



**SAFER
CORNWALL**

Kernow Salwa

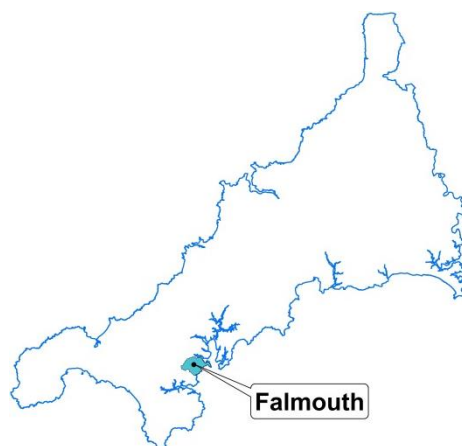
Safer Falmouth Town Profile



Overview

The **Falmouth and Penryn Network Area (CNA)** is made up of **nine parishes**; Budock, Constantine, Falmouth, Mabe, Mawnan, Mylor, Penryn, Perranarworthal and St Gluvias. Falmouth has a very high seasonal tourist influx and there is a large student population.

This profile provides a **picture of crime and community safety issues** for this area. It incorporates information from other sources including Cornwall Council's Residents' Survey and the wider socio-economic, health¹ and community safety profiles that are available for this area.



About the network area: key statistics



People

Current population is 46,105 and projected to **increase by 4%** to 47,738 by 2025

9% increase projected for Cornwall overall

36% are aged **under 25**
27% Cornwall / 30% England

22% are aged **over 65**
24% Cornwall / 18% England



Vulnerable groups

1 in 9 live in the **20% most deprived neighbourhoods** in England

14% of children are living in poverty

16% in Cornwall
17% across England



Education & skills

17% of people have **no qualifications**

22% in Cornwall
22% across England



Housing

7% of households **lack central heating**

7% in Cornwall
3% across England



Economy

28% of people aged 16-74 are **in full-time employment**

32% in Cornwall
39% across England



Health & wellbeing

19% of people have a **limiting long-term illness**

21% in Cornwall
18% across England



Access & transport

20% of households **do not have a car**

17% in Cornwall
26% across England

Except where stated this profile provides information for **the geographical area representing Falmouth and its immediate environs** as shown on the map on page 13; comparisons are drawn with the average for other large towns in Cornwall (with a population of 10k or more, also described as "urban") and Cornwall as a whole.

¹ Network area [Community Profiles](#) and [Health Profiles](#) are available from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (Public Health) website pages

Key messages

Compared with similar areas elsewhere in the UK, crime in Cornwall is **low** and it continues to be a **safe place** in which to live and work, although concerns about crime **remain high on the public agenda**. Recorded crime has seen some large rises over the last couple of years and this is predominantly due to **improved reporting and recording** of crime.

Crime in Cornwall is concentrated in our town centres and the level of recorded **crime in Falmouth town centre is below average for a town of this size**.

Rates of crime for most crime types are in line with or lower in Falmouth than the rates seen across other large towns in Cornwall.

Overall recorded **crime has increased** in Falmouth, with the rate of increase being above the rise seen across Cornwall as a whole (18% compared with 13%). The main areas to see above average rises in recorded crime are violence with injury, criminal damage and vehicle-related thefts.

Recorded sexual offences have also seen an above average rise in the town, and this is one of the few types of crime where the rate is also comparatively high.

Nationally and locally reported rates of sexual violence have been rising for some time, reflecting a combination of improved recording by the police and an increased willingness of victims to come forward and report these crimes. Around half of the crimes in Falmouth were reported retrospectively, which suggests that improved victim confidence is a factor.

The rate of recorded crime involving a young person under the age of 18 as a victim is in line with other large towns in Cornwall, but there has been an above average rise in the number of crimes. Sexual offences, violence with injury and thefts account for most of the increase.

The number of **anti-social behaviour incidents reported has remained relatively stable** (a reduction of 4%), and this includes reports of **Street Drinking/ Begging / Drug Litter**.

