

Police and Crime Plan 2024-2028

Quarterly Performance Update: Q1 2025/26

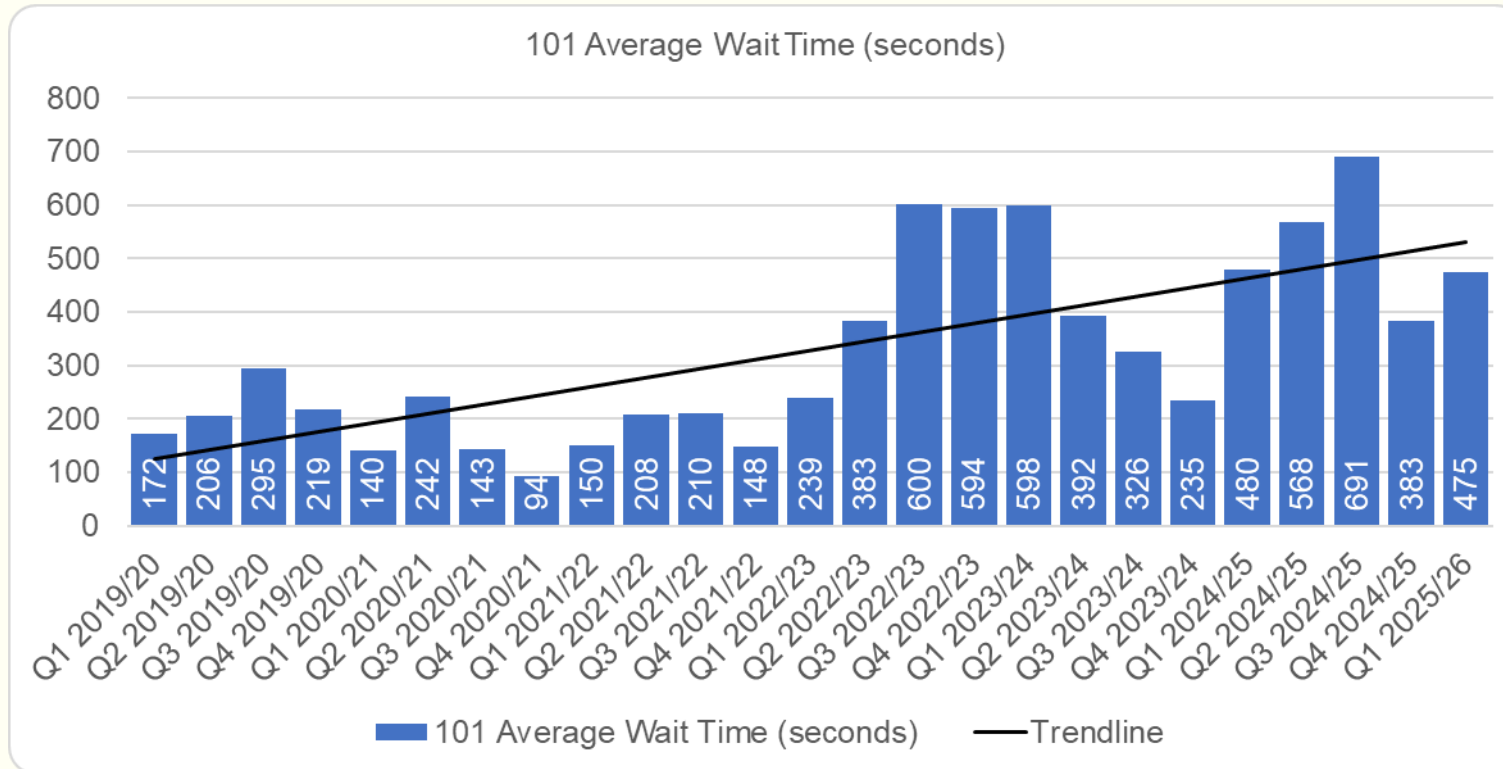
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More local, visible, and accessible policing

How we plan to do this: make sure the police are out there when you need them, delivering an effective response and undertaking good quality, appropriate investigations.

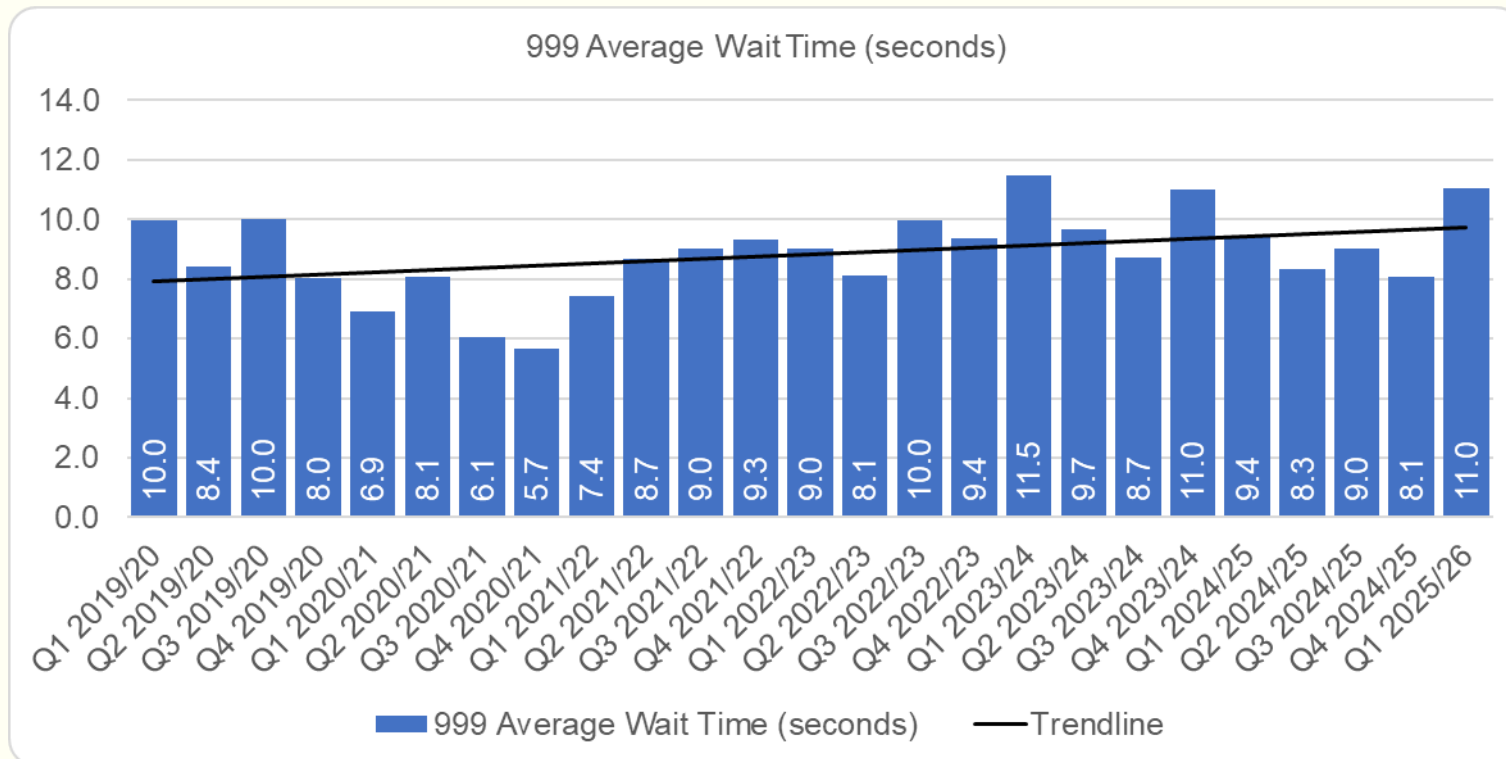


Key Points

- The long-term trend for the average 101 call wait time is increasing, despite the number of calls decreasing.
- A new call handling system (ICCS) was introduced during Q4 2023/24, which has impacted call wait times in subsequent quarters.

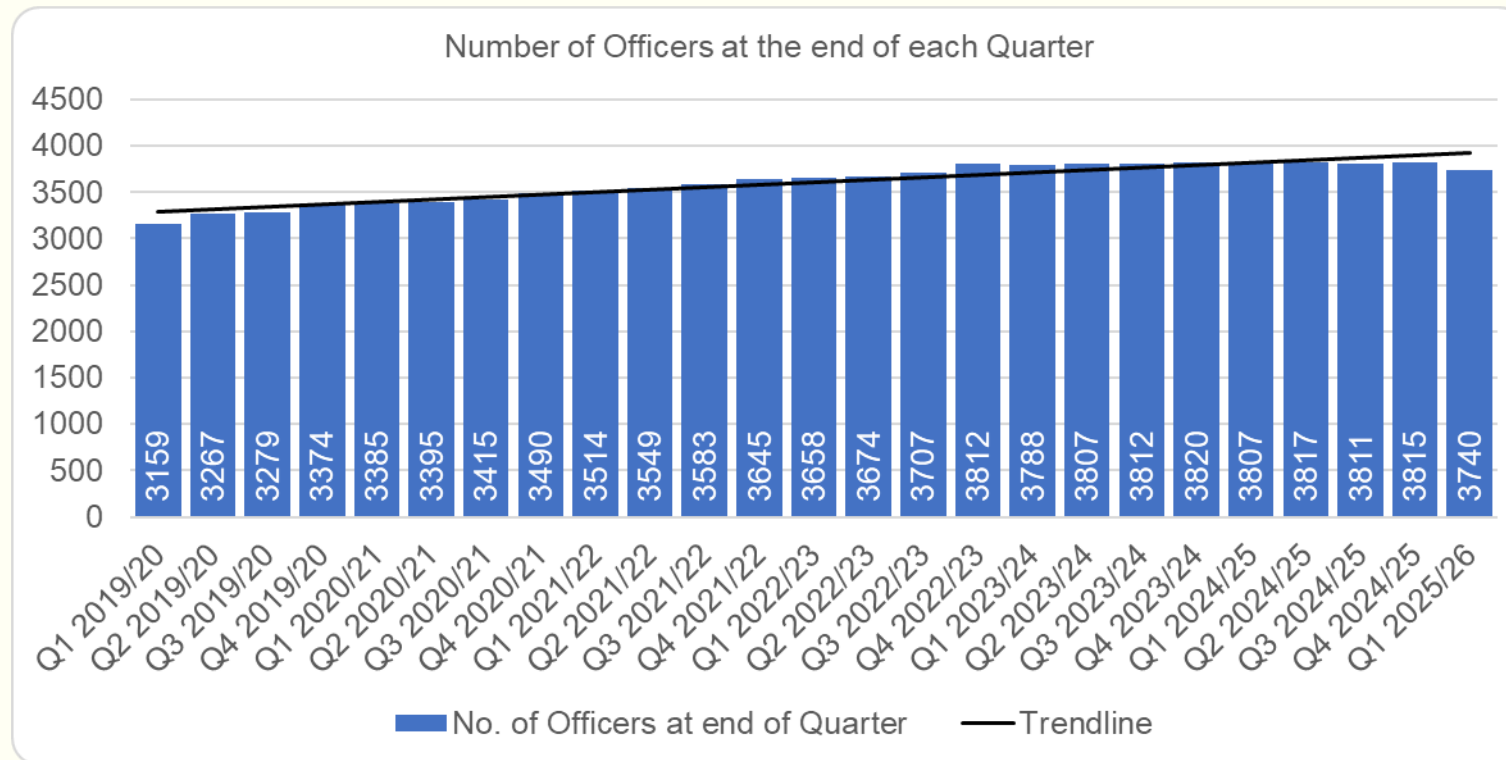
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- There was a statistically significant increase in call wait times in Q1 2025/26 compared with Q4 2024/25. However, Q4 2024/25 was notably lower than other recent quarters.
- Q1 2025/26 was stable compared with Q1 last year.
- The Contact Management Centre are undertaking scoping and analysis of the current demand. Essex Police continues to see an increase in demand for Live Chat and Single Online Home Services. Early indications shows that this is additional demand, not channel shifting, on these services. In May, 50% of the demand came from the digital space.



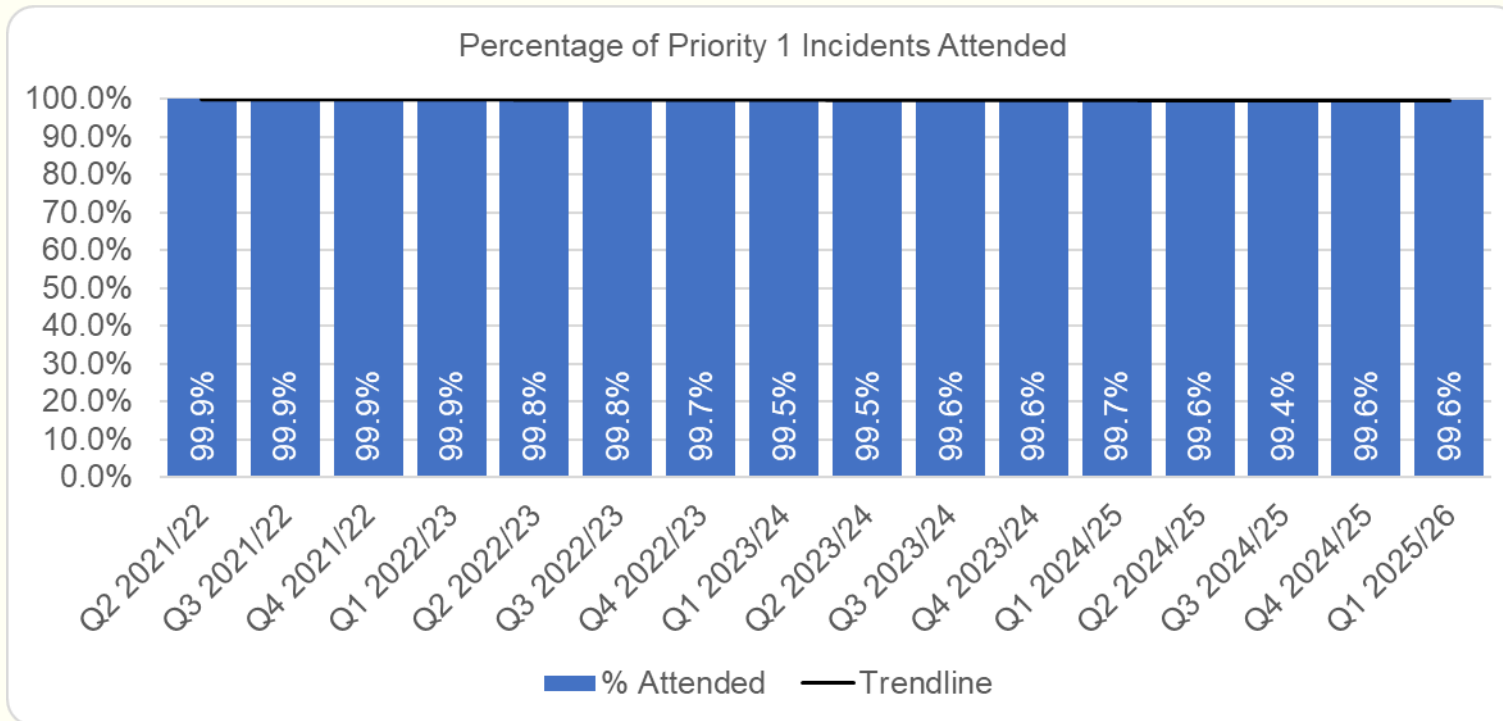
Key Points

- The long-term trend for the average 999 call wait time is increasing slightly.
- Q1 2025/26 saw the average 999 call wait time increase to 11.0 seconds. This is longest wait time since Q4 2023/24 (also 11.0 seconds) and an increase on the 8.1 second wait time for Q4 2024/25.
- However, there was a statistically significant increase in 999 calls received in Q1 2025/26 compared with Q4 2024/25 (13,136 more calls), which is likely to be a key reason why the average call wait time increased.



