





Public Views and Perceptions of Policing in West Mercia
2021/22 Survey Quarter 1 Results Presentation













Section One Introduction & Methodology, Summary & Respondent Breakdown







Introduction & Methodology

- West Mercia Police (WMP) & the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion, seek to obtain the views of residents, including their confidence in WMP, to inform the PCC's plan priorities and support decision making around the Safer West Mercia agenda
- WMP & the OPCC commissioned SMSR, a third party research agency, to conduct surveys over the phone and face to face with West Mercia residents and victims of crime
- The questionnaire includes key questions taken from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) and the 2018 Report on Public Perceptions of Policing in England and Wales (PPPEW)
- Where relevant, comparisons with CSEW AND PPPEW are displayed. Comparisons with CSEW include the average score of forces included in West Mercia Police's most similar group (MSG)**. Where comparisons have been made, results have been consistently analysed in accordance with this external reporting. Comparisons with CSEW are based on the most recent results available (March 2020)
- Over the 12 month period (July 20 June 21) SMSR have interviewed a representative sample of over 3000 residents 600 across each
 of the 5 Local Policing Areas (LPA): Hereford; Shropshire; Telford & Wrekin and North & South Worcestershire
- Results have been weighted to accurately represent the population size of each LPA
- The report tracks changes in perception levels, identifies high performing areas and those with need for improvement

Summary – Overall Views

- The majority of residents (85%) agreed that they had confidence in West Mercia Police with a similar proportion confident that they would receive a good service from the force (89%).
- Three-quarters (74%) felt that West Mercia Police were doing either a good or excellent job.

Visibility

- Three out of every ten residents (30%) report that they see an officer or PCSO at least once a week with around three-fifths (60%) satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area.
- Over three-quarters (78%) said that there had been no change in the level of policing; a a tenth (10%) believed there had been a increase and slightly less (7%) thought there had been an decrease.
- Less than a fifth (15%) said that they had spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team.

Interaction / Access

- Over nine-tenths (93%) were confident that they could access the police in an emergency with three-quarters (73%) confident they could do so in a non-emergency.
- The majority (81%) said they would prefer to contact West Mercia Police by telephone for a non-emergency issue.
- Over three-fifths (61%) said that they find out about crime and policing issues from the media, with two-fifths (42%) finding out through social media. Half (50%) said they felt informed about what West Mercia Police is doing, with slightly less (49%) that stated they did not feel informed.

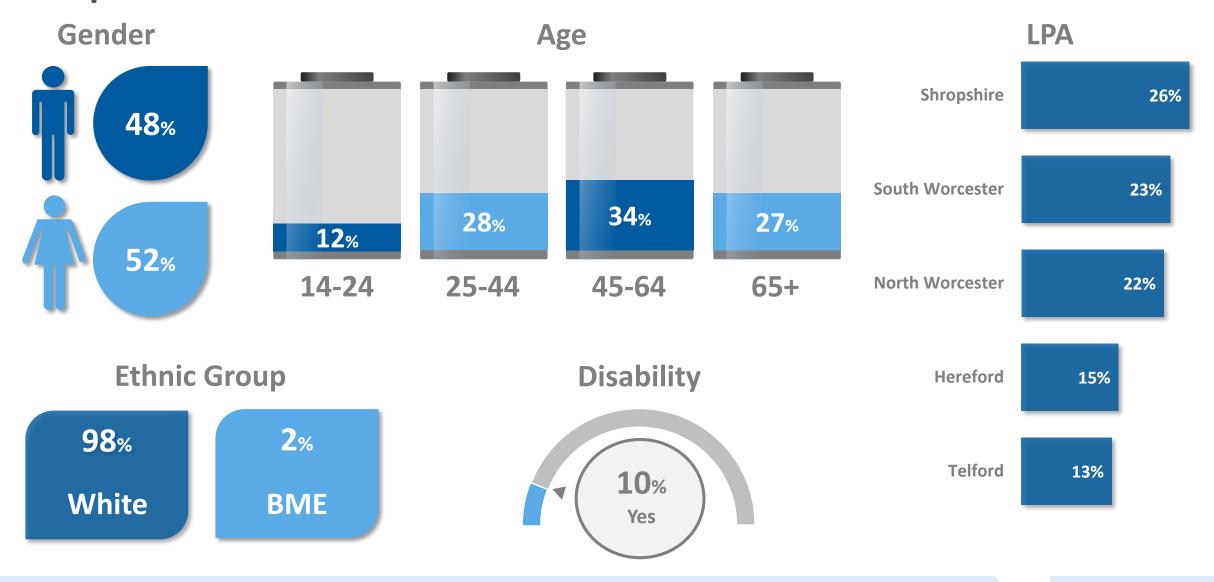
Effectiveness

- Three-quarters (75%) of residents felt that West Mercia Police understand the issues in their community and aa quarter (25%) reported that they thought that crime and ASB was a problem in their area.
- Just under three-quarters (72%) thought that crime and ASB had remained the same compared to 12 months ago with just over a tenth (11%) reporting an increase. Further to this, over 8 in every 10 residents (85%) agreed that West Mercia Police are dealing with crime and ASB.

Trust / integrity

- The vast majority (96%) said that West Mercia Police have their support with over nine-tenths that said they trust WMP (93%), that they believe they treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are (90%) and they act with integrity (90%). Over 8 in every 10 said felt West Mercia Police use their powers appropriately (83%), take people's concerns seriously (82%) and can be relied to be there when you need them (81%.
- Over three-fifths (62%) are confident West Mercia Police use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully. Only 3% felt West Mercia Police did not use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully.

Respondent Breakdown









Section Two Visibility / Presence



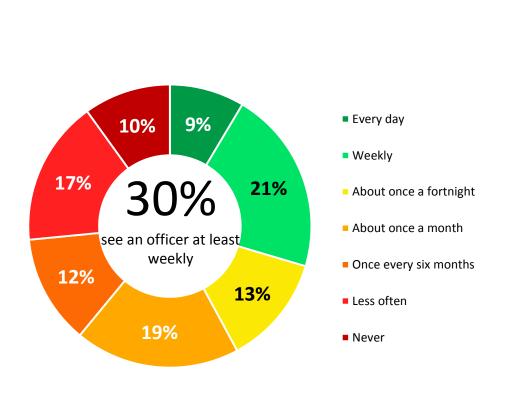


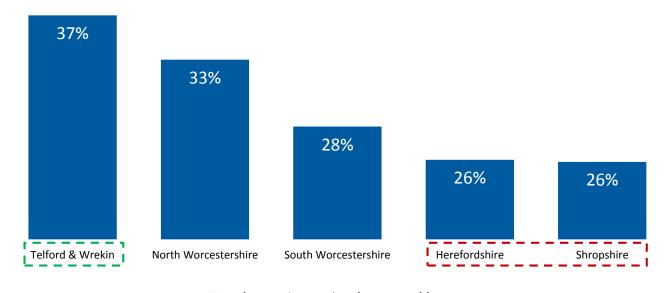


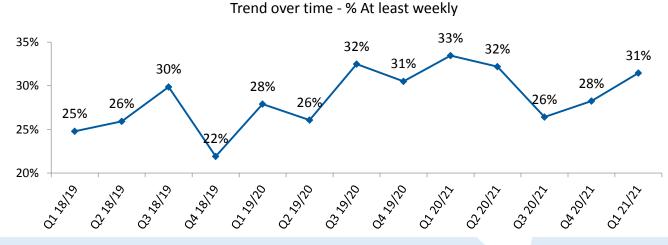
Three out of every ten see an officer or PCSO at

least once a week

LPA Comparisons - % seeing a police officer or PCSO at least weekly

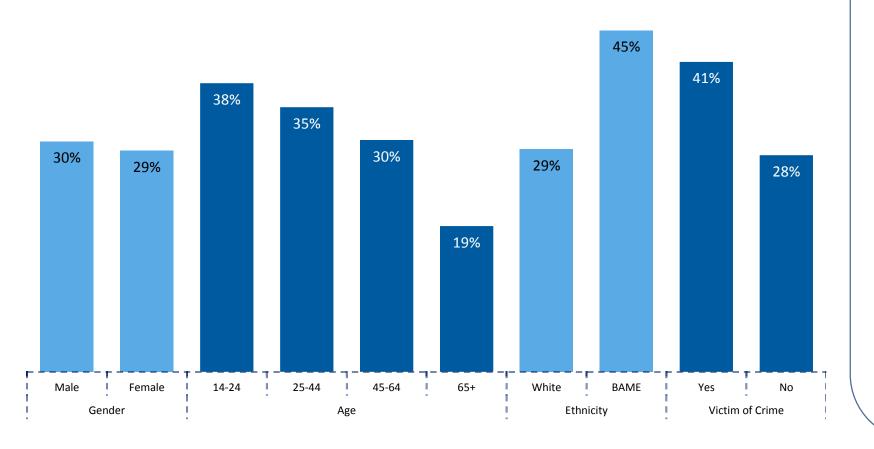






Three out of every ten see an officer or PCSO at least once a week

Demographic Comparisons - % seeing a police officer or PCSO at least weekly



Key Insights

Residents of Telford & Wrekin more likely to see an officer or PCSO at least weekly

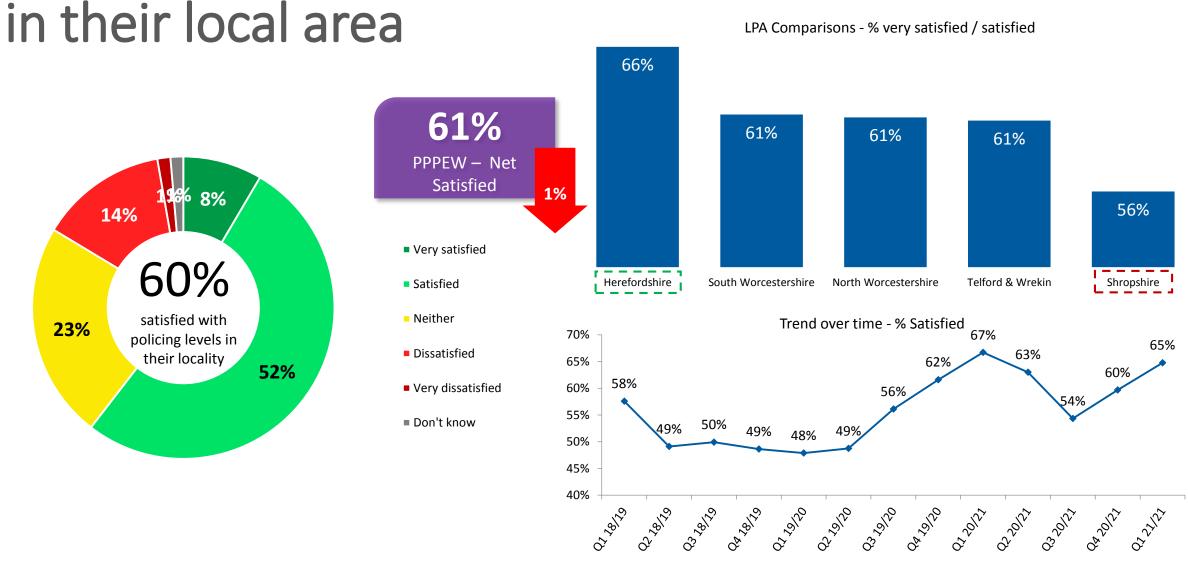
Residents of Herefordshire and Shropshire least likely to see an officer at least weekly

Strong correlation between age and visibility with younger respondents more likely to see an officer compared to older respondents

BAME respondents more likely to see an officer or PCSO at least weekly than white respondents

