



# **Mid Sussex Strategic Intelligence Assessment 2018/19**

**June 2019**

## Purpose of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment

The purpose of this Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) is to provide an evidence base to inform the priorities of the Mid Sussex Strategic Partnership (MSP). The MSP is a partnership of organisations working to improve the quality of residents' lives across the District. One of the statutory duties of the partnership is to work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. The SIA aids understanding of emerging trends and patterns in crime and disorder and it explores future threats and opportunities. It also provides an insight into health related information relevant to the partnership's role in improving the Health and Wellbeing of the District, together with information on services for children and young people and housing.

## Mid Sussex Strategic Partnership

The priority themes for the MSP from 2018 are:

- Crime: Identifying vulnerable people and increasing their resilience
- Health: Mental wellbeing
- Communities: Responding to housing development and growing communities

Three thematic outcome focused sub-groups have been established, which report into the MSP Board:

- **Community Safety Task and Finish Group:** to consider community safety issues in relation to vulnerable people across the district where partnership work can add value and implement partnership action to tackle these.
- **Health Task and Finish Group:** to consider mental wellbeing issues across the district where partnership work can add value and implement partnership action to tackle these.
- **Communities Task and Finish Group:** to consider community issues around housing development across the district where partnership work can add value and implement partnership action to tackle these.

These themes and the work of these Task and Finish Groups provide a context for this Strategic Intelligence Assessment.

## Headline Demographic Information about Mid Sussex

- **Population** – There are 148,300 residents (2017) and there has been a 10.6% increase in this number in the last 10 years, due to natural growth (more births than deaths) and inward migration.
- **Age structure** – older age structure compared with England. 30,000 people aged 65+ and rising with an additional 6,000+ projected in the next ten years. Using Office for National Statistics (ONS) projections, the increase of over 65s is projected to be in region of 22% and in over 85s in region of 28%, which is far higher than overall population rise.
- **Sex and ethnicity** - the population of Mid Sussex is almost split 50/50, male and female and the majority are of white ethnicity. The largest BME group is Asian/Asian British. 6.5% of children in Mid Sussex schools do not have English as their first language.
- **Housing Growth and affordability**- 13,600 new dwellings are planned between 2014 and 2031. Housing affordability in West Sussex is a significant issue and is even more pronounced in Mid Sussex. You can expect to pay 12.69 times your annual salary for a middle of the range house in Mid Sussex.

- **Poverty and Deprivation** - Mid Sussex is the least deprived district within West Sussex (IMD Ranking). A smaller percentage of children are living in poverty in Mid Sussex than the County as a whole and nationally.
- **Transport** - 14.6% of the population in rural Mid Sussex parishes do not have access to a car and 60% of rural parishes have an hourly weekday bus service. Weekday evening and Sunday bus services are very limited for rural parishes.
- **Health and Life Expectancy** - for men and women, Mid Sussex has a high life expectancy, although in recent years male life expectancy has stalled.

## **Community Safety in Mid Sussex**

### **Statement of Context – District Commander for Mid Sussex**

Mid Sussex in 2018-19 has been an exciting and challenging year for policing. The retirement of Paul Wood as the District Inspector and the arrival of Pete Dommett took place in April. It was a year that has seen Brexit negotiations, plus many memorable celebrations of remembrance which drew large crowds, following on from a balmy summer.

Sussex Police has three core priorities. These alongside the Police and Crime Commissioners strategic intentions provide directions for policing in Mid-Sussex.

- Keep our communities safe and feeling safe;
- Identify and protect vulnerable people;
- Prevent and respond to harm.

The District remains one of the safest in England however the challenge for the Police and their partners is to help people feel safer. Crime trends reflect social change and there is a challenge to advance policing to reflect these changes. Ten years ago policing was predominantly in a public space, fights outside night clubs and thefts from shops being typical examples. New crimes, or crimes newly uncovered are increasing the complexity of crime investigation and placing greater demands on the police and their partners to meet the new public and Governmental expectations.

We now have a greater understanding of the extent of child sexual exploitation, domestic abuse and serious sexual offences some non-recent. We have also seen increasing confidence for many victims to report these crimes, allowing us to respond and improve public safety and bring offenders to justice. Threats from serious and organised crime (SOC) is increasingly identified locally, in our own neighbourhoods; but can only be combatted effectively by working collaboratively, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Some in our communities are more vulnerable; young people and some minorities are over represented as victims of crime. The Mid Sussex Partnership is working on projects that can provide advice and support as well as building real resilience in our vulnerable communities, and if necessary provide effective interventions for those who need to be diverted from offending. There is also work to protect our open spaces, including the installation of new and upgraded CCTV in the three main towns.

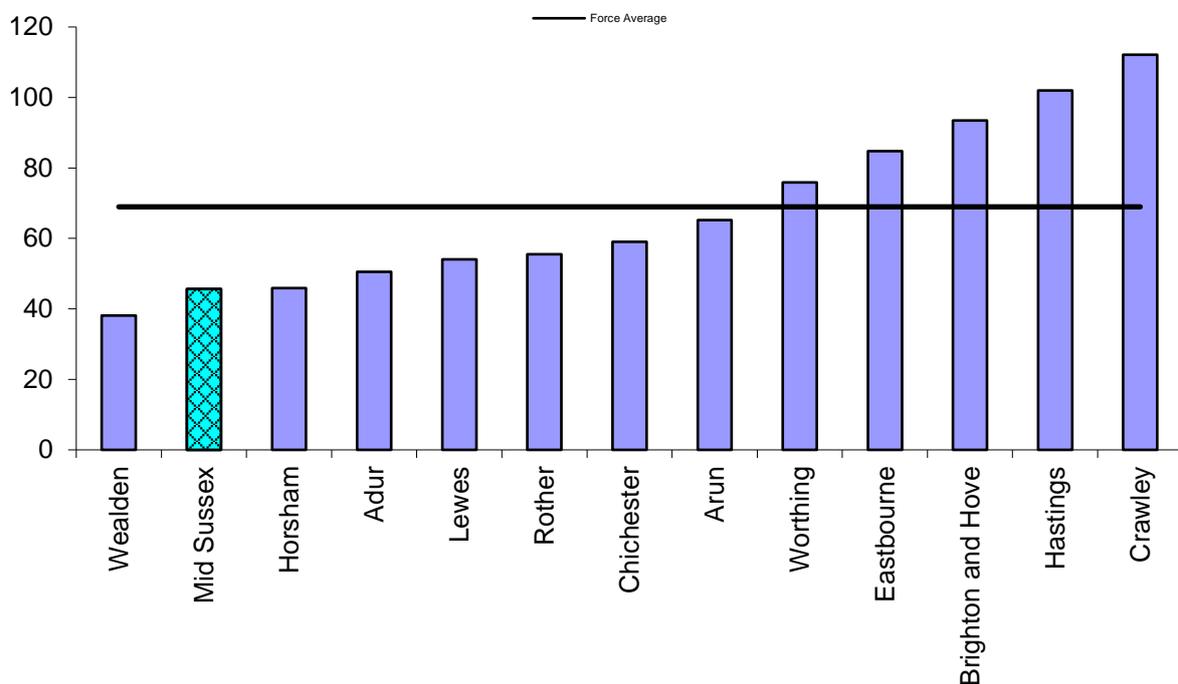
The recent increase in the Policing element of the local precept is being invested in new staff. We have already seen increases in the number of police officers and police community support officers in the district. These will work to prevent and respond to harm. As a group we are mindful of the media reporting around serious crime, including knife crime. These remain priorities but their frequency is often far less than perceptions. We work with local schools that see our young people every day and they do not see knives amongst their pupils. The incidence of knife crime in Mid Sussex is low, and many crime types have decreased over the last twelve months

Inspector Pete Dommett said recently: “When you go into Mid Sussex and see people going about their daily lives, using our parks and going shopping, driving their cars, going to school or going home, it doesn’t feel like an area where it is out of control. Yes there is crime and we have to be careful and sensible, but if you look outside you’ll find it is not as bad as you think.”

## Crime

Crime per 1,000 population at 45.63 in 2018/19 shows that Mid Sussex is the second safest district in the Sussex Police area and the safest in West Sussex. The figure has increased by 2.1% from 44.67 per 1,000 population in 2017/18.

