

2017

Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme

Garda Youth Diversion and Crime Prevention Bureau

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A copy of this report is available on Garda Website www.garda.ie and on Irish Youth Justice Service website www.iyjs.ie

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PART I

1. MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE



Dear Commissioner,

It is my pleasure as chairman of the Monitoring Committee appointed under section 44 (1) of the Children Act 2001 to present the 2017 Annual Report.

It is my second year in the position and the role has provided me with the opportunity to oversee and engage with both the Section 44 Committee members and the staff at the Garda Youth Diversion Office (GYDO) in working together to ensure the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme.

The Diversion Programme provides a unique opportunity to An Garda Síochána to engage with young people and provide guidance and support to them in addressing their behaviour and making positive choices. The Programme is a vital crime prevention tool and an important asset to An Garda Síochána. In my role as Chairman of the Committee, I wish to highlight the excellent work that is being carried out by all those involved in the operation of the Diversion Programme on a daily basis and ensure the ongoing commitment of An Garda Síochána in supporting the Programme to meet the highest levels of quality and effectiveness.

The Monitoring Committee plays an important role in providing support to the Diversion Programme and the GYDO in identifying areas that can be improved upon and recommend ways to ensure the Diversion Programme continues to be an effective means in diverting children from crime and the criminal justice system. The 2017 Annual Report reflects the activities of the Monitoring Committee and the Diversion Programme during 2017. It highlights the developments which occurred during the year, identifies the current challenges and risks to the Diversion Programme and provides statistics relating to the operation of the Programme during the year. In this context, the current and on-going review of the programme aims to complete a deep assessment of certain aspects of the programme and interim indicators suggest that emerging issues will present significant additional challenges going forward. These issues are being closely monitored and a full understanding and report is expected in late 2018. Having monitored the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme throughout 2017 through the meetings of the Committee and engagement with the GYDO, a number of recommendations have been set out for 2018.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to the Director of the Diversion Programme, Superintendent Yvonne Murphy, the staff at the Garda Youth Diversion Office and each Juvenile Liaison Officer nationwide for their continued commitment to youth diversion throughout 2017. I also wish to thank Barry Coonan and the Garda Síochána Analysis Service for the provision of the 2017 Statistics and for their efforts in completing the report *Analysis of Youth Crime 2013-2017*.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of the Section 44 Monitoring Committee; Dr. Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, Mr. Eddie D'arcy and the Secretary to the Committee, Garda Sarah McIntyre, for their efforts and commitment throughout the year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick Leahy".

Assistant Commissioner

PATRICK LEAHY

2. OVERVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE

Section 44 of The Children Act 2001 provides that a Committee be appointed to monitor the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme. The terms of reference of the Committee are to:

- monitor the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme.
- review all aspects of its operation.
- monitor all ongoing training needs of the facilitators.
- present an annual report to the Commissioner of An Garda Síochána on its activities during the year.

The tasks of the Committee are to:

- examine the management and effective delivery of the Diversion Programme.
- identify best practices in the administration of the Programme.
- assess best practices for the training of facilitators and monitor training delivery.
- put in place methodologies for the evaluation and measurement of the Programme's effectiveness.

The current members of the Committee are:



Assistant Commissioner Pat Leahy has responsibility for the Dublin Metropolitan Region as well as his national remit of Community Engagement & Public Safety which includes the national portfolios of the Garda Youth Diversion Office, National Community Policing Office, Garda National Crime Prevention Centre of Excellence and the Garda Bureau of Community Diversity & Integration. He was appointed as Chairman of the Monitoring Committee in 2017.



Eddie D'Arcy is a professional youth worker with more than 35 years' experience, including 15 years as manager of Ronanstown Youth Service and 6 years as Head of Youth Work Services with Catholic Youth Care. He developed the first Garda Youth Diversion Project (GRAFT). He is currently a Lecturer in Youth Work at Dundalk IT and working with the Compass Project which supports young offenders after their release from prison.



Dr Jennifer Carroll MacNeill is a barrister and former solicitor and political scientist. She is the co-author of 'The Children Court: A National Study' published in 2007 by the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development. She has worked in the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and the Department of Justice and Equality. She was appointed to the Monitoring Committee in October 2015.

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Statistics at a glance

2017 saw youth referrals to the Diversion Programme rise to 20,006 from 17,615 in 2016. There was an increase in the proportion of Informal

Cautions and a decrease in Restorative Cautions between 2016 and 2017, with other categories close to last year's levels. There was a total of 1,402 children deemed unsuitable for the Programme in 2017 up 12% on the 2016 total of 1,249 - based on the most recent referral received. The proportion of children deemed unsuitable for the Programme was 13% in 2017, which has remained unchanged since 2016.

By request of the Committee, the Garda Síochána Analysis Service also carried out an in-depth analysis of youth crime for the period 2013-2017. The analysis had a particular focus on "High Impact" Crime which is categorised as Burglary, Robbery, Sale and Supply of Drugs and Assault Causing Harm. These offences have been linked to each Garda sub-district in which they occurred which highlights the geographical areas which may require the targeting of additional resources.

Developments in 2017

Restorative Justice-Section 26 Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017 and Section 34 of the same Act which amends Section 26 of the Children Act 2001, has provided clarification on the Restorative Justice process as provided for by the Children Act. The changes introduced initially resulted in a reduction in Restorative Cautions in 2017 due to the increased obligations of An Garda Síochána in relation to the safeguarding of victims. However, the clarification provided by the 2017 Act will now allow for the Diversion Programme to increase the number of Restorative events in 2018.

An increase in resources in the GYDO in the final quarter of 2017 saw four additional members of Garda rank join the GYDO team on a temporary basis. This has enabled the establishment of the Diversion Programme Policy Unit (DPPU) for the purpose of developing national standard operating procedures and policy to ensure a standardised and best practice approach to the management of the Diversion Programme and Garda Youth Diversion Projects.

The review of the Children Act 2001 by the Irish Youth Justice Service commenced with the 4th Annual Irish Criminal Justice Agencies (ICJA) Conference in association with the Association of Criminal Research and Development (ACJRD) which was held in Dublin Castle on 4 July 2017.

Challenges

The issues identified by Garda Professional Standards Unit (GPSU) and the resultant in-depth exploration of these issues is likely to present a major challenge for the Diversion Programme going forward. Four additional (temporary) Garda staff have joined the GYDO team and a fulltime Inspector has also been appointed, enabling the establishment of a Diversion Programme 'Policy Unit', however, the GYDO remains under-resourced to adequately support the administration of the Diversion Programme. Inter-agency engagement also remains one of the key challenges to providing therapeutic interventions for children in the care of the State who offend whilst in the care of the State and admitted to the Diversion Programme.

Looking to 2018

It is expected that the report from the on-going review will be finalised in 2018. The in-depth exploration into challenges identified by GPSU and the current review will continue into 2018 and it is recommended that the issues identified are relentlessly pursued and rectified as a priority.

The DPPU will complete procedures and guidelines on a number of areas of the Diversion Programme for dissemination across An Garda Síochána.

4. YOUTH DIVERSION PROCESS AND NATIONWIDE STRUCTURE

Figure 1 - The Youth Diversion Process (Source: Garda Youth Diversion Office 2018)

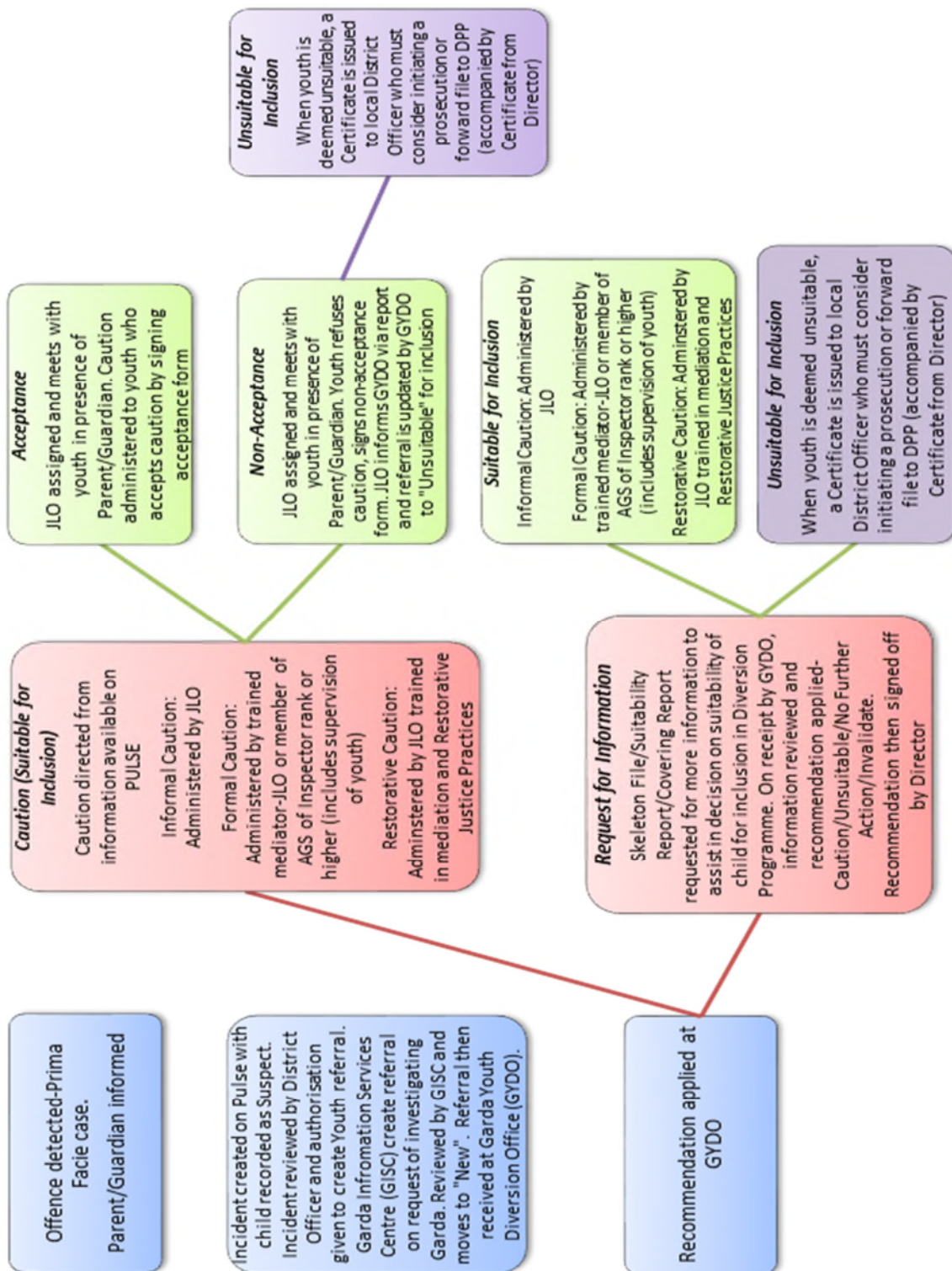
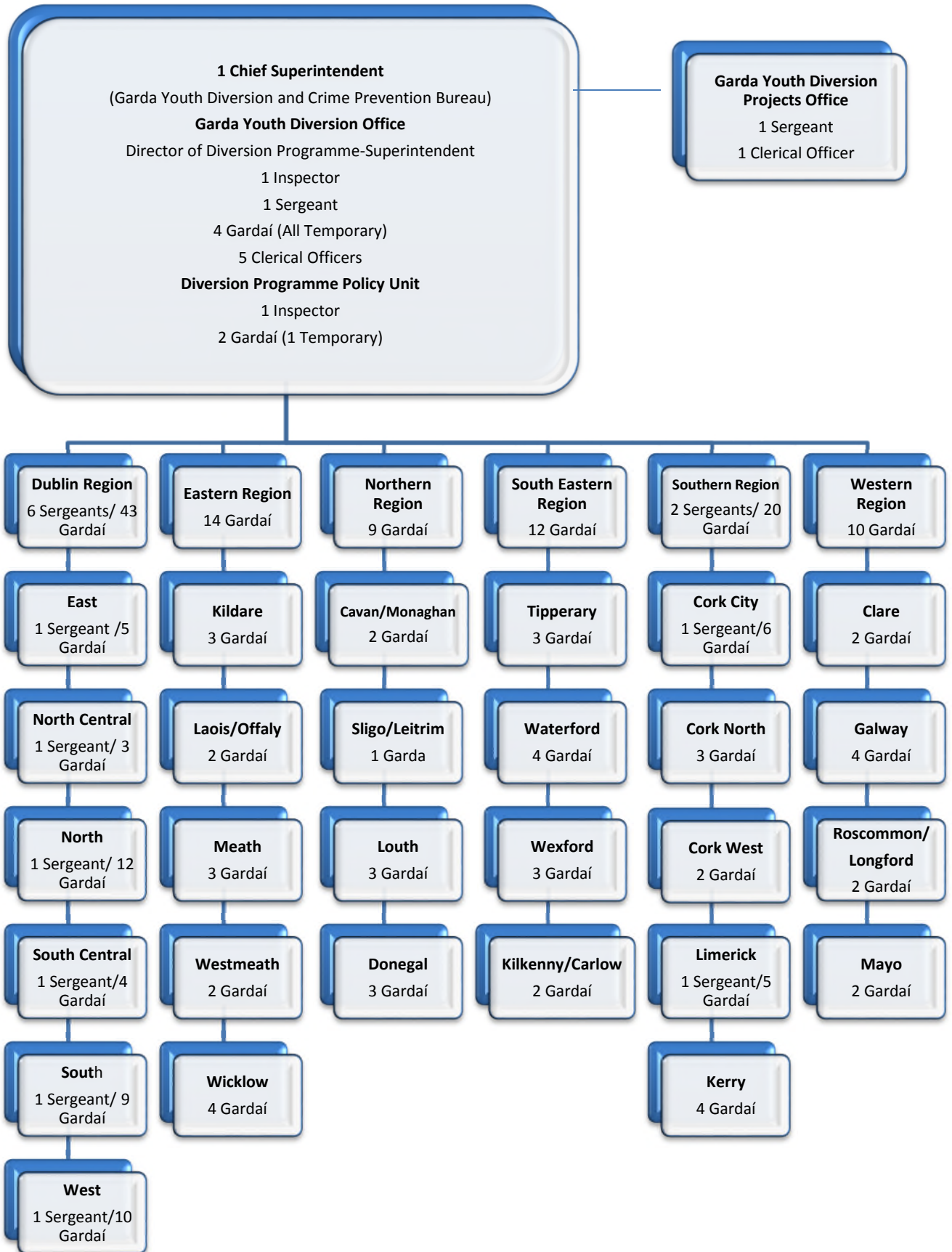


Figure 2 – Nationwide Structure (Source: Garda Youth Diversion Office 2018)



5. INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

In order to effectively address a young person's offending or re-offending, input is required from a range of agencies and services. Inter-agency collaboration occurs at a strategic level in planning and resourcing local service provision, and at a practical level in deciding and delivering a package of interventions to help prevent offending by children. Examples of such collaboration in 2017 are the continued engagement by the Garda Youth Diversion Office with its partners in youth justice through its work in relation to the Youth Justice Action Plan 2014-2018 and the GYDP-Best Practice Initiative. Outside of these formal initiatives, ongoing engagement occurs between the GYDO, JLOs and the stakeholders illustrated below.



Figure 3 – Youth Justice Stakeholders (Source: Garda Youth Diversion Office 2017)

Garda Youth Diversion Projects-Best Practice Initiative

As part of GYDP-Best Practice Initiative, the Garda Youth Diversion Projects Office worked closely with the Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS) and the Garda Youth Diversion Projects Best Practice Development Team which in 2017 culminated in the development of the Together Stronger-Guidelines for Effective Partnership between Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers and Garda Youth Diversion Projects.

Youth Justice Action Plan 2014-2018

The Youth Justice Action Plan 2014-2018 identifies specific goals to achieve commitments set out in the programme for government; Towards Recovery: Programme for the National Government 2011-2016, in the area of youth justice. It also forms part of the broader national policies, including Better Outcomes Brighter Futures – the national framework for children and young people 2014 -2020. An interagency implementation team comprised of senior representatives from all of the youth justice agencies oversees the implementation of the action plan. A number of interagency meetings involving representatives from TUSLA, IYJS and Oberstown Detention School were held during 2017 to look at the issue of children in care referred to the Diversion Programme for offences committed whilst in the care of the state.

The children in care group is a sub-group of the Youth Justice Action Plan Team. This sub-group is a collaborative approach to addressing the issues surrounding children in the care of the State who become involved in crime. The group's aim is to reduce the criminalisation of young people in care focusing on children between the ages of 12 to 18 years. The initiative is currently at the discussion and planning stage with further developments to take place in 2018.

6. TRAINING PROVIDED TO JUVENILE LIAISON OFFICERS

The Children Act 2001 places an onus on the Garda Commissioner to provide training to those concerned with facilitating the Diversion Programme. It is a task of the Monitoring Committee to assess best practices for the training of facilitators and monitor training delivery. The Committee welcomes the delivery of three important training programmes to JLOs during the year which are vital to the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme. The following training of JLOs took place in 2017;

Induction Training

Induction training was delivered to newly appointed JLOs over five days in September 2017 in conjunction with the Garda College in Templemore. The training focused on the legal and statutory obligations underpinning the role. It included instruction on international best practice in the area of youth justice along with guidance on the administrative processes and procedures to be followed when engaging with young offenders.

Mediation Training

Mediation training is a requirement for JLOs under the Children Act 2001. Both in February and December 2017, JLOs participated in a 60-hour mediation training programme accredited by the Mediator's Institute of Ireland. The course provided training in conflict resolution skills and techniques through the process of mediation to improve communication, defuse emotion and preserve relationships.

Restorative Justice Facilitator Skills Training

In November 2017, JLOs underwent a three-day accredited course in Restorative Practices. This course provided JLOs with the necessary skills to facilitate restorative cautions and to use restorative practices in their engagement with young offenders.

JLO Training Conference 2017

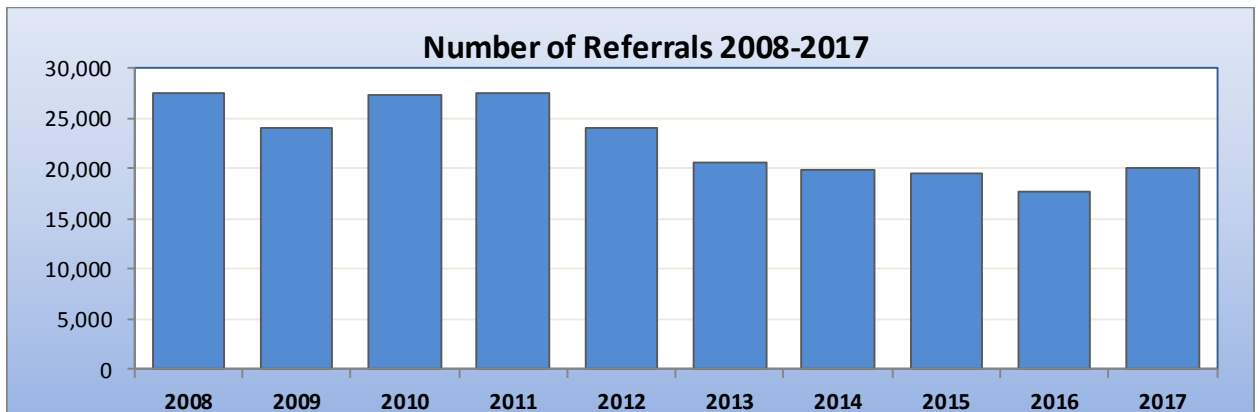
The biennial JLO Training Conference was held on 3rd and 4th October and saw the attendance of 105 JLOs as well as Gardaí from the areas of Community Policing, Garda Professional Standards Unit and Garda National Protection Services Bureau. Guests in attendance throughout the two-day conference included representatives from the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS), The Ombudsman for Children, Niall Muldoon, the Policing Authority and Dr Jennifer Carroll MacNeill of the Section 44 Monitoring Committee. In addition, the Garda Inspectorate held focus groups with JLO sergeants and Gardaí during the course of the conference.