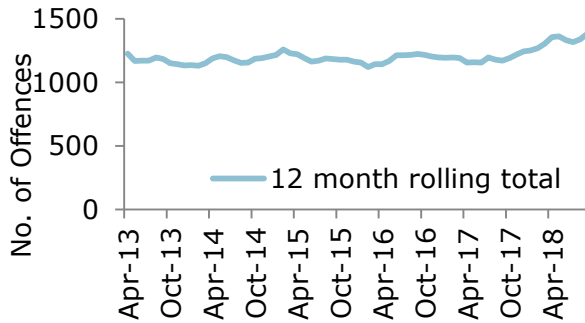
QUICK FACTS: FALMOUTH RECORDED CRIME

Time period reported refers to the 12 months to 30 September 2018 unless stated otherwise

Key Facts

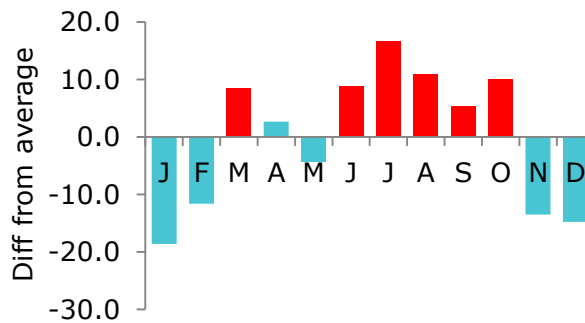
- 1,381 crimes / 56.8 crimes per 1,000 resident population;
- Rate of crime is below average of other large towns in Cornwall (74.8);
- Increased by 18% compared with Cornwall increase of 13%;
- 641 Anti-Social Behaviour incidents recorded, of which 10% relate to Street Drinking/ Begging and Drug Litter. Reported incidence of Street Drinking is lower than the urban area average in Cornwall.

Trends



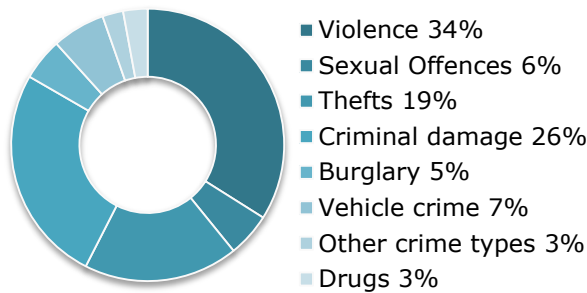
Recorded crime has increased by 18%, which is greater than the increases seen across Cornwall and other large towns (13% and 11% respectively).

Seasonality



There is a pronounced summer peak in Falmouth, which is also seen in Cornwall as a whole, but this is more widely distributed with more offences in October. There are also higher than average number of crimes in March.

Crimes

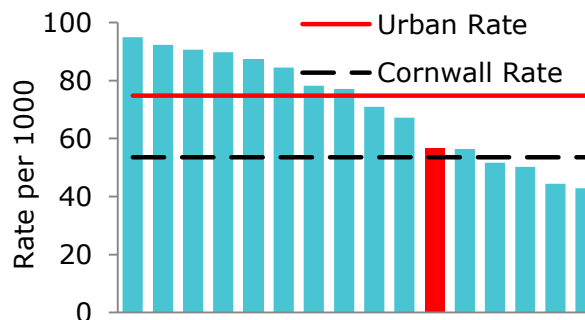


The chart shows the breakdown of all crime by type

Across all crime types:

- 15% domestic abuse
- 17% alcohol-related
- 10% U18 victims of crime
- <2% hate crime

Location



The rate of crime in Falmouth is much lower than the average for other large towns in Cornwall.

Crime trends

The table below provides a quick glance at all crime and disorder types in the Falmouth town area, describing whether the trend is increasing (▲), decreasing (▼) or stable (▶) and how this area compares with the urban area average for Cornwall (high ●, above average ●, average or lower ●).

