Police Complaints Information Bulletin

Metropolitan Police Service

01 April 2025 - 31 March 2026 (Q4 2025/26)

IOPC Independent Office for Police Conduct

About this bulletin

This bulletin presents information about complaints defined under the Police Reform Act 2002 (PRA 2002), as amended by the Police and Crime Act 2017. The legislation came into effect on 1 February 2020 (4 January 2021 for the British Transport Police).

It sets out performance against a number of measures and compares force results to their most similar force (MSF) group (where applicable)

Please note: Unless stated otherwise, tables within the bulletin consist of 'year-to-date' figures covering all matters being started or completed between the two dates.

Q1: 1 April to 30 June, Q2: 1 April to 30 September, Q3: 1 April to 31 December, Q4: 1 April to 31 March

Notes for this edition of the bulletin

Devon and Cornwall: Devon and Cornwall Police had a significant backlog of complaints, including complaints that showed as live but were only administratively awaiting finalisation. Following restructure and uplift of resourcing this queue is being reduced, and we believe this is directly impacting the duration of Complaints Finalised

De-recorded matters: A new data loading process has been introduced which removes matters that have been 'de-recorded' (meaning complaints and allegations recorded in error) from the figures. Figures may differ from those previously reported, particularly in 'same period last year' calculations

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Acronyms used in this bulletin

YTD – Year to date figures, **SPLY** - Same period last year, **MSF** - Most similar force, **LPB** - Local policing body, **PRA** - Police Reform Act 2002

Nat. – National, **RPRP** – Reflective Practice Review Process, **UPP** – Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure

Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Complaints and allegations logged

A **complaint case** is formed of one or more **allegations**.

This bulletin contains data on complaints, allegations, referrals and reviews broken down in the following ways:

- **Force** - The police force and date range covered by the bulletin title
- **SPLY** - Data as above in the same period of the previous financial year
- **MSF Average** - Most Similar Force group* average for the period
- **National** - Total or average of all forces in this period

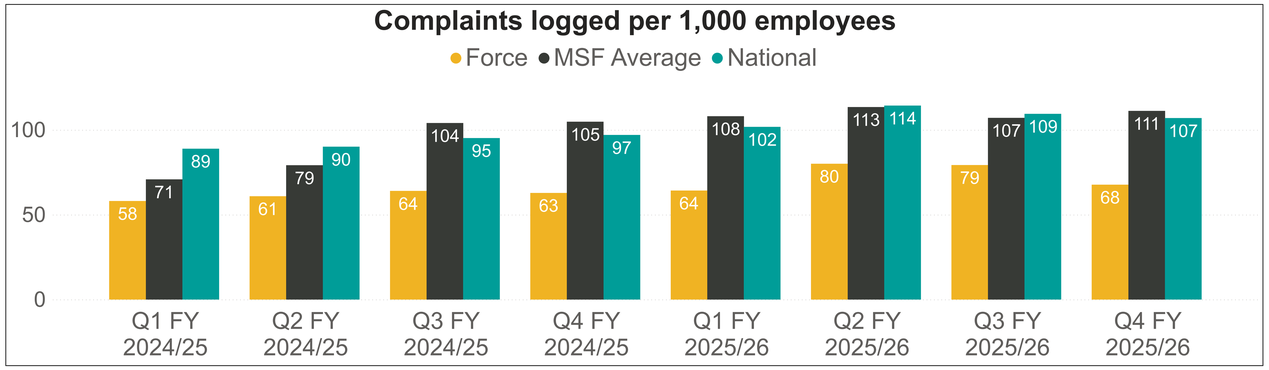
*Most Similar Force groups are specified by the Home Office and enable comparison between forces of similar size and demographics

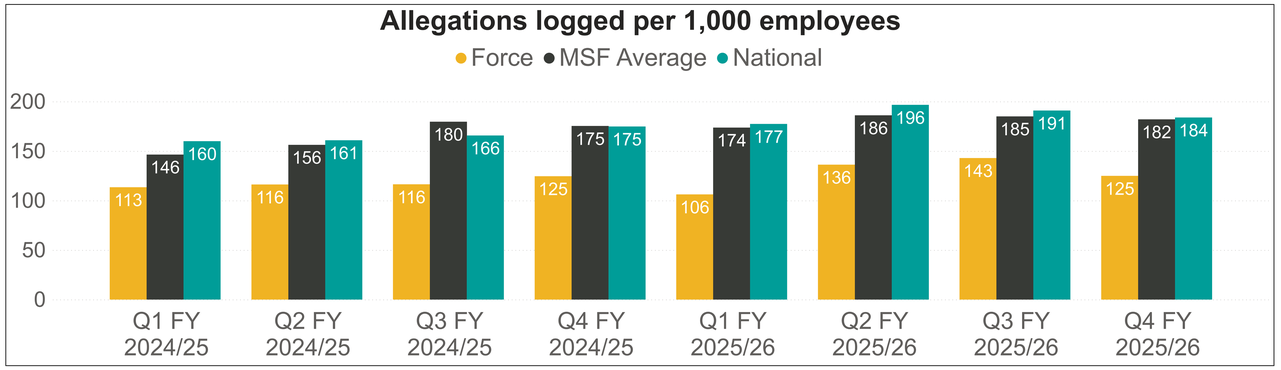
Measure	Complaints logged	Per 1,000 employees
Force	13,920	291
SPLY	11,984	246
MSF Average	7,966	440
National	108,988	432

Measure	Allegations Logged	Per 1,000 employees
Force	24,367	510
SPLY	22,931	470
MSF Average	13,496	726
National	188,600	748

Numbers per 1,000 employees are used to demonstrate how the number of complaints/allegations against a force compare to their most similar force group and national figures.

Note: Number of employees is a fixed number through the period, therefore complaints and allegations per 1,000 employees is higher for the full period (as in the table) than when broken down in to quarters (as per the charts)

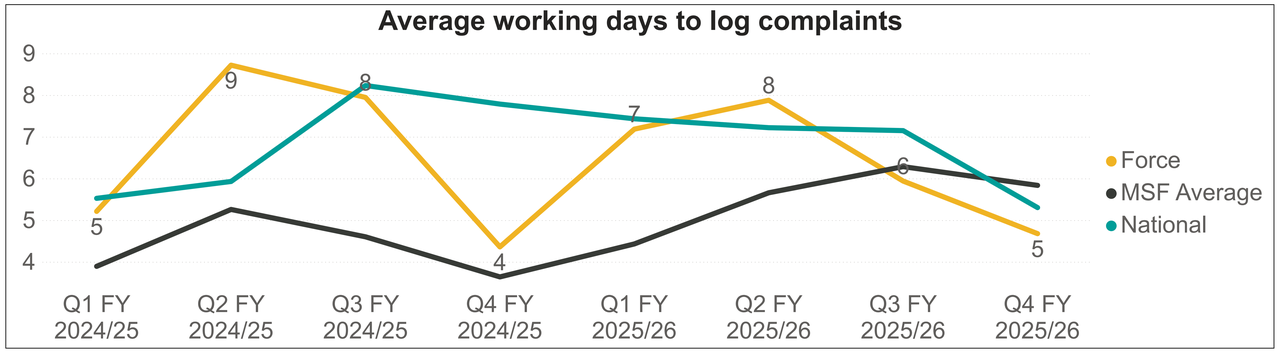


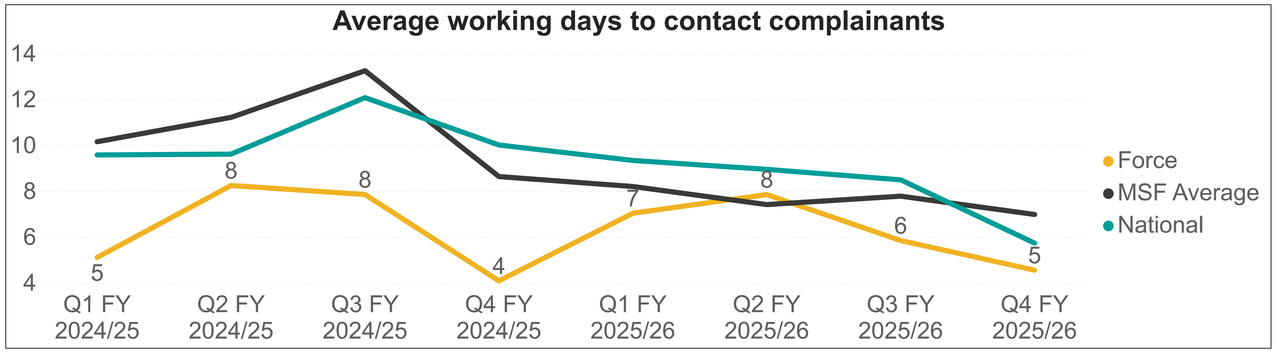


The force should **contact** the complainant and **log (record)** the complaint as soon as possible after the complaint has been raised. Average to log/contact is from the customer perspective.

