

Mid Sussex Strategic Intelligence Assessment

July 2020

Summary

Following the undertaking of a Strategic Intelligence Assessment exercise, the detailed data surrounding and results of which are contained within the body of this report, the following issues have been identified as those which the Mid Sussex Partnership should seek to address through its collaborative leadership and interventions in the 2020-21 year. A number of the identified issues pre-date the Covid 19 pandemic but a number are emergent as a result of the pandemic or are being impacted by the pandemic and the public health interventions required to address it.

Proposed Overarching Theme for 2020-21: Covid19 Response and Recovery

Community Safety

- Place based Anti-Social Behaviour
- Youth focused preventative interventions.
- Domestic violence.
- Hate crime.
- Tackling environmental crime such as flytipping.
- Fraud – especially countering fraud against vulnerable people.

Health & Wellbeing

- Increasing number of older people with dementia.
- Workplace health – provision of health support and signposting to those of working age.
- Tackling mental health issues from loneliness and social isolation.
- Promotion of access to health care services for all health-related issues.
- Health inequalities

Community Resilience

- Assistance to the voluntary sector in finding new ways of service provision.
- Building community resilience and harnessing the growth in community responders developed during the pandemic to support vulnerable people.
- Addressing the implications of the economic downturn, such as the likely increase in NEETs.
- Provision for those in need of emergency and housing related support.
- Addressing rural isolation arising from transport and other issues.
- Consequences of new housing development.

Background/Context

The Mid Sussex Partnership (MSP) is a partnership of organisations working together to improve the quality of residents' lives across the District.

The Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) is an annual evidence base compiled and analysed to inform the priorities of the Mid Sussex Strategic Partnership (MSP).

The partnership has a statutory duty to work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the District. The SIA aids understanding of emerging trends and patterns in crime and disorder and explores future threats and opportunities. It also provides an insight into health-related information relevant to the partnership's role as the local Wellbeing Partnership in improving the Health and Wellbeing of the District. This is increasingly important given the Covid19 pandemic response and recovery that has dominated since March 2020.

COVID-19 Pandemic

Since the onset of the COVID19 pandemic, Mid Sussex has had the third highest number of "Shielded" residents classed as "extremely clinically vulnerable" in West Sussex but, possibly as a consequence of its overall relative affluence, only the fourth highest number receiving government food deliveries and the second lowest number of vulnerable residents asking the Council for assistance. Of the District population, approximately 16% are over 70.

COVID19, has also had unprecedented impacts on household finances, personal wellbeing and health. However, it difficult to predict the nature and scale of the impact on households at this stage, existing data suggests that inactivity and unemployment will rise quickly, with low-paid workers most at risk, particularly when the Government support such as furloughing comes to an end. The District is already experiencing a significant increase in unemployment, from March 2020 where unemployment has risen from 1.3 percent to 3.9 percent in May.

The Covid 19 crisis has impacted on the voluntary and community sector. The statutory sector support to the community has been enormously assisted by the number of community groups (new and existing) who have risen to the challenge of supporting their neighbours. However, depending on their scale and the level of use, some have or will be incurring costs that they will need to address. Some will have lost significant funds through an inability to hold fundraising activities, many have not been involved in the Covid-19 response and will face a new landscape when they remobilise. New models of delivery and work will be needed and many will struggle and need support.

Community Safety Activity

Owing to the COVID19 pandemic, normal proactive community safety partnership activity has been temporarily reduced; both locally and nationally. This is to allow necessary emergency measures to take precedent. The implications of government-imposed lockdown have meant the economy as a whole has shrunk and communities have been largely house-bound for a period of time. The pattern of crime and disorder and the threats and risks posed by different forms of behaviour are therefore significantly different to normal. It is likely that the patterns of crime data in the District will be affected significantly for the rest of 2020 by the government-imposed lockdown and subsequent easement measures.

COVID-19 Social Distancing and the Impact of Lock-Down on Community Safety

The Strategic Intelligence Assessment for West Sussex was published in May 2020 and identifies that traditional crime trends are likely to change for the periods before during and following the lockdown; with reductions in a number of offences predicted during the lockdown period as opportunities for offenders to commit many crimes have become fewer. It is suggested that acquisitive crime rates could dip, whereas early data from police and service providers shows that domestic abuse rates have risen significantly.

Specific COVID19 lockdown crime trends for West Sussex include:

- Domestic Abuse - the Covid 19 lock-down and its aftermath are predicted to see a considerable rise in incidences and reports of domestic abuse offences. This will have implications for the demand on related support services.
- Cyber-crime, fraud and online scamming have been identified as areas of concern. Offences include adapted versions of telephone fraud and scams related to the purchase and supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Drugs and alcohol related crime - vulnerable drug users at risk of exploitation from criminal networks as they become increasingly desperate for drugs that they cannot afford due to the lockdown taking away opportunities to fund their habits, e.g. from shoplifting. County lines activity remains a threat in the County.
- Child exploitation- potential for increase in non-contact abuse associated with lockdown and escalation of risk during missing episodes.
- Sussex Police have had to deal with a number of COVID-related public order offences which has attracted media attention but are not likely to impact long term trends.

In Mid Sussex, the latest crime figures tell us that most types of crime were reduced but with more domestic abuse incidents and crimes. The suspension of magistrate courts sittings has diluted the effectiveness of some of the new powers being used by the partnership to counter crime and anti-social behaviour, such as Community Protection Notices. Courts have since opened but face a huge backlog of cases which are being prioritised according to the level of severity of offences. The initiatives to counter youth related anti-social behaviour through schools have also had to be curtailed. Withdrawal of the threat of eviction during the lockdown is making it more difficult to address some types of ongoing anti-social behaviour where tenancies have been breached.

Health

During the COVID-19 crisis many people have had to deal with additional worries, demands and restrictions on their lives which can bring a strain physically and mentally. These come from the consequences of the lockdown and concerns about economic wellbeing, especially for those people furloughed or facing redundancy. Ways of promoting healthy lifestyles have been disrupted during the lockdown, for example Mid Sussex District Council's Wellbeing Team have been assisting with the provision of emergency support to those shielding and moving to more virtual, rather than face-to-face contact.

In terms of the health priorities for the District and the ways that these can be addressed by the MSP, the implications of the pandemic can be summarised as follows:

- a greater need to address mental health and loneliness issues for all ages- new public health evidence suggests impacts are greatest in young adults as well as the older generation.
- supporting shielding groups.
- supporting the BAME community who have been at greater risk of the virus.
- access to lifestyle and health services for those identified as most at risk.
- providing access to support for adults and families in response to economic hardship, child care and significant lifestyle changes.
- Supporting voluntary sector partners.
- Changes in ways of providing support in the long-term such as more virtual working with clients and how these can be provided.
- the need to ensure that people are accessing health and preventative services for all health-related problems.

Community Resilience

Community and Voluntary Sector Support

The landscape for working with the community and voluntary sector has been changed by the pandemic. Emergency CVS support has been developed during the shutdown through the local authority community hubs and community responders, for example to support food supply and distribution to vulnerable people. 5,194 Mid Sussex residents were required to be shielded from the pandemic, with 2,300 registering for support. Whilst shielding, and some of the targeted government support that was provided to affected individuals, is due to be “paused” under government guidance from the end of July, localised support is likely to continue to be needed in some form and may need to be reintroduced in the event of any future local lockdown.

Many CVS organisations face a reduction in their financial resources due to the pandemic, while demand for the services they provide is rising. Some of these organisations face difficulties in using their traditional meeting places due to social distancing and face problems with transporting their service users to such venues. Assistance has been provided to these groups through ensuring that they are aware of the Business Grants support available to them and to date 138 have accessed either Business or Discretionary Grants via Mid Sussex District Council.

Housing and Homelessness

The Government brought forward a package of measures designed to protect vulnerable households from becoming homeless during the pandemic. This guidance directed all housing authorities to:

- House all rough sleepers;
- Extend the provision of temporary accommodation to all homeless households even where there is no longer a legal requirement to do so.

At the start of the lockdown there was an increase in requests for housing from people who were living in insecure accommodation such as shared lodgings or with friends and families. There has also been requests for help from families unable to remain in their home during lockdown. Some Government funding has been made available, but it is uncertain whether this will meet the full costs.

One of the issues identified in the last SIA was the consequences of West Sussex County Council's budget reductions to Housing Related Support and the Local Assistance Network (LAN). The LAN provided discretionary services to households facing hardship as a result of a crisis or emergency and includes support for foodbanks. These services are also closely linked to the new emergency support developed in the response to the pandemic, although it is not clear how long this will continue.

Business and the Economy

Clearly the pandemic will have implications for the economic prosperity of the District, depending upon the effectiveness and duration of Government mitigation measures. HMRC have stated that as at the end of May, Government has supported the wages of 23,700 jobs in Mid Sussex through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS). The numbers of claimants in Mid Sussex of Job Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit for the principal reason of being out of work has shown a three-fold increase in the period March to May 2020 to 3,440.

A number of business support schemes have been implemented, with some £22m provided to date to Mid Sussex businesses and there is an Expanded Retail Discount for business rates relief scheme amounting to a further £21.3m.

MSP priorities for 2020/21 and responding to the Pandemic

This information is designed to assist the MSP in considering its collective contribution to, and role in, the District's response and recovery from the pandemic. These implications may take some time to become clear and will evolve and change as response work continues and the overall impacts of the past few months are realised. It is suggested that the Partnership will seek to continue where possible to implement, albeit with adaptations, many of its current projects as new and evolving priorities emerge.

