

Annual Report – (Highlights of 2023 & 2024)

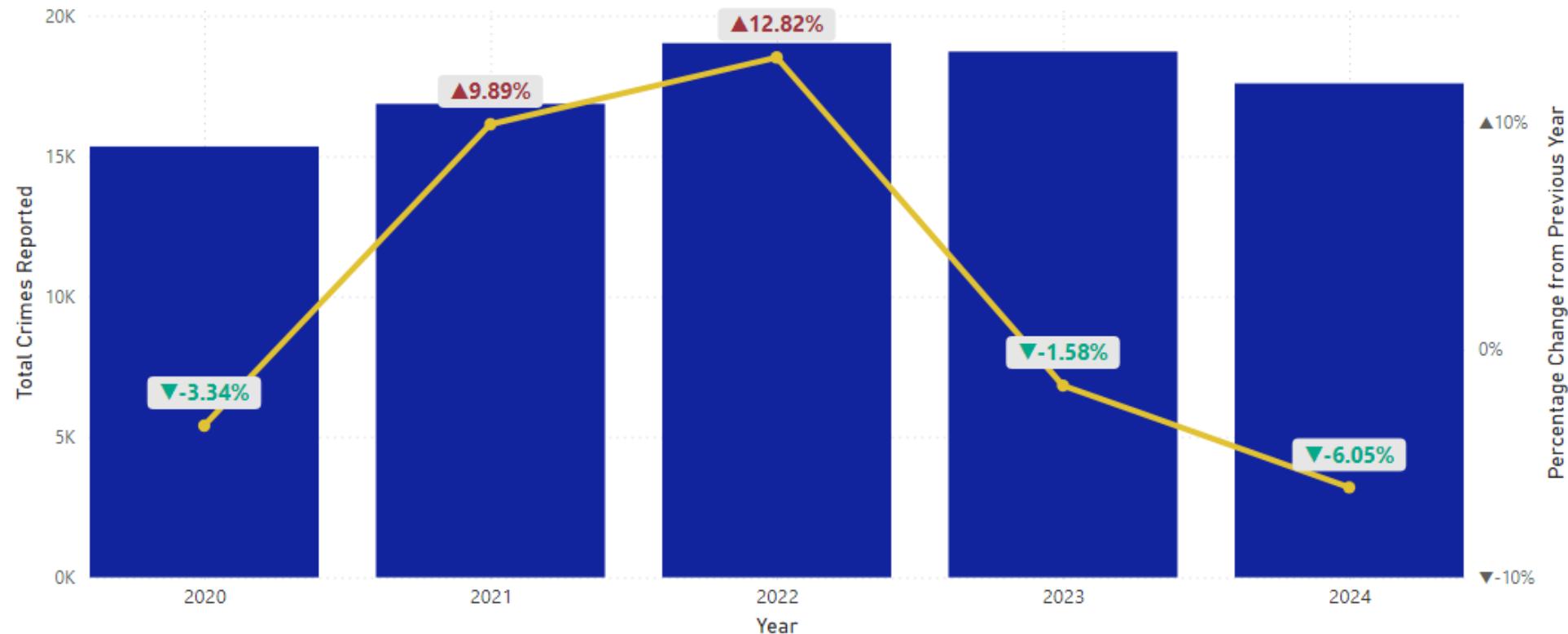
Reading
COMMUNITY 
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP



Over five years there has been a 10.82% increase in crime, however, crime started to fall steadily in 2022.

Total Crimes Reported and Percentage Change by Year

● Total Crimes Reported ● Percentage Change from Previous Year



Crime in Reading started to fall in 2022



In 2023 crime started to fall with 18724 crimes – down 1.58% from 2022

In 2024 there were 17,571 crimes in Reading - down 6.05% from 2023



The rate of crime per 1,000 population has been falling.

