ROLLING PLAN 2025-26

Oxford Safer Communities Partnership

Email address: saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk

Oxford Safer Communities Partnership

INTRODUCTION

The Oxford Safer Communities Partnership's (OSCP) 2025-26 Rolling Plan sets out the partnership's priorities for the year based on an analysis of community safety data contained in the Oxfordshire Community Safety Strategic Needs Assessment. It provides an overview of the work undertaken by the partnership during the previous year and planned activities for the year ahead.

OSCP's Executive Group brings organisations together to work in partnership to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in Oxford. It comprises Responsible Authorities, as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and other local partners including Oxford University Hospitals, Oxford Brookes University, the University of Oxford, Turning Point, and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Funding supporting some of the delivery of OSCP's priorities is provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner. OSCP's priorities compliment the priorities of the PCC's crime plan, as set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2024-29.

OSCP work with the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership (SOP) to address community safety priorities including modern slavery, serious violence and domestic abuse. SOP provide the strategic leadership and development, with OSCP delivering local plans and projects in Oxford.

To view the full Joint Strategic Needs Assessment or TVP's Police & Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, please click on the hyperlinks below.

https://data.oxfordshire.gov.uk/jsna/

https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/police-and-crime-plan/

Safer Oxfordshire Partnership

Cherwell Community Safety Partnership	Oxford Safer Communities Partnership	South & Vale Community Safety Partnership	West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership

OSCP PRIORITIES 2025/26

Continuing the successful work undertaken last year, OSCP's new priorities are, as follows:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour and neighbourhood crime**
  - Develop and implement problem-solving plans for ASB hotspot areas, including undertaking crime prevention surveys with our communities.
  - Address environmental crime such as littering, fly-tipping and waste in gardens that can blight our neighbourhoods.
  - Continue to improve CCTV across Oxford by working in partnership with other local authorities and TVP.
  - Oversee ASB Reviews that enable victims of anti-social behaviour to request a review of how agencies addressed persistent ASB complaints.
  - Tackle retail crime by supporting TVP's Operation Purchase, the police-led retail crime reduction initiative.

- **Reduce Serious Violence**
  - Work with the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership to deliver the statutory Serious Violence Duty requirements set out in Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. These are:
    - to work together and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence.
    - identify the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area and the causes of that violence.
    - prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence in the area.
  - To address drug dealing in open spaces through a problem-solving approach.
  - Support the work of the multi-agency Serious and Organised Crime group to identify and disrupt organised criminal groups.
  - Work with young people who are at risk of offending or socially isolated by providing diversionary activities and becoming more inclusive within our communities.
  - Work with partners and housing providers to identify, support and protect vulnerable people whose property has been taken over (cuckooing).
  - Continue the successful NightSafe partnership that aims to improve safety in Oxford's nighttime economy areas.

- **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)**
  - Commission Domestic Homicide Reviews and implement recommendations.
  - Support Oxford City Council to achieve Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation (DAHA), ensuring the council maintains the accreditation for future years.
  - Support the delivery of the Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Strategy.
  - Increase the safety of women and girls in the night-time economy through our NightSafe programme that works with licensees, Higher Education partners, student bodies and our communities.

- **Modern Slavery and Exploitation**
  - Develop multi-agency plans to support victims and disrupt perpetrators of modern slavery and exploitation.
  - Continue the work of the Thames Valley Anti-Slavery Network to increase awareness and cooperation in prevention, communications and disruption of activities, preventing victims becoming exploited.
  - Identify trends in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and pathway referrals to identify emerging themes.

- **Preventing Extremism**
  - Work with partners to implement the requirements of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 for publicly accessible locations.
  - Support the Oxfordshire Prevent Strategy in its actions to deter people from extremist ideology.

ADDRESSING CRIME IN OXFORD 2024

The Oxfordshire Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) is an assessment of crime and other community safety data for Oxfordshire. The following pages provide extracts from the SNA for the year 2024 with summaries of the work OSCP undertook to address its priorities.