The remainder of this SIA sets out underlying information about Mid Sussex and the largely pre Covid19 situation with data cited predominately for the period 1/4/2019 to 31/3/20. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic started to be realised from March 2020 in terms of the lockdown and social distancing requirements.

Mid Sussex Strategic Partnership

The MSPs priority themes for 2019-20 were identified in April 2018 as:

- Crime: Identifying vulnerable people and increasing their resilience
- Health: Mental wellbeing
- Communities: Responding to housing development and growing communities

Two thematic outcome focused sub-groups have been established, which reported quarterly into the MSP Board:

- **Community Safety Task and Finish Group:** to consider community safety issues in relation to vulnerable people across the district where partnership work can add value and implement partnership action to tackle these.
- **Health Task and Finish Group:** to consider mental wellbeing issues across the district where partnership work can add value and implement partnership action to tackle these.

It had been intended that a third Community Task and Finish Group would be convened but this was not able to be progressed in 2019-20

Headline Demographic Information about Mid Sussex

- **Population** – There are 148,300 residents (2017) and there has been a 10.6% increase in this number in the last 10 years, due to natural growth (more births than deaths) and inward migration.
- **Age structure** – older age structure compared with England. 30,000 people aged 65+ and rising with an additional 6,000+ projected in the next ten years. Using Office for National Statistics (ONS) projections, the increase of over 65s is projected to be in region of 22% and in over 85s in region of 28%, which is far higher than overall population rise.
- **Sex and ethnicity** - the population of Mid Sussex is almost split 50/50, male and female and the majority are of white ethnicity. The largest BAME group is Asian/Asian British. 6.5% of children in Mid Sussex schools do not have English as their first language.
- **Housing Growth and affordability**- 13,600 new dwellings are planned between 2014 and 2031. Housing affordability in West Sussex is a significant issue and is even more pronounced in Mid Sussex. You can expect to pay 12.69 times your annual salary for a middle of the range house in Mid Sussex.
- **Poverty and Deprivation** - Mid Sussex is the least deprived district within West Sussex (IMD Ranking). A smaller percentage of children are living in poverty in Mid Sussex than the County as a whole and nationally.
- **Transport** - 14.6% of the population in rural Mid Sussex parishes do not have access to a car and 60% of rural parishes have an hourly weekday bus service. Weekday evening and Sunday bus services are very limited for rural parishes.
- **Health and Life Expectancy** - for men and women, Mid Sussex has a high life expectancy, although in recent years male life expectancy has stalled.

Community Safety

Local Policing Priorities for Mid Sussex

As a District Mid-Sussex remains one of the safest in England however the challenge for the Police and the partnership is to help people feel safer. Sussex Police has three core priorities. These alongside the Police and Crime Commissioners strategic intentions provide directions for policing in Mid-Sussex:

- Keep our communities safe and feeling safe;
- Identify and protect vulnerable people;
- Prevent and respond to harm.

The recent increase in the Policing element of the local precept is being invested in additional staff, including an increase in neighbourhood policing for each of the three towns, Police Community Supports Officers, a Schools Officer, Rural Coordinator; Rural Officer; and Heritage Crime Coordinator. Neighbourhood or Prevention Policing is about engagement and providing targeted intervention to solve longer term issues, whilst boosting public confidence.

Local partnership priorities are:

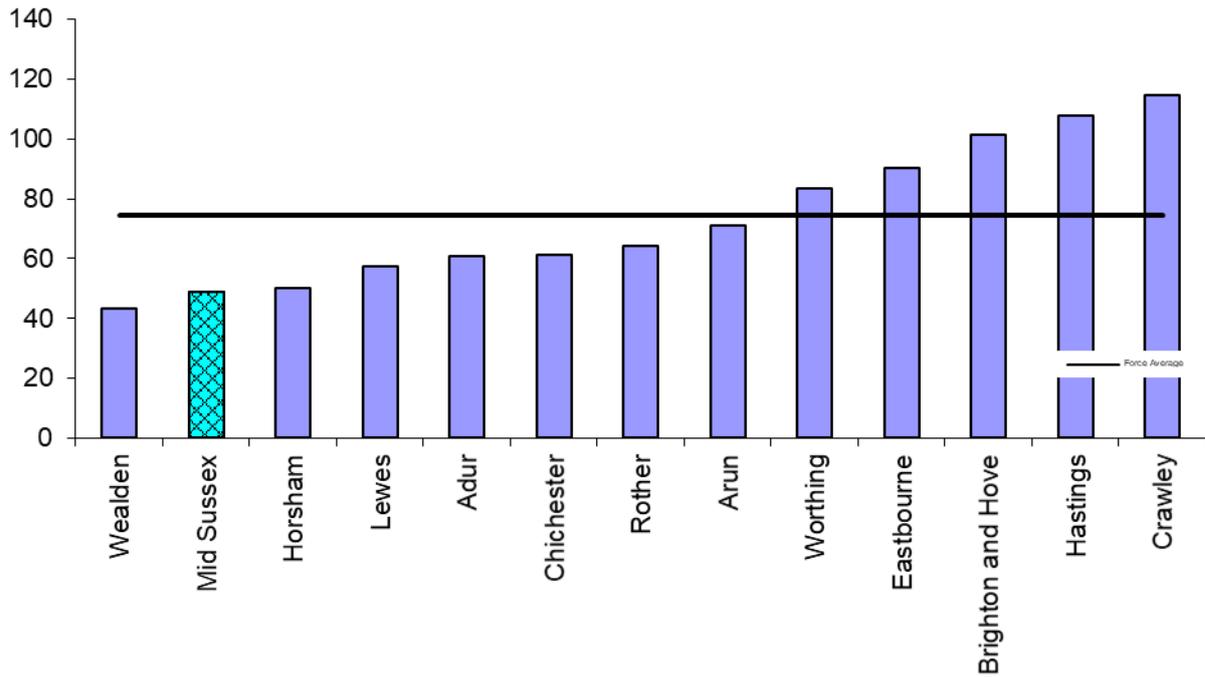
- vulnerable people, both young and old,
- reducing violent crime, and
- seeking to reduce incidents of hate.

Crime

Crime per 1,000 population at 48.7 in 2019/20 shows that Mid Sussex is the second safest district in the Sussex Police area and the safest in West Sussex. The figure has increased by 6.8% from 45.6 per 1,000 population in 2018/19.

Crime per 1,000 population data for period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 for Sussex Community Safety Partnerships from iQuanta data

Rank	CSP	Crimes / 1,000 pop
1	Wealden	43.261
2	Mid Sussex	48.718
3	Horsham	49.999
4	Lewes	57.326
5	Adur	60.702
6	Chichester	61.310
7	Rother	64.097
8	Arun	70.895
9	Worthing	83.206
10	Eastbourne	90.043
11	Brighton and Hove	101.303
12	Hastings	107.773
13	Crawley	114.531
	Force Average	74.401

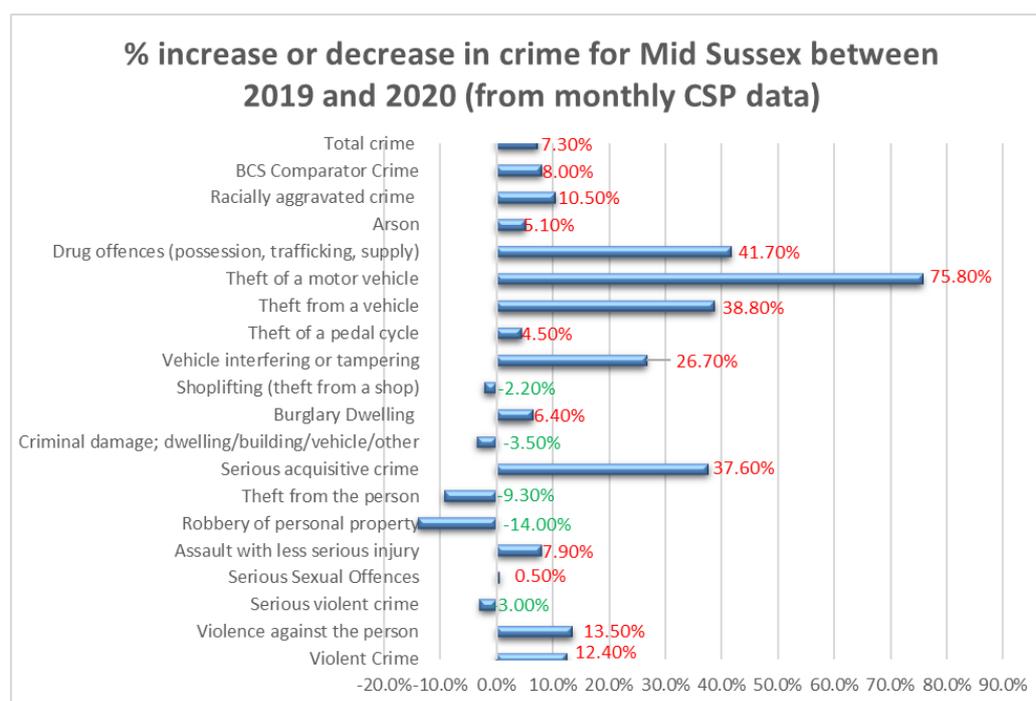


Total crime in Mid Sussex has increased by 497 crimes in 2019/20 compared to 2018/19, which equates to an increase of 7.3%. Overall in West Sussex, the percentage increase in crime for this period was 8.4%. Changes for other West Sussex district and boroughs were:

