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1. DOVER DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

- The vision of the Dover District Community Safety Partnership is to ensure that Dover district remains a safe place to live, work and visit. The partnership brings together organisations that are committed to reducing anti-social behaviour and crime and disorder, and to building stronger communities. It responds to identified local community safety needs and issues and addresses the wider cause of crime and the fear of crime.
- From November 2012, Police and Crime Commissioners' (PCCs) have been elected to serve a 4-year term of office, responsible for overseeing police forces and to be the voice of the people they serve. The PCC funds Community Safety Partnership's and the Kent PCC, Ann Barnes, will continue to fund Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) for the remaining two years of her tenure. However, it is forecast that funding for PCCs will be reduced by 3.5% in 2015/16 and in 2016/17. With this in mind, the PCC intends to reduce the CSPs base allocation by 3.5% in both 2015/16 and 2016/17. No indication of what will happen after this time has been given as new PCC elections will be held in May 2016 and future funding will depend on the decision of the PCC in office.

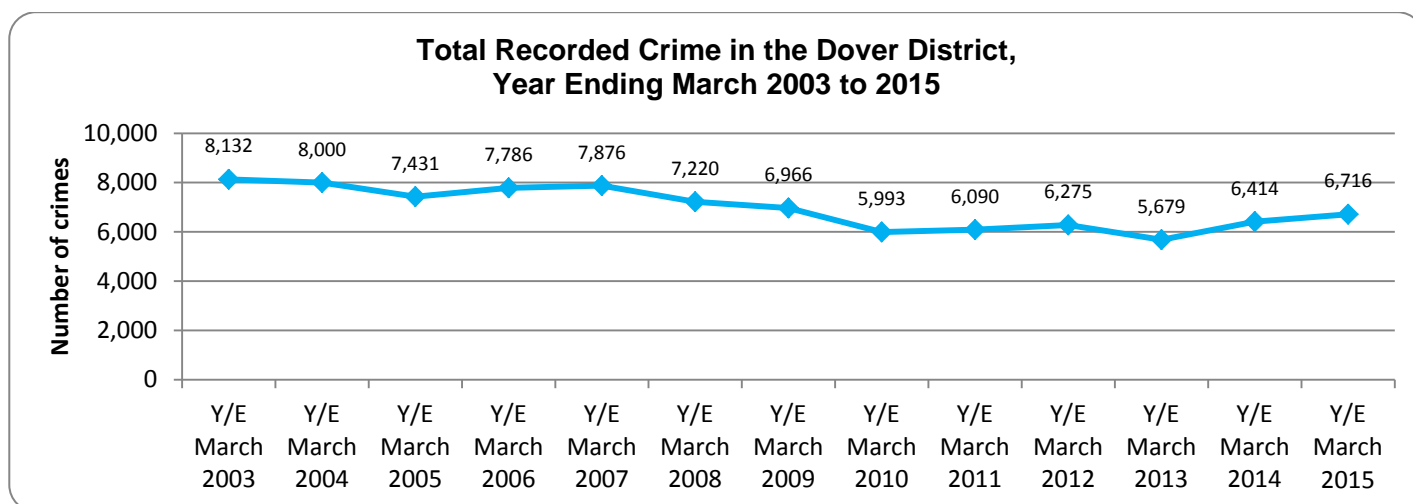
Funding for Dover District Community Safety Partnership		
2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 and beyond
£28,858	£27,848	Not Known

- The Dover District Community Safety Partnership Plan sets out the aims and objectives for the partnership and looks to tackle the whole aspect of community safety as opposed to only crime and disorder. The current plan, which combines the statutory requirement to produce a three-year plan and the annual strategic assessment, covers the period of April 2015 to March 2018 but is refreshed annually.
- The current priorities are:
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Substance Misuse
 - Road safety
 - Violence (other than domestic abuse)
 - Offenders and repeat offending.
- Throughout the year the Dover District Community Safety Partnership works on a number of projects to benefit the local community. Projects and events it has delivered during 2014/15 include the Community Safety Day and Regatta (with Dover Harbour Board); Reduce the Strength campaign; Road Safety projects; Challenger Troop and Troubled Families; Folkestone Road Community Hub; Prevent Youth Project; Sobriety Tags and setting up a new Domestic Abuse Sub Group.

2. CRIME STATISTICS

- The Office for National Statistics is responsible for the publication of crime statistics and published figures on the level and trends of crime in England and Wales primarily based on two sets of statistics: the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) and police recorded crime data.
- The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) is a face-to-face victimisation survey in which people resident in households in England and Wales are asked about their experiences of a range of crimes in the 12 months prior to the interview. Respondents to the survey are also asked about their attitudes towards different crime-related issues, such as the police and the criminal justice system and perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour. The primary purpose of the CSEW is to provide national level estimates (although some headline figures are available at regional level) and it is therefore not possible to include results for the Dover district in this report.
- Kent Police do conduct an annual 'Kent Crime and Victimisation Survey'. However, this survey focuses on public satisfaction and confidence with the Police, rather than peoples' perceptions of different types of Anti-Social Behaviour or fear of crime in the district and is therefore not included in this report.

a) Police Recorded Crime in the Dover District



Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

- The above graph shows that recorded crime in the Dover district has fallen from 8,132 as at Y/E March 2003 to 6,716 as at Y/E March 2015. However, the number of recorded crimes in the district has risen over the past two years.
- It should be noted that, during this time, the Kent Police system for recording crime was scrutinised by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary. As a result, the reporting mechanisms have been tightened and improved leading to an increase in reported crime.
- Any queries regarding the recorded crime figures should be directed to Kent Police.