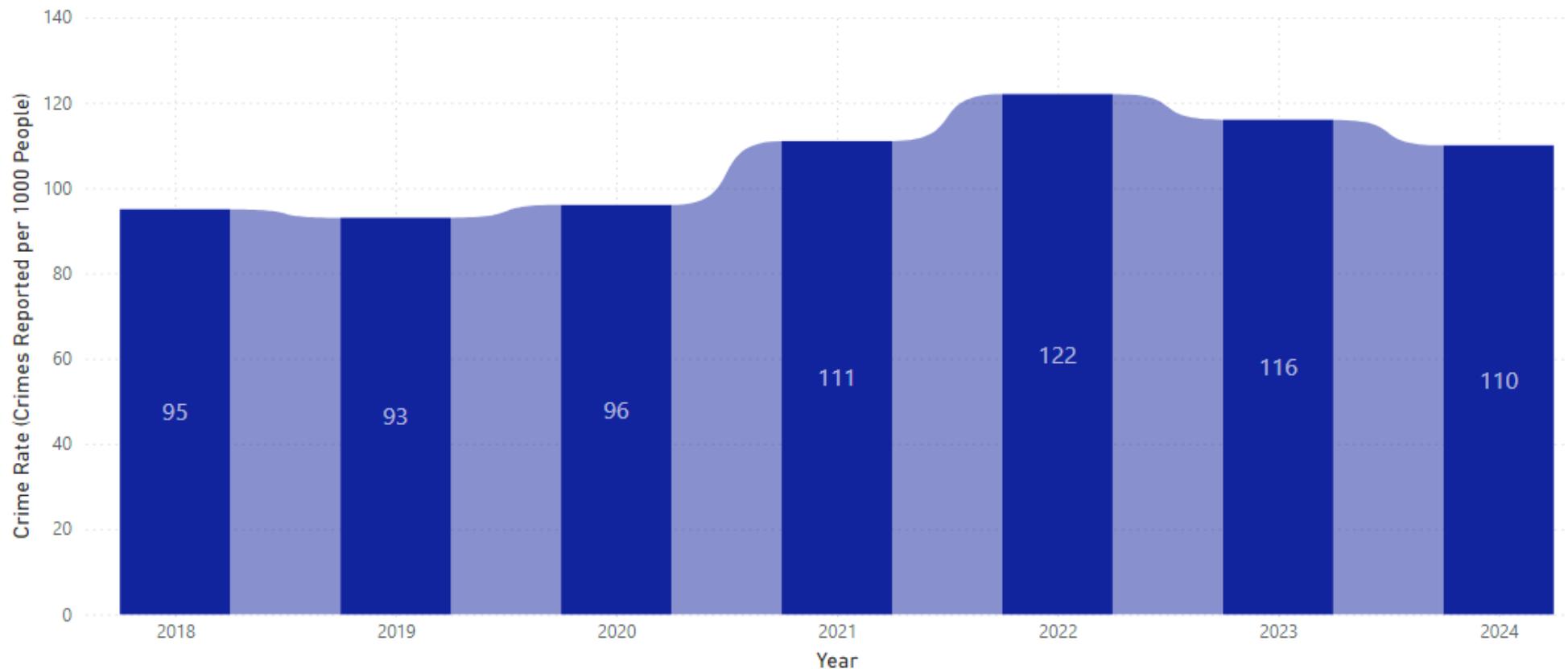
In 2023 there were 122 offences per 1,000,

In 2024 there were 116 offences per 1,000.

In 2019, pre-covid this rate was 98.

