CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

Report

April 2023 – March 2024

INTRODUCTION

Description of the scheme

The University of Worcester CCTV system consists of 335 cameras that are installed at strategically positioned locations in the following areas:

- St Johns Campus
- City Campus – including Jenny Lind Building and Art House
- Severn Campus – including University Arena, Elizabeth Cason Building Riverside Building and The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Building.
- Lakeside Campus

The system is monitored by trained and dedicated University Control Room Operators.

System Operation

Dedicated staff who have obtained the CCTV Public Space licence, in accordance with the Private Security Industry Act 2001, monitor the system. The system is operated and managed in accordance with current legislation and detailed CCTV Codes of Practice and Operational Procedures Manual.

Ownership

The scheme is owned by the University of Worcester who are responsible for the management, administration, and security of the system. The owners manage the system and ensure the protection of individuals and the public by complying with the Codes of Practice. CCTV_policy.pdf (worc.ac.uk)

Purpose of the System

- To help reduce the fear of crime.
- To help deter crime, detect crime and prevent crime.
- To deter and detect anti-social behaviour.
- Providing assistance and reassurance to the public in emergency situations.
- Providing high quality evidence which may assist in the detection of crime and the apprehension and prosecution of offenders.
- Providing assistance with issues relating to public safety and health.
- To enhance community safety.
- To assist the Local Authority in its enforcement and regulatory functions.
- For the maintenance of Public Order.

