

# Police Complaints Information Bulletin: Cheshire

**Reporting Period: 01 April 2023 - 31 December 2023 (Q3 2023/24)**

**Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Avon And Somerset, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Devon And Cornwall, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Wiltshire**

## 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) and with the overall result for all forces (national).

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## Acronyms used in this bulletin

**Force** – Year to date force numbers, **SPLY** - Same period last year, **MSF** - Most similar force, **LPB** - Local policing body, **PRA** - Police Reform Act 2002, **Inc.** – Including

**Ind** – independent Investigation, **Nat.** – National, **No.** – Number, **RPRP** – Reflective Practice Review Process, **UPP** – Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure

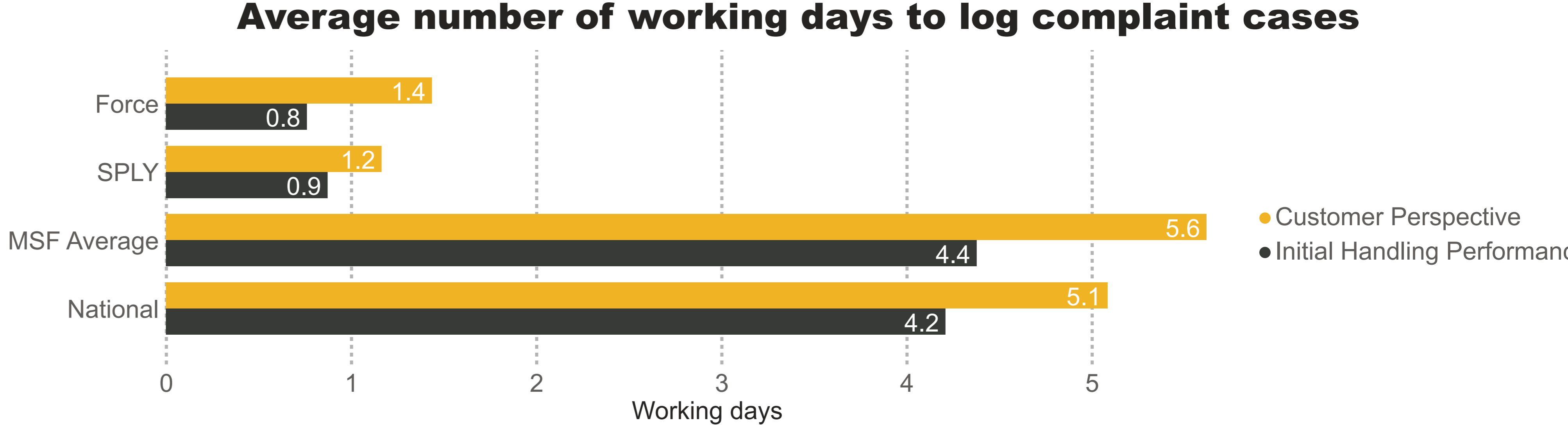
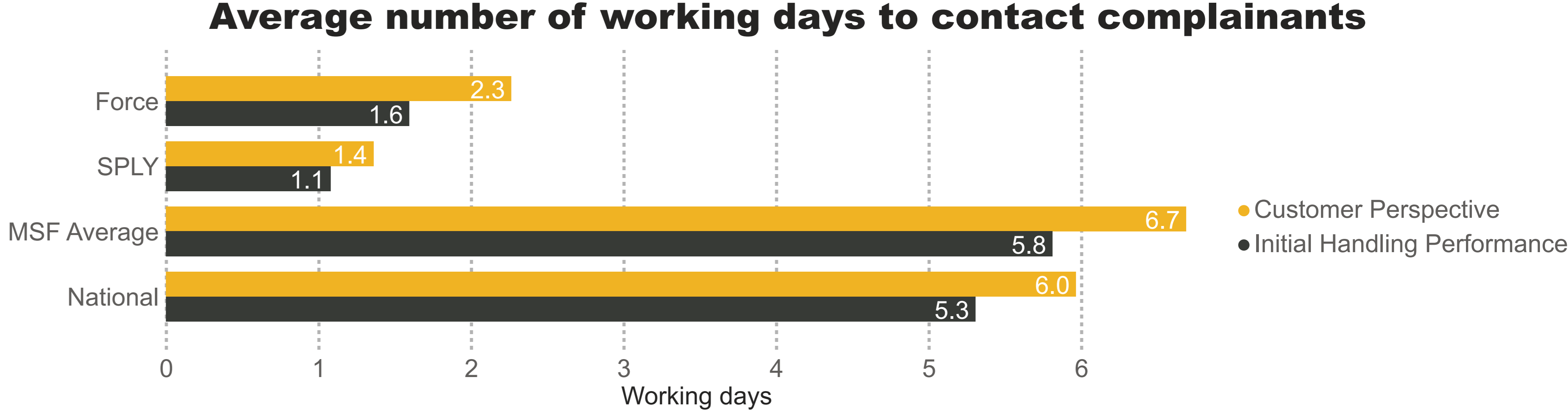
**Section A1.1: Complaint cases logged and initial handling**

This section presents information relating to the force’s contact with customers and their initial handling of the complaint cases. It shows how long, on average, it takes from the customer’s perspective from when they made the complaint and the force’s performance of the initial handling from when it received the complaint.

Complaint cases with ‘invalid dates’ have been removed from timeliness measures. Please refer to the performance framework counting rules and calculations on the [IOPC website](#) for explanations of customer perspective, initial handling and invalid dates.