LA Area	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2019 – Mar 2020	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Increase or decrease %
Adur	3,896	3,212	684 (21.3%)
Arun	11,360	10,327	1,033 (10.0%)
Chichester	7,442	7,051	391 (5.5%)
Crawley	12,856	12,437	419 (3.4%)
Horsham	7,071	6,418	653 (10.2%)
Mid Sussex	7,293	6,796	497 (7.3%)
Worthing	9,205	8,283	922 (11.1%)
West Sussex	59,123	54,524	4,599 (8.4%)

Crime data by type for Mid Sussex in the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 (from monthly Community Safety Partnership data)

Crime type	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2019 – Mar 2020	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Increase or decrease	West Sussex overall change
Violent Crime	3,579	3,183	396 (12.4%)	3,475 (13.9%)
- Violence against the person	3,283	2,892	391 (13.5%)	3,256 (14.4%)
- Serious violent crime	64	66	-2 (-3.0%)	64 (13.0%)
- Serious Sexual Offences	191	190	1 (0.5%)	93 (6.3%)
- Assault with less serious injury	749	694	55 (7.9%)	453 (7.8%)
- Robbery of personal property	42	56	-14 (-14.0%)	44 (10.7%)
Theft from the person	68	75	-7 (-9.3%)	-30 (-4.7%)
Serious acquisitive crime	560	407	153 (37.6%)	282 (6.5%)
Criminal damage; dwelling/building/vehicle/other	954	989	-35 (-3.5%)	-93 (-1.4%)
Burglary Dwelling	499	469	30 (6.4%)	61 (1.7%)
Shoplifting (theft from a shop)	359	367	-8 (-2.2%)	853 (22.9%)
Vehicle interfering or tampering	57	45	12 (26.7%)	49 (8.8%)
Theft of a pedal cycle	69	66	3 (4.5%)	-93 (-8.1%)
Theft from a vehicle	347	250	97 (38.8%)	-8 (-0.3%)
Theft of a motor vehicle	167	95	72 (75.8%)	262 (30.2%)
Drug offences (possession, trafficking, supply)	204	144	60 (41.7%)	213 (12.0%)
Arson	39	37	-2 (5.1%)	12 (3.5%)
Racially aggravated crime	63	57	6 (10.5%)	90 (19.8%)
BCS Comparator Crime	2,703	2,503	200 (8.0%)	837 (4.1%)
Total crime	7,293	6,796	497 (7.3%)	4,599 (8.4%)



Hotspots and Distribution of Crime in the District

Crime tends to occur in groups or hotspots. For example, to display a chart of shoplifting for a town it would indicate that a supermarket is the centre of this type of crime. Similarly, thefts from cars can clump around car parks or particular estates. Such crime series are often transient and although used by police and partners in our joint response, when tracked over a year do not provide useful information about risk. Local crime can be tracked down to post code level through www.police.uk

Crime hotspots have informed the provision of CCTV camera in the District. The locating of new CCTV cameras is a project referred to later in this assessment. The latest information points to increased reports of crime and anti-social behaviour in and around the East Court Estate at East Grinstead.

Knife Related Crime

Figures for serious knife crime in Mid Sussex are shown below:

Crime type	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2019 – Mar 2020	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Increase or decrease	West Sussex Overall
Serious Knife Crime	28	26	2 (7.7%)	162 (84.4%)

Knife crime remains one of the most emotive areas of crime statistics, with a high profile following continued media attention about increased incidents in the capital. It has risen across virtually all police force areas in England and Wales since 2014. These increases have been accompanied by a shift towards young victims and perpetrators.

Within Mid Sussex knife crime remains a very small proportion of all crime and the increase in 2019/20 was less than that of West Sussex as a whole. Sussex Police participates in the National Operation Sceptre knife crime reduction programme and conducts proactive work throughout the year. Close working is undertaken with Mid Sussex schools through this partnership and we are reassured at the very low number of incidents when teachers find or report any knife carrying amongst their pupils. Further information about youth related prevention work such as the REBOOT programme and School Law Days is set out later in this document.

Fraud

Nationally, fraud is one of the fastest growing types of crime and there are thousands of victims each year in Sussex.

Sussex Police Area Fraud Reports under Operation Signature

Main fraud types	2018	2019	% change
Courier/Impersonator Fraud	202	550	55 %
Door step crime / rogue traders	322	412	22%
Romance fraud	157	170	8 %
Software Service	230	149	-54%
HMRC	158	135	-15%
Total reports	1,659	2,168	31%

Crawley, Horsham, Mid Sussex and Gatwick Fraud Reports under Operation Signature in 2019

Main fraud types	Crawley,Horsham,Mid Sussex and Gatwick 2019	Sussex Police Area	% of Sussex total
Courier/Impersonator Fraud	134	550	24%
Door step crime / rogue traders	91	412	22%
Romance fraud	30	170	18%
Software Service	35	149	23%
HMRC	27	135	20%
Total reports	461	2,168	21%

Between April 2018 and March 2019, there were 13,779 scams reported to Action Fraud, an increase of 6% over last year, with over £28.2m stolen from Sussex residents (a 16% increase). Data from Action Fraud suggests that online fraud is high in Mid Sussex. The main types of fraud are from online shopping in auctions and computer software service fraud. Courier and identity fraud is particularly prevalent, with victims typically living alone and elderly. In 2019, 67% of the victims of courier/impersonator lived alone and 78% were aged 75 and over. Operation Signature has a particular focus on supporting vulnerable victims of fraud through such initiatives as fraud support volunteers who aim to provide bespoke fraud support to victims.

Operation Signature 2 is currently being trialled for 6 months in Haywards Heath and is fully funded by Sussex Police. This involves identifying vulnerable people and giving them preventative advice on fraud via the services they come in to contact with e.g. meals on wheels. The advice is provided to people by the service provider.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Police Anti-Social Behaviour Figures for Mid Sussex

ASB type	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2019 – Mar 2020	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Increase or decrease (%)	West Sussex Overall
Personal	183	165	18 (10.9%)	-156 (-10.7%)
Nuisance	1,656	1,657	-1 (-0.1%)	-244 (-2.0%)
Environmental	48	78	-30 (-38.5%)	-188 (-31.0%)

The Police place Anti-Social Behaviour into three categories of personal, nuisance and environmental.

- Personal antisocial behaviour is when a person targets a specific individual or group.
- Nuisance antisocial behaviour is when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.
- Environmental antisocial behaviour is when a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings.

Mid Sussex has seen a reduction in nuisance and environmental ASB in 2019/20, but an increase of 10.9% in personal anti-social behaviour. All three categories of ASB have reduced in West Sussex overall.

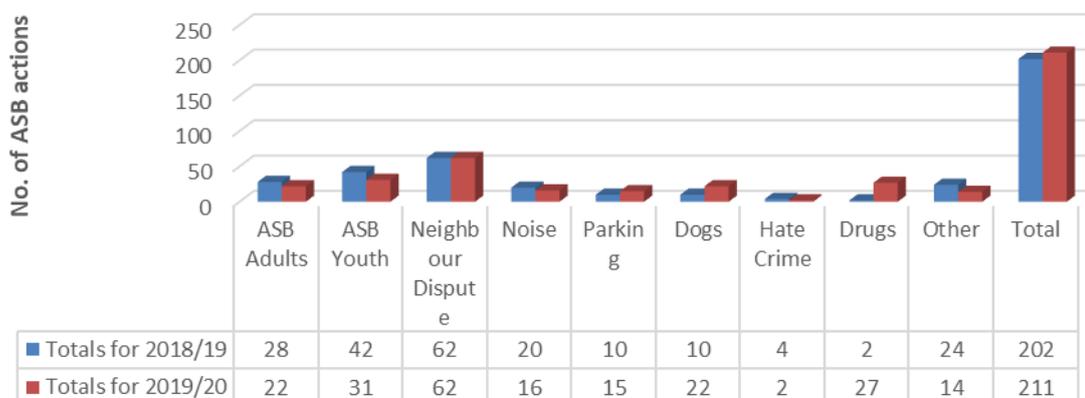
Mid Sussex District Council Anti-Social Behaviour Action 2019/20 financial year (figures for 2018/19 shown in brackets)

Type of ASB	Burgess Hill	East Grinstead	Haywards Heath	Rural	Not provided	Total
ASB Adults	4 (11)	1 (3)	8 (6)	9 (8)	0	22 (28)
ASB Youth	7 (18)	9 (4)	4 (9)	11 (11)	0	31 (42)
Neighbour Dispute	12 (17)	12 (7)	21 (12)	17 (24)	0 (1)	62 (61)
Noise	8 (6)	3 (3)	1 (5)	4 (6)	0	16 (20)
Parking	9 (5)	0 (2)	4 (0)	2 (4)	0	15 (11)
Dogs	8 (3)	4 (2)	5 (3)	5 (1)	0 (1)	22 (10)
Hate Crime	0 (2)	0 (0)	1 (2)	1 (2)	0	2 (6)
Drugs*	6 (0)	5 (0)	6 (0)	10 (0)	0 (0)	27 (0)
Other	3 (4)	1 (2)	2 (9)	8 (11)	0	14 (26)
Total	57 (66)	35 (23)	52 (46)	67 (67)	0 (2)**	211 (202)

*"Drugs" was added as an ASB type in 2019.

