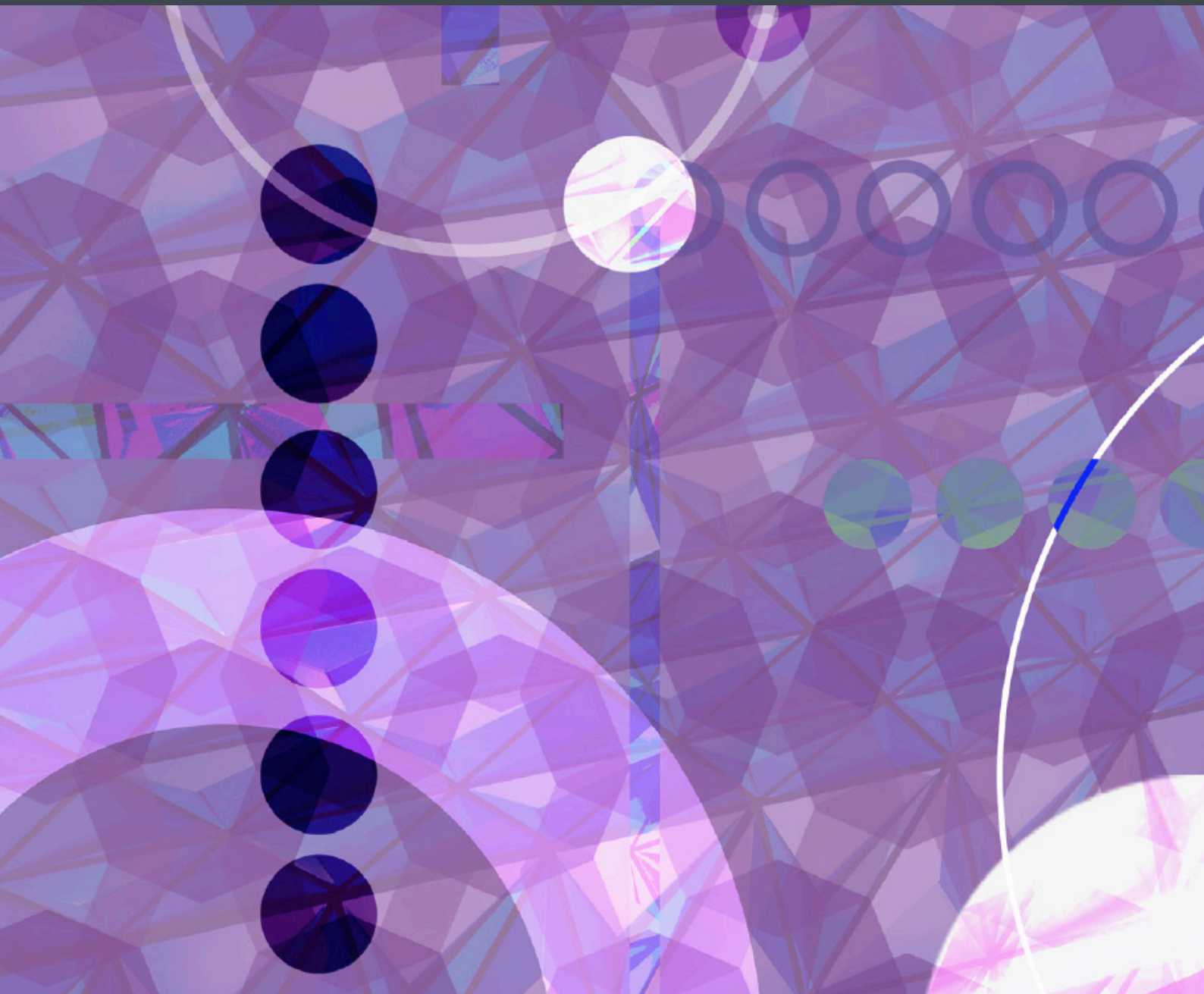


Criminal Justice Project: Drug Interventions Programme

DIP Activity in Sefton (2021/22)

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KEY FINDINGS: DIP ACTIVITY IN SEFTON, 2021/22

- In the year ending March 2022, there were 241 adult contacts (229 individuals) recorded by Sefton Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). This is almost three times more than the 87 CJIT contacts in the previous twelve-month period (177% increase), when Merseyside Police suspended DIP drug testing in the custody suites for five months in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Over half (55%) of the CJIT contacts in 2021/22 were Required Assessments following a positive drug test for specified Class A drugs in a police custody suite, while around one-third (32%) were other criminal justice routes and around one in seven (13%) were voluntary presentations following release from prison.
- Over four in five (85%) Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 were taken onto the CJIT caseload, while one in ten (10%) were already case managed by a structured treatment provider, other CJIT or Offender Manager and one in twenty (5%) did not want to engage.

SEFTON RESIDENTS

- Almost all of the Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 were residents of Sefton Local Authority area, which equates to a rate of 100.6 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Sefton.
- Just over two in five (42%) individuals were aged 30-39 years, followed by individuals aged 40-49 years (26%), 18-29 years (21%) and 50 years or over (11%).
- Over four in five (84%) individuals in contact with Sefton CJIT in the year ending March 2022 were men.
- The majority (98%) identified themselves as White British.
- Around one in seven (15%) Sefton residents in 2021/22 considered themselves to have a disability; of which, just under two in five (38%) were behaviour and emotional, just under one-quarter (23%) were mobility and gross motor and one in six (17%) were progressive conditions and physical health.
- The majority (96%) reported no housing problem.
- One in ten (10%) had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years; of which, around seven in ten (71%) had all of the children living with them the majority of the time.
- Just under two in five (38%) Sefton residents reported cocaine as their main substance in the year ending March 2022, followed by around three in ten (31%) who reported heroin. Around two in five (41%) of the second substance was recorded as crack, while one-third (33%) of the third substance was recorded as alcohol.
- Just under half (47%) of the Sefton CJIT contacts smoked their main substance, followed by just over one-third (35%) who administered their main substance intranasally and one in eight (13%) who administered their main substance orally.
- Over four in five (83%) stated they had never injected, while one in seven (14%) had previously injected but were not currently, and less than one in twenty (3%) were currently injecting.

- One in five (20%) clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2021/22 were issued with naloxone; of which, all were supplied with injectable naloxone.
- Just over half (53%) of men consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of these, over two in five (44%) consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily, followed by those who consumed 1-6 units and 16-24 units (both 19%) and those who consumed over 24 units (17%).
- Over half (55%) of women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of these, just over half (52%) reported to consume 7-15 units of alcohol daily.
- Just under two in five (37%) offences were categorised as 'other' as the offence which prompted the current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system, while one-third (33%) were Misuse of Drugs Act offences.
- Of the clients taken onto the CJIT caseload, 205 (197 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2022.
- There were 172 recovery support sub-intervention assessments (159 individuals) carried out in 2021/22 on clients on the CJIT caseload, with a total 177 sub-interventions delivered. The majority (92%) of sub-interventions delivered in the year ending March 2022 were recovery check-ups.

INTRODUCTION

Although the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) was decommissioned as a national programme by the Home Office in 2013, Sefton Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT) continue to collect and submit the criminal justice data set to the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS). The aim of CJITs is to identify and engage with adult offenders (aged 18 years and over) in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol, and encourage them to engage with appropriate treatment services in order to reduce acquisitive crime. There is a body of evidence supporting this process at reducing offending for this population (Collins et al., 2016; Collins et al., 2017; Cuddy et al., 2015; Public Health England and Ministry of Justice, 2017).

Under Merseyside Police's DIP drug testing process in the custody suites, if offenders test positive for specified Class A drugs (opiates and/or powder/crack cocaine) they are required to undergo a Required Assessment (RA) with a CJIT worker. This is a key route into treatment, though there are other routes of contact with a CJIT, including: Conditional Cautioning; requirement by the individual's Offender Manager; court mandated processes, such as Restriction on Bail, pre-sentence reports, Drug Rehabilitation Requirements and Alcohol Treatment Requirements; as well as voluntary presentations.

The CJIT data set captures client information, episode details (including drug and alcohol use, and offending behaviour), referrals to structured treatment and recovery support sub-interventions. Assessments allow CJIT workers to determine whether further intervention is required to address drug and/or alcohol use and offending, and if necessary, encourage engagement with a range of appropriate treatment options. This is a key element of the work carried out by CJITs, as it provides wraparound support across four key areas: drug and alcohol use (harm reduction and overdose management); offending; physical and psychosocial health; and social functioning (housing, employment and relationships; Home Office, 2011).

