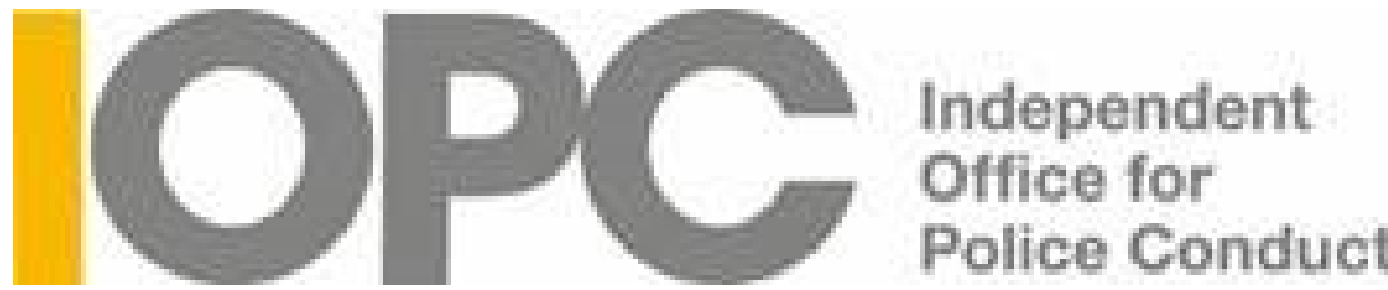


Police Complaints Information Bulletin: Merseyside



Reporting Period: 01 April 2024 - 30 June 2024 (Q1 2024/25)

Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Cleveland, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Northumbria, South Yorkshire, West Midlands, West Yorkshire

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).

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

Where charts refer to separate quarters the dates are: Q1: 1 April to 30 June, Q2: 1 July to 30 September, Q3: October to 31 December, Q4 1 January to 31 March.

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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

Section A1.1: Complaint cases and allegations logged

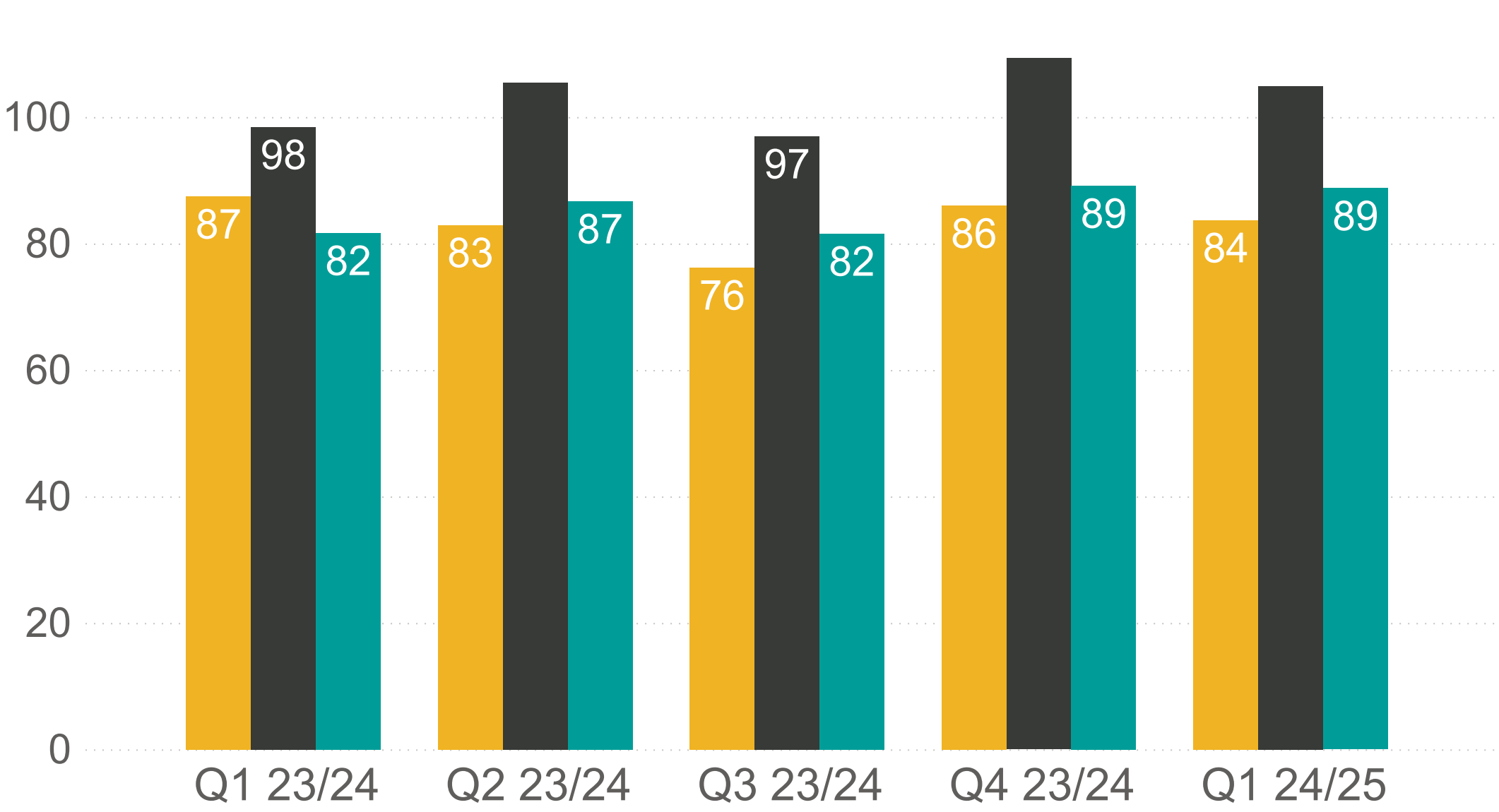
A complaint case is formed of one or more allegations. Numbers per 1,000 employees are used to demonstrate how the number of complaints/allegations against a force compare to their most similar force group and national figures. The force should contact the complainant and log the complaint as soon as possible after the complaint has been raised. Average to log/contact is from the customer perspective.

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)

Year to date	Complaint cases logged	Complaints per 1,000 employees	Allegations Logged	Allegations per 1,000 employees	Average working days to contact complainants	Average working days to log complaints
Force	591	84	683	97	7	2
SPLY	599	87	751	110	13	1
MSF Average	724	105	1,311	174	6	3
National	22,622	89	39,473	155	6	6

