

Reoffending Deep Dive

East Cambridgeshire

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. Introduction

Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) have a range of statutory duties. One specific duty for CSPs relates directly to reducing reoffending - laid out below:

- Formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of reoffending in the area as per the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 (Section 6).

The mechanism in which it should achieve this statutory duty is up to local decision makers. In Cambridgeshire a range of initiatives are in place. Due to the two-tier nature of the local structures, the integrated offender management programme (IOM) is delivered at a force level. CSPs can determine other activity locally to tackle specific local issues.

In order to determine what specific local issues are pertinent to the duty to reduce reoffending, the CSP commissioned a deep dive to provide an updated evidence base. The strictest definition of 'reoffending' would only include those individuals who have a proven history of reoffending. Given the limitations of only tackling those with a proven history e.g. the time lag from committing an offence to completing a criminal justice outcome, this report lays out a range of analysis from the broadest issues surrounding 'reoffending' for the partnership to consider.

The report seeks to answer the following questions:

- What does reoffending mean in the context of East Cambridgeshire?
- How are people causing concern through repeat offending?
- What types of community safety issues can be prioritised to reduce reoffending?
- Who is known to reoffend and what interventions can be targeted to reduce reoffending?

To answer these questions, this report draws on data from the East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Problem Solving Group (PSG), police data, probation and integrated offender management (IOM) data, and Youth Justice Service (YJS) data. Given the disparate nature of the datasets and issued examined, the executive summary and report groups them or takes them separately as appropriate.

1.2. Recommendations

Strategic Recommendations

When making decisions about prioritisation and action planning, the CSP should consider the following:

- The resources and capacity it currently has to prevent or reduce reoffending.
- Does the current work delivered through the IOM scheme meet the requirements of the statutory duty?
 - What information does the partnership require to understand the impact of the scheme and monitor it over time?
- Are there opportunities for the CSP to work 'upstream'?
 - This could include prioritising children at risk of offending or who have offended.
 - Working adults who have offended and are at risk of reoffending.
- Does the partnership have specific issues or locations it wants to prioritise?
 - Are there particular concerns relating to violent crimes and the level of harm that the partnership should prioritise?

Operational Recommendations

1. Given that analysis shows that 10 children who reoffend from the YJS data overlap with those mentioned in PSG minutes and that there are complex needs of children in the YJS data, it is recommended that the CSP continue with the integrated multi-agency support at CSP meetings. It is recommended that
 - Those known to the YJS who go on to offend and become open to YJS be monitored in order to better understand triggers and potential interventions.
 - The CSP evaluate how to best work with wider partners such as YJS colleagues to provide support to those children to move them away from further offending.
2. Given that the method of recording PSG meetings does not lend itself to either statistical or detailed analysis, it is recommended that the CSP review the format of the PSG monthly minutes notes to aid any future analysis.
 - PSG minutes are structured around agenda items. An agenda item is complex and could be associated with multiple locations and/or multiple individuals. While individual information is recorded, there can often be multiple individuals within an agenda item, and it can be difficult to record separate needs and draw out conclusions.
 - It is understood that notetaking is difficult and complex, but individuals should be separated out as agenda items whenever possible to encourage the recording of needs – this would help to identify possible support pathways.

3. Furthermore, given that deep dive reports on reoffending have also been commissioned for the Cambridge City CSP and the South Cambridgeshire CSP, this may be an opportunity to find standardised elements to aid cross comparison and support county wide initiatives such as Risk Outside The Home (ROTH).
 - A possible forum could be the quarterly Community Safety Officers (CSO) meetings.

1.3. Summary of Key Findings

Key findings are broken down into the following subsections: adults who have reoffended, children who have reoffended, wider community issues, and thematic issues highlighted by the analysis.

1.3.1. Adults who have reoffended

Probation

Three probation cohorts that are residents in East Cambridgeshire were analysed: those sentenced in 2022, those sentenced in 2023, and those sentenced in 2024. For the cohort sentenced in 2024, the numbers for repeat offenders were very small (<5) and the analysis for this cohort was not included in the report.

Across both 2022 and 2023 cohorts:

- Males consistently made up the majority of the repeat offenders.
- The age group of 20 to 29 made up the highest proportion of repeat offenders.
- “Other (incl. Robbery)” and violence were the common offence types for repeat offenders.

IOM

Data was provided by the Probation Service from the IOM scheme detailing those currently registered for the month of July 2025 and those who were registered at some point between October 2021 and December 2024; these cohorts can be described as current and historic, respectively.

For the historic cohort, the number of offenders registered on IOM and residing in East Cambridgeshire was low (<5); therefore, no further analysis has been explored.

Within the current cohort, there are no offenders residing in East Cambridgeshire.

1.3.2. Children who have reoffended

Youth Justice Service (YJS)

Four YJS cohorts were analysed: 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. However, numbers were too small for 2024 cohort analysis, and the 2024 analysis was not included in this report.

These cohorts are determined by grouping children who reoffended by their first outcome date. The proportion of children who reoffended decreased with each yearly cohort, and this is expected because with each subsequent cohort, there is a smaller time window to reoffend.

Across the three cohorts (2021 to 2023), most children who reoffended were aged between 14 to 15 (42%).

1.3.3. Wider community issues

Monthly minutes from the PSG were analysed to understand the wider community issues of East Cambridgeshire. The PSG combines both adult and child issues in a single meeting.