Key Points

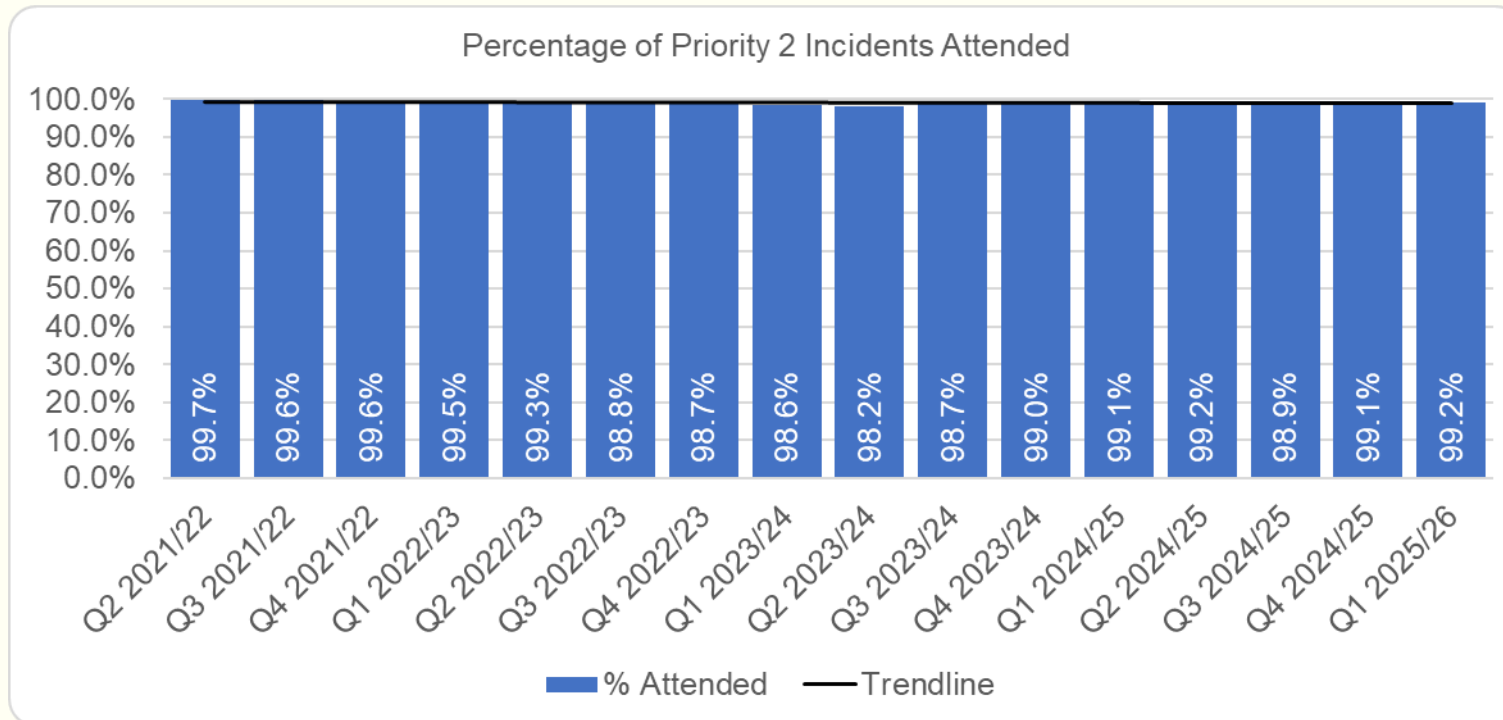
- There were 3,740 officers at the end of Q1 2025/26. This is a slight decrease from the previous quarter (3,815), and from Q1 last year (3,807). However, the long-term trend is increasing.



Key Points

- This metric has been added to reflect the changes in the PFCC Monthly report, which now reports on Priority 1 incident attendance.
- The long-term trend for the percentage of Priority 1 incidents attended is stable.

- In Q1 2025/26, 99.6% of Priority 1 incidents were attended, which is the same as the previous quarter, and just 0.1% points lower than Q1 last year.

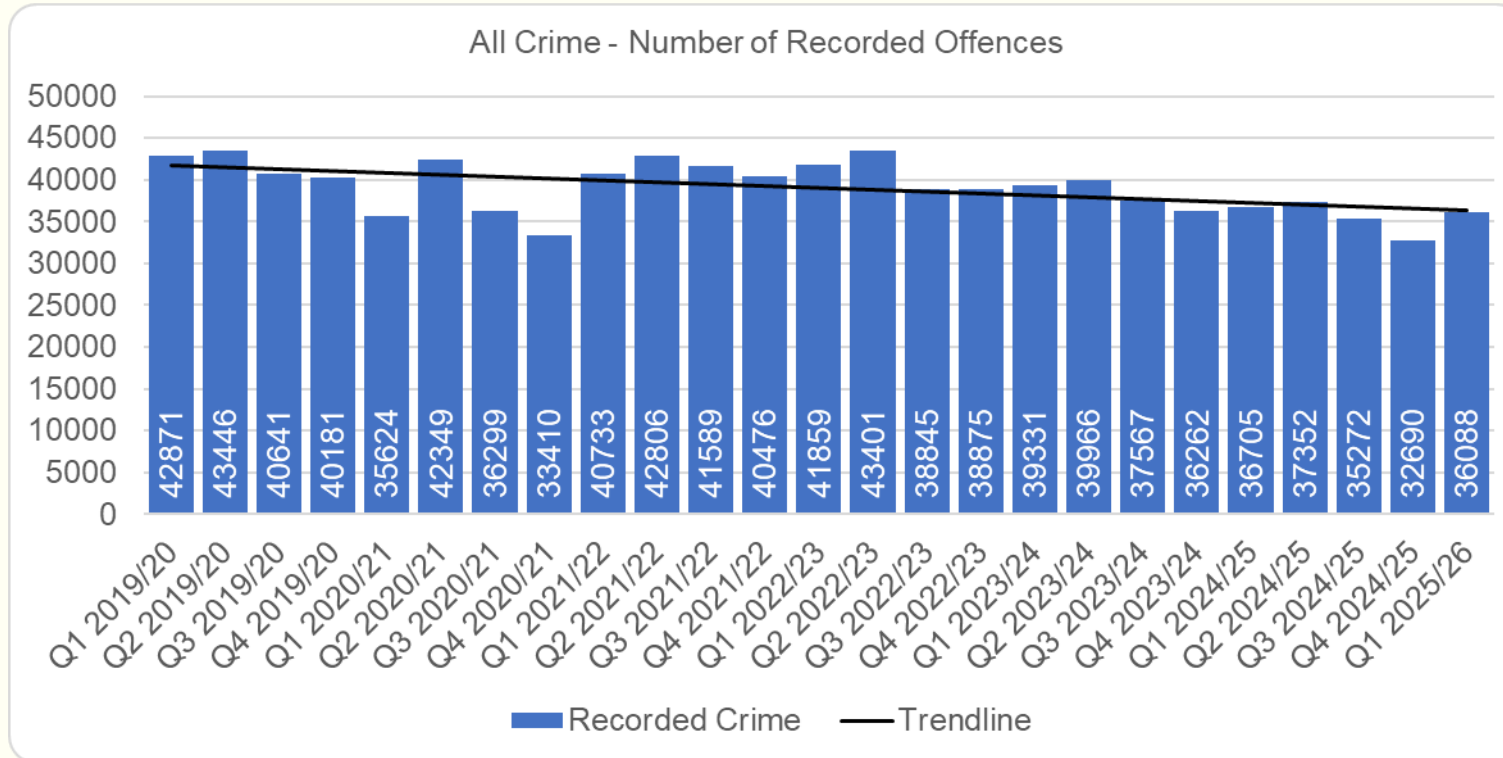


Key Points

- This metric has been added to reflect the changes in the PFCC Monthly report, which now reports on Priority 2 incident attendance.
- The long-term trend for the percentage of Priority 2 incidents attended is stable.
- In Q1 2025/26, 99.2% of P2 incidents were attended, which is 0.1%-point higher than the previous quarter, and 0.1%-points higher than Q1 last year.

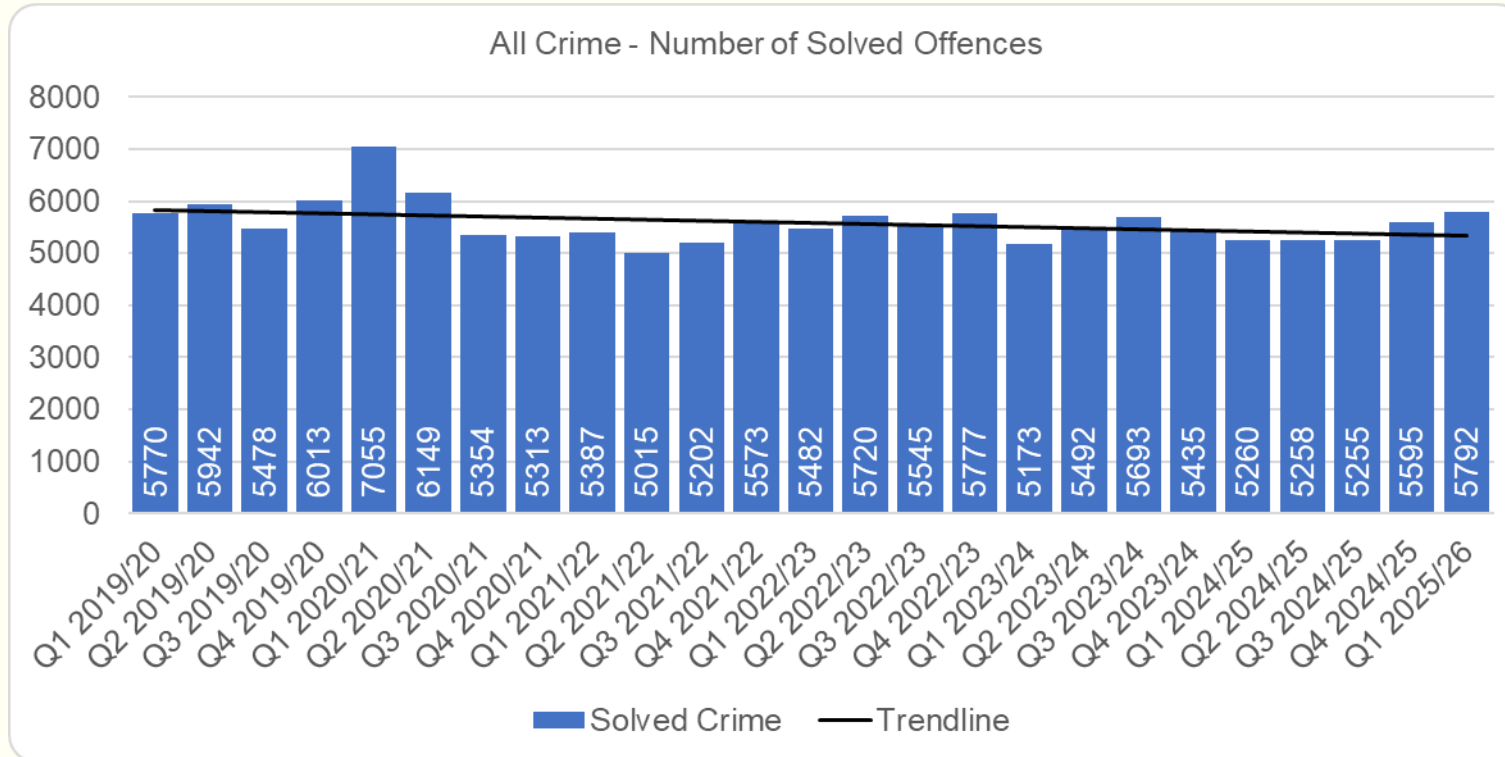
Drive down anti-social behaviour and crime

How we plan to do this: more hotspot policing and monitoring of known offenders to prevent crime in all our communities.



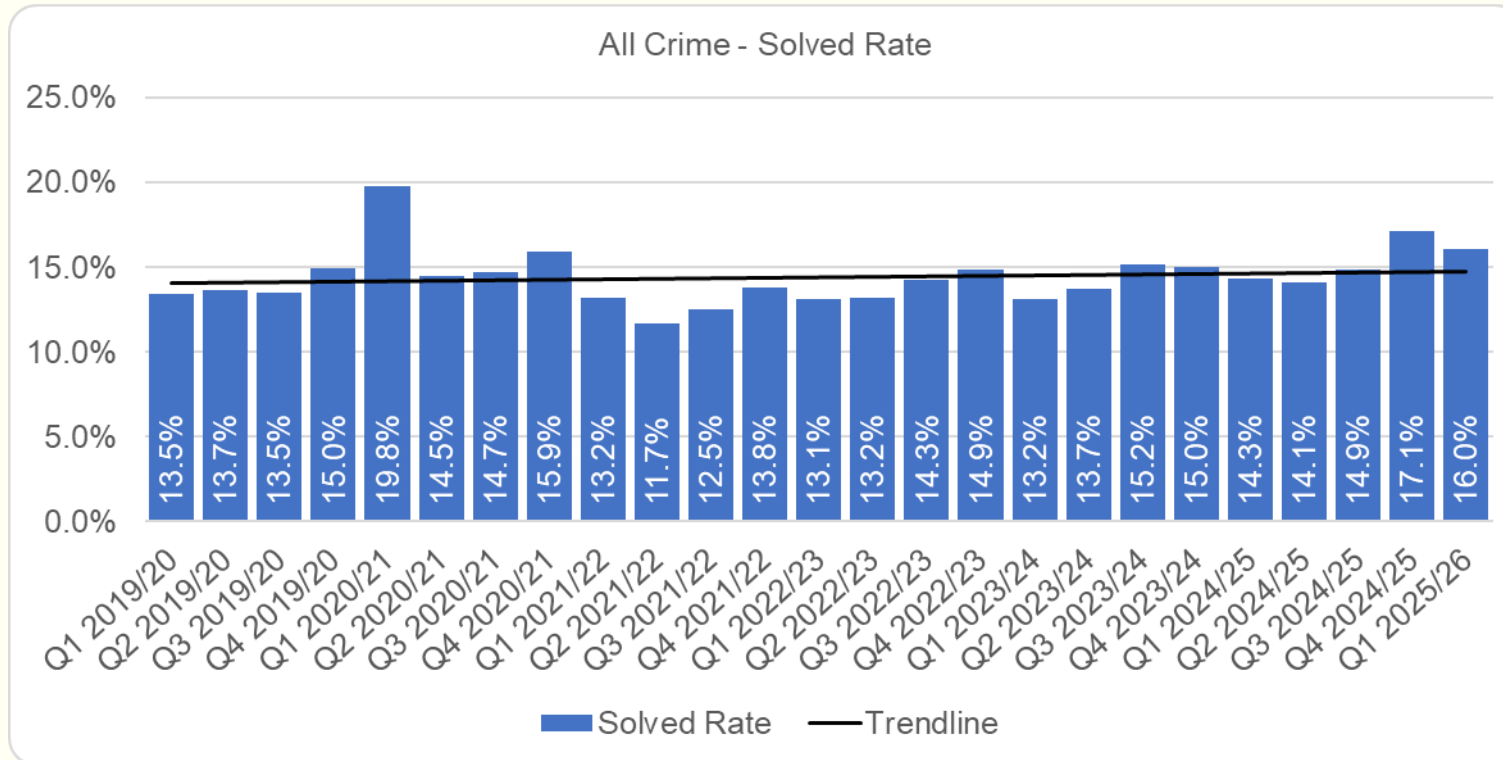
Key Points

- The long-term trend for recorded crime is decreasing.
- However, there was a statistically significant increase in crime in Q1 2025/26 (36,088) compared with the previous quarter (32,690). This follows a similar pattern to previous years, whereby Q4 tends to experience the fewest crimes.
- There was a statistically significant decrease in recorded crimes in Q1 2025/26 (36,088) compared with the same quarter last year (36,705).



