vandalism'.

## Victim satisfaction – South Wales Police

Each police force conducts a victim satisfaction survey to understand the needs and expectations of victims of crime and provide them with the highest possible standards of service. There is a statutory requirement for all forces in England and Wales to undertake this consultation.

Satisfaction levels are gathered in relation to 5 core areas:

- Ease of contact - Are you satisfied, dissatisfied or neither with how easy it was to contact someone who could assist you?
- Actions taken - Thinking about what the police did after they had been given the initial details, are you satisfied, dissatisfied or neither with the action taken by the Police?
- Follow-up contact - Are you satisfied, dissatisfied or neither with how well you were kept informed of progress?
- Treatment - Thinking about their attitude and behaviour, are you satisfied, dissatisfied or neither with the way you were treated by the police officer and staff who dealt with you?
- Whole experience - Taking the whole experience into account, are you satisfied, dissatisfied or neither with the service provided by the police in this case?

The survey is targeted at victims of domestic burglary, theft of and theft from vehicles, violent crime (excluding sexual offences and domestic violence), racist incidents and hate crime groups i.e. disability, sexual orientation, faith/religion and transgender.

Victims are surveyed within 6-12 weeks of the reported date and views are captured via telephone surveys. South Wales Police have an in-house Telephone Research Unit to conduct the surveys, which surveys after 8 weeks of reporting.

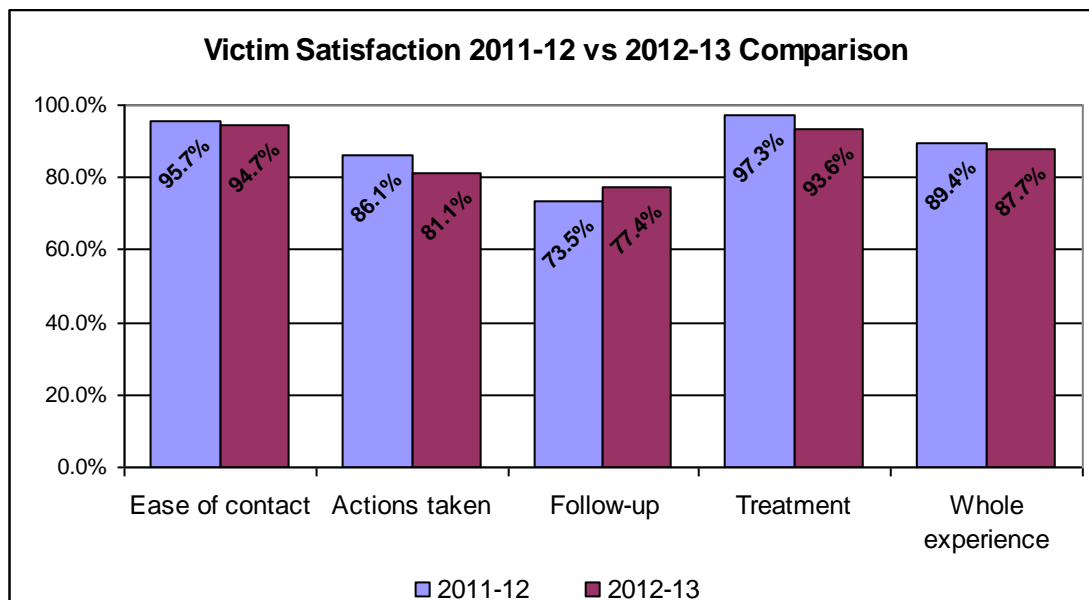
Victims of crime excluded from the survey are those who are:

1. Under 16 and over 80
2. Repeat victims – surveyed in the last 6 months
3. Vulnerable people (Hate crime victims, elderly, repeat victims, people with learning difficulties or mental health problems)
4. Domestic incidents or domestic related (involving partners/family members)

South Wales Police victim satisfaction figures have been weighted by 3 crime groups: Burglary, Vehicle or Violent and shows 12 months data for 2011-12 and 2012-13.