Crime / Incident type	Trend	Rate per 1000	Year ending Sep. 2018	Year ending Sep. 2017	Annual Change	All Towns	All Towns Trend
All crime	▲	56.8	1,381	1,171	18%	●	▲
Domestic Abuse (total incidents)	▶	12.9	314	313	0%	●	▲
Domestic Abuse Crimes	▲	8.4	204	171	19%	●	▲
Rape	▲	1.7	41	25	64%	●	▲
Other Sexual Offences	▶	1.3	31	28	11%	●	▲
Alcohol Related Crime	▲	9.5	231	184	26%	●	▲
Public Order Offences	▲	3.6	88	77	14%	●	▲
Anti-social behaviour incidents	▶	26.3	641	669	-4%	●	▶
Street Drinking / Begging / Drug Litter	▶	2.6	64	61	5%	●	▶
Hate Crime	▶	0.9	21	17	24%	●	▲
Homicide	▶	0.0	0	0	0%	●	▶
Violence with Injury	▲	8.8	213	154	38%	●	▲
Violence without Injury	▲	10.5	256	238	8%	●	▲
Under 18 Victims of Crime	▲	36.3	139	89	56%	●	▲
Drug Offences	▶	1.6	40	41	-2%	●	▶
Possession of Weapons	▶	0.5	12	8	50%	●	▲
Dwelling burglary [1]	▲	2.8	32	25	28%	●	▲
Non-dwelling burglary	▲	1.5	37	28	32%	●	▶
Robbery	▶	0.1	2	6	-67%	●	▶
Vehicle Offences	▲	3.6	87	52	67%	●	▲
Shoplifting	▲	3.3	81	76	7%	●	▶
Other Theft	▶	7.0	170	174	-2%	●	▶
Criminal Damage	▲	10.8	262	227	15%	●	▶
Arson	▶	0.3	7	5	40%	●	▶
Other Offences	▲	0.9	22	7	214%	●	▲
Road Traffic Collisions [2]	▶	0.3	7	4	75%	●	▶

[1] based on rate per 1000 households

[2] figures are for 2017 calendar year

Note that caution should be taken in interpreting percentage change relating to small numbers (where there are less than 20 crimes per annum), due to the volatility of small numbers.

What is happening with crime in Cornwall?

Compared with other areas in the UK, crime in Cornwall is **low** and it continues to be a **safe place** in which to live and work, although concerns about crime **remain high on the public agenda**.

Devon and Cornwall Police along with other police forces, is **recording much higher levels of crimes** than in previous years. **Improvements in crime recording** are the principle driving factor, reflecting the police response to recommendations from national crime data integrity inspections.²

- Recorded crime **has increased significantly in Cornwall**, rising by 13% when compared with the previous 12 month period. The **increasing trend is now beginning to plateau**, indicating that the impact of improved crime recording practices is drawing to an end;
- Recording improvements have focused on **violence and sexual offences**, and this is where we are seeing the **greatest impact on crime numbers**. More **public order incidents** are being crimed, rather than recorded as anti-social behaviour;
- The drive to raise awareness about more hidden crimes such as **sexual violence and abuse**, and improve victims' confidence in the support available, has resulted in more crimes being reported;
- The level of recorded **cyber-crimes has also increased** as we get better at identifying and reporting them;
- **Vehicle offences** have increased by 25% over the last two years, although the rate of crime **remains comparatively low**. Vehicle offences are generally well-reported by victims and well-recorded by the police, so this is likely to reflect a genuine increase in crime.

What are the key trends for the Falmouth town Area?

- Falmouth has a population of just over 24,300. The **all crime rate in Falmouth is below the average** for other large towns in Cornwall;
- All recorded crime in Falmouth town has increased by 18% (210 offences) when compared with the previous 12 months. This trend is **greater than the increasing trend** seen in Cornwall and across the other large towns (13% and 11% respectively);
- There have been increases in some crime types in the Falmouth town area, but rates for **most crime and incident types are lower** than the rates seen across other large towns in Cornwall;
 - **Violence with injury has seen a significant increase** (38% or 59 offences) when compared with the previous year. Increases are mainly in actual bodily harm offences, with more serious violence remaining stable;
 - Recorded **sexual offences** have also seen an **above average rise** in the town, and this is one of the few types of crime where the rate is also comparatively high. Nationally reported rates of sexual violence have been rising for some time, reflecting a combination of **improved recording** by the police and an **increased willingness of victims** to come forward and report these crimes. Around half of the crimes in Falmouth were reported retrospectively, which suggests that improved victim confidence is a factor;
 - The rate of recorded **crime involving a young person under the age of 18** as a victim is in line with other large towns in Cornwall, but there has been an **above average rise** in the number of crimes. The increase can mainly be accounted for by rises in violence with injury (10 offences), sexual offences (16 offences) and thefts (8 offences);

