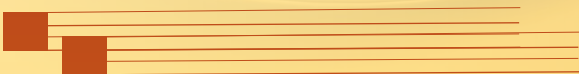




2024 ANNUAL REPORT





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"The Voice of the Customer Leads Us"

Commissioner Dinah Marathe

FOREWORD



In alignment with our commitment to transparency and accountability, I am honoured to present the Botswana Police Service Annual Report for the year 2024. This report comprehensively accounts for our performance regarding various commitments and service delivery expectations. It includes an overview of police efforts and achievements over the past twelve months.

The reporting year was punctuated by fundamental transformations that gave birth to a new-look Botswana Police Service. Among the changes are a change in police leadership and the emergence of refocused police operations targeting enhanced public safety and security in accordance with the Botswana Police Service's defined mandate.

BPS Prioritised performance trajectory by adopting a Customer Service Pledge themed "Let the Voice of the Customer Lead Us". This initiative underscores the commitment of the Police Service to actively listen to and address the concerns of the community it serves. Specifically, the Service Pledge established a critical customer value proposition that entails several key areas: visible policing, effective traffic management, provision of timely feedback to customers, prompt response to reports, quality investigations, and the cultivation of motivated police officers.

During the year, the BPS also engaged in a mammoth task of preparing for the 2024 General Elections, ensuring that officers were fully equipped and ready to support the 2024 Botswana General Elections. Nevertheless, the organisation excelled in delivering a safe and secure electoral process, which resulted in a historic transition of government after 58 years and the inauguration of Advocate Duma Gideon Boko as the Head of State. Botswana Police Service has since aligned its operations with the new Government priorities, with a reinforced focus on reducing the fear of crime and upholding the principles of respect for human rights, inclusivity, zero tolerance for corruption.

In efforts to align with the new priorities, the BPS emphasises collaborative partnerships and has since established the Police Public Partnership Directorate. This mirrors our determination and commitment to work closely with our stakeholders and communities. Our aim is to foster harmonious environments where the police and the public work together in the pursuit of a safe and secure nation. Furthermore, the BPS continued reaffirming its obligations to collaborate with other organisations that advocate for human rights, actively participating in operations such as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and other observances.

Recognising the critical importance of regulatory compliance, the BPS has enhanced its legal capacity through the establishment of a Legal Service Directorate. This strategic initiative significantly reinforces the organisation's commitment to upholding excellence.

Regarding fulfilment of the police mandate, crime levels remained manageable throughout the year. In 2024, the BPS recorded 146,529 cases, compared to 159,680 cases in 2023, indicating an overall reduction of 8% in criminal incidents. However, it is important to highlight a concerning rise in break-ins, along with increased incidents of sexual and domestic violence. The disquieting rise in violence associated with these crimes is a troubling trend that will be addressed through focused crime prevention strategies aimed at creating safer communities.

Road safety remains one of our key priorities. To keep the community safe on our roads, we targeted intentional high-risk driving, speeding, alcohol-impaired driving, and distracted and unlicensed drivers. We conducted various operations throughout the year to minimise road trauma risks and promote general deterrence. Holidays continue to be high-risk periods on our roads. We delivered countrywide road policing operations to coincide with major holidays and weekends. Overall, road accidents increased to 16,722, up 9.1% from 15,331 in 2023. Despite this increase, fatalities decreased from 396 to 346, marking a reduction of 12.6%.

In our commitment to serve and protect the community, and inspired by our organizational slogan—"In Partnership with the Community"—we continue to prioritize community involvement as the foundation of everything we do. I therefore extend my heartfelt gratitude to members of the community for their invaluable crime prevention efforts, which have significantly contributed to the reduction of crime. I also sincerely thank the dedicated men and women in blue for their unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to serving our nation.

Let us continue to work together, striving for even greater heights in ensuring the safety and security of our nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Marathe", written over a horizontal line.

D. Marathe
Commissioner of Police
{D.S.O., B.P.M., J.S.M. L.S.G.C.M}

1. ABOUT US

1.1 OUR STRATEGIC FOUNDATIONS

Our Mandate

The Botswana Police Service (BPS) plays a crucial role in maintaining public safety and security throughout the country. To fulfill this mandate effectively, section 6 of the Police Act (Cap 21:01) outlines specific BPS' responsibilities as follows:

- Protect life and property;
- Prevent and detect crime;
- Repress internal disturbances;
- Maintain security and public tranquility;
- Apprehend offenders;
- Bring offenders to justice;
- Duly enforce all written laws with which it is directly charged; and
- Generally maintain the peace.

Our Vision

'A law enforcement Agency of Repute'

The BPS will be an upright organisation that upholds its mandate according to the dictates of the Country's Statutes and all international policing conventions.

Our Mission

'To provide a Professional Policing Service, in partnership with the Community'

- Professional Policing - Expert Service that is consistent with international policing standards.
- Partnership with the Community - Policing by consent, for them by them

Our Values

- **Botho**
Courteous. Responsive. Respectful
- **Excellence**
Accountable. Knowledgeable. Responsive. Accurate. Customer Focused.
- **Integrity**
Ethical. Transparent. Confidential. Honest. Impartial.
- **Team Work**
Esprit De Corps. Pull together. Collective Responsibility.

1.2 OUR SERVICES

- **Proactive Crime Prevention Services**

Implementing a variety of community safety programmes aimed at preventing crime before it occurs.

- **Visible Police Presence**

Maintaining a strong presence within the community and at major events to enhance safety.

- **Swift Response Services**

Responding promptly to calls for assistance related to personal and public safety, emergencies, and serious incidents.

- **Effective Investigation Services**

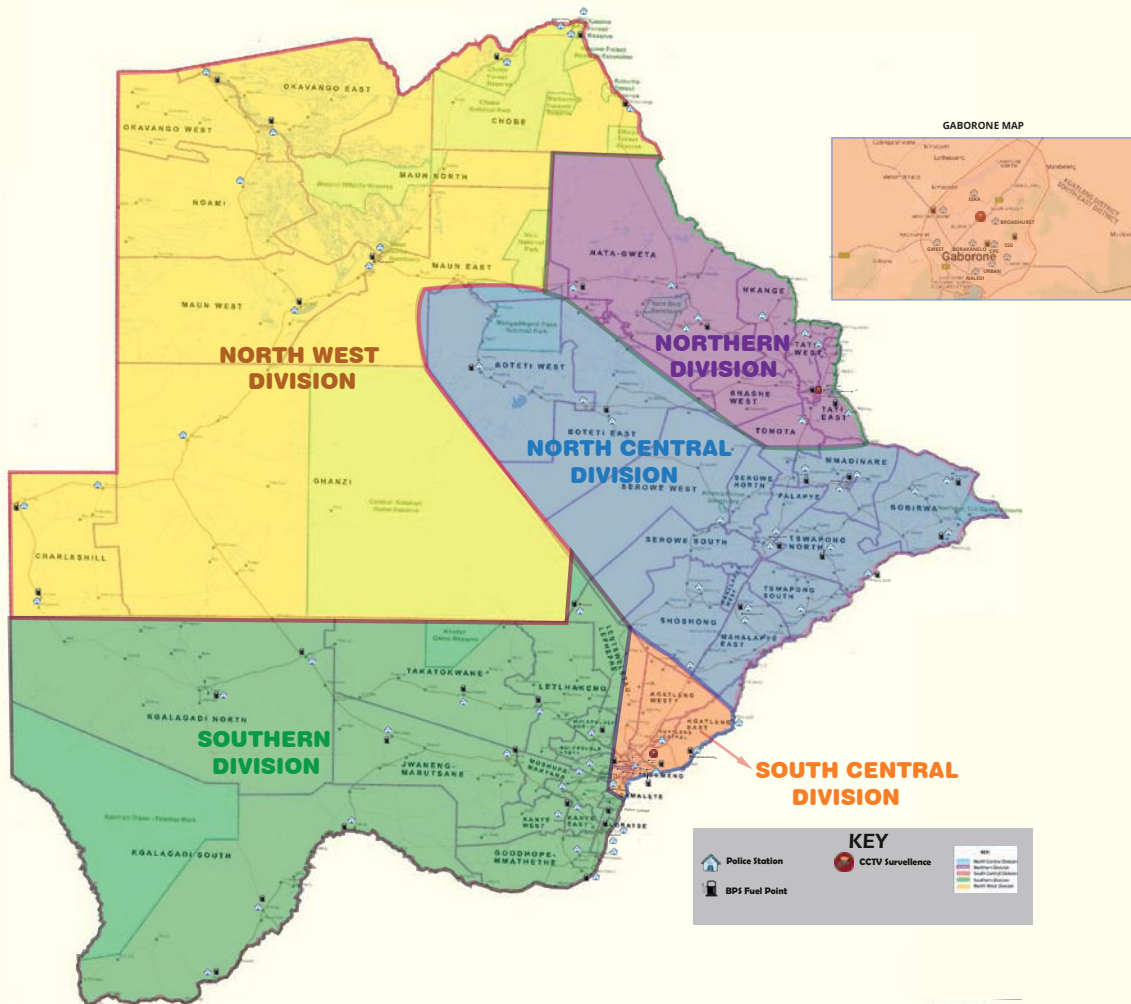
Detecting and investigating crimes and ensuring those responsible are brought to justice.

- **Victim Support**

Providing safe custody for alleged offenders while supporting victims and ensuring fair and equitable treatment for both victims and offenders.

1.3 OUR POLICING AREAS

The Botswana Police Service is made up of five (5) divisions (policing areas). Under the five divisions are seventeen (17) Police Districts, eighty-three (83) Police Stations and four hundred and twelve (412) Police Posts across the country.



1.4 OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Commissioner of Police is in charge of the command, superintendence, direction, and control of the Botswana Police Service. The Commissioner is supported by three Deputy Commissioners; Police Act, Cap 21:01 Section 5(1).

The Deputy Commissioner—Operations has overall responsibility and oversight of the five Policing Divisions (South Central, South, North Central, North, and North West) and four branches (Anti-Stock Theft, Police-Public Partnerships, Traffic, and Operations).

The Deputy Commissioner—Crime Investigations has overall responsibility and oversight of the Criminal Investigations Department, Forensic Science Services, Crime Intelligence, Internal Affairs, Cyber Forensics, Gender & Child Protection and International Relations & Liaison.

The Deputy Commissioner—Support Services has overall responsibility and oversight of the Departmental Management Services, Development & Finance, Stores & Procurement, Special Support Group, Transport & Telecommunications, Air Support Branch, Training, International Law Enforcement Academy, Legal Services, and Strategy Development & Performance Monitoring.

