safe in... warwickshire

Warwickshire Your Say on Community Safety Survey 2024 - Warwick District

The Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board commissioned a survey to better understand current community safety issues and any concerns that residents, and those who work or study in Warwickshire, may have.

The findings from the survey will enable the Board to develop its community safety services, with the aim of increasing how safe residents feel and promoting action that can be taken to help increase feelings of safety. They will inform the setting of local community safety priorities from the autumn onwards.

The survey was conducted from the **8th July 2024 to the 4th August 2024** with **264** responses received from Warwick District residents and **11** responses received from people working or studying in Warwick, but not living in Warwickshire. Responses were received from 0.2% of the Warwick District population aged 16+ (126,688).

Analysis has been conducted by the Community Safety Partnership Analysts in the Business Intelligence team and focuses on resident responses only. This report can be read alongside the county wide report, which is available from the BI team - businessintelligence@warwickshire.gov.uk.

It is important to note that the survey was open to everyone in Warwickshire via an online tool and the results do not provide the views of a representative sample of the population. Although there was widespread promotion across the county throughout the survey period, some groups are over-represented in the demographic data.

Demographics

36.1%
of resident respondents across Warwickshire were from Warwick District (where Warwick District makes up 25.0% of the total Warwickshire population aged 16+)

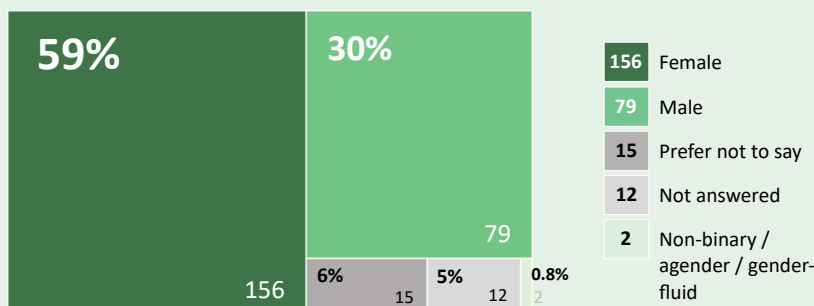**Warwick District Wards with the most responses:**

- **37** Leamington Clarendon
- **24** Warwick Saltisford
- **23** Leamington Willes

59%
of resident respondents were female, whilst

30%
were male

59%	30%
156	79
6% — 15	5% — 12	0.8% — 2

- **156** Female
- **79** Male
- **15** Prefer not to say
- **12** Not answered
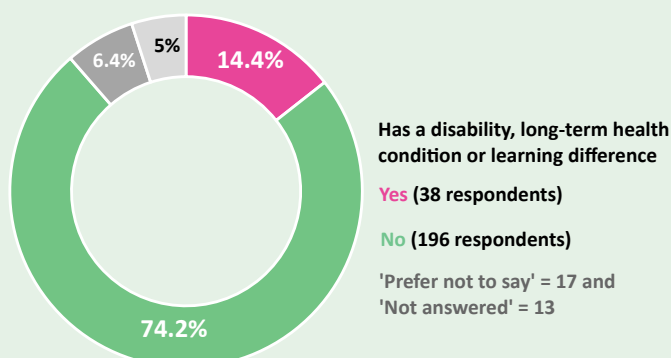- **2** Non-binary / agender / gender-fluid

75%
of resident respondents declared their ethnic background as 'White British' (197), with 3.8% (10) being 'Asian or Asian British' and 2.7% (7) as 'Other White background'

14%
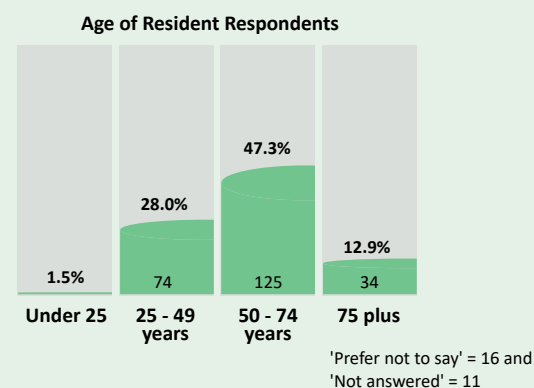of resident respondents (38) selected 'Prefer not to say' or did not answer the question