The theme of the conference was 'positive engagement through peer to peer learning'. Conference delegates were involved in workshops on the areas of mental health and suicide awareness, sexual offending and anger management. Presentations made to the delegates included topics such as cyber bullying and Garda Youth Diversion Projects.

The Policing Authority, Judith Gillespie, addressed delegates on the first day of the conference on the role of the Policing Authority and the role of the JLO in that context. Day two of the conference saw 19 invited groups interact with the delegates in a 'stakeholder information session'. These stakeholders were drawn from the areas Mental Health Awareness, Garda Youth Diversion projects, road safety and web safety amongst others.

7. GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 2017

Total Referrals



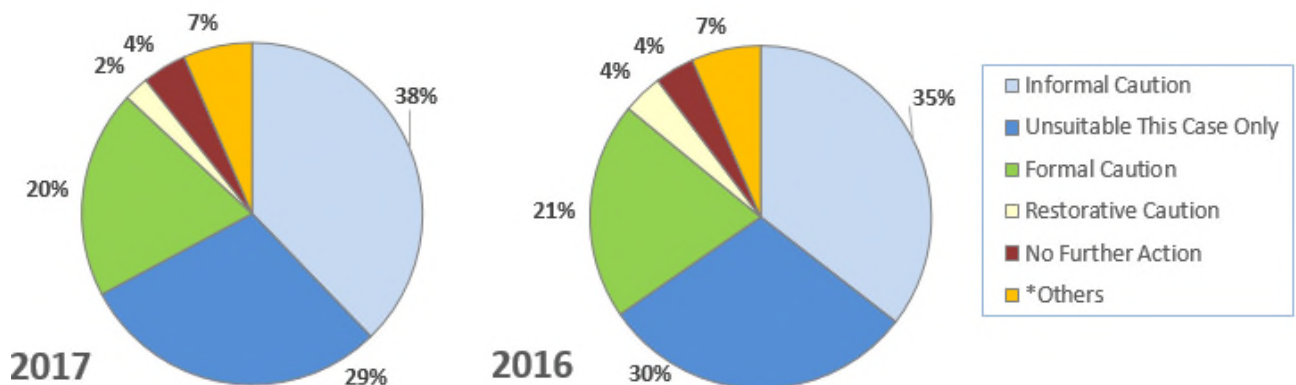
- There were 20,006 referrals to the Diversion Programme in 2017 which is up 13.6% on the 17,615 referrals to the Programme in 2016. This figure relates to the total number of referrals made to the Garda Youth Diversion Office in 2017. Details regarding the number of children referred are in the 'Children Referred' section of this document.

Recommendation	Total	%*
Informal Caution	7,551	38%
Unsuitable This Case Only	5,891	29%
Formal Caution	3,940	20%
Restorative Caution	477	2%
No Further Action	840	4%
*Others	1,307	7%
Grand Total	20,006	100%

* Includes requests for further information

+ % may not total 100% due to rounding errors

- 38% of referrals were dealt with by Informal Caution, 20% dealt with by Formal Caution and 29% resulted in the child being deemed unsuitable for the Diversion Programme.
- *Others include 507 'Request for Covering Report' (39%), 391 'Request for Skeleton File' (30%) and 190 'Request Suitability Report' (15%).



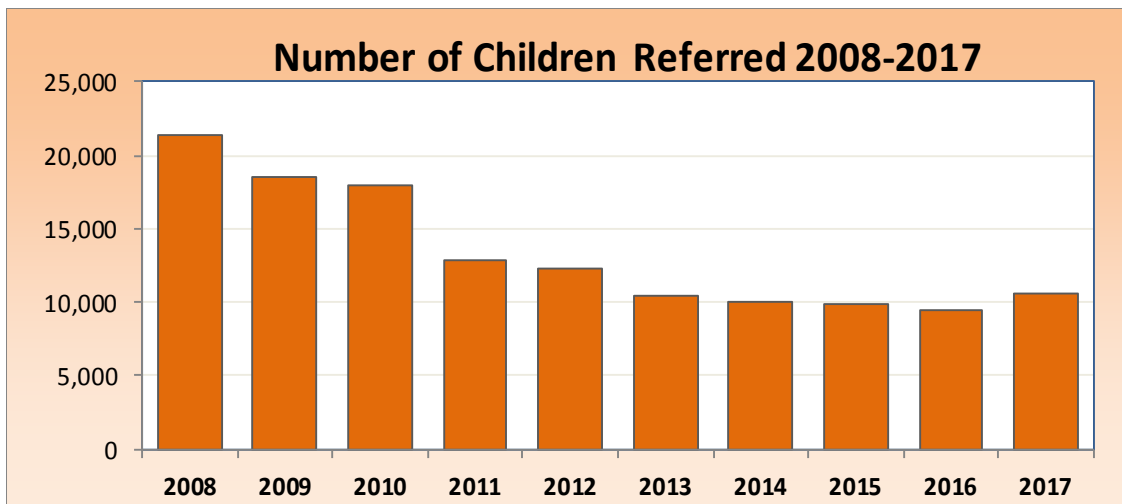
- There was an increase in the proportion of Informal Cautions and a decrease in Restorative Cautions between 2016 and 2017, with other categories close to last year's levels.

Referrals by Area

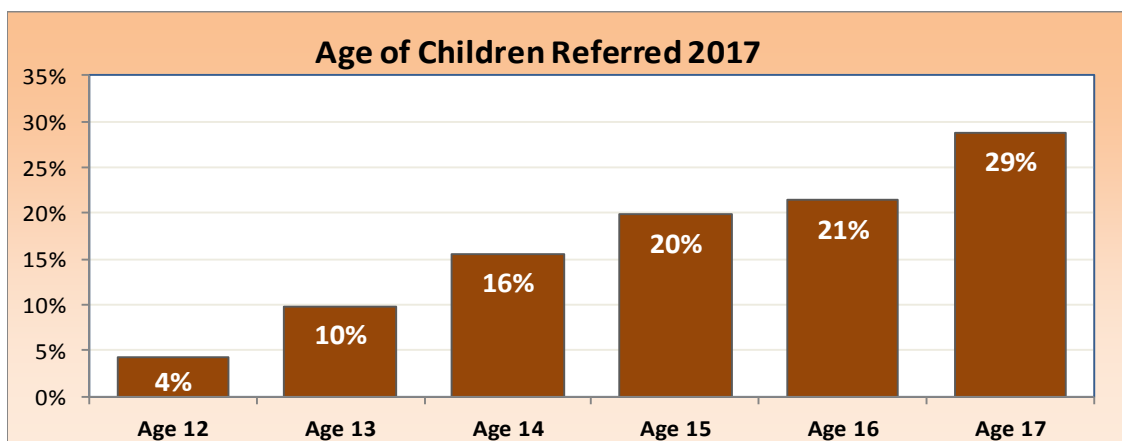
2017 Region / Division	Total	%Change 2016	Informal Caution	Unsuitable	Formal Caution	NFA	Restorative Caution	Others
Dublin Region	6,745	+13%	2,275	2,332	1,214	202	144	578
D.M.R. Eastern	871	+34%	337	304	139	25	2	64
D.M.R. North Central	1,208	+11%	474	415	161	20	53	85
D.M.R. Northern	1,341	+21%	418	497	253	48	48	77
D.M.R. South Central	831	+9%	187	329	169	18	9	119
D.M.R. Southern	1,042	+7%	337	338	196	46	3	122
D.M.R. Western	1,452	+7%	522	449	296	45	29	111
Eastern Region	2,816	+22%	1,034	909	515	135	54	169
Kildare	690	+38%	265	189	111	60	2	63
Laois/Offaly	572	+28%	236	163	102	35	15	21
Meath	638	+17%	192	243	111	17	21	54
Westmeath	390	+10%	146	127	85	12	6	14
Wicklow	526	+13%	195	187	106	11	10	17
Northern Region	2,302	+21%	889	574	482	103	81	173
Cavan/Monaghan	713	+34%	295	194	108	35	20	61
Donegal	660	+36%	276	83	183	31	31	56
Louth	636	-2%	184	238	125	23	24	42
Sligo/Leitrim	293	+22%	134	59	66	14	6	14
South Eastern Region	2,245	+9%	857	653	471	79	26	159
Kilkenny/Carlow	622	+17%	223	167	161	8	4	59
Tipperary	528	-3%	202	150	98	24	14	40
Waterford	536	-4%	257	141	86	17	1	34
Wexford	559	+32%	175	195	126	30	7	26
Southern Region	3,682	+5%	1,456	973	784	217	130	122
Cork City	1,071	+4%	553	275	187	31	33	-8
Cork North	539	+5%	156	202	102	29	50	0
Cork West	389	+36%	158	99	69	28	18	17
Kerry	490	-6%	211	62	158	14	18	27
Limerick	1,193	+3%	378	335	268	115	11	86
Western Region	2,216	+17%	1,040	450	474	104	41	107
Clare	593	+11%	306	113	115	28	9	22
Galway	1,029	+30%	443	227	245	42	16	56
Mayo	280	-3%	141	41	58	24	14	2
Roscommon/Longford	314	+13%	150	69	56	10	2	27
National Total	20,006	+14%	7,551 (+21%)	5,891 (+12%)	3,940 (+9%)	840 (+27%)	477 (-28%)	1,307 (+13%)

* 1 Restorative Caution was not linked to a Region/Division

Children Referred



- There were 10,607 children referred in 2017 which is 12% higher than the 9,451 children referred in 2016.
- 73% of children referred were male, 27% female.



- 30% of children referred were under 15 years of age in 2016 with 29% being 17 years of age.

Children (most recent referral)	Total	% of total*	versus 2016	Male	Female
Informal Caution	6,004	57%	20%	65%	35%
Formal Caution	2,029	19%	-10%	85%	15%
Unsuitable For Diversion Programme	1,402	13%	12%	79%	21%
No Further Action	482	5%	15%	79%	21%
Others*	690	7%	33%	89%	11%
Grand Total	10,607	100%	12%	73%	27%

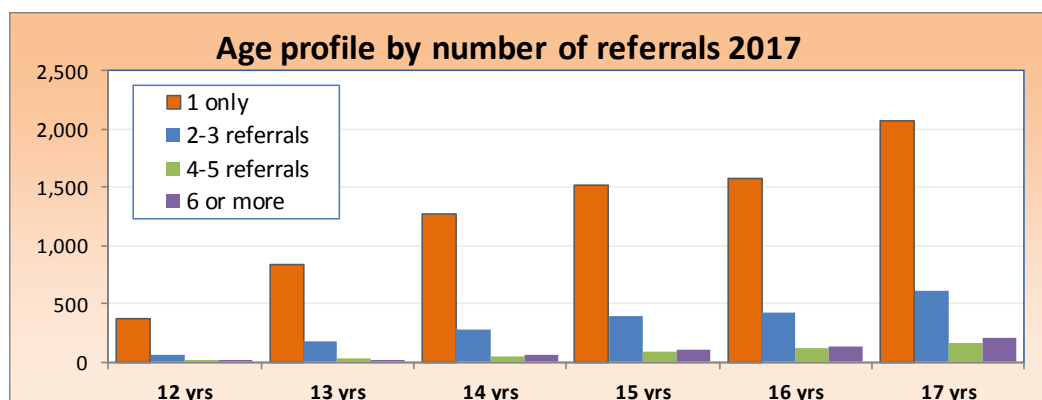
* Includes requests for further information

+ % may not total 100% due to rounding errors

- There has been a sharp increase of 20% in the number of children receiving an Informal Caution as their most recent caution in 2017. This coincides and may be explained by the increase in the number of referrals as well as an increase in offences which for 1st or 2nd offences tend to result in an Informal Caution being delivered; Theft from Shop (+17%), Theft of Pedal Cycle (+74%), Public Order (+8%), Drunkenness (+30%), Trespass (+19%), Minor Assault (+14%).
- 45% of *Others are a 'Request for Covering Report', 30% are a 'Request for Skeleton File' and 13% are a 'Request Suitability Report'.
- The majority of young people referred the under different referral types are Male.

Children Referred

77% of children referred have just one referral while 5% have six or more referrals in 2017. Of those referred once in 2017, 70% are male and 30% female. Children with six or more referrals were predominantly male with just 10% female.



	1 only	2-3 referrals	4-5 referrals	6 or more	% by Age ⁺
12 yrs	374	62	13	6	4%
13 yrs	831	172	27	19	10%
14 yrs	1,269	273	48	66	16%
15 yrs	1,522	390	89	106	20%
16 yrs	1,580	430	123	136	21%
17 yrs	2,066	616	157	213	29%
18 yrs	4	0	3	3	0%

Only includes referrals linked to individuals recorded as between 12 and 18 years of age

+ % may not total 100% due to rounding errors

- A greater proportion of referrals relate to older children with those 17 years of age or older making up 29% of those referred while 12 year olds account for just 4%.

Referral Type	Proportion of Referrals 2017		
	1 only	2-5 referrals	6 or more
Informal Caution	69%	28%	3%
Formal Caution	24%	47%	28%
Unsuitable For This Case Only	11%	22%	67%
No Further Action	42%	33%	25%
Others	31%	36%	33%

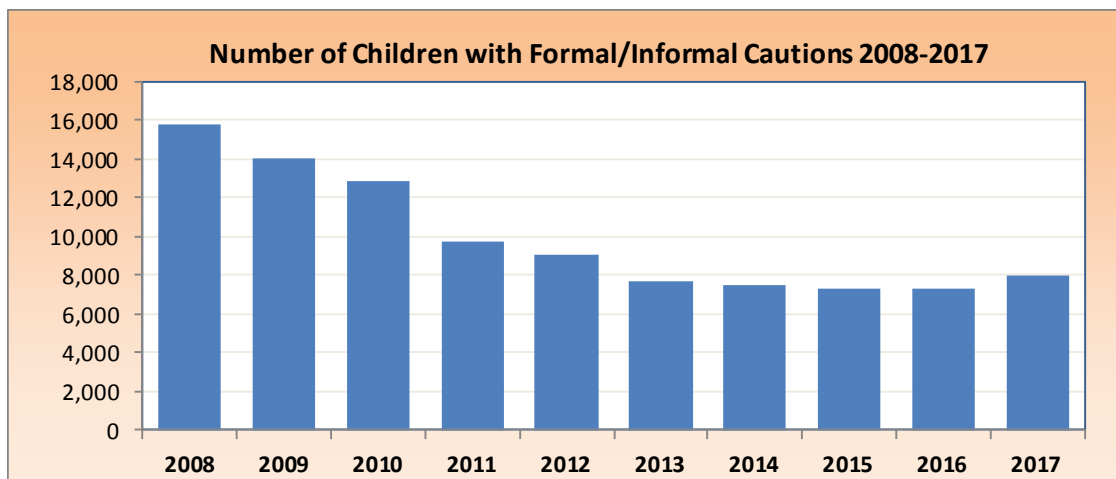
+ % may not total 100% due to rounding errors

- Most Informal Caution outcomes are linked to children with just one referral in 2017. 67% those deemed unsuitable for inclusion in the Programme had been referred six or more times in 2017.

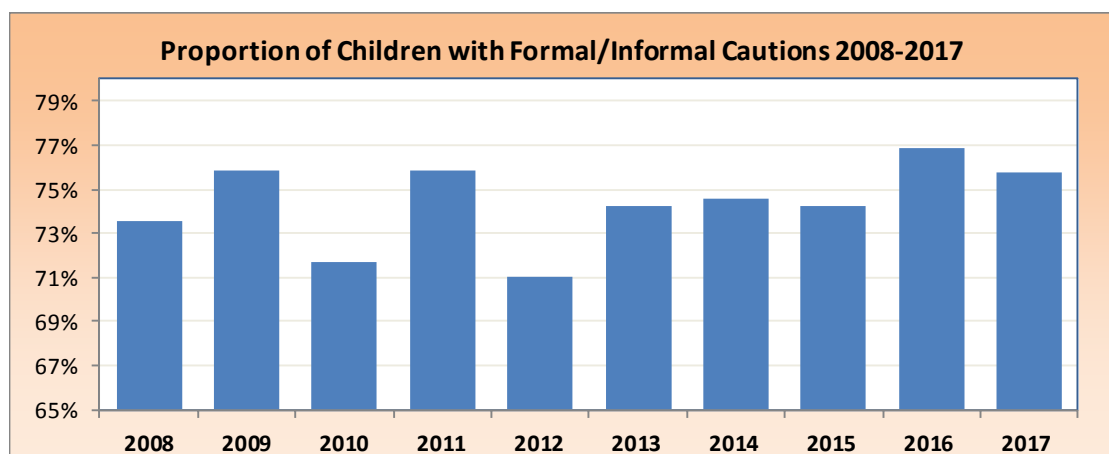
Children Referred by Area

2017 Region Of Youth	Total	% Change vs 2016	Informal Caution	Unsuitable	Formal Caution	NFA	Others
Dublin Region	3,432	13%	1,819	605	561	121	326
D.M.R. Eastern	455	32%	275	72	55	18	35
D.M.R. North Central	691	4%	433	142	67	8	41
D.M.R. Northern	653	11%	333	114	140	24	42
D.M.R. South Central	305	6%	132	52	56	14	51
D.M.R. Southern	555	18%	256	97	89	30	83
D.M.R. Western	773	13%	390	128	154	27	74
Eastern Region	1,389	16%	770	202	252	75	90
Kildare	346	29%	186	46	53	26	35
Laois/Offaly	321	25%	177	48	52	27	17
Meath	272	8%	144	45	54	8	21
Westmeath	200	12%	108	33	47	5	7
Wicklow	250	4%	155	30	46	9	10
Northern Region	1,254	19%	721	102	304	55	72
Cavan/Monaghan	385	37%	243	30	87	12	13
Donegal	410	25%	220	19	115	19	37
Louth	266	-11%	143	32	68	12	11
Sligo/Leitrim	193	30%	115	21	34	12	11
South Eastern Region	1,167	8%	668	157	221	50	71
Kilkenny/Carlow	281	5%	165	50	42	7	17
Tipperary	293	18%	148	37	76	12	20
Waterford	343	7%	211	43	55	15	19
Wexford	250	4%	144	27	48	16	15
Southern Region	2,062	7%	1205	221	448	111	77
Cork City	699	11%	472	86	115	21	5
Cork North	277	-2%	125	44	79	23	6
Cork West	233	29%	134	23	47	23	6
Kerry	311	-8%	178	18	84	10	21
Limerick	542	10%	296	50	123	34	39
Western Region	1,303	13%	821	115	243	70	54
Clare	362	13%	253	28	53	17	11
Galway	582	19%	354	56	120	24	28
Mayo	186	6%	106	15	40	20	5
Roscommon/Longford	173	0%	108	16	30	9	10
Outside Jurisdiction	0	---	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	10,607	+12%	6,004	1,402	2,029	482	690

Informal/Formal Cautions

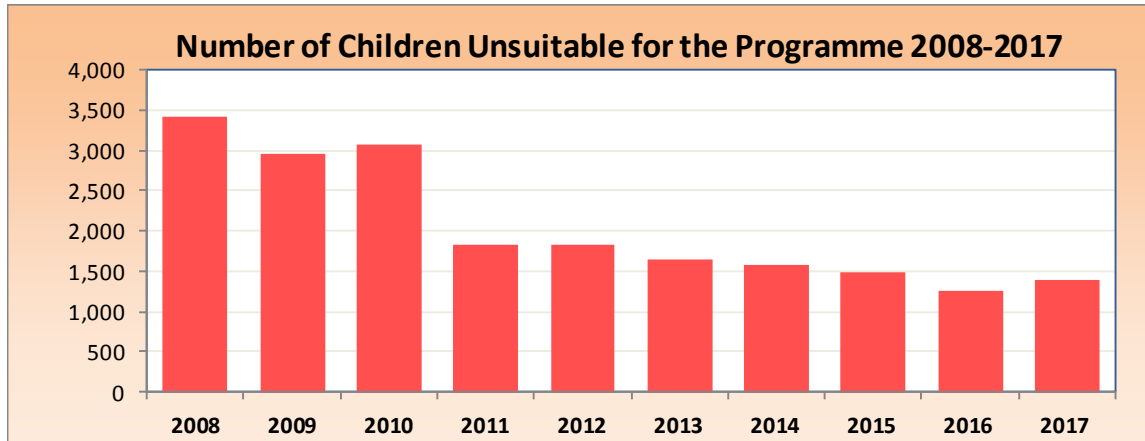


- There were 8,033 children who received Formal or Informal cautions in 2017 which is up 11% on the 2016 total – based on most recent referral received.
- 70% are male and 30% female.

