

RACIST INCIDENT MONITORING SCHEME**INDEX**

List of Contents	Page No.
Introduction	1
Key Findings – Summary and Comments	3
Number of Defendants Charged	9
Police/CPS Identification of a Racist Incident	10
Police Racist Incident Report/Computer Record Supplied with File	11
Admissible Evidence of Racial Aggravation	12
Offences Charged by the Police	13
CPS Action on Police Charges	15
Charges Added by the CPS	17
Details of Charges Prosecuted	18
Outcome of Charges Prosecuted	22
Details of Charges Dropped	25
Details of Sentences Imposed	29

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the fourth annual report prepared by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and provides details of prosecution decisions and outcomes in all cases identified by the police or CPS as racist incidents. The report covers the period 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000.
- 1.2 For the purposes of this report, the police and CPS have used the Macpherson definition of a racist incident, which states that:

'a racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'.

- 1.3 All racist incident cases submitted by the police to the CPS for prosecution should be clearly marked in accordance with the national agreement. This enables the CPS to deal with the case appropriately and to commence the tracking procedure. If, on reviewing the evidence in the case, it is apparent that the case is a racist incident but has not been identified by the police, the reviewing lawyer will mark the case and ensure that it enters the system.
- 1.4 Details of all cases identified by either the police or CPS as racist incidents are kept in each CPS Area. Returns are provided monthly to CPS Headquarters in York where the information is collated and the annual report prepared.
- 1.5 In April 1999, the CPS was restructured from 13 to 42 Areas. This is the first annual report to be prepared under the new structure and includes information regarding cases dealt with by the 42 CPS Areas and HQ Casework Directorate.
- 1.6 On 30 September 1998 the provisions of sections 28-32 and 82 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 came into effect. The Act creates a definition of racial aggravation and new offences of racially aggravated assault, criminal damage, public order and harassment. Section 82 imposes a duty on sentencing courts to treat evidence of racial aggravation as an aggravating feature, increasing the seriousness of the offence, in cases where offences are not specifically charged under the new sections.
- 1.7 The CPS Racist Incident Monitoring Scheme (RIMS) has been updated to take account of the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This year's report gives not only information regarding the specific racially aggravated offences created by the Act 1998 but also the following:
- the number of racist incident defendant cases submitted by CPS Areas during the reporting period;
 - CPS decisions on charges put by the police;
 - results on charges prosecuted;
 - results on charges dropped;

- outcomes of charges prosecuted in the magistrates' courts, Crown Courts and youth courts; and
- sentences imposed by the courts.

2. KEY FINDINGS – SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

2.1 IDENTIFICATION OF A RACIST INCIDENT

		National %
Number of defendants received	2417	

Police identification	1879	78%
CPS identification	538	22%

Comment

The number of defendant cases received for prosecution has increased by over 50% from 1603 to 2417. Police performance in marking racist incident files for CPS attention continues to improve dramatically. This year's figure of 78% is a 20% increase on last year.

2.2 DEFENDANTS PROSECUTED/NOT PROSECUTED

		National %
Defendants prosecuted	1832	
Defendants not prosecuted	585	
% of defendants prosecuted		76%

Comment

The CPS prosecuted 76% of the cases received. The remaining 24% were discontinued, dropped at court or could not be prosecuted because the defendant failed to appear. The 24% figure, which covers proceedings in all courts, compares with the 23.3% figure for all types of offences over the same period.

2.3 CHARGES

		National %
Police charges	3726	
Charges added by the CPS	288	
% of charges unaltered by the CPS		47%

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHARGES	4014
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Charges prosecuted	2651
Charges dropped whilst others are pursued, not resulting in termination of defendant case	566
Charges dropped resulting in termination of defendant case	797

TOTAL NUMBER OF DROPPED CHARGES	1363
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Comment

This is the first full year in which we have gathered information on the new racially aggravated offences under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The percentage of police charges unaltered by the CPS was 47% compared with the 63% in 1998 – 1999. The number of charges added by the CPS increased from 178 to 288, although this does not appear to be significant given the 50% increase in the number of cases received.

2.4 DETAILS OF CHARGES PROSECUTED

Number of charges prosecuted	2651
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Racially aggravated assaults	323
Racially aggravated criminal damage	113
Racially aggravated public order	723
Racially aggravated harassment	140
Other assaults	438
Other criminal damage	172
Other public order	492
Other harassment	44
Theft Act	73
Other	133
Homicide	0

Comment

Just under half of the 2651 offences prosecuted were charged under the Crime and Disorder Act with the majority being racially aggravated public order offences. Although the remainder could not be prosecuted under the Act, a high proportion contained admissible evidence of racial aggravation.

2.5 OUTCOME OF CHARGES PROSECUTED

		National %
Guilty pleas	1743	66%
Guilty after contest	335	12.5%
Committal discharge	15	0.5%
Half-time acquittal	109	4%
Full-time acquittal	327	12%
Bound over without trial	122	5%

Venue of Cases

Charges dealt with at the Mags. Court	1607	61%
Charges dealt with at the Crown Court	711	27%
Charges dealt with at the Youth Court	333	12%

Comment

The outcomes are charged-based rather than defendant-based and for this reason it is not possible to make direct comparisons with the outcomes for defendants in the national Performance Indicator system. We would, however, expect the percentage figures for defendants to be higher because each defendant faces an average of more than one charge.

2.6 REASONS FOR DROPPING CHARGES (where all charges in a case are dropped)

Number of charges dropped	797
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		National %
Dropped: witness fails to attend	194	25%
Dropped: witness refuses to give evidence	90	11%
Dropped: other insufficient evidence	329	41%
Dropped: public interest	101	13%
Dropped: written off/other	83	10%

Comment

A significant proportion of charges dropped resulting in whole case termination are dropped as a result of witness difficulties (36%). Charges dropped because there is insufficient evidence account for a further 41%. Charges not pursued on public interest grounds account for 13% with the most common reason being that the defendant is being dealt with on more serious offences or is serving a long prison sentence. The remaining 10% of charges could not be prosecuted because the defendant failed to attend court and/or could not be traced.

3. THE NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS CHARGED

- 3.1 The report contains a mixture of defendant based and charge based information. The initial unit of counting for the scheme is the defendant but decisions taken in respect of each defendant, whether by the CPS in relation to prosecution or by the courts in relation to sentence, are recorded on a charge by charge basis rather than a whole case basis. This means that four defendants in one case charged jointly with one offence will be counted as four units. Similarly, one defendant charged with several offences will be counted as one unit provided at least one of the offences is racially aggravated for the purpose of the scheme.
- 3.2 During the reporting period, 2417 defendants were charged with an offence which, in view of the police or CPS, met the definition of a racist incident. In comparison with 1998-1999 this represents an increase of over 50%. **Table 1** represents the total number of defendants handled by each CPS Area.