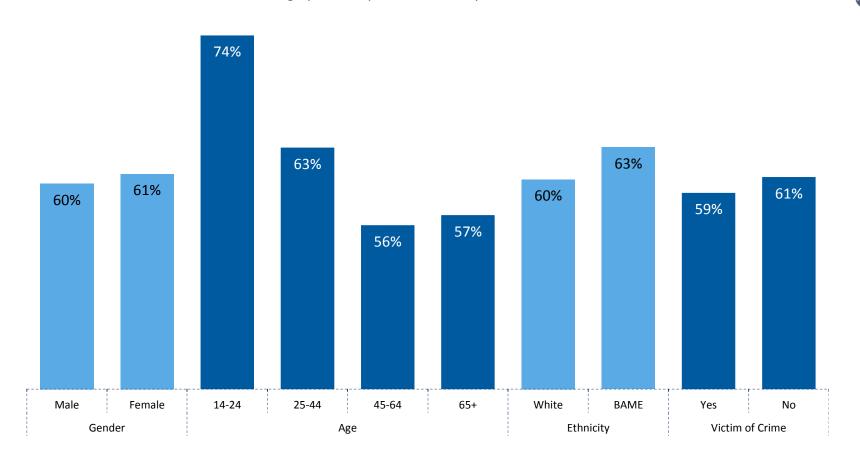
Victims of crime more likely to see an officer or PCSO weekly

Three-fifths are satisfied with the levels of policing



Three-fifths are satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area

Demographic Comparisons - % very satisfied / satisfied



Key Insights

Satisfaction with visibility has increased 5% from the previous quarter

Under 24's most likely to be satisfied with policing levels in their local area

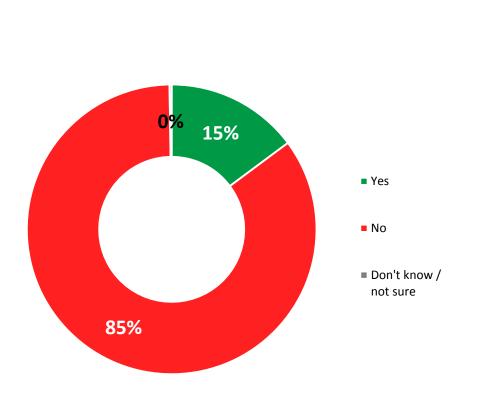
Those aged 45 and over less likely to be satisfied with policing levels

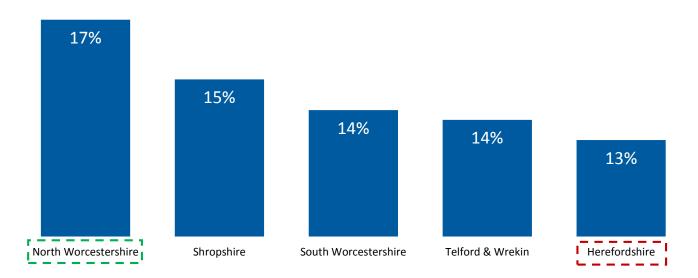
Residents of Shropshire least likely to be satisfied with policing levels

Those in Herefordshire more likely to be satisfied

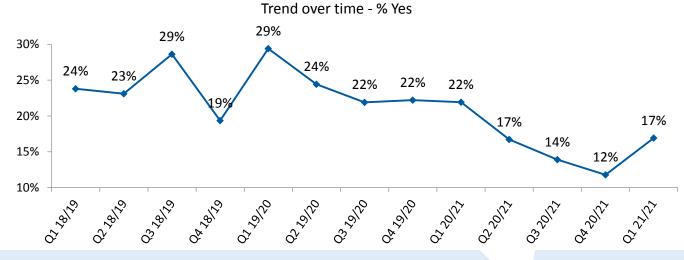
A sixth have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their

local policing team

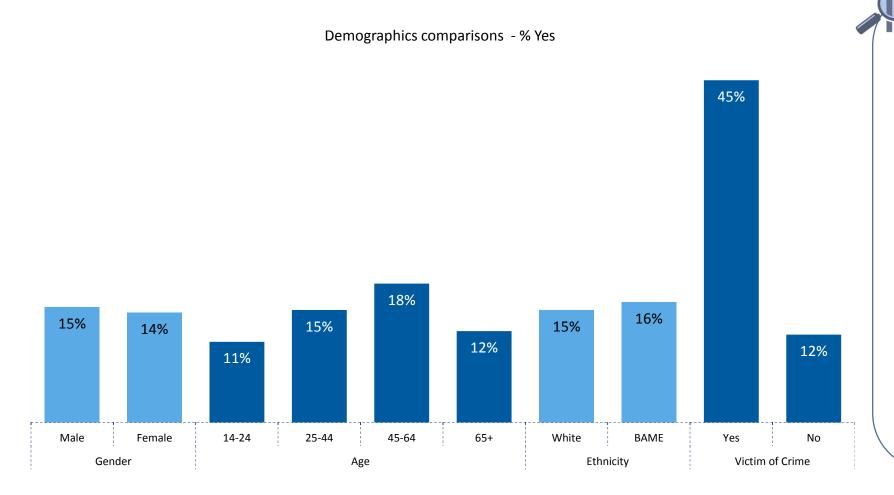




LPA Comparisons - % Yes



A sixth have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team



Key Insights

Victims of crime almost four times as likely to have spoken to a member of their local policing team

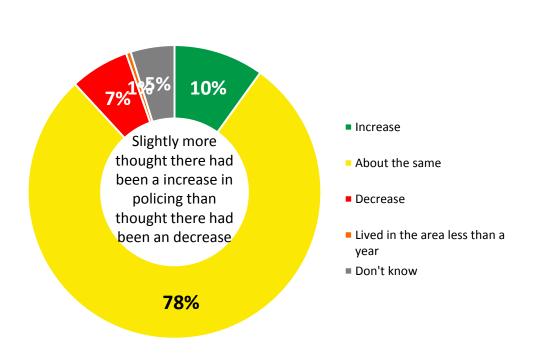
Those aged 14-24 and 65 and over least likely to have spoken to local policing team

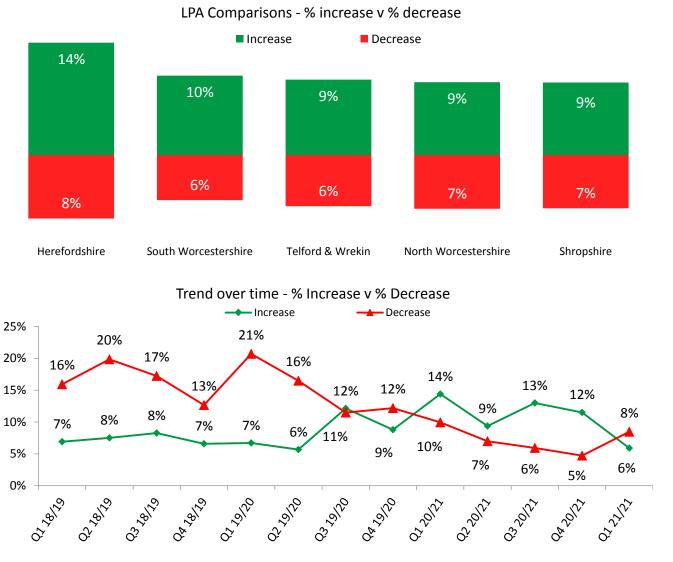
Residents of Herefordshire least likely to have spoken to their local policing team; those in North Worcestershire most likely

Those who have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team has increased 5% from the previous quarter

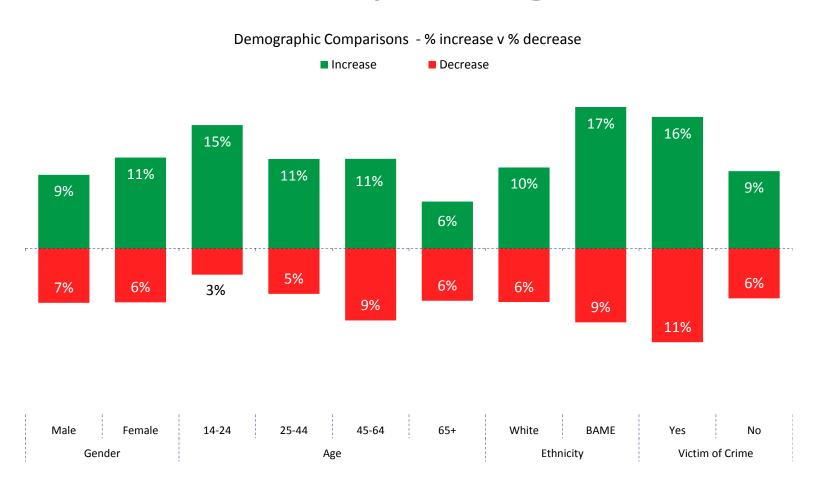
Over three-quarters felt there had been no change

in the level of policing





Over three-quarters felt there had been no change in the level of policing





Key Insights

Those stating an increase in levels of policing 6% lower than the previous quarter – now at lowest level since tracking began

Under 24's, BAME respondents and victims of crime were more likely to notice an increase in levels of policing

Victims of crime most likely to notice a decrease in levels of policing

Residents of Herefordshire most likely to notice an increase in policing

Residents of Herefordshire also most likely to notice a decrease in policing levels







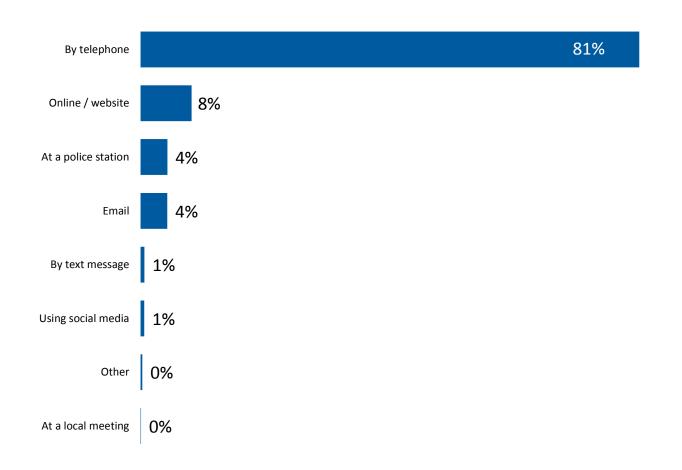
Section Three Interaction / Access







8 in every 10 said they would prefer to contact the police by telephone for a non-emergency





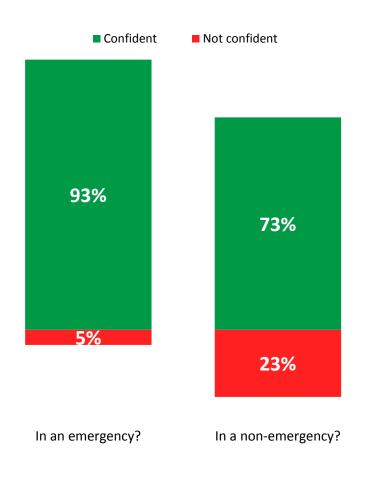
Key Insights

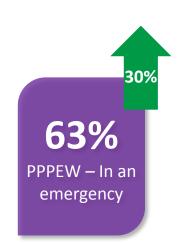
Preference of telephone contact increases with age but by far the most preferred method overall

Younger residents (14-44) more likely to prefer electronic contact when compared to those aged 45+

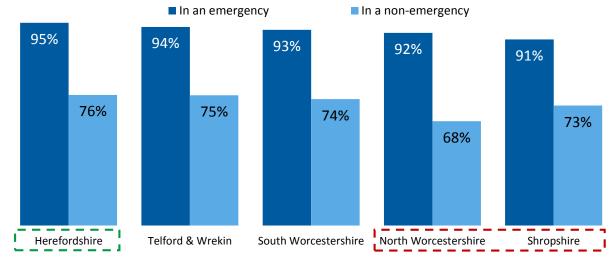
Nine-tenths confident they could access the police

in an emergency

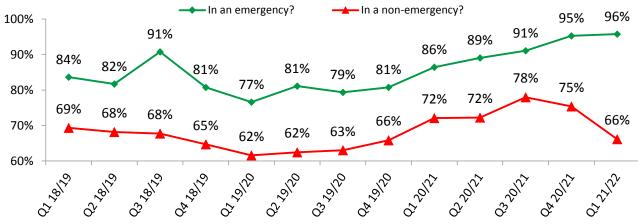




LPA Comparisons - % confident they could easily speak to or access police services in your local area...