All Crime

There were 17,002 valid crimes in 2024. A valid crime has adhered to Home Office counting rules and recorded on Thames Valley Police's crime recording system. Information during an investigation may lead to a reassessment of a crime classification.

Table 1 shows the number of valid crimes per population in Oxfordshire. Oxford has the highest rate of valid crime per capita due to its urban character.

Table 1: Comparison valid crimes across Oxfordshire districts for the year 2024

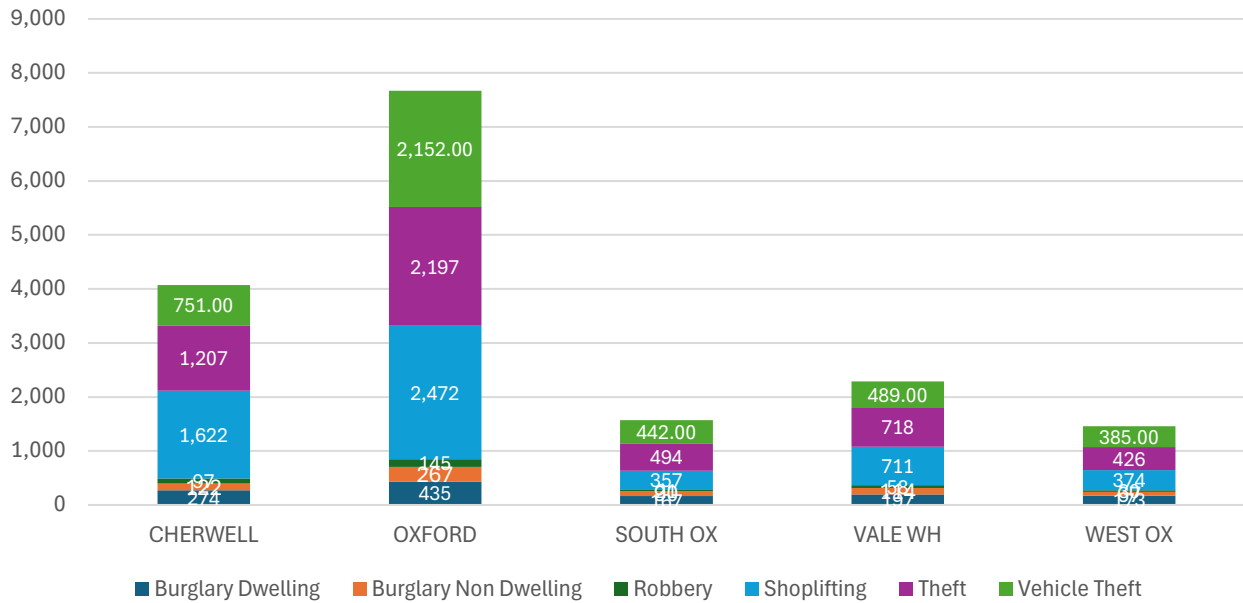|	Valid Crimes	Population (ONS census 2021)	Valid Crimes per Capita
Oxford	17,002	162,100	0.10
Cherwell	10,994	161,837	0.07
South Oxfordshire	4,478	150,024	0.03
Vale of White Horse	8,446	139,487	0.06
West Oxfordshire	4,725	115,161	0.04
Oxfordshire	45,465	726,530	0.06

Neighbourhood Crime

Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive crime is where the offender derives material gain from the crime. Common examples include theft, burglary, robbery, shoplifting, fraud, and certain types of vehicle crime. Chart 1 provides a breakdown of these crimes by district. Vehicle thefts and shoplifting in Oxford are more than double that of neighbouring councils.

TVP launched Operation Purchase that tackled retail crime. Officers undertook a robust operation to address shoplifting within our neighbourhoods and city centre. Over the 12 months from February 2024 to January 2025, there were 2,534 reported crimes, an increase of 39.9% compared to the same period the previous year. This resulted with an increase in the solved crime rate of 35.6%.