TABLE 1 – THE NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS RECEIVED FROM EACH CPS AREA

AREA	Number of defendants	AREA	Number of defendants
Avon & Somerset	31	Merseyside	61
Bedfordshire	43	Metropolitan & City	577
Cambridgeshire	50	Norfolk	19
Cheshire	51	Northants	46
Cleveland	11	Northumbria	179
Cumbria	10	North Wales	14
Derbyshire	50	North Yorkshire	21
Devon & Cornwall	32	Nottinghamshire	73
Dorset	18	South Wales	157
Durham	24	South Yorkshire	40
Dyfed Powys	15	Staffordshire	10
Essex	11	Suffolk	24
Gloucestershire	13	Surrey	6
Gt Manchester	155	Sussex	41
Gwent	38	Thames Valley	65
Hampshire	38	Warwickshire	17
Hertfordshire	24	West Mercia	9
Humberside	12	West Midlands	116
Kent	31	West Yorkshire	97
Lancashire	74	Wiltshire	22
Leicestershire	77	Casework Dir	2
Lincolnshire	13	Total	2417

4. POLICE/CPS IDENTIFICATION OF A RACIST INCIDENT

- 4.1 There is a national agreement with the police that, when submitting files to the CPS, they will identify those which meet the definition of a racist incident. Files not identified by the police will be identified by the CPS.
- 4.2 During this reporting year the police have identified 78% of cases as meeting the Macpherson definition of a racist incident. Compared to last year's report this is an increase of 20%. The CPS identified the remaining 22%. **Table 2** indicates the identification performance of the CPS and the police by Area.
- 4.3 Police identification in 19 CPS Areas was below the national average of 78%. Identification by the police was over 80% in 21 Areas. In three Areas it was 100%.

TABLE 2 – POLICE/CPS IDENTIFICATION OF RACIST INCIDENT CASES BY AREA

AREA	IDENTIFICATION				AREA	IDENTIFICATION			
	POLICE		CPS			POLICE		CPS	
Avon & Somerset	27	87%	4	13%	Merseyside	52	85%	9	15%
Bedfordshire	24	56%	19	44%	Metropolitan & City	456	79%	121	21%
Cambridgeshire	43	86%	7	14%	Norfolk	16	84%	3	16%
Cheshire	46	90%	5	10%	Northants	35	76%	11	24%
Cleveland	11	100%	0	0%	Northumbria	161	90%	18	10%
Cumbria	5	50%	5	50%	North Wales	8	57%	6	43%
Derbyshire	39	78%	11	22%	North Yorkshire	15	71%	6	29%
Devon & Cornwall	22	69%	10	31%	Nottinghamshire	60	82%	13	18%
Dorset	16	89%	2	11%	South Wales	88	56%	69	44%
Durham	14	58%	10	42%	South Yorkshire	28	70%	12	30%
Dyfed Powys	11	73%	4	27%	Staffordshire	6	60%	4	40%
Essex	10	91%	1	9%	Suffolk	22	92%	2	8%
Gloucestershire	11	85%	2	15%	Surrey	6	100%	0	0%
Gt Manchester	115	74%	40	26%	Sussex	27	66%	14	34%
Gwent	29	76%	9	24%	Thames Valley	57	88%	8	12%
Hampshire	28	74%	10	26%	Warwickshire	11	65%	6	35%
Hertfordshire	22	92%	2	8%	West Mercia	7	78%	2	22%
Humberside	11	92%	1	8%	West Midlands	79	68%	37	32%
Kent	21	68%	10	32%	West Yorkshire	83	86%	14	14%
Lancashire	61	82%	13	18%	Wiltshire	21	95%	1	5%
Leicestershire	68	88%	9	12%	Casework Dir	2	100%	0	0%
Lincolnshire	5	38%	8	62%	Total	1879	78%	538	22%

5. POLICE RACIST INCIDENT REPORT/COMPUTER RECORD SUPPLIED WITH FILE

5.1 In order to assist with the early identification of racist incidents, in addition to marking the file appropriately when it is submitted to the CPS, the police nationally have agreed to supply the CPS with a copy of their racist incident report form or computer record at the same time. Information contained on the report form may have evidential significance or could prompt the CPS lawyer to raise further questions with the police with a view to improving the quality of the evidence. Of the 2417 defendant cases referred to the CPS, the police supplied a copy of their racist incident report form or computer record in only 452 cases (19%). The percentage varies considerably from Area to Area. **Table 3** shows police performance by CPS Area. Each CPS Area equates to a police force area save London, which includes the Metropolitan and City forces and the Casework Directorate, which may take work from any force.

TABLE 3 – POLICE RACIST INCIDENT REPORT/COMPUTER RECORD SUPPLIED WITH FILE

AREA	Did the police supply a copy of their Racist Incident Report or computer record with the file?				AREA	Did the police supply a copy of their Racist Incident Report or computer record with the file?			
	YES		NO			YES		NO	
Avon & Somerset	9	29%	22	71%	Merseyside	20	33%	41	67%
Bedfordshire	1	2%	42	98%	Metropolitan & City	52	9%	525	91%
Cambridgeshire	15	30%	35	70%	Norfolk	0	0%	19	100%
Cheshire	15	29%	36	71%	Northants	3	7%	43	93%
Cleveland	2	18%	9	82%	Northumbria	96	54%	83	46%
Cumbria	0	0%	10	100%	North Wales	1	7%	13	93%
Derbyshire	6	12%	44	88%	North Yorkshire	1	5%	20	95%
Devon & Cornwall	14	44%	18	56%	Nottinghamshire	40	55%	33	45%
Dorset	5	28%	13	72%	South Wales	21	13%	136	87%
Durham	1	4%	23	96%	South Yorkshire	2	5%	38	95%
Dyfed Powys	3	20%	12	80%	Staffordshire	2	20%	8	80%
Essex	0	0%	11	100%	Suffolk	1	7%	23	93%
Gloucestershire	0	0%	13	100%	Surrey	0	0%	6	100%
Gt Manchester	54	35%	101	65%	Sussex	4	10%	37	90%
Gwent	6	16%	32	84%	Thames Valley	9	14%	56	86%
Hampshire	2	5%	36	95%	Warwickshire	0	0%	17	100%
Hertfordshire	5	21%	19	79%	West Mercia	0	0%	9	100%
Humberside	2	17%	10	83%	West Midlands	4	3%	112	97%
Kent	0	0%	31	100%	West Yorkshire	35	36%	62	64%
Lancashire	14	19%	60	81%	Wiltshire	1	5%	21	95%
Leicestershire	4	5%	73	95%	Casework Dir	1	50%	1	50%
Lincolnshire	1	8%	12	92%	Total	452	19%	1965	81%

6. ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE OF RACIAL AGGRAVATION

- 6.1 The Macpherson definition of a racist incident is deliberately wide in order to encourage the reporting of racist incidents to the police. Inevitably, in some cases, despite the case having been reported as a racist incident, there will not be sufficient evidence to justify prosecution for a racially aggravated offence under the definition in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 6.2 The monitoring scheme requires the CPS lawyer considering the evidence in the case to indicate whether in his or her judgement there was sufficient evidence to establish racial aggravation as defined by the 1998 Act. **Table 4** below indicates that the reviewing lawyer took the view that there was such evidence in 1904 defendant cases (80%) received from the police and further breaks this down for each Area.