This DIP Activity report for Sefton shows trends up to the year ending March 2022 for clients accessing the CJIT and where possible, comparisons to the Merseyside figures have been made.¹

From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives (HM Government, 2022)

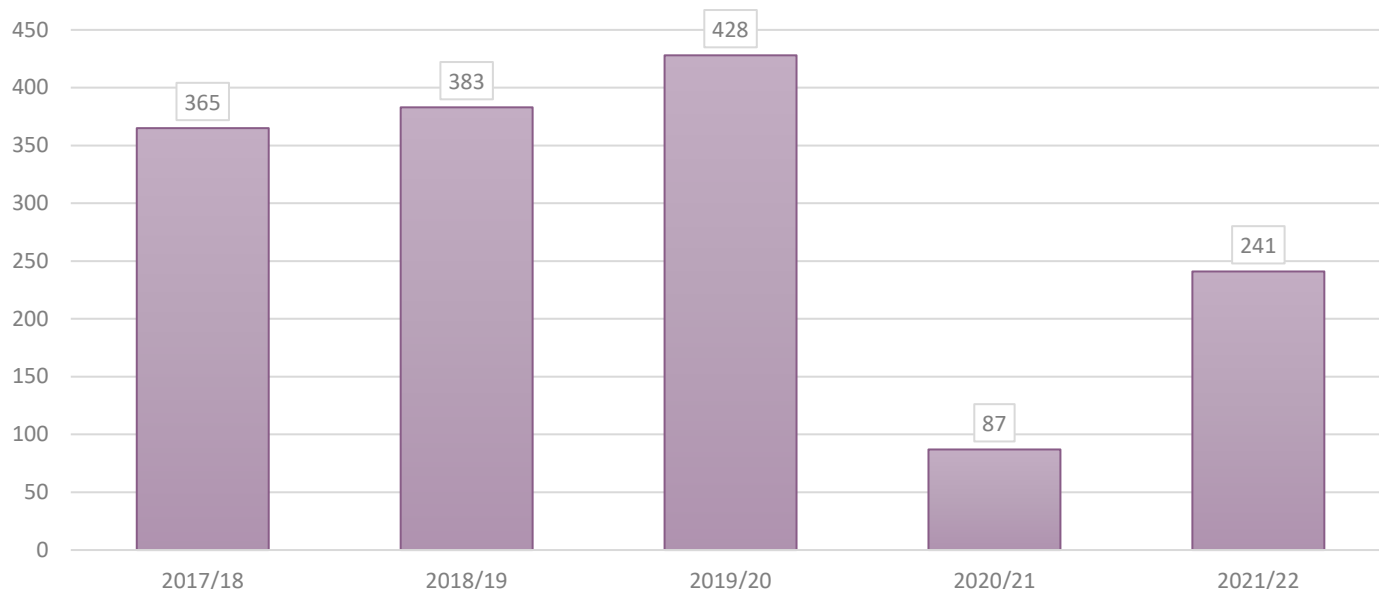
The latest UK Government drug strategy sets out the need to improve the criminal justice system response, outlining the need for appropriate referral pathways for offenders into treatment, in order to reduce acquisitive crime, re-offending, drug-related violence and drug-related deaths. As recommended by Dame Carol Black, the Government is investing in a range of services, so that a joined-up approach to tackle the issues can be used through the provision of effective treatment, mental and physical healthcare, housing and employment.

¹ Notes to accompany this report are available in *Appendix A* (page 17). Supplementary data tables and charts to support this report are available here: [CJIT Activity 2021/22: Supplementary data](#).

OVERVIEW

In the year ending March 2022, there were 241 adult contacts (229 individuals) recorded by Sefton Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). This is almost three times more than the 87 CJIT contacts in the previous twelve-month period (177% increase; *Figure 1*), when Merseyside Police suspended DIP drug testing in the custody suites for five months in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, the number of CJIT contacts in 2021/22 remains below activity recorded pre-COVID-19. Furthermore, all Merseyside CJITs have seen an increase in the number of CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 when compared to the previous year.

Figure 1: Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22



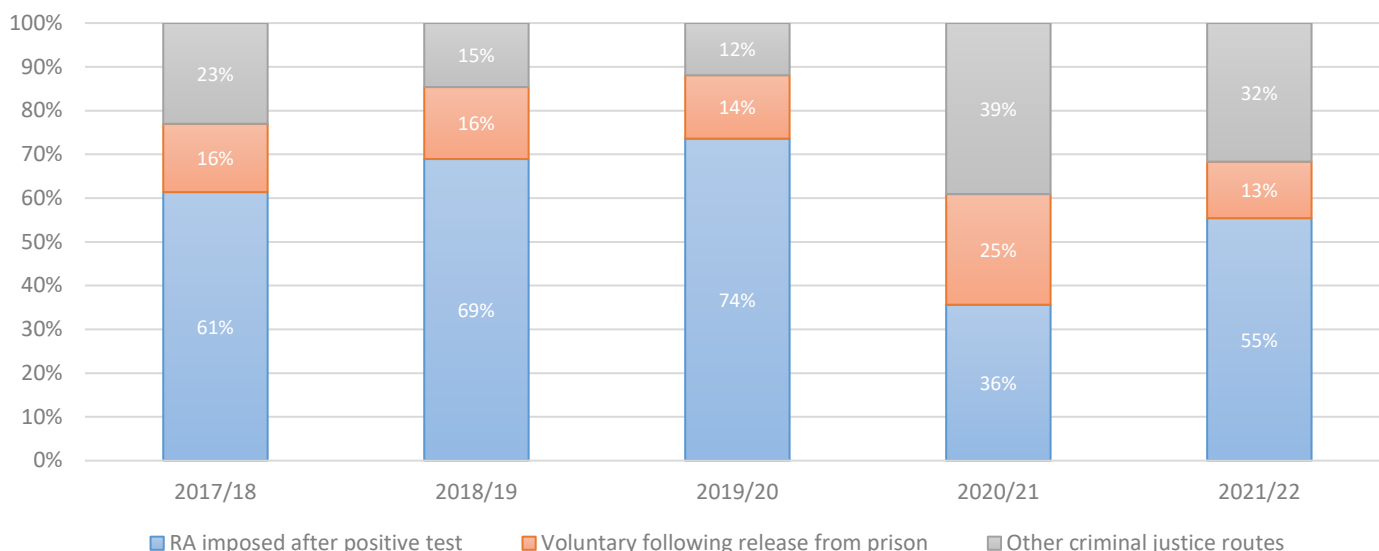
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ROUTES IN SEFTON

Figure 2 shows the criminal justice routes that led to the contact with Sefton CJIT between 2017/18 and 2021/22. Over half of the CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 were Required Assessments (RAs) following a positive drug test for opiates and/or crack/cocaine in a police custody suite (n=133, 55%), while around one-third were other criminal justice routes (n=76, 32%)² and around one in seven were voluntary presentations following release from prison (n=31, 13%).

The proportion of RAs in the year ending March 2022 is a substantial increase on the previous twelve-month period (36%), when Merseyside Police suspended DIP drug testing in the custody suites for five months in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, though is below the RA figures between 2017/18 and 2019/20. The proportion of clients who presented voluntarily following release from prison in 2021/22 is a decrease on the previous year (25%), though similar to earlier years, while those who presented through other criminal justice routes is the second largest proportion of the five-year period (*Figure 2*). Furthermore, the proportions of clients who came into contact with Sefton CJIT through the RA process or other criminal justice routes in the year ending March 2022 are just above the Merseyside figures (51% and 27% respectively), while the proportion of CJIT contacts who presented voluntarily following release from prison is somewhat lower than the Merseyside total (22%).

² Other criminal justice routes: Required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 31; requested by Offender Manager (post DRR/ATR) = 16; other = 13; voluntary - other = 11; Conditional Cautioning <5; referred by treatment provider (post treatment) <5; Restriction on Bail <5.