Data labels in the above charts are those of the force

Measure	Average working days to contact complainants	Average working days to log complaints
Force	6	6
SPLY	6	7
MSF Average	8	6
National	8	7





For information on what has been complained about, see pages 2 to 5

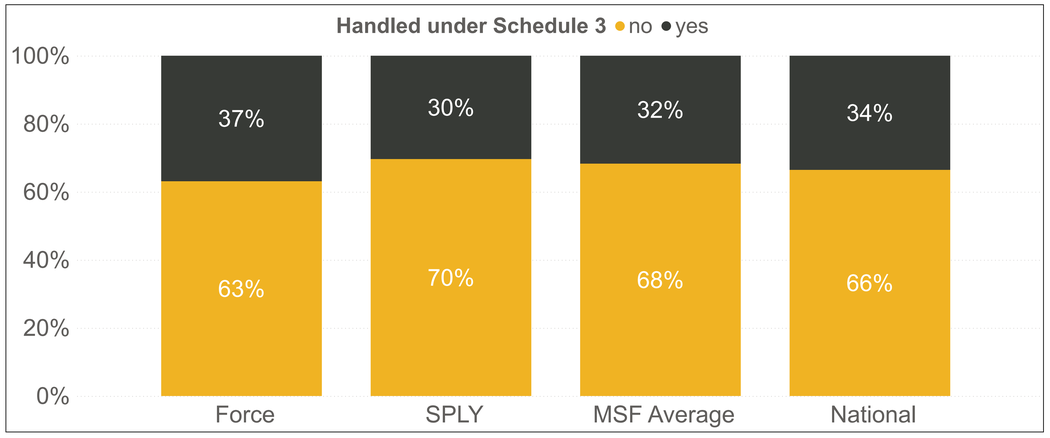
For information on allegations and complaints timeliness, see pages 6 and 7

Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

How complaints are being handled and what has been complained about

When a complaint is received by the force, the force can attempt to handle the complaint informally (outside of Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act) or handle it formally (under Schedule 3). When deciding handle to complaint formally, the force should record the reason why

Measure type	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Reason complaint recorded under Schedule 3	Complaints	%	Complaints	%	Complaints	%	Complaints	%
AA/body responsible for initial handling decides	4,061	80%	2,506	69%	1,387	55%	13,438	37%
Complainant wishes the complaint be recorded	291	6%	578	16%	215	9%	6,263	17%
Dissatisfaction after initial handling	448	9%	250	7%	352	14%	6,430	18%
Nature of the allegation(s) in the complaint	298	6%	303	8%	562	22%	10,354	28%
Total	**5,098**	**100%**	**3,637**	**100%**	**2,516**	**100%**	**36,485**	**100%**

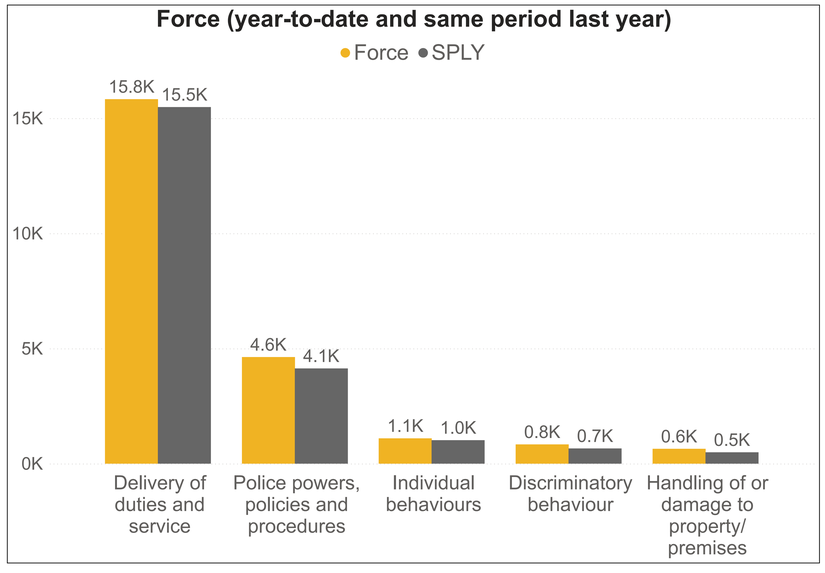


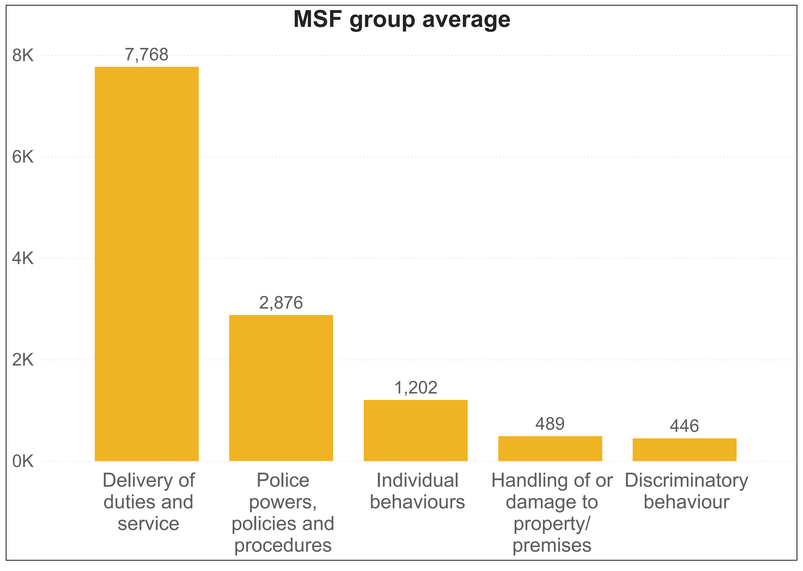
Allegations should have an allegation category applied to them which will identify the root of what the allegation is about. Most of these categories are broken down into subcategories which are detailed in the following pages. An allegation will have a single subcategory applied, a complaint can consist of numerous allegations, each with their own category

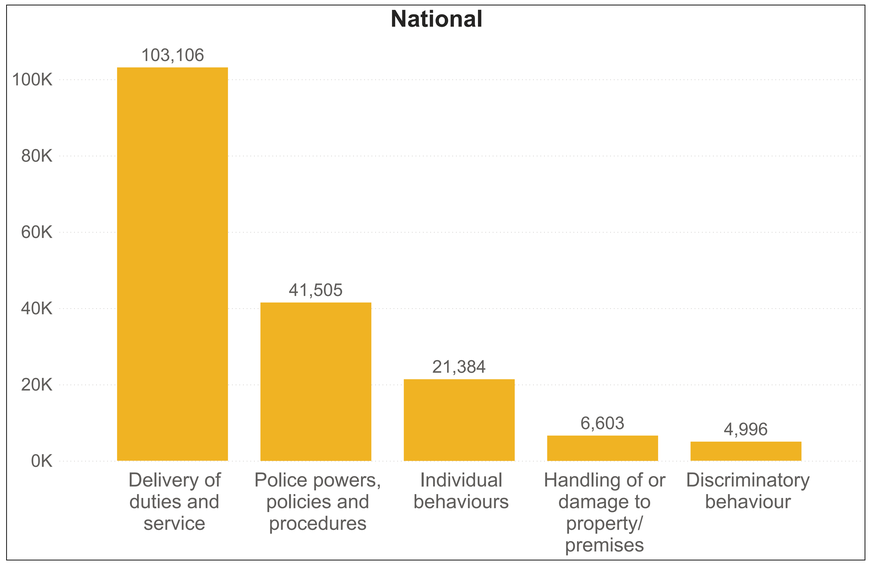
Allegation category	Delivery of duties and service	Police powers, policies and procedures	Handling of or damage to property/ premises	Access and/or disclosure of information	Use of police vehicles	Discriminatory behaviour	Abuse of position/ corruption	Individual behaviours	Sexual conduct	Discreditable conduct	Other	Total
Force	15,829	4,626	639	331	188	832	108	1,099	66	156	493	**24,367**
SPLY	15,484	4,132	489	309	181	659	75	1,017	58	140	387	**22,931**
MSF Average	7,768	2,876	489	214	117	446	77	1,202	29	107	174	**13,496**
National	103,106	41,505	6,603	4,098	2,025	4,996	1,507	21,384	336	1,167	1,871	**188,598**

Allegation category	Delivery of duties and service	Police powers, policies and procedures	Handling of or damage to property/ premises	Access and/or disclosure of information	Use of police vehicles	Discriminatory behaviour	Abuse of position/ corruption	Individual behaviours	Sexual conduct	Discreditable conduct	Other	Total
Force	65%	19%	3%	1%	1%	3%	0%	5%	0%	1%	2%	**100%**
SPLY	68%	18%	2%	1%	1%	3%	0%	4%	0%	1%	2%	**100%**
MSF Average	58%	21%	4%	2%	1%	3%	1%	9%	0%	1%	1%	**100%**
National	55%	22%	4%	2%	1%	3%	1%	11%	0%	1%	1%	**100%**

Top five most applied allegation categories







Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Allegation subcategories

This section presents data on some of the most commonly recorded categories on allegations logged. For more information on allegation categories, see the IOPC website and links provided on page 14.

This category is about the service received from the police. Complaints in this category can be organisational or can be about individual behaviour

Delivery of duties and service	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Sub-category	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
General level of service	10,388	66%	10,109	65%	3,152	41%	31,306	30%
Police action following contact	3,505	22%	3,619	23%	2,949	38%	43,168	42%
Decisions	1,554	10%	1,288	8%	1,082	14%	16,853	16%
Information	382	2%	468	3%	586	8%	11,776	11%
Total	**15,829**	**100%**	**15,484**	**100%**	**7,768**	**100%**	**103,103**	**100%**

This concerns individual behaviours (language, actions and behaviour) that are not an abuse of position or discriminatory in nature

Individual behaviours	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Sub-category	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Unprofessional attitude and disrespect	420	38%	377	37%	381	32%	6,001	28%
Impolite language / tone	342	31%	262	26%	342	28%	5,690	27%
Impolite and intolerant actions	141	13%	143	14%	220	18%	3,216	15%
Overbearing or harassing behaviours	105	10%	148	15%	138	12%	3,342	16%
Lack of fairness and impartiality	91	8%	87	9%	121	10%	3,135	15%
Total	**1,099**	**100%**	**1,017**	**100%**	**1,202**	**100%**	**21,384**	**100%**

This category is about the use of police powers, including where an available power has not been used, and police policies and procedures. Complaints in this category can be organisational or about individual behaviour

Police powers, policies and procedures	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Sub-category	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Use of force	1,244	27%	1,042	25%	697	24%	9,354	23%
Power to arrest and detain	835	18%	786	19%	499	17%	7,174	17%
Other policies and procedures	724	16%	541	13%	371	13%	5,037	12%
Evidential procedures	491	11%	375	9%	274	10%	3,715	9%
Stops, and stop and search	415	9%	366	9%	181	6%	1,981	5%
Searches of premises and seizure of property	375	8%	356	9%	335	12%	5,528	13%
Detention in police custody	340	7%	500	12%	345	12%	5,441	13%
Bail, identification and interview procedures	149	3%	130	3%	142	5%	2,573	6%
Out of court disposals	53	1%	35	1%	33	1%	700	2%
Total	**4,626**	**100%**	**4,131**	**100%**	**2,876**	**100%**	**41,503**	**100%**

This includes any issue where an element of discrimination was involved or was perceived to be involved. It also includes any instances where the possible discriminatory behaviour is identified by the person receiving, recording, or investigating a complaint. Complaints in this category can be organisational or can be about individual behaviour.