REPORT CONTENT

In order to comply with the recommendations contained in the Information Commissioners CCTV Code of Practice published in October 2014 and Surveillance Camera Codes of Practice, the University of Worcester will produce an annual report, which will be publicly available on the University website.
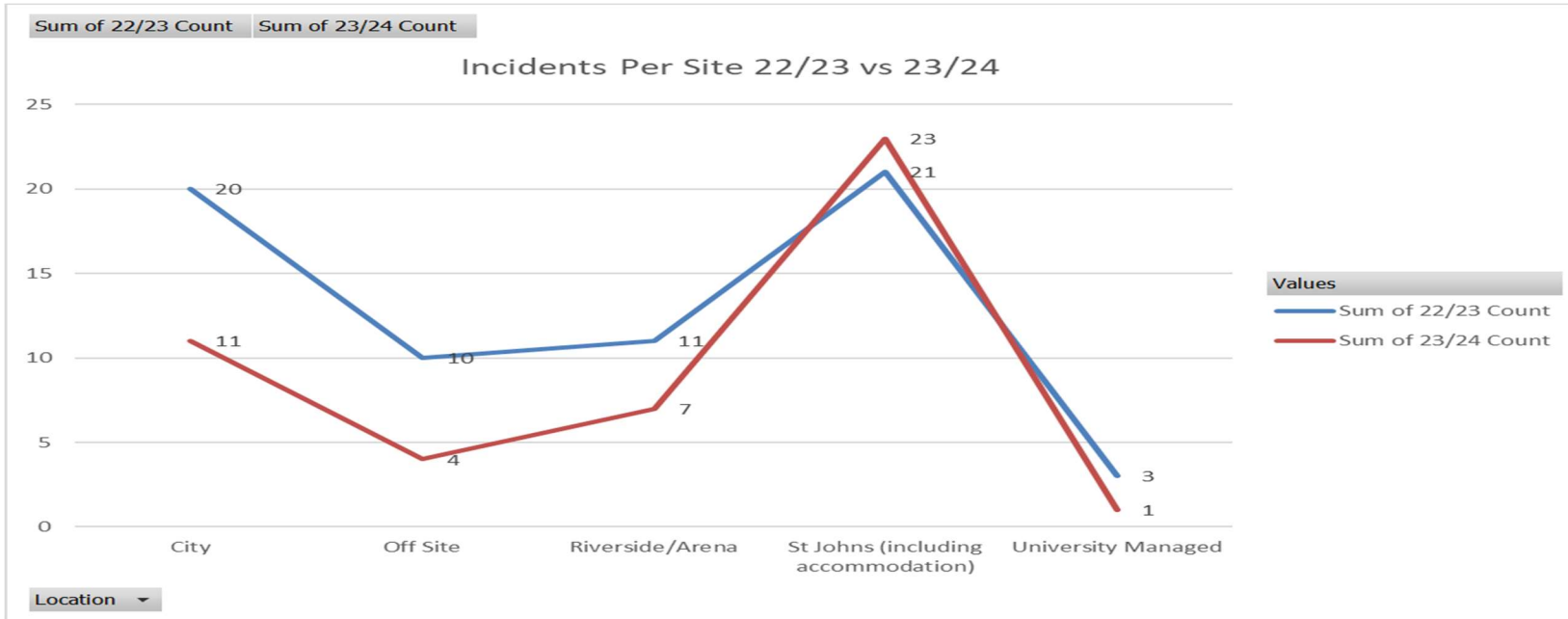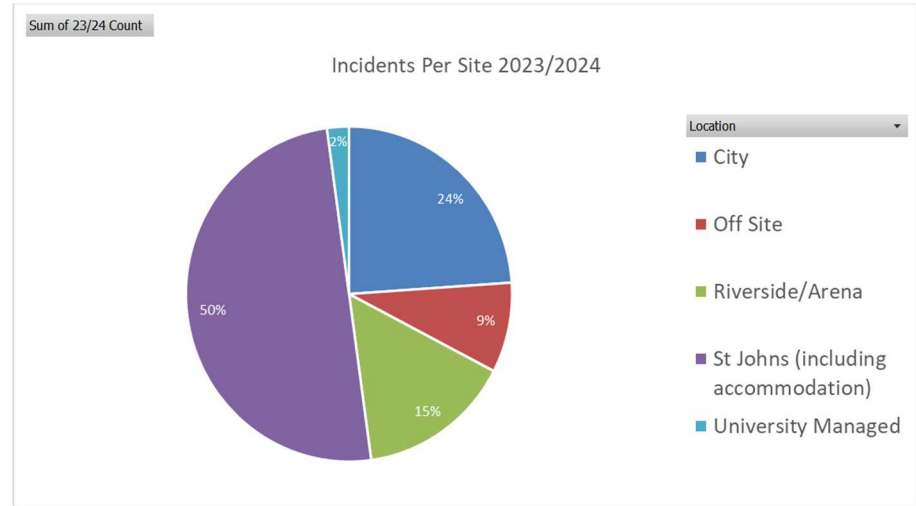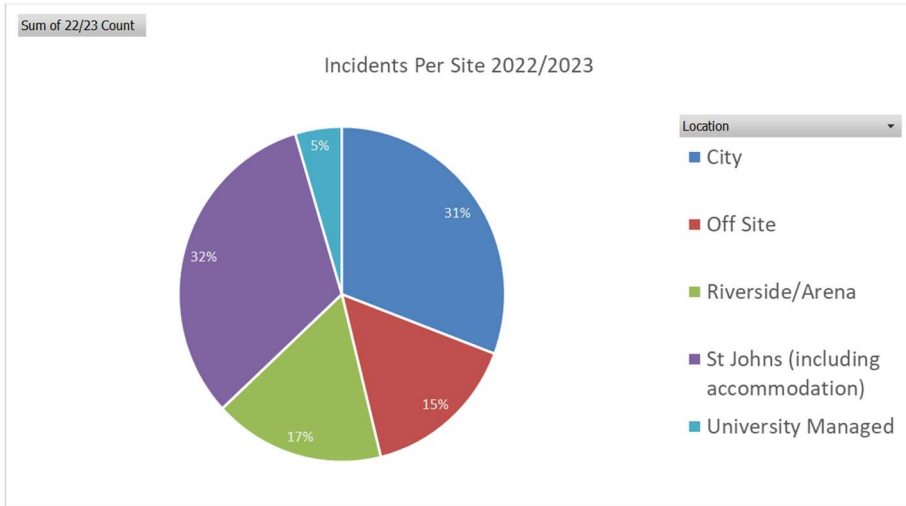
As the University Community Forum meets quarterly, a shortened version of this report has been produced to share with colleagues at the meeting. This will enable feedback prior to the annual report being published.

