

**T/Chief Inspector Jason Kew**

**Thames Valley VRU – Drugs and Harm reduction.**

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## When heroin took my dad - BBC Three

## The cost:



## Links to serious violence:

### Heroin and Crack Cocaine

**Users** **4%**  
9 in every 1,000 people in England in 2016/17 was a heroin and/or crack user



**Crack cocaine purity** in England and Wales increased from 36% to 71% between 2013 and 2016

### Crack Users

The number of heroin and/or crack users in England increased by 4% (from 301,000 to 314,000) between 2014/15 and 2016/17

### Treatment for crack cocaine problems

**19%**  
There was a 19% increase between 2015/16 and 2017/18 in the number of people presenting to treatment for crack cocaine problems in England

## Drugs are one of the main drivers of the recent rise in serious violence

Drugs were associated with around 50% of the increase in homicides between 2014/15 and 2017/18

In 2017 there was a 17% increase in the number of organised crime groups associated with crack who had violent capability



### Acquisitive crimes by users

An estimated 45% of acquisitive crimes are committed by regular heroin/crack cocaine users. Heroin/crack use could account for at least half of the rise in acquisitive crime in England and Wales in the 1980s and 1990s, and one quarter to one third of the fall in acquisitive crime to 2012



### County Lines

The NCA estimated that in 2018 there were 1,000 branded lines in the UK.

In 2017, 85% of police forces reported that county lines groups used knives. 74% reported they used firearms.

65% of police forces reported the exploitation of children by county lines groups – either through human trafficking, child sexual exploitation or coercing them to act as drug runners



### Drug use amongst school children

The proportion of school children (11-15s) who have used any drug (excluding NPS) in the last year increased from 10% in 2014 to 15% in 2018



### Class A drug use amongst young people

**Convictions** **69%**  
Convictions of young people (10-17s) for Class A drug production and possession with intent to supply increased by 69% between 2012 and 2018

**Users** **8%**  
Class A drug use among 16-24s is at the highest level since 2005/06 with 8% having used Class A drug in the last year





## Drug deaths in 2018:



**4,359**  
drug  
poisoning  
deaths

There were 4,359 deaths relating to drug poisoning registered in England and Wales in 2018. This is a 16% increase since 2017 and the highest number since the time series began in 1993

16%



**2,917**  
drug  
misuse  
deaths

17%

2,917 drug misuse use deaths were registered in 2018 making up 67% of the total registered deaths relating to drug poisoning.

This represents a 17% increase from 2,503 in 2017. This follows a 4% decrease in the previous year, 11% increase the year before and 15% the year before and 20% the year before that.



**1,336**  
heroin or  
morphine  
related  
deaths

1%

There were 1,336 heroin or morphine related deaths in England and Wales in 2018, an increase on the previous year (1,164) and the highest on record.



**637**  
cocaine  
related  
deaths

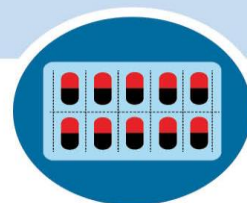
47%

Cocaine related deaths have continued to rise since 2011 – with an increase of 47% between 2017 and 2018. This is the highest number since recording began and quadruple the figure from, 2011



**Fentanyl  
& fentanyl-  
analogue  
related  
deaths**

Between 2016 and 2017, fentanyl and fentanyl-analogue related deaths increased from 58 to 75 and 1 to 31 respectively. Many of these deaths relate to an incident of heroin adulterated with fentanyl in late 2016 and early 2017



**Deaths  
involving  
prescription  
and over-  
the counter  
medicines**

An increasing number of deaths involved some prescription and over-the-counter medicines, like codeine, antidepressants and pregabalin. PHE's prescribed medicines review will help us understand the scale and nature of problems with some prescription medicines and how they can be prevented and treated.