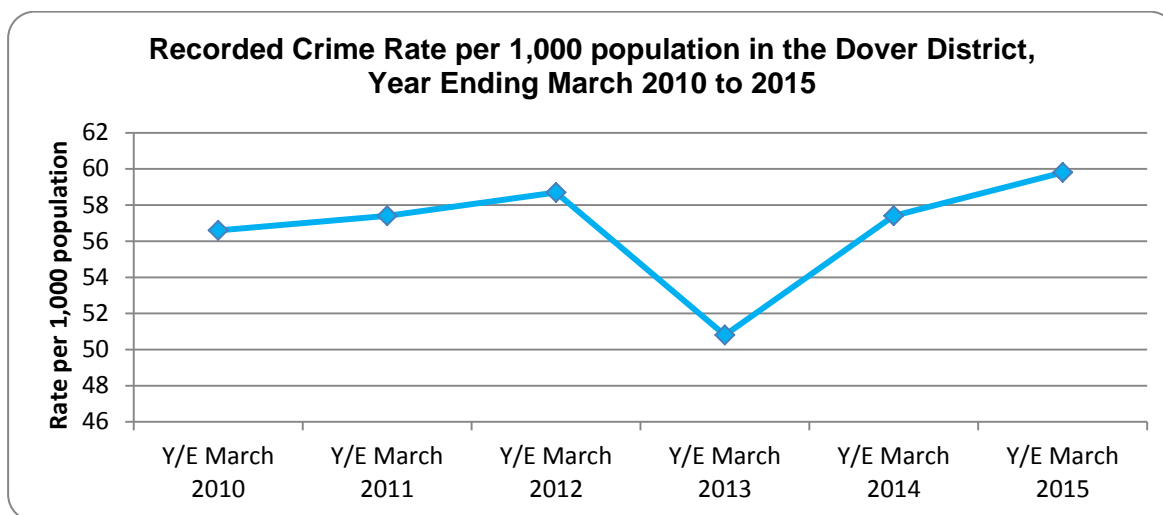
Dover District	Year Ending March 2014	Year Ending March 2015	No. change 2014 to 2015	% Change 2014 to 2015
Victim based crime:				
• Violence against the person	1,850	1,979	129	7
o Homicide	3	0	-3	-100
o Violence with injury	872	848	-24	-2.8
o Violence without injury	975	1,131	156	16
• Sexual offences	141	172	31	22
• Robbery	53	52	-1	-1.9
• Theft offences	2,608	2,855	247	9.5
o Burglary	611	714	103	16.9
o Domestic burglary	304	375	71	23.4
o Non-domestic burglary	307	339	32	10.4
o Vehicle offences	503	598	95	18.9
o Theft from the person	37	49	12	32.4
o Bicycle theft	98	108	10	10.2
o Shoplifting	488	531	43	8.8
o All other theft offences	871	855	-16	-1.8
• Criminal damage and arson	1,307	1,207	-100	-7.7
Other crimes against society:				
• Drug offences	152	124	-28	-18.4
• Possession of weapons	26	28	2	7.7
• Public order offences	182	182	0	0.0
• Miscellaneous crimes	95	117	22	23.2
• Fraud	0	0	0	0.0
Total Recorded Crime	6,414	6,716	302	4.7

Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

- As can be seen from this summary table, total recorded incidents of crime in the Dover district have increased by 302 incidents (+4.7%) from the year ending March 2014 to March 2015.
- 'Sexual offences' have risen by +22%, 'Theft offences' by +9.5% and 'Violence against the person' crimes by +7% over this period. Also up are 'Possession of weapons' offences and 'Miscellaneous crimes'.
- 'Drug offences' have fallen by -18.4%, 'Criminal damage and arson' by -7.7% and 'Robbery' by -1.9%.
- Nationally, there was a 3% increase in police recorded crime in the year ending March 2015. The rise in police figures was driven by increases in violence against the person offences (up by 23%). The ONS reports that this increase is thought to reflect changes in recording practices rather than a rise in violent crime.

b) Recorded crime rate per 1,000 population in the Dover District

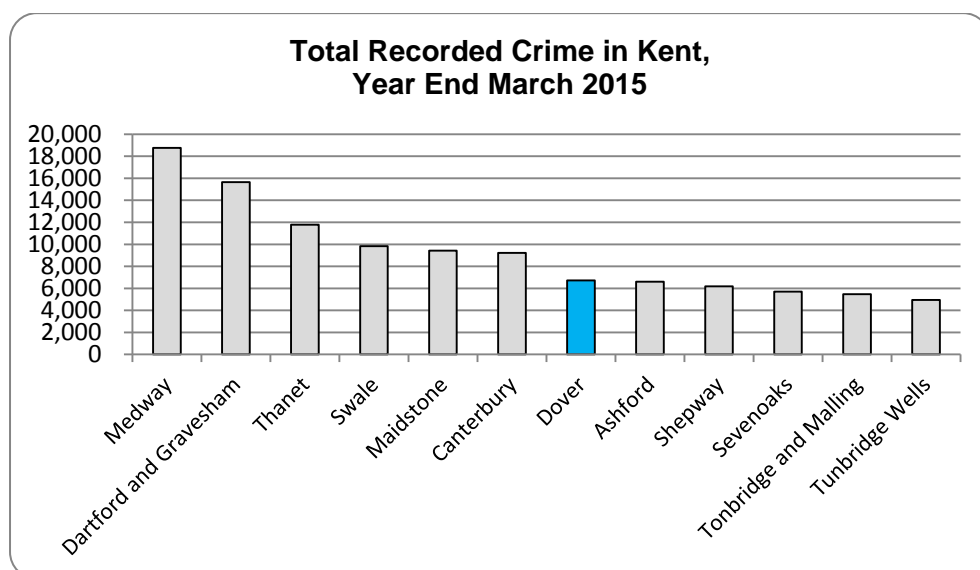
- In the Dover district, the recorded crime rate per 1,000 population has risen from 56.6 as at Y/E March 2010 to 59.8 as at Y/E March 2015.
- Please note that, during this time, the Kent Police system for recording crime was scrutinised by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary. As a result, the reporting mechanisms have been tightened and improved leading to an increase in reported crime



Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

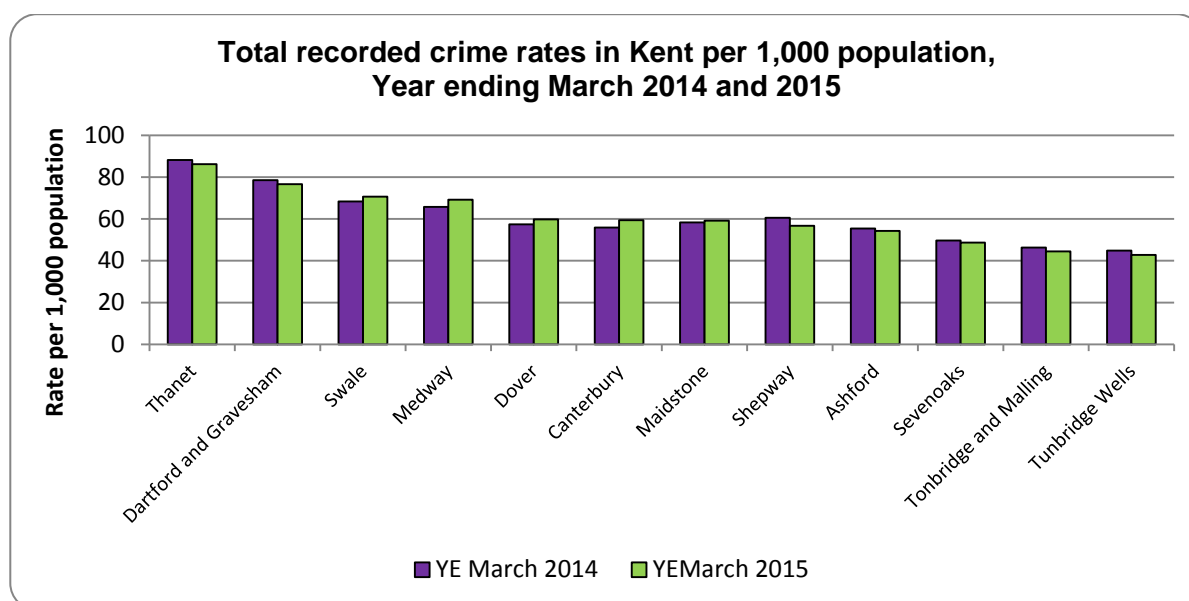
c) Recorded Crime in Kent

- In the year ending March 2015, there were a total of 6,716 recorded crimes in the Dover district. This is the 7th highest total in Kent and Medway.
- Medway had the highest number of recorded crimes with 18,754, whilst Tunbridge Wells had the lowest with 4,951.



Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

d) Recorded crime rate per 1,000 population in Kent

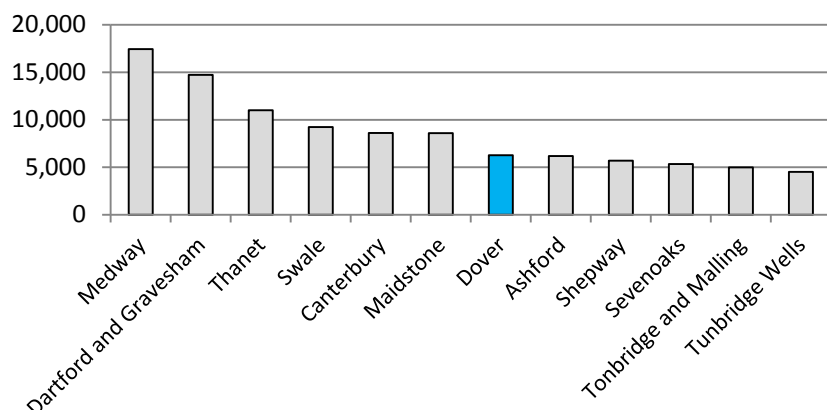


Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

- In the year ending March 2015, the average recorded crime rate across the Kent force area was 62.5 per 1,000 population.

- The Dover district had a total recorded crime rate of 59.8 per 1,000 population, which is lower than the average for Kent.
- The rate in the district has risen from 57.4 per 1,000 population as at year ending March 2014 and is the 5th highest total in Kent. Thanet had the highest crime rate of 86.2, whilst Tunbridge Wells had the lowest rate with 42.8 per 1,000 population.

**Total recorded victim based crime in Kent,
Year Ending March 2015**



Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

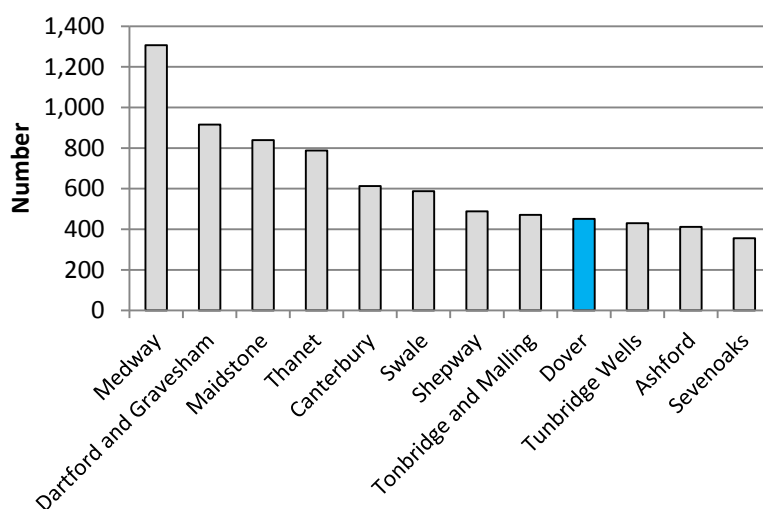
e) Victim Based Crime in Kent

- Of the 6,716 crimes recorded in the Dover district as at Year Ending March 2015, 6,265 were recorded as 'Victim based crime'. This is the 7th highest in Kent and Medway.
- Medway has the highest number with 17,447 and Tunbridge Wells the lowest with 4,521 victim based crimes.

f) Other recorded crimes against society in Kent

- This category was introduced to separate out crimes that do not normally have a specific identifiable victim. It comprises categories of 'Drug offences', 'Possession of weapons', 'Public order' and 'Miscellaneous crimes against society'.
- Trends in such offences can reflect changes in police activity rather than in levels of criminality.
- There were 451 crimes recorded in this category in the Dover district as at Year Ending March 2015. This is the 4th lowest in Kent and Medway.
- Medway has the highest number with 1,307 and Sevenoaks the lowest with 356 crimes.

