

## HPP Performance – March 2023

### Summary

#### Public Safety and Crime Prevention

The month of March showed a 17.08% increase in reported incidents (639) when compared to February's (543).

- Crime Prevention – 273
- Public Assistance – 184
- Crime Related – 182

Public disorder and vagrancy remain an ongoing issue in the CBD. The number of incidents in these categories increase to 292 compared to February's 245. Of the reported 292 incidents of public disorder, 142 were loitering incidents (up from February's figure of 85), 8 were unruly behaviour incidents (down from February's figure of 10) and 17 incidents of intoxication, drinking in public and fighting (up from February's figures of 16).

In addition to HPP recovering numerous stolen property during the month, several of the reported incidents resulted in the arrest of 5 suspects during the month; 3 as a result of CCTV intervention and 2 as a result of field staff and responders.

Arrests were made up of the following:

- 5 x arrests for being in possession of possible stolen items.

The busiest suburbs for March were CBD (218 reports, of which 103 were crime related), Westcliff (90 reports, of which 18 were crime related), Eastcliff (63 reports, of which 16 were crime related), Northcliff (59 reports, of which 12 were crime related), Voëlklip (50 reports, of which 4 were crime related), and Industrial Area (38 reports, of which 5 were crime related). It is important to note that not all incidents reported are crime related. Many of them are public assistance or preventative action taken by HPP.

HPP continue to carry out Special Operations which include visible foot patrols at night, implementing listening posts at night and conducting "sweeps" of the Cliff Path and Hoys Koppie. Identified issues are reported to Overstrand Law Enforcement.

#### Crime Statistics

The third quarter crime statistics 2022/2023 were recently released by the South African Police Service. The statistics cover the October to December 2022 period. Statistics for SAPS Hermanus precinct, which includes the areas of Karwyderskraal, Fisherhaven, Hawston, Vermont, Onrus, Sandbaai, Zwelihle and Hermanus (see map) reveal the following trends:

- An overall decrease in crime across the same periods since 2018.
- Crime detected as a result of police action has increased year on year highlighting successful active policing operations such as roadblocks and raids.

### ALERT: THEFT FROM OUTBUILDINGS

There has been a noticeable increase in opportunistic crime targeting outbuildings. Usually, the outbuildings on our properties are less secure than our homes.

Please ensure that your outbuildings; garages, sheds, laundry rooms, cottages, studios, etc. are protected as well as your home.

To help keep your external buildings safe:

1. Install quality locks, security bars and doors.
2. Install security beams connected to your alarm.
3. Cover windows.
4. Cover items and secure them with additional locks and chains.
5. Secure or store garden furniture, braais, and gas bottles indoors or ensure they are covered by security beams.

- Burglary at non-residential property has considerably decreased over the same periods from 2018.
- Contact crimes in particular common assault and assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm are on the increase.
- Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle is also showing a slight increase in cases.

In contrast to the SAPS Hermanus precinct, crime statistics within our SRA reveal the following:

- There is concerning increase in commercial crime which includes online scams and ATM fraud.
- Burglary at residential addresses has been decreasing over the same periods since 2018.
- Shoplifting, however, is increasing.

### **Accuracy of Crime Statistics**

There are a number of incidents allegedly reported anecdotally or on social media that do not appear to be reported to the police. This raises concern about the accuracy of reported crime statistics in the Hermanus policing precinct.

It is vital that all criminal incidents are reported to the police, even if your items are recovered. Accurate crime reporting is crucial to ensure that police stations are adequately funded.

Petty criminals often become repeat offenders and their crimes may violently escalate. Help apprehend criminals before they escalate their behaviour and hurt somebody.

If more resources are deployed to our community because of the information you provided, it aids in making it safer overall. Reporting crime reduces crime.

### **Cleansing**

The HPP cleaning and clearing services team covers the Cliff Path regularly in sections, namely: Roman Rock to the Marine Hotel; Gearings Point to New Harbour; Hoy's Koppie and Bekker's Park and Grotto East to Kraal Rock. In March, a total of **290** black bags, up from **260** in February, were filled up along the path including the cleaning of all the beach and path rubbish bins, as well as parking areas along the Cliff Path.

