



Conwy & Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership

Denbighshire Update 2014/15

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Most Similar Groups

All CSP areas in England and Wales are grouped together based on similar demography and crime trends to form **Most Similar Groups (MSG)** for comparative purposes. The below table lists the areas within Denbighshire's MSG and the current rate of recorded crime.

CSP	Crimes / 1000 Pop
Northumbria - Northumberland	34.635
North Wales - Isle of Anglesey	37.865
Dyfed Powys - Pembrokeshire	38.057
Dyfed Powys - Carmarthenshire	40.583
North Wales - Flintshire	46.548
North Wales - Conwy	49.717
Nottinghamshire - Newark & Sherwood	50.549
Hampshire - Isle of Wight	51.469
Cambridgeshire - Fenland	55.526
North Wales - Denbighshire	56.841
Humberside - North Lincolnshire	60.767
Nottinghamshire - Bassetlaw	66.280
Essex - Tendring	66.371
Lincolnshire - Boston	66.753
North Wales - Wrexham	71.210
MSG Average	52.878

Reducing crime and the impact of crime

Measure	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% change compared to 3 year average	Change
Recorded crime	6776	5700	4965	5399	-7%	
Violence against the person	1870	1761	1615	1823	4%	
Violence with injury	764	794	661	789	7%	
Violent alcohol related crime	325	313	306	330	5%	
Sexual offences	143	147	150	178	21%	
Domestic burglary	309	258	204	184	-28%	
Robbery	40	22	25	25	-14%	
Vehicle crime (excl vehicle interference)	456	347	229	266	-23%	
Hate Crime	74	63	65	64	-5%	

Recorded crime in Denbighshire increased in 2014/15 when compared to the previous year however is below average when compared to the previous 3 years. When compare to similar demographic areas in England and Wales¹ the current level of recorded crime is average however projections indicate a continued increase despite the most recent quarter being below average.

Violent crime in Denbighshire increased in 2014/15 when compared to the previous year and is above average when compared to the previous 3 years. When compare to similar demographic areas in England and Wales the current level of violent crime is above average, particularly violence involving injury where Denbighshire has the highest rate within the group. Projections suggest the increase is beginning to plateau while nationally other police forces areas are experiencing significant increases.

Sexual offences in Denbighshire has increased in 2014/15 when compared to previous years. Denbighshire had the highest rate of recorded sexual offences in North Wales in 2014/15 and was above average when compared with similar areas in England and Wales. The long term trend indicates and a continued increase and has occurred within other areas with the MSG while the last quarter indicates a decline suggesting reports may be plateauing. The notable change has been an increase in offences reported by young people which are current and not historic.

Acquisitive crime in Denbighshire has reduced compared to previous years with the overall trend reducing. Domestic burglary and robbery are below average when compare to other areas with the MSG and the trend for both is declining. Vehicle crime increased in 2014/15 compared to the previous year however is still below average when compared to peers; the current projections indicate a further increase.

Hate crime remains stable.

¹ Most Similar Group (MSG) peers.

Summary

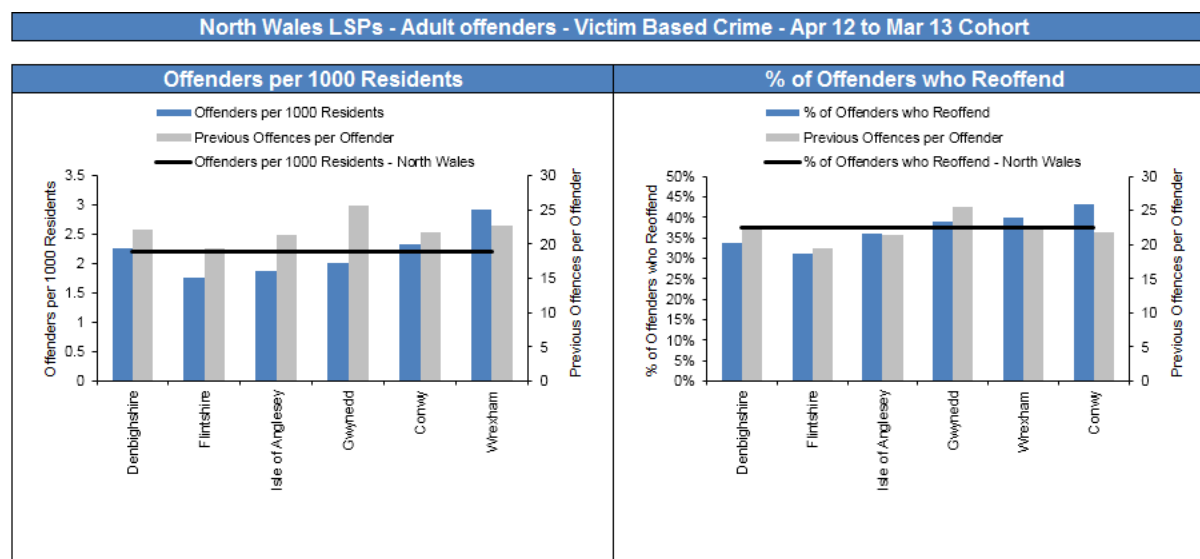
Violence and sexual offences should remain as an area of focus for the Community Partnership in the future. The increase in reports of sexual offences is likely to have been influenced by various factors however the threat to the community and impact on resources means this should be a priority. Violence has not increased significantly compared to the previous 3 years however projections are uncertain and it may stabilise or continue to increase. A continued increase compounded with the above average rate when compared with the MSG means it should be a priority.