The number of completed interviews are low for this level of sector based information i.e., collectively Penarth, Barry and Vale of Glamorgan. The performance data is used by South Wales Police for strategic planning purposes, to show some indication of performance levels.

**Figure 17: Victim satisfaction, South Wales Police, 2011-12 and 2012-13**



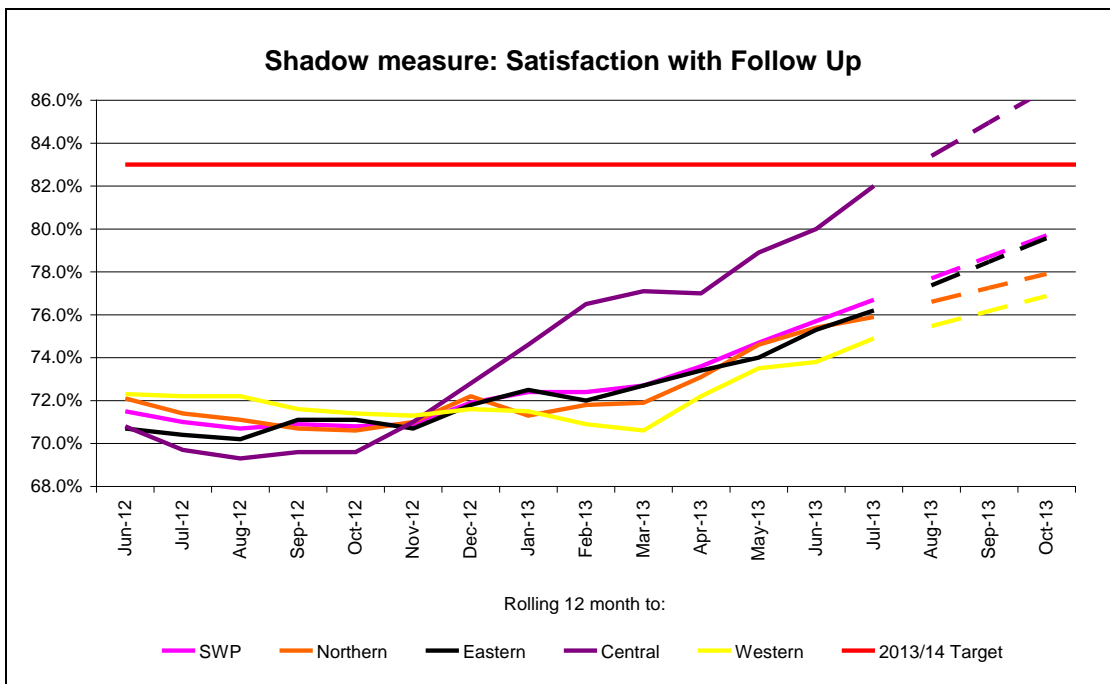
Source: South Wales Police

A lot of work has been conducted to improve the performance of follow-up, as this was seen as one of the weaker areas of performance at a Force level. A campaign began in October 2012, which provided officers on the front-line with clear guidelines on what to do when dealing with victims. This initially started in Central BCU and has since been rolled out across the Force.

Central performance in October 2012 for follow-up was 69.6% and as of July 2013 performance has improved to 82.0% (+12.4%).

The following graph shows follow-up performance compared to other BCUs and shows that performance in Central BCU is significantly higher than others.