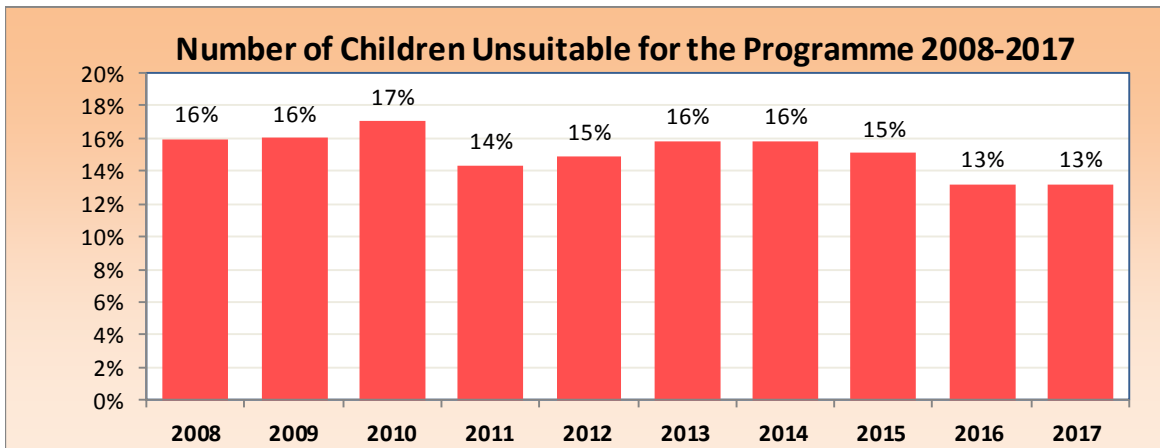


- 76% of children who received a caution were deemed suitable for inclusion on the Programme with 75% receiving an Informal Caution and 25% a Formal Caution - based on most recent referral received.

Children deemed unsuitable for inclusion



- There was a total of 1,402 children deemed unsuitable for the Programme in 2017 up 12% on the 2016 total of 1,249 - based on most recent referral received.
- 79% are male and 21% are female.



- The proportion of children deemed unsuitable for the Programme was 13% in 2017, which is unchanged from 2016.

Breakdown of offences committed by children

Offence Group / Offence Type	2017	% of Total	% Change	2016	Offences linked to U18 in 2017*
Theft and Related Offences	6,099	30.5%	+13%	5,413	24%
Theft from shop	4,226	21.1%	+17%	3,620	25%
Theft Other	503	2.5%	+8%	466	12%
Theft/Unauthorised Taking (Pedal Cycle)	334	1.7%	+74%	192	56%
Handling Stolen Property	256	1.3%	-5%	269	19%
Unauthorised Taking (Vehicle)	298	1.5%	-3%	307	40%
Theft from vehicle	314	1.6%	-11%	353	27%
Theft from person	87	0.4%	-18%	106	14%
Interfering with Mechanism of MPV	81	0.4%	-18%	99	28%
Public Order & Social Code Offences	4,375	21.9%	+11%	3,933	15%
Public order offences	2,237	11.2%	+8%	2,077	13%
Drunkenness offences	737	3.7%	+30%	569	10%
Trespass Offences	946	4.7%	+19%	796	68%
Purchase/Consume Alcohol U18	250	1.2%	-21%	317	---
Begging	34	0.2%	-19%	42	2%
Collect money no permit	45	0.2%	+15%	39	62%
Affray/Riot/Violent Disorder	95	0.5%	+107%	46	71%
Damage to Property & Environment	1,972	9.9%	+7%	1,840	35%
Criminal damage (not arson)	1,794	9.0%	+8%	1,665	33%
Arson	176	0.9%	+4%	170	67%
Litter offences	2	0.0%	-60%	5	5%
Assault, Murder Attempt/Threat, Harrassment	1,750	8.7%	+12%	1,561	20%
Minor assault	1,185	5.9%	+14%	1,038	21%
Assault causing harm	447	2.2%	+15%	389	21%
Assault/Obstruct/Resist Arrest - Peace Officer	45	0.2%	-38%	72	11%
Threats to Kill/Cause Serious Harm	27	0.1%	+42%	19	7%
Harassment	28	0.1%	+27%	22	16%
Burglary and Related Offences	992	5.0%	+19%	836	29%
Burglary (not aggravated)	849	4.2%	+18%	720	30%
Possess article (burgle, steal, demand)	114	0.6%	+18%	97	23%
Aggravated burglary	29	0.1%	+53%	19	30%
Controlled Drug Offences	1,442	7.2%	+41%	1,020	8%
Possess drugs for personal use	1,101	5.5%	+39%	794	9%
Possess drugs for sale or supply	286	1.4%	+62%	177	7%
Obstruction under Drugs Act	54	0.3%	+20%	45	11%
Cultivation or manufacture of drugs	1	0.0%	-75%	4	0%
Road and Traffic Offences (NEC)	1,151	5.8%	+12%	1,028	2%
General Road offences	630	3.1%	+18%	534	2%
License/Insurance/Tax	421	2.1%	+9%	388	2%
Dangerous or Negligent Acts	401	2.0%	-18%	487	1%
Dangerous/Careless driving	268	1.3%	-24%	351	6%
Speeding	64	0.3%	+12%	57	0%
Driving/In charge over legal alcohol limit	32	0.2%	+0%	32	0%
Endangering traffic offences	24	0.1%	-29%	34	24%
Drugs - Driving offences	4	0.0%	-33%	6	1%
Weapons and Explosives Offences	521	2.6%	+45%	360	23%
Possess offensive weapons (not firearms)	399	2.0%	+42%	281	21%
Fireworks offences (for sale, igniting etc.)	87	0.4%	+58%	55	83%
Possession of Firearms	27	0.1%	+13%	24	15%
Robbery, Extortion and Hijacking Offences	290	1.4%	+21%	240	35%
Robbery from the person	249	1.2%	+26%	197	55%
Robbery of an Establishment / Institution	32	0.2%	+7%	30	9%
Hijacking Unlawful Seizure of vehicle	9	0.0%	-31%	13	25%
Off. against Government, Justice, Organised Crime	306	1.5%	-10%	339	2%
Breach of bail	256	1.3%	-16%	304	3%
Sexual Offences	400	2.0%	+20%	334	35%
Sexual assault (not aggravated)	224	1.1%	+37%	163	34%
Child Pornography	59	0.3%	+181%	21	50%
Rape of a male or female	73	0.4%	-36%	114	27%
Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2006	38	0.2%	+15%	33	57%
Fraud, Deception and Related Offences	247	1.2%	+70%	145	5%
Offences Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)	45	0.2%	-39%	74	4%
Kidnapping and Related Offences	9	0.0%	+200%	3	18%
Homicide Offences	4	0.0%	+100%	2	9%
Murder	3	0.0%	+50%	2	12%
Dangerous Driving causing Death	1	0.0%	---	0	5%
All Offences	20,006	100.0%	+14%	17,615	10%

*Proportion of Youth Offences to overall offences in 2017

* Only most common Offence Types listed

** % may not total 100% due to rounding errors

Increase of 20% in Informal Cautions

There was a sharp increase of 20% in the number of children receiving an Informal Caution in 2017. This coincides with, and may be explained by, the increase in the number of overall referrals as well as an increase in the number of offences for which 1st or 2nd offences tend to result in an Informal Caution; Theft from Shop (+17%), Theft of Pedal Cycle (+74%), Public Order (+8%), Drunkenness (+30%), Trespass (+19%), Minor Assault (+14%).

Repeat Offending

It is noted that 5% of children referred in 2017, have six or more referrals and 67% of those deemed unsuitable for inclusion in the Programme had been referred six or more times. The level of detail and information that these statistics are now providing needs to be analysed and acted upon. The circumstances of these repeat offenders and what is happening should be explored as it is this cohort of children who may proceed to become repeat adult offenders if resources are not targeted effectively. The Committee recommends that future research should involve tracking these children, analysing the types of offences they are committing, and what have been the outcomes for these children. This research may subsequently impact upon how such offences are dealt with in the first instance and how future resources are directed within the Diversion Programme and the Garda Youth Diversion Projects.

Possession of Child Pornography

The increase of referrals for Possession of Child Pornography to 59 in 2017 from 21 in 2016 raises the question as to what are the circumstances surrounding these incidents and why has there been such an increase in the space of 12 months? This prompted the Committee to review the circumstances of each incident to clarify to what extent incidents involved peer to peer sharing of images of themselves versus possession/distribution of child pornography in the context of child exploitation.

Details of incident	No.
Circumstances of child exploitation for which the Child Trafficking and Pornography Act, 1998 was enacted	18
Consensual peer to peer sharing of personal images	9
Consensual peer to peer sharing of personal images and then shared online without consent	20
Image taken without consent by peer and then shared online	9
Face of child superimposed onto other image and shared online	3
Total	59

Of the 59 referrals, 18 involved the illegal possession or distribution of images of children in the context of the abuse and exploitation of children as provided for by the Child Trafficking and Pornography Act, 1998. 9 incidents involved the consensual sharing of images by peers on phones/social media and 20 referrals related to initial consensual sharing of images with one party then forwarding the images to third parties. 9 referrals related to images being accessed on social media or recorded without consent of the person in the image and then forwarded to others as a joke or as a part of an incident of bullying. They were actions taken by children not aware that their actions constitute offences contrary to the Child Trafficking and Pornography Act, 1998. Where the sharing of images was not consensual, it occurred with the motivation of carrying out a prank or cyberbullying and always involved sharing images of people that are the same age as themselves.

The increase in these referrals and the circumstances surrounding them, highlights the need for appropriate modernised legislation to be enacted which addresses the behaviour outlined above rather than children being referred for the offence of Possession/Distribution of Child Pornography. This piece of legislation was enacted in 1998 for the purpose of addressing the exploitation and abuse of children, and before the emergence of smartphones and social media. It also highlights the need for educating children about their behaviour and safety online and increasing awareness that the sharing of images of themselves or their peers who are under 18 years of age is a criminal offence under current legislation.

Sexual Offences

Under the categories of 'Sexual Assault-not aggravated', 'Rape of a male or female', and 'Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act, 2006, the offence of Defilement (of a Person under 17 and under 15) is incorporated into the statistics for these categories and accounts for 47 out of 335 referrals within these three categories. Within this figure of 47, 30 of these referrals involve circumstances in which the offender and injured party were in a relationship and had made the mutual decision to engage in sexual behaviour. In nine cases, the incident came to the attention of Gardaí due to pregnancy and a subsequent report to Gardaí by TUSLA. In many cases, both parties were not aware that by engaging in such behaviour, the male was committing a criminal offence. Similar to the issues surrounding the sharing of sexual images with their peers, the fact that 30 out of 47 referrals for the offence of Defilement involved sexual behaviour between children of similar age involved in a relationship highlights the need for further education of children in relation to engaging in sexual behaviour before both parties have reached 17 years of age and how such behaviour can constitute a criminal offence. Of the total of 47 referrals for the offence of Defilement, 23 resulted in a recommendation of No Further Action as it was deemed that the behaviour was best addressed through a health and welfare intervention and did not warrant a caution under the Diversion Programme or court proceedings.

8. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Restorative Justice is a voluntary process where the young person accepts responsibility for their offending behaviour and becomes accountable to those they have harmed. The victim is given the opportunity to have their views represented either by meeting the young person face to face or having their views represented by someone else. The Children Act 2001 provides for two types of restorative intervention; Section 26 provides for Restorative Justice Caution and Section 29 provides for the facilitation of a Conference which the victim is invited to attend.

Objective of Restorative Justice

When an offence or crime is committed, there is harm done to a person or a community. Restorative Justice attempts to deal with the harm through a discussion and attempts to bring that harm to the centre of the discussion. It does this by giving a voice to the person who has been affected by the crime. It then creates an opportunity for the offender to repair the harm caused by the offence and work towards the prevention of re-offending. The Restorative Justice process does not concern itself with judging or blaming.

Impact of Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017

The impact of the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime Bill) 2016 was identified as a challenge in the 2016 Annual Report and with the enactment of the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act, 2017 there was a decrease in Restorative Cautions in 2017. This fall in Restorative Justice events is attributed to the provisions of the new Act with Restorative Cautions only being delivered during 2017 for offending where there is no victim, for example; Road Traffic Offences such as Speeding and Driving without Insurance, and Drugs Offences. Section 26 of the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act, 2017, provides for a robust process surrounding a Restorative Justice event with Section 34 of the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act, 2017 amending the provisions of Section 26 of the Children Act, 2001, by placing obligations on An Garda Síochána to safeguard the victim in relation to their participation in a Restorative Justice event. There is a resource implication attached to these increased obligations to which the drop in restorative events in 2017 has been attributed.

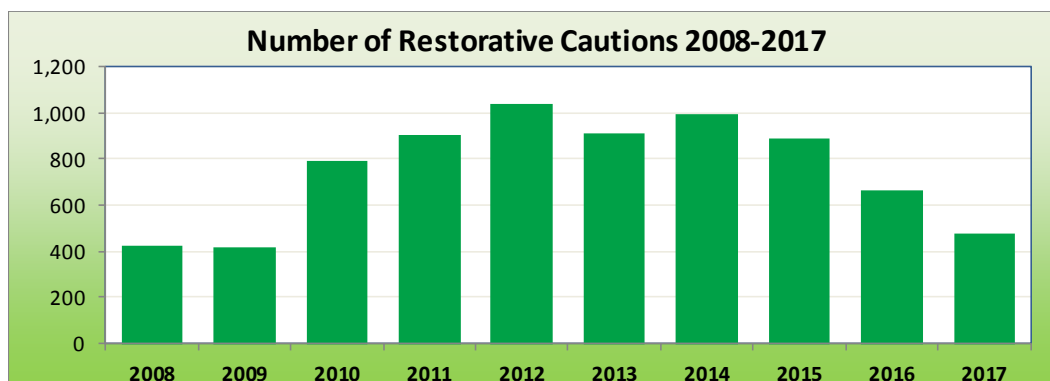
The Committee views Restorative Justice as being an integral part of the Diversion Programme which benefits both the victim as well as the young person who has offended and restorative events should be continued.

In order for An Garda Síochána to fulfil their obligations to the victims, further strengthened guidelines should be disseminated to JLOs regarding these obligations to the victim when facilitating a Restorative Justice event. This may also require;

- Developing a risk assessment process so that the JLO and other relevant members of An Garda Síochána can be satisfied that it is safe for the restorative justice event to take place without the re-victimisation of the victim during/or as a result of the process.
- Training of the JLO in relation to this risk assessment process.
- Training of the JLO in relation to dealing with victims and their families.

With the clarification provided by the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act, 2017, it is expected that 2018 will see an increase in the numbers of Restorative Justice events taking place.

Restorative Justice Statistics



- There were 477 Restorative Cautions in 2017, down from 667 Restorative Cautions in 2016, a reduction of 28%. This total figure of 477 consists of Section 26 Restorative Cautions and Section 29 Conferences. For example, the figure below which states there has been an increase of 430% in the D.M.R North Central is due to a large increase in the number of Section 29 Conferences being held in the division (Total of 53 consists of 5 S.26 Restorative Cautions and 48 S.26 Conferences).

Restorative Cautions by Area

Division	2017	%Change	2016	2015	2014	2013
Dublin Region	144	+11%	130	237	278	254
D.M.R. Eastern	2	-50%	4	19	27	11
D.M.R. North Central	53	+430%	10	8	17	28
D.M.R. Northern	48	-16%	57	86	136	136
D.M.R. South Central	9	+50%	6	21	18	12
D.M.R. Southern	3	---	0	27	11	6
D.M.R. Western	29	-45%	53	76	69	61
Eastern Region	54	-62%	143	90	116	103
Kildare	2	-71%	7	16	19	5
Laois/Offaly	15	-77%	65	17	21	28
Meath	21	-40%	35	19	41	29
Westmeath	6	-79%	29	31	27	25
Wicklow	10	+43%	7	7	8	16
Northern Region	81	-44%	145	145	162	81
Cavan/Monaghan	20	-29%	28	16	32	18
Donegal	31	-38%	50	64	69	36
Louth	24	-63%	64	33	53	18
Sligo/Leitrim	6	+100%	3	32	8	9
South Eastern Region	26	-32%	38	106	108	144
Kilkenny/Carlow	4	---	0	21	17	17
Tipperary	14	+8%	13	55	49	43
Waterford	1	-91%	11	15	26	36
Wexford	7	-50%	14	15	16	48
Southern Region	130	-12%	147	260	272	265
Cork City	33	-21%	42	69	51	62
Cork North	50	+11%	45	79	65	73
Cork West	18	-5%	19	36	20	25
Kerry	18	-5%	19	38	46	48
Limerick	11	-50%	22	38	90	57
Western Region	41	-29%	58	35	57	60
Clare	9	-63%	24	9	13	33
Galway	16	+78%	9	14	35	13
Mayo	14	-36%	22	5	5	13
Roscommon/Longford	2	-33%	3	7	4	1
Others	1	-83%	6	18	0	2
Grand Total	477	-28%	667	891	993	909

9. GARDA YOUTH DIVERSION PROJECTS (GYDPs)

GYDPs provide a valuable support to the Diversion Programme by engaging young people under the supervision of the JLO as their Primary Participants. GYDPs engage these primary participants, as well as those deemed to be at risk of offending (secondary participants), in a programme of learning and development with a view to reducing their offending. Youth Justice Workers (YJWs) and JLOs work together on the GYDPs on both a formal and informal level. Effective working relationships between JLOs and YJWs allow GYDPs to operate at their optimum level. This ultimately increases the likelihood of the best possible outcomes for project participants.

In 2017, the Best Practice Committee began developing 'Together Stronger-Guidelines for Effective Partnership between Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers and Garda Youth Diversion Projects'. The concept behind the development of the Together Stronger document was grounded in a recognition that an effective working relationship between a JLO and a YJW is essential to ensure good outcomes for project participants and has a positive impact on a young person's engagement with a GYDP.

Throughout the year, evidence was collected through a series of eight regional focus groups with JLOs and YJWs. The data gathered in these sessions provided a comprehensive picture of the nature and impact of the working relationships between GYDPs and An Garda Síochána in the context of GYDPs, both locally and nationally. The focus groups identified elements of effective working relationships between JLOs and YJWs, as well as some of the challenges arising in these relationships.

The key themes identified and which are addressed in the Together Stronger-Guidelines for Effective Partnership are;

- Roles and Responsibilities
- Referral
- Referral Committee Meetings
- After Referral and Continuing Partnership
- GYDP Annual Plan
- Information Sharing
- Data Protection
- JLO and YJW Contact
- Dispute Resolution
- Child Protection

The document is to be published in 2018 and disseminated for guidance to all Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers and Youth Justice Workers.