**All the values for the "Not provided" location are enclosed in brackets as this value was removed in 2019.

Mid Sussex District Council Anti-Social Behaviour Action between 2018/19 and 2019/20



The number of reports of anti-social behaviour to Mid Sussex District Council increased from 202 in 2018/19 to 211 in 2019/20. Neighbour disputes and youth ASB continued to be the main causes of ASB in both years. The Council works with partners such as registered social landlords, private sector landlords and local mediation services when managing neighbour disputes. Geographically the number of ASB reports has reduced in Burgess Hill and increased in Haywards Heath and East Grinstead.

Monthly Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC) partnership meetings have been introduced to track interventions and agree further action on specific cases where individuals have been involved in ASB. This is having a positive impact.

Youth Related Anti-Social Behaviour

Countering and preventing the incidence of youth related anti-social behaviour in the District has been a particular focus for the partnership in 2019/20 and measures to address this have come under three strands of work:

- **Providing direct support with identified youths** – this included the REBOOT programme designed to identify young people at risk of being drawn into violent crime and to provide them with one to one support. MSDC and the Police made 72 referrals to the programme in 2019.
- **Prevention work in schools** – this includes “Your Life, You Choose”, School Law Days undertaken with 5 secondary schools in the District. These comprise workshops on knife crime; drugs and sexting; sessions from Magistrates on what happens at court; a session from an ex-offender about the consequences of getting involved in crime.
- **Support for parents of teenagers with challenging behaviour** – including the development of a project with Relate to provide support for parents of teenagers with challenging behaviour.

Activities have been developed through the Community Safety Task and Finish Group, with additional surge funding of £12,251 received from the Home Office’s Serious Violence Fund via the PCC’s Office to enhance the local provision of positive activities for young people.

Community Trigger

The Community Trigger is a process that allows members of the community to ask the Mid Sussex Community Safety Partnership to review their responses to complaints about anti-social behaviour. A community trigger request can be submitted if a resident has submitted

three separate anti-social behaviour or hate incidents over a six-month period and no action has been taken. No cases met the trigger threshold in 2019.

Expansion of use or powers contained within the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

In response to increased levels of some types of ASB in the District, Mid Sussex District Council, Sussex Police and other partners have adopted the use of new powers contained within the 2014 Act. The Partnership has supported this through training events held by Mid Sussex District Council for Council officers, Police, Town Councils, housing associations and others.

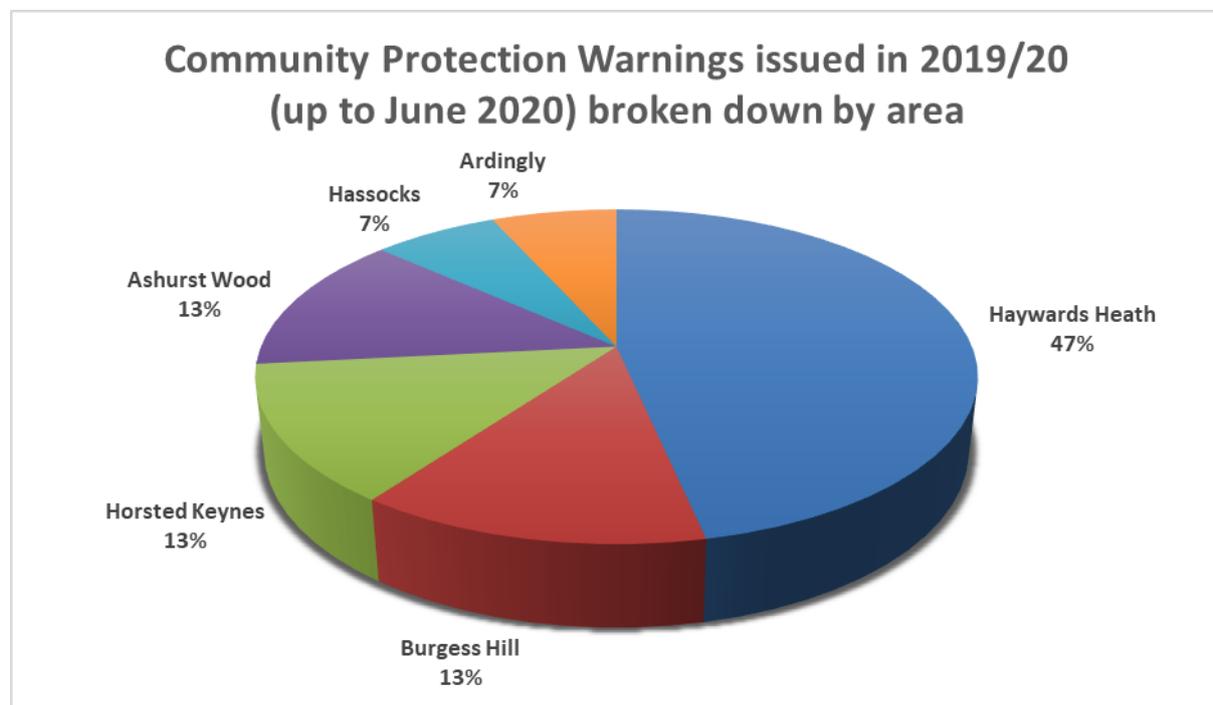
Community Protection Notices (CPN)

Community Protection Notices are designed to have a broad use and focus on how victims and communities are affected. The process starts with the issuing of a Community Protection Warning (CPW), which sets out conditions that must be adhered to. In the event that the conditions outlined in the CPW are not adhered to, it can be escalated to a CPN, which carries criminal sanctions if breached. The aim of the CPN is to stop behaviour and put in place steps to ensure it will not reoccur.

Since adopting the powers to issue Community Protection Notices in February 2019:

- 29 Community Protection Warnings have been issued by Mid Sussex District Council/Sussex Police relating to our ASB cases
- 7 have been escalated to a Community Protection Notice (CPN).

A breakdown of the geographical areas where CPWs have been issued is below. It has been found that in the most part, the issuing of a community protection warning has stopped the behaviour. MSDC also works closely with West Sussex Mediation Service in helping neighbours settle their disputes.



Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)

CBOs have replaced Anti-Social Behaviour Orders. If a person breaches the terms of a CPN or fails to pay the associated Fixed Penalty Notice, then the case will immediately become criminal at which point the Local Authority can apply for a CBO. Two CBOs have been secured so far in Mid Sussex. A breach of a CBO could lead to a jail term.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)

A PSPO is an enforceable form of bylaw with Fixed Penalty Notice powers attached. A breach of the order is immediately criminal in nature and could lead to a fine (via Fixed Penalty Notice), and/or confiscation of relevant items and / or a prosecution with custodial sentence. Following the appropriate consultation, a PSPO has been approved to address anti-social vehicle use in Burgess Hill, such as speeding, careless driving and excessive noise. The introduction of other PSPOs in the District will be considered as necessary.

Mid Sussex Hate Crime

A hate incident/hate crime is any incident where the victim or another person believes that they, the victim has been targeted because of their perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity. Figures for Mid Sussex are shown below:

Type of Hate Crime	Mid Sussex			Sussex Police Area		
	Year to April 2018	Year to April 2019	Change	Year to April 2018	Year to April 2019	Change
Transgender	7	9	2 (29%)	75	100	25 (33%)
Religion	7	10	3 (43%)	187	279	92 (49%)
Disablist	10	14	4 (40%)	248	322	74 (30%)
Sexuality	13	22	9 (69%)	392	514	122 (31%)
Race	77	95	18 (23%)	1,460	1,735	275 (19%)
Other	15	13	-2 (-13%)	185	225	40 (22%)
Total Hate Crime Motivators	129	163	34 (26%)	2,547	3,175	628 (25%)
Total Hate Crimes	122	148	26 (21%)	2,378	2,805	427 (18%)

