

# Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Strategic Assessment 2024

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# 1. Executive Summary



## Geographic

Efforts should be focused on the following 3 wards:

- Market
- Abbey
- Petersfield

## Types of Crime

3 categories to aid prioritisation:

- **Category #1 - Requires a high level of attention:** High volume of offences
  - Shoplifting
  - Violence against the person (VAP)
- **Category #2 - Have concerning counts:** Steady year-on-year increases
  - Burglary
  - Deliberate fires
- **Category #3 - Should be monitored:** Some fluctuations in volume recently
  - Hate crime
  - Domestic abuse

## 2. Geographic

**Market** - Market has the highest count for all analysed offence types excluding domestic abuse (incidents and crimes) and deliberate fires for year ending (YE) Sept 2024.

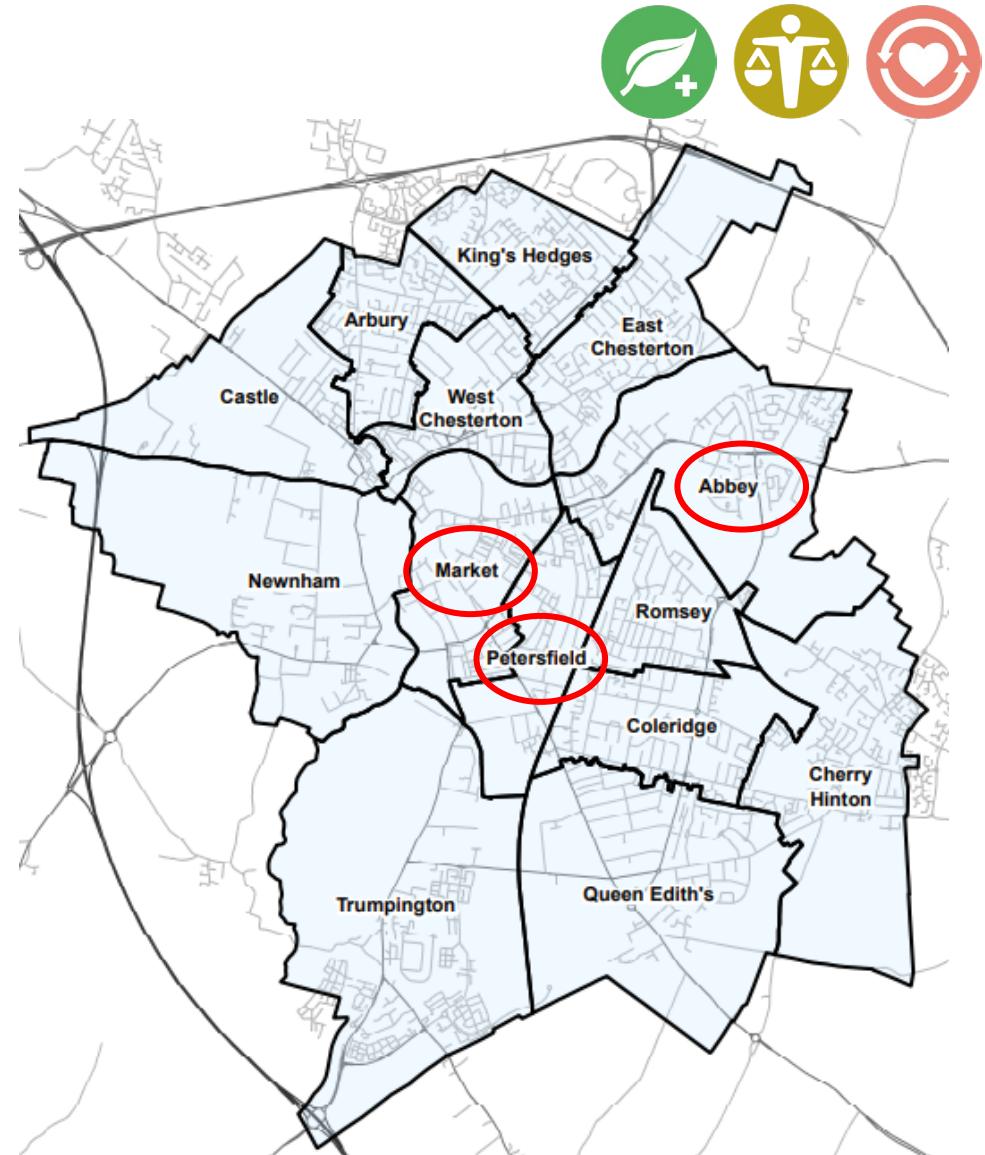
- acquisitive crime (2089), **shoplifting (805)**, public order (377), **violence against the person (VAP) (909)**, sexual offences (83), drug offences (104), anti-social behaviour (ASB) (474), **hate crime (118)**.