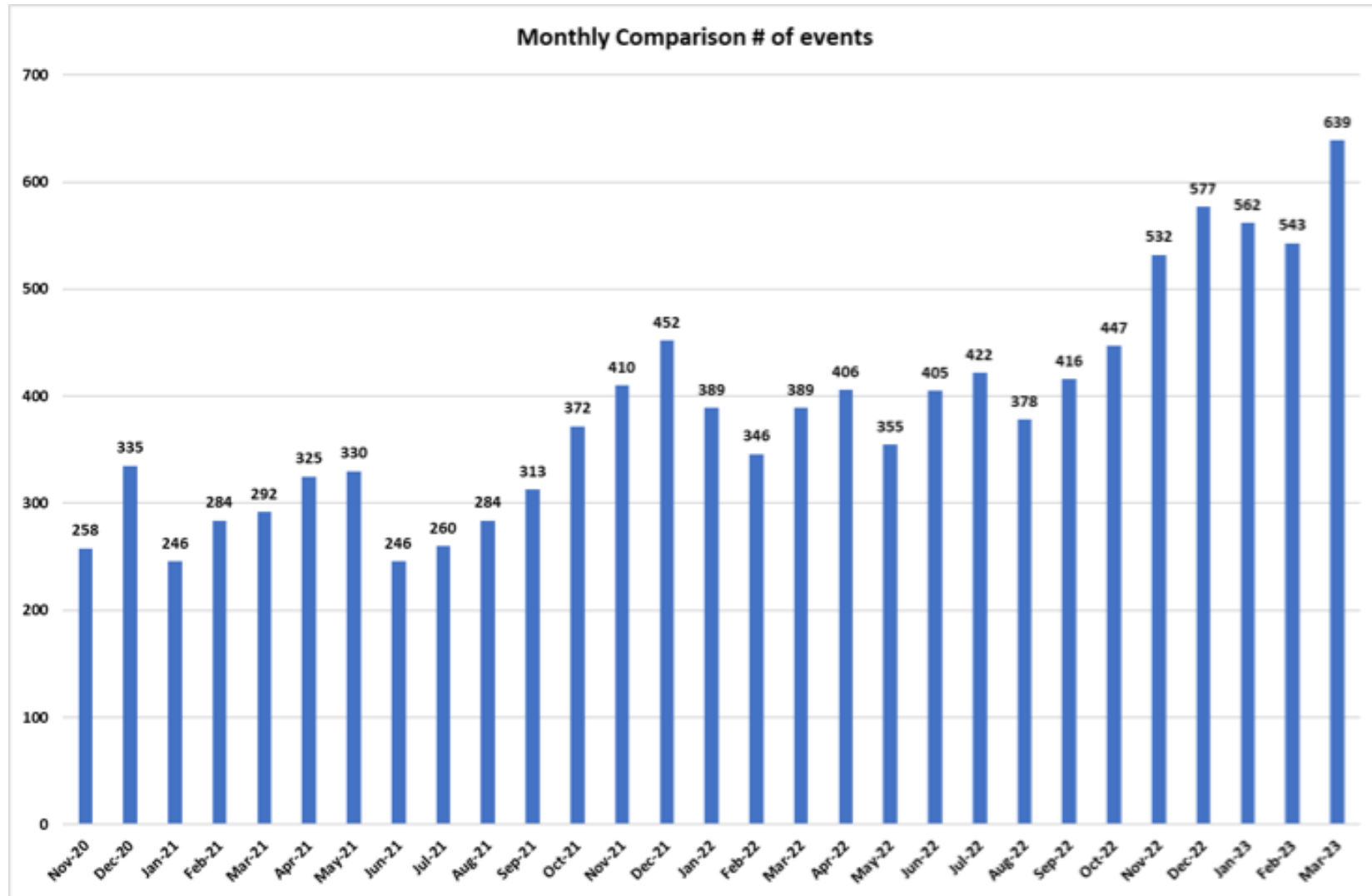
We again appeal to users of the Cliff Path to adhere to the by-laws and work together to ensure that the Cliff Path remains a top attraction and a joyful experience for everyone who uses it.