TABLE 4 – ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE OF RACIAL AGGRAVATION

AREA	Did the CPS lawyer consider that there was sufficient evidence to establish racial aggravation as defined by Section 28 Crime & Disorder Act 1998?				AREA	Did the CPS lawyer consider that there was sufficient evidence to establish racial aggravation as defined by Section 28 Crime & Disorder Act 1998?			
	YES		NO			YES		NO	
Avon & Somerset	26	84%	5	16%	*Merseyside	54	89%	6	10%
Bedfordshire	21	49%	22	51%	*Metropolitan & City	464	80%	95	16%
Cambridgeshire	29	58%	21	42%	Norfolk	16	84%	3	16%
Cheshire	46	90%	5	10%	*Northants	33	72%	9	20%
Cleveland	11	100%	0	0%	Northumbria	148	83%	31	17%
Cumbria	8	80%	2	20%	North Wales	13	93%	1	7%
Derbyshire	36	72%	14	28%	North Yorkshire	12	57%	9	43%
Devon & Cornwall	24	75%	8	25%	Nottinghamshire	66	90%	7	10%
Dorset	14	78%	4	22%	*South Wales	113	72%	42	27%
Durham	16	67%	8	33%	South Yorkshire	36	90%	4	10%
*Dyfed Powys	14	93%	0	0%	Staffordshire	10	100%	0	0%
*Essex	9	82%	1	9%	Suffolk	15	60%	9	40%
Gloucestershire	10	77%	3	23%	Surrey	6	100%	0	0%
Gt Manchester	142	92%	13	8%	*Sussex	24	59%	16	39%
Gwent	35	92%	3	8%	Thames Valley	49	75%	16	25%
Hampshire	31	82%	7	18%	Warwickshire	11	65%	6	35%
*Hertfordshire	16	67%	6	25%	West Mercia	7	78%	2	22%
Humberside	12	100%	0	0%	West Midlands	90	78%	26	22%
Kent	25	81%	6	19%	West Yorkshire	75	77%	22	23%
*Lancashire	55	74%	18	24%	Wiltshire	19	86%	3	14%
*Leicestershire	53	69%	23	30%	Casework Dir	2	100%	0	0%
Lincolnshire	8	62%	5	38%	Total	1904	80%	481	20%

* The remaining defendant cases were dealt with prior to the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act.

7. OFFENCES CHARGED BY THE POLICE

7.1 During the reporting year there were 3726 offences charged by the police, broken down as follows:

- 543 racially aggravated assaults
- 189 racially aggravated criminal damage
- 1000 racially aggravated public order
- 222 racially aggravated harassment
- 545 other assaults
- 254 other criminal damage
- 635 other public order
- 53 other harassment
- 114 Theft Act
- 1 homicide
- 170 other offences

7.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 makes it possible for certain specified offences to be charged under the Act as racially aggravated crimes. The racially aggravated assault, criminal damage, public order and harassment charges listed above are offences specifically charged under the Act. The remaining offences listed were charged as basic offences under other legislation, but the majority were prosecuted as racist crimes in that they met the definition of racial aggravation under the Act.

TABLE 5 – TYPES OF OFFENCE CHARGED BY THE POLICE

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	NUMBER OF POLICE CHARGES	HOMICIDE	RA ASSAULT	OTHER ASSAULT	RA DAMAGE	OTHER DAMAGE	RA PUBLIC ORDER	OTHER PUBLIC ORDER	RA HARASSMENT	OTHER HARASSMENT	THEFT ACT	OTHER
AREA												
Avon & Somerset	35	0	8	2	0	2	14	6	2	0	1	0
Bedfordshire	64	0	6	24	0	5	8	10	2	0	1	8
Cambridgeshire	73	0	24	11	4	3	18	8	0	2	3	0
Cheshire	60	0	6	5	5	4	26	11	2	1	0	0
Cleveland	21	0	8	3	1	1	5	2	0	0	1	0
Cumbria	18	0	2	4	1	2	4	4	1	0	0	0
Derbyshire	77	0	8	9	2	4	15	30	4	4	0	1
Devon & Cornwall	52	0	5	10	2	3	17	9	2	1	1	2
Dorset	29	0	3	5	0	1	7	5	6	2	0	0
Durham	31	0	3	1	1	2	10	5	6	1	2	0
Dyfed Powys	24	0	4	1	3	2	8	5	1	0	0	0
Essex	15	0	5	3	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	1
Gloucestershire	25	0	2	3	2	2	8	1	4	1	2	0
Gt Manchester	260	0	46	50	17	17	56	47	7	3	5	12
Gwent	63	0	7	10	5	5	17	7	9	2	0	1
Hampshire	64	0	8	6	3	5	21	14	0	0	5	2
Hertfordshire	39	0	5	12	2	5	8	5	2	0	0	0
Humberside	13	0	1	0	1	0	4	7	0	0	0	0
Kent	47	0	14	10	1	0	13	5	0	0	2	2
Lancashire	97	0	12	16	4	5	42	12	3	0	2	1
Leicestershire	122	0	14	21	8	7	29	29	4	2	3	5
Lincolnshire	17	0	2	2	0	0	5	5	0	1	0	2
Merseyside	95	0	10	7	9	11	26	16	1	0	2	13
Metropolitan & City	928	1	165	139	60	52	209	127	66	12	36	61
Norfolk	29	0	4	2	1	1	14	4	0	0	3	0
Northants	94	0	9	15	0	11	20	18	4	3	8	6
Northumbria	215	0	21	15	5	14	98	34	13	3	2	10
North Wales	20	0	1	3	2	0	11	1	0	0	1	1
North Yorkshire	35	0	1	2	6	7	12	7	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	110	0	18	12	5	9	40	15	2	1	2	6
South Wales	292	0	35	47	11	31	66	69	11	2	7	13
South Yorkshire	55	0	4	4	5	4	17	12	2	2	1	4
Staffordshire	14	0	2	1	1	1	1	3	4	0	0	1
Suffolk	30	0	3	2	0	2	10	4	6	1	0	2
Surrey	6	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0
Sussex	70	0	9	22	0	6	10	15	4	0	4	0
Thames Valley	98	0	22	13	5	3	22	22	0	1	8	2
Warwickshire	24	0	3	5	1	2	3	6	1	0	0	3
West Mercia	20	0	3	3	1	2	5	4	0	0	2	0
West Midlands	177	0	23	27	6	16	40	36	13	5	8	3
West Yorkshire	136	0	12	13	9	5	40	14	36	1	1	5
Wiltshire	27	0	5	5	0	1	13	0	3	0	0	0
Casework Directorate	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
Total	3726	1	543	545	189	254	1000	635	222	53	114	170
%	100%	0%	14.5%	14.5%	5%	7%	27%	17%	6%	1%	3%	5%