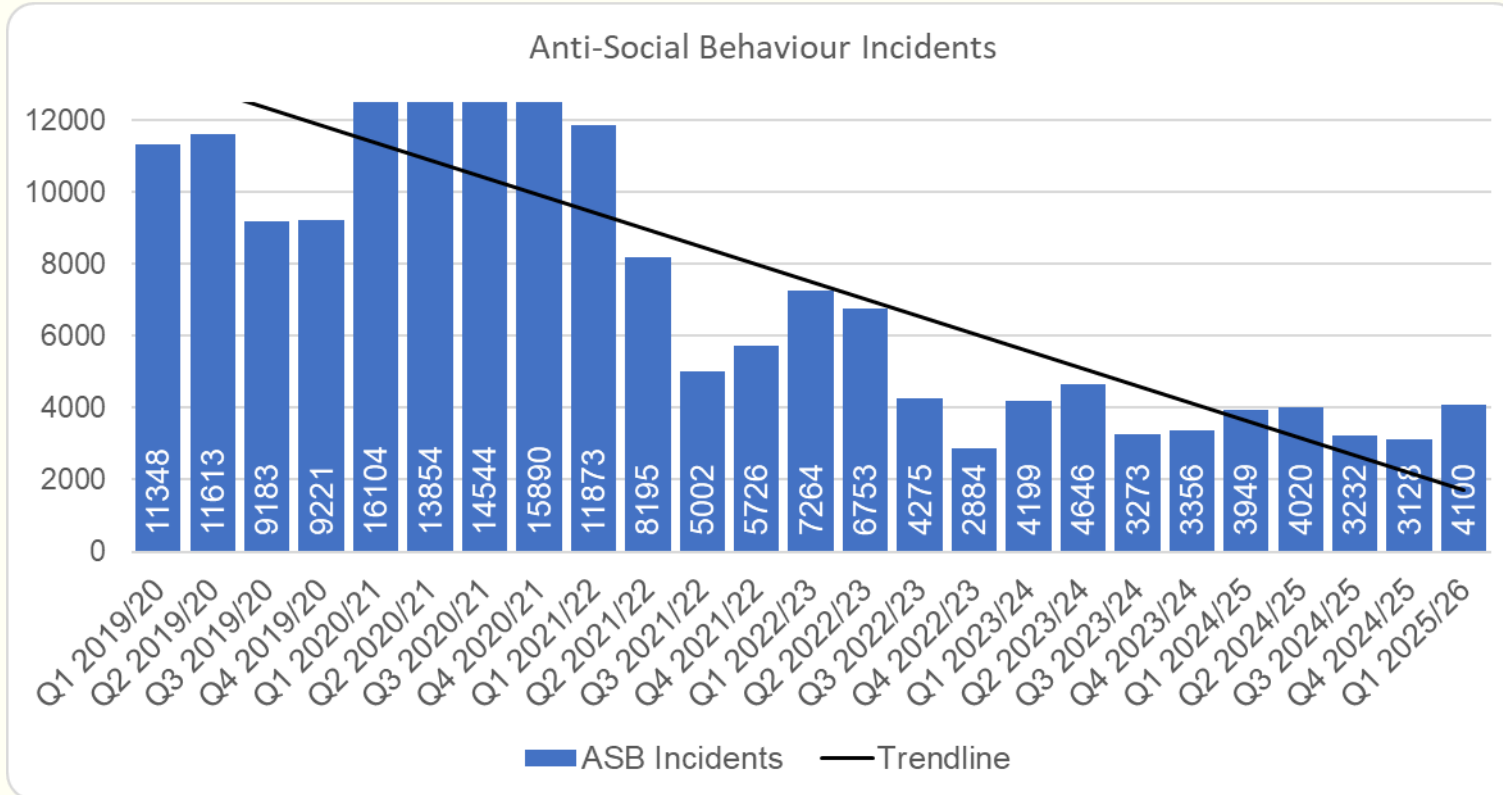
Key Points

- The long-term trend for the number of crimes solved is decreasing. However, this reflects the recorded crime trajectory, which is also decreasing.
- More crimes were solved in Q1 2025/26 (5,792) than in the previous quarter (5,595).
- There was a statistically significant increase in solved crimes in Q1 2025/26 (5,792) compared with Q1 the previous year (5,260).
- More crimes were solved in Q1 2025/26 than any other quarter since Q2 2020/21.



Key Points

- The long-term trend for the solved rate, is now increasing.
- In Q1 2025/26, 16.0% of all crime was solved. Although this is a decrease of 1.1%-points compared with the previous quarter, it is a 1.7%-point increase compared with Q1 last year.
- The solved rate in Q1 2025/26 was the third highest across the last six years.

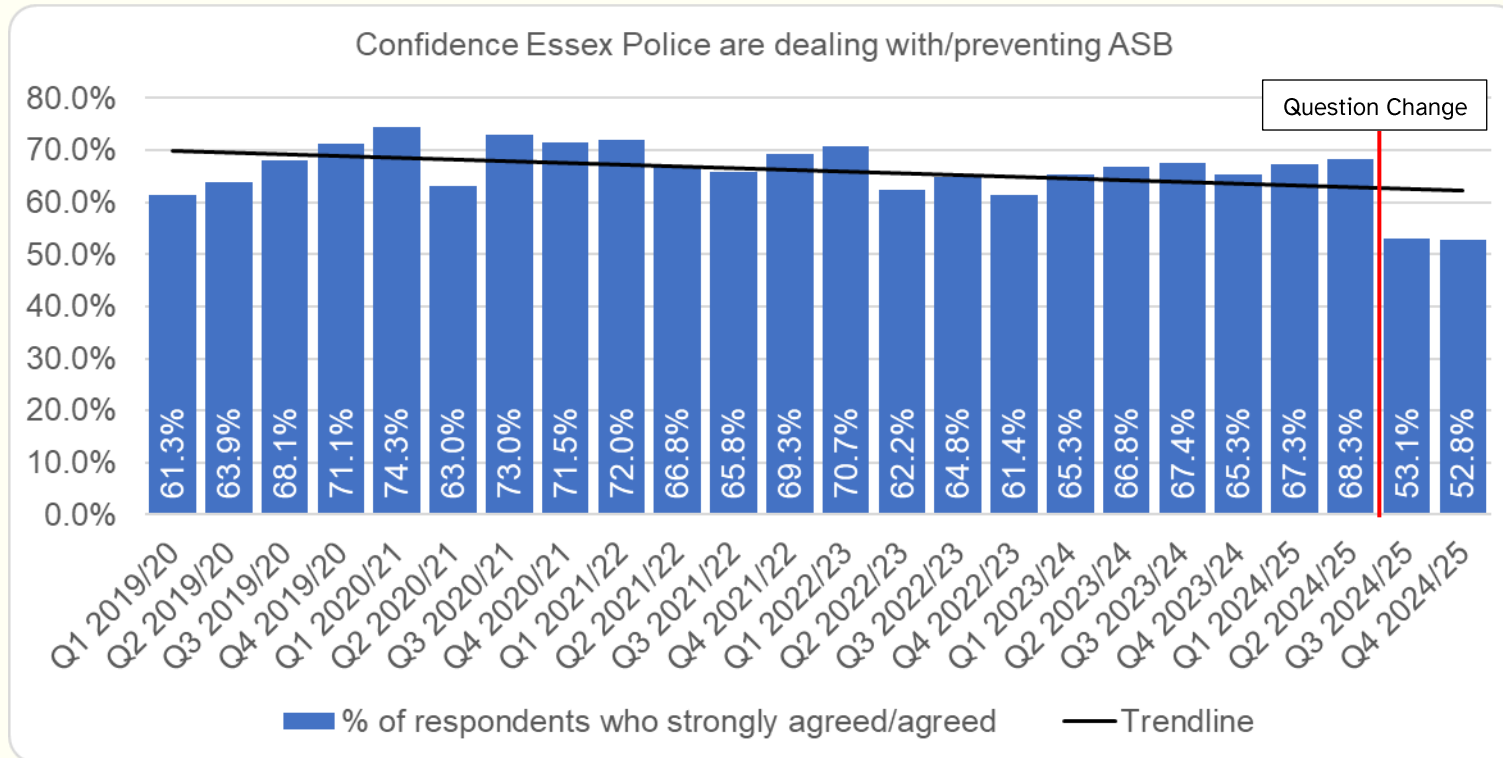


Key Points

- The long-term trend for ASB incidents shows a statistically significant decrease. Whilst this is somewhat skewed by large increases in ASB during Covid lockdowns, the downward trend has continued post-Covid.
- However, there were 4,100 ASB incidents in Q1 2025/26. This is a statistically significant increase compared with the previous quarter (3,128), but stable compared with Q1 last year (3,949).

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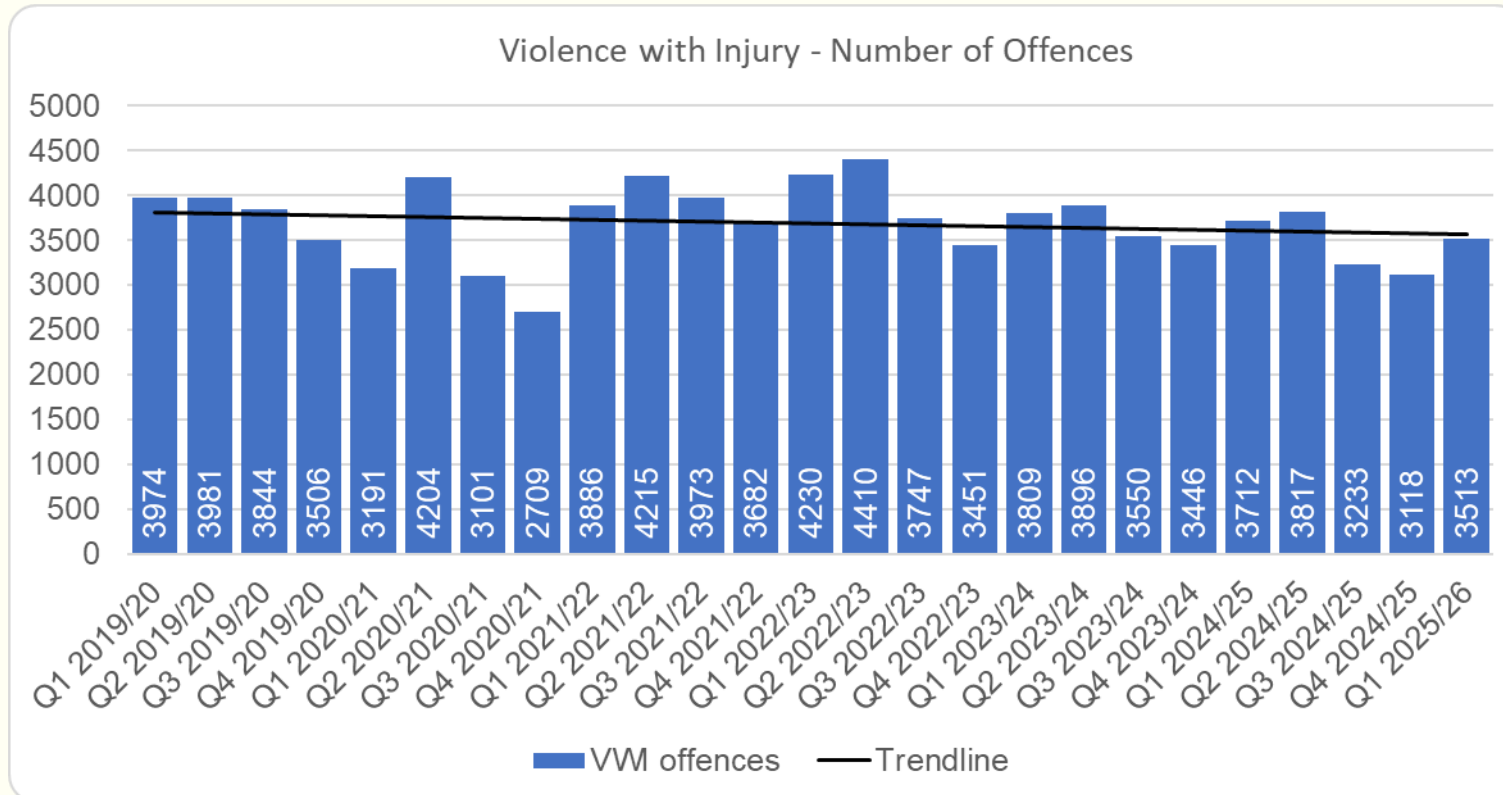
Key Points¹

- The long-term trend shows a decrease in confidence that Essex Police are dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- However, it is important to note that the question set for the survey carried out on behalf of Essex Police, was changed in Q3 2024/25, from 'To what extent do you agree or disagree that Essex Police and the organisations they work with are dealing with ASB?' to 'To what extent do you agree or disagree that Essex Police are preventing ASB?'. Therefore, some caution should be exercised when making comparisons with previous data.

¹ Data is based on the results for *each quarter* (as opposed to the PFCC monthly report, which shows the results for the *12 months to the end of each quarter*).

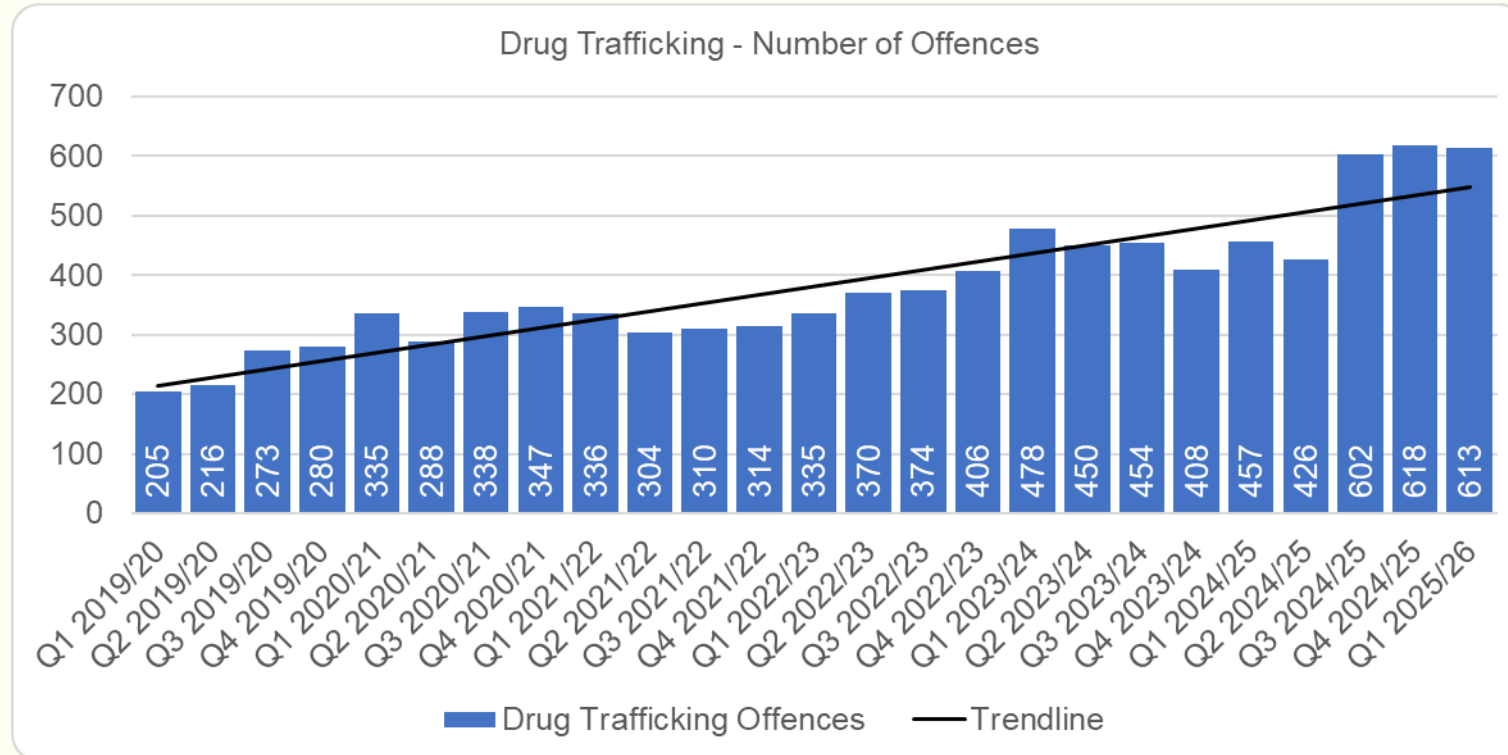
Beat knife crime and drug gangs and protect young people

How we plan to do this: work in partnership and target our collective resources to take drugs and weapons off our street and help young people get out of gangs.