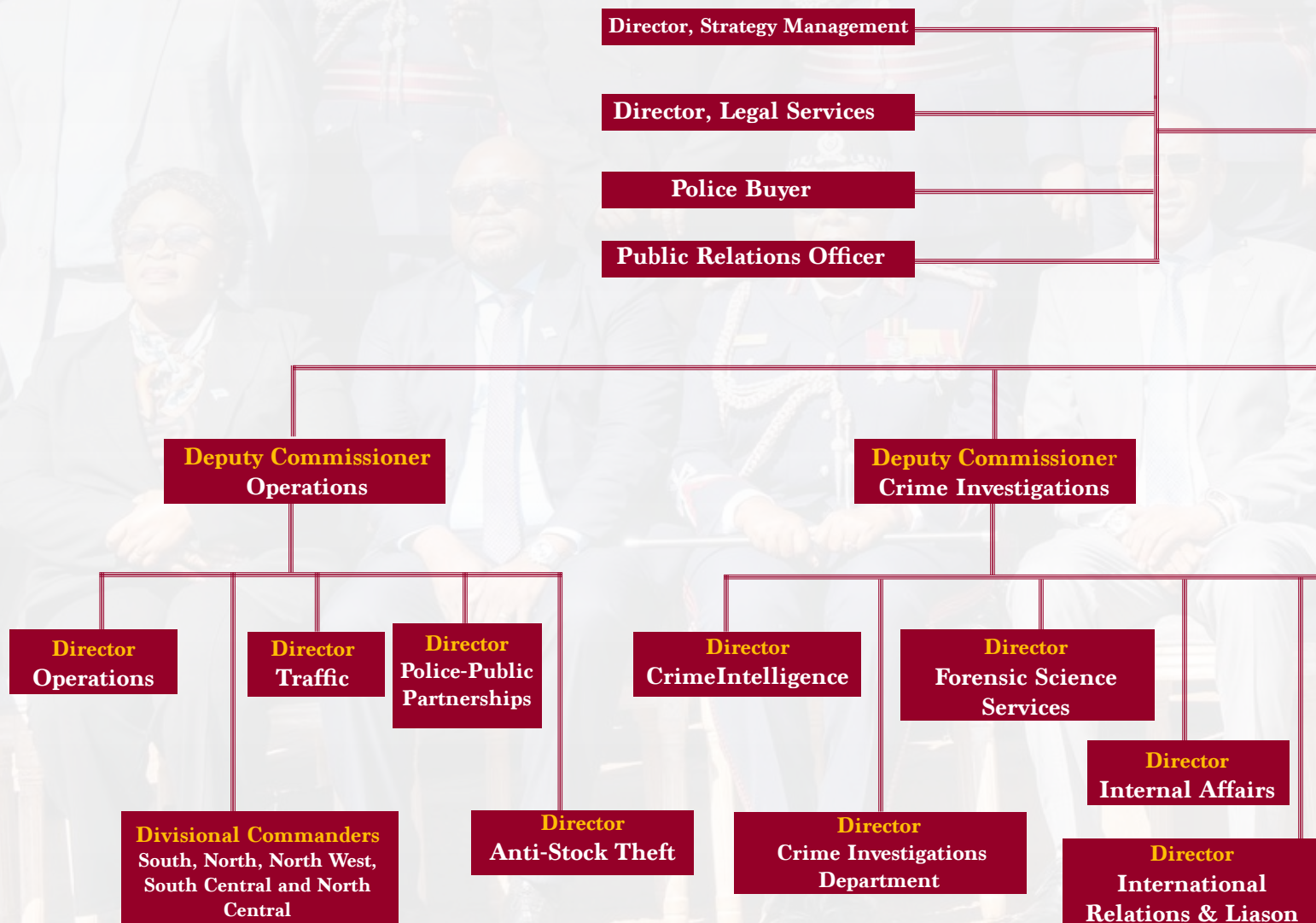
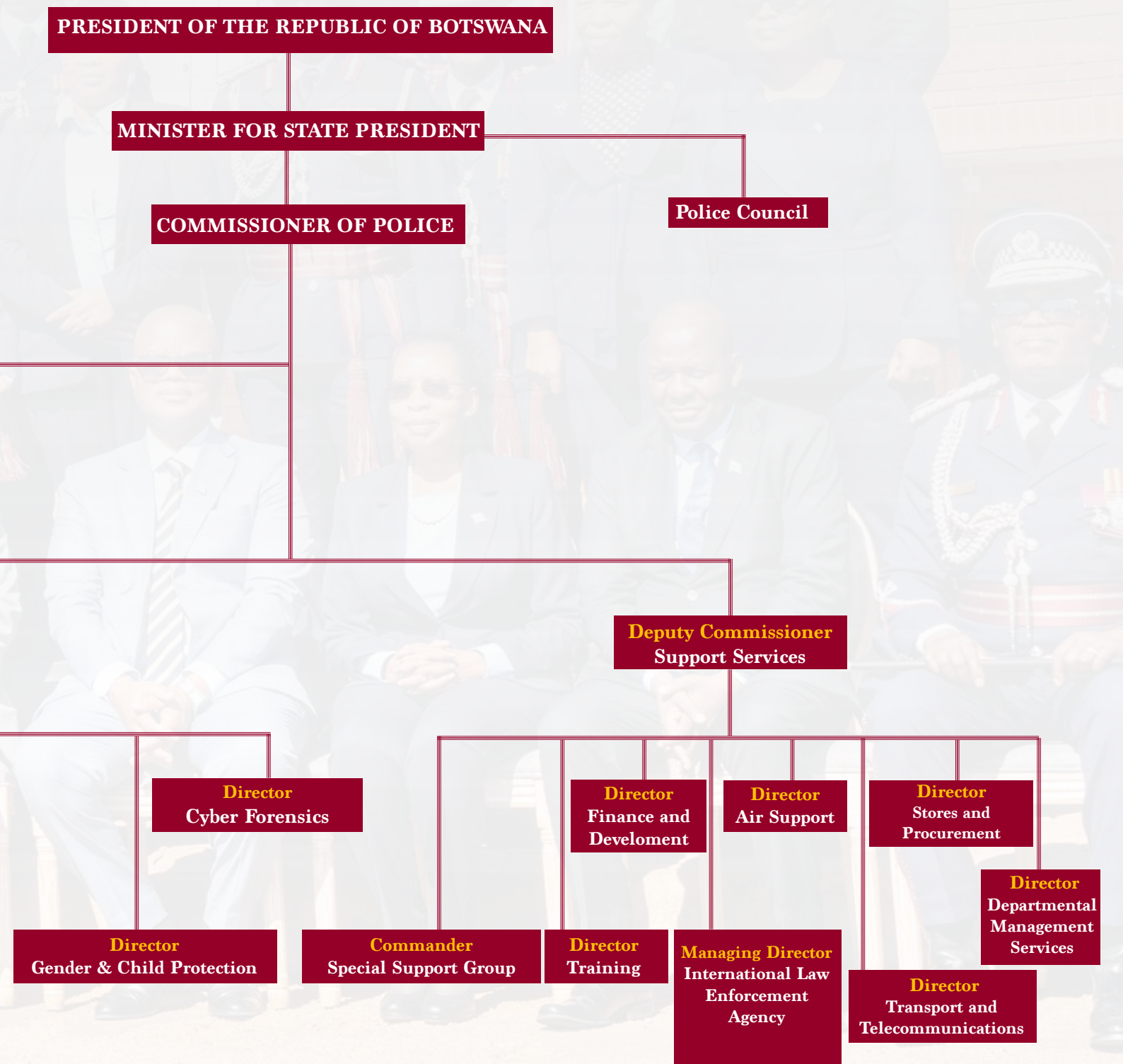


Figure 1. Organisational Chart



COMMAND



Republic of Botswana
REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF ARMED FORCES

Advocate Duma Gideon Boko
President of the Republic of Botswana

Botswana Police Service (BPS) forms part of the Armed Forces, and according to Section 48 (1) of the Constitution of Botswana Chapter 01:01, *“...the supreme command of the Armed Forces of the Republic shall vest in the President and he/she shall hold the office of Commander-in-Chief.”*



ADMINISTRATION



Honourable Moeti Ceasar Mohwasa
Minister for State President

Administratively, the BPS falls under the Minister for State President. By powers vested on him under Section 50 (4) of the Constitution of Botswana Chapter: 01:01, *"A Minister shall be responsible, under the direction of the President for such business of the government of Botswana (including the administration of any department of Government) as the President may assign to him/her."*



BPS LEADERSHIP TEAM



Commissioner Dinah Marathe
Commissioner of Police

In accordance with Section 4 (1) of the Police Act Chapter 21:01, the BPS is headed by the Commissioner who subject to the provisions of the Act and the general direction of the President, exercises command superintendence, direction and control of the Service and is accountable to the President for maintaining peace and order throughout Botswana. Commissioner Marathe who ascended to this Position in March 2024, taking the baton from Mr Keabetswe Makgophe after his retirement in 2023.



DCP Busang C. Lesola

Deputy Commissioner of Police
Crime Investigations



DCP Solomon Mantswe

Deputy Commissioner of Police
Support Services



DCP Katholo Mosimanegape

Deputy Commissioner of Police
Operations



OUR PERFORMANCE



2. OUR PERFORMANCE

The performance of the Botswana Police Service is evaluated based on a comprehensive set of core mandate indicators aligned with the commitments outlined in the Corporate Annual Policing Plan (CAPP). A central element of these performance commitments is the pledge to achieve a minimum reduction in crime rates of 5%.

2.1 Crime Reduction

2.1.1 General Crime Overview

Crime remain manageable throughout the year 2024. In terms of general crime comprising offences relating to the Penal Code and other statutes, there was a reduction in crime levels by 8.2%. Specifically, the number of offences went down from 159,680 casses recorded in 2023 to 146,529 cases in 2024. The decrease was more substantial under Penal Code offences where the margin was 10.6% as compared to the number of offences recorded under other statutes which dropped by -0.8%.

Table 1: Number of Reported Cases: 2023 – 2024

Offence Category	Year 2023	Year 2024	Growth (%)	Relative Value (%)
Penal Code	120,582	107,757	-10.6%	73.5%
Other Statutes (excluding traffic)	39,098	38,772	-0.8%	26.5%
Total	159,680	146,529	-8.2%	100.0%

2.1.2 Regional Crime Trends

2.1.2.1 Police Divisions Crime Trends: 2023 – 2024

The South Central Division consistently recorded the highest proportion of crimes, accounting for 36.9% in 2024; a slight increase from the magnitude of 36.3% in 2023. The North Central Division accounted for the seconded largest crime volume of 19.8%; a decrease from 20.9%. At the other end was the North West Division which continued to maintain the lowest proportion of recorded crimes in both years, at 9.7% and 9.6%, respectively. Notably, all Police Divisions registered decreases in reported crimes between the years 2023 to 2024 with the largest decrease of -13.4% observed under the North Central region.

Table 2: Number of Reported Cases Per Police Division: 2023 – 2024

Police Division	Year 2023				Year 2024				2023/24 Growth (%)		
	Penal Code	Other Statutes	Total	Relative Value (%)	Penal Code	Other Statutes	Total	Relative Value (%)	Penal Code	Other Statutes	Total
Northern	16,819	9,423	26,242	16.4%	14,463	9,071	23,534	16.1%	-14.0%	-3.7%	-10.3%
North Central	23,787	9,665	33,452	20.9%	19,871	9,093	28,964	19.8%	-16.5%	-5.9%	-13.4%
North West	11,939	3,516	15,455	9.7%	10,414	3,671	14,085	9.6%	-12.8%	4.4%	-8.9%
Southern	20,756	5,863	26,619	16.7%	18,684	7,241	25,925	17.7%	-10.0%	23.5%	-2.6%
South Central	47,281	10,631	57,912	36.3%	44,325	9,696	54,021	36.9%	-6.3%	-8.8%	-6.7%
Total	120,582	39,098	159,680	100.0%	107,757	38,772	146,529	100.0%	-10.6%	-0.8%	-8.2%

2.1.2.2 Police Districts Crime Trends: 2023 – 2024

Out of the 17 Police Districts as depicted on the earlier crime statistical representation, South Central Division registered the highest criminal activity and disaggregation according to districts further substantiate this. The Districts under this Division recorded significant level of criminality as opposed to others. For instance, Mogoditshane (No. 13 District) accounted for 17.7% and Gaborone (No. 3 District) registered 15.6% of total recorded crime. Similarly, lower criminal activity was recorded in Districts such as No. 17, 6 and 7 all of which fall under the North West Division.

Table 3: Number of Reported Cases Per Police Division: 2023 – 2024

Police District	Year 2023				Year 2024				2023/24 Growth (%)		
	Penal Code	Other Statutes	Total	Relative Value (%)	Penal Code	Other Statutes	Total	Relative Value (%)	Penal Code	Other Statutes	Total
No.1 – Kutlwano	9,459	2,943	12,402	7.8%	8,454	3,385	11,839	8.1%	-10.6%	15.0%	-4.5%
No.2 – Palapye	10,346	2,637	12,983	8.1%	9,179	2,784	11,963	8.2%	-11.3%	5.6%	-7.9%
No.3 – Gaborone	19,432	4,896	24,328	15.2%	18,130	4,739	22,869	15.6%	-6.7%	-3.2%	-6.0%
No.4 – Lobatse	4,095	1,033	5,128	3.2%	4,006	1,333	5,339	3.6%	-2.2%	29.0%	4.1%
No.5 – Maun	7,768	1,546	9,314	5.8%	6,478	1,272	7,750	5.3%	-16.6%	-17.7%	-16.8%
No.6 – Gantsi	1,610	733	2,343	1.5%	1,512	711	2,223	1.5%	-6.1%	-3.0%	-5.1%
No.7 – Kasane	1,490	935	2,425	1.5%	1,335	1,294	2,629	1.8%	-10.4%	38.4%	8.4%
No.8 – Letlhakane	3,175	814	3,989	2.5%	2,637	684	3,321	2.3%	-16.9%	-16.0%	-16.7%
No.9 – Tsabong	1,910	778	2,688	1.7%	1,827	797	2,624	1.8%	-4.3%	2.4%	-2.4%
No.10 – S/Phikwe	4,942	1,564	6,506	4.1%	4,157	1,532	5,689	3.9%	-15.9%	-2.0%	-12.6%
No.11 – Molepolole	9,221	2,529	11,750	7.4%	7,717	2,953	10,670	7.3%	-16.3%	16.8%	-9.2%
No.12 – Mochudi	4,307	1,164	5,471	3.4%	4,289	941	5,230	3.6%	-0.4%	-19.2%	-4.4%
No.13 – Mogoditshane	23,542	4,571	28,113	17.6%	21,906	4,016	25,922	17.7%	-6.9%	-12.1%	-7.8%
No.14 – Kanye	5,530	1,523	7,053	4.4%	5,134	2,158	7,292	5.0%	-7.2%	41.7%	3.4%
No.15 – Francistown	7,360	6,480	13,840	8.7%	6,009	5,686	11,695	8.0%	-18.4%	-12.3%	-15.5%
No.16 – Mahalapye	5,324	4,650	9,974	6.2%	3,898	4,093	7,991	5.5%	-26.8%	-12.0%	-19.9%
No.17 – Shakawe	1,071	302	1,373	0.9%	1,089	394	1,483	1.0%	1.7%	30.5%	8.0%
Total	120,582	39,098	159,680	100.0%	107,757	38,722	146,479	100.0%	-10.6%	-1.0%	-8.3%

2.1.2.3 Crime Trends Across Penal Code Classes: 2023 – 2024

Out of the 10 classes of crimes defined by the Penal Code, offences against the person and those pertaining to property are in the majority, collectively accounting for over three-quarters of all recorded criminal cases. Additionally, offences injurious to the public represent a noteworthy 14.5% of these cases, firmly establishing them as the third largest category within the Penal Code framework. Together, these three classifications constitute 91.2% of all cases under the Penal Code with a cumulative reduction of 10.9%.

Table 4: Number of Reported Penal Code Cases by Class of Offence

Category of Crime	2023	2024	Growth (%)	Relative Value (%)
Offences Against Public Order	1,775	1,728	-2.6%	1.6%
Offences Against Administration of Lawful Authority	591	517	-12.5%	0.5%
Offences Injurious to the Public	17,330	15,656	-9.7%	14.5%
Offences Against the Person	30,790	28,701	-6.8%	26.7%
Offences Relating to Property	62,056	53,830	-13.3%	50.0%
Malicious Injuries to Property	7,700	7,012	-8.9%	6.4%
Forgery	320	274	-14.4%	0.3%
Offences Relating to Corrupt Practices	13	20	53.8%	0.0%
Conspiracies to Commit Crimes & Accessories after the Fact	7	19	171.4%	0.0%
Indecent Advertisement	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	120,582	107,757	-10.6%	100.0%

2.1.3 Priority Crimes

The BPS Corporate Annual Policing Plan emphasises the importance of addressing offenses that have a profound impact on our communities, necessitating dedicated efforts and resources from law enforcement.