8. CPS ACTION ON POLICE CHARGES

8.1 Of the 3726 police charges, 47% (or 1769 charges) were unaltered by the CPS, compared with over 63% recorded in 1998-1999. **Table 6** gives information concerning these charges together with a breakdown of the CPS action in respect of the remaining 53%.

TABLE 6 – CPS ACTION ON POLICE CHARGES

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	Number of Police Charges	Unaltered	Increase Severity	Increase Non RA To RA	Reduce RA To Non RA	Reduce Other (evidential)	Reduce Other (PI reasons)	Dropped: Witness Fails To Attend	Dropped: Witness Refuses To give evidence	Dropped: Other Insufficient Evidence	Dropped: Public Interest	Written off/ Other
AREA												
Avon & Somerset	35	22	1	1	3	0	0	0	4	3	1	0
Bedfordshire	64	26	2	5	0	6	1	2	1	15	3	3
Cambridgeshire	73	27	1	4	10	4	0	2	2	11	12	0
Cheshire	60	33	2	7	7	5	0	2	0	2	2	0
Cleveland	21	13	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Cumbria	18	3	0	1	2	0	0	5	1	0	2	4
Derbyshire	77	31	2	17	2	5	0	0	3	9	4	4
Devon & Cornwall	52	24	0	3	1	3	0	2	1	6	7	5
Dorset	29	13	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	12	0	1
Durham	31	20	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3	1
Dyfed Powys	24	13	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	2	2	1
Essex	15	4	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	7	0	0
Gloucestershire	25	12	0	1	0	0	1	5	0	5	1	0
Gt Manchester	260	131	2	19	4	15	0	12	18	34	15	10
Gwent	63	25	8	3	0	4	0	7	4	7	4	1
Hampshire	64	27	1	8	3	3	2	1	1	16	2	0
Hertfordshire	39	18	6	2	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	6
Humberside	13	9	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Kent	47	24	1	1	7	2	0	4	0	3	1	4
Lancashire	97	49	3	6	9	6	1	6	3	6	8	0
Leicestershire	122	46	4	1	14	7	0	5	3	22	15	5
Lincolnshire	17	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	1	2
Merseyside	95	54	2	0	2	2	0	6	8	12	6	3
Metropolitan & City	928	433	5	35	34	34	4	97	36	146	52	52
Norfolk	29	16	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	3	4	0
Northants	94	50	2	3	1	0	0	6	5	6	8	13
Northumbria	215	81	0	4	19	22	1	22	10	18	19	19
North Wales	20	13	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
North Yorkshire	35	19	9	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	1
Nottinghamshire	110	70	4	2	3	1	2	10	0	3	12	3
South Wales	292	122	2	6	4	6	0	23	4	78	26	21
South Yorkshire	55	31	2	3	0	6	0	3	0	5	5	0
Staffordshire	14	7	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	1	0
Suffolk	30	10	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	14	4	0
Surrey	6	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Sussex	70	22	1	2	1	8	1	11	1	18	4	1
Thames Valley	98	56	2	1	13	10	0	1	2	11	1	1
Warwickshire	24	18	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	2
West Mercia	20	10	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	2	0
West Midlands	177	92	4	12	9	7	3	7	2	16	14	11
West Yorkshire	136	64	2	3	7	6	0	7	7	26	9	5
Wiltshire	27	17	0	0	1	2	0	2	1	3	0	1
Casework Directorate	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total	3726	1769	69	167	169	177	16	261	123	537	258	180
%	100%	47%	2%	4%	5%	5%	1%	7%	3%	14%	7%	5%

8.2 It should be noted that not all dropped charges necessarily result in the termination of a prosecution. Some charges against a defendant may proceed whilst others may be dropped.

9. CHARGES ADDED BY THE CPS

9.1 There were 3726 police charges recorded for the reporting period. A further 288 charges were added by the CPS, making a total of 4014 charges. A breakdown of the charges by offence type is given in **Table 7**.

TABLE 7 – OFFENCES ADDED BY THE CPS

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	Number of Police Charges	No. of charges added by CPS	HOMICIDE	RA ASSAULT	OTHER ASSAULT	RA DAMAGE	OTHER DAMAGE	RA PUBLIC ORDER	OTHER PUBLIC ORDER	RA HARASSMENT	OTHER HARASSMENT	THEFT ACT	OTHER
AREA													
Avon & Somerset	35	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	64	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cambridgeshire	73	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	60	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	21	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cumbria	18	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	77	4	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Devon & Cornwall	52	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
Dorset	29	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Durham	31	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dyfed Powys	24	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gt Manchester	260	28	0	1	5	1	3	5	6	1	1	4	1
Gwent	63	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	64	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	0
Hertfordshire	39	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humberside	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kent	47	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Lancashire	97	4	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
Leicestershire	122	7	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0
Lincolnshire	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	95	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Metropolitan & City	928	101	0	17	34	1	9	11	16	1	3	2	7
Norfolk	29	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Northants	94	6	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2
Northumbria	215	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
North Wales	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Yorkshire	35	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	110	7	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
South Wales	292	40	0	3	2	2	4	3	4	10	0	0	12
South Yorkshire	55	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Staffordshire	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	30	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Surrey	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sussex	70	10	0	0	2	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0
Thames Valley	98	7	0	0	3	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Warwickshire	24	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	20	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
West Midlands	177	18	0	0	1	2	0	4	6	2	2	0	1
West Yorkshire	136	6	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
Wiltshire	27	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Casework Dir	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3726	288	0	26	60	7	18	58	55	20	8	7	29
%		100%	0%	9%	21%	2.5%	6%	20%	19%	7%	3%	2.5%	10%

10. DETAILS OF CHARGES PROSECUTED

10.1 A total of 1832 defendants were prosecuted in the magistrates' court, Crown Court and youth court on 2651 charges (charges either put by the police or added by the CPS). Of the 2651 charges, 1607 charges (61%) were prosecuted in the magistrates' court, 711 charges (27%) in the Crown Court and 333 charges (12%) in the youth court. **Tables 8 - 10** set out the types of offences dealt with in each of the court centres.