**Abbey** – Abbey ranked in the top 4 highest ward counts in all analysed offence types for YE Sept 2024.

- acquisitive crime (629 – rank 4), **shoplifting (241 – rank 4)**, **domestic abuse (308 – rank 1)**, public order (131 – rank 2), **VAP (486 – rank 2)**, sexual offences (32 – rank 4), drug offences (38 – rank 2), ASB (236 – rank 2), **hate crime (41 – rank 3)**, **deliberate fires (8 – rank 1)**.

**Petersfield** – Petersfield does not have the highest volume of crime, but there were notable increases

- shoplifting**: between YE Sept 2023 and YE Sept 2024 (+155%, 131 offences). This is the second largest percentage increase and volume increase in that period in Cambridge City.
- VAP**: between YE Sept 2023 and YE Sept 2024 (+28%, +81 offences); between YE Sept 2021 and YE Sept 2024 (+14%, +45 offences).
- sexual offences: Second highest count of offences in YE Sept 2024 (45 offences). 55% increase compared to the YE Sept 2023 (+16 offences).
- hate crime**: second highest rate per 1,000 in Cambridge City (4.3).

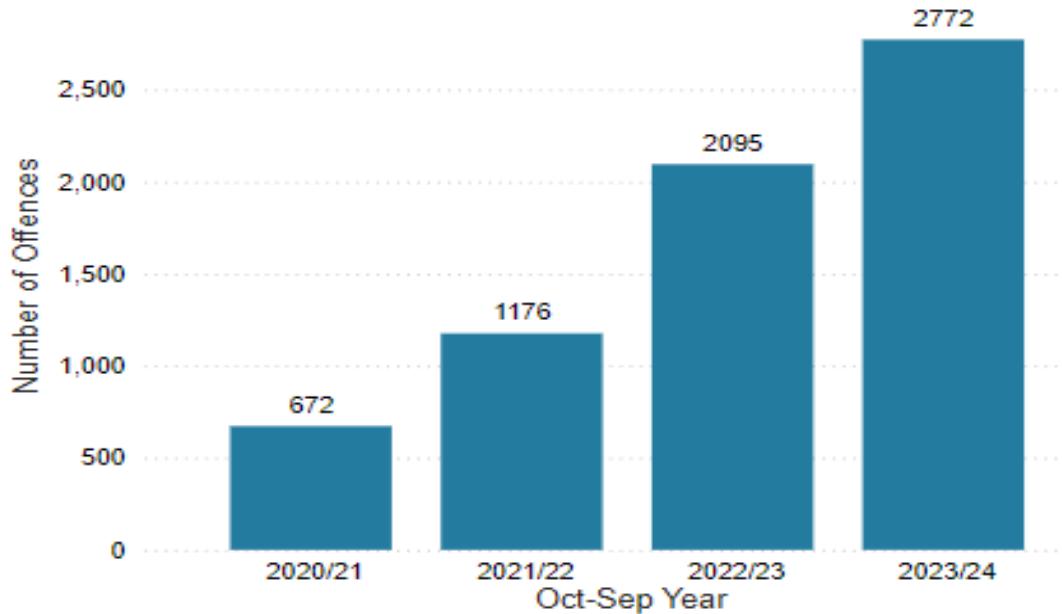


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### 3. Types of Crime – Category #1 - Shoplifting



Figure 5: Annual trend in shoplifting offences in Cambridge City from 2020/21 to 2023/24 (YE Sept)



#### **Category #1 - Requires a high level of attention:** High volume of offences

- Shoplifting saw an increase of 32% (+677 offences) in YE Sept 2024.
- 32% increase is slightly higher than the national increase of 30% over a similar period (YE March 2024).
- Since YE Sept 2021, shoplifting has increased 313% from 672 offences in YE Sept 2021 to 2772 offences in YE Sept 2024.
- Shoplifting makes up the largest sub-group of acquisitive crime at 37% of all acquisitive offences in Cambridge City in YE Sept 2024 (2772 of 7394).