Discriminatory behaviour	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Sub-category	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
Race	506	61%	416	63%	234	52%	2,379	48%
Disability	115	14%	60	9%	93	21%	1,107	22%
Sex	62	7%	53	8%	52	12%	723	14%
Other	61	7%	60	9%	25	6%	376	8%
Religion or belief	43	5%	35	5%	20	4%	157	3%
Sexual orientation	27	3%	18	3%	14	3%	133	3%
Age	10	1%	11	2%	4	1%	63	1%
Gender reassignment	8	1%	6	1%	4	1%	55	1%
None					0	0%		
Marriage and civil partnership					0	0%		
Pregnancy and maternity					0	0%	3	0%
Total	**832**	**100%**	**659**	**100%**	**446**	**100%**	**4,996**	**100%**

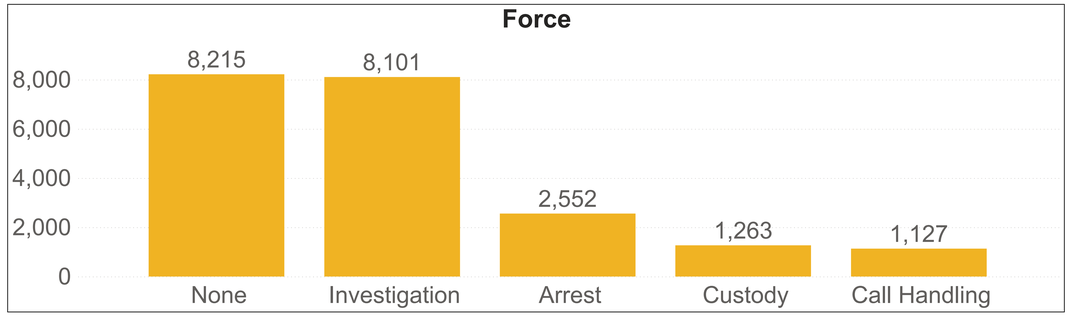
Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

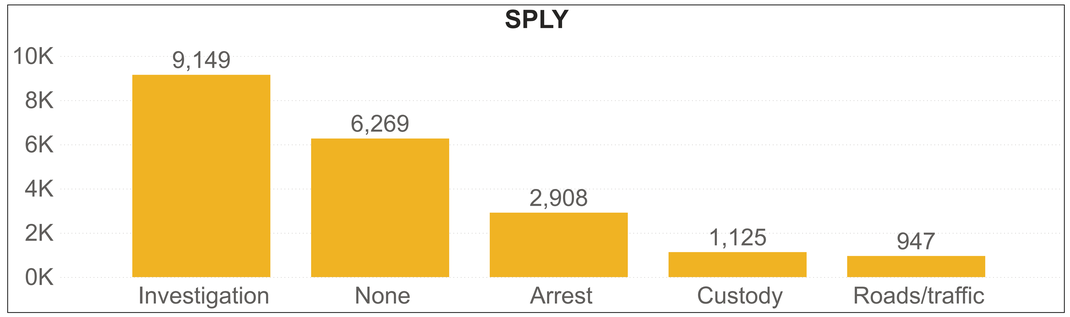
Factors applied to allegations logged

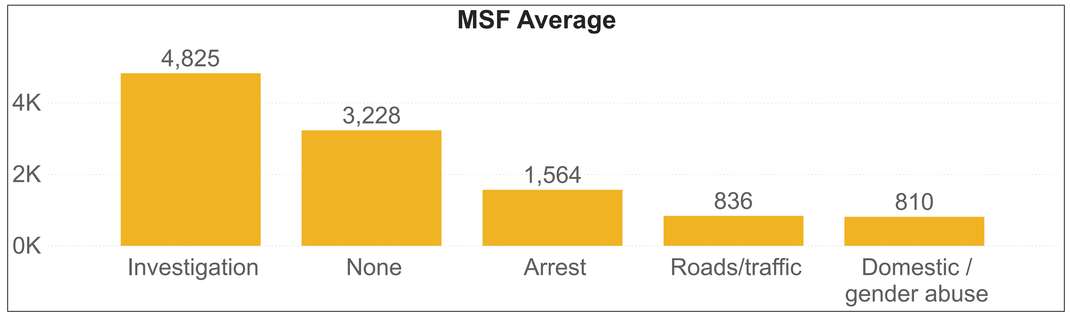
This section presents information that shows the situational context of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint.

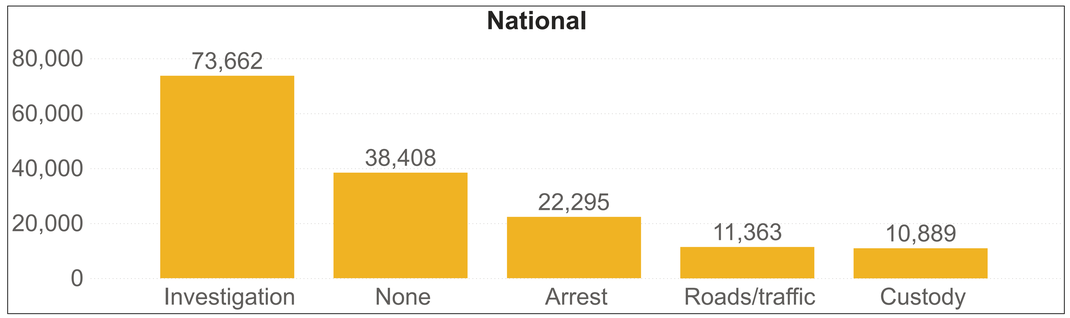
Each allegation should have a single category selected. However, multiple factors can be selected on a single allegation. Therefore, the sum of factors will not equal the total allegations logged in each category and the percentages here will add up to over 100%. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for definitions of categories and factors.

Measure type	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Factor	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%	Logged	%
None	8,215	34%	6,269	27%	3,228	24%	38,408	20%
Investigation	8,101	33%	9,149	40%	4,825	36%	73,662	39%
Arrest	2,552	10%	2,908	13%	1,564	12%	22,295	12%
Custody	1,263	5%	1,125	5%	779	6%	10,889	6%
Call Handling	1,127	5%	944	4%	559	4%	8,178	4%
Roads/traffic	979	4%	947	4%	836	6%	11,363	6%
Stop and/or search	922	4%	923	4%	420	3%	3,983	2%
Neighbourhood policing	592	2%	652	3%	614	5%	8,198	4%
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	554	2%	339	1%	724	5%	8,335	4%
Premises search	432	2%	393	2%	357	3%	4,979	3%
Mental health	423	2%	398	2%	426	3%	5,236	3%
Domestic / gender abuse	314	1%	266	1%	810	6%	10,451	6%
Restraint equipment	222	1%	262	1%	126	1%	1,759	1%
Public order incident	176	1%	150	1%	92	1%	1,350	1%
VAWG - police perpetrated	142	1%	147	1%	62	0%	828	0%
Child protection / CSA / CSE	130	1%	133	1%	177	1%	3,524	2%
Death	123	1%	156	1%	83	1%	1,617	1%
Missing persons	114	0%	80	0%	88	1%	1,198	1%
Drugs / alcohol	71	0%	68	0%	116	1%	1,998	1%
Firearms	48	0%	52	0%	32	0%	880	0%
Serious injury	42	0%	19	0%	32	0%	352	0%
Hate Crime	32	0%	38	0%	51	0%	836	0%
Taser	32	0%	32	0%	16	0%	189	0%
Social media	23	0%	34	0%	63	0%	892	0%
VAWG - police victim	23	0%	12	0%	8	0%	161	0%
Covert policing	21	0%	13	0%	9	0%	83	0%
Fraud	20	0%	35	0%	37	0%	1,448	1%
	18	0%	13	0%	154	1%	1,637	1%
Police dogs or horses	10	0%	25	0%	8	0%	115	0%
PPDA	4	0%			14	0%	168	0%
PPDA - Police victim					1	0%	5	0%
Prejudicial and improper behaviour					0	0%	29	0%









Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Factors on frequently applied allegation categories (force figures only)

This section presents information that shows what people are complaining about using a combination of allegation categories and factors against the police force.

Categories capture the root of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint. Factors capture the situational context of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint.

The combination of categories and factors provides a richer picture of what people are complaining about compared to the categories alone.

Each allegation should have a single category selected. However, multiple factors can be selected on a single allegation. Therefore, the sum of factors will not equal the total allegations logged in each category. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for definitions of categories and factors.

Category	Delivery of duties and service		Discriminatory behaviour		Individual behaviours		Police powers, policies and procedures	
Factors	Allegations Logged	Percent	Allegations Logged	Percent	Allegations Logged	Percent	Allegations Logged	Percent
Investigation	6,522	41%	207	25%	191	17%	850	18%
None	5,496	35%	274	33%	446	41%	972	21%
Arrest	885	6%	118	14%	64	6%	1,341	29%
Custody	540	3%	32	4%	74	7%	542	12%
Call Handling	917	6%	39	5%	126	11%	35	1%
Stop and/or search	183	1%	88	11%	46	4%	568	12%
Roads/traffic	477	3%	54	6%	69	6%	198	4%
Neighbourhood policing	463	3%	22	3%	49	4%	37	1%
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	452	3%	27	3%	14	1%	44	1%
Mental health	228	1%	25	3%	24	2%	115	2%
Premises search	130	1%	6	1%	15	1%	204	4%
Domestic / gender abuse	232	1%	13	2%	14	1%	27	1%
Restraint equipment	22	0%	2	0%	5	0%	189	4%
Public order incident	65	0%	12	1%	6	1%	85	2%
Child protection / CSA / CSE	98	1%	3	0%	4	0%	18	0%
Missing persons	88	1%	2	0%	5	0%	18	0%
Death	100	1%	4	0%	3	0%	5	0%
VAWG - police perpetrated	13	0%	4	0%	6	1%	62	1%
Drugs / alcohol	27	0%	4	0%	2	0%	20	0%
Firearms	12	0%	3	0%	6	1%	23	0%
Serious injury	15	0%	2	0%	1	0%	21	0%
Hate Crime	19	0%	7	1%	4	0%	2	0%
Taser	3	0%			1	0%	28	1%
	14	0%	2	0%			2	0%
Covert policing	9	0%	2	0%	1	0%	6	0%
Fraud	14	0%					2	0%
VAWG - police victim	11	0%			2	0%	1	0%
Social media	5	0%			4	0%	4	0%
Police dogs or horses	3	0%					6	0%

How allegations have been handled and allegation timeliness

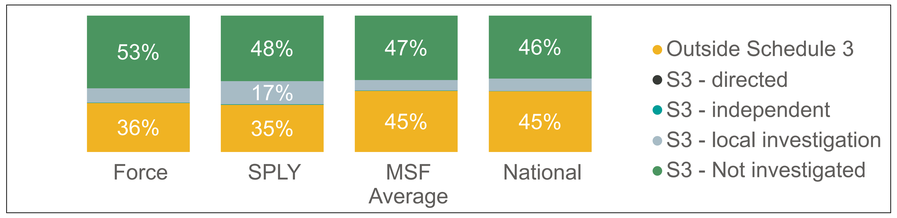
This section presents the time it takes the force to finalise allegations by how they were handled.