TABLE 8 – OFFENCES PROSECUTED IN THE MAGISTRATES' COURT

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	Charges Prosecuted	HOMICIDE	RA ASSAULT	OTHER ASSAULT	RA DAMAGE	OTHER DAMAGE	RA PUBLIC ORDER	OTHER PUBLIC ORDER	RA HARASSMENT	OTHER HARASSMENT	THEFT ACT	OTHER
AREA												
Avon & Somerset	25	0	4	1	0	2	12	5	1	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	27	0	2	11	0	4	4	3	1	0	0	2
Cambridgeshire	23	0	3	3	1	1	10	5	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	44	0	3	5	3	3	20	8	0	1	0	1
Cleveland	9	0	3	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
Cumbria	7	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	0
Derbyshire	45	0	3	6	1	3	12	14	3	2	0	1
Devon & Cornwall	20	0	1	4	1	1	7	2	1	2	0	1
Dorset	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Durham	18	0	1	1	0	1	2	3	8	1	1	0
Dyfed Powys	10	0	1	1	1	1	4	2	0	0	0	0
Essex	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Gloucestershire	14	0	2	3	1	0	4	1	2	0	1	0
Gt Manchester	103	0	11	10	7	10	26	26	2	2	4	5
Gwent	35	0	3	5	0	5	11	4	4	2	0	1
Hampshire	29	0	1	5	1	3	11	6	0	0	0	2
Hertfordshire	17	0	3	2	1	3	6	2	0	0	0	0
Humberside	6	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Kent	28	0	5	9	1	0	6	5	0	0	2	0
Lancashire	52	0	3	12	1	4	20	8	2	0	1	1
Leicestershire	63	0	6	9	3	2	21	14	2	2	2	2
Lincolnshire	8	0	0	2	0	0	1	4	0	1	0	0
Merseyside	50	0	3	2	4	5	19	8	1	0	1	7
Metropolitan & City	344	0	31	57	14	26	95	56	18	8	11	28
Norfolk	17	0	2	2	0	1	5	7	0	0	0	0
Northants	58	0	7	6	0	4	18	7	3	3	4	6
Northumbria	84	0	6	6	2	6	33	21	2	2	2	4
North Wales	16	0	1	2	1	0	10	0	0	0	1	1
North Yorkshire	14	0	1	3	1	1	7	1	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	68	0	7	9	1	4	32	10	1	0	2	2
South Wales	79	0	5	18	4	5	23	15	4	0	3	2
South Yorkshire	25	0	2	1	6	0	9	4	3	0	0	0
Staffordshire	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	12	0	1	1	0	0	8	0	2	0	0	0
Surrey	5	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0
Sussex	14	0	1	2	0	0	7	4	0	0	0	0
Thames Valley	40	0	4	5	2	2	16	9	0	0	1	1
Warwickshire	19	0	2	5	1	2	4	3	0	0	0	2
West Mercia	6	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	1
West Midlands	92	0	12	15	7	4	29	19	3	1	2	0
West Yorkshire	54	0	2	5	2	0	15	8	15	4	0	3
Wiltshire	12	0	1	0	0	1	9	0	1	0	0	0
Casework Directorate	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Total	1607	0	144	233	69	105	533	294	82	32	39	76
%	100%	0%	9%	14.5%	4%	7%	33%	18%	5%	2%	2.5%	5%

TABLE 9 – OFFENCES PROSECUTED IN THE CROWN COURT

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	Charges Prosecuted	HOMICIDE	RA ASSAULT	OTHER ASSAULT	RA DAMAGE	OTHER DAMAGE	RA PUBLIC ORDER	OTHER PUBLIC ORDER	RA HARASSMENT	OTHER HARASSMENT	THEFT ACT	OTHER
AREA												
Avon & Somerset	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	11	0	1	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Cambridgeshire	25	0	7	10	1	2	2	3	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	5	0	0	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumbria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	16	0	3	1	0	2	2	7	1	0	0	0
Devon & Cornwall	10	0	2	3	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0
Dorset	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Durham	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Dyfed Powys	4	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Gloucestershire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gt Manchester	61	0	12	21	1	1	3	14	1	2	4	2
Gwent	11	0	2	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Hertfordshire	13	0	3	6	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Humberside	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kent	8	0	3	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
Lancashire	7	0	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	1	0
Leicestershire	4	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0
Metropolitan & City	255	0	53	61	17	12	24	40	15	3	13	17
Norfolk	7	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0
Northants	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northumbria	5	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
North Wales	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Yorkshire	9	0	0	0	3	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	8	0	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
South Wales	81	0	9	7	2	4	6	24	10	0	0	19
South Yorkshire	11	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	3
Staffordshire	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1
Suffolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Surrey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sussex	25	0	3	4	0	3	3	6	2	0	4	0
Thames Valley	39	0	17	8	0	2	1	11	0	0	0	0
Warwickshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	9	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0
West Midlands	38	0	6	5	0	3	1	13	5	4	0	1
West Yorkshire	9	0	1	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	0
Wiltshire	8	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Casework Dir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	711	0	144	153	30	35	79	144	41	11	29	45
%	100%	0%	20%	22%	4%	5%	11%	20%	6%	2%	4%	6%

TABLE 10 – OFFENCES PROSECUTED IN THE YOUTH COURT

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	Charges Prosecuted	HOMICIDE	RA ASSAULT	OTHER ASSAULT	RA DAMAGE	OTHER DAMAGE	RA PUBLIC ORDER	OTHER PUBLIC ORDER	RA HARASSMENT	OTHER HARASSMENT	THEFT ACT	OTHER
AREA												
Avon & Somerset	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	6	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	2
Cambridgeshire	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	5	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	10	0	4	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
Cumbria	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Devon & Cornwall	5	0	0	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Dorset	6	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	0
Durham	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Dyfed Powys	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gt Manchester	36	0	3	8	2	3	17	2	0	0	0	1
Gwent	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	14	0	0	2	1	0	7	3	1	0	0	0
Hertfordshire	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Humberside	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lancashire	16	0	4	3	0	1	7	0	1	0	0	0
Leicestershire	13	0	0	0	3	5	1	4	0	0	0	0
Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	4	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Metropolitan & City	49	0	8	12	2	5	17	2	1	0	2	0
Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northants	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Northumbria	42	0	3	3	1	1	18	9	5	0	0	2
North Wales	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
North Yorkshire	10	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	15	0	1	5	1	1	5	2	0	0	0	0
South Wales	7	0	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
South Yorkshire	9	0	0	2	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	1
Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Surrey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sussex	7	0	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Thames Valley	8	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1
Warwickshire	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Midlands	21	0	3	2	0	2	5	6	1	0	2	0
West Yorkshire	26	0	2	3	0	1	9	2	4	0	0	5
Wiltshire	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Casework Dir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	333	0	35	52	14	32	111	54	17	1	5	12
%	100%	0%	11%	16%	4%	10%	33%	16%	5%	0%	1%	4%

