Crime: Devon

Written Question

Sarah Wollaston (Totnes, Conservative)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of levels of (a) violent crime and (b) domestic violence in South Devon in each of the last three years.

James Brokenshire (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Home Office)

The Home Office collects data on violence against the person offences recorded by police forces in England and Wales. Data are collected at police force area level but can be broken down to local authority, Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Basic Command Unit (BCU) levels. None of these levels have an area exactly corresponding to South Devon, however data are provided for South Hams alongside the total figures for England and Wales for each year from 2007-08 to 2009-10 in Table A.

Data on domestic violence are collected via the British Crime Survey but these can only be broken down to regional level. Data for the South West Region are provided in Table B. Further information can be found in 'Homicides, Firearms Offences and Intimate Violence 2009-10' at the following link: Home Office.

Data on police recorded offences of domestic violence are collected but cannot be broken down beyond police force area level. Data for Devon and Cornwall police force area for 2007-08 to 2009-10 are provided in Table C.

Table A: Recorded violence against the person offences in South Hams and England and Wales, 2007-08 to 2009-10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2007-08 to 2008-09</th>
<th>2008-09 to 2009-10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Hams</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England and Wales</td>
<td>961,099</td>
<td>903,447</td>
<td>871,712</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table B: Percentage of adults aged 16 to 59 who were victims of domestic abuse in the last year, 2007-08 to 2009-10 BCS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South West</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2007-08 to 2008-09</th>
<th>2008-09 to 2009-10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td></td>
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Note: To enable comparisons over time, these figures do not include stalking as questions on stalking were not included in the 2007-08 BCS.

Table C: Reported domestic violence incidents(1), Devon and Cornwall police, 2007-08 to
2009-10

Number of reported domestic violence incidents

- 2007-08: 23,789
- 2008-09: 25,872
- 2009-10: 25,659

(1) All data are provisional and unverified.

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