



Public Views and Perceptions of Policing in West Mercia 2022/23 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 2021 June 2022) 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 (81%) agreed that they had confidence in West Mercia Police with a slightly higher proportion confident that they would receive a good service from the force (83%).
- Just under two-thirds (64%) felt that West Mercia Police were doing either a good or excellent job.

Visibility

- A fifth of residents (21%) report that they see an officer or PCSO at least once a week with over half (54%) satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area.
- Three-quarters (75%) said that there had been no change in the level of policing; more than a tenth (13%) believed there had been a decrease (14%) with less than a tenth (5%) that thought there had been an increase.
- Just under a fifth (17%) said that they had spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team.

Interaction / Access

- Just under nine-tenths (87%) were confident that they could access the police in an emergency with around two-thirds (65%) confident they could do so in a non-emergency.
- The majority (80%) said they would prefer to contact West Mercia Police by telephone for a non-emergency issue.
- Over half (56%) said that they find out about crime and policing issues from the media, with two-fifths (41%) finding out through social media. Less than half (43%) said they felt informed about what West Mercia Police is doing, with 56% that stated they did not feel informed.

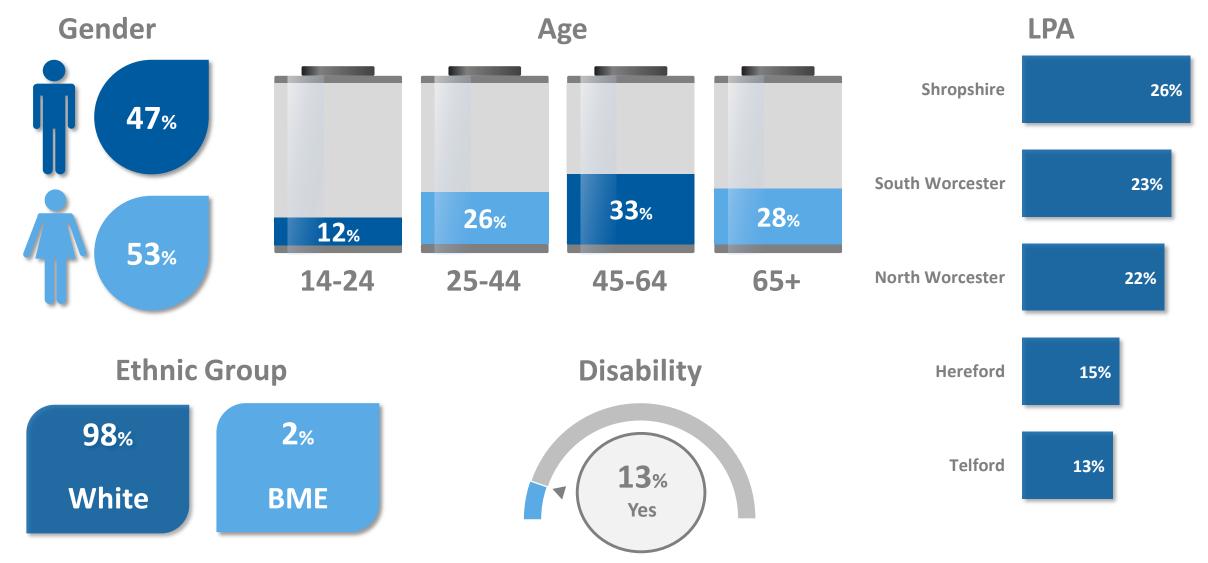
Effectiveness

- Around seven-tenths (68%) of residents felt that West Mercia Police understand the issues in their community and just over a fifth (22%) reported that they thought that crime and ASB was a problem in their area.
- Over seven-tenths (72%) thought that crime and ASB had remained the same compared to 12 months ago with over a tenth (16%) reporting an increase. Further to this, over 8 in every 10 residents (81%) agreed that West Mercia Police are dealing with crime and ASB.

Trust / integrity

- The vast majority (93%) said that West Mercia Police have their support with just under nine-tenths that said they trust WMP (87%). Over 8 in every 10 said that they act with integrity (82%) and they believe they treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are (84%). Over three-quarters felt West Mercia Police use their powers appropriately (78%), they take people's concerns seriously (75%) and can be relied to be there when you need them (75%).
- Three-fifths (59%) are confident West Mercia Police use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully. Only 5% felt West Mercia Police did not use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully.

Respondent Breakdown



Results have been weighted to accurately represent the population size of each LPA

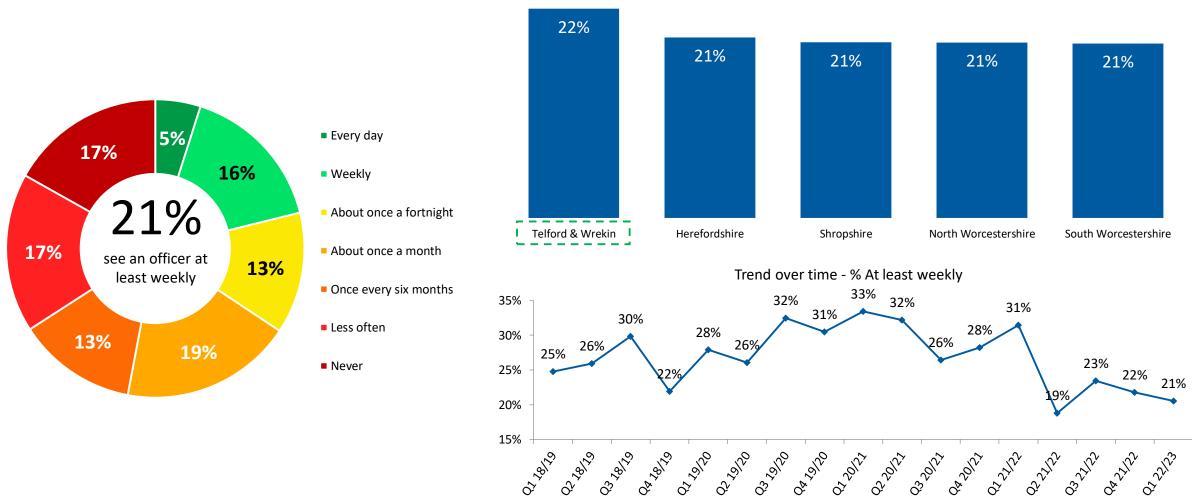




Section Two Visibility / Presence



A fifth see an officer or PCSO at least once a week

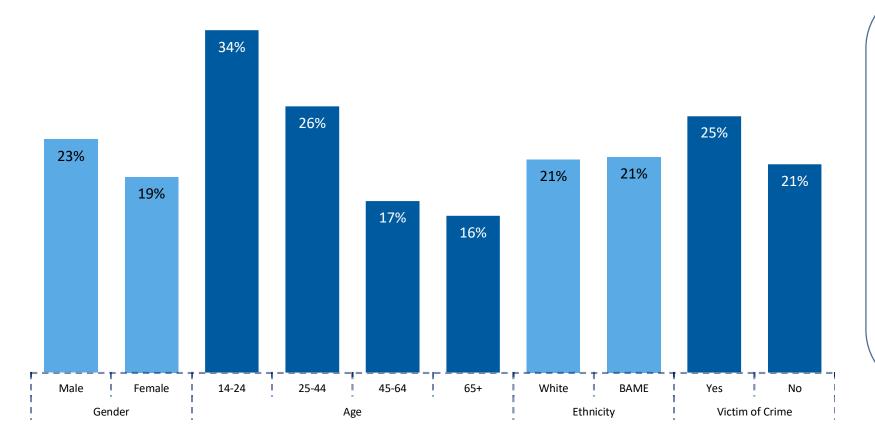


LPA Comparisons - % seeing a police officer or PCSO at least weekly

Q1 Thinking about your local area. How often would you say you see a police officer or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)?

A fifth 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

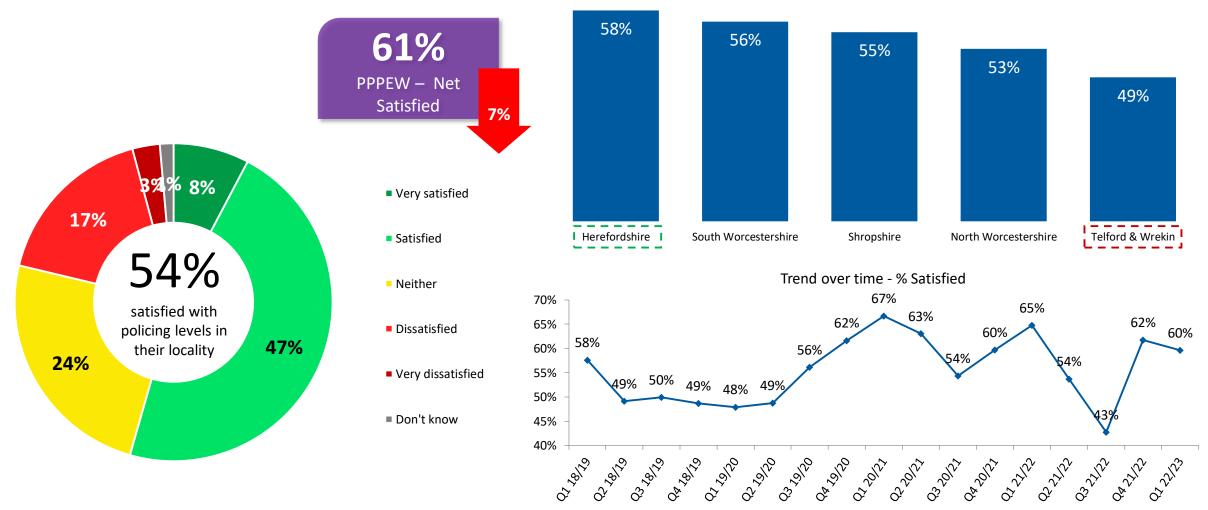
The older the respondent the less likely they were to see an officer or PCSO at least weekly

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

Males more likely than females to see an officer or PCSO at least weekly

Q1 Thinking about your local area. How often would you say you see a police officer or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)?

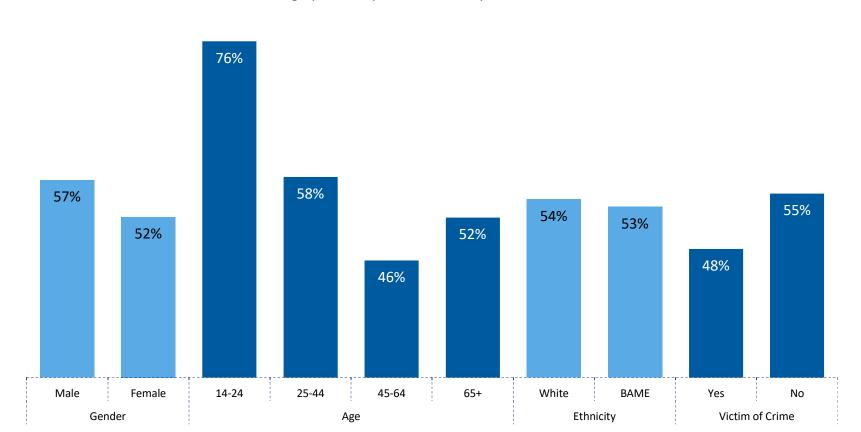
Over half satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area



Q2 How satisfied are you with the level of policing in your local area?

PPPEW Question: How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local police force?