- 10.2 Specific racially aggravated offences as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 accounted for 51% of the total number of charges prosecuted in the magistrates' court, 41% in the Crown Court and 53% in the youth court. Overall, 48% of the charges prosecuted were specific racially aggravated offences.
- 10.3 The remaining 52% related to charges not capable of being charged as specific racially aggravated offences and were, therefore, prosecuted under other legislation. A percentage of these charges, however, contained admissible evidence of racial aggravation which was put before the court on a guilty plea or in a contested trial (see **Table 4** above which indicates that there was sufficient evidence to establish racial aggravation in 80% of the defendant cases received).

11. OUTCOME OF CHARGES PROSECUTED

Magistrates' Court

11.1 1607 charges were prosecuted in the magistrates' court. Defendants pleaded guilty to 1092 of these charges (68%) and were convicted after contest in respect of 214 charges (13%). This is a conviction rate of 81%, but it should be noted that this is based on charges and not defendants for whom the figure would be higher. In respect of the remaining 301 charges, defendants were either acquitted, bound over without trial or discharged at committal.

TABLE 11 - OUTCOME OF CHARGES PROSECUTED IN MAGISTRATES' COURT

AREA	Charges Prosecuted	Guilty	Guilty After Contest	Committal Discharge	Half Time Acquittal	Full Time Acquittal	Bound Over Without Trial
Avon & Somerset	25	17	5	0	1	1	1
Bedfordshire	27	22	0	0	0	2	3
Cambridgeshire	23	20	1	1	0	0	1
Cheshire	44	33	2	0	1	6	2
Cleveland	9	7	0	0	0	1	1
Cumbria	7	6	1	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	45	28	4	0	0	6	7
Devon & Cornwall	20	15	4	0	0	1	0
Dorset	4	2	0	0	1	0	1
Durham	18	9	2	0	2	5	0
Dyfed Powys	10	7	1	0	1	1	0
Essex	4	3	1	0	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	14	10	3	1	0	0	0
Gt Manchester	103	58	18	0	3	19	5
Gwent	35	24	8	0	0	3	0
Hampshire	29	20	8	0	0	1	0
Hertfordshire	17	12	3	0	1	1	0
Humberside	6	5	0	0	1	0	0
Kent	28	23	1	0	1	0	3
Lancashire	52	31	10	1	0	8	2
Leicestershire	63	42	13	0	2	4	2
Lincolnshire	8	7	0	0	0	0	1
Merseyside	50	36	4	0	0	10	0
Metropolitan & City	344	199	60	9	15	40	21
Norfolk	17	17	0	0	0	0	0
Northants	58	47	5	0	0	1	5
Northumbria	84	62	9	0	1	7	5
North Wales	16	9	1	0	0	6	0
North Yorkshire	14	13	1	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	68	44	9	0	0	9	6
South Wales	79	53	11	1	1	10	3
South Yorkshire	25	12	8	0	0	3	2
Staffordshire	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	12	7	2	0	2	0	1
Surrey	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
Sussex	14	12	2	0	0	0	0
Thames Valley	40	31	5	0	1	2	1
Warwickshire	19	18	1	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	6	4	0	0	0	2	0
West Midlands	92	59	8	1	2	18	4
West Yorkshire	54	48	1	1	0	1	3
Wiltshire	12	11	1	0	0	0	0
Casework Directorate	4	2	0	0	2	0	0
Total	1607	1092	214	15	38	168	80
%	100%	68%	13%	1%	2.5%	10.5%	5%

Crown Court

11.2 711 charges were prosecuted in the Crown Court. Defendants pleaded guilty to 404 of these charges (57%) and were convicted after contest in respect of 72 charges (10%). This is a charge based conviction rate of 67%. In respect of the remaining 235 charges, defendants were either acquitted or bound over without trial.

TABLE 12 – OUTCOME OF CHARGES PROSECUTED IN CROWN COURT

AREA	Charges Prosecuted	Guilty	Guilty After Contest	Half Time Acquittal	Full Time Acquittal	Bound Over Without Trial
Avon & Somerset	2	2	0	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	11	5	2	1	3	0
Cambridgeshire	25	13	10	1	1	0
Cheshire	5	5	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	1	0	0	0	1	0
Cumbria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	16	14	0	0	2	0
Devon & Cornwall	10	6	0	0	3	1
Dorset	3	2	1	0	0	0
Durham	2	2	0	0	0	0
Dyfed Powys	4	3	0	1	0	0
Essex	4	3	0	0	1	0
Gloucestershire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gt Manchester	61	47	5	2	6	1
Gwent	11	5	0	2	4	0
Hampshire	4	1	2	1	0	0
Hertfordshire	13	2	3	1	5	2
Humberside	1	0	0	0	0	1
Kent	8	8	0	0	0	0
Lancashire	7	7	0	0	0	0
Leicestershire	4	3	0	0	1	0
Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	6	5	1	0	0	0
Metropolitan & City	255	96	32	26	88	13
Norfolk	7	7	0	0	0	0
Northants	3	2	0	1	0	0
Northumbria	5	5	0	0	0	0
North Wales	1	1	0	0	0	0
North Yorkshire	9	2	0	0	0	7
Nottinghamshire	8	6	0	0	2	0
South Wales	81	61	9	4	6	1
South Yorkshire	11	8	3	0	0	0
Staffordshire	5	4	0	0	1	0
Suffolk	0	0	0	0	0	0
Surrey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sussex	25	15	1	0	9	0
Thames Valley	39	11	1	26	1	0
Warwickshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	9	7	1	0	1	0
West Midlands	38	32	1	0	3	2
West Yorkshire	9	8	0	0	1	0
Wiltshire	8	6	0	0	2	0
Casework Directorate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	711	404	72	66	141	28
%	100%	57%	10%	9%	20%	4%

Youth Court

11.3 333 charges were prosecuted in the Youth Court. Defendants pleaded guilty to 247 of these charges (74%) and were convicted after contest in respect of 49 charges. This is a charge based conviction rate of 89%. In respect of the remaining 37 charges, defendants were either acquitted or bound over without trial.