Location of Garda Youth Diversion Projects

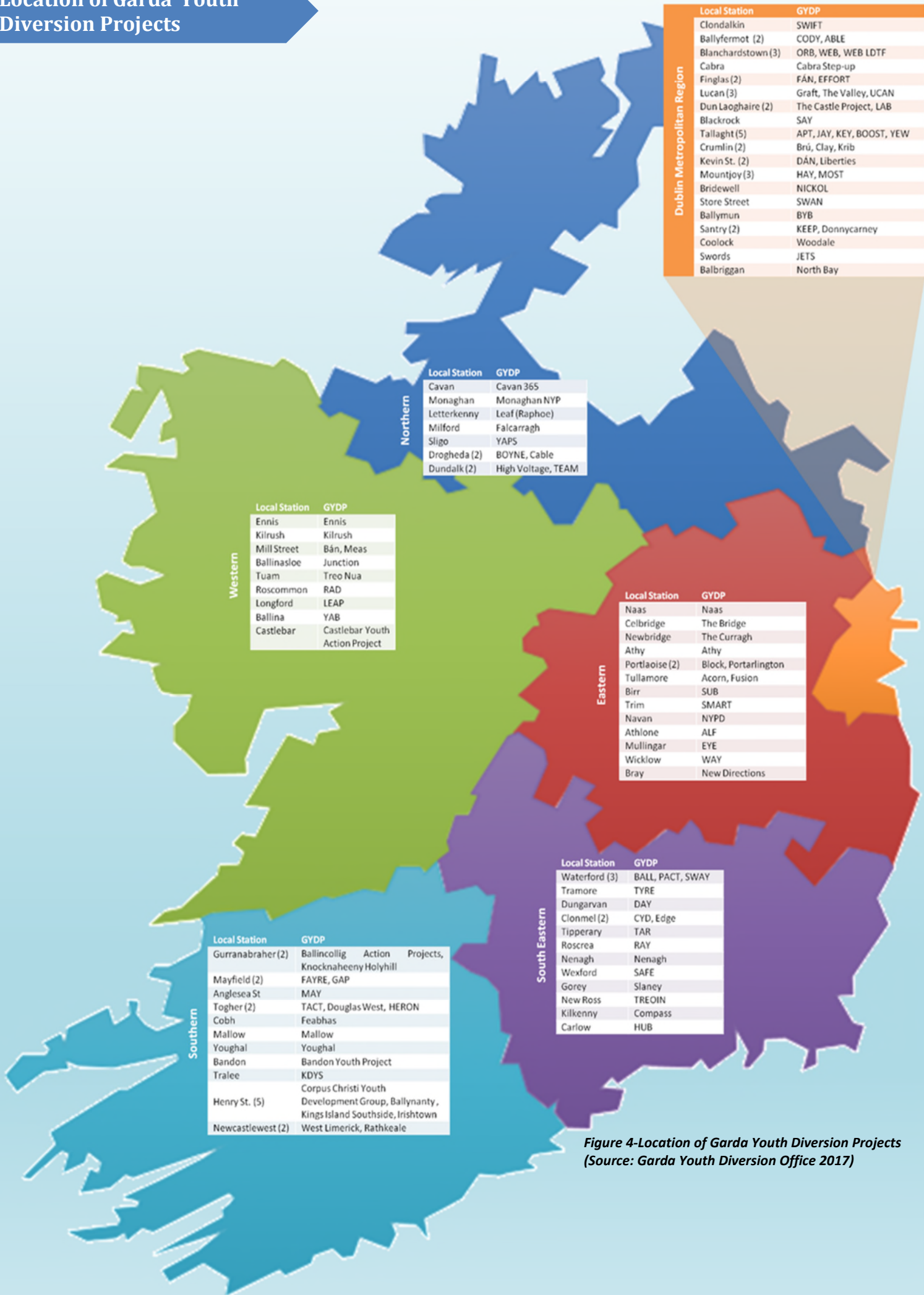


Figure 4-Location of Garda Youth Diversion Projects (Source: Garda Youth Diversion Office 2017)

PART II

10. ANALYSIS OF YOUTH CRIME 2013-2017

By request of the Committee, the Garda Síochána Analysis Service carried out an in-depth analysis of youth crime for the period 2013-2017.

The Committee sought a breakdown of crime during this period in a bid to identify any patterns in the offences committed by children with a focus on the location of high-impact crime and on offences committed by female children with the objective of observing any trends or indicators that crime committed by females is progressively moving up the scale in terms of serious crime.

This resulted in the completion of the report titled *Analysis of Youth Crime 2013-2017* by the Garda Síochána Analysis Service. The executive summary of the report below highlights the main findings with the full report available at Appendix A.

Executive Summary-Analysis of Youth Crime 2013-2017

Decision trends:

'Unsuitable This Case Only' (UTCO) decisions were the most common type from 2013 to 2015, but since then 'Informal Cautions' have become more prevalent accounting for 37% of referrals in the first half of 2017, with UTCOs accounting for 31%.

Offence trends:

Just four offence types account for 49% of offences linked to young people in 2017 - Theft from Shop 21%, Public Order offences 13%, Criminal Damage 8% and Simple Possession 7%.

Theft from Shop accounts for an increasing proportion of offences linked to young people, up 5% in 2017 on 2016 and up 16% on five years ago in 2013. At the same time, all other offences are down 3% on last year and down 17% on the 2013 total.

Theft from Shop offenders tend to be female (55%), offended only once (61%), offended with others (46%) and receive an Informal Caution (60%).

6.2% of Drunkenness offences, 5.9% of Public Order offences and 5.9% of Purchase/Consume Alcohol incidents, by an under 18-year-old, over the past five years, occurred on Saint Patrick's day and the 31st of October.

Female offenders:

28% of child offenders, recorded in 2017, were female and the number of female offenders increased by 10% in 2017, as compared with a year earlier.

78% of female offenders are one time offenders as compared with 61% of male offenders. Just 1.4% of female offenders are linked to ten or more incidents in the five-year period 2013 to 2017, while 4.9% of male offenders fall into this bracket.

UTCO decisions

UTCO decisions have been trending down from 37% of all decisions in 2015 to 31% in the first half of 2017. 37% of UTCO individuals were linked to ten or more offences over the five years 2013 to 2017. 28% of individuals receiving a UTCO decision in 2017 were one time offenders.

Theft from Shop is the most common offence type leading to a UTCO decision. 35% of offenders deemed UTCO are linked to Theft from Shop. 155 or 37% of Theft from Shop offenders were one time offenders with 111 of these language students from Spain, Italy and France who received this decision as they had 'left the jurisdiction'. The child not admitting to the offence, leaving the jurisdiction, not engaging with Gardaí or not being able to be contacted by Gardaí are reasons for making the UTCO decision.

Serious and High Impact Offences

Murder Threats are the most common Homicide and related offence amongst under 18 years olds and, though low in number, have increased substantially in 2017, up 62% on 2016 with 21 incidents recorded. In 58% of murder threats, the threat was made by a male to another male, in 34% of cases the threat was made by a male to a female.

In 79% of **Sexual Offence** cases, a referral created in 2017 related to an incident which occurred prior to 2017. Suspected offenders tend to be older than the injured party with an average age of 14.6 years and 13.2 years respectively in 2017. 46% of offenders linked to sexual offences in 2017, are linked to more than one crime, of any type, over the five years 2013 to 2017. 11% were linked to more than one Sexual offence.

Males make up 89% of **Assault Causing Harm** offenders with 11% female, while for **Assault Minor**, 29% are female. The average age of Assault Causing Harm offenders in 2017 was 17.5 years of age and for Minor Assault the average age was younger at 15.4 years of age. Assault Causing Harm tends to be linked to the night-time economy (Friday-Sunday 8pm-4am), but Assault Minor tends to occur earlier in the day and right across the week. Examining PULSE records shows that 8% of Assault Causing Harm and 3% of Assault Minor incidents are linked to a knife¹. Though the numbers of Possession of an Offensive Weapon incidents involving a knife increased between 2016 to 2017 by 23%, the numbers of Assault Causing Harm involving a knife dropped by 38% over this time period.

Burglary decreased by 9% between 2016 and 2017, with **Robbery from the Person** and **Robbery from an Establishment/Institution** down 22% and 37% respectively. On average there were two offenders involved in each Burglary incident and 2.1 offenders linked to each Robbery from the Person offence in 2017. Adults can co-offend with children and for Burglaries 14% of offenders identified were over 18 years of age when the offence occurred. Offenders are often prolific with 38% of those involved in either a Burglary or UT (Vehicle) linked to ten or more offences between 2013-2017, while just over half of Robbery from the Person offenders are in this high offending rate category.

¹ Data is indicative only: PULSE MO – Weapons/Instruments Used = Knife and a narrative search and check for the words knife, stab, blade, slash were used to determine if a knife was involved in the Assaults, with Object linked also used for the Possession of a Weapon Offences – clearly this will not capture all incidents of interest.

Drugs offences amongst young people have significantly increased in 2017 with Simple Possession up 33% and Drugs Sale/Supply up 40% over 2016 figures. Drugs Searches overall increased by 8% in 2017 with 12% of searches linked to a person under 18 years of age. The ratio between a Simple Possession offence and a Drugs Search for a child is 1:12, but overall this ratio is approximately 1:6. This suggests a higher Drugs Search rate amongst young people than for the population in general. Cannabis herb is the most common drug type linked to Drugs Sale/Supply and Simple Possession accounting for 47% and 78% of incidents respectively in 2017 linked to young people.

Offending versus first referral decision

64% of individuals receiving an Informal or Formal caution (accepted onto the Diversion Programme), as their first caution, between 2013 and 2017, did not re-offend up to 2017. 66% with an Informal Caution as their first caution and 49% of those receiving a Formal Caution as their first caution did not re-offend over this time period.

Having Robbery from the Person, Theft from MPV or Theft from Person as a first offence, are stronger indicators of future prolific offending (more than 10 offences between 2013 to 2017) than other offence types. 17% of offenders of Robbery from the Person or Theft from MPV as a first offence and 15% of Theft from Person as a first offence are linked to more than ten offences between 2013 and 2017.

Youth population trends

The population of those aged between 12 and 17 years of age is expected to increase by 9% over the next five years, but this may not indicate an increase in child offenders over this period of time – between 2012 and 2017 this population increased by 5% while the number of children referred decreased by 13%.

PART III

11. DEVELOPMENTS IN DIVERSION

GYDO Resources

An increase in temporary resources in the Garda Youth Diversion Office in the final quarter of 2017 saw four additional members of Garda rank join the GYDO team on a temporary basis. An additional Garda Inspector has also been appointed to the office on a permanent basis. This has increased the capacity of the office and has enabled the establishment of Diversion Programme Policy Unit within the GYDO. The Committee welcomes the increase of resources at the GYDO but there are still concerns as four of the five additional resources are temporary appointments and permanent appointments are required.

Diversion Programme Policy Unit

The Diversion Policy Development Unit (DPPU) has been established for the purpose of developing national standard operating procedures and policy to ensure a standardised and best practice approach to the management of the Diversion Programme and Garda Youth Diversion Projects. Its core objective is to develop, review and implement national policy, procedures and training with regard to all aspects of the Diversion Programme and Diversion Projects to ensure best and consistent practice.

It was recognised that there was a need for policy development to ensure that the good practice taking place nationwide carrying out the requirements of Part IV of the Children Act 2001 is properly captured, documented, and developed into policy. It is the role of the DPPU to bring the best of this good practice to policy which will then be rolled out nationally. These policies will direct the way the JLO and all Gardaí will work in the future when interacting with child offenders. The policies will cover the steps to be followed from the first contact of a Garda with a child, all the way through until the child exits the Diversion Programme.

PULSE Version 7.3

In July 2017, it was identified that some of the changes within PULSE Version 7.3 which would be released in early 2018, would affect the process of dealing with youth referrals on PULSE. A technical group was established which included GYDO staff to bring forward a process map around an incident involving a youth and to identify the gaps, and necessary IT fixes to be included in the PULSE Version 7.3. The work of the technical group is ongoing and will continue into 2018. The planned changes contained in PULSE Version 7.3 in relation to the generation of youth referrals will introduce a more robust process surrounding the creation of youth referrals. It will ensure that a referral cannot be created until the incident has been reviewed on PULSE by the relevant District Officer (Garda Superintendent) or Performance Accountability Framework (PAF) Administrator on behalf of the District Officer. Authorisation will then be provided to the Investigating Garda member to create a youth referral and it is only after this process has been completed, will the GYDO receive the youth referral and then make a decision on whether the child is suitable for inclusion in the Diversion Programme (see Figure 1 - The Youth Diversion Process).

Increased governance and quality assurance at GYDO

A number of quality assurance processes have been introduced at the GYDO in response to recommendations proposed by both the Garda Professional Standards Unit Report and Commissioner's Diversion Programme Review Report by Judge Gillian Hussey (Retired) which are to be published in 2018. GYDO has been proactive in introducing improved governance procedures surrounding the quality of the youth referral process prior to publication of these reports from incident creation, review of referrals, investigation files and subsequent decision-making at GYDO, to monitoring of actions by Districts on GYDO directions and requests for information. This is being supported by engagement with the Garda Professional Standards Unit, the establishment of Diversion Programme Policy Unit, and the appointment of a second Garda Inspector at GYDO.

Irish Youth Justice Service Review of Children Act, 2001

The review of the Children Act 2001 (as amended), which is being progressed by the Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS), commenced in earnest with the 4th Annual Irish Criminal Justice Agencies (ICJA) Conference in association with the Association of Criminal Research and Development (ACJRD), which was held in Dublin Castle on 4 July 2017. IYJS is coordinating the review of the Act in consultation with other agencies, including An Garda Síochána, and it is expected that a broader consultation process will be carried out to inform the development of proposals for legislative reform.

12. CHALLENGES AND RISKS FOR DIVERSION PROGRAMME

1) Current review of issues identified by GPSU report

Following a review of the GYDO by the Garda Professional Standards Unit, a number of issues were identified that gave rise to concern and subsequently a special review team was established to conduct a deep exploration of those issues. The emerging information gives rise to further cause for concern and indicates that the content of the final report will present a significant challenge for the Diversion Programme. The special review team are continuing with this review and a final report is expected in late 2018. This is presented as the potential key challenge and risk to the Programme going forward at this point

2) Under resourced Garda Youth Diversion Office

A business case was submitted by the GYDO in 2017 for additional permanent resources in the office. Although the Committee welcomes the allocation of additional staff at the GYDO, four of the five additional Garda members have been allocated on a temporary basis and are not permanently attached to the office. Therefore, an under resourced GYDO remains a concern for the Committee. It presents a barrier to the GYDO in its work to continue to improve the operation of the Diversion Programme and to develop and deliver the appropriate governance which is required to ensure the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme.

3) Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017

Section 26 Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017 and Section 34 of the same Act which amends Section 26 of the Children Act 2001 has provided clarification on the Restorative Justice process. In order to comply with their obligations under Section 26 of the Act and ensure that Restorative Justice continues to be used within the Diversion Programme, An Garda Síochána will need to implement a number of measures in order to safeguard the victim during the restorative justice process.

4) Children in Care

The need for inter-agency cooperation is essential to supporting the Diversion Programme in addressing offending behaviour by children in the care of the State who are deemed suitable for admission or are being considered for inclusion the Programme. This inter-agency cooperation is necessary to address the complex needs of these children, particularly through therapeutic intervention, which is fundamental to supporting the child's welfare needs and preventing any further potential criminal behaviour. The Committee welcomes the collaborative approach of the sub-group established by the Youth Justice Action Plan Team to address the issues surrounding children in the care of the State who become involved in crime, and will follow their activities closely in 2018.

5) National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016.

The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016 provides a legislative basis for the mandatory vetting of persons who wish to undertake certain work or activities relating to children or vulnerable persons or to provide certain services to children or vulnerable persons. The Act provides for the provision of "specified information" where bona fide concerns exist regarding children and vulnerable persons. There is currently an anomaly in the legislation in that the criminal convictions of a child cannot be disclosed under Section 258 of the Children Act, 2001, for the purposes of vetting but a child's inclusion in the Diversion Programme can be disclosed. There is a risk that these provisions may result in the value of the Diversion Programme as an alternative to criminal prosecution being undermined. They may also hinder JLOs and other Garda members in promoting the benefits of the Diversion Programme as a means to dealing with a child's offending as both the child and their parents have concerns on the possible impact that inclusion in the Diversion Programme may have on a child's future.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Section 44 Monitoring Committee appointed to monitor the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme makes the following recommendations;

1) Results of Review of the Diversion Programme reports

As recommended in previous reports, the Committee again recommends that all findings contained in the review reports are actioned throughout 2018 and beyond so that the integrity of the Programme is preserved and excellence is pursued. It is noted by the Committee that the significant challenges associated with the Programme as identified by the GPSU are currently being explored in depth and this continues into 2018. It is recommended this continues and on completion, the issues identified are rectified as a key priority.

2) Appropriate targeting of resources

To ensure the effectiveness of the Diversion Programme, appropriate investment in the Programme and its support structures which includes the Garda Youth Diversion Office, Juvenile Liaison Officers in each Garda Division and the Garda Youth Diversion Projects, is required. This investment must be correctly targeted which can be assisted by research and analysis such as the attached report completed by GSAS on the Youth Crime 2013-2017. This report displays the areas in which serious crime committed by children occurs and it is recommended that this and similar reports should be utilised to target investment to reduce recidivism in children and to divert them away from the criminal justice system.

3) Implementation of measures to address impact of Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017

The Committee is satisfied that the clarification provided by Section 26 and 34 of the 2017 Act supports and reiterates the provisions provided by Section 26 of the Children Act 2001 in relation to Restorative Justice. It is therefore recommended that Restorative Cautions be explored in all cases in 2018.

4) Allocation of permanent resources to the Garda Youth Diversion Office

Although the allocation of further resources to the GYDO are welcomed, they are temporary resources and it is recommended that additional permanent resources are assigned to the office.

5) Children in Care

Outcomes of the review being carried out by the Youth Justice Action Plan 2014-2018 Implementation Team in relation to young offenders who are in the care of the State to be considered in 2018.

6) Training

Continue training of JLOs in Induction, Mediation and Restorative Justice Facilitator training and the continuous monitoring of any further training requirements that may emerge.

- A)** Analysis of Youth Crime 2013-2017. Barry Coonan-Garda Síochána Analysis Services. 2018



Garda Síochána Analysis Service

Analysis of Youth Crime

2013 – 2017

All information used in this report is based upon operational data from the PULSE system as was available at 01:00 on the 29th March 2018 and is liable to change.

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Executive Summary:

Decision trends:

'Unsuitable This Case Only' (UTCO) decisions were the most common type from 2013 to 2015, but since then 'Informal Cautions' have become more prevalent accounting for 37% of referrals in the first half of 2017, with UTCOs accounting for 31%.

Offence trends:

Just four offence types account for 49% of offences linked to young people in 2017 - Theft from Shop 21%, Public Order offences 13%, Criminal Damage 8% and Simple Possession 7%.

Theft from Shop accounts for an increasing proportion of offences linked to young people, up 5% in 2017 on 2016 and up 16% on 5 years ago in 2013. At the same time, all other offences are down 3% on last year and down 17% on the 2013 total.

Theft from Shop offenders tend to be female (55%), offended only once (61%), offend with others (46%) and receive an Informal Caution (60%).

6.2% of Drunkenness offences, 5.9% of Public Order offences and 5.9% of Purchase/Consume Alcohol incidents, by an under 18-year-old, over the past 5 years, occurred on Saint Patrick's day and the 31st of October.