² In 2016 Devon and Cornwall were rated "inadequate" but had improved to "good" when re-inspected in 2018. [Devon and Cornwall Police: Crime Data Integrity re-inspection](#) 2018, HMICFRS 2018

- **Acquisitive crime** has seen a rise in the town, with increases noted in burglary and in vehicle-related thefts (predominantly thefts from vehicles). This is also happening in other areas of Cornwall and is being **monitored closely**;
- Offences of **criminal damage have also increased** (15% or 35 offences), although the rate of offences is consistent with other large towns.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

Crime / Incident type	Trend	Rate per 1000	Year ending Sep. 2018	Year ending Sep. 2017	Annual Change	All Towns	All Towns Trend
Domestic Abuse (total incidents)	▶	12.9	314	313	0%	●	▲
Domestic Abuse Crimes	▲	8.4	204	171	19%	●	▲
Rape	▲	1.7	41	25	64%	●	▲
Other Sexual Offences	▶	1.3	31	28	11%	●	▲

Note that increases in sexual offences and violent crime, including domestic abuse offences, should be seen in the context of **the police focus on improving the quality of crime recording**, combined with a universal drive to improve victim confidence and improve reporting rates.

- The area has seen an **increase in recorded domestic abuse** crimes. The increasing trend seen in Falmouth is lower than that seen across the rest of Cornwall (Cornwall –crimes +37%, total incidents +12%). The increase in recorded crimes are mainly accounted for by a rise in actual bodily harm (19) and rape offences (9 offences);
- Using prevalence estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales, we can estimate that **916 people in Falmouth were victims of domestic abuse in the last 12 months**, of which two thirds were female and a third male;
- Recorded **sexual offences** in Falmouth have **increased by 36%** overall. Nationally and locally reported rates of sexual violence have been rising for some time, but the **rise in Falmouth is above average** compared with elsewhere in Cornwall and the **rate of crime is comparatively high**. Around half of the offences recorded in the last year were retrospectively reported, which suggest improved reporting/recording is a key influencing factor. This **may warrant a more in-depth review** to ensure that preventative work is targeting the right areas.

ASB and Alcohol / Drug related Harm

Crime / Incident type	Trend	Rate per 1000	Year ending Sep. 2018	Year ending Sep. 2017	Annual Change	All Towns	All Towns Trend
Public Order Offences	▲	3.6	88	77	14%	●	▲
Total ASB incidents	▶	26.3	641	669	-4%	●	▶
Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour	▶	17.4	423	420	1%	●	▶
Rowdy Nuisance Neighbours	▼	4.0	98	105	-7%	●	▼
Street Drinking / Begging / Drug Litter	▶	2.6	64	61	5%	●	▶
Vehicle	▼	1.8	45	56	-20%	●	▼
Other	▼	0.5	11	27	-59%	●	▼

- There has been an increase in the number of **public order offences** when compared with the previous year, which may be due to more ASB incidents being crimed. The rate of increase is lower than the increase seen across Cornwall and other large towns (14% compared with 30% and 24% respectively);
- The number of **anti-social behaviour incidents reported has remained relatively stable** (a reduction of 4%). Within this, there has been a 20% reduction in vehicle nuisance and a 7% reduction in rowdy / nuisance neighbours. Reports of **Street Drinking/ Begging / Drug Litter have remained stable** when compared with the previous year;
- 81% of all anti-social behaviour incidents relate to Rowdy / Inconsiderate behaviour and Rowdy Nuisance Neighbours. Street Drinking makes up 10% of all reported anti-social behaviour incidents in the town, which is **consistent with the average of other urban areas.**

Crime / Incident type	Trend	Rate per 1000	Year ending Sep. 2018	Year ending Sep. 2017	Annual Change	All Towns	All Towns Trend
Alcohol related Crime	▲	9.5	231	184	26%	●	▲
Assault Related Hospital Presentations	▶	1.0	24	23	67%	●	▶
People in Alcohol Treatment		1.9	39			●	
People in Drug Treatment		4.3	88			●	

- The **rate of alcohol-related crime has increased** by 26% (47 offences) although the rate of crimes is below average for other large towns in Cornwall. The increasing trend is slightly higher than that seen across Cornwall (16%);
- Just over 130 people engaged with specialist treatment services for drug and alcohol dependencies over the last 2 years. The **rates of people in treatment in Falmouth are lower** when compared with those of other large towns.

