

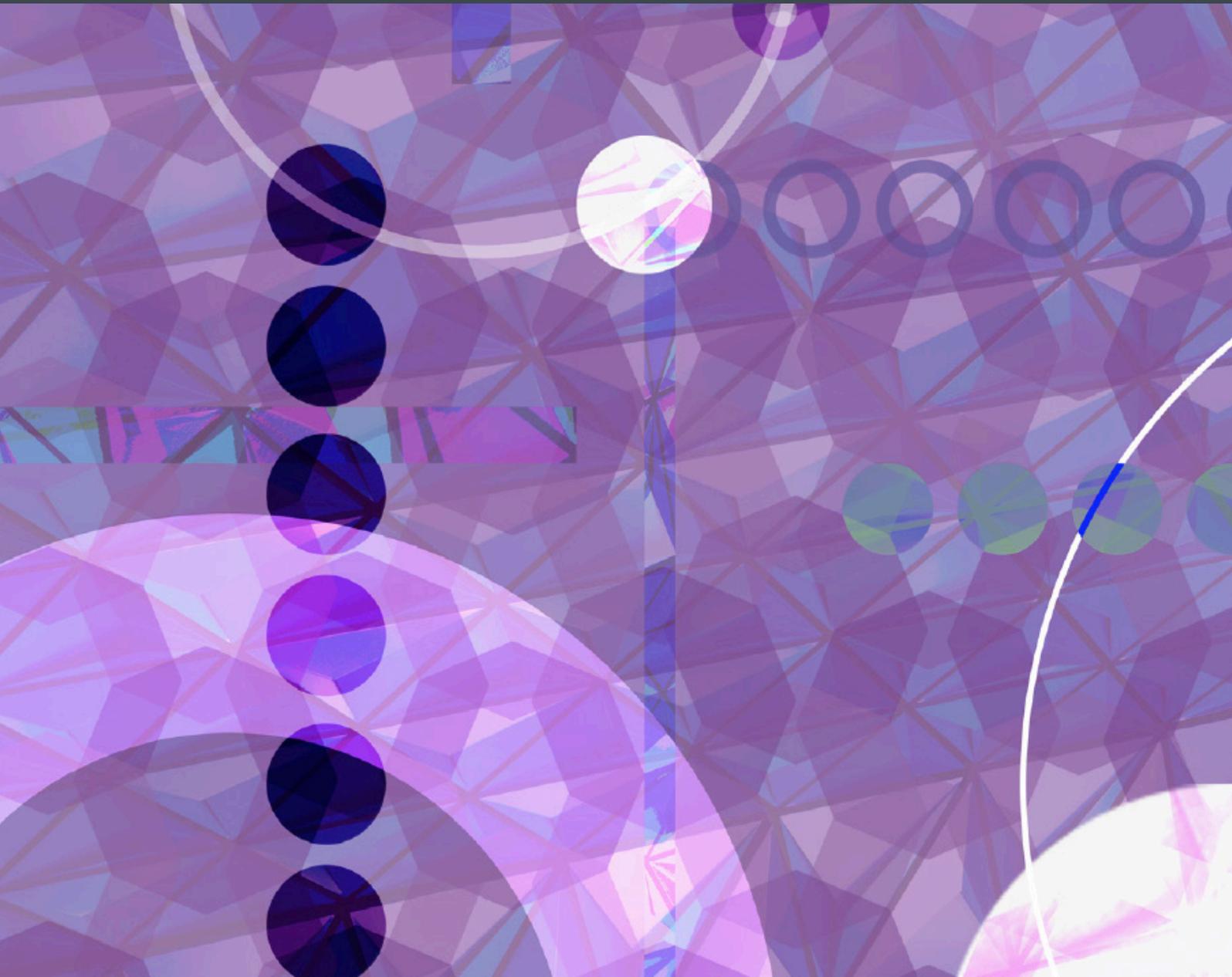
# Criminal Justice Project: Drug Interventions Programme

## Criminal Justice Intervention Team Activity in Sefton: year ending March 2024

March 2025



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## KEY FINDINGS: CJIT ACTIVITY IN SEFTON (YEAR ENDING MARCH 2024)

- In the year ending March 2024, there were 260 adult contacts (243 individuals) recorded by Sefton Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT), which is an 18% increase on the 221 CJIT episodes in the previous year.
- Just over half (54%) of the CJIT episodes in 2023/24 were other criminal justice routes, while around three in ten (31%) were Required Assessments following a positive test for specified Class A drugs in police custody and around one in seven (15%) were voluntary presentations following release from prison.
- Just over four in five (82%) Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 were taken onto the CJIT caseload.

### *Sefton residents*

- In the year ending March 2024, 106 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Sefton Local Authority were in contact with Sefton CJIT. The postcode district with the highest number of Sefton CJIT contacts was L20 (35%).
- The average age of individuals assessed in the year ending March 2024 was 39 years. Just over one-third (36%) were aged 40-49 years, three in ten (30%) were aged 30-39 years, around one in five (19%) were aged 18-29 years and around one in seven (16%) were aged 50 years or over.
- Just over four in five (82%) individuals in contact with Sefton CJIT in the year ending March 2024 stated they were men.
- Over nine in ten (95%) Sefton CJIT contacts identified themselves as White British.
- One in three (33%) Sefton residents considered themselves to have a disability; of which, around two in five (42%) were a behaviour and emotional disability, while around a quarter (26%) were mobility and gross motor, and around one in five (21%) were progressive conditions and physical health.
- Similar proportions of Sefton residents were in a rented home and other housing situations (35% and 34% respectively), followed by no home of their own (28%) and those who owned their own home (3%).
- One in eight (13%) reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks.
- Around one in five (19%) clients had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years; of which, just under two-thirds (64%) had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time.
- Of the main substances reported by Sefton residents in the year ending March 2024, similar proportions reported alcohol or heroin as their main substance (30% and 31% respectively), followed by powder cocaine (20%). Half (50%) reported their second substance as crack cocaine, while just under two in five (38%) reported cannabis as their third substance, followed by alcohol (29%).
- Over two in five (45%) Sefton CJIT contacts smoked their main substance, followed by clients who administered their main substance orally or intranasally (31% and 22% respectively), while 2% injected their main substance.
- Just over three-quarters (77%) stated they had never injected.
- Around a third (32%) of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2023/24 were issued with naloxone; of which, half (50%) were supplied with nasal naloxone. Of the clients not issued with naloxone, just under three in five (57%) were already in possession of adequate naloxone, while just over one-quarter (27%) were offered naloxone but refused and 16% accepted but had not yet been issued with naloxone.

- Around three in five (59%) men consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of these, over a third (37%) consumed 7-15 units of alcohol on an average day and just under three in ten (28%) consumed 25 units or over.
- Although numbers are small, over half (56%) of women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of these, 44% of women consumed 7-15 units of alcohol on an average day.
- Misuse of Drugs Act offences accounted for just over one-quarter (27%) of the offences that prompted the current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system, followed by similar proportions of offences categorised as 'other' and wounding or assault (17% and 16% respectively).
- Of the clients on the CJIT caseload, 199 (184 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2024.
- Just over half (52%) of the clients closed from the Sefton CJIT caseload in the year ending March 2024 transferred prior to the completion of treatment, while around one-third (34%) completed treatment and around one in seven (15%) did not complete treatment.
- Of the Liverpool residents who completed treatment successfully, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 135 days.

Through the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), Sefton Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT) works with adults (aged 18 years or over) in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol in order to reduce acquisitive crime (Collins et al., 2016; Public Health England and Ministry of Justice, 2017; Public Health Institute, 2015 & 2017).

A key route in identifying people for DIP is Drug Testing on Arrest, whereby under certain criteria, adults are tested for specified Class A drugs (opiates and/or powder/crack cocaine) in police custody following an arrest. Those who test positive for specified Class A drugs are required to undergo a Required Assessment (RA) with their local CJIT. There are other sources of referral into DIP, including: Conditional Cautioning; court mandated processes, such as Restriction on Bail and pre-sentence reports; requirement by the Offender Manager for those with a community sentence (Drug Rehabilitation Requirements and Alcohol Treatment Requirements); following release from prison; as well as voluntary presentations.

CJIT assessments determine whether further intervention is required to address substance use and offending, and if necessary, encourage engagement with a range of appropriate interventions. CJITs provides wraparound support across four key areas (Home Office, 2011): drug and alcohol use (harm reduction and overdose management); offending; physical and psychosocial health; and social functioning (housing, employment and relationships). The CJIT dataset captures client information, episode details and referrals to structured treatment, which is submitted to the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS).

This CJIT Activity report for Sefton shows trends over a six-year period up to the year ending March 2024 for clients accessing the CJIT and where possible, comparisons to the Merseyside figures have been made<sup>1</sup>.