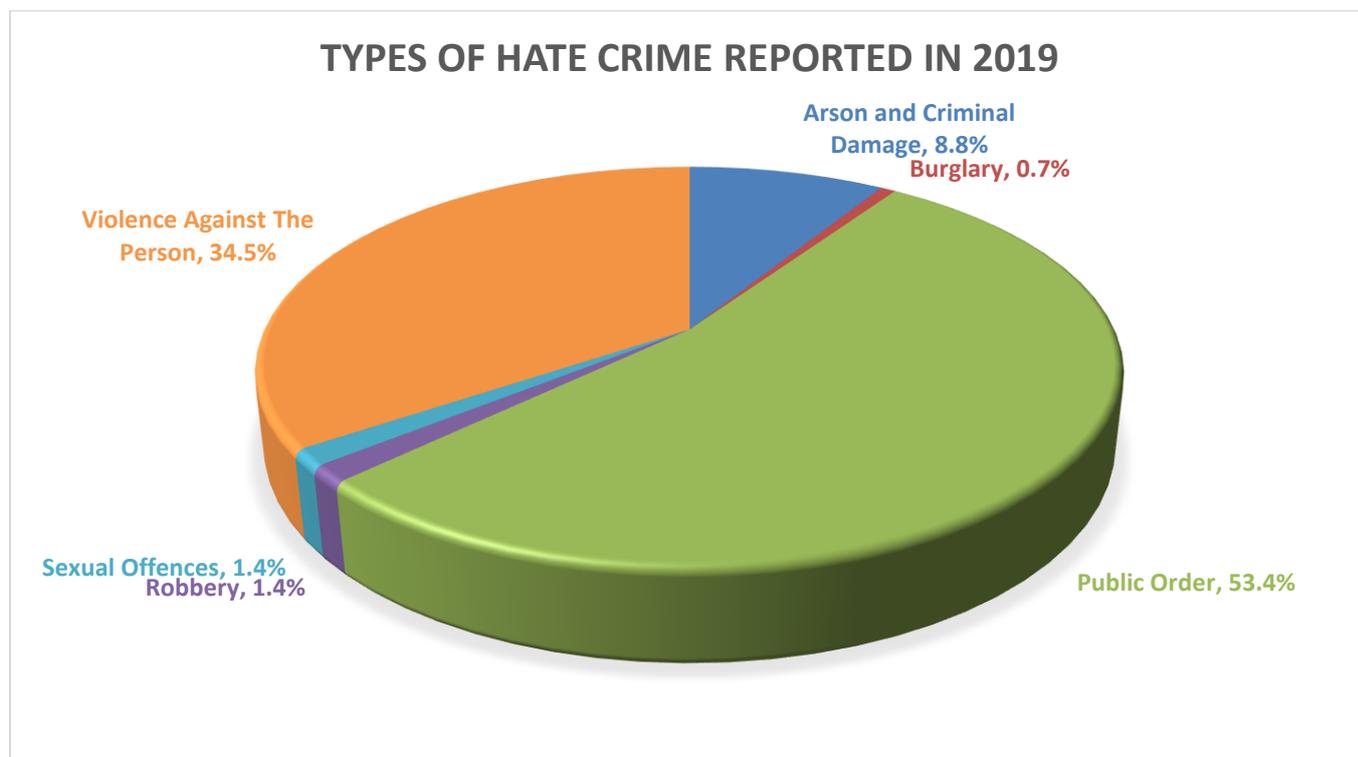
Please note that one crime may have more than one motivator.

Sussex Police point out that hate crimes are under reported and the increases are seen as the success of initiatives to raise awareness of hate crime and how it can be reported. Work across the County has been especially geared towards the greater reporting of hate crimes involving disability. Sussex Police has also put an emphasis on building trust with the LGBT community to report homophobic and transgender motivated hate crime.

Hate Crime is one of the issues being addressed by the Community Safety Task and Finish Group. Training on recognising and responding to hate crime and extremism has been provided by members of the West Sussex Countering Extremism team, initially to Mid Sussex District Council Members and staff and is being rolled out to partner and other community groups.

The breakdown of religiously motivated crime in 2019 in Mid Sussex was 4 anti-Muslim, 4 unknown religion, 1 anti-Christian and 1 anti-other religion. The Government has requested that councils adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism. This has been done by West Sussex County Council and is in the process of adoption by Mid Sussex District Council.

As can be seen from the chart below, which breaks down the types of hate crime in Mid Sussex, most relates to public order (53.4%) the majority of which is verbal abuse.



Domestic Abuse in Mid Sussex

	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2019 – Mar 2020	Rolling 12 Months Total Apr 2018 – Mar 2019	Increase or decrease (%)	West Sussex Overall % change
Domestic abuse crimes	1188	996	192 (19.3%)	1,548 (19.0%)
Domestic abuse incidents	689	598	91 (15.2%)	144 (2.7%)

Domestic abuse crimes in Mid Sussex rose by 19.3% in 2019/20 and incidents by 15.2%. In West Sussex overall the increase in domestic abuse crimes was 19.0% and incidents 2.7%. Part of the increase is likely to be due to greater awareness and reporting of domestic abuse, which is positive in promoting access to support services.

There are a range of services and initiatives aimed at responding to domestic abuse. These include the WORTH services, which provide support to victims of domestic abuse and are based at hospitals in West Sussex, and the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which brings together responsible agencies in West Sussex to discuss those cases with the highest risk of harm. There is also a cross-tenure outreach service provided by Stonham Housing Association. This provides housing related support to victims of abuse to enable them to be “safe at home” or enable victims to secure a safe home.

Safe in Sussex was awarded funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to deliver an outreach domestic abuse service across Sussex aimed at isolated and marginalised communities who cannot easily access support. The project launched in Mid Sussex on 24th May 2019.

The Domestic Abuse Bill has been reintroduced to parliament and includes proposals for Domestic Abuse Protection Orders and Protection Notices. It also includes a legal duty on local authorities to provide refuge accommodation.

Other Community Safety Partnership working being undertaken:

The Community Safety priority for the Mid Sussex Partnership is identifying vulnerable people and increasing their resilience. As part of this, the Community Safety Task and Finish Group has focussed specifically on young people and public spaces. Work undertaken in these areas includes:

- MSDC and the Police have termly meetings with secondary schools in the District to discuss community safety issues around youth. Sackville School in East Grinstead also represent the schools across the District on the Community Safety Task and Finish Group.
- The Safe Places initiative provides for designated public places that supports vulnerable people if they feel scared or at risk while they are out and about. The pilot in East Grinstead launched in March 2019 and there are ten designated safe places in the town including cafes and community buildings and relevant staff have received safeguarding training. Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill Town Councils are now looking to adopt the scheme. The partnership has provided funding for Mid Sussex to sign up as a member on the Safe Place National Network and towards publicity material to be used across the district.

CCTV Project

Putting in place new and improved CCTV arrangements in the District has been a key community safety project in the year, to upgrade existing cameras and provide additional cameras across the District. Replacement cameras are of high resolution allowing for crystal clear imaging, real time footage and enhanced zoom capabilities. They will contribute to crime prevention and the prosecution of offenders. Following consultation on their location, the project involves the installation of five new cameras at:

- St Johns Park, Burgess Hill
- Victoria Park, Haywards Heath
- King George's Field, East Grinstead
- Holtye Avenue, East Grinstead
- Clair Park, Haywards Heath.

The installation of these new cameras was due to commence in early February 2020 for completion by the end of this financial year. However, unforeseen delays including the winter weather and the COVID-19 outbreak delayed commencement to May 2020. Installation is anticipated to be completed by Autumn 2020.

Serious and Organised Crime

County Lines and Cuckooing

'County Lines' operates by gangs from urban areas, in particular London but also other cities, which use the national rail network to distribute drugs. They introduce a telephone number in a new area to sell drugs directly at street level. Potential buyers telephone the number and local runners are dispatched to make deliveries via a telephone 'relay or exchange' system. Gangs are always adapting how they operate, however one of the current primary methods of supplying drugs is through 'Cuckooing'. This is where vulnerable residents are targeted to accommodate dealing or deal on behalf of the drug network through intimidation, incentives or on the basis of a sexual relationship which is often exploitative.

The areas in Sussex most affected by the drug trade from London are outside of Mid Sussex comprising the larger coastal towns, with established drugs markets that can be exploited locally, including Hastings, Eastbourne, Worthing, Bognor, and Brighton, but also towns such as Crawley. Initiatives such as Operation Fortress have seen national intensification weeks for County Lines to make arrests, drug seizures and to carry out safeguarding action to support vulnerable people and addresses where people are at risk of being 'cuckooed' to check on their safety. This helps to strengthen the unified voice from police and partners that says this is a hostile environment for drug supply.

Partnership action to address County Lines in Mid Sussex has included a session held with secondary school head teachers to discuss how partnership working can minimise risk and harm to young people. This was hosted by East Grinstead Town Council and involved Mid Sussex District Council's Community Safety Team and the Police Prevention Team.

Modern Slavery

Modern slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. It covers a wide range of abuse and exploitation including sexual exploitation, domestic servitude and forced labour. Victims of modern slavery often tricked or threatened into work and may feel unable to leave or report the crime through fear or intimidation. National reports indicate that the incidence of slavery in the UK is on the increase. Mid Sussex has seen a number of such investigations, for example people being moved and housed in isolation for industries such as nail bars, farming, cleaners and car washes.

Community Safety and Public Spaces

Unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller Encampments

There was one unauthorised traveller encampments in 2019 compared to 15 in 2018. Protecting public space is one of the priorities to be addressed by the Community Safety Task and Finish Group, including projects to improve reporting of issues in recreational spaces and informing the public about our actions in response to unauthorised traveller encampments. Mid Sussex District Council in September 2018 allocated additional resources of £170k to enable the acceleration of site security works across the District's most vulnerable open space sites. Training has been provided in partnership with West Sussex County Council and Sussex Police for Mid Sussex Councillors on powers to deal with illegal encampments and how to report concerns.

Unauthorised Camping and Rough Sleepers

The number of dens and camps cleared by Mid Sussex District Council's Landscapes Team from Council land in 2019 was 8, compared to 4 in 2018. A protocol for dealing with unauthorised camping (including tents and rough sleepers) on Council land has been developed.

Flytipping in Mid Sussex

Fly tipping incidents recorded by the Council went up from 266 in 2018 to 348 in 2019 an increase of 31%. The majority of these related to fly tipping on highways at 174 in 2018 and 349 in 2019. The largest increase was in fly tipping on Council land, which increased from 57 to 104, partly caused by a change in the way such incidents are recorded. The biggest increase in the type of waste fly tipped was "other" household waste incidents up from 91 to 161 in 2019. The next largest type of fly tipping was construction waste, amounting to 75 incidents in 2019.

The number of fly tipping incidents in Mid Sussex is relatively low. For example, in 2017/18 Tandridge recorded 1,008 fly tips, Arun 837, Horsham 792 and Chichester 970, compared to 198 in Mid Sussex. Enforcement action against the perpetrators of fly tipping is difficult in gathering evidence to make a prosecution. The primary focus is on removing fly tips from public highways as soon as possible to reduce risks to the public. The targets are to respond within 24 hours of a fly tip being reported and to remove them within 3 working days.