35 agenda items were associated with multiple community safety incidents, and these are referred to as the analysed cohort. 25 agenda items (71%) correspond to adults, and 10 agenda items (29%) correspond to children.

Agenda items related to adults (25 out of 35) were mostly localised at 64% (16 out of 25) while almost all the agenda items related to children (10 out of 35) were multiple locations.

Mentions of drugs and noise stood out as the top 2 community safety issues. Violence was also a theme with mentions of harassment, assault, and threatening behaviour.

Community safety incidents were also analysed based on impact to the individual, the community, or the physical environment. Impact on the community made up the largest proportion at 77% of the analysed cohort (27 out of 35), and this was followed by impact on the individual at 60% of the analysed cohort (21 out of 35).

1.3.4. Thematic issues highlighted by the analysis

1.3.4.1. The needs of children

For the PSG minutes, mention of drugs was the top community safety issue with 51% of the analysed cohort (18 out of 35). Mention of drugs was the top community safety issue for children related agenda items (6 out of 10).

For the YJS data, there were Assetplus assessments for 21 of the 36 children who reoffended (58%) over the three years. 81% of this cohort had evidence of substance misuse (17 out of 21), and the majority were using multiple types of drugs (82%; 14 out of 17).

As far as other needs from Assetplus, 52% had contact with mental health services at the time of their latest assessment (11 out of 21), and 43% had identified disabilities or SEND (9 out of 21).

1.3.4.2. Geographic priority areas

Littleport and Ely West stood out as the top wards of residential locations in the minutes. 23% of the analysed cohort (8 out of 35) resided in Littleport, and 17% of the analysed cohort (6 out of 35) resided in Ely West. All the wards in Ely made up 34% of the analysed cohort (12 out of 35).

For the YJS data, numbers were very small, and analysis was limited. When the three yearly cohorts were combined, Littleport was the ward with the highest number of children who reoffend.

1.3.4.3. Higher harm crimes

Violence was the common theme across most of the data sets analysed. For PSG analysis, the notes and incidents were reviewed and categorised into similar 'types', and these do not translate directly into police recorded crimes or incidents.

For the PSG, violence was a common theme with mentions of harassment (29%; 10 out of 35), assault (26%; 9 out of 35), and threatening behaviour (17%; 6 out of 35).

From the Police suspects data, the crime types which had the highest volumes of repeat suspects were violence without injury, stalking and harassment, and violence with injury.

For YJS, violence against the person (VAP) made up 43% of first offences of the total cohort of children who offend. Of those children who reoffend, the majority of

first offences of the reoffending cohort across all three yearly cohorts was VAP (44%; 16). VAP consistently remained the highest across all three yearly cohorts.

In terms of the most serious further offence in the reoffending cohort, VAP offences also accounted for the highest proportion of the most serious further offence (31%; 11).

2. Probation and IOM Data

2.1. Probation

This section focuses on adult offenders who are supervised and managed by the Probation Service and whose latest known address is in East Cambridgeshire, see Appendix A Probation Data. The Probation Service supervises offenders who are either serving community sentences or who are released to the community from prison; it is a statutory service. Data was provided from the Probation Service through the collation of case management data, offender assessment system data (OASys) and Office of National Statistics (ONS) postcode data.

The dataset provided is based on a snapshot from 17/07/2025 and is inclusive of those who were active on probation on 17/07/2025 or those who had had an active case at some point from April 2021 onwards. Any events that ended prior to April 2021 are not included.

For the purpose of analysis, three cohorts were established and analysed: those sentenced in 2022, those sentenced in 2023 and those sentenced in 2024. Duplicates between each cohort were removed with 2022 cohort as the index. Further methodology notes can be found in the Appendix A Probation Data.

Several factors will influence the analysis in this section, particularly when measuring reoffending in the way that it has been. Whilst it provides an indication, it is not possible to see such notable reoffending patterns over a short time period. It should be noted that results may be skewed slightly due to there only being a 3.5 year time period between when the data was extracted and the start date of the first cohort. This skew will be particularly noticeable in the 2024 cohort. Due to the smaller time period, those who were sentenced for more serious crimes tend to receive longer sentences and therefore there is less opportunity to reoffend.

Also, the time from offending to sentencing is largely impacted by the justice process. Both habitual low-level crime (mostly acquisitive) and targeted initiatives (shoplifting, drug-related etc.) should also be considered when understanding repeat offending. These caveats and details have been provided through communication with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service.

2.1.1. Key Themes

Across both 2022 and 2023 cohorts:

- Males consistently made up the majority of the repeat offenders.
- The age group of 20 to 29 made up the highest proportion of repeat offenders.
- “Other (incl. Robbery)” and violence were the common offence types for repeat offenders.

2.1.1.1. Offenders sentenced in 2022

This cohort includes offenders residing in East Cambridgeshire, who were sentenced in 2022. More specifically, a sub-set of offenders, who proceeded to commit further offences, are analysed as the cohort of repeat offenders.

There were 61 offenders in total, 26% of which committed further offences after their first recorded offence in 2022 (16 offenders). There was an average of 1.4 offences per repeat offender.

Some demographic information on the subset of repeat offenders is below:

- The majority of the cohort who had reoffended were male (69%). However, in this instance female offenders were overrepresented in the repeat offenders cohort, accounting for 31% compared to 20% in the total cohort.
- The cohort is predominantly White/ White British.
- Age at the time of latest offence, see Appendix – 38% aged between 20 to 29.

