

Fear of Crime in Warwickshire 2003 – results from the Best Value User Satisfaction Survey

Introduction

Warwickshire County Council undertook a large scale survey of residents during November 2003 as part of Best Value research into public satisfaction with Council services. Included in this survey were several questions related to the fear of crime. There were more than 1,800 respondents to the survey, and responses have been weighted according to age and District accordingly. This is the fourth successive year that the survey has been carried out. Although the questions used in the Warwickshire survey are identical to some of those used in the British Crime Survey, the figures are not directly comparable because of differences in the way the surveys are carried out.

Key Findings

- The fear of crime in Warwickshire appears to have fallen slightly during the past twelve months for two of the three key crime types – violence and vehicle crime. Fear of burglary remains relatively static.
- There are significant differences among Districts/Boroughs, with the most striking reductions in the fear of crime taking place in Warwick District.
- During the past year, fear of car theft has fallen in four of the five Districts/Boroughs. Conversely, fear of burglary has risen in four of the five Districts/Boroughs. Fear of physical attack fell in three of the five Districts/Boroughs.
- Differences between the north and south of the County are more pronounced, with fear of crime in the south usually at least ten percentage points below that in the north.
- Countywide figures for fear of physical attack and car theft are both at their lowest since these indicators have been collected. All three are down on the 2000 baseline.
- The only individual figures that are up on the 2000 baseline are fear of burglary and fear of car theft in Rugby Borough. In addition, fear of burglary in Nuneaton & Bedworth and fear of physical attack in Rugby remain at 2000 levels.

CDRP-level Figures

District/Borough	Percentage of respondents either 'very worried' or 'fairly worried' about...											
	... having their home broken into and something stolen				... being physically attacked by strangers				... having their car stolen			
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003
North Warwickshire	72%	74%	69%	71%	50%	44%	50%	45%	73%	65%	65%	63%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	76%	69%	73%	76%	59%	56%	61%	53%	66%	64%	63%	57%
Rugby	70%	60%	69%	74%	49%	50%	48%	49%	60%	53%	59%	62%
Stratford-on-Avon	60%	52%	56%	59%	38%	36%	39%	37%	50%	49%	53%	48%
Warwick	64%	60%	59%	54%	43%	46%	46%	37%	57%	50%	55%	46%
Warwickshire	68%	62%	65%	66%	48%	46%	49%	44%	60%	56%	58%	54%

Further Information

There are a number of other questions in the Best Value Survey relating to fear of crime. More results will be circulated shortly.

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