Drug crime, Weapons and Thefts

Crime / Incident type	Trend	Rate per 1000	Year ending Sep. 2018	Year ending Sep. 2017	Annual Change	All Towns	All Towns Trend
Trafficking of Drugs	▶	0.3	7	8	-13%	●	▶
Possession of Weapons	▶	0.5	12	8	50%	●	▲

- The numbers of **drug trafficking offences in the area has remained stable**, with the rate of offences being lower than the rate for other large towns. Offences of drug trafficking are an indicator of proactive policing in this area;
- The number of possession of weapons offences has increased slightly, however the volume of offences is small so the difference is not significant.

Crime / Incident type	Trend	Rate per 1000	Year ending Sep. 2018	Year ending Sep. 2017	Annual Change	All Towns	All Towns Trend
Possession of Drugs	▶	1.4	33	33	0%	●	▶
Dwelling burglary [1]	▲	2.8	32	25	28%	●	▲
Shoplifting	▲	3.3	81	76	7%	●	▶
Needle Find Incidents [2]			10	N/A	N/A		

[1] based on rate per 1000 households

[2] based on town and wider environs

- **Shoplifting** has increased by 7% or 5 offences when compared with the previous year. Rates of shoplifting in Falmouth are consistent with other large towns;
- There have been **10 needle finds** reported in the latest 12 month period in the town and its wider environs. A needle find can consist of a variety of drug paraphernalia that has been reported to Addaction and removed by the Cornwall Council Waste Team.

Safer Falmouth

Safer Falmouth **facilitates and supports** a coordinated multi-agency approach to community safety issues to improve feelings of safety and public reassurance, **reduce the risk of harm** to the community and **protect vulnerable groups**.



Safer Falmouth **encourage reporting** of concerns within the community and raises **awareness of local support services**. It works in partnership to address concerns outlined in the **Delivery Plan**, which is based on the evidence presented in the previous Falmouth Town Profile, feedback from the Residents Survey and emerging concerns.

Safer Falmouth has **identified the following community safety priorities** for the Town:

1. Street drinking
2. Violence with and without injury
3. Noise nuisance (including vehicle nuisance)
4. Environmental nuisance
5. Barbeque and open fire public safety

So far the group has achieved and supported:

- Safer Falmouth supported the **Community Action Days** organised by Falmouth and Exeter Universities at the beginning of October to provide

students and residents with current information on a range of local issues including; recycling, noise nuisance and alcohol awareness. The partnership were involved with four days of public engagement, giving residents the opportunity to raise any concerns but also reiterate resident responsibility to students new to the area.

- Safer Falmouth provided information to members of the public at Gyllyngvase Beach following **public safety concerns**. The events were held to provide awareness of the risk to others from leaving barbeques on the beach, as well as the harmful environmental impact.
- Following an incident of **drink spiking** Safer Falmouth ran an awareness campaign to local residents. The partnership provided leaflets to households throughout Falmouth outlining **how to keep safe whilst drinking** as well as offering safety equipment for bottles. Falmouth University and Exeter University also provided awareness to students on the What Will Your Drink Cost campaign.

What's coming up?

- Development of a plan in order to address **Street Drinking** concerns. The **Blue Light Scheme** will be implemented in order to provide support to treatment resistant drinkers;
- Review of **noise nuisance complaints** 2018 and contact procedure for complaints. This also includes vehicle related anti-social behaviour addressing cars racing around Pendennis point and the sea front;
- Replacement Public Space Protection Order signage is being fitted at various locations across Falmouth, which provides Police and council with powers with regards to **prohibiting alcohol consumption in specific areas** of the town.



What residents say

In 2017, Cornwall Council commissioned a **large scale residents' survey** which is now planned to take place every 4 years. With 11,247 responses, this was the **largest survey** conducted by the Council **since the 2008 Place Survey**.

827 residents responded to a range of questions about their satisfaction with Council services and the way things are run, alongside detailed questions about their community, perceptions of crime and safety and their own health and wellbeing. Results are presented at **network area level**, and provide a good indicator for the major urban area within this boundary.