Figure 2: Referral routes of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22

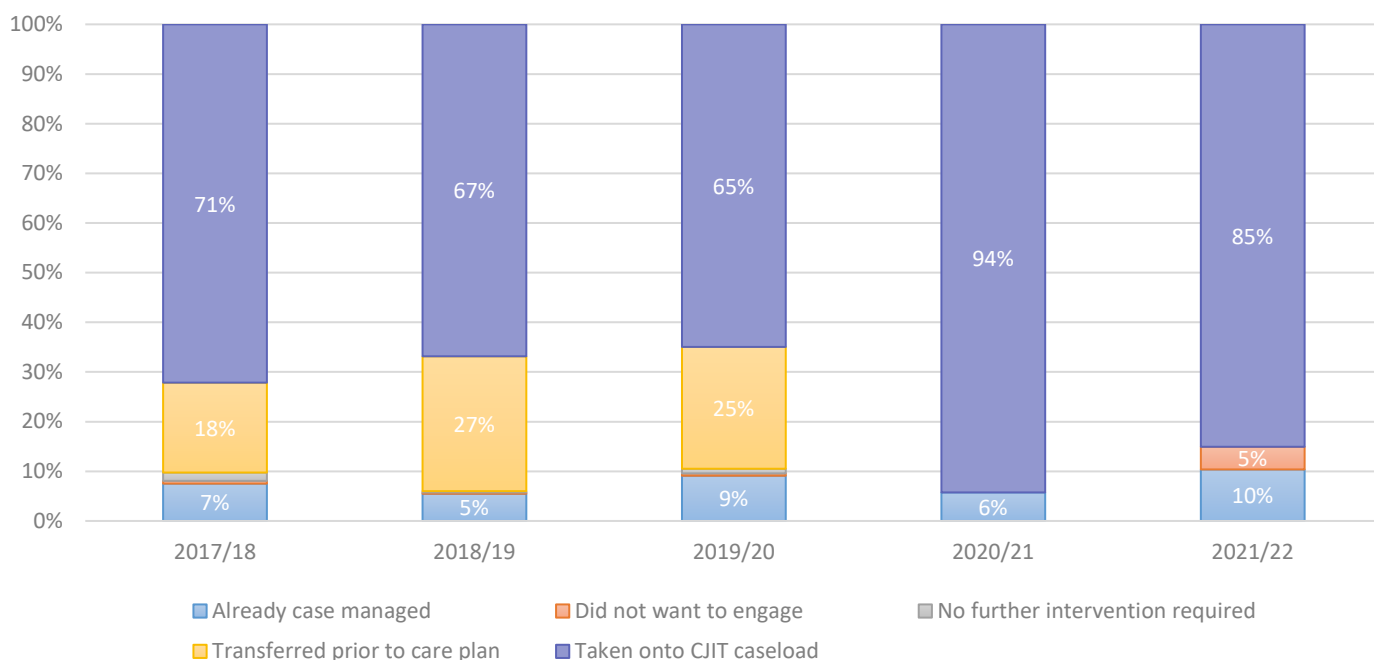


OUTCOMES FOLLOWING CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT

Over four in five Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 were taken onto the CJIT caseload (n=205, 85%), while one in ten were already case managed by a structured treatment provider, other CJIT or Offender Manager (n=25, 10%) and one in twenty did not want to engage (n=11, 5%; Figure 3).

Although the proportion of clients taken onto Sefton CJIT’s caseload in 2021/22 is a decrease on the previous year, it is the second largest proportion of clients taken onto the caseload of the five-year period (Figure 3). Moreover, Sefton had the largest proportion of clients taken onto the caseload of the five Merseyside CJITs in 2021/22 (Merseyside total: 61%). The proportion of Sefton clients already case managed in the year ending March 2022 is similar to the Merseyside figure (9%), while the proportion who did not want to engage is somewhat lower than the Merseyside total (15%). Furthermore, there were no clients in 2020/21 and 2021/22 who did not require further intervention or transferred prior to agreeing to a care plan.

Figure 3: Outcomes following criminal justice assessment of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22



DEMOGRAPHICS

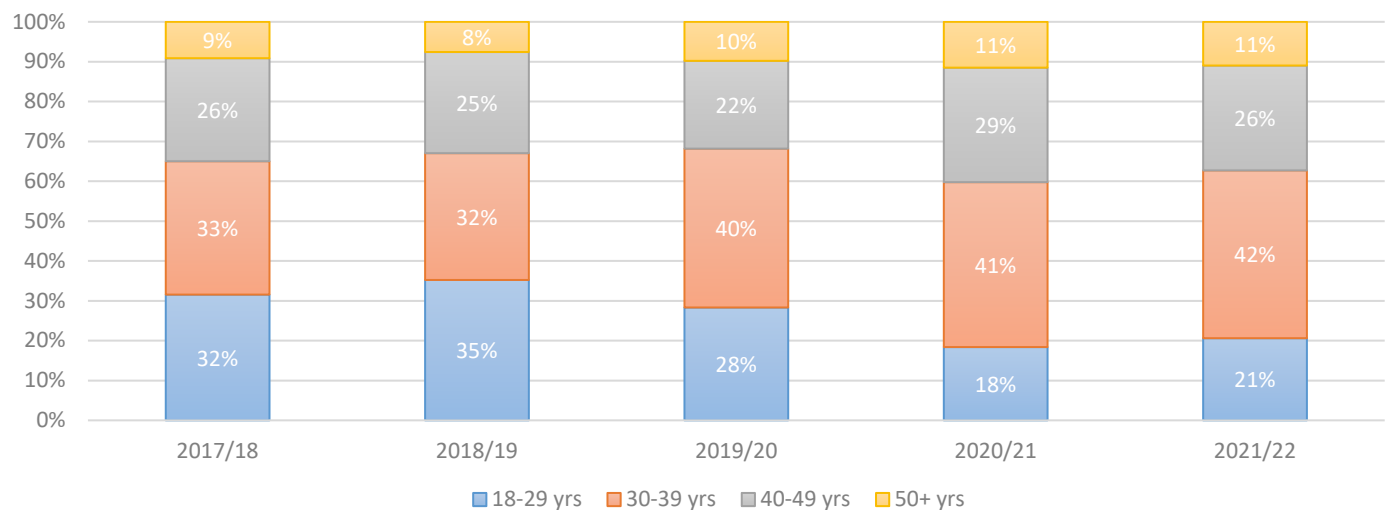
In the year ending March 2022, 100.6 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Sefton Local Authority (LA) were in contact with Sefton CJIT, compared to 117.7 per 100,000 across Merseyside. This is the lowest rate of individuals in contact with a Merseyside CJIT of the five Merseyside areas (*Appendix B*). The remainder of this report presents figures for Sefton residents only.

AGE AND GENDER

There were 228 individuals assessed by Sefton CJIT in the year ending March 2022. The median age was 36 years, which is similar to the previous year (37 years), though higher than 2018/19 and 2019/20 (both 34 years). Looking at age groups, just over two in five individuals were aged 30-39 years (n=96, 42%), followed by individuals aged 40-49 years (n=60, 26%), 18-29 years (n=47, 21%) and 50 years or over (n=25, 11%; *Figure 4*).

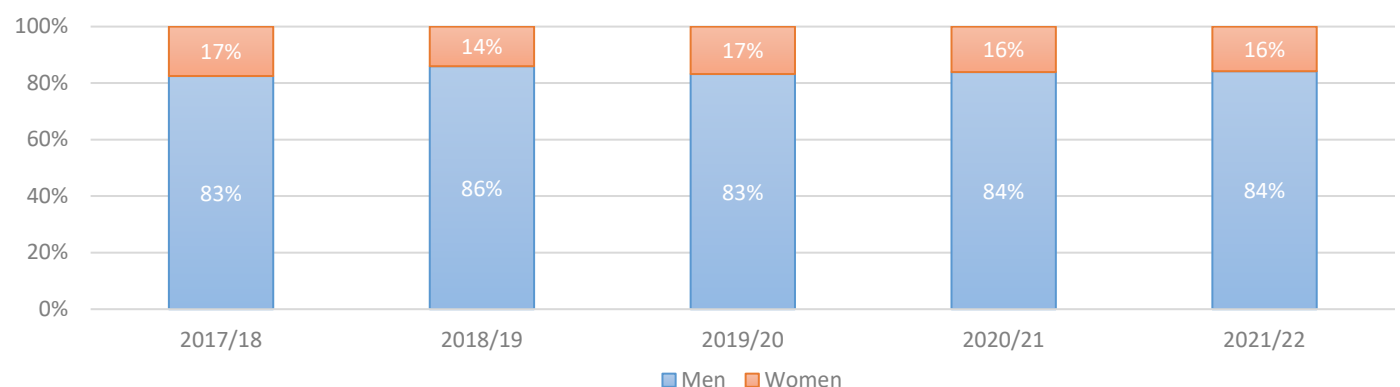
The proportion of individuals aged 30-39 years in 2021/22 is similar to the previous two years, though the largest of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 39%), while proportions for all other age groups are similar to the Merseyside figures.