2.1.3.1 Serious Crime

Serious cases relate to offenses that carry severe penalties due to their nature or the degree of harm they inflict. These crimes often involve violence, large-scale financial loss, or significant breaches of public trust. It is encouraging to note an overall reduction of 14.6% in prioritized offenses. Notably, reductions ranged between 5.0% and 29.5% across various categories. However, the rate of murder incidents rose by 4.7%. Moving forward, it is essential that to not only sustain the positive trends in crime reduction but also implement targeted strategies to address the rising violence.

Table 5: Number of Reported Serious Offences

Type of Offence	2023	2024	Growth (%)
Offences Relating to Property			
House Breaking & Theft	3,190	2,816	-12.0
Burglary & Theft	2,060	1,714	-16.8
Store Breaking & Theft	2,031	1,687	-16.9
Robbery	1,392	981	-29.5
Stock Theft	2,786	2,291	-17.8
Theft of Motor Vehicle	311	205	-34.1
Sub -Total	11,770	9,694	-17.6
Offences Against the Person			
Murder	322	337	4.7
Threat to Kill	913	845	-7.4
Sub Total	1,253	1,182	-5.7
Offences Injurious to the Public			
Rape	2,296	2,018	-12.1
Defilement of persons under the age of 18 years	1,753	1,668	-5.0
Sub - Total	4,049	3,684	-9.0
Total	17,054	14,568	-14.6

2.1.3.2 Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Crime Involving Children

The prevalence of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and offenses involving children has been a significant concern, highlighting various forms of abuse, including physical, sexual, and psychological violence, as well as deprivation. Notably, there has been a commendable reduction in overall cases, decreasing by 30.3%, from 19,440 cases recorded in 2023 to 12,490 in 2024.

Specifically, incidents of physical harm, which constitute the majority (54.0%) of cases, experienced a significant decline of 46.5%. Similarly, sexual harm, the second most prevalent category (at 29.2%), saw a reduction of 8.5%. However, it is concerning to note that the category of deprivation increased dramatically by 97.2%, alongside a rise of 13.0% in psychological harm cases.

These trends indicate both progress in certain areas and the urgent need to address rising issues, particularly in deprivation and psychological harm, to ensure continued improvement in safeguarding the well-being of vulnerable populations.

Table 6: Number of Reported Cases Involving GBV and Child Abuse

Offence	Year 2023	Year 2024	Growth (%)
Physical harm			
Murder	132	172	30.3%
Attempted Murder	13	26	100.0%
Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily harm	3,723	1,649	-55.7%
Assault Common	8,418	3,773	-55.2%
Unlawful Wounding	1,155	575	-50.2%
Grievous Harm	46	90	95.7%
Common Nuisance	434	1,162	167.7%
Sub Total	13,921	7,447	-46.5%
Sexual harm			
Rape	2,296	2,018	-12.1%
Attempted Rape	72	64	-11.1%
Defilement of persons under the age of 18 years	1,753	1,666	-5.0%
Defilement of Imbeciles	54	32	-40.7%
Incest	4	4	0.0%
Indecent Assault	218	240	10.1%
Sub Total	4,397	4,024	-8.5%
Psychological harm			
Threat to Kill	635	546	-14.0%
Use of Insulting Language	74	255	244.6%
Sub Total	709	801	13.0%
Deprivation			
Neglect of Children	383	634	65.5%
Cruel treatment of a child	164	254	54.9%
Failure to supply child necessities	27	65	140.7%
Failure to comply with court orders	202	577	185.6%
Sub Total	776	1,530	97.2%
Total	19,803	13,802	-30.3%

2.1.3.3 Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Persons

During the year under review, Botswana faced ongoing challenges related to human trafficking and smuggling of persons, with a notable decrease in reported incidents. Specifically, three cases of Trafficking in Persons were documented, involving four victims. This represents a significant reduction of 67% from the nine cases reported in the previous year.

In addition to trafficking, there were thirteen recorded incidents of Smuggling of Persons, which involved thirty-seven individuals. It is crucial to emphasize that Botswana primarily serves as a transit country in these issues rather than a destination.

The Botswana Police Service continues to play a critical role in addressing these challenges, demonstrating a commitment to safeguarding individuals within Botswana's borders while contributing to the global effort against trafficking and smuggling.

Table 7: Trends of Human Trafficking & Smuggling of Persons

Offence	No. of cases			No. of victims		
	Yr 2023	Yr 2024	Growth (%)	Yr 2023	Yr 2024	Growth (%)
Human trafficking	9	3	-66.7%	50	4	-92%
Smuggling of persons	0	13	-	0	37	-

2.1.3.4 Cyber Crime

Cybercrime is criminal activity that target or utilise computers, computer networks, and connected devices. It can be categorised into two main types: cyber-dependent crimes - which directly involve computers and technology and cyber-enabled crimes - which exploit traditional criminal activities using digital means.

In 2024, there was an increase in reported malicious cybercrime activities. The methods included offensive electronic communication, cyber harassment, cyber fraud, cyberbullying, and cyberstalking. The total number of cyber threat incidents rose to 320, which represents a 2.9% increase compared to the previous year's total of 311 cases. Conversely, commercial crimes involving computers or networks saw a decline. Specifically, these incidents dropped by 4.4%, decreasing from 3,138 cases in 2023 to 2,993 cases in 2024.

Table 8: Number of Reported Cyber Threat Incidents - 2023 - 2024

Activity	Year 2023	Year 2024	Growth (%)
Cyber extortion	2	7	250.0%
Offensive electronic communication	68	104	52.9%
Personation	16	5	-68.8%
Unauthorised access to a computer / computer system	2	1	-50.0%
Cyber stalking	38	23	-39.5%
Cyber fraud	8	44	450.0%
Unlawful possession of devices / computer data	6	0	-100.0%
Cyber bullying	56	24	-57.1%
Cyber harassment	107	104	-2.8%
Criminal defamation	3	5	66.7%
Use of pornographic or obscene material	5	3	-40.0%
Total	311	320	2.9%

2.1.3.5 Stock Theft

In 2024, a total of 2,291 stock theft cases were documented, reflecting a 17.8% decrease in the overall stock theft rate (see Table 7). These incidents accounted for the theft of 5,419 livestock, including 2,186 cattle, 2,374 goats, 370 sheep, 52 horses, 426 donkeys, and 14 pigs.

Criminals often employ tactics to obscure the theft of livestock, such as branding and marking stolen offspring and killing the parent animals to eliminate evidence. Despite these challenges, community engagement and effective law enforcement efforts facilitated the recovery of 48.4% of the 2,622 stolen livestock. Notably, the recovery rate was highest for cattle at 59.7%, while sheep experienced the lowest recovery rate at 33.2%.

Table 9: Number of Stolen Stock and Recovery Trends

Type of Livestock	Year 2023			Year 2024		
	Stolen	Recovered	Recovery rate	Stolen	Recovered	Recovery rate
Cattle	3,032	1,687	55.6%	2,186	1,304	59.7%
Goats	3,185	924	29.0%	2,374	908	38.2%
Sheep	540	140	25.9%	370	123	33.2%
Horses	85	57	67.1%	52	38	73.1%
Donkeys	686	335	48.8%	426	243	57.0%
Pigs	65	22	33.8%	14	6	42.9%
Total	7,593	3,165	41.7%	5,422	2,622	48.4%

2.1.3.5 Theft of Motor Vehicle

In the year under review, a total of 179 motor vehicles were reported as stolen, indicating a significant decrease from the previous year's total of 280 stolen vehicles. This decline represents a 36.1% reduction in theft rates, which suggests a positive trend in the fight against motor vehicle theft. Analysis reveals a correlation between the incidence of theft and the make of the vehicle, with brands such as Toyota, Honda, and Mazda emerging as the most frequently targeted. The observed reduction in overall theft rates is largely attributed to the implementation of enhanced law enforcement strategies and community outreach programmes aimed at mitigating these crimes.

Table 10: Number of Stolen Motor Vehicles and Recovery Trends

Make	Year 2023			Year 2024		
	Reported	Recovered	Recovery Rate (%)	Reported	Recovered	Recovery Rate (%)
Toyota	134	45	33.6%	80	40	50.0%
Honda	85	25	29.4%	47	22	46.8%
Mazda	19	4	21.1%	20	6	30.0%
Nissan	6	4	66.7%	4	3	75.0%
BMW	5	4	80.0%	0	0	-
VW	8	7	87.5%	10	9	90.0%
Mercedes	4	2	50.0%	5	2	40.0%
Isuzu	3	3	100.0%	4	4	100.0%
H/ trailer	3	2	66.7%	0	0	-
Audi	2	2	100.0%	2	2	100.0%
Ford	2	1	50.0%	1	0	0.0%
Suzuki	2	1	50.0%	0	0	-
Renault	1	1	100.0%	0	0	-
Tafe tractor	2	1	50.0%	1	0	0.0%
Landrover	1	1	100.0%	0	0	-
KIA	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
JCB	1	1	100.0%	0	0	-
Lexus	1	1	100.0%	0	0	-
Chevrolet	0	0	-	1	0	0.0%
Haval	0	0	-	1	1	100.0%
Hino	0	0	-	1	1	100.0%
MAN	0	0	-	1	1	100.0%
Total	280	106	37.9%	179	92	51.4%

2.1.3.7 Illicit Drugs & Related Substances

The BPS is firmly dedicated to addressing the manufacture, possession, and distribution of illicit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through a combination of prevention, education, and law enforcement strategies, given their potential for abuse, addiction, and associated health risks. In 2024, a total of 845 cases were recorded, representing a 31.5% decrease from the 1,234 cases reported in the previous year. Among the detected cases, 87.2% pertain to unlawful possession of drugs and related substances, while 11.2% involve unlawful dealings or trafficking. Notably, dagga and Meth-Cathinone (CAT) are the substances most frequently encountered, with law enforcement seizures totaling 1,871 kilograms and 738 grams, respectively.

Table 11: Number of Offences Relating to Illicit Drugs and Related Substances

Offence	Year 2023	Year 2024	Change (%)
Unlawful possession of dagga	921	706	-23.3%
Unlawful possession of hard drugs	131	31	-76.3%
Unlawful dealing in dagga	53	40	-24.5%
Trafficking in dagga	60	55	-8.3%
Trafficking in hard drugs	12	11	-8.3%
Unlawful cultivation of dagga	0	2	-
Total	1,234	845	-31.5%

Table 12: Number of Cases and the Weight of Drugs and Related Substances

Drug	2023		2024	
	No. of cases	Weight	No. of cases	Weight
Dagga	1,034	1324.6647kg	803	1871.03kg
Meth-Cathinone (CAT)	167	12.8902kg	30	737.9483g
Cocaine	11	1685.2532g	2	4.1864g
Methamphetamine	12	14.1130kg	9	204.306g
Methaqualone (Mandrax)	2	24.9265g	0	0
Tributylphosphate	1	10.2107g	0	0
Diacetylpseudoephedrine	1	0.2562g	0	0
Ephedrine	4	126.3559g	1	16.7645g
6-Monoacetylmorphine	1	3962.96g	0	0
Phenmetrazine	1	2.3429g	0	0
Total	1,234	-	845	-

2.1.3.8 Wildlife Related Crime

The BPS, through law enforcement and crime prevention, plays a crucial role in addressing wildlife-related crimes, which include illegal poaching, trafficking, habitat destruction, and the illegal trade of wildlife and its products. In 2024, police operations detected 163 wildlife crime cases, a decrease of 7.4% from the 176 cases documented in the previous year. A significant reduction was observed in crimes involving the poaching of iconic animals. Specifically, notable decreases were recorded for elephants (55.6%), rhinoceros (33.3%), and pangolins (38.5%).

Table 13: Number of Wildlife Crime Incidents

Class of case	Year 2023	Year 2024	Change (%)
Illegal hunting of elephants	18	8	-55.6%
Rhinoceros Poaching	9	6	-33.3%
Pangolin Poaching	13	8	-38.5%
Unlawful fishing	23	31	34.8%
Unlawful hunting	16	16	0.0%
Unlawful possession of a government trophy	97	94	-3.1%
Total	176	163	-7.4%

2.2 Road Safety

Road policing plays a vital role in enhancing public safety and preventing accidents that can lead to loss of life among pedestrians, passengers, and drivers alike. A target of 5% has been adopted to reduce road fatalities, underscoring the commitment to improving safety measures on our roads. Key strategies in road safety encompass the enforcement of traffic laws, proactive accident prevention, and efficient response to traffic-related incidents.



Police officers manning a roadblock

2.2.1 Road Traffic Accidents Trend

A total of 16,722 road accidents occurred in 2024, registering an increase of 9.1% from the 15,331 accidents recorded in 2023. On average, road traffic accidents went down by 0.5% annually from 2014 to 2024. The prevalence of road traffic accidents stands at 17.4 vehicles per 1,000 vehicles in 2024, compared to 16.8 the previous year. Despite this rise in accidents, road fatalities have decreased to 13.6 per 100,000 populations in 2024, down from 15.8 the previous year.