14.4%
of resident respondents consider themselves to have a disability, long-term health condition or learning difference
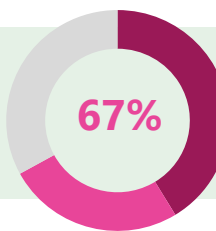

Has a disability, long-term health condition or learning difference

Yes (38 respondents)

No (196 respondents)

'Prefer not to say' = 17 and 'Not answered' = 13

6.4% | 5% | 14.4% | 74.2%

47.3%
of resident respondents were aged between **50** and **74** years

Age of Resident Respondents

Under 25	25 - 49 years	50 - 74 years	75 plus
1.5%	28.0%	47.3%	12.9%
	74	125	34

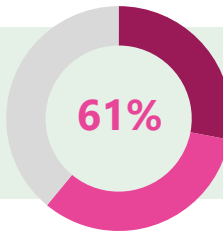'Prefer not to say' = 16 and 'Not answered' = 11

Warwickshire Your Say on Community Safety Survey 2024 - Warwick District
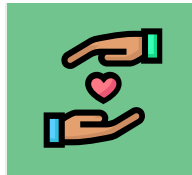
Perception of Crime

67%

67% (177) of resident respondents felt that crime has increased _nationally_ with 41.3% (109) that felt that crime has significantly increased....
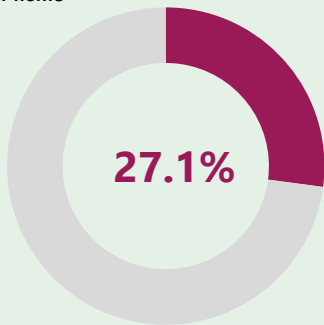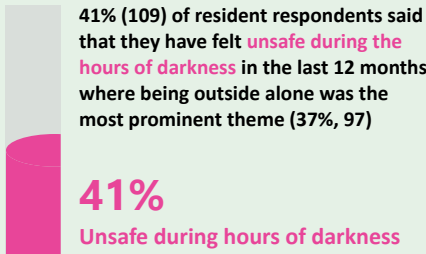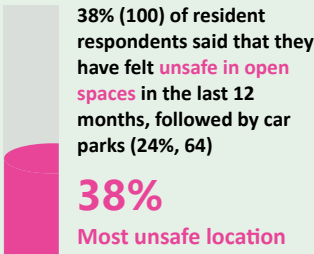
61%

...compared to 61% (160) of resident respondents that felt that crime has increased _locally_ with 28% (74) that felt that crime has significantly increased
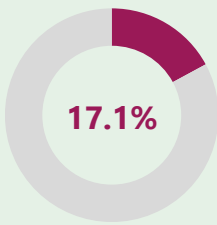
Feeling safe (Last 12 months)

Where "local area" is defined as 15-20 mins walking distance from your home
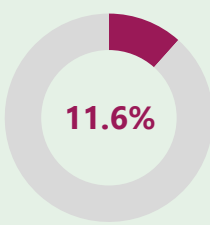
49% (129) of resident respondents said that they have felt unsafe in their local area in the last 12 months

49%
Feeling unsafe

38% (100) of resident respondents said that they have felt unsafe in open spaces in the last 12 months, followed by car parks (24%, 64)

38%
Most unsafe location

41% (109) of resident respondents said that they have felt unsafe during the hours of darkness in the last 12 months where being outside alone was the most prominent theme (37%, 97)

41%
Unsafe during hours of darkness

27.1%

27.1% (35) of resident respondents who said that they felt unsafe in their local area over the last 12 months said that they had felt unsafe due to their age (however, this is a likely reflection of the older demographic completing the survey)

Feeling unsafe due to age

17.1%

Feeling unsafe due to gender identity

11.6%

Feeling unsafe due to their ethnic background

17.1% (22) of resident respondents who said that they felt unsafe in their local area over the last 12 months said that they had felt unsafe due to their gender identity and 11.6% (15) due to their ethnic background

Top 3 reasons for Warwick District residents feeling unsafe in a public place in their local area in the last 12 months
(Includes only those that said they felt unsafe in their local area)

24.3%
Drug dealing / drug use in public
(28 respondents)

21.7%
Rowdy nuisance behaviour
(25 respondents)

20.9%
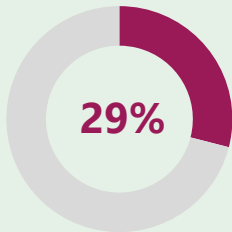Violence or threatening behaviour
(24 respondents)