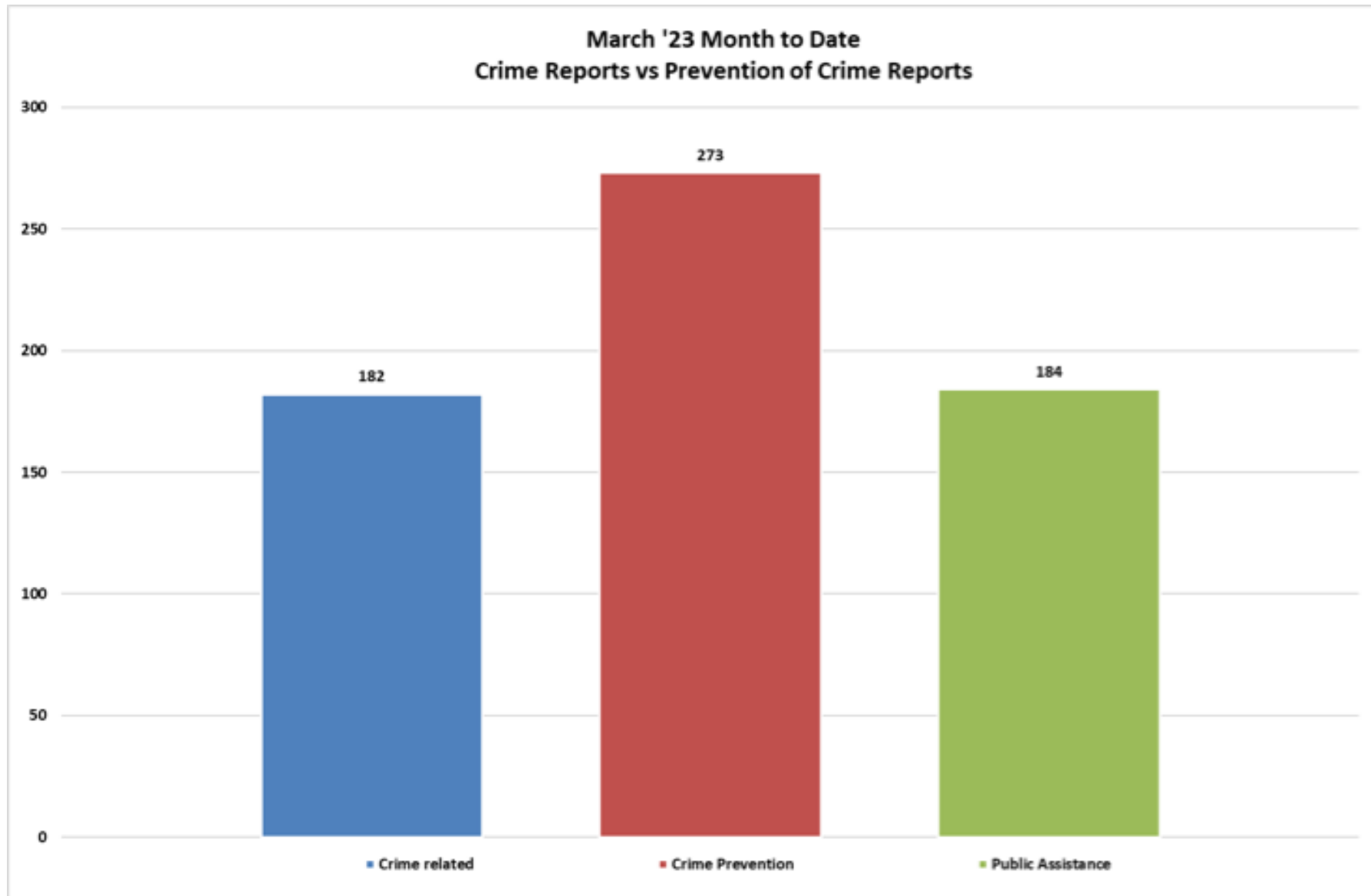
The main points of the by-laws include:

