

Report title: **Annual Crime Trends in Haringey (April 2005 – March 2006)**

Report of: **Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy)**

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for: Overview & Scrutiny Committee

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide members with an overview of trends in crime in Haringey during the last financial year

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the committee notes the report.

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3 Executive Summary

- 3.1 This document provides an overview of performance of the Safer Haringey Partnership in relation to the PSA1 targets over the 2005/06 financial year. In relation to crime figures, comparisons are drawn with performance of the Metropolitan Police and of our Most Similar Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.¹
- 3.2 This report will also look at the latest crime trends for two of the key crimes identified in the last Crime and Disorder Audit 2002-2005, namely, violent crime and acquisitive crime.
- 3.3 Unless otherwise stated, all figures are based on recorded crime. This report compares crime data for the two 12-month periods April 2004 – March 2005 and April 2005 – March 2006.
- 3.4 This report sets out at Appendix 1 the performance of the Safer Haringey Partnership in

¹ These Most Similar groups provide a benchmark for comparison of crime rates with similar areas elsewhere in England and Wales. Each CDRP has a unique group to which it is considered most similar. Haringey is considered most similar to Lewisham, Waltham Forest, Ealing, Enfield, Greenwich, Newham, Brent, Hackney, Hounslow, Southwark, Croydon and Lambeth in London and Birmingham and Leicester.

relation to its four Community Safety and Wellbeing Best Value performance indicators:

- BV126 Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households
- BV127a Violent crime per 1,000 population
- BV127b Robberies per 1,000 population
- BV128 Vehicle crime per 1,000 population

3.5 These indicators monitor the number of offences occurring per thousand population (per thousand households for domestic burglary). In the cases of robbery, domestic burglary and vehicle crime, annual reduction targets of 2%, 8% and 7% respectively have been set by March 2006. No best value target has been set for violent crime.

4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development - NA

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 Metropolitan Police Crime Statistics sourced from the Metropolitan Police Website <http://www.met.police.uk/crimestatistics/index.htm>.

5.2 Haringey Monthly Performance Report sourced from the Performance Standard Unit (PSU) at Tottenham Police Station.

6. Background

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee has requested an annual update of crime figures and trends and Community Safety Best Value Performance Indicators. This data was sourced from crime figures published by the Metropolitan Police Service that were subsequently analysed for inclusion in this report.

7. Summary

The figures for the key crime types between April 2005 and March 2006 are:

- Overall crime in Haringey reduced by 0.5%
- Robbery increased by 41.5%
- Domestic burglary reduced by 10.5%
- Motor vehicle crime reduced by 0.1%
- Violence against the person increased by 9.4%
- Violent crime² increased by 14.6%

8. Basket of 10 British Crime Survey (BCS) comparator crimes

Overall BCS recorded offences have remained unchanged in 2005/06 when compared to 2004/05, but the annual reduction target was missed by 4.2%.

² Violent crime = Violence against the person + Sexual offences + Robbery

Half of the basket of ten offences recorded year-on-year reductions: criminal damage 12%, domestic burglary 11%, theft of a motor vehicle 9%, theft from person 7% and, most notably, common assault by 22%.

There were however significant increases in robbery of personal property and wounding, of 41% and 30% respectively. There