### **Crime per 1,000 population data for period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 for Sussex Community Safety Partnerships from iQuanta data**

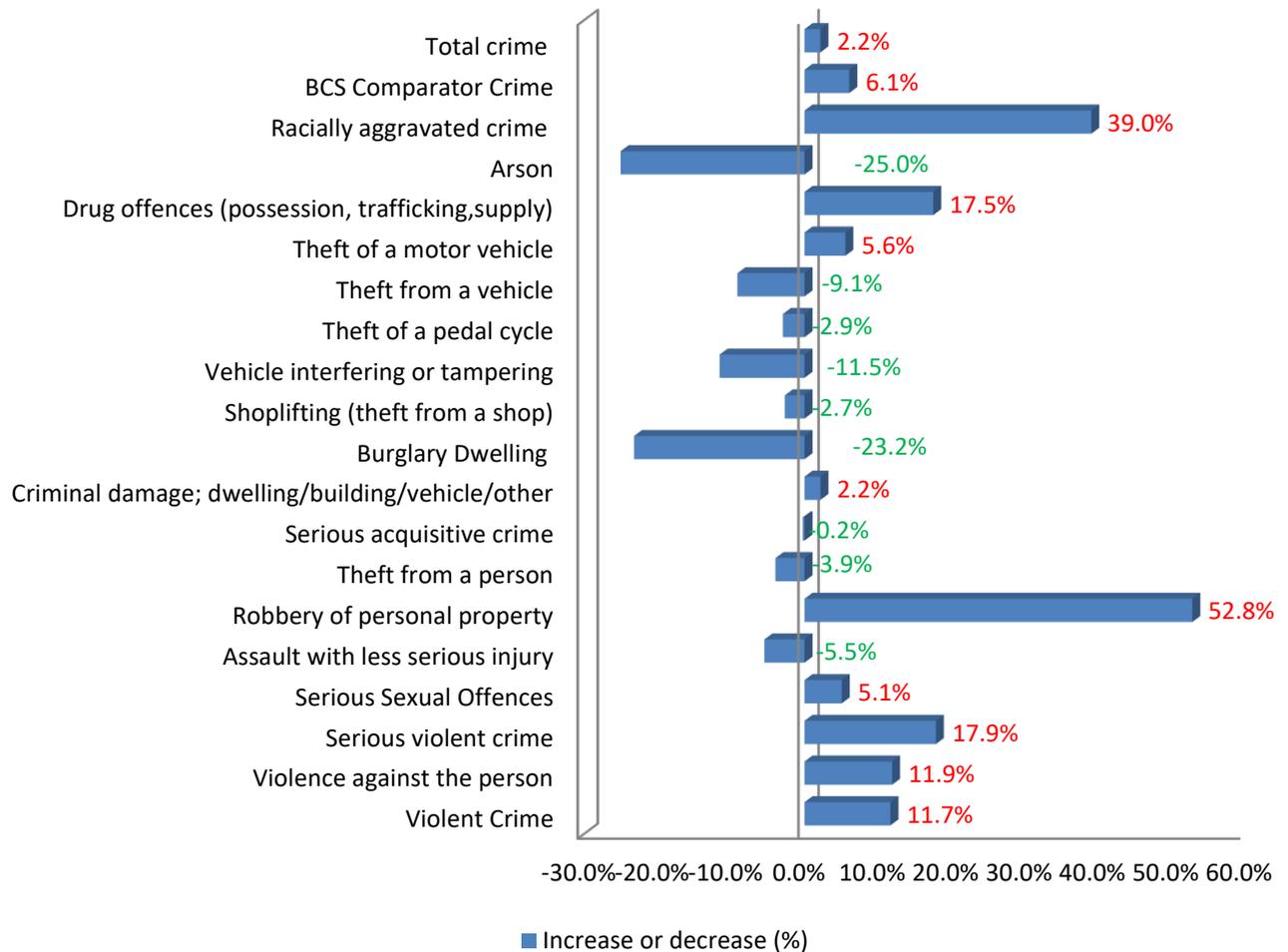


Rank	CSP	Crimes / 1,000 pop
1	Wealden	38.115
2	<b>Mid Sussex</b>	<b>45.630</b>
3	Horsham	45.939
4	Adur	50.548
5	Lewes	54.040
6	Rother	55.518
7	Chichester	59.014
8	Arun	65.229
9	Worthing	75.890
10	Eastbourne	84.764
11	Brighton and Hove	93.491
12	Hastings	101.968
13	Crawley	112.167

**Crime data by type for Mid Sussex in the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 (from monthly Community Safety Partnership data)**

<b>Crime type</b>	<b>Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019</b>	<b>Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2017 – Mar 2018</b>	<b>Increase or decrease (%)</b>	<b>West Sussex overall change</b>
Violent Crime	3,166	2,835	331 (11.7%)	2,403 (10.6%)
- Violence against the person	2,877	2,571	306 (11.9%)	2,256 (11.0%)
- Serious violent crime	66	56	10 (17.9%)	23 (4.9%)
- Serious Sexual Offences	187	178	9 (5.1%)	16 (1.1%)
- Assault with less serious injury	692	732	-40 (-5.5%)	289 (5.2%)
- Robbery of personal property	55	36	19 (52.8%)	85 (26.6%)
Theft from a person	73	76	-3 (-3.9%)	28 (4.6%)
Serious acquisitive crime	405	406	-1 (-0.2%)	782 (22.1%)
Criminal damage; dwelling/building/vehicle/other	989	968	21 (2.2%)	102 (1.6%)
Burglary Dwelling	471	613	-142 (-23.2%)	-28 (-7.4%)
Shoplifting (theft from a shop)	364	374	-10 (-2.7%)	-453 (-10.8%)
Vehicle interfering or tampering	46	52	-6 (-11.5%)	53 (10.5%)
Theft of a pedal cycle	66	68	-2 (-2.9%)	-110 (-8.8%)
Theft from a vehicle	249	274	-25 (-9.1%)	508 (20.5%)
Theft of a motor vehicle	95	90	5 (5.6%)	167 (23.5%)
Drug offences (possession, trafficking, supply)	141	120	21 (17.5%)	260 (17.3%)
Arson	39	52	-13 (-25.0%)	11 (3.3%)
Racially aggravated crime	57	41	16 (39.0%)	12 (2.7%)
British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator Crime	2492	2349	147 (6.3%)	1,284 (6.8%)
<b>Total crime</b>	<b>6,769</b>	<b>6,626</b>	<b>143 (2.2%)</b>	<b>2,430 (4.6%)</b>

## % increase or decrease in crime for Mid Sussex between 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 (from monthly CSP data)



Total crime in Mid Sussex has increased by 143 crimes in 2018/19 compared to 2017/18, which equates to an increase of 2.2%. Overall in West Sussex, the percentage increase in crime for this period was 4.6%. Changes for other West Sussex district and boroughs were:

LA Area	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2017 – Mar 2018	Increase or decrease %
Adur	2,987	3,570	-16.3%
Arun	10,349	9,997	3.5%
Chichester	7,093	6,394	10.9%
Crawley	12,520	11,719	6.8%
Horsham	6,438	6,104	5.5%
<b>Mid Sussex</b>	<b>6,769</b>	<b>6,626</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
Worthing	8,320	7,870	5.7%
West Sussex	54,710	52,280	4.6%

## Hotspots and Distribution of Crime in the District

Crime tends to occur in groups or hotspots. For example to display a chart of shoplifting for a town it would indicate that a supermarket is the centre of this type of crime. Similarly thefts from cars can clump around car parks or particular estates. Such crime series are often transient and although used by police and partners in our joint response, when tracked over a year do not provide useful information about risk. Local crime can be tracked down to post code level through [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk).

## Knife Related Crime

Figures for serious knife crime in Mid Sussex are shown below:

Crime type	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2017 – Mar 2018	Increase or decrease (%)	West Sussex Overall
Serious Knife Crime	21	16	31.3%	39.2%

Knife crime remains one of the most emotive areas of crime statistics. The profile has risen higher following recent media attention about increased incidents in the capital. Within Mid Sussex knife crime remains a very small proportion of all crime. Serious knife crime, where a weapon is used amounted to less than one incident per fortnight. This remains too many, and the impact on individuals and communities extends for weeks and months after each event. Sussex Police participates in the National Operation Sceptre knife crime reduction programme and conducts proactive work throughout the year. Close working is undertaken with Mid Sussex schools through this partnership and we are reassured at the very low number of incidents when teachers find or report any knife carrying amongst their pupils.

## Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

### Police Anti-Social Behaviour Figures For Mid Sussex

ASB type	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2017 – Mar 2018	Increase or decrease (%)	West Sussex Overall
Personal	161	195	-34 (-17.4%)	35 (2.5%)
Nuisance	1,654	2,043	-389 (-19%)	-2,236 (-15%)
Environmental	78	103	-25 (-24.3%)	-219 (-26.4%)

The Police place Anti-Social Behaviour into three categories of personal, nuisance and environmental.

- Personal antisocial behaviour is when a person targets a specific individual or group.
- Nuisance antisocial behaviour is when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.
- Environmental antisocial behaviour is when a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings.

Mid Sussex has seen a reduction in ASB across all categories. This is in line with the trends of anti-social behaviour overall for West Sussex for nuisance and environmental crime, but at County level personal ASB has shown a slight increase.