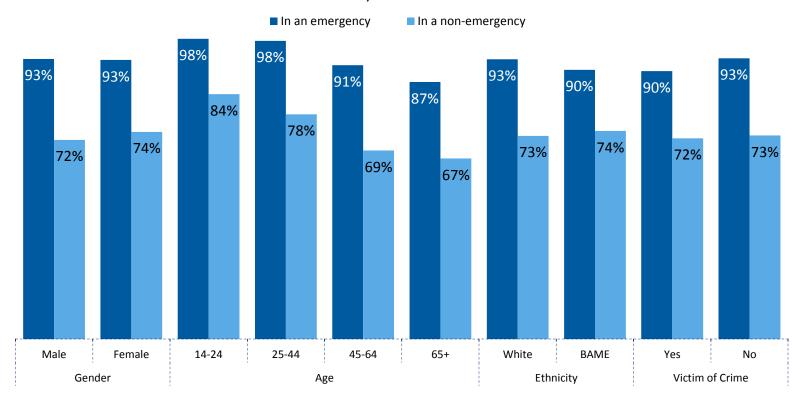


Trend over time - % Confidence in accessing police services



Nine-tenths confident they could access the police in an emergency

Demographic Comparisons - % confident they could easily speak to or access police services in your local area...



Key Insights

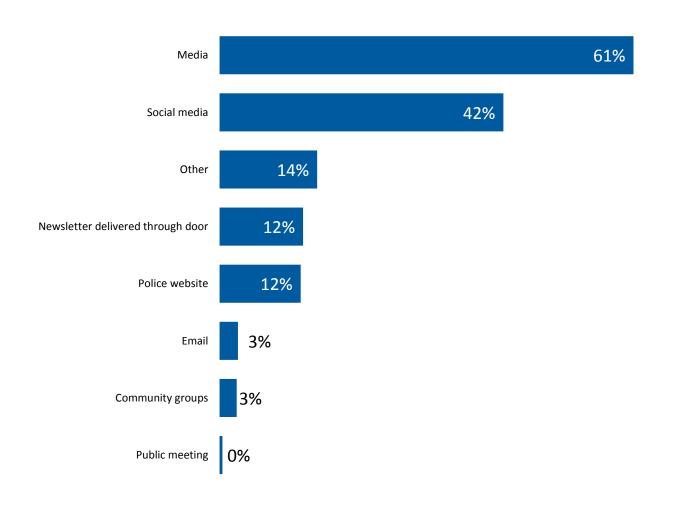
Confidence amongst residents they could access the police in an non-emergency has decreased by 9% from the previous quarter

Residents in Shropshire least confident in being able to access the police in an emergency; North Worcestershire least confident in a non-emergency

Residents of Herefordshire most confident in they could access the police in both an emergency and a non-emergency

Those under 45 more likely to have confidence they can access WMP in an emergency & non-emergency than those aged 45+

Three-fifths said they found out about crime and policing from the media – two-fifths from social media





Key Insights

Males more likely than females to find out about crime and policing from the media

Females more likely than males to find out about crime and policing from social media

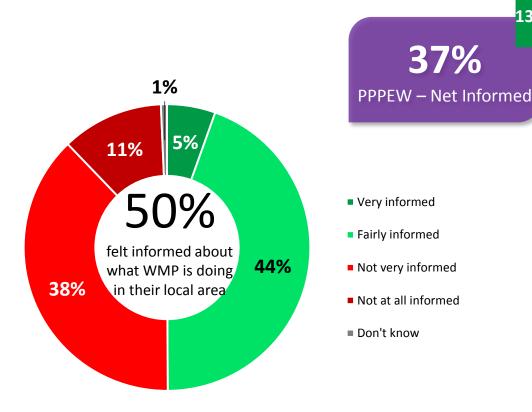
Those aged 65+ more likely to find out about crime and policing from the media

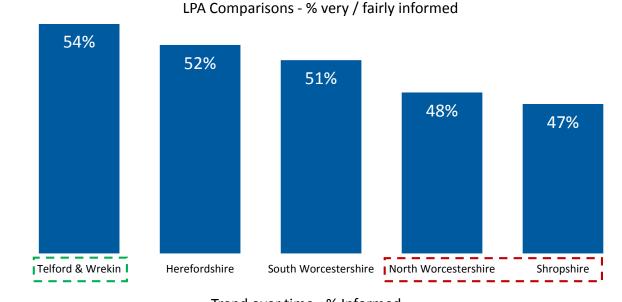
Those aged 14-24 most likely to find out about crime and policing via social media channels; the younger the resident, the more likely to extract information from this source

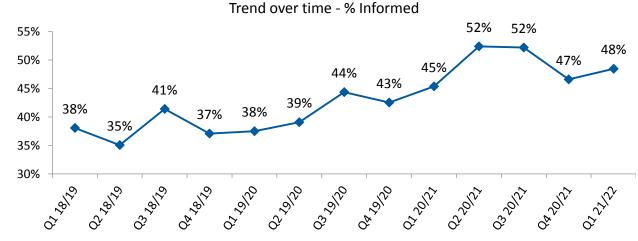
BAME residents and victims of crime less likely to find out about crime and policing from the media – more likely to find out through social media

Half do not feel informed about what WMP are

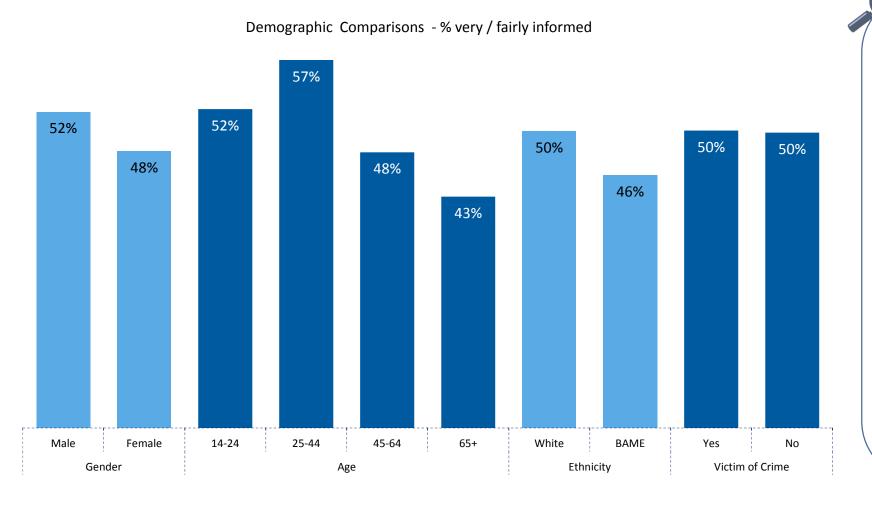
doing







Half do not feel informed about what WMP are doing



Key Insights

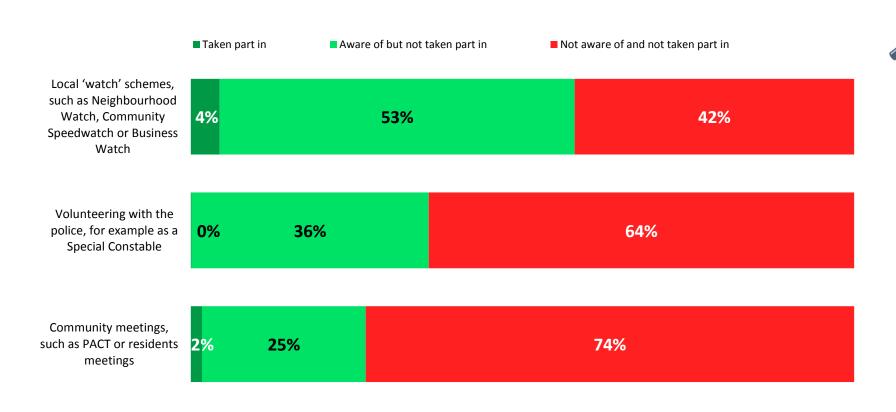
Those aged 45 and over less likely to feel informed about what WMP is doing

Younger respondents (under 44) more likely to feel informed about what the police are doing

Males and white respondents felt more informed than females and BAME respondents

Residents from Telford & Wrekin felt most informed about what the police are doing in their local area; those from Shropshire and North Worcestershire least informed

Low levels of participation amongst residents in watch schemes, volunteering and community meetings





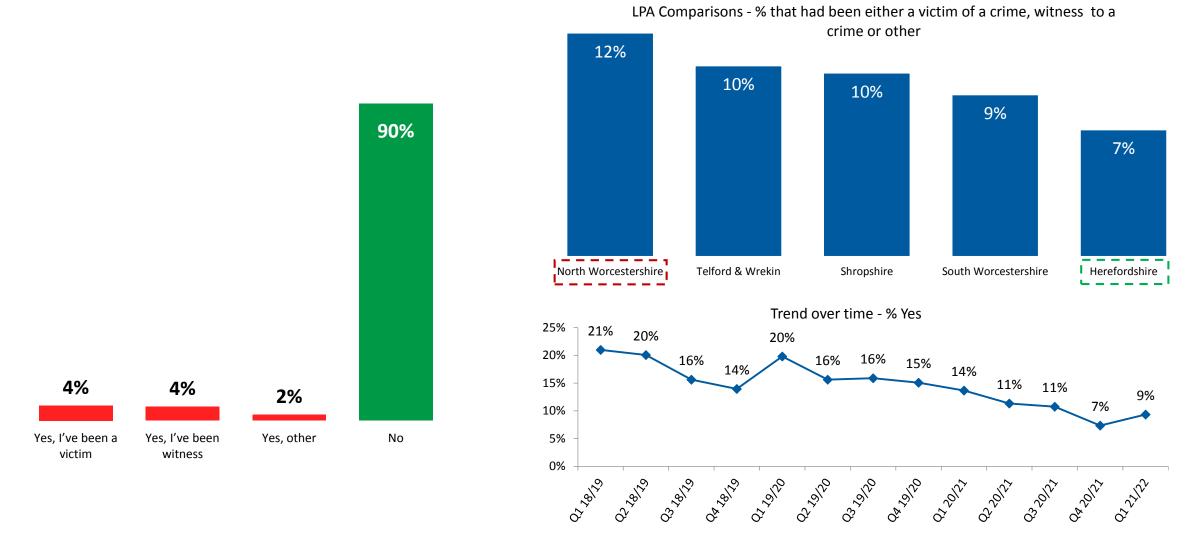
Key Insights

Just over half aware of local 'watch' schemes; a small percentage have taken part

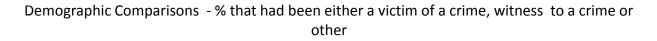
A small number of residents (3) said they had taken part in police volunteering; over a third were aware

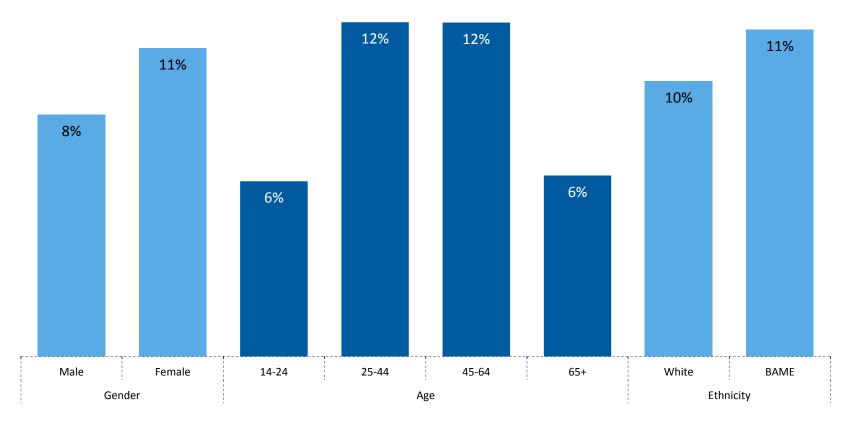
A quarter of residents aware of community meetings; a small percentage have participated

A tenth have been a victim of, or witness to, a crime



A tenth have been a victim of, or witness to, a crime







Key Insights

Slight increase (+2%) in those that had been a victim of crime since the previous quarter

Residents in North Worcestershire more likely to have encountered crime, with those in Herefordshire least likely

Those aged 14-25 and 65 and over least likely to have been a victim of crime

Females more likely than males to have been a victim of crime

90% of those that had been a victim of crime said they reported this to the police