Female offenders:

28% of child offenders, recorded in 2017, were female and the number of female offenders increased by 10% in 2017, as compared with a year earlier.

78% of female offenders are one time offenders as compared with 61% of male offenders. Just 1.4% of female offenders are linked to 10 or more incidents in the 5-year period 2013 to 2017, while 4.9% of male offenders fall into this bracket.

UTCO decisions:

UTCO decisions have been trending down from 37% of all decisions in 2015 to 31% in the first half of 2017.

37% of UTCO individuals were linked to 10 or more offences over the 5 years 2013 to 2017.

28% of individuals receiving a UTCO decision in 2017 were 1 time offenders.

Theft from Shop is the most common offence type leading to a UTCO decision. 35% of offenders deemed UTCO are linked to Theft from Shop. 155 or 37% of Theft from Shop offenders were 1 time offenders with 111 of these language students from Spain, Italy and France who received this decision as they had 'left the jurisdiction'. The child not admitting to the offence, leaving the jurisdiction, not engaging with Gardaí or not being able to be contacted by Gardaí are reasons for making the UTCO decision.

Serious and Impactful offences:

Murder threats are the most common Homicide and related offence amongst under 18 year olds and, though low in number, have increased substantially in 2017, up 62% on 2016 with 21 incidents recorded.

In 58% of Murder threats, the threat was made by a male to another male, in 34% of cases the threat was made by a male to a female. One third of offenders in 2017 were under 15 years of age.

In 79% of **Sexual offence** cases, a referral created in 2017 related to an incident which occurred prior to 2017.

Suspected offenders tend to be older than the injured party with an average age of 14.6 years and 13.2 years respectively in 2017.

46% of offenders linked to Sexual offences in 2017, are linked to more than one crime, of any type, over the 5 years 2013 to 2017. 11% were linked to more than one Sexual offence.

Males make up 89% of **Assault Causing Harm** offenders with 11% female, while for **Assault Minor**, 29% are female.

The average age of Assault Causing Harm offenders in 2017 was 17.5 years of age and for Minor Assault the average age was younger at 15.4 years of age.

Assault Causing Harm tends to be linked to the night-time economy (Friday-Sunday 8pm-4am), but Assault Minor tends to occur earlier in the day and right across the week.

Examining PULSE records shows that 8% of Assault Causing Harm and 3% of Assault Minor incidents are linked to a knife¹. Though the numbers of Possession of an Offensive Weapon incidents involving a knife increased between 2016 to 2017 by 23%, the numbers of Assault Causing Harm involving a knife dropped by 38% over this time period.

Burglary decreased by 9% between 2016 and 2017, with **Robbery from the Person** and **Robbery from an Establishment Institution** down 22% and 37% respectively.

On average there were 2 offenders involved in each Burglary incident and 2.1 offenders linked to each Robbery from the Person offence in 2017.

Adults can co-offend with children and for Burglaries 14% of offenders identified were over 18 years of age when the offence occurred.

Offenders are often prolific with 38% of those involved in either a Burglary or UT (Vehicle) linked to 10 or more offences between 2013-2017, while just over half of Robbery from the Person offenders are in this high offending rate category

Drugs offences amongst young people have significantly increased in 2017 with Simple Possession up 33% and Drugs Sale/Supply up 40% over 2016 figures.

Drugs Searches overall increased by 8% in 2017 with 12% of searches linked to a person under 18 years of age.

¹ Data is indicative only: PULSE MO – Weapons/Instruments Used = Knife and a narrative search and check for the words knife, stab, blade, slash were used to determine if a knife was involved in the Assaults, with Object linked also used for the Possession of a Weapon Offences – clearly this will not capture all incidents of interest.

The ratio between a Simple Possession offence and a Drugs Search for a child is 1:12, but overall this ratio is approximately 1:6. This suggests a higher Drugs Search rate amongst young people than for the population in general.

Cannabis herb is the most common drug type linked to Drugs Sale/Supply and Simple Possession accounting for 47% and 78% of incidents respectively in 2017 linked to young people.

Offending versus first referral decision:

64% of individuals receiving an Informal or Formal caution (accepted onto the Diversion Programme), as their first caution, between 2013 and 2017, did not re-offend up to 2017. 66% with an Informal Caution as their first caution and 49% of those receiving a Formal Caution as their first caution did not re-offend over this time period.

Having Robbery from the Person, Theft from MPV or Theft from Person as a first offence, are stronger indicators of future prolific offending (more than 10 offences between 2013 to 2017) than other offence types. 17% of offenders of Robbery from the Person or Theft from MPV as a first offence and 15% of Theft from Person as a first offence are linked to more than 10 offences between 2013 and 2017.

Youth population trends:

The population of those aged between 12 and 17 years of age is expected to increase by 9% over the next five years, but this may not indicate an increase in child offenders over this period of time – between 2012 and 2017 this population increased by 5% while the number of children referred decreased by 13%.

Decision Trends:

The number of referrals created has been decreasing year on year from 2011 to 2016, and the numbers of children referred has also seen decreasing trends since before 2008, but both measures have increased in 2017 – see figure 1 below.

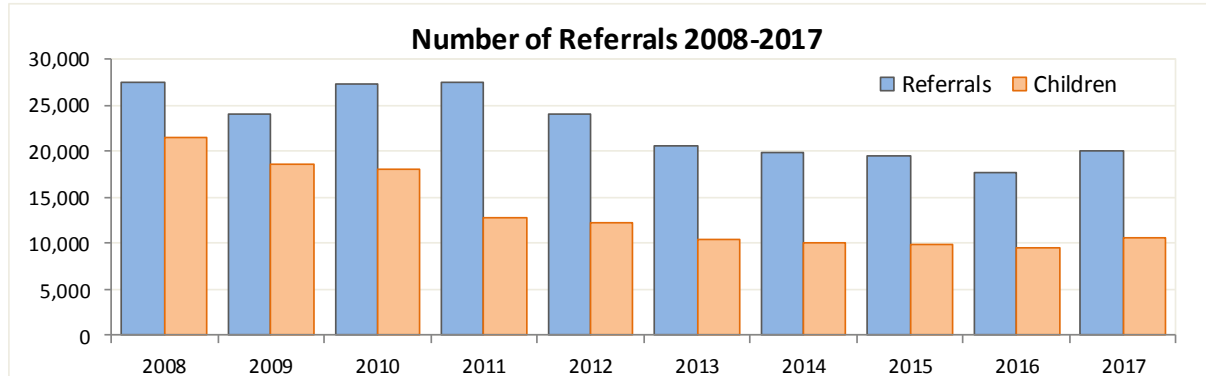


Figure 1: Number of Individuals and referrals by year they were created for 2008 to 2017.

Referrals are not necessarily created on the date the incident occurs due to delays in reporting by injured parties and the time it takes to investigate and identify the suspected offender – for 8.5% of referrals created in 2017, the offence occurred prior to 2017. Offence types with a high proportion of referrals, which were created in 2017, but the incident occurred prior to 2017, include Sexual Assault (not aggravated) 82% and Rape 80%.

It also takes time from when the youth referral is first created on PULSE to a final recommendation being made.

Figure 2 below shows monthly totals of recommendations made from 2013 to 2017 based on when the offence occurred. Note that from about July 2017 to the end of the year the numbers of 'Requests for further information' has steadily increased - red dotted line in figure 2 below. This indicates referrals have not yet been fully processed. Therefore, decisions after this point, July 2017, might not be safe to be used in interpreting youth referral decision trends.

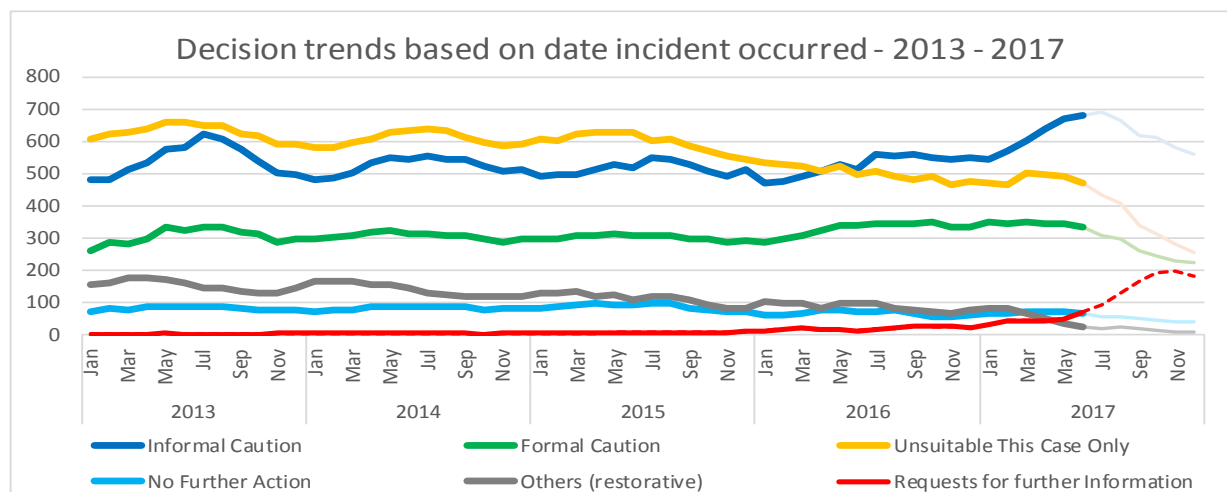


Figure 2: The total number of decisions by type based on when the incident occurred is plotted here from 2013 to 2017. The red dotted line indicates a rising number of requests for further information from July 2017 onwards.

Figure 2 shows that 'Unsuitable This Case Only' (UTCO) recommendations began to trend down in mid-2015 and while this was the most common recommendation issued up until May 2016, since then 'Informal Cautions' have become more prevalent. In the first half of 2015 UTCO was the top recommendation type, accounting for 38% of all recommendations. By the first half of 2017, the proportion of UTCO has decreased to 31% with 'Informal Cautions' up from 30% to 37% - see table 1 below.

	Unsuitable This Case Only	Informal Caution	Formal Caution	No Further Action	Others (restorative)	Requests for information
2015 Jan-June	38%	30%	19%	5%	8%	0%
2017 Jan-June	31%	37%	22%	4%	4%	2%

Table 1: Percentage of recommendation types for the first half of 2015 as compared with the first half of 2017.

There are a number of factors behind the changes in recommendation patterns seen in recent years such as an increasing proportion of one-time offenders, trends in the types of offences committed and the pattern of female offending. These are amongst the topics examined in the following sections.

Offence Trends:

A small number of offence types make up a large proportion of offences committed by children with just 4 offence types accounting for 49% of incidents which occurred in 2017 (see figure 3 below). In 2017, Theft from Shop, the most common offence type, accounted for just over one-in-five offences.

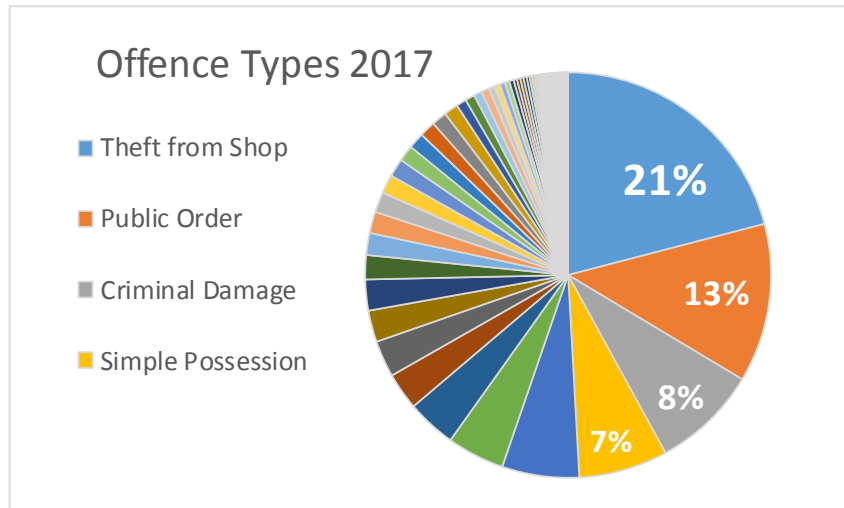


Figure 3: 2017 offences broken down by type with the top 5 offence types labelled.

The offending pattern has changed over the past number of years with a gradual increase in Theft from Shop offences, while the second most common offence type, Public Order, has been decreasing - see figure 4 below. In 2013, both Theft from Shop and Public Order offences made up 16% of offences linked to under 18 year olds, in 2017 this stands at 21% for the former and 13% for the latter.

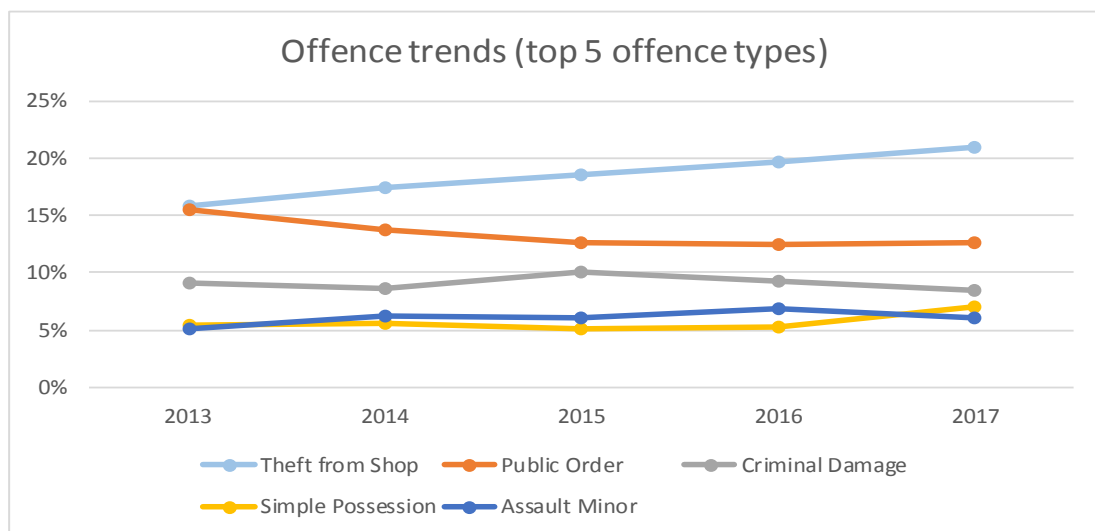


Figure 4: Yearly trend in the numbers of the most common offence types.

Due to its high volume, changes in Theft from Shop can have a major impact on the overall characteristics of youth offending, so this offence type is looked at in more detail here and compared with characteristics of all other types of offending combined.

	% Increase 2016-17	% Informal Caution	% Female	% 1 Time Offender	% Offend with others
Theft from Shop	+5%	60%	55%	61%	46%
All other offence types	-3%	34%	14%	52%	30%

Table 2: Comparison of Theft from Shop and all other offence types combined for various measures with calculations based on 2017 data.

Table 2 highlights some of the differences between Theft from Shop and other offence types. Theft from Shop has increased in 2017, whereas other offence types combined are down. Theft from Shop is more likely than all other offences to result in an Informal Caution, the majority of offenders are female, are one time offenders and are more likely to offend in a group of two or more.

The shape of the age profile trends for Theft from Shop offenders, shown in figure 5 and 6 below, indicate very different offender characteristics when comparing Theft from Shop and the rest.

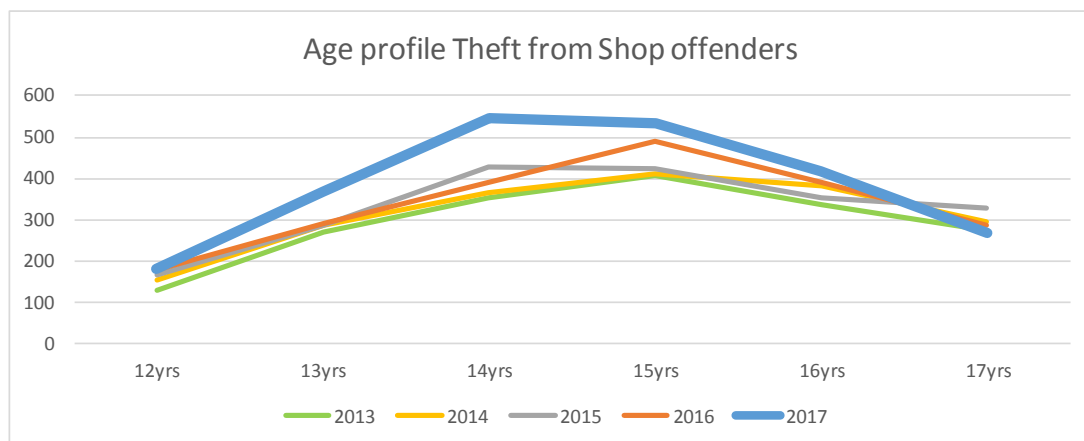


Figure 5: Age profile of Theft from Shop offenders.

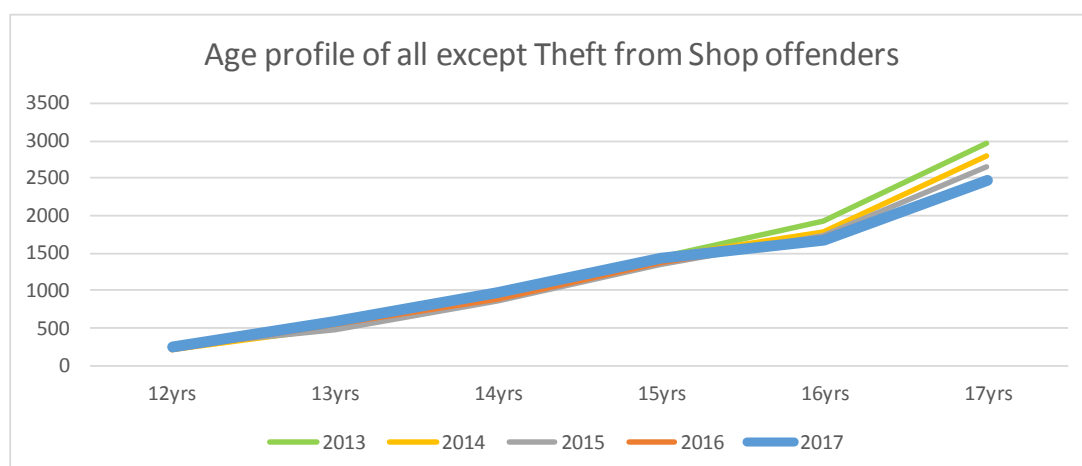


Figure 6: Age profile of all except Theft from Shop offenders.

Theft from Shop offenders are younger, with peak offending occurring at 14 to 15 years of age, with an average age of 15.2, while for all other offences, offenders peak at 17 years of age, with an average of 16.0 years of age.

Given that Theft from Shop is the most common youth offence, that it has been increasing in recent years and that it has characteristics unlike other offence types, it is not surprising that the overall characteristics of youth offending and recommendations are changing (increased numbers of referrals, increase in Informal Cautions).

The second most common offence involving children, Public Order offending, is unusual, as on two days of the year, St Patrick's Day and Halloween, incident numbers show significant spikes – see figure 7 below. Over the past 5 years, an average of 5.9% of the yearly total number of Public Order incidents, occurred on just these two days – all things being equal, the expectation would be for 1/365 or 0.3% of incidents to occur on any day of the year.

6.2% of all Drunkenness offences and 5.9% of all Purchase/Consume Alcohol by an under 18 year old incidents, over the past 5 years, occurred on these two dates also.