Table 14: Road Traffic Accidents Trend

Year	Road Accidents	Fatalities	Registered Vehicles	Population Estimates	Accidents/ 1000 vehicle	Fatalities/ 100 000 pop
2014	16,641	377	556,737	2,147,906	29.9	17.6
2015	17,654	411	602,822	2,187,477	29.3	18.8
2016	18,373	450	653,274	2,226,040	28.1	20.2
2017	17,786	444	706,492	2,264,993	25.2	19.6
2018	17,341	462	688,204	2,304,238	25.2	20.1
2019	18,623	457	762,443	2,343,649	24.4	19.5
2020	15,075	325	803,119	2,383,117	18.8	13.6
2021	17,277	413	845,486	2,422,555	20.4	17.0
2022	16,404	404	890,072	2,461,915	18.4	16.4
2023	15,331	396	910,269	2,501,145	16.8	15.8
2024	16,722	346	966,555	2,540,215	17.4	13.6

1.2.2 Road Traffic Accident by Severity

In 2024, the BPS reported an increase in road accidents, rising by 9.1% from 15,331 in 2023 to 16,722 incidents. Despite this rise, both fatal and serious accidents showed a decline, decreasing by 5.3% and 8.7%, respectively. Conversely, minor accidents and other types of incidents experienced increases of 12.8% and 9.7%.

Table 15: Road Traffic Accident by Severity Levels

Year	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Other	Total
2023	301	566	1,689	12,775	15,331
2024	285	517	1,903	14,017	16,722
Growth (%)	-5.3%	-8.7%	12.8%	9.7%	9.1%

Road Traffic Accidents are notably concentrated in the South Central Division, which accounts for 56.9% of the total incidents. Following this, the North Central Division records 14.7% of accidents. In terms of the severity of these accidents, the North Central Division stands out, recording the highest percentage of fatal accidents at 28.4%. The Division is closely followed by the Southern Division at 26.0% and the South Central Division at 25.3%. These patterns are primarily attributed to the impact of the 639km A1 highway, which carries most vehicular traffic traversing eastern Botswana, home to the high population density and substantial economic activity.

Table 16: No. of Road Traffic Accidents by Severity Level and Police Division

Police Division	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Other	Total	Proportion (%)
Northern	35	69	226	1,169	1,499	9.0%
North West	23	64	141	896	1,124	6.7%
North Central	81	103	262	2,008	2,454	14.7%
Southern	74	118	253	1,689	2,134	12.8%
South Central	72	163	1,021	8,255	9,511	56.9%
Total	285	517	1,903	14,017	16,722	100.0%

The figures indicate that No. 3 District (Gaborone) and No. 13 District (Mogoditshane) are the highest in terms of traffic accidents, with Gaborone recording 4,656 accidents, which constitutes 27.8% of the total, while Mogoditshane follows closely with 4,157 accidents, making up 24.9%. In contrast, districts such as No. 6 (Gantsi), No. 7 (Kasane), and No. 17 (Shakawe) reported significantly lower accident rates.

Mogoditshane is also the most hit in terms of severity, accounting for 14.0% of fatal and 18.6% of serious crashes. Other districts with notable accident statistics include No. 14 (Sejelo) and No. 11 (Molepolole), which reported 11.2% and 7.9% of their accidents as fatal, and 9.5% and 7.7% as serious, respectively.

Table 17: Number of Road Traffic Accidents by Severity Level and Police District

Police District	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Other	Total	Proportion (%)
No.1 - Kutlwano	19	33	124	663	839	5.0%
No.2 - Serowe	28	32	168	745	973	5.8%
No.3 - Gaborone	21	47	422	4,166	4,656	27.8%
No.4 - Lobatse	8	21	44	352	425	2.5%
No.5 - Maun	16	31	103	517	667	4.0%
No.6 - Gantsi	2	13	17	137	169	1.0%
No.7 - Kasane	1	5	11	153	170	1.0%
No.8 - Letlhakane	16	19	34	314	383	2.3%
No.9 - Tsabong	7	16	17	163	203	1.2%
No.10 - Selibe-Phikwe	15	17	28	268	328	2.0%
No.11 - Molepolole	27	40	134	579	780	4.7%
No.12 - Mochudi	11	20	158	509	698	4.2%
No.13 - Mogoditshane	40	96	441	3,580	4,157	24.9%
No.14 - Sejelo	32	41	58	595	726	4.3%
No.15 - Francistown	16	36	102	506	660	3.9%
No.16 - Mahalapye	22	35	32	681	770	4.6%
No.17 - Shakawe	4	15	10	89	118	0.7%
Total	285	517	1,903	14,017	16,722	100.0%

2.2.3 Road Accident Casualties by Severity

The number of injuries sustained in a road accidents increased by 8.9% in 2024. The classification of injuries resulting from road traffic accidents is typically divided into three main categories based on severity: fatal injuries (resulting in death), serious injuries, and minor injuries. Data indicates a 12.6% decrease in fatalities and a 3.5% reduction in serious injuries. However, the number of individuals sustaining minor injuries increased by 16.9%.

Table 18: Number of Road Accident Casualties by Severity

Year	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total
2023	396	863	2,376	3,635
2024	346	833	2,778	3,957
Change (%)	-12.6%	-3.5%	16.9%	8.9%

The South Central Division experienced the highest number of casualties, accounting for 1,447 injured people, equivalent to 36.6% of the total. Following this, the North Central Division represented 25.7% of the casualties. In terms of severity, the North Central Division recorded the highest percentages for both fatal and serious injuries, at 29.5% and 28.3%, respectively. The South Central Division also showed significant figures, with 25.1% of casualties resulting in fatal injuries and 26.2% resulting in serious injuries. The Southern Division was also highly affected, accounting for 25.1% of fatalities and 23.8% of serious injuries.

Table 19: Number of Road Accident Casualties by Severity and Police Division

Police Division	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total	Proportion (%)
Northern	44	94	342	480	12.1%
North West	26	85	216	327	8.3%
North Central	102	236	680	1,018	25.7%
South Central	87	220	1,140	1,447	36.6%
Southern	87	198	400	685	17.3%
Total	346	833	2,778	3,957	100%

The number of injuries varies across Police Districts and severity classes. In terms of fatal injuries, the highest number of deaths was recorded at No. 13 District- Mogoditshane, totalling 43 deaths, which constitutes 12.4% of the total fatalities across districts. Close behind, the No. 14 District in Sejelo accounted for 41 deaths (11.9%), while the No. 2 District in Serowe reported 38 fatalities (11.0%).

No.13 District - Mogoditshane also leads in the number of injuries under other severity levels. The district has reported a total of 143 serious injuries, which account for 17.2% of serious injuries, alongside 601 minor injuries, representing 21.6% of minor injuries.

Table 20: Number of Road Accident Causalities by Severity and Police District

Police District	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total	Proportion (%)
No.1 - Kutlwano	25	52	187	264	6.7%
No.2 - Serowe	38	78	315	431	10.9%
No.3 - Gaborone	28	56	383	467	11.8%
No.4 - Lobatse	8	28	61	97	2.5%
No.5 - Maun	16	33	151	200	5.1%
No.6 - Gantsi	2	20	21	43	1.1%
No.7 - Kasane	4	11	30	45	1.1%
No.8 - Letlhakane	22	44	78	144	3.6%
No.9 - Tsabong	7	28	27	62	1.6%
No.10 - Selibe-Phikwe	15	29	51	95	2.4%
No.11 - Molepolole	31	78	218	327	8.3%
No.12 - Mochudi	16	21	156	193	4.9%
No.13 - Mogoditshane	43	143	601	787	19.9%
No.14 - Sejelo	41	64	94	199	5.0%
No.15 - Francistown	19	42	155	216	5.5%
No.16 - Mahalapye	27	85	236	348	8.8%
No.17 - Shakawe	4	21	14	39	1.0%
Total	346	833	2,778	3,957	100.0%

2.2.4 Road Accidents by Causes

Traditionally, causes of road accidents include driver error and behaviour (speeding, distracted driving, impaired driving, fatigue, and drowsiness), reckless or aggressive driving, pedestrian risky behaviours, poor road conditions, mechanical failures, environmental factors, and violation of traffic rules.

The analysis of the causes of fatal road accidents that occurred in 2024 highlights the key factors, including driver error and behaviour, reckless or aggressive driving, and pedestrian risky behaviours, as the primary causes of fatal accidents. Specifically, excessive speed was the most dominant element of fatal accidents, contributing to 45.3% of the accidents. Careless driving accounted for 23.0%, while pedestrian error contributed to 17.0% of the fatal accidents.

Table 21: Number of Fatal Road Accidents by Causes

Cause	No. of Fatal accidents	Proportion (%)
Influence of drinks/drugs	9	3.2%
Excessive speed	129	45.3%
Failure to comply with traffic signs & signals	8	2.8%
Careless driving	65	22.8%
Pedestrian error	48	16.8%
Passenger error	6	2.1%
Domestic animal	14	4.9%
Wild animal	1	0.4%
Vehicle defect	2	0.7%
Total	285	3.2%

2.2.5 Road Traffic Law Enforcement

Road traffic law enforcement is vital in ensuring road safety and mitigating accidents. It encompasses enforcing laws and regulations designed to promote compliance among all road users regarding safety standards.

In 2024, law enforcement operations detected 345,857 road traffic violations, reflecting a 3.1% decrease from the 356,872 violations recorded in 2023. This decline indicates a positive trend in the effectiveness of police operations, yet it also highlights ongoing compliance challenges among road users.

Despite the overall decrease, certain road safety risk factors, such as speeding, using mobile phones while driving, failure to wear seat belts, and offences related to Public Service Vehicles (PSVs), have increased. Conversely, there have been notable reductions in violations concerning disobedience to traffic signals, driving under the influence of alcohol, and the failure to produce driver's licenses.

Table 22: Number of Detected Road Traffic Violations

Type of Violation	Year 2023	Year 2024	Growth (%)
Speeding	62,973	84,293	33.9%
Drunken Driving	36,944	32,984	-10.7%
Use of mobile phone whilst driving	7,180	10,476	45.9%
Failure to wear seat belt	13,723	15,561	13.4%
Careless driving	6,907	6,556	-5.1%
Failure to obey Traffic Lights	12,880	9,630	-25.2%
Driving without License	6,362	6,108	-4.0%
Failure to produce driver's license	35,402	28,573	-19.3%
PSV offences	4,254	9,550	124.5%
Others	170,247	142,126	-16.5%
Total offences	356,872	345,857	-3.1%



Police officers manning a sporadic roadblock

2.3 Case Management

Case Management is a structured approach to ensuring accountability and transparency in the handling of individual cases or incidents reported to BPS. This system encompasses the recording, tracking, and resolution of cases with a view to improving efficiency in case resolution and ensuring that investigations are conducted in a timely manner and that justice is upheld.

2.3.1 Cases Dealt With

In the year under review, a total of 1,021,171 cases were handled by police, including the 528,785 carried over from the previous year and 492,386 new cases reported within the year. Of the cases adjudicated, 11,625 were tried in various courts: 7,757 in Customary Courts, 3,781 in Subordinate Courts, and 87 in High Courts. Additionally, the number of cases concluded through admission of guilt went down by 10.3% from 205,072 to 184,018 in 2024. Furthermore, the number of convictions secured in the courts also dropped by 10.3%, from 215,008 in 2023 to 192,853 in 2024.

Table 23: Number of Cases Categorized by Status

Status of Cases	Year 2023	Year 2024	Growth (%)
Brought forward from the previous year	487,227	528,785	8.5%
Reported during the year	512,917	492,386	-4.0%
Closed accused insane	38	39	2.6%
Closed accused dead	361	449	24.4%
Closed false on inquiry	143,972	152,224	5.7%
Closed warrant issued	68,825	63,532	-7.7%
Closed undetected	40,680	49,432	21.5%
Concluded by payment of A of G	205,072	184,018	-10.3%
Tried before customary court	8,607	7,757	-9.9%
Tried before subordinate court	3,735	3,781	1.2%
Tried before high court	69	87	26.1%
Cases in which convictions were obtained	215,008	192,853	-10.3%
Cases in which accused was acquitted	2,475	2,791	12.8%
Carried forward or pending	528,785	563,353	6.5%

2.3.2 Persons Dealt With

For the year under review, a total of 350,794 persons were arrested compared to 363,794 persons arrested in the previous year, representing a decline of 3.5%. A similar trajectory was observed on the total number of convictions realised, as 194,884 persons were convicted against 216,476 convicted in 2023.

Table 24: Summary Of Persons Dealt With: 2023 - 2024

Status of Persons	2023	2024	Growth (%)
Persons arrested or summoned to court	363,490	350,794	-3.5
Persons found not guilty in court & discharged	2,498	2,830	13.3
Persons arrested or summoned but charge withdrawn before taken to court	144,514	153,080	5.9
Adult males convicted	167,083	147,557	-11.7
Adult females convicted	49,368	47,271	-4.2
Juvenile males convicted	22	54	+100
Juvenile females convicted	5	2	-60.0
Adult males convicted - Death penalty	3	2	-33
Adult females convicted - Death penalty	0	0	0
Adult males convicted - Imprisonment	3,042	2,766	-9.1
Adult females convicted - Imprisonment	393	359	-8.7
Juvenile males convicted - Imprisonment	0	29	+100
Juvenile females convicted - Imprisonment	-	-	-
Adult males convicted – Fine	160,459	141,946	-11.5
Adult females convicted – Fine	48,884	46,854	-4.2
Juvenile males convicted – Fine	20	19	-5
Juvenile females convicted – Fine	5	2	-60
Adult males convicted – Other punishments	3,579	2,843	-20.6
Adult females convicted – Other punishments	91	58	-36.3
Juvenile males convicted – Other punishments	2	6	+100
Juvenile females convicted – Other punishments	0	0	0
Total number of persons convicted	216,476	194,884	-10.0



OUR STRATEGIES



3. OUR STRATEGIES

In the year 2024, the BPS employed a number of proactive and reactive initiatives intended to boost public confidence, preventing crime and strengthening key investigative processes to effectively deter crime and carry out its mandate. Among these initiatives includes, enhanced police visibility, enhanced community engagement, intelligence led operations, specialised task force deployments, robust border management and leveraging on modern technology such as air policing and unmanned aerial victims.