Other recorded crimes against society in Kent, Year Ending March 2015

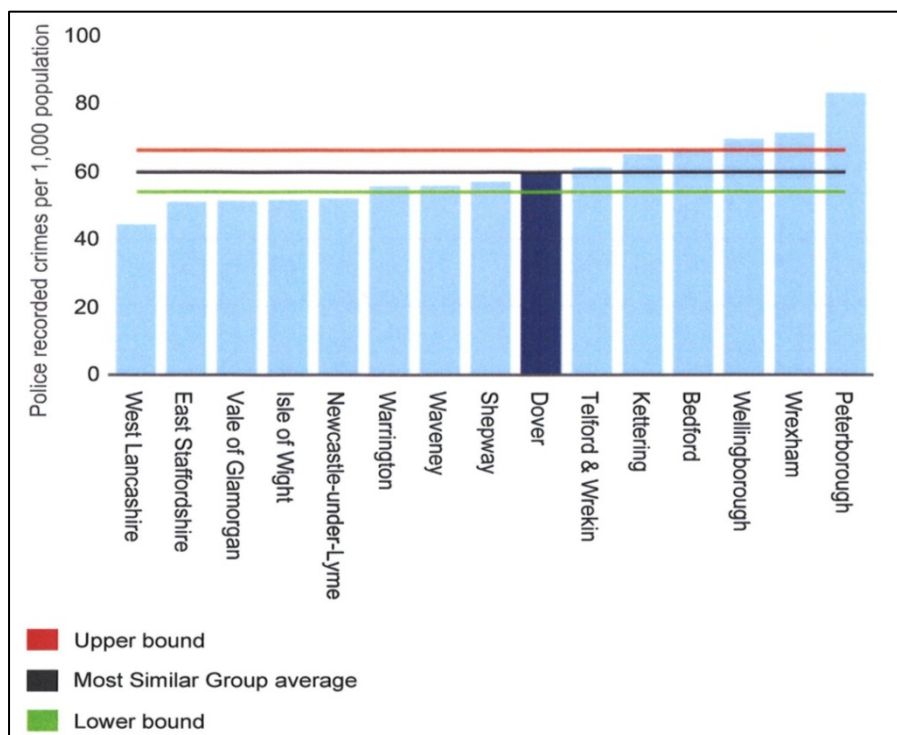


Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

g) Crime Comparisons – Dover District with other similar areas

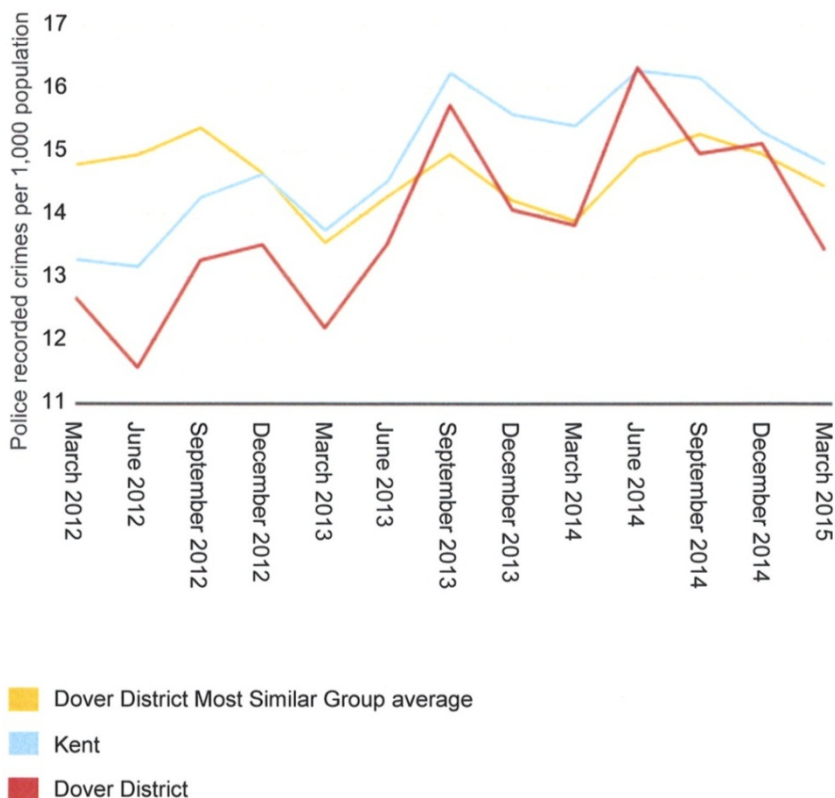
- In the year ending March 2015, the crime rate in the Dover district was about the same as the average crime rate across similar areas.
- The red and green lines show how far the crime rate would normally vary from the average. Dover lies between the red and green lines, so its crime rate is normal for the group. Areas above the red line have crime rates higher than normal and areas below the green line have crime rates lower than the normal.
- The areas shown in the chart are those that have been assessed to be most similar to the Dover district. However, the circumstances within these areas so still vary and these variations can have an impact on the crime rates observed.

Crime in Dover District compared with crime in other similar areas, Year Ending March 2015



Source: Police.UK / ONS

Crime changes over time in Dover District and Kent force area, March 2012 to March 2015



