

Victims Right to Review Outcomes
April 2021 to March 2022

	Principal Offence Category	Total VRR Requests Received	Original Decisions Overturned at Stage One	Original Decisions Overturned at Stage Two	Total Original Decisions Overturned
A	Homicide	20	3	1	4
B	Offences against the person	744	86	28	114
C	Sexual offences	303	38	17	55
D	Burglary	33	0	2	2
E	Robbery	12	1	0	1
F	Theft and handling	66	2	0	2
G	Fraud and forgery	55	3	3	6
H	Criminal damage	76	5	2	7
I	Drug offences	1	0	0	0
J	Public order offences	78	5	1	6
L	Motoring offences	32	3	3	6
K	All other offences (excluding motoring)	135	21	5	26
	No Principal Offence Category	143	12	2	14
	Total	1,698	179	64	243

Notes

During the period in question, the CPS made **73,337** decisions which could be subject to a request for a review under the VRR scheme. The percentage of requests overturned, where the original decision was found to be wrong, is therefore 0.33%.

Source: CPS VRR Tracker. October 2022

The VRR scheme is a two stage process where requests can be reviewed by either local offices or a specialist Unit within HQ. In the first instance, that decision is reviewed by a manager in the local area. If he or she overturns the original decision, and if the victim so requests, the case may be further reviewed by the CPS Appeals and Review Unit (ARU). The ARU is a national CPS unit staffed with experienced specialist lawyers who conduct a fresh independent review of the evidence in every case referred to them. If an ARU lawyer decides that the original decision was wrong, and a prosecution is required to maintain confidence in the Criminal Justice System, that original decision will be overturned and proceedings reinstated. The figures provided in the table represent all overturned decisions where the original decision was found to be wrong regardless of which stage the final decision was made.

The CPS operates both Feedback and Complaints schemes to deal with concerns about legal decisions which do not fall within the scope of the VRR scheme. The CPS does not collect data which constitutes official statistics as defined in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. This data has been drawn from the CPS's administrative IT systems, which (as with any large scale recording system) is subject to possible errors with data entry