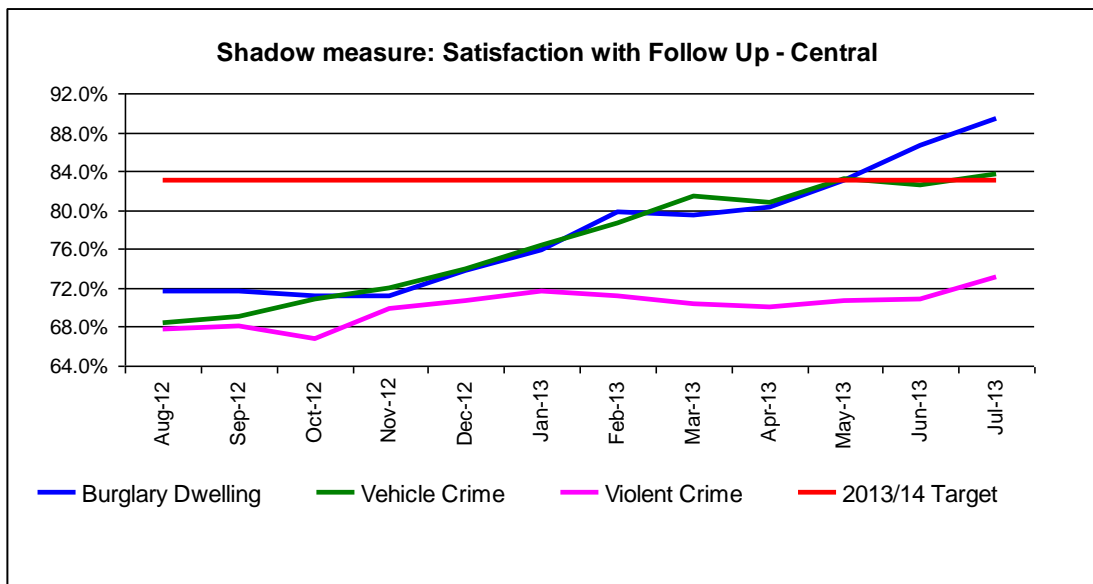
**Figure 18: Satisfaction with follow up, by area, 2012 and 2013**



Source: South Wales Police

The following graph shows satisfaction with follow-up in Central BCU by crime type and shows that the highest levels of satisfaction with follow-up were for 'burglary' dwelling offences and the lowest levels were for 'violent crime'.

**Figure 19: Satisfaction with follow-up, Central area, by crime type, 2012 and 2013**



Source: South Wales Police

## Victim and offender profiles

The victims and offenders linked to offences reported in 2012/13 in the Vale of Glamorgan have been analysed to provide a summary profile. The offenders are linked to detected offences only.

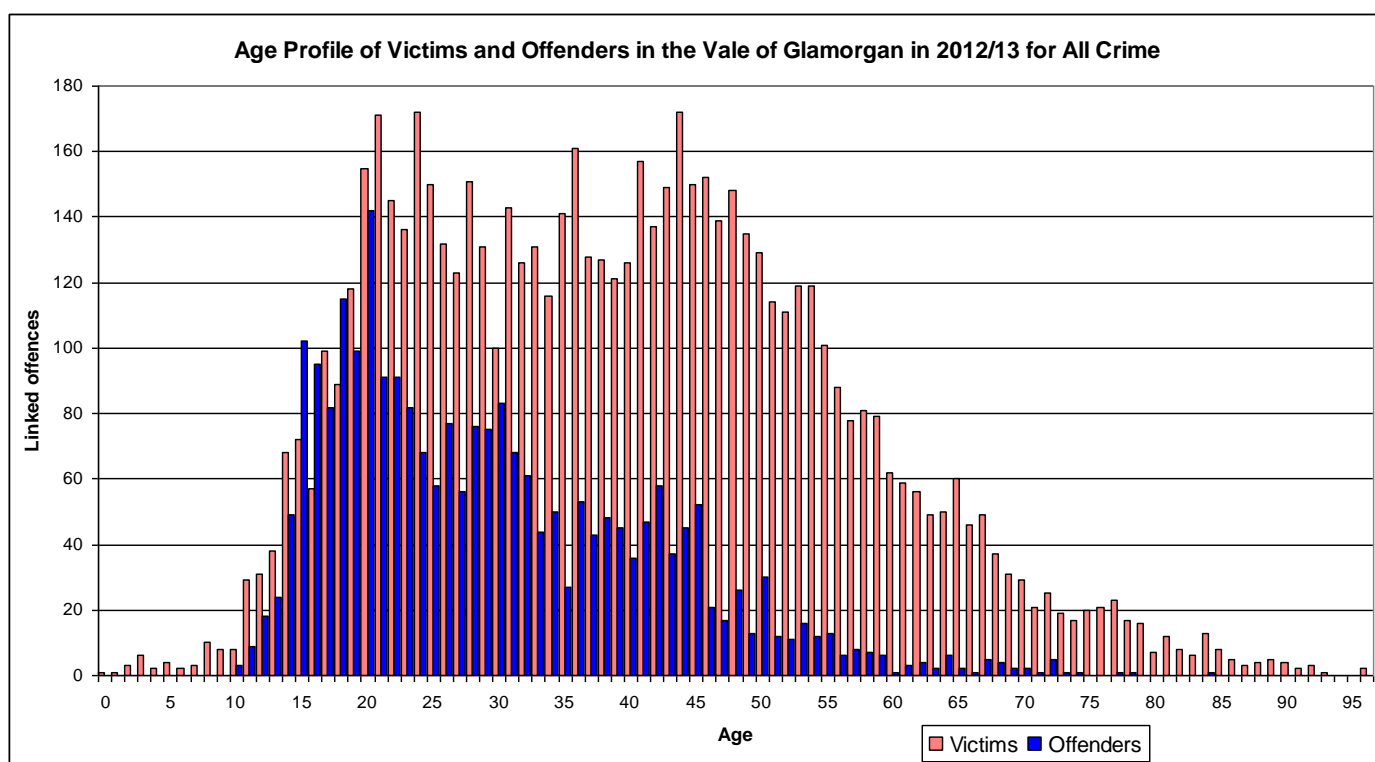
Where gender has been recorded, the split for offenders, for overall crime was 80% male to 20% female. This rate varied between offence types, with the greatest proportion of females responsible for 'other thefts' (32%), 'fraud' (23%), 'robberies' (23%) and 'violence against the person' offences (21%).