> _Car parks with loud groups hanging around in town centre. Anti social behaviour taking place as you want to walk past. Often taking alternate route as a result. Obvious drug taking in public._
> (Resident, Warwick District)

> _Increased assaults, aggravated burglaries, knife crime and anti-social behaviour._
> (Resident, Warwick District)

> _Visible criminality on streets and in parks, mainly **drug dealing**, which is intimidating when using public areas with young children._
> (Resident, Warwick District)

> _Groups of **youths congregating** and showing no respect for area or residents._
> (Resident, Warwick District)

> _Open spaces are not lit or designed with safety in mind for women and girls. Avoid some shops and entertainment venues due to anti social behaviour. Don't go into town after about 10pm due to anti social behaviour's. Local park has had several arson attacks over the years resulting in damage to property. Car crime is especially a problem locally. Dogs not under control are also a problem._
> (Resident, Warwick District)

29%

29% (77) of resident respondents felt unsafe elsewhere in Warwickshire, outside of their local area in the last 12 months
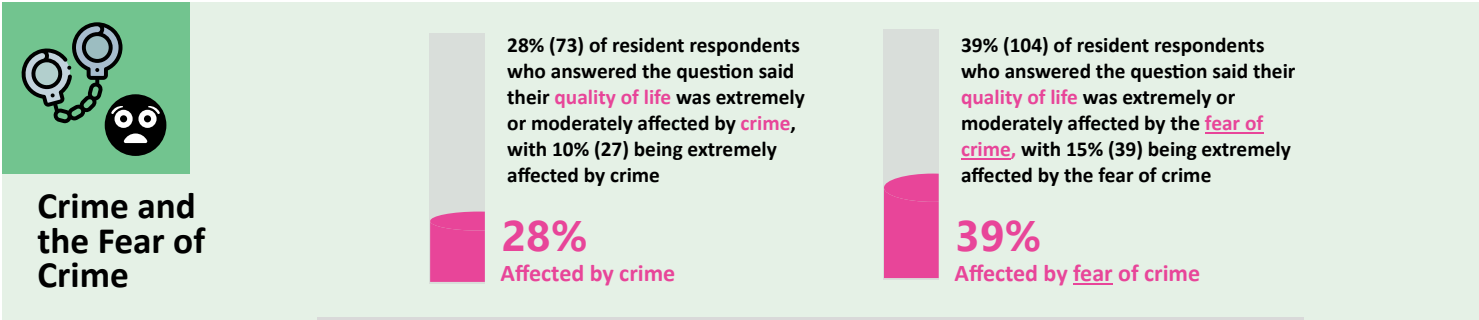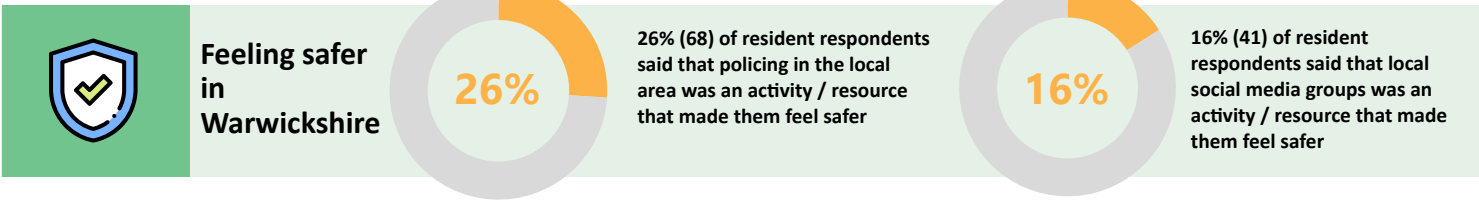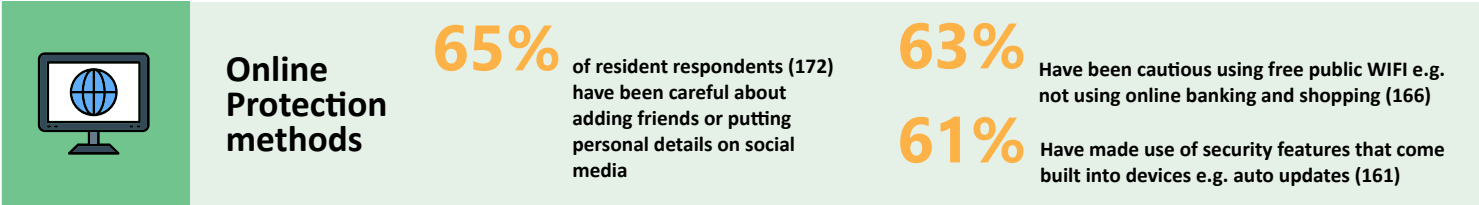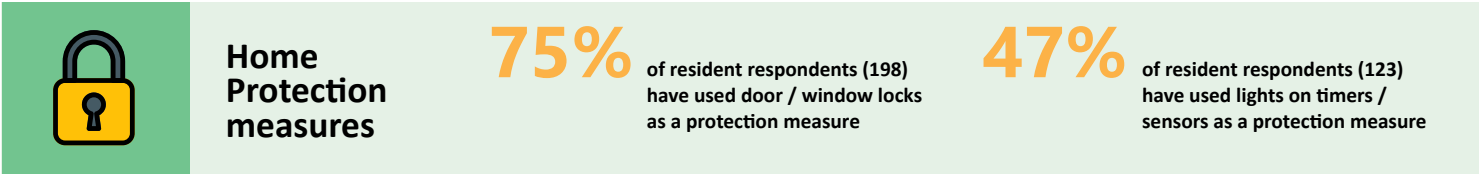
Top 3 places where Warwick District residents had felt unsafe _outside of their local area_
(Includes only those that said they felt unsafe elsewhere in Warwickshire)
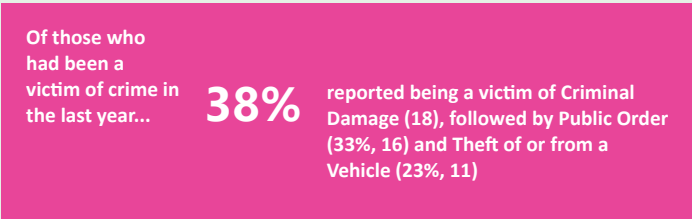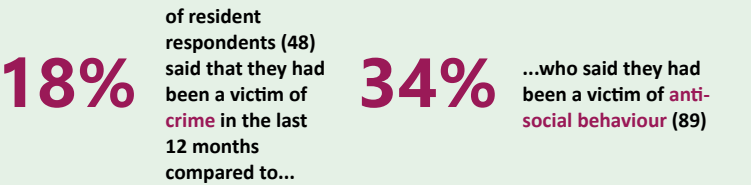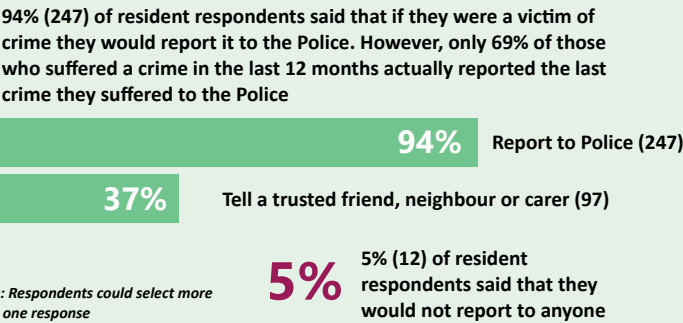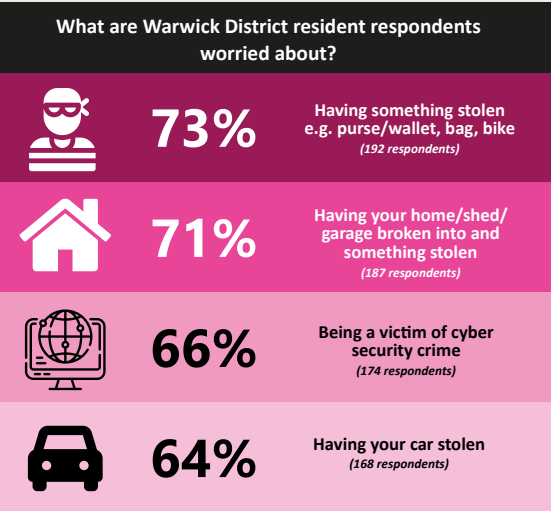
75.3%
Open Spaces
(58 respondents)

64.9%
Car Parks
(50 respondents)

54.5%
Commercial Places
(42 respondents)