**Deaths  
related  
to new  
psychoactive  
substances**

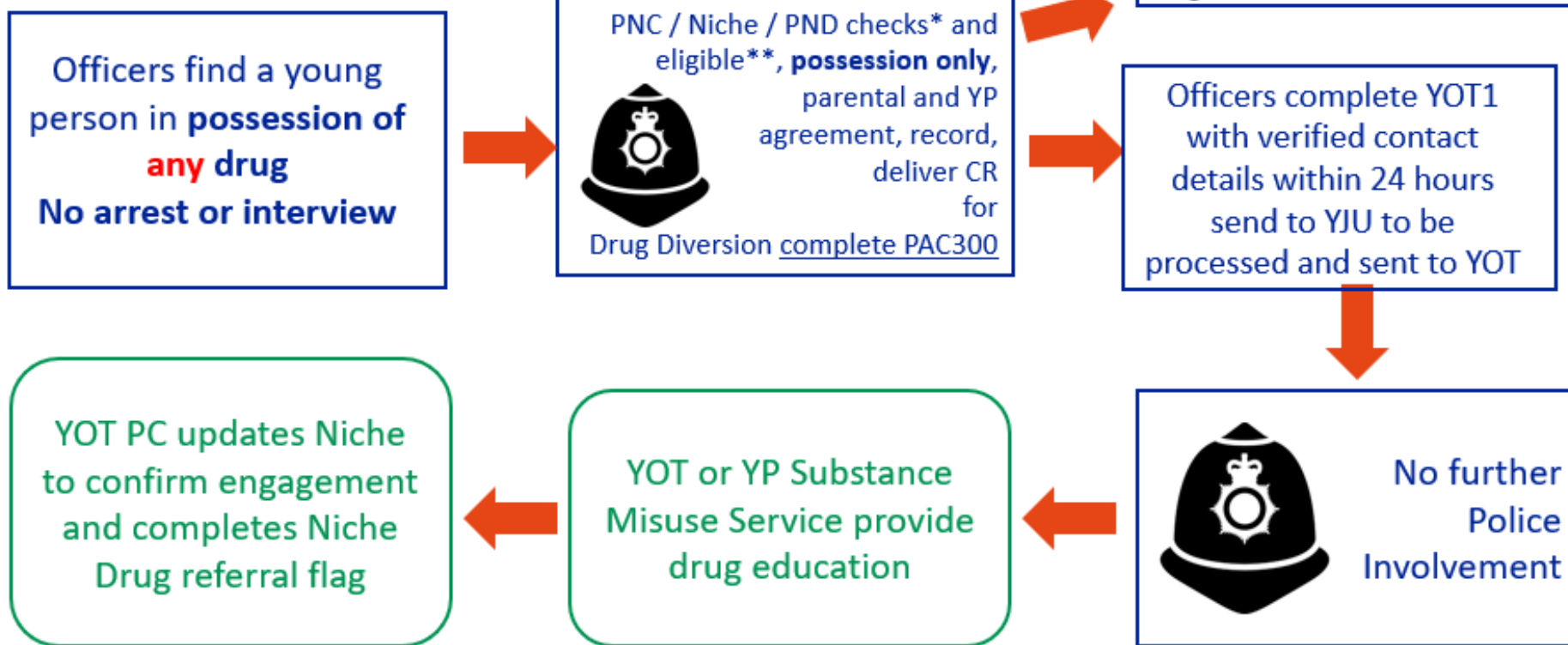
125 deaths related to NPS were registered in 2018, this is similar to the figure in 2016, although double the 61 deaths recorded in 2017. Deaths by synthetic cannabinoids remain the largest category of NPS and make up around 48% of all NPS related deaths (60 of 125). There was a considerable increase in the number of deaths related to novel opiates with 11 drug-related poisonings of this substance in 2018

**2018 was the highest figure for drug misuse deaths since comparable records began**

# Drug Use 16-24 Year Olds

<https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/4897394/>

## Young Person Drug Diversion Process



The Drug Diversion process will reduce first time entrants into the CJ system, no arrest or interview is required, nor is any admission of guilt, it connects young people to rapid support for their drug use. \* The relevant checks include ascertain identity, PNC, Niche, parental contact. \*\* Eligible if no previous drug diversion. If previous drug diversion referral then the Youth Justice Unit (YJU) will make the final decision. If sending to YJU then do NOT complete the PAC300 .The ethos is for unlimited diversions, to tackle continued use, and escalation to traditional pathways is the consequence for non engagement.