The most common age of offenders was between 15 and 23. This age group was responsible for 37% of detected offences. Offenders aged 20 years old recorded the greatest number of offences and the number of offences linked to a particular age group reduce steadily as the offender's age increases, with very few offences being attributed to any particular age after 60.

Where gender has been recorded for victims, the split for overall crime is much more even, with 47% male and 53% female. Rates for particular crime types could be distorted, as one victim is recorded for offences such as 'burglaries' and 'vehicle crime', where the property could have shared ownership.

The most common age of victims was between 20 and 26 as well as those aged 41 to 49 year old. The younger age group made up a higher than average proportion of victims of 'violence against the person' and 'robbery offences'. The older age group made up a slightly higher than average proportion of victims for 'burglary', 'criminal damage', 'vehicle crime' and 'other theft' offences. This could be due to this age group reporting as the victim on behalf of a larger family group.

**Figure 20: Age profile of victims of crime and offenders, Vale of Glamorgan, 2012-13**



Source: South Wales Police

## Conclusions

The Vale of Glamorgan has seen a continued drop in crime rates, with results in the Vale having and continuing to have lower rates than other areas of Wales, with the total number of recorded crimes being 18% lower than the Welsh average.

The areas of the Vale of Glamorgan that are recording the higher levels of crime have seen a decrease in the amount of crime taking place although there are some areas of the Vale that tend to have the lower crime numbers overall but have seen a slight increase in certain types of offences.

Anti-social behaviour has a great impact on local communities across Wales and the fact that police reported ASB has decreased by over 24% from 2010/11-2012/13 shows that the system that the Vale of Glamorgan has in place to deal with ASB is working. A concern that has been raised is the increase in neighbour disputes. Neighbour disputes can be a difficult problem to solve due to neighbours not always being able to compromise and therefore is staff time intensive. Work is underway to profile cases in order to provide further information.

The South Wales Police Compass Survey found that in the Vale of Glamorgan the perception of ASB had increased, and therefore this must remain a priority for the Vale with a focus being put on problem areas and possible intervention work with youths. There are clear links with the use of alcohol and other substances with ASB and this is acknowledged through the Cardiff and Vale Area Planning Board Commissioning Strategy 2013-18. This work will take the form of both work force development and specific targeted interventions.

On the evidence that has been gathered and analysed the Vale of Glamorgan has been meeting the requirements of this outcome and areas for further development have been identified.