Crime Rate by Year by Local Authority

Local Authority ● Reading



The number of offences per 1000 people in Reading has fallen

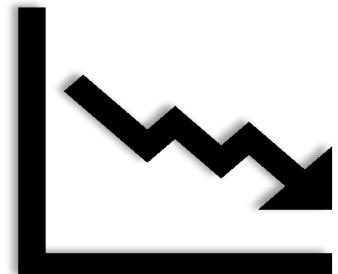
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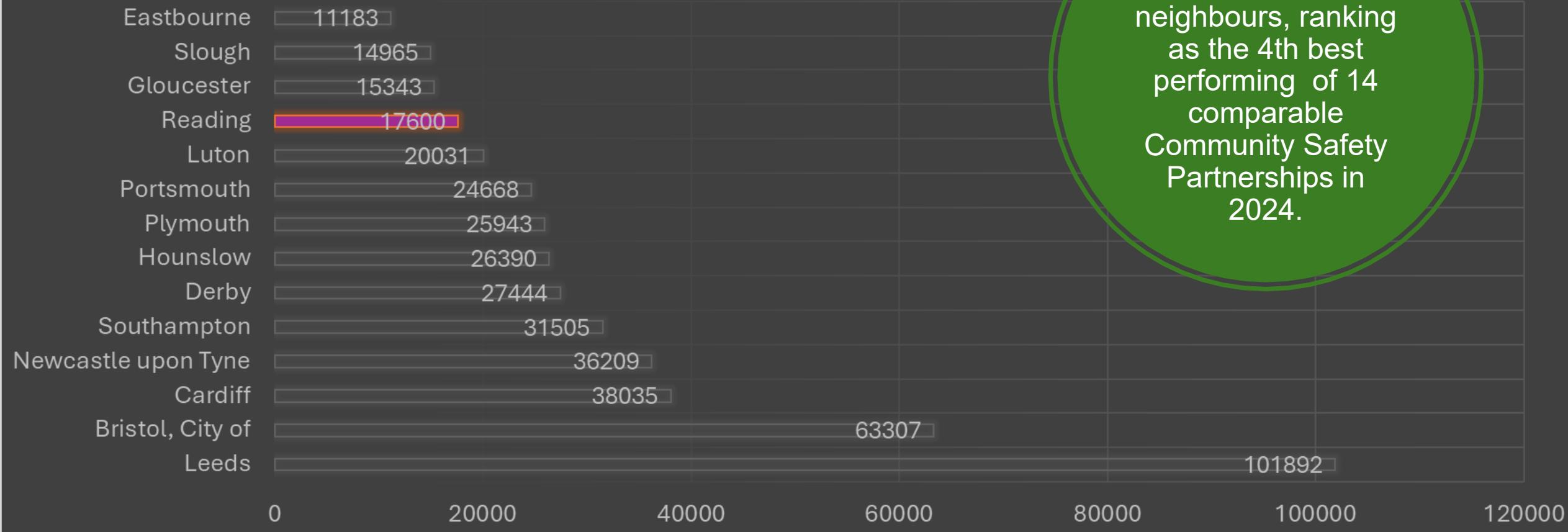
In 2022
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In 2023
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In 2024
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were 110

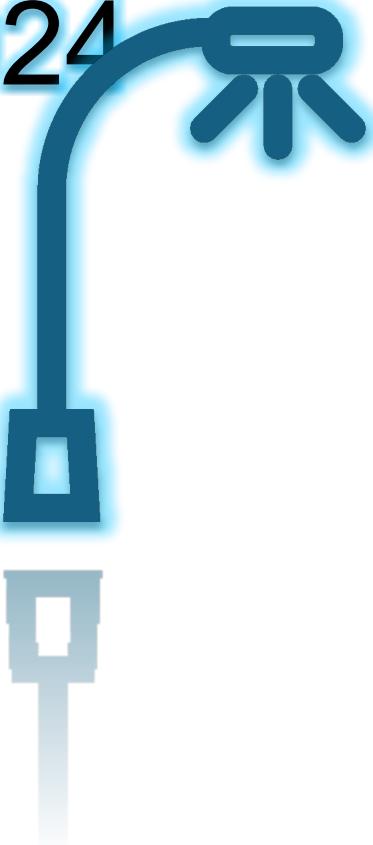


CSP - All Crime 2024



Reading performs better than its statistical neighbours, ranking as the 4th best performing of 14 comparable Community Safety Partnerships in 2024.

How Safe Do the Public feel in 2024 compared to 2023?



50.1% said they felt safe compared with 44.8% in 2023

50% said crime had increased in their neighbourhood

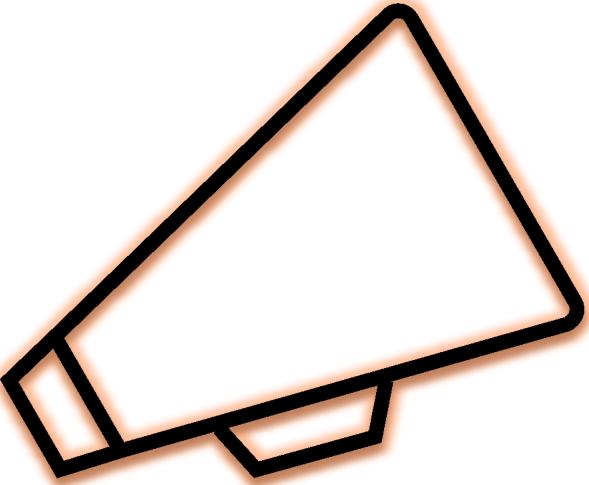
Up
3.47
%

57.9% said anti-social behaviour had increased where they live

Up
4.27
%

50.1% in 2023
compared with
44.8% in 2023

The Reading Community Safety Partnership recognises there is more to do to improve public confidence, by highlighting action taken to address crime and improving the response to reports of crime and anti-social behaviour.