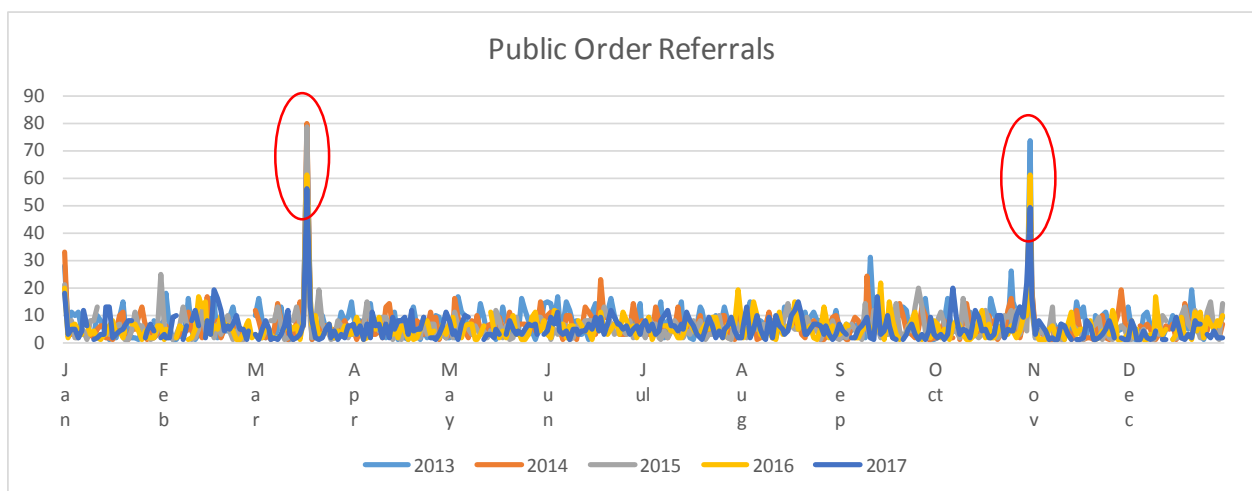


Figure 7: Public Order offences by day of year show two spikes in incident count, circled, on the 17th of March and the 31st of October.

Another significant date is the day that leaving certificate results are released - 6.2% of all Purchase/Consume Alcohol by an under 18-year-old and 4.4% of all Drunkenness offences, over the past 5 years, occurred on this day.

Female offending:

The number of young female offenders is increasing and was up 10% in 2017 to 2,746, while male offenders went up by 3% to 7,136 (based on when the incident occurred). 25% of offenders were female in 2003, in 2017 this proportion has increased to 28% - see figure 8 below.

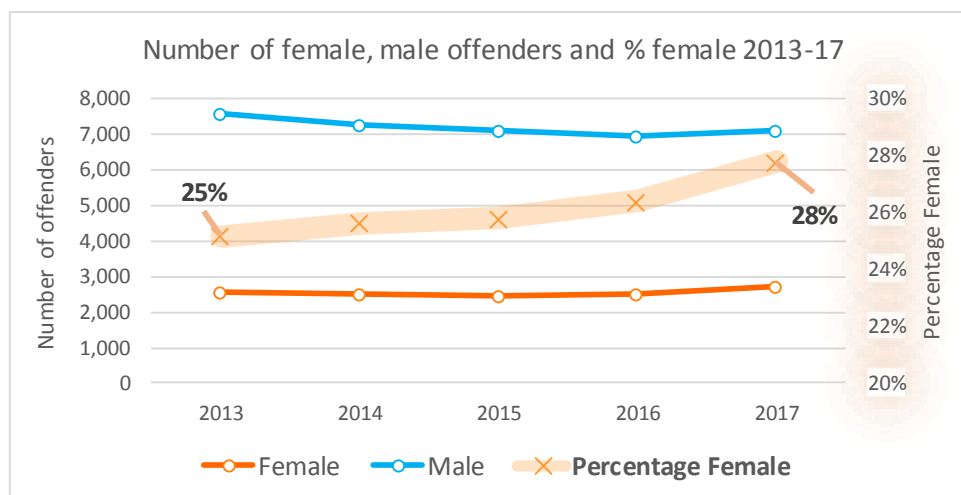


Figure 8: Monthly trend in the proportion of female offenders 2003 to 2017 based on when the offence occurs.

Female offenders tend to have different offending characteristics than males.

Almost half of all offences involving a female are of one offence type, Theft from Shop, whereas for males there is a greater variety in the crimes they are involved in, with 50% of male offending accounted for by 5 offence types – see table 3 below.

Female Offence Type (ranked 2017)	% of Female			Male Offence Type (ranked 2017)	% of Male			% of All
	Offences	offences	% of All		Offences	offences	All	
1. Theft from Shop	1,574	48%	50%	1. Public Order	1,583	13%	83%	
2. Public Order	318	10%	17%	2. Theft from Shop	1,578	13%	50%	
3. Assault Minor	274	8%	30%	3. Criminal Damage	1,106	9%	88%	
4. Drunkenness	224	7%	33%	4. Simple Possession	985	8%	94%	
5. Criminal Damage	150	5%	12%	5. Assault Minor	644	5%	70%	
6. Purchase/Consume Alcohol U18	96	3%	49%	6. General Road	543	5%	93%	
7. Theft (Other)	73	2%	19%	7. Drunkenness	464	4%	67%	
8. Trespass	67	2%	14%	8. Burglary	424	4%	94%	
9. Simple Possession	66	2%	6%	9. Trespass	415	4%	86%	
10. Fraud/Deception	58	2%	51%	10. Possess Offensive Weapon	344	3%	94%	
Total	3,266	100%	22%	Total	11,753	100%	78%	

Table 3: The top 10 offence types for females (left) and males (right) showing number of offences occurring in 2017, proportion of all female or male offences that a particular crime accounts for and the proportion of all incidents of the particular crime type. For example, Public Order is the second most common crime type amongst young female offenders, it accounts for 10% of female offences in 2017 and females are involved in 17% of Public Order incidents linked to children.

Overall, 22% of offences involved a young female offender in 2017, but close to half of all Theft from Shop, Purchase/Consume Alcohol by an under 18-year-old and Fraud/Deception offences were linked to a female. On the other hand, females have lower than average involvement in Public Order (17%), Criminal Damage (12%), Trespass (14%) and Simple Possession offences (6%) than males.

Female offenders are more likely to be one time offenders than males, 78% versus 61% - see table 4 below. Amongst the most prolific offenders, just 1.4% females are linked to 10 or more offences across the 5 years 2013 to 2017, as compared with 4.9% of males.

Offence total 2013-17	More than	
	% 1 Time	10 times
Female	78%	1.4%
Male	61%	4.9%

Table 4: Offending rates for female and male offenders showing the % offending once in the 5 years 2013 to 2017, and those linked to 10 or more offences over this period.

The median age of female offenders is at 15.5 years which is younger than males at 16.2 years of age. 38% of female offenders are under 15 years of age, as compared with 26% of male offenders. The age profile also differs significantly between males and females (figure 9 below), but given the high proportion of females linked to Theft from Shop offending (table 3) and the age profile for this offence type (figure 5), this is not unexpected.

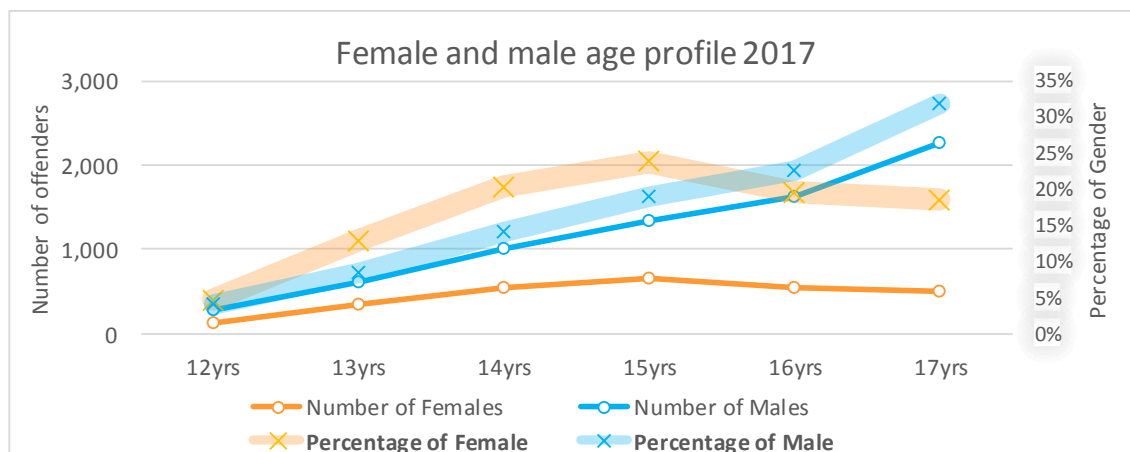


Figure 9: Age profile of female and male offenders for offences occurring in 2017.

Female offenders are also significantly more likely to receive an Informal Caution and less likely to be deemed UTCO than males – see table 5 below.

Row Labels	Female	Male
Informal Caution	73%	49%
Formal Caution	11%	23%
Unsuitable This Case Only	10%	15%
No Further Action	3%	5%
Others	3%	7%
Grand Total	100%	100%

* 2017 first 6 months of the year

Table 5: Breakdown of the proportions of female and male individuals by decisions made based on data from January to June 2017.

From the analysis above, female offenders can be characterised as being likely to be involved in Theft from Shop offending, be younger than male offenders, more likely to be one time offenders and are more likely to receive an Informal Caution than male offenders.

At the same time, the number of female offenders has been trending up in recent years. Based on this analysis, much of this increasing trend is driven by increases in the number of referral decisions linked to Theft from Shop.

Unsuitable This Case Only:

UTCO decisions have been trending down from 37.2% of all decisions in 2015 to 30.8% in the first half of 2017 – see figure 10 below.

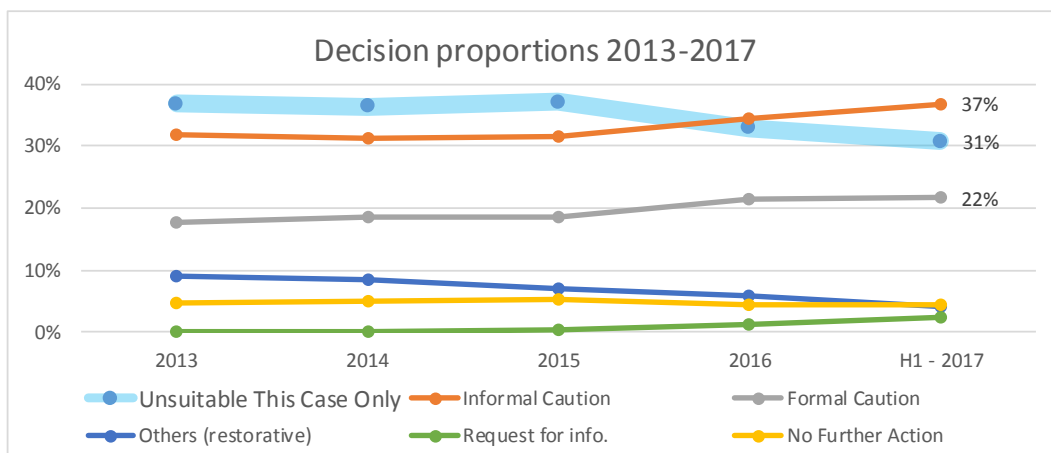


Figure 10: Decision trends by year offence occurred from 2013 to 2017.

In terms of the numbers of individuals receiving youth referral decisions, those receiving Informal Cautions have made up the greatest proportion of offenders at 60%, in the first half of 2017. This proportion has been increasing from 50.2% in 2014. The proportion of offenders receiving UTCO decisions on the other hand, has been decreasing from 16.8% in 2013 to 11.4%, in the first half of 2017 – see figure 11 below.

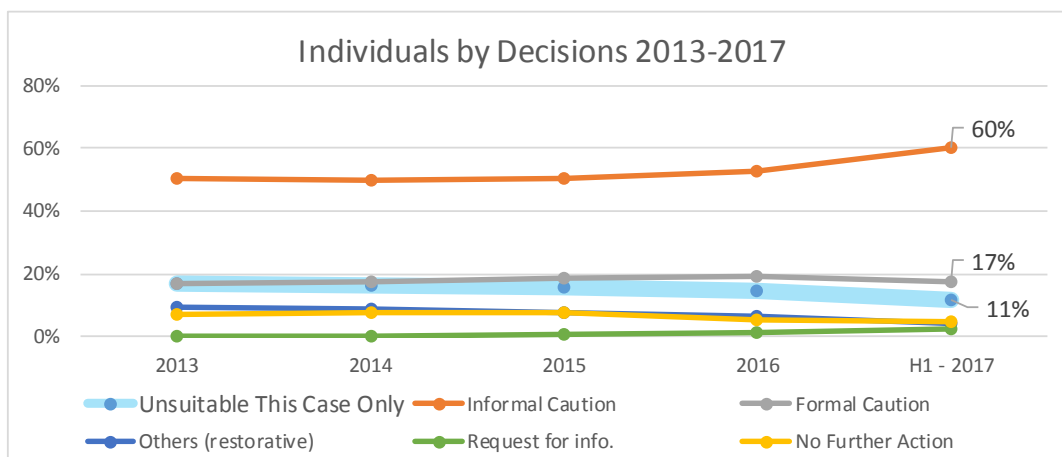


Figure 11: Decision trends by year offence occurred from 2013 to 2017.

Clearly, from figure 7 and 8 above, UTCO offenders generally have a higher offending rate than those receiving other decision types. However, this characteristic of UTCO offenders does not always hold. For example, 28% of UTCO offenders in 2017 offended only once between 2013 to 2017 – see table 6 below.

Offence Type	1 Time	2-5 Times	6-10 Times	More than 10 times	Total individuals
Theft from Shop	37%	13%	9%	40%	35%
Public Order Offences	9%	10%	17%	63%	24%
Criminal Damage (Not by Fire)	7%	13%	13%	66%	18%
Simple Possession	4%	7%	16%	73%	14%
Assault Minor	5%	19%	16%	60%	13%
Burglary	4%	10%	12%	74%	12%
Assault Causing Harm	13%	21%	32%	34%	9%
General Road Offences	5%	6%	18%	71%	9%
Theft (Other)	5%	8%	11%	76%	9%
Trespassing in Yard or Curtilage	8%	15%	12%	64%	8%
Overall	28%	18%	17%	37%	100%

Table 6: Breakdown of UTCO offenders in 2017 by offence type and offending rate. 28% of UTCO offenders have offended just once over the 5-year period 2013 to 2017, with 37% linked to more than 10 offences over this time period. Theft from Shop is the most common offence linked to UTCO offenders with 35% involved in this crime in 2017. 37% of the Theft from Shop offenders offended just once over the 5-year period 2013-2017, with 40% of offenders linked to more than 10 offences of any type over this time period.

The considerable proportion of one time UTCO offenders points to the fact that, there are reasons beyond being a prolific offender for a young person receiving a UTCO decision. The suspected offender not admitting to the offence, leaving the jurisdiction, not engaging with Gardaí or not being able to be contacted by Gardaí, are reasons for making the UTCO decision.

For example, 111 or 72% of one time offending UTCO individuals, linked to Theft from Shop, were language students from Spain, Italy and France who received this decision as they had ‘left the jurisdiction’.

Overall, 27% of UTCO decisions have ‘not accepted responsibility’ recorded in the Youth Referral – see table 7 below.

Offending Rate (2013-2017)	Not Accept	Accept
1 Time	14%	86%
2-5 Time	32%	68%
6-10 Times	29%	71%
More than 10 times	28%	72%
Overall	27%	73%

Table 7: Proportions of UTCO decisions where the young person does not admit the offence broken down by offending rate.

Trends in Serious and Impactful offences:

In this section, more serious offence groups are analysed looking at characteristics of youth crime and the young offenders involved.

There has been an increase of 34% in Drugs related offending in 2017, as compared with 2016, while Weapons/Explosives are up 27% and Homicide and related Offences are up 71%, though numbers are low with 24 recorded in 2017 - see figure 12 below. Other categories of serious offending have decreased in 2017.

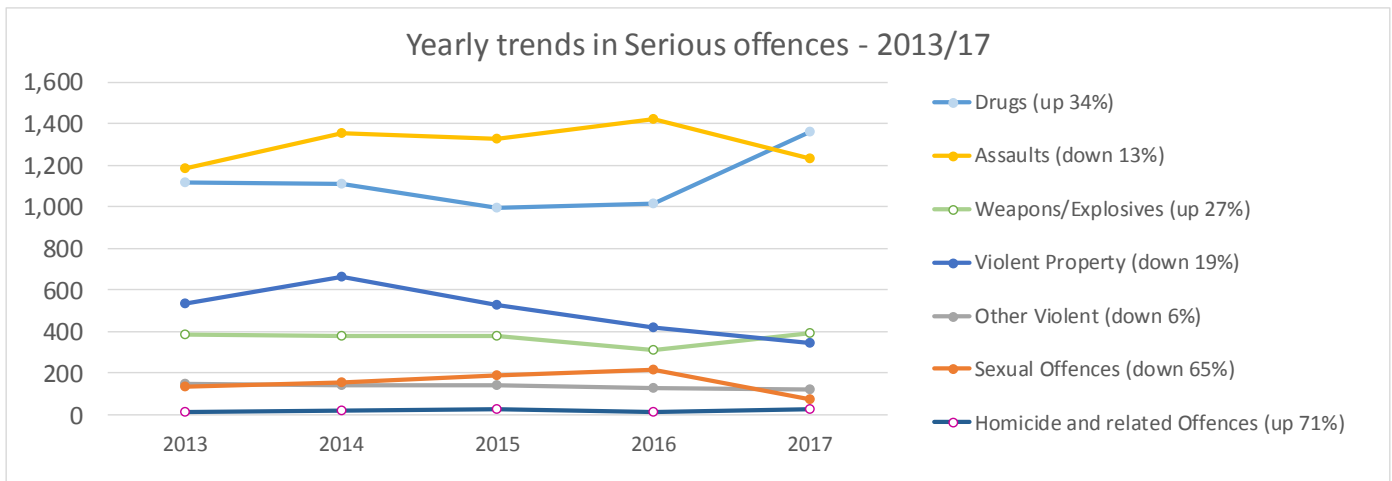


Figure 12: Trends in serious offending group from 2013 to 2017 with legend showing the % change from 2016 to 2017.

Homicide and related offences²:

Offence Group / Type	2017	% of Group	% Change
Homicide and related Offences	24	100%	+71%
Murder - Threat	21	88%	+62%
Murder - Attempt	1	4%	---
Manslaughter	1	4%	---
Murder	1	4%	+0%

Table 8: The number of offences which occurred in 2017, the percentage share of Homicide and related offences and % change as compared with 2016 is shown here.

Murder threats are the most common Homicide and related offence amongst under 18 year olds and though low in number, have increased substantially in 2017, up 62% - amongst offenders of any age this crime type increased by 26% in 2017. 12 of the 21 Murder threat incidents resulted in UTCO.

Two of the 22 offenders were female, seven were 15 years of age or younger.

In most cases, 58%, Murder Threats involved a male offender and male injured party, in 34% of incidents in 2017, a male offender targeted a female victim.

² Homicide offences are currently under review – these figures may be subject to change.

Incidents are not just confined to the cities and have happened right across the country – see table 9 below.

Murder - Threat	2017	Murder - Threat	2017
D.M.R. Western	3	Galway Div	1
Limerick	3	Laois/Offaly	1
Louth Div	3	Roscommon/Longford Div	1
D.M.R. Southern	2	Sligo/Leitrim	1
Clare	2	Tipperary	1
D.M.R. Northern	1	Westmeath Div	1
		Wexford Div	1

Table 9: Divisions where Murder threats occurred in 2017.