Over half satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area



Demographic Comparisons - % very satisfied / satisfied

Key Insights

Under 24's most likely to be satisfied with policing levels in their local area - those aged 45-54 least likely to be satisfied with policing levels

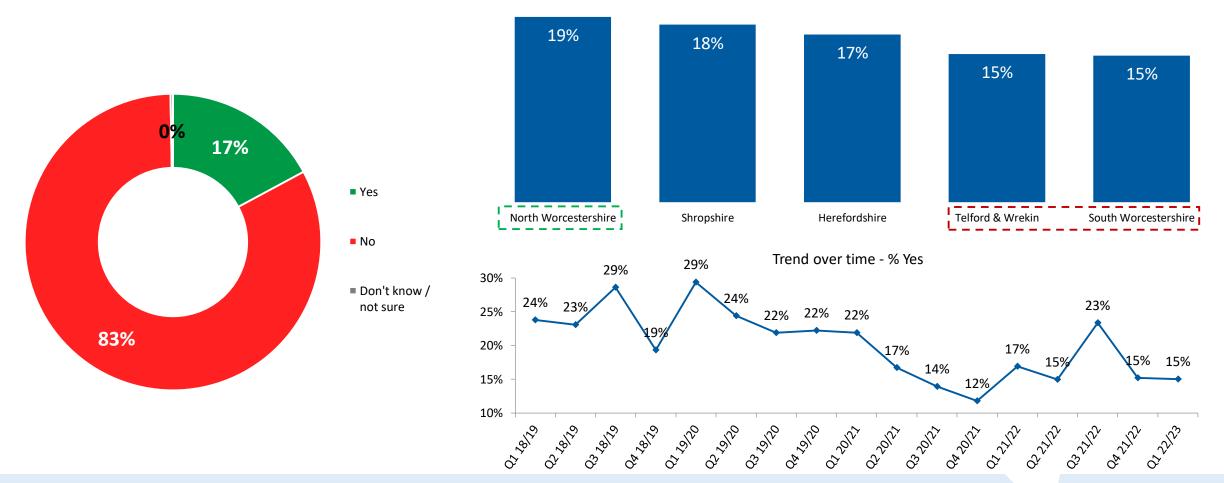
Females less likely to be satisfied with levels of policing compared to males

Residents of Telford & Wrekin least likely to be satisfied with policing levels

Those in Herefordshire more likely to be satisfied

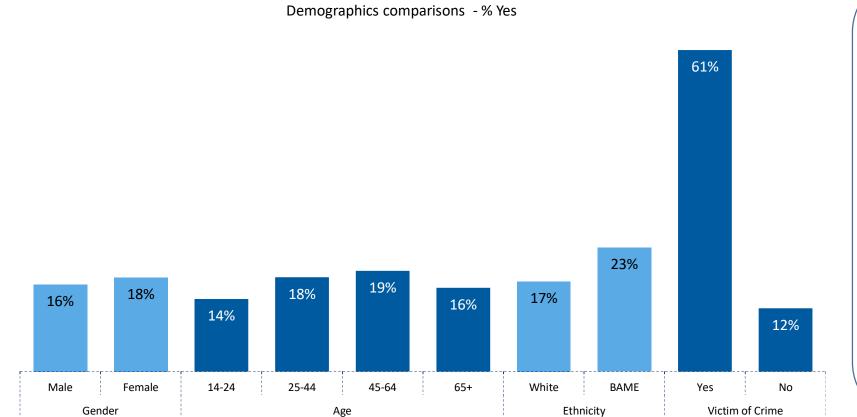
Around a fifth have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team

LPA Comparisons - % Yes



Q3 In the past 12 months, have you spoken to one or more of the police officers or PCSO's who form the local policing team in your area?

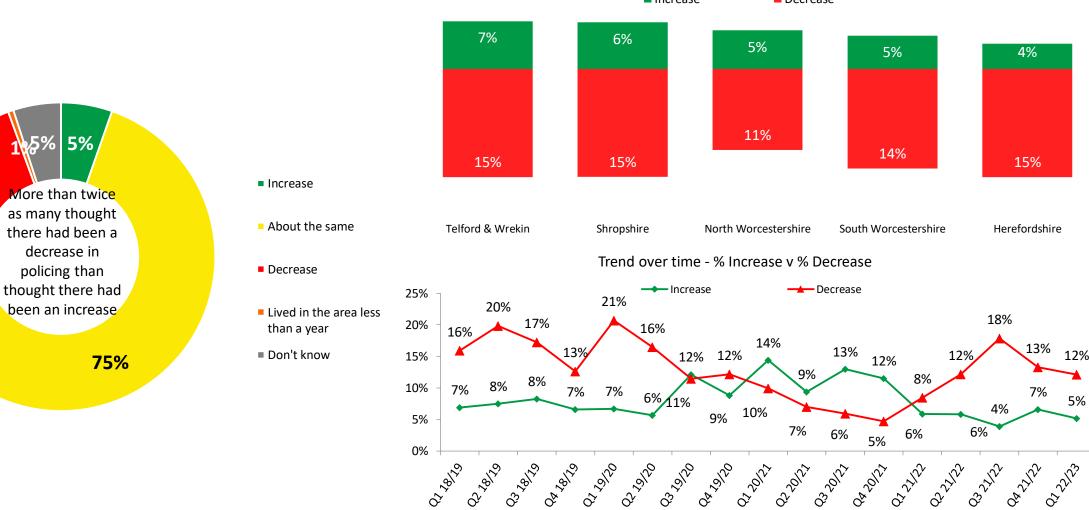
Around a fifth have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team





Those in North Worcestershire most likely to have spoken to their local policing team

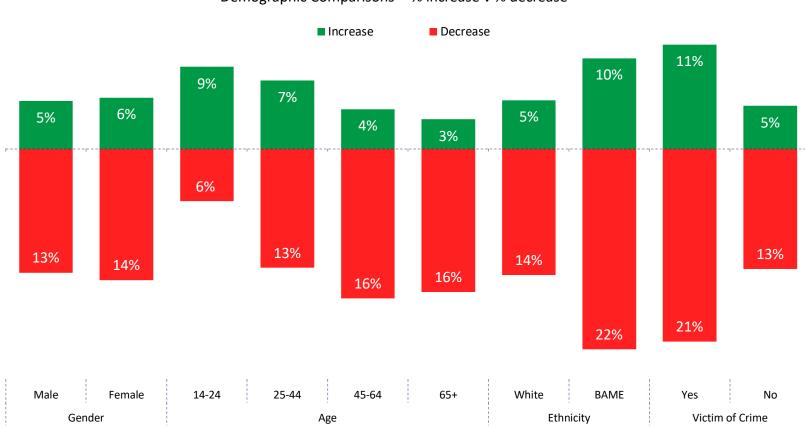
Three-quarters felt there had been no change in the level of policing



Q4 Compared to the last 12 months do you feel there has there been a change in the level of policing in this area?

14%

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



Demographic Comparisons - % increase v % decrease



Key Insights

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

Victims of crime and BAME respondents also most likely to notice a decrease in levels of policing

Residents of Telford & Wrekin most likely to notice an increase in policing

Q4 Compared to the last 12 months do you feel there has there been a change in the level of policing in this area?





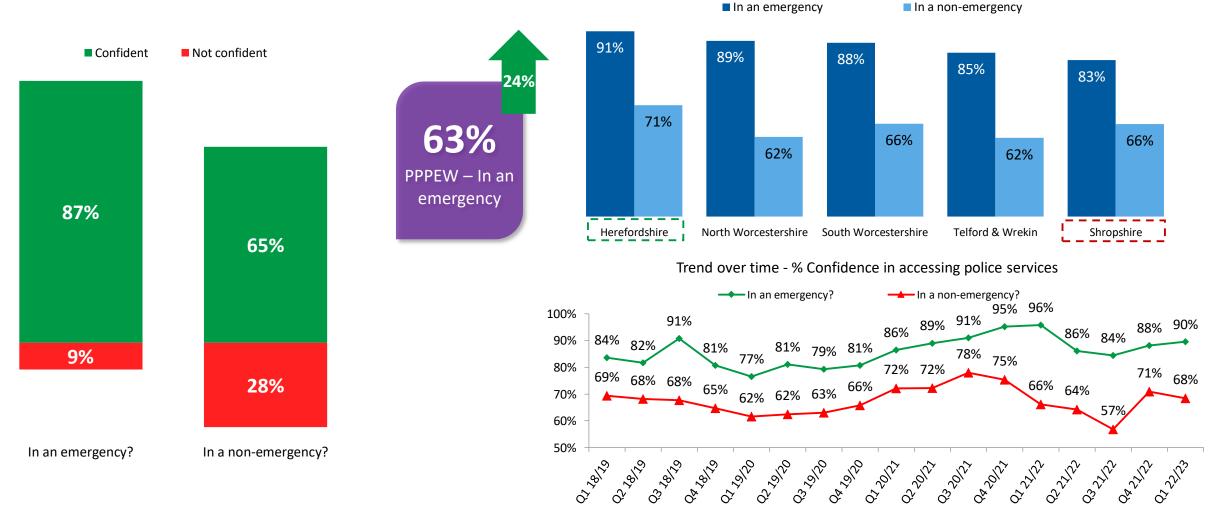
Section Three Interaction / Access



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



Nearly 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...

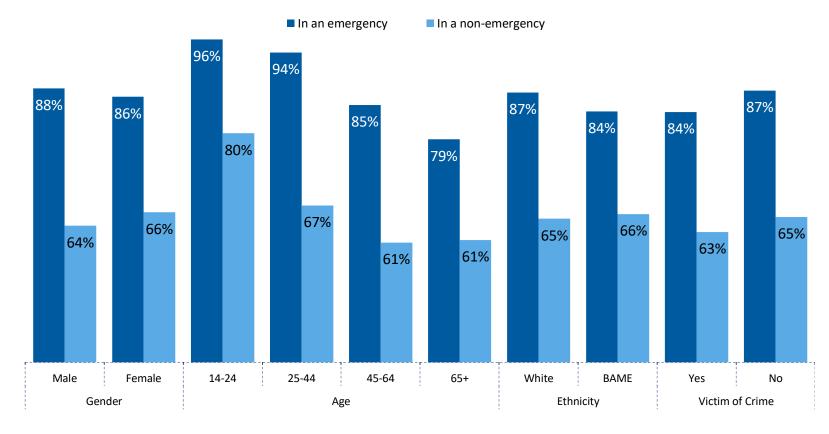


Q6 How confident are you, if at all, that you could easily speak to or access police services in your local area if you (or someone else) needed help in an emergency / non-emergency?

PPPEW Question: How confident are you, if at all, that the police in your local area would be easy to access/speak to if you (or someone else) needed help in an emergency

Nearly 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

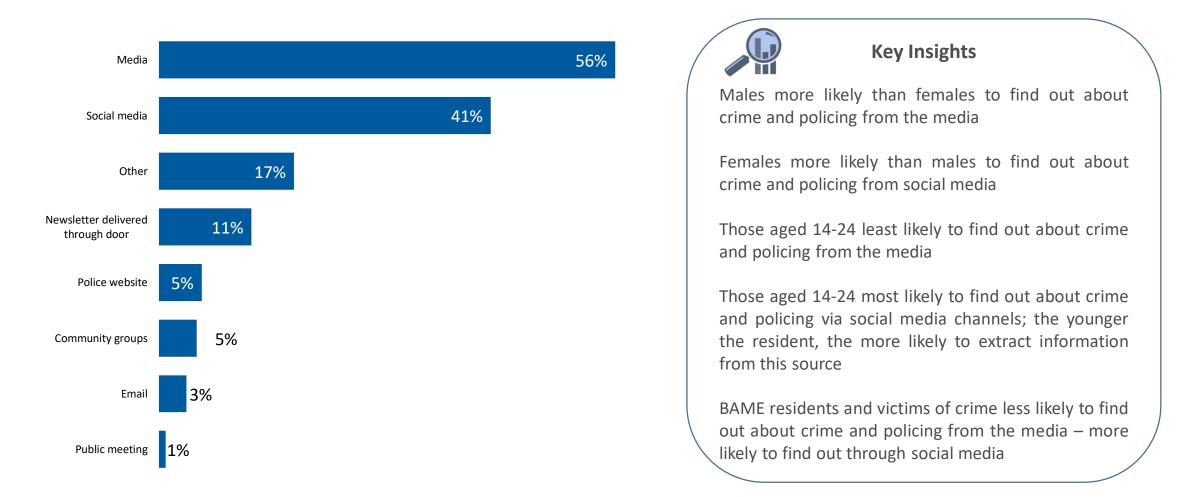
Residents in Shropshire least confident in being able to access the police in an emergency