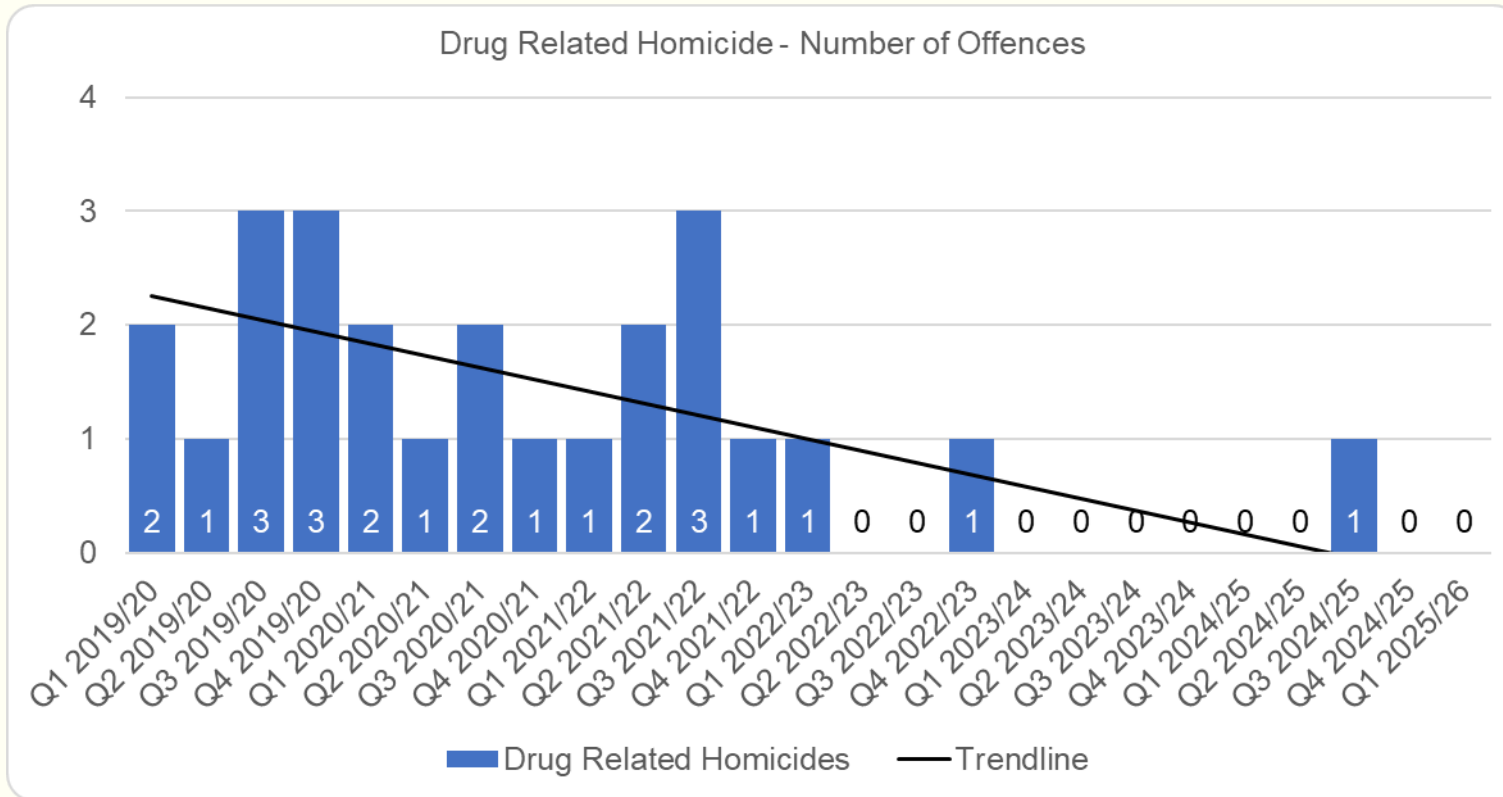
Key Points

- The long-term trend for Violence with Injury is decreasing.
- In Q1 2025/26 there were 3,513 Violence with Injury offences recorded. Although this is a statistically significant increase compared with the previous quarter (3,118), it is a statistically significant decrease compared with Q1 last year (3,712).



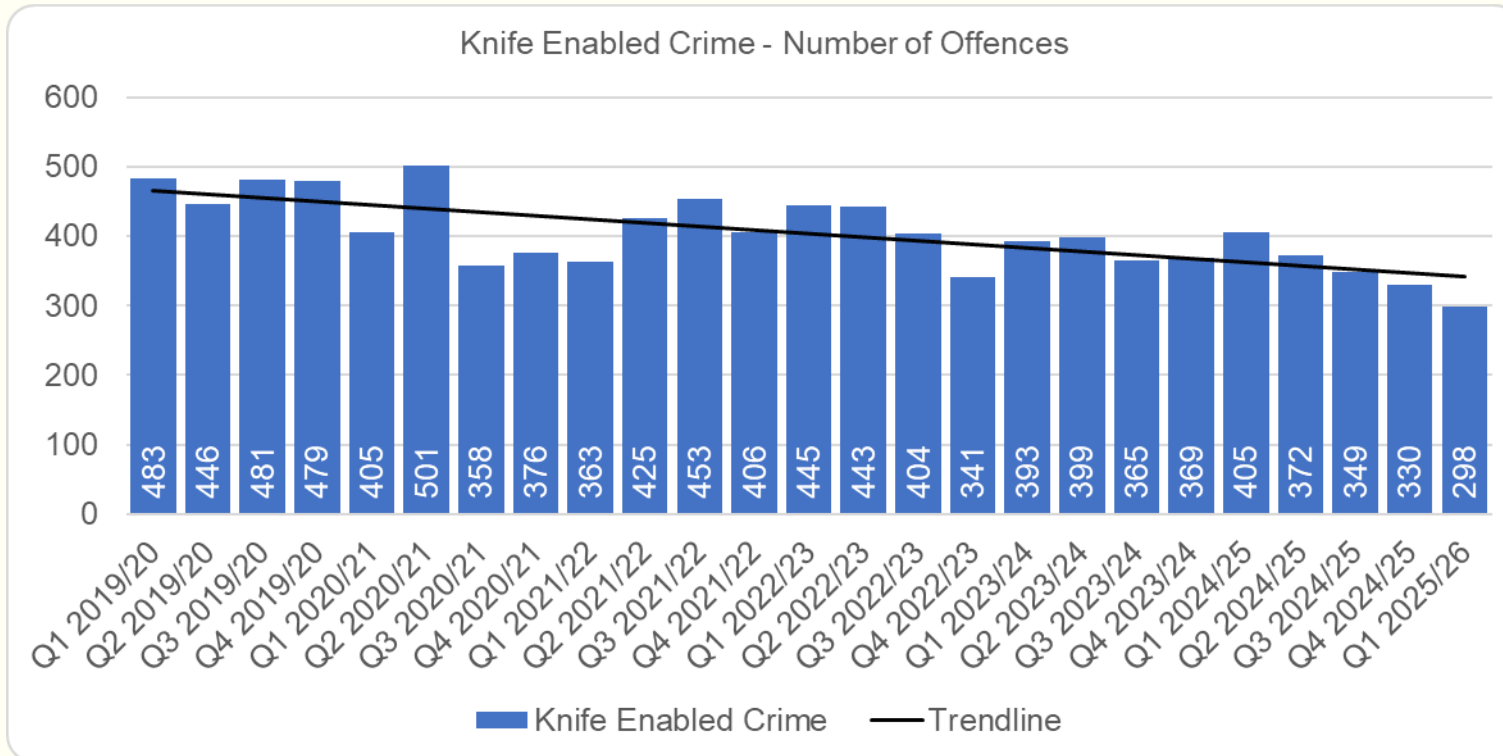
Key Points

- The long-term trend for Drug Trafficking is increasing. This reflects proactive policing and is therefore a positive measure.
- Q1 2025/26 recorded the second highest number of drug trafficking offences (613) since at least Q1 2019/20, and significantly more than Q1 last year (457).



Key Points

- There were no drug-related homicides in Q1 2025/26, which continues the decreasing long-term trend.
- There have been two drug related homicides in the last three years (Q2 2024/25 to Q1 2025/26), compared with 21 in the three years prior (Q2 2022/23 to Q1 2024/25).

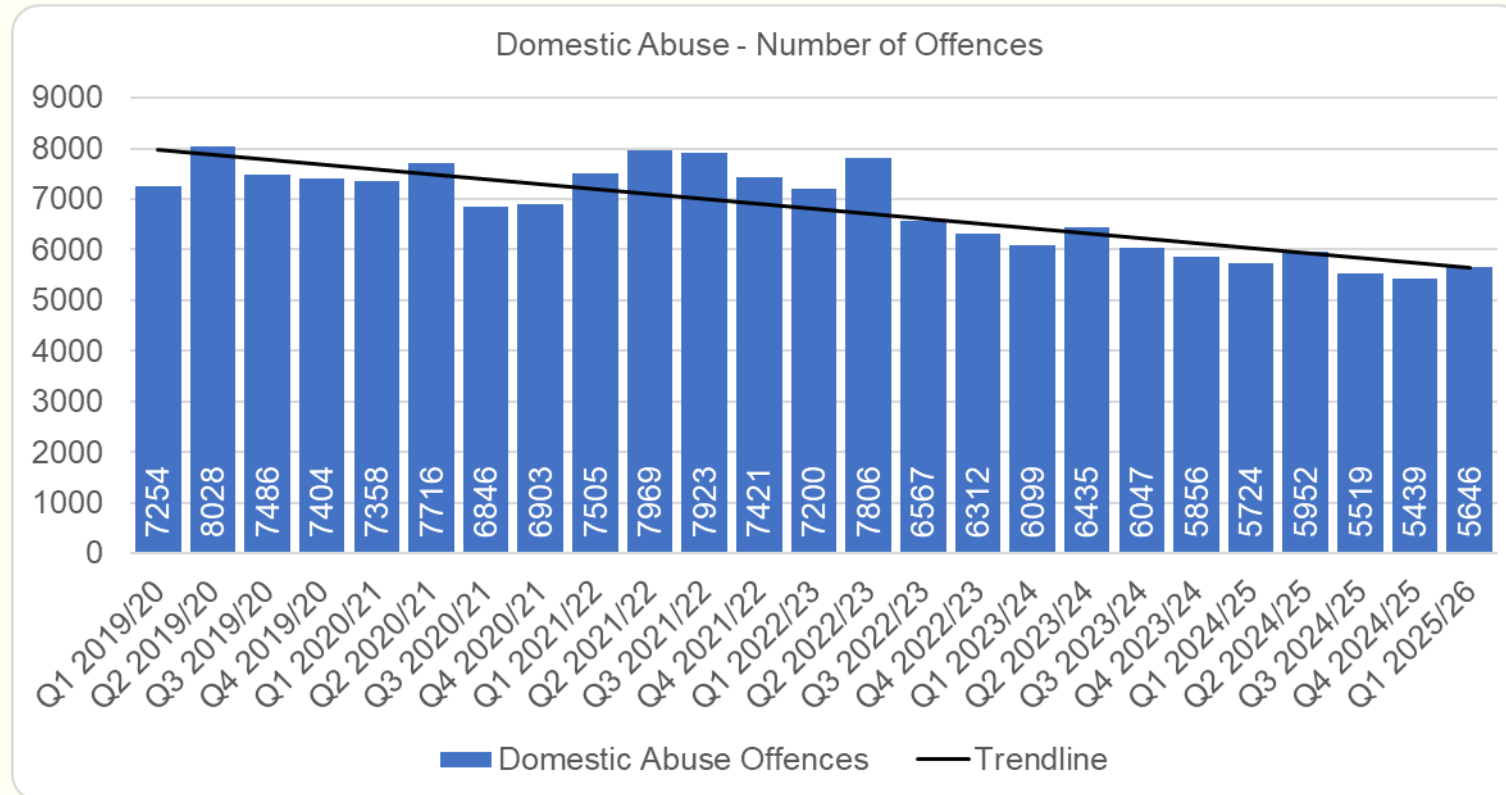


Key Points

- The long-term trend for knife-enabled crime is decreasing.
- There were 298 recorded offences in Q1 2025/26 – a decrease of 32 offences from the previous quarter (330), and 107 fewer offences than Q1 last year (405).
- Q1 2025/26 recorded fewer knife enabled offences than any other quarter since at least Q1 2019/20.

Tackle violence against women and girls and domestic abuse

How we plan to do this: invest in interventions proven to reduce crime and promote a sense of safety in communities. Work with partners to prevent offending, protect those at risk and bring more perpetrators to justice.

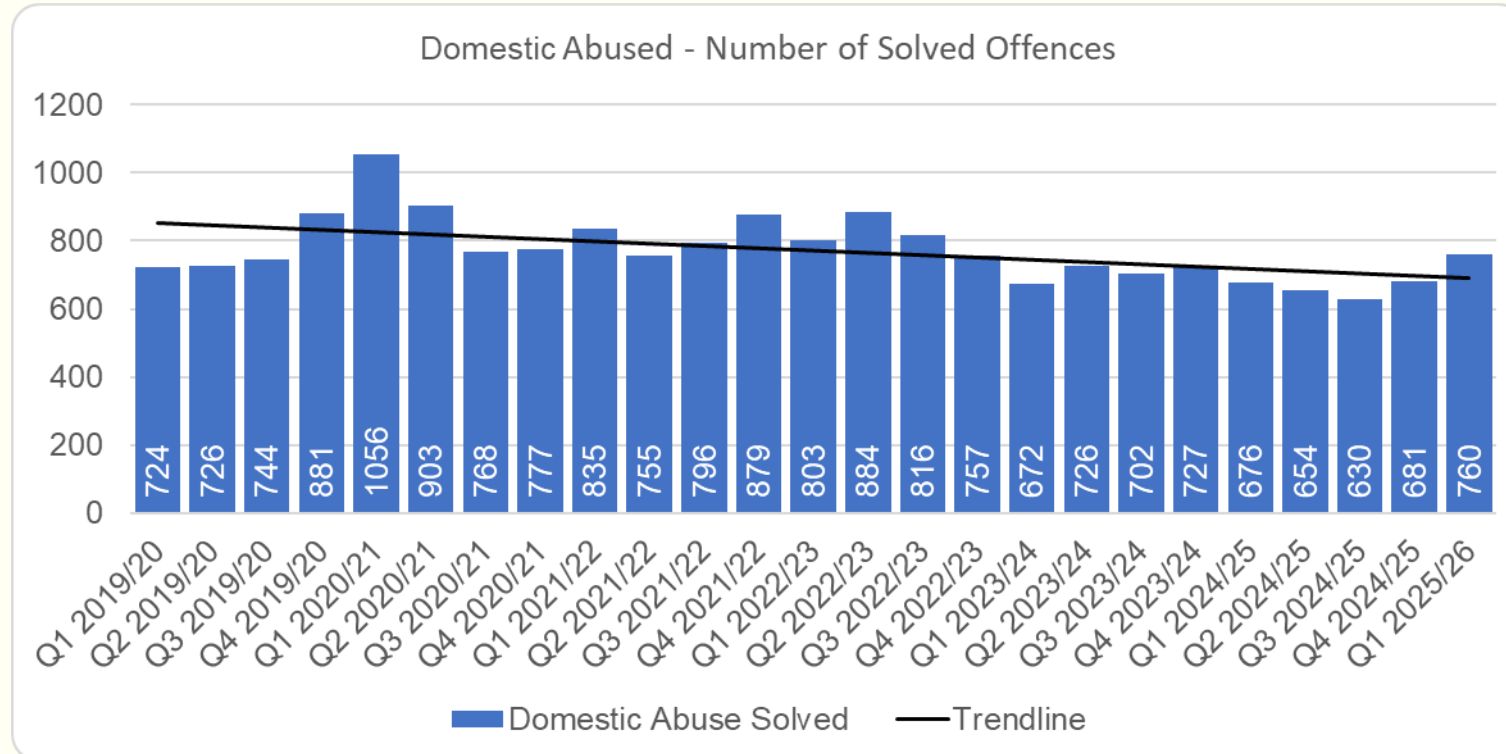


Key Points

- The long-term trend for domestic abuse is decreasing.
- There were 5,646 recorded offences in Q1 2025/26, which is a slight decrease from 5,724 in Q1 last year.

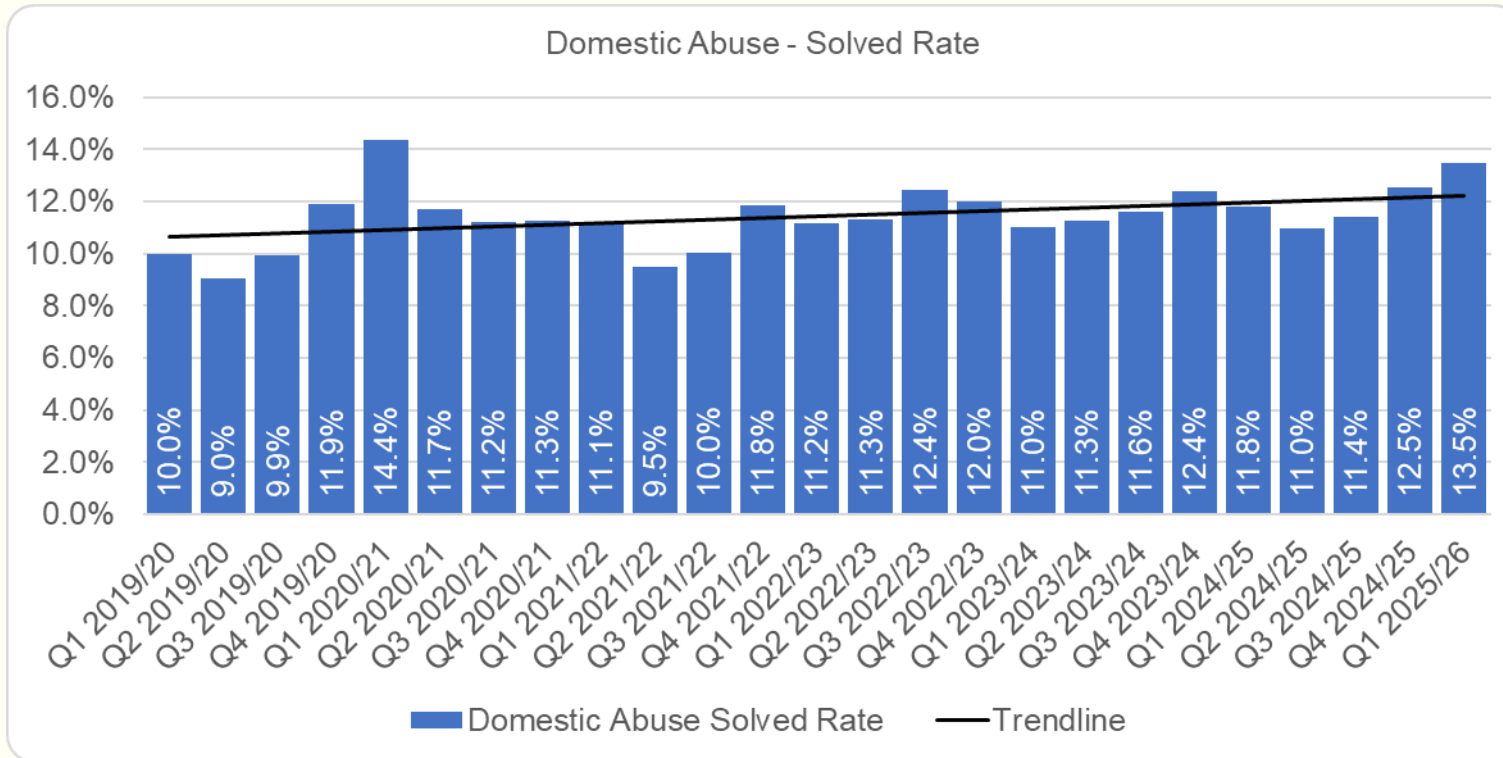
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- However, there was a statistically significant increase in recorded domestic abuse offences in Q1 2025/26 compared with Q4 2024/25 (5,439) - although it should be noted that Q4 2024/25 was the lowest quarter across the last six years.
- The total number of domestic abuse crimes recorded over the last 12 months (22,556), shows a statistically significant decrease compared with the previous 12 months (24,062).