Section Four Effectiveness

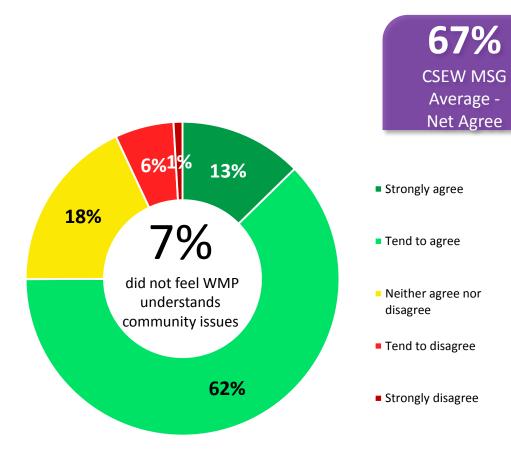


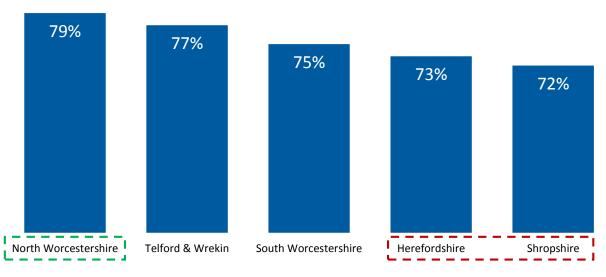




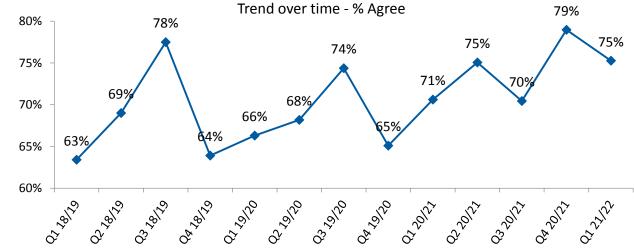
Three-quarters felt WMP understands issues in their

community





LPA Comparisons - % strongly / tend to agree



Three-quarters felt WMP understands issues in their community

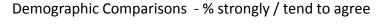
Key Insights

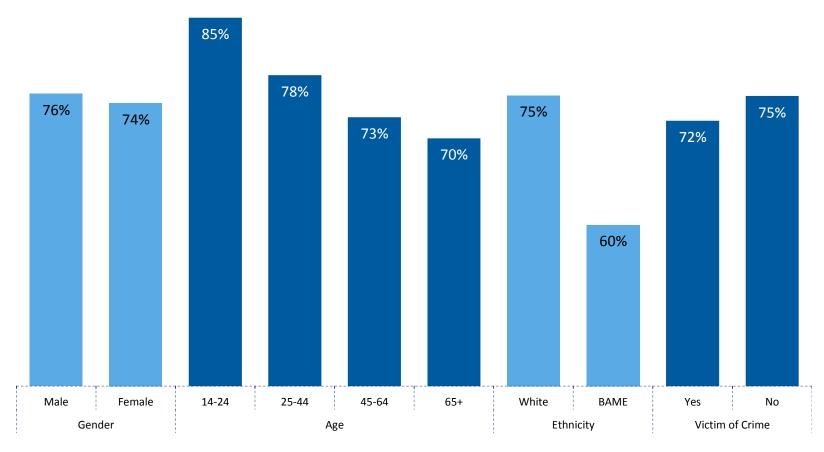
Residents aged 14-24 more likely to agree, with agreement declining the older the respondent was

White respondents more likely to agree when compared BAME respondents

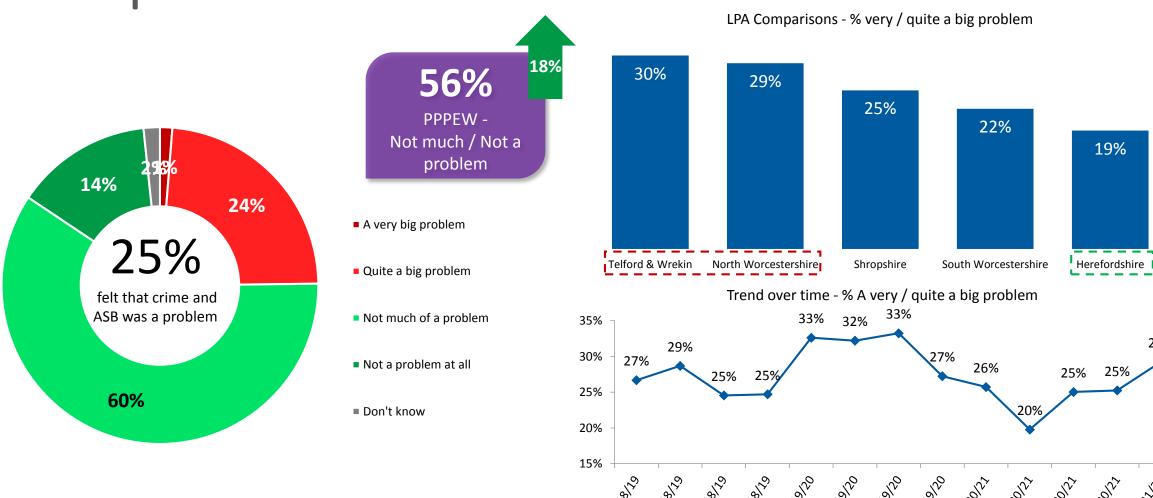
Residents in Shropshire and Herefordshire least likely to agree the police understands community issues

Residents in North Worcestershire most likely to agree the police understands community issues





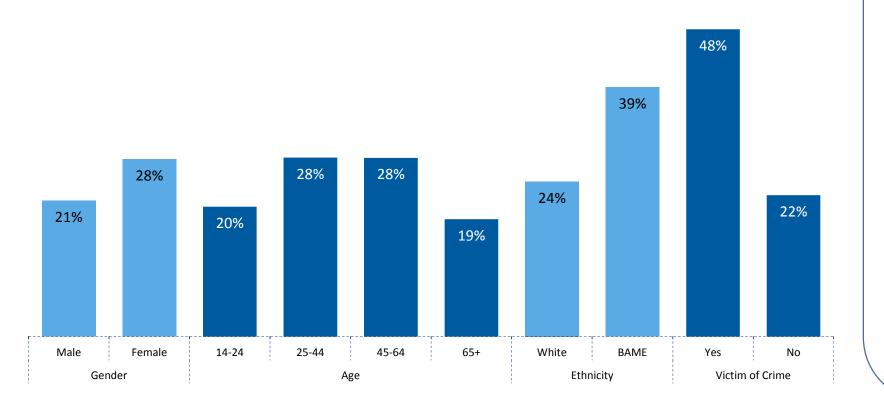
Around three-quarters did not think crime and ASB was a problem in their local area



29%

Around three-quarters did not think crime and ASB was a problem in their local area

Demographic Comparisons - % very / quite a big problem



Key Insights

Victims of crime more than twice as likely to have said crime and ASB was a problem

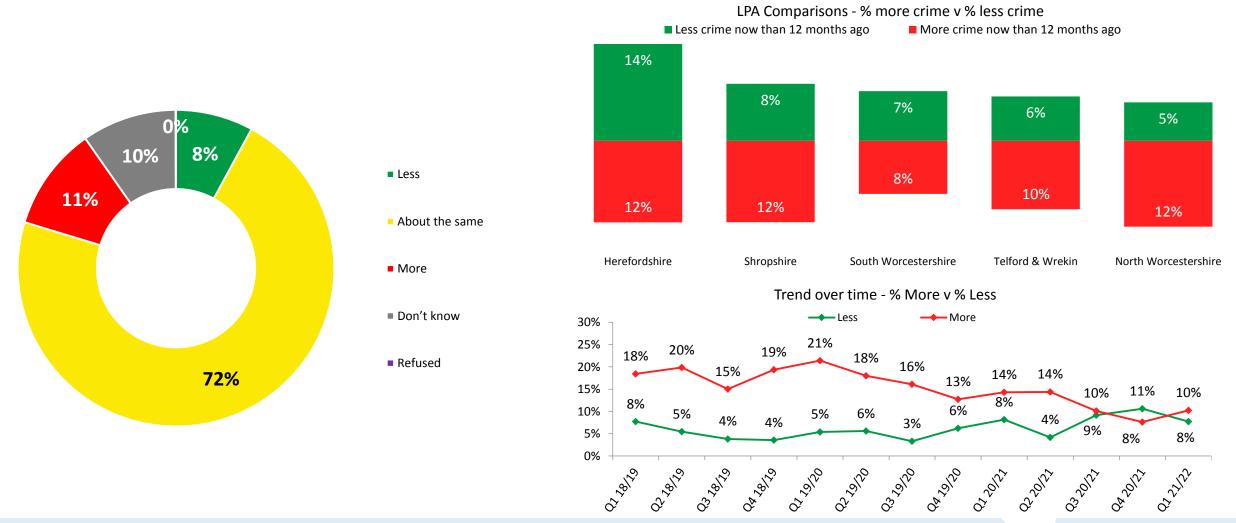
Females more likely to say crime and ASB a problem than males

Those aged 14-24 and 65 and over less likely to feel crime and ASB was a problem in their area

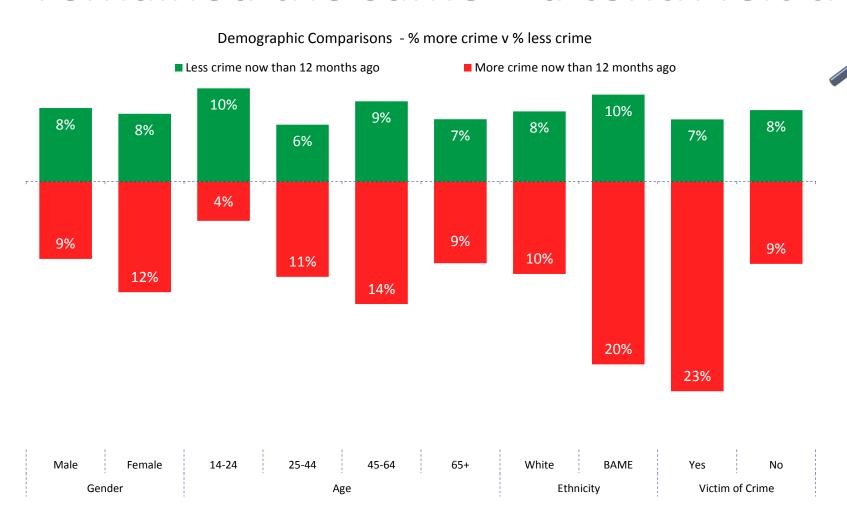
BAME respondents more likely than White respondents to say crime and ASB is a problem

Residents in Herefordshire least likely to say crime and ASB was a problem; those in Telford & Wrekin and North Worcestershire most likely

Around three-quarters felt crime and ASB levels had remained the same – a tenth felt there was more



Around three-quarters felt crime and ASB levels had remained the same – a tenth felt there was more



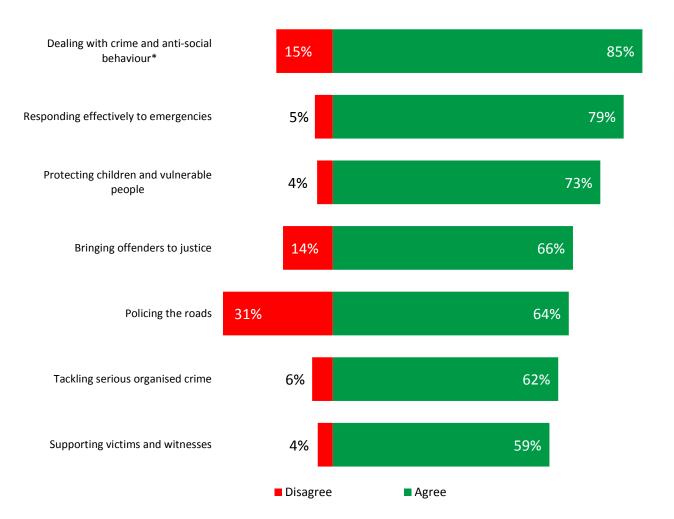
Key Insights

Victims of crime more likely to feel that crime and ASB levels had risen in the last 12 months compared to non-victims

Females more likely than males to say crime has increased

BAME respondents twice as likely than white respondents to feel that crime and ASB has increased

Those aged 45-64 more likely to feel there has been an increase in crime over the past 12 months Over 8 out of every 10 agreed WMP are dealing with crime and ASB