Note: Figure and Table numbers refer to numbers in the Strategic Assessment document

# 3. Types of Crime – Category #1 - Shoplifting



## Top wards by Shoplifting count

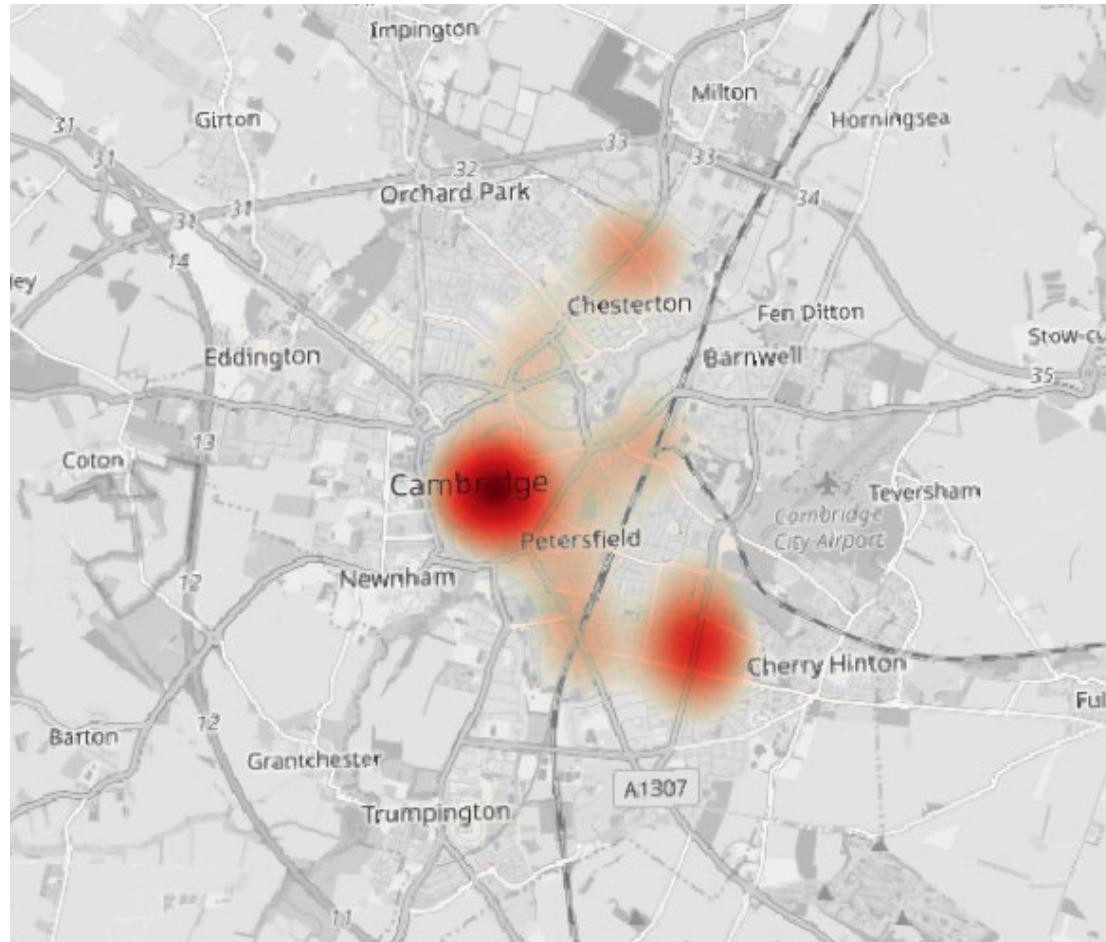
Ward	2023/24 Count	Change from 2022/23	Change from 2020/21	Rate per 1,000
Market	805	18% (+122)	217% (+551)	76.9
Coleridge	690	46% (+219)	752% (+609)	65.4
King's Hedges	254	52% (+87)	1311% (+236)	23.1
Abbey	241	26% (+50)	136% (+139)	22.2
West Chesterton	239	48% (+78)	388% (+190)	26.6
Petersfield	221	151% (+133)	342% (+171)	19.6
Arbury	88	13% (+10)	283% (+65)	8.8
Romsey	81	-50% (-82)	65% (+32)	7.7
Trumpington	62	226% (+43)	464% (+51)	4.9
Cherry Hinton	30	-23% (-9)	200% (+20)	3.2
Castle	26	73% (+11)	767% (+23)	3.2
East Chesterton	23	77% (+10)	44% (+7)	2.3
Newnham	7	75% (+3)	75% (+3)	0.6
Queen Edith's	5	67% (+2)	150% (+3)	0.4