Residents told us....

The most frequently mentioned problems include antisocial behaviour, drug dealing and drug use.

Aggressive begging is a concern and particularly in the town centre and around Reading Station.

The use of electric bikes and scooters, often linked to drug distribution, has been highlighted as a significant problem, with many calling for stricter enforcement and regulation.

There is also a perception of a lack of police presence and response, leading to a feeling that crimes such as shoplifting and vehicle-related offences are going unchecked.

What has
Happened?



You Said: We Did

The public have been invited to meet with the Police, Council and Housing at a network of Safer Neighbourhood Forums

New meetings were established in 2024 in the Town Centre, Hexham, Whitley and Whitley Wood

Thames Valley Police regularly hold Have Your Say Events across Reading

A new Local Resident's Partnership was created by the University of Reading Students Union

Participation in an annual Community Safety Survey has increased from 2023 by 57% in 2024





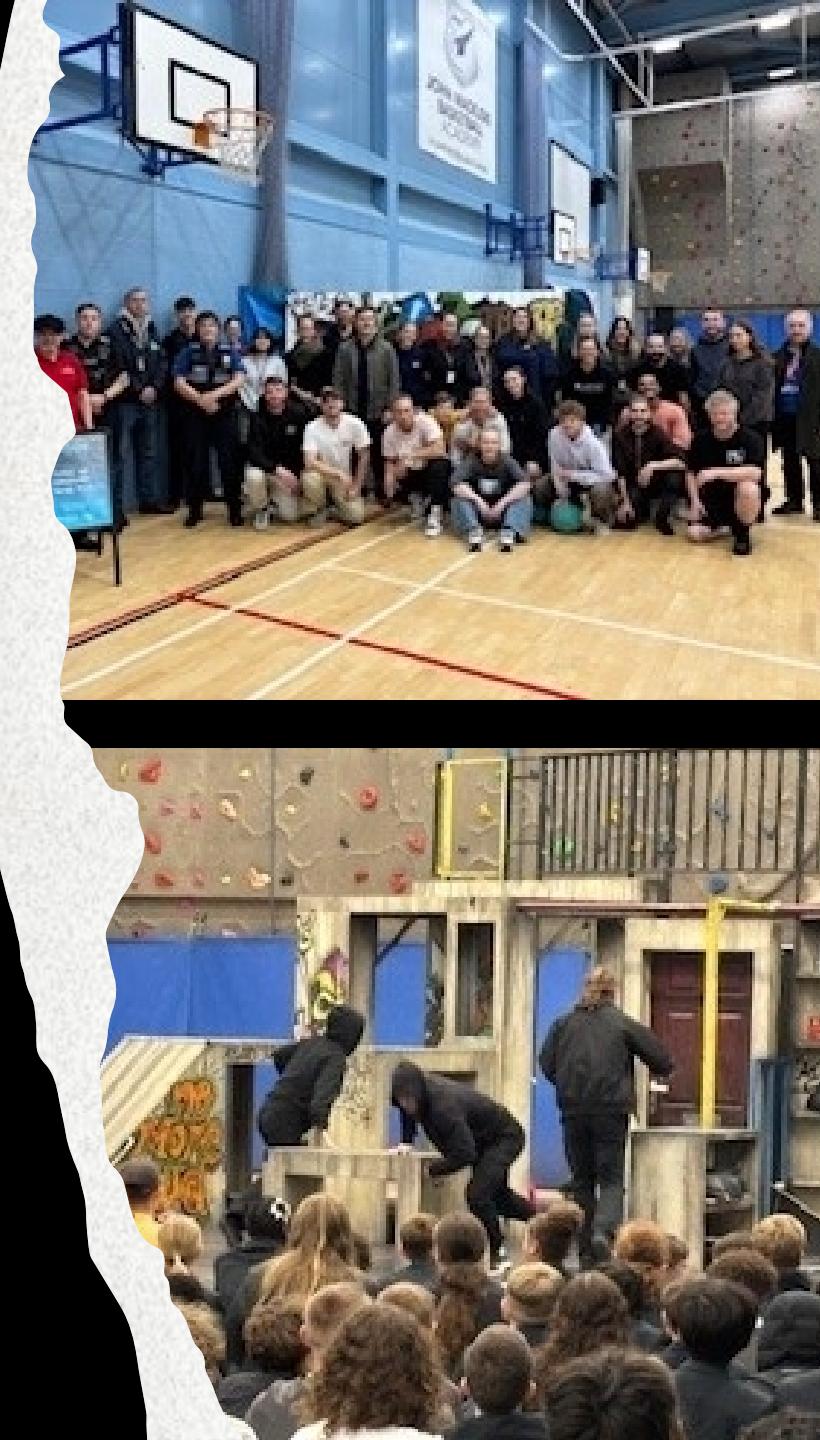
**Thousands of
School Children
from more than 20
schools attended
activities that
addressed knife
crime and
exploitation**