54% **CSEW MSG** Average -Dealing with crime and **ASB**

Key Insights

Around a sixth disagree that WMP are dealing with crime and ASB and bringing offenders to justice

Nearly a third disagreed that WMP are policing the roads

Agreement towards statements generally declined the older the respondent was

Victims of crime typically were less agreeable than those that had not been a victim of crime

BAME respondents tended to be less agreeable towards these statements compared to white respondents







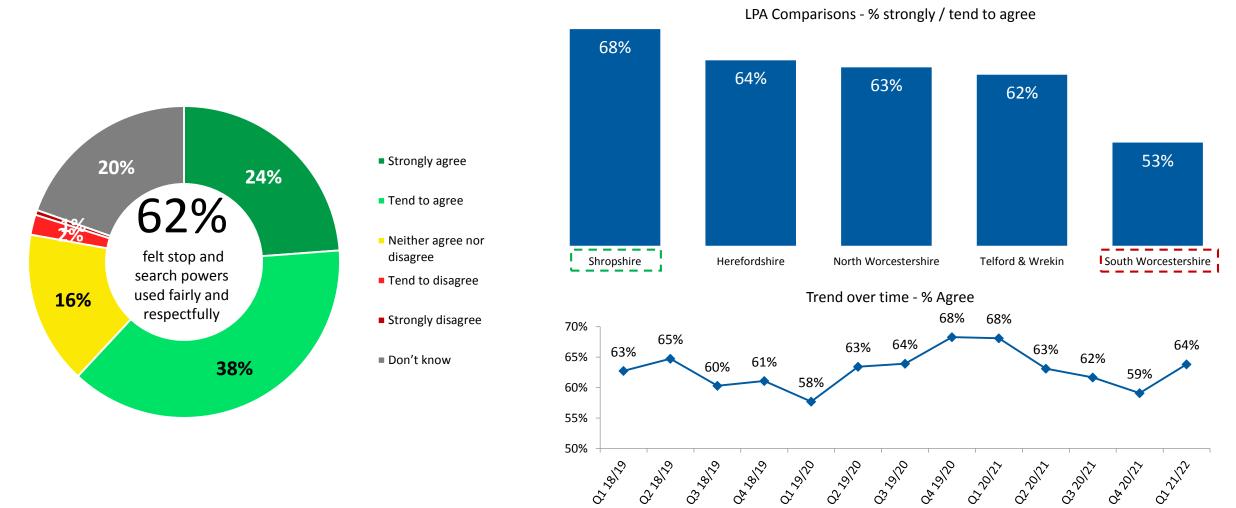
Section Five Trust / Integrity



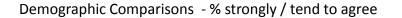


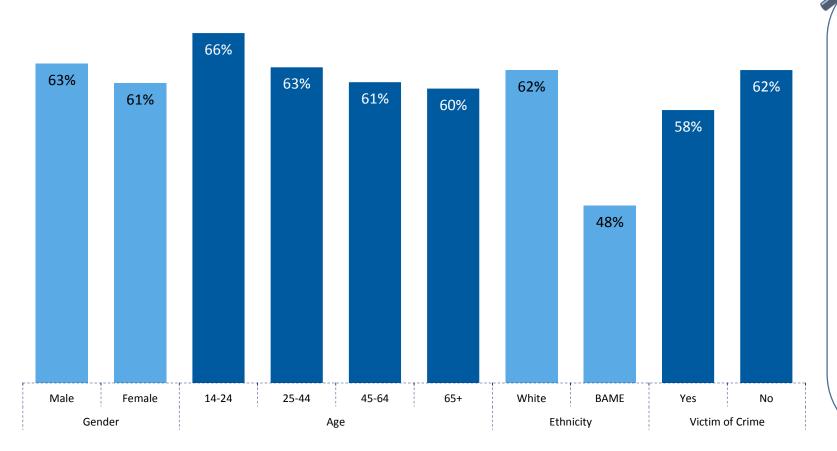


Over three-fifths confident WMP use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully



Over three-fifths confident WMP use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully





Key Insights

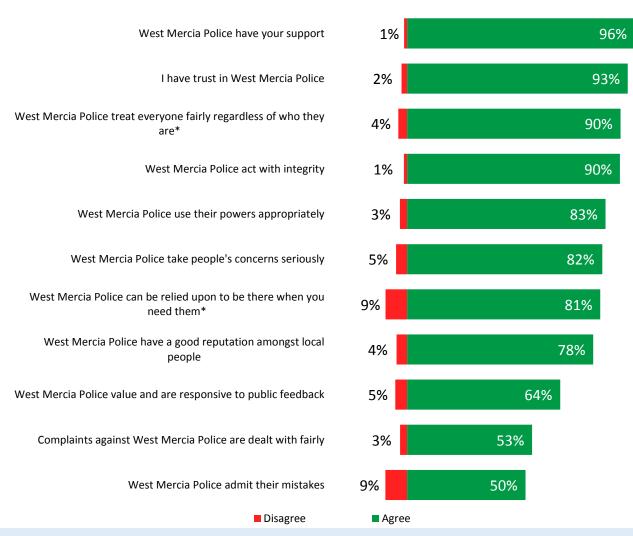
BAME respondent less confident the police use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully compared to white respondents

Those aged 14-24 more likely to feel confident the police use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully

Victims of crime less likely to feel confident WMP use stop and search powers fairly and respectfully

Residents in South Worcestershire least likely to feel WMP use stop and search powers fairly and respectfully, those in Shropshire most likely

Over nine-tenths say that WMP have their support and that they have trust in WMP







Key Insights

Over 9 out of every 10 residents say that WMP have their support, that they have trust in WMP, that they believe WMP treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are and WMP act with integrity

Over 8 in 10 say WMP use their powers appropriately, can be relied upon to be there when you need them and take people's concerns seriously

Around a tenth disagreed WMP can be relied upon to be there when needed and admit their mistakes







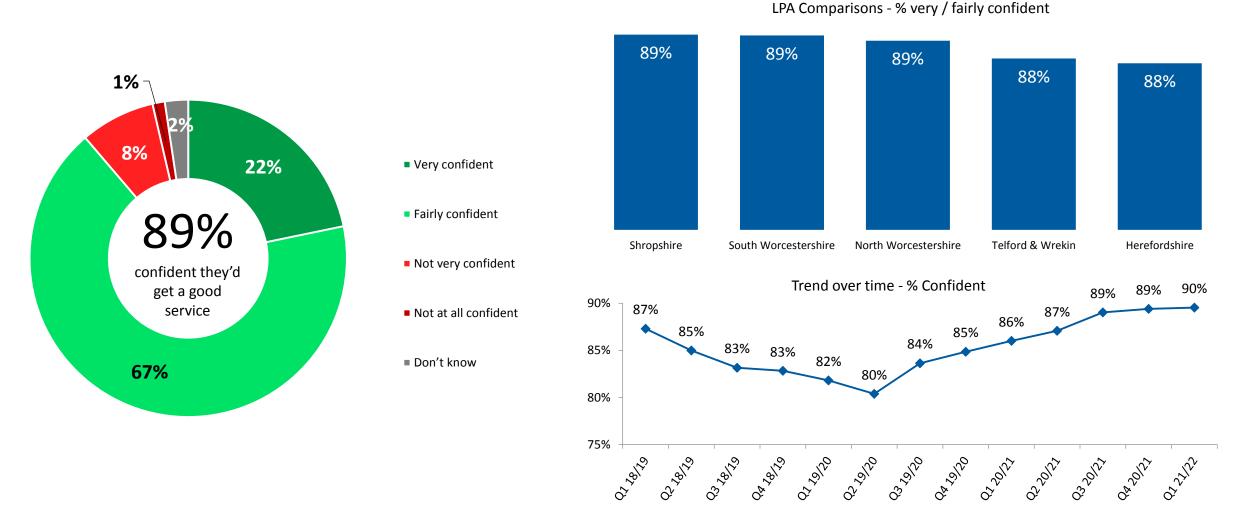
Section Six Confidence in West Mercia Police







Just under 9 out of 10 confident they would receive a good service from WMP



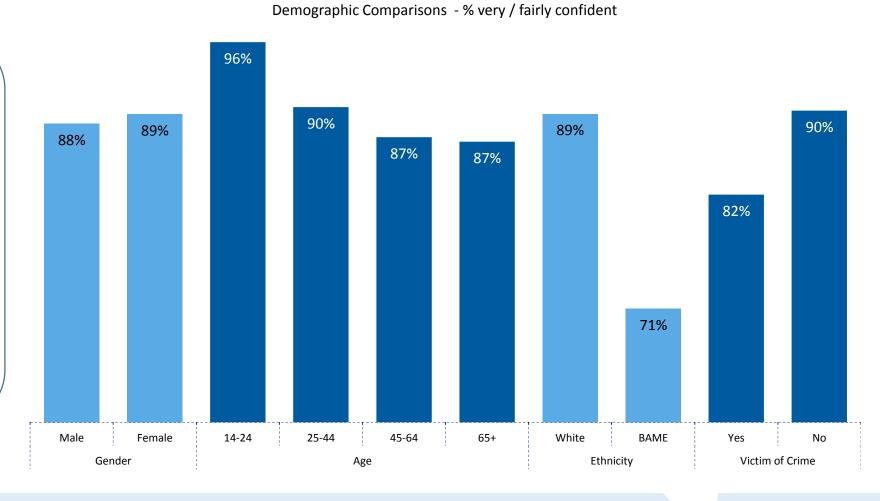
Just under 9 out of 10 confident they would receive a good service from WMP

Key Insights

Confidence has increased 1% from the previous quarter and is now at the highest level since tracking began

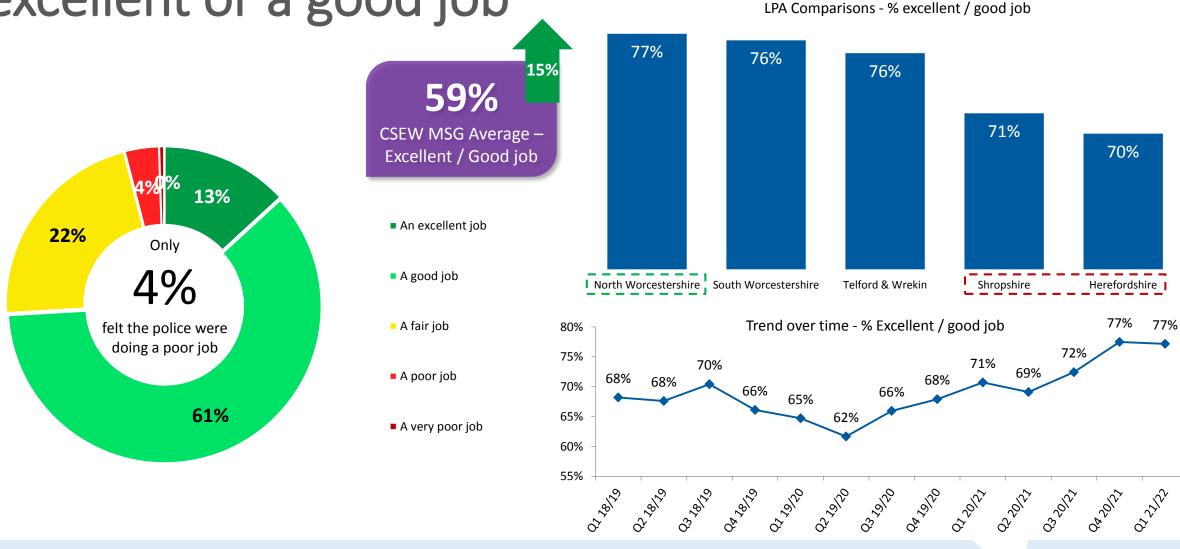
Those aged 14-24 most confident they would receive a good service from WMP

BAME respondents and victims of crime were less confident in receiving a good service