TABLE 13 – OUTCOME OF CHARGES PROSECUTED IN YOUTH COURT

AREA	Charges Prosecuted	Guilty	Guilty After Contest	Half Time Acquittal	Full Time Acquittal	Bound Over Without Trial
Avon & Somerset	1	0	1	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	6	2	0	0	1	3
Cambridgeshire	1	1	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	5	2	2	1	0	0
Cleveland	10	7	2	0	1	0
Cumbria	1	1	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Devon & Cornwall	5	5	0	0	0	0
Dorset	6	6	0	0	0	0
Durham	4	4	0	0	0	0
Dyfed Powys	0	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	1	1	0	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gt Manchester	36	32	3	1	0	0
Gwent	1	1	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	14	11	3	0	0	0
Hertfordshire	2	2	0	0	0	0
Humberside	5	5	0	0	0	0
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lancashire	16	11	3	0	2	0
Leicestershire	13	12	1	0	0	0
Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	4	2	1	0	1	0
Metropolitan & City	49	21	17	1	5	5
Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northants	1	1	0	0	0	0
Northumbria	42	31	4	0	2	5
North Wales	2	2	0	0	0	0
North Yorkshire	10	8	2	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	15	7	6	2	0	0
South Wales	7	7	0	0	0	0
South Yorkshire	9	9	0	0	0	0
Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	2	1	0	0	1	0
Surrey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sussex	7	2	2	0	3	0
Thames Valley	8	8	0	0	0	0
Warwickshire	1	1	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	1	0	1	0	0	0
West Midlands	21	19	1	0	1	0
West Yorkshire	26	25	0	0	0	1
Wiltshire	1	0	0	0	1	0
Casework Directorate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	333	247	49	5	18	14
%	100%	74%	15%	2%	5%	4%

11.4 The overall conviction rate covering prosecutions in all courts is 79% and is based on charges and not defendants, making any direct comparisons with previous years impossible.

Details of Charges Dropped

12. DETAILS OF CHARGES DROPPED

12.1 Of the 2417 defendant cases received, 585 defendants (24%) were not prosecuted on any charge. This represents a 10% increase on last year's figures, and includes all defendants against whom charges were dropped at the magistrates', Crown or youth courts. The term dropped includes formal discontinuance under sections 23 and 23A of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 and cases not proceeded with at court. The number of defendants prosecuted and not prosecuted in each CPS Area is shown in **Table 14**.

TABLE 14 – NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS PROSECUTED/NOT PROSECUTED BY AREA

AREA	Number of defendants	Number of defendants prosecuted	Number of defendants NOT prosecuted	AREA	Number of defendants	Number of defendants prosecuted	Number of defendants NOT prosecuted
Avon & Somerset	31	26	5	Merseyside	61	44	17
Bedfordshire	43	33	10	Metropolitan & City	577	416	161
Cambridgeshire	50	36	14	Norfolk	19	15	4
Cheshire	51	43	8	Northants	46	35	11
Cleveland	11	11	0	Northumbria	179	115	64
Cumbria	10	7	3	North Wales	14	13	1
Derbyshire	50	43	7	North Yorkshire	21	20	1
Devon & Cornwall	32	24	8	Nottinghamshire	73	65	8
Dorset	18	12	6	South Wales	157	101	56
Durham	24	20	4	South Yorkshire	40	34	6
Dyfed Powys	15	11	4	Staffordshire	10	6	4
Essex	11	7	4	Suffolk	24	14	10
Gloucestershire	13	9	4	Surrey	6	5	1
Gt Manchester	155	126	29	Sussex	41	33	8
Gwent	38	27	11	Thames Valley	65	58	7
Hampshire	38	33	5	Warwickshire	17	15	2
Hertfordshire	24	21	3	West Mercia	9	9	0
Humberside	12	11	1	West Midlands	116	103	13
Kent	31	21	10	West Yorkshire	97	67	30
Lancashire	74	58	16	Wiltshire	22	18	4
Leicestershire	77	58	19	Casework Dir	2	1	1
Lincolnshire	13	8	5	Total	2417	1832	585

12.2 As stated in the introduction to this report, information contained within it is given at both defendant and charge level. In previous years reasons for dropping cases have been defendant based. This year, however, reasons for dropping cases have been recorded against the charges. **Table 15** provides the detailed breakdown of charges dropped.

Details of Charges Dropped

12.3 Of the 4014 offences charged, a total of 797 charges (20%) were dropped in

respect of the 585 defendants not prosecuted.

TABLE 15 – REASONS FOR DROPPING/DISCONTINUING CHARGES BY AREA

AREA	Number of charges where all charges discontinued or dropped	Dropped: Witness fails to attend	Dropped: Witness Refuses to Give evidence	Dropped: Other insufficient evidence	Dropped: Public Interest	Dropped: Written off/ other
Avon & Somerset	6	0	4	1	1	0
Bedfordshire	10	2	0	7	0	1
Cambridgeshire	22	2	1	9	10	0
Cheshire	5	2	0	0	1	2
Cleveland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumbria	4	1	1	0	0	2
Derbyshire	6	1	0	4	1	0
Devon & Cornwall	11	2	1	2	4	2
Dorset	10	0	0	9	0	1
Durham	4	2	1	0	1	0
Dyfed Powys	6	6	0	0	0	0
Essex	4	0	0	4	0	0
Gloucestershire	5	0	0	4	1	0
Gt Manchester	49	9	12	25	3	0
Gwent	13	5	1	4	3	0
Hampshire	12	1	1	10	0	0
Hertfordshire	6	0	0	2	0	4
Humberside	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kent	9	4	0	2	0	3
Lancashire	15	6	2	1	6	0
Leicestershire	26	3	3	16	2	2
Lincolnshire	7	0	0	4	1	2
Merseyside	25	5	8	7	3	2
Metropolitan & City	228	70	27	87	22	22
Norfolk	5	2	0	3	0	0
Northants	11	4	3	3	1	0
Northumbria	66	18	10	10	9	19
North Wales	1	0	0	0	1	0
North Yorkshire	1	0	0	0	0	1
Nottinghamshire	16	10	0	1	4	1
South Wales	106	21	1	67	7	10
South Yorkshire	8	3	0	1	4	0
Staffordshire	6	4	1	0	1	0
Suffolk	14	0	0	10	4	0
Surrey	1	0	0	0	1	0
Sussex	9	2	2	3	1	1
Thames Valley	9	1	1	6	0	1
Warwickshire	2	0	0	1	0	1
West Mercia	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Midlands	11	2	2	3	4	0
West Yorkshire	43	6	7	20	5	5
Wiltshire	4	0	1	2	0	1
Casework Directorate	1	0	0	1	0	0
Total	797	194	90	329	101	83
%	100%	25%	11%	41%	13%	10%

Details of Charges Dropped

- 12.4 Witnesses either failing to attend court or refusing to give evidence account for 36% of the charges not prosecuted. Other insufficient evidence accounts for 41%, charges dropped in the public interest 13% and charges written-off 10%.
- 12.5 A breakdown by Area of the charges that were dropped/discontinued relating to each type of offence is given in **Table 16**.

