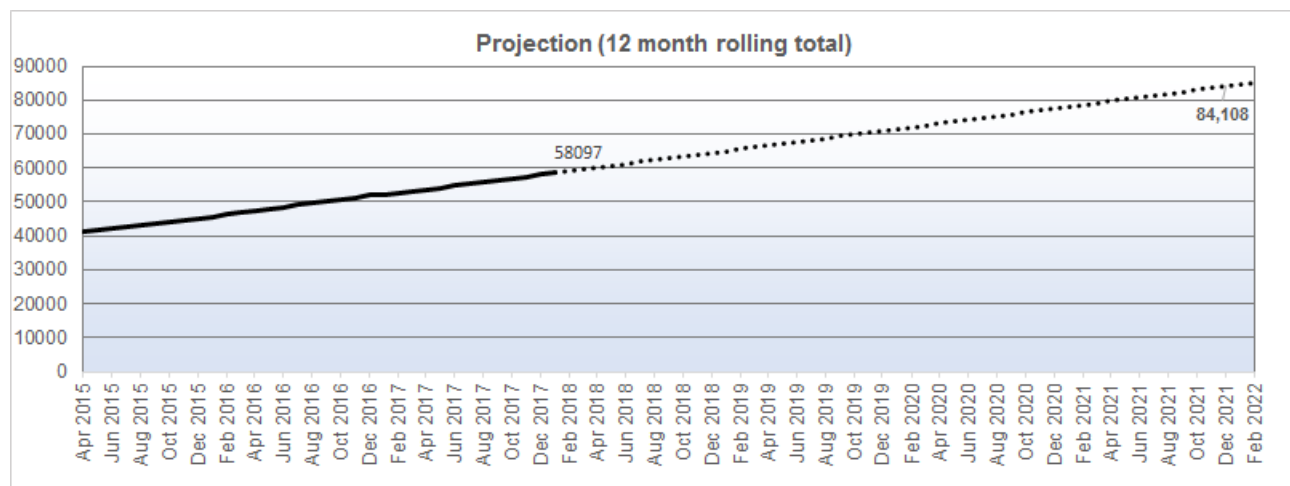


Domestic Abuse

Since 2013 there has been a 51% increase in Domestic Abuse incidents, driven largely by improved crime recording, increased victim confidence in reporting incidents, reporting by third parties and better identification of vulnerability and risk by Officers.



Current Demand

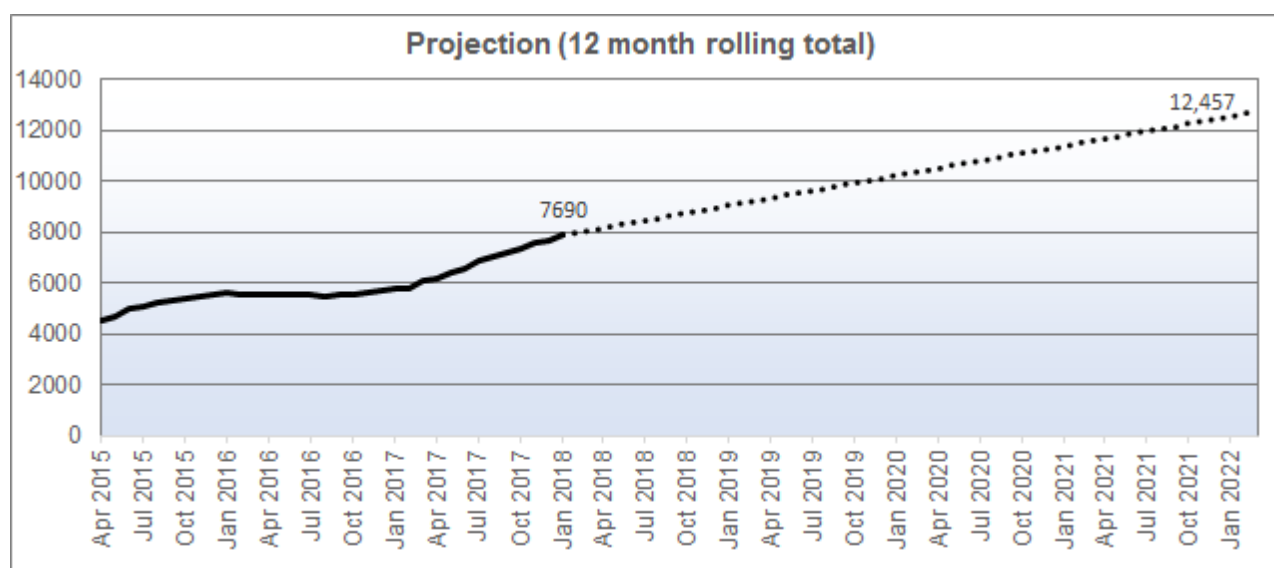
- Over the 12 months (Apr – Dec 2018 vs Apr – Dec 2017), domestic abuse has increased by 11.3% from 44,459 incidents to 49,475. The largest increase has been in **violence against the person**, which increased by 6.1% (to 26,596 offences) and accounts for 53.8% of domestic abuse incidents (the largest category of domestic abuse). This increase, is in line with an increasing trend around violent crime in general over the last two years.
- Non-crime verbal disputes**, account for the second largest category of domestic abuse incidents (24.6%) but are on a reducing trend as the Force is increasingly reporting incidents as an actual crime in line with CDI. This shift is a key contributor to an increase in violence without injury.
- In terms of risk, whilst most domestic abuse incidents are graded as medium or standard risk, the **level of high** now accounts for 8.7% of incidents.
- The **repeat rate for both victims and suspects is an increasing trend** with 47.8% of all incidents involving a repeat victim in 2018, compared to 35.4% in 2015. Similarly the proportion of domestic abuse incidents involving repeat suspects has increased to 46.5%, compared to 21.4% in 2015. Repeat rates will undoubtedly have been impacted by improved recording practices which have increased the likelihood of the Force recording a domestic incident and subsequently recording a domestic crime. As a consequence of this, the volume of MARAC referrals has also increased by 28% (to 3,395 in 2018).
- As volume of domestic abuse has increased so too have arrests. However, despite a positive arrest policy the **proportion of domestic incidents which involve an arrest** is on a reducing trend and now stands at 27.0%. This then has a potential impact on repeat demand and also leads to more cases of 'Complainant declines to prosecute' and more Outcome 16s (suspect known but victim withdrew). In 2018 this accounted for the most outcomes for domestic abuse (53.5%). In part the decline can be explained by the unsuitability of making an arrest for a S4 offence, which would previously been recorded as a verbal dispute and not crime. However, the sheer volume of demand could be another reason. It is critical however, that in terms of preventing repeat demand a robust and positive approach is taken around domestic abuse.
- In terms of **performance**, the ONS place West Yorkshire 4th in the MSG for domestic abuse with 23 incidents per 1000 population as at March 2018 but 3rd highest nationally in relation to domestic