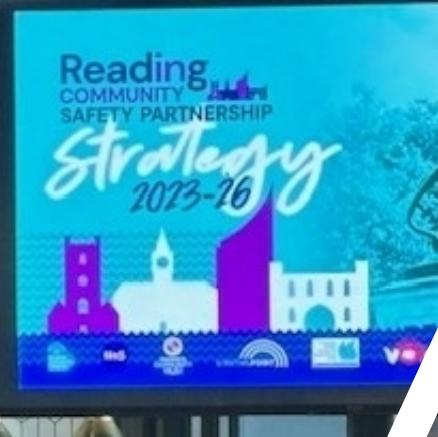
Justice in Motion performed
CODE (an urban theatre show)
at JMA School and the Football
Stadium

The Booth Buss (a mobile music
studio) visited schools and youth
club settings

Additional youth club and sports
were provided by Grassrootz
and New Angle across Reading

Street Games also invested in
local community sports and a
holiday boxing camp involved





Children and Young People got involved

Children from across Reading have been involved in projects to help the Community Safety Partnership understand under 18's perceptions and experience of crime.

- This included redesigning the CSP strategy
- Contributing to the development of Stay True to You Resources with the PCC
- Led a summit about online safety, with national charities such as the Ben Kinsella Trust, Molly Rose and Breck Foundations taking part
- Working with the partnership to survey children and convene meetings with senior leaders about safety in parks and open spaces