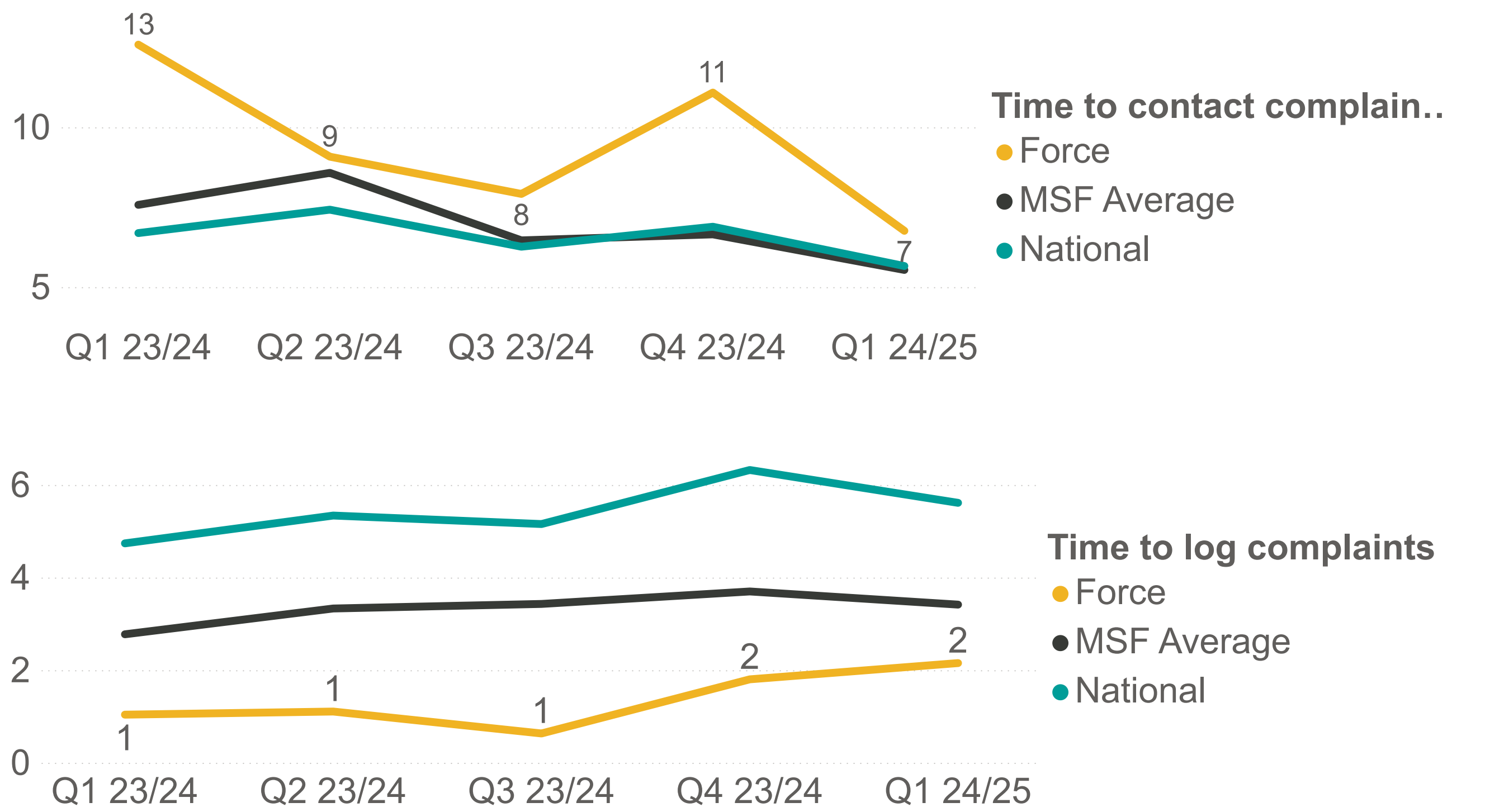
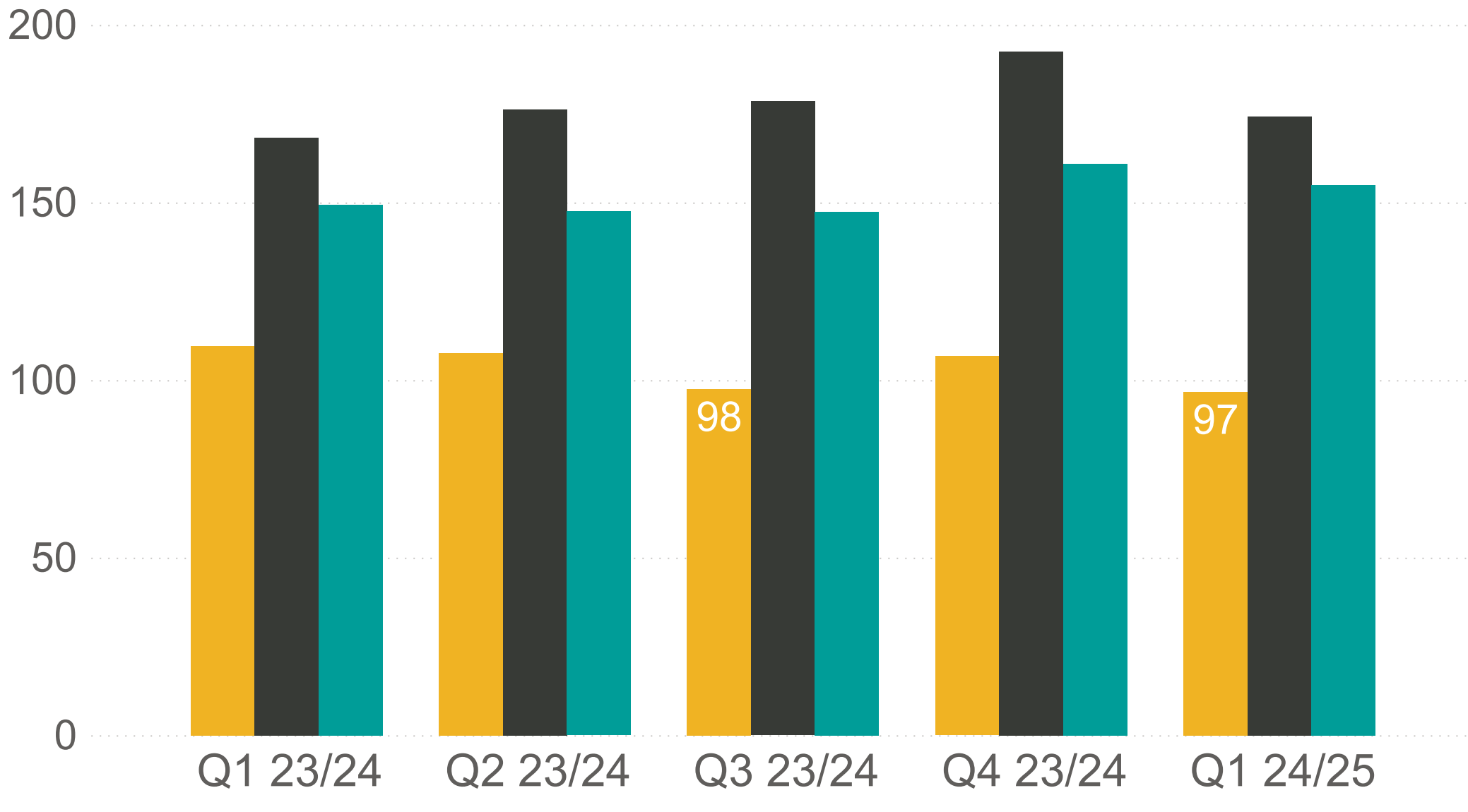
Complaints logged per 1,000 employees

ForceMSF AverageNational



Allegations logged per 1,000 employees

ForceMSF AverageNational



Section A1.2: Reason for complaints to be logged under Schedule 3

Allegations should have an allegation category applied to them which will identify the root of what the allegation is about.

Forces can handle a complaint informally (known as Outside of Schedule 3), this should be used to deal with lower level complaints.

If a complaint is handled formally under Schedule 3, the force should record the reason why.

For more information on Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act see [here](#):

[Guidance on capturing data about police complaints.](#)

Reason complaint case recorded under Schedule 3 (YTD)	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
AA/body responsible for initial handling decides	16	5	44	3,426
Complainant wishes the complaint be recorded	2	57	38	1,294
Dissatisfaction after initial handling	20	3	25	1,062
Nature of the allegation(s) in the complaint	4	2	67	1,571
Total	42	67	174	7,353

Reason complaint case recorded under Schedule 3 (YTD)	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
AA/body responsible for initial handling decides	38 %	7 %	23 %	47 %
Complainant wishes the complaint be recorded	5 %	85 %	22 %	18 %
Dissatisfaction after initial handling	48 %	4 %	18 %	14 %
Nature of the allegation(s) in the complaint	10 %	3 %	37 %	21 %

For space reasons, the figures in the above charts are the force averages only

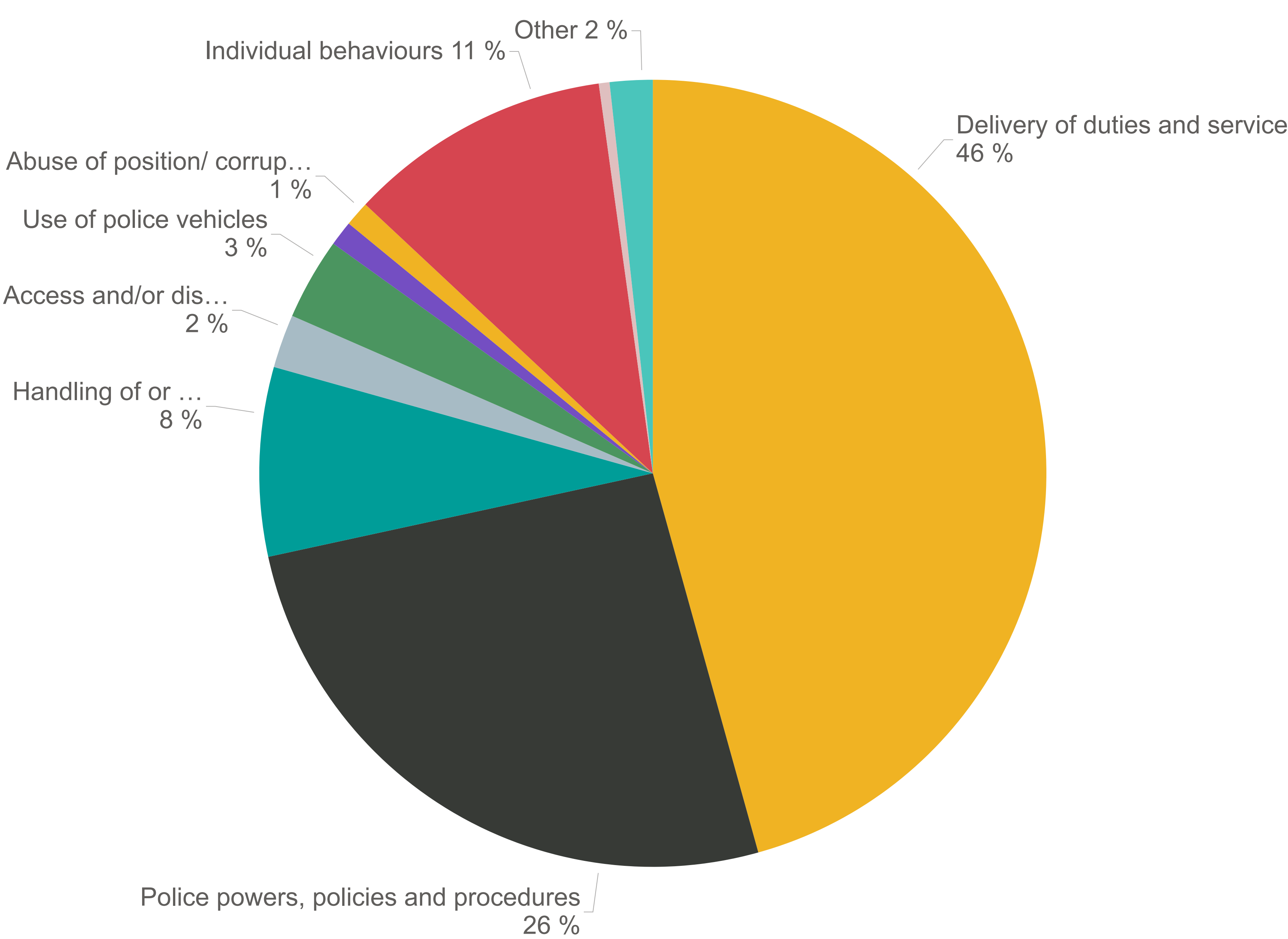
Section A1.3: Allegations logged – what has been complained about (YTD)

This section presents the three 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.