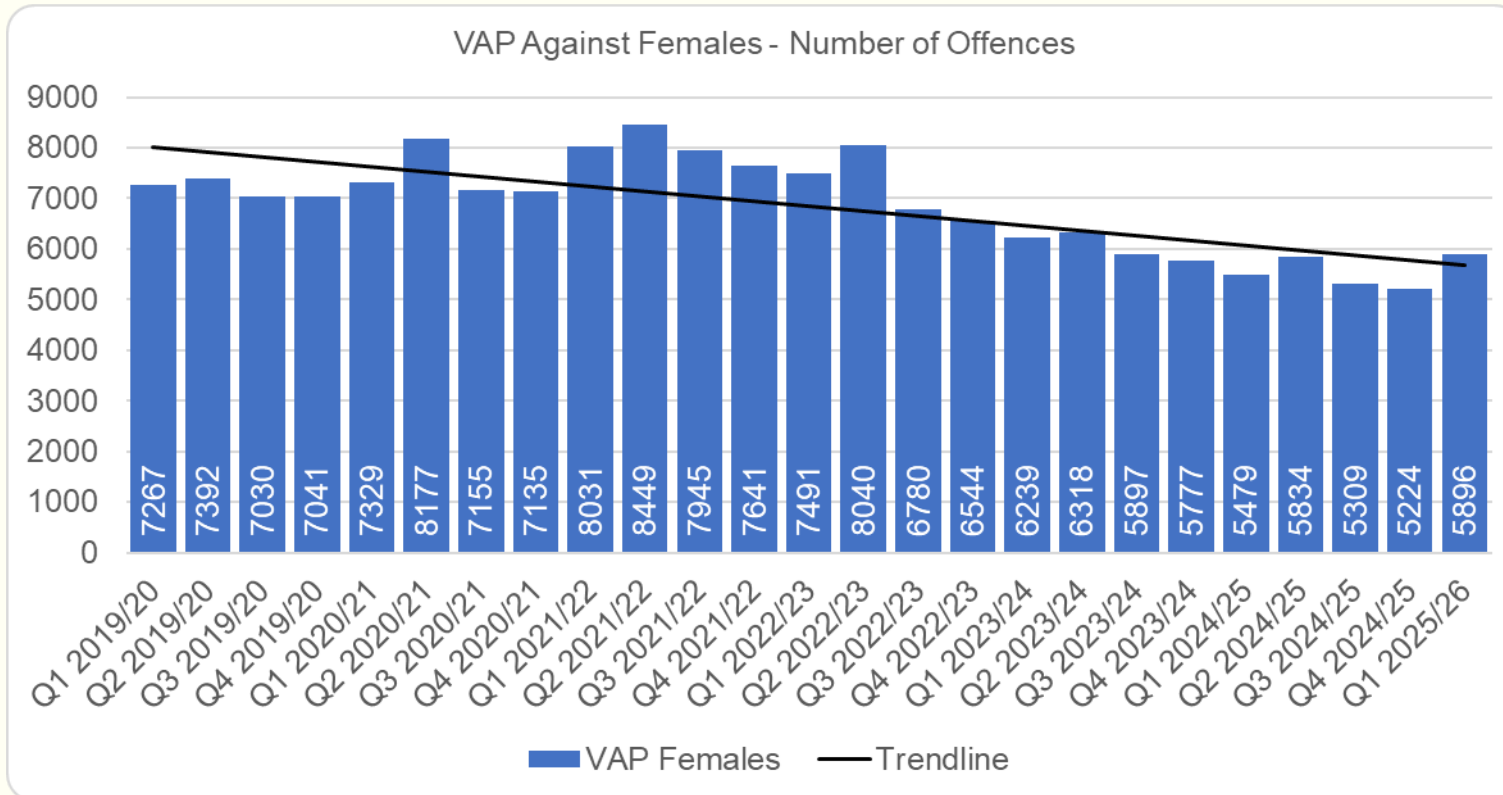
Key Points

- The long-term trend for the number of domestic abuse offences solved, is decreasing. However, this reflects the decreasing trajectory of the number of recorded domestic abuse offences.
- In Q1 2025/26, 760 domestic abuse offences were solved – 79 more than the previous quarter and 84 more than Q1 last year.



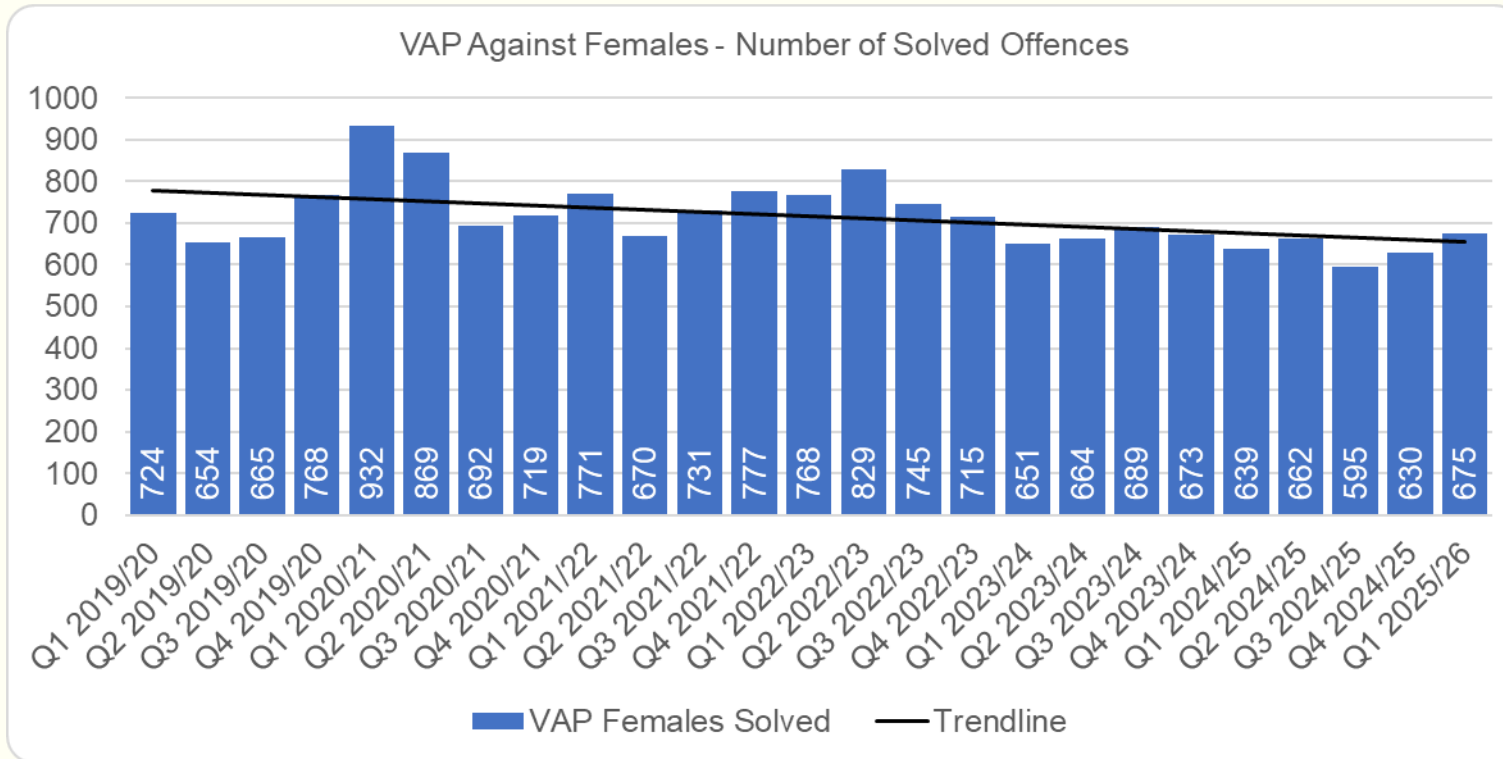
Key Points

- The long-term trend for the domestic abuse solved rate, is increasing.
- In Q1 2025/26, 13.5% of domestic abuse offences were solved. This is the second highest solved rate across the six-year data period shown above. It is also 1.7%-points higher than Q1 last year, and 1.0%-point higher than Q4 2024/25.



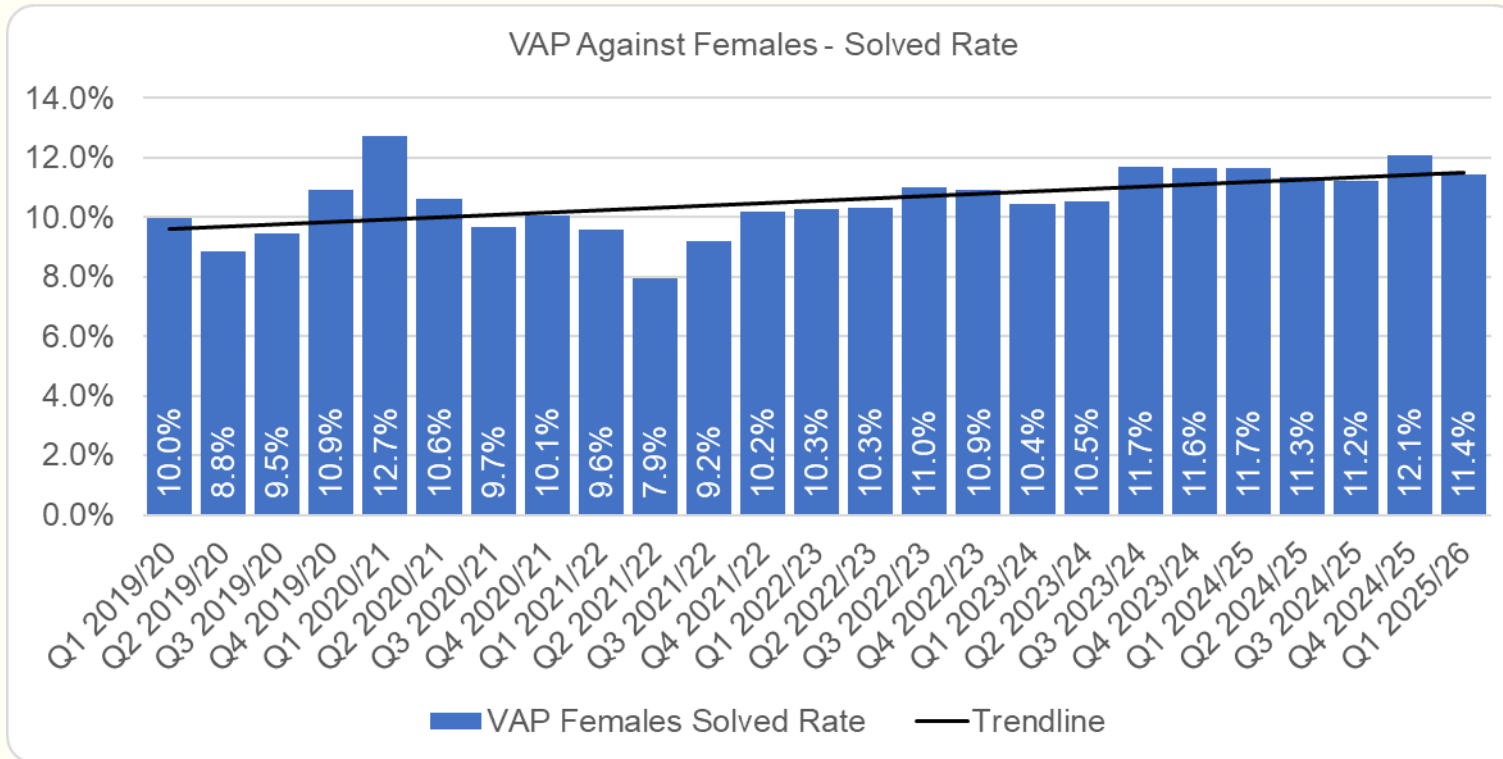
Key Points

- The long-term trend for Violence Against the Person offences against females, is decreasing.
- However, there was a statistically significant increase in Q1 2025/26 (5,896) compared with Q4 2024/25 (5,224) and compared with Q1 last year (5,479) – although these were amongst the lowest quarters across the last six years.



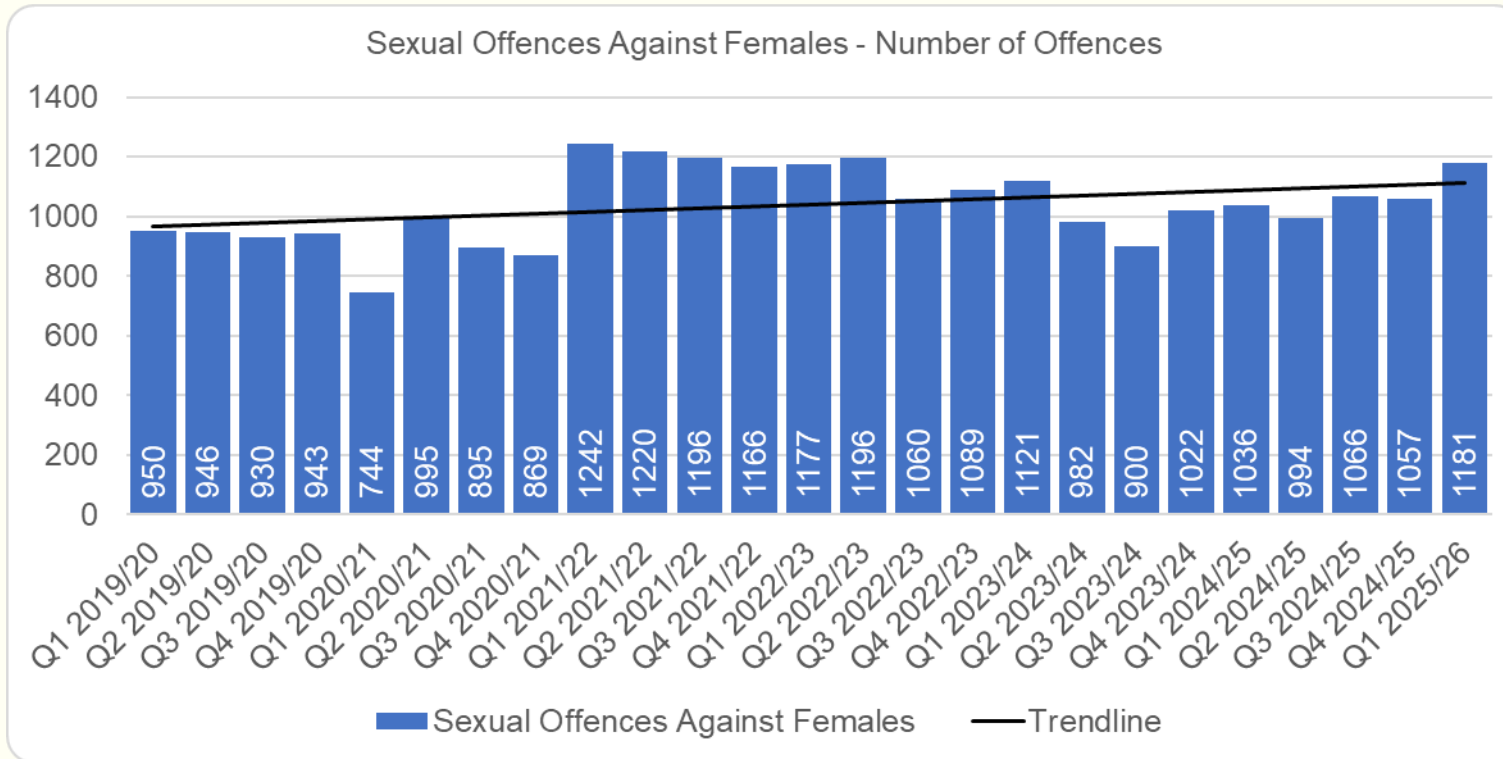
Key Points

- The long-term trend for solved Violence Against the Person with female victims, is decreasing. This reflects the reduction in the number of offences recorded.
- In Q1 2025/26, 675 offences were solved – 45 more than the previous quarter and 36 more than Q1 last year.