Average number of working days to contact complainants	Customer perspective	Initial handling performance
Force	2	2
SPLY	1	1
MSF Average	7	6
National	6	5

Average number of working days to log complaint cases	Customer perspective	Initial handling performance
Force	1	1
SPLY	1	1
MSF Average	6	4
National	5	4



**Complaint cases logged**

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Complaint cases logged	1,167	1,358	1,135	62,963
Complaint cases logged per 1,000 employees	278	325	286	249

**Reasons complaint cases are recorded under Schedule 3 of the PRA 2002**

The below table presents the number of complaint cases handled under Schedule 3 of the PRA 2002 (formal handling) and the reasons why.

Reason complaint case recorded under Schedule 3	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
AA/body responsible for initial handling decides	281	48 %	261	52 %	242	46 %	10,304	43 %
Complainant wishes the complaint be recorded	78	13 %	54	11 %	91	17 %	5,003	21 %
Dissatisfaction after initial handling	127	22 %	93	19 %	72	16 %	3,400	14 %
Nature of the allegation(s) in the complaint	101	17 %	93	19 %	114	21 %	5,131	22 %

**Section A1.2: Allegations logged - what has been complained about**

This section presents information that shows what people complain about. Allegation categories capture the root of the dissatisfaction expressed in a complaint. A complaint case will contain one or more allegations and one category is selected for each allegation logged.

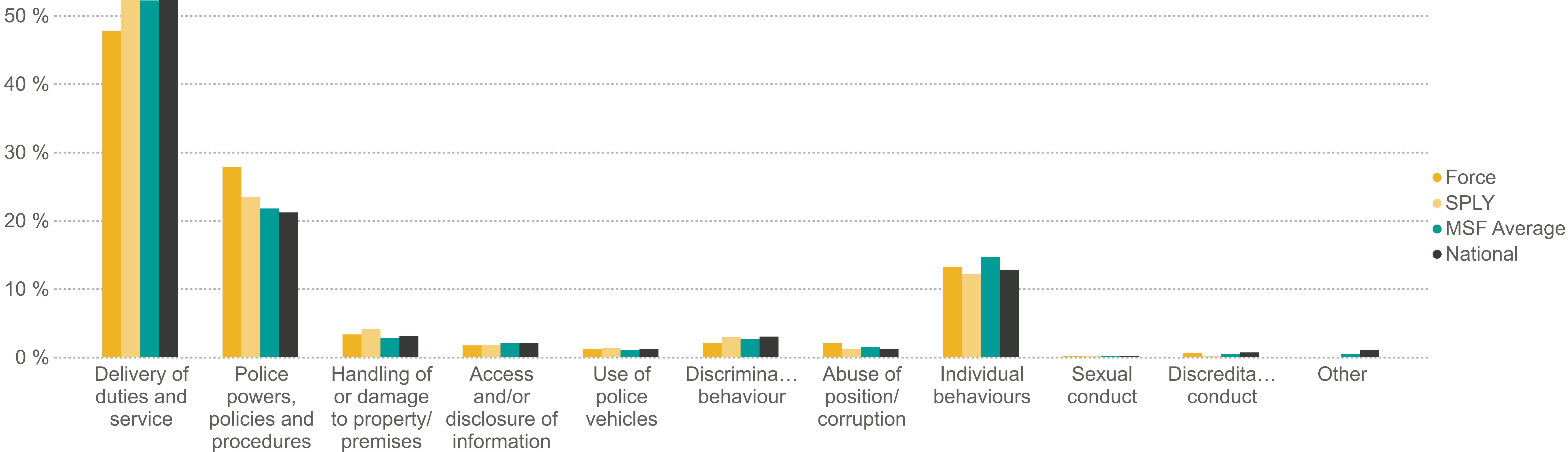
Please refer to our [Guidance on capturing data about police complaints](#) for guidance on logging allegations and complaint category definitions.

**Allegations logged**

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Allegations Logged	1,864	1,988	2,051	110,331
Allegations logged per 1,000 employees	443	475	509	436

**What has been complained about**

	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	889	520	62	32	22	38	40	246	4	11	0	1,864
SPLY	1,045	466	81	36	27	58	25	242	3	4	1	1,988
MSF Average	1,090	430	56	41	23	54	32	298	3	12	12	2,051
National	58,911	23,380	3,456	2,234	1,300	3,346	1,359	14,123	233	757	1,231	110,330
Force	48 %	28 %	3 %	2 %	1 %	2 %	2 %	13 %	0 %	1 %	0 %	100 %
SPLY	53 %	23 %	4 %	2 %	1 %	3 %	1 %	12 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	100 %
MSF Average	52 %	22 %	3 %	2 %	1 %	3 %	1 %	15 %	0 %	1 %	1 %	100 %
National	53 %	21 %	3 %	2 %	1 %	3 %	1 %	13 %	0 %	1 %	1 %	100 %



**Section A1.3: Allegations logged – what has been complained about – top five allegation categories and their subcategories**

