

**Title:** ASB & Crime stats (Children & Young People)

**To:** Children & Families Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**By:** Jacqui Belfield-Smith (Service Lead: Youth Justice, Serious Violence Reduction & Targeted Youth Support) & Chief Inspector Val North (Neighbourhoods & Partnerships) GMP Stockport Division

### **Introduction:**

A request was made at Children & Families Scrutiny Committee regarding the impact of children **and young people committing anti-social behaviour (ASB) and crime as a result of Covid-19** and if there had been any significant changes.

This paper will provide some data that looks at pre-Covid figures for both Crime and ASB, then show the initial impact in 2020 and finally the present situation. It will finish by detailing some of the current interventions in place to address the issues, particularly from a Youth Justice, Targeted Youth Support & GMP perspective.

Crime data has been drawn from Youth Justice and Safer Stockport Partnership Dashboards, so is limited by the fact that GMP-specific data has been difficult to extract due to the length of time this task can take. GMP have provided the ASB data. The GMP Chief Inspector for Neighbourhoods & Partnerships (Stockport Division) has also agreed to attend the committee to speak to the report and answer any questions regarding current targeted activities.

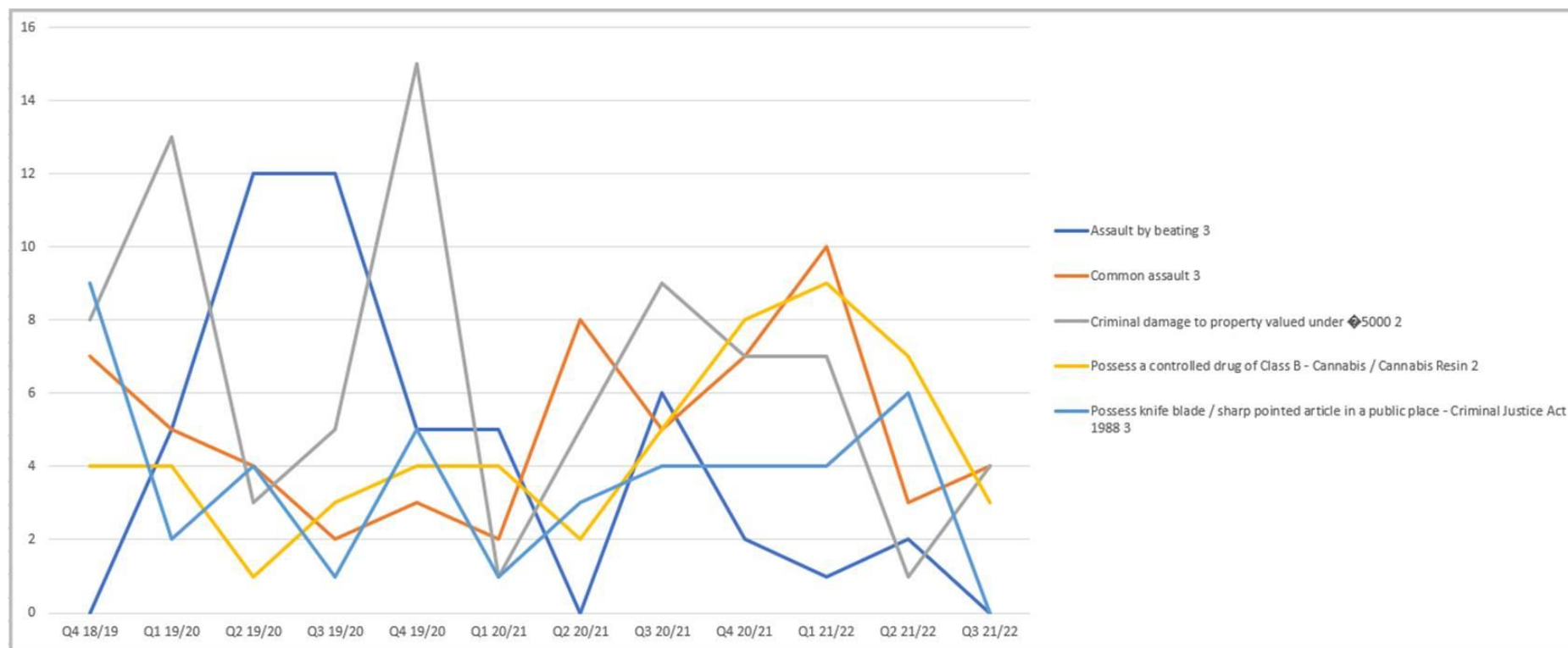
### **Crime data:**

The following table shows the top 5 offence-types for Stockport children and young people that **received a substantive outcome which resulted in a criminal order**. These cases are in the minority when compared to the full Youth Justice caseload, as early intervention, 'targeted youth support' and 'out of court disposals' aim to prevent children entering the criminal justice system, and these make up the majority of cases being supported by the service. Cases that come before the court tend to be far more prolific, complex and often chaotic and require dedicated supervision and oversight to prevent further reoffending.