### *Combating Drugs Partnerships*

The Government's Drug Strategy stated its plan to reduce drug-related crime, deaths, harms and overall drug use (HM Government, 2021), outlining the requirement to establish and develop Combating Drugs Partnerships (CDPs) to oversee and co-ordinate its local delivery. Partnerships should lead a joint local needs assessment, a local drugs strategy delivery plan and regularly review progress (Home Office, 2022), through the National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework, a means for monitoring progress nationally and locally (Home Office, 2023).

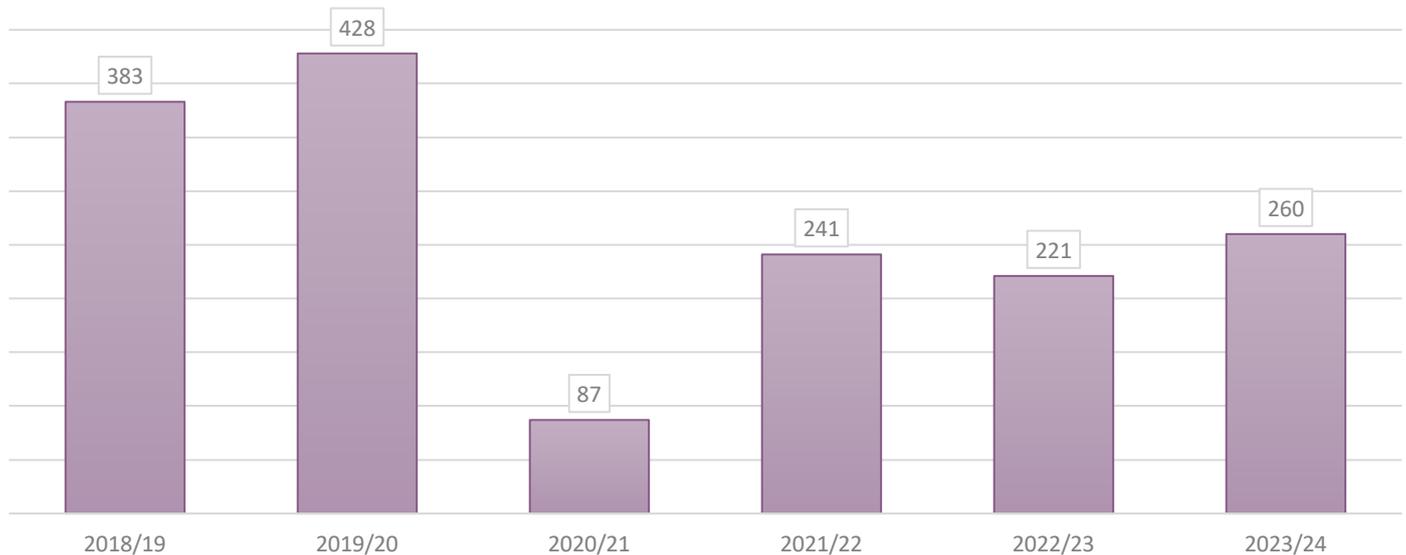
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<sup>1</sup> Notes to accompany this report are available in [Appendix A](#). Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2023/24\)](#).

## OVERVIEW

In the year ending March 2024, there were 260 adult contacts (243 individuals) recorded by Sefton Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). This is an 18% increase on the 221 CJIT contacts in the previous twelve-month period and the largest number of CJIT contacts since the initial COVID-19 restrictions were implemented in 2020 (*Figure 1*).

*Figure 1: Sefton CJIT episodes (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24*



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE ROUTES IN SEFTON

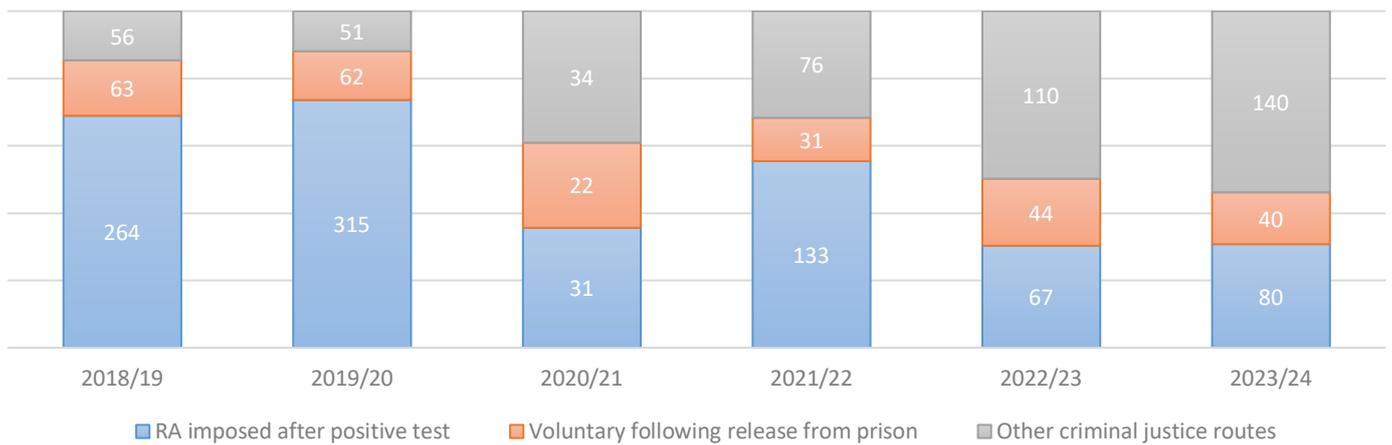
*Figure 2* shows the criminal justice routes that led to the contact with Sefton CJIT between 2018/19 and 2023/24. Just over half of the CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 were other criminal justice routes (n=140, 54%)<sup>2</sup>, while around three in ten were Required Assessments (RA) following a positive test for specified Class A drugs in a police custody suite (n=80, 31%) and around one in seven were voluntary presentations following release from prison (n=40, 15%).

Numbers of RAs and other criminal justice routes in 2023/24 increased by 19% and 27% respectively when compared to the previous year, with the latter being the highest number of the six-year period. As proportions compared to the Merseyside figures, RAs were similar, while releases from prison were smaller and other routes were larger.

Notably, the increase in other criminal justice routes in the latest two years is attributed to an increase in referrals required by the offender management scheme, Drug Rehabilitation Requirement (DRR), Alcohol Treatment Requirement (ATR) or Integrated Offender Management (IOM). These referrals accounted for around two in five of all CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 (n=110, 42%).

<sup>2</sup> Other criminal justice routes: required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 110, requested by Offender Manager (post DRR/ATR) = 20, other <10, Conditional Cautioning <5.

Figure 2: Sefton CJIT contacts by referral route (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



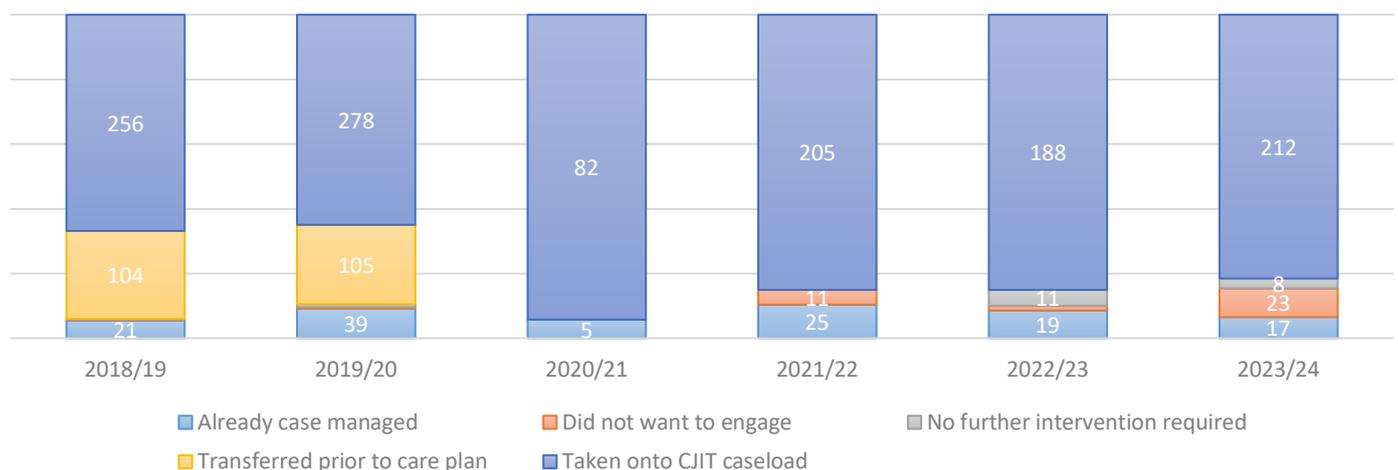
**Referrals required by offender management scheme, DRR, ATR or IOM**

- In the year ending March 2024, just under nine in ten of the 110 Sefton CJIT referrals required by the offender management scheme, DRR, ATR or IOM were men (n=95, 86%), and over half were aged 40 years or over (n=61, 55%), while the remaining individuals were aged 18-39 years (n=49, 45%).
- Just under half reported alcohol as their main substance (n=52, 47%), while around one in five reported heroin (n=23, 21%) and around one in seven reported cannabis (n=16, 15%).
- Around a quarter of referrals required by the offender management scheme, DRR, ATR or IOM were due to wounding or assault (n=29, 26%), followed by Misuse of Drugs Act offences (n=23, 21%) and offences categorised as 'other' (n=21, 19%).