Noise Data

Mid Sussex District Council's Environmental Protection Team deal with reports of noise complaints. The number of noise complaints in 2019 was 746 compared to 659 in 2018, an increase of 87 (13%). Loud music and dogs continue to be the top two causes of noise complaints. The majority of complaints are resolved informally, without the need for the use of formal enforcement powers. The number of complaints can be influenced by a number of factors, such as long periods of good weather leading to more outdoor activities and entertainments. Also, one off factors related to specific events.

Health & Wellbeing

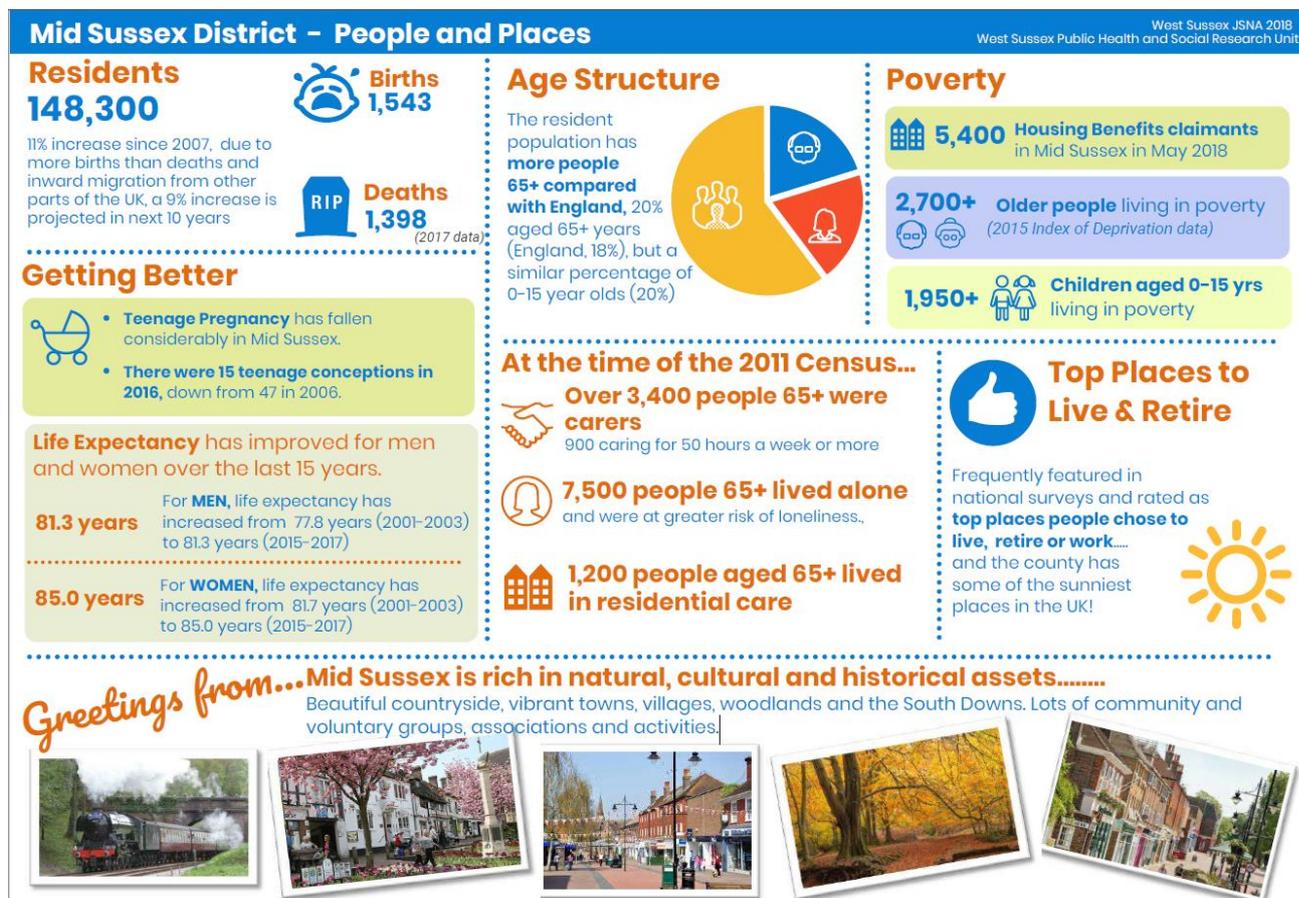
Health Challenges in Mid Sussex

Mid Sussex overall is a healthy place to live and grow. It is frequently in the best 25% of all areas on a range of childhood measures known to have an impact on longer term health and wellbeing. There are, however, a number of health challenges for Mid Sussex, including those relating to the District's ageing population. The number of people aged 65+ and 85+ is projected to rise in the next 10 years by 22% and 28% respectively. There are increasing numbers of people with one (or more) long term health conditions, including over 14,000 carers (of which 3,500 are 65+).

Other health challenges for Mid Sussex include:

- Estimated 15,000 – 20,000 smokers
- Over 60% of adults are overweight or obese
- There are over 6,000 adults with diabetes
- Over 16% of adults are physically inactive
- There has been a slight rise in early mortality in fewer than 75s which may mean the next generation of 65+ are not as healthy as the previous generation.

Public Health data for Mid Sussex



Importance of the wider determinants of health

Housing Pressures and Affordability

- 11.3 : 1**
- Mid Sussex has a high **lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings ratio** (11.3:1) higher than the South East average (10.3:1)
 - In 2018, of the 2,401 properties sold in Mid Sussex less than 1 in 3 was less than £300,00*.



The number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI rate) on roads in Mid Sussex is significantly higher than England.



In 2015-17 there were **246 people killed or seriously injured**, representing a rate of 55.6 per 100,000 population (England rate of 40.8)

Increasing numbers people with long-term health conditions

Increasing number of older people means that, using existing prevalence assumptions, by 2030 Mid Sussex will have....



1,200+ more older people living with dementia
current estimate 2,270, projected to increase to 3,500



500+ more older people with sight loss*
current estimate 900, projected to increase to 1,400

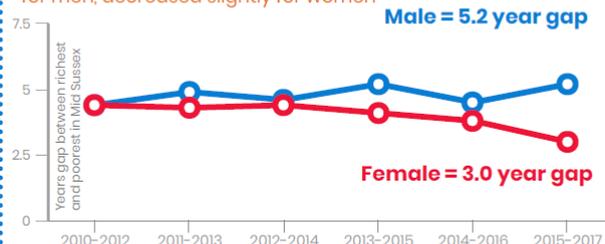


1,400+ more older people living with hearing loss*
current estimate 2,500 projected to increase to 3,900

*visual - visual acuity (VA) of less than 6/18 (moderate or severe), hearing - Prevalence of hearing loss in the better ear averaged across the mid-frequencies (0.5, 1.2 and 4KHz).

Inequality within the District

The gap between **life expectancy** of the people in the most deprived areas compared with the least deprived has increased for men, decreased slightly for women



Maximise prevention opportunities

Childhood Obesity

Approx. 12% of Year 6 pupils (10/11 year olds) are obese.



Alcohol

660 alcohol-specific hospital admissions between 2017/2018.



Smoking

Estimated 20,000 adults are current smokers (18% of 18+ population)



Physical Activity (and inactivity)

16% adults estimated to be **physically inactive** (spending < 30 minutes doing moderate intensity exercise per week).

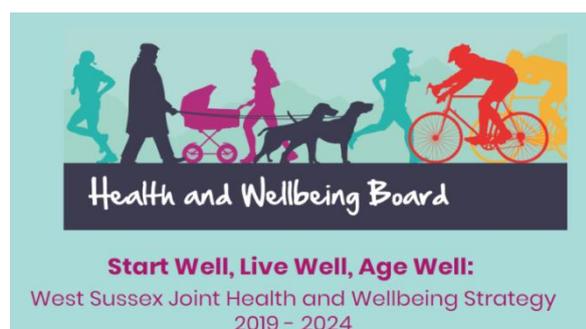


71% adults estimated to be **physically active** (doing 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week).

