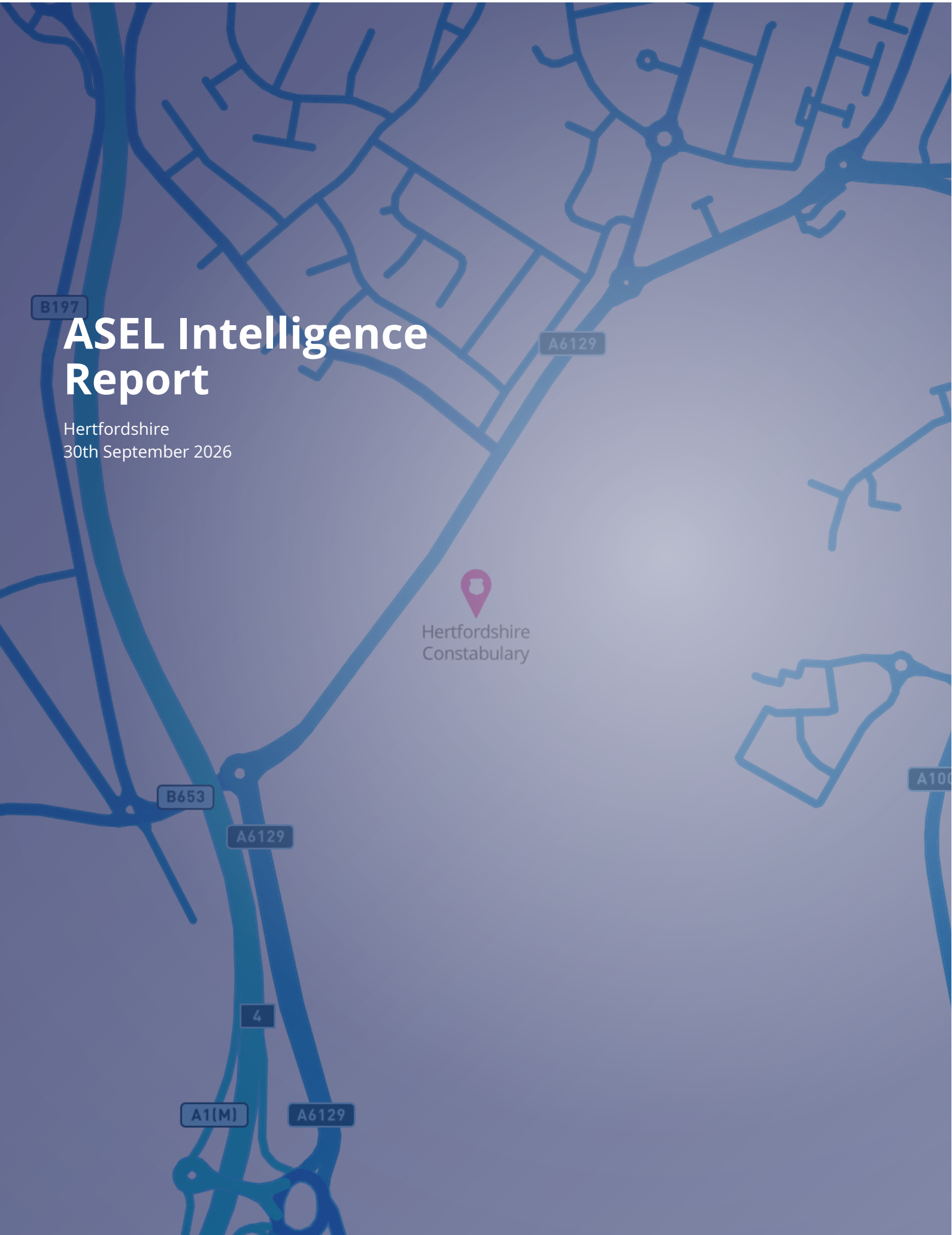
ASEL Intelligence Report

Hertfordshire
30th September 2026

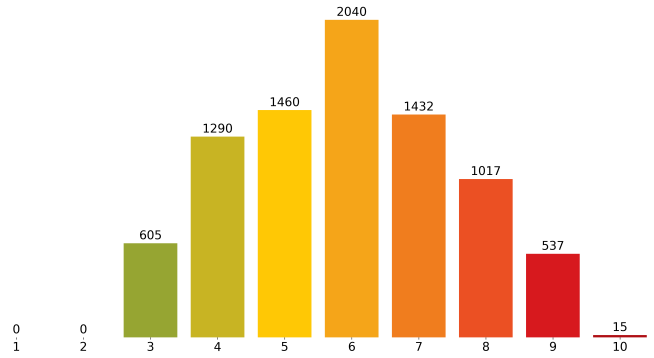


England & Wales Overview

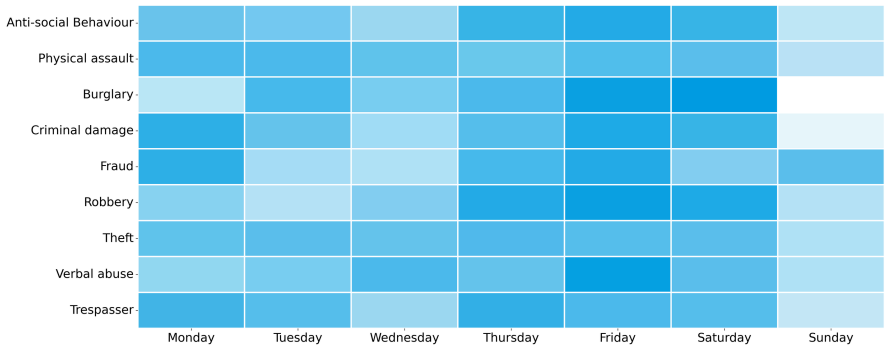
HIGHEST RISK

FORCE	Metropolitan Police
WARD	Abbey (Metropolitan Police)

Ward Count by Risk Score

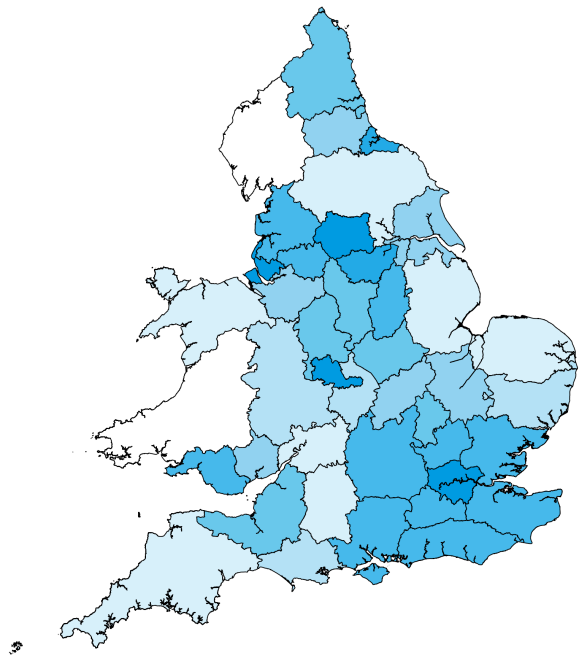


Risk by Day of the Week



England & Wales Overview

HIGHEST RISK



RANK	FORCE	HIGHEST RISK WARD
1	Metropolitan Police	Abbey
2	West Midlands	Abbey
3	West Yorkshire	Town
4	Merseyside	Park
5	South Yorkshire	Central
6	Cleveland	Central
7	Essex	Trinity
8	Kent	Park
9	Hampshire	Nelson
10	Nottinghamshire	Abbey
11	Hertfordshire	Park
12	South Wales	Castle
13	Lancashire	Trinity
14	Sussex	Castle
15	Thames Valley	Abbey
16	Greater Manchester	St Mary's
17	Surrey	Castle
18	Staffordshire	Castle
19	Northumbria	Castle
20	Avon and Somerset	Central
21	Leicestershire	Abbey
22	Bedfordshire	Central
23	Derbyshire	Abbey
24	London, City of	Bridge
25	Cheshire	Highfield
26	Humberside	Park
27	Gwent	Park
28	Cambridgeshire	Central
29	Durham	Northgate
30	Northamptonshire	Castle
31	West Mercia	Abbey
32	Dorset	Bournemouth Central
33	Warwickshire	St Mary's
34	Suffolk	St Peter's
35	Norfolk	Nelson
36	North Wales	Abbey
37	Devon & Cornwall	Stoke
38	Lincolnshire	Castle
39	Wiltshire	Central
40	North Yorkshire	Castle
41	Gloucestershire	Abbey
42	Cumbria	Castle
43	Dyfed-Powys	Tyisha

Force: Hertfordshire

HIGHEST RISK LOCATION

Central | 8 | Moderate

Top ranked in Hertfordshire, this ward faces extremely high risk across several areas: 'Violence and sexual offences', 'Shoplifting', 'Public order', and 'Nightime economy' all score 10. Moderate to high risks extend to 'Homelessness', 'Population density' and 'Unemployment'. Policing strategies require multi-faceted approaches to counter broad and intense community safety threats.