Offence types were analysed across two cohorts: 1) those who had only committed one offence and what this offence was and 2) those who committed multiple offences and the percentage share of all these offences associated with repeat offenders.

The majority of offences committed by the 2022 cohort were violence (30%) followed by Other (22%). Other can include offences such as robbery, public order, and criminal damage.

No offence type was similar in proportion across one offence only and multiple offences – see Table 1 below.

Table 1: Proportion of offence types associated with offenders who committed one offence or multiple offences, residing in Cambridge, 2022 cohort

Offence Type	One offence only	Multiple offences	Total offences
Acquisitive	<12%	13%	10%
Drugs	13%	21%	17%
Motoring	18%	13%	16%

Offence Type	One offence only	Multiple offences	Total offences
Other (incl. Robbery)	18%	26%	22%
Sexual	<12%	0%	6%
Violence	33%	26%	30%

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence, using data provide by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service (CPPS).

2.1.1.2. Offenders sentenced in 2023

This cohort includes offenders residing in East Cambridgeshire, who were sentenced in 2023. More specifically, a sub-set of offenders, who proceeded to commit further offences are analysed as the cohort of repeat offenders.

There were 76 offenders in total, 16% of which had subsequent offences after the first noted offence in 2023 (12 offenders). There was an average of 1.3 offences per reoffender.

Some demographic information on the subset of repeat offenders is below:

- The cohort were predominantly male.
- Majority of the cohort were aged between 20 to 29 years (age at last offence) (42%).
- The majority of the cohort were White/ White British.

Offence types were analysed across two cohorts: 1) those who had only committed one offence and what this offence was and 2) those who committed multiple offences and the percentage share of all these offences associated with repeat offenders.

The majority of offences committed by the 2023 cohort were violence (26%) followed by sexual (18%).

- Of the offences which were associated with repeat offenders, 25% of the offences were violence. This was slightly lower than the proportion of violent offences associated with one offence (27%).
- Acquisitive offences were notably higher proportioned in repeat offenders (18%) compared with one offence only (8%).
- Other (incl. Robbery) offences were also notably higher proportioned in repeat offenders (29%) compared with one offence only (9%).
- Sexual offences were notably higher proportioned in one offence only (27%) compared with repeat offenders (0%). It should be noted that more serious crime will often come with longer term custody so reducing the opportunities to reoffend.

Table 2: Proportion of offence types associated with offenders who committed one offence or multiple offences, residing in Cambridge, 2023 cohort

Offence Type	One offence only	Multiple offences	Total offences
Acquisitive	8%	18%	11%
Drugs	16%	<19%	14%
Motoring	14%	<19%	15%
Other (incl. Robbery)	9%	29%	15%
Sexual	27%	0%	18%
Violence	27%	25%	26%

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence, using data provide by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service (CPPS).

2.1.1.3. Offenders sentenced in 2024

This cohort includes offenders residing in East Cambridgeshire, who were sentenced in 2024. There was a total of 75 offenders in this cohort. More specifically, a sub-set of offenders, who proceeded to commit further offences are analysed as the cohort of repeat offenders. It should be noted that numbers for repeat offenders are very small (<5); this could be due to the length of time between the extraction of the data and the start of 2024. Due to the small numbers, analysis for this cohort is not included.

2.2. Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

The following summary has been compiled from notes provided by the Probation Service. Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is a multi-agency response to neighbourhood crime, in particular targeting the most prolific offenders. IOM was introduced in 2009, and the IOM Refresh Strategy was published in December 2020 and adopted by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in October 2021.

Data was provided by the Probation Service from the IOM scheme detailing those currently registered for the month of July 2025 and those who were registered at some point between October 2021 and December 2024; these cohorts can be described as current and historic, respectively. For the historic cohort, the number of offenders registered on IOM and residing in East Cambridgeshire was low (<5); therefore, no further analysis has been explored. Within the current cohort, there are no offenders residing in East Cambridgeshire.

3. Youth Justice Service (YJS) Data

3.1. Overview

This section of the report draws upon data from Cambridgeshire Youth Justice Service and aims to pull together the scale of the numbers of children aged 10 to 17 years olds in contact with the criminal justice system in East Cambridgeshire.