- **Market** had the highest count of shoplifting offences (805 offences) and the the highest rate per 1000 (76.9) in YE Sept 2024.
- Coleridge has seen a 752% increase (+609 offences) since YE Sept 2021. This is the largest volume increase in this time.
- Coleridge is continuing to see increases since YE Sept 2023 (+46%, +219 offences).
- Kings Hedges has seen the highest percentage increase since YE Sept 2021 (+1311%, +236 offences).
- West Chesterton had the third highest rate per 1000 (26.6) in YE Sept 2024. Offences increased by 48% (+78 offences) since YE Sept 2023.

### 3. Types of Crime – Category #1 - Shoplifting



**Figure 7: Hotspot mapping of police recorded shoplifting offences in Cambridge City, 2023/24 (YE Sept)**



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- The darkest central hotspot refers to Market ward.
- The second darkest hotspot near the Cherry Hinton map label is Coleridge ward.
- The hotspot near the Chesterton map label is King's Hedges ward.

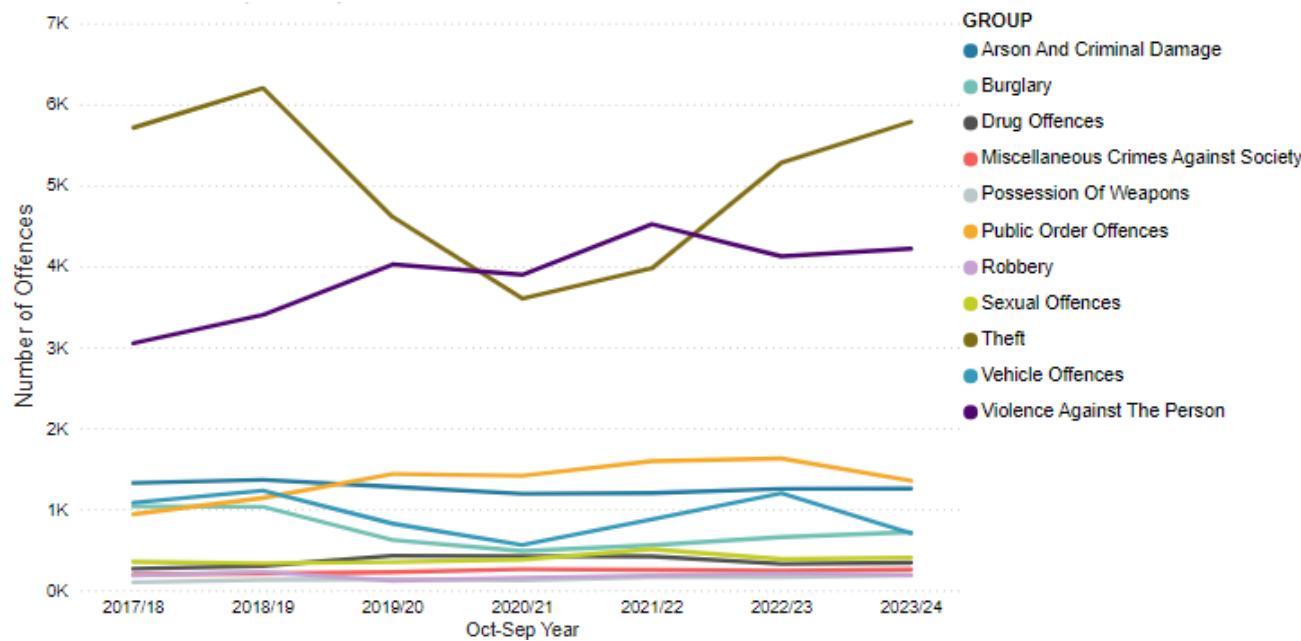
#### Dip Sample Analysis

- 100 shoplifting offences were analysed (4% of the total offences).
- Highest proportion of shoplifting offences within the sample occurred in supermarkets. Of the offences which occurred in supermarkets, 66% were Co-op, which accounted for the highest proportion, followed by Tesco with 16%.
- 32% of offences noted food or soft drinks as the stolen property type.
- 18% of offences within the dip sample noted alcohol as the stolen property type. In some cases, both food and alcohol were stolen together.
- 12% of offences noted aggressive behaviours, including verbal and sometimes physical aggression.
- 13% of offences involved stolen property with a value of £100 or over when it is noted.