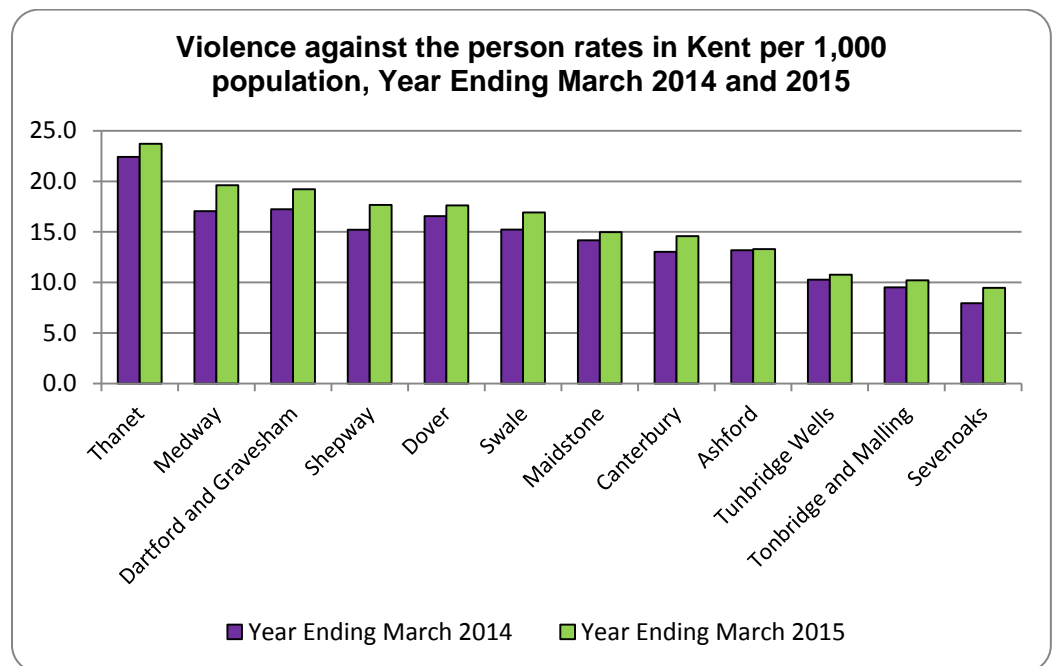
Source: Police.UK / ONS

h) Crime changes over time in Dover District and Kent force area

- This chart shows how crime rates in the Dover district and Kent force area have changed over time. It also shows how the average crime rates in similar areas to the district have changed over time.
- In the quarter ending March 2015, crime rates were down in the Dover district and Kent force area compared with the corresponding quarter in 2014.

i) Police recorded violence against the person

- Violence against the person offences contain the full spectrum of assaults, from pushing and shoving that result in no physical harm, to murder. Even within the same offence classification, the severity of violence varies considerably between incidents.
- For the year ending March 2015, just under 43% of all violence against the person incidents resulted in injury to the victim in the Dover district.
- For the year ending March 2015, the Dover district had a 'Violence against the person' rate of 17.6 per 1,000 population.
- This is up from a rate of 16.6 per 1,000 population for the year ending March 2014 and is the 5th highest in Kent.
- The average 'Violence against the person' rate across Kent is 16.2 per 1,000 population.
- Thanet had the highest rate of 23.7, whilst Sevenoaks had the lowest with 9.5 per 1,000 population.
- ONS guidance states that long-term trends in police recorded violent crime can be difficult to interpret, as they are influenced by a number of factors, such as:
 - Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in the levels of public reporting of incidents;
 - Local policing activity and priorities affect the levels of reported and recorded violent crime. Where the police are proactive in addressing low-level violence and anti-social behaviour, this can lead to more of these crimes being brought to their attention and being recorded.
 - Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in police recording practices.

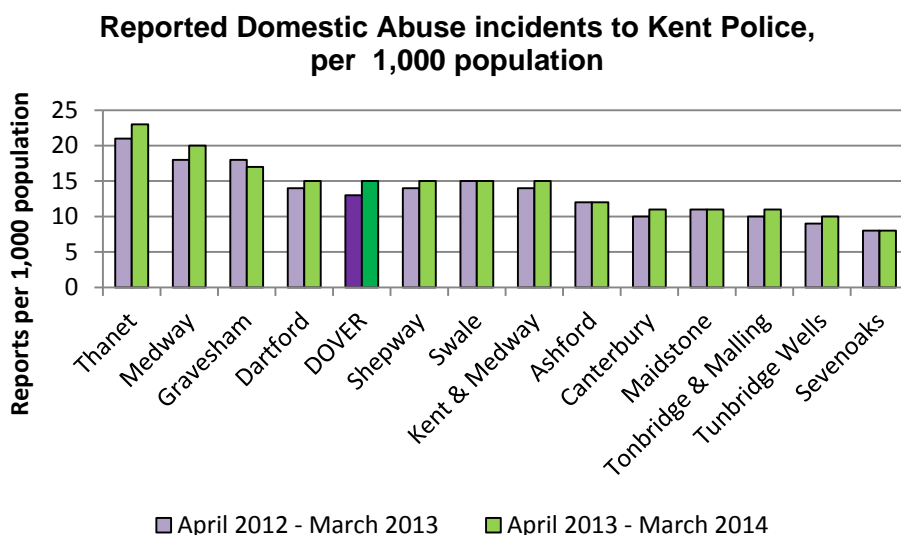


Source: [ONS Crime Statistics](#) for Community Safety Partnerships

j) Domestic Abuse

- Domestic Abuse is defined as any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to, psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse.
- Domestic Abuse occurs across the whole of society, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, class, income or where they live.
- In 2014 the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) identified domestic violence as a major public health issue worldwide and estimated it may account for up to 7% of the overall burden of disease in women, largely as a result of its impact on mental illness.
- The numbers of reported incidents of domestic abuse to Kent Police have been rising steadily since 2008/09. During 2013/14 there were 25,365 incidents of domestic abuse incidents reported, this is an increase of 8.4% from 2012/13.

Reported Domestic Abuse per 1,000 population



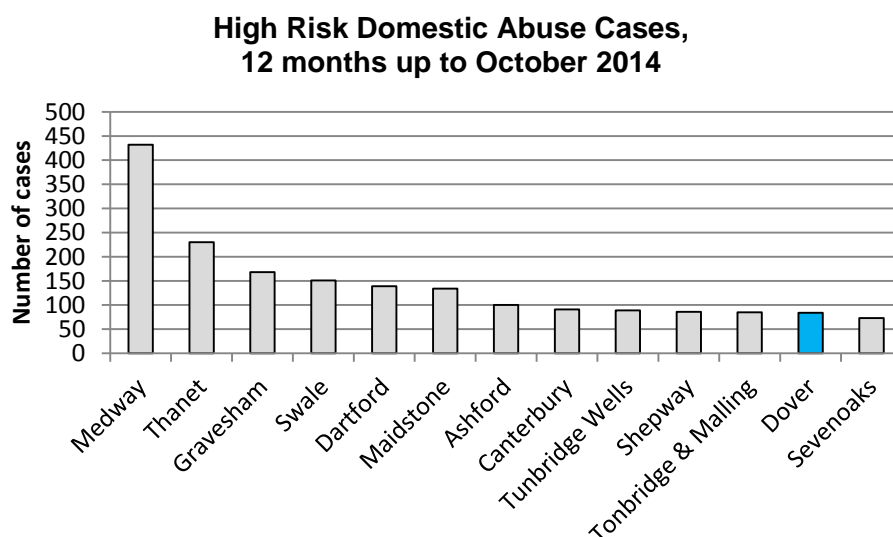
Source: KMPHO, Domestic Abuse JSNA 2014/15

- The number of reported domestic abuse incidents has increased in the Dover district from 13 to 15 per 1,000 population between 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- Over this period, reports of domestic abuse incidents per 1,000 population either rose or stayed the same across Kent and Medway, except in Gravesham, which saw a fall.
- Thanet, Medway and Gravesham have the highest rates of domestic abuse per 1,000 population across Kent and Medway.