**OUTCOMES FOLLOWING CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT**

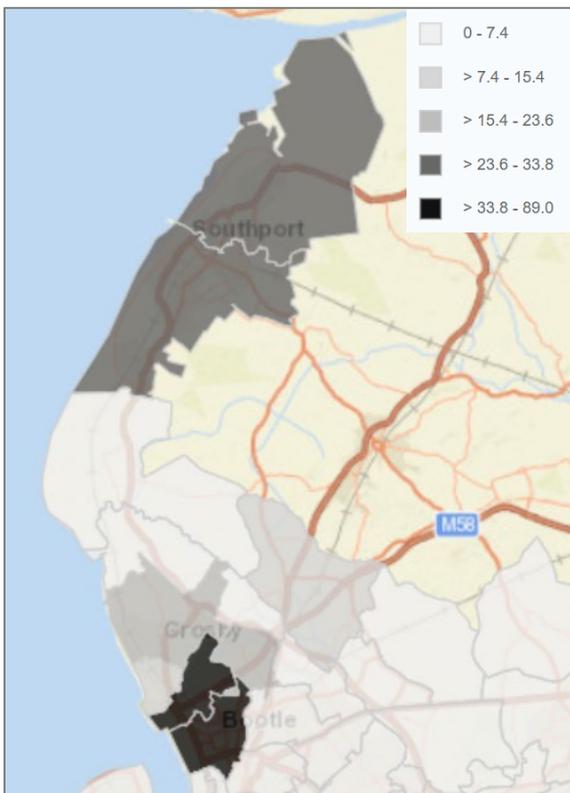
Just over four in five Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 were taken onto the CJIT caseload (n=212, 82%; Figure 3), which is a 13% increase on the 188 episodes in the previous year. There was a substantial increase in the number who did not want to engage following their assessment with the CJIT in 2023/24, which is the highest number of the six-year period. Notably, the proportions of all outcomes are similar to the Merseyside totals.

Figure 3: Sefton CJIT contacts by outcome following criminal justice assessment (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



DEMOGRAPHICS

Figure 4: Sefton residents by postcode area of residence (n), 2023/24



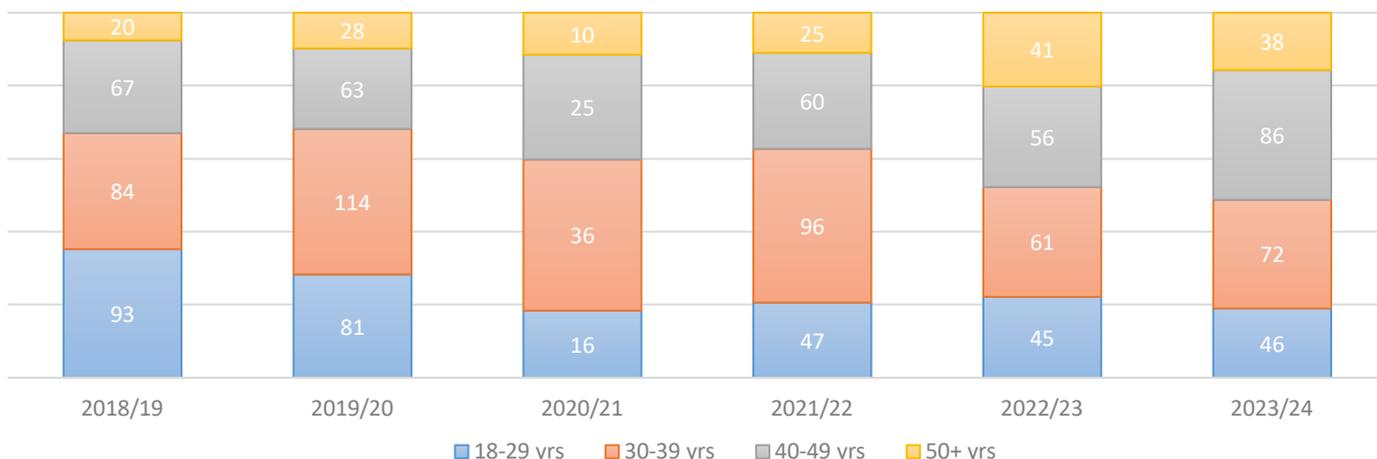
In the year ending March 2024, 105.8 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Sefton Local Authority (LA) were in contact with Sefton CJIT, compared to 138.7 per 100,000 across Merseyside. This is the second smallest rate of individuals in contact with a Merseyside CJIT of the five Merseyside areas (see [Appendix B](#) for a table and map of all Merseyside areas).

Where recorded (excluding those of no fixed abode), the postcode district with the highest number of Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 was L20 (n=89, 35%; [Figure 4](#)).

AGE AND SEX

The average age of Sefton residents assessed in the year ending March 2024 was 39 years (men = 39, women = 38), compared to 38 years in the previous twelve-month period. Looking at age groups, just over one-third of the individuals were aged 40-49 years (n=86, 36%), followed by individuals aged 30-39 years (n=72, 30%), 18-29 years (n=46, 19%) and 50 years or over (n=38, 16%; [Figure 5](#)). The proportion of Sefton residents in 2023/24 aged 40-49 years is both the largest proportion of the six-year period and of the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 28%).

Figure 5: Sefton residents by age group (n, individuals), 2018/19 - 2023/24



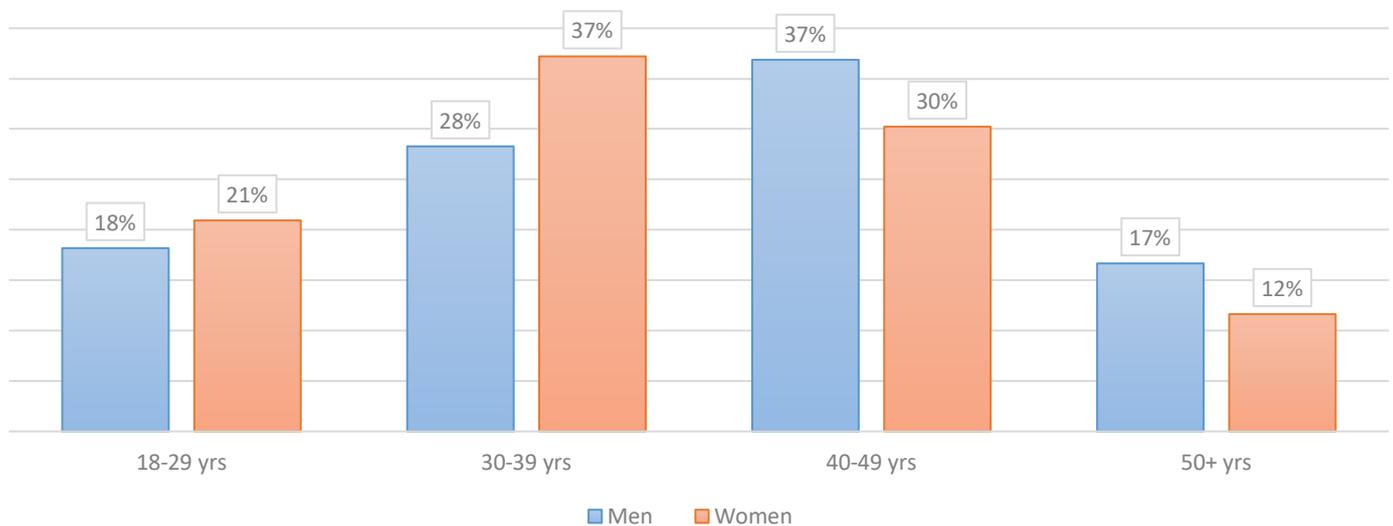
Just over four in five individuals in contact with Sefton CJIT in the year ending March 2024 stated they were men (n=198, 82%). Notably in 2023/24, Sefton had the largest proportion of women of the six-year period and of the Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 13% women).

Figure 6: Sefton residents by sex (n, individuals), 2018/19 - 2023/24



When comparing age group with sex in the year ending March 2024, there are some notable differences (Figure 7). Men accounted for a larger proportion of individuals aged 40 years or over (54% total) compared to women (42% total), while women accounted for a larger proportion aged 18-39 years (58% total) compared to men (46% total).