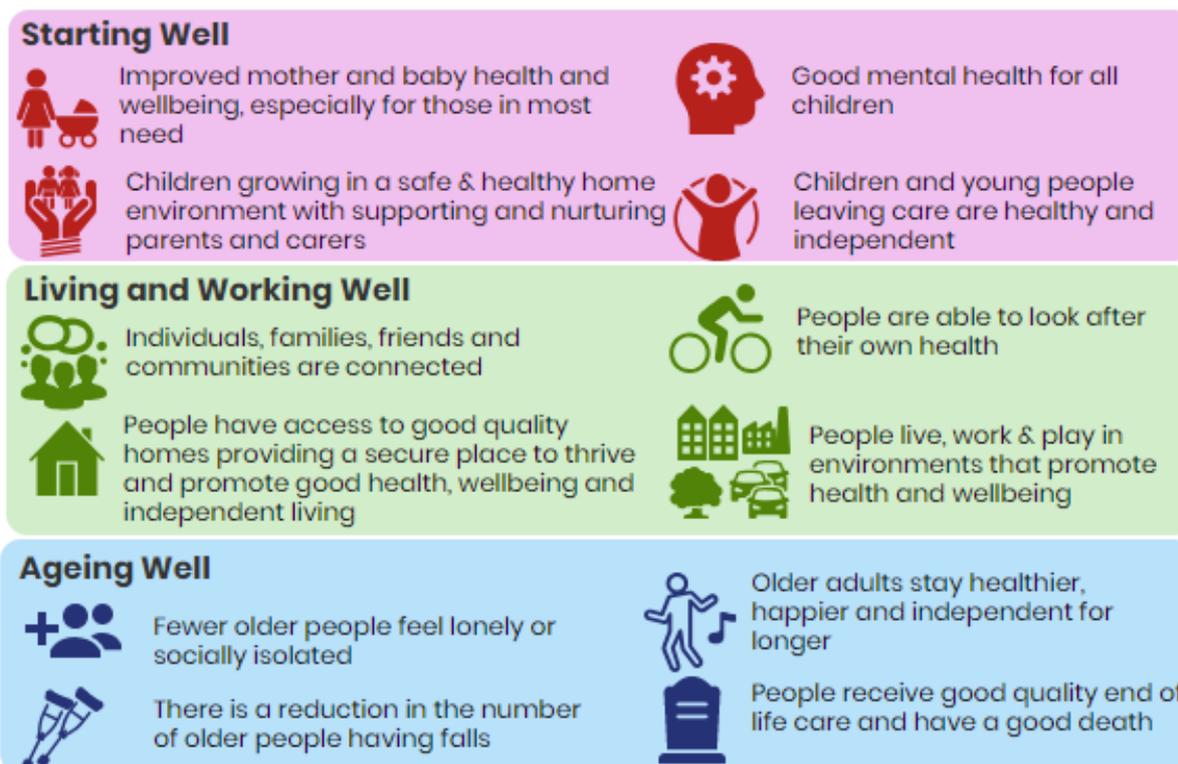
Key Strategic Documents

Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 2024

The West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) has published its refreshed **Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 2024: Start Well, Live Well, Age Well**. The Board brings together elected members and leaders from West Sussex's health and social care system to improve the health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities. The Strategy sets out the direction of travel for health and social care services and other services that impact on health and wellbeing in West Sussex. Commissioners and service providers from NHS Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups, County Council, district and borough councils, the voluntary sector and other partners are expected to take account of the priorities set out in this strategy when planning, commissioning and providing services.



The Strategy focuses on prevention and identifies these key goals to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the residents of West Sussex:



A copy of the Strategy and supporting documents can be downloaded from the Health and Wellbeing Board website www.westsussex.gov.uk/hwb.

Mid Sussex Wellbeing Service

The District Council is commissioned by Public Health, West Sussex County Council to provide a Wellbeing Service with the aim of preventing ill health through the promotion of healthy lifestyles. This is provided through a Wellbeing Hub, which provides signposting, advice and a range of locally commissioned services. During 2019/20, the Wellbeing service delivered 2,312 interventions, with 85% of those who responded to requests for feedback reporting a health improvement.

The service seeks to deliver on the priorities of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Living and Working Well and Ageing Well. Activities in 2019/20 include:

- **Falls prevention** – the prevention programme has been integrated into the Local Falls Pathway with classes held in East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill and Hassocks. The programme seeks to assist those at risk of falling and hip fractures and is especially useful for older people to improve their strength and mobility. Additional funding was secured from Public Health to deliver extra classes across Mid Sussex.
- **Weight management** - a specific men's weight management programme has been developed called MEN, standing for Motivation, Exercise & Nutrition in response to low numbers of men attending the current weight management service.
- **Prevention and diagnosis of type 2 diabetes**- the prediabetes programme is delivered in GP surgeries across Mid Sussex and targets people at risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The majority of referrals have been via GP practices.
- **Workplace Health** – this programme is key vehicle to engage with younger, working age, adults to avoid developing long term conditions by adjusting lifestyle and behaviours. The service worked with a total of 73 work places to deliver 766 individual 1-2-1 sessions.

The pilot outreach service through local GP practices has continued, helping to free up capacity for GPs and nurses and additional funding from Public Health WSCC has enabled the provision of three new services. The Mid Sussex Wellbeing Service now provides NHS Health Checks, Stop Smoking and Alcohol interventions.

Mid Sussex Health and Wellbeing Network

Meetings of the Mid Sussex Health and Wellbeing Network are convened by the Wellbeing Hub every quarter and focuses around different community and health issues. It has a mailing list of over 200 hundred members representing different groups, charities and statutory organisations involved in health. Topics for this year have included adult education and volunteering opportunities; community support services such as the Age Well campaign and the Local Energy Advice Partnership; and Wellbeing Service including falls prevention and the Time for Dementia programme.

West Sussex Joint Dementia Strategy 2020 - 23

West Sussex County Council and NHS Clinical Commissioning Group have produced a West Sussex Joint Dementia Strategy building on the Dementia Framework 2014-19. The strategy sets out commitments to tackling dementia and provides a framework for further action based around the 5 elements of the Dementia Well pathway. Dementia Friendly Communities in Mid Sussex have had input to the Strategy. Current estimates are that there are 2,270 older people with dementia in Mid Sussex, predicted to rise to 3,500 by 2030. Wards estimated to have the highest dementia prevalence of the population aged 65+ in Mid Sussex are Hassocks and Lindfield.

Mid Sussex Partnership Health Task and Finish Group

This involves a range of statutory and voluntary sector partners including the Mid Sussex District Council Wellbeing Service, CCG, Public Health, Sussex Community NHS Trust and Healthwatch. Priority areas to be addressed are:

- Mental health and resilience in young people
- Living well in old age
- Workplace – key messages for working age people
- Targeting specific areas of need and protected groups.

Activities and interventions delivered by the Group in 2019/20 have included two Living Well in Old Age events organised with the Alzheimer's Society and Places Leisure and supported by the Mid Sussex District Council Wellbeing team held in October 2019 at Kings Leisure Centre and Dolphin Leisure Centre. Also, the "With You In Mind – 25 Years of Better Mental Health" event held in February 2020 at Clair Hall, Haywards Heath, which was organised by a wide range of partners including the Council, Sussex Oakleaf, Together in Sussex and Clarion Futures. The event provided advice, information about local support, a pop-up café and art exhibition and workshops.

Communities

Children and Young People in Mid Sussex

Headline Information:

- Mid Sussex has 65 schools; 46 Primary, 16 Secondary and 3 Special Education Needs with the majority being Community Schools.
- 6.5% (1,349) of children in schools do not have English as their first language with the most common languages spoken include Malayalam and Polish.
- Mid Sussex children (71.1%) perform above both the County (70.6%) and National (70.7%) averages for Good Level of Development in Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Mid Sussex children (Key Stage 2 attainment 63.3%, Key Stage 4 attainment 54.2%) perform above both the County (Key Stage 2 55.2%, Key Stage 4 45.3%) and National (Key Stage 2 61.0%, Key Stage 4 39.6%) averages for Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4.

Children and Family Support Services

West Sussex Early Help Services

An important issue for service provision and meeting the needs of the people of Mid Sussex have been the budget cuts to West Sussex County Council's Early Help Services. These services provide a co-ordinated service for children and families from 0 – 25 years old, through a "whole family approach" to support, with the aim that all children are given the best start in life and make it easier for families to get the help that they need. Targeted services include support for care leavers and young carers; family support to work with young people and people affected by domestic and sexual abuse; and support to help people back into employment. Early help includes the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), which provides a single and consistent point of access to advice, guidance and decision-making about the right level of help needed to keep each child safe or achieve change.

A further factor in the consideration of children and family support services in Mid Sussex is the Ofsted Inspection report of West Sussex County Council's Children's Services. This rated the service as inadequate in all areas, reporting widespread and serious weaknesses in services for vulnerable children and their families across the County. A Children First Improvement Plan is being implemented.

Targeted Intervention Project

The MSP set up the Targeted Intervention Project in 2018/19 which is a fund to support vulnerable families in Mid Sussex who require specific services but do not have the means to pay for these. The programme is run in partnership with West Sussex County Council's Early Help Service. As at the 31st March 2020, there were 49 families being helped as part of this project. 30 families have been worked with and are closed cases. Support has included sessions for children on the autism spectrum, play therapy and relationship counselling.

Early Intervention Project

In support of the national Troubled Families initiative, the MSP set up the Early Intervention Project in 2011. The project aims to prevent families who may be, or at risk of, experiencing difficulties from impacting negatively on their communities and putting additional pressure on the public purse. The project currently employs an Early Help Professional at Mid Sussex District Council, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office, who provides practical, emotional and parenting support to the families worked with.

Interventions typically last between six months and a year. During 2019/20 the Early Intervention Officer provided intensive support to 15 families, with 8 cases closed in the year. In 7 of these cases the planned outcomes of the intervention were met or partially met. One case was escalated to social care.

The main issues for the families were:

- Parenting support - related to capacity and ability of parents with links to mental health and domestic violence.
- Adults and children mental health;
- Financial difficulties;
- Separated parents in dispute;
- School attendance for young people.

Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)

NEET refers to young people aged 16-18 who are "Not in Education, Employment or Training. Young people who remain NEET are generally regarded to be at greater risk of social exclusion through the loss of economic and social opportunities. A person is considered to be in education or training if they are:

- doing an apprenticeship
- on a government employment or training programme
- working or studying towards a qualification
- have had job related training or education in the last four weeks
- enrolled on an education course and are still attending or waiting for term to start.