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

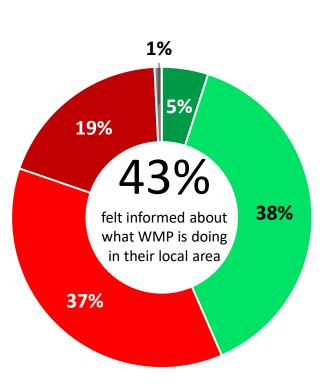
Those under 45 more likely to have confidence they can access WMP in an emergency than those aged 45+

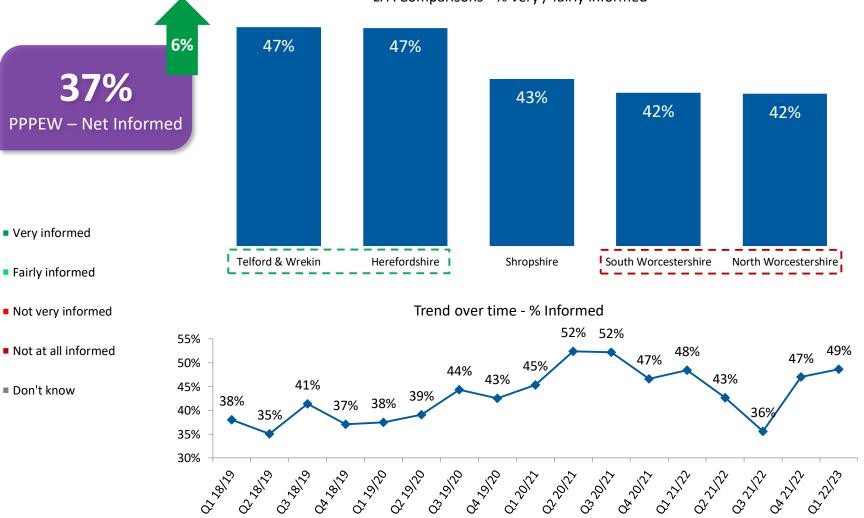
Q6 How confident are you, if at all, that you could easily speak to or access police services in your local area if you (or someone else) needed help in an emergency / non-emergency?

Over half said they found out about crime and policing from the media – over a two-thirds from social media



Over half do not feel informed about what WMP are doing



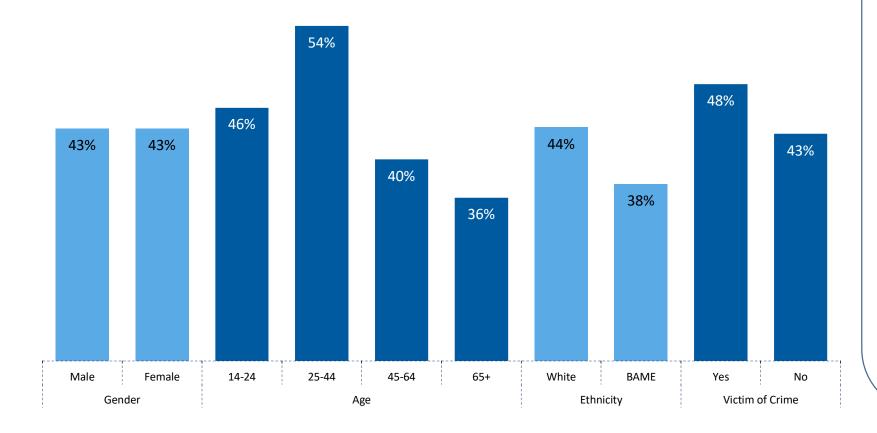


Q8 Overall, how well informed do you feel about what West Mercia Police is doing in your local area?

PPPEW Question: Overall, how well informed do you feel about what the police in your local area are doing?

Over half do not feel informed about what WMP are doing

Demographic Comparisons - % very / fairly informed





Key Insights

2% increase in those that felt informed compared to the previous quarter

Those aged 65 and over less likely to feel informed about what WMP is doing

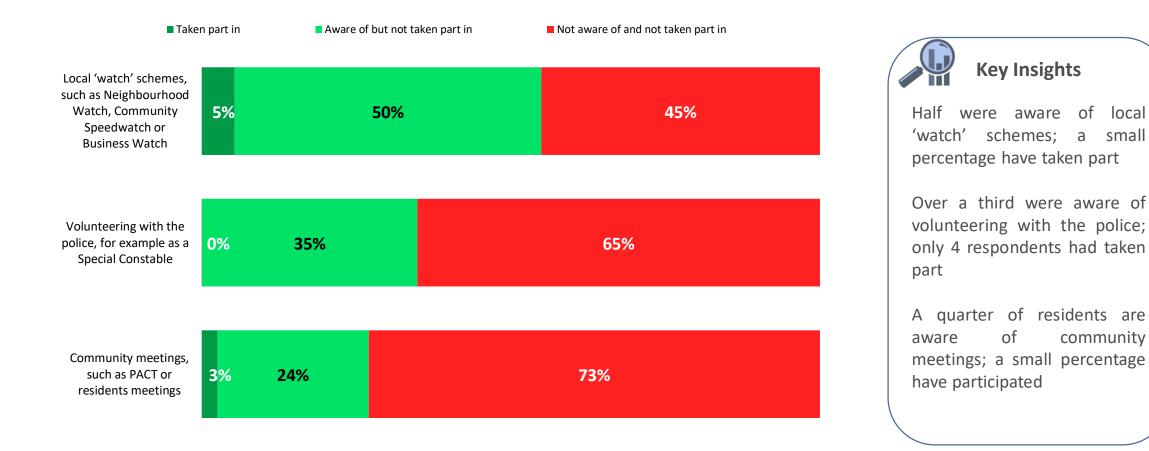
Those aged 25-44 more likely to feel informed about what the police are doing

White respondents felt more informed than BAME respondents

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

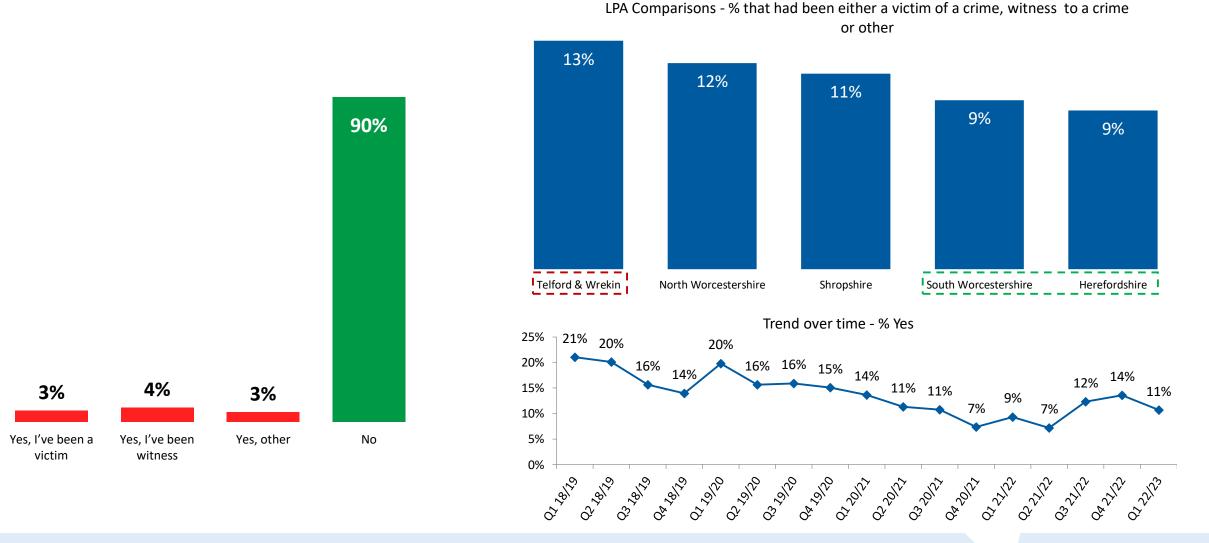
Q8 Overall, how well informed do you feel about what West Mercia Police is doing in your local area?

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



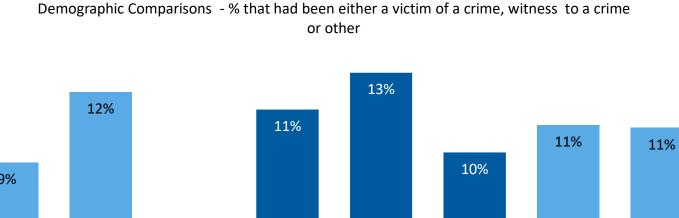
local

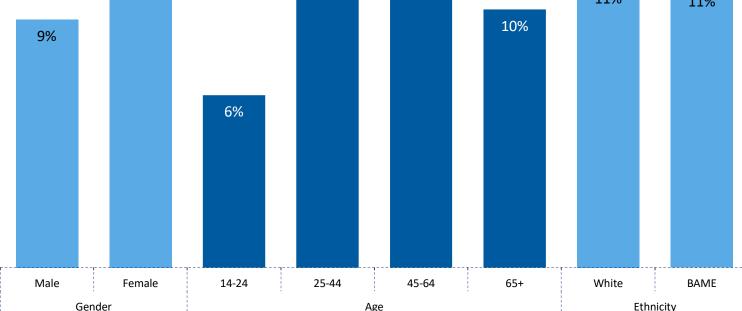
A tenth have been a victim of, or witness to, a crime



Q10 And can I ask whether you have been a victim of, or witness to, crime in the past 12 months, or you've had to contact West Mercia Police for any other issues?

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







Key Insights

Residents in Telford & Wrekin more likely to have encountered crime

Those in Herefordshire and South Worcestershire least likely to have been a victim of crime

Those aged 14-24 least likely to have been a victim of crime, those aged 45-64 most likely to have been a victim of crime

Females more likely to have been victims of crime compared to males

89% of those that had been a victim of crime said they reported this to the police

Q10 And can I ask whether you have been a victim of, or witness to, crime in the past 12 months, or you've had to contact West Mercia Police for any other issues?

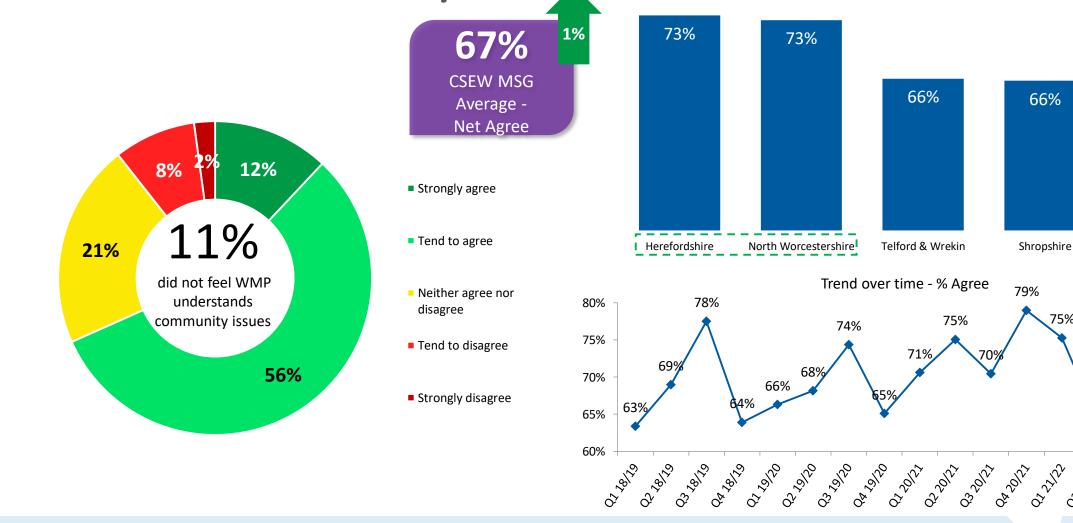




Section Four Effectiveness



Seven out of every ten felt WMP understands issues in their community LPA Comparisons - % strongly / tend to agree



Q13 How much would you agree or disagree that West Mercia Police understand the issues that affect your community? *Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make guestion comparable to CSEW