The BPS also invests in child friendly policing and expanded police accessibility demonstrating our commitment to a universal approach to national security. Collaborative efforts with diverse stakeholders remain central to our mission, fostering a collective responsibility in crime prevention and maintaining peace across the nation.

3.1 Police Visibility

Police visibility is a critical element in ensuring effective crime prevention and enhancing community safety. It is a strong deterrent to potential offenders, decreasing the chances of criminal activity by establishing a consistent and authoritative presence in the community. This visibility is achieved through a range of patrol strategies, including foot, bicycle, boat, aerial, mounted, mounted, and motor vehicle patrols each designed to monitor different areas and respond to various situations effectively. A total of 223,450 general patrols were conducted in the year under review, demonstrating constant availability of the police officers to ensure public safety and security.



3.1.1 City Policing

In the organisation's efforts to address the growing need for enhanced urban security and public safety in Gaborone and Francistown, Botswana Police Service launched the City Policing Unit in December 2023. This Unit provides a more visible and responsive police presence, enabling quicker and more effective interventions in emerging incidents. Upon establishment, a total of 100 officers were deployed under the Unit. As at end of 2024, the strength had increased to 136 officers.



3.1.2 Safer City Programme

The BPS continued to expand deployment of CCTV Surveillance cameras to augment police visibility efforts. As at end of December 2024, there were 1,322 operational cameras in Gaborone and Francistown. This extensive network of surveillance cameras is being extended to cover parts of Tlokweng, Ramotswa and Mogoditshane.



A close up of one of the CCTV Surveillance cameras

3.2 Community Policing

The community plays a vital role in policing and this collaborative dynamic is the foundation upon which effective and sustainable law enforcement is built. The involvement of community in policing enhances police effectiveness and efficiency. It also aims to foster positive relationships and collaboration between the police and community. This initiative builds trust, encourages community compliance as well as reducing crime rates. From these interactions, tailored strategies such as Neighborhood Watch Schemes with 892 structures, 1,072 Cluster Policing, 229 Farmers Committee Forums, 66 Business Community Forums, 4 Security Committees, 11 Child Protection Committees, and 169 Crime Prevention School clubs. These crime prevention structures were established to meet the specific needs of each community.



Police officers and Oodi community members engaging on issues of crime during a bonfire

3.2.1 Volunteer Policing

The organisation continues to recognise and appreciate police volunteers for their efforts in the fight against crime. The Volunteer Policing Strategy encourages members to actively participate in law enforcement efforts by volunteering their time and skills to assist the police. The Strategy strengthens community-police relation, builds trust, and provide valuable resources to BPS.



Police volunteers and a police officer preparing for a beat patrol

3.2.2 Public Education

As one of the strategies in the BPS's commitment to public safety and security, the organisation utilises public education to sensitise the public on crime. In order to achieve this, the organisation employs a diverse range of channels across the country, the BPS used various outreach programmes targeting the youth, schools, churches, and communities. Furthermore, information is effectively shared through social media platforms, radio broadcasts, publications and television, with the goal of empowering communities nationwide to take a proactive stance against crime.

Roadside campaigns were also some of the educative initiatives aimed at promoting courtesy among road users. The organisation gave 16,531 road safety lectures nationwide, reaching a significant audience of 410,684 individuals, including young drivers, passengers, and pedestrians.



Police officers diseminating information, education and communication materials to members of the public

3.3 Intelligence - led Policing

One of the key strategies deployed by the BPS is the utilisation of informants, leveraging their access to criminal networks to combat crime. A total 468 informers were recruited during the year under review.

3.4 Special Task Teams

The organisation continues to deploy special task teams at Station, District and Division level. This approach provides a dynamic multifaceted approach to policing, enhancing both the ability to respond to immediate threats and the overall effectiveness of crime prevention and investigative efforts. In particular, the intelligence-led operations, raids and sporadic roadblocks conducted as part of the special team's activities have significantly allowed for a proactive and targeted approach to crime prevention.



3.5 Border Management

The BPS operated at 36 campuses to curb and deter criminal activities. Other efforts include the anti-poaching in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR).

Border management leverage highly trained dogs as Sniffer Dogs, Explosive Detection Dogs and Tracker Dogs. In 2024, thirty-four (34) dogs were deployed to improve crime detection and crime prevention along the Border. These capabilities are strategically positioned to address a range of criminal activities, including narcotics smuggling, explosives detection, wildlife crime, and suspect apprehension.

3.6 Air Policing

The organisation has a diverse fleet of aircraft such as; five (5) Airbus H125 helicopters used for operational missions and three (3) Enstrom EN 480Bs used for training and local patrols. These aircraft provide aerial support for surveillance, patrols, and rapid deployment across the country. Additionally, there is a Beechcraft King Air 360 airplane which enhances the branch's capabilities by enabling long-range missions and VIP transport. This fleet allows for comprehensive coverage and swift response to incidents, enhancing the BPS's ability to combat crime and ensure public safety.



Air Support, on a rescue mission

3.6.1 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)

BPS, continues to leverage more on the use of technology in fighting crime. The deployment of unmanned vehicles has proved to be a crucial and advantageous strategy. Unmanned aerial vehicles provide a wide unobstructed vantage point, enabling officers to monitor, track, and respond to incidents in real time. Building upon existing CCTV surveillance investments, the integration of drone technology with this surveillance infrastructure offers the potential to establish a comprehensive and cohesive monitoring network, thereby enhancing security coverage across both urban and rural environments. The organisation had a fleet of 8 UAVs in 2024.



One of the BPS Drones on surveillance

3.7 Child Friendly Policing

The Botswana Police Service continues to prioritise child friendly policing, recognising its critical role in long term crime prevention and in creating a more supportive environment for children and families. In understanding the importance of early interventions, the BPS has shifted its focus to engage with children in schools, public spaces, and online platforms through the BPS Facebook page.

By ensuring that children feel safe and empowered to seek help, the BPS has fostered a conducive environment for reporting, supported by trained personnel. This approach has yielded significant benefits including enhanced arrest rates, increased convictions for child abuse, improved victim support services amongst others. So far the organisation has 8 Child Friendly Centres (CFC's) across the country. The centres are equipped with video and audio recording technology, creating a safe environment for children to testify.



Recently refurbished Central Police Station offers a supportive environment for children and families to report issues of Gender Based Violence

3.8 Stakeholder Engagements

The BPS collaborated with a number of stakeholders to curb and manage crime. Key stakeholders include; other security agencies, Government and Non-Government Organisations, Parastatals, Faith-Based organisations, Private Organisations and the community at large.

For the year 2024, a total of 127,258 individuals were reached through a variety of engagement initiatives, including community outreaches, school programs, dedicated sessions for out-of-school youth, private sector engagement and government entities.

The organisation continues to work in arms with the Department of Road Transport Services (DRTS), District Road Safety Committees, Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (MVAf), transport unions, and other relevant organisations to facilitate public safety on roads. This collaboration included participation in the UN Global Road Safety Week and activities related to the Trans-Kalahari Corridor.



Botswana Police officers and Defence Force officers during the launch of a joint operation “Operation Pabalesego”



Operatives at work during the Trans-Kalahari Corridor Joint Law Enforcement Operation

3.9 Police Accessibility

The Government of Botswana has demonstrated a strong commitment to enhancing national security and public safety through the significant prioritisation of police infrastructure development in the year under reporting. This commitment is evidenced by the opening of police posts in Kaudwane, Dimajwe, Khakhea and Tshidilamolomo, bringing essential policing services closer to communities.

Furthermore, the ground-breaking of 28 Police Stations across the country signifies an unprecedented investment in expanding the BPS's operational footprints. This strategic expansion of police infrastructure directly supports crime prevention efforts by improving accessibility to law enforcement.



Newly opened Tshidilamolomo Police Post



Handing over one of the 28 Police Stations model frame



Unveiling of the plaque



Newly opened Khakhea Police Post

OUR INVESTIGATION



CAPABILITIES



4. OUR INVESTIGATION CAPABILITIES

The BPS engages diverse approaches to investigate complex matters and this contributes to the overall pursuit of justice and solving cases or incidents including; Forensic Science Investigation, Other Investigative Techniques such as; Crime Intelligence and CCTV Surveillance, Special and Aerial Support Services.

4.1 Forensic Science Investigation

For the year under review, a total of 5,593 cases were analysed using Forensic Science. Of these 5,008 cases were successfully analysed, reflecting an overall analysis rate of 89.5%. The highest number of cases were related to sexual assault cases, accounting for 1,075 submissions or a 19.2% proportion of total cases. The cases had an analysis rate of 84.0%.

Table 25: Evidence Processed by Forensic Science Lab - 2024

Case type	Evidence type	Number of Cases	Number of Cases Analysed	Analysis Rate (%)
Criminalistics	Ballistics	71	64	90.1
	Footwear impression	6	6	100.0
	Tool mark impression	4	4	100.0
Biology	Homicide	218	165	75.7
	Sexual Assault	1,075	899	83.6
	Trace Evidence	4	3	75.0
	Livestock identification	221	196	88.7
	Wildlife Identification	49	37	75.5
	Human Identification	487	419	86.0
	Enquiry	289	214	74.0
Chemistry	Dagga	908	892	98.2
	Other Drugs	143	133	93.0
	Blood Alcohol	207	180	87.0
	Toxicology	138	114	82.6
	Physical Chemistry	25	23	92.0
	Calibrated breathalysers	273	270	98.9
Pathology	Road traffic accidents (RTA)	366	365	99.7
	Homicide	386	378	97.9
	Suicide	196	186	94.9
	Natural deaths	194	189	97.4
	Accidental deaths	175	126	72.0
	Undetermined deaths	89	80	89.9
	Abortion	54	53	98.1
	Skeletal remains	15	11	73.3
Total		5,593	5,007	89.5

4.2 Other Scientific Investigation

For the year 2024, the organisation dealt with 6,279 cases relating to crime scenes, explosives, questioned documents and criminal enquiries for analysis. All cases were successfully analysed, hence an analysis rate of 100%.

Table 26: Evidence Processed by Criminal Record Bureau-2024

Classification of Requests Received	No. of Cases	No. of Cases Analysed	Analysis Rate %
Crime scene cases	2,221	2,221	100%
Explosives cases	276	276	100%
Questioned documents cases	32	32	100%
Criminal Enquiry Fingerprints	3750	3750	100%
Total	6,279	6,279	100%

4.3 Digital Forensic Investigations

The BPS Cyber Forensics laboratory handled 748 gadgets for investigation in 2024. A total of 508 gadgets were successfully subjected to analysis hence an overall analysis rate of 67.9 %. Analysis rate of 98.6% was achieved to identify owners of gadgets whilst 64.4% was achieved in regard to criminal cases.

Table 27: Evidence Processed by Digital Forensic Lab-2024

Rationale	Gadget Type	No. of Gadgets	No. of Gadgets Analysed	Analysis Rate %
Owner Identification	Computer/Laptop/	4	4	100%
	Mobile phone	72	71	98.6%
Sub Total		76	75	98.6%
Criminal Cases	Laptop	52	40	76.9%
	Mobile Phone	595	372	62.5%
	Memory stick/ card	19	15	78.9%
	External Hard drive	6	6	100%
Sub Total		672	433	64.4%
Total		748	508	67.9%

4.4 Crime Intelligence

For the year 2024, the Botswana Police Service intensified its intelligence gathering efforts. This aimed to provide insights into criminal networks, emerging threats, and identify crime hotspot, ultimately assisting in crime investigations. A total of 1,120 positive pieces of information were disseminated, contributing to a reduction in crime rates. During the year under review, 103 specialized teams were established to conduct surveillance and other covert operations aimed at preventing and detecting crime. These advancements highlight the effectiveness of intelligence-led policing in not only improving efficiency but also providing more effective solutions to complex criminal challenges.

Table 28: Evidence Processed by Crime Intelligence-2024

Offence	Recorded Cases		Information Dealt With		
	2023	2024	Received	Positive	Negative
Robbery	1,392	981	150	119	30
House Breaking	3,190	2,816	181	148	32
Burglary	2,060	1,714	130	100	27
Store Breaking	2,031	1,687	87	65	22
Stock Theft	2,786	2,291	237	181	44
Theft of M/V	311	205	29	22	7
Murder	322	337	46	35	7
Threat to kill	913	845	11	11	0
Rape	2,296	2,018	42	39	3
Poaching	54	29	12	8	4
Obtaining by false pretences	1,924	1,505	72	62	7
Drugs	1,025	894	393	310	73
Trafficking in persons	6	15	7	4	1
Defilement	1753	1666	21	16	5
TOTAL	20,063	17,003	1,418	1,120	262

4.5 CCTV Surveillance

For the year 2024, Closed- Circuit Television (CCTV) technology played a significant contribution in law enforcement investigations. A total of 4,874 cases were captured through surveillance cameras ultimately leading to 4,637 arrests. Furthermore 601 videos were analysed where, 78.0% or 469 videos yielded positive results.