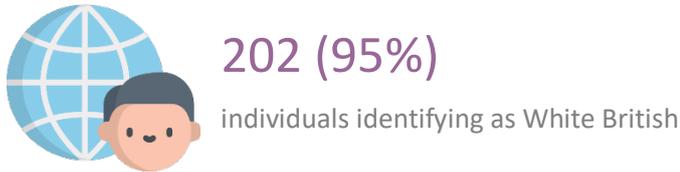
Figure 7: Sefton residents by age group and sex (% individuals), 2023/24



## ETHNICITY

Over nine in ten Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 identified themselves as White British (n=202, 95%; *Figure 8*). This is a 15% increase on the 175 clients in the previous year, though similar to the Merseyside proportion (93%).

*Figure 8: Sefton residents by ethnicity (individuals), 2023/24*



## DISABILITY

One-third of Sefton residents in the year ending March 2024 considered themselves to have a disability (n=84, 33%; *Figure 9*). This is a 75% increase on the previous year (n=48) and is similar to the Merseyside proportion (35%).

A total of 95 disabilities were recorded<sup>3</sup>; of which, around two in five were a behaviour and emotional disability (n=40, 42%), while around a quarter were mobility and gross motor disability (n=25, 26%) and around one in five were progressive conditions and physical health (n=20, 21%).

*Figure 9: Sefton residents by disability status, 2023/24*



## VETERAN

In the year ending March 2024, twelve (5%) Sefton residents stated they were a veteran of the British Armed Forces (*Figure 10*), which is an increase on the previous year (n=7, 3%). Notably, Sefton and Liverpool had the largest proportion of clients who were a veteran recorded across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 3%).

*Figure 10: Sefton residents by veteran status, 2023/24*

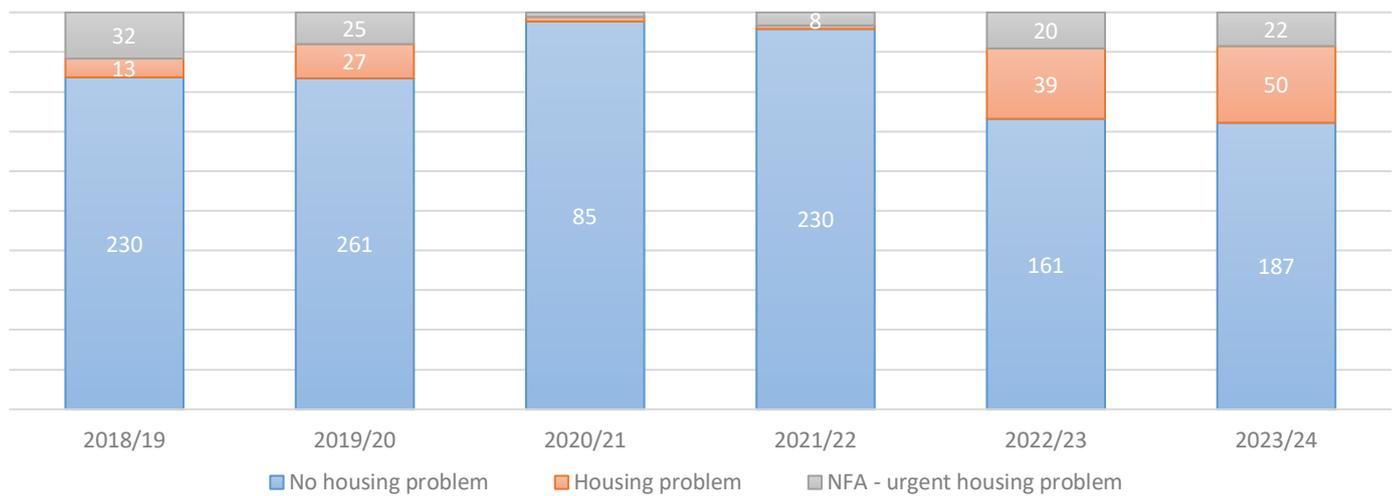


<sup>3</sup> Note that clients may have up to three disabilities recorded.

## HOUSING

While the majority of the Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 reported no housing problem, just under three in ten had some form of a housing problem (n=72, 28%; *Figure 11*)<sup>4</sup>. Although this is a 22% increase on the 59 clients in the previous year and the highest number of the six-year period, it is similar to the Merseyside proportion (29%). The number of clients stating an urgent housing need due to being of no fixed abode (NFA) in 2023/24 (n=22, 8%) is similar to the previous year (n=20, 9%) and is just below the Merseyside total (10%).

*Figure 11: Sefton residents by housing need (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24*



In the year ending March 2024, similar proportions of clients were in a rented home (n=90, 35%) and other housing situations (n=88, 34%), followed by no home of their own (n=72, 28%) and those who owned their own home (n=9, 3%).

Furthermore, 33 (13%) of the total Sefton residents in 2023/24 reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks. This is more than double the 15 clients in the previous year (120% increase), though similar to the Merseyside figure (14%).

## PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the year ending March 2024, around one in five clients had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (n=50, 19%; *Figure 12*). Although this is more than double the 23 clients in the previous year (117% increase), it is a smaller proportion than the Merseyside figure (23%).

*Figure 12: Sefton residents by parental status, 2023/24*



<sup>4</sup> NFA = no fixed abode. Note that housing was updated in the CJIT dataset in April 2022 to capture details of clients' current housing situation (e.g., no home of their own - hostel, rented home only - self-contained - rents from a private landlord). These have been recoded as no housing problem, housing problem and NFA - urgent housing problem, in order to make comparisons to preceding years. Non-urgent housing need includes: staying with friends/family short term, short stay hostel, short term B&B/hotel, placed in temporary accommodation by LA. Urgent housing need (NFA) includes: lives on streets/rough sleeper, uses night shelter (night-by-night basis)/emergency hostels, sofa surfing/sleeps on different friend's floor each night.

Just under two-thirds of the Sefton CJIT contacts with parental responsibility had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time (n=32, 64%). This is a substantial increase on the 12 episodes in the previous year (167% increase), though a smaller proportion than the Merseyside figure (69%).

## SUBSTANCE USE

Of the main substances reported by Sefton residents in the year ending March 2024, similar proportions reported alcohol (n=77, 30%) and heroin (n=79, 31%) as their main substance, followed by powder cocaine (n=52, 20%; *Figure 13*). The number of clients reporting alcohol, cannabis, powder cocaine and other substances as their main substance in 2023/24 increased, while there were decreases for crack cocaine, heroin and other opiates. Notably, the number of clients reporting alcohol as their main substance in 2023/24 is the highest of the six-year period and the largest proportion of the five Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 18%).

Figure 13: Sefton residents by main substance (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24

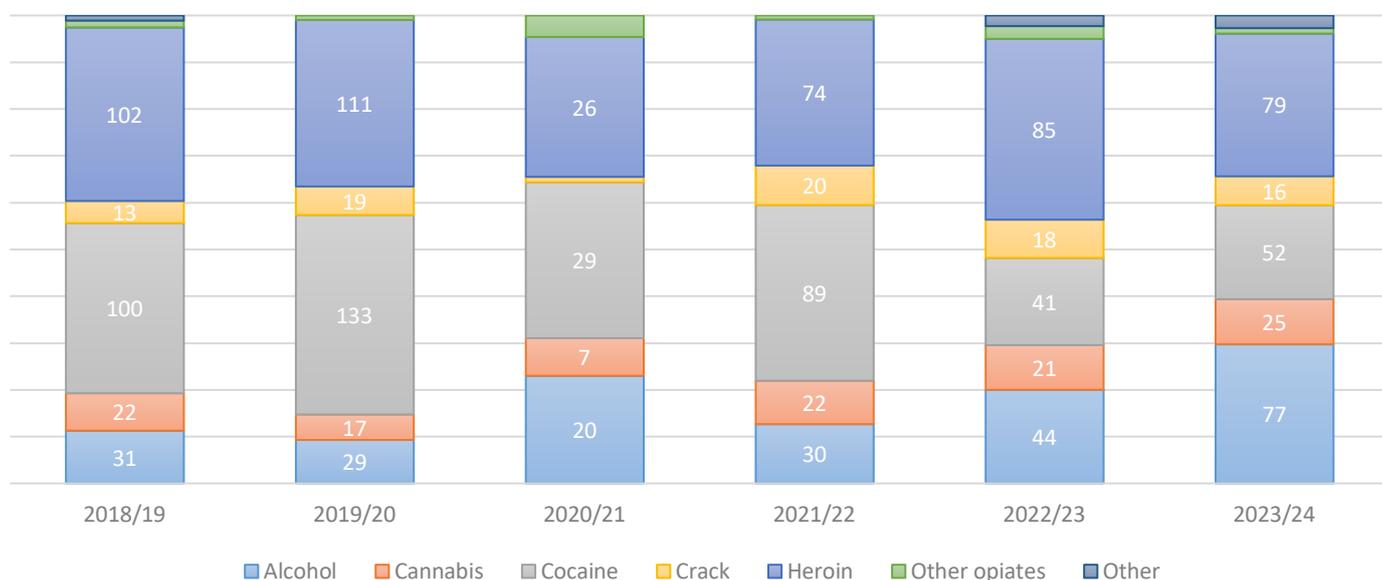


Figure 14 shows 2023/24 figures split by substance one, two and three. Half reported their second substance as crack cocaine (n=80, 50%), while just under two in five reported cannabis as their third substance (n=30, 38%), followed by alcohol (n=23, 29%).