Reducing reoffending

Measure	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% change compared to 3 year average	Change
The number of first time entrants to the YJS	63	47	62	57	-1%	
The number of referrals to PAD	58	25	144	276	265%	
The number of yellow cards / alcohol confiscations issued	57	103	151	84	-19%	
Proportion of young offenders who reoffend (Conwy & Denbighshire combined)	12.3	14.2	10.9	10.0	-20%	

The number of first time entrants to the youth justice service has remained stable while the number of referrals to PAD (Prevent and Deter) has increased significantly. The number of yellow cards / alcohol confiscations fell in 2014/15 following a significant increase in the 2 previous years as part of local initiatives. The proportion of young people who reoffend has continued to reduce positively.

The following graphs show the number of offenders per 1000 residents is average for North Wales while the percentage of offenders who reoffend is below average at 34% compared to 38%, based on April 12 to Mar 13.



Effectively tackle ASB and behaviour adversely affecting the environment

Measure	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% change compared to 3 year average	Change
Crimes linked to licensed premises (excluding acquisitive crime)	262	236	211	201	-15%	
Criminal damage	1300	992	860	875	-17%	
Alcohol related criminal damage	86	75	75	77	-2%	
Arson (recorded by NWP)	41	36	19	37	16%	
Deliberate fires (recorded by NWFRS)	140	77	73	66	-32%	
ASB (reported to NWP)	4987	4468	4014	3594	-20%	
ASB (reported to DCC)	1217	1229	1493	1808	38%	
Fixed penalties issued for environmental crime	319	1778		3685	251%	

Crimes linked to licensed premises has continued to reduce in 2014/15 as part of a longer term trend.

The long term trend for **criminal damage** has is reducing and is projected to continue to reduce however there has been a small increase recently. Denbighshire has an average level of criminal damage when compare to the MSG.

Recorded **arson** was low in 2013/14 and has subsequently increased in 2014/15 with the projection indicating a continued increase. Arson in Denbighshire is average when compared to the MSG with deliberate fires recorded by North Wales Fire and Rescue reducing year on year. The recorded increase in arson by North Wales Police and reduction by North Wales Fire and Rescue is likely to be the convergence of recording supported by partnership working.

Antisocial behaviour reported to North Wales Police has reduced year on year and excluding seasonal trends is expected to continue to reduce. Reports of antisocial behaviour to Denbighshire County Council have increased as anticipated following a campaign to improve confidence and increase reporting.

Fixed penalties for environmental crime have increase significantly following the contracting out of enforcement for littering and dog fouling in 2012/13.

Effectively tackle domestic abuse

Measure	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	% change compared to 3 year average	Change
Domestic Non Crimes (reported to NWP)	1576	1596	1199	768	-47%	
Domestic Crime	733	739	596	640	-7%	
Domestic violent crime (reported to NWP)	558	543	480	501	-5%	
Number of cases dealt with by the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor	237	182	132	96	-48%	
Number of referrals to MARAC	199	161	133	85	-48%	
Referrals to Safer Homes (Conwy & Denbighshire combined)	182	161	143	194	20%	
Frontline staff trained to use CAADA DASH RIC (Conwy & Denbighshire combined)	184	128	74	54	-58%	

Reports of **domestic non crimes** (incidents) decreased significantly in 2014/15/. This has been a common trend across North Wales however there is no data available for Denbighshire's MSG.

Domestic crime has been relatively stable in Denbighshire and North Wales in 2014/15 despite an increase in 2014/15 when compared to the previous year. Approximately 80% of domestic crime is violent and correspondingly domestic violent crime has increased proportionately.

The number of **cases dealt with by the IDVA**² has decreased year on year which has been impacted on by staffing issues / absence. The recorded cases dealt with by the IDVA are now only those undertaken by the Welsh Government funded IDVA as the PCC now contributes towards the IDVA service in Denbighshire.

Referrals to MARAC³ still remain lower than recommended amount by CAADA (Safe Lives) because cases continue to re-assess at PPU prior to submission to MARAC.

Referrals to Safe Homes increased in 2014/15 and the evaluation continues to indicate 100% satisfaction. Conwy and Denbighshire CSP have secured funding to continue the service in 2015/16.

There was little **CAADA DASH RIC training** in Conwy and Denbighshire in the early part of 2014/15 however this increased in the latter part of the year following training within CAIS. There has also been additional delivery of basic domestic abuse awareness which is not measured.

² IDVA – Independent domestic violence advisor

³ MARAC – Multi agency risk assessment committee