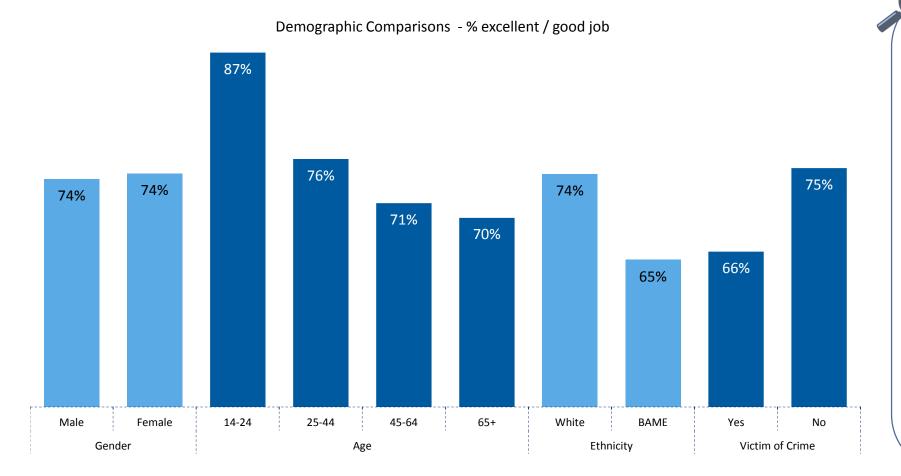


Three-quarters felt the police were doing either an excellent or a good job

LPA Comparisons - % excellent / good job



Three-quarters felt the police were doing either an excellent or a good job



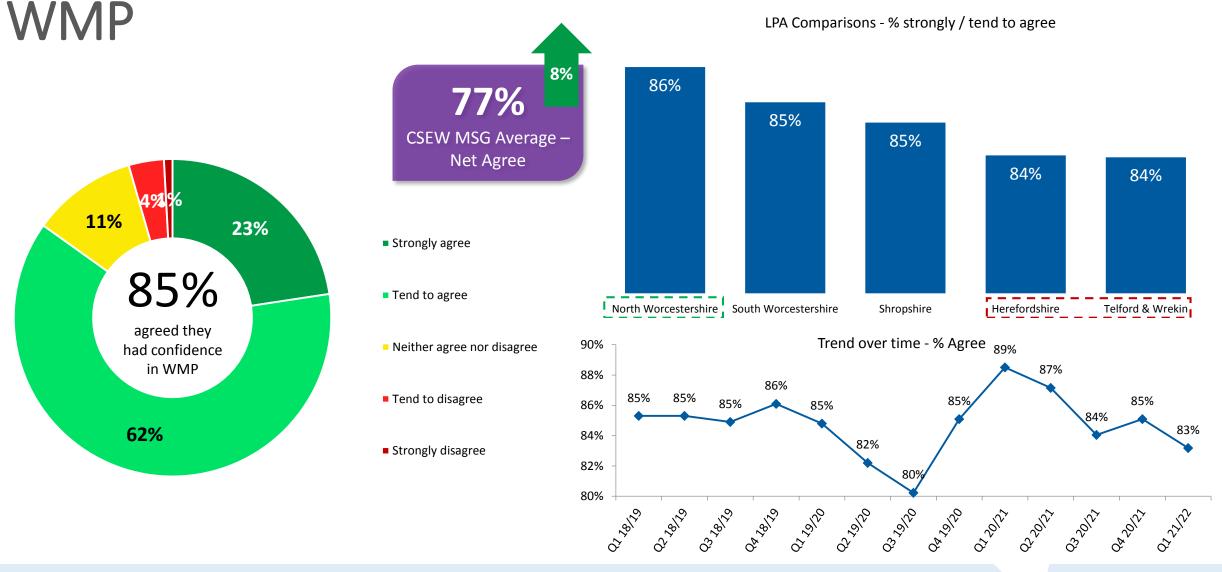
Key Insights

Those aged 14-24 significantly more likely to feel the police were doing an excellent or good job compared to other age groups

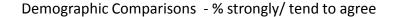
Victims crime BAME and respondents least likely to feel the police were doing an excellent or good job

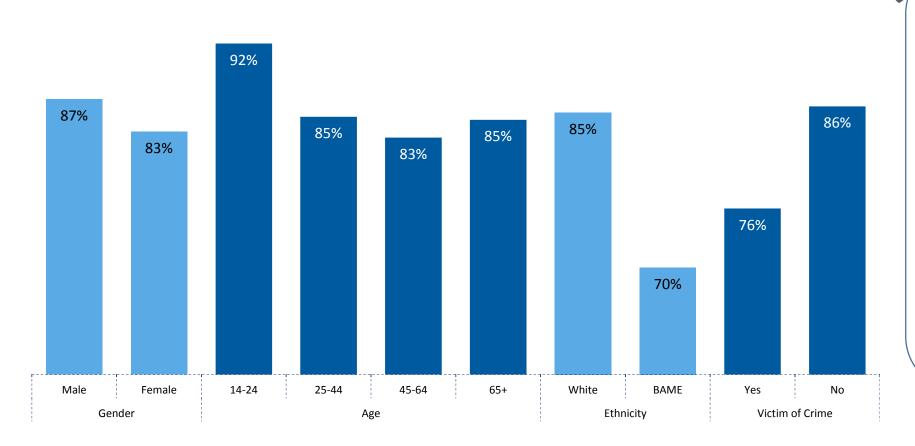
in Herefordshire Residents Shropshire were the least likely to say WMP were doing an excellent or good job – those in North Worcestershire were the most likely

More than 8 out of 10 say they have confidence in



More than 8 out of 10 say they have confidence in WMP







Key Insights

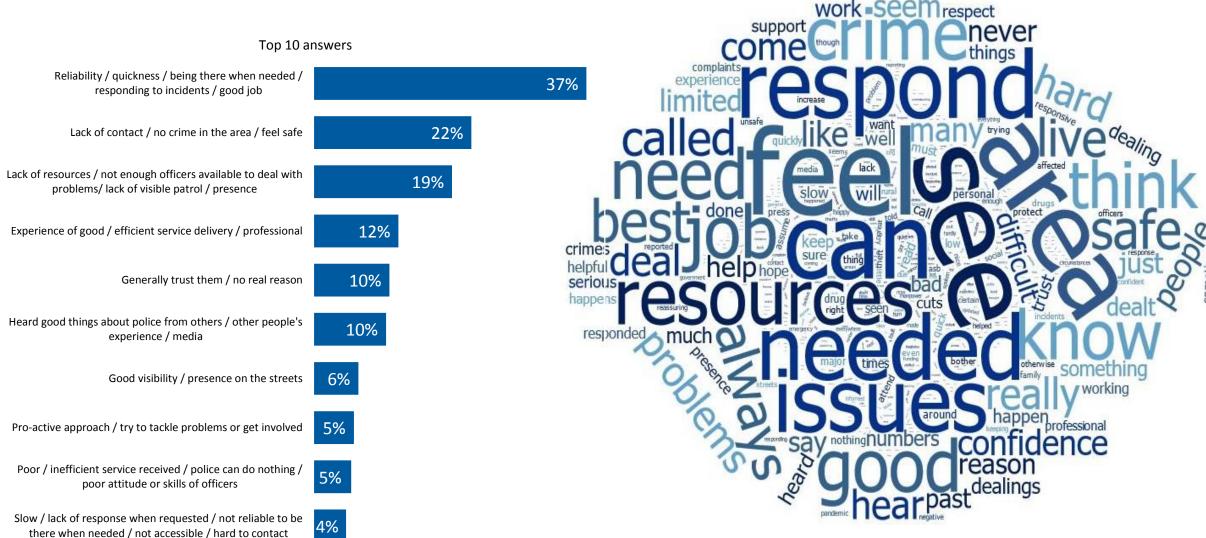
Those aged 14-24 more likely to be have confidence in WMP compared to other age groups

Victims of crime and BAME respondents less likely be confident in WMP

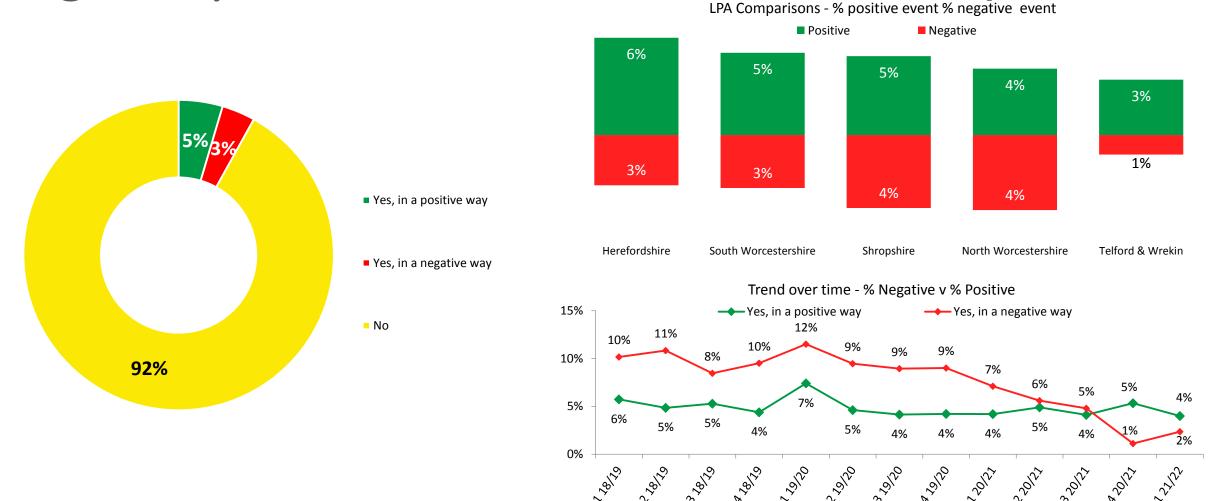
Residents in Telford & Wrekin and Herefordshire least likely to be confident in WMP

Residents of North Worcestershire more likely to have confidence in WMP

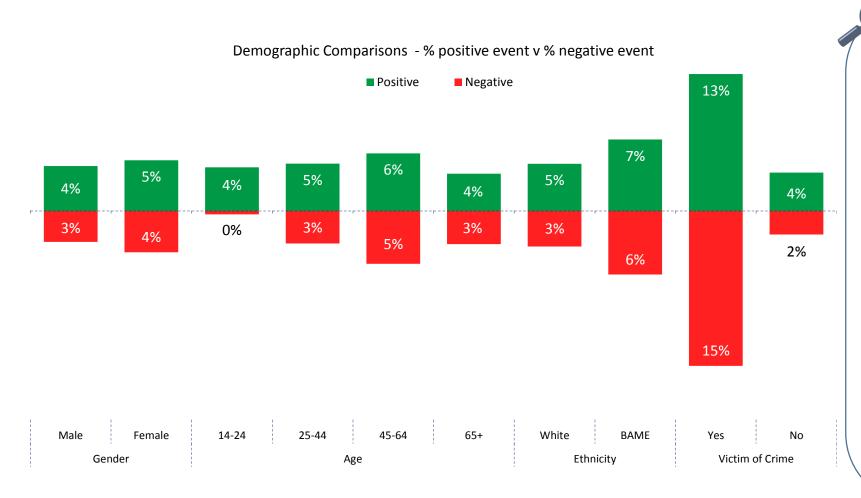
Factors influencing confidence



Less than a tenth have experienced an event that negatively affected their confidence in the police



Less than a tenth have experienced an event that negatively affected their confidence in the police



Key Insights

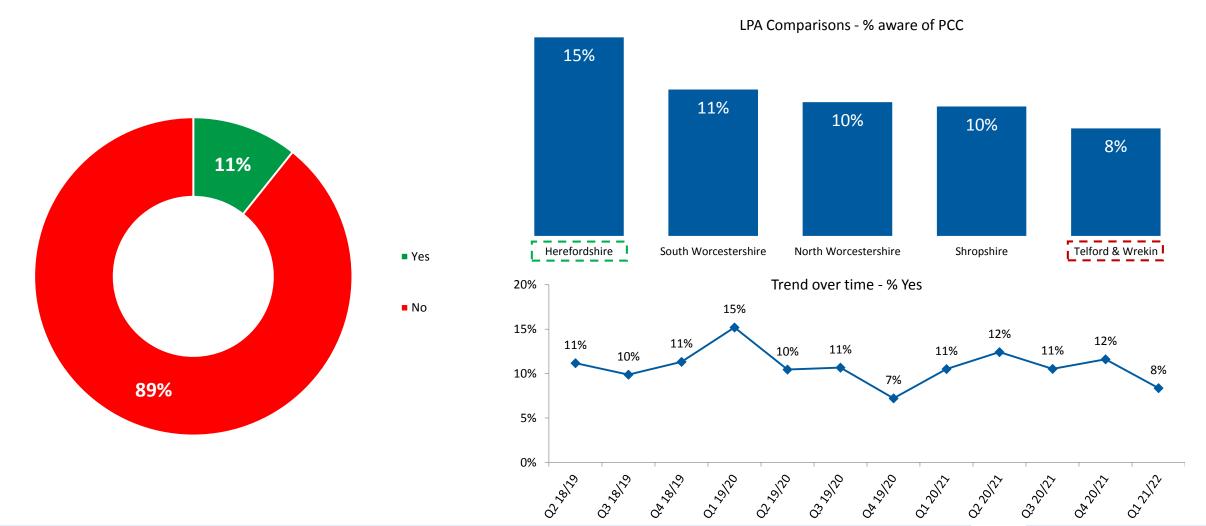
Victims of crime were the most likely to experience an event that negatively affected their confidence; victims were also more likely to be affected in a positive way