Figure 14: Sefton residents by substances 1-3 (%), 2023/24

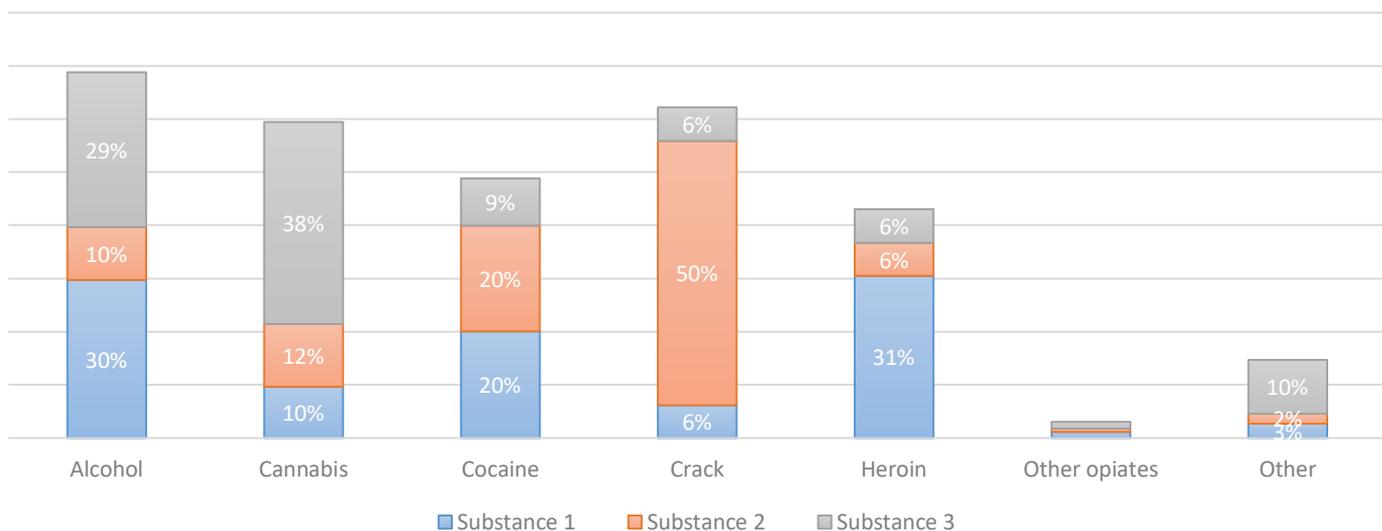


Figure 15 shows the proportions of the main substance by sex in the year ending March 2024. There were larger proportions of alcohol and cannabis recorded as the main substance by men (31% and 11% respectively) when compared to women (27% and 4% respectively), while there were larger proportions of crack cocaine and heroin recorded as the main substance by women (9% and 36% respectively) when compared to men (6% and 30% respectively). Furthermore, proportions were the same for powder cocaine (20%).

Figure 15: Sefton residents by main substance and sex (%), 2023/24

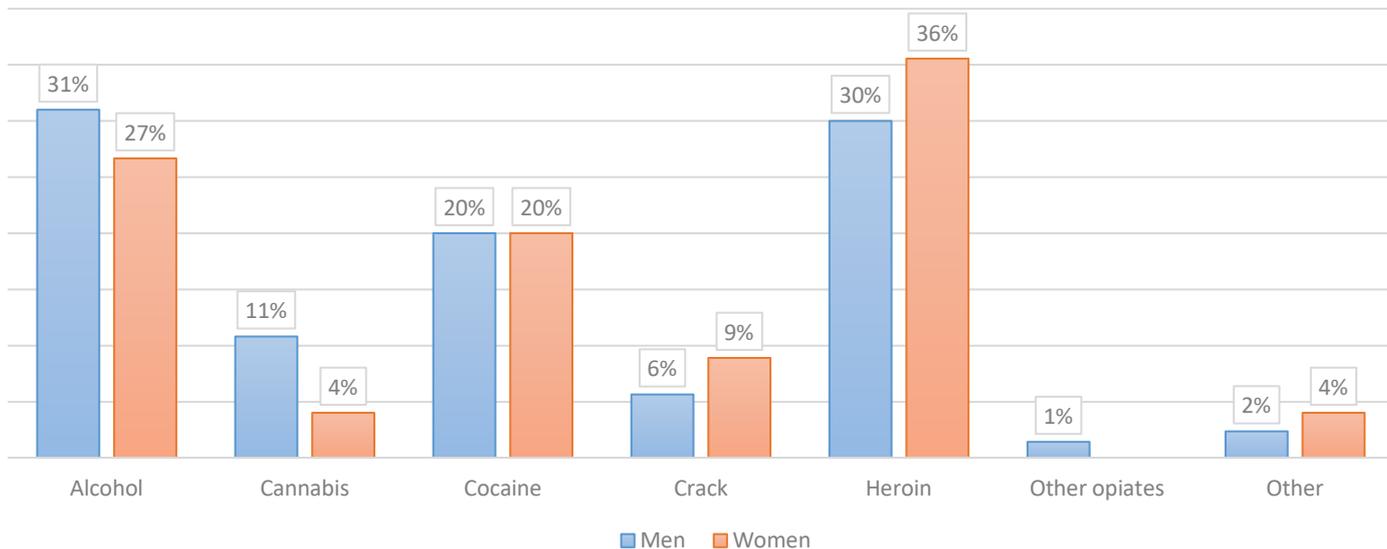
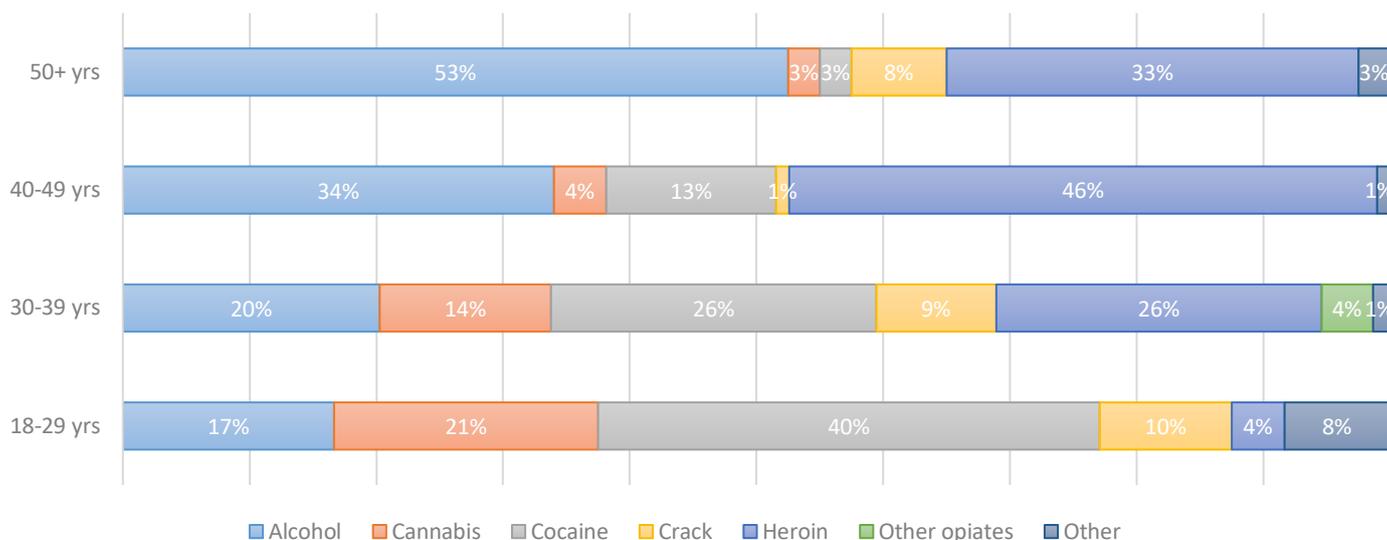


Figure 16 shows the proportions of the main substance for each age group in the year ending March 2024. Two in five (40%) 18-29 year olds reported powder cocaine as their main substance, while just over half (53%) of Sefton residents aged 50 years or over reported alcohol as their main substance. Notably, proportions of powder cocaine decreased as age increased, while proportions of alcohol increased as age increased. Furthermore, just under half (46%) of 40-49 year olds reported heroin as their main substance.