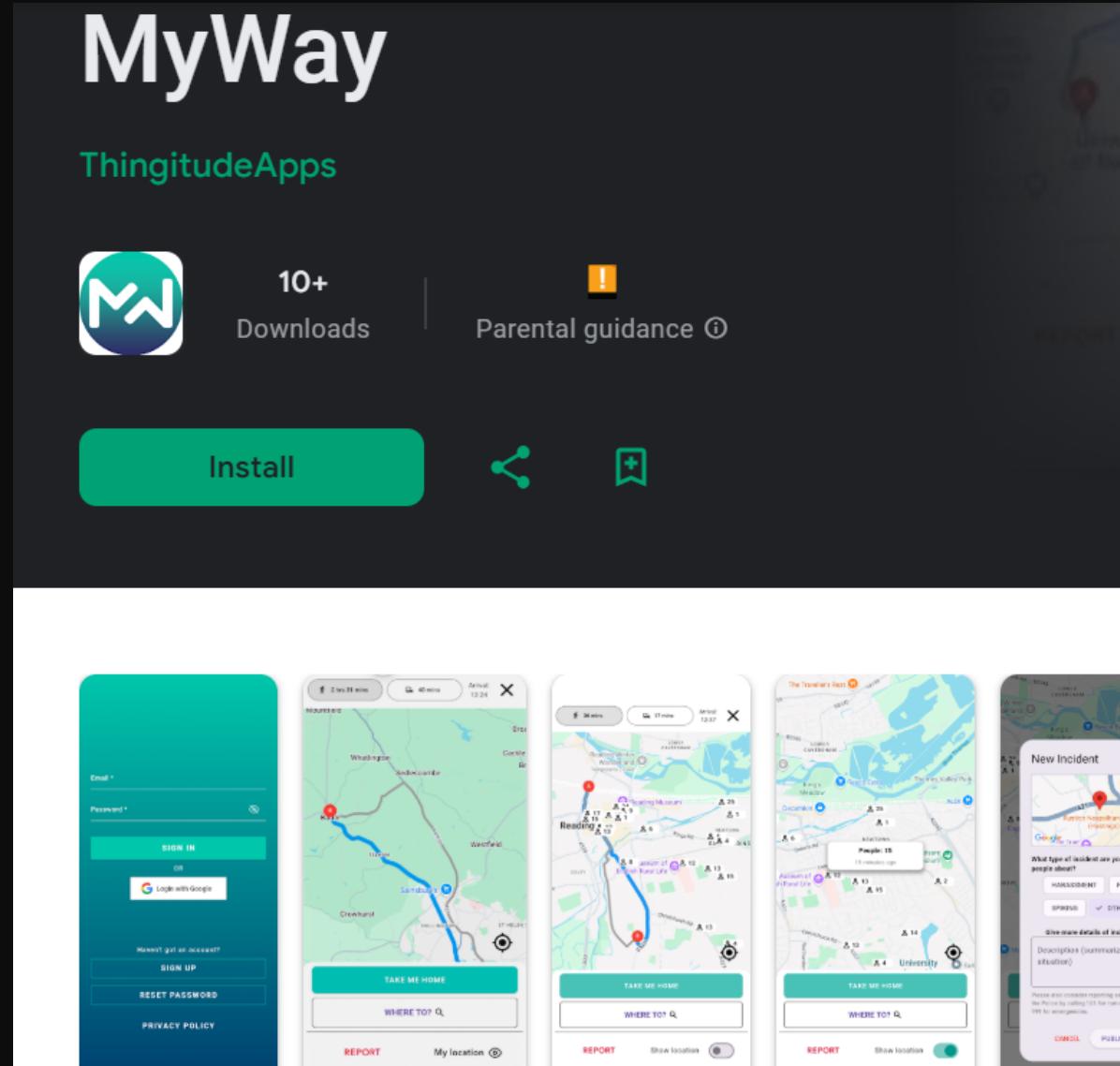


Student's Perspectives

Alongside the Speak Week campaign, the University of Reading and Reading Student's Union have been collaborating with Neighbourhood Watch to set up a Youth Community Action Group,

Students are involved in audits of night-time venues and are piloting an improved My Way App

A new Local Residents Partnership has been established





ACRE, have led a 'Hate Crime Forum' twice yearly. ACRE is now represented at the CSP.

This has been supported by activity with the CPS to audit hate crime cases and derive learning from real world experiences of hate crime.

Thames Valley Police launched a Race Action Plan, working with 'seldom heard communities'

Collaborative action in August 2024 mitigated the risk of violence at the height of community tension following the Southport attacks



Trading Standards and Licensing



Six school transport operations have been run in 2024/2025, in conjunction with other local authorities, to check on the safety of vehicles conducting school transport journeys for SEND children to offer assurance that the transit of children to and from school is safe.



RBC has undertaken vehicle safety and compliance checks which led to penalty points being issued to drivers with RBC licences.



Test purchase operations, conducted with Trading Standards, are routinely completed in pub, bars or gambling premises with gaming machines.

22 individuals who have committed offences were prosecuted = a 100% prosecution rate.



What's next in 2025?



Promote Thames Valley Police 'It does matter and 'Consent conversations' campaigns to ensure residents are not victimised by non-consensual sexual contact and to reduce sexual assaults.

Work with Breaking Barriers on a theatre-based performance to children in schools, addressing consent and healthy relationships.

Evaluate the impact and take up of an updated 'My Way' app students use to track safe walking routes home

Ensure venue staff at licensed premises access Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE) Training



Involve residents in problem solving

Support an expanded network of Safer Neighbourhood Forums, drops in and Have Your Say events

Build a dedicated Reading Community Safety Partnership website.

Use the results of the annual Community Safety survey to shape the next CSP Strategy in 2026.

Explore pathways of support to victims of hate crime from disabled and LGBTQI+ communities



Embed Olly's work to combat knife crime, working with children, parents and schools

Promote Stay True to You educational resources

Grow Young Voices, working with Reading Buses, the Oracle and other stakeholders on safety in the public realm

Support local youth services to collaborate on improving the local offer to children at risk of involvement in crime

Stage a 3rd CODE event (West Reading) and a 2nd summit on safety for children online and in the public realm

The logo for Stay True to You, featuring the text "STAY TRUE TO YOU" in a stylized, colorful font. The "T" and "Y" are particularly prominent, with the "T" having a red and yellow "X" through it, and the "Y" having a green and yellow arrow through it.