Chart 1: Aquisitive Crime Across Districts for the year 2024

Legend: Burglary Dwelling, Burglary Non Dwelling, Robbery, Shoplifting, Theft, Vehicle Theft

Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour takes many forms, from aggressive, noisy, or abusive behaviour to neighbourhood disturbances, abandoned cars, littering and fly-tipping.

There were 1,344 anti-social behaviour reports to the police in 2024. The number received by Oxford City Council for the year was 2,242. Charts 2 and 3 provide a breakdown of these reports to Thames Valley Police and Oxford City Council.

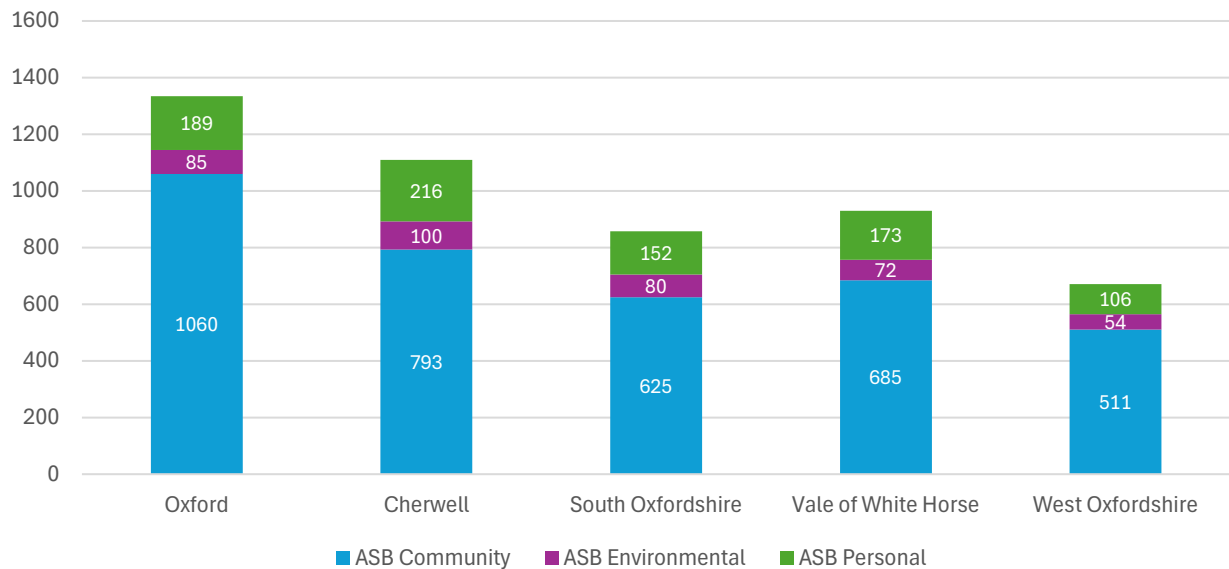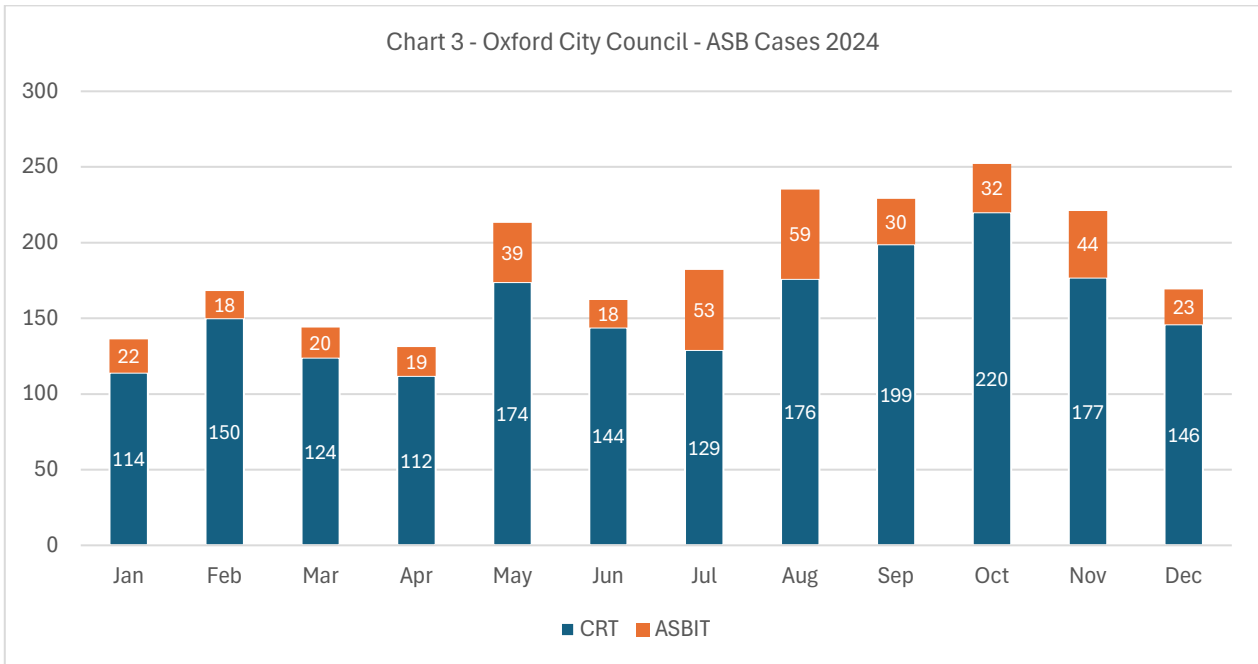**Chart 2: TVP - District ASB breakdown**