Sexual Offences:

Overall, sexual offences are down in 2017, as compared with 2016, but this crime group is characterised by delayed reporting with 79% of referrals created for this group in 2017, concerning offences which occurred in years prior to 2017 – see table 10 below.

Offence Group / Type	2017	% of Group	% Change	2016	Referral created in 2017, offence occurred prior to 2017	Average Age Suspected Offender	Average Age Injured Party
Sexual Offences	76	100%	-65%	216	79%	14.6yrs	13.2yrs
Sexual Assault	40	53%	-66%	119	82%	15.4yrs	12.9yrs
Child Pornography	17	22%	-35%	26	59%	14.2yrs	13.5yrs
Rape	14	18%	-64%	39	80%	16.0yrs	12.9yrs
Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2006	5	7%	-82%	28	86%	16.7yrs	15.0yrs

Table 10: The number of offences which occurred in 2017, the percentage share of Sexual offences and % change as compared with 2016 is shown in the blue columns. The proportion of offences which occurred prior to 2017, but the referral was created in 2017 is shown in the next column – for example, 82% of referrals created in 2017 for Sexual Assaults related to incidents which occurred prior to 2017. In green is the average age of suspected offenders and injured parties for the particular crime types.

Both offenders and injured parties involved in these offences tend to be young with, for example in 2017, the average age of Sexual Assault offenders 15.4 years of age and the injured parties 12.9 years of age.

Though one time offenders are in the majority, making up 54% of young people involved in sexual offending, a significant number are repeat offenders of some sort. 29 of the 63 (46%) offenders are linked to more than one offence of any type over the period 2013 to 2017. 7 of the 63 (11%) individual offenders identified in 2017, are linked to more than one sexual offence over this 5-year period.

6 of the 22 suspects linked to the Child Pornography offences were female and 7 of the 17 incidents have 'School Building' recorded as the location type where the incident occurred.

Assaults:

The number of Assaults has varied over time since 2013 with an average of 80 Minor Assaults, 25 Assaults Causing Harm and 4 Assault/obstruct/resist a Peace Officer offences per month since 2013 – see figure 13 below. There is no consistent pattern linking month or season to increases in incidents, but day of week and hour of the day do show some correlation which is discussed later in the section.

The significant drop in incident count at the end of 2017, reflects the time it can take for assault investigations to determine the suspected offender – for Assault Causing Harm it typically takes 30 days between the offence occurring and the referral creation, for Minor Assault this interval is typically 9 days. This decrease is reflected in the year on year comparison with 2016 – see table 11 below.

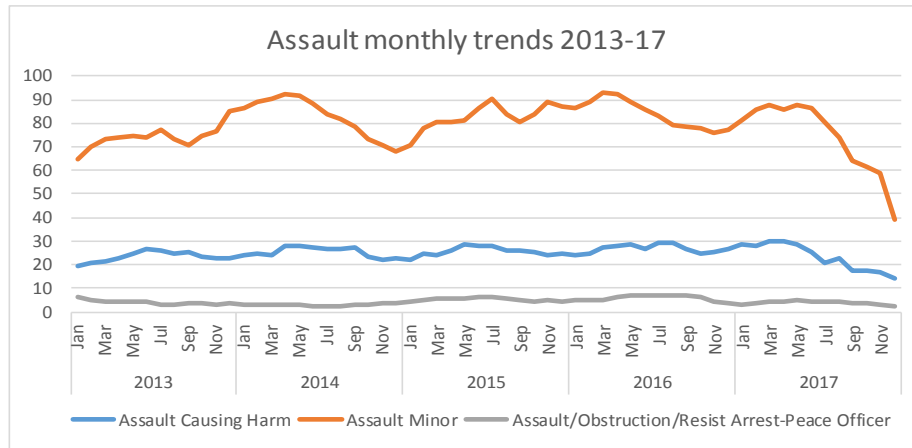


Figure 13: Monthly assault trends from 2013 to 2017.

Offence Group / Type	% of			2016	Offender - Injured Party		
	2017	Group	% Change		Male-Male	Male-Female	Female-Female
Assaults	1,234	100%	-13%	1,425			
Assault Minor	909	74%	-12%	1,031	50%	20%	26%
Assault Causing Harm	286	23%	-11%	323	75%	11%	10%
Assault/Obstruction/Resist Arrest-Peace Officer	39	3%	-45%	71			

Table 11: Breakdown of Assaults including proportion of incidents involving males and females.

Male offenders dominate Assault Causing Harm with 89% of offenders being male and 11% female. 29% of Minor Assault offenders and 24% of Assault/obstruct/resist a Peace Officer offenders are female.

Most, 75%, of Assault Causing Harm and half of all Assault Minor incidents involve a male offender and male injured party. While 1 in 10 Assaults Causing Harm occur between females, just over one-quarter of Minor Assaults involve a female offender and injured party (table 11 above).

The average age of Assault Causing Harm offenders in 2017 was 17.5 years of age and for Minor Assault the average age was younger at 15.4 years of age.

Offenders tend to target victims who are older than themselves with 78% of Assault Causing Harm involving a victim older than the offender and for Minor Assault, 76% of victims are older than the offender.

As stated above, there is no significant pattern as to when these offences occur in terms of time of the year, but certain times during the week tends to see higher levels of both Assault Minor and Assault Causing Harm – see figure 14 below.

Assault Minor

Hour	Weekday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		14.3%	13.3%	14.0%	13.7%	14.8%	15.6%	14.3%
0	4.0%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	1.2%
1	2.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.8%
2	2.6%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%	0.8%
3	1.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.6%
4	0.8%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
5	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
6	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
7	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
8	1.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%
9	2.5%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%
10	2.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
11	3.8%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%
12	3.9%	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%
13	5.8%	0.9%	1.3%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.4%	0.5%
14	5.3%	0.7%	0.8%	1.1%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
15	6.4%	1.2%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%
16	8.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%
17	7.1%	1.0%	0.9%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%	0.9%
18	7.2%	0.9%	1.1%	1.1%	0.8%	1.0%	1.3%	1.0%
19	7.2%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	1.3%	1.2%
20	7.4%	0.8%	0.9%	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	1.6%	1.1%
21	7.2%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	1.4%	1.5%	1.0%
22	5.9%	0.8%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	1.3%	1.0%	0.7%
23	5.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	1.2%	1.2%	0.8%

Assault Causing Harm

Hour	Weekday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		12.2%	11.1%	12.5%	11.0%	15.2%	18.6%	19.3%
0	6.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	1.6%	2.7%
1	5.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	1.7%	1.8%
2	7.1%	1.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	1.6%	3.0%
3	4.5%	0.6%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.7%	1.2%	1.0%
4	1.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.7%
5	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
6	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
7	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
8	1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%
9	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
10	1.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%
11	1.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%
12	1.9%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
13	3.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%
14	3.8%	0.6%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%
15	5.2%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	1.0%	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%
16	7.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.3%	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%
17	4.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%
18	6.5%	0.9%	0.8%	1.4%	0.5%	0.5%	1.4%	1.1%
19	6.1%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.2%
20	7.5%	0.8%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	1.5%	1.4%	0.9%
21	7.5%	0.5%	1.1%	0.8%	1.1%	2.1%	1.3%	0.6%
22	7.8%	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%	0.5%	2.2%	1.6%	0.8%
23	8.6%	0.7%	0.8%	1.0%	0.8%	2.2%	1.9%	1.2%

Figure 14: Temporal map of Assault Minor and Assault Causing Harm for incidents occurring from 2013 to 2017 – only times/days with significant percentage of incidents are readable, percentages are low otherwise.

Assault Causing Harm tends to be concentrated between 8pm and 3am at the weekend, suggesting a link with the night-time economy. Friday night to the early hours of Saturday, and Saturday night to the early hours of Sunday, is when 22% of Assault Causing Harm incidents have occurred over the past 5 years.

Assault Minor tends to occur earlier in the day and right across the week, with 44% of incidents occurring between 4pm and 10 pm each day.

8%, or 24 incidents of Assault Causing Harm and 3%, or 28 Assault Minor offences, were linked to a knife, either in the MO or incident narrative in 2017 – see figure 15 below.

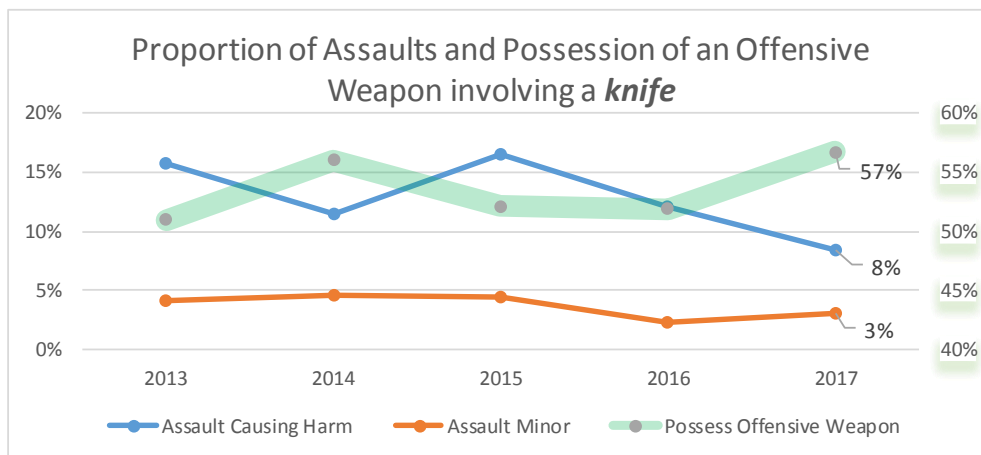


Figure 15: Proportion of Assault Causing Harm and Assault Minor where the use/presence of a knife is noted in the incident narrative or MO, plus the proportion of Possession of an Offensive Weapon where a knife is involved.

At the same time, Possession of an Offensive Weapon involving a knife accounts for 57% of this crime type linked to children in 2017.

Of note is that while the number of possession offences involving a knife increased in 2017, up 23% on the 2016 total, Assault Causing Harm offences linked to a knife dropped by 38%.

Violent and Impactful Property Crime:

In this section, violent property crime involving children is examined. Burglary is also looked at here as it is an offence which can flag increased offending risk amongst the young people involved in it, as evidenced by the analysis below and other work such as the Greentown study³.

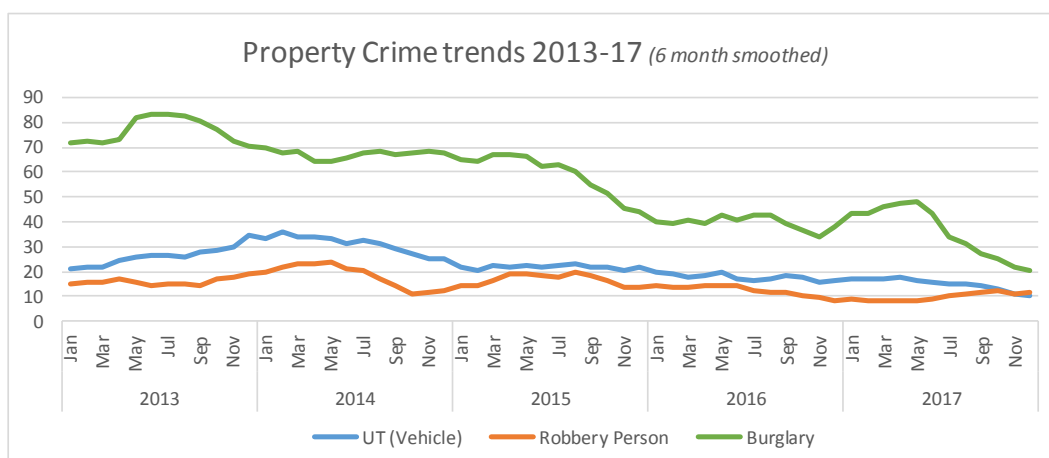


Figure 16: Monthly trends in the most common offences in this group of property crimes from 2013 to 2017.

There is often more than one offender involved in these property crime incidents. Burglary offences, on average, involved 2.0 offenders per incident in 2017 and an average of 2.1 individuals were linked to Robbery from the Person offences – see table below.

Also, children don't always offend with those of their own age. For the property crimes looked at here, 14% of co-offenders were 18 years of age or older. This is a significantly higher proportion than for all other offences where 7% of offences involved a child under 18 years of age co-offending with an older person.

Offence Group / Type	2017	% of Group	% Change	2016	Average number of offenders	Offender age category	
						U18	18yrs +
Violent and Impactful Property Crime	781	100%	-13%	902	1.9	1,240	195 (14%)
Burglary	438	56%	-9%	481	2.0	727	115 (14%)
UT (Vehicle)	187	24%	-14%	218	1.6	259	42 (14%)
Robbery Person	119	15%	-22%	153	2.1	203	28 (12%)
Robbery Establishment / Institution	17	2%	-37%	27	1.6	22	4 (15%)
Aggravated Burglary	13	2%	+8%	12	2.2	21	5 (19%)
Hijacking Vehicle	7	1%	-36%	11	1.3	8	1 (11%)

Table 12: Violent and Impactful property crime including the average number of offenders per incident and the proportion of adult offenders co-offending with youth offenders per crime type in 2017.

³ 'Lifting the lid on Greentown ' – 2016 www.dcy.ie

Males dominate each of these offence types with males accounting for 94% of Burglary, 95% of UT (Vehicle) and 94% of Robbery from the Person incidents.

High proportions of offenders are prolific with 38% of those involved in either a Burglary or UT (Vehicle) linked to 10 or more offences between 2013-2017, while just over half of Robbery from the Person offenders are in this high offending rate category – see table 13 below. These offending rates are significantly higher than the average of 6% linked to 10 or more offences for youth offenders overall.

Offence Type	1 Time	2-5 Times	6-10 Times	More than 10 times
Burglary	22%	24%	16%	38%
Unauthorised Taking (Vehicle)	17%	27%	18%	38%
Robbery from the Person	5%	29%	15%	51%
Robbery of an Establishment / Institution	10%	24%	24%	43%
Aggravated Burglary	12%	24%	18%	47%
Hijacking Unlawful Seizure of vehicle/aircraft/vessel	0%	0%	25%	75%
Average all Offenders 2017	58%	29%	6%	6%

Table 13: Offending rate of young offenders linked to violent and impactful property crime.

This group of offences also receives a much greater proportion of UTCO decisions than other young offenders. In 2017 overall 12% of individuals were deemed UTCO, for Burglary offenders 35% got a UTCO recommendation – see table 14 below.

Offence Type	Informal Caution	Formal Caution	UTCOTCO	No Further Action	Others (restorative)
Burglary	25%	30%	35%	2%	8%
Unauthorised Taking (Vehicle)	22%	34%	34%	1%	9%
Robbery from the Person	0%	23%	66%	6%	4%
Robbery of an Establishment / Institution	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%
Aggravated Burglary	0%	17%	83%	0%	0%
Hijacking Unlawful Seizure of vehicle/aircraft/vessel	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
Average all Offenders 2017	59%	17%	12%	4%	2%

Table 14: Proportion of young offenders identified in 2017 by decision type.

Drugs Offences:

Drugs offences amongst young people have significantly increased in 2017, with Simple Possession up 33% and Drugs Sale/Supply up 40% over 2016 figures – see table 15 below.

This increase is partially driven by an increase in Drugs Searches in 2017 of individuals under 18 years of age, up 8% on 2016 (12% of Drugs Searches in 2017 involved under 18 year olds). Also, there was an increase from 6% to 8% in the proportion of Simple Possession Offences to Drugs Searches between 2016 and 2017. Of note is that the overall proportion of Simple Possession incidents to Drugs Searches of individuals of any age in 2017, was 18% - searches seem more than half as likely to result in a possession offence when a young person is the target of the search, than drug searches in general.

Offence Group / Type	2017	% of Group	% Change	2016	Average Age
Drugs	1,361	100%	+34%	1,013	16.8yrs
Simple Possession	1,048	77%	+33%	786	16.8yrs
Drugs Sale/Supply	259	19%	+40%	185	16.7yrs
Obstruction under Drugs Act	53	4%	+39%	38	16.6yrs
Cultivate or Manufacture of Drugs	1	0%	-75%	4	17.9yrs
Drug Searches (U18)	13,593	12%	+8%	12,597	16.0yrs

Table 15: A breakdown of Drugs offences including the average age of young people involved is shown here.

The average age of offenders in this group is close to 17 years of age and the vast majority of offenders are male – in 2017, 94% of Simple Possession and 98% of Sale/Supply offences were male.

By far the most common Simple Possession offences drug is Cannabis Herb which made up 78% of incidents in 2017, with Cocaine the second most common accounting for 6%. Cannabis Herb is also the most frequent drug linked to Drug Sale/Supply offences, making up 47% of incidents, with Cocaine the second most common drug type, 13% of incidents in 2017.

Drug Type	Drugs Sale/Supply	Drug Type	Simple Possession
Cannabis Herb	47%	Cannabis Herb	78%
Cocaine	13%	Cannabis Resin	5%
Tablets	11%	Cocaine	6%
Heroin (Diamorphine)	9%	Ecstasy	4%
Crack Cocaine	4%	Tablets	2%

Table 16: Types of Drugs linked to offences involving under 18 year olds in 2017.

Outcomes based on 1st offence:

There has been a total of 38,141 children, for whom a youth referral has been created, in the period 2013 to 2016, with 75% of those referred accepted onto the diversion programme based on their first referral. Looking at the 'lifetime offending rate' (the total number of offences committed between 2013 and 2017) shows that almost two-thirds of those receiving an Informal or Formal Caution as their first decision do not reoffend – see table 17 below.

However, there is a difference between Informal and Formal Cautions with a greater proportion of those receiving an Informal Caution not reoffending, 66%, than those formally cautioned, 49%.

Lifetime Offending Rate	Overall	Informal Caution	Formal Caution	Informal & Formal	Unsuitable This Case Only
1 Time	62%	66%	49%	64%	44%
2-5 Times	28%	27%	34%	28%	32%
6-10 Times	5%	4%	9%	5%	11%
More than 10 times	5%	3%	8%	4%	14%

Table 17: Offending rate over the period 2013 to 2017 by first decision type received by the young person – 'Formal & Informal' are those accepted on to the Diversion Programme.

Just 3% of those with an Informal Caution as their first referral went on to commit 10 or more offences, as compared with 8% with a Formal Caution and 14% with a UTCO as their first referral.

The most common offence linked to one time offenders who were accepted into the Diversion Programme, between 2013 to 2017, is Theft from Shop which made up 30% of offences linked to this one time offending cohort – see table 18 below. These one time offenders make up a very high proportion, 76%, of offenders linked to a Theft from Shop offence over this period.

Offence Type	1 Time 2013-2017	% of 1 Time offenders	% of All Offenders
Theft from Shop	5,777	30%	72%
Public Order Offences	2,825	14%	65%
Trespassing in Yard or Curtilage	1,224	6%	61%
Criminal Damage (Not by Fire)	1,079	6%	56%
Drunkenness Offences	1,515	8%	81%

Table 18: Top 5 offences involving one-time offenders are shown here with the number of individuals

One-third of individuals linked to Public Order offences and half of those linked to Drunkenness offences are one time offenders who have received either an Informal or Formal Caution.

Certain offences, when committed as the first offence, can suggest high subsequent offending rates - for example, 17% of those who are linked to Robbery from the Person as their first offence, go on to commit 10 or more offences while under 18 years of age – see table 19 below.

Offence Type	% More than 10 times	Offence Type	% More than 10 times
Robbery from Person	17%	Rape of a Female	11%
Theft from M.P.V.	17%	UT (Pedal Cycle)	11%
Theft from Person	15%	Burglary	10%
Interfere Mechanism MPV	14%	UT (Vehicle)	10%
Possess Article (Burglary/Theft)	13%	Handle/Possess Stolen Property	8%

Table 19: Most common offences amongst offenders with more than 10 offences occurring between 2013 and 2017.