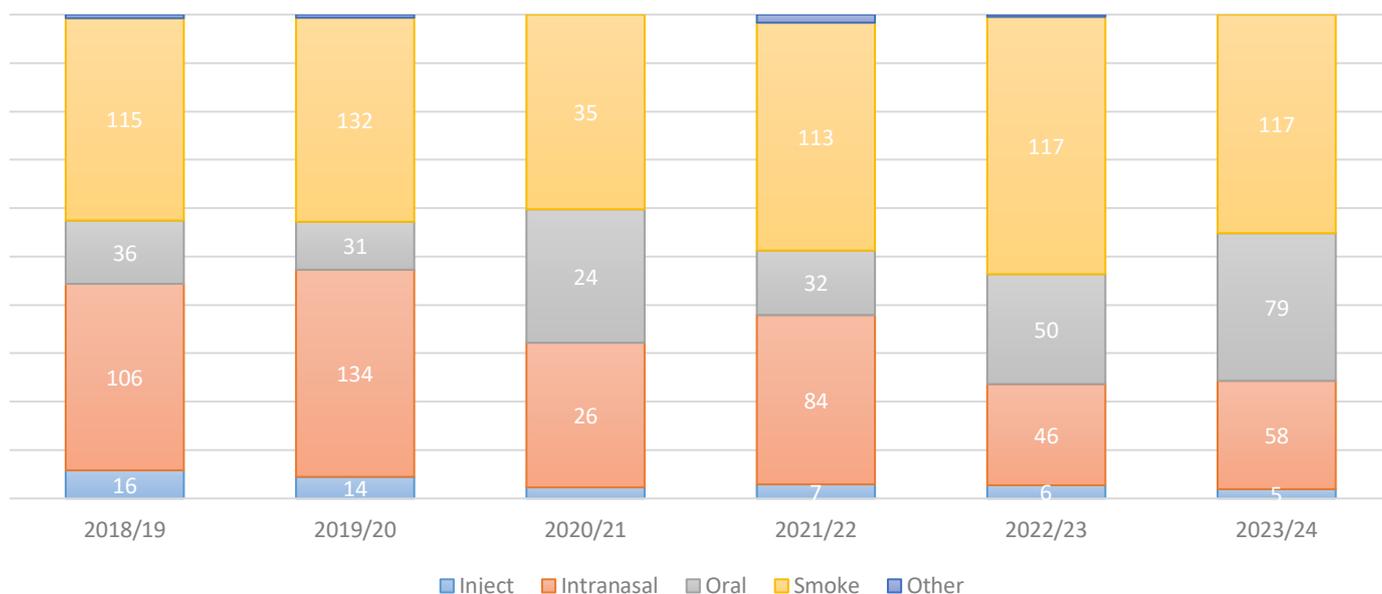
Figure 16: Sefton residents by main substance and age group (%), 2023/24



## ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

The route of administration of the main substance is shown in *Figure 17*. In the year ending March 2024, over two in five Sefton CJIT contacts smoked their main substance (n=117, 45%), followed by those who administered their main substance orally (n=79, 31%) or intranasally (n=58, 22%), while five (2%) clients injected their main substance. There were increases in the number of clients who administered their main substance orally and intranasally in 2023/24 when compared to the previous year (58% and 26% increases respectively). Notably, Sefton accounted for the largest proportion of clients across Merseyside who administered their main substance orally (Merseyside total: 20%).

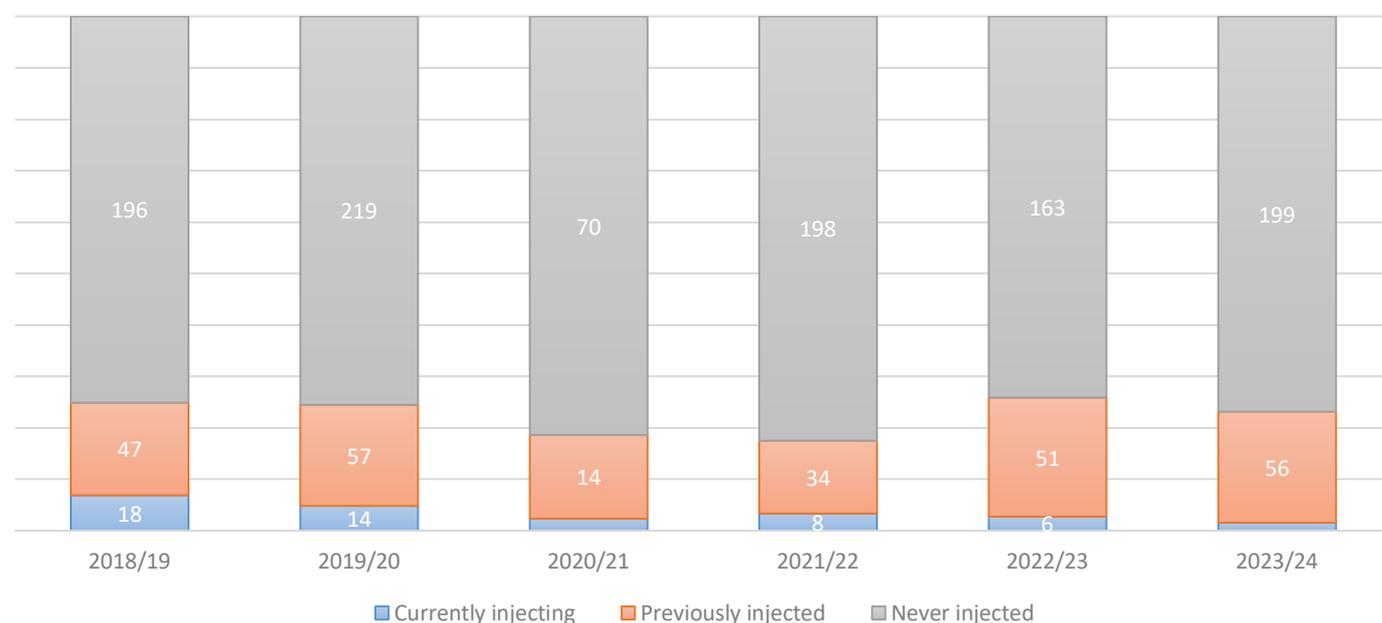
*Figure 17: Sefton residents by route of administration of the main substance (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24*



## INJECTING STATUS

Just over three-quarters of the Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 stated they had never injected (n=199, 77%; *Figure 18*), which is a 22% increase on the 163 records in the previous year, though similar to the Merseyside proportion (79%).

*Figure 18: Sefton residents by injecting status (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24*



NALOXONE PROVISION

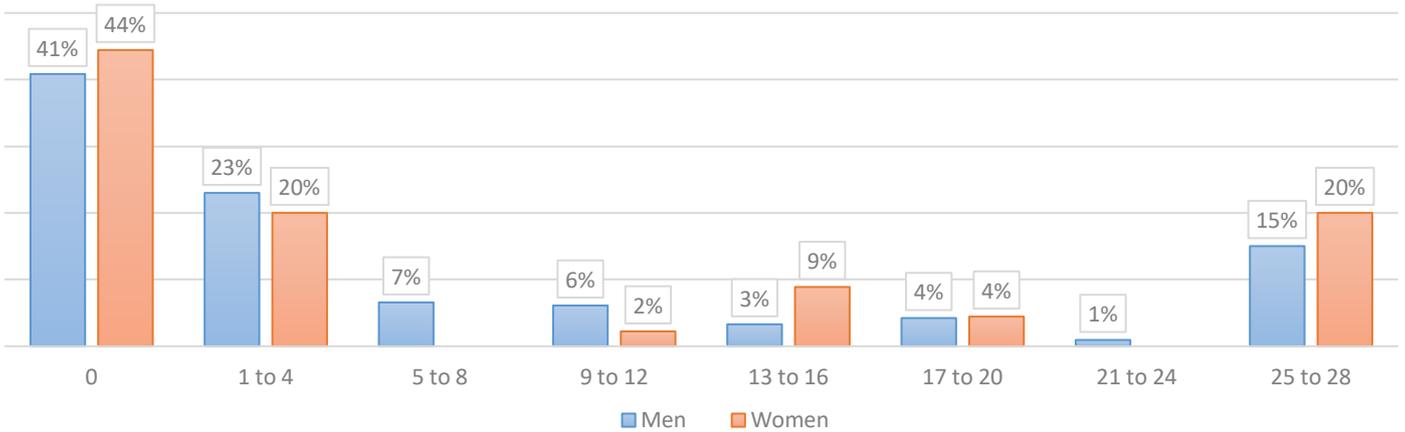
Around a third of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in the year ending March 2024 were issued with naloxone (n=26, 32%). This is a 37% increase on the 19 clients in the previous year and is just below the Merseyside proportion (35%).

Of the clients issued with naloxone in 2023/24, half were supplied with nasal naloxone (n=13, 50%). While of the clients who were not issued with naloxone, just under three in five were already in possession of adequate naloxone (n=32, 57%), followed by just over one-quarter who were offered naloxone but refused (n=15, 27%) and the remaining nine clients accepted but had not yet been issued with naloxone (16%).