- Historically, it is known that domestic abuse has been under reported. It is important to note that increased reporting of domestic abuse is a specific aim of many recent awareness-raising campaigns, and does not necessarily mean that there is an increase in the levels of abuse. It may just mean that more victims (who had previously suffered in silence) are now coming forward for support. It has not been possible to establish how much of the recent increase has been due to increased reporting as opposed to actual increased levels of abuse.

High Risk Cases of Domestic Abuse

- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) are designed for victims and families assessed at high risk of significant harm or murder. MARACs started running in Kent and Medway during July 2008, going live across all Kent Police Areas by August 2009. In the 12 months to October 2014, 1,862 high risk cases were referred to MARACs, with 2,394 children living in those high risk households. This is an increase in 32% on the previous year.
- In the Dover district, 84 cases were referred to MARACs in the 12 months up to October 2014, with 116 children living in the households. This is the second lowest number in Kent and Medway.
- Of these, 22 (26.2%) were repeat cases. This is the 5th highest percentage in Kent and Medway.

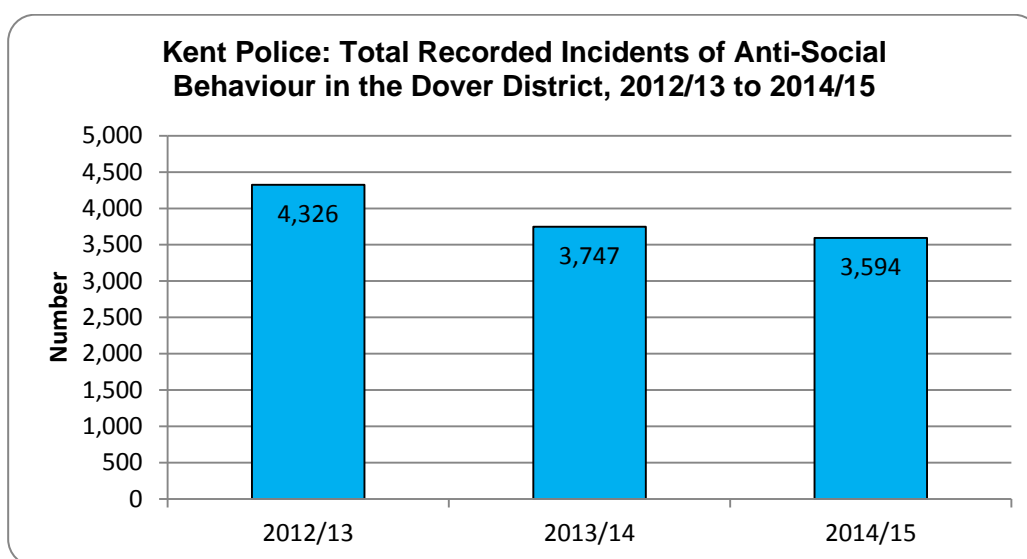


Source: KMPHO, Domestic Abuse JSNA 2014/15

k) Anti-Social Behaviour in the Dover District

- The term 'anti-social behaviour' (ASB) was formalised in the late 1990s to describe a wide range of the nuisance, disorder and crime that affect people's daily lives.
- ASB can mean different things to different people and includes, but is not restricted to:
 - noise and rowdy behaviour;
 - nuisance neighbours;
 - harassment/intimidation/threatening behaviour;
 - dealing/taking of drugs and drinking alcohol in the street;
 - nuisance/abandoned vehicles;
 - vandalism;
 - graffiti, litter and flytipping;
 - prostitution and indecent behaviour;
 - aggressive begging;
 - misuse of fireworks and fires being started;
 - noisy/intimidating dogs
 - hoax calls to emergency services.
- The police record incidents of ASB. In many cases these incidents may still be crimes in law, such as littering or dog fouling, but they are not of a level of severity that would result in the recording of a notifiable offence. Thus, they are not included in the main police recorded crime collection.
- Figures relating to ASB, however, can be considered alongside those on police recorded (notifiable) crime to provide a more comprehensive view of the crime and disorder that comes to the attention of the police.
- ASB incidents reported to the police are presented on the national crime map service to inform the public of crime and disorder happening in their local area. However, police recorded incidents of ASB are an incomplete count of the extent of ASB as incidents are also reported to other agencies, such as councils or social landlords.
- The effects on a victim of anti-social behaviour can be similar to that experienced by a victim of a crime, for example, anger, annoyance or fear and can have a devastating impact on individuals and communities. Therefore, reducing ASB is a priority for the Dover district.
- A joint Community Safety Unit (CSU), based at the Council offices, brings staff from Dover District Council and Kent Police under one roof. Kent County Council Community Wardens and staff from other partner organisations also work out of the unit. The Community Safety Unit works closely with other DDC departments, especially Environmental Health, East Kent Housing and other relevant agencies to tackle ASB and community safety issues across the district.