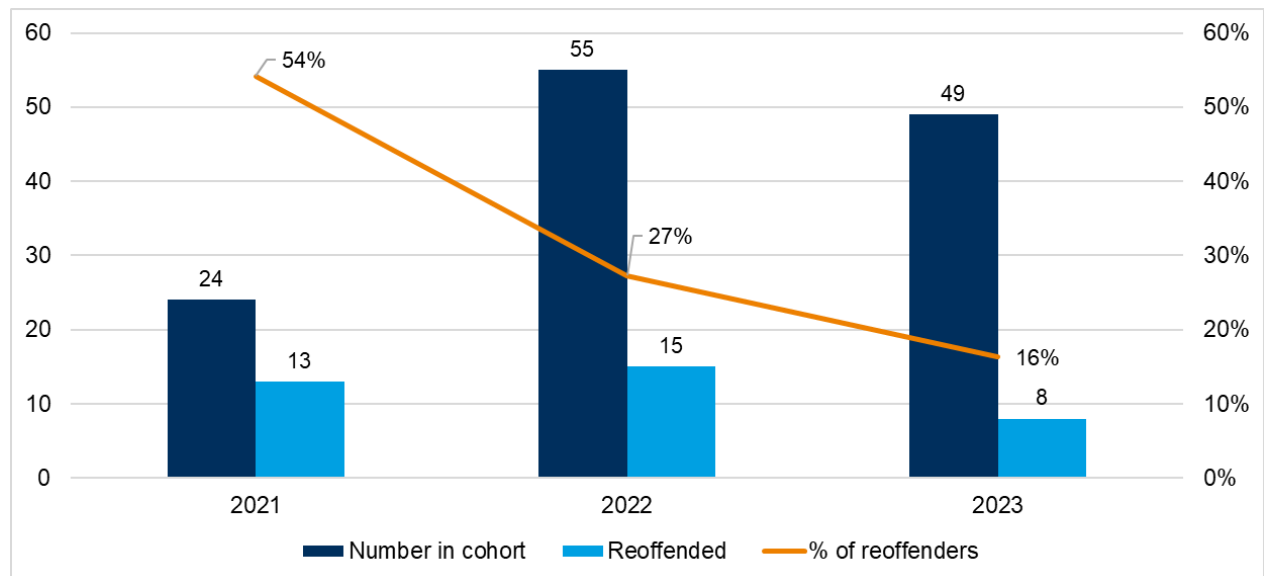
For the purpose of analysis, three cohorts were established and analysed: 2021, 2022 and 2023. These cohorts are determined by grouping children who reoffend by their first outcome date. The year of this outcome date is the determinant of the cohort. If a child has multiple outcome dates, the earliest outcome in the year will be used. A child can only appear once in across all cohorts to avoid duplicates. It was set out that four cohorts would be created, including 2024. However, numbers were too small for 2024 cohort analysis and all of the reoffending cohort for 2024 had appeared in the previous years. 2024 cohort analysis is thus not included in this report.

3.1.1. Children who have reoffended

Across the three years (2021 to 2023), there were 128 children who offend managed in East Cambridgeshire. Of those 128, 36 children reoffended (28%) with a total of 196 reoffences (not including the first offence). The cohort in 2022 had the largest number of children who offend (55 children) and 2021 had the smallest cohort (24 children).

In 2021, 54% of children who entered the cohort at some point in the year went on to reoffend. In 2023, 16% of the cohort reoffended. It is expected that the proportion of those who reoffend will decrease between each cohort from 2021 and 2023 due to decreasing time frames to reoffend.

Figure 1: Children who reoffend in East Cambridgeshire, from January 2021 to December 2023



Note: Chart produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System

3.2. Offences and Outcomes

3.2.1. Type of offences

First offence (total cohort)

For context, analysis has been done on the first offence of those within each cohort regardless of whether the child went onto reoffend. The majority of the first offences were violence against the person offences (43%). This was reflected in each cohort.

Sexual offences accounted for the second highest proportion of first offences across all for cohorts (13%); this is joint with criminal damage offences (also 13%).

First offence (reoffending cohort)

Across the three years, violence against the person (VAP) offences accounted for the highest proportion of first offences at almost half (44%, 16). This is followed by criminal damage (22%, 8). This was the case overall and throughout the individual cohorts.

Most serious further offence (reoffending cohort)

Across the three years, violence against the person (VAP) offences also accounted for the highest proportion of the most serious further offence (31%, 11). This was followed by public order offences (19%, 7), which contrastingly accounted for a notably small proportion of first offences.

3.2.2. Number of further offences

Table 3 below shows that the 2021 cohort went on to commit on average a further 7.2 offences. It is expected that the average number of further offences will decrease between each cohort from 2021 and 2023 due to less time to reoffend.

Table 3: Average number of further offences by cohort, 2021 to 2024

Cohort	2021	2022	2023
Average number of further offences per child who reoffends	7.2	5.3	3.0

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence, using data sourced from CCC Child Youth Justice Management System.

Across three cohorts (out of 128 children), 6 children who have reoffended went on to commit a further 10+ offences.

3.2.3. Time between first and second offence

Across the three cohorts, just over half reoffended within 6 months of their first offence (53%) and 61% reoffended within a year of their first offence.

3.2.4. Outcomes

First offence outcome (reoffending cohort)

Across the three years, 'Community Resolution Police Facilitated' accounted for the highest proportion of first offence outcomes at 44% (16). This was followed by 'Youth Restorative Disposal' and 'Referral Order' with 17% each (6).

Most serious further offence outcome (reoffending cohort)

Across the three years, 'Community Resolution Police Facilitated' also accounted for the highest proportion of the most serious further offence outcome (33%, 12). This was followed by 'Referral Order' (19%, 7).

3.3. Demographics (reoffending cohort)

Gender, age group and ethnicity

- Across the three cohorts, the majority of children who reoffend were male (86%).
- The majority of children who reoffend were aged between 14 to 15 (42%). This was closely followed by those aged between 10 and 13 years old (31%) and those aged 16 to 17 (28%).
- Across all three cohorts, the majority of children who reoffend were White British (81%) – this is underrepresented compared to the 10 to 17 East Cambridgeshire population (86%).
- Both White Other and Asian, Black and Other were overrepresented in terms of proportion across the three reoffending cohorts compared to the 10 to 17 East Cambridgeshire population. However, numbers are small.