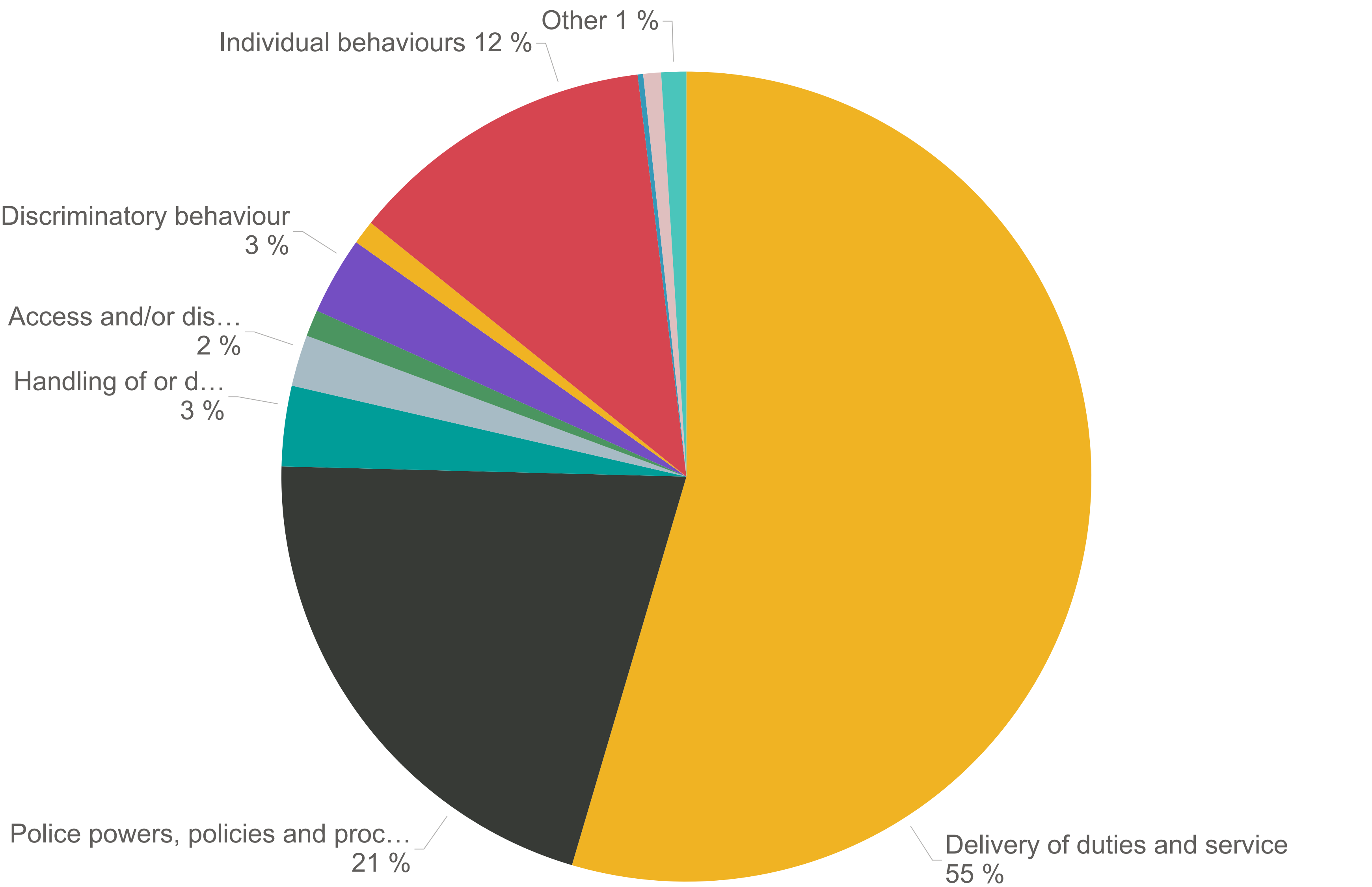
What has been complained about (YTD)

Year to date	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	312	177	53	15	23	7	7	74	0	3	12	683
SPLY	388	177	25	27	13	17	3	80	1	1	19	751
MSF Average	694	281	47	28	13	36	11	180	3	9	10	1,311
National	21,535	8,225	1,265	809	419	1,225	378	4,853	87	280	393	39,469

What has been complained about (force - year to date)



What has been complained about (national - year to date)



Section A1.4: Allegations logged – Top five allegation categories and their sub-categories (Year to date)

Category	Year to date Subcategory	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Delivery of duties and service	Total	311	46 %	388	52 %	694	54 %	21,534	55 %
	General level of service	154	49 %	196	51 %	185	34 %	7,280	34 %
	Police action following contact	81	26 %	136	35 %	330	40 %	8,745	41 %
	Information	39	13 %	27	7 %	87	13 %	2,468	11 %
	Decisions	37	12 %	29	7 %	92	13 %	3,041	14 %
Police powers, policies and procedures	Total	177	26 %	177	24 %	281	21 %	8,223	21 %
	Use of force	54	31 %	34	19 %	83	30 %	2,145	26 %
	Stops, and stop and search	32	18 %	31	18 %	16	6 %	386	5 %
	Searches of premises and seizure of property	26	15 %	43	24 %	40	17 %	1,035	13 %
	Power to arrest and detain	21	12 %	22	12 %	43	14 %	1,454	18 %
	Evidential procedures	15	8 %	17	10 %	19	7 %	638	8 %
	Detention in police custody	11	6 %	12	7 %	45	15 %	1,145	14 %
	Other policies and procedures	11	6 %	15	8 %	19	6 %	800	10 %
	Bail, identification and interview procedures	6	3 %	1	1 %	14	4 %	485	6 %
	Out of court disposals	1	1 %	2	1 %	2	1 %	135	2 %
Individual behaviours	Total	74	11 %	80	11 %	180	13 %	4,853	12 %
	Impolite language / tone	20	27 %	25	31 %	45	27 %	1,190	25 %
	Overbearing or harassing behaviours	18	24 %	23	29 %	31	16 %	912	19 %
	Impolite and intolerant actions	18	24 %	7	9 %	36	18 %	727	15 %
	Unprofessional attitude and disrespect	17	23 %	15	19 %	49	29 %	1,338	28 %
	Lack of fairness and impartiality	1	1 %	10	13 %	19	10 %	686	14 %
Handling of or damage to property/ premises	Total	53	8 %	25	3 %	47	4 %	1,236	3 %
	Handling of or damage to property/ premises	53	100 %	25	100 %	47	100 %	1,235	98 %
	Police action following contact	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %
Use of police vehicles	Total	23	3 %	13	2 %	13	1 %	406	1 %
	Use of police vehicles	23	100 %	13	100 %	11	88 %	392	94 %
	Use of police vehicle	0	0 %	0	0 %	2	12 %	14	3 %

This section presents the three 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 A1.5: National complaint factors

Year to date Factors on all allegations	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Allegations Logged	% Allegations Logged	Allegations Logged	% Allegations Logged	Allegations Logged	% Allegations Logged	Allegations Logged	% Allegations Logged
Investigation	161	24 %	181	24 %	418	30 %	14,194	36 %
None	145	21 %	225	30 %	219	19 %	7,961	20 %
Arrest	103	15 %	75	10 %	162	11 %	4,881	12 %
Roads/traffic	76	11 %	67	9 %	85	7 %	2,358	6 %
Stop and/or search	43	6 %	52	7 %	33	2 %	804	2 %
Custody	42	6 %	29	4 %	80	6 %	2,207	6 %
Call Handling	34	5 %	33	4 %	42	4 %	1,621	4 %
Premises search	30	4 %	32	4 %	42	3 %	941	2 %
Mental health	22	3 %	19	3 %	43	2 %	1,083	3 %
Neighbourhood policing	22	3 %	46	6 %	64	4 %	1,815	5 %
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	19	3 %	6	1 %	61	3 %	1,405	4 %
Domestic / gender abuse	18	3 %	22	3 %	68	4 %	2,010	5 %
Missing persons	8	1 %	1	0 %	9	1 %	255	1 %
Hate Crime	6	1 %	1	0 %	6	1 %	252	1 %
Child protection / CSA / CSE	4	1 %	3	0 %	21	1 %	687	2 %
Covert policing	4	1 %	7	1 %	2	0 %	18	0 %
Public order incident	4	1 %	5	1 %	7	1 %	296	1 %
Drugs / alcohol	3	0 %	8	1 %	11	1 %	442	1 %
Death	2	0 %	2	0 %	13	1 %	351	1 %
Firearms	2	0 %	1	0 %	4	0 %	196	0 %
Social media	2	0 %	3	0 %	6	0 %	170	0 %
VAWG - police perpetrated	2	0 %	0	0 %	12	1 %	304	1 %
Police dogs or horses	1	0 %	1	0 %	0	0 %	16	0 %
Serious injury	1	0 %	0	0 %	5	0 %	93	0 %
VAWG - police victim	1	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %	61	0 %
Coronavirus - other	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %
Coronavirus - police powers on infectiou	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %
Coronavirus - police powers on restricti	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %
Fraud	0	0 %	2	0 %	5	0 %	249	1 %
Prejudicial and improper behaviour	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %
Restraint equipment	0	0 %	1	0 %	15	1 %	365	1 %
Taser	0	0 %	1	0 %	0	0 %	43	0 %
Unknown	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	8	0 %
VAWG' - dissatisfaction handling	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %	8	0 %
VAWG' - police victim	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	0 %	9	0 %

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.

Section A1.6: National complaint factors on top five allegation categories

Factors on top five allegation categories (Year to date)	Delivery of duties and service	Police powers, policies and procedures	Handling of or damage to property/ premises	Use of police vehicles	Individual behaviours
▼					
VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	15	2	0	0	1
Stop and/or search	3	30	2	0	7
Social media	1	0	0	0	0
Serious injury	0	1	0	0	0
Roads/traffic	23	19	7	15	9
Public order incident	2	1	0	0	1
Premises search	3	17	9	0	1
Police dogs or horses	0	0	0	1	0
None	74	16	15	4	20
Neighbourhood policing	10	4	2	0	5
Missing persons	3	1	0	0	4
Mental health	10	6	0	0	3
Investigation	121	18	5	1	4
Hate Crime	6	0	0	0	0
Firearms	1	1	0	0	0
Drugs / alcohol	1	2	0	0	0
Domestic / gender abuse	9	5	0	0	3
Death	2	0	0	0	0
Custody	6	27	5	0	1
Covert policing	0	0	1	0	2
Child protection / CSA / CSE	4	0	0	0	0
Call Handling	26	0	0	0	5
Arrest	18	63	7	0	11
Total	297	169	51	21	70

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.

The table below shows a breakdown of allegations logged with the focus national complaint factors.