- An allegation can be handled informally (outside of Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act 2002) or formally handled under Schedule 3
- Schedule 3 allegations can handled without investigation or by investigation.
- Where handled by investigation this may be subject to 'special procedures' (meaning that a finding of a case to answer for misconduct may be found)
- If not subject to special procedures, a finding of the service provided being acceptable or unacceptable may be found.

For more information on allegation findings and actions, please see pages 8 - 10

Handling method	Outside of Schedule 3		Under Schedule 3 - not subject to investigation		Under Schedule 3 - by local investigation		Under Schedule 3 - by directed investigation		Under Schedule 3 - by independent investigation		Total	
Number finalised	Allegations Finalised	%	Allegations Finalised	%	Allegations Finalised	%	Allegations Finalised	%	Allegations Finalised	%	Allegations Finalised	%
Force	8,840	36%	13,098	53%	2,595	11%			73	0%	**24,606**	**100%**
SPLY	8,446	35%	11,712	48%	4,136	17%			101	0%	**24,395**	**100%**
MSF Average	6,087	45%	6,403	47%	1,045	8%	0	0%	36	0%	**13,571**	**100%**
National	82,446	45%	85,168	46%	16,974	9%	1	0%	315	0%	**184,904**	**100%**

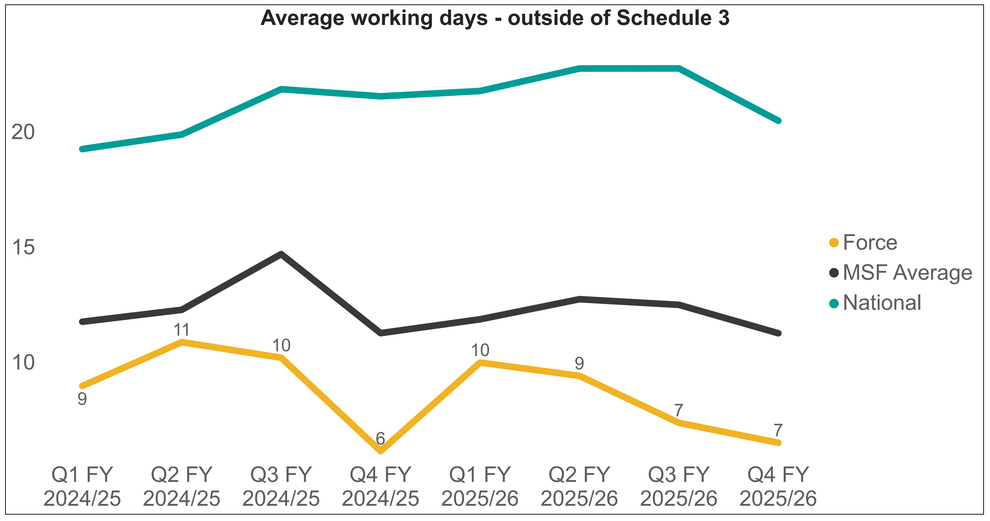
Local investigation	Not special procedures Finalised	%	Special procedures Finalised	%	Total Finalised	%
Force	2,209	85%	386	15%	**2,595**	**100%**
SPLY	3,301	80%	835	20%	**4,136**	**100%**
MSF Average	897	86%	149	14%	**1,045**	**100%**
National	15,386	91%	1,588	9%	**16,974**	**100%**

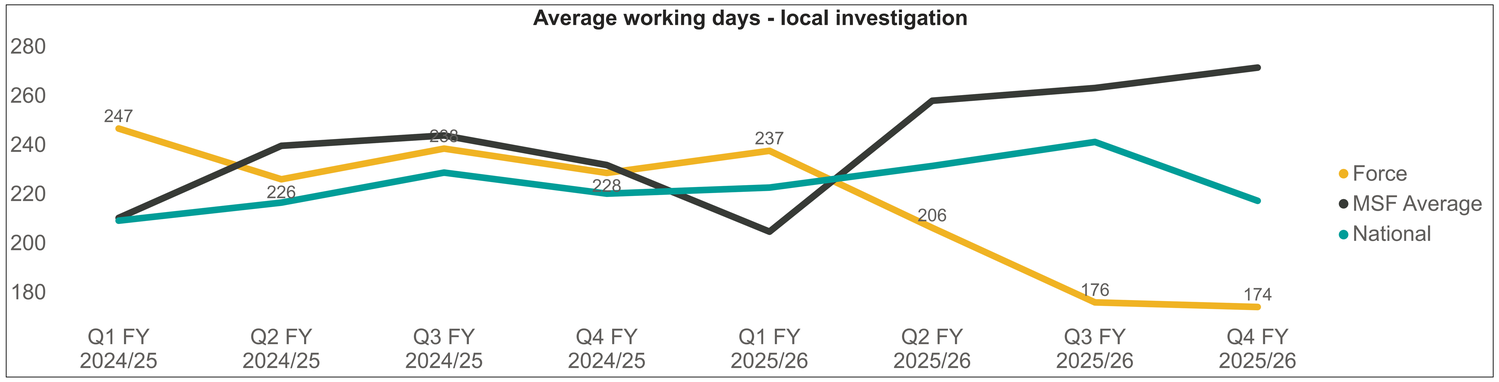


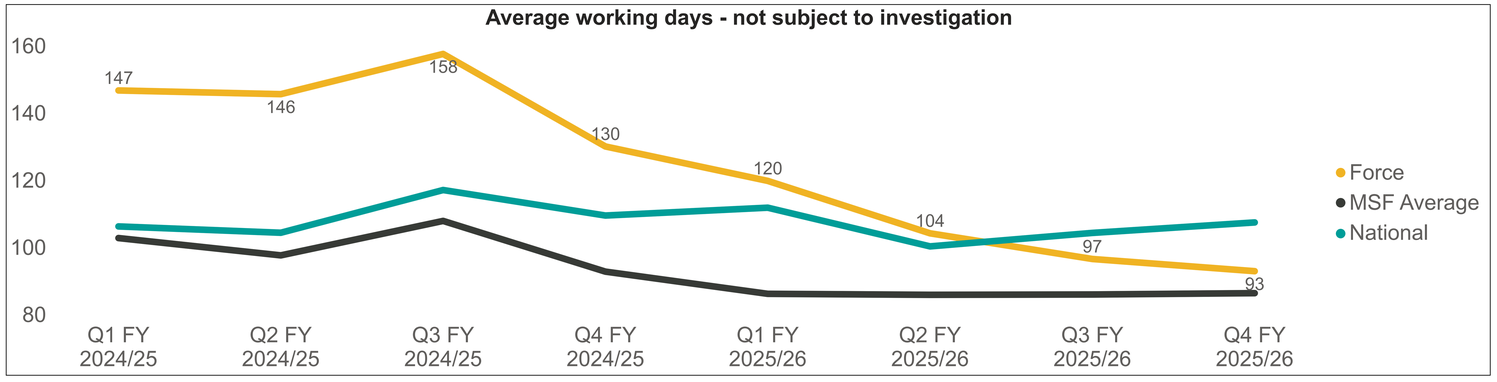
Timeliness is calculated from the date the allegation was received by the force to the day the complainant is informed of the allegation decision.

Allegations with 'invalid dates' have been removed from the data shown. Please refer to the performance framework counting rules and calculations on the IOPC website for an explanation of invalid dates.

Handling method	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Outside of Schedule 3	8	9	12	22
Under Schedule 3 - not subject to investigation	102	145	85	106
Under Schedule 3 - by local investigation	201	236	253	228
Under Schedule 3 - by directed investigation	0	0	0	48
Under Schedule 3 - by independent investigation	237	225	314	338







Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

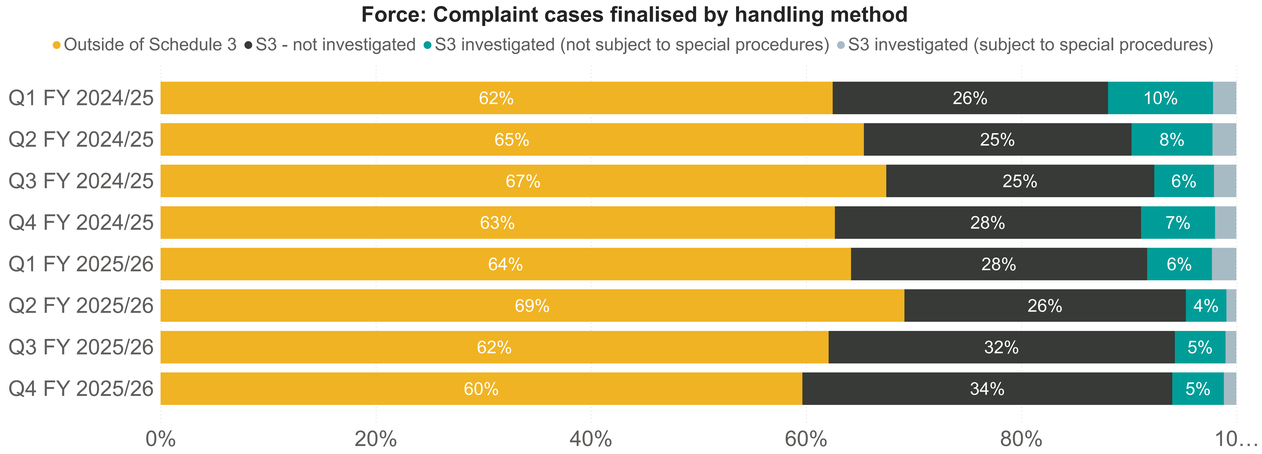
Complaint timeliness

This section shows the time it takes the force to finalise complaint cases from the customer's perspective. Timeliness is calculated from the date the complaint was made. On cases under Schedule 3, the below figures include the time a case may spend suspended due to criminal matters.