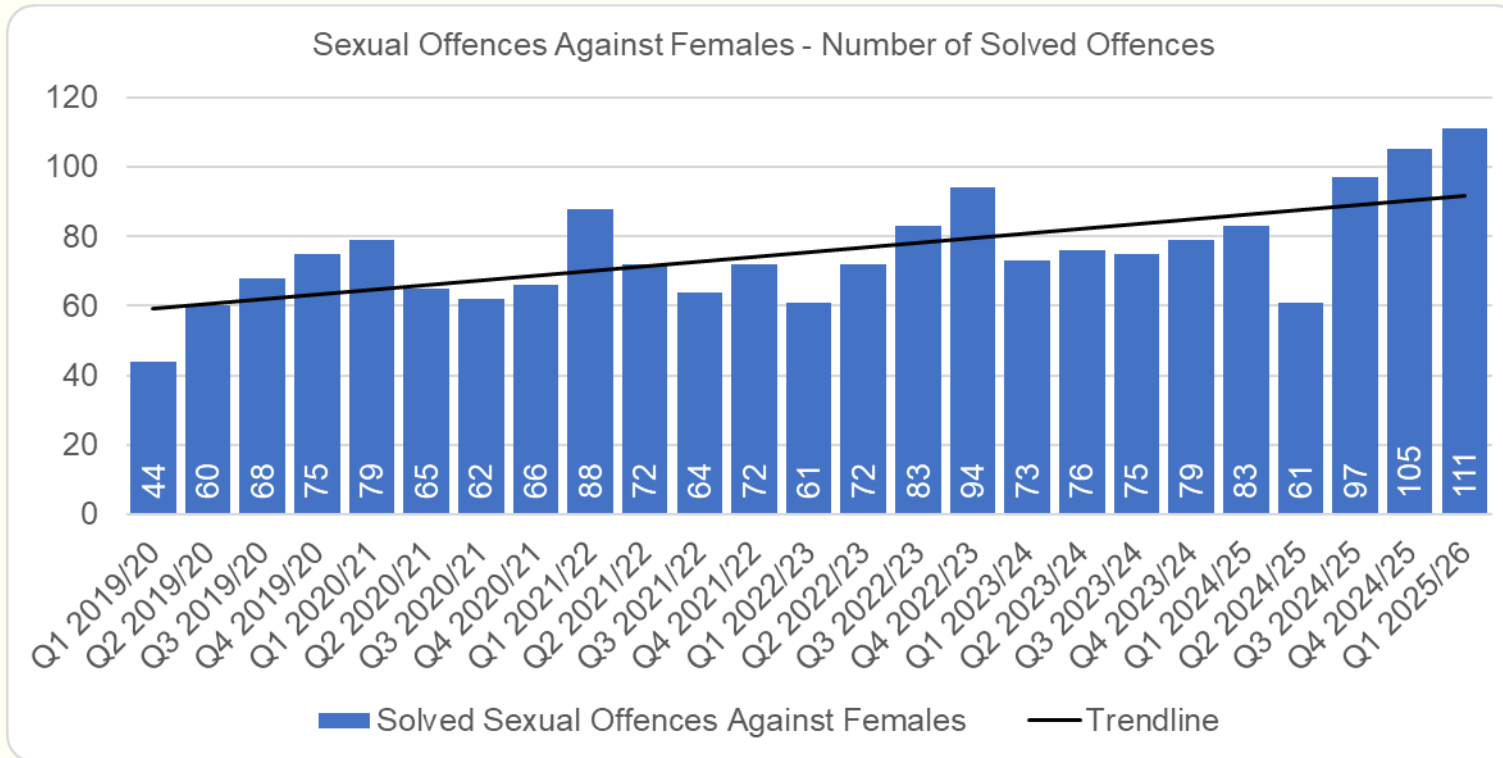
Key Points

- The long-term trend for the solved rate of Violence Against the Person with female victims, is increasing.
- In Q1 2025/26, 11.4% of offences were solved. This is 0.7% points lower than the previous quarter (12.1%) and slightly lower than the solved rate for Q1 last year (11.7%). However, Q1 last year and Q4 2024/25 had two of the highest solved rates across the last six years.



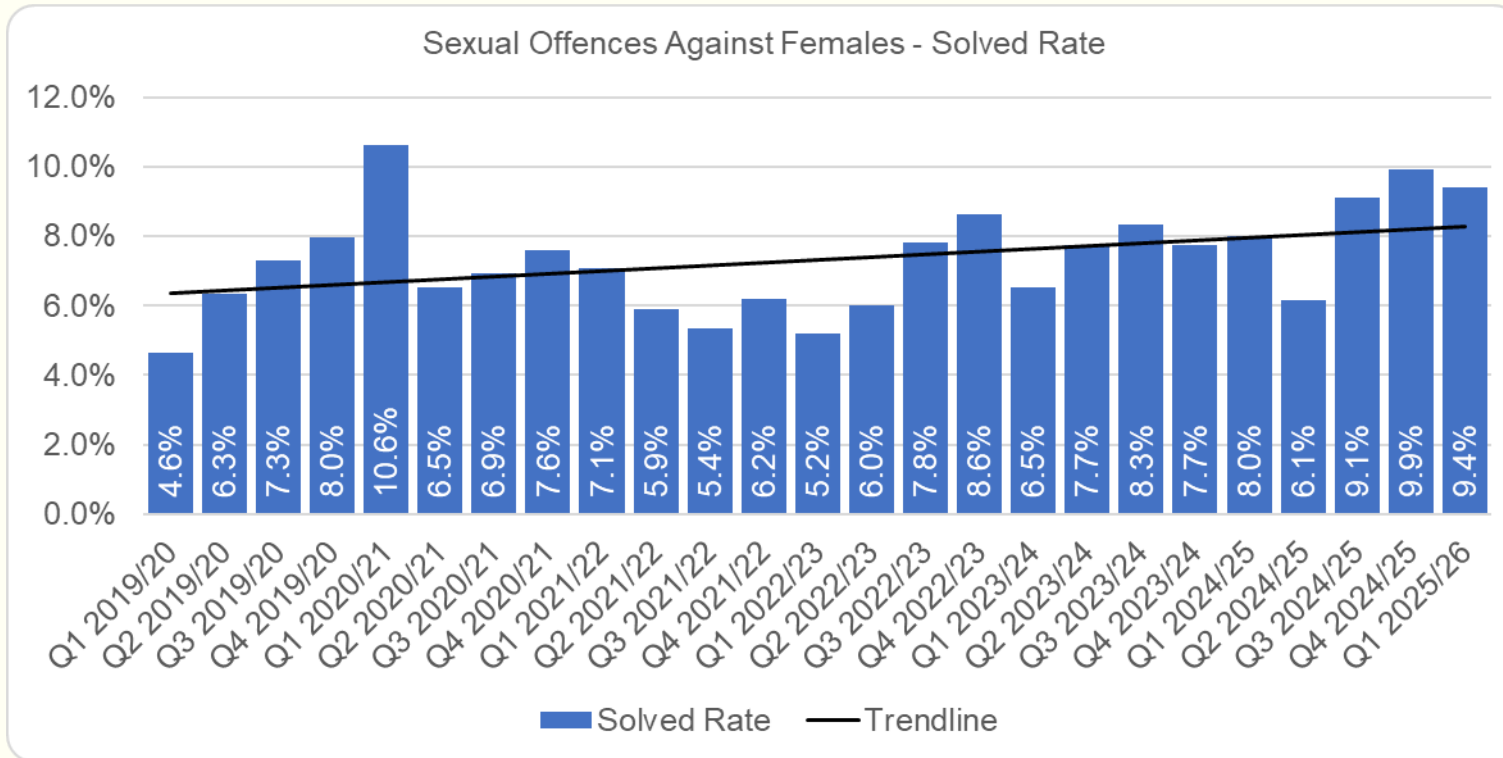
Key Points

- The long-term trend for recorded sexual offences against females is increasing.
- Widespread media awareness and high-profile cases, are likely to have encouraged victims to report offences, leading to an increase in recorded offences.
- In Q1 2025/26, there were 1,181 sexual offences against females reported. This is 124 more offences than the previous quarter (1,057), and 145 more than Q1 last year (1,036) – both statistically significant increases.



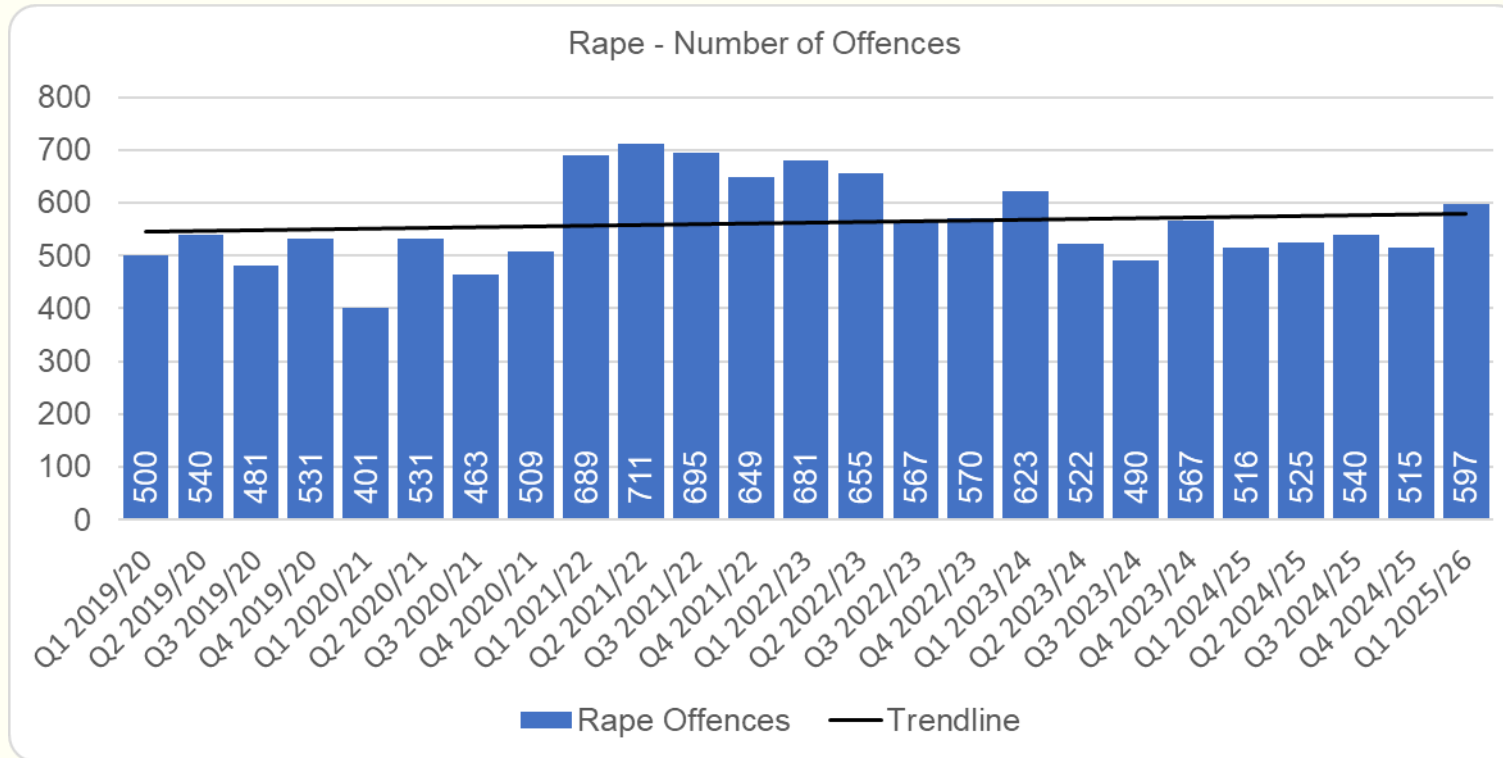
Key Points

- The number of solved sexual offences against females has continued to increase.
- In Q1 2025/26, 111 offences were solved. This is the highest number of solved offences since at least Q1 2019/20.



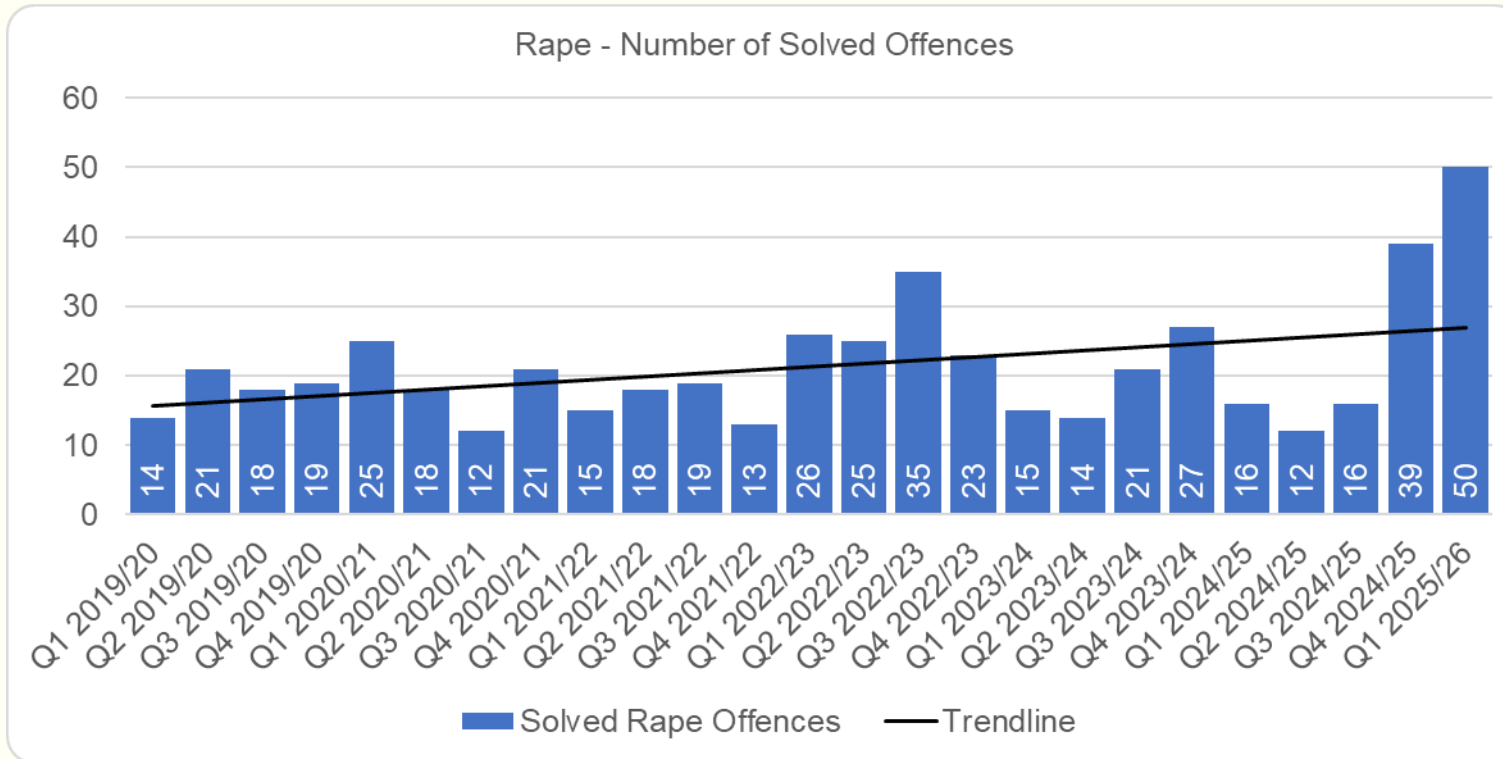
Key Points

- The long-term trend for the solved rate of sexual offences against females is increasing.
- The solved rate for Q1 2025/26 was 9.4%. This is the third consecutive Quarter where the solved rate has remained above 9%.
- Q1 2025/26 was 0.5%-points lower than the previous quarter (9.9%) but 1.4%-points higher than Q1 last year (8.0%).