### 3. Types of Crime – Category #1 - VAP



Figure 2: Count of offences in Cambridge City, between YE Sept 2018 and YE Sept 2024



- VAP is the second highest police recorded offence in Cambridge City in YE Sept 2024 with 27% of all police recorded offences (4216 of 15412).
- Although VAP only increased by 2% (+94 offences) in YE Sept 2024, VAP is still 8% higher than YE Sept 2021 (+321 offences).
- The Cambridge City CSP should retain its priority of 'reducing violence in our city centre'.
- A needs assessment is currently underway for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for serious violence. It is recommended that the CSP should use the findings of the report and the existing delivery mechanisms to continue to tackle violence.

# 3. Types of Crime – Category #1 - VAP



## Top wards by VAP count

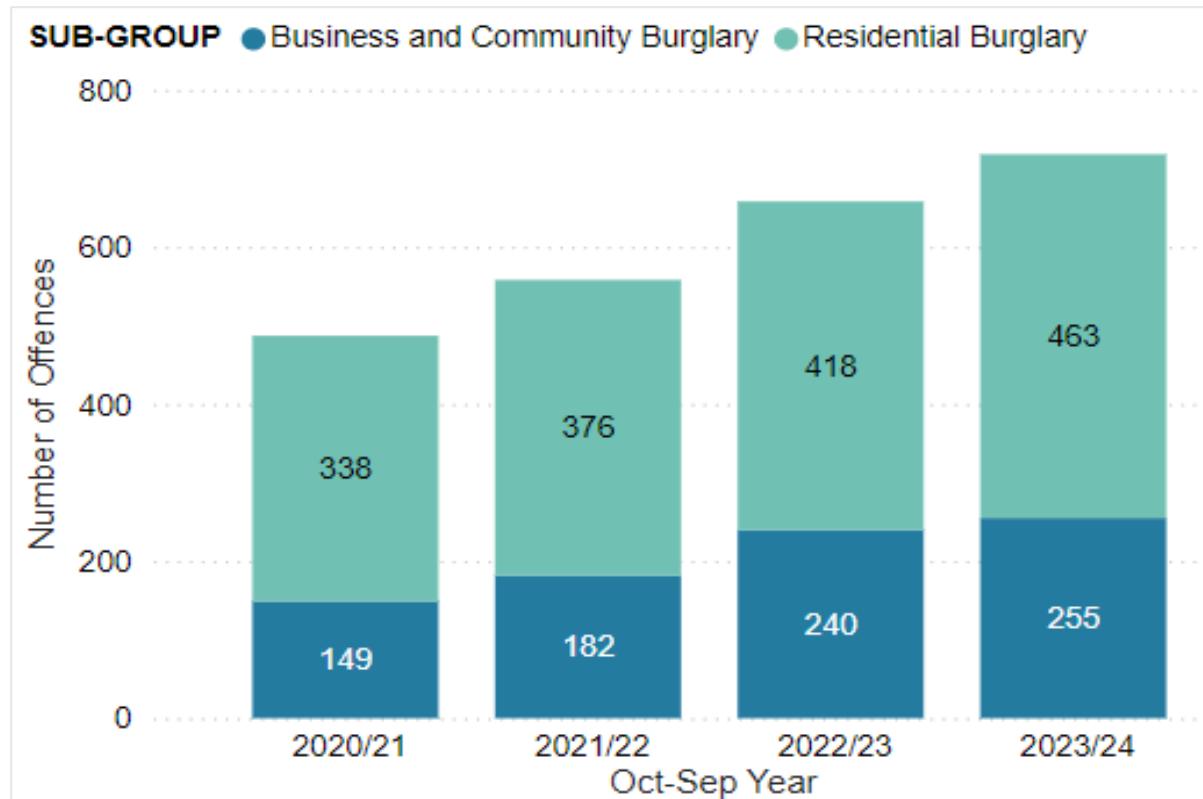
Ward	2023/24 Count	Change from 2022/23	Change from 2020/21	Rate per 1,000
Market	909	-9% (-88)	34% (+232)	86.8
Abbey	486	11% (+50)	7% (+30)	44.8
Petersfield	370	28% (+81)	14% (+45)	32.9
King's Hedges	367	-5% (-20)	-6% (-23)	33.3
East Chesterton	296	-3% (-8)	2% (+5)	30.1
Arbury	291	-6% (-18)	-7% (-21)	29.2
Trumpington	264	11% (+27)	-13% (-40)	20.9
Romsey	247	21% (+43)	52% (+84)	23.4
Cherry Hinton	232	37% (+63)	15% (+31)	24.7
West Chesterton	206	14% (+26)	10% (+19)	22.9
Coleridge	198	-13% (-30)	-23% (-60)	18.8
Queen Edith's	189	-25% (-62)	-12% (-26)	15.5
Castle	94	25% (+19)	32% (+23)	11.4
Newnham	67	20% (+11)	49% (+22)	5.9