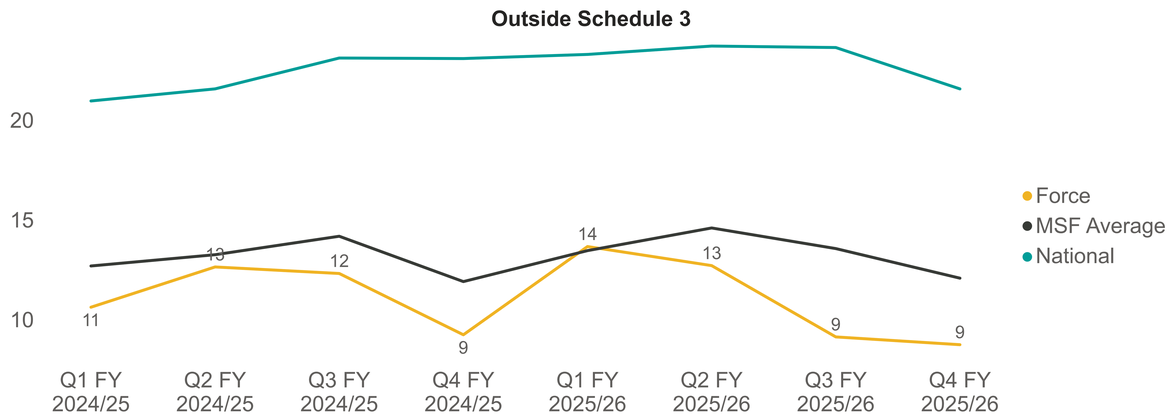
Complaint cases with 'invalid dates' have been removed from the data shown. Please refer to the IOPC website performance framework counting rules and calculations on the for an explanation of invalid dates.

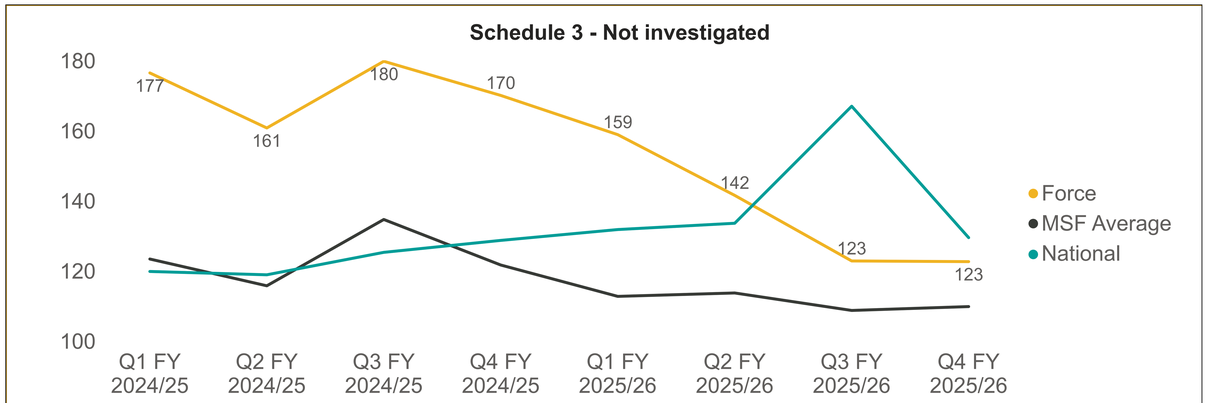
.	Outside of Schedule 3		Schedule 3 - not investigated		Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)		Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)		Total	
Measure type	Finalised	%	Finalised	%	Finalised	%	Finalised	%	Finalised	%
Force	8,881	64%	4,196	30%	665	5%	180	1%	**13,922**	**100%**
SPLY	8,253	65%	3,320	26%	944	7%	269	2%	**12,786**	**100%**
MSF Average	5,449	69%	2,115	27%	275	3%	59	1%	**7,897**	**100%**
National	70,061	65%	32,002	30%	4,930	5%	634	1%	**107,627**	**100%**

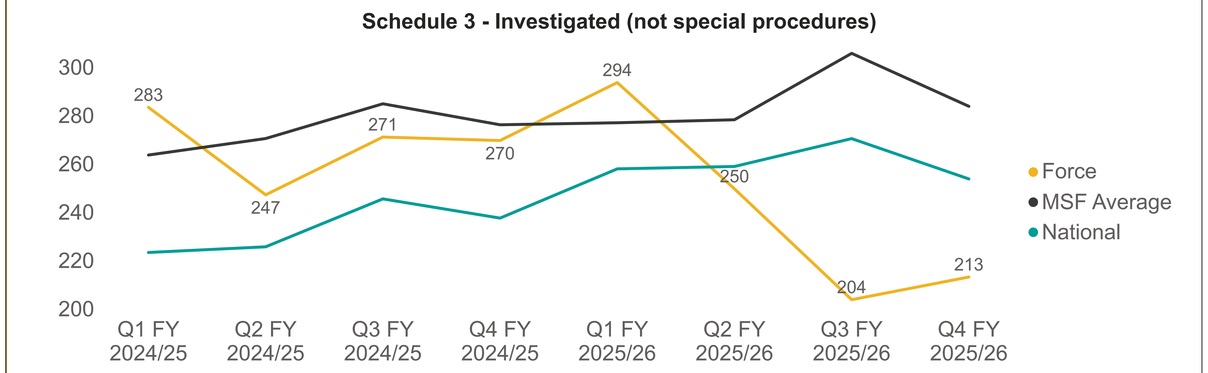
.	Schedule 3 - not investigated		Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)		Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	
Measure type	Finalised	Average days to finalise	Finalised	Average days to finalise	Finalised	Average days to finalise
Force	4,196	134	665	240	180	320
SPLY	3,320	172	944	269	269	305
MSF Average	2,115	111	275	286	59	414
National	32,002	142	4,930	261	634	349

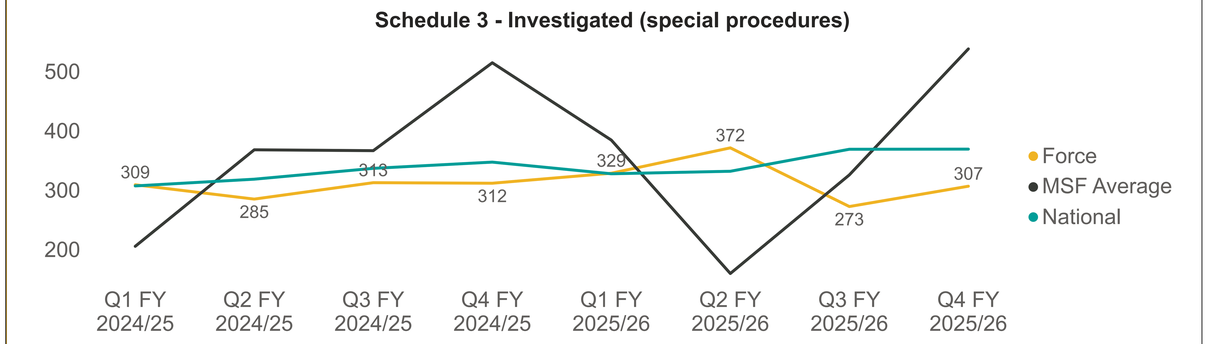


Outside of Schedule 3	Finalised	Average days to finalise
Force	8,882	11
SPLY	8,253	11
MSF Average	5,449	13
National	70,063	23









Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Findings and actions on Outside Schedule 3 allegations

This section presents information about what happened as a result of the allegation (action). Actions are captured at allegation level and multiple actions can be selected, where appropriate, on single allegation. The figures shown in this section are based on allegations that resulted in the corresponding action. As more than one action can be selected for a single allegation, the sum of all percentages will not equal 100%.

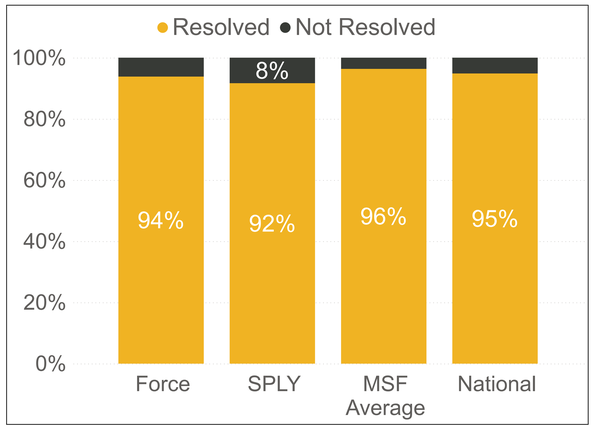
The actions available once an allegation is finalised depend on how the complaint case has been handled. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for details of actions available (link available on page 14)

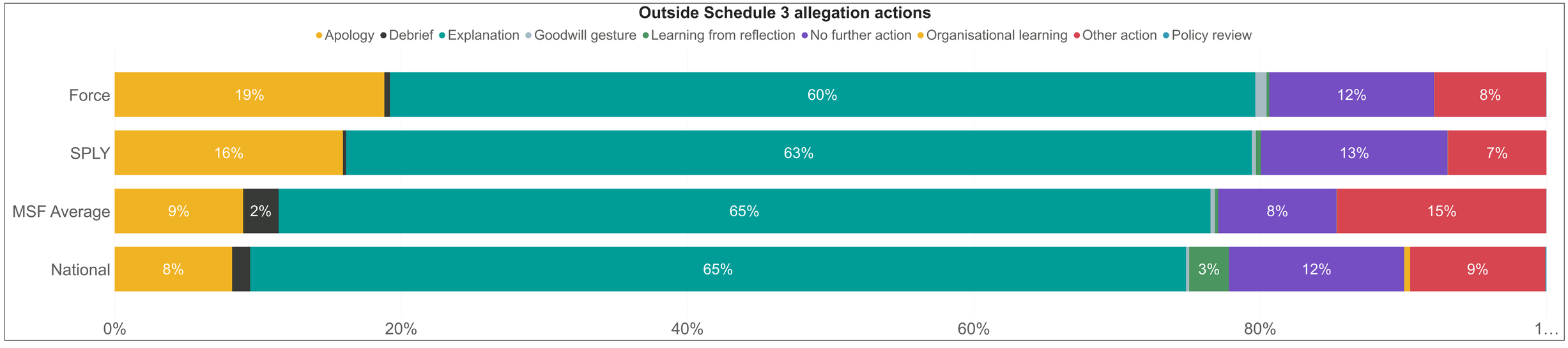
When an allegation is handled outside of Schedule 3 it will result in a finding of Resolved or Not Resolved - (an allegation not resolved may be moved to Schedule 3 or finalised without additional action)

Outside Schedule 3 result	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Resolved	8,297	7,744	5,868	78,219
Not Resolved	543	702	219	4,224
Total	**8,840**	**8,446**	**6,087**	**82,443**

Figures may differ in the two tables where actions have not yet been decided or not yet recorded

Measure	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Actions on allegations outside of Schedule 3	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent
Explanation	5,328	60%	5,312	63%	3,954	65%	53,668	65%
Apology	1,661	19%	1,339	16%	545	9%	6,733	8%
No further action	1,015	12%	1,095	13%	503	8%	10,054	12%
Other action	688	8%	577	7%	887	15%	7,759	9%
Goodwill gesture	69	1%	24	0%	19	0%	178	0%
Debrief	34	0%	19	0%	151	2%	1,041	1%
Learning from reflection	17	0%	30	0%	14	0%	2,278	3%
Organisational learning	2	0%	2	0%	2	0%	337	0%
Policy review	1	0%			0	0%	56	0%
Total	**8,815**	**100%**	**8,398**	**100%**	**6,074**	**100%**	**82,104**	**100%**





Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Findings on Schedule 3 allegations

This section presents information about what happened as a result of the allegation (action). Actions are captured at allegation level and multiple actions can be selected, where appropriate, on single allegation. The figures shown in this section are based on allegations that resulted in the corresponding action. As more than one action can be selected for a single allegation, the sum of all percentages will not equal 100%.