Warwickshire Your Say on Community Safety Survey 2024 - Warwick District

Home Protection measures

75% of resident respondents (198) have used door / window locks as a protection measure

47% of resident respondents (123) have used lights on timers / sensors as a protection measure

Online Protection methods

65% of resident respondents (172) have been careful about adding friends or putting personal details on social media

63% Have been cautious using free public WIFI e.g. not using online banking and shopping (166)

61% Have made use of security features that come built into devices e.g. auto updates (161)

Feeling safer in Warwickshire

26% 26% (68) of resident respondents said that policing in the local area was an activity / resource that made them feel safer

16% 16% (41) of resident respondents said that local social media groups was an activity / resource that made them feel safer

Crime and the Fear of Crime

28% (73) of resident respondents who answered the question said their quality of life was extremely or moderately affected by crime, with 10% (27) being extremely affected by crime

28%
Affected by crime

39% (104) of resident respondents who answered the question said their quality of life was extremely or moderately affected by the fear of crime, with 15% (39) being extremely affected by the fear of crime
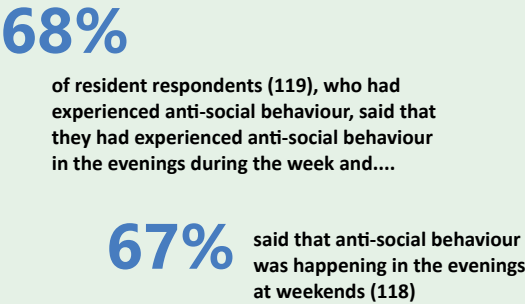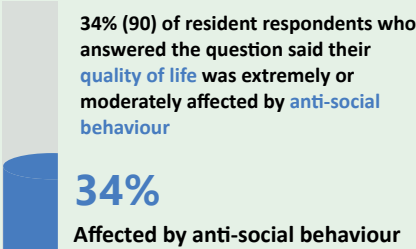
39%
Affected by fear of crime

Having something stolen is the biggest worry for residents in Warwick District where 73% (192) of resident respondents were worried about this

What are Warwick District resident respondents worried about?

73% Having something stolen e.g. purse/wallet, bag, bike *(192 respondents)*

71% Having your home/shed/garage broken into and something stolen *(187 respondents)*

66% Being a victim of cyber security crime *(174 respondents)*

64% Having your car stolen *(168 respondents)*

94% (247) of resident respondents said that if they were a victim of crime they would report it to the Police. However, only 69% of those who suffered a crime in the last 12 months actually reported the last crime they suffered to the Police

94% Report to Police (247)

37% Tell a trusted friend, neighbour or carer (97)

Note: Respondents could select more than one response

5% 5% (12) of resident respondents said that they would not report to anyone

18% of resident respondents (48) said that they had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months compared to...

34% ...who said they had been a victim of anti-social behaviour (89)

69% of resident respondents (33), who had been a victim of crime in the last 12 months, reported the last crime they suffered to the Police

Of those who had been a victim of crime in the last year...

38% reported being a victim of Criminal Damage (18), followed by Public Order (33%, 16) and Theft of or from a Vehicle (23%, 11)

Warwickshire Your Say on Community Safety Survey 2024 - Warwick District

Anti-Social Behaviour

34% (90) of resident respondents who answered the question said their **quality of life** was extremely or moderately affected by **anti-social behaviour**

34%
Affected by anti-social behaviour

68% of resident respondents (119), who had experienced anti-social behaviour, said that they had experienced anti-social behaviour in the evenings during the week and....

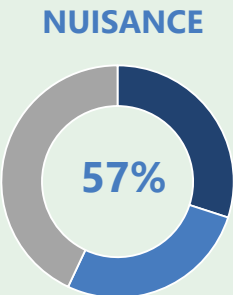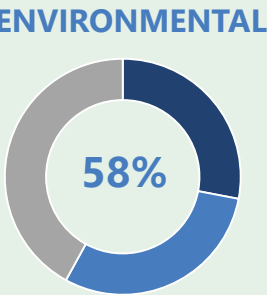**67%** said that anti-social behaviour was happening in the evenings at weekends (118)

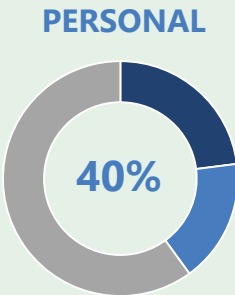## Perception of anti-social behaviour in the local area