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

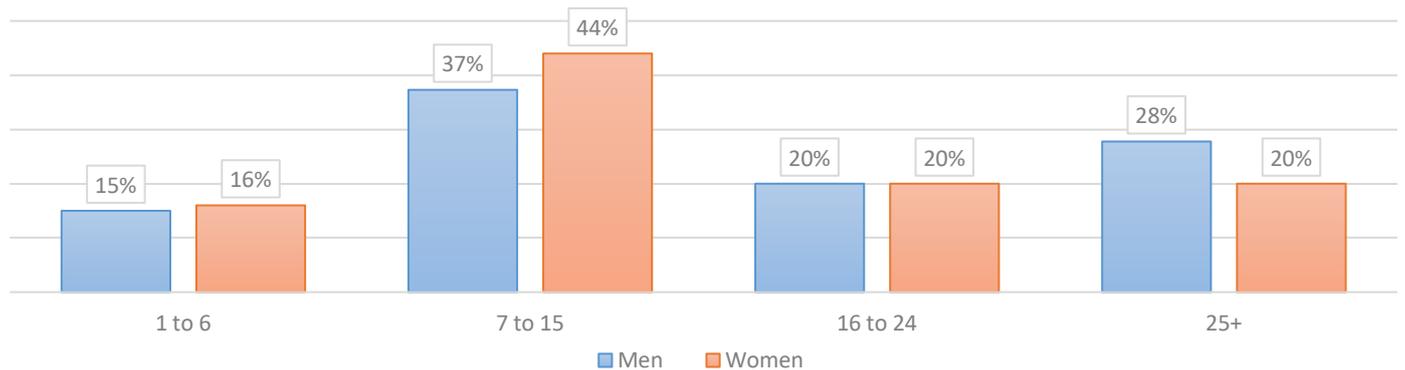
Figure 19 shows the number of days alcohol was consumed by Sefton clients in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in the year ending March 2024. Around three in five men (n=126, 59%) and over half of women (n=25, 56%) consumed alcohol, which is a 30% and 25% increase respectively on the previous year. Notably, Sefton accounted for the largest proportions of both men and women who consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to assessment of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside totals: 47% and 38% respectively).

Figure 19: Sefton residents by number of drinking days in the 28 days prior to assessment and sex (%), 2023/24



The daily average number of units of alcohol consumed in the 28 days prior to CJIT contact in the year ending March 2024 are shown in Figure 20. Over a third of men consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily (n=47, 37%) and just under three in ten consumed 25 units or over (n=35, 28%), while 44% of women consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily (n=11).

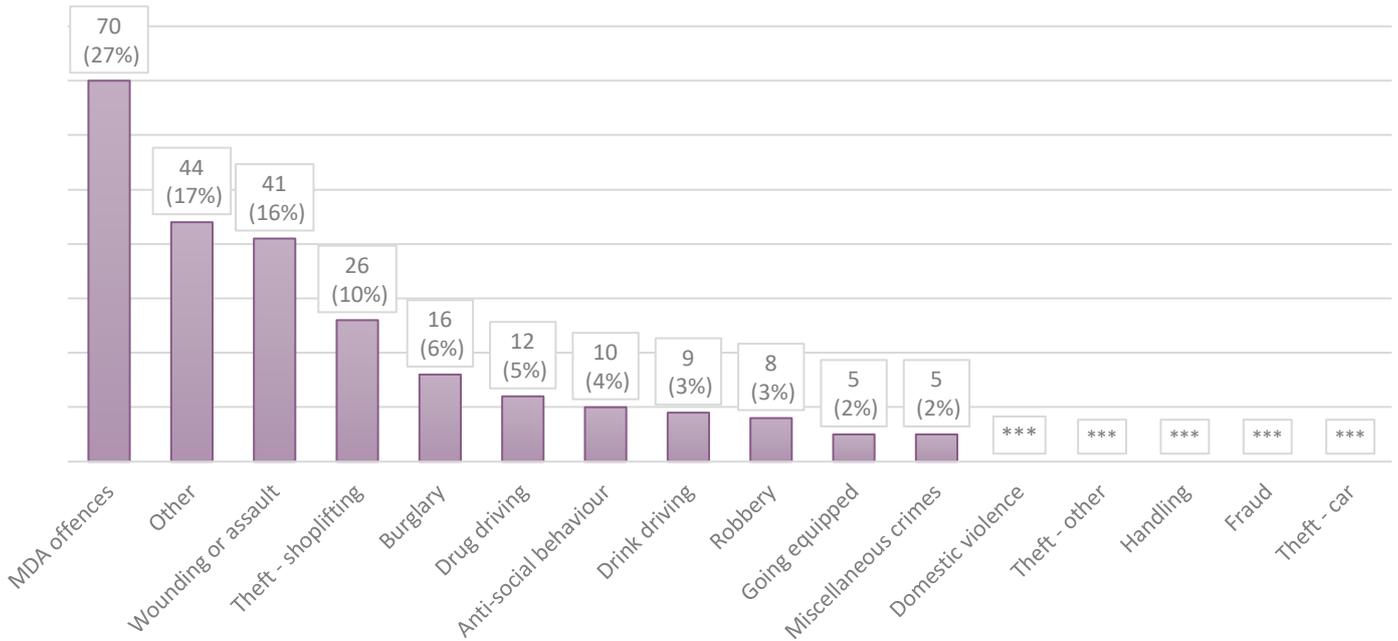
Figure 20: Sefton residents by number of units of alcohol consumed on an average day and sex (%), 2023/24



## OFFENDING

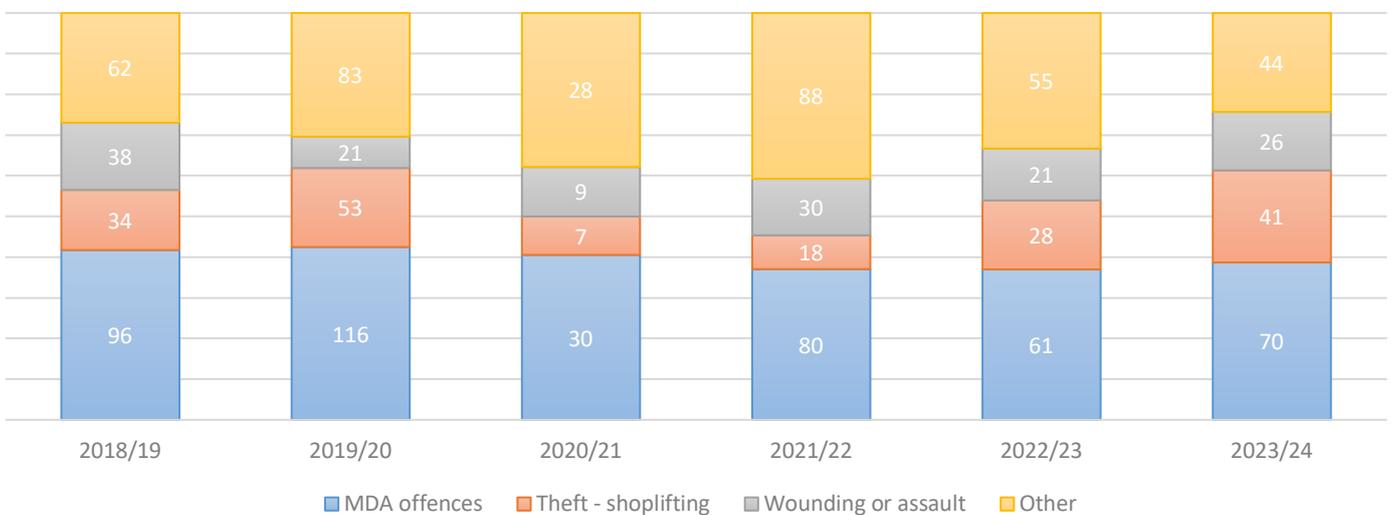
The offence that prompted Sefton CJIT clients' current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2024 is shown in *Figure 21*. Just over one-quarter of the offences were Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) offences (n=70, 27%)<sup>5</sup>, while there were similar proportions of offences categorised as 'other' (n=44, 17%) and wounding or assault (n=41, 16%). The proportion of MDA offences is below the Merseyside figure (32%), while other offences is the smallest of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 29%), and theft - shoplifting and wounding or assault are the largest (Merseyside totals: 9% and 7% respectively).

*Figure 21: Sefton residents by offence that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system, 2023/24*



*Figure 22* shows six-year trends of the main offending categories for Sefton residents. The numbers of MDA offences, theft - shoplifting and wounding or assault increased in 2023/24, while other offences decreased.