IOPC Police Data Year Quarter	VAWG - dissatisfaction handling	VAWG - police perpetrated	VAWG - police victim	Total
▼				
Q1 23/24	6	0	0	6
Q2 23/24	6	3	0	8
Q3 23/24	10	1	1	12
Q4 23/24	21	1	1	23
Q1 24/25	19	2	1	22
Total	62	7	3	71

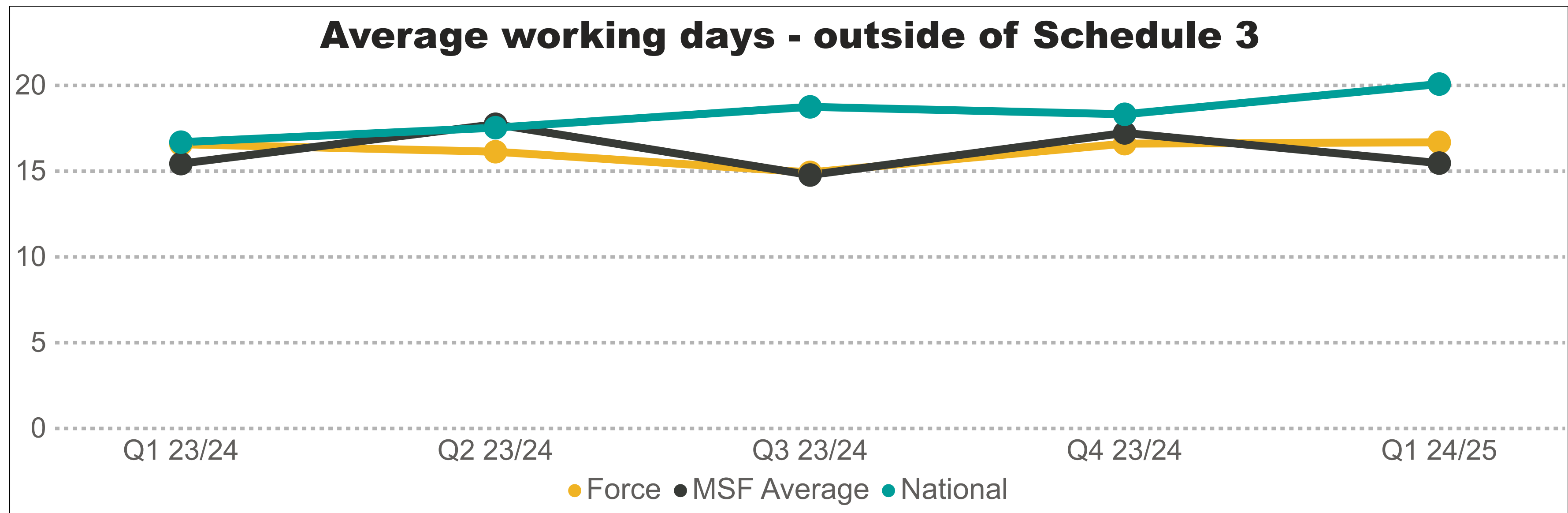
Section A2: Allegations timeliness

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.

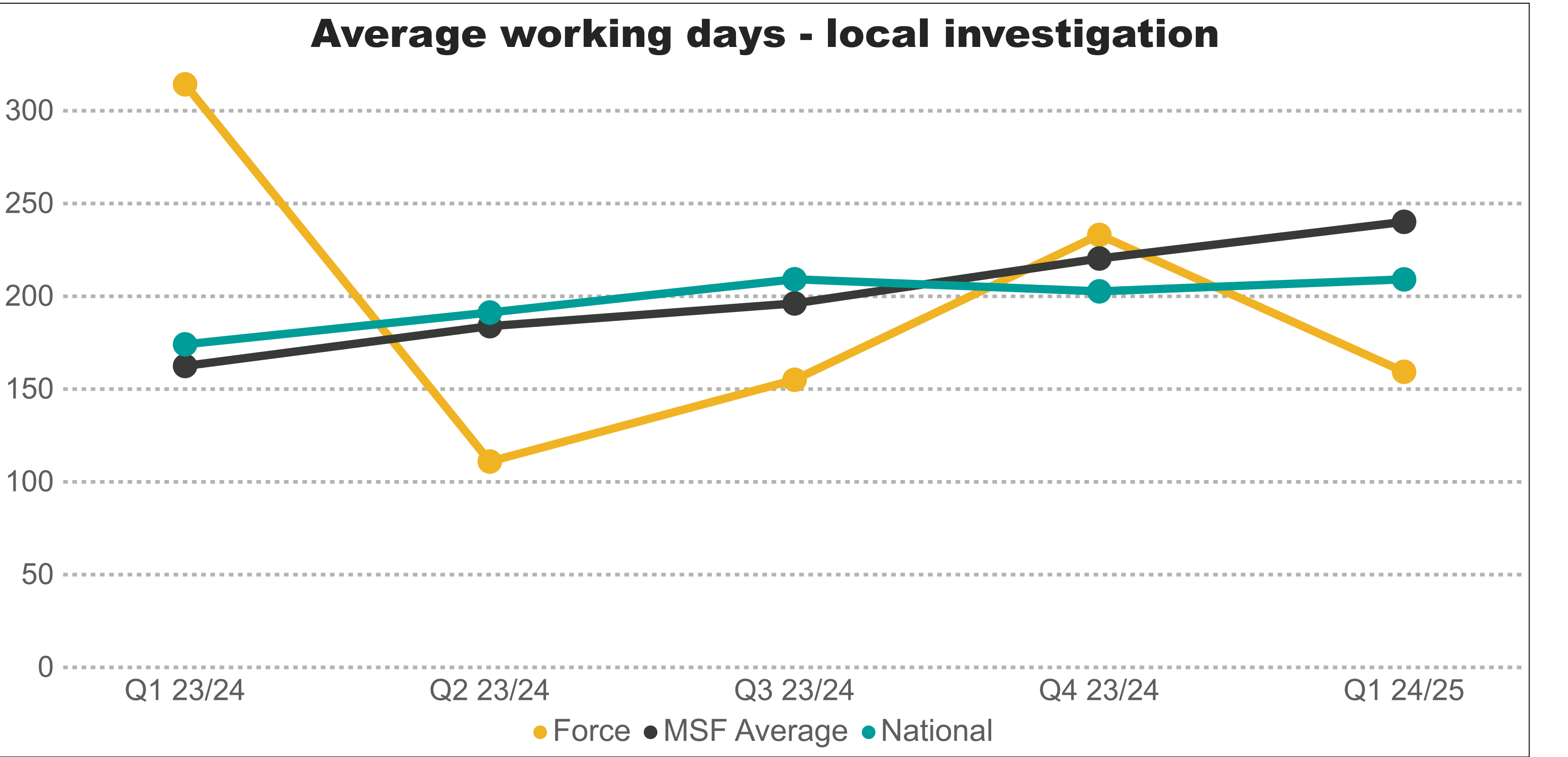
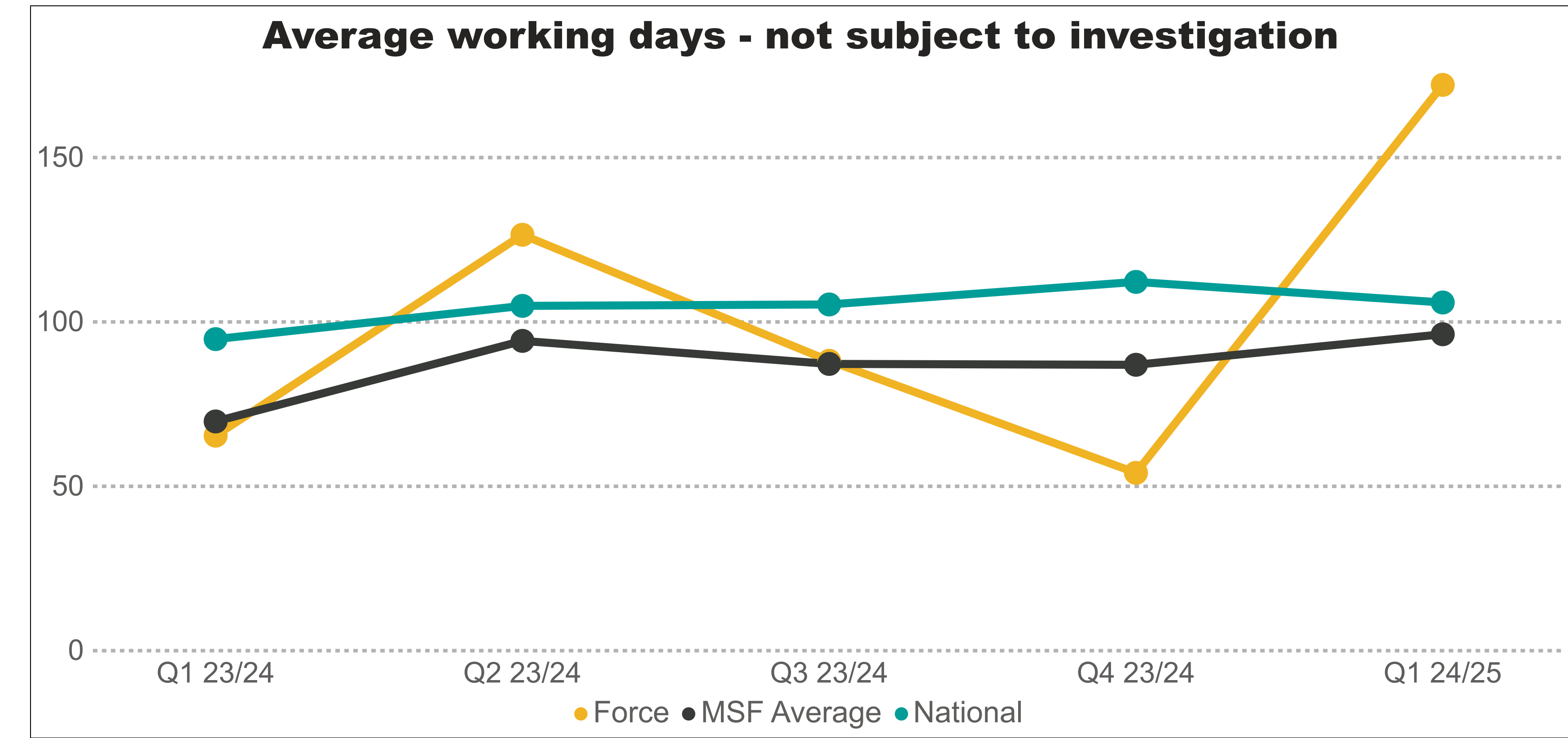
Independent investigation figures do not include conduct or death/serious injury investigations which are also investigated by the IOPC.