OTHER HIGH RISK LOCATIONS

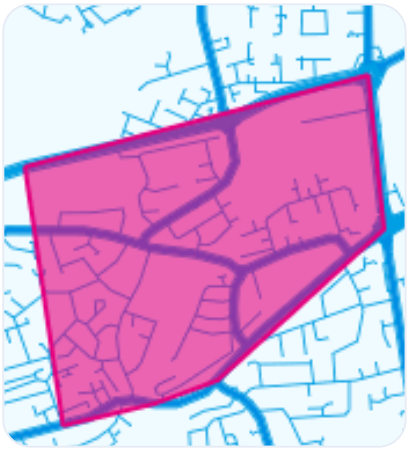
Park

8 | Moderate

Park ward ranks 2nd in Hertfordshire policing region with a moderate risk score. The area shows an extremely likely risk of 'Violence and sexual offences', 'Criminal damage and arson', 'Shoplifting', and 'Anti-social behaviour', as well as high risks linked to 'schools' and 'nighttime economy'. Risks of 'Unemployment' and 'Homelessness' are lower, supporting targeted local policing strategies.

Highfield

8 | Moderate



Highfield is ranked 3rd in Hertfordshire for policing risk with a moderate overall rating. It experiences an extremely likely risk of 'Violence and sexual offences', 'Public order', 'Criminal damage and arson', and 'Burglary'. 'Schools' and 'Nighttime economy' risks also score very high, indicating focal points for community safeguarding. Lower risks in 'unemployment' and moderate 'homelessness' persist.

Woodside

8 | Moderate

Woodside holds 4th highest risk in Hertfordshire's policing area with a moderate risk score. There is an extremely likely risk of 'Violence and sexual offences' and 'Anti-social behaviour', accentuated by consistently high risks in 'Burglary' and 'Drug' related offences. Risks tied to 'Schools' and 'Nighttime economy' are also elevated, highlighting key areas for policing and community partnerships.

Top and Trending Risks

RISK	SCORE	TREND
Theft - Fuel Drive Off (Bilking)	8	
Theft - Self Service Theft	8	
Theft - From Service Desk	8	
Theft - Steaming Attacks	8	
Burglary & Robbery - ATM Rip Out	8	
Violence & Abuse - Hate Crime	8	
Public Order - Drug Usage	8	
Trespassing - In Hours	8	
Burglary & Robbery - Unarmed Robbery	8	
Violence & Abuse - Sexual Harassment	8	

Hertfordshire Faces Persistent Risks from Theft and Violence, with Emerging Concerns Over Trespassing

Observations

Risk ratings for Hertfordshire are assessed using a composite of demographic, environmental, and historical data inputs to provide an objective likelihood score out of 10, where 10 indicates an extremely high probability of occurrence. The top ten risks identified all share a uniform high-risk score of 8.0, reflecting a consistently elevated threat landscape across multiple categories. These include various forms of theft such as fuel drive-offs, self-service theft, and steaming attacks, as well as violence and abuse risks including hate crime and sexual harassment. This uniformity suggests a broad spectrum of vulnerabilities rather than isolated high-risk areas.~~Within the top ten, theft-related risks dominate the highest ranks, with fuel drive-offs, self-service theft, and theft from service desks occupying the top three positions. These risks are likely influenced by Hertfordshire's mix of urban and suburban environments, where retail and fuel stations are common targets. Burglary and robbery risks, including ATM rip-outs and unarmed robbery, also feature prominently, indicating ongoing challenges in property-related offences. Violence and abuse risks, while slightly lower in rank, remain significant, highlighting the persistent threat to personal safety and public order.~~Trend analysis since last month shows stability across most risks, with no significant increases or decreases, except for trespassing in hours which has shown a slight upward trend. This could reflect changing patterns in public space use or enforcement focus. The steady risk scores suggest that while immediate threat levels remain high, no new emerging threats have drastically altered the landscape. Overall, the data underscores a multifaceted risk environment in Hertfordshire, with theft and violence-related risks posing the most consistent threats to community safety.