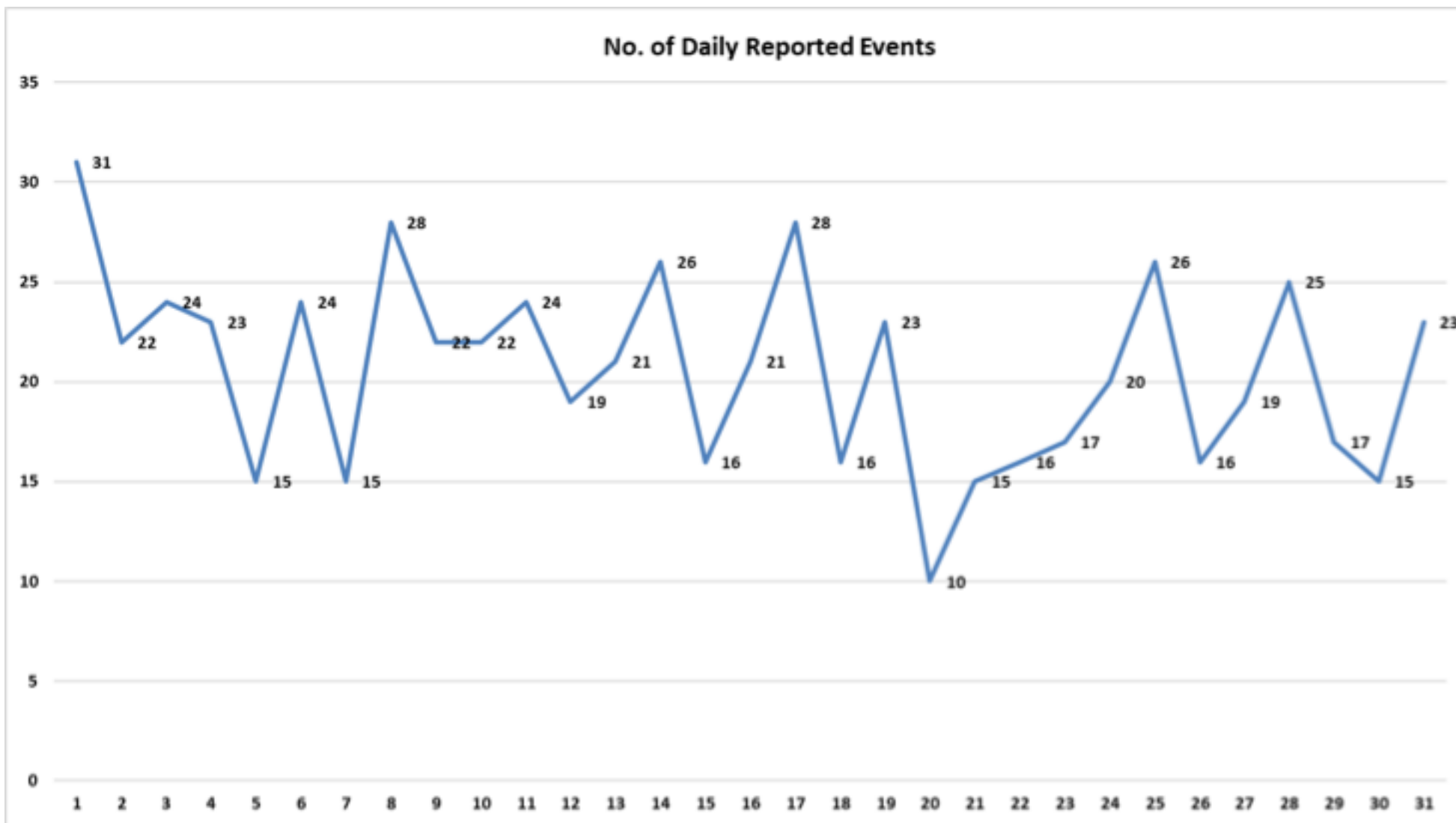
1. Littering is not permitted. Please place your litter in a bin or take it home with you.
2. All dogs must be on a leash, without exception.
3. Dog owners must pick up after their pet.
4. Consuming alcohol in public is prohibited.
5. Making fires in non-designated areas is not permitted.