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.

Year to date	Outside of Schedule 3		Under Schedule 3 - not subject to investigation		Under Schedule 3 - by local investigation		Under Schedule 3 - by independent investigation	
Allegations	Number Finalised	Average days	Number Finalised	Average days	Number Finalised	Average days	Number Finalised	Average days
Force	498	17	105	172	16	159	0	0
SPLY	472	17	154	65	8	314	0	0
MSF Average	640	15	475	96	116	240	0	88
National	16,487	20	17,104	105	4,492	208	23	360



Year to date	Under Schedule 3 - by directed investigation	
Allegations	Number Finalised	Average days
Force	0	0
SPLY	0	0
MSF Average	0	0
National	12	619



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

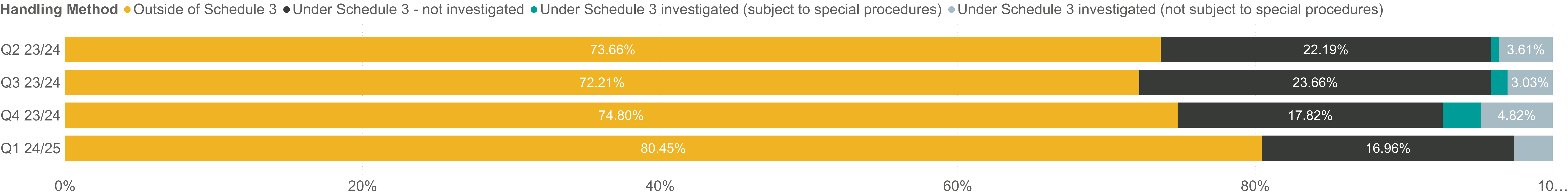
This section presents a breakdown of how allegations were handled information and the decisions being given. An allegation decision is logged for each allegation finalised.

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 (Year to date)	Force No.	Force %	MSF Average No.	MSF Average %	National No.	National %
Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)	16	3 %	113	9 %	4,102	11 %
Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	0		4	0 %	425	1 %
Under Schedule 3 - not investigated	105	17 %	475	34 %	17,104	45 %
Outside of Schedule 3	498	80 %	640	56 %	16,487	43 %
Total	619	100 %	1231	100 %	38,118	100 %

Force: percent of allegations finalised by handling method



How allegations were handled (Year to date)	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)			
Allegation decision	Force No.	Force %	National No.	National %	Force No.	Force %	National No.	National %	Force No.	Force %	National No.	National %	Force No.	Force %	National No.	National %
No further action				0 %	20	19 %	1,340	4 %			4	0 %			124	0 %
Regulation 41 applies				0 %			31	0 %			1	0 %			45	0 %
Service provided - unable to determine				0 %	7	7 %	1,503	4 %			4	0 %	7	44 %	381	1 %
Service provided - not acceptable				0 %	14	13 %	2,230	6 %			14	0 %	1	6 %	471	1 %
Service provided - acceptable				0 %	63	60 %	11,528	30 %			44	0 %	7	44 %	2,928	8 %
Not Resolved	50	10 %	930	2 %				0 %				0 %				0 %
Resolved	448	90 %	15,557	41 %				0 %				0 %				0 %
No Case to Answer				0 %				0 %			255	1 %				0 %
Case to Answer				0 %				0 %			90	0 %				0 %
Withdrawal				0 %	1	1 %	471	1 %			13	0 %	1	6 %	153	0 %
Total	498	80 %	16,487	43 %	105	17 %	17,103	45 %			425	1 %	16	3 %	4,102	11 %

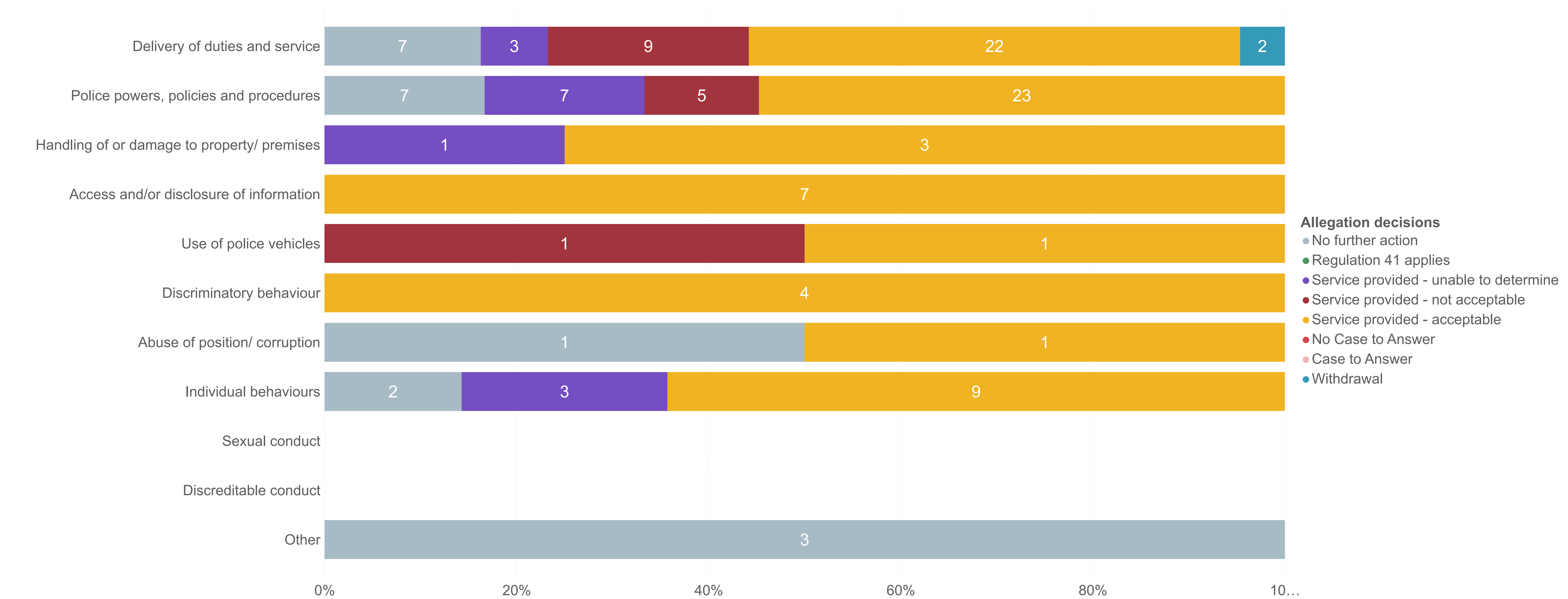
Section A3.2: Allegation decisions by what was complained about (Year to date by category)

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.

Outside Schedule 3 allegation decisions

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
Resolved	244	85	31	7	24	4	4	41	0	0	8	448
Not Resolved	18	15	4	3	1	0	1	5	0	0	3	50

Schedule 3 allegation decisions



Section B1.1: Allegation actions - on allegations handled outside of Schedule 3 (Year to date)

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.

. Actions following outside of Schedule 3 complaint cases ^	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised
Organisational learning	3	1 %	1	0 %	1	0 %	69	0 %
Learning from reflection	11	2 %	6	1 %	12	2 %	460	3 %
Policy review	0	0 %	1	0 %	0	0 %	16	0 %
Goodwill gesture	2	0 %	1	0 %	0	0 %	16	0 %
Apology	17	3 %	13	3 %	48	7 %	1,689	10 %
Debrief	24	5 %	19	4 %	8	1 %	155	1 %
Explanation	349	70 %	284	60 %	347	59 %	10,008	61 %
No further action	64	13 %	109	23 %	64	11 %	1,776	11 %
Other action	28	6 %	35	7 %	138	17 %	1,954	12 %

Section B1.2: Allegation actions - on allegations handled under Schedule 3 (Year to date)

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

. Actions following Schedule 3 complaint cases	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised
Organisational learning	0	0 %	0	0 %	2	0 %	202	1 %
Apology	1	1 %	6	4 %	19	3 %	744	3 %
Debrief	0	0 %	0	0 %	62	4 %	513	2 %
Explanation	72	60 %	121	75 %	406	71 %	13,366	62 %
Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure (UPP)	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	5	0 %
No further action	40	33 %	24	15 %	68	15 %	4,931	23 %
Other action	1	1 %	0	0 %	4	1 %	168	1 %
Learning from reflection	6	5 %	9	6 %	25	5 %	1,178	5 %
Referral to RPRP	1	1 %	0	0 %	5	1 %	327	2 %

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

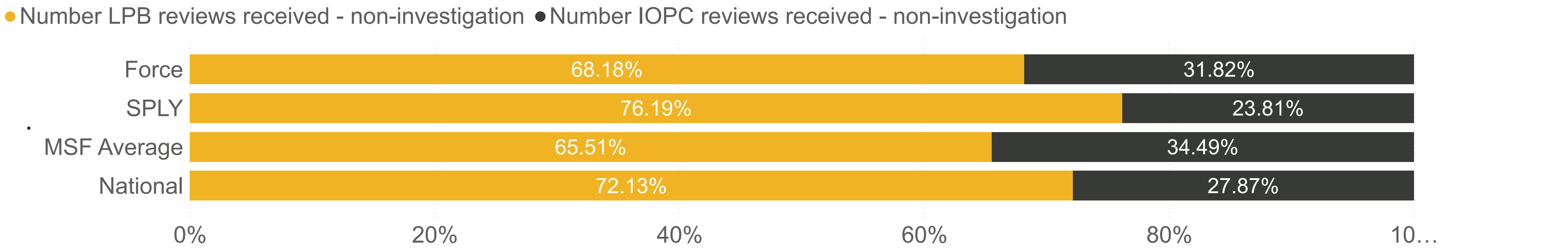
Complaint cases handled under Schedule 3 that are investigated and subject to Special Procedures can result in misconduct proceedings

. Actions following Schedule 3 (special procedures) cases	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised	Allegations Finalised	% Allegations Finalised
Misconduct proceedings	0	0 %	0	0 %	1	2 %	39	9 %
Unsatisfactory Performance Procedure (UPP)	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	2	0 %
Other actions following a case to answer decision	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	45	11 %
Referral to RPRP	0	0 %	0	0 %	0	0 %	81	19 %