As with all criminal justice agencies we noted **a significant drop in cases in Q1 2020/21**, at the start of the first Covid lockdown. This was due to several reasons related to lockdown restrictions, including less opportunities to commit crime due to the visibility of being active at a time when others were based predominantly in their homes. However, as the months passed we began to see crime rates increase but there were significant delays in the system as a result of the ongoing Covid restrictions, which impacted on several areas from arrest, through to investigation, through to court listings (there is still a backlog in the Crown Court). Therefore, we saw increases in children being arrested and 'released under investigation' sometimes for many months pending charge.

Some of the data for Q2 and Q3 (2021/22) is incomplete because it is dependent on MoJ and the Youth Justice Board (YJB) publishing the national performance returns that are sent to them quarterly by all the Youth Justice Services and police forces in England & Wales. This has been delayed but it is expected this month and should give a more comprehensive update once received.

<b>Top 5 Offences committed by children and young people in Stockport</b>	<b>Q4 18/1 9</b>	<b>Q1 19/2 0</b>	<b>Q2 19/2 0</b>	<b>Q3 19/2 0</b>	<b>Q4 19/2 0</b>	<b>Q1 20/2 1</b>	<b>Q2 20/2 1</b>	<b>Q3 20/2 1</b>	<b>Q4 20/2 1</b>	<b>Q1 21/2 2</b>	<b>Q2 21/2 2</b>	<b>Q3 21/2 2</b>	<b>Tot al</b>
Assault by beating (S.18 GBH & S.20 Wounding & S.47 Assault)	0	5	12	12	5	5	0	6	2	1	2	0	50
Common assault (S.39 Assault)	7	5	4	2	3	2	8	5	7	10	3	4	60
Criminal damage to property valued under £5000	8	13	3	5	15	1	5	9	7	7	1	4	79
Possess a controlled drug of Class B - Cannabis / Cannabis Resin 2	4	4	1	3	4	4	2	5	8	9	7	3	54
Possess knife blade / sharp pointed article in a public place - Criminal Justice Act 1988 3	9	2	4	1	5	1	3	4	4	4	6	0	43



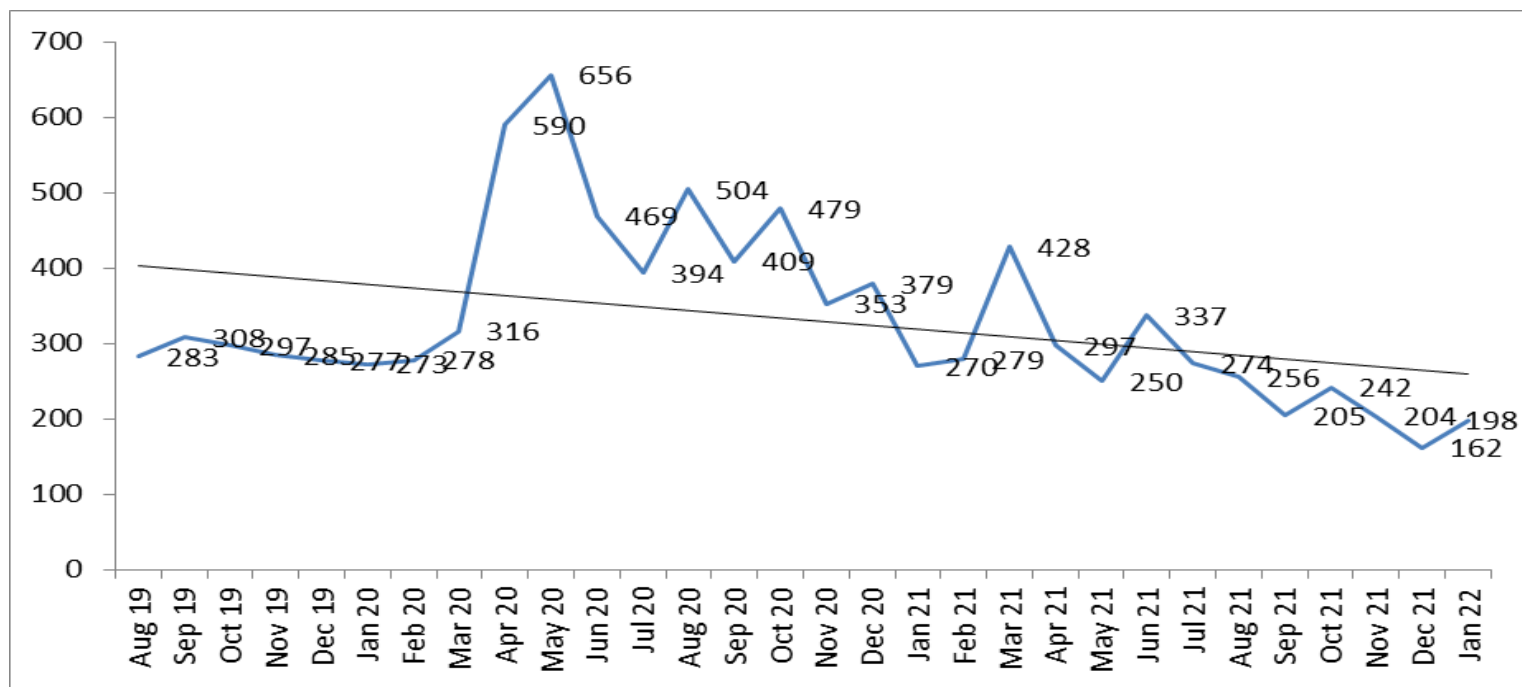
### Anti-Social Behaviour data:

The following data has been provided by GMP. Data reflects recorded incidents closed with a **D92 closing code (Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour)**

The data does not reveal whether Under 18's Over 18's or a combination of both were involved in the incident. Therefore, the following data does not specifically define 'Youth ASB' however of all the ASB closing codes **D92 is the most likely to be used when Under 18's are involved.**

August 2019 to Jan 2022, these dates have been chosen to provide a pre-Covid view and then the changes in various 'lockdown' phases throughout the pandemic to date.

### **Stockport closed ASB incidents with a D92 code (August 2019 – Jan 2022)**



### Current Partnership Interventions:

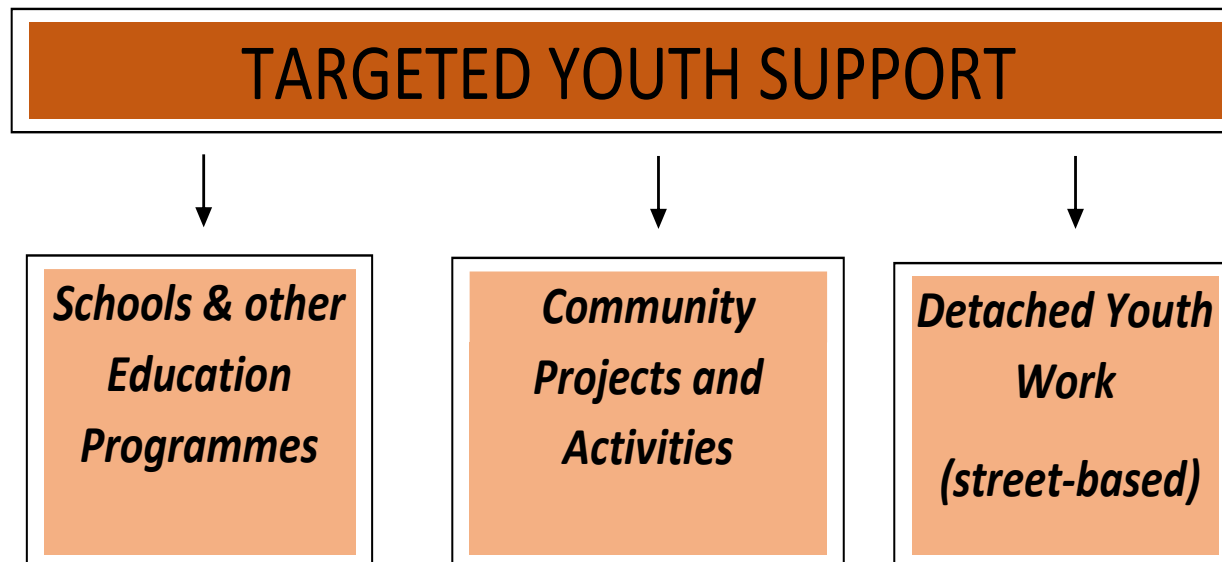
#### Targeted Youth Support (TYS):

Targeted Youth Support' (TYS) works directly with children and young people, their communities, partnership agencies and other Stockport Family services in a range of settings to support the personal, social, emotional and educational development of identified children and young people in order to achieve positive outcomes and to prevent them and their families/carers entering statutory services unnecessarily.

TYS aims to ensure that the needs of *vulnerable* young people are identified early and met by agencies, including the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS), working together effectively to avoid duplication, in ways that are shaped by the views and experiences of young people.

TYS is a voluntary community-based service which focuses on inclusion and working with those who are **hardest to reach** and **marginalised** children and young people and their families.

