

1.Road safety

The Road Safety report presented to the scrutiny panel highlights Worcestershire County Council's statutory responsibility under the Road Traffic Act 1988 to improve road safety through collision analysis, engineering interventions, and highway design measures. The report notes that specialist road safety engineers investigate collisions, identify high-risk locations, and implement targeted schemes such as junction improvements, traffic calming, speed management measures and safer infrastructure for vulnerable road users. Despite long-term reductions in casualties, concerns remain about fatalities and serious injuries, with ongoing monitoring and post-implementation reviews used to assess the effectiveness of interventions. The report also emphasises the importance of balancing the needs of motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and local communities while developing evidence-based measures to reduce speeding and improve safety across Worcestershire's road network.

Road Safety Data for Worcestershire	Figure
Personal injury collisions in 2025	624
Total casualties in 2025	818
Fatal collisions in 2025	22
Serious injuries in 2025	197
Slight injuries in 2025	405
Personal injury collisions in 2016	1,030
Total casualties in 2016	1,386
Fatal collisions in 2016	14
Serious injuries in 2016	196
Collision reduction (2016–2025)	39% decrease
Casualty reduction (2016–2025)	41% decrease

Additional trends:

- There were **696 collisions in 2024**, falling to **624 in 2025**, a reduction of approximately **10%**.
- Fatal collisions have remained relatively static, varying between **14 and 25 deaths per year** over the last decade.
- Serious injuries have consistently remained around **180–200 per annum**, despite overall collision numbers declining.
- Worcestershire records approximately **1,500 personal injury road traffic accidents annually** across the wider network, according to the County Council's road safety monitoring programme.
- Highway schemes implemented following collision investigations are monitored for **at least three years** to evaluate their effectiveness and inform future interventions.

"Worcestershire has seen a significant long-term reduction in road traffic collisions, falling from 1,030 personal injury collisions in 2016 to 624 in 2025, a reduction of almost 40%. However, fatal and serious injury numbers remain stubbornly high, with 22 fatalities and 197 serious injuries recorded in 2025, demonstrating the continuing need for targeted road safety interventions, speed management measures and investment in safer infrastructure."

There is a 20-page Strategy document attached to this agenda item.

2. Police & Crime Panel performance, metrics and Activity monitoring report (a 18-page document)

The Activity and Metrics Report provides members with an overview of operational performance, service demand and key indicators across the relevant council services during the reporting period. It highlights trends in activity levels, performance against targets and areas where demand is increasing, enabling members to assess whether services are operating efficiently and meeting agreed objectives. The report demonstrates the use of data and performance measures to monitor progress, identify emerging pressures and support evidence-based decision making.

The report also identifies areas of strong performance alongside services facing challenges in maintaining targets due to changing demand, resource pressures or external factors.

Members are asked to consider the findings, scrutinise the metrics presented and use the information to inform future priorities, service improvements and resource allocation.

Continued monitoring of these indicators is intended to promote transparency, accountability and continuous improvement across the authority's activities.

West Mercia Police – Key Performance Highlights 2025/26

Public Consultation on Police Force Mergers

Indicator	Result
Total consultation responses	3,375
Oppose mergers	57%
Support mergers	22%
Unsure	21%
Worcestershire responses	1,344
Worcestershire opposing mergers	53%
Worcestershire supporting mergers	23%
Worcestershire unsure	24%

Main concerns in Worcestershire

- **79%** – Local policing priorities
- **65%** – Police visibility
- **64%** – Knowledge of local communities

Perceived benefits

- **48%** – Better response to complex crime
- **47%** – Shared resources
- **33%** – Better coordination

Crime and Performance Indicators

Measure	Position
Total crime	Down 1%
Violence with injury	Down 3%
Residential burglary	Down 3%
Vehicle crime	Down 23%
Domestic abuse	Up 2%
Recorded rape offences	Up 11%
Robbery offences	Up 60%*

*Increase largely attributed to revised Home Office crime recording rules.

Detection / Action Rates

Crime Type	Target	Actual
Total crime	15%	14.9%
Violence with injury	16%	16.5%
Rape	10%	10.7%

Crime Type	Target	Actual
Robbery	20%	22.6%
Residential burglary	10%	5.4%
Vehicle crime	5%	3.5%
Domestic abuse	16%	10.8%

Call Handling

Measure	Target	Actual
999 calls answered within 10 seconds	90%	95%
101 calls answered within 30 seconds	70%	59%
101 calls answered within 2 minutes	70%	71%

Confidence and Visibility

Indicator	Result
Confidence in local policing	81%
Residents seeing police weekly	21%

Emergency Response Times

Indicator	Performance
Grade 1 median response	12 minutes 21 seconds
Grade 1 incidents attended within 20 minutes	77%
Target	90%
Grade 2 median response	40 minutes 09 seconds
Grade 2 incidents attended within 2 hours	80%

Victim Satisfaction

Crime Type	Target	Actual
Burglary	85%	81%
Domestic abuse	82%	70%
Violent crime	70%	85%
Hate crime	75%	76%

Serious Violence and Prevention

Indicator	Figure
Serious Violence Duty funding	£452,304
Knife Crime Concentration Fund	£387,621
Additional TruCam investment	£50,000
Young people exiting Steer Clear saying they would "definitely not" carry a knife	80%
Positive outcomes among Steer Clear participants	93%

Community Engagement

Activity	Total
Community events attended	112
Engagements on police mergers	45
Public consultation on police stations	2,000+ responses
Correspondence received	440
Press releases issued	23

Activity	Total
Media mentions achieved	102+
Social media posts	218
Highest monthly engagement	6,200 interactions
Neighbourhood Matters subscribers	30,081
New subscribers in Q4	1,319

Finance

Indicator	Figure
Revenue budget	£313.1 million
Savings requirement	£27.7 million
Savings delivered	£25.9 million
Year-end underspend	£2.9 million
Total reserves	£14.8 million
General fund balance	£8.5 million

Estates and Sustainability

- LED upgrades completed at **Kidderminster, Worcester, Telford, Leominster and Bromsgrove**
- **8% reduction** in Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions achieved.
- Target annual reduction is **3.6%**, meaning performance is currently exceeding target.

West Mercia Police 2025/26: Crime Falling, Public Confidence Stable, Strong Call Handling Performance, but Challenges Remain in Domestic Abuse, Burglary Outcomes and Emergency Response Targets.

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3. Draft Annual report of the PCC

The Annual Report Cover Report introduces the committee's Annual Report and provides members with an overview of the panel's work, achievements and areas of scrutiny undertaken during the municipal year. It summarises the key issues examined, recommendations made to Cabinet and officers, and highlights how scrutiny activity has contributed to improved accountability, transparency and service delivery across the Council.

The report demonstrates the committee's role in monitoring performance, challenging decision-making and ensuring that residents' interests remain at the centre of policy development and implementation.

The report also serves as a record of the committee's contribution over the past year, outlining completed reviews, member engagement, and collaborative working with Cabinet Members and senior officers. It provides an opportunity to reflect on successes, identify lessons learned and set priorities for the forthcoming year, ensuring that scrutiny remains focused on delivering value for money, improving outcomes for residents and supporting effective governance within the Council.