Category	Subcategory	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National		
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Delivery of duties and service	<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>48 %</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>53 %</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>52 %</b>	<b>58,907</b>	<b>53 %</b>	
	Police action following contact	468	53 %	368	35 %	510	46 %	25,213	43 %	
	Decisions	130	15 %	198	19 %	164	15 %	7,833	13 %	
	General level of service	90	10 %	237	23 %	250	22 %	19,902	34 %	
	Information	201	23 %	242	23 %	166	16 %	5,959	10 %	
Police powers, policies and procedures	<b>Total</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>28 %</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>23 %</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>22 %</b>	<b>23,375</b>	<b>21 %</b>	
	Stops, and stop and search	18	3 %	16	3 %	17	4 %	1,272	5 %	
	Searches of premises and seizure of property	43	8 %	53	11 %	49	11 %	2,811	12 %	
	Power to arrest and detain	129	25 %	110	24 %	79	18 %	3,940	17 %	
	Detention in police custody	117	23 %	118	25 %	75	18 %	3,190	14 %	
	Bail, identification and interview procedures	48	9 %	30	6 %	26	6 %	1,146	5 %	
	Use of force	142	27 %	127	27 %	108	25 %	6,209	27 %	
	Evidential procedures	15	3 %	4	1 %	22	5 %	1,772	8 %	
	Out of court disposals	3	1 %	6	1 %	11	2 %	385	2 %	
	Other policies and procedures	5	1 %	2	0 %	41	10 %	2,649	11 %	
	Other	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %	
	Handling of or damage to property/ premises	<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>3 %</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>4 %</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>3 %</b>	<b>3,327</b>	<b>3 %</b>
		Handling of or damage to property/ premises	62	100 %	81	100 %	56	100 %	3,326	96 %
	Abuse of position/ corruption	General level of service	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>2 %</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1 %</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1 %</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>1 %</b>	
Abuse of position for financial purpose		0	0 %	1	4 %	1	6 %	46	3 %	
Abuse of position for sexual purpose		1	3 %	1	4 %	2	7 %	41	3 %	
Abuse of position for the purpose of pursuing an inappropriate emotional relationship		0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	38	3 %	
Abuse of position for other purpose		7	18 %	3	12 %	5	26 %	321	24 %	
Individual behaviours	Obstruction of justice	26	65 %	12	48 %	20	48 %	597	44 %	
	Organisational corruption	6	15 %	8	32 %	4	13 %	316	23 %	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>13 %</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>12 %</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>15 %</b>	<b>14,122</b>	<b>13 %</b>	
	Unprofessional attitude and disrespect	71	29 %	70	29 %	74	24 %	4,046	29 %	
	Lack of fairness and impartiality	26	11 %	29	12 %	48	15 %	1,894	13 %	
	Overbearing or harassing behaviours	55	22 %	76	31 %	60	20 %	2,519	18 %	
	Impolite language / tone	89	36 %	55	23 %	81	29 %	3,672	26 %	
Impolite and intolerant actions	5	2 %	11	5 %	35	12 %	1,991	14 %		

This section presents the five most commonly recorded categories for allegations that have been logged. A complaint case will contain one or more allegations and one category (and sub-category, where available) is selected for each allegation logged.

Total % is of the total number of allegations logged. Allegations where the subcategory is 'none' are omitted from this table.

**Section A1.4: Allegations logged – What has been complained about (category) and the situational context of complaints (factors)**

Allegation category												
Factors	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
Arrest	40	202	6	1	0	7	1	11	1	0	0	269
Call Handling	30	0	0	1	0	2	0	17	0	0	0	50
Child protection / CSA / CSE	16	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	20
Custody	15	149	4	1	0	1	1	18	0	0	0	189
Death	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Domestic / gender abuse	37	31	0	0	0	4	2	6	0	0	0	80
Drugs / alcohol	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	7
Firearms	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fraud	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Hate Crime	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Investigation	371	22	4	3	0	7	8	24	0	0	0	439
Mental health	13	15	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	34
Missing persons	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
Neighbourhood policing	34	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	43
None	246	75	40	23	3	14	24	116	0	7	0	548
Premises search	3	22	5	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	33
Public order incident	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
Restraint equipment	1	58	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	62
Roads/traffic	76	17	3	1	19	2	2	20	0	2	0	142
Serious injury	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Social media	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Stop and/or search	15	35	3	0	1	4	1	15	2	0	0	76
Taser	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	88	10	0	1	0	0	3	7	0	0	0	109
VAWG - police perpetrated	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	8	1	1	0	17
VAWG - police victim	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3

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

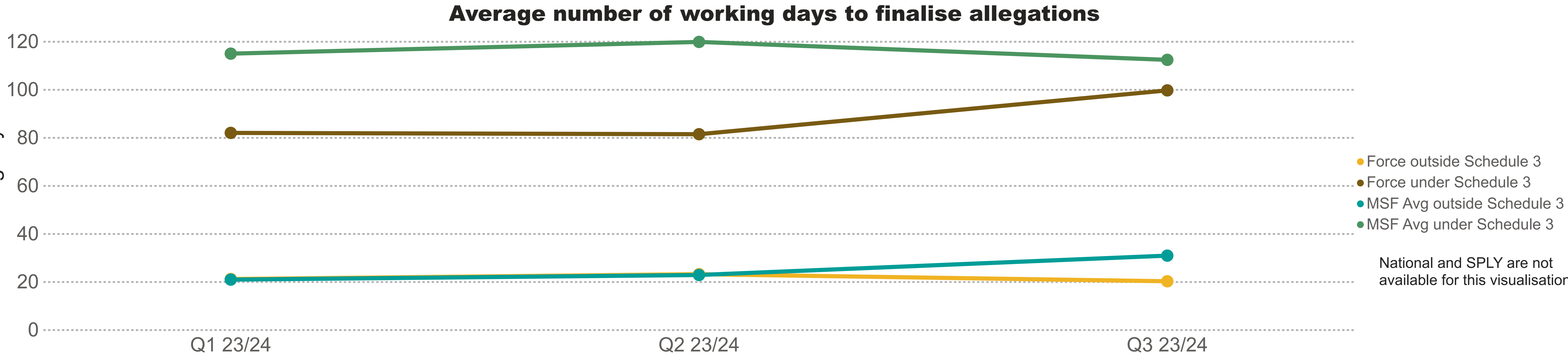
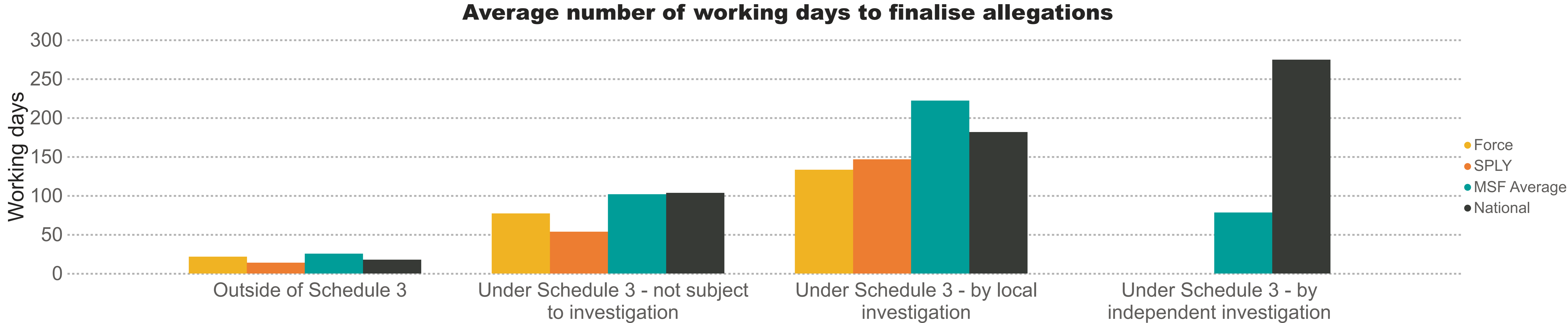
**Section A2: Allegations timeliness**