- The top 3 wards for VAP in YE Sept 2024 are **Market** (909 offences), **Abbey** (486 offences), and **Petersfield** (370 offences).
- Other notable wards include
  - King's Hedges, which has the fourth highest count (367 offences) and third highest rate per 1000 at 33.4, and
  - Romsey, which had the largest percentage increase between YE Sept 2021 and YE Sept 2024 of +52% from 163 offences to 247 offences.

### 3. Types of Crime – Category #2 - Burglary



Figure 11: Annual trend of burglary offences in Cambridge City, from 2020/21 to 2023/24 (YE Sept)



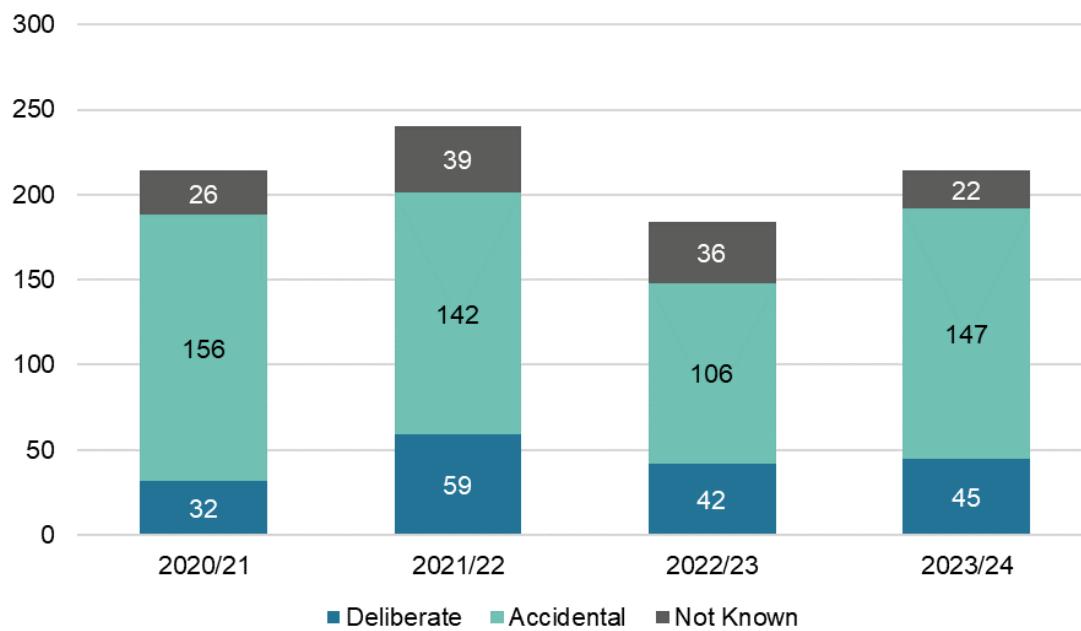
#### Category #2 - Have concerning counts: Steady year-on-year increases

- Burglary is continuing to see year-on-year incremental increases and has increased by 47% (+231 offences) since YE Sept 2021.
- Overall, the rate per 1000 for burglary in Cambridge City was 4.9, and this is the highest among Cambridgeshire districts (range from 2.8 to 4.1).
- Both types of burglary are driving the increases seen since YE Sept 2021;
  - residential burglary has increased by 37% (+125 offences) and
  - business and community burglary has increased by 71% (+106 offences).