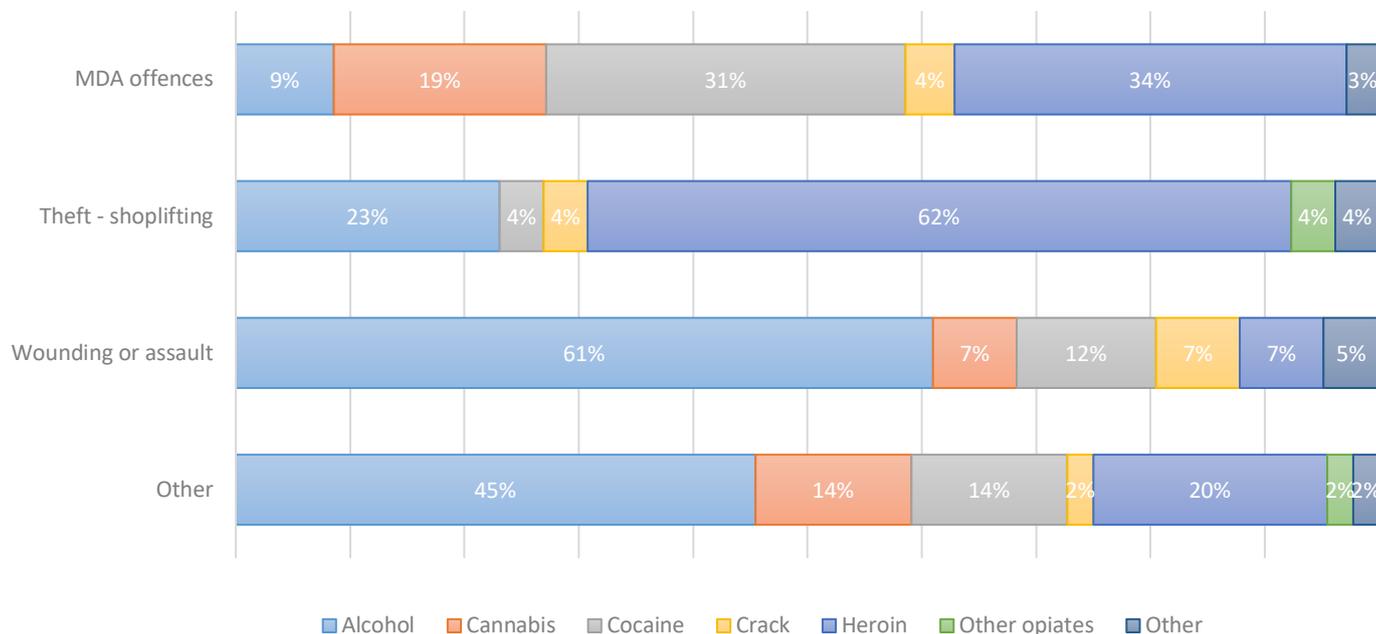
*Figure 22: Sefton residents by main offences that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24*



<sup>5</sup> Around seven in ten MDA offences were possession (n=50, 71%), while the remainder were supply (n=20, 29%).

Figure 23 shows the proportions of the main substance for the most common offences recorded for Sefton CJIT contacts assessed in the year ending March 2024. Of the episodes with MDA offences recorded, around one-third reported powder cocaine or heroin as the main substance (31% and 34% respectively), while heroin accounted for just over three in five (62%) of theft - shoplifting. Alcohol accounted for around three in five (61%) of wounding or assault and just under half (45%) of other offences.

Figure 23: Sefton residents by main substance and offence (%), 2023/24



## REFERRALS TO STRUCTURED TREATMENT

Of the clients on the CJIT caseload, 199 (184 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2024 (Figure 24)<sup>6</sup>.

Figure 24: Sefton residents by referrals to structured treatment, 2023/24



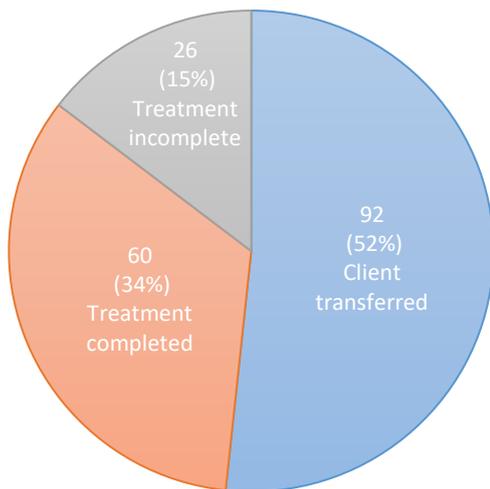
**199 (184 individuals)**  
referrals to structured treatment

<sup>6</sup> Figures include referrals to structured treatment where the date was between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, regardless of when the client was taken onto the CJIT caseload. Clients not taken onto the CJIT caseload have been excluded from these figures.

## TREATMENT OUTCOMES

There were 178 individuals closed from the Sefton CJIT caseload in the year ending March 2024<sup>7</sup>. Of these, just over half transferred prior to the completion of treatment (n=92, 52%), while around one-third completed treatment (n=60, 34%) and around one in seven did not complete treatment (n=26, 15%; *Figure 25*). The proportion who transferred prior to the completion of treatment is substantially larger than the Merseyside figure (29%), while the proportion who did not complete treatment is substantially smaller (Merseyside total: 37%).

*Figure 25: Discharges from the Sefton CJIT caseload, 2023/24*



Of the 60 Sefton residents who completed treatment successfully in the year ending March 2024, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 135 days (*Figure 26*), which is just below the Merseyside average (141 days).

*Figure 26: Average time on Sefton CJIT caseload for clients who completed treatment, 2023/24*



<sup>7</sup> Figures include discharges from the CJIT caseload where the date was between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, regardless of when the client was taken onto the caseload.

### APPENDIX A: NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THIS REPORT

1. In 2020, Merseyside Police suspended drug testing in the custody suites for five months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This affected the proportion of Required Assessments carried out following a positive test for specified Class A drugs in the year ending March 2021.
2. The overview chapter (*Figures 1-3*) are for all Sefton CJIT contacts in the year, while all other figures are for residents of Sefton LA only, recorded by Sefton CJIT.
3. Figures for age, sex and ethnicity are for individuals (*Figures 5-8*); however, this is not the case for other figures, as data may change for clients with more than one CJIT episode during the reporting year.
4. For instances where there are blank records or the client declines to answer, does not know or does not state a response, these have been excluded from the calculations; therefore, totals may not add up to the total number of CJIT contacts or individuals.
5. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
6. Numbers less than five have been suppressed to maintain client confidentiality. Where there is only one number less than five in a category then two numbers have been suppressed to prevent back calculations from totals (e.g., <10).
7. The Merseyside figures are the totals recorded by all five Merseyside CJITs (Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral).
8. Throughout this report, cocaine includes cocaine hydrochloride and cocaine unspecified, while crack includes cocaine freebase (crack).
9. Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2023/24\)](#).

In the year ending March 2024, 138.7 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Merseyside were assessed by one of the local CJITs. Sefton had the third highest number of individuals in contact with the CJIT of the five Merseyside areas, though the second smallest rate (105.8 per 100,000)<sup>8</sup>.

CJIT/LA	CJIT contacts (individuals)	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 adult population)
Knowsley	258	208.1
Liverpool	681	167.0
<b>Sefton</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>105.8</b>
St Helens	231	155.2
Wirral	220	84.9
<i>Total Merseyside residents (individuals)</i>	<i>1,621</i>	<i>138.7</i>



<sup>8</sup> Rates have been calculated using [mid-2023 population estimates](#) for each LA for adults aged 18 years or over. Figures show the residents of each of the CJIT areas (individuals only) i.e., Sefton residents recorded by Sefton CJIT.

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### ***About the Public Health Institute***

The Public Health Institute (PHI) within the Faculty of Health, Innovation, Technology and Science at Liverpool John Moores University, specialises in applied research and educational programmes addressing health issues at all levels from policy development to service delivery. PHI is committed to a multidisciplinary approach to public health and works in partnership with health services, local authorities, judicial bodies, environmental services and community groups.

Influencing health service design and delivery, as well as health related policy, PHI's research has been at the forefront of the development of multi-agency strategies to promote and protect public health. PHI turns information and data into meaningful and timely intelligence.

### ***Intelligence and Surveillance Team***

The Intelligence and Surveillance Team provides data collection and monitoring systems to support public health reporting, evidence review, evaluation and research. The team has extensive experience across various large-scale data sets which contribute to the surveillance systems developed and managed by PHI.

### ***DIP monitoring***

PHI has been monitoring criminal justice interventions for people in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol since the implementation of the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) in 2003. The Institute is commissioned to deliver the intelligence and surveillance of data collected for clients in contact with DIP across Merseyside.

The Intelligence and Surveillance Team has access to Merseyside Police records for drug tests carried out for specified Class A drugs in the custody suites and the criminal justice data set, which collects information on clients in contact with the Criminal Justice Intervention Teams (CJITs) across Merseyside's treatment providers. Drug testing records are matched with the criminal justice data set across the five Merseyside Local Authority areas, using a client attributor. This enables the monitoring of performance, identifying when individuals have attended their Required Assessment (RA) and engaged with DIP, and highlight any issues with the RA, and wider DIP, processes.

Intelligence is collated and presented through monthly and annual reports, and ad-hoc reporting in response to data requests. In partnership with commissioners, treatment providers and Merseyside Police, DIP monitoring in Merseyside is continually developing to meet local needs.