Social care status

- Across all cohorts, 19% of children who reoffended had social care status. Social care status includes children in care, children in need, or those under child protection.

Home address – Ward

Due to small numbers, analysis is limited, and the three cohorts have been combined. Littleport was the ward with the highest number of children who reoffend at 11 (31%).

3.4. Assetplus profile

Assetplus is the main assessment tool in the Youth Justice Service. Not every child who offends will have an assessment. For the purpose of this analysis, all children who reoffend over the three cohorts have been grouped and only those with Assetplus assessments have been analysed. A person with Assetplus can have multiple assessments, and therefore, their latest assessment has been used for the analysis below. 21 of the 36 children who reoffend were on Assetplus (58%).

- 52% had contact with mental health services at the time of their latest assessment (11 out of 21).
- 43% had identified disabilities or SEND (9 out of 21).
- 52% had 'very high' and 'high' safety and wellbeing ratings at their latest assessment (11 out of 21).
- 81% of the cohort had evidence of substance misuse (17 out of 21).
- The majority were using multiple types of drugs (82%; 14 out of 17).

Since a person can be using multiple substances at once, analysis has been done by counting the mentions of each drug type and then looking at the percentage share of the total of mentions. There were 45 mentions of drugs, and 38% of these mentions were cannabis, followed by alcohol (16%).

4. Police Data

4.1. Summary

Shoplifting had the highest proportion of suspects who were repeat offenders of any crime type, and the second highest volume of associated suspects.

- A small number of offenders (approximately a fifth) of this crime type were linked with a relatively large portion of offences present within suspect data (more than two-thirds).
- The maximum number of offences associated with a suspect was 17.
- Most shoplifting suspects were male, with those aged 25 to 34 being the most common age group.
- Of those with a recorded home district, most came from within East Cambridgeshire, with the remaining suspects coming from outside of Cambridgeshire.

Violence without injury had a notable proportion of repeat suspects, and the highest volume of repeat suspects. However, the proportion was considerably lower than that for shoplifting.

- Of those with known age and gender, the most common age group was those aged under 18, followed by those aged 35 to 44. The majority of these were male.
- The next most common age group was those aged 25 to 34, which had a similar number of males and females.
- The majority of violence without injury suspects with known home district came from within East Cambridgeshire.

Stalking and harassment had a similar proportion of repeat suspects as violence without injury (6th highest) and had the second highest volume.

- The majority were male, and aged either under 18, or 35 to 44.
- The majority with known home districts were from within East Cambridgeshire, with the remaining mostly coming from outside of Cambridgeshire.

Other crime types that had high numbers of repeat offenders were largely influenced by the overall high numbers of those crime types with lower proportions of suspects associated with multiple offences.

4.2. Technical note

The following section analyses data of suspects recorded by Cambridgeshire Constabulary for offences in East Cambridgeshire recorded in 2024. Whilst this may provide some insight into activity and demographics of suspects, it is important to be aware that the data is first and foremost a reflection of the data held by the police. It reflects just a subset of the crimes recorded by the police, as not all crimes will have an associated suspect record. Some crime types may be more likely to have associated suspect records, and individuals with certain characteristics may be more likely to be detected by the police. Moreover, this analysis refers to suspects of crimes, who may or may not have since been confirmed as offenders. Therefore, those that are referred to as “repeat suspects” are not necessarily “repeat offenders”, rather than suspects linked with multiple crime records.

Further technical notes about suspects and crime data can be seen in Appendix A: Technical Notes.

4.3. Repeat suspects in East Cambridgeshire

A suspect is someone that is suspected by the police of being involved in a crime. This can be as the result of an allegation or can arise through the course of an investigation (MET, 2024).

- 30% of the 1325 suspects associated with crimes in East Cambridgeshire recorded in 2024, were associated with multiple offences (398 suspects).
- These 398 suspects were linked with 60% (1270) of crimes (recorded in suspect records) over this period (of 2128 crimes).
- 47% of shoplifting suspects were associated with multiple shoplifting offences; a higher proportion of repeat suspects than any other crime type.
- Violence without injury had the highest volume of suspects associated with multiple offences of the same type (86 suspects).
- 20% of violence without injury suspects were associated with multiple violence without injury offences; the fifth highest proportion of any crime type.
- Stalking and harassment had the 6th highest proportion (18%), and the second highest volume of repeat offenders (see Table 4).
- Other crime types in the top 5 (for proportion of repeat suspects) were relatively low in volume (see Table 8 in Appendix B: Appendix Tables).

The offence types with the largest volumes of suspects associated with multiple offences of the same type are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Suspects associated with multiple offences of the same type, for suspects of offences in East Cambridgeshire recorded in 2024: Top 4 by volume of repeat suspects

Crime type	Suspect count (all)	Suspect count (all) rank	Repeat suspect (within crime type) count	Repeat suspect (within crime type) count rank	Repeat suspect (within crime type) %	Repeat suspect (within crime type) % rank
Violence without injury	425	1	86	1	20%	5
Stalking and harassment	269	3	48	2	18%	6
Violence with injury	288	2	35	3	12%	8
Shoplifting	58	9	27	4	47%	1

Note: The full table of all crime types, including statistics on suspects associated with multiple offences of any type, can be found in Table 8 in Appendix B: Appendix Tables.