# Adult Diversion – Deferred Summons

- Same **principles** as Young Persons Community resolution voluntary scheme.
- Breaches current OOCDD **guidance** in 3 places – Any Drug, Unlimited opportunities, No admission required.
- Voluntary interview using **Body worn video** on street – (stop search policy)
- Tackling **Disproportionality**
- Breaches – OIC requests the **court to utilise community based sanctions** to compel the individual to the drug service.
- **Pilot results** – using Community Resolution, 45% of adults completed Diversion, 55% attrition rate largely caused by working adults and availability of provider out of normal working hours.



# Results

- **Young People** – Community resolution
- 88% completion of assessment, 6wk course. Over 50% requested to remain on the course to access a range of YoT interventions.
- Super Youth Club
- **Adults** – Deferred Summons
- 95% Completion of assessment, 2 online drug interventions, Personal follow up.
- **Reach** – TVP records 5300 drug possession occurrences each year.
- Diversion removes a significant number of people from the CJ system, improves health, reduces stigma, reduces disproportionality.





# Ambulance Naloxone Distributions – TVP/Hants

**Data Period**  
Jan – Dec 2019

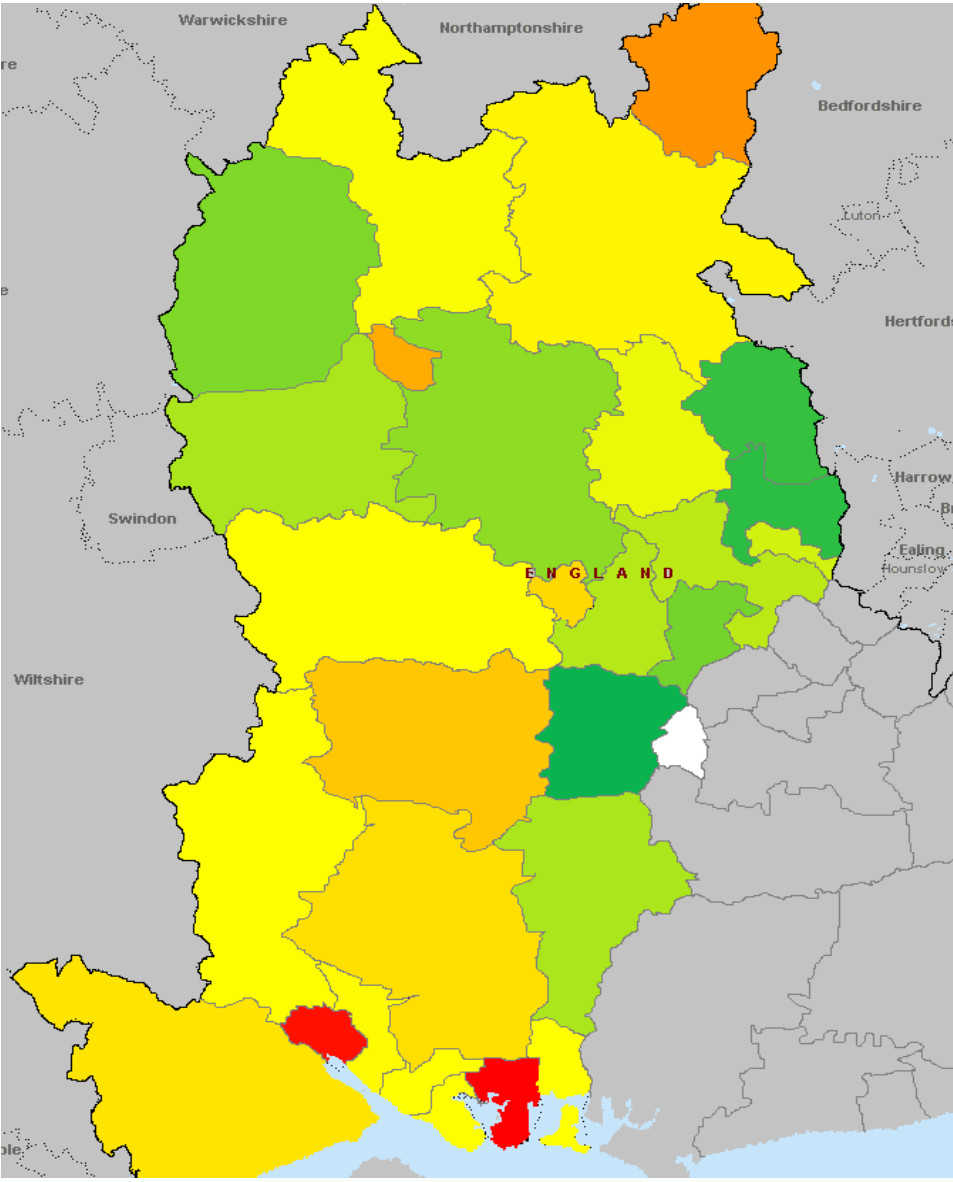
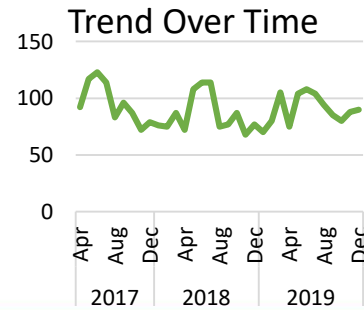
**NB: SCAS data only covers Thames Valley and Hampshire (not including the Isle of Wight and Rushmoor)**