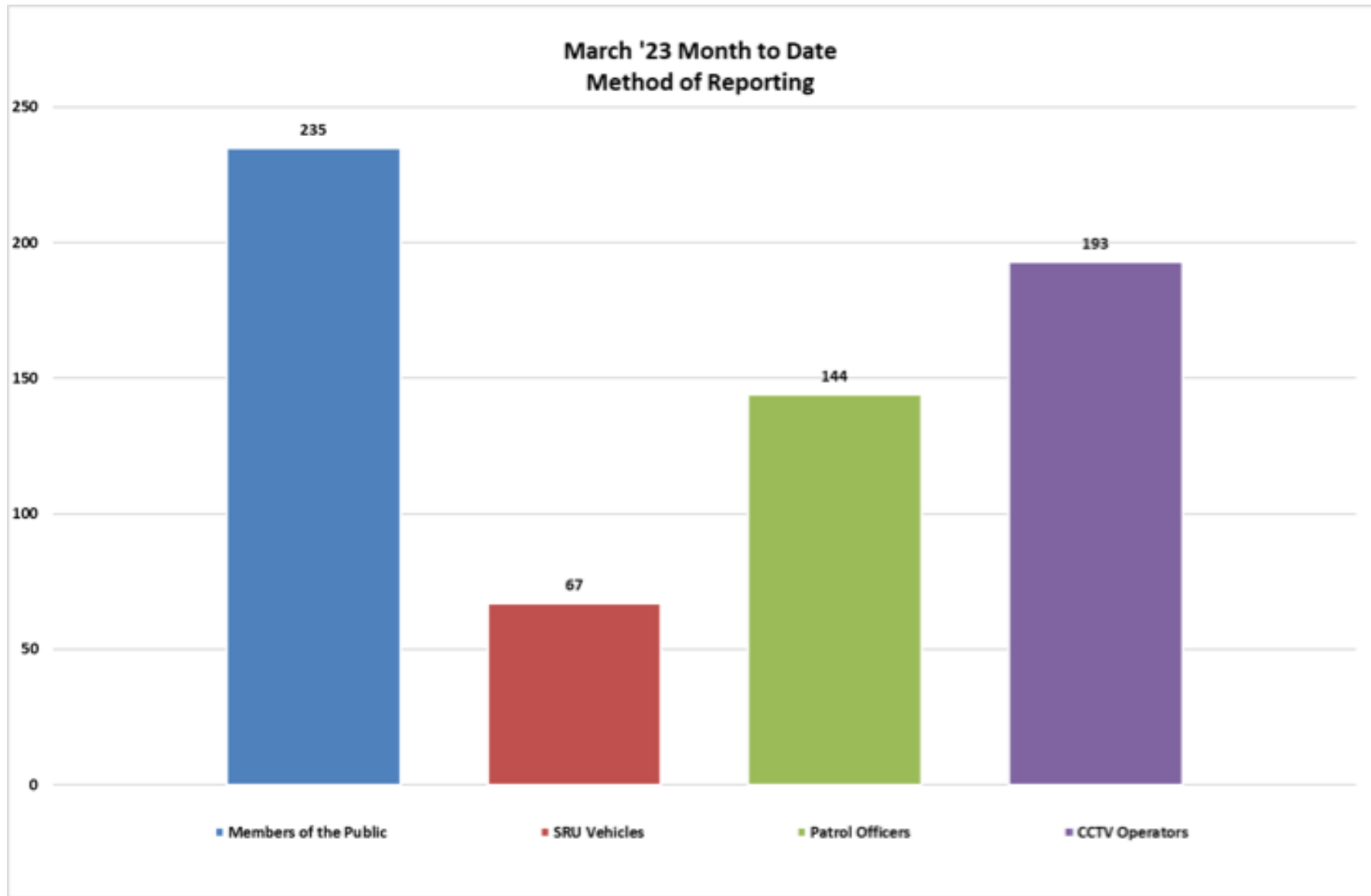
Any contravention of these by-laws can be reported to the Municipality's Law Enforcement at 028 313 8996 or Control Room 028 313 8000. Alternatively send an email to [enquiries@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:enquiries@overstrand.gov.za).