Source: Table created by CCC PPI using suspect records provided by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Further analysis, including demographic profiles have been provided below of the 4 crime types with the highest volumes of suspects associated with multiple offences (of those crime types), as shown in Table 4. Data refers only to crimes known to be located in East Cambridgeshire, recorded in 2024, with associated suspect records.

4.4. Shoplifting

- As noted in the previous section, shoplifting had the highest proportion of repeat suspects.
- Overall, 58 suspects were present in records for shoplifting offences recorded in 2024; who were linked with 170 shoplifting offences in East Cambridgeshire, recorded in 2024.
- The 47% of suspects (27 suspects) who were associated with multiple offences, accounted for 86% of the shoplifting offences (147 offences) listed in suspect records.
- Just over a fifth of suspects (21%, 12 suspects) were associated with 5 or more shoplifting offences over this period.
 - These suspects were linked with more than two-thirds of shoplifting offences (65%, 111 offences).

- There were 3 suspects who together were associated with approximately a quarter (26%) of shoplifting offences; each linked with more than 12 offences each.
- The maximum number of shoplifting offences associated with a single suspect in 2024 was 17.

Demographics

- Age and gender were recorded for all suspects.
- Of the 27 suspects associated with multiple shoplifting offences, most were male (20 suspects, 74%).
- The largest age group was those aged 25 to 34 (9 suspects, 33%).
- The home district was unknown for 8 shoplifting suspects (accounting for 30%).
- 59% of all suspects came from within East Cambridgeshire, accounting for 84% of the 19 suspects with a recorded home address.
- No suspects came from other Cambridgeshire districts. 16% of suspects with a recorded home address came from outside of Cambridgeshire.

4.5. Violence without injury

The high volume of repeat suspects for this crime type was partially influenced by the overall large volume of suspects associated with this crime type. However, it had the fifth highest proportion of suspects who were repeat suspects.

- 425 suspects were associated with 565 violence without injury offences overall.
- The 20% of suspects (86 people) who were associated with multiple violence without injury offences, accounted for 42% of the violence without injury offences (415 offences) listed in suspect records
- 8 suspects (2% of violence without injury suspects) accounted for 49 offences (9% of violence without injury offences within the suspect records for 2024 offences).
- The maximum number of violence without injury offences associated with a single suspect was 9.

Demographics

- Age and gender were not recorded for 1 suspect associated with multiple violence with injury offences.
- Of the remaining 85 suspects with recorded age and gender, more than two-thirds were male (68%, 58 suspects).

- Those aged under 18 accounted for almost a quarter of suspects (24%, 20 suspects). Those aged 35 to 44 accounted for just over a fifth (21%, 18 suspects).
 - These higher volume age groups were the most skewed towards male suspects:
 - Under 18: females 5%, males 19%
 - 35 to 44: females 5%, males 16%.
 - In contrast, the next highest age group (25 to 34), which accounted for 18% of suspects, had a similar number of male and female suspects (females 9%, males 8%).
- Of the 86 suspects associated with multiple violence without injury offences, the home district was unknown for 8% of suspects.
- For the remaining 79 suspects with a recorded home district, most were from within East Cambridgeshire (92% of those with a known home district, 73 suspects).

4.6. Stalking and harassment

- Of the 269 suspects associated with stalking and harassment offences, 18% (48 suspects) were associated with multiple stalking and harassment offences (the 6th highest percentage).
 - These repeat suspects accounted for 34% of the 308 stalking and harassment offences present in suspect records (recorded in 2024).
- 4% of suspects (11 suspects) were associated with 3 or more stalking and harassment offences; accounting for 12% of stalking and harassment offences (38 offences) over this period.
- The maximum number of offences of this type associated with a single suspect was 5.

Demographics

- Age, gender, and home district was recorded for all 48 suspects of multiple stalking and harassment offences.
- More than two-thirds (67%) were male.
- The two largest age groups were those aged under 18 (23%, 11 suspects), and those aged 35 to 44 (21%, 10 suspects).
- 88% (42 suspects) were from within East Cambridgeshire. Most of the remaining suspects were from outside of Cambridgeshire.

4.7. Violence with injury

- Of the 288 suspects associated with violence with injury offences, 12% were repeat suspects. This was the 8th highest proportion of repeat suspects.
 - This indicates that the high volume of repeat suspects is partially due to the overall high volume of suspects associated with these offences, rather than a high proportion of suspects being associated with multiple offences.
- The 12% of suspects which were associated with multiple violence with injury offences, accounted for 24% of the 317 violence with injury offences present in suspect records.
- 3% of suspects were associated with 3 or more violence with injury offences, accounting for 9% of offences.
- The maximum number of violence with injury offences associated with a single suspect, was 6.

Demographics

- Age and gender were recorded for all 35 suspects associated with multiple violence with injury offences.
- More than three-quarters of these were male (77%, 27 suspects).
- The largest age groups were those aged 35 to 44 (34%, 12 suspects), and those aged 25 to 34 (29%, 10 suspects).
 - Males aged 35 to 44 accounted for approximately a quarter of repeat violence with injury suspects (26%, 9 suspects).
- Suspect home district was unknown for 2 suspects. Of the remaining 33 suspects, most came from within East Cambridgeshire (85%, 28 suspects).
- The majority of remaining suspects came from outside of Cambridgeshire.