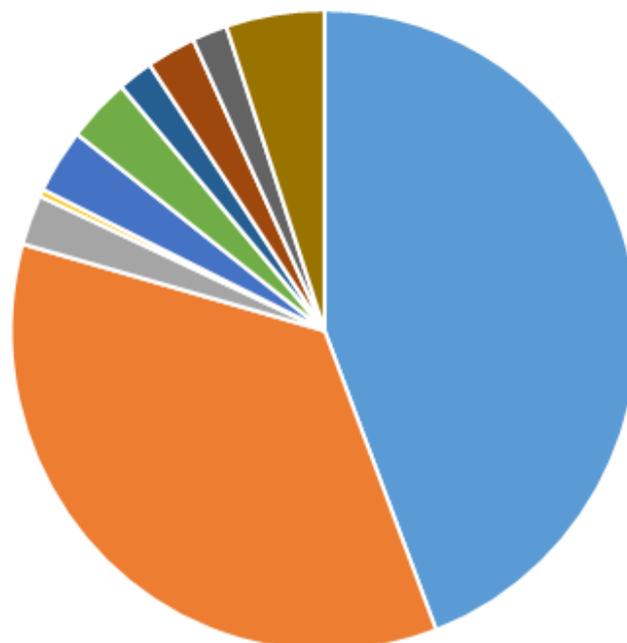
### Police Response to Reports of Anti-Social Behaviour

The number of informal ASB interventions by the Police in Mid Sussex in the period May 2018 to April 2019 was 286, compared to 242 in the same period of the previous year. Only 43% of these cases resulted in a visit by the police, with the remainder dealt with by other means, including referrals to other agencies.

ASB Informal Interventions	May 18 – Apr 19	Percentage	Change to prev year
Visit by Police	124	43.4%	+27
Other	101	35.3%	+6
Visit by another agency	11	3.8%%	+6
Letter from Police	1	0.3%	-2
Visit by housing	10	3.5%%	-12
Tenancy action	15	5.2%%	+11
Signposting	5	1.7%	0
Mediation	8	2.8%	+5
Telephone call from Police	5	1.7%	0
Acceptable Behaviour Contract	6	2.1%	+3
<b>Total</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>+44</b>

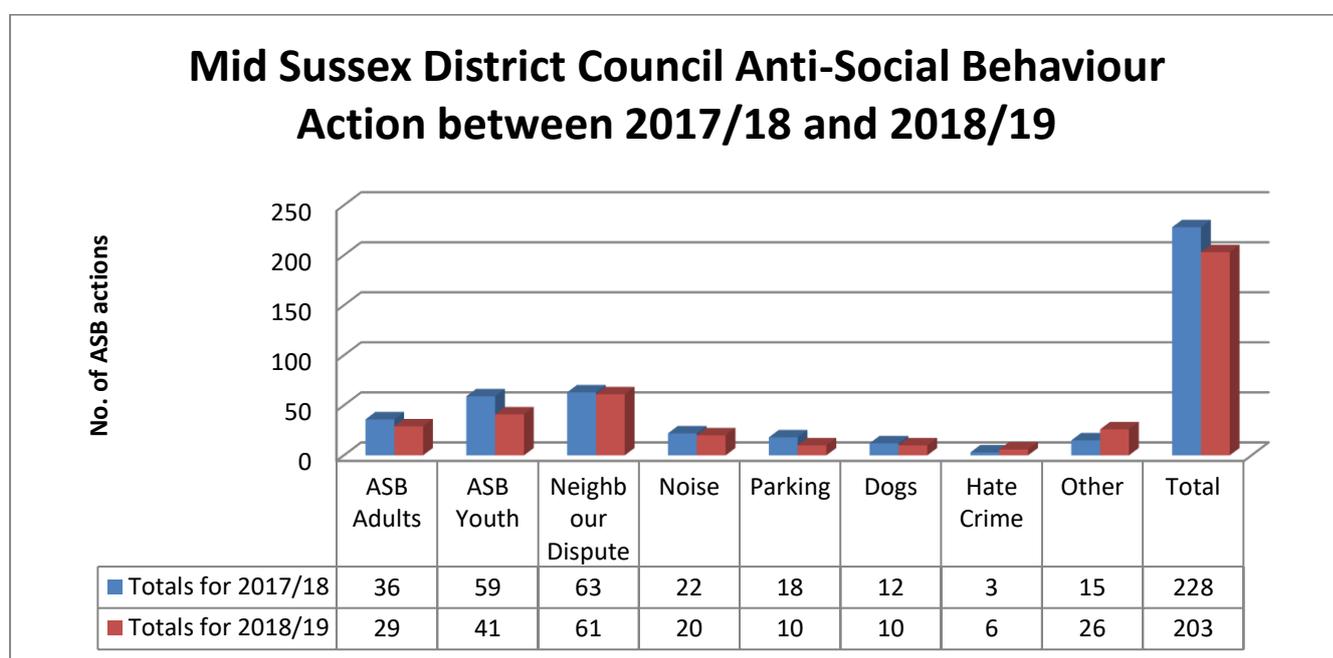
Informal Outcomes proportions by force from May 18 to Apr 19 inclusive.

- Visit by Police
- Other
- Visit by another agency
- Letter from police
- Visit by housing
- Tenancy action (Notice seeking possession or similar)
- Signposting
- Mediation
- Telephone call from police
- Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC)



**Mid Sussex District Council Anti-Social Behaviour Action 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 (figures for 2017/18 shown in brackets)**

Type of ASB	Burgess Hill	East Grinstead	Haywards Heath	Rural	Not provided	Total
ASB Adults	12 (3)	3 (12)	6 (10)	8 (10)	0 (1)	29 (36)
ASB Youth	18 (25)	3 (11)	9 (11)	11 (12)	0	41 (59)
Neighbour Dispute	17 (14)	7 (17)	12 (13)	24 (15)	1 (3)	61 (63)
Noise	6 (3)	3 (5)	5 (9)	6 (4)	0	20 (22)
Parking	5 (5)	1 (5)	0 (1)	4 (7)	0	10 (18)
Dogs	3 (3)	2 (1)	3 (2)	1 (6)	1 (0)	10 (12)
Hate Crime	2 (1)	0	2 (2)	2 (0)	0	6 (3)
Other	4 (6)	2 (2)	9 (3)	11 (3)	0	26 (15)
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 (61)</b>	<b>21 (54)</b>	<b>46 (51)</b>	<b>67 (58)</b>	<b>2 (4)</b>	<b>203 (228)</b>



The number of reports of anti-social behaviour to Mid Sussex District Council reduced from 228 in 2017/18 to 203 in 2018/19. Neighbour disputes continued to be the main cause of ASB in both years. The Council works with partners such as registered social landlords, private sector landlords and local mediation services when managing neighbour disputes. Geographically the number of ASB reports has reduced in East Grinstead and Haywards Heath, but showed an increase in Burgess Hill and the rural areas of the District

Fortnightly partnership meetings have been introduced to track interventions and agree further action on specific cases where individuals have been involved in ASB. This is having a positive impact.

We will be looking to undertake some work to address car cruising by looking to hold an educational engagement event for the car cruising community in partnership with Sussex Police and car cruise organisers. We are also planning to consult on the use of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to deter car cruising in public spaces.

## **Youth Related Anti-Social Behaviour**

**Burgess Hill and Hassocks** - The second half of 2018-19 saw an outbreak of anti-social behaviour in Burgess Hill and Hassocks – where a small number of youths (14-16yrs) were creating an disproportionate level of ASB, although very few crimes. The Police went through the normal escalation; visiting parents and schools however this had limited success. As we approached the half term and Halloween there was an escalation to egg throwing and then damage to shop fronts. Arrests followed, however a longer term solution and intervention was required. Sussex Police and Mid Sussex District Council undertook partnership ASB work, with 15 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts issued to the groups and “hanger-on’s”. Police Community Support and Police Officers from the local prevention team conducted hi-vis patrol in affected areas, which continue. We have seen a reduction in overall calls and have individual plans around the remaining problem youths.

**Projects to tackle youth related anti-social behaviour** - As part of the work of the Community Safety Task and Finish Group, MSDC, in partnership with Sussex Police held a youth engagement workshop in December 2018. This brought together relevant partners including the Secondary Schools and Alternative Provision College, Youth Offending Service, IPEH and Clarion to look at practical solutions to tackle the issue of young people who disengage from school and get involved in anti-social behaviour and crime. Feedback from the professionals at the workshop was that many problems stem from long term issues such as family breakdowns, lack of good role models (particularly male role models), domestic violence or childhood trauma.

Following this, it was agreed that there was three strands of further work to be carried out which would help to address this:

- To providing direct support with identified youths
- Prevention work in schools
- Support for parents of teens.

These are set out below:

### **REBOOT Programme – support for identified youths**

The REBOOT Sussex Early Intervention Youth Programme is using Government funding secured by the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner to identify young people at risk of being drawn into violent crime. The approach targets potentially troubled and vulnerable young people through one-to-one specialist support workers who will help them build on positive traits and interests to divert them away from crime. It is a five stage programme ranging from issuing letters to youths and parents at stage 1 to civil injunctions at stage 5, although it is expected that the vast majority of referrals will not reach this stage. Mid Sussex District Council, in partnership with Sussex Police has been proactive in making referrals to the programme since it launched on 1 April.