CSEW Question: They (the police in this area) understand the issues that affect this community

66%

75%

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65%

South Worcestershire

73%

042122

67%

69%

Seven out of every ten felt WMP understands issues in their community



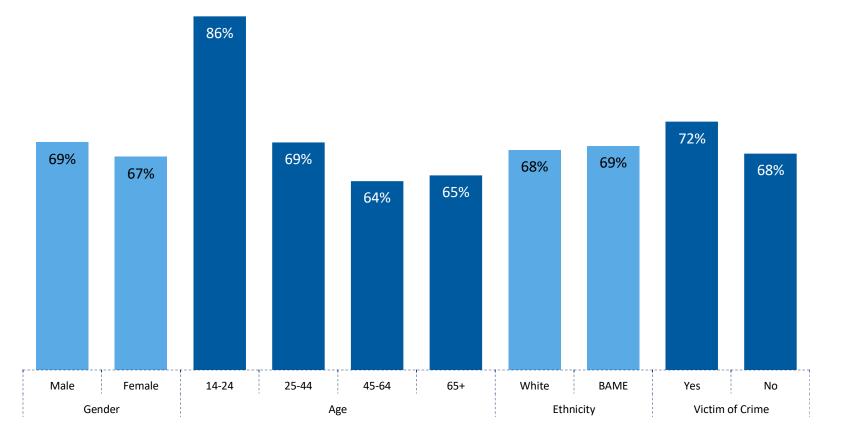
Key Insights

Residents aged 14-24 most likely to agree WMP understand the issues in their area

Victims of crime slightly more likely to agree when compared those that had not been a victim of crime

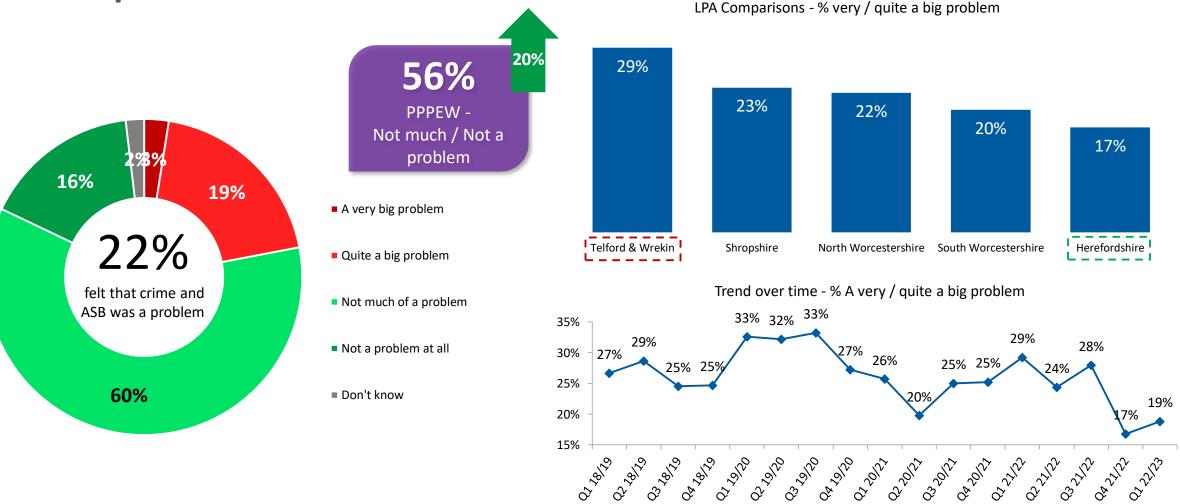
Residents in South Worcestershire least likely to agree the police understands community issues

Residents in Herefordshire and North Worcestershire most likely to agree the police understands community issues Demographic Comparisons - % strongly / tend to agree



Q13 How much would you agree or disagree that West Mercia Police understand the issues that affect your community? *Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

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

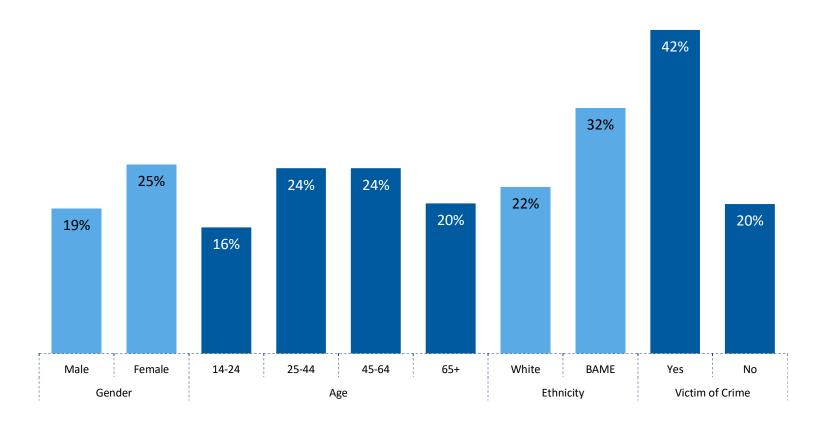


Q14 How much of a problem, if at all, do you think crime and anti-social behaviour are in your local area?

PPPEW Question: How much of a problem, if at all, do you think crime and anti-social behaviour are in your local area?

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 twice as likely to have said crime and ASB was a problem

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

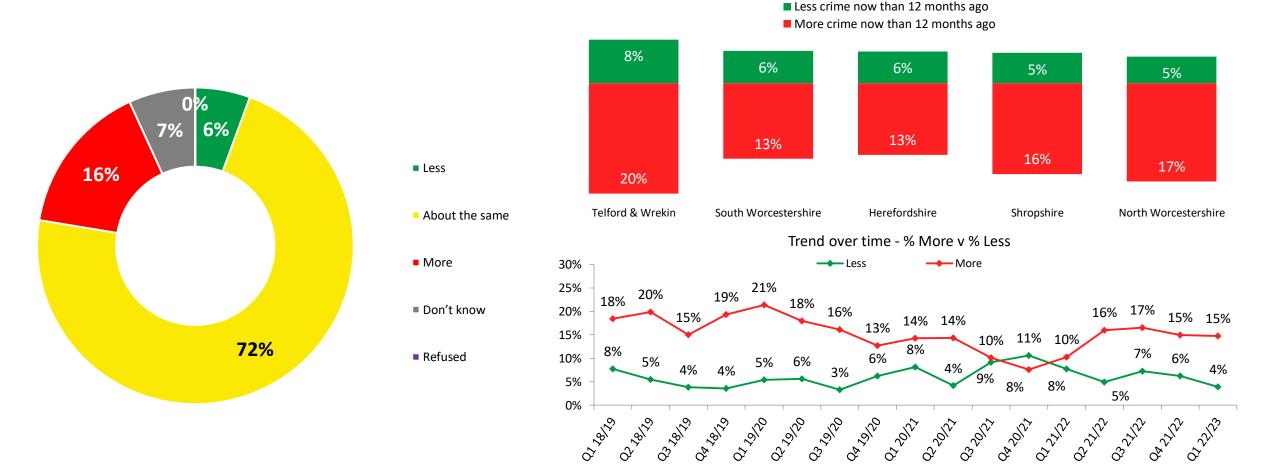
Females more likely to say crime and ASB a problem than males

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

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

Over seven-tenths felt crime and ASB levels had remained the same – over a tenth felt there was more

LPA Comparisons - % more crime v % less crime

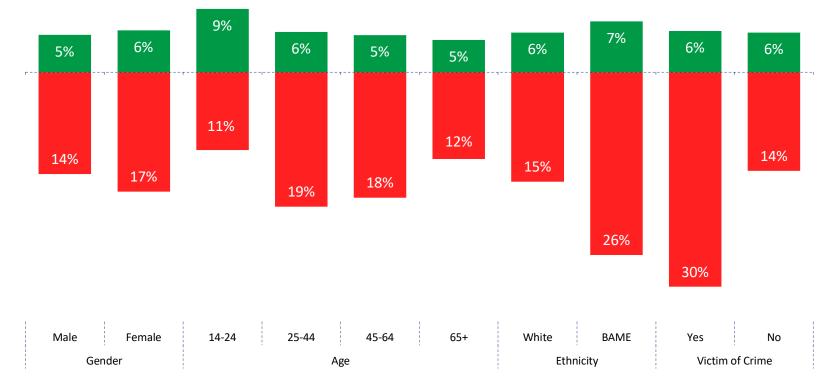


Q15 Compared to 12 months ago, would you say there is now more crime and ASB in the area you live in, less crime and ASB or about the same?

Over seven-tenths felt crime and ASB levels had remained the same – over a tenth felt there was more

Demographic Comparisons - % more crime v % less crime

Less crime now than 12 months ago



More crime now than 12 months ago



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

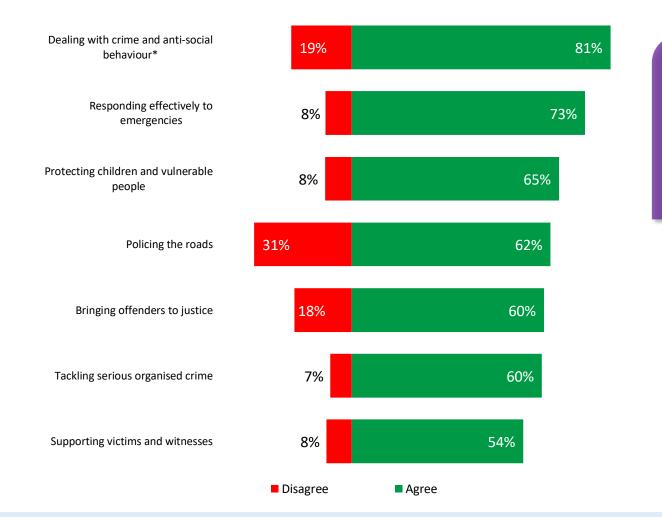
BAME respondents more inclined than white respondents to feel that crime and ASB has increased

Those aged 25-44 and 45-64 more likely to feel there has been an increase in crime over the past 12 months

Residents of Telford & Wrekin more incline to feel there has been an increase in crime and ASB

Q15 Compared to 12 months ago, would you say there is now more crime and ASB in the area you live in, less crime and ASB or about the same?

Over 8 out of every 10 agreed WMP are dealing with crime and ASB





27%

54%

CSEW MSG

Average -

Dealing with

crime and

ASB

Key Insights

Three-quarters agreed WMP are responding effectively to emergencies

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

Just under a third disagreed that WMP are policing the roads

Agreement towards statements generally declined the older the respondent was

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

Q16 To what extent do you agree or disagree that West Mercia Police are: *Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW



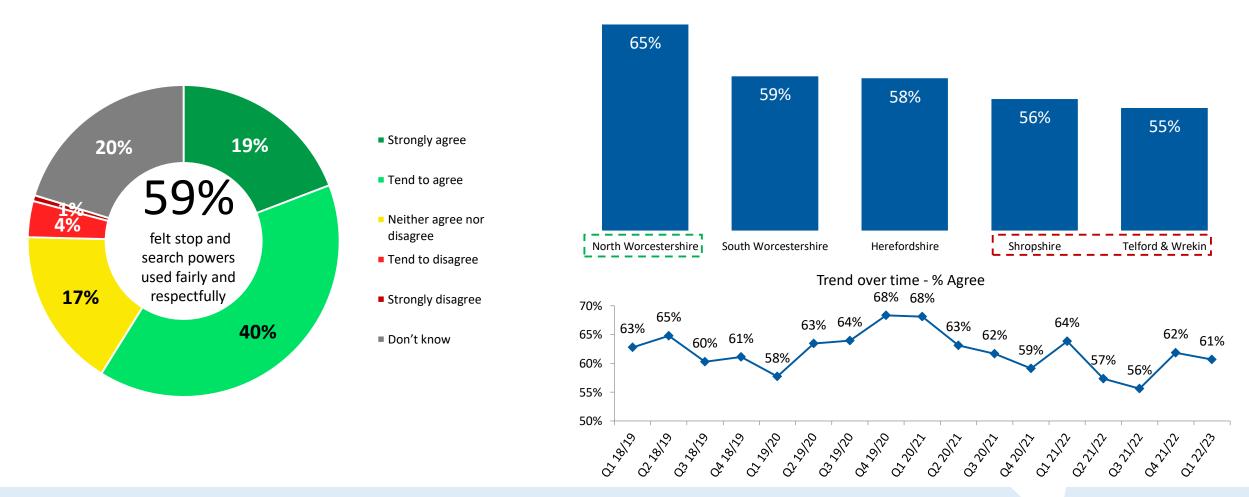


Section Five Trust / Integrity



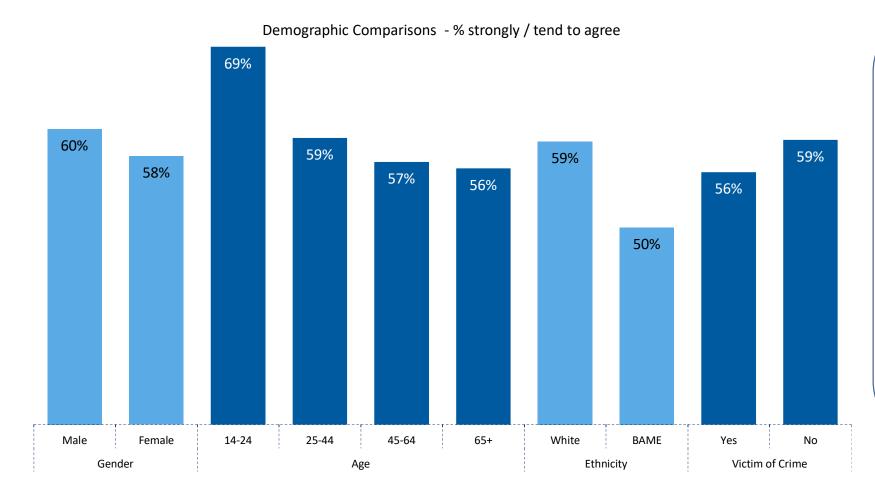
Three-fifths confident WMP use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully

LPA Comparisons - % strongly / tend to agree



Q17 Please say how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: I am confident that West Mercia Police use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully?

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





Key Insights

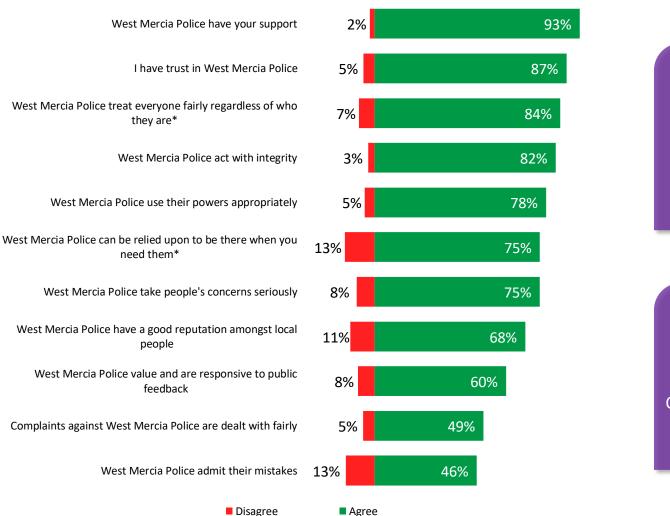
BAME respondent less confident the police use their stop and search power fairly and respectfully compared to white respondents

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

Residents in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin least likely to feel WMP use stop and search powers fairly and respectfully, those in North Worcestershire most likely

Q17 Please say how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: I am confident that West Mercia Police use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully?

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



69% **CSEW MSG** Average -Treat everyone fairly 18% 57% CSEW MSG Average – Can be relied on when needed

15%

Key Insights

Over 9 out of every 10 residents say that WMP have their support

Over 8 in 10 say they have trust in WMP, they believe WMP treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are and that WMP act with integrity

More than a tenth disagreed WMP can be relied upon to be there when needed, have a good reputation amongst local people and admit their mistakes

Less than half felt complaints against WMP are dealt with fairly and that WMP admit their mistakes

Q18 Thinking about West Mercia Police, to what extent do you agree or disagree that...? *Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW CSEW Questions: They (the police in this area) can be relied on to be there when you need them / The police in this area treat everyone fairly regardless of who they are

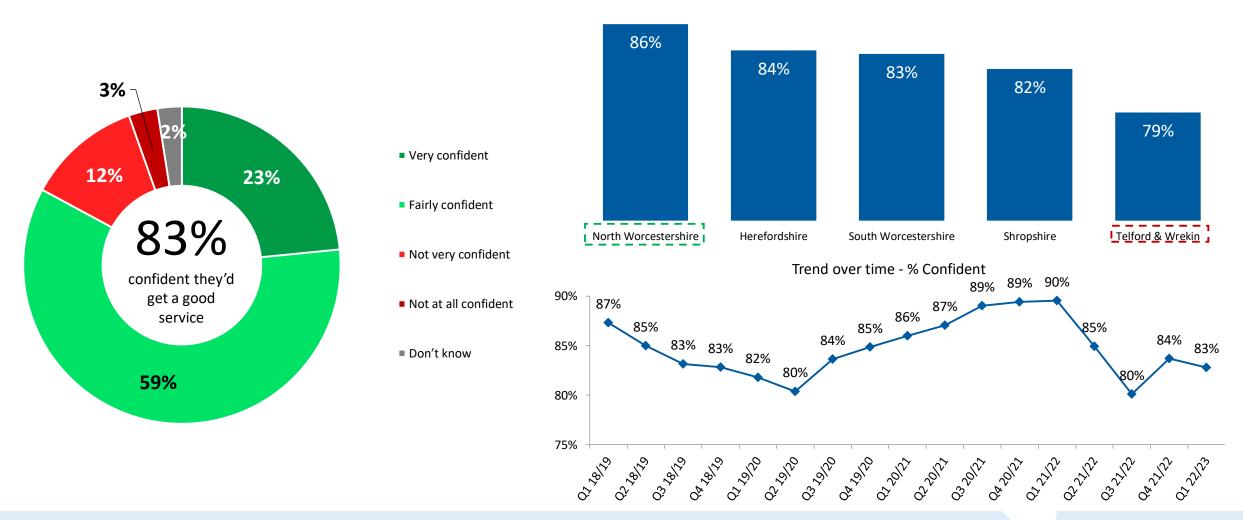




Section Six Confidence in West Mercia Police

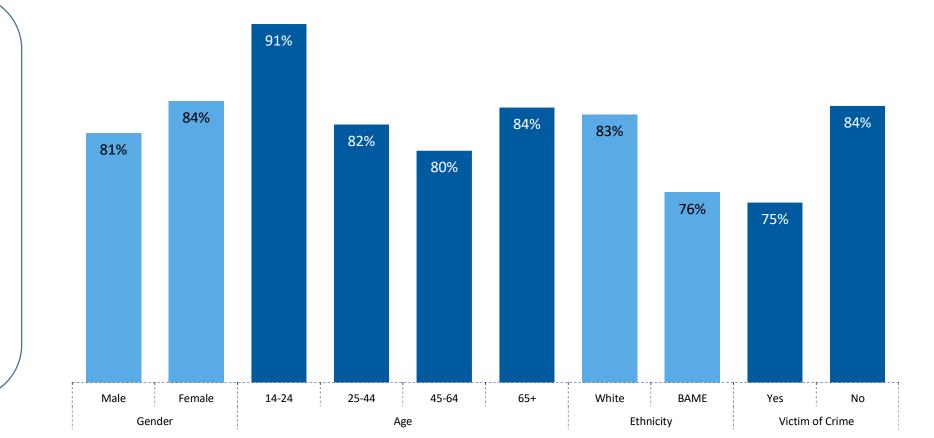


More than four-fifths confident they would receive a good service from WMP LPA Comparisons - % very / fairly confident



Q19 If you were to report a crime or incident in the future, how confident are you that you would receive a good service from West Mercia Police?

More than four-fifths confident they would receive a good service from WMP



Demographic Comparisons - % very / fairly confident

Key Insights

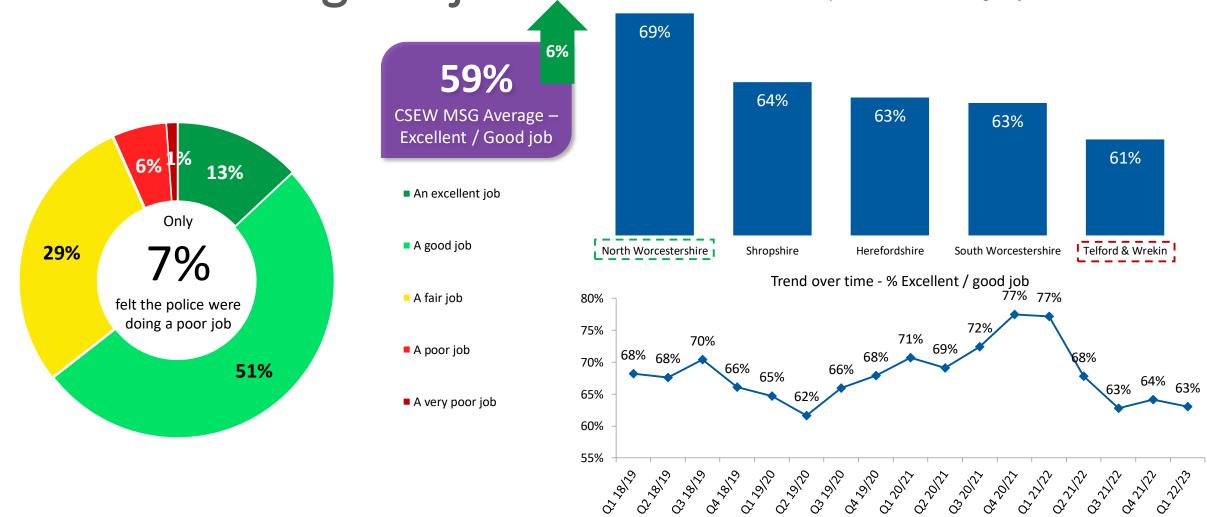
Those aged 14-24 most confident they would receive a good service from WMP

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

Residents in North Worcestershire most confident they would receive a good service, those in Telford & Wrekin least confident

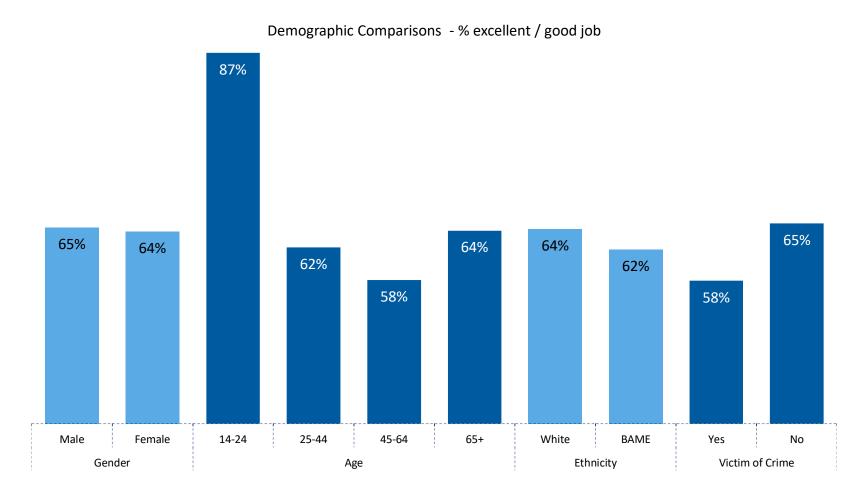
Q19 If you were to report a crime or incident in the future, how confident are you that you would receive a good service from West Mercia Police?

Over two-thirds felt the police were doing either an excellent or a good job



Q20 In general, how good a job do you think West Mercia Police are doing in your local area? *Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW CSEW Question: Taking everything into account, how good a job do you think the police in this area are doing?

