

Victims Right to Review
April 2015 to March 2016

	Principal Offence Category	Total VRR Appeals Received	Appeals Upheld at Stage One	Appeals Upheld at Stage Two	Total Appeals Upheld
A	Homicide	46	2	4	6
B	Offences against the person	835	53	24	77
C	Sexual offences	373	26	27	53
D	Burglary	55	6	1	7
E	Robbery	21	3	0	3
F	Theft and handling	137	10	4	14
G	Fraud and forgery	92	9	1	10
H	Criminal damage	73	2	1	3
I	Drug offences	3	0	1	1
J	Public order offences	73	8	2	10
L	Motoring offences	37	3	0	3
K	All other offences (excluding motoring)	56	1	0	1
	No Principal Offence Category	8	0	0	0
	Total	1809	123	65	188

Source: CPS VRR Tracker. June 2017

Notes

In 2015-16 the CPS made a pre-charge legal decision on 260,498 suspects and prosecuted 637,778 defendants, not all prosecuted defendants are subject to a CPS pre-charge decision; the Police charge approximately 65% of cases and the CPS 35%.

The VRR scheme is a two stage process where appeals can be reviewed by either local offices or a specialist Unit within HQ. In the first instance, that decision is reviewed by a manager in the local area. If he or she upholds the decision, and if the victim so requests, the case may be further reviewed by the CPS Appeals and Review Unit (ARU). The ARU is a national CPS unit staffed with experienced specialist lawyers who conduct a fresh independent review of the evidence in every case referred to them. If an ARU lawyer decides that the original decision was wrong, and a prosecution is required to maintain confidence in the Criminal Justice System, that decision will be overturned and proceedings reinstated. The figures provided represent all upheld appeals regardless of which stage the final decision was made.

The CPS operates both Feedback and Complaints schemes to deal with concerns about legal decisions which do not fall within the scope of the VRR scheme. The CPS does not collect data which constitutes official statistics as defined in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. This data has been drawn from the CPS's administrative IT systems, which (as with any large scale recording system) is subject to possible errors with data entry and processing. The figures are provisional and subject to change as more information is recorded by the CPS.