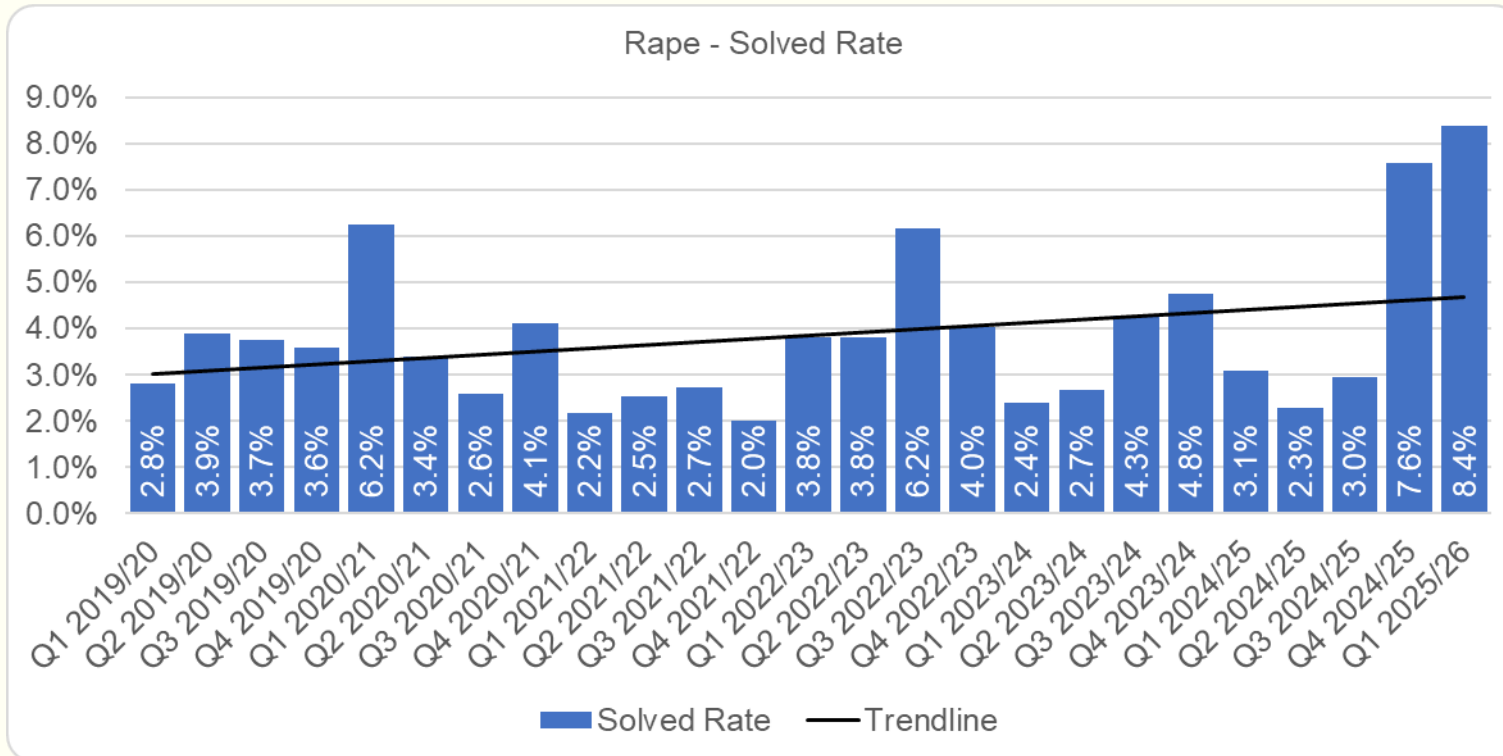
Key Points

- The long-term trend for reported rape offences is increasing slightly. This may be partly because of heightened media awareness and the ‘Me Too’ campaign, which has encouraged more victims to come forward.
- There was a statistically significant increase in recorded rapes in Q1 2025/26 (597) compared with the previous quarter (515) and compared with Q1 last year (516).



Key Points

- The long-term trend for solved rape offences is increasing.
- In Q1 2025/26, 50 rapes were solved. This is the highest number of solved cases within the six-year data period shown, and a *statistically significant increase* compared with almost all other quarters.

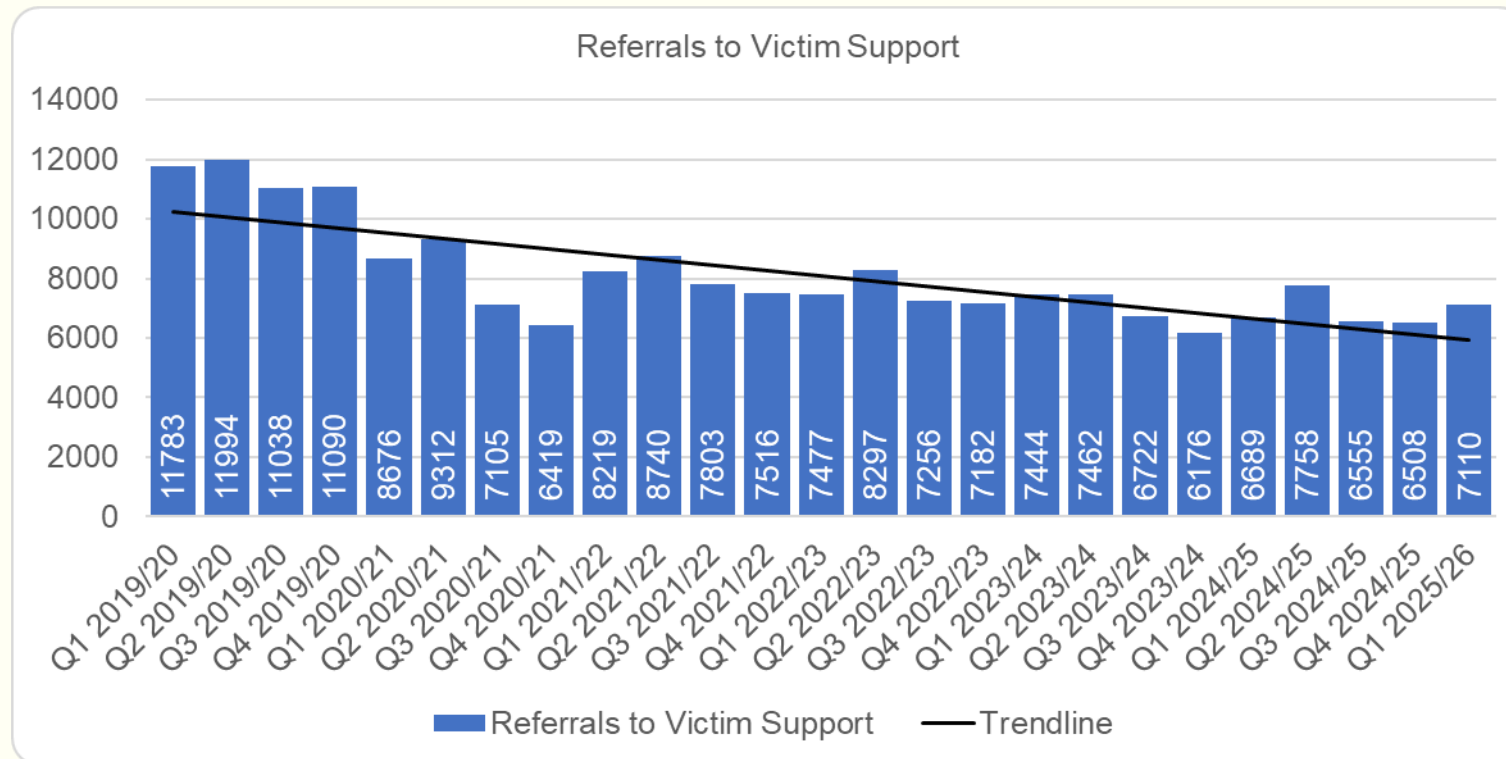


Key Points

- The long-term trend for the rape solved rate is increasing.
- In Q1 2025/26, 8.4% of rapes were solved. This is the highest solved rate within the six-year data period shown, and more than twice the solved rate of Q1 last year (3.1%).

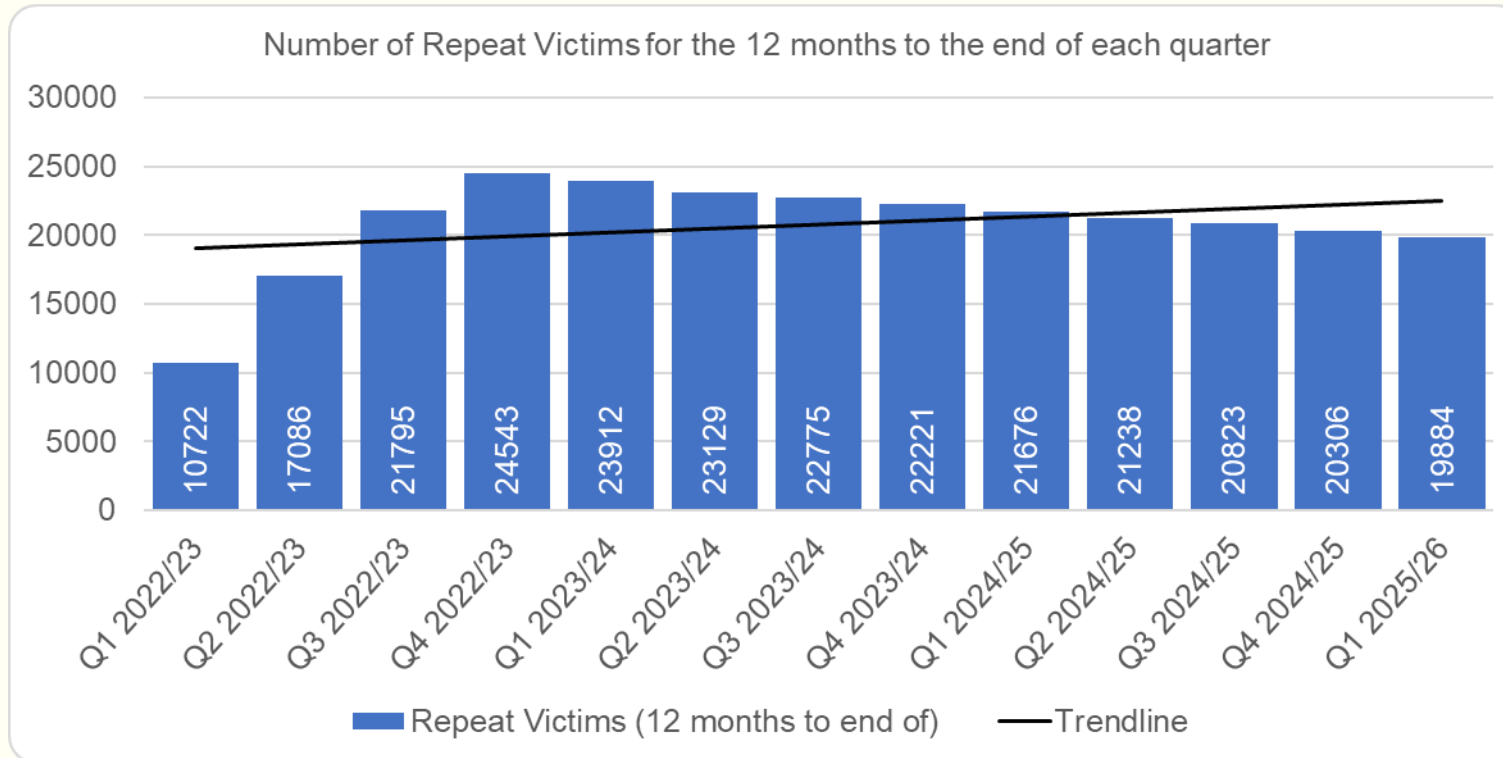
Ensure vulnerable people are protected

How we plan to do this: work alongside partners to identify people who are at risk or vulnerable, help them to stay safe and away from a life of crime.



Key Points

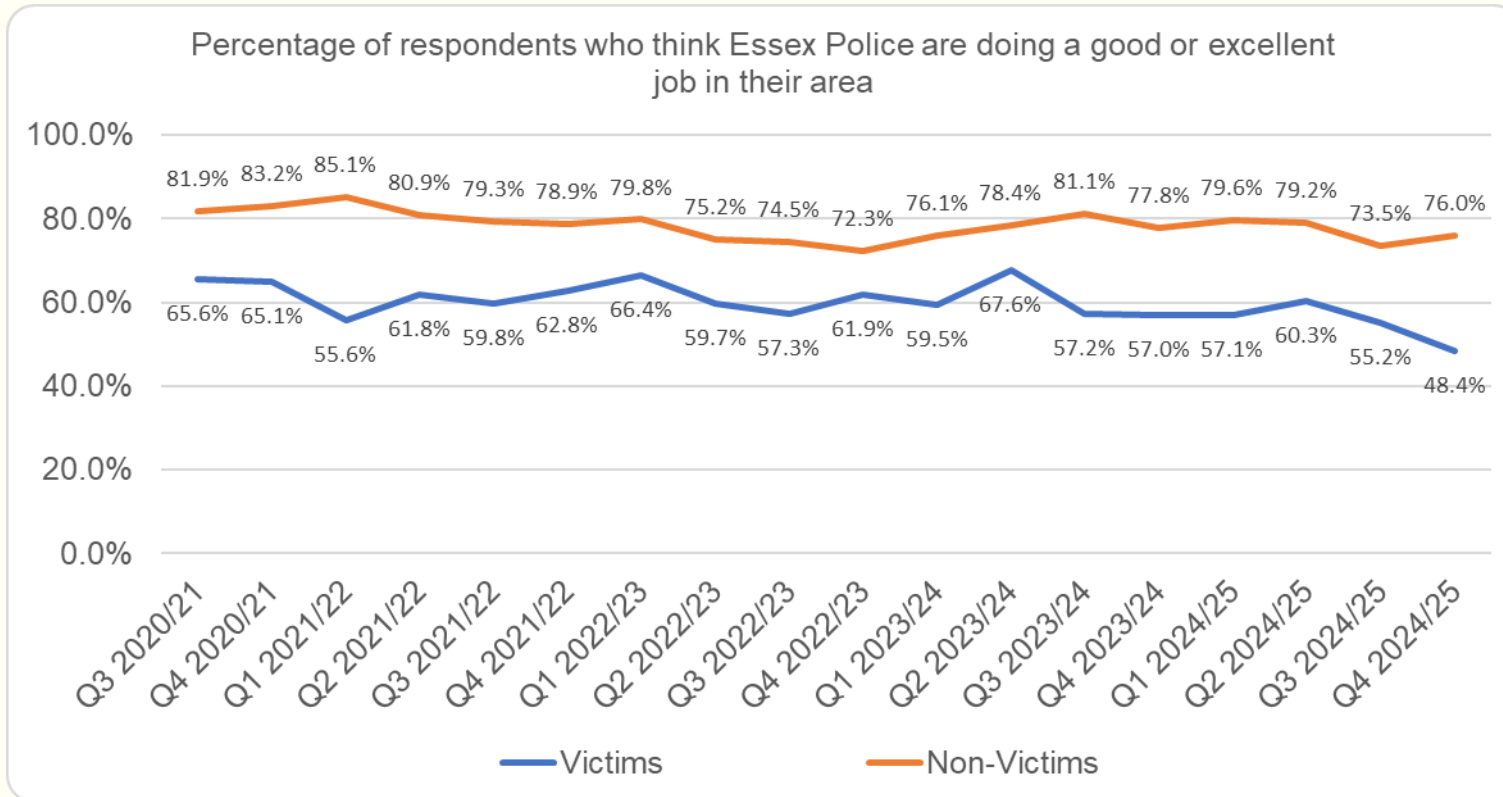
- Referrals to Victim Support are showing a decreasing long-term trend.
- In Q1 2025/26 there were 7,110 referrals. This is a statistically significant increase compared with the previous quarter (6,508), although it is proportionate when compared with the increase in recorded crime.



Key Points²

- Although the long-term trendline for repeat victims shows an increase, this is somewhat skewed by unusually low numbers in the 12 months to Q1 2022/23.
- From Q1 2023/24 onwards, the number of repeat victims has decreased each quarter.
- In the 12 months to the end of Q1 2025/26, repeat victims decreased to 19,884, which is a statistically significant decrease compared with the previous quarter (20,306) and compared with Q1 last year (21,676).

² Repeat victims are calculated based on being a victim more than once within a 12-month period. Therefore, data is provided for the 12 months to the end of each quarter. Data prior to Q1 2022/23 is not available.