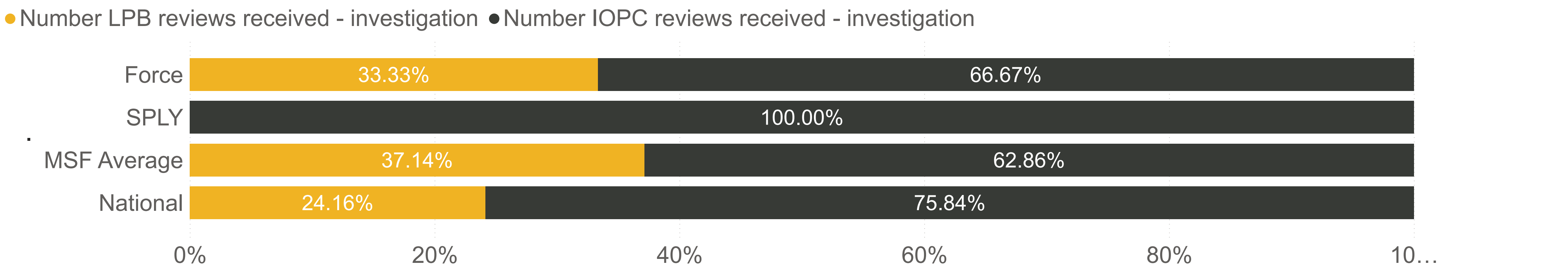
Section C1: Reviews received and timeliness (Year to date)

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. For information on when the IOPC should be the review body, please see our [Statutory Guidance](#)

Non-investigation reviews received	LPB	IOPC
Force	15	7
SPLY	16	5
MSF Average	27	14
National	893	345

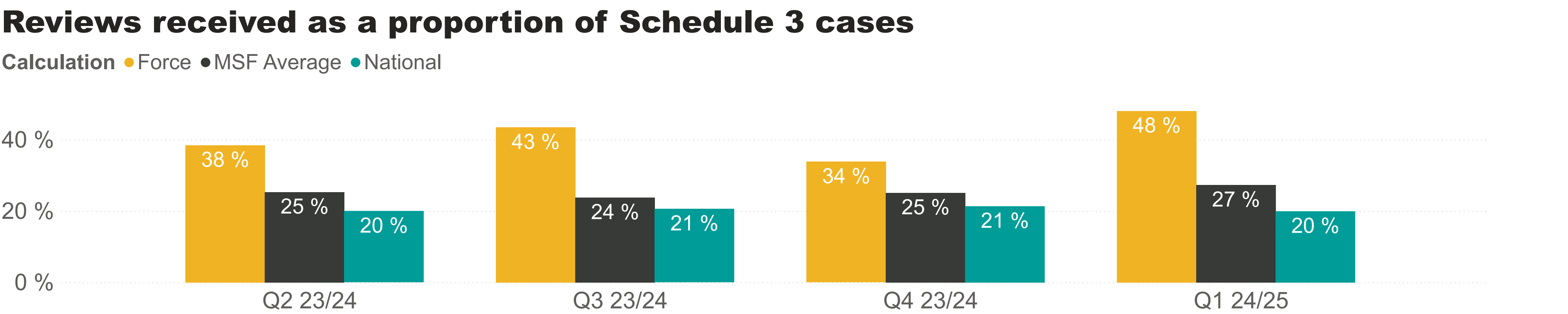


Investigation reviews received	LPB	IOPC
Force	1	2
SPLY	0	1
MSF Average	4	6
National	79	248



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.

	Reviews received	Schedule 3 complaints finalised
Force	25	52
SPLY	22	75
MSF Average	51	201
National	1,565	7,851



	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Average number of working days to complete Local Policing Body reviews	17	12	13	55
Average number of working days to complete IOPC reviews	183	136	155	141

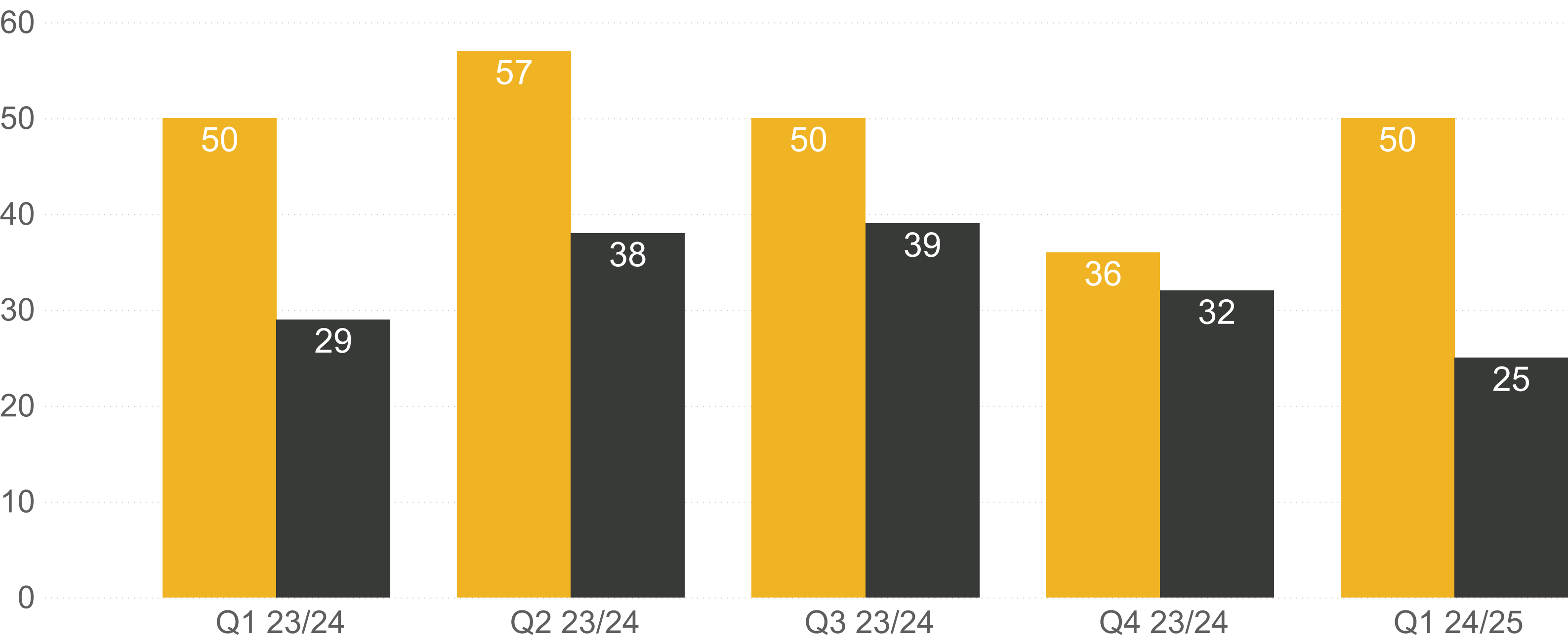
Section C2: Outcomes on reviews

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. Contact the IOPC for specific recommendations and directions made as these are not available in this data set

Investigation reviews (YTD)	Completed investigation (IOPC)	Upheld investigation (IOPC)	Completed investigation (LPB)	Upheld investigation (LPB)
Force	2	1	0	
SPLY	2	1	0	
MSF Average	5	1	3	4
National	221	68	67	9

% IOPC reviews upheld - Force

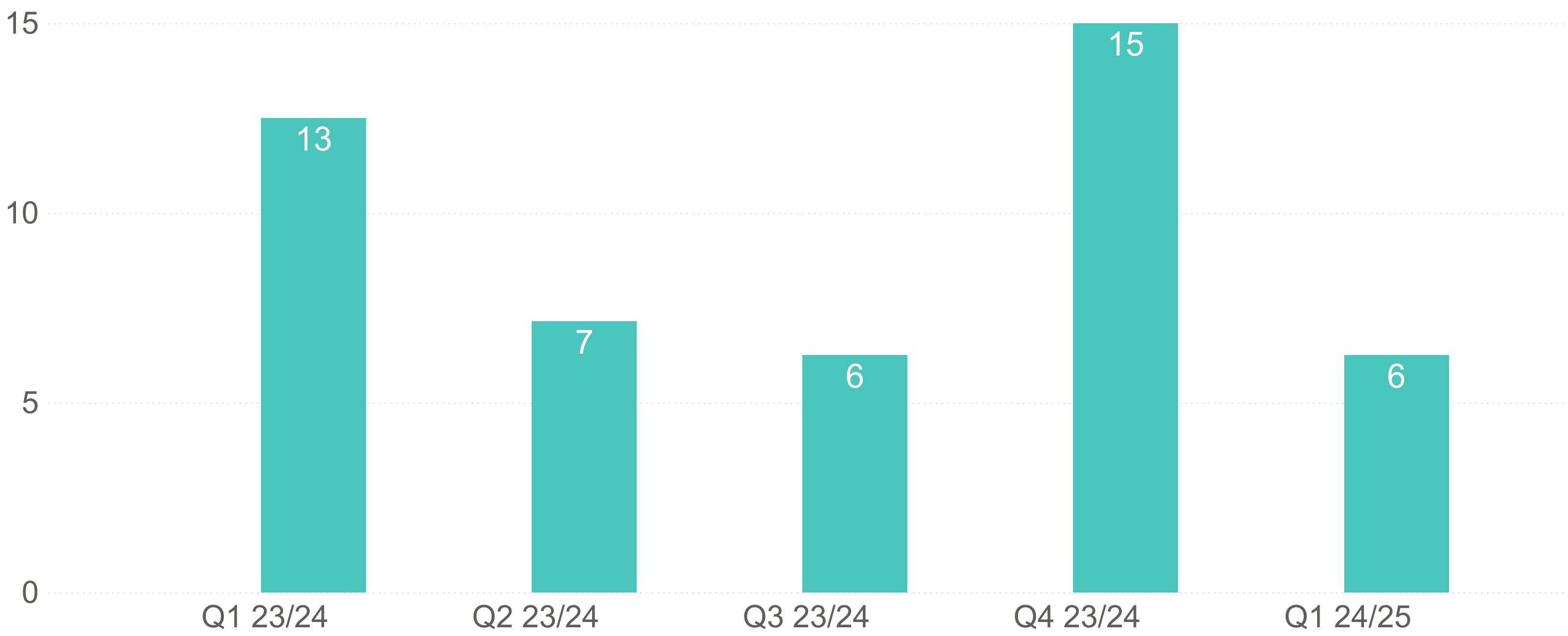
Investigation Non-investigation



Non-investigation reviews (YTD)	Completed non-investigation (IOPC)	Upheld non-investigation (IOPC)	Completed non-investigation (LPB)	Upheld non-investigation (LPB)
Force	4	1	16	1
SPLY	7	2	16	2
MSF Average	8	3	23	6
National	225	79	849	156