Legend: ASB Community, ASB Environmental, ASB Personal

Chart 3 - Oxford City Council - ASB Cases 2024

Month	CRT	ASBIT
Jan	114	22
Feb	150	18
Mar	124	20
Apr	112	19
May	174	39
Jun	144	18
Jul	129	53
Aug	176	59
Sep	199	30
Oct	220	32
Nov	177	44
Dec	146	23

The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Service is comprised of two teams. The majority of Community Response Team (CRT) investigations are into domestic noise nuisance and environmental ASB, such as fly-tipping and littering. In 2024 the team investigated 1,865 cases.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team investigates neighbour disputes, sometimes involving violence, threats or other criminal activity.

In 2024, Oxford City Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team successfully rescued fourteen animals found in a flat. The tenant had been using the flat to keep unsupervised animals including twelve dogs, a chameleon and a rabbit. Neighbours raised concerns due to the smell and welfare of the animals. After obtaining a warrant from court, the Council coordinated the rescue of the animals that involved the police, RSPCA, Housing Officers, and the Council's dog warden.

SERIOUS VIOLENCE

Chart 4 shows that nearly two-thirds of serious violence crimes occurred in Cherwell and Oxford, the most urban districts in Oxfordshire.

Serious violence has been falling in Oxford for the last 6 years with Oxford experiencing the largest percentage reduction in serious violent offences. Chart 5 illustrates the reduction in serious violence in Oxford of 28.7 per cent from 2018 to 2024.