Details of Charges Dropped

TABLE 16 – NUMBER OF CHARGES DROPPED/DISCONTINUED BY OFFENCE TYPE

RA = RACIALLY AGGRAVATED	Number of charges where all charges dropped or discontinued	Dropped: Homicide	Dropped: RA Assault	Dropped: Other Assault	Dropped: RA Damage	Dropped: Other Damage	Dropped: RA Public Order	Dropped: Other Public Order	Dropped: RA Harassment	Dropped: Other Harassment	Dropped: Theft Act	Dropped: Other
AREA												
Avon & Somerset	6	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Bedfordshire	10	0	2	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2
Cambridgeshire	22	0	9	1	0	1	4	2	0	2	3	0
Cheshire	5	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumbria	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Derbyshire	6	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
Devon & Cornwall	11	0	1	2	1	0	3	2	1	1	0	0
Dorset	10	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	4	2	0	0
Durham	4	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Dyfed Powys	6	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
Essex	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	0
Gt Manchester	49	0	9	12	2	1	8	9	1	2	1	4
Gwent	13	0	2	4	0	0	3	2	2	0	0	0
Hampshire	12	0	1	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0
Hertfordshire	6	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
Humberside	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kent	9	0	3	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
Lancashire	15	0	2	2	2	0	7	2	0	0	0	0
Leicestershire	26	0	5	5	2	1	5	6	1	1	0	0
Lincolnshire	7	0	2	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0
Merseyside	25	0	4	2	3	5	5	3	1	0	1	1
Metropolitan & City	228	0	57	25	16	12	55	23	23	0	2	15
Norfolk	5	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Northants	11	0	2	2	0	1	1	5	0	0	0	0
Northumbria	66	0	3	4	0	5	38	8	5	0	0	3
North Wales	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
North Yorkshire	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire	16	0	2	1	3	1	1	2	0	2	0	4
South Wales	106	0	18	22	3	4	26	22	5	2	0	4
South Yorkshire	8	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	0
Staffordshire	6	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0
Suffolk	14	0	1	2	0	1	4	1	3	0	0	2
Surrey	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sussex	9	0	2	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0
Thames Valley	9	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	5	0
Warwickshire	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
West Mercia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Midlands	11	0	0	0	1	1	4	1	2	0	1	1
West Yorkshire	43	0	4	3	7	1	9	7	10	0	0	2
Wiltshire	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Casework Directorate	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	797	0	142	102	44	38	216	113	68	15	20	39
%	100%	0%	18%	13%	5%	4%	27%	14%	9%	2%	3%	5%

12.6 Ten per cent of dropped charges were written off. For the purposes of the scheme, a case is written off when proceedings are terminated in certain circumstances; for example, the defendant fails to appear at court and is not re-arrested, the defendant cannot be traced and a summons or other notice remains unserved.

Details of Sentences Imposed

13. DETAILS OF SENTENCES IMPOSED

13.1 Of the 2651 charges prosecuted, a total of 2078 charges (79%) resulted in a conviction. The courts imposed a custodial sentence (which includes a suspended sentence for the purpose of the Scheme) in respect of 525 charges (25%), a community sentence on 662 charges (32%), a fine on 436 charges (21%) and a discharge on 291 charges (14%). Other sentences accounted for 164 of the charges (8%). This information is shown in **Table 17**.

TABLE 17 - DETAILS OF SENTENCES IMPOSED

AREA	Number of Defendants	Number of Police Charges	Number of Charges Added by CPS	Number of Charges Prosecuted	CUSTODIAL SENTENCE (incl. Suspended sentences)	COMMUNITY SENTENCE	FINE	DISCHARGE	OTHER
Avon & Somerset	31	35	1	28	5	9	8	1	2
Bedfordshire	43	64	4	44	12	7	9	2	1
Cambridgeshire	50	73	1	49	18	6	15	5	1
Cheshire	51	60	1	54	13	13	13	3	2
Cleveland	11	21	1	20	3	6	0	7	0
Cumbria	10	18	2	8	0	0	5	3	0
Derbyshire	50	77	4	61	16	18	9	1	2
Devon & Cornwall	32	52	4	35	7	9	4	4	6
Dorset	18	29	1	13	2	5	2	0	2
Durham	24	31	1	24	1	9	4	3	0
Dyfed Powys	15	24	1	14	1	5	4	1	0
Essex	11	15	1	9	3	2	1	1	1
Gloucestershire	13	25	0	14	1	6	3	0	3
Gt Manchester	155	260	28	200	44	52	22	38	7
Gwent	38	63	2	47	4	11	15	5	3
Hampshire	38	64	6	47	17	16	5	1	6
Hertfordshire	24	39	2	32	8	4	2	2	6
Humberside	12	13	0	12	2	1	0	2	5
Kent	31	47	1	36	7	16	7	0	2
Lancashire	74	97	4	75	8	13	17	17	7
Leicestershire	77	122	7	80	8	24	21	11	7
Lincolnshire	13	17	1	8	2	2	1	2	0
Merseyside	61	95	3	60	5	15	15	6	8
Metropolitan & City	577	928	101	648	97	161	74	62	31
Norfolk	19	29	4	24	12	4	7	0	1
Northants	46	94	6	62	13	10	5	15	12
Northumbria	179	215	1	131	18	41	20	24	8
North Wales	14	20	0	19	2	4	5	2	0
North Yorkshire	21	35	1	33	2	7	3	14	0
Nottinghamshire	73	110	7	91	16	30	20	1	5
South Wales	157	292	40	167	65	26	24	12	14
South Yorkshire	40	55	4	45	15	11	10	4	0
Staffordshire	10	14	0	8	5	1	0	1	0
Suffolk	24	30	2	14	1	3	4	2	0
Surrey	6	6	1	5	0	1	2	1	1
Sussex	41	70	10	46	10	12	4	3	5
Thames Valley	65	98	7	87	15	11	17	9	4
Warwickshire	17	24	1	20	2	9	8	0	1
West Mercia	9	20	2	16	8	1	4	0	0
West Midlands	116	177	18	151	38	32	29	17	4
West Yorkshire	97	136	6	89	15	40	12	8	7
Wiltshire	22	27	1	21	4	7	6	1	0
Casework Directorate	2	5	0	4	0	2	0	0	0
Total	2417	3726	288	2651	525	662	436	291	164