The 'Targeted Youth Support' Offer falls broadly into 3 main areas



### **Schools-Based Offer**

The **'schools-based offer'** operates in Secondaries and Primaries across the Borough and is delivered through Targeted Youth Support Officers, funded through some of the GMCA Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) grant; this provides a range of specialist training and awareness-raising sessions within the classroom including knife crime/weapons awareness, hate crime, online harms and crime prevention.

These are programmes specifically focused on raising awareness and giving children advice and information they need to stay safe. This includes knife crime and weapon-awareness sessions that have been delivered to all Secondary Schools, offered to Years 5&6 Primary Schools, delivered in Pupil Referral Units, Independent Schools and Stockport College. Other programmes are on offer, which include Hate Crime Awareness and schools are offered the opportunity to co-design bespoke 1-1 sessions.

### **Community Projects and Activities**

The community projects and other activities include a broad range of community projects and sport activities that are specifically focused on 'targeted youth' provision and they are being delivered in communities across Stockport. They are funded through a mixed economy of grants, including Community Safety, and co-ordinated through Stockport Family's 'Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service' in conjunction with other partnership agencies, including Stockport Homes, Life Leisure, VCSE groups and GMP. These are focused in priority areas and the projects increased in response to hotspot and seasonal demand, such as school holidays.

Examples of these sports programmes include the 3 Football 'Community Foundation' projects; Manchester City (Kicks), Manchester United (Street Reds) and Stockport County (Goalz), which are held every week and very well attended by young people. Other programmes include boxing sessions, fishing, kayaking, climbing and some specific groups that have a female-focus. Children and young people have told us how much they missed these grass roots offers during the Covid lockdowns and how much they appreciate them being fully operational again now.

### **Detached Youth Work Team:**

The Detached Youth Work Team became fully operational in October 2021 and has been funded through the 'Positive Investment Funding'. The team sits within SMBC Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Services and operates as part of the 'RTime' joint arrangements with SHG & Life Leisure and works proactively alongside VCS partners and GMP. The model also employs Peer Mentors who work with the Detached Youth Work Team and have links with Complex Safeguarding and other key agencies.

In the short period that the **Detached Youth Work Team** has been operational the impact has been significant and regular detached youth work sessions are now in place across identified areas of Stockport. The sessions are responsive and where they take place is based on intelligence received about incidents and hot spots of youth disorder and anti-social behaviour which ensures the model remains dynamic. The focus for the Detached Youth Work team is not to 'police' behaviour, but to provide a community-based engagement programme, focused on positive thinking, consequential behaviour, crime awareness, citizenship and community resilience. The model is also complemented by school liaison and awareness sessions on-site. This sits alongside the '**schools-based offer**' which takes place in Secondaries and Primaries across the Borough, funded through the Violence Reduction Unit grant; this provides a range of specialist training and awareness-raising sessions within the classroom including knife crime/weapons awareness, hate crime, online harms and crime prevention. Since the Detached Youth Work Team was set up in October 2021, the current provision offered through the Detached Youth Work Team so far includes:

#### **Brinnington:**

- Currently 2 sessions a week in Brinnington, inc. a Monday night football session using the facilities at Life Leisure attended by approx: 40 young people,
- Development of a female youth-led project
- Detached youth work sessions on Thursday, engaging with approx: 25 young people.

#### **Edgeley, Adswood and Swythamley Estate:**

- Gorseley Bank Football sessions regularly attended by a group of up to 20 young people
- Detached Youth Work sessions focused on youth engagement and participation.

**Lancashire Hill:**

- Intensive work with a group of 12 young males identified as being actively involved in anti-social behaviour
- Youth work programmes and regular sessions.

**Offerton:**

- Twice weekly youth work and engagement sessions with a younger cohort (up to 25 young people) in the community centre, library and park, as a response to reports of young people causing disruption in the local libraries and the parks.
- Photography projects working jointly with a local media company
- Proposal for input at Dial Park (artwork project)

**Marple**

- Detached sessions delivered in and around the Memorial Park in response to incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area.
- Marple Hall School, engagement sessions during one lunch break a week.

**Hazel Grove:**

- Development of a detached youth work session to build local relationships in response to concerns of ASB in the area, including incidents involving young people from Marple.

Detached Youth Work provision is increased during the during school holidays, which includes running more detached sessions.



### **Youth Disorder Panel:**

The Youth Disorder Panel continues to operate in 4 areas and are multi-agency meetings, hosted by the Neighbourhood Police, and focuses on reports of ASB and hotpot areas. Partners work together to develop agreed actions and actions to reduce the anti-social behaviour and youth disorder and this can include civil proceedings (such as Criminal Behaviour Orders and Dispersal Orders).

**Contact:** [jacqui.belfield-smith@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:jacqui.belfield-smith@stockport.gov.uk)

**Referrals & Enquiries:** [stockport.yos@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:stockport.yos@stockport.gov.uk)