Police Reported Incidents

CRIME TYPE	PREVIOUS	CURRENT	TREND
Anti social behaviour	2247	2625	
Criminal damage and arson	556	670	
Vehicle crime	430	442	
Violence and sexual offences	3152	3335	
Other theft	719	793	
Public order	553	645	
Bicycle theft	84	77	
Burglary	258	235	
Drugs	300	264	
Shoplifting	782	810	
Other crime	158	167	
Robbery	83	94	
Theft from the person	77	68	
Possession of weapons	85	82	

In Hertfordshire, notable increases are seen in 'Violence and sexual offences' and 'Anti-social behaviour', indicating rising risks to personal safety and community order. 'Violence and sexual offences' rose significantly, highlighting a concerning trend for human safety. 'Anti-social behaviour' also surged, potentially impacting public environments including retail areas. 'Criminal damage and arson' and 'Other theft' have increased moderately, suggesting growing property-related crime risks. Conversely, 'Burglary', 'Drugs', 'Bicycle theft', 'Possession of weapons', and 'Theft from the person' show decreases, indicating some relief in these areas. Crimes such as 'Public order', 'Robbery', 'Shoplifting', and 'Vehicle crime' remain relatively stable with minor fluctuations. The overall pattern points to rising violent and disruptive offences, which could affect both public safety and retail security environments. Monitoring these trends is essential to understand evolving risks.

ASEL Incidents

CRIME TYPE	PREVIOUS	CURRENT	TREND
Physical Assault	0	0	
Verbal Abuse	0	0	
Robbery	0	0	
Burglary	0	0	
Theft	0	0	
Antisocial Behaviour	0	0	
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	
Criminal Damage	0	0	
Trespass	0	0	
Fraud	0	0	

Across all incident categories, ASEL has recorded zero incidents within this Force area. This lack of reported activity suggests that ASEL does not have a sufficient operational presence or in the region to support reliable trend analysis or meaningful comparisons with other data sources. Accordingly, ASEL has been excluded from the overall risk likelihood scoring for this area, and its weighting has been redistributed across other available indicators, including crime statistics, demographic profiles, and environmental risk factors.

Force: Hertfordshire

Appendix A: Full Risk Catalogue

CRIME TYPE	PREVIOUS	CURRENT	TREND
Violence & Abuse - Physical Assault	7	7	
Violence & Abuse - Verbal Abuse	7	7	
Violence & Abuse - Sexual Assault	7	7	
Violence & Abuse - Sexual Harassment	8	8	
Violence & Abuse - Hate Crime	8	8	
Burglary & Robbery - Unarmed Robbery	8	8	
Burglary & Robbery - Armed Robbery	8	7	
Burglary & Robbery - Ram Raid	8	8	
Burglary & Robbery - ATM Rip Out	8	8	
Burglary & Robbery - Burglary	8	7	
Burglary & Robbery - Walk in Burglary	8	7	
Theft - Steaming Attacks	8	8	
Theft - Trolley Pushout	7	7	
Theft - From Service Desk	8	8	
Theft - Concealment	7	7	
Theft - Self Service Theft	8	8	
Theft - Fuel Drive Off (Bilking)	8	8	
Theft - By Employee	7	7	
Asset Crime - Arson	6	6	
Asset Crime - Criminal Damage	7	7	
Asset Crime - Vehicle Damage	7	7	
Asset Crime - Theft of Vehicle	7	7	
Public Order - Riot	7	7	
Public Order - Protest	6	7	
Public Order - Antisocial Behaviour	7	7	
Public Order - Drug Usage	8	8	
Public Order - Rough Sleepers	6	6	
Trespassing - Out of Hours	7	7	
Trespassing - Encampment	7	7	
Trespassing - In Hours	7	8	
Trespassing - Squatting	6	6	
Fraud - Voucher Fraud	6	6	
Fraud - Returns Fraud	7	7	

Credits

- Crime data sourced from Police.uk
- Demographic information obtained from the UK Census
- Prints use map data from Mapbox and OpenStreetMap and their data sources
- To learn more, visit https://www.mapbox.com/about/maps and http://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright
- Images provided by Unsplash