

# Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee

November 2024



# Background

Police and Crime  
Commissioner

**Ms. Emma  
Wools**

Elected in  
May 2024

**45.2% of  
Public Vote**

First  
women of colour

**1st**

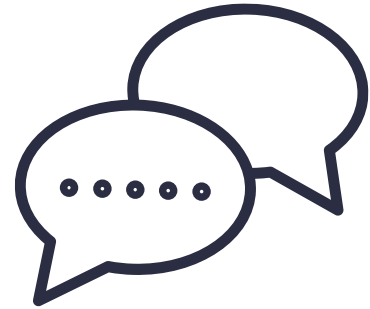
Background

Born in Cardiff

20+ years in Criminal  
Justice & Community  
Safety



# Commissioner Role & Responsibilities



Voice for the public



Scrutiny & Challenge Performance



Set Police Budget & Precept



Appoint/remove Chief Constable



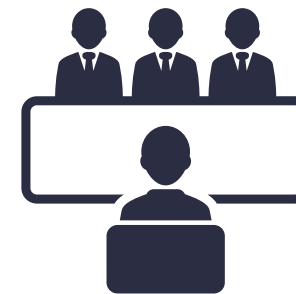
Investigate complaints against Chief Constable



Set Priorities - Police & Crime Plan



Collaborate with other forces & agencies



Account to the Police & Crime Panel



Challenge the local Criminal Justice System



# Pledges

**1**

Local  
Policing

**2**

Tackling &  
Preventing  
Crime

**3**

Protecting the  
Vulnerable,  
supporting  
victims &  
communities,  
including  
online

**4**

Delivering  
justice to  
those who  
commit  
crime &  
reducing  
reoffending

**5**

Making  
Policing fit  
for the  
future



# Police and Crime Plan Consultation

Over

5,000

people shared their feedback as part of the consultation



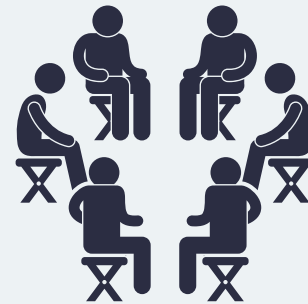
230

people shared their feedback at community stalls



3,554

people completed the public survey



1,100

people took part in conversations facilitated by grass root groups on our behalf



150+

people shared their feedback with the Commissioner as part of dedicated 'In Your Community' visits



# Vale of Glamorgan engagement

## Public Survey

**9.5%**

of our survey  
responses were  
from residents in  
the Vale of  
Glamorgan



## In Your Community Days

Met with the following groups:



**Vale 50+ Forum**

**Vale People First**

**East Aberthaw Community Speed Watch**

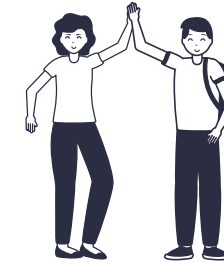


# Vale of Glamorgan engagement

## What residents were telling us:



“Concerned about the amount of scam and fraud emails/calls we receive”



“Need increased engagement between young people and the police to help change young people’s perceptions of the police from an earlier age”



“It is important for the Police/Commissioner to be thinking about utilising smaller nuanced channels to reach communities who feel vulnerable and isolated”



“Elder abuse is well hidden and victims often reluctant to report. Important for services to be alert to cultural and generational sensitivities”



“Having visible police presence in our community is important, particularly Officers/PCSOs being proactive by attending cultural days/community events and having informal conversations with people”



“Hearing about positive convictions is important to counterbalance negative news stories”

# Survey Insights

## Community Policing

Visible neighbourhood police officers and PCSOs on their streets and engagement - both with young people in schools and with the community was a priority for respondents.



“Rural crimes are at a highest levels with off road bikes, illegal camping, drugs and vehicle racers. This is purely because is no police visibility and extremely difficult reporting ways”

“There is a tendency for more rural areas and outer city areas to be thought less in need of police presence which results in such areas sometimes being targeted by crime”



# Survey Insights

## Protecting the vulnerable, supporting victims and communities

Combating **knife crime**, the **exploitation of vulnerable individuals** by organised criminals and tackling all forms of **violence against women and girls** was a priority for respondents



"The most important crime to be tackled is all crimes against children, including knife crime."

"Domestic abuse cases are often overlooked or not taken seriously enough."

"Rape and sexual assault should be prioritised, the system isn't strong enough in dealing with sexual offenders."

# Survey Insights

## Delivering Justice

Improving **support for victims**, **delivering justice** and **increasing prosecutions** and developing targeted interventions to **reduce reoffending**, and increasing the use of programmes to **keep people out of the criminal justice** were a priority for respondents.



"Without real justice, the cycle of crime and retribution perpetuates, so victims come first."

"I think the only way to break the cycle is to offer people the chance to change

"Youngsters in underprivileged areas need structured activities to avoid drifting into crime."