Kent Police: Recorded Incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour

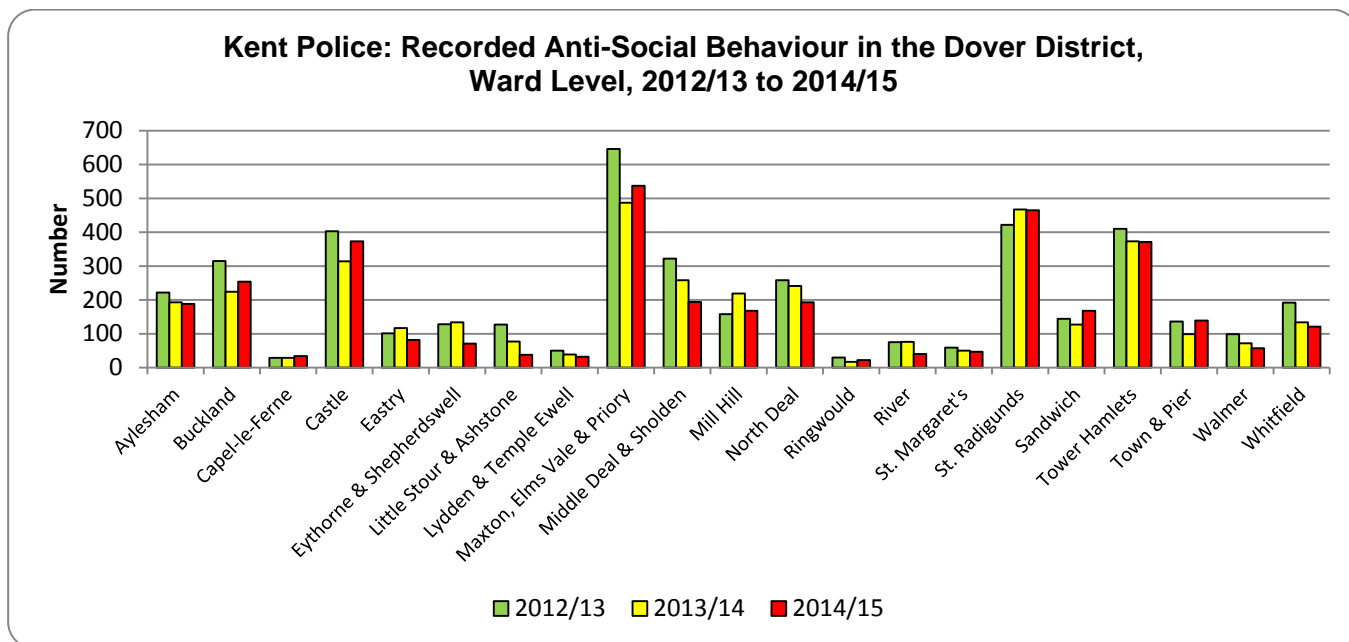


Source: Police.UK Crime Maps

- The total number of ASB incidents recorded by Kent Police in the Dover district has fallen by 17%, from 4,326 in 2012/13 to 3,594 in 2014/15.

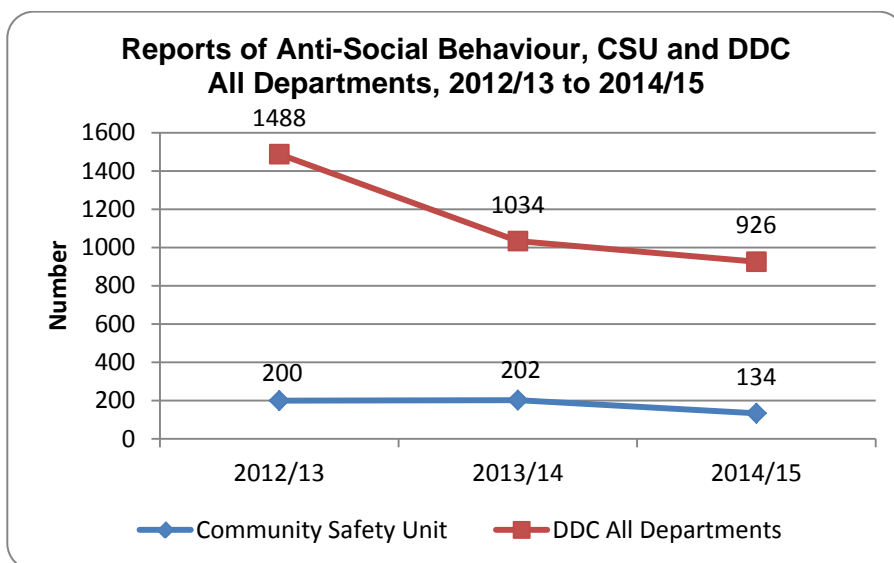
Kent Police: Ward Level Recorded Anti-Social Behaviour in the Dover District

- The following chart shows the number of recorded ASB incidents at Ward level.



Source: Police.UK Crime Maps

Community Safety Unit and Dover District Council Recorded Anti-Social Behaviour



- In addition to the police recorded incidents, council departments' and the CSU record reports of ASB and the numbers are presented in this chart.
- However, a count of reports cannot identify the number of anti-social behaviour incidents occurring in an area. Some incidents will go unreported and some incidents will be reported more than once. There is also a danger of double-counting as the same report may be recorded by more than one department or agency.

Community Trigger

- The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 seeks to place victims at the heart of local responses to ASB. It introduced the 'Community Trigger' to help ensure agencies are working together to resolve ASB that affects residents' quality of life. A Community Trigger is a process whereby members of the public can ask their local Community Safety Partnership to review responses to incidents of ASB.
- The Trigger became fully operational in October 2015 and has been used on four occasions in the Dover district.

3. Hate Crime in the Dover District

- Hate crime covers any notifiable offence that is perceived, by the victim or any other person, as having been motivated (entirely or partially) by a hostility or prejudice to a personal characteristic or perceived personal characteristic, such as ethnicity or religion.
- Hate crime can take many forms including:
 - Physical attacks such as assault, grievous bodily harm and murder, damage to property, offensive graffiti and arson;
 - Threat of attack including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate, and unfounded, malicious complaints; and
 - Verbal abuse, insults or harassment – taunting, offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes, and bullying at school or in the workplace.
- According to Kent Police, there has been 120 hate crimes reported for the Dover District for the period between 1st September 2014 to 1st September 2015.

4. Crime Maps and Neighbourhood Policing

- Since January 2009 every police force has made maps available on their website giving local crime statistics and details of neighbourhood policing teams in the local area. The principle behind neighbourhood policing is to provide a visible local policing service to meet the needs of our communities.
- Neighbourhood policing is carried out by police officers, PCSOs, special constables, community wardens and volunteers. Neighbourhood policing teams work closely with residents, businesses and community groups to address local problems including crime and anti-social behaviour.
- To find out who your local officer is, and view ward level crime maps, please see the interactive map on the [Kent Police](http://www.kent.police.uk)¹ website.