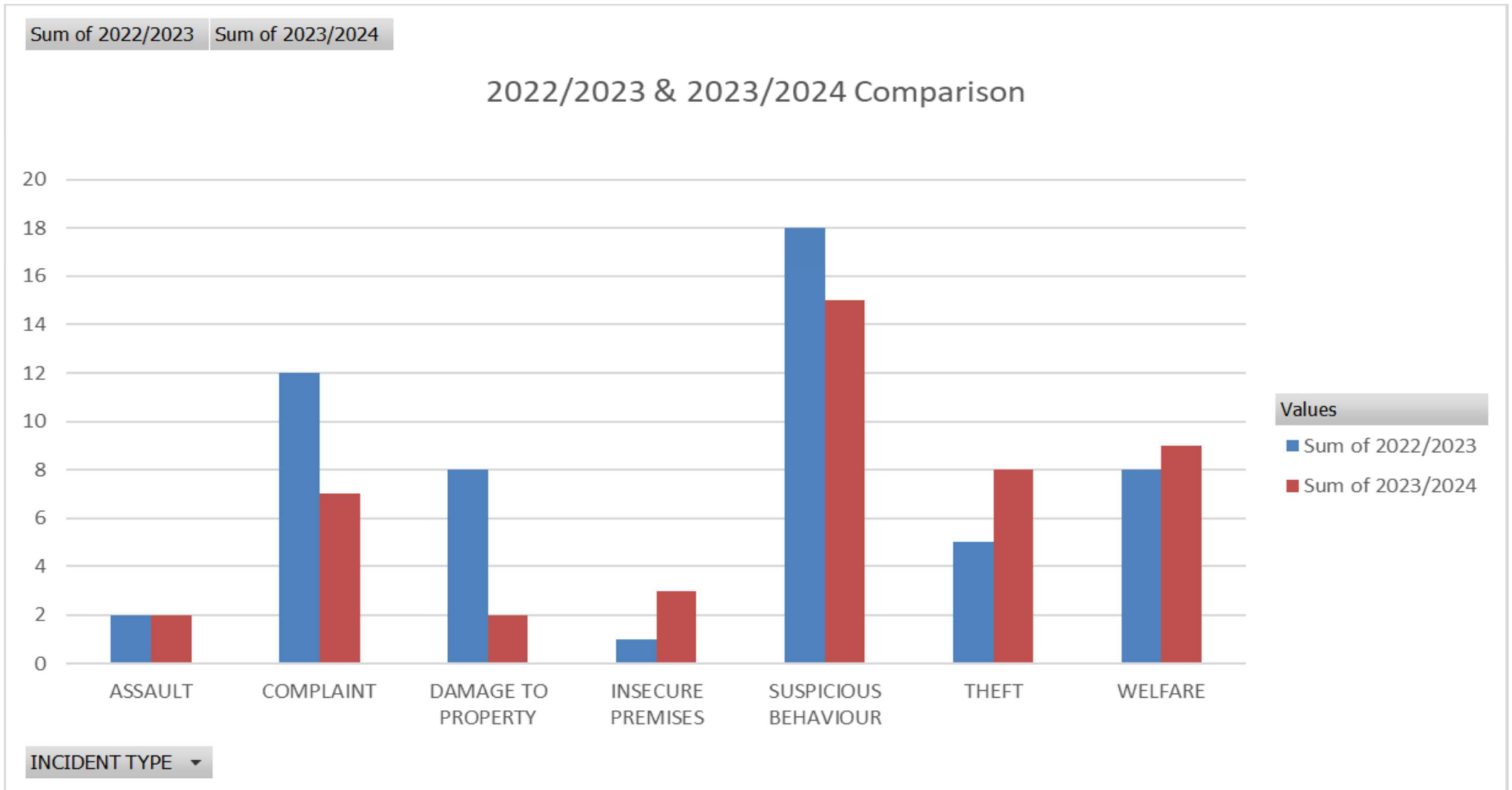For the purpose of best practice, this report will include the following information:

1. The number of incidents recorded by the scheme which are not necessarily student perpetrators.

2. Types of crime in the area covered by the scheme and:

3. An assessment of the scheme's impact on its objectives, including:

   - Types of crime
   - The number of reviews of footage by Law Enforcement, authorised agencies, or University staff
   - Key locations of activity
   - The number of incidents for the previous reporting period

