

Domestic Abuse & VAWG

Harlow District

Date: 11/07/2023

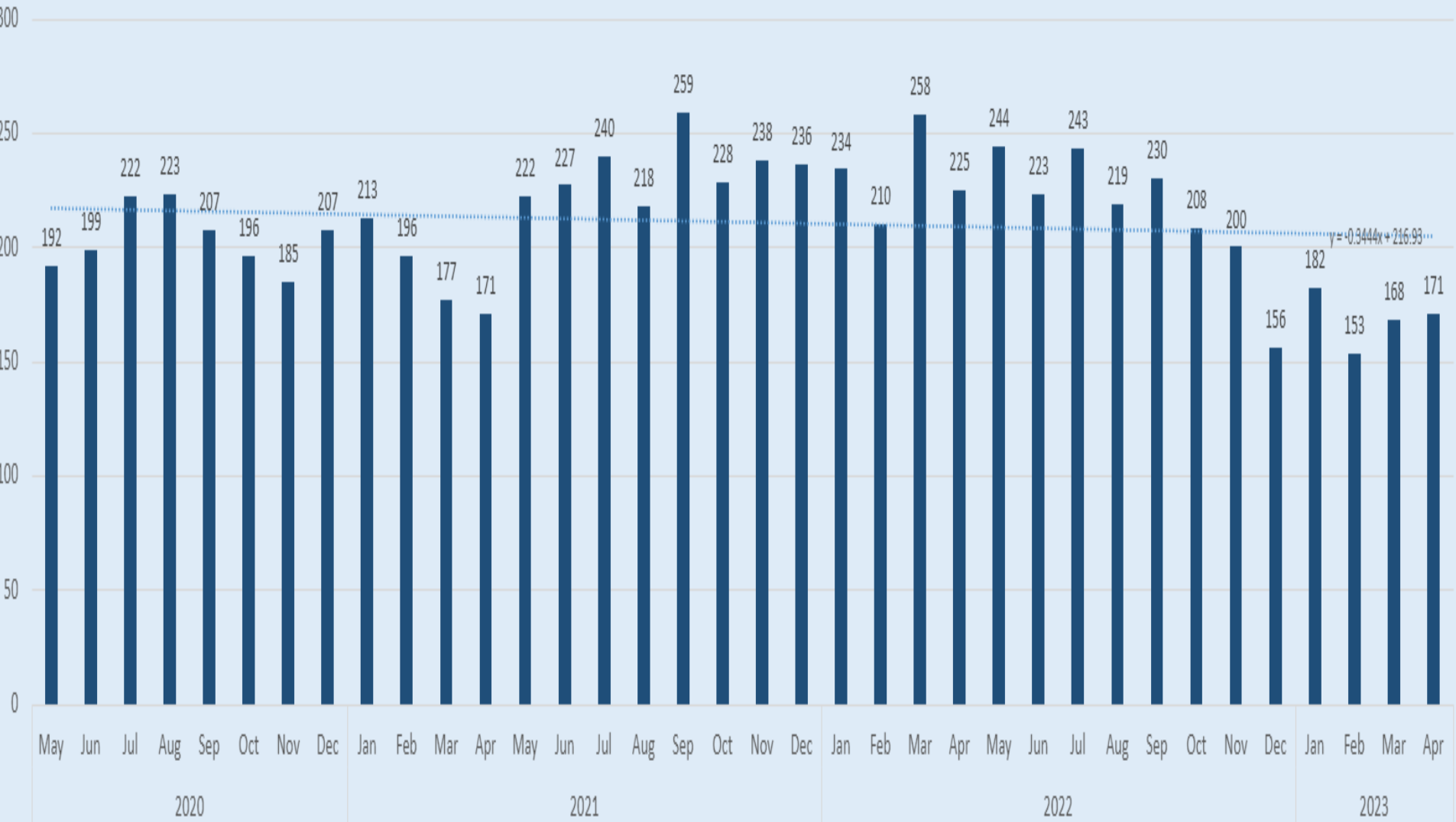
Unit: **WLPA – Harlow District**

Contact: **C/Insp Paul Austin**

The Harlow Data – Summarised

- Crime categorised as Domestic Abuse makes up for 16.5% off all crime committed in Harlow. For comparison the force average is 17.0%
- Violence against the person and sexual offending make up the largest proportion of offences
- 1 in 8 offences of Domestic abuse are solved
- Domestic Abuse reports are falling – 325 less reports in last 12 months.
- 2000 reports of Domestic Abuse to police in Harlow last year
- Victim declines to support police in around 50% of cases