The actions available once an allegation is finalised depend on how the complaint case has been handled. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for details of actions available.

When an allegation is handled under Schedule 3 (not investigated or investigated not subject to special procedures), it will typically result in a finding of:

The service provided was acceptable

The service provided was not acceptable

Unable to determine whether service provided was acceptable

Measure type	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Not investigated	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**
No further action	694	5%	646	6%	328	5%	5,708	7%
Regulation 41 applies					23	0%	262	0%
Service provided - acceptable	9,298	71%	8,048	69%	4,446	69%	58,464	69%
Service provided - not acceptable	1,515	12%	1,438	12%	811	13%	11,005	13%
Service provided - unable to determine	1,335	10%	1,368	12%	690	11%	7,657	9%
Withdrawal	254	2%	212	2%	105	2%	2,069	2%

Measure type	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Not subject to special procedures	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**
Case to Answer					0	0%		
No further action	129	6%	178	5%	54	6%	504	3%
Regulation 41 applies			6	0%	16	2%	218	1%
Service provided - acceptable	1,511	68%	2,370	71%	623	68%	10,707	69%
Service provided - not acceptable	280	13%	367	11%	108	12%	2,102	14%
Service provided - unable to determine	245	11%	353	11%	91	10%	1,531	10%
Withdrawal	57	3%	69	2%	19	2%	429	3%

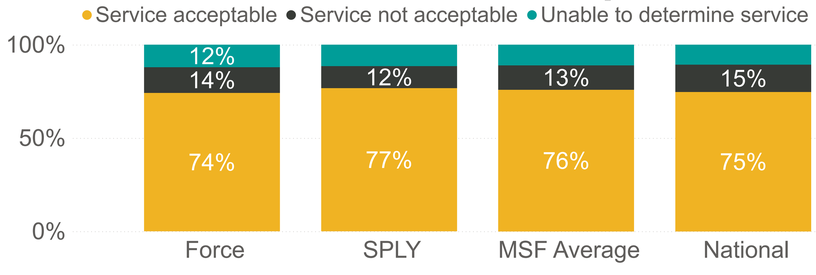
An allegation investigated (subject to special procedures) should not result in a service finding but some have been recorded with that outcome

Such allegations should result in a Case to Answer or No Case to Answer for misconduct

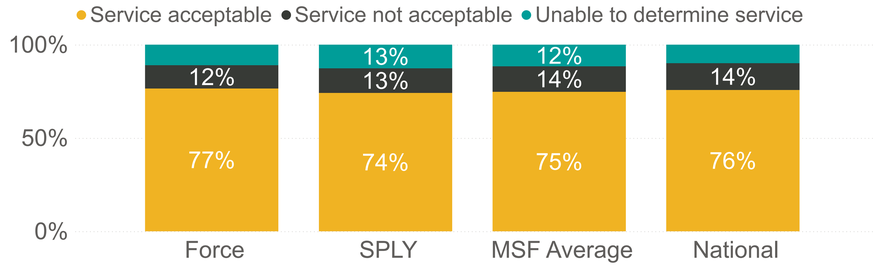
In addition, an allegation can be withdrawn, finalised following criminal proceedings or subject to no further action. No further action here means that the allegation could not be progressed, for example due to being unable to engage with the complainant. This is different from the force deciding to take no further action after looking into an allegation

Measure type	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Subject to special procedures	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**	**Finalised**	**%**
Case to Answer	62	14%	106	12%	27	16%	397	22%
No Case to Answer	283	63%	545	61%	94	55%	886	49%
No further action	6	1%	6	1%	3	2%	31	2%
Regulation 41 applies					0	0%	7	0%
Service provided - acceptable	68	15%	184	21%	36	21%	285	16%
Service provided - not acceptable	13	3%	23	3%	6	3%	81	5%
Service provided - unable to determine	12	3%	14	2%	4	2%	43	2%
Withdrawal	2	0%	16	2%	2	1%	69	4%

Schedule 3 allegations (not investigated)



Schedule 3 allegations (investigated - not subject to special procedures)



Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

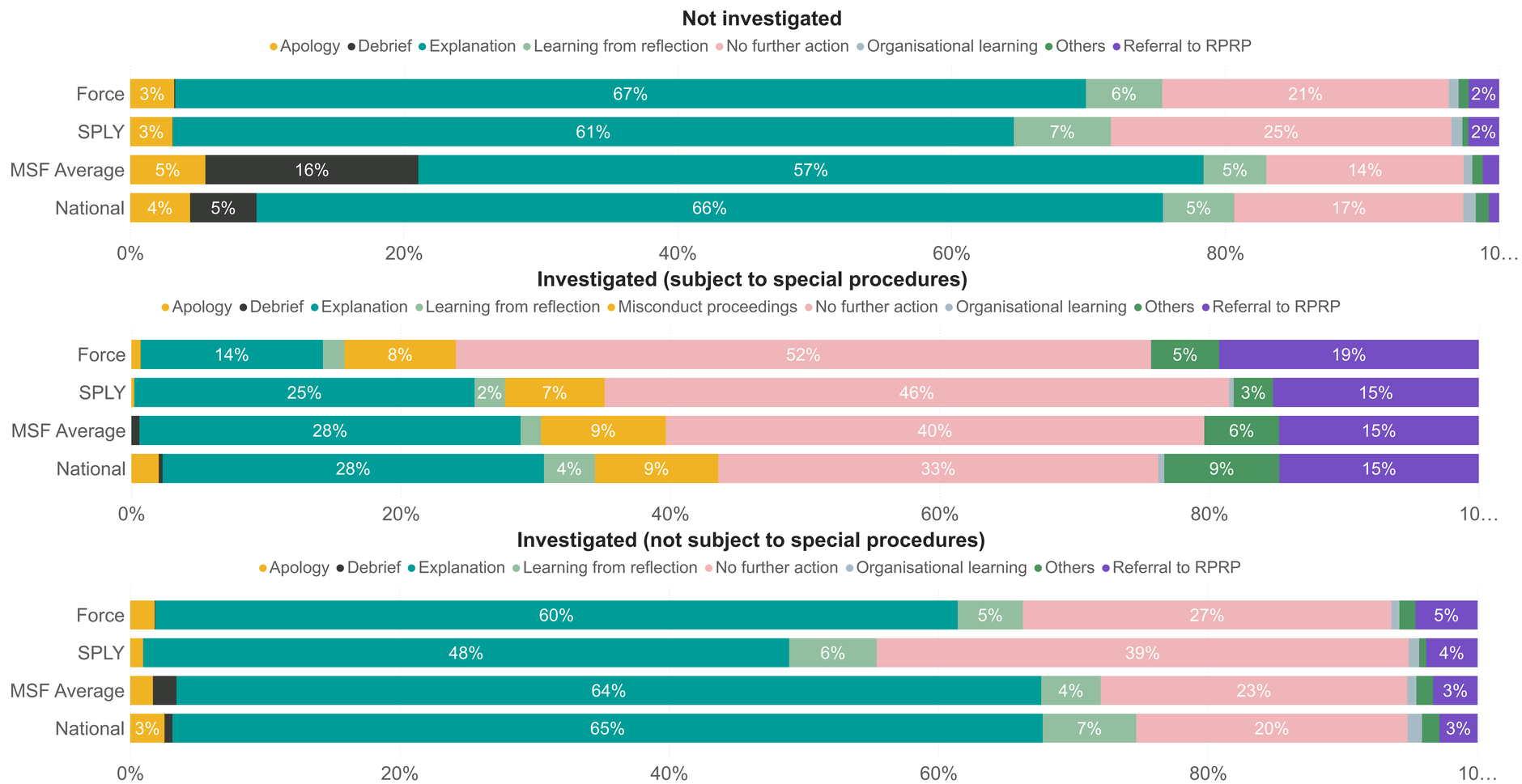
Actions on Schedule 3 allegations

This section presents information about what happened as a result of the allegation (action). Actions are captured at allegation level and multiple actions can be selected, where appropriate, on single allegation. The figures shown in this section are based on allegations that resulted in the corresponding action.

The actions available once an allegation is finalised depend on how the complaint case has been handled. Please refer to our guidance on capturing data about police complaints for details of actions available.