crimes at 16 crimes per 1000 population. ONS shows that in the year ending March 2018 WYP had the second highest number of cases discussed at **MARAC** per 10,000 adult females and the highest number of cases discussed that were repeat cases.

- Domestic abuse demand is high volume, risk levels are increasing as is the level of repeat victimisation and offending. Our focus on this area of demand and our appetite to maximise available powers has led to the volume of **Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs)** increasing from 67 in 2016/17 to 302 in 2018).

Sexual Offences

Since 2013 there has been a 173% increase in sexual offences to 8,557 offences recorded in 2018. This is primarily due to compliance with Crime Data Integrity, more effective processing of data on Force systems and increased confidence of victims to report both current and non-recent offences.



Current Demand

- West Yorkshire has the **second highest rate** for all Sexual offences in the MSG, with 2.34 offences per 1000 population compared with an MSG average of 1.96. The Force also has the **highest rate** for rape offences in the MSG at 1.37 per 1000 population compared to an MSG average of 1.14.
- As the number of sexual offences has increased, so too has the **repeat victimisation rate**, increasing from 13.3% in 2016 to 17% in 2018.
- Between 2017 and 2018 **serious sexual offences** increased by 660 (10.6%). With the largest increases being seen in offence categories of 'rape of a female' and 'sexual assault of a female'
- The **outcome rate** for all sexual offences in 2017 (including charge/summons, cautions, PNDs and community resolution) is the 3rd lowest in the MSG at 5.46%. The outcome rate for rape offences is the 2nd lowest in the MSG at 2.42%, (MSG average is 4.98%). The outcome rates in West Yorkshire have been particularly impacted by the significant increases in crimes being recorded as highlighted above.

Honour Based Abuse, Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage

Whilst the number of incidents of Honour Based Abuse (HBA), Forced Marriage (FM) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) have increased over the last few years, we acknowledge that these are largely hidden crimes and consequently under reported and current demand therefore is unlikely to reflect the scale of the

problem. Intelligence submissions across all three areas are low. However, we predict that as with other areas of vulnerability, as we improve our understanding in these areas and improve the confidence of victims to report these crimes, then demand in these areas will increase. It is important to note that HBA is intrinsically linked to FM. The majority of HBA intelligence relates to abuse following an arranged marriage or abuse following the discovery of a relationship that is not approved by the victim's family.

Current Demand

- **Honour Based Abuse (HBA)** has increased by 15.3% from 157 crimes in 2017 to 181 in 2018. Just under one third of incidents occur in Bradford which has a high Asian population (with 92% of victims being Asian). 86 % of victims are female and 33% under 18. Suspects tend to be partners or family members related to the victim (parents, siblings, uncles etc.).
- **Forced Marriage (FM)** crimes and incidents have increased by 20.3% from 286 crimes in 2017 to 344 in 2018. Non-crimes remain stable and this total includes 61 Forced Marriage Protection orders and 52 referrals.
- **FGM** remain a hidden crime with relatively few offences being recorded. 33 offences were recorded in 2017 and this level of reporting has remained relatively stable with 37 offences being reported in 2018.