BAME respondents more likely to experience an event that affected them negatively compared to white respondents

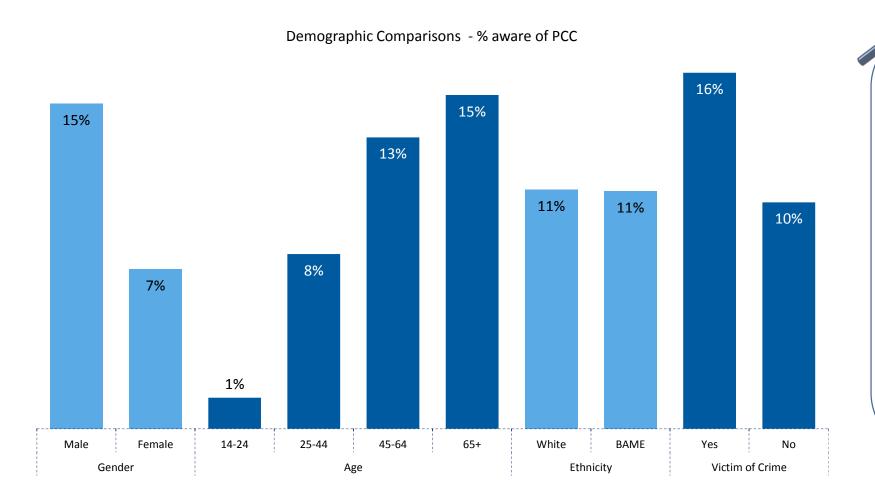
Residents in Shropshire and North Worcestershire were the most likely to have experienced an event that negatively affected their confidence in WMP

Those that experienced an event that negatively affected their confidence remains lower than those experiencing a positively affected them for a second consecutive quarter

A tenth of respondents said they are aware of the Police and Crime Commissioner



A tenth of respondents said they are aware of the Police and Crime Commissioner



Key Insights

Higher awareness found in Herefordshire; least awareness in Telford & Wrekin

Males twice as likely to be aware of the PCC compared to females

The older the respondent the more likely they were to be aware of the PCC

Perceptions surveys typically record awareness of 8-15% based on previous research conducted by SMSR.







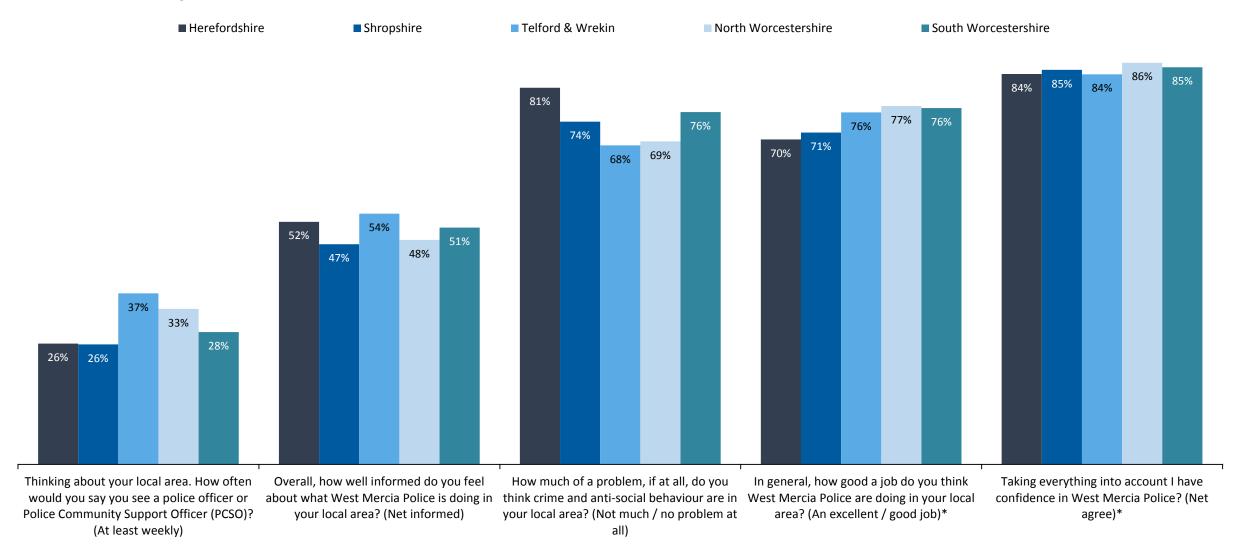
Section Seven LPA & Victim Comparisons





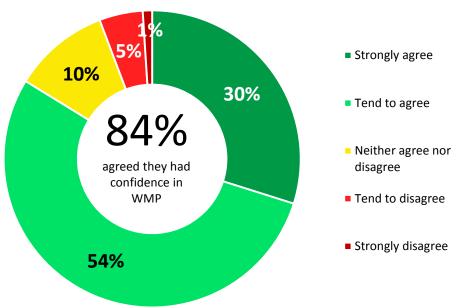


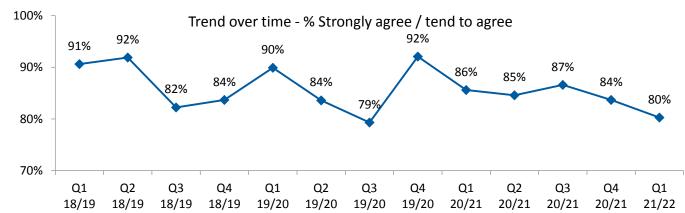
LPA Key Question Overview



LPA Key Findings - Herefordshire

Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?







Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

<u>Least</u> likely to see an officer or PCSO at least weekly (26% - joint with Shropshire)

Most satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area (66%)

Most likely to feel they could access the police in both an emergency (95%) and non-emergency (76%)

<u>Least</u> likely to have been a victim of crime over the past year (7%)

Least likely have said crime and ASB is a problem in their area (19%)

<u>Least</u> likely to say that WMP were doing either a good or an excellent job (70%)

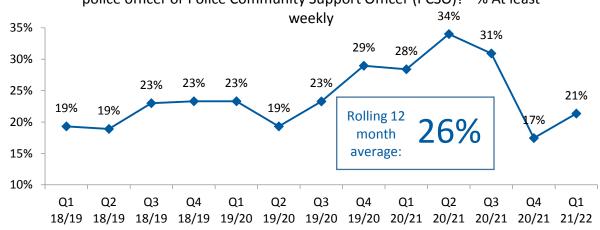
<u>Least</u> confident in WMP (84% - joint with Telford & Wrekin)

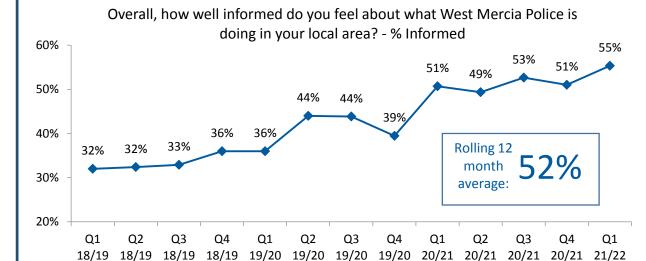
Highest awareness of the PCC (15%)

^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

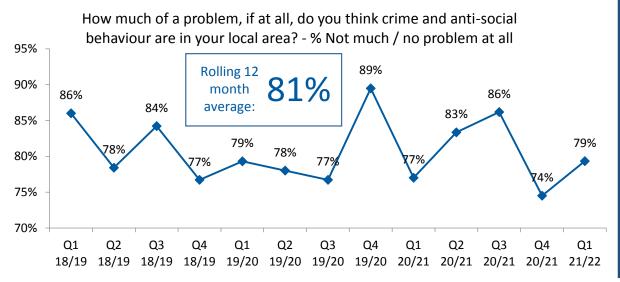
LPA Key Findings - Herefordshire

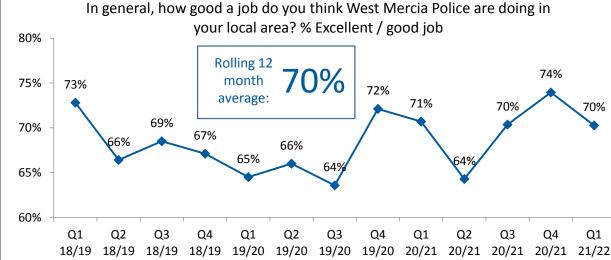
Thinking about your local area. How often would you say you see a police officer or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)? - % At least





18/19

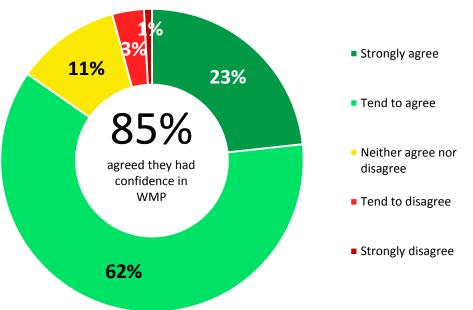


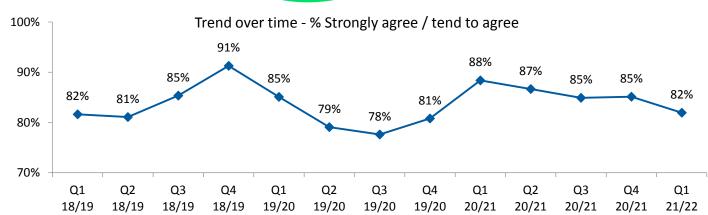


^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - Shropshire

Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?







Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

<u>Least</u> likely to see an officer or PCSO at least weekly (26% - joint with Herefordshire)

<u>Least</u> satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area (56%)

<u>Least</u> confident they could access the police services in an emergency (91%)

<u>Least</u> likely to feel informed about what WMP are doing (47%)

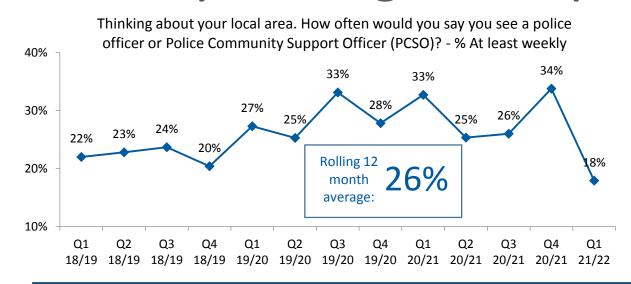
<u>Most</u> likely to feel WMP understand the issues that impact their area (72%)

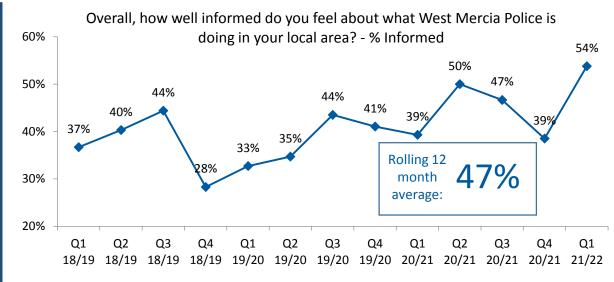
<u>Most</u> confident WMP use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully (68%)