Total Volumes of DA Investigations Recorded on ATHENA



	Repeat Incidents			Repeat Victims			
	12M to end of last month			12M to end of last month			
	Non repeat	Repeat	% Repeat	Repeat	Non-repeat	% Repeat	
Uttlesford	44	27	38.0%	Uttlesford	24	37	39.34%
Braintree	106	83	43.9%	Braintree	66	94	41.25%
Chelmsford	97	127	56.7%	Chelmsford	99	81	55.00%
Maldon	43	40	48.2%	Maldon	30	37	44.78%
Colchester	143	147	50.7%	Colchester	124	123	50.20%
Tendring	147	134	47.7%	Tendring	112	131	46.09%
North	580	558	49.0%	North	455	503	47.49%
Brentwood	42	32	43.2%	Brentwood	23	41	35.94%
Epping Forest	92	78	45.9%	Epping Forest	60	85	41.38%
Harlow	77	82	51.6%	Harlow	70	63	52.63%
Thurrock	153	117	43.3%	Thurrock	95	133	41.67%
West	364	309	45.9%	West	248	322	43.51%
Southend-on-Sea	164	196	54.4%	Southend-on-Sea	150	137	52.26%
Castle Point	61	61	50.0%	Castle Point	55	55	50.00%
Rochford	41	44	51.8%	Rochford	35	34	50.72%
Basildon	167	172	50.7%	Basildon	141	151	48.29%
South	433	473	52.2%	South	381	377	50.26%
	6	7	53.8%		4	5	44.44%
Force	1383	1347	49.3%	Force	1088	1207	47.41%

Essex Police DA Response

- Currently Risk Based utilising DASH however we will shortly be moving over to DARA
- Specialist DAIT (Domestic Abuse Investigation Teams) including one at Harlow – Deal with Medium & High Risk Cases
- DAPST & Offender Management Team – Focus on Offenders
- CRU currently based at HQ
- Local Policing Team retain standard risk investigations

What is the Challenge?

- Victim Journey through the Criminal Justice Process
- Ensuring that support is offered to all by appropriate agency, Not just about justice sometimes!
- Complicated by Life! Housing, Children and Financial
- Ensuring that repeat perpetrator are identified and repeat vulnerable victims are supported
- Tackling offenders without the Victim – Achilles Heel technique
- Reach into communities

What is the ask?

- Awareness of range of support services, charities and third sector support that is out there. Not everyone wants the police at that point in their journey.
- Are services ready to respond to challenges of domestic abuse i.e Housing etc
- Can you spot the signs beyond the physical. Coercive/Control, Financial or Abusive?

VAWG & Sexual Harassment

- Spotlight on VAWG Nationally
- Focus in Essex Police on tackling it, not just awareness
- On-street harassment is seldom reported
- Is the response robust enough?
- What are women and girls experiences locally?

What questions and what work has started?

- CSP sub-group on VAWG and Serious Violence
- Street safe. Street Safe is a service for anyone to anonymously tell us about public places where you have felt or feel unsafe, because of environmental issues, eg street lighting, abandoned buildings or vandalism and/or because of some behaviours, eg being followed or verbally abused. Please note: 'StreetSafe' is not for reporting crime or incidents.
- Do we design out crime. Do we ask the right people? New developments/cycle paths and underpasses
- Identification of those who cause most risk to women and girls
- Engagement with Young People

CSP – VAWG Group

Split into a number of Key areas

Creating Safer Spaces
Engagement and Awareness
VAWG Hotspots

Op Ride

repeat

Op Tell Us

Op Enough