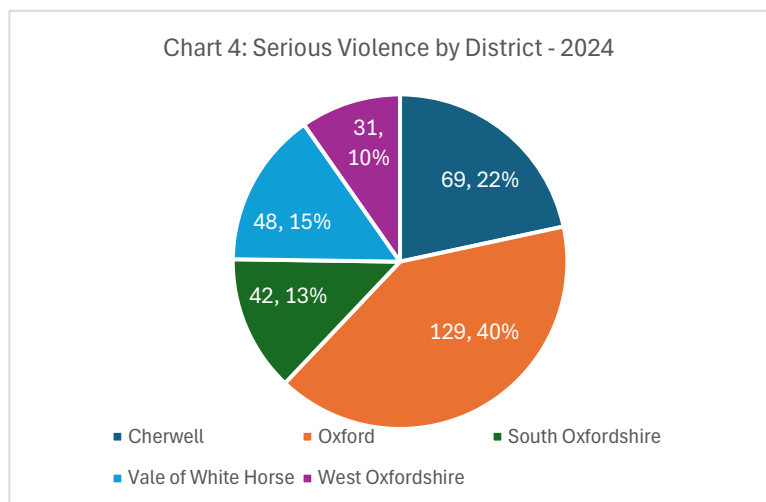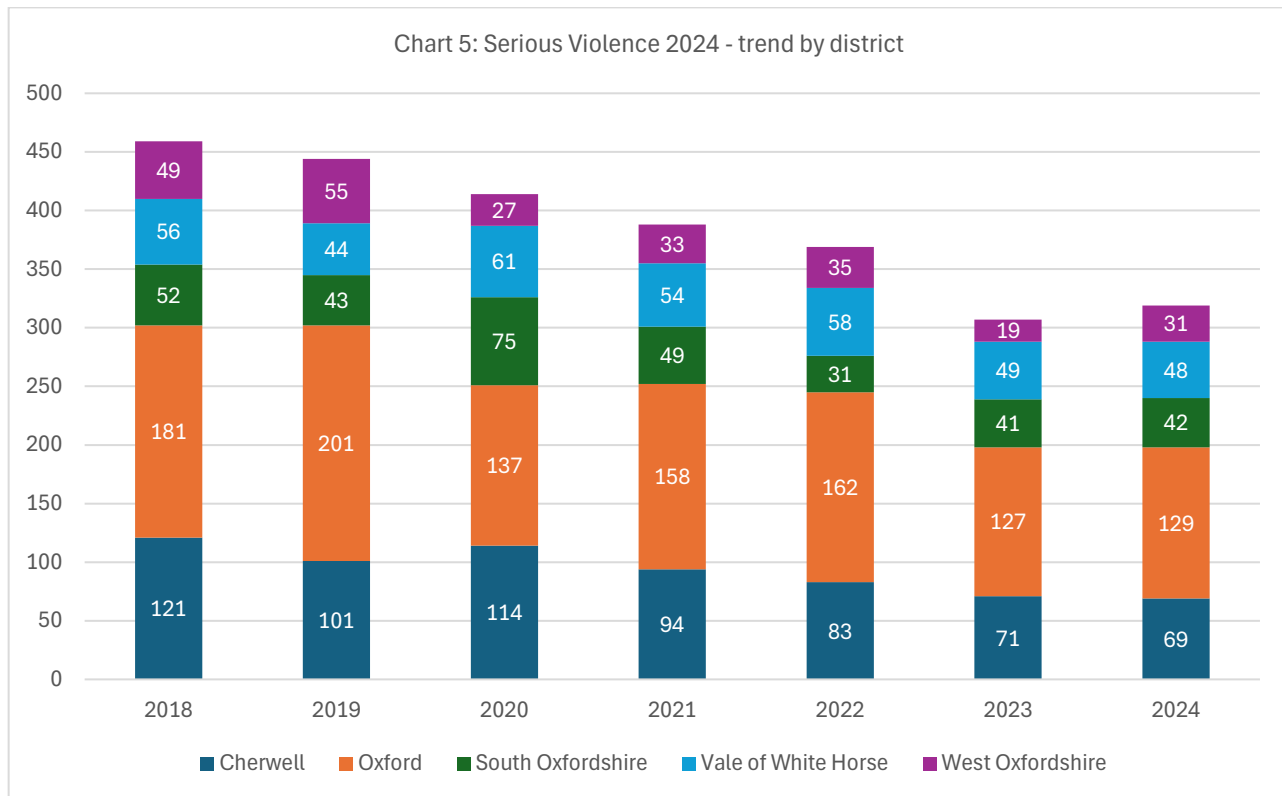**Chart 4: Serious Violence by District - 2024**