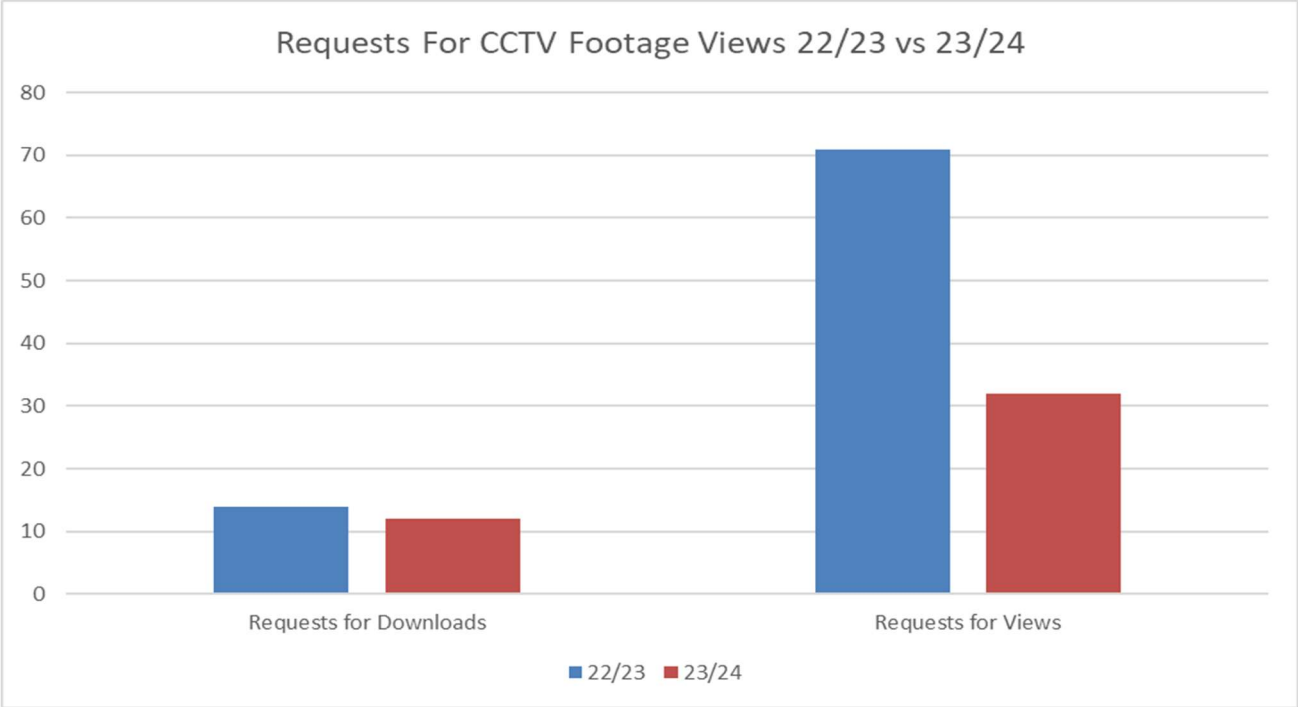The statistics for this reporting period are as follows:

Key Locations of Activity

Types of Crime Recorded by CCTV

2022/2023 & 2023/2024 Comparison

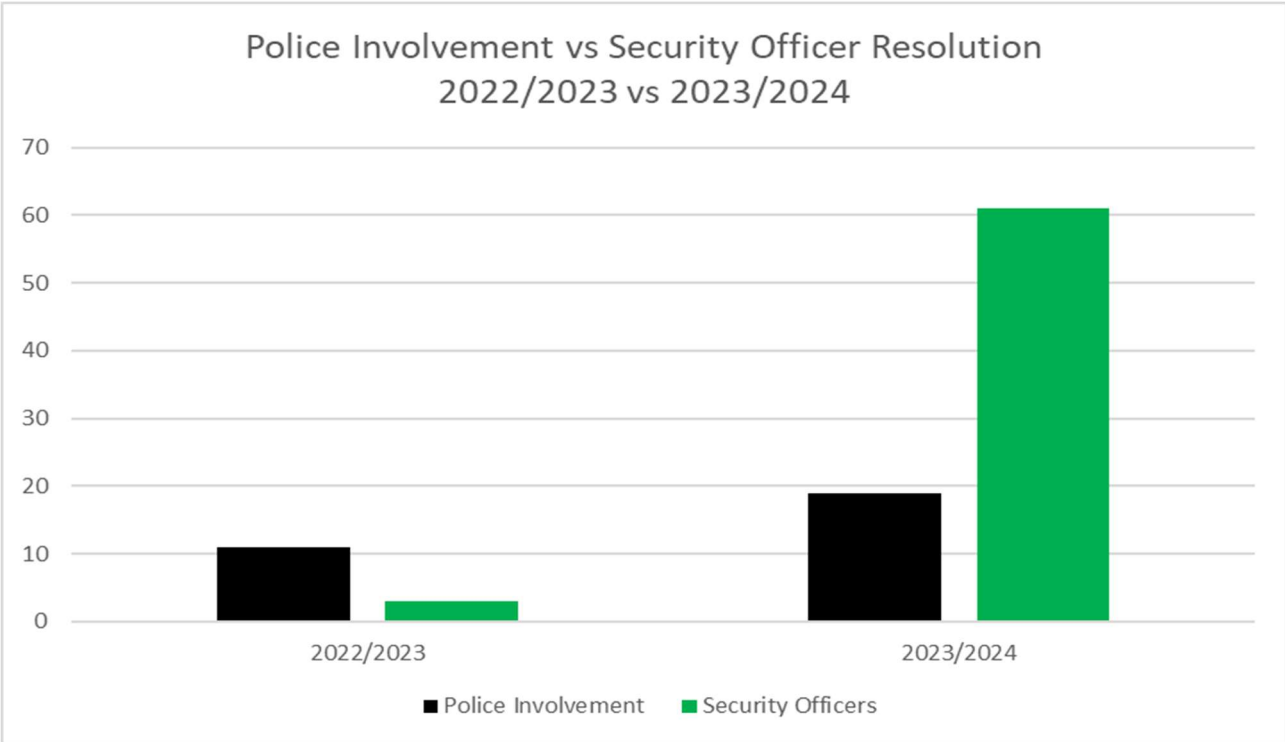| INCIDENT TYPE	Sum of 2022/2023	Sum of 2023/2024
ASSAULT	2	2
COMPLAINT	12	7
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	8	2
INSECURE PREMISES	1	3
SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR	18	15
THEFT	5	8
WELFARE	8	9

Images either downloaded to CD or just reviewed

Number of CCTV incidents dealt with and by whom:

REPORT OBSERVATIONS

Thefts/Welfare: There have been slight increases in this behaviour over this period, which, is a result of Severn Campus having more footfall and community usage, in addition there have been bike thefts across all Campuses. CCTV Operators have been able to resolve a lot of these incidents, captured on camera, by involving our University PCSO's and dealing with matters in-house.

Insecure Premises: It's to be noted Severn Campus has been busy in terms of contractor sites and some of the reporting has been around these premises. The other area of concern has been around student accommodation both on St Johns and off-site managed property but not University academic space.

Complaints/Behaviour: Our CCTV system has continued to grow on Severn Campus over the last period which now offers more CCTV coverage of external areas such as Sabrina Bridge/Hylton Road. Increased coverage of such areas should deter crime and therefore reduce reporting. This reporting period show's a decrease in complaints and behaviour which is welcoming from a safety perspective and show's awareness of the CCTV presence.

Captured Incidents: There has been a significant increase in captured incidents, which is mainly due increased CCTV surveillance and Police requests for assistance. Although these incidents are captured, not all of them result in images being released to a third party. The increase for security has been around car incidents (minor accidents on University car parks) and a slight increase in bike thefts around the halls and at City Campus from 4 in 22/23 to 6 in 23/24.

Release of Images: There has been a notable increase in releasing footage to the Police during 23/24 and a modest increase for Security. In relation to the Police increase this could be due to an increase in reported crime and the fact our CCTV now covers more public space. For Security it will be due to increased reporting of incidents across the various sites, which, has also been supported by our internal reporting system. It should be noted that some of downloaded footage requests have led to criminal convictions for crimes committed within the community.

Conclusion:

The CCTV continues to reassure staff, students, and the public about community safety. The statistics around footage reviews shows how the system has increasingly been relied upon in resolving incidents whether it be crime, insurance related incidents or car parking issues to mention but a few. The University prides itself on achieving its Certificate of Compliance from the Home Office and its Certification of British Standard which demonstrates the quality of the equipment and how it is managed.

If a member of the public wishes to make a complaint about the system, they may do so through University of Worcester's complaint procedure. Copies of the complaint's procedure are available by writing to:

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