Over two-thirds felt the police were doing either an excellent or a good job



Key Insights

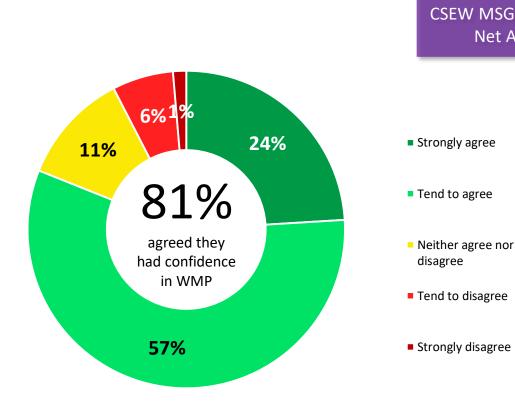
Those aged 14-24 significantly more likely to feel the police were doing an excellent or good job compared to other age groups

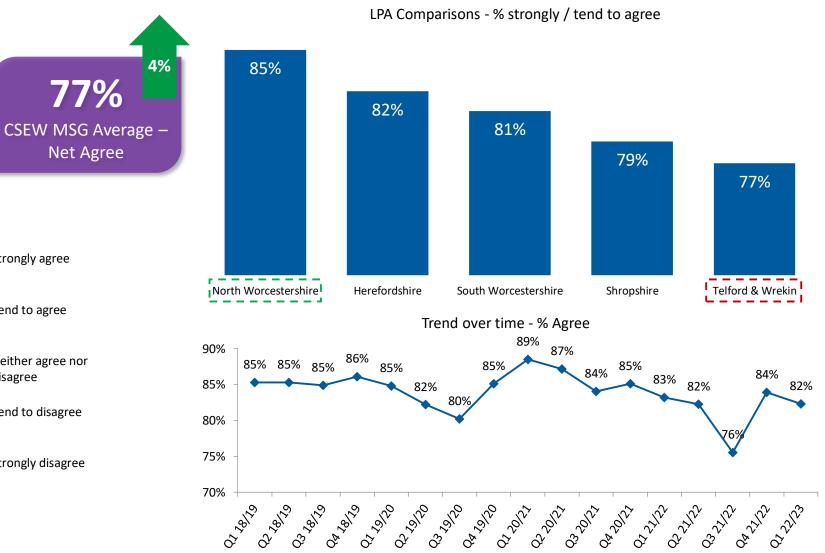
Residents in Telford & Wrekin least likely to say WMP were doing an excellent or good job

Those in North Worcestershire were the most likely to say WMP were doing either an excellent or good job

Q20 In general, how good a job do you think West Mercia Police are doing in your local area? *Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

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





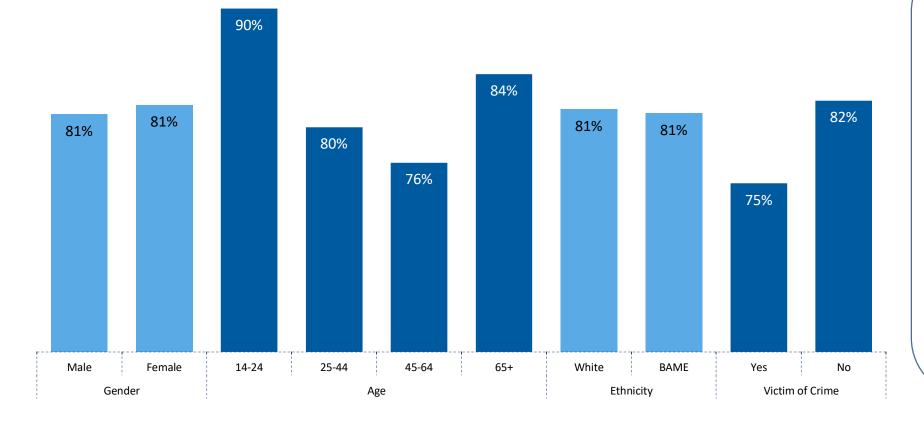
Q21 Please say how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?

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

CSEW Question: Taking everything into account I have confidence in the police in this area

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

Demographic Comparisons - % strongly/ tend to agree



Key Insights

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

Those aged 45-64 less inclined to have confidence in WMP

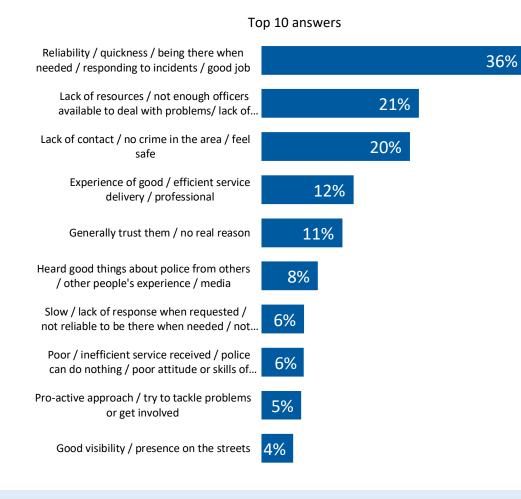
Victims of crime less likely be confident in WMP

Residents of North Worcestershire more likely to have confidence in WMP - those in Telford & Wrekin less likely to have confidence

Q21 Please say how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: Taking everything into account I have confidence in West Mercia Police?

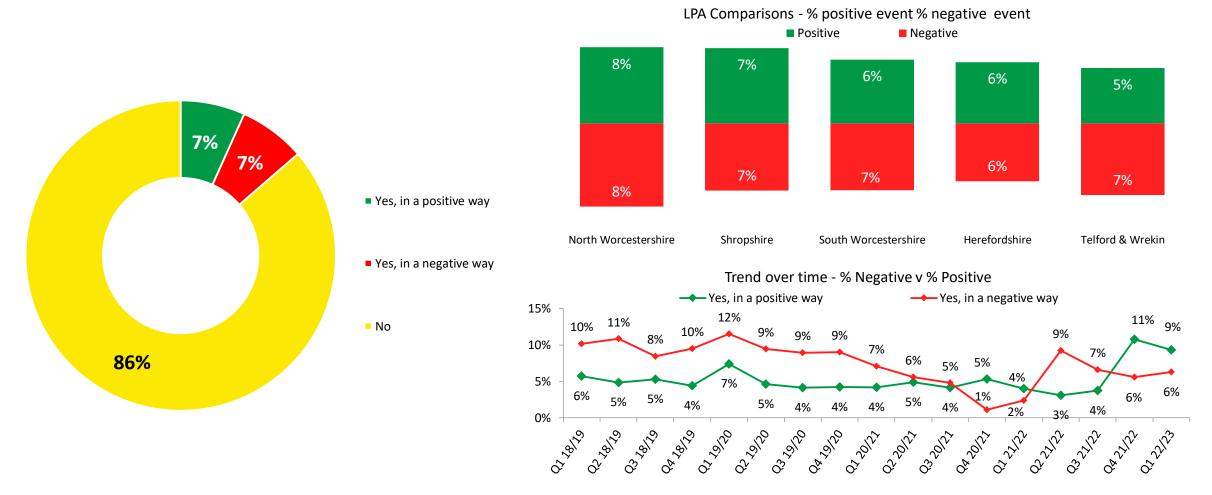
*Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

Factors influencing confidence



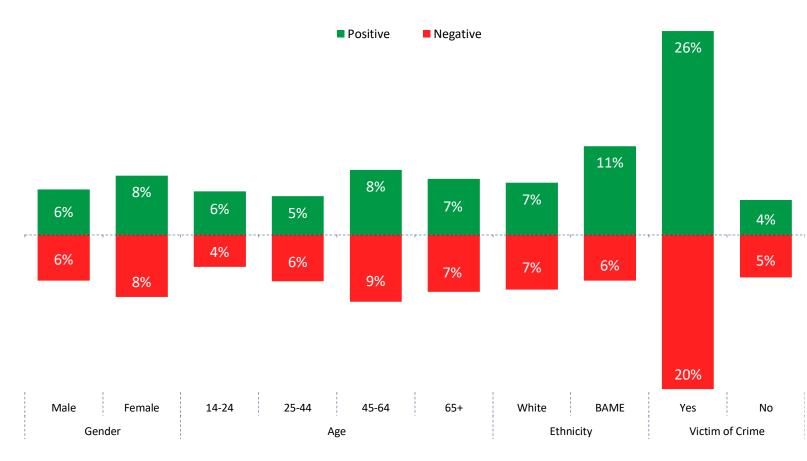


Less than a tenth have experienced an event that negatively affected their confidence in the police



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

Demographic Comparisons - % positive event v % negative event





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

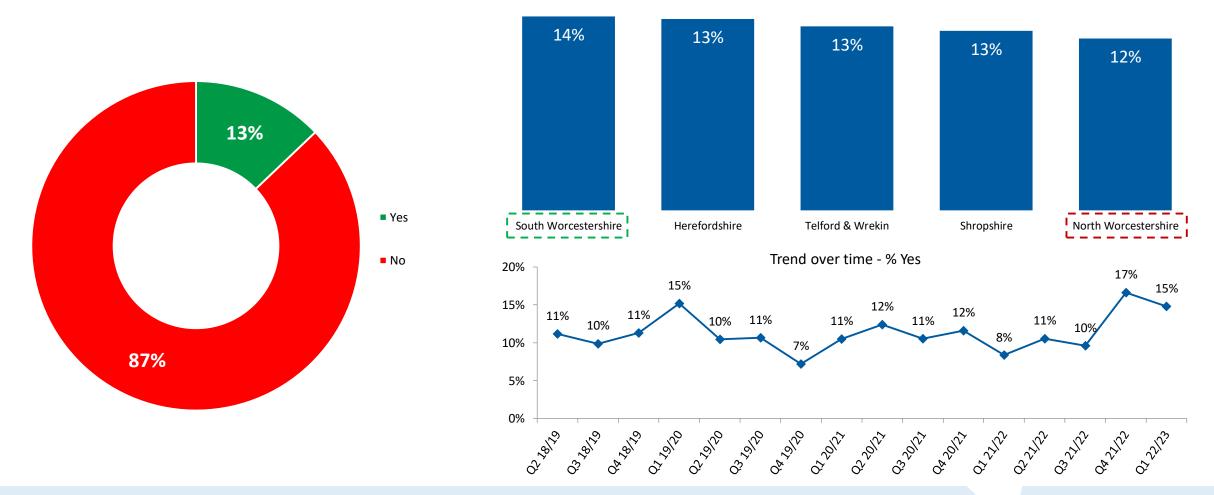
BAME respondents more likely to experience an event that affected them positively compared to white respondents

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

Residents in North Worcestershire also more likely to have experienced an event that positively affected their confidence in WMP

Q23 Has any particular event affected your confidence in the police in the last 12 months?

More than a tenth of respondents said they are aware of the Police and Crime Commissioner

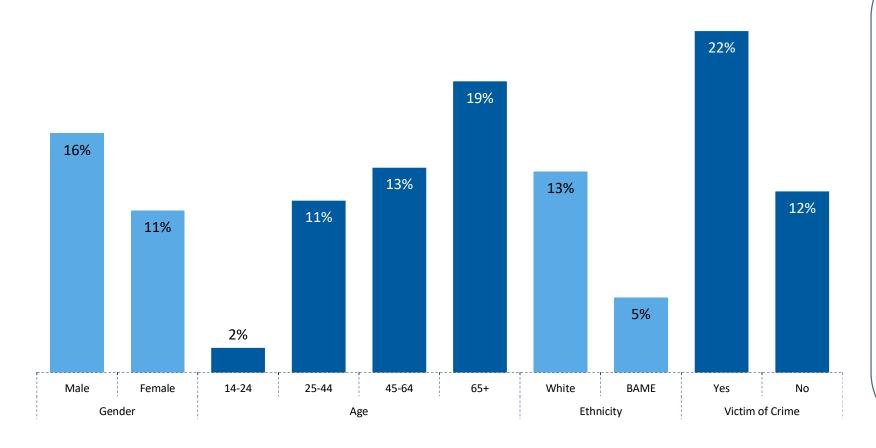


LPA Comparisons - % aware of PCC

Q25 Do you know who the current elected Police and Crime Commissioner is for your area?