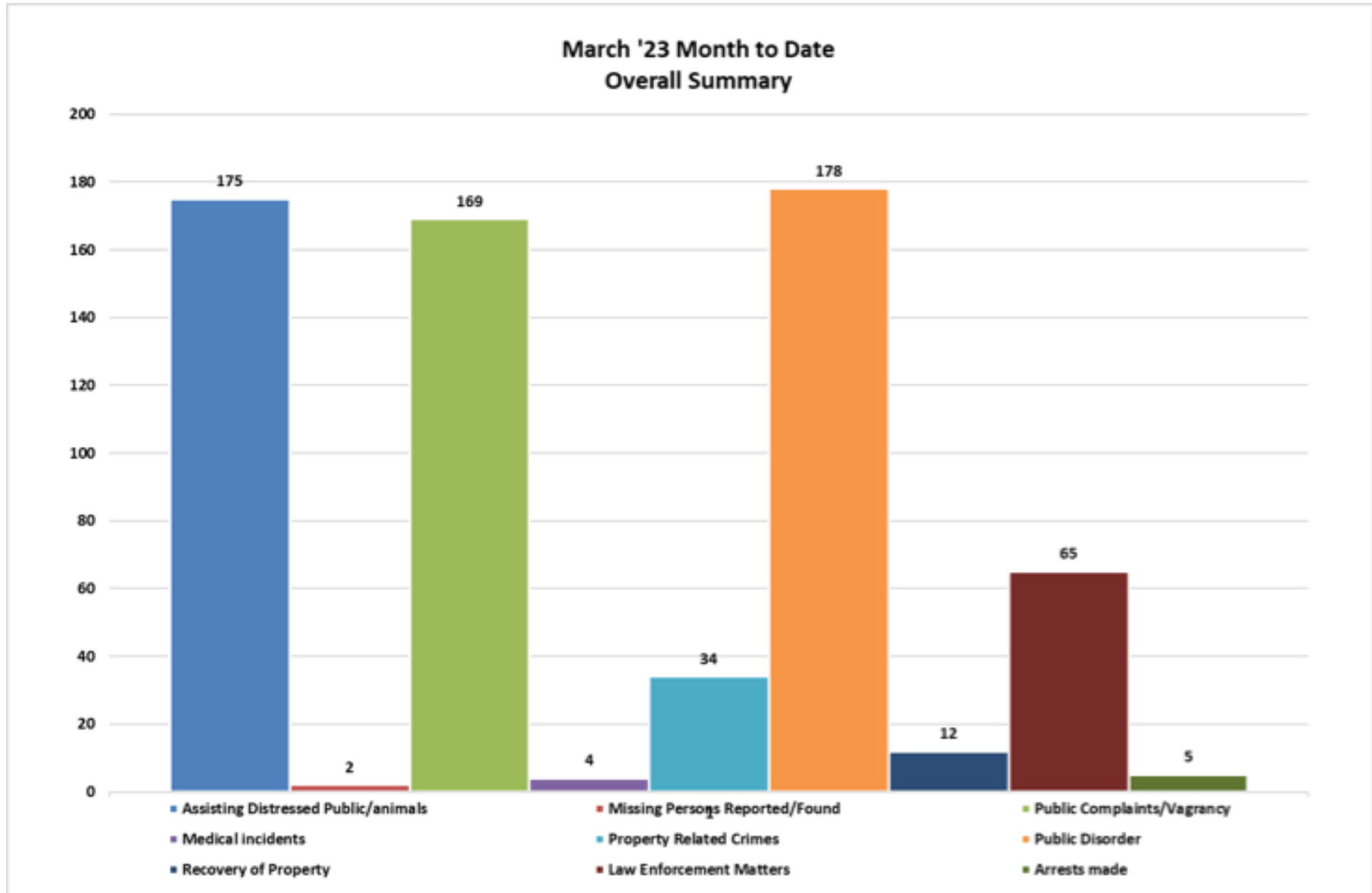
## Public Safety and Crime Prevention for the period 01/03/2023 – 31/03/2023