5. Problem Solving Group (PSG) Analysis

Monthly minutes from the PSG were analysed to understand the wider community issues of East Cambridgeshire. The PSG combines both adult and child issues in a single meeting. The method of recording the PSG meetings did not lend itself to either statistical or detailed analysis. The data was recorded in the form of notes; therefore, in the time available a single year's worth of data was reviewed between January and December 2024.

A focus of the analysis was to identify agenda items with more than one community safety incident to align with the report's aim of understanding what reoffending looks like in the broadest sense.

5.1. Overview

The PSG minutes were complex and were organised as agenda item numbers. Each agenda item could include multiple individuals and addresses.

There was a total of 39 unique agenda items recorded for the PSG in 2024, and these items were analysed as to whether there was a single community safety incident or if there were multiple community safety incidents. For example, an agenda item that was categorised with multiple community safety incidents could have a burglary incident and then a separate assault incident.

Of the 39 agenda items, 35 agenda items were associated with multiple community safety incidents. The large representation of multiple incidents could be due to only substantial cases with multiple incidents surfacing to the PSG agenda while single incidents that are fleeting do not make the PSG agenda.

These 35 agenda items will be referred to as the analysed cohort. Of these 35 agenda items, 25 agenda items (71%) correspond to adults, and 10 agenda items (29%) correspond to children. Due to the small number of children agenda items, analysis will mostly be conducted as the full analysed cohort with some specific adult/children issues highlighted. Below are the following subsections of geography and type and impact of community safety issues.

5.2. Geography

Littleport and Ely West stood out as the top wards of residential locations in the minutes. 23% of the analysed cohort (8 out of 35) resided in Littleport, and 17% of the analysed cohort (6 out of 35) resided in Ely West.

Ely as a whole made up 34% of the analysed cohort (12 out of 35), and Sutton and Stretham made up 17% of the analysed cohort (6 out of 35). The wards in Soham made up 14% of the analysed cohort (5 out of 35).

Agenda items were also analysed by whether they were associated with a localised area or in multiple locations. For example, a localised area may refer to just an individual's residence or the neighbours surrounding an individual's residence. Multiple locations could include the localised area as well as parks and other public places. Table 5 below shows that incidents were almost evenly split between localised and multiple locations.

Table 5: Geographical spread of incidents in the analysed cohort, January to December 2024

Geographical spread	Number of individuals	% of the total
Localised	17	49%
Multiple locations	18	51%
Total	35	100%

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence, using data sourced from East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership.

Agenda items related to adults (25 out of 35) were mostly localised at 64% (16 out of 25) while almost all the agenda items related to children (10 out of 35) were multiple locations.

Children being associated with multiple locations while adults being more localised was also seen in PSG/PGPM in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire. Children being associated with multiple locations may be partly due to the added location of school, but there were also more mentions of public locations such as parks and shops for children in the minutes.

5.3. Type and impact of community safety issues

The notes and incidents were reviewed and categorised into similar ‘types’; these do not translate directly into police recorded crimes or incidents.

The agenda items of the analysed cohort can be involved in different community safety issues, and thus, the total percentage will exceed 100%.

Table 6 below shows the top community safety issues of locations in the analysed cohort. Mentions of drugs and noise stood out as the top 2 community safety issues. Violence was also a theme with mentions of harassment, assault, and threatening behaviour. These issues were similar to those in the PSG/PGPM in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire

Table 6: Top community safety issues of the analysed cohort, January to December 2024

Community Safety Issue	Number of locations	% of the total
Drugs	18	51%
Noise	13	37%
Harassment	10	29%
Assault	9	26%
Threatening behaviour	6	17%
Fires	5	14%
Shoplifting	5	14%

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence, using data sourced from East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership.

Agenda items related to adults (25 out of 35) had the highest mentions for drugs, noise, harassment, assault, and threatening behaviour. Agenda items related to children (10 out of 35) had the highest mentions for drugs (6 out of 10).

In terms of impact, the monthly minutes were analysed by whether the community safety incidents impacted an individual, a community, or the physical environment. Agenda items can have multiple impacts, and thus, the total percentage will exceed 100%.

Table 7 shows that impact on the community makes up the largest proportion at 77% of the analysed cohort (27 out of 35), and this is followed by impact on the individual at 60% of the analysed cohort (21 out of 35).

Table 7: Type of impact by individuals in the analysed cohort, January to December 2024

Type of Impact	Number of individuals	% of total
Individual	21	60%
Community	27	77%
Physical environment	12	34%
Total	35	N/A

Note: Table produced by Cambridgeshire County Council Policy and Insight Team, using data sourced from East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership.