District	Value	Percentage
Cherwell	69	22%
Oxford	129	40%
South Oxfordshire	42	13%
Vale of White Horse	48	15%
West Oxfordshire	31	10%

Chart 5: Serious Violence 2024 - trend by district

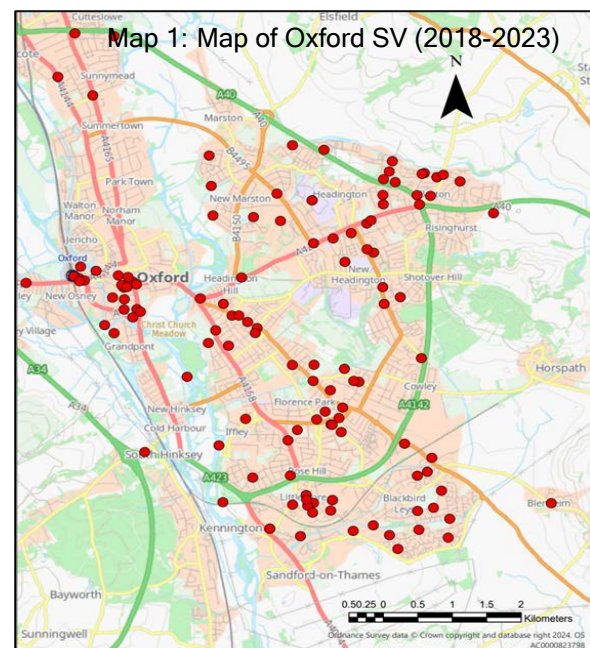|	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
West Oxfordshire	49	55	27	33	35	19	31
Vale of White Horse	56	44	61	54	58	49	48
South Oxfordshire	52	43	75	49	31	41	42
Oxford	181	201	137	158	162	127	129
Cherwell	121	101	114	94	83	71	69

Map 1 illustrates where these crimes occurred over the last 5 years.

Clusters of offences in the city centre and East Oxford suggest these offences are linked to the night-time economy.
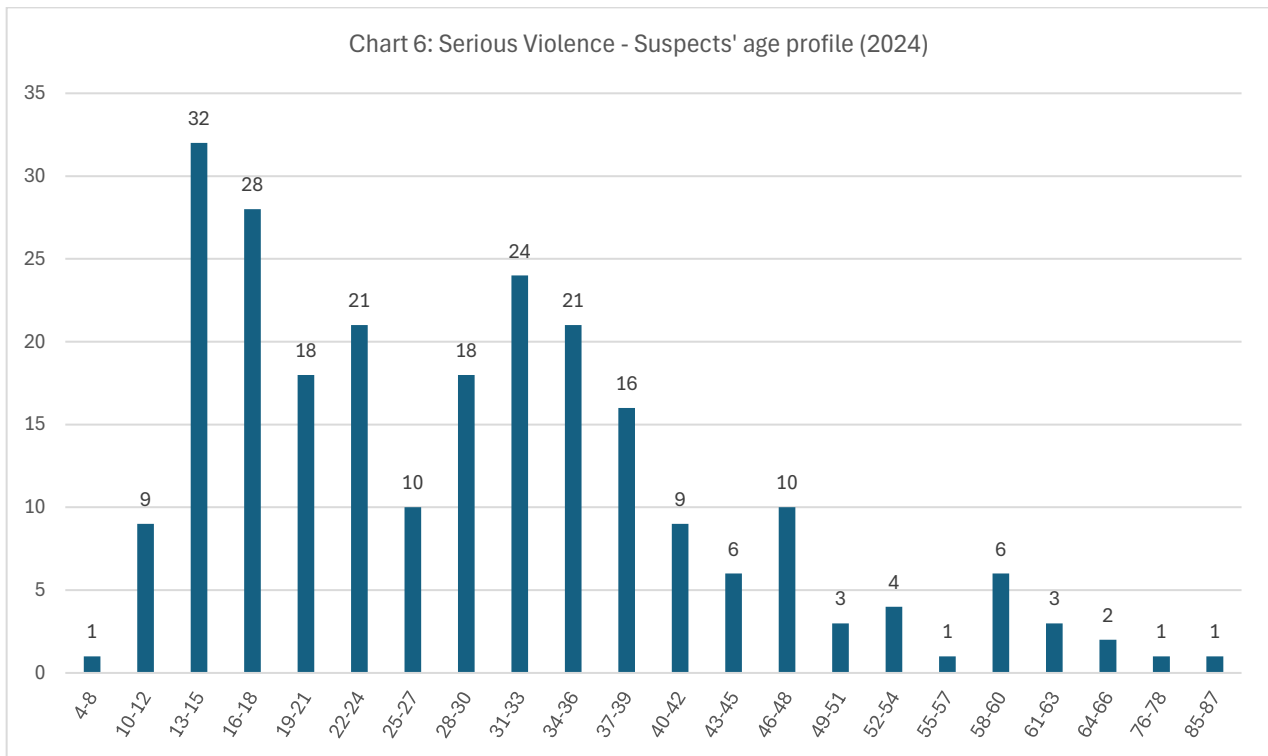
Chart 6 provides an overview of the age profile of suspects of violence crime across Oxfordshire.