% LPB Reviews upheld - Force

Investigation Non-investigation



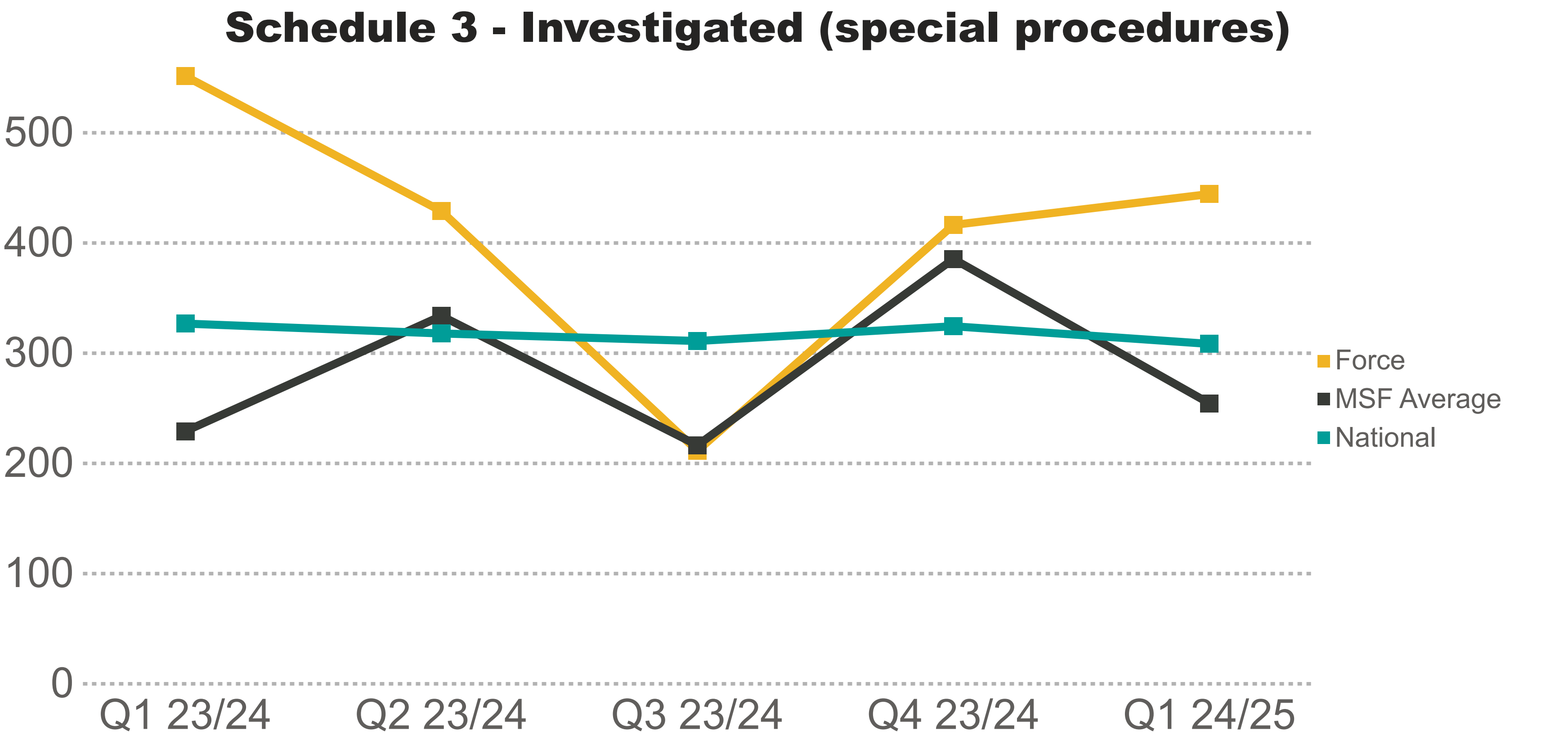
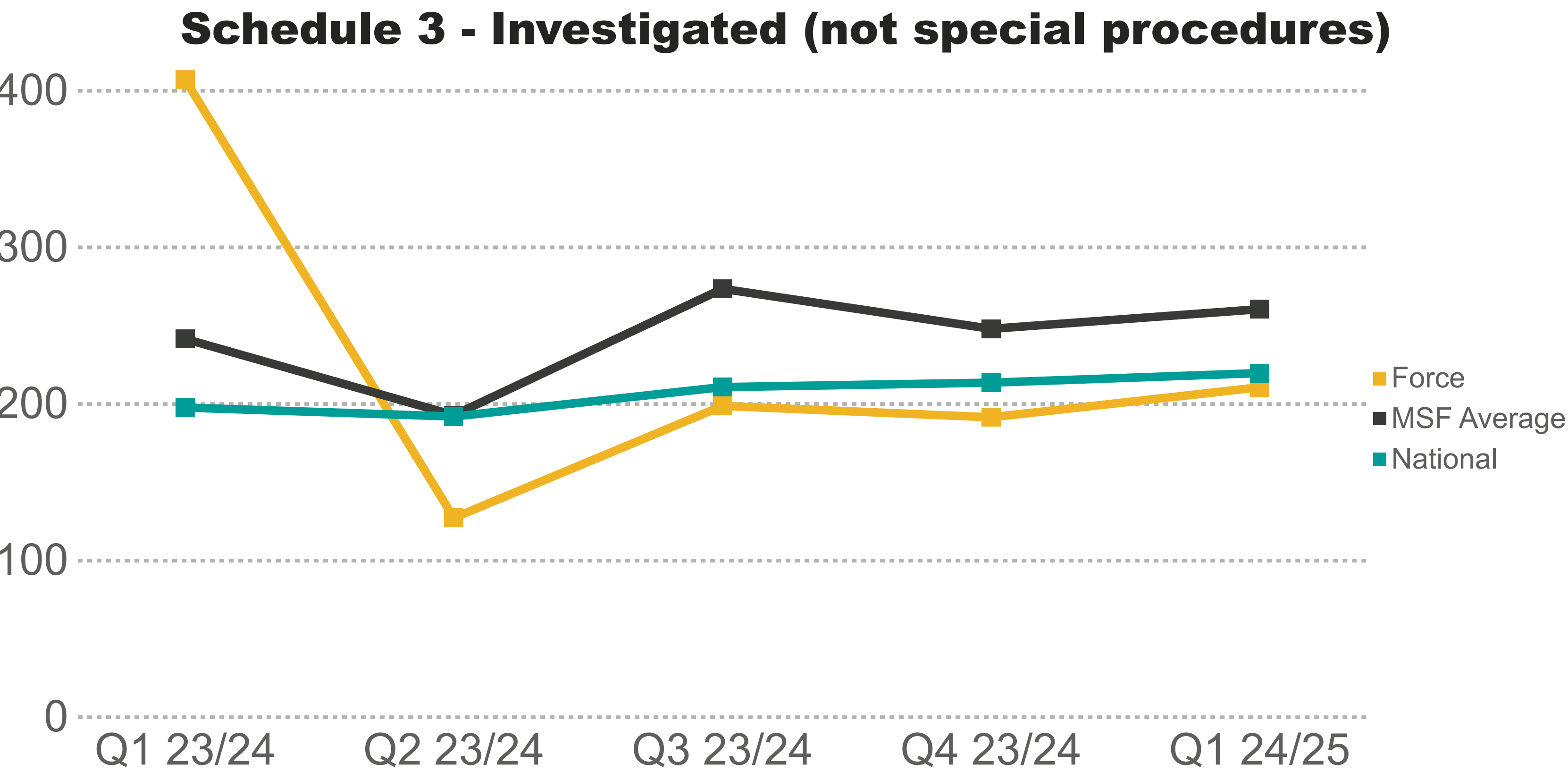
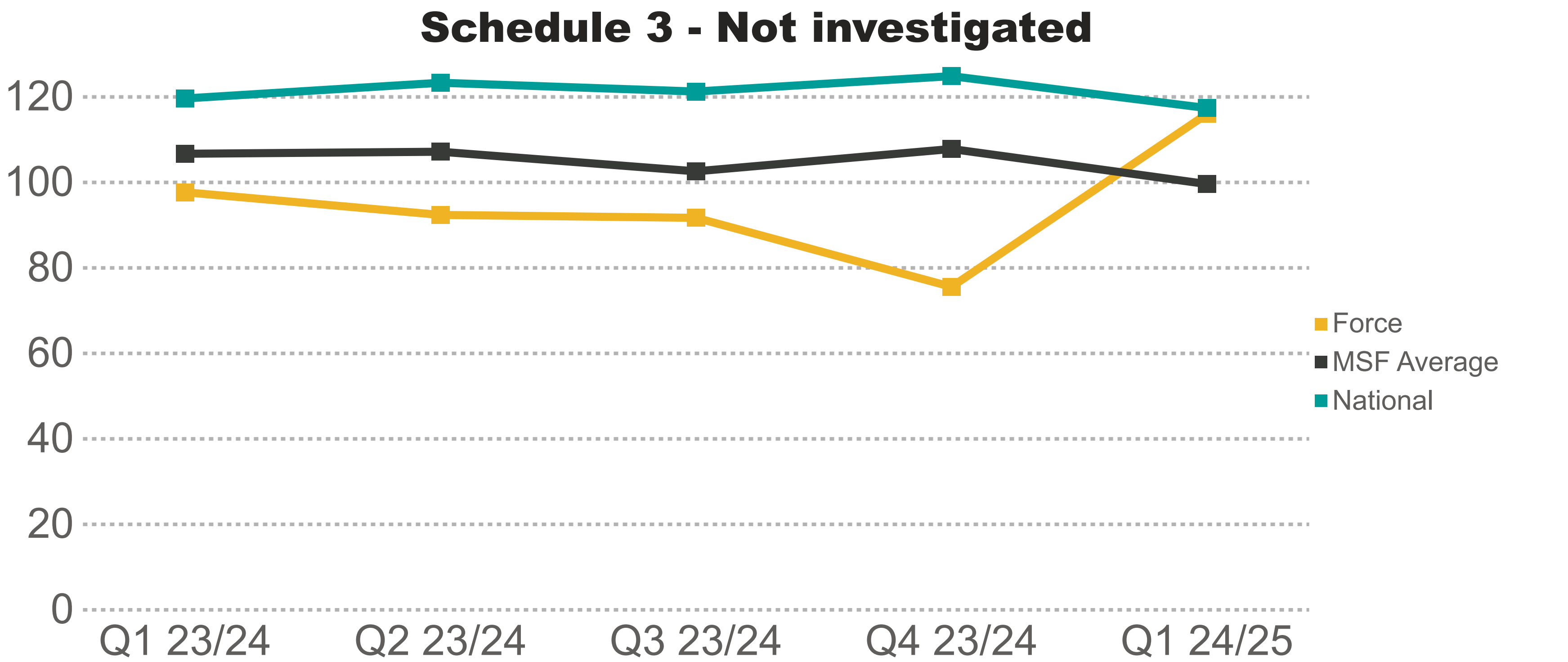
Section D1: Complaint cases finalised under Schedule 3 - timeliness

