# Leicester city centre leads anti-social behaviour reports in Leicestershire



New data highlighting hotspots of anti-social behaviour across Leicestershire has sparked widespread discussion among local residents about the severity of the issue and how it might be addressed. The figures, compiled from reports made to Leicestershire Police and adjusted for population size, reveal that Leicester city centre remains the area with the highest rate of anti-social behaviour reports per 1,000 residents.

Last year, the city centre saw an average of 87.1 reports of incidents regarded as anti-social behaviour for every thousand people, making it the hardest hit area in the county. The West End and Westcotes area is the next most affected, with 28 reports per thousand people. This number stands out notably above other parts of Leicestershire, including the Abbey Park area at 25.8 reports per 1,000 people, which covers neighbourhoods such as Blackbird Road.

Further down the list, Loughborough’s Lemyngton and Hastings areas, Braunstone Park West, Loughborough Storer and Queen’s Park, and New Parks and Stokes Wood in Leicester also recorded significant levels of anti-social behaviour, ranging between 18 and 24 reports per thousand residents. More rural towns like Melton and Market Harborough registered comparatively lower rates, with Lutterworth reporting the fewest cases at just 4 per 1,000 residents.

The data has elicited a range of responses from the local community, reflecting divergent views on the causes of and solutions to anti-social behaviour. Some residents highlighted the impact of increased numbers of multiple-occupancy houses and a perceived rise in disregard for community standards. One longtime resident commented: "I have lived here for 16 years, and have seen the decline. [Multiple-occupancy houses] have increased and with that the population of people who have no respect for the community, their neighbours, and the environment, has also increased. They do whatever they want. A total disregard of any rules or regulations. I have reached the point that I no longer want to be here, and will be leaving as soon as I can. I have had enough, and feel driven out."

Another former West End resident recalled the worsening situation over the past decade, saying: "It was getting bad 10 years ago when I decided to leave but it's got much worse since then. Back then it was the drug dealing, the rubbish on the streets and next door being turned into a grow that got to me. The last straw was a pair of thug types doing lines off my wheelie bin lid at my door in broad daylight."

Opinions on addressing the problem diverged sharply. Some readers advocated tougher law enforcement measures, lamenting what they see as lenient policing and judicial sentencing. One individual stated: "This country is becoming lawless because of the soft policing and the soft sentences that are being given out. People now believe that they can get away with anything."

In contrast, others proposed more unconventional approaches. "Bring back national service. Instill discipline and self respect into these darlings," one reader suggested. However, this idea faced criticism from another who noted: "The Army do not want thieving deadbeats – they want young people who respect authority and want to be professional soldiers."

The mixed reactions to the data reveal a community grappling with a complex social challenge. Leicestershire Live’s reporting of these statistics and resident views highlights ongoing public concern about anti-social behaviour and differing perspectives on potential remedies. Readers continue to debate whether the future holds any hope for improvement or if the trends indicate a continuing decline.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)