The two largest groups were aged 13-15 and 16-18 years of age. 16 per cent of those suspects were female and 84 per cent were males.

Map 1: Map of Oxford SV (2018-2023)

In 2024, Oxford's Problem-Solving Officer collaborated closely with residents by undertaking environmental visual audits, consulting with residents and implementing projects that improve the community.
Several mobile CCTV cameras were deployed across Oxford to support intelligence gathering for TVP's Stronghold cases that address drug dealing, abuse, and anti-social behaviour. Introduced and trained staff from Oxford City Council on the use of Body Worn Cameras to enhance opportunities for evidence capture and assist in the detection and prevention of crime and ASB.

Chart 6: Serious Violence - Suspects' age profile (2024)

In September 2024, OSCP organised a summit dedicated to the issue of serious violence and knife crime, with a particular focus on supporting young people. Several partner agencies attended, along with county and city councillors. The Police and Crime Commissioner, TVP, Oxfordshire Youth Justice Service, and Youth Groups funded by the PCC gave presentations on their work to combat serious violence.
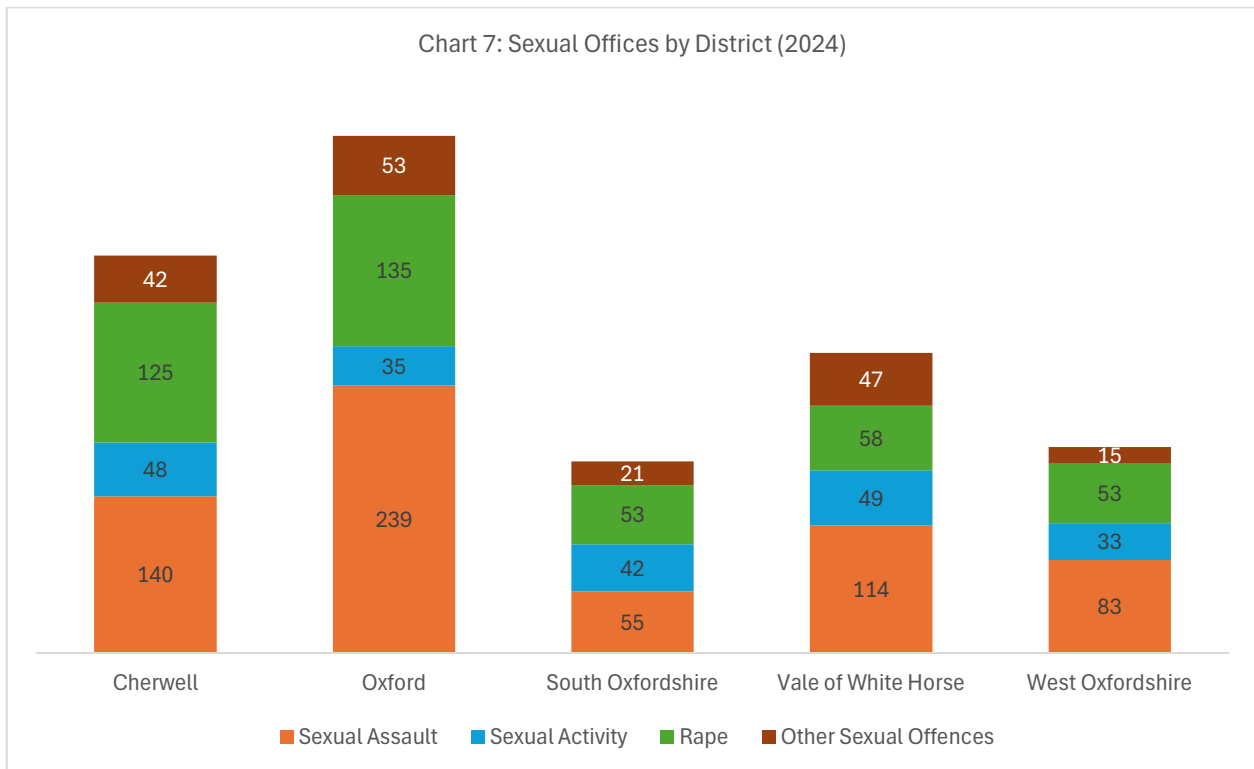

Sexual Violence

Over the last six years, Oxford has recorded the highest number of sexual offences in Oxfordshire.

Chart 7 shows that in 2024, Oxford accounted for nearly 50 per cent of all sexual offences in the county. Sexual assault accounted for 48 per cent of all sexual offences in Oxford.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