# Survey Insights

## Making policing fit for the future

Improving the police force's ability to **respond to new and emerging types of crime**, **increasing public involvement in holding the police accountable** and **harnessing new technology** and innovation were a priority for respondents.



“They need to be held accountable, as there have been many police crimes recently.”

“Huge achievements could be made if police address diversity and anti-discriminatory issues and have greater empathy towards young people who have become involved in crime”

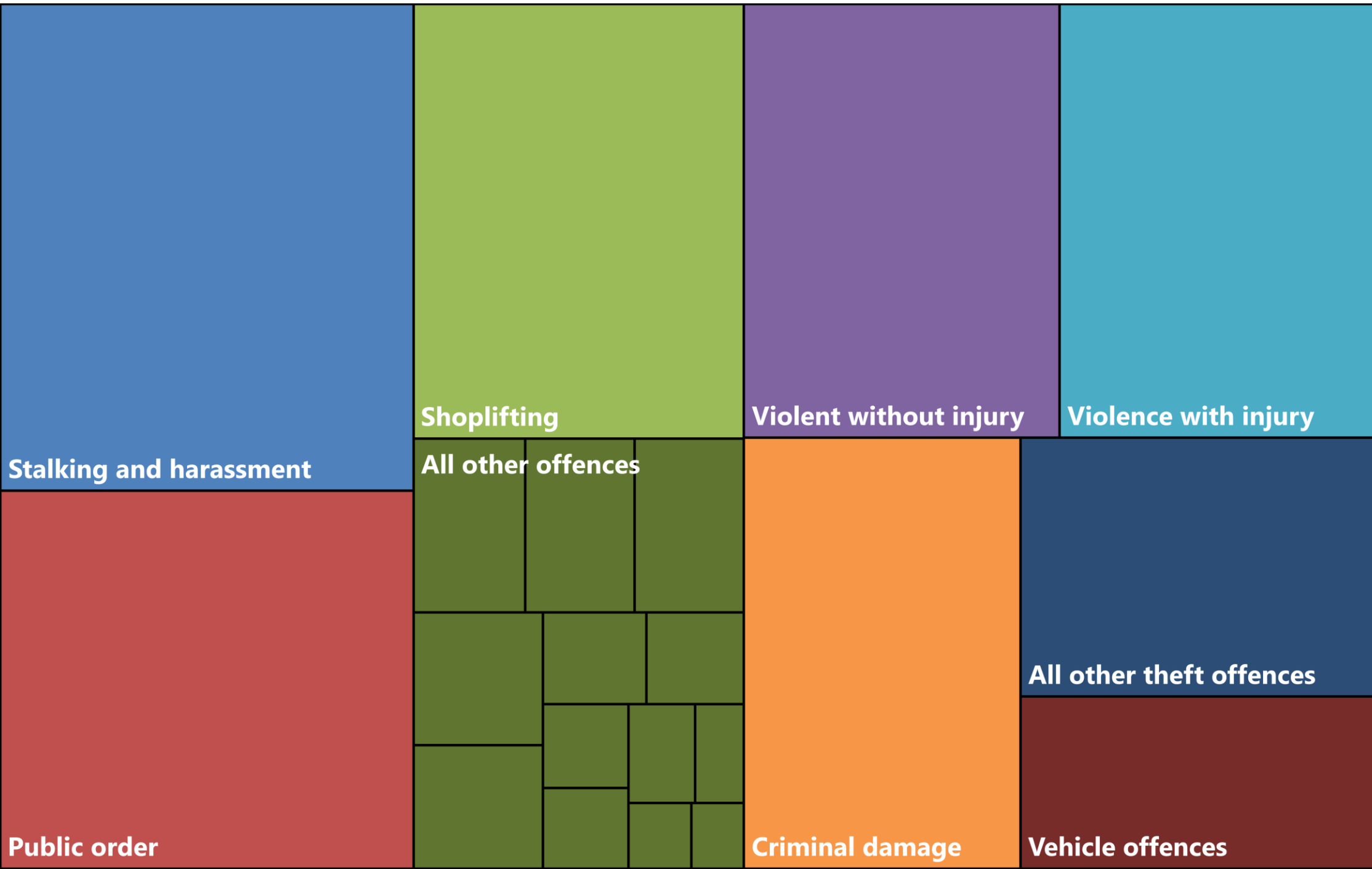
# Crime in the Vale of Glamorgan

## Composition of crime

### Composition of crime

In 2023-4 these categories accounted for more than 80% of the 8,633 crimes recorded in the local authority (CSP area):

- Stalking and harassment (1,462; 17%)
- Public order offences (1,135; 13%)
- Shoplifting (1,043; 12%)
- Violence without injury (995; 12%)
- Violence with injury (991; 11%)
- Criminal damage (866; 10%)
- “Other” thefts (665; 8%)
- Vehicle offences (442; 5%)





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