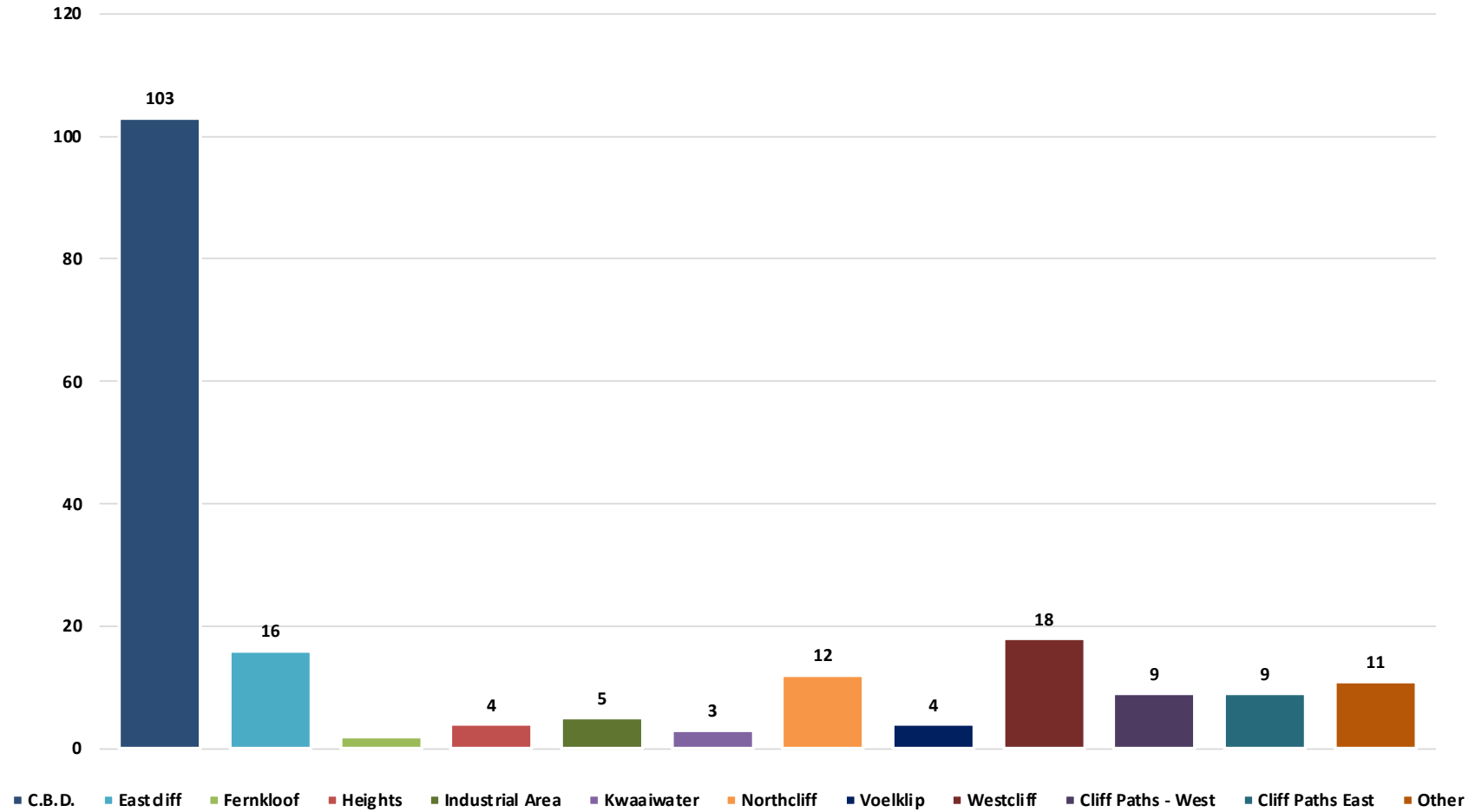








**March '23 Month to Date  
Crime Only Reports per Suburbs**





**March '23 Month to Date  
Non-Crime Reports per Suburbs**