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. 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. For more information on the proportion of complaints handled under each method (along with outside if Schedule 3) please see page 14

Average working days to finalise (Year to date)	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	444	551	254	308
Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)	210	407	260	219
Under Schedule 3 - not investigated	116	98	100	117
Total	137	116	123	140

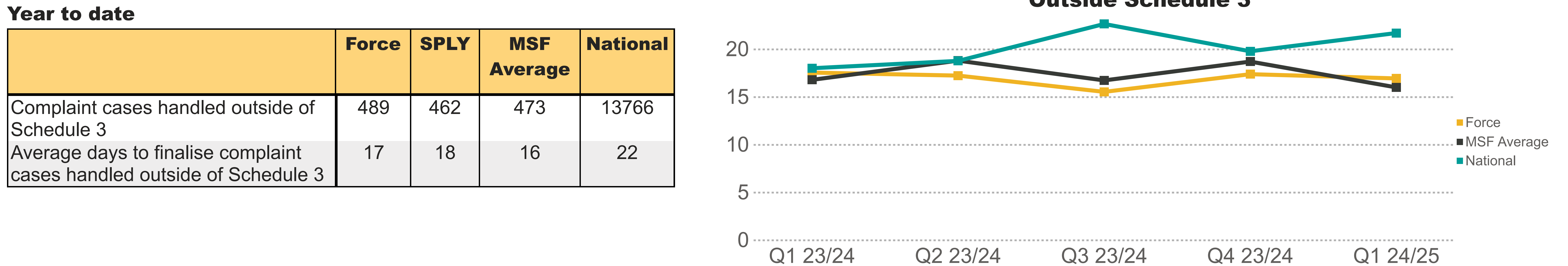
Number finalised (Year to date)	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Under Schedule 3 - not investigated	43	71	156	6,264
Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)	8	3	43	1,416
Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	1	1	4	171
Total	52	75	201	7,851



Section D2: Complaint cases finalised outside of Schedule 3 - timeliness

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 handled formally under Schedule 3. 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.

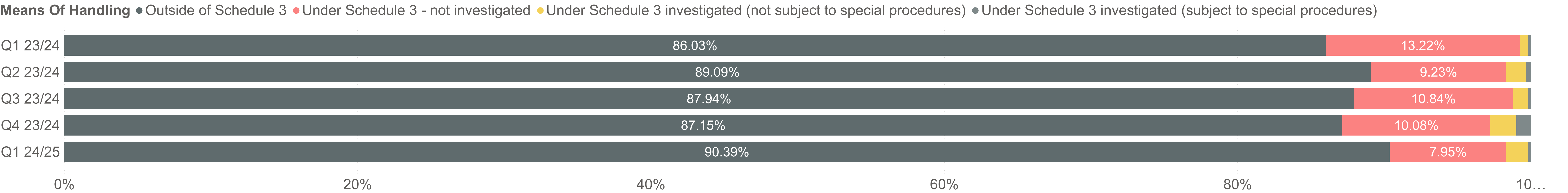


Section D3: How complaint cases handled

This section shows the proportion of complaint cases handled by the force, most similar for group and nationally under each method of handling. The table covers data recorded in the period as per 'Reporting Period' above, while the below chart concerns the force only using the last four quarters of available data.

Means Of Handling	Force		SPLY		MSF Average		National	
	Complaints Finalised	% Finalised	Complaints Finalised	% Finalised	Complaints Finalised	% Finalised	Complaints Finalised	% Finalised
Outside of Schedule 3	489	90%	462	86%	473	70%	13,766	64%
Under Schedule 3 - not investigated	43	8%	71	13%	156	23%	6,264	29%
Under Schedule 3 investigated (not subject to special procedures)	8	1%	3	1%	43	6%	1,416	7%
Under Schedule 3 investigated (subject to special procedures)	1	0%	1	0%	4	1%	171	1%
Total	541	100%	537	100%	675	100%	21,617	100%

Force: percent of complaint cases finalised by handling method



Section E: Referrals

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.

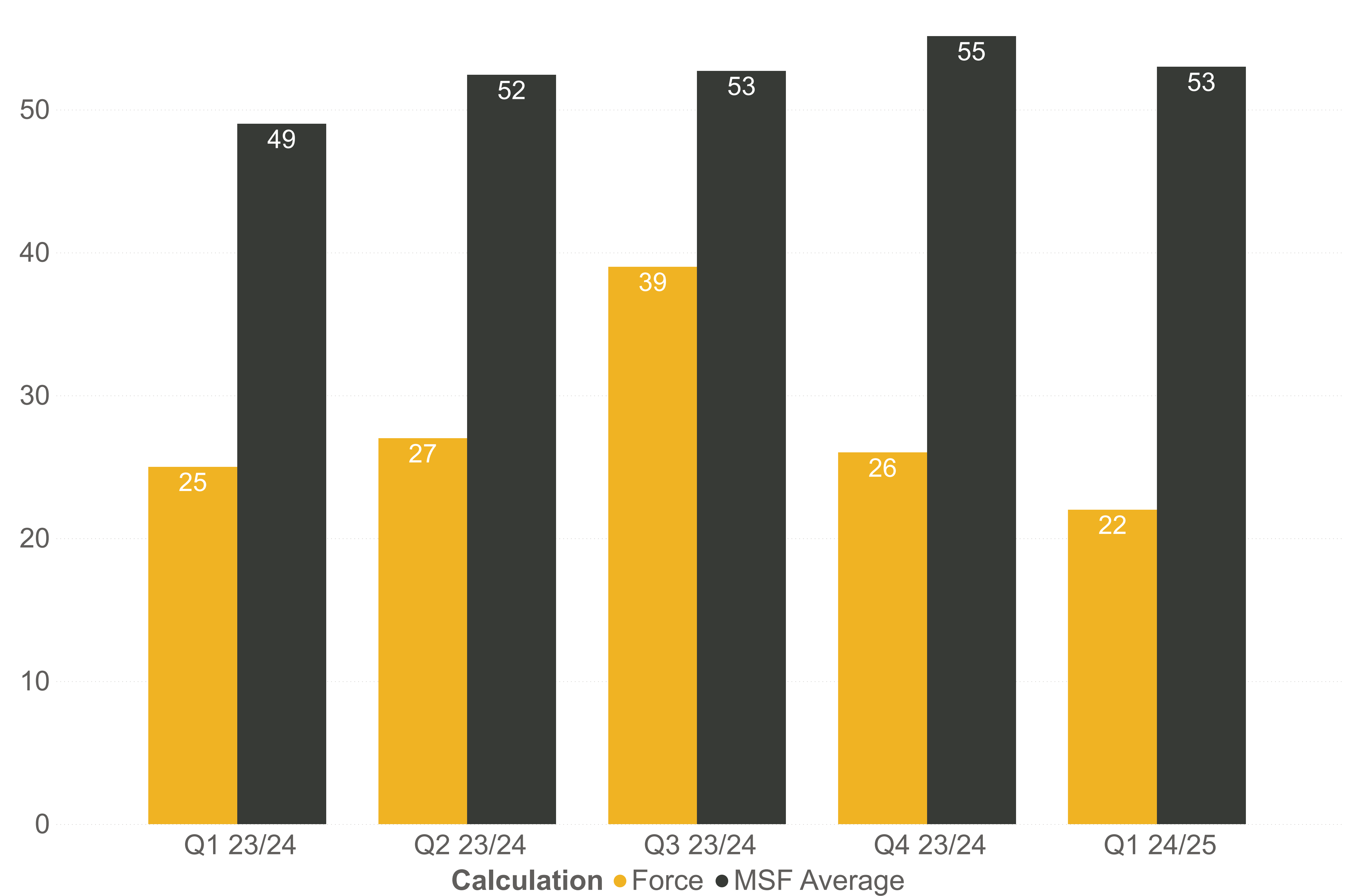
Where a referral is made by the force on a mandatory basis but does not meet the mandatory referral criteria, the matter may not fall within the IOPC’s remit to assess and will be determined invalid.

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.

Year to date

	Force	SPLY	MSF Average	National
Number referrals received	22	25	53	1,753
Number referrals completed	25	19	52	1,725
Decision: Independent Investigation	4	4	4	110
Decision: Directed Investigation	1	1	0	4
Decision: Local Investigation	10	7	26	966
Decision: Return to Force	9	7	20	611
Decision: Invalid	1	0	1	34

Force and MSF Group referrals received



Most Similar Force (MSF) Group: Cleveland, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Northumbria, South Yorkshire, West Midlands, West Yorkshire

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 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 \(February 2020\)](#).