**Portsmouth and Southampton** are the Districts seeing the highest number of naloxone distributions.

When taking populations into account, the districts of **Reading** and **Winchester** also feature highly.

**1080**  
Incidents

Up from 1020 in 2018



| District (Sorted by # per person) | # of Incidents | Population | # per 1,000 person | Change on 2018 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Portsmouth                        | 148            | 215,133    | 0.69               | +1             |
| Southampton                       | 159            | 252,796    | 0.63               | +2             |
| Reading                           | 68             | 163,203    | 0.42               | +17            |
| Winchester                        | 48             | 124,295    | 0.39               | +6             |
| Havant                            | 43             | 125,813    | 0.34               | +15            |
| Fareham                           | 37             | 116,339    | 0.32               | +13            |
| Milton Keynes                     | 76             | 268,607    | 0.28               | -3             |
| Gosport                           | 24             | 85,283     | 0.28               | +1             |
| Oxford                            | 43             | 154,327    | 0.28               | -21            |
| Basingstoke & Deane               | 47             | 175,729    | 0.27               | -11            |
| Eastleigh                         | 32             | 131,819    | 0.24               | +3             |
| Test Valley                       | 27             | 125,169    | 0.22               | 0              |
| East Hampshire                    | 25             | 120,681    | 0.21               | +7             |
| Wycombe                           | 36             | 174,641    | 0.21               | +15            |
| New Forest                        | 37             | 179,753    | 0.21               | -6             |
| West Berkshire                    | 30             | 158,527    | 0.19               | +4             |
| Vale of White Horse               | 23             | 133,732    | 0.17               | +9             |
| West Oxfordshire                  | 18             | 109,800    | 0.16               | 0              |
| Slough                            | 24             | 149,112    | 0.16               | +3             |
| Cherwell                          | 24             | 149,161    | 0.16               | +3             |
| South Oxfordshire                 | 20             | 140,504    | 0.14               | +4             |
| Aylesbury Vale                    | 27             | 199,448    | 0.14               | +5             |
| Bracknell Forest                  | 14             | 121,676    | 0.12               | +1             |
| South Bucks                       | 8              | 70,043     | 0.11               | +1             |
| Windsor & M'head                  | 16             | 150,906    | 0.11               | -3             |
| Chiltern                          | 10             | 95,927     | 0.10               | +2             |
| Wokingham                         | 13             | 167,979    | 0.08               | -2             |
| Hart                              | 3              | 96,293     | 0.03               | 0              |
| Rushmoor                          | u/k (SECamb)   | 63,215     | n/a                | -              |

# Thank you

Thames  
Valley  
Violence  
Reduction  
Unit



## Support Not Punish