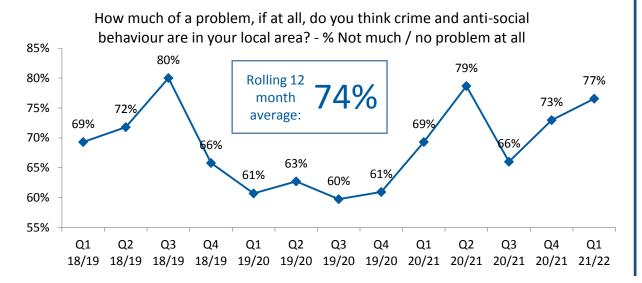
<u>Most</u> confident they would receive a good service from WMP (89% - joint with South Worcestershire and North Worcestershire)

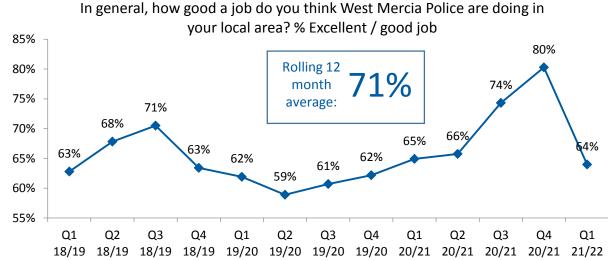
^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - Shropshire





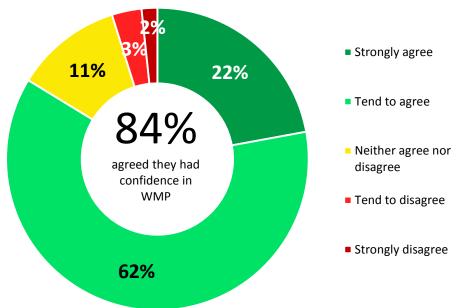


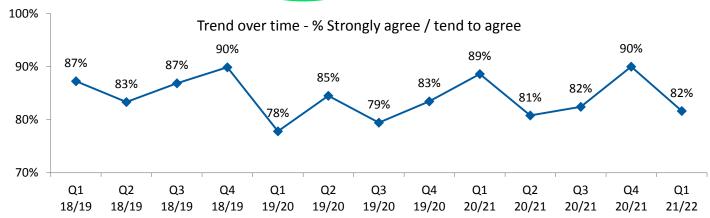


^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - Telford & Wrekin

Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?





Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

<u>Most</u> likely to see and officer or PCSO at least weekly (37%)

Most likely to feel informed about what WMP are doing in their local area (54%)

<u>Most</u> likely to feel crime and ASB was a problem in their local area (30%)

<u>Least</u> confident they would receive a good service from WMP (88% - joint with Herefordshire)

<u>Least</u> likely to say they have confidence in WMP (84% - joint with Herefordshire)

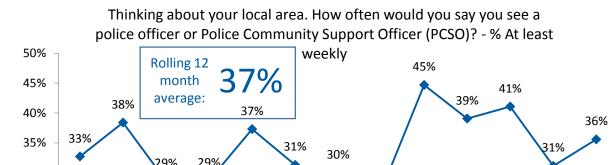
Least aware of the PCC (8%)

^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - Telford & Wrekin

Q1

20/21 20/21 20/21 20/21 21/22



19/20

30%

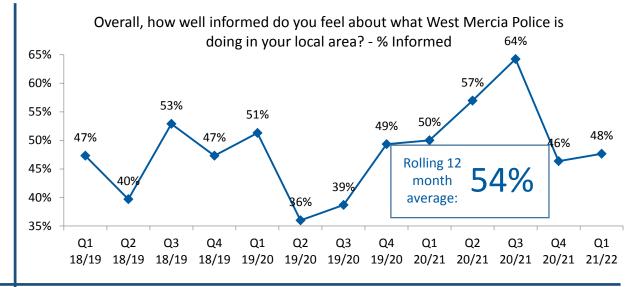
25%

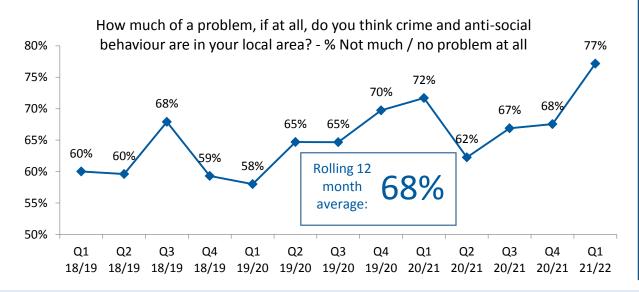
Q1

18/19

18/19

19/20

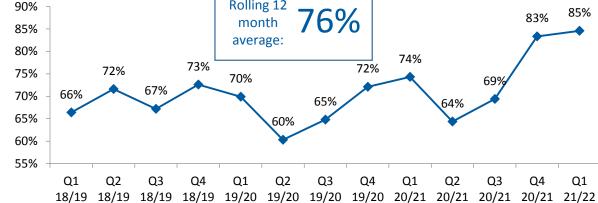




19/20

19/20

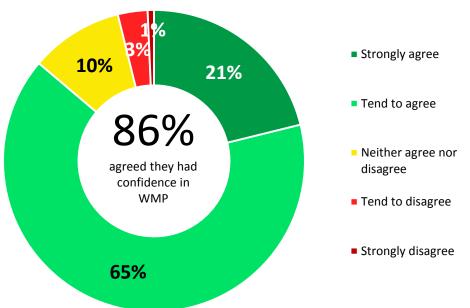


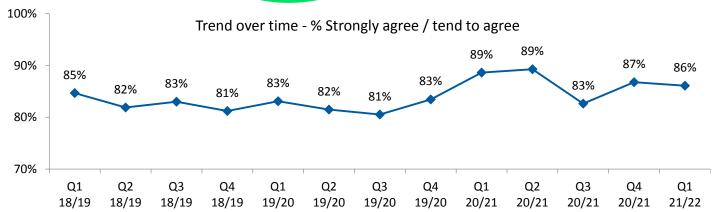


^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - North Worcestershire

Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?





Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

<u>Most</u> likely to have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team (17%)

<u>Least</u> confident they could access the police in a non-emergency (68%)

<u>Most</u> likely to have been a victim, or witness to, a crime (12%)

<u>Most</u> likely to feel WMP understand the issues that impact their area (79%)

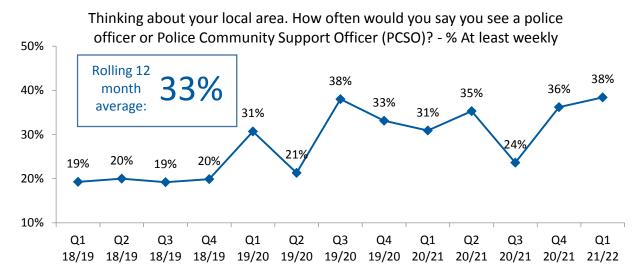
Most confident they would receive a good service from WMP (89% - joint with South Worcestershire and Shropshire)

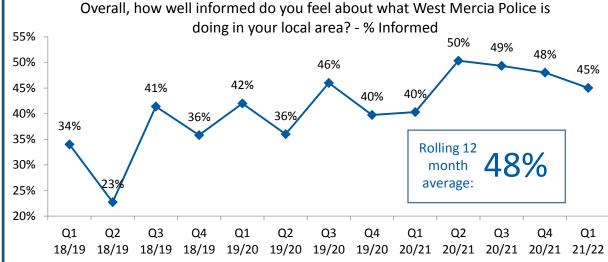
Most likely to feel WMP were doing a good or excellent job (77%)

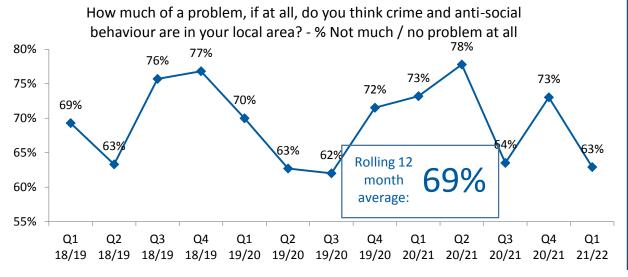
<u>Most</u> likely to have confidence in WMP (86%)

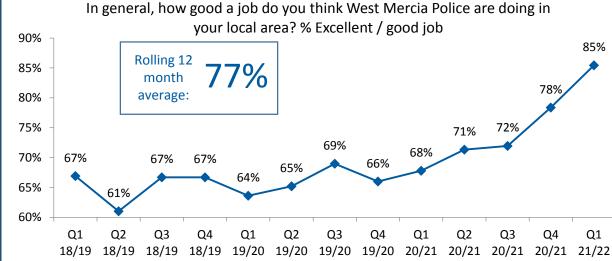
^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - North Worcestershire





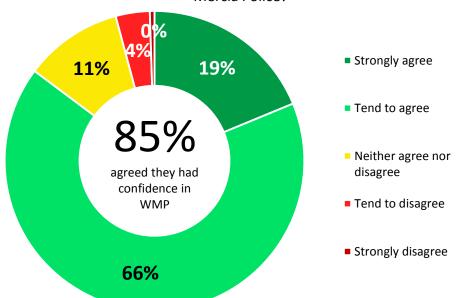


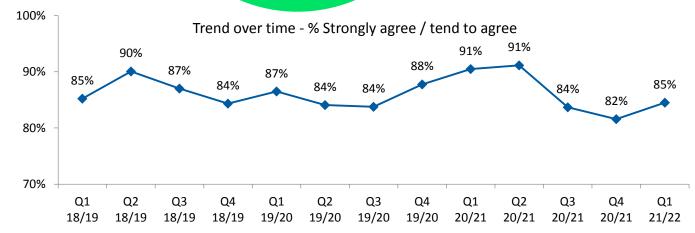


^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - South Worcestershire

Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?







Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

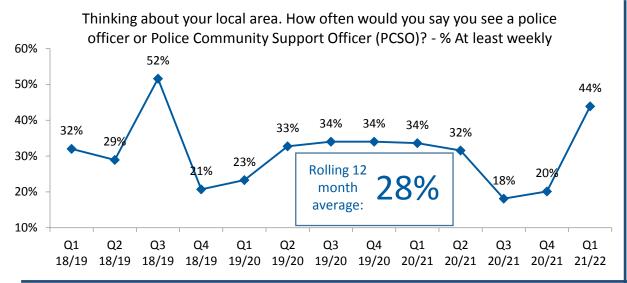
<u>Least</u> confident that WMP use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully (53%)

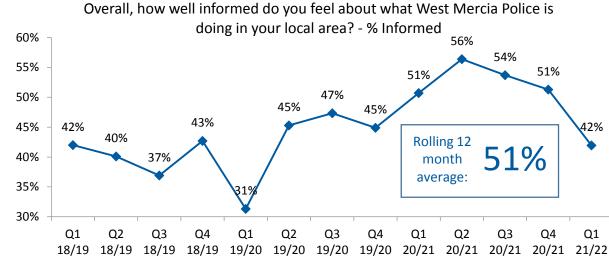
<u>Least</u> likely to feel there is now more crime and ASB compared to a year ago (8%)

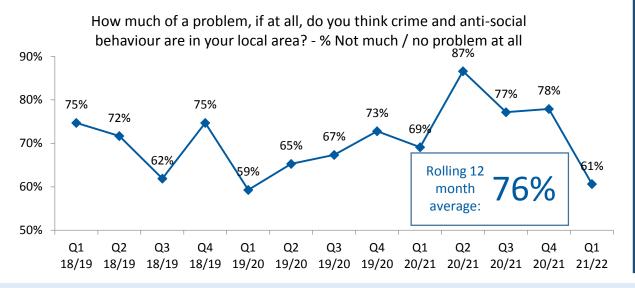
<u>Most</u> confident they would receive a good service from WMP if they were to report a crime or incident in the future (89% - joint with Shropshire and North Worcestershire)

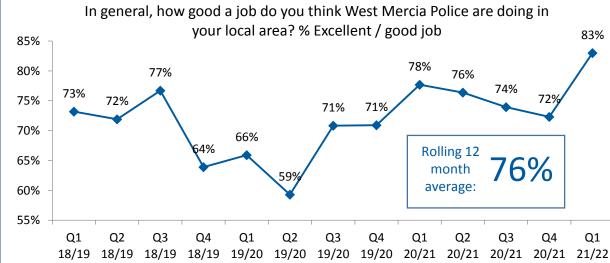
^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - South Worcestershire









^{*}Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

Victim of Crime Comparisons