6. Glossary

Term/abbreviation	Definition
Asset	Assessment used in Youth Justice
CCC	Cambridgeshire County Council
CCC PPI	Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Performance and Intelligence Service –

Term/abbreviation	Definition
	previously PPI (Policy and Insight Team)
CSO	Community Safety Officers
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
FOI	Freedom of Information. Part of the Freedom of Information Act. Information about this is available on the Information Commissioner's Office: What is the FOI Act and are we covered? ICO
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PIT (or CCC PIT)	Policy and Insight Team (part of Cambridgeshire County Council)
PSG	Problem Solving Group
ROTH	Risk outside the home
Ward	Wards (or electoral wards), are geographical areas used to elect local authority councillors (ONS, 2023c)
YE	Year Ending
YJS	Youth Justice Service

Appendix A: Technical Notes

General

Police data

1. Volume of offences was calculated based on the number of incident numbers associated with suspects. Offences with no associated suspect record were not included in this analysis.
2. Analysis of crime and suspect records is based on a snapshot of records held by the police at the time it was sent to CCC PPI. Records may be subject to change, as crimes are updated, corrected, or “uncrimed”.
3. Analysis of suspect records is based on a subset of crimes which have associated suspect records, and so should be treated with caution. Biases in data may be present. For example, some crime types may be more likely to have suspects associated, and some suspect demographics may be more or less likely to be detected by the police.
4. Suspects are not confirmed offenders.
5. Information on what evidence is required for the police to record someone as a suspect is available on the Metropolitan Police website, in the form of an FOI response: [Evidence needed to mark some a suspect | Metropolitan Police](#).

Probation Data

1. Analysis is based on a subset of the records held by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Service at the time it was shared with CCC Policy, Performance and Intelligence.
2. It should be noted that the data provided, and therefore the analysis, only includes offences where the Probation Service has been involved. For example, an offender might only have one offence where Probation has been involved, but they have committed a further two offences where Probation was not involved, and therefore in this instance will not be counted as a repeat offender in this analysis.

District

The location was determined using the postcode provided by the Probation Service. This postcode is the person on probation’s current or most recently known residential

address. The district was established by using the Policy, Performance and Intelligence's internal updated address lookup from Address Base Premium.

Methodology

Three cohorts were established and analysed; those sentenced in 2022, those sentenced in 2023 and those sentenced in 2024. Duplicates across cohorts were removed with 2022 as an index. If an offender was in 2022 cohort and also present in 2023 and 2024 cohorts, they were excluded from the latter. If the offender was sentenced multiple times in the calendar year, their first offence in the year was the first offence used. Repeat offenders (within the Probation Service) were then classed as anyone with subsequent offence(s).

In terms of the offences analysis, it was looking at what types of offences are associated with those who only had one sentence, and then what types of offences are associated with those who had multiple subsequent sentences.

Age groups

Age groups were based on their latest offence; therefore some caution should be taken. However, due to the nature of analysis there is only a difference of 3 ½ years maximum between the first date in the 2022 cohort and when the data was extracted so ages may not vary too much but may influence the proportions of age groups slightly.

Appendix B: Appendix Tables

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Table 8: Repeat suspects of crimes in East Cambridgeshire recorded in 2024, including suspects associated with multiple crimes of the same type, and of any type, by type of crime

Crime type	Suspect count (all)	Suspect count (all) rank	Repeat suspect (within crime type) count	Repeat suspect (within crime type) count rank	Repeat suspect (within crime type) %	Repeat suspect (within crime type) % rank	Repeat suspect (any crime type) count	Repeat suspect (any crime type) count rank	Repeat suspect (any crime type) %	Repeat suspect (any crime type) % rank
Shoplifting	58	9	27	4	47%	1	38	7	66%	6
Burglary - business and community	16	17	6	9	38%	2	11	16	69%	4
Residential burglary-home	36	13	9	7	25%	3	19	12	53%	12
Other offences public order	27	14	6	9	22%	4	15	14	56%	10
Violence without injury	425	1	86	1	20%	5	186	1	44%	19
Stalking and harassment	269	3	48	2	18%	6	132	2	49%	15
Public fear, alarm or distress	87	5	14	6	16%	7	50	5	57%	8
Violence with injury	288	2	35	3	12%	8	130	3	45%	18
Criminal damage	135	4	15	5	11%	9	76	4	56%	9
Possession of weapons	39	12	4	11	10%	10	27	8	69%	3
Other sexual offences	75	7	7	8	9%	11	20	10	27%	23
Possession of drugs	60	8	4	11	7%	12	25	9	42%	20
Race or religious agg public fear	17	16	1	15	6%	13	12	15	71%	2
Other theft	53	10	3	13	6%	14	18	13	34%	21
Rape	42	11	2	14	5%	15	20	10	48%	16
Misc crimes against society	87	5	1	15	1%	16	40	6	46%	17
Aggravated vehicle taking	5	21	0	17	0%	17	3	20	60%	7
Arson	6	20	0	17	0%	17	3	20	50%	13
Residential burglary-unconnected build	2	23	0	17	0%	17	1	23	50%	13
Robbery of business property	1	24	0	17	0%	17	0	24	0%	24

Crime type	Suspect count (all)	Suspect count (all) rank	Repeat suspect (within crime type) count	Repeat suspect (within crime type) count rank	Repeat suspect (within crime type) %	Repeat suspect (within crime type) % rank	Repeat suspect (any crime type) count	Repeat suspect (any crime type) count rank	Repeat suspect (any crime type) %	Repeat suspect (any crime type) % rank
Robbery of personal property	7	19	0	17	0%	17	5	18	71%	1
Theft from a vehicle	1	24	0	17	0%	17	0	24	0%	24
Theft from the person	3	22	0	17	0%	17	2	22	67%	5
Theft or unauth taking of a motor veh	9	18	0	17	0%	17	5	18	56%	10
Trafficking of drugs	22	15	0	17	0%	17	6	17	27%	22
Violent disorder	1	24	0	17	0%	17	0	24	0%	24

References

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