More than a tenth of respondents said they are aware of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Demographic Comparisons - % aware of PCC





Key Insights

Higher awareness found in South Worcestershire; least awareness in North Worcestershire

Males more likely to be aware of the PCC compared to females

Awareness lower amongst BAME respondents when compared to White respondents

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.

Q25 Do you know who the current elected Police and Crime Commissioner is for your area?

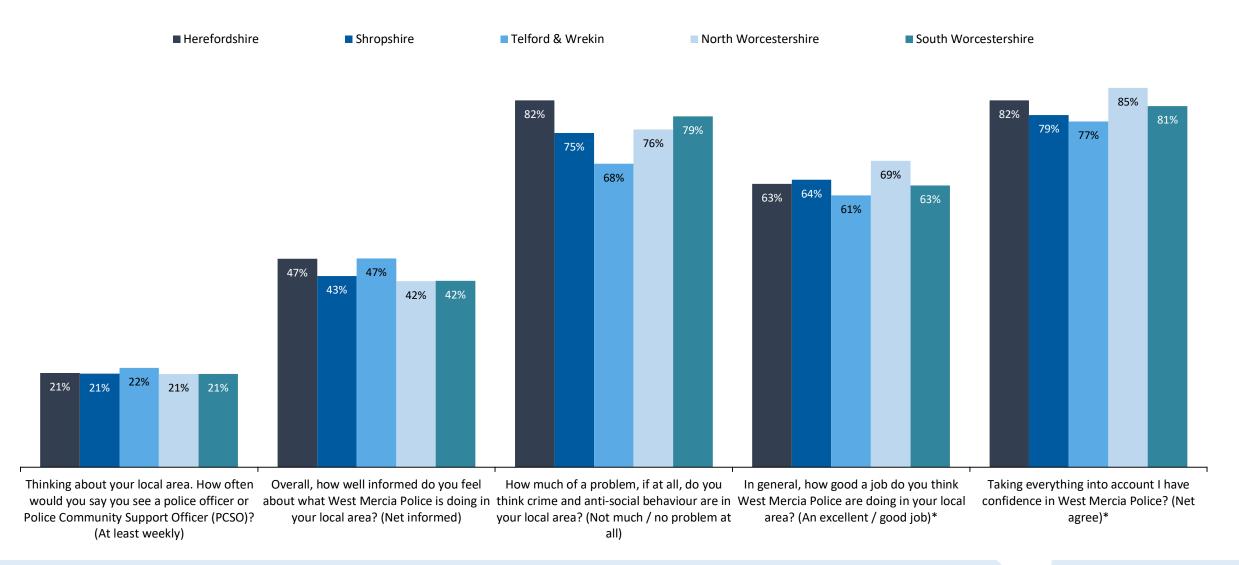




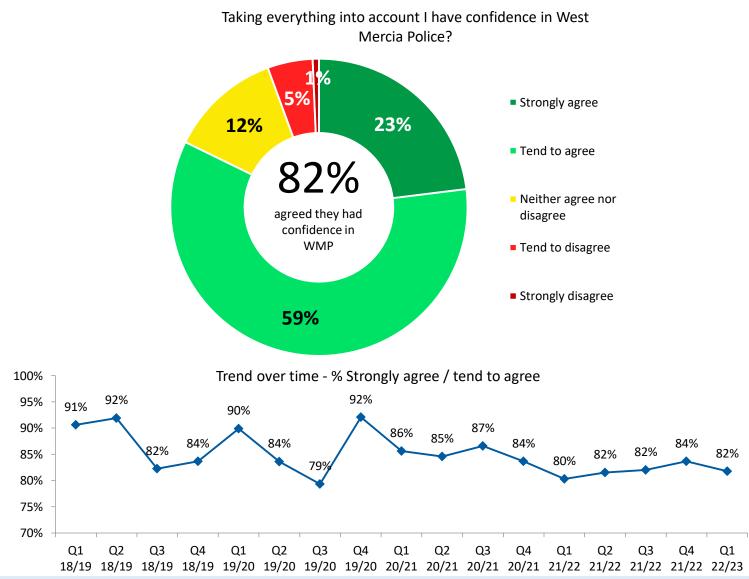
Section Seven LPA & Victim Comparisons



LPA Key Question Overview



LPA Key Findings - Herefordshire





Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

<u>Most</u> satisfied with the levels of policing in their local area (58%)

<u>Most</u> likely to feel they could access the police in both an emergency (91%) and non-emergency (71%)

<u>Most</u> informed about what WMP are doing (47% - joint with Telford & Wrekin)

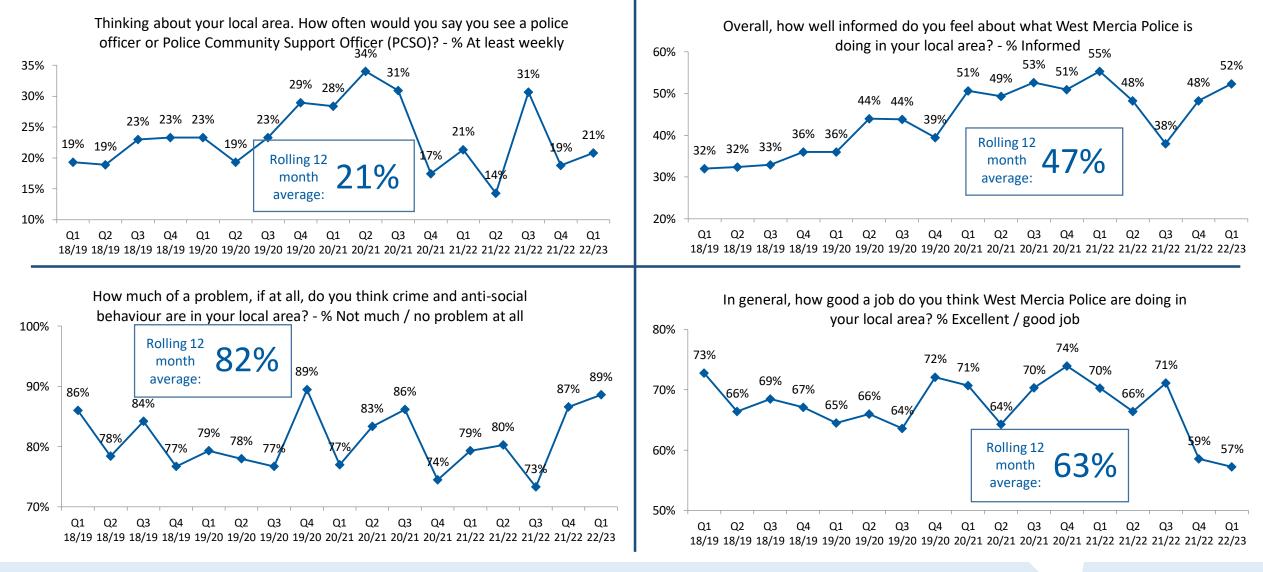
<u>Least</u> likely to have been a victim of crime over the past year (9% - joint with South Worcestershire)

<u>Most</u> likely to feel WMP understands the issues in their community (73% - joint with North Worcestershire)

<u>Least</u> likely have said crime and ASB is a problem in their area (17%)

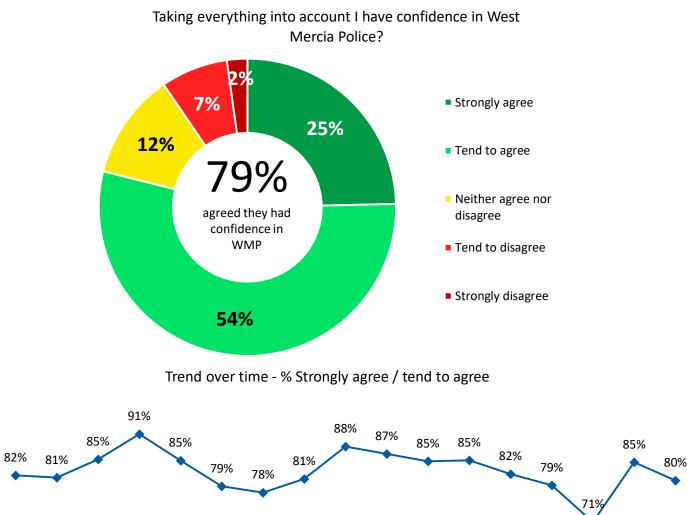
*Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - Herefordshire



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

LPA Key Findings - Shropshire



Q1

18/19 18/19 18/19 18/19 19/20 19/20 19/20 19/20 20/21 20/21 20/21 20/21 21/22 21/22 21/22 21/22 22/23

Q4

Q2

Q3

Q1

Q4

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1



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

Q1

Q2

Q3

100%

95%

90%

85%

80% 75%

70%

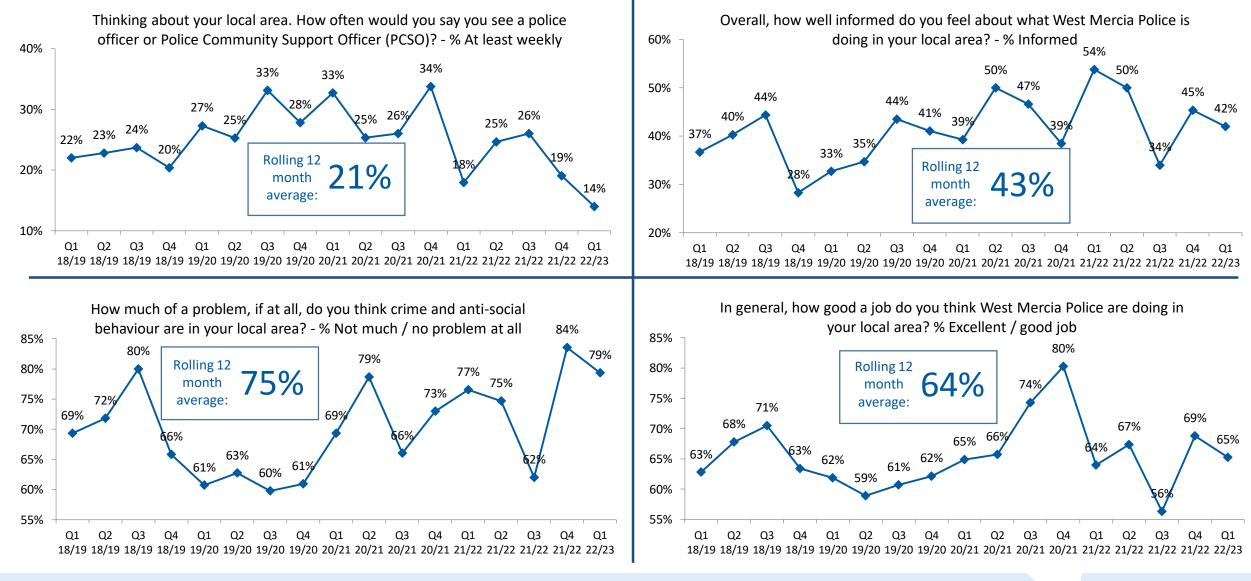
Q2

Q1

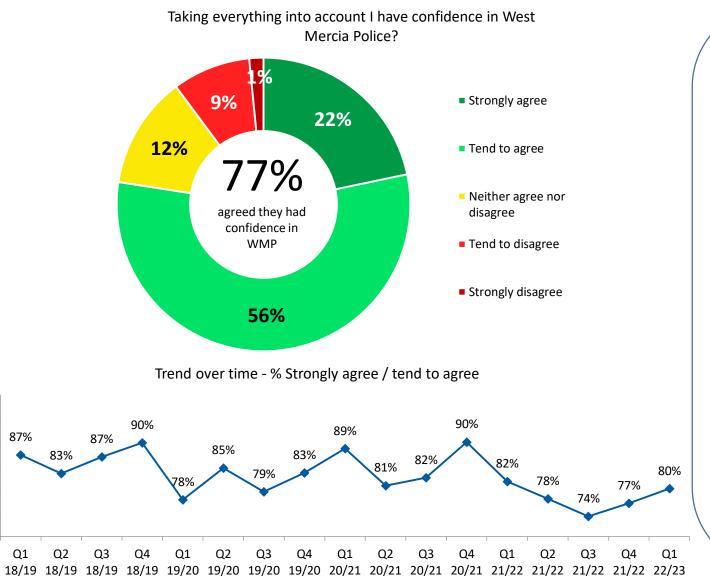
Q3

Q4

LPA Key Findings - Shropshire



LPA Key Findings - Telford & Wrekin



Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

Least satisfied with levels of policing in their local area (49%)