Measure	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
Actions on Schedule 3 allegations	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent	Allegations finalised	Percent
Explanation	10,037	64%	8,984	57%	4,290	58%	66,745	65%
No further action	3,555	23%	4,628	29%	1,193	16%	17,908	18%
Learning from reflection	839	5%	1,062	7%	335	4%	5,564	5%
Referral to RPRP	475	3%	525	3%	130	2%	1,333	1%
Apology	462	3%	395	2%	367	5%	4,154	4%
Others	143	1%	93	1%	69	1%	1,158	1%
Organisational learning	106	1%	122	1%	46	1%	948	1%
Misconduct proceedings	36	0%	66	0%	16	0%	162	0%
Debrief	12	0%	3	0%	1,011	14%	4,219	4%
Total	**15,665**	**100%**	**15,878**	**100%**	**7,457**	**100%**	**102,191**	**100%**

Please note: A finding for misconduct can only be made where the allegation is investigated subject to special procedures

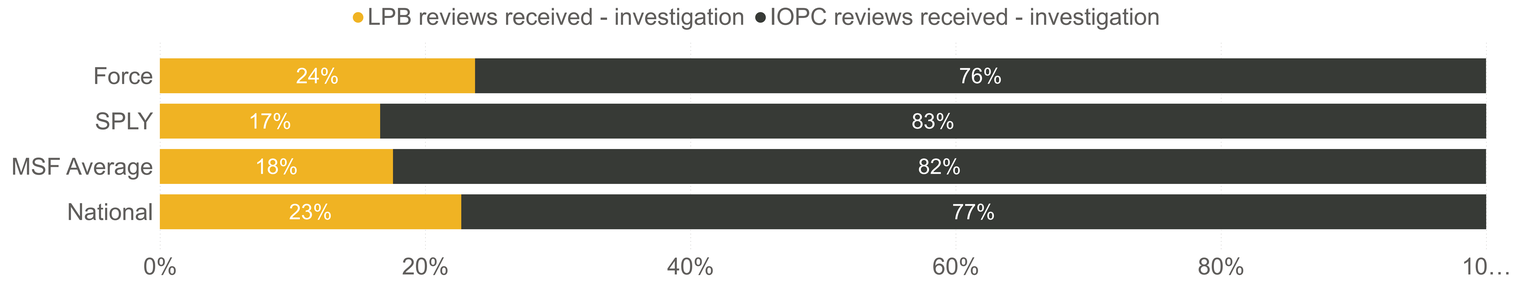


Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

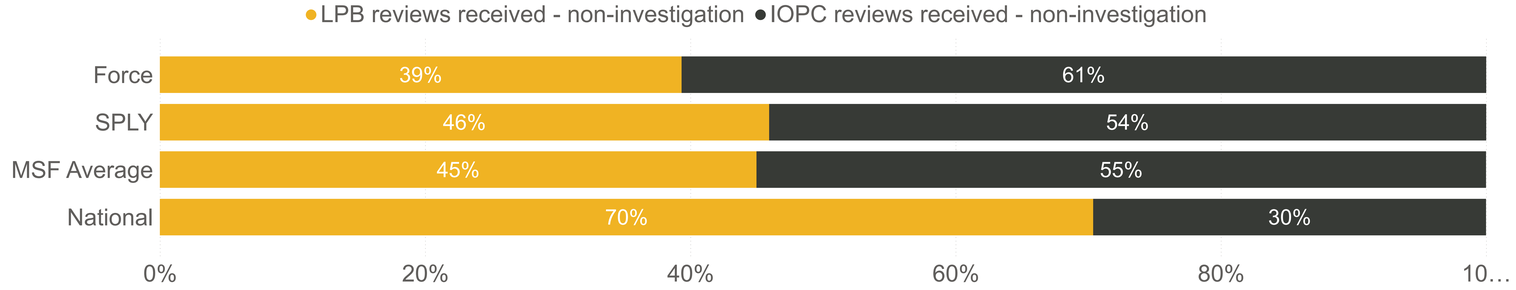
Reviews received

This section presents data on the number of reviews received about this force by the IOPC and by the local policing body. The charts enable you to see the proportion of each review type being received by the two bodies. The IOPC handle the majority of reviews where the complaint was handled by investigation. For information on when the IOPC should be the review body, please see our Statutory Guidance

LPB reviews	Investigation	Non-investigation
Force	63	452
SPLY	47	362
MSF Average	17	234
National	275	5,002

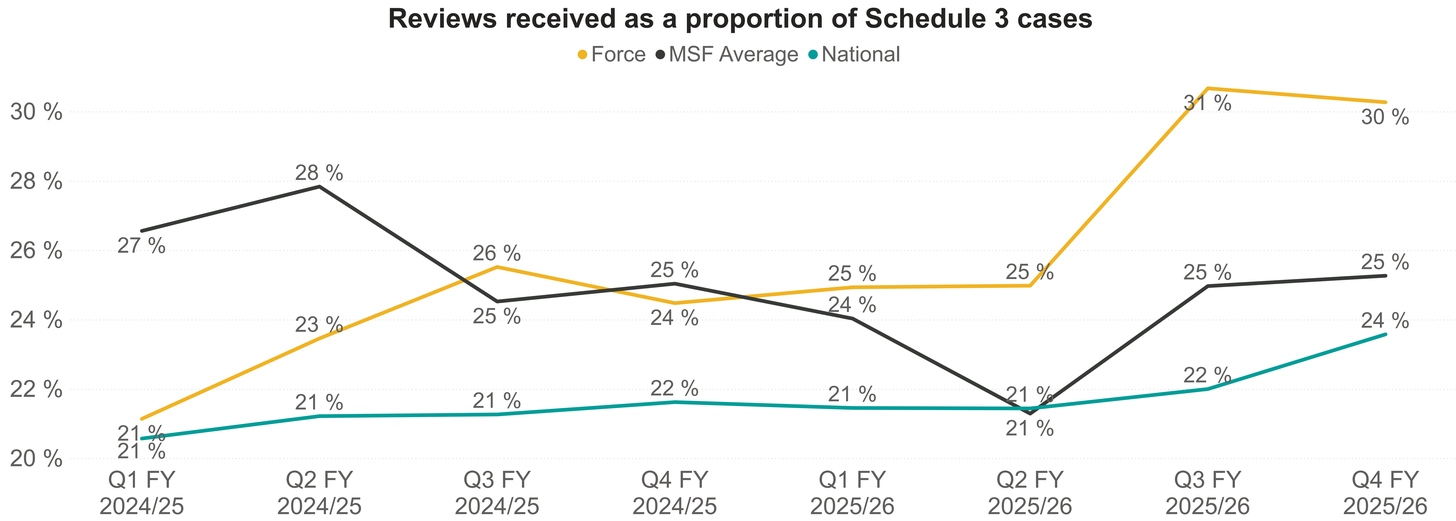


IOPC Reviews	Investigation	Non-investigation
Force	202	697
SPLY	236	426
MSF Average	79	286
National	935	2105



Complaints are not finalised until after any reviews are completed. However, this measure helps to provide an indication of how often reviews are made in comparison to the number of complaints completed.

Measure	Reviews Received	Complaint cases finalised under Schedule 3
Force	1,414	5,041
SPLY	1,071	4,533
MSF Average	615	2,449
National	8,317	37,566



Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Reviews outcomes and timeliness

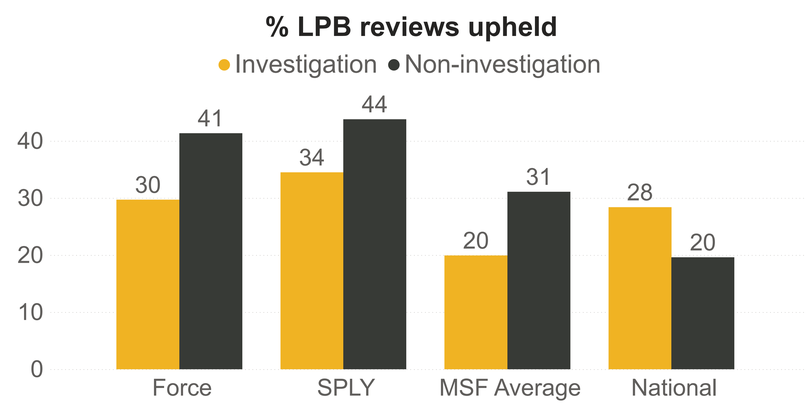
LPB Reviews

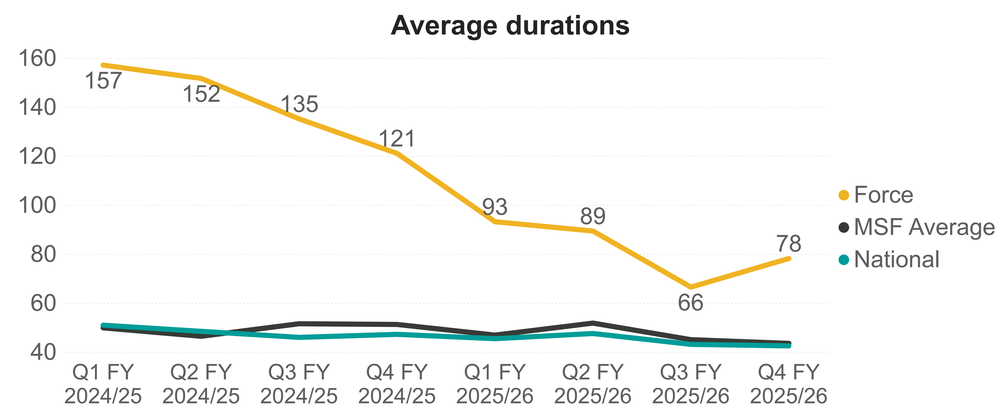
This section presents information about the decisions made on reviews and how long reviews are taking to finalise.

When a review finds that the outcome of the complaint was not reasonable and proportionate, that review is considered to be 'upheld'

Review type	Complete with outcome	Upheld
Investigation		
Force	64	19
SPLY	29	10
MSF Average	17	5
National	282	80
Non-investigation		
Force	358	148
SPLY	427	187
MSF Average	204	70
National	4429	868

Review type	Average duration
Investigation	
Force	83
SPLY	124
MSF Average	44
National	57
Non-investigation	
Force	81
SPLY	141
MSF Average	46
National	44





IOPC Reviews

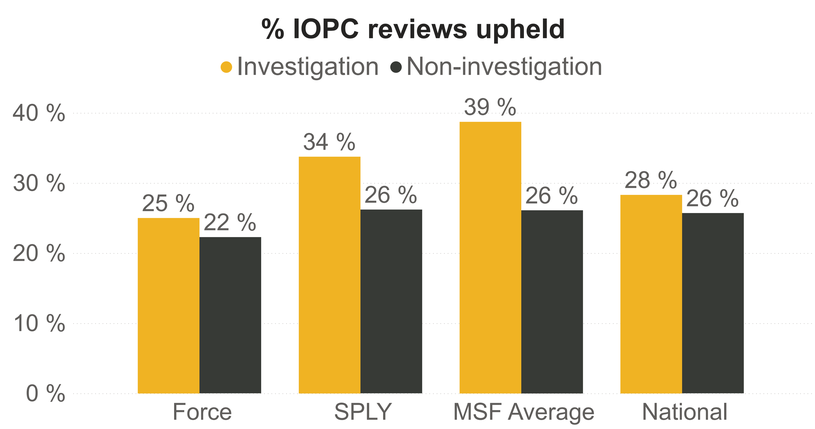
The IOPC will be the review body on complaints that meet certain criteria, including mandatory referral criteria (see page 16)