Figure 4: Age group of Sefton CJIT contacts (individuals), 2017/18 - 2021/22



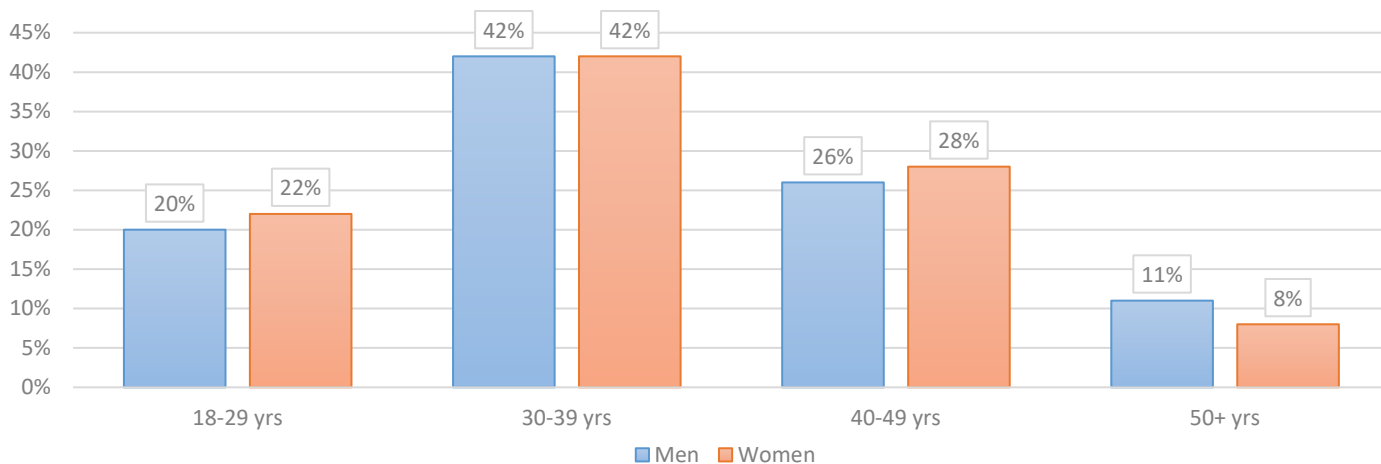
Over four in five individuals in contact with Sefton CJIT in the year ending March 2022 were men (n=192, 84%), which is the same as the previous year (*Figure 5*) and also the same as the Merseyside figure.

Figure 5: Gender of Sefton CJIT contacts (individuals), 2017/18 - 2021/22



When comparing age group with gender, proportions in the year ending March 2022 are somewhat similar (*Figure 6*). However, there were marginally larger proportions of women than men aged 18-29 years (22% and 20% respectively) and 40-49 years (28% and 26% respectively), while there was a slightly larger proportion of men aged 50 years or over when compared to women (11% and 8% respectively).

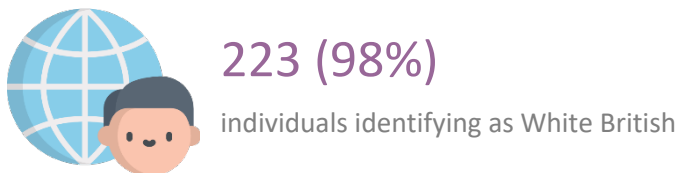
Figure 6: Age group and gender of Sefton CJIT contacts (individuals), 2021/22



ETHNICITY

The majority of Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 identified themselves as White British (n=223, 98%; *Figure 7*). This is both similar to the previous year (97%) and the Merseyside figure (97%).

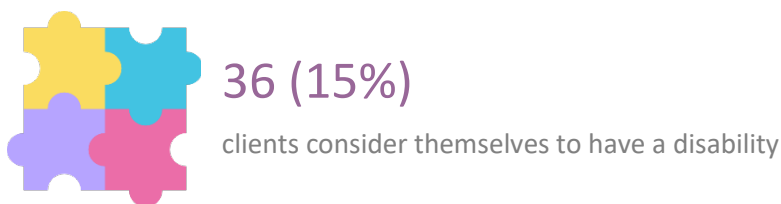
Figure 7: Ethnicity of Sefton CJIT contacts (individuals), 2021/22



DISABILITY

Around one in seven Sefton residents in 2021/22 considered themselves to have a disability (n=36, 15%; *Figure 8*). Although this is an increase on the previous year (8%), it is similar to 2018/19 and 2019/20. Furthermore, it is somewhat lower than the Merseyside figure (28%). A total of 47 disabilities were recorded³; of which, just under two in five were behaviour and emotional (n=18, 38%), just under one-quarter were mobility and gross motor (n=11, 23%) and one in six were progressive conditions and physical health (n=8, 17%).

Figure 8: Disability status of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22

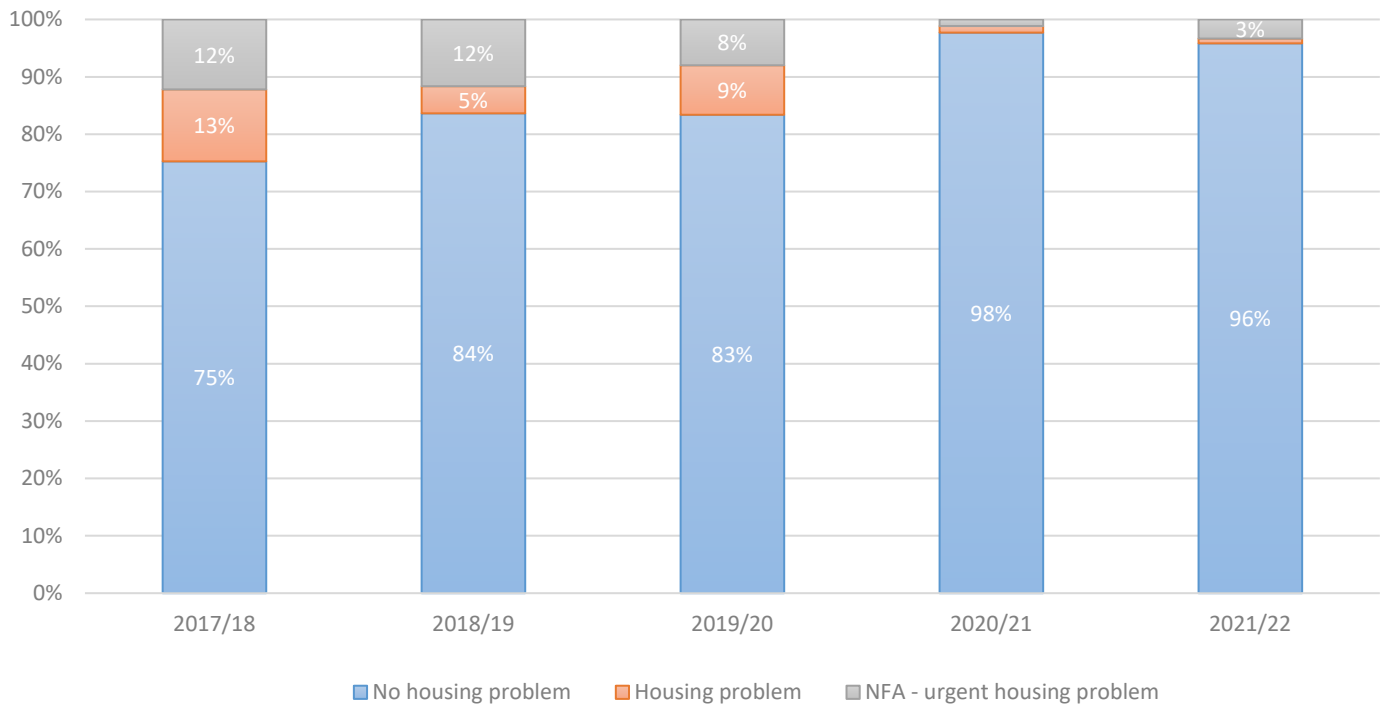


³ Please note that clients may have up to three disabilities recorded.

HOUSING

The majority of the Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 reported no housing problem (n=230, 96%; *Figure 9*). This is the second largest proportion of clients without a housing problem of the five-year period and the largest proportion across Merseyside in 2021/22 (Merseyside total: 83%).

Figure 9: Housing need of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22⁴



SAFEGUARDING

In the year ending March 2022, one in ten clients had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (n=24, 10%; *Figure 10*), which is similar to the previous twelve-month period (9%). Notably, this is the smallest proportion of clients with parental responsibility of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 20%). Around seven in ten Sefton CJIT contacts with parental responsibility had all of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time (n=17, 71%), which is the largest proportion across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 35%).

Figure 10: Parental status of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



24 (10%)

clients with parental responsibility

⁴ 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 Squatting. 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.

SUBSTANCE USE

SUBSTANCE TYPE

Just under two in five Sefton residents reported cocaine as their main substance in the year ending March 2022 (n=89, 38%), followed by around three in ten who reported heroin (n=74, 31%; *Figure 11*). The proportion of cocaine in 2021/22 is an increase on the previous year and the second largest proportion recorded of the five-year period, as well as the largest proportion of the five Merseyside areas in 2021/22 (Merseyside total: 34%), while the proportion of heroin in 2021/22 is similar to the previous year and the Merseyside figure (32%). Notably, the proportion of crack recorded as the main substance in the year ending March 2022 is the largest of the five-year period, though similar to the Merseyside figure (9%).