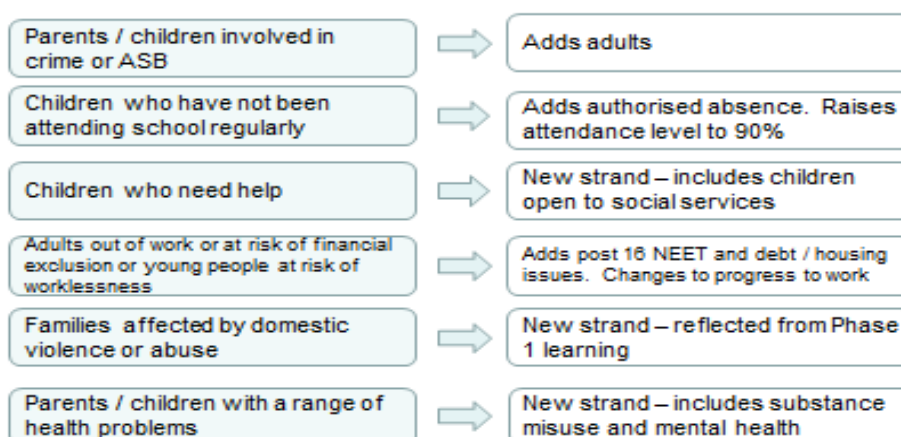
5. Troubled Families Programme

- The Troubled Families programme is a Government commitment to working with local authorities and their partners to help 120,000 troubled families in England turn their lives around by 2015.
- Troubled Families are defined as “those that have problems and often cause problems to the community around them, putting high costs on the public sector”
- The Troubled Families Local Delivery Manager works with the Dover District Community Safety Partnership and is based within the Community Safety Unit at Dover District Council.
- The Troubled Families Programme also reports to the South Kent Coast Health and Wellbeing Board (SKC HWBB), which covers Dover and Shepway. Please see the Health and Wellbeing Chapter for further information on the SKC HWBB.
- Phase 1 of the Troubled Families 3 year programme has now ended. The Dover district has the 4th highest number of troubled families in Kent, yet successfully turned around 241 families, meaning they went into employment, children attendance at school was above 85% and Anti-Social Behaviour and crime was reduced.
- As a result of the successes in Phase 1, the Department for Communities and Local Government has invited Kent to take part in an expanded 5 year programme – Phase 2. The Dover district is required to turn around 936 families between 2015-2020. The Phase 2 programme has extended criteria, which means a greater number of families will qualify for the programme and be able to receive support.

¹ www.kent.police.uk/about_us/neighbourhood_policing/nhp.html
Leadership Support Team: State of the District 2015: Community Safety

Six Headline Problems

The following headline problems form the basis of Phase 2 entry criteria and how they have developed from Phase 1.



- The Dover district has 155 families that have been identified and verified for the Phase 2 programme. 60 families are currently engaged and receiving intensive support from Troubled Family Intervention workers (FIPS). Dover has six full-time troubled family workers.

6. Community Payback

- Unpaid Work is a sentence available to courts and is intended as both a punishment and means by which someone can make amends to the community for the harm they have caused. The courts can impose sentences of between 40 and 300 hours of unpaid work depending on the seriousness of the crime or the person's record. The type of work done includes landscaping and forestry, building and maintenance, painting and decorating, litter picking and graffiti removal.
- Members of the public are encouraged to nominate projects and we have been using Community Payback in various locations within the District. Improvement work has been undertaken to the sports pavilions at the Elms Vale and the Danes Recreation Grounds in Dover. A massive amount of undergrowth and rubbish has also been cleared from Hospital Down, Tower Hamlets in Dover as well as large areas of pathway cleared for walkers along the route from St. Margaret's to Kingsdown.

7. Reoffending in the Dover District

- In the Dover district, the rate of reoffending is 24%, with 3.3 offences per offender². This compares to a reoffending rate of 24% and 3.1 offences per offender in Kent and 26% and 3.0% offences across England and Wales.
- These figures relate to adult and juvenile offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, received a caution, or received a reprimand or warning between January and December 2012.

8. Criminal Case Length in the Dover District

- According to Ministry of Justice records, on average it takes 22 weeks (average over 2,916 cases between October and December 2014) between an offence being committed and the case being resolved in a criminal court (crown or magistrates)³ in the East Kent Local Justice Area. This is broken down as follows:
 - 12 Weeks between offence and defendant being charged/case laid in court
 - 05 Weeks between case being laid and first hearing
 - 05 Weeks between first hearing and case outcome

² Source: [Open Justice](http://open.justice.gov.uk/reoffending/) (open.justice.gov.uk/reoffending/)

³ Source: [Open Justice](http://open.justice.gov.uk/courts/criminal-cases/) (open.justice.gov.uk/courts/criminal-cases/)

- This compares to a 23 week average across England and Wales. The volume, type and complexity of cases also affect case lengths in different locations.

9. Civil Disputes

- Civil disputes cover a range of issues including non-payment of debts, personal injury, breach of contract, housing disputes and bankruptcy. Most civil cases are dealt with at the county courts.
- For small claims hearings less than £10,000, in England and Wales, it typically takes 31 weeks between someone lodging their case with the county court and a hearing taking place. This compares to 34 weeks at Canterbury County Court (241 hearings) and 34 weeks at Thanet County Court (97 hearings).
- For trials for a value over £10,000, in England and Wales, it typically takes 56 weeks. This compares to 70 weeks at Canterbury County Court (52 hearings) and 52 weeks at Thanet County Court (18 hearings).
- These figures are averages over all hearings taking place in the county courts between April 2014 and June 2014.

10. Sentencing statistics for East Kent 2012 (all offences)

- These figures are based on experimental statistics released in May 2013 by the Ministry of Justice.
- The figures presented are court aggregates of both adult and young offenders sentenced in magistrates' and Crown Court. For those who were sentenced for more than one offence, the offence featured here is the one for which the heaviest penalty was imposed.
- In East Kent, during 2012, there were 10,846 convictions, with 10,584 sentences imposed.