Average number of working days to finalise allegations	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Outside of Schedule 3	22	14	25	18
Under Schedule 3 - not subject to investigation	77	54	102	103
Under Schedule 3 - by local investigation	133	147	222	182
Under Schedule 3 - by directed investigation	0	0	0	0
Under Schedule 3 - by independent investigation	0	0	78	275

This section presents the time it takes the force to finalise allegations by how they were handled. It gives a breakdown of allegations handled informally outside of Schedule 3 and those that were handled formally by either by investigation or handled other than by investigation. Timeliness is calculated from the date the allegation was received by the force to the day the complainant is informed of the allegation decision.

Independent investigation figures do not include conduct or death/serious injury investigations which are also investigated by the IOPC.

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.



National and SPLY are not available for this visualisation.

**Section A3.1: How allegations were handled and their decisions**

This section presents a breakdown of how allegations were handled information and the decisions being given. An allegation decision is logged for each allegation finalised.

The allegation decision reflects how the complaint case has been handled, with different decisions available for the different means of handling. Both the allegation decisions and the subsequent actions available will depend on two things: firstly, whether the complaint case has been handled outside or under Schedule 3; and secondly, the means of handling where it has been dealt with under Schedule 3.

Please refer to our [Guidance on capturing data about police complaints](#) for details of allegation decisions.

How allegations were handled	Force No.	Force %	MSF Average No.	MSF Average %	National No.	National %
Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)	125	9 %	132	8 %	12,221	12 %
Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	7	0 %	18	1 %	1,393	1 %
Under Schedule 3 - not investigated	736	52 %	984	55 %	45,603	44 %
Outside of Schedule 3	547	39 %	689	37 %	44,072	43 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,415</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>1823</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>103,289</b>	<b>100 %</b>

How allegations were handled	Outside of Schedule 3				Under Schedule 3 - not investigated				Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)				Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)			
	Force No.	Force %	Nat. No.	Nat. %	Force No.	Force %	Nat. No.	Nat. %	Force No.	Force %	Nat. No.	Nat. %	Force No.	Force %	Nat. No.	Nat. %
No further action					40	5 %	3,928	9 %			5	0 %	5	4 %	489	4 %
Regulation 41 applies							112	0 %			5	0 %			79	1 %
Service provided - unable to determine					14	2 %	3,573	8 %			30	2 %	4	3 %	1,018	8 %
Service provided - not acceptable					108	15 %	5,989	13 %			69	5 %	34	27 %	1,423	12 %
Service provided - acceptable					555	75 %	30,569	67 %			358	26 %	82	66 %	8,812	72 %
Not Resolved	36	7 %	3,153	7 %												
Resolved	511	93 %	40,919	93 %												
No Case to Answer									1	14 %	549	39 %				
Case to Answer									6	86 %	352	25 %				
Withdrawal					19	3 %	1,432	3 %			25	2 %			400	3 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>39 %</b>	<b>44,072</b>	<b>43 %</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>52 %</b>	<b>45,603</b>	<b>44 %</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0 %</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1 %</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>9 %</b>	<b>12,221</b>	<b>12 %</b>

**Section A3.2: Allegation decisions by what was complained about (category)**

This section presents information about allegations handled both informally and formally, grouped by the allegation decision and the category selected on each allegation. Each allegation has a single category selected.