Table 29: Evidence Processed by CCTV Surveillance-2024

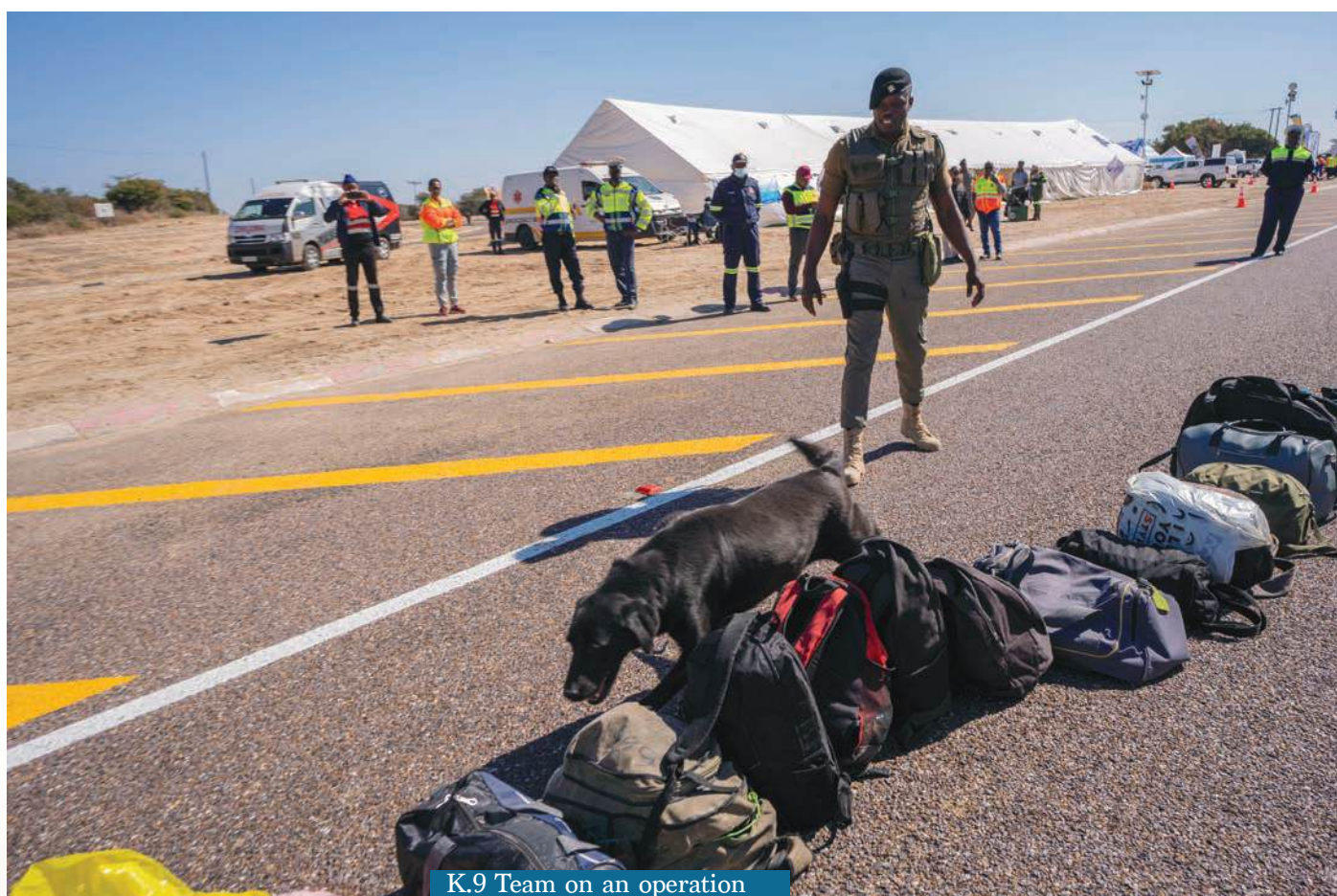
Classification of Evidence Processed	Total
No. of cases captured through surveillance cameras	4,874
No. of arrest	4,637
No. of videos subjected to analysis	601
No. of videos with positive results	469

4.6 Search and Rescue

In 2024, the organisation through its search and rescue capabilities such as Police dogs (K.9), Scuba diving, Explosives ordinance disposal and Aerial support attended to 206 cases and out of these, 134 cases were dealt with. Cases of wanted persons, drowning and VIP sweeps were all attended to.

Table 30: Search and Rescue Missions-2024

Capability	Classification of Cases	No. of Cases	No. Attended	Service Fulfilment Rate (%)
Dog (K.9) Policing	Drugs and related substances Detection	78	43	55,1%
	Tracking of wanted persons	1	1	100%
Scuba Diving	Drowning Incidents	15	15	100%
Explosives Ordnance Disposal	VIP Sweepings	40	40	100%
Aerial Policing	Aerial Pursuits and Rescue Missions	72	72	100%
Total		206	171	83.0%



K.9 Team on an operation



MMATHUBUDUKWA
POLICE STATION



OUR RESOURCES



5. OUR RESOURCES

The BPS recognises that resources are crucial in achieving desired results. In this regard, the organisation realises it as essential to examine performance in resourcing, in terms of its Human capacity, Financial and Transport, Information & Communication Technology for the year under review.

5.1 Human Resources

The BPS has a total labour pool of 13,892 officers, encompassing 11,553 police officers, 1,732 Special Constables and 607 civilian cadre. A decision has been taken to discontinue the Special Constables cadre and absorb them as regular officers.

5.1.1 Recruitment

During the year under review, the BPS recruited a total of 1000 Constables. During the course of training, two trainees resigned leaving the number at 998 comprising of 759 recruits enlisted internally from the Special Constable cadre and 239 who were recruited externally. From the 998 recruits 657 were males whilst 341 were females.



Intake of 2024 during pass out

5.1.2 Training and Development

BPS remains committed to enhancing the capabilities of its human resource. For the period under review the organisation facilitated donor funded training opportunities. Furthermore 20 officers continued to undertake training initiated under previous plans as follows:



Police officers attending GBV Mainstream course

Table 31: External Courses-2024

Course Name	Institution	Number of Students
Masters of Medicine in Pathology	Zambia College of Medicine	1
Masters of Forensic Science	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	1
Senior Command and Staff Course	Rwanda National Police, Kigali, Rwanda	1
Degree in Radiography	Central University of Technology, RSA	1
Total		4

Table 32: Local Courses-2024

Course Name	Institution	Number of Students
Senior Command and Staff Course	Botswana Defence Force Staff College	4
BA Hons in Digital Film and Television/ Professional Photography	Limkokwing University	1
Diploma in Procurement and Supply Management	Institute of Development Management	1
Small Arms Technician Course (Certificate in Weapon Mechanics and Ammunition)	BDF	1
French Language	Alliance Française	2
Total		9

Table 33: Donor Funded-2024

Course Name	Institution	Number of Students
Degree in Legal Safeguarding of National Security	Orel State University, Russia	1
French Language	Alliance Française	6
Total		7

4.1.2.1 Completed Courses

A total of 64 officers completed courses in 2024. The courses included External, Local, Donor Funded and short courses.

Table 34: External Courses

Course Name	Institution	Number of Students
Masters in Peace and Conflict Transformation	Rwanda National Police College	1
Degree in Radiography	Central University of Technology	1
Total		2

Table 35: Local Courses

Course Name	Institution	Number of Students
Bachelor of Arts in Law and Public Administration	Ba Isago University	2
Degree in Portuguese Language	University of Botswana	2
BA Hons in Digital Film and Television/ Professional Photography	Limkokwing University	2
Diploma in Pharmacy Technician	Boitekanelo College	1
Crew Resources Management Training	In-House	25
Scuba Diving Instructor Course	Twin Palms, RSA	2
Drum Major	Botswana Defence Force	2
Avionics Technician Course	Botswana Defence Force	2
Basic Life Saving Course	University of Botswana	9
Total		47

Table 36: Donor Funded

Course Name	Institution	Number of Students
Degree in Psychology of Service Activity	Saint Petersburg, Pulkovo, Russia	2
Digital Investigations	French Embassy	13
Total		15

Table 37: Short Course (SARPCO)

Name of Course`	Number of Students
Diploma in Strategic Leadership and Management	2
Total	2

5.1.2.2 International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA)

The International Law Enforcement Academy delivered 34 courses, resulting in the training and graduation of 1,045 participants from 38 countries including Botswana during the year 2024. A total of 137 Botswana Police officers were trained under the academy.



A police officer receiving a certificate after completing a Law Enforcement Leadership Development Program at ILEA

5.1.3 Occupational and Safety

The Botswana police service recognises the importance of linking individual health, safety and wellness as well as organisational wellness to productivity and improved service delivery. Botswana Police Service promote Occupational Health and Safety programmes through different formations. The organisation, provides counselling for various social and psychological problems for both employees and members of the public. In the reporting year, 316 clients were offered counselling services, of which 255 clients were police personnel, whereas 61 were members of the public.

5.1.3.1 Critical Incidents Stress Debriefing (CISD)

BPS continues to value CISD as a critical tool for protecting and supporting the mental health and wellbeing of its officers, both during their service and beyond, in recognition of the stressful nature of the police profession. This clinical tool has been used as a preventative measure against adverse Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and to mitigate the psychological impact of traumatic experiences and supporting employees after retirement. For the period under review, a total of 16 sessions were conducted. The sessions were attended by 78 employees in which 67 were police officers and 11 support staff.

5.1.3.2 Chaplaincy Programme

The programme continues to make a positive impact on the spiritual well-being of BPS employees. Throughout police establishments, weekly prayers are held, and religious activities are coordinated by chaplain assistants. Additionally, the Chaplaincy provides support to sick and injured employees and conducts memorial services and funerals at the time of death. For the year 2024, a total of 151 activities were conducted under the auspices of Chaplaincy services, including 39 memorial services for employees who passed away.



Graduation of BPS Assistant Chaplains - 2024

5.1.3.3 Line of Duty Injuries

In the year 2024, a total of 45 employees were injured whilst on duty. The injuries were due to various factors such as car accidents, falls, cuts and injuries sustained while effecting arrests. Most of injuries were sustained while effecting an arrest.

5.1.3.4 Safety Audits

Safety audits are systematic evaluations conducted to identify and mitigate potential hazards and risks, in the workplace. A total of 28 safety audits were conducted throughout the service compared to a total of 149 in the year 2023.

5.1.4 BPS Welfare Schemes

BPS continues to make use of established various programs and special initiatives that provide financial and other aids to its employees. Such programs include the following;

5.1.4.1 Botswana Police Savings and Loan Guarantee Scheme

The BPS has established a savings and loan guarantee scheme for Police Officers, operating under regulations set by the Police Act. The scheme allows Police Officers to have access to group savings and loans at negotiated lower rates. The organisation has agreements with two commercial banks which are First National Bank Botswana (FNBB) and Absa.

The membership for Botswana Police Savings and Loans Guarantee Scheme is restricted to active and retired police officers. As at the end of December 2024, total membership was 11,577 (comprising 11,375 active officers and 202 retired) compared to 11,577 (11,379 active officers and 198 retired) members in the year 2023. The membership to the scheme remains voluntary for both cadres and out of 11,553 labour pool, membership rate for active employees stood at 98% in 2024.

5.1.4.2 Mphemphe Insurance Agency (MIA)

The agency provided the following policies to BPS personnel; Group Funeral cover, Group Credit Life and General Insurance. Group Funeral cover closed the year with an uptake of 8,179 compared to 6,801 of the previous year. A total of 3,957 loans were insured under Group Credit Life, and 456 General Insurance products were sold in 2024.



Police officers who facilitate Mphemphe Insurance Agency services

5.1.5 Rewards and Recognition

The BPS recognises the outstanding performance displayed by officers over the years by awarding medals. These medals are bestowed upon individuals who have consistently exhibited exemplary service, unwavering ethical conduct and having fulfilled minimum service tenures. This practise builds moral, encourages excellence and promote integrity within the organisation. For the year 2024, a total of 1,408 officers were awarded medals in recognition of their commendable service and good conduct. These awards serve to honour the dedication and exemplary conduct of the Police Officers throughout their service.

Table 38: Medals Awarded-2024

Medal	Minimum Service Required	Number Awarded
Botswana Police Distinguished Service Order Medals (DSO)	30 YRS	447
Botswana Police Jubilee Service Medal (B.P.J.M)	25 YRS	462
Botswana Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (B.P.L.S.G.C.M)	18 YRS	499
Total		1,408



Fomer President of the Republic of Botswana, Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi bestowing Police Officers with Medals

5.1.6 Integrity Management

The organisation continues to guard its integrity, professionalism and accountability during the year under review. The BPS enforces its integrity management through different initiatives such as Internal Audits, Enterprise Risk Management, Corruption Risk Assessment, Character building lectures and the investigation of misconducts.

For the year under review a total of 69 cases of professional misconduct were recorded as compared to 61 cases recorded the previous year, reflecting an increase of 13.1%. The trend of professional misconduct between 2021 and 2024 reveals a fluctuating pattern.

Table 39: Number of Professional Misconduct Cases- 2021 to 2024

Year	Number of Cases Detected
2021	45
2022	73
2023	61
2024	69

5.1.7 Attrition Level

The BPS experienced a positive employee retention in 2024. The total number of exits decreased from 216 in 2023 to 173 in 2024 leading to a 19.9% decline in attrition level. Notable decreases were observed under Departmental transfers, Termination of contract, Dismissals, Retirement and death. However, the organisation noted a significant increase under End of contract and Resignation.

Table 40: BPS Employee Attrition-2024

Attrition by Reason	Year 2023	Year 2024	Growth%
Departmental Transfers	8	0	-100
Death	40	37	-7.5%
Dismissals	11	3	-72.7%
Retirement	103	94	-8.7%
Resignation	46	26	43.3%
End of contract	7	13	85.7%
Termination of contract	1	0	-100
Total	216	173	19.9%

5.2 Financial Resources

A solid development budget directed towards police facilities, telecommunications, and fleet expansion is essential for Botswana Police Service to effectively combat crime, improve operational efficiency, respond to emergencies and ultimately contribute to national safety and security.