Key Points³

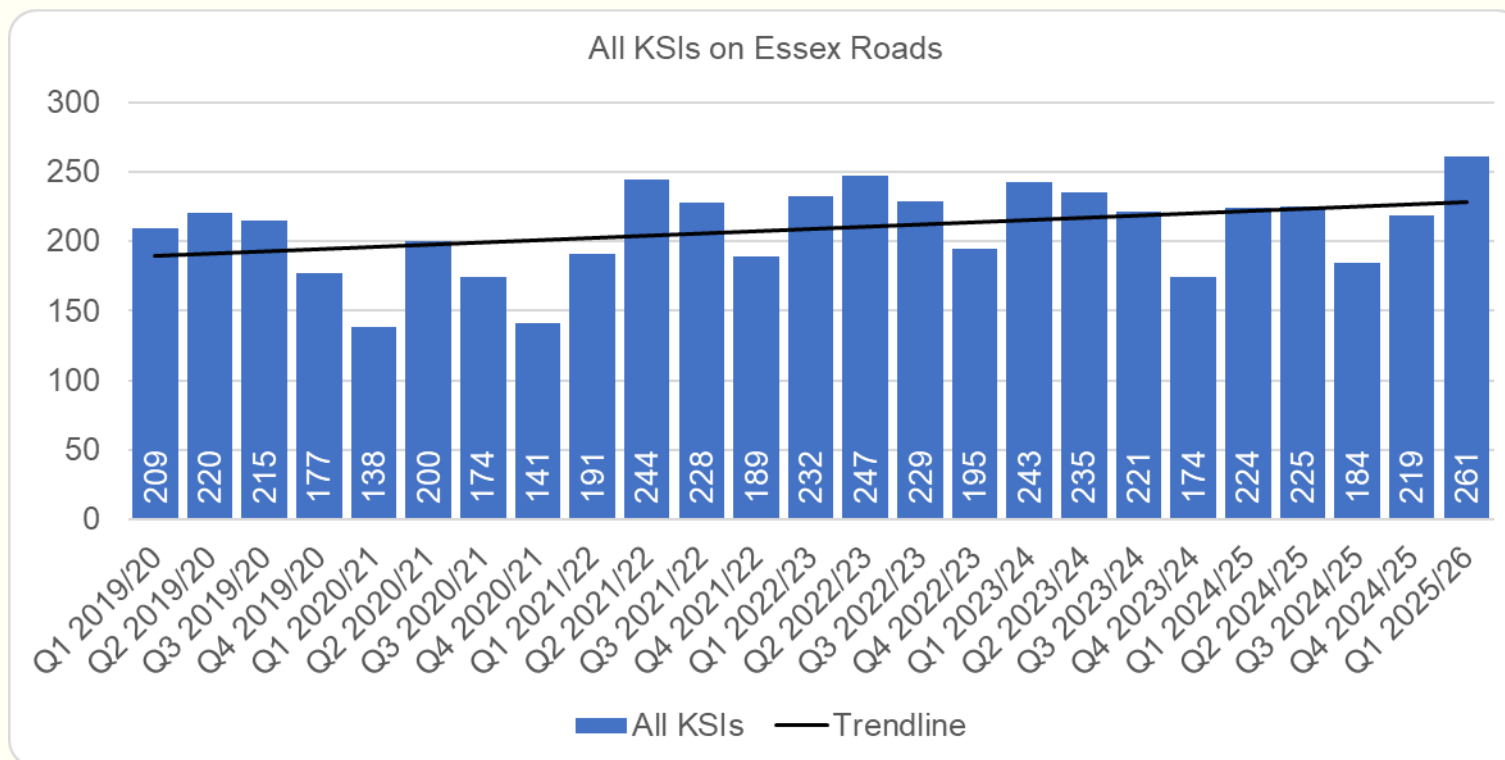
- The percentage of respondents who felt that Essex Police are doing a good or excellent job, fell to 48.4% for victims, but increased to 76.0% for non-victims in Q1 2025/26.
- This is the lowest level of confidence for victims since Q3 2020/21, when this question was first asked, and has increased the disparity between victims and non-victims to the highest level since Q1 2021/22.

³ Data is based on the results for *each quarter* (as opposed to the PFCC monthly report, which shows the results for the *12 months to the end of each quarter*). This is the latest available data.

- However, when compared with the four other Police Forces who ask respondents the same question, Essex residents remained the most confident overall (victims and non-victims combined).

Priority 6 – Improve road safety and reduce road death in Essex to zero

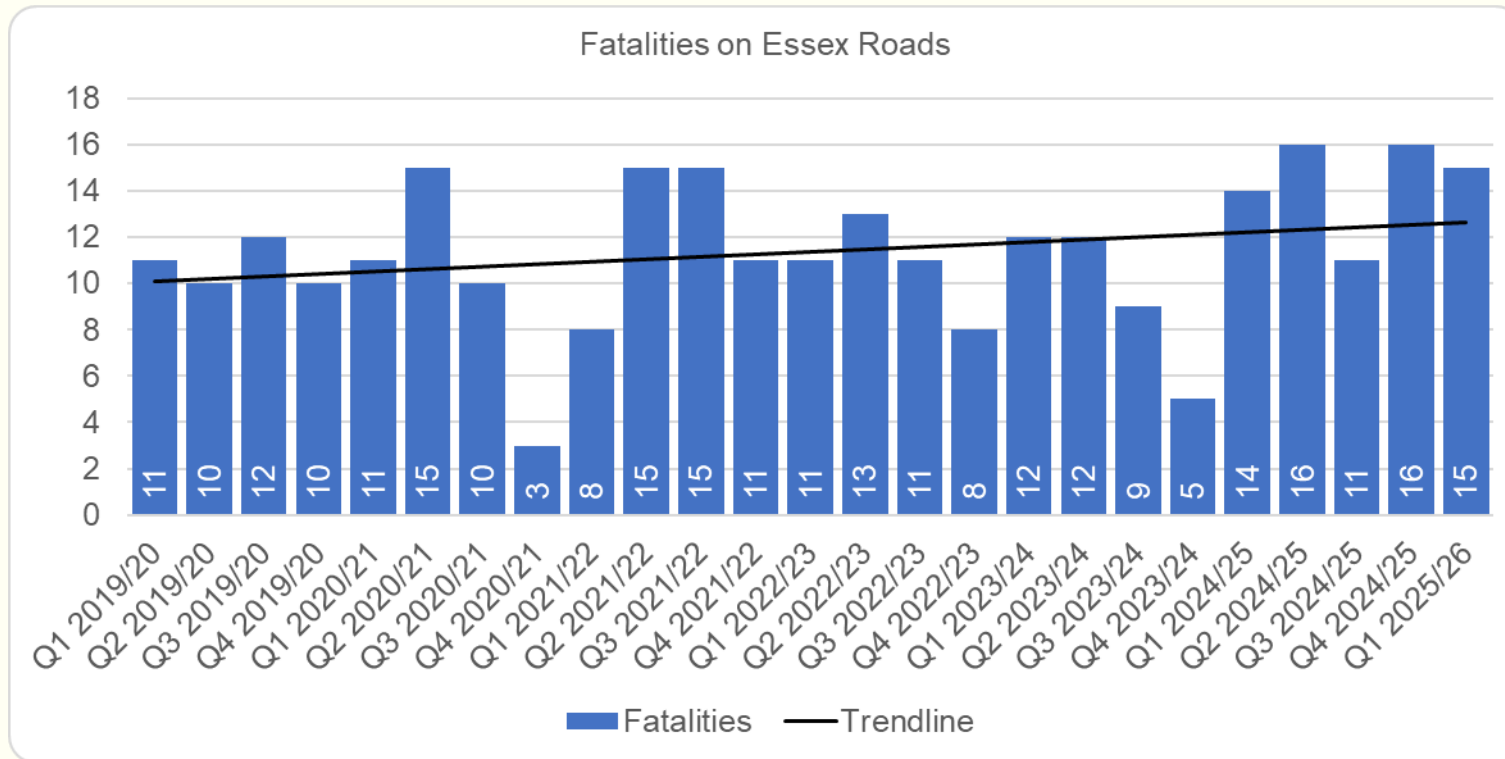
How we plan to do this: work with Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP) to help build a safer road network, tackle speeding and drink and drug driving through better technology, better education and better enforcement. Work with manufacturers to increase vehicle safety.



Key Points

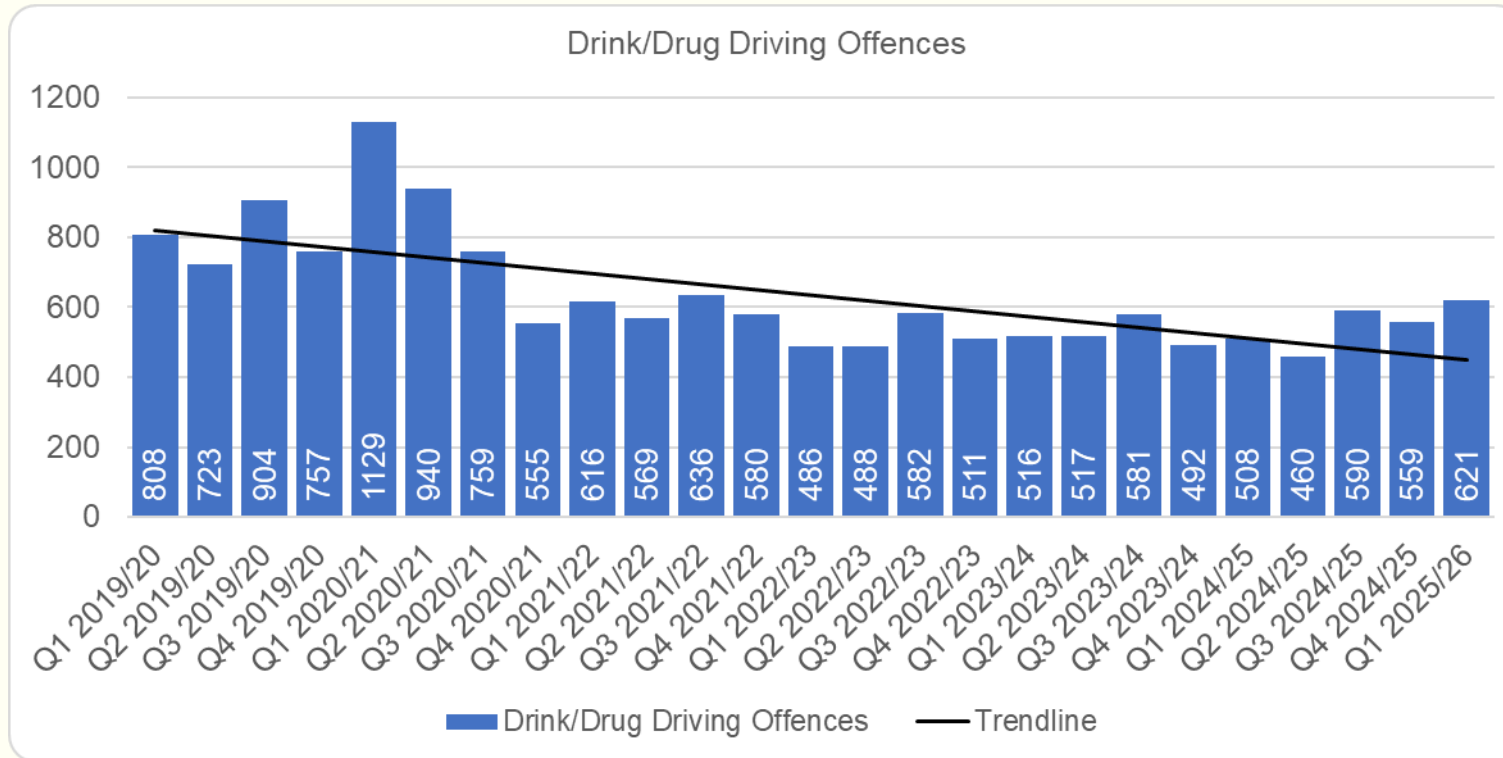
- The long-term trend for the number of people killed and seriously injured on Essex Roads, is increasing. However, this is somewhat skewed by data from 2020/21 when Covid lockdowns were in place, and road use was limited. Data from Q1 2021/22 to date, shows a stable trend.

- However, in Q1 2025/26 there were 261 KSIs on Essex roads. This is an increase from the previous quarter (219) and from Q1 last year (224).



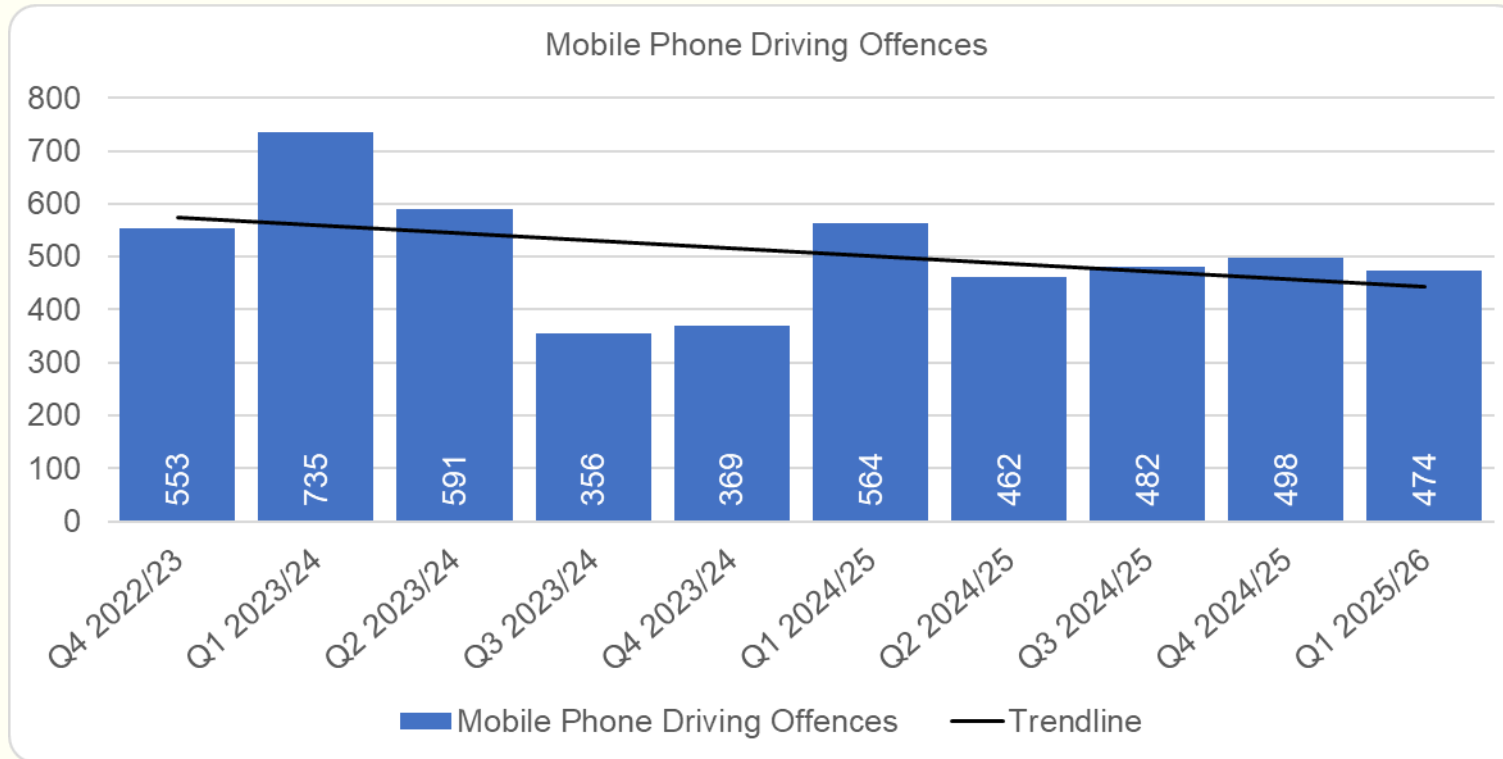
Key Points

- There were 15 fatalities on Essex roads in Q1 2025/26, which further increased the long-term trend.
- Whilst the Covid lockdown period affects the trendline to some extent, it remains the case that fatalities are increasing post-Covid.



Key Points

- The long-term trend for the number of drink/drug driving offences is decreasing. However, this is somewhat skewed by data from Q1 2019/20 to Q3 2020/21 when the number of offences was significantly higher.
- The trend over the *last three years*, is slightly increasing, which reflects proactive work to target drink and drug drivers.
- In Q1 2025/26 there were 621 drink/drug driving offences recorded. This is an increase when compared to the previous quarter (559) and a statistically significant increase when compared to Q1 last year (508 offences).



Key Points⁴

- In Q1 2025/26, there were 474 mobile phone driving offences. This is slightly fewer than the previous quarter (498), and a statistically significant decrease compared with Q1 last year (564).
- The long-term trend is decreasing.

⁴ Data is only available from Q4 2022/23.