CHERWELL	260	277	279	354	392	356	355
OXFORD	382	466	346	483	485	474	462
SOUTH OX	221	138	131	135	121	185	171
VALE WH	234	208	259	241	328	289	308
WEST OX	114	136	122	186	214	179	184

Table 2: Sexual offences heat-map - districts (2018-2024)

Chart 7: Sexual Offices by District (2024)

District	Sexual Assault	Sexual Activity	Rape	Other Sexual Offences
Cherwell	140	48	125	42
Oxford	239	35	135	53
South Oxfordshire	55	42	53	21
Vale of White Horse	114	49	58	47
West Oxfordshire	83	33	53	15

MODERN DAY SLAVERY

Several agencies including Gangmasters Labour Abuse Authority, HMRC, Adult Social Services, Quality Improvement Team and Home Office were involved with a Care provider that were identified as exploiting their workers. Thirty-two workers, who worked across Oxfordshire were identified as being exploited and were supported by Victims First Specialist Services or Anti-Slavery Initiative Oxford (ASIO) who OSCP commissioned. As a result, twenty-nine people found other employment.

Modern Slavery can take many forms including the trafficking of people, forced labour, domestic servitude and slavery. Oxfordshire's Modern Slavery Coordinator develops plans to partners to identify, protect and support victims, and disrupt perpetrators of these offences.

Table 3 highlights the types of exploitation identified in Oxfordshire in 2024.

Table 3: Exploitation type (2024)		
	Number of reports	Percentage
Labour Exploitation	68	40.0%
Criminal Exploitation	39	22.9%
Sexual Exploitation	35	20.6%
Financial Exploitation	19	11.2%
Domestic Servitude	5	2.9%
Unknown	2	1.6
Cultural Exploitation	1	0.6%