5.2.1 Recurrent Budget

A recurrent budget refers to regular ongoing expenses necessary for the day- to – day operations and maintenance of an organisation, excluding investments in long term assets. The recurrent budget allocation for the year was P3,658,095,560 and the overall expenditure stood at P3,033,244,449 or 76% as at 31st December 2024.

5.2.2 Development Budget

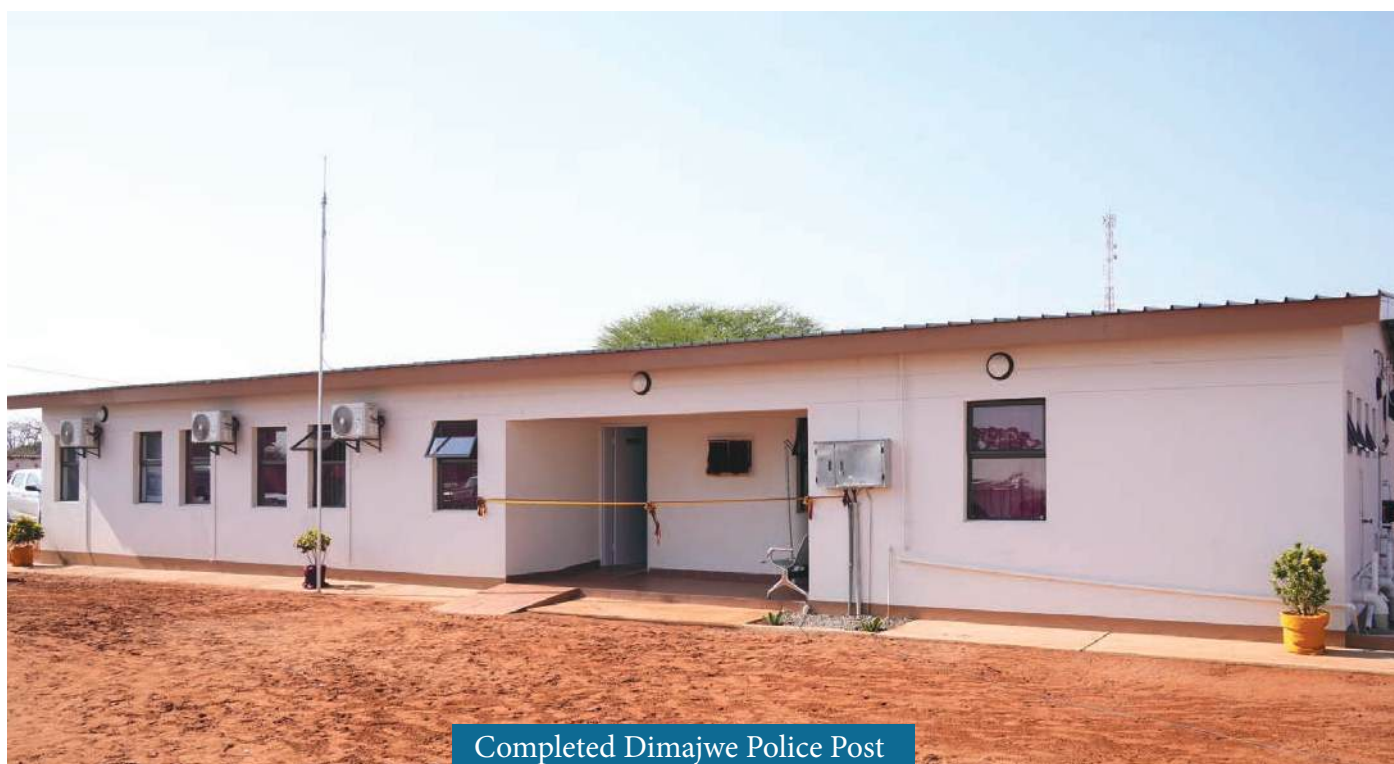
It is a financial plan outlining the costs and resources needed to achieve specific development goals, encompassing everything from infrastructure projects to social programs, and is crucial for ensuring projects are feasible and resources are used effectively. For the Financial year 2024/2025 the BPS was allocated P490,900,063, however, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) withdrew funds amounting to P175,753,433, in October 2024 which resulted in a revised budget of P315,146,630. As at 31st December 2024, expenditure for Development Projects stood at P148,781,741 or 47.2% against the target of 75%.

5.2.2.1 Budget Execution: 2024/2025

BPS is primarily mandated with maintaining law and order, ensuring public safety and fostering a secure environment for inhabitants of Botswana. An important aspect of fulfilling this mandate is the efficient execution of the allocated budget, which serves as the financial backbone for daily operations and strategic objectives.

5.2.2.2 Completed Projects

- Tshidilamolomo, Dimajwe and Khakhea Police Posts completed
- Human Resource Management System upgraded
- Refurbishment of Central Police Station- Gaborone



Completed Dimajwe Police Post

5.2.2.3 On-Going Projects

- Construction of Maitengwe Police Station and 31 Staff houses
- Refurbishment of 65 Molepolole Police staff houses
- Construction of Forensic Science Laboratory
- Construction of BPS Hangar
- Construction of Police Post at Tsau
- Construction of Letlhakane Police Station and 36 staff houses
- Installation of Multimedia Area Network
- Upgrading and Expansion of Radio Communication Network System (smart Zone)
- Introduction of Incidence Management System (Safer City)

5.2.2.4 Design Stage Projects

- Expansion of Police Headquarters
- SSG Francistown Camp, Workshop and Staff houses
- Refurbishment of 57 Peleng staff houses

5.2.2.5 Tender Stage Projects

- Development of Crime Analysis Systems
- Construction of four old design Police Posts and three staff houses each (Metsimotlhabe, Tsolamosese, Tobane and Dikwididi)
- Construction of seven Mopipi staff houses
- Global Surveillance Management System
- Construction of Police Post at Motlhabaneng

5.3 Transport, Information and Communication Technology

5.3.1 Transport

The Botswana Police Service maintains different modes of transport according to the needs of each policing area ranging from vehicles, motor cycles, bicycles and boats. This shows the commitment of the organisation to reach and effectively cover various locations in every part of the country.

During financial year 2024/2025 a total of 267 vehicles were procured to augment the existing BPS fleet, replace some of the vehicles in the boarded file and support newly established police formations. In addition to these efforts, the collaboration between BPS and the Business Community proved successful, as evidenced by the Botswana Bankers Association's donation of 12 Toyota Hilux Double Cab vehicles to BPS for use in escort duties.



Table 41: Transport Availability: 2024

Mode	Current Holding	Active	Boarded	Repair Centre	Grand Total
Motor Vehicles	2,490	2,069	231	421	2,721
Motor Cycles	105	74	36	31	141
Bicycles	60	0	0	0	60
Electric Bicycles	23	23	0	0	23
Boats	12	7	0	5	12

5.3.2 Internet Coverage

The organisation also utilises different internet access options, including the WI-FI, Long Term Evolution (LTE), Government Multimedia Network (GMN) and V-sat technology. BPS has 101 sites in total that are connected to the Government Data Network (GDM). This interconnectedness is essential for enhancing crime prevention, investigation and overall service delivery.

The GMN provide essential connectivity for accessing vital systems like Crime and Criminal Recording System (CCRS), Lotus mail, Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) alongside other digital services hosted at the Department of Shared Digital Services (DSDS).

5.3.3 Telephone

The BPS has integrated advanced technology such as radios, mobile data equipment and communication tools to ensure seamless information sharing. The organisation also controls its own Private Automatic Branch Exchange (PABXs) telephone system rented from the Botswana Telecommunications Corporation and uses a free toll number 999 for emergency or reporting. This free line is available in 17 Police Districts and some police stations and the lines are monitored daily to ensure continuous communication.

5.3.4 Radio Communication

The BPS operated with 3,300 portable radios (1,300 at North and 2000 at South), 600 mobile (150 at North and 450 at South) and 305 base radios (120 at North and 185 at South).

Table 42: Availability of Radio Communication

Radio Type	Number of Gadgets
Base Radios	305
Mobile Radios	600
Portable Radios	3,300

Different radio frequencies are assigned according to the needs of geographical policing locations.

- **High frequency (HF)** - used in remote areas where there is no telecommunication infrastructure
- **Very high frequency (VHF)** - are used in remote areas where there is no TETRA network coverage.
- **Ultra high frequency (UHF)- TETRA** – dominates the BPS, it is reliable and fast.

The BPS Tetra system has housed the following different agencies who are able to communicate without interfering with the host organisation:

- Botswana Prison Services
- Directorate of Intelligence Services
- Ministry of Health
- Fire department under the Councils

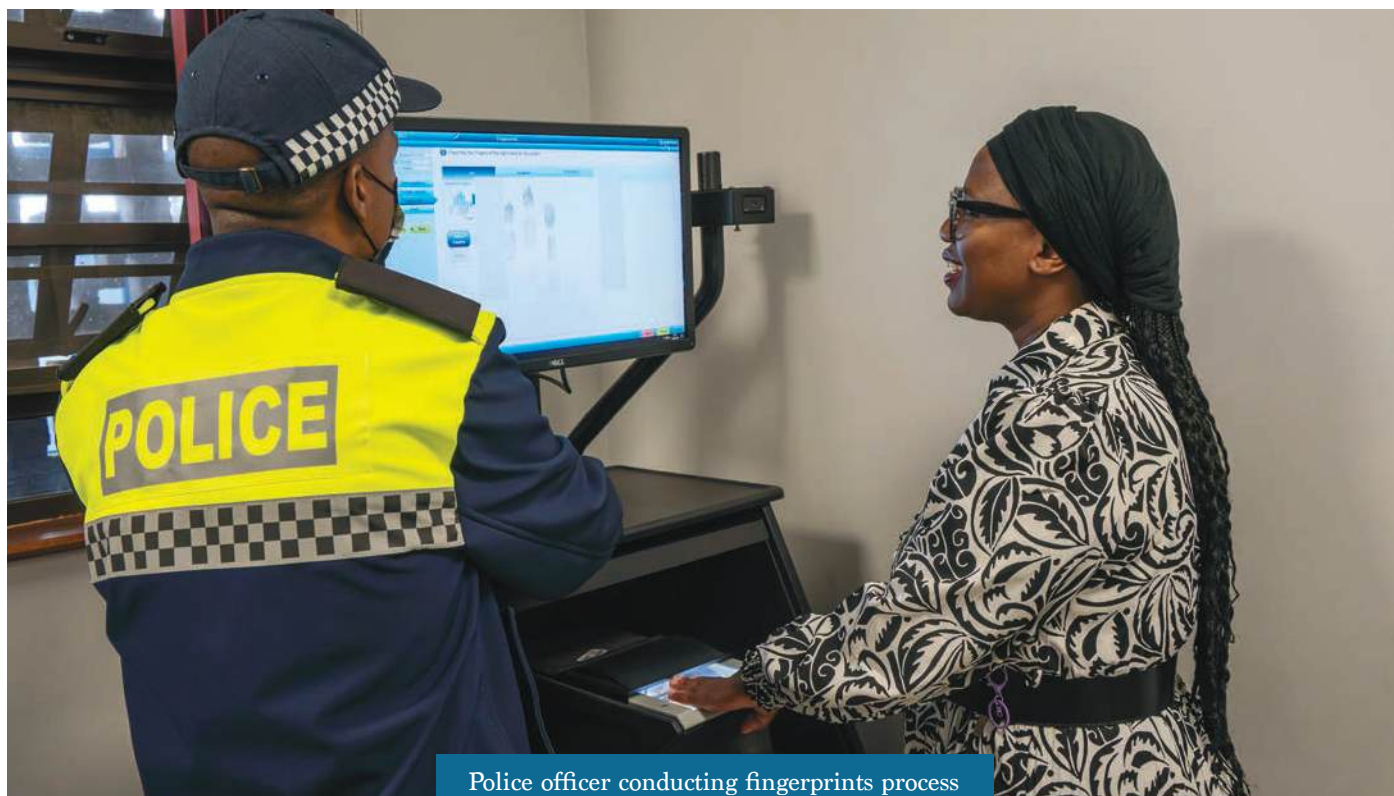
5.3.5 Systems in the Botswana Police Service

5.3.5.1 Crime and Criminal Recording System (CCRS)

It is used to capture cases and incidents related to different offences and it is accessible through the network. This is only accessible to Botswana Service and it is accessible to all Police stations.

5.3.5.2 Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS)

The system handles databases which contain; Persons data (Ten Fingerprints and Palm Prints), Criminal Case Data (Unsolved Latent Palm Prints). Fingerprints in the database are used to produce previous convictions and the system is deployed to all police stations.