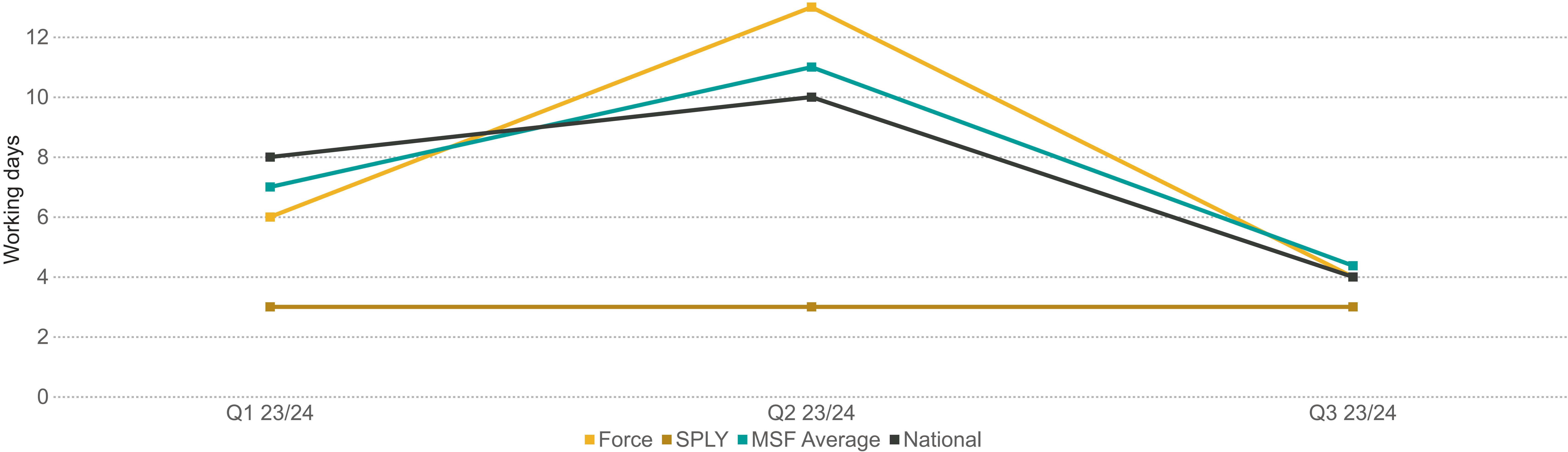
Allegation category												
Allegation decisions	Delivery of duties and service	Police powers, policies and procedures	Handling of or damage to property/premises	Access and/or disclosure of information	Use of police vehicles	Discriminatory behaviour	Abuse of position/corruption	Individual behaviours	Sexual conduct	Discreditable conduct	Other	Total
No further action	27	10	1	1	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	45
Regulation 41 applies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Service provided - unable to determine	6	3	0	1	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	18
Service provided - not acceptable	75	34	2	6	2	1	0	22	0	0	0	142
Service provided - acceptable	219	251	12	9	5	29	19	88	3	2	0	637
Not Resolved	19	7	2	1	0	1	1	5	0	0	0	36
Resolved	329	60	26	13	11	0	0	70	0	2	0	511
No Case to Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Case to Answer	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	6
Withdrawal	4	7	0	0	0	3	0	4	1	0	0	19



**Section B: Referrals**

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Number referrals received	58	53	84	5,160
Number referrals completed	59	53	84	5,170
Decision: Independent Investigation	1	1	6	308
Decision: Directed Investigation	1	0	0	27
Decision: Local Investigation	36	35	55	3,387
Decision: Return to Force	20	17	21	1,363
Decision: Invalid	1	0	2	84

**Average number of working days to complete referrals by quarter**



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.

Where a referral is made by the force on a mandatory basis but does not meet the mandatory referral criteria, the matter may not fall within the IOPC’s remit to assess and will be determined invalid.

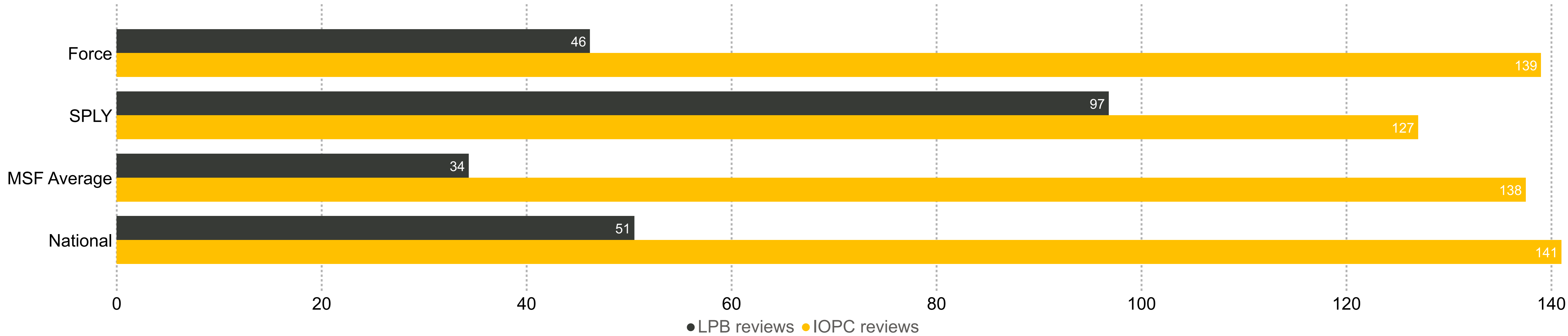
The sum of decisions may not match the number of referrals completed. This is because some matters referred may have come to the attention of the appropriate authority before 1 February 2020 and have investigation type decisions of either managed or supervised.

**Section C1: Reviews received**

	Complaint cases finalised under Schedule 3	Reviews received	Reviews received as proportion of complaint cases finalised under Schedule 3	Number LPB reviews received - investigation	Number LPB reviews received - non-investigation	Number IOPC reviews received - investigation	Number IOPC reviews received - non-investigation
Force	430	107	25 %	2	79	6	20
SPLY	438	90	21 %	0	62	7	21
MSF Average	456	91	21 %	1	63	9	17
National	22,597	4,729	21 %	340	2,857	621	911

**Section C2: Reviews timeliness**

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Average number of working days to complete Local Policing Body reviews	46	97	34	51
Average number of working days to complete IOPC reviews	139	127	138	141



Where a complaint has been recorded under Schedule 3 to the *Police Reform Act 2002*, the complainant has a right to apply for a review. A person can apply for review if they are unhappy with the way their complaint was handled, or with the outcome. This applies whether the complaint has been investigated by the appropriate authority or handled otherwise than by investigation (non-investigation). The application for a review will be considered either by the local policing body or the IOPC; the relevant review body depends on the circumstances of the complaint.

This section presents information about applications for review handled by both local policing bodies and the IOPC.