The NEET numbers in Mid Sussex are currently relatively small compared to national figures and the West Sussex as a whole. As at June 2020, the numbers were as follows:

Years 12 & 13	Mid Sussex	%	West Sussex	%
In education/training/employment	2,588	91.4%	15,030	90.9%
NEET	59	2.1%	547	3.3%
Unknown	184	6.5%	949	5.7%
Total	2,831	100%	16,526	100%

The MSP has funded the Mid Sussex NEETs Positive Placements mentoring project which is delivered by YMCA Downslink. 30 young people between the ages of 16-25 who were not in education, employment or training were helped through this project in 2018/19. Of these 20 had gone into employment, training or education and 5 were still engaged with the project at the end of March.

Mid Sussex Better Young Lives Forum

The Forum brings together professional working with and for young people in the district. The current number of partners is 66 representing 34 organisations. The aim of the group is to develop solutions to shared issues and to improve the level of services available to young people in Mid Sussex. Four meetings are held each year with updates given by local organisations on the service provided. Issues discussed at meetings of the Better Young Lives Group have included addressing drugs related crime involving young people in County Lines and Cuckooing.

Housing

Headline information:

- 13,600 new dwellings are planned in Mid Sussex between 2014 and 2031.
- Housing affordability in West Sussex is a significant issue and is even more pronounced in Mid Sussex. While you can expect to pay 7.91 times your annual salary for a middle of the range house in England, this rises to 11.49 in West Sussex and rises further in Mid Sussex to 12.69. This is the third highest in West Sussex.
- The private rented sector can be unaffordable for those in receipt of Benefits and/or on low incomes. For example, the average monthly private rent for a 2-bedroom property in Mid Sussex at March 2019 was £957 against the Local Housing Allowance of £854.
- Homelessness acceptances increased to 77 in 2019/20 from 51 in the previous year.
- At the end of March 2020 there were 83 households in temporary accommodation, compared to 63 in March 2019.

Mid Sussex District Council Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020 - 2025

Mid Sussex District Council has adopted a new Rough Sleeping and Homelessness Strategy, following a comprehensive review of homelessness in the District and an assessment of likely future trends. The Strategy has five strategic objectives:

- Preventing and relieving homelessness
- Minimise the use of and improve temporary accommodation
- Prevent recurring homelessness
- Tackle rough sleeping and homelessness amongst vulnerable groups
- Enable access to suitable and affordable accommodation.

The Strategy followed a comprehensive review of homelessness in the District and an assessment of likely future trends.

Key Findings of the Review



PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR - Landlords and letting agencies remain reluctant to let to households in receipt of benefits. Universal credit is compounding this issue due to concerns about tenant arrears. Upfront costs can equate to over £2,500 and rents are on average £1,255pcm, 27% higher than the Local Housing Allowance. This leaves the sector largely inaccessible to households on low incomes or in receipt of benefits.

HOUSING MARKET - In Mid Sussex the average asking price for a property increased by approximately 49% in the last 10 years to approx. £370k in September 2018. On average residents can expect to pay around 11 times their annual household earnings to purchase an average priced property in Mid Sussex, making home ownership largely unattainable to households on low incomes.



SUPPLY OF HOUSING - The supply of housing is unable to meet the demand. Approximately 386 social homes become available each year, but there are over 1424 households on the housing register (this includes existing social tenants seeking to transfer to an alternative property). From 2014/15 to 2018/19 3914 new homes were built in the district of which 709 were affordable housing, approximately 140 per annum.



HOMELESSNESS - Over 930 households approach the Council annually for advice and assistance regarding housing and homelessness. The most common reason for being accepted as homeless in 2018/19 was parents/relatives/friends being unable to accommodate them (31%), followed by loss of privately rented accommodation (28%). These remain the predominant causes of homelessness in Mid Sussex.

ROUGH SLEEPING - There is a local and national trend in the rising number of people sleeping rough. This is not believed to be attributable to one specific issue, but a variety of complex factors, such as the impact of welfare reforms, rising housing costs, mental health issues, substance addictions, and a lack of affordable and supported housing. In the last 5 years (2014 – 2018) the numbers reported in Mid Sussex for the annual winter count have fluctuated between 7 and 11, the number for 2018 was 10. For 2019 = 8.



FUTURE FUNDING OF HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT SERVICES - Pressure on budgets at West Sussex County Council is placing supported accommodation and services for vulnerable people at risk, requiring new models of service delivery or alternative funding streams to continue to provide services for this group.

Rough Sleeping

Rough sleeping statistics relate to a rough sleeper count undertaken on a single night in November. Most councils, including Mid Sussex, carry out an estimate based on collating evidence from partner agencies, rather than a physical count reliable.

Rough Sleeper numbers across Sussex 2015-2019

Authority	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Adur	-	3	2	-	2
Arun	15	19	17	18	28
Brighton & Hove	78	144	178	64	88
Chichester	17	19	10	16	31
Crawley	33	15	17	28	33
Eastbourne	10	19	41	6	16
Hastings	16	26	40	48	21
Horsham	3	6	7	11	11
Lewes	9	3	1	9	1
Mid Sussex	6	7	8	10	8
Rother	5	1	4	8	4
Wealden	-	7	4	3	2
Worthing	19	11	35	11	13
Total in Sussex	211	280	364	232	258

Source DCLG rough sleeper count statistics.

In response to the pandemic, the Government has required Mid Sussex District Council to house all rough sleepers.

West Sussex County Council Reductions in funding for Housing Related Support and the Local Assistance Network

The reduction in West Sussex County Council's Housing Related Support budget from £6.4 million to £2.3 million by April 2020 was identified as a key issue in the Homelessness Review. These services include specialist accommodation-based schemes for residents who are at risk of homelessness, as well as "floating support" to residents living in community settings. Risks from the withdrawal of these services include increasing pressure on the homelessness services of District and Borough councils, rising costs of placing families and adults in temporary accommodation and increasing numbers of intentional homelessness.

Closely related to the reductions in Housing Related Support is the reduction in funding for the Local Assistance Network (LAN). The principle behind the LAN is to provide discretionary services to households facing hardship as a result of a crisis or emergency. West Sussex County Council decided to reduce the LAN budget to £200k in 2019/20 and have made a further reduction to £100k in 2020/21, although funding for Foodbanks and organisations such as Furnihelp has been maintained.

Use of Food Banks in Mid Sussex

The main foodbanks in Mid Sussex are at Haywards Heath and East Grinstead, run by the Trussell Trust, and the Burgess Hill Community Food Bank. Use of food banks has increased with the numbers assisted by the Haywards Heath Food Bank up 28% in 2019 from the previous year to 2,122. The East Grinstead Food bank assisted 1,971 in 2019, an increase of 24%. Increases are in line with national trends.

There are a number of agencies that can make referrals to foodbanks, including Mid Sussex District Council's Housing Needs Team. Vouchers are provided which can be redeemed for three days of emergency food. 193 food vouchers were issued by the Housing Needs Team in 2019, compared to 162 in the previous year. Foodbanks have been prominent in the community response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Universal Credit

Rollout of the full service of Universal Credit went live in Mid Sussex on 6 June 2018, with full national roll-out delayed to September 2024. Universal Credit provides for a single monthly payment, which will eventually replace:

- Income Support
- Income Related Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit.

Universal Credit claims in Mid Sussex are expected to increase significantly due to the economic effects of the pandemic. The numbers of claimants in Mid Sussex of Job Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit for the principal reason of being out of work has shown a three-fold increase in the period March to May 2020 to 3,440. HMRC has stated that at 31 May 2020, since the launch of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS), businesses had furloughed 18,000 jobs in Mid Sussex and 5,700 self-employed individuals had been supported.

Impact of new housing development on communities in Mid Sussex

One of the themes identified by the Mid Sussex Partnership is the impact of new housing development on communities in the District, considering the level of development set out in the District Plan. The MSP placed a particular focus on the Northern Arc Development at Burgess Hill, which will provide 3,500 new homes. The 200 hectare site has been purchased by Homes England and will help to facilitate planned development and infrastructure provision amounting to an estimated £162 million. A Northern Arc Masterplan and infrastructure Delivery Plan has been prepared. Infrastructure provision will include 2 primary schools, 1 secondary school, neighbourhood centres, a primary care centre and a community sports centre. Development is taking place over four phases with the first development in 2020 and the whole site completed by 2035.

A further feature of the Northern Arc development is its emphasis on connectivity with the rest of Burgess Hill and provision of sustainable transport infrastructure, with alternatives to the car. The District Council is currently working with West Sussex County Council to deliver the Place and Connectivity Programme, amounting to £21.8 million funded by government grant and developers' contributions. The Programme consists of a package of projects aimed at creating improved, high quality walking and cycling routes and public spaces.

Transport Issues and Rural Isolation

Data from April 2019 shows that 14.6% of the District's Rural Parish population do not have access to a car. The Rural Parish with the highest percentage of people without a car is Clayton at 32.9% (557 people). Keymer Parish is the second highest percentage at 21.4%. This is a factor in issues of rural isolation, along with the provision of public transport.

60% of Mid Sussex rural parishes have an hourly weekday bus service and a further 30% have a weekday service of some sort, although this is not hourly. 10% have no service at all. There is limited weekday evening service in Mid Sussex with only 4 out of the 20 (20%) rural Parishes having a service – Clayton and Pyecombe hourly and Slaugham and Worth have some sort of evening service. The Sunday service is poor with only 1 Parish having a regular service (Worth).