### **School Law Days – prevention work in schools**

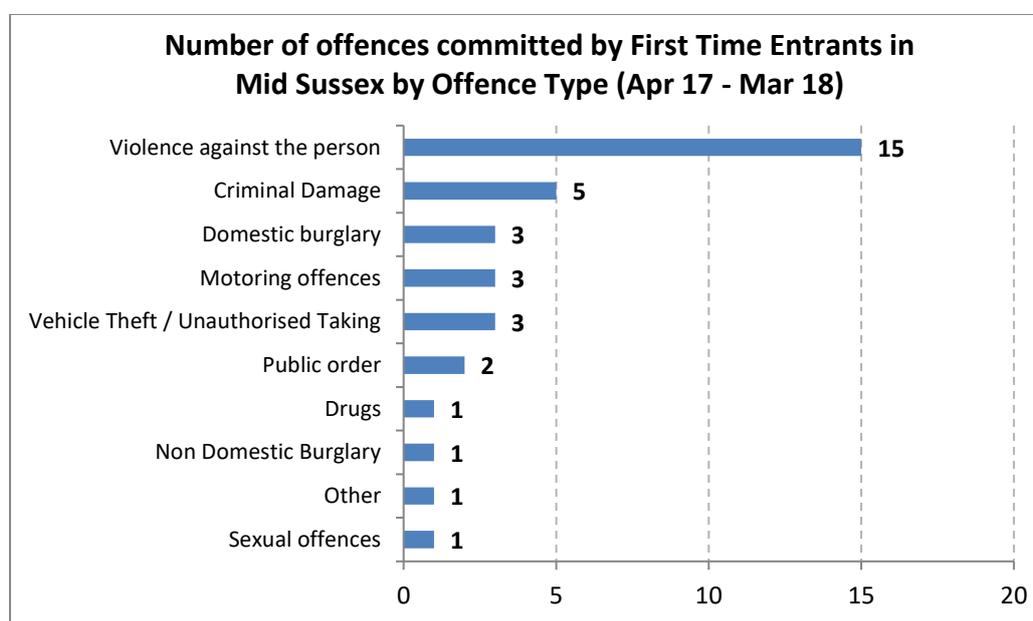
Following the educational sessions delivered to Year 8 children at Warden Park School in 2018, the Community Safety Task and Finish Group are planning to roll this out to secondary schools across the District from the Autumn term. Workshops include talks from the Police and the ASB officer on knife crime, drugs and sexting as well as general ASB issues, sessions from Magistrates on what happens at a magistrates court and scenario sessions, plus a session from an ex-offender about making the right choices and consequences of getting involved in crime. This work is around prevention and will educate young teens to help ensure that they make the right choices.

## Support for parents

Work is developing on a project to provide support for parents of teens with challenging behaviour. MSDC is currently gathering evidence on what support is currently available and identifying gaps.

## Number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

In intervening at an early stage with young people involved with ASB, the aim is to prevent their behaviour escalating into more serious crime. First time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System relates to young people receiving their first substantive outcome, which is either a pre-court youth caution/youth conditional caution or a Court Order. In Mid Sussex in 2017/18 there were 20 FTEs, 15% of all in the County and below the average of 22 in West Sussex. The breakdown is:



## Community Trigger

The Community Trigger is a process that allows members of the community to ask the Mid Sussex Community Safety Partnership to review their responses to complaints about anti-social behaviour. The trigger is designed to ensure that partners work together to try and resolve complaints about anti-social behaviour. A community trigger request can be submitted if a resident has submitted three separate anti-social behaviour or hate incidents over a six month period and no action has been taken. Officers at MSDC provide advice on the Trigger to residents who make complaints although there were no cases that met the threshold in 2018/19.

## Expansion of use or powers contained within the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

In response to increased levels of some types of ASB in the District, Mid Sussex District Council, Sussex Police and other partners have adopted the use of new powers contained within the 2014 Act. These include expansion of the use of from February 2019 Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs), Community Protection Notices (CPNs), and Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs).

### Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)

A PSPO is an enforceable form of bylaw with Fixed Penalty Notice powers attached. These were already used by Mid Sussex District Council for dog related matters such as fouling of land by dogs; dog exclusion; dogs on lead when requested; and maximum number of dogs. Expanded use of PSPO's could be utilised for issues such as:

- Car cruising/Anti-Social Vehicle Use (an issue currently being encountered in Burgess Hill).
- ASB and nuisance behaviour by Children & Young People (there has been an increase in this type of ASB in Burgess Hill & Hassocks over the past 12 months).

A breach of the order is immediately criminal in nature and could lead to a fine (via Fixed Penalty Notice), and/or confiscation of relevant items and / or a prosecution with custodial sentence

### Community Protection Notices (CPN)

Community Protection Notices are designed to have a broad use and should focus on how victims and communities are affected. In order for a CPN to be issued, one of the designated authorities must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the conduct of the individual or organisation is:

- having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
- persistent or continuing in nature; and
- unreasonable

These powers are being brought in through a phased approach, commencing with the enforcement of:

- General nuisance & anti-social behaviour in public places
- Bonfires
- Rodent infestations
- Untidy gardens

The CPN process starts with the issuing of a Community Protection Warning (CPW), which sets out conditions that must be adhered to. In the event that the conditions outlined in the CPW are not adhered to, it can be escalated to a CPN, which carries criminal sanctions if breached. The aim of the CPN is to stop behaviour and put in place steps to ensure it will not reoccur. For example, in a situation where a notice is served on a parent of someone under 16 relating to their behaviour, the condition could require the parent to ensure that their child abides by a set curfew; or doesn't allow named associates into the family home etc. In addition, a condition could be included requiring the parent to engage in a parenting programme and/or engage with other specified professional support services.

### Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)

CBOs have replaced Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs). If a person breaches the terms of a CPN or fails to pay the associated FPN then the case will immediately become criminal at which point the Local Authority can apply for a CBO. A breach of a CBO could lead to a jail term. In the case of social housing tenants it is important to acknowledge that the issuing of a CBO by the courts to anyone residing in the household would be sufficient grounds for the landlord to serve a Section 8 notice of seeking possession. This is at the discretion of the social housing landlord and seen as a last resort.

The Mid Sussex Partnership has been working to implement the operation of the new powers through training events held by Mid Sussex District Council for Council officers, Police, Town Councils, housing associations and others.

### Clarion Housing Group Data

Clarion Housing Group deals with reports of anti-social behaviour from tenants in their housing stock. In the period April 2018 to April 2019 there were 53 cases of ASB in Mid Sussex. Clarion has introduced a new system of categorising ASB as follows:

- **Crime (category 1)** – working with the police on a collaborative basis to tackle criminal activity in the neighbourhood. Taking appropriate action to enforce tenancy conditions and referring victims to relevant support agencies.
- **Noise (category 2)** – cases are investigated by Clarion and noise neighbour nuisance is encouraged to be resolved between themselves and and/or reported to MSDC's Environmental Health Team
- **Other forms of ASB (category 3).**

The geographical split across Mid Sussex and ASB category breakdown is shown below:

Area	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat3	Total
Burgess Hill	12	1	1	14
Haywards Heath	11	2	2	15
East Grinstead	8	-	-	8
Other	11	-	5	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>53</b>