Information about the right of review and who is the relevant review body is available in [chapter 18 of the IOPC’s Statutory Guidance on the police complaints system \(February 2020\)](#).

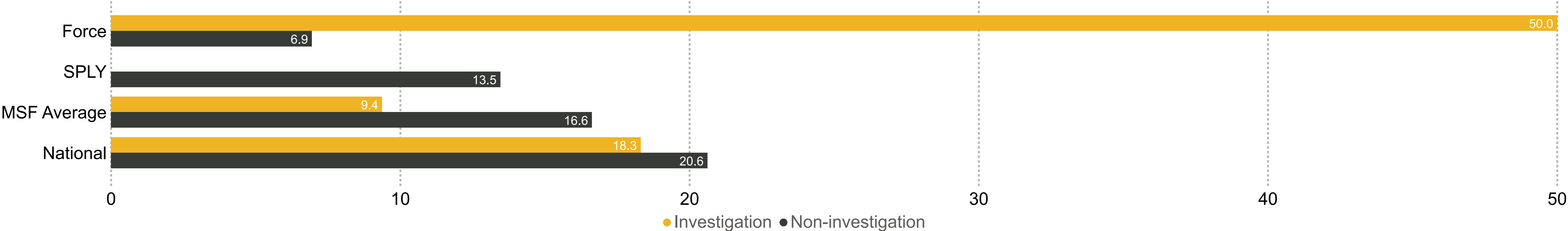
Reviews with ‘invalid dates’ have been removed from reviews timeliness. Please refer to the performance framework counting rules and calculations on the IOPC website for an explanation of invalid dates.

**Section C3: Decisions on LPB reviews**

This section presents information about the decisions made on reviews including the proportion of reviews that found the outcome of the complaint was not reasonable and proportionate, those which resulted in a recommendation and, if necessary, a direction to the appropriate authority in respect of any person serving with the police. Please note: Numbers are not available for the MSF Average - % only

**LPB reviews found not reasonable and proportionate**

	Investigation			Non-investigation		
	Valid completed reviews	Found not reasonable and proportionate	% found not reasonable and proportionate	Valid completed reviews	Found not reasonable and proportionate	% found not reasonable and proportionate
Force	2	1	50	72	5	7
SPLY	0		0	52	7	13
MSF Average			9			17
National	273	50	18	2,754	568	21



**LPB reviews resulting in recommendations**

	Investigation			Non-investigation		
	Found not reasonable and proportionate	Resulting in recommendations	% resulting in recommendations	Found not reasonable and proportionate	Resulting in recommendations	% resulting in recommendations
Force	1	1	100	5	5	100
SPLY			0	7	7	100
MSF Average			25			85
National	50	50	100	568	487	86

**Section C4: Decisions on IOPC reviews**

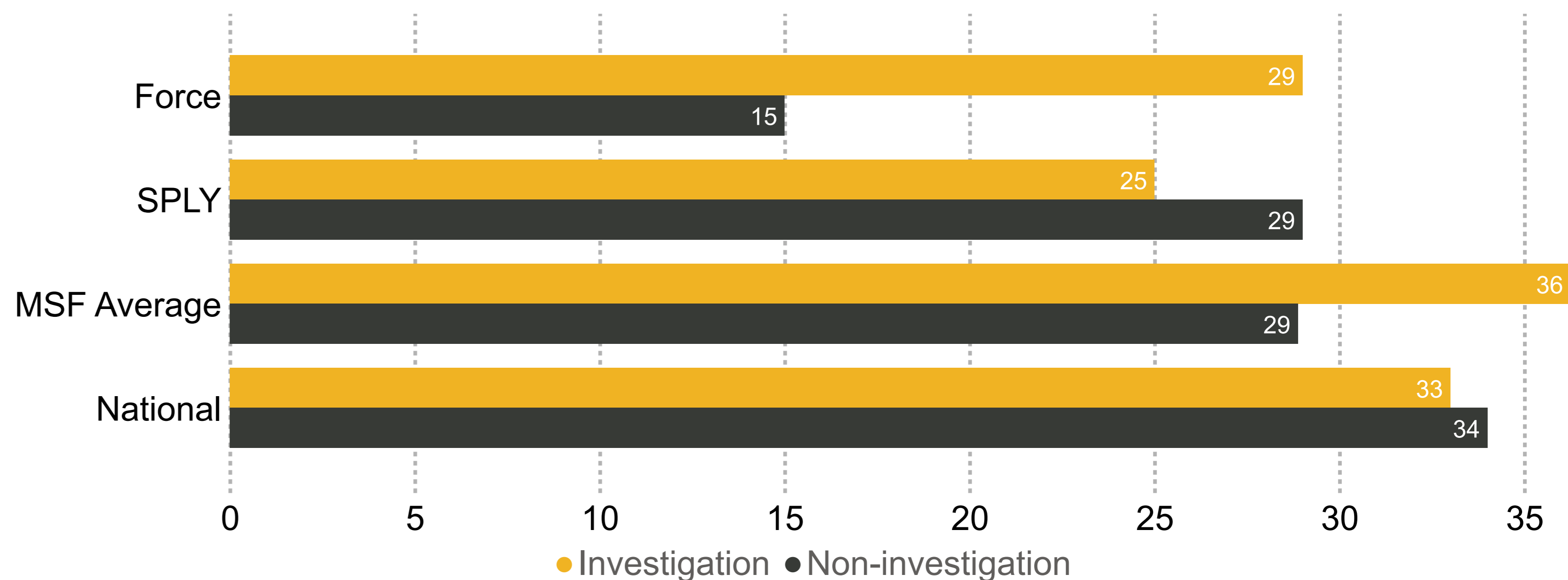
This section presents information about the decisions made on reviews including the proportion of reviews that found the outcome of the complaint was not reasonable and proportionate, those which resulted in a recommendation and, if necessary, a direction to the appropriate authority in respect of any person serving with the police.