Where "local area" is defined as 15-20 mins walking distance from your home
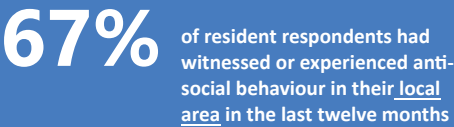
NUISANCE
57%

Overall, 57% (150) of resident respondents thought that 'nuisance' anti-social behaviour had **increased**, with 30% (80) feeling that it had **significantly increased**

ENVIRONMENTAL
58%

58% (152) of resident respondents thought that 'environmental' anti-social behaviour had **increased**, with 28% (74) feeling that it had **significantly increased**
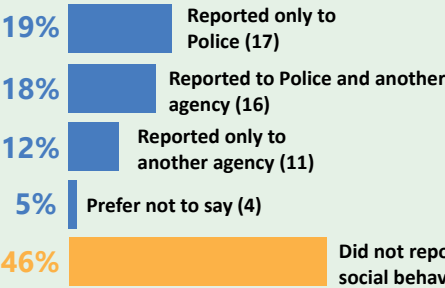
PERSONAL
40%

40% (105) of resident respondents thought that 'personal' anti-social behaviour had **increased**, with 23% (61) feeling that it had **significantly increased**

67% of resident respondents had witnessed or experienced anti-social behaviour in their <u>local area</u> in the last twelve months

34% of resident respondents had been a victim of anti-social behaviour in <u>Warwickshire</u> in the last twelve months

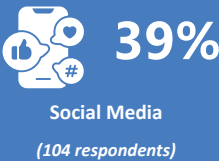## Reporting anti-social behaviour

49% of resident respondents (44) who were a victim of anti-social behaviour in the last twelve months reported this to the Police or another agency

- **19%** Reported only to Police (17)
- **18%** Reported to Police and another agency (16)
- **12%** Reported only to another agency (11)
- **5%** Prefer not to say (4)
- **46%** Did not report the anti-social behaviour (41)

46% of resident respondents (41) who were a victim of anti-social behaviour <u>did not report</u> the anti-social behaviour

Keeping informed of community safety activity

42% of resident respondents (111) said they would like to be informed about community safety via online newsletters, followed by social media (39%, 104)

42%
Online newsletters
(111 respondents)

39%
Social Media
(104 respondents)

Warwickshire Your Say on Community Safety Survey 2024 - Warwick District

Further Thoughts...

The <u>most common theme</u> to emerge in response to this freetext question by resident respondents was for increased <u>Police visibility</u>, either in the town centres or in the local community where they lived. Of resident respondents that answered this question, 40% (55, from a total of 139 respondents) mentioned this in their response to 'Further Thoughts'.

The <u>second most common theme</u> to emerge was <u>action being taken by Police and/or the Criminal Justice System</u>, where resident respondents wanted more action to be taken against criminal behaviour and anti-social behaviour, with stricter and longer punishments, where 14% (19) of resident respondents mentioned this in their response.

Comments from residents of.....

Warwick District

"More uniformed presence, more mobile and foot patrolling. More community get together and support."

"Pay more attention to anti-social behaviour on our streets. Speeding and excessive noise from motor vehicles is a blight on our community."

"Community safety has to include action on climate breakdown. This affects us all now & for all our futures."

"I think the main issues which bother me are increased litter and speeding. "

"Investment.
Bring back Youth Clubs or similar, give the young somewhere to go, something to do, to get them off the streets in the evenings. Investment. Investment. Investment."

"Keep the street lights on to deter burglars. Take more action on shoplifting and especially those who abuse retail / hospitality workers . Do everything possible to deter people from carrying a knife - education from early ages , limit the availability of knives on line , but changing the mentality of a generation who see knife carrying as " essential " - I have no idea how you do that"

"As we live on the fringes of warwickshire we feel that we are forgotten by the police after reporting incidents"

"I prefer to avoid going into towns at night due to the fear of **antisocial behaviour,** which is frequently reported in the media.
I am convinced that a **greater police presence** and a **zero tolerance approach** is needed, but this is a national issue as well as a local one."

"I believe there needs to be a greater visible **police** presence in Leamington Spa, wider **CCTV** coverage, and greater punitive measures against those who commit crime and anti-social behaviour.."

"I don't believe it's as a bad as painted. Warwickshire always has been a safe County to live in, in my experience"