### Mid Sussex Hate Crime

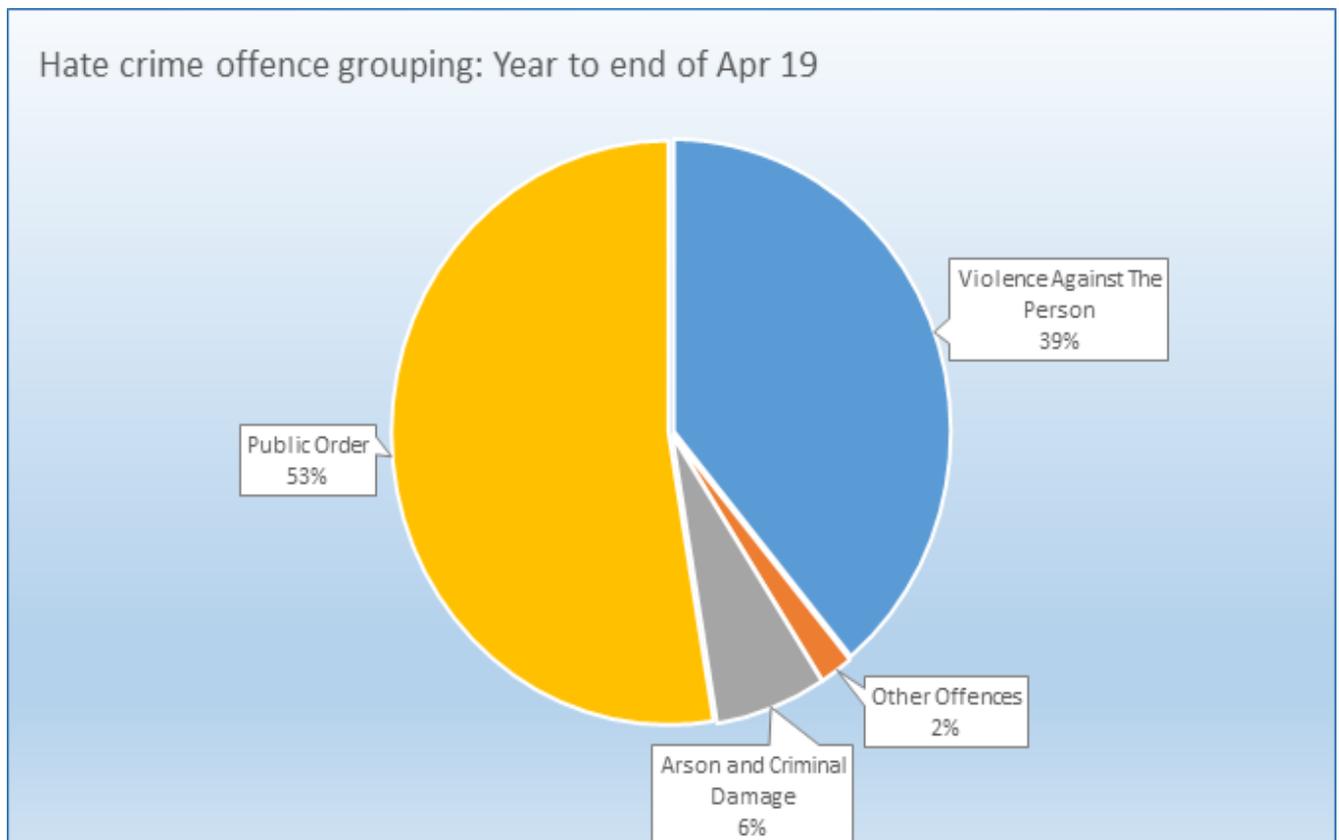
A hate incident/hate crime is any incident where the victim or another person believes that they, the victim have been targeted because of their perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity. Figures for Mid Sussex are shown below:

Type of Hate Crime	Mid Sussex			Sussex Police Area		
	Year to April 2018	Year to April 2019	Change	Year to April 2018	Year to April 2019	Change
Transgender	5	6	+1 (20%)	72	79	+7 (10%)
Religion	8	7	-1 (-13%)	169	192	+23 (14%)
Disablist	12	12	0	218	279	+61 (28%)
Sexuality	11	20	+9 (82%)	371	420	+49 (13%)
Race	52	99	+47 (90%)	1,393	1,562	+169 (12%)
Other*	5	19	14 (N/A%)	111	215	104 (N/A)
<b>Total Hate Crime Motivators</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>+70 (75%)</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>+333 (15%)</b>

\*Hate "Other" has only been included since June 2017

Sussex Police point out that hate crimes are under reported and the increases are seen as the success of initiatives to raise awareness of hate crime and how it can be reported. Work across the County has been especially geared towards the greater reporting of hate crimes involving disability. Sussex Police has also put an emphasis on building trust with the LGBT community to report homophobic and transgender motivated hate crime.

As can be seen from the chart below, which breaks down the types of hate crime most relates to public order the majority of which is verbal abuse.



## Domestic Abuse in Mid Sussex

### Sussex Police Data for Domestic abuse crimes and incidents (from monthly CSP data)

	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2017 – Mar 2018	Increase or decrease (%)	West Sussex Overall % change
Domestic abuse crimes	997	878	119 (13.6%)	18.1%
Domestic abuse incidents	596	540	56 (10.4%)	5.8%

Domestic abuse crimes in Mid Sussex rose by 13.6% 2018/19 and incidents by 10.4%. In West Sussex overall the increase in domestic abuse crimes was 18.1% and incidents 5.8%. Part of the increase is likely to be due to greater awareness and reporting of domestic abuse, which is positive in promoting access to support services.

Domestic abuse crimes are crimes flagged by the Police as being related to domestic abuse. Domestic abuse incidents are when the Police are alerted to an incident that does not meet the criteria to be counted as a crime. For example, where the Police are alerted to a loud argument by a third party, they calm the incident and no crime has taken place.

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those over 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

There are a range of services and initiatives aimed at responding to domestic abuse. These include the WORTH services, which provide support to victims of domestic abuse and are based at hospitals in West Sussex, and the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which brings together responsible agencies in West Sussex to discuss those cases with the highest risk of harm. There were 90 Mid Sussex cases heard by MARAC in 2018/19. There is also a cross-tenure outreach service provided by Stonham Housing Association. This provides housing related support to victims of abuse to enable them to be “safe at home” or enable victims to secure a safe home.

Safe in Sussex have been awarded funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to deliver an outreach domestic abuse service across Sussex aimed at isolated and marginalised communities who cannot easily access support. The project launched in Mid Sussex on 24<sup>th</sup> May.

### Other Community Safety Partnership working being undertaken:

The Community Safety priority for the Mid Sussex Partnership in 2018/19 is identifying vulnerable people and increasing their resilience. As part of this, the Community Safety Task and Finish Group is focusing specifically on young people and public spaces. Work undertaken in these areas includes:

- We are engaged with the secondary schools on community safety issues and MSDC and the Police met with them in March to discuss local issues around youth. We have agreed to have these meetings each term. Sackville School in East Grinstead have agreed to represent the schools across the District on the Community Safety Task and Finish Group.
- Keeping young people safe roadshows.
- The police now have an input at WSCC's meetings with secondary schools on relevant local safeguarding issues. A key message from schools is evidence on the use of nitrous oxide and police will be providing advice and further information at the next meeting.
- The Safe Place pilot in East Grinstead launched on 15 March. A safe place is a designated public place that supports vulnerable people if they feel scared or at risk while they are out and about. There are 8 designated safe places in the town including cafes and community buildings and relevant staff have received safeguarding training. It is expected to promote the scheme to year 7 pupils in the Autumn term as the next phase. Going forward, the scheme will be rolled out across Mid Sussex later in the year.

### **CCTV Project**

A key project for 2018/19 was to install 26 new cameras and infrastructure across Mid Sussex through joint working with Sussex Police, Mid Sussex District Council and Town Councils. The project's aim was to replace the existing 24 CCTV cameras across the District with new high resolution cameras and to install new ones. Existing cameras were located as follows:

- 5 cameras in Haywards Heath (owned by MSDC)
- 7 cameras in Burgess Hill (5 owned by MSDC and 2 by the Town Council)
- 12 cameras in East Grinstead (7 owned by MSDC and 5 by the Town Council)

Following consultation it was decided to decommission two cameras in East Grinstead at Church Lane and the Library and to install new cameras at the following locations:

- St John's Park, Burgess Hill
- Victoria Park, Haywards Heath
- Clair Park, Haywards Heath (added)
- George's Field, East Grinstead
- Holtye Avenue, East Grinstead

The provision of improved high definition CCTV in the District will contribute to crime prevention and the prosecution of offenders. Historically, CCTV images were not recorded in real time and did not always produce clear images. This meant that identification of suspects could sometimes be difficult. The upgrades have provided crystal clear imaging, real time footage and enhanced zoom capabilities. These positive outcomes will support the Police and Local Authorities in keeping residents safe and supporting the prosecution of offenders.

### **Serious and Organised Crime**

#### **County Lines and Cuckooing**

'County Lines' operates by gangs from urban areas, in particular London but also other cities, which use the national rail network to distribute drugs. They introduce a telephone number in a new area to sell drugs directly at street level. Potential buyers telephone the number and local runners are dispatched to make deliveries via a telephone 'relay or exchange' system. Gangs are always adapting how they operate, however the current primary methods of supplying drugs are:

### *'Cuckooing'*

Where vulnerable residents are targeted to accommodate dealing or deal on behalf of the drug network through intimidation, incentives or on the basis of a sexual relationship which is often exploitative.

### *'Juvenile runners'*

Vulnerable young people being used as drug 'runners' to deliver and/or deal drugs on behalf of the gang drug network through intimidation or incentive both locally and from metropolitan centres, especially London. Some have not previously come to the notice of the authorities; some come from a care setting.

The areas in Sussex most affected by the drug trade from London are outside of Mid Sussex comprising the the larger coastal towns, with established drugs markets that can be exploited locally, including Hastings, Eastbourne, Worthing, Bognor, and Brighton, but also towns such as Crawley.

As part of Operation Fortress, a national intensification week for County Lines, conducted by the National Crime Agency and National Police Chiefs' Council, occurred from the 21 - 28 January. This garnered great results in Sussex where officers carried out 28 arrests, made 711 drug seizures, and seized £10,475 cash as well as 32 mobile phones. During the same week, officers carried out safeguarding action to support 17 vulnerable people and visited 91 addresses where people were at risk of being 'cuckooed' to check on their safety. A further crackdown took place in May 2019. It is planned that Police work to combat illegal drugs in Sussex continues under the 'Fortress' brand will be rolled out further to strengthen the unified voice from police and partners that says this is a hostile environment for drug supply.