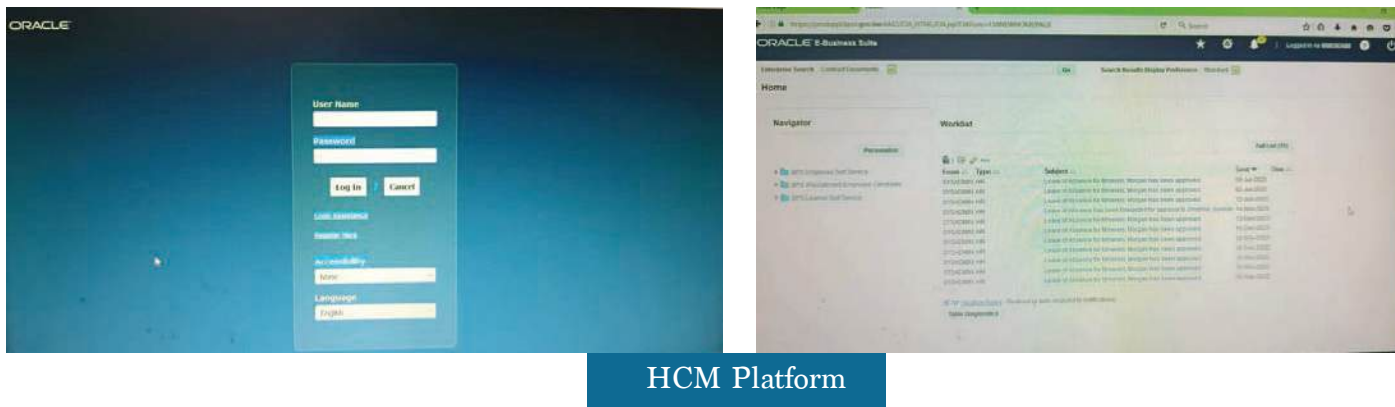
5.3.5.3 Lotus Notes

This is the BPS official mailing platform that is used to send mail across formations. So far the system has 2503 registered users. The system is utilised to improve sharing of daily situation reports, mailing of electronic payslips contributing to cost reduction.



5.3.5.4 Oracle Human Capital Management (HCM)

The system which is administered by the Human Resource Unit is used by BPS to manage its human resource. It ensures that the organisation's human resources are managed efficiently and effectively.



HCM Platform

5.3.5.5 Supplies Warehousing Inventory Management System (SWIMS)

The BPS manages its supplies through the Supplies Warehouse and Inventory Management Systems (SWIMS) to upkeep inventory records.

5.3.5.6 Vehicle Registration and Licensing System (VRLS)

The system though is primarily administered by the Department of Transport and Road Safety, plays a significant role in enforcing road safety and traffic laws, the BPS often utilise data from the system for law enforcement purposes.

5.3.5.7 Digitalisation

The organisation has digitised six service processes for online service provision. These include, Public Order Permit, Firearm Permit, Criminal Record Clearance, Motor Vehicle Clearance, Livestock Clearance, and Traffic Ticketing Payment. At the close of the year, the services were ready to Go-live.



YEAR IN REVIEW



6. YEAR IN REVIEW

6.1 Appointment of the 6th Commissioner of Police

The incumbent Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe was appointed the 6th Motswana Commissioner of Police and the first woman to ascend to the position, taking over from Mr. Keabetswe Makgophe who retired in 1st March 2024.



Former President of the Republic of Botswana Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi handing over the sword to the Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe

6.2 Employee Engagement

The Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe engaged officers on a nationwide familiarisation tour of police establishments shortly after assuming office. She also addressed the Senior Management. The engagements focused addressing operational challenges and boosting the officer's morale. For the year 2024, 17 employee engagements were conducted.

6.3 Prioritisation of Customer-Centric Policing

BPS has reiterated its commitment to an intentional crime management strategy prioritising public safety and security. In this connection, the BPS has adopted “Let the Voice of the Customer Lead You” on the 5th April 2024 as its service pledge in its new roadmap, demonstrating its commitment to putting the customer first.



Police officers addressed by the Commissioner during her familiarisation tour

6.4 Senior Management Retreat

A Retreat was held in July 2024 in honour of Botswana Police Service Senior Management Team (SMT) under the theme *‘Realigning efforts and enhancing collaborations for an effective customer-centric policing.’*



Senior Management Team during a Retreat

6.5 Introduction of the Adopt-a-Police-Station initiative

The Adopt-a-Police-Station initiative launched in July 2024 was introduced to strengthen partnerships between the Police and the business community, ultimately contributing to crime prevention and community safety. This strategic effort aims at enhancing the environment and reception of police facilities..

6.6 Groundbreaking of 28 Police Stations

In August 2024, the BPS hosted a major event for the ground-breaking ceremony of the construction of 28 police stations across the country. The event was successful due to the virtual interaction between the main event and the 27 villages where the police stations will be constructed.



28 Police Stations Groundbreaking

6.7 Official Opening of Police Stations

The New Letlhakane Police Station and the refurbished Central Police Station in Gaborone were opened in October 2024.



New Letlhakane Police Station



Refurbished Central Police Station

6.8 Overseeing the security of the 2024 General Electoral process

To enhance the operational readiness of its personnel for the 2024 National Elections in October, 2024, BPS procured and distributed 6906 copies of the “Guidelines on conduct During Elections” booklet to all BPS branches in the reporting year. At least 8573 officers were deployed to ensure security and safety during the 2024 General Elections, the outcome of which ushered the 6th President of the Republic of Botswana, President Advocate Duma Gideon Boko.



The Commissioner briefing African Union election observers on electoral preparedness

COLLABORATIONS





7 COLLABORATIONS

The escalation of transnational crimes such as Human Trafficking, Cybercrime, Money Laundering amongst others which transcend borders has necessitated increased international collaboration in identifying, preventing and combating criminal activity. The BPS prioritises partnerships and collaborations at local, regional and international levels to effectively address crime and other social challenges. By leveraging diverse expertise, shared resources, and collective intelligence through these collaborations, the BPS significantly strengthens its ability to enhance security not only at national level but also regionally and internationally. For the year under review the BPS participated in a number of international, regional and local treaties and protocols categorised as follows;

7.1 Inter-Agency Collaborations

Inter-Agency collaborations involves the agreements and activities between BPS and other local law enforcement agencies. These collaborations focus on sharing resources, expertise and efforts achieved through joint operations, training invitation from international organisations like INTERPOL, AFRIPOL and SARPCCO. Furthermore, the activities are extended to local entities like: Department of Immigration & Citizenship, Directorate on Corruption & Economic Crime (DCEC), Department of Wildlife & National Parks (DWNP), Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS), Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Financial Intelligence Agency (FIA), Counter Terrorism Analysis and Fusion Division (CTAFD) under the Directorate of Intelligence & Security (DIS) and National Museum & Monuments. The organization continues to sustain and maintain the extension of INTERPOL, AFRIPOL Systems such as the I-24/7, Interpol Mobile Device amongst others.

7.1.1 Operation PABALESEGO

Operation PABALESEGO was led by the President of Botswana, Duma Gideon Boko in December 2024. This was a joint operation between the Botswana Defence Force and the Botswana Police Service, launched under the theme A Crime Free Festive Season and Beyond, with an objective of fostering a safe and secure environment for Botswana.



The President playing a Gong marking the launch of Operation Pabalesego

Botswana Police officers and Defence Force officers on patrol during the operation

7.2 Regional Operations

BPS participated in 4 regional operations, targeting cross border crime like Cybercrime, Human Trafficking amongst others. The objectives of these operations are to identify criminal syndicates, apprehend criminals, collect information on their methods of operation and bring offenders to justice.

7.2.1 Operation Kutwa

A joint operation between SARPCCO member states and other local law enforcement agencies was held on the 14th August 2024 to 16th August 2024.

7.2.2 Operation USALAMA

The operation coded Operation **USALAMA X** targeting transnational organised crime was held on 9th September 2024 to 13th September 2024.

7.2.3 Operation Basadi

In response to the increased cases of violence against women and children, Operation Basadi XV was conducted from 18th November to 22nd November 2024. This operation code-named Basadi XV, was spearheaded by women police officers across all SARPCCO member states. Its aims were to arrest individuals wanted for violence against women and children and to detect Gender Based Violence (GBV) cases.



Female officers inspecting a vehicle during Operation Basadi

7.2.4 Operation Small Arms and Light Weapons

The operation coordinated by INTERPOL and the World Customs Organisation was held from 4th December to 6th December 2024. The joint Operation was focusing on small arms and light weapons due to a rise in their numbers within the region, as indicated by statistics and research. The objectives were to recover illegal firearms and ammunition from circulation, to disrupt and dismantle illegal arms trafficking networks, facilitate Intelligence-Led transnational investigations based on intelligence collected during the amnesty month (September) by participating countries and to Identify, locate, arrest and prosecute suspected criminals involved in all transnational organised criminal activities.



Firearms intercepted during the operation

7.3 International Operations

These operations are coordinated at international level by international organisations. For the year under review, BPS participated in 2 international operations namely; Operation Liberterra II and Operation Thunder 2024.

7.3.1 Operation Liberterra II

This collaborative effort involving INTERPOL members, including BPS, was conducted from 29th October to 4th November 2024. The operation was undertaken in response to the increasing scale and sophistication of migrant smuggling and human trafficking, as well as related criminal activities. The primary objectives of the Operation were to identify and dismantle criminal organisations engaged in these illicit activities.



A vehicle trafficking people intercepted during the operation

7.3.2 Operation Thunder 2024

The operation coordinated by INTERPOL and the World Customs Organisation (WCO) was aimed at combating illegal trade in wildlife and flora, illegal cross border shipments of timber, wildlife and wildlife products, illegal money transfers production and use of forged documents. The Operation was held from 25th November to 6th December 2024.



Elephant tusk intercepted during a search

7.4 Cooperation Meetings

The organisation participated in Regional, International and Bilateral Meetings.



Regional Security Officer at USA Embassy paid a courtesy call on Commissioner of Police

7.4.1 Bilateral Meetings

During the year under review, BPS hosted a bilateral National Commission meeting with Zimbabwe. The meeting was held from the 5th to 9th February 2024. Technical committees from both countries convened to discuss security challenges, particularly stock theft in the Bobirwa area and strategise for addressing these issues.

7.4.2 Regional Cooperation Meetings

The BPS hosted the Inspector General of Zambia Police from the 5th February to 9th February 2024.

The Commissioner of Police Ms Dinah Marathe attended the extraordinary committee meetings of the Defence Sub Committee and the interstate defence and security sub -committee held from 17th March to 21st March 2024 in Livingstone, Zambia. Botswana- Namibia held a review of the inaugural session of the Bi-National of the two countries at Gaborone on the 28th August 2024.

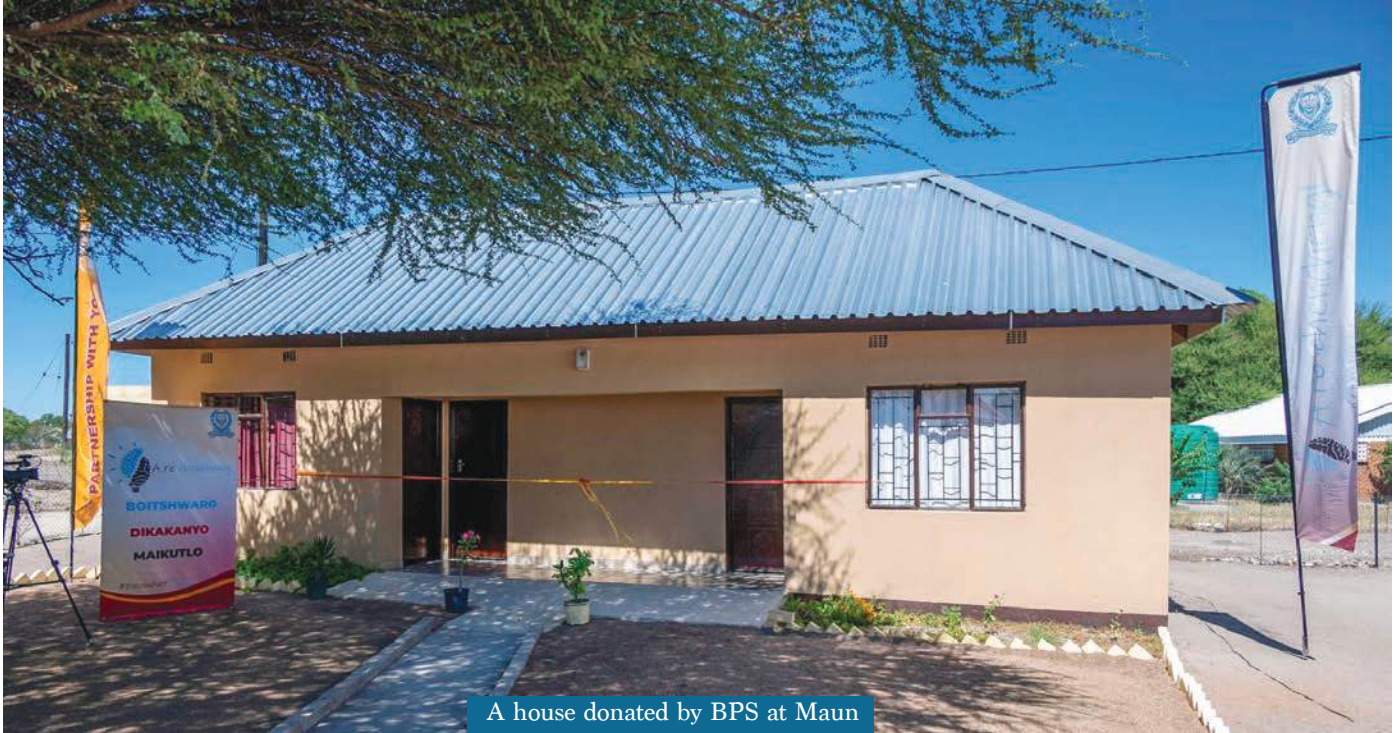
CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY





8 Corporate Social Responsibility

The organisation continues to demonstrate its commitment to fostering community development and social responsibility through acts of kindness that goes beyond the call of duty. In the year 2024, BPS donated two houses in Maunatlala and Maun respectively, making a total of 84 donated houses countrywide since inception of this responsibility in 2006.



A house donated by BPS at Maun



A house donated by BPS at Maunatlala

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