### 3. Types of Crime – Category #2 – Deliberate Fires



**Figure 45: Count of fires in Cambridge City by cause, from YE Sept 2021 to YE Sept 2024**

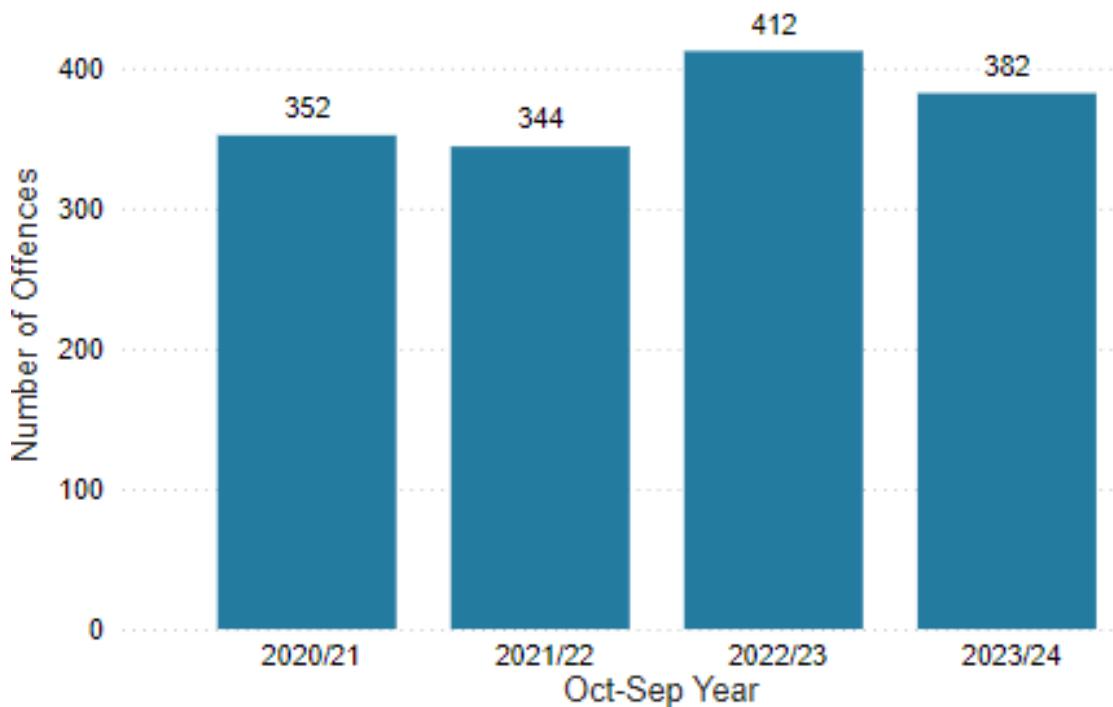


- Deliberate fires increased by 7% from 42 in YE Sept 2023 to 45 in YE Sept 2024.
- Since YE Sept 2021, deliberate fires have increased 41% from 32 in YE Sept 2021 to 45 in YE Sept 2024.
- The 45 deliberate fires represent 21% of the total 214 fires in YE Sept 2024.

### 3. Types of Crime – Category #3 – Hate Crime



Figure 48: Annual trend in police recorded hate crime offences in Cambridge City, 2020/21 to 2023/24 (YE Sept)



**Category #3 - Should be monitored:** Some fluctuations in volume recently

- Hate crime offences saw a large 20% increase between YE Sept 2022 and YE Sept 2023.
- Hate crime offences in Cambridge City have since decreased by 7% (-30 offences) in YE Sept 2024.
- However, hate crime offences are still above counts from YE Sept 2021 (+9%, +30 offences).

### 3. Types of Crime – Category #3 – Domestic Abuse



**Table 6: DA incidents and crimes recorded in Cambridge City, 2020/21 to 2023/24 (YE Sept)**

Incident category	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Total police recorded DA (incidents & crimes)	2706	2532	2089	2413
Total DA marked crimes	1776	1681	1319	1494
Total DA incidents	2072	1923	1641	1914
Incidents that result in a crime being recorded	1142	1072	871	995
Incidents that remain as incident only	930	851	770	919
Proportion of incidents that were 'crimed'	55%	56%	53%	52%
Proportion of total recorded DA that were crimes	61%	61%	60%	60%

- DA crimes and incidents in Cambridge City have increased by 16% in the YE Sept 2024 after a downward trend between YE Sept 2021 and YE Sept 2023.
- Despite recent increases, both DA crimes and incidents are below levels in YE Sept 2021.

**Figure 23: Police recorded Domestic Abuse (DA) crimes and incidents (non-crimed only) in Cambridge City, 2020/21 to 2023/24 (YE Sept)**