Partnership action to address County Lines in Mid Sussex has included a session held with secondary school head teachers to discuss how partnership working can minimise risk and harm to young people. This was hosted by East Grinstead Town Council and involved Mid Sussex District Council's ASB Officer and Police Prevention Team.

## **Modern Slavery**

Modern slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. It covers a wide range of abuse and exploitation including sexual exploitation, domestic servitude and forced labour. Victims of modern slavery can be any age, gender, nationality and ethnicity. They are tricked or threatened into work and may feel unable to leave or report the crime through fear or intimidation.

National reports indicate that the incidence of slavery in the UK is on the increase. Reports are often not made as the victims are disempowered and the witnesses are often not recognising it. Mid Sussex has seen a number of investigations, for example people being moved and housed in isolation for industries such as nail bars, farming, cleaners and car washes.

## **Public Spaces**

### **Unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller Encampments**

There were 16 unauthorised traveller encampments in 2018/19 compared to 6 in the same period of the previous year. Public spaces is one of the priorities to be addressed by the Community Safety Task and Finish Group, including projects to improve reporting of issues in recreational spaces and informing the public about our actions in response to unauthorised traveller encampments. Police decision making powers on dealing with unauthorised encampments have been reviewed. Training was provided in partnership with WSCC and Sussex Police for Mid Sussex Councillors on powers to deal with Traveller incursions, and how to report concerns. Further training is planned for new members in June 2019.

### **Unauthorised Camping and Rough Sleepers**

The number of dens and camps cleared by Mid Sussex District Council's Landscapes Team in the period January 2018 to February 2019 was 7, compared to 9 in the same period of the previous year. A protocol for dealing with unauthorised camping (including tents and rough sleepers) on Council land has been developed.

### **Flytipping in Mid Sussex**

Fly tipping incidents recorded by the Council went up from 197 in 2017/18 to 286 in 2018/19 an increase of 45%. The majority of these related to fly tipping on highways at 163 in 2017/18 and 165 in 2018/19. The largest increase was in fly tipping on Council land, which increased from 18 to 82, partly caused by a change in the way such incidents are recorded. The biggest increase in the type of waste fly tipped was construction waste, up from 47 to 72. Action to counter fly tipping includes the review of signage to highlight problem areas of the District.

### **Noise Data**

Mid Sussex District Council's Environmental Protection Team deal with reports of noise complaints. The number of noise complaints for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 reduced by 23% compared to the same period in the previous year from 664 to 510. Loud music and dogs continue to be the top two causes of noise complaints. The majority of complaints are resolved informally, without the need for the use of formal enforcement powers. The number of complaints can be influenced by a number of factors, such as long periods of good weather leading to more outdoor activities and entertainments. Also one off factors related to specific events.

## Review of Health Evidence

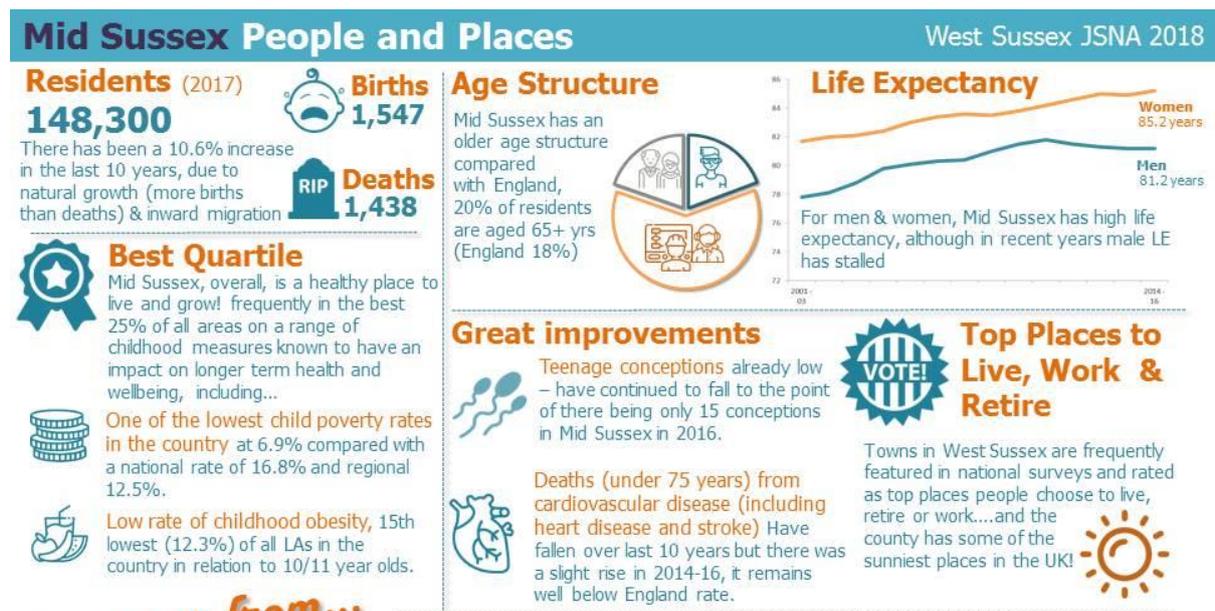
### Health Challenges in Mid Sussex

Mid Sussex overall is a healthy place to live and grow. It is frequently in the best 25% of all areas on a range of childhood measures known to have an impact on longer term health and wellbeing. There is however a number of health challenges for Mid Sussex, including an ageing population. The number of people aged 65+ and 85+ is projected to rise in the next 10 years by 22% and 28% respectively. There are increasing numbers of people with one (or more) long term health conditions, including over 14,000 carers (of which 3,500 are 65+). The West Sussex Life Report from 2016 states that in 2013 there were 2,154 people with dementia in Mid Sussex and predict that we will see an increase of 67% by 2030.

Other health challenges for Mid Sussex include:

- Estimated 15,000 – 20,000 smokers
- Over 60% of adults are overweight or obese
- There are over 6,000 adults with diabetes
- Over 16% of adults are physically inactive
- There has been a slight rise in early mortality in fewer than 75s which may mean the next generation of 65+ are not as healthy as the previous generation.

### Public Health data for Mid Sussex



Greetings from...

### Mid Sussex is rich in natural, cultural and historical assets

Beautiful countryside, gardens, parks, leisure facilities, vibrant towns and villages, theatres, cinemas, museums, historic houses, a wide range of employers, lots of groups, associations and organisations.....

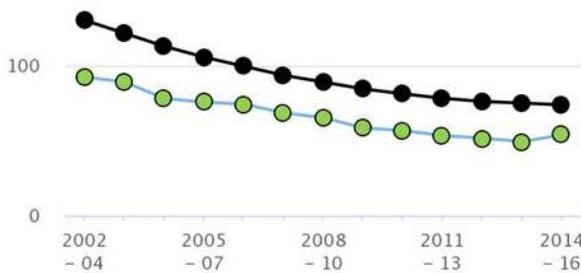


**Ageing Population & ....Pressures on Working Age Group**

30,000 people aged 65+ & rising ...additional 6,000+ projected in the next ten years

**Will next generation of 65+ population be as healthy??**

U75 Mortality from CVD  
Mid Sussex and England



Increasing numbers of people with one (or more) long term health conditions and..



Over 14,000 carers...and over 3,500 aged 65+over



Large number of older people live alone (over 7,500 65+ in 2011)

**Mid Sussex relatively healthy, still.....**

- Estimated 15,000 – 20,000 smokers
- Over 60% of adults overweight or obese
- Over 6,000 adults with diabetes
- 16.4% adults physically inactive\*  
\*( $<30$  mins moderate exercise a week)