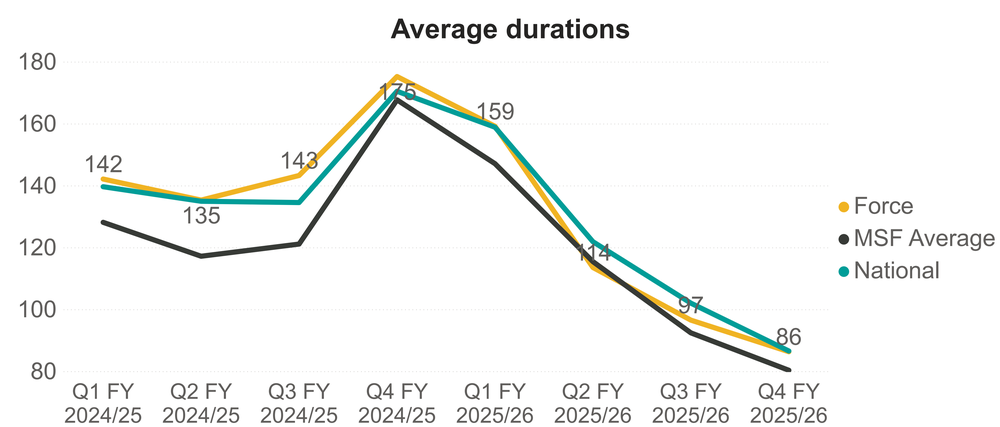
When a complaint is referred to the IOPC, the IOPC automatically becomes the review body.

There has been a significant backlog in the number of reviews handled by the IOPC which means the average durations are typically longer than those on reviews where the relevant review body is the local policing body

IOPC review	Investigation	Upheld	Non-investigation	Upheld
Force	264	66	669	152
SPLY	246	83	271	72
MSF Average	94	28	281	72
National	1,152	327	2,121	555

Measure	Average duration
Force	111
SPLY	152
MSF Average	106
National	115





Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Referrals to the IOPC

The force should refer certain matters to the IOPC for the IOPC to decide how they should be handled. The figures presented in this section include all referrals that the force makes to the IOPC (received), not just those arising from complaints.

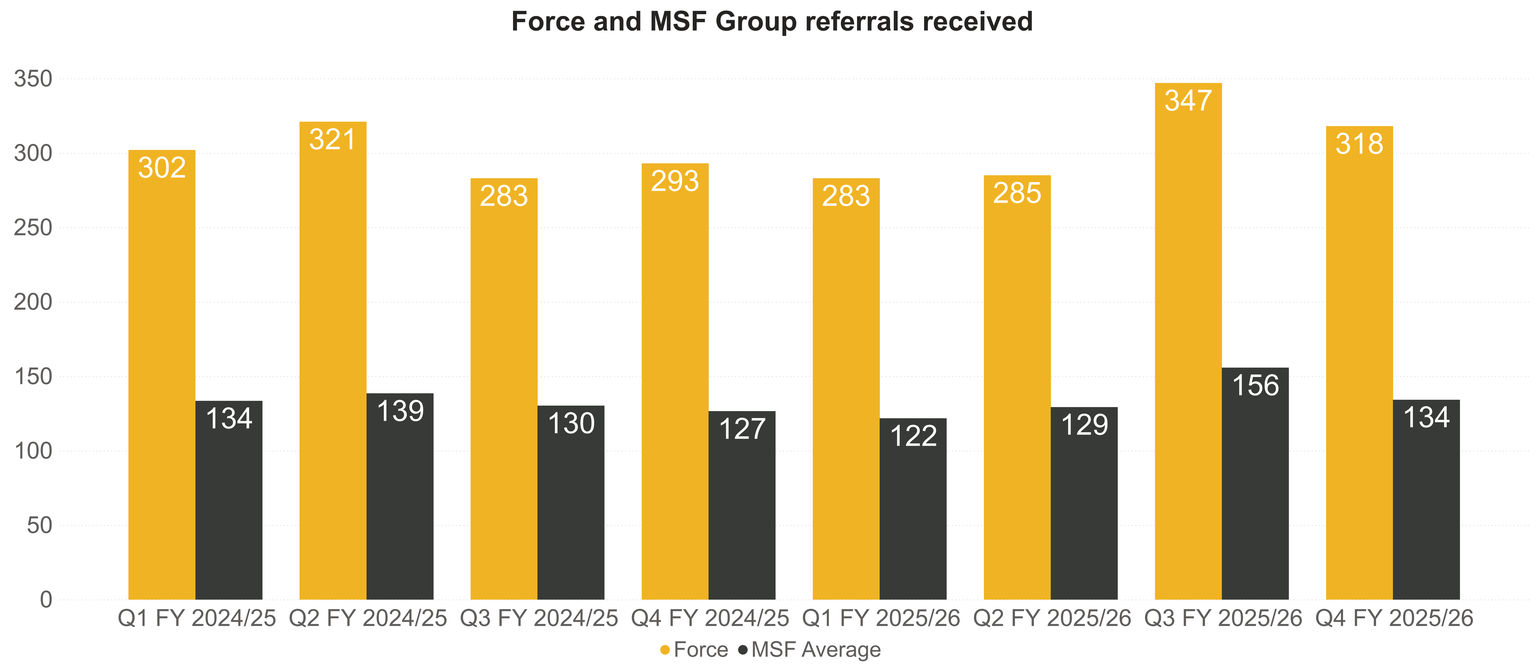
When the IOPC receives a referral from the force, it reviews the information they have provided. The IOPC decides whether the matter requires an investigation, and the type of investigation.

Referrals may have been completed in a different period to when they were received.

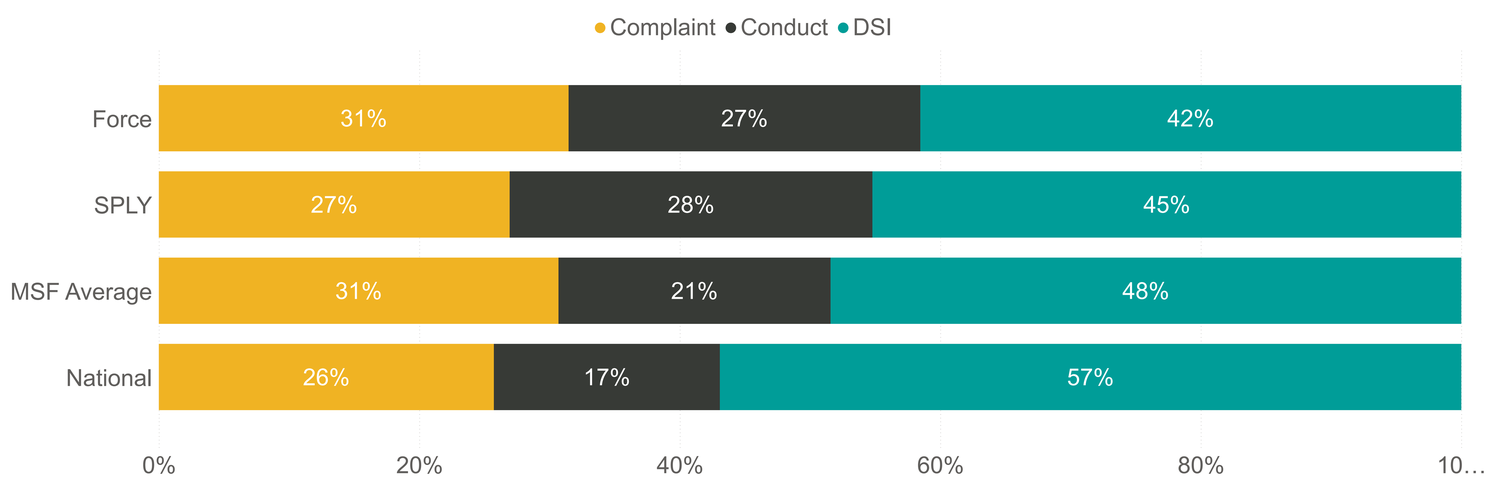
A referral may be made invalid if the matter does not fall within the IOPC's remit

The sum of decisions may not match the number of referrals completed. This is because some matters referred may have come to the attention of the appropriate authority before 1 February 2020 and have investigation type decisions of either managed or supervised.

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Number Referrals Received	1,233	1,199	541	6,942
Number referrals completed	1,248	1,222	548	7,017
Decision: Directed Investigation	11	12	3	24
Decision: Independent Investigation	85	52	38	400
Decision: Invalid	9	19	5	98
Decision: Local Investigation	724	731	294	3,513
Decision: Return to Force	418	408	208	2,980



Referral type	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Complaint	388	323	166	1,786
Conduct	333	334	113	1,204
DSI	512	542	262	3,952
Total	**1,233**	**1,199**	**541**	**6,942**



Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Greater Manchester Police, Metropolitan Police Service, West Midlands Police, West Yorkshire Police

Notes

Data sources

- Data in this bulletin is taken from XML data submissions made by forces to the IOPC every quarter except for IOPC performance data which is taken from the IOPC case management system.
- Police force employee numbers are taken from the latest police workforce England and Wales statistics published by the Home Office.
- The most similar force (MSF) groups used for the calculation of the MSF averages in this bulletin are those determined by HMICFRS. Please note that the British Transport Police, Report Fraud and City of London Police do not have an MSF group. A list of the MSF groups is available on the IOPC website.

Performance Framework counting rules and calculation

- The counting rules and calculations used to produce the data shown in this bulletin can be found on the IOPC website.
- Average times are presented in working days and do not include weekends or bank holidays.
- Some percentages may add up to more or less than 100% due to rounding.
- Complaint cases and allegations with invalid start/end dates have been removed from average time calculations. Therefore, the numbers of complaint cases and allegations used in the average time calculations may be lower than the total number of complaint cases and allegations logged or finalised.

Data constraints

- The data is sourced from live case management systems and provides a snapshot of information as it was at that time. Therefore, there may be variances between the information in this bulletin and information reported at a later date.

Further Information

- A glossary providing a full list of definitions used in this bulletin, can be found on the IOPC website.

- Additional information about the recording of police complaints, including the definitions of the complaint categories, can be found in appendix A of the IOPC's Guidance on capturing data about police complaints.

- Information about how the police complaints system operates, who can complain and how reviews are dealt with can be found in the IOPC's Statutory Guidance on the police complaints system (February 2020).