**IOPC reviews found not reasonable and proportionate**

Investigation	Valid completed reviews	Outcome found not reasonable and proportionate
Force	7	2
SPLY	4	1
MSF Average	9	2
National	625	205

Non-investigation	Valid completed reviews	Outcome found not reasonable and proportionate
Force	20	3
SPLY	17	5
MSF Average	22	6
National	930	315

**% IOPC reviews found outcome not reasonable and proportionate**



**IOPC review recommendations and directions**

Due to the low number of recommendations and directions, most similar force calculations are not available here.

Investigation	Outcome found not reasonable and proportionate	Recommendations made	Directions made	% resulting in direction
Force	2	0	1	50
SPLY	1	0	0	0
National	205	17	131	64

Non-investigation	Outcome found not reasonable and proportionate	Directions made	% resulting in direction
Force	3	1	33
SPLY	5	3	60
National	315	202	64

IOPC recommendations figures include only those relating to subject outcomes, LPBs can also recommend remedial outcomes.

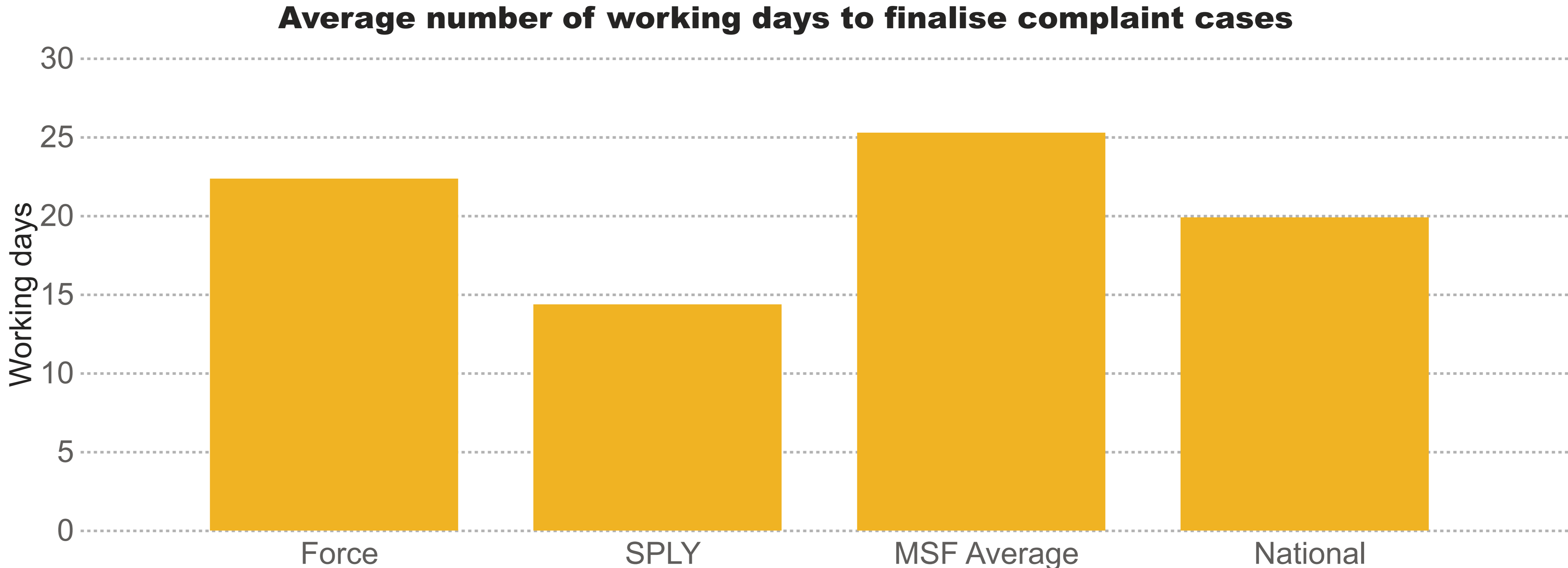
**Section D1.1: Complaint cases finalised outside of Schedule 3 - timeliness**

**Average number of working days to finalise complaint cases**

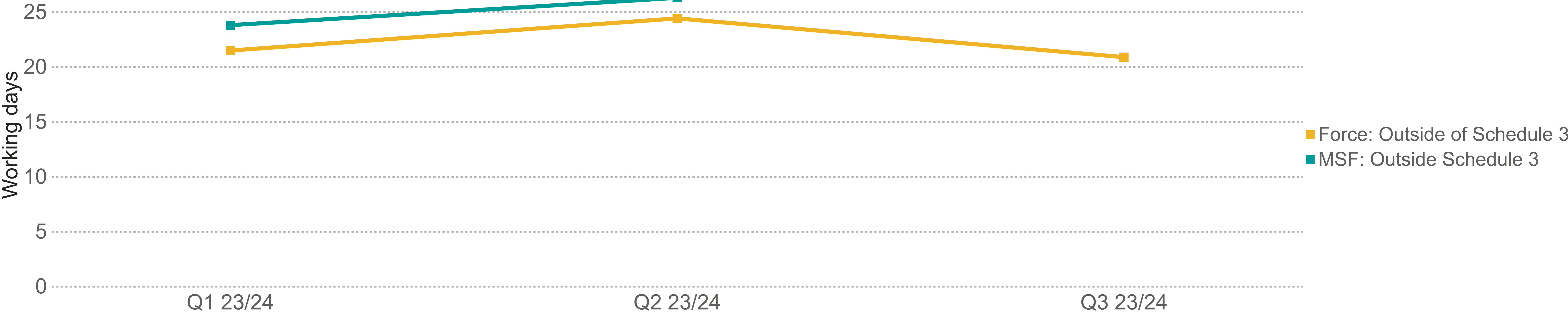
Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
22	14	25	20

This section shows the time it takes the force to finalise complaint cases from the customer's perspective. It gives a breakdown of the time taken to finalise complaint cases handled informally. Timeliness is calculated from the date the complaint was made.