Least likely to have spoken to a local officer or PCSO (15% - joint with South Worcestershire)

<u>Least</u> confident they could access the police in a non-emergency (62% - joint with North Worcestershire)

 $\underline{\textit{Most}}$ informed about what WMP are doing in their area (47% - joint with Herefordshire)

Most likely to have been a victim of crime (13%)

<u>Most</u> likely to say that crime and ASB is a problem in their area (29%)

Least likely to feel WMP are doing either an excellent or a good job (61%)

<u>Least</u> confident they would receive a good service from WMP (79%)

Least likely to have confidence in WMP (77%)

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

100% 95%

90%

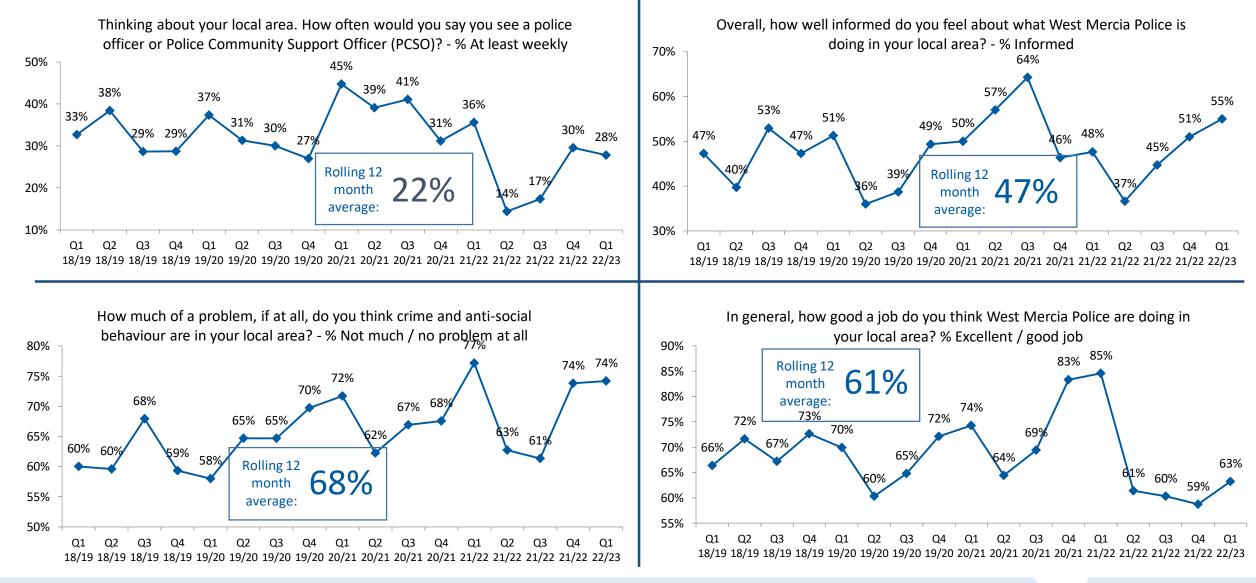
85%

80%

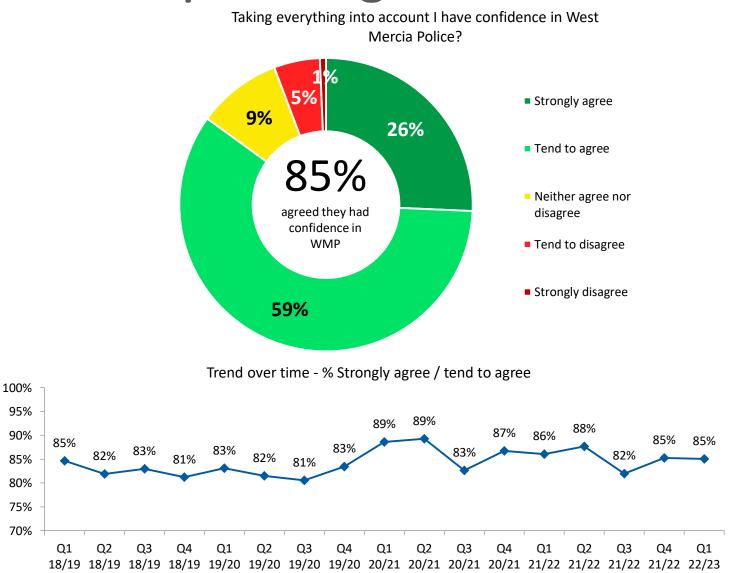
75%

70%

LPA Key Findings - Telford & Wrekin



LPA Key Findings - North Worcestershire



Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

<u>Most</u> likely to have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team (19%)

<u>Least</u> confident they could access the police in a nonemergency (62% - joint with Telford & Wrekin)

Least informed about what WMP are doing (42% - joint with South Worcestershire)

<u>Most</u> likely to feel WMP understand the issues in their community (73% - joint with Herefordshire)

<u>Most</u> confident WMP use their stop and search powers fairly and respectfully (65%)

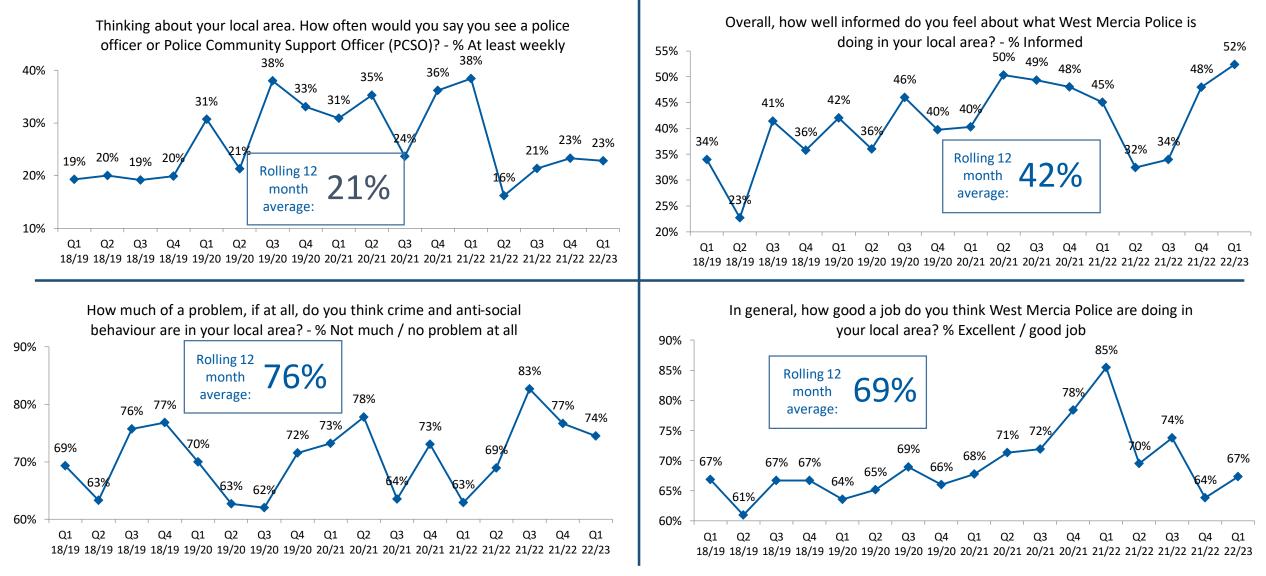
<u>Most</u> confident they would receive a good service from WMP (86%)

<u>Most</u> likely to feel WMP were doing a good or excellent job (69%)

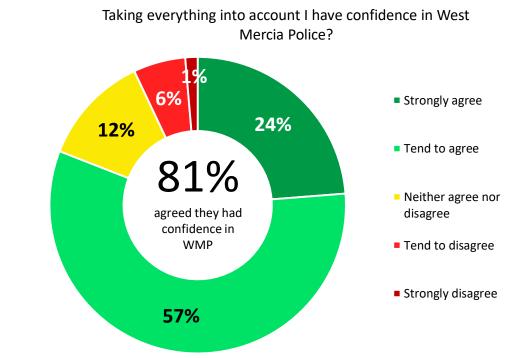
Most likely to have confidence in WMP (85%)

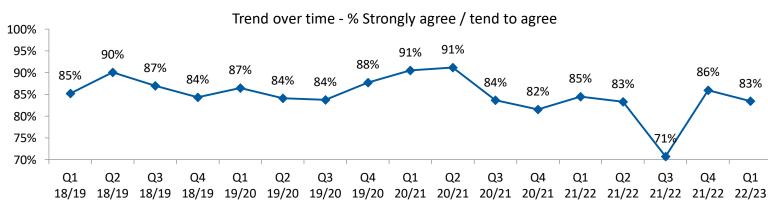
*Don't know option has been excluded from calculation to make question comparable to CSEW

LPA Key Findings - North Worcestershire



LPA Key Findings - South Worcestershire





Key Findings Compared With Other NPTs

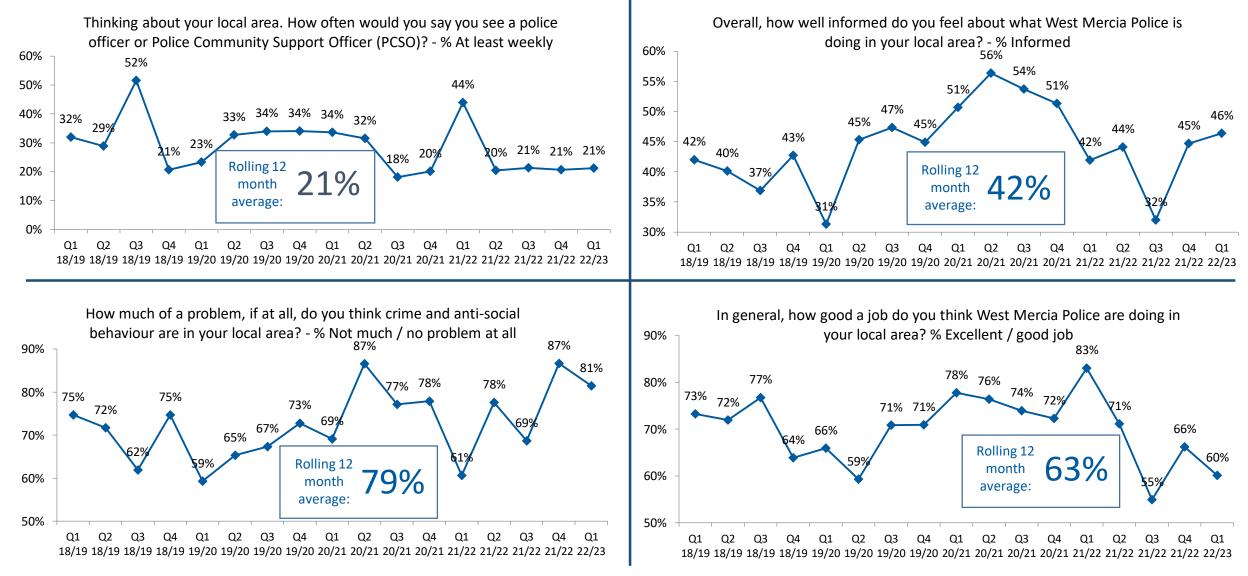
<u>Least</u> likely to have spoken to an officer or PCSO from their local policing team (15% joint with Telford & Wrekin)

<u>Least</u> informed about what WMP are doing (42% - joint with North Worcestershire)

<u>Least</u> confident that WMP understands the issues in their community (65%)

Highest awareness of the PCC (14%)

LPA Key Findings - South Worcestershire



Victim of Crime Comparisons

