

VULNERABILITY

Domestic Abuse

- We do not yet have this data. We are working with DA service providers and police to obtain weekly numbers on calls to helplines and to police. This data will allow us to monitor anticipated increases in DA during isolation period.
- At present, there have been no reports of significant increases in calls to police or to helplines – though some increased online activity.
- In the longer term, it is anticipated that victims may find it harder to call for help when in same home as abuser; we may expect arise in calls as lockdown continues and when restrictions lifted.
- There is a general agreement that social isolation makes it more dangerous for victims of DA and their children, harder to reach out for help and easier for abuser to manipulate, control and abuse and behaviour may escalate under added strains of job loss etc.
- The sector would welcome testing in refuges so that they could ensure adequate staffing and establish whether any residents were positive. This would help ensure continued capacity of refuges.
- It is too early to tell at present but over the longer term, there may be increased burdens on health and social services from increased/more severe DA cases.

Mental Health

- S136 Data is collected annually in arrears. Last figs for 1/4/18 – 30/3/19 are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales-year-ending-31-march-2019>
- We are not currently seeking to collect live time police data.
- We do not think that police data on s136 calls would be effective measure of impact of lockdown. Powers applies to places outside the home, and given that fewer people currently outside or at public places at any one time, it is more likely that more MH incidents now occurring inside home.
- The Police do not have direct powers to intervene there without a health obtained warrant, and figures are therefore difficult to obtain.
- There is a possibility that MH conditions might worsen as a result of isolation and inability to get face to face MH interventions. We may see increases in MH illness or increasing severity in those that already have MH conditions.

Hate Crime

- We have experimental data from a sample of forces on hate crime trends, per week.
- We have not observed significant swings in overall hate crime, and changes in hate crime levels are within 'normal' peaks and troughs. We have seen spikes against some communities, but the number of reported incidents are generally small. A proportion of these may be partly attributable to increased policing activity in areas around universities and metropolitan city centres.
- Since the outbreak of Covid-19, the Police National Community Tensions Team (NCTT) have observed a higher than average level of offences targeting Chinese and South East Asian communities. Numbers of crimes recorded against victims of Chinese and South East Asian heritage are routinely so low that single incidents can dramatically change the overall