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.



**Average number of working days to finalise complaint cases by quarter**



National and SPLY are not available for this visualisation.

**Section D1.2: Complaint cases finalised under Schedule 3 - timeliness**

**Average number of working days to finalise complaint cases**

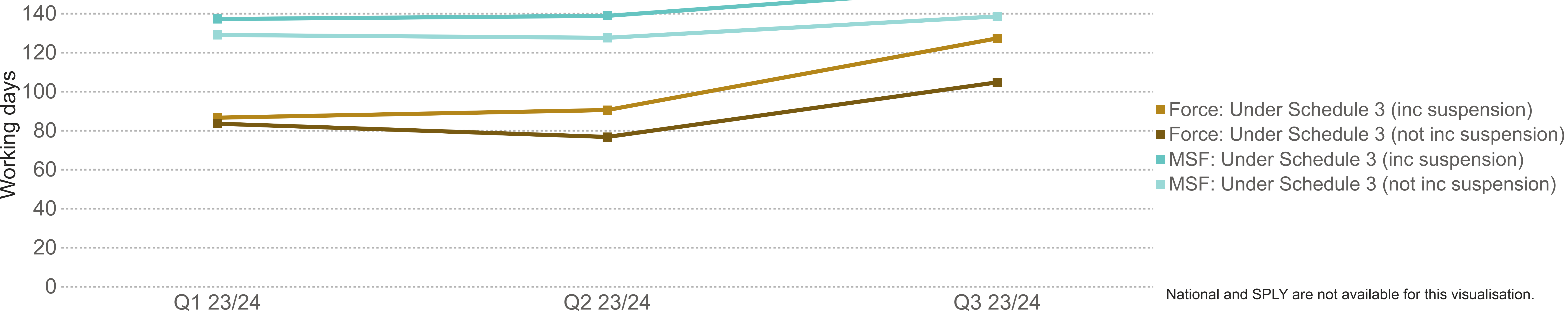
	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Under Schedule 3 (inc suspension)	98	78	142	139
Under Schedule 3 (not inc suspension)	86	73	131	132

This section shows the time it takes the force to finalise complaint cases from the customer's perspective. It gives a breakdown of the time taken to finalise complaint cases handled formally under Schedule 3. Timeliness is calculated from the date the complaint was made. 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.

**Average number of working days to finalise complaint cases**



**Average number of working days to finalise complaint cases by quarter**



**Section D2.1: Allegation actions - on complaint cases handled outside of Schedule 3**

Actions following outside of Schedule 3 complaint cases	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Organisational learning	5	1 %	5	1 %	1	1 %	119	0 %
Learning from reflection	19	4 %	14	2 %	11	3 %	923	2 %
Policy review	2	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	25	0 %
Goodwill gesture	7	1 %	6	1 %	1	0 %	80	0 %
Apology	53	10 %	67	8 %	70	16 %	3528	9 %
Debrief	7	1 %	3	0 %	2	1 %	321	1 %
Explanation	333	64 %	486	56 %	414	70 %	21805	59 %
No further action	76	15 %	233	27 %	52	10 %	5409	15 %
Other action	19	4 %	48	6 %	19	3 %	3816	10 %

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 on finalised complaint cases 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.

Please note: not all of the available actions arising from the complaint handling are shown. The actions presented in this section are those that focus on putting an issue right and preventing it from happening again by encouraging those involved to reflect on their actions and learn.

**Section D2.2: Allegation actions - on complaint cases handled under Schedule 3**

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 on finalised complaint cases 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. Please note: not all of the available actions arising from the complaint handling are shown. The actions presented in this section are those that focus on putting an issue right and preventing it from happening again by encouraging those involved to reflect on their actions and learn.

**All complaint cases handled under Schedule 3**

Complaint cases resulting in below actions	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Organisational learning	30	7 %	21	5 %	12	3 %	497	2 %
Apology	22	5 %	26	6 %	35	8 %	1266	6 %
Debrief	1	0 %	1	0 %	2	1 %	261	1 %
Explanation	185	43 %	212	48 %	264	62 %	12746	56 %
Criminal proceedings	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	2	0 %
Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure (UPP)	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %	17	0 %
No further action	195	45 %	171	39 %	145	29 %	7035	31 %
Other action	10	2 %	3	1 %	4	1 %	532	2 %
Learning from reflection	71	17 %	85	19 %	45	10 %	2448	11 %
Referral to RPRP	1	0 %	3	1 %	11	3 %	674	3 %

**Misconduct, UPP and RPRP on complaints investigated under Schedule 3 (subject to Special Procedures)**

Complaint cases handled under Schedule 3 that are investigated and subject to Special Procedures can result in misconduct proceedings

Complaint cases resulting in below actions	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Misconduct proceedings	1	50 %	0	0 %	2	32 %	99	25 %
Criminal proceedings	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	2	1 %
Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure (UPP)	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	1 %	4	1 %
Other actions following a case to answer decision	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	16	4 %
Referral to RPRP	1	50 %	2	100 %	2	28 %	114	29 %



Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Avon And Somerset, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Devon And Cornwall, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Wiltshire

## Notes

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### 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 and City of London Police do not have an MSF group. A list of the MSF groups is available on the [IOPC website](#).
- Figures for City of London include complaint cases logged in relation to 'Action Fraud'. Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime. The service is run by the City of London Police, which is the national policing lead for economic crime.

### 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 \(February 2020\)](#).