Figure 11: Main substances used by Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22

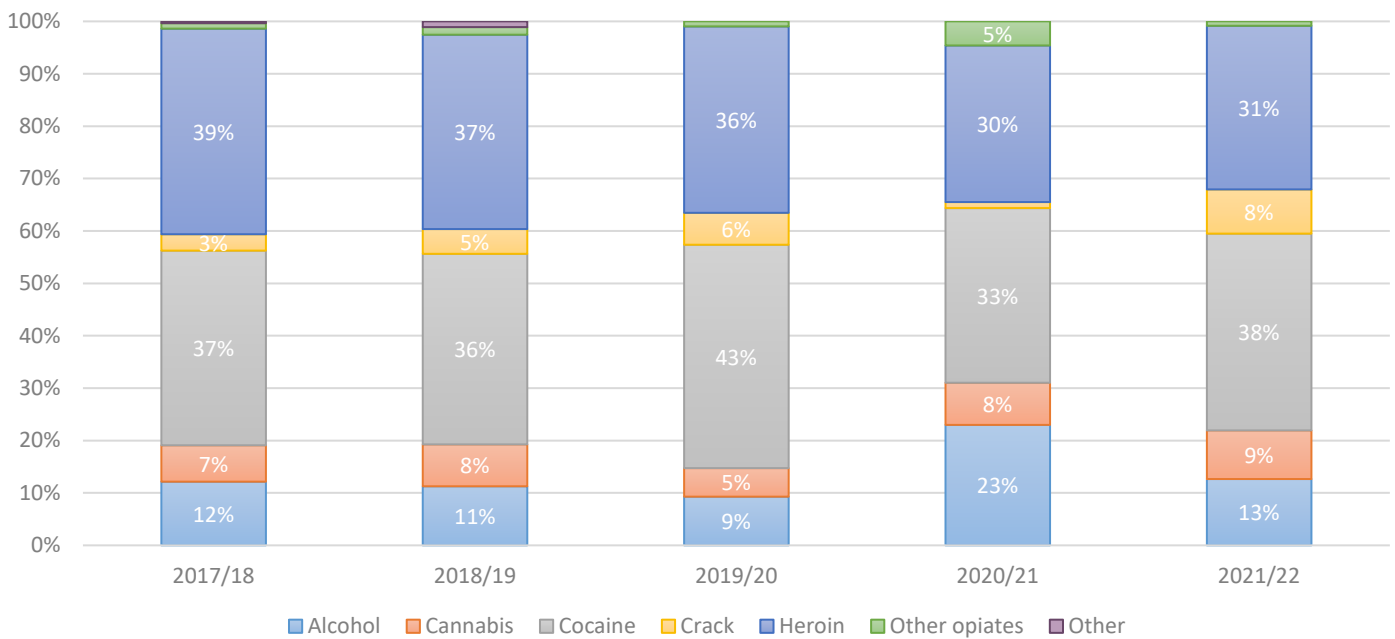


Figure 12 shows 2021/22 figures split by substance one, two and three. Around two in five of the second substance was recorded as crack (n=57, 41%), while one-third of the third substance was recorded as alcohol (n=10, 33%).

Figure 12: Substances 1-3 used by Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22

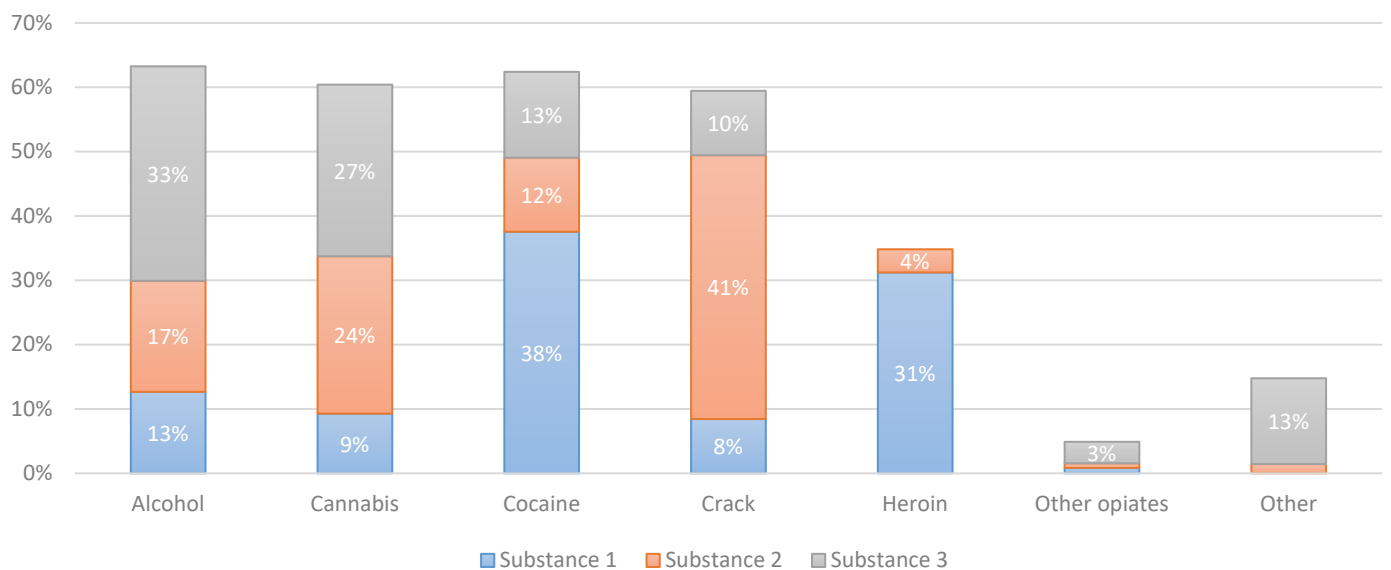


Figure 13 shows the proportions of the main substance by gender in the year ending March 2022. There were larger proportions of alcohol, cocaine and heroin recorded as the main substance by women (22%, 41% and 35% respectively) when compared to men (11%, 37% and 31% respectively), while there was a larger proportion of men who reported crack (10%) when compared to women (3%). Notably, no women reported cannabis or other opiates as their main substance.

Figure 13: Main substance and gender of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22

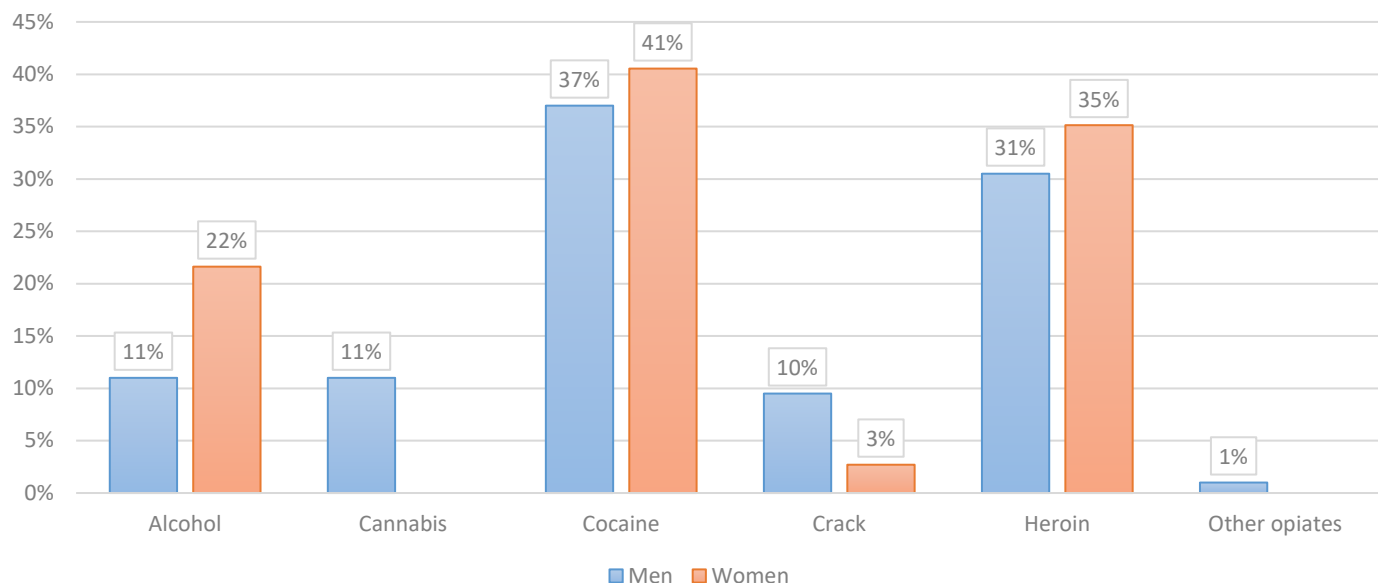
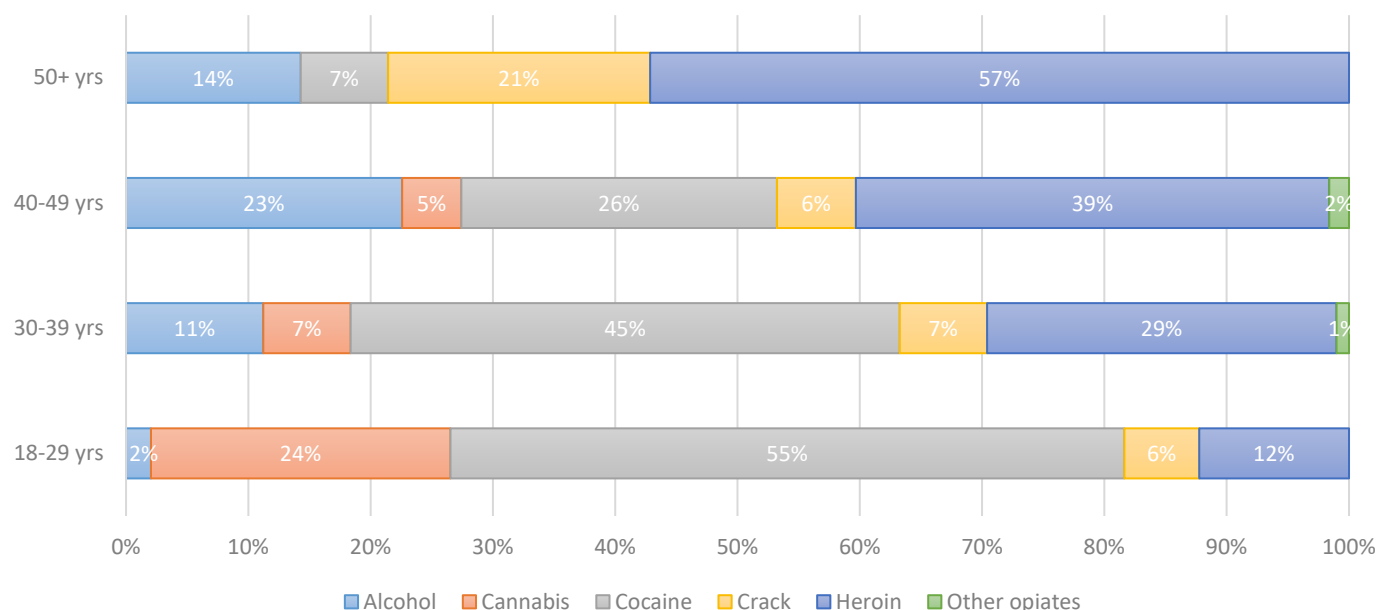


Figure 14 shows the proportions of the main substance for each age group in the year ending March 2022. There were larger proportions of cocaine recorded as the main substance in the younger age groups and larger proportions of heroin across the older age groups. Over half (55%) of 18-29 year olds reported cocaine as their main substance, which then decreased as the age group increased, while just under three in five (57%) clients aged 50 years or over reported heroin as their main substance, which then decreased as the age group decreased. Furthermore, around one-quarter (24%) of 18-29 years olds reported cannabis as their main substance, just under one-quarter (23%) of 40-49 year olds reported alcohol and around one in five (21%) clients aged 50 years or over reported crack.

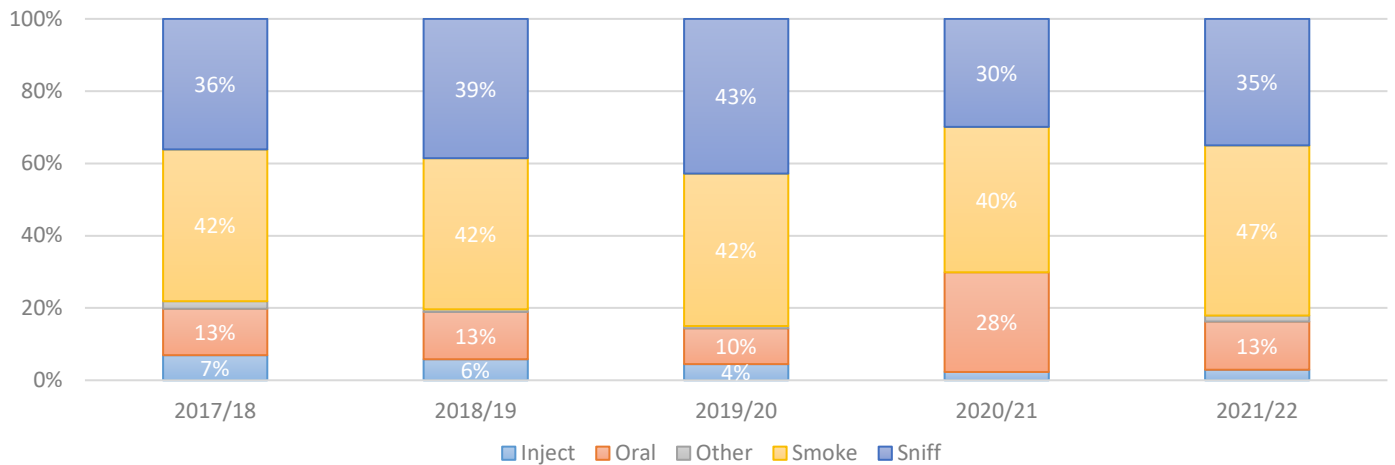
Figure 14: Main substance and age group of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

The route of administration of the main substance is shown in *Figure 15*. In the year ending March 2022, just under half of the Sefton CJIT contacts smoked their main substance (n=113, 47%), followed by just over one-third who administered their main substance intranasally (n=84, 35%) and one in eight who administered their main drug orally (n=32, 13%). The proportion of clients who smoked their main substance is an increase on the previous year and the largest of the five-year period, as well as larger than the Merseyside total (42%). The proportion who administered their main substance intranasally is also an increase on the previous year, though the same as the Merseyside figure.

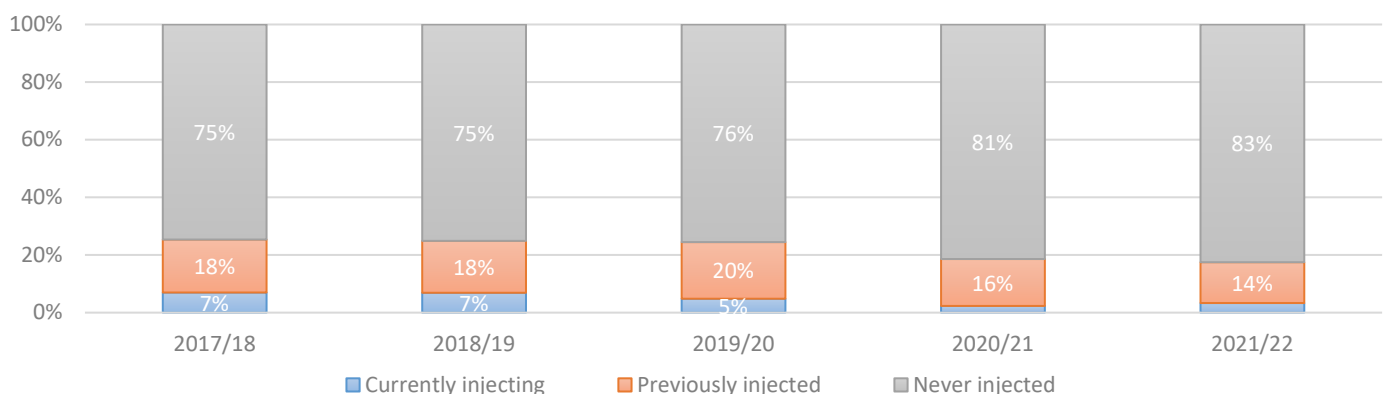
Figure 15: Route of administration of the main substance used by Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22



INJECTING STATUS

Over four in five Sefton CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2022 stated they had never injected (n=198, 83%), while one in seven had previously injected but were not currently (n=34, 14%), and less than one in twenty were currently injecting (n=8, 3%; *Figure 16*). The proportion of clients who reported in 2021/22 that they had never injected is the highest of the five-year period and higher than the Merseyside figure (76%).

Figure 16: Injecting status of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22



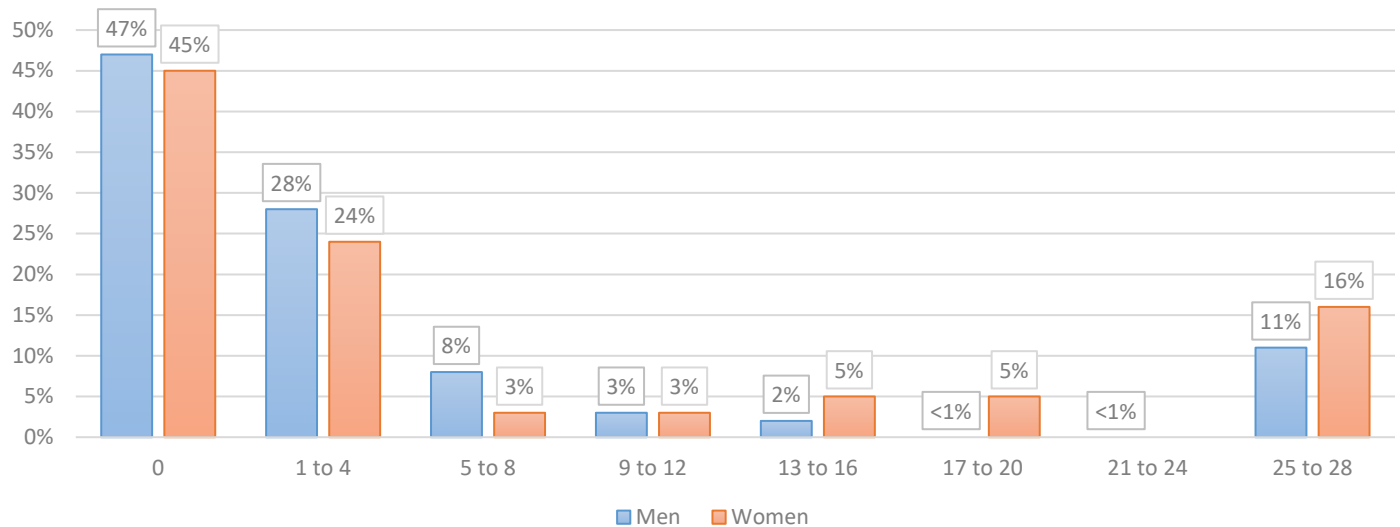
NALOXONE

Where recorded, one in five clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2021/22 were issued with naloxone (n=15, 20%), which is the smallest proportion of the five Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 37%). All 15 clients were supplied with injectable naloxone.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

Just over half of men consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in the year ending March 2022 (n=108, 53%; *Figure 17*), which is a lower proportion than the previous four years, though a larger proportion than the Merseyside figure (49%). Similarly, over half of women consumed alcohol in the preceding 28 days in the year ending March 2022 (n=21, 55%). This is similar to the previous year (57%) and the second largest proportion of the five Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 50%).

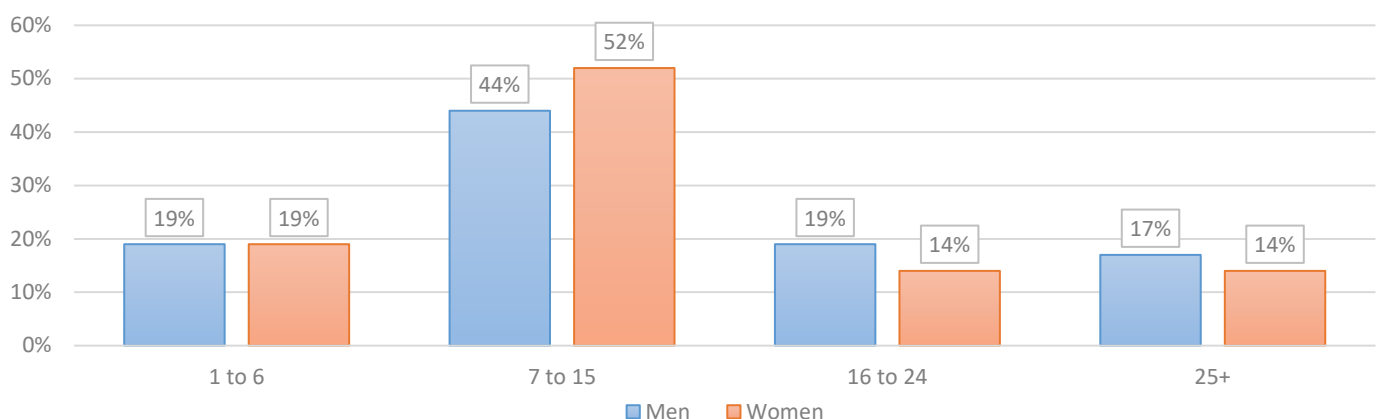
Figure 17: Number of drinking days in the 28 days prior to assessment for Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



The daily average number of units of alcohol consumed by Sefton residents in the 28 days prior to CJIT contact in the year ending March 2022 are shown in *Figure 18*. Of the 108 men who consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their assessment, over two in five consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily (n=48, 44%), followed by those who consumed 1-6 units and 16-24 units (both n=21, 19%) and those who consumed over 24 units (n=18, 17%). The proportion of men who consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily is similar to the previous two years, though proportions who consumed 1-6 units and 16-24 units in 2021/22 have decreased, while the proportion who consumed over 24 units has increased substantially from 7% in the previous twelve months. Notably, 2021/22 proportions are somewhat similar to the Merseyside figures.

Of the 21 women who consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their assessment in 2021/22, just over half reported to consume 7-15 units daily (n=11, 52%; *Figure 18*), which is a decrease on the previous three years and a larger proportion than the Merseyside figure (43%).

Figure 18: Number of units of alcohol (daily average) consumed by Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



OFFENDING

The offence that prompted Sefton CJIT clients' current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2022 is shown in *Figure 19*. Just under two in five offences were categorised as 'other' (n=88, 37%), while one-third were Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) offences (n=80, 33%)⁵. These proportions are larger than the Merseyside figures (34% and 23% respectively) and notably, Sefton has the largest percentage of MDA offences recorded across Merseyside.

Figure 19: Offence that prompted current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system for Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22

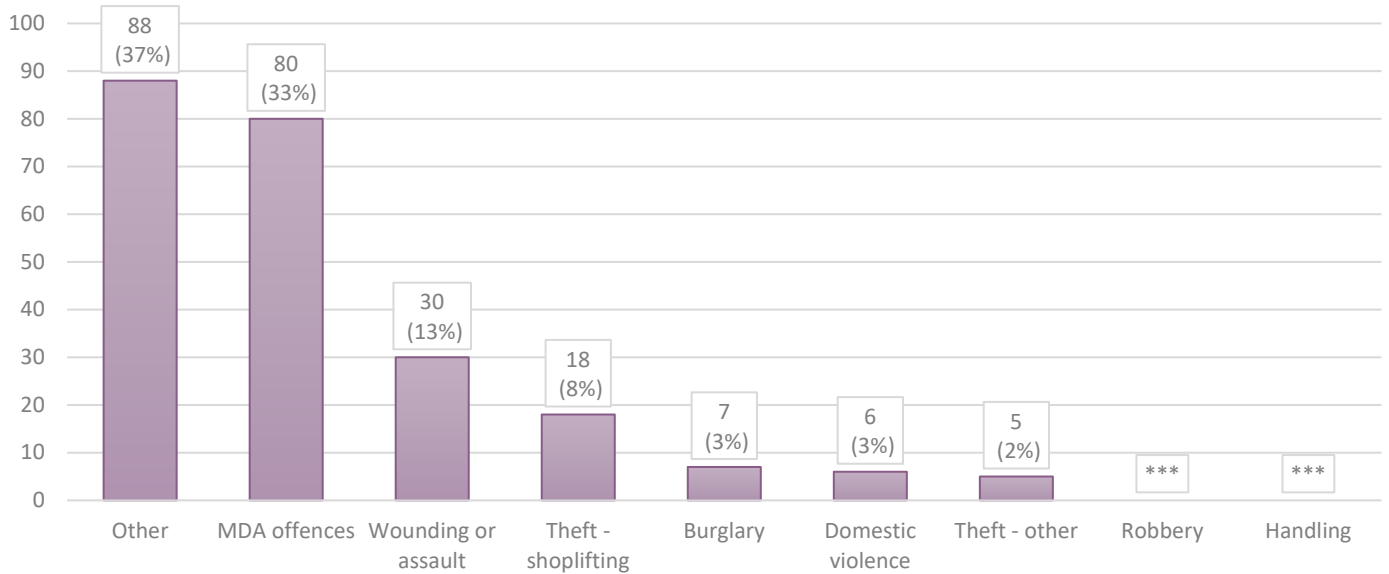
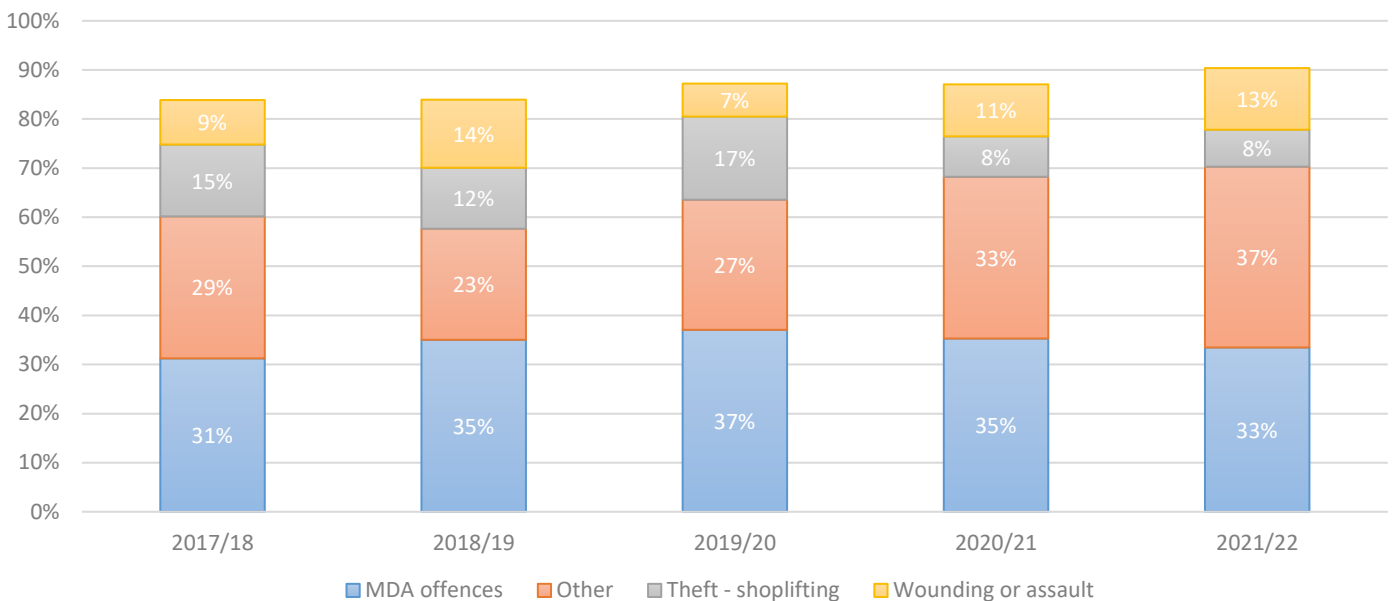


Figure 20 shows five-year trends of the main offending categories for Sefton residents. The proportion of other offences in the year ending March 2022 is the largest of the five-year period, while proportions of MDA offences, theft - shoplifting and wounding or assault are similar to previous years.

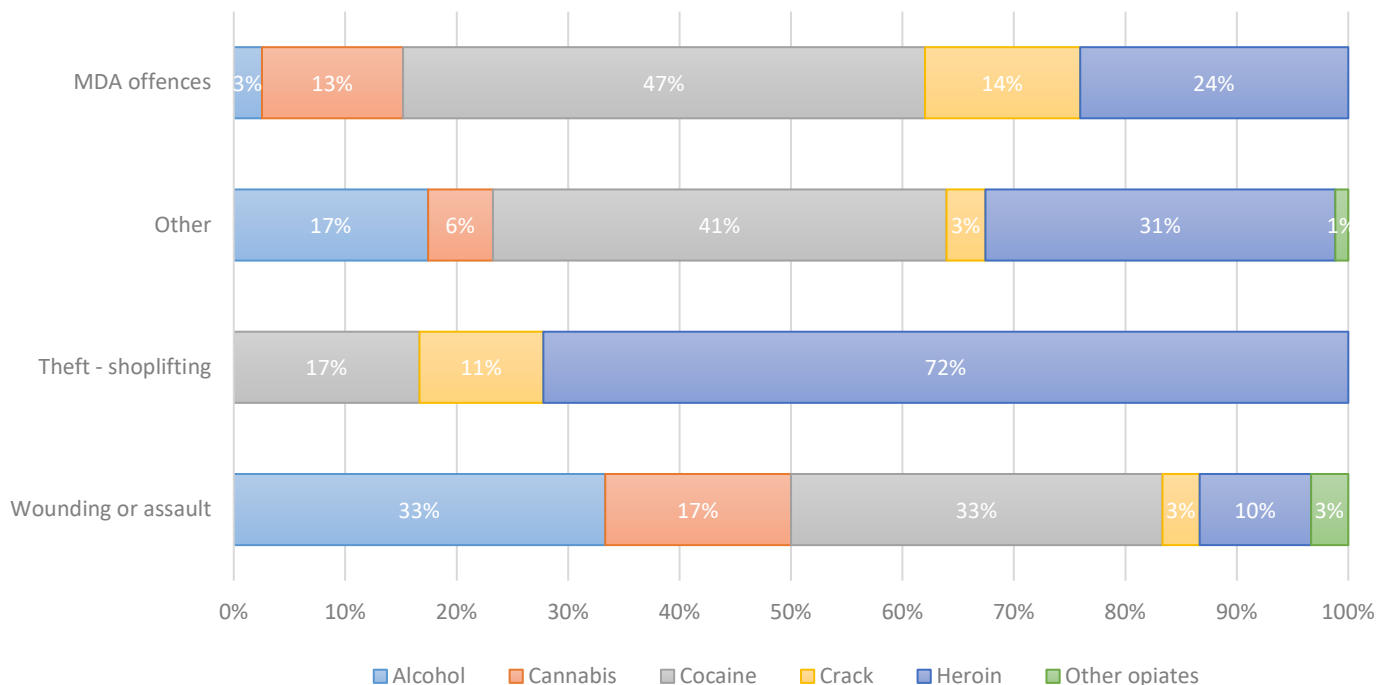
Figure 20: Main offences that prompted current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system for Sefton CJIT contacts, 2017/18 - 2021/22



⁵ The majority (94%) of the MDA offences were possession.

Figure 21 shows the proportions of the main substance for the most common offences recorded for Sefton CJIT contacts assessed in the year ending March 2022. Alcohol recorded as the main substance was most prominent for those whose contact with Sefton CJIT was prompted by wounding or assault (33%), while for cocaine it was MDA offences and other offences (47% and 41% respectively). Of the Sefton residents whose contact with the CJIT was prompted by theft - shoplifting, just over seven in ten (72%) reported heroin as their main substance.

Figure 21: Main substance and offence of Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



INTERVENTIONS

REFERRALS TO STRUCTURED TREATMENT

Of the clients taken onto the CJIT caseload, 205 (197 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2022 (Figure 22)⁶.

Figure 22: Referrals to structured treatment for Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



⁶ Clients not taken onto the CJIT caseload, and clients with the same caseload start date and discharge date as well as a 'prior to caseload' discharge reason (as these are deemed to have not been taken onto the CJIT caseload), have been excluded from these figures. Figures include referrals to structured treatment (Figure 22) or recovery support sub-intervention assessments (Figure 23) where the date was between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, regardless of when the client was taken onto the CJIT caseload.

RECOVERY SUPPORT SUB-INTERVENTIONS

In the year ending March 2022, 172 recovery support sub-intervention assessments (159 individuals) were carried out on Sefton residents on the CJIT caseload, with a total 177 sub-interventions delivered (*Figure 23*)⁶. The majority of sub-interventions delivered in 2021/22 were recovery check-ups (n=162, 92%).

Figure 23: Recovery support sub-intervention assessments for Sefton CJIT contacts, 2021/22



APPENDIX A: NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THIS REPORT

1. The overview chapter (*Figures 1-3*) are for all Sefton CJIT contacts in the year, while all other figures (page 6 onwards) are for residents of Sefton LA only, recorded by Sefton CJIT.
2. Figures for gender, age and ethnicity are for individuals (*Figures 4-7*); 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.
3. 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.
4. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
5. 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).
6. Supporting data tables and charts can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity 2021/22: Supplementary data](#).

APPENDIX B: RATES OF CJIT CONTACTS PER 100,000 ADULT POPULATION IN MERSEYSIDE, 2021/22

In the year ending March 2022, 117.7 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Merseyside were assessed by one of the local CJITs. Of the five Merseyside LAs, Sefton had the third highest number of individuals in contact with the CJIT in 2021/22, though the lowest rate (100.6 per 100,000)⁷.



CJIT/LA	CJIT contacts (individuals)	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 adult population)
Knowsley	146	120.5
Liverpool	470	120.0
Sefton	228	100.6
St Helens	208	141.8
Wirral	292	114.5
Total Merseyside residents	1,344	117.7

⁷ Rates have been calculated using [mid-2021 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) 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.

Public Health Intelligence Unit

The Public Health Intelligence Unit (PHIU), based at PHI, provides data collection and monitoring systems to support public health reporting, evidence review, evaluation and research. The team have extensive experience across various data sets which contribute to the surveillance systems developed and managed by PHIU.

DIP and criminal justice monitoring

PHIU has been monitoring criminal justice interventions for offenders 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.

PHIU 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 (CJIT) across Merseyside's treatment providers. PHIU matches the criminal justice data set with drug testing records 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 and engaged with DIP, and highlight any issues with the DIP process.

PHIU collates and presents information through monthly and annual reports, and provides ad-hoc reporting in response to data requests. In partnership with commissioners, treatment providers and Merseyside Police, DIP monitoring in Merseyside has been continually developing to meet local needs.