Youth population trends:

The population of 12 to 17 year olds is up 5% from 2013 to 2017, but the number of children referred decreased by 13% over this period. It is expected that the population aged 12 to 17 years of age will have increased by 9% over the next 5 years to 2022. However, whether this increase in the numbers of young people will also lead to an increase in the numbers committing crime is not clear.

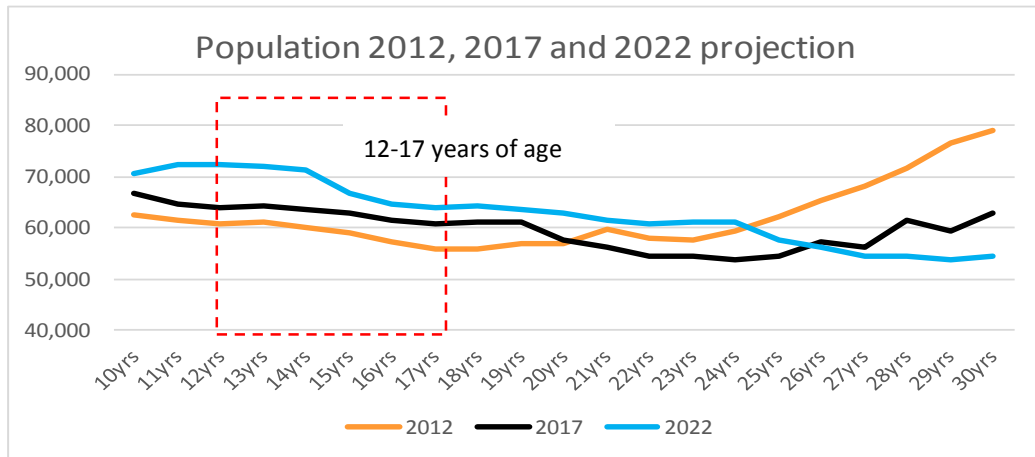
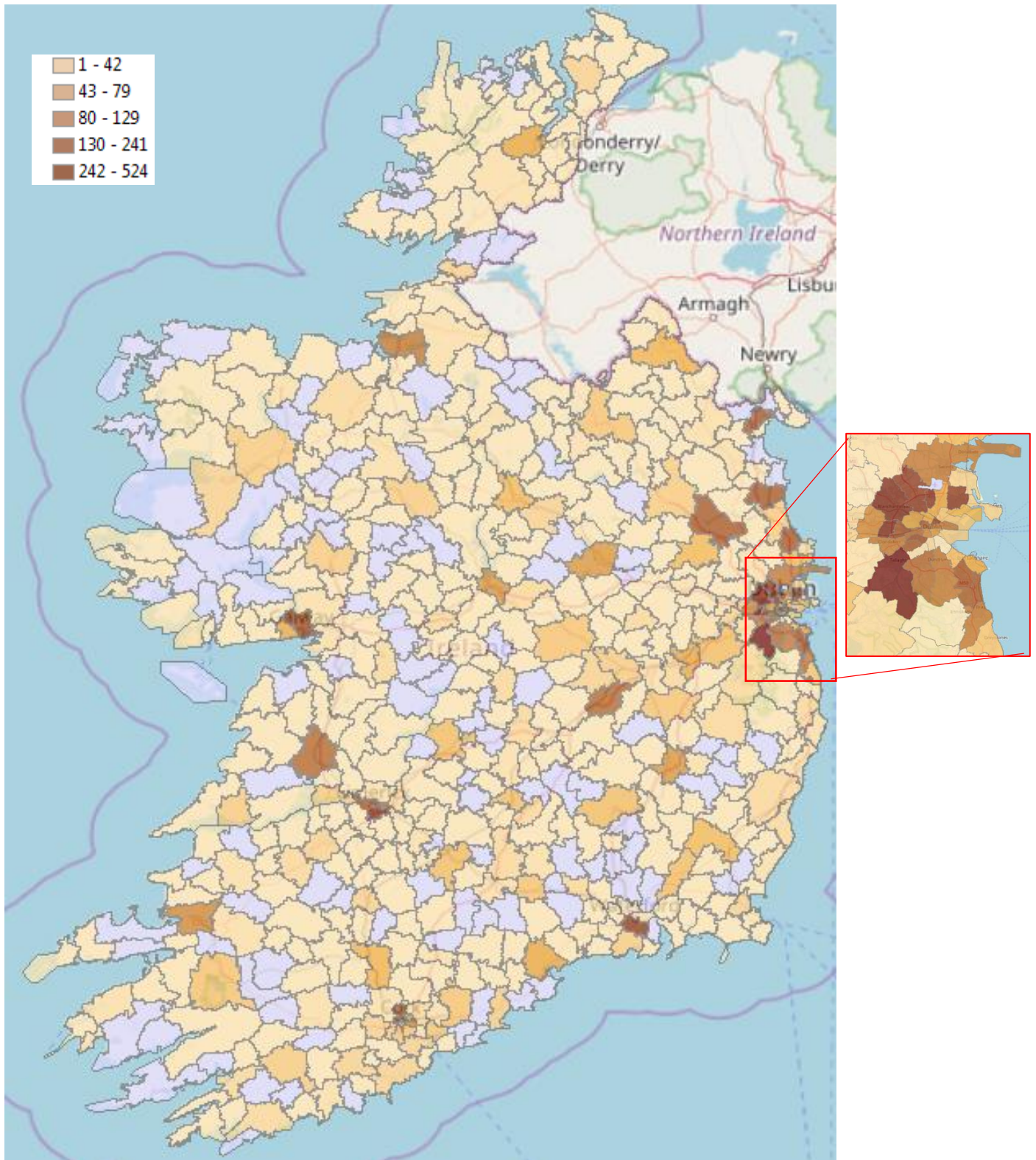


Figure 17: Age profile from 10 to 30 years of age for 2012, 2017 and 2022 based on CSO Census data.

Appendix 1: UTCO referrals

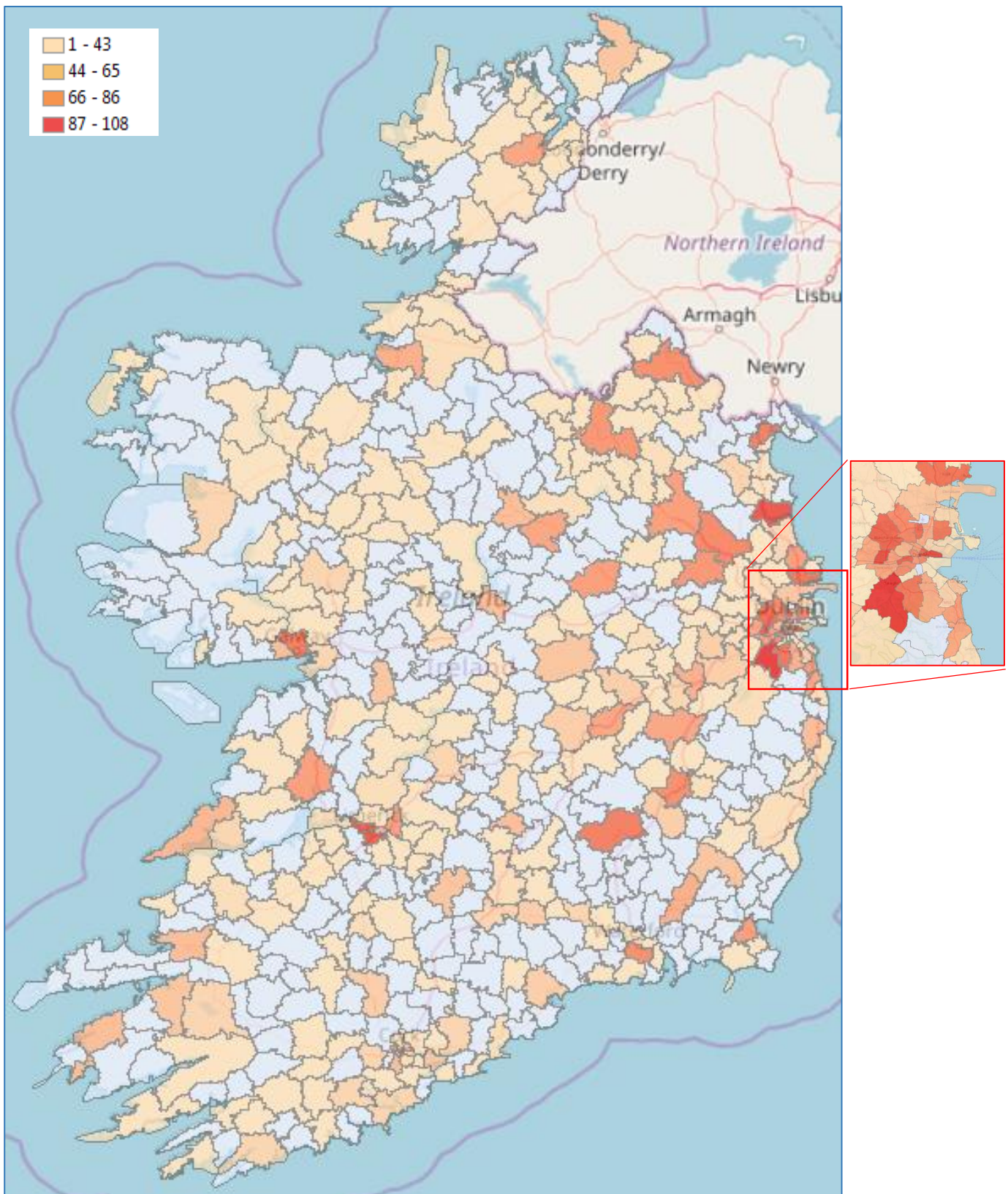


Map of UTCO individuals for the 5 years 2013-2017.

Region	Division	District	Station	5 year total	2017	2016-2017	
						% Change	2016
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Tallaght	Tallaght	524	90	-25%	120
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Lucan	Ronanstown	241	44	-2%	45
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Blanchardstown	Blanchardstown	240	46	-25%	61
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Blanchardstown	Finglas	195	26	-26%	35
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Ballymun	Ballymun	179	28	8%	26
Southern Region	Cork City	Gurrabraher	Gurrabraher	177	19	-39%	31
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Coolock	Coolock	175	27	-39%	44
Southern Region	Limerick	Roxboro Road	Roxboro Road	156	27	23%	22
South Eastern Region	Waterford Div	Waterford	Waterford	150	26	-19%	32
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Crumlin	Sundrive Road	129	23	5%	22
Dublin Region	D.M.R. North Central	Fitzgibbon Street	Fitzgibbon Street	114	15	-21%	19
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Clondalkin	Ballyfermot	114	14	-39%	23
Western Region	Galway Div	Gaillimh	Gaillimh	110	25	47%	17
Northern Region	Louth Div	Dundalk	Dundalk	106	18	0%	18
Southern Region	Limerick	Henry Street	Mayorstone Park	104	24	41%	17
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Eastern	Dun Laoghaire	Shankill	102	15	-32%	22
Eastern Region	Meath Div	Navan	Navan	100	18	29%	14
Northern Region	Louth Div	Drogheda	Drogheda	100	18	-31%	26
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Balbriggan	Balbriggan	98	21	-22%	27
Dublin Region	D.M.R. North Central	Bridewell Dublin	Bridewell Dublin	97	14	-7%	15
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Crumlin	Crumlin	94	13	-32%	19
Southern Region	Cork City	Mayfield	Watercourse Road	94	11	-27%	15
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Eastern	Dun Laoghaire	Cabinteely	93	19	90%	10
Western Region	Clare	Ennis	Ennis	91	13	-48%	25
Southern Region	Limerick	Henry Street	Henry Street	88	6	-14%	7
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Tallaght	Rathfarnham	87	16	-27%	22
Dublin Region	D.M.R. South Central	Kevin Street	Kilmainham	86	13	-7%	14
Eastern Region	Laois/Offaly	Portlaoise	Portlaoise	83	13	-7%	14
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Clondalkin	Clondalkin	79	12	-33%	18
Dublin Region	D.M.R. North Central	Store Street	Store Street	78	24	140%	10
Eastern Region	Wicklow Div	Bray	Bray	78	11	-8%	12
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Eastern	Blackrock Co Dublin	Dundrum	76	15	-17%	18
Northern Region	Sligo/Leitrim	Sligo	Sligo	76	8	-11%	9
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Coolock	Swords	75	13	18%	11
Dublin Region	D.M.R. South Central	Kevin Street	Kevin Street	71	9	-10%	10
Southern Region	Kerry	Tralee	Tralee	69	6	-57%	14
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Lucan	Lucan	66	14	-7%	15
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Blanchardstown	Cabra	64	10	-38%	16
Eastern Region	Westmeath Div	Mullingar	Mullingar	63	16	33%	12
Southern Region	Cork City	Anglesea Street	Blackrock Co Cork	62	11	57%	7
South Eastern Region	Kilkenny/Carlow	Carlow	Carlow	61	7	-42%	12
Dublin Region	D.M.R. South Central	Pearse Street	Pearse Street	59	14	8%	13
Eastern Region	Westmeath Div	Athlone	Athlone	58	8	-20%	10
South Eastern Region	Waterford Div	Dungarvan	Dungarvan	56	3	-40%	5
Northern Region	Donegal	Letterkenny	Letterkenny	55	8	60%	5
Southern Region	Cork City	Mayfield	Mayfield	54	8	-43%	14
Western Region	Galway Div	Salthill Bothar Na Tra	Salthill Bothar Na Tra	54	4	-73%	15
Dublin Region	D.M.R. North Central	Fitzgibbon Street	Mountjoy	53	5	-50%	10
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Eastern	Dun Laoghaire	Dun Laoghaire	52	5	67%	3
Eastern Region	Kildare Div	Kildare	Newbridge	52	13	0%	13
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Ballymun	Santry	49	13	63%	8
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Raheny	Raheny	43	6	-14%	7
Northern Region	Cavan/Monaghan	Monaghan	Monaghan	42	16	60%	10
Southern Region	Cork North	Mallow	Mallow	41	6	-33%	9

UTCO Sub-Districts with more than 40 UTCO decisions over the past 5 years.

Appendix 2: Impactful Offences



Total number of Impact offences 2013-2017 (Burglary, Assault Causing Harm, Drug Sale/Supply, Robbery from the Person and Robbery from an Establishment/Institution).

Region	Division	District	Station	Burglary		Assault Causing Harm		Possession of Drugs for Sale or supply		Robbery from the Person		Robbery of an Establishment / Institution		5 Year total
				2017	% change	2017	% change	2017	% change	2017	% change	2017	% change	
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Tallaght	Tallaght	19	-30%	10	11%	12	-45%	2	-60%	0	-100%	486
Northern Region	Louth Div	Drogheda	Drogheda	17	0%	0	-100%	5	---	3	0%	1	-67%	163
South Eastern Region	Waterford Div	Waterford	Waterford	8	100%	3	-25%	1	---	2	-33%	0	---	152
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Lucan	Ronanstown	4	-78%	1	-92%	5	0%	3	-63%	0	-100%	151
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Ballymun	Ballymun	1	0%	1	-80%	17	143%	2	0%	1	---	130
Northern Region	Louth Div	Dundalk	Dundalk	4	-56%	5	-17%	1	-80%	2	0%	0	---	130
Southern Region	Limerick	Roxboro Road	Roxboro Road	10	67%	1	-91%	3	-40%	4	-20%	0	---	121
Eastern Region	Westmeath Div	Athlone	Athlone	0	-100%	0	-100%	3	---	0	---	0	-100%	112
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Blanchardstown	Blanchardstown	3	-63%	7	0%	4	300%	8	300%	0	---	108
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Coolock	Coolock	4	33%	3	-25%	7	-36%	1	0%	0	---	105
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Blanchardstown	Finglas	1	-75%	3	-25%	6	100%	3	200%	1	-50%	105
Southern Region	Cork City	Gurrabraher	Gurrabraher	6	200%	2	-78%	1	---	0	-100%	0	---	97
Southern Region	Kerry	Tralee	Tralee	1	-67%	2	100%	2	0%	0	-100%	0	---	96
Dublin Region	D.M.R. North Central	Store Street	Store Street	3	-40%	3	-50%	15	150%	4	-67%	0	---	94
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Crumlin	Crumlin	0	-100%	2	-50%	1	-83%	0	---	3	-63%	88
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Tallaght	Rathfarnham	7	133%	7	40%	9	800%	2	100%	0	---	88
Eastern Region	Meath Div	Navan	Navan	9	800%	6	50%	0	-100%	1	-75%	1	---	87
Dublin Region	D.M.R. South Central	Kevin Street	Kilmainham	5	-38%	1	---	7	17%	4	-20%	1	0%	86
Southern Region	Limerick	Henry Street	Mayorstone Park	6	100%	5	-62%	8	60%	3	---	0	---	79
Western Region	Clare	Ennis	Ennis	3	-57%	6	20%	0	---	0	---	0	---	77
Western Region	Galway Div	Gaillimh	Gaillimh	3	-40%	5	67%	5	67%	7	133%	0	---	77
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Eastern	Dun Laoghaire	Shankill	4	-33%	2	0%	1	---	4	300%	0	---	76
Dublin Region	D.M.R. North Central	Fitzgibbon Street	Fitzgibbon Street	3	-40%	2	0%	17	325%	0	-100%	0	---	71
Southern Region	Limerick	Henry Street	Henry Street	1	-67%	1	-50%	0	-100%	6	---	0	---	70
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Clondalkin	Clondalkin	2	-50%	0	-100%	4	100%	1	-67%	0	-100%	69
Eastern Region	Laos/Offaly	Portlaoise	Portlaoise	1	-90%	1	-67%	0	-100%	1	0%	0	-100%	67
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Eastern	Dun Laoghaire	Dun Laoghaire	3	-25%	0	---	2	100%	0	---	0	---	65
Eastern Region	Wicklow Div	Bray	Bray	2	-67%	2	-60%	1	-50%	0	-100%	0	---	65
South Eastern Region	Kilkenny/Carlow	Carlow	Carlow	3	-73%	4	100%	3	200%	0	---	0	-100%	64
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Clondalkin	Ballyfermot	3	-63%	0	-100%	4	33%	0	-100%	0	---	63
Dublin Region	D.M.R. South Central	Kevin Street	Kevin Street	4	-20%	0	-100%	3	50%	3	0%	0	---	62
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Southern	Crumlin	Sundrive Road	3	-57%	2	-33%	8	---	1	0%	0	---	61
Northern Region	Donegal	Letterkenny	Letterkenny	4	-33%	4	300%	2	100%	0	-100%	0	---	61
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Balbriggan	Balbriggan	1	0%	7	600%	0	---	5	-17%	0	---	56
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Balbriggan	Lusk	3	-88%	2	0%	1	0%	0	-100%	1	0%	56
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Western	Lucan	Lucan	2	---	1	-90%	2	---	0	-100%	1	---	56
Eastern Region	Westmeath Div	Mullingar	Mullingar	2	---	8	700%	1	-75%	3	---	0	-100%	56
Northern Region	Cavan/Monaghan	Cavan	Cavan	13	---	6	100%	0	---	0	---	0	---	55
Western Region	Galway Div	Salthill Bothar Na	Salthill Bothar Na	2	0%	2	100%	2	---	2	1	0	---	55
Dublin Region	D.M.R. South Central	Pearse Street	Pearse Street	1	0%	0	-100%	8	14%	0	-1	0	---	51
Dublin Region	D.M.R. Northern	Ballymun	Santry	1	0%	4	0%	1	---	3	0.5	1	---	50

Sub-Districts with 50 or more Impactful offences over the past 5 years, 2013 to 2017.