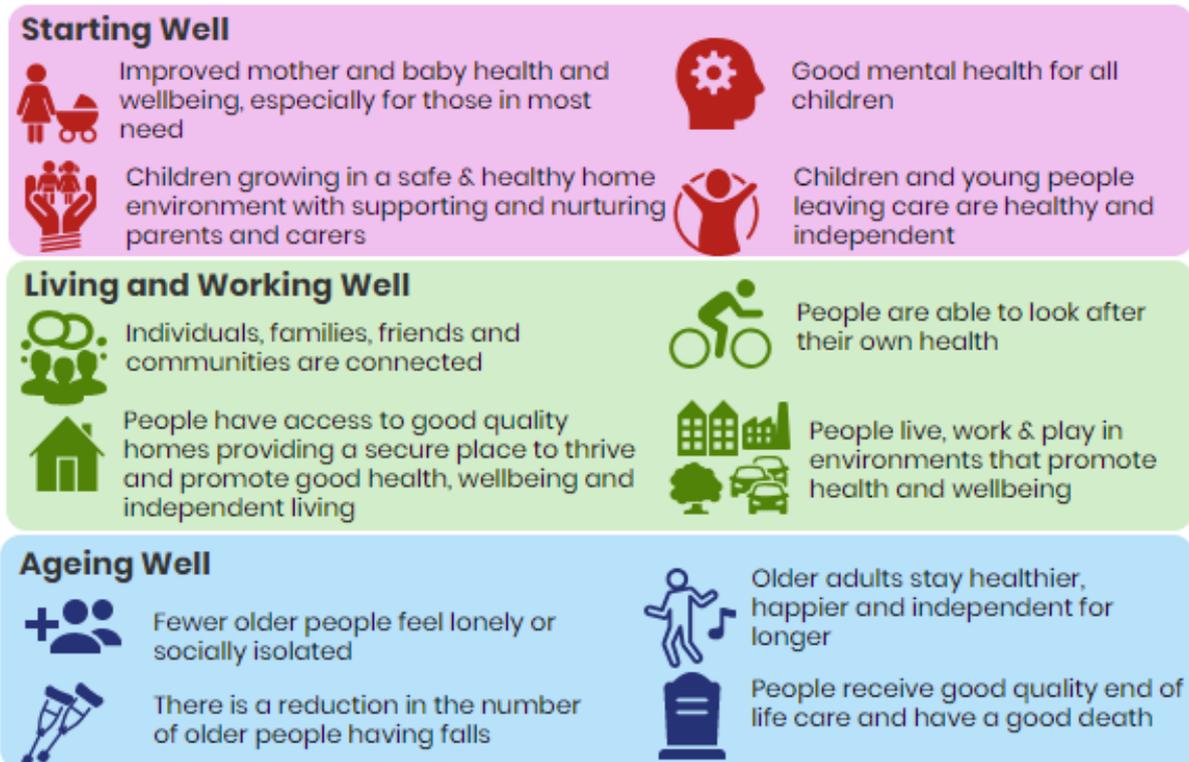
**Key Strategic Documents**

**Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 2024**

The West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) has now published its refreshed **Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 2024: Start Well, Live Well, Age Well**. The Board brings together elected members and leaders from West Sussex’s health and social care system to improve the health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. This five year Strategy was developed in consultation and collaboration with local residents, service users, multi-disciplinary professionals and partners, and it draws on evidence of health and wellbeing needs from local and national data. The Strategy sets out the direction of travel for health and social care services and other services that impact on health and wellbeing in West Sussex. Commissioners and service providers from NHS Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups, County Council, district and borough councils, the voluntary sector and other partners are expected to take account of the priorities set out in this strategy when planning, commissioning and providing services.



The Strategy focuses on prevention and identifies these key goals to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the residents of West Sussex:



A copy of the [Strategy](#) and supporting documents can be downloaded from the HWB website [www.westsussex.gov.uk/hwb](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/hwb). Further information about the HWB can also be found on this website.

West Sussex County Council are refreshing The Dementia Framework for West Sussex 2014-19. Key areas for improvement relate to the time taken for diagnosis, better co-ordination of information and advice, lack of capacity in local care market. The refreshed Dementia Framework will be launched in the Spring of 2020.

## Progress

1. Formation of Mid Sussex Partnership Health Task and Finish Group
2. Re-commissioning of West Sussex Wellbeing Service (including local programme for Mid Sussex)

The MSP has a Health Task and Finish Group, which involves a range of statutory and voluntary sector partners including the CCG, Public Health, Sussex Community NHS Trust and Healthwatch. Priority areas to be addressed are:

- Mental health and resilience in young people
- Living well in old age
- Workplace – key messages for working age people
- Targeting specific areas of need and protected groups.

Examples of activities provided include a Living Well with Dementia event held in October at the Dolphin Leisure Centre in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society. A Fit for Life Workplace Health Event is being planned for 28 September 2019 to take place at Sackville College in East Grinstead with the assistance of a number of organisations, including the Rotary Club and East Grinstead Town Council. The event will include free health checks and MOTs.

### **Funding for the West Sussex Wellbeing programme**

In November 2018 the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health endorsed the continuation of the West Sussex Wellbeing programme so that this partnership with each District and Borough can continue to improve and support the health of our residents. Confirming funding has been agreed for the whole three year term of the new partnership agreement which commenced April 2019.

The Wellbeing Service as well as delivering key lifestyle services, plays a significant facilitation role in the delivery of the health task and finish group and the local Health and Wellbeing Network. The network takes place every quarter and focuses around different community and health issues. It has a mailing list of over 200 hundred members representing different groups, charities and statutory organisations involved in health. Topics from previous quarters include: housing support services; mental health & advocacy; affordable warmth; and access to community funding.

## **Children and Young People in Mid Sussex**

### *Headline Information:*

- There are 65 schools in Mid Sussex, of which 46 are primary schools, 16 are secondary schools and 3 are Special Education Needs. Community Schools make up the vast majority of these schools.
- 6.5% (1,349) of children in schools do not have English as their first language. The most common languages spoken include Malayalam and Polish.
- Mid Sussex children (71.1%) perform above both the County (70.6%) and National (70.7%) averages for Good Level of Development in Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Mid Sussex children (Key Stage 2 attainment 63.3%, Key Stage 4 attainment 54.2%) perform above both the County (Key Stage 2 55.2%, Key Stage 4 45.3%) and National (Key Stage 2 61.0%, Key Stage 4 39.6%) averages for Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4.
- 0.7% of the age 16 to 24 population are in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit. This compares to 2.2% nationally and 1.2% for the County.

## **Children and Family Support Services in Mid Sussex**

### **Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Programme**

An important issue for service provision and meeting the needs of the people of Mid Sussex are the proposed £4.9 million in cuts to funding for the Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help Programme (IPEH). This replaced the Think Family and Neighbourhoods Programmes in 2017/18. IPEH provides a co-ordinated service for children and families from 0 – 25 years old, through a “whole family approach” to support, with the aim that all children are given the best start in life and make it easier for families to get the help that they need. Targeted services include support for care leavers and young carers; family support to work with young people and people affected by domestic and sexual abuse; and support to help people back into employment. IPEH services are delivered via 6 hubs across the County. Early help includes the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), which provides a single and consistent point of access to advice, guidance and decision-making about the right level of help needed to keep each child safe or achieve change.

In addition to the proposed reductions in IPEH funding, a further factor in the consideration of children and family support services in Mid Sussex is the recent Ofsted Inspection report of West Sussex County Council's Children's Services. This rated the service as inadequate in all areas, reporting widespread and serious weaknesses in services for vulnerable children and their families across the County. The Department for Education has appointed a commissioner to work with the County Council to ensure that the improvements needed are put into place.

### **IPEH Activities in 2018**

There were a total of 59,957 attendances to a Children and Family Centre within the Mid Sussex Hub during 2018, made by 11,565 individuals. There were 57 different activities attended within the Mid Sussex Hub, the top ten being:

<b>Activity</b>
Health Clinic
Family Outreach Worker Contact
Communication, Language & Literacy

Stay And Play
Registration
Toy Library
Creative Development
Info - Family/Parenting
Social Activities General
Info - Children Centre Services

### Mid Sussex Find It Out Centre

In 2018 a total of 218 young people visited the Mid Sussex Centre, visiting on 365 occasions. The top ten reasons for visiting the centre were as follows;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emotional Health</li> <li>• Family and Relationships</li> <li>• Parent/Care Enquiry</li> <li>• Condoms</li> <li>• Internet/PC/ Phone Use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment Enquiry</li> <li>• Careers Information</li> <li>• Drug and substance misuse</li> <li>• Job searching</li> <li>• Domestic Violence/Abuse</li> </ul>
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In addition there were 1,347 referrals to early help in 2018.

### Early Intervention Project

In support of the wider Troubled Families initiative the MSP set up the Early Intervention project, which is funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office. The project aims to prevent families from impacting on their communities and putting pressure on the public purse. An officer is employed to provide practical, emotional and parenting support to the families worked with. During 2018/19, the Early Intervention Officer provided intensive support to 15 families. In 80% of these cases the planned outcomes of the intervention were met or partially met. The main issues for the families were:

- Parenting support - related to capacity and ability of parents. Also linked to mental health and domestic violence.
- Diagnosis, or waiting times thereof, of disability in children;
- Access to suitable housing and ease of access to the system;
- Adults and children mental health;
- Young carer roles for children related to adult chronic disability.

### Targeted Intervention Project

The MSP set up the Targeted Intervention Project in 2018/19 which is a fund to support vulnerable families in Mid Sussex who require specific services but do not have the means to pay for these. This project is run in partnership with WSCC’s Integrated Prevention and Earliest Help (IPEH) service. 25 families were referred to the project in 2018/19. This included helping children who are on the autism spectrum, play therapy for children who need support to improve their emotional wellbeing and relationship counselling for families.

### Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)

NEET refers to young people aged 16-18 who are “Not in Education, Employment or Training. Young people who remain NEET are generally regarded to be at greater risk of social exclusion through the loss of economic and social opportunities. A person is considered to be in education or training if they are:

- doing an apprenticeship
- on a government employment or training programme
- working or studying towards a qualification
- have had job related training or education in the last four weeks
- enrolled on an education course and are still attending or waiting for term to start.

The numbers in Mid Sussex are relatively small compared to national figures and the West Sussex as a whole. As at May 2019, the numbers were as follows:

### NEETS

Mid Sussex

44 (1.6% of 16-18 year olds in the District). Split 33 seeking EET and 11 other NEET (not available due to illness, pregnancy etc.)

West Sussex

453 (2.8% of 16-18 year olds in the County). Split 327 seeking EET and 126 other NEET

### UNKNOWNNS

Mid Sussex

107 (3.8% of 16-18 year olds in the District)

West Sussex

931 (5.7% of 16-18 year olds in the County)

The above Mid Sussex figure represents 5.7% of the overall Unknownns for West Sussex.

The MSP has funded the Mid Sussex NEETs Positive Placements mentoring project which is delivered by YMCA Downslink. 30 young people between the ages of 16-25 who were not in education, employment or training were helped through this project in 2018/19. Of these 20 had gone into employment, training or education and 5 were still engaged with the project at the end of March.

### **Mid Sussex Better Young Lives Forum**

The Forum brings together professional working with and for young people in the district. The current number of partners is 66 representing 34 organisations. The aim of the group is to develop solutions to shared issues and to improve the level of services available to young people in Mid Sussex. Four meetings are held each year with updates given by local organisations on the service provided. Issues discussed at meetings of the Better Young Lives Group have included addressing drugs related crime involving young people in County Lines and Cuckooing.

## **Housing**

Headline information:

- 13,600 new dwellings are planned in Mid Sussex between 2014 and 2031.
- Housing affordability in West Sussex is a significant issue and is even more pronounced in Mid Sussex. While you can expect to pay 7.91 times your annual salary for a middle of the range house in England, this rises to 11.49 in West Sussex and rises further in Mid Sussex to 12.69. This is the third highest in West Sussex.
- The private rented sector can be unaffordable for those in receipt of Benefits and/or on low incomes. For example, the average monthly private rent for a 2 bedroom property in Mid Sussex at September 2018 was £949 against the Local Housing Allowance of £831.
- The number of homelessness acceptances increased to 51 in 2018/19 from 37 in the previous year.
- The number of households in temporary accommodation increased to 59 at the end of March 2019 from 51 in March 2018.

### **West Sussex County Council Reductions in funding for Housing Related Support and the Local Assistance Network**

West Sussex County Council is reducing its Housing Related Support budget from £6.4 million to £2.3 million by April 2020. These services include specialist accommodation based schemes for residents who are at risk of homelessness, as well as “floating support” to residents living in community settings. Risks from the withdrawal of these services include increasing pressure on the homelessness services of District and Borough councils, rising costs of placing families and adults in temporary accommodation and increasing numbers of intentional homelessness. A multi-agency West Sussex Supported Housing Task and Finish Group has been set up to look at mitigating the impact of these reductions, identifying other funding sources and longer term service redesign. The Group includes West Sussex County Council; District and Borough Councils; CCG; Probation; Police and the Mental Health Trust.

Closely related to the reductions in Housing Related Support is the reduction in funding for the Local Assistance Network (LAN). The principle behind the LAN is to provide discretionary services to households facing hardship as a result of a crisis or emergency. The network includes support for foodbanks, Citizens Advice and Children and Family Centres. Local Assistance Network Payments by IPEH Hub area in 2018 are shown below:

<b>Hub</b>	<b>LAN Payments (%)</b>
Adur and Worthing	317 (33.1%)
Arun	89 (9.3%)
Chichester	58 (6.1%)
Crawley	320 (33.4%)
Horsham	66 (6.9%)
Mid Sussex	108 (11.3%)

The number of LAN payments for Mid Sussex in 2017/18 was 108, which equates to 11% of the total LAN payments for West Sussex as a whole.

### Use of Food Banks in Mid Sussex

The main foodbanks in Mid Sussex are at Haywards Heath and East Grinstead, run by the Trussell Trust, and the Burgess Hill Community Food Bank. Use of food banks has increased with the numbers assisted by the Haywards Heath Food Bank up 23% in 2018 from the previous year to 1,657. The East Grinstead Food bank assisted 1,593 in 2018. Increases are in line with national trends for the Trussell Trust which saw a 19% increase in emergency help given out in 2018/19. The main reasons for people needing emergency food were:

- 33% income not covering essential costs
- 20% benefit delays
- 17% benefit changes.

Mid Sussex District Council's Housing Needs Team refer people to foodbanks. Vouchers are provided which can be redeemed for three days of emergency food. 162 food vouchers were issued by the Housing Needs Team in the period 2018, compared to 99 in the previous year.

### Rough Sleeping

Rough sleeping statistics relate to a rough sleeper count undertaken on a single night in November. Most councils, including Mid Sussex, carry out an estimate based on collating evidence from partner agencies, rather than a physical count as this is found to be more reliable. For Mid Sussex the figure for November 2018 was 10, compared to 8 in the previous year.

### Rough Sleeper numbers across Sussex 2014-2018

Authority	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Adur	2	-	3	2	-
Arun	13	15	19	17	16
Brighton & Hove	41	78	144	178	64
Chichester	14	17	19	10	16
Crawley	21	33	15	17	28
Eastbourne	11	10	19	41	6
Hastings	12	16	26	40	48
Horsham	2	3	6	7	11
Lewes	-	9	3	1	9
<b>Mid Sussex</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>
Rother	-	5	1	4	8
Wealden	1	-	7	4	3
Worthing	17	19	11	35	11
<b>Total in Sussex</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>230</b>

Source DCLG rough sleeper count statistics.

Mid Sussex District Council supports Turning Tides, a voluntary organisation formerly known as Worthing Churches Homeless Projects, to support rough sleepers in the District.

### Introduction of Universal Credit

Rollout of the full service of Universal Credit went live in Mid Sussex on 6 June 2018. This provides for a single monthly payment, which will eventually replace:

- Income Support
- Income Related Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit.

The number of Universal Credit claimants in Mid Sussex has increased from 214 in April 2018 to 1,775 in April 2019, of which 1,012 were not in employment and 765 in employment.

Given the single monthly payment, concerns have been raised about the need for financial and other support to be provided for people who are awarded the new Universal Credit. Mid Sussex District Council's Revenues and Benefits service has worked in partnership with a number of local partner organisations to provide such support such as the Department of Works and Pensions, Job Centre Plus, West Sussex County Council and Citizens Advice. Mid Sussex District Council has used its DWP grant to provide Personal Budgeting Support and Assisted Digital Support for those vulnerable people in receipt of Universal Credit through Citizens Advice. This additional funding has enabled them to provide extra training for their volunteers and appoint specialist financial advisers. In the period April 2018 to the end of January 2019, 33 claimants received Personal Budgeting Support and 39 Assisted Digital Support. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, the DWP have commissioned Citizens Advice nationally to deliver the new Help to Claim service through the local network of citizens advice.

### **Impact of new housing development on communities in Mid Sussex**

One of the themes identified by the Mid Sussex Partnership for 2018 is the impact of new housing development on communities in the District, considering the level of development set out in the District Plan. The MSP placed a particular focus on the Northern Arc. The Northern Arc Development at Burgess Hill will provide 3,500 new homes. The 200 hectare site has been purchased by Homes England and will help to facilitate planned development and infrastructure provision amounting to an estimated £162 million. A Northern Arc Masterplan and infrastructure Delivery Plan has been prepared. Infrastructure provision will include 2 primary schools, 1 secondary school, neighbourhood centres, a primary care centre and a community sports centre. Development is taking place over four phases with the first development in 2020 and the whole site completed by 2035.

Given the involvement of Homes England and the level of infrastructure provision in the scheme, it is considered the impact of this new development on communities has been well planned for. A further feature of the Northern Arc development is its emphasis on connectivity with the rest of Burgess Hill and provision of sustainable transport infrastructure, with alternatives to the car.

### **Transport Issues and Rural Isolation**

Data from April 2018 shows that 14.6% of the Mid Sussex Rural Parish population do not have access to a car. The Rural Parish with the highest percentage of people without a car is Clayton at 32.9% (557 people). Keymer Parish is the second highest percentage at 21.4%. This is a factor in issues of rural isolation, along with the provision of public transport.

60% of Mid Sussex rural parishes have an hourly weekday bus service and a further 30% have a weekday service, although this is not hourly. Parishes with limited bus services (under 1 bus per hour weekday) include Ardingly, Slaugham, Bolney, West Hoathly, Fulking. Weekday evening and Sunday bus services are very limited for rural parishes. West Sussex County Council has recently undertaken a review of the bus services that it subsidises and reduced the total bus subsidy by £300,000 to £2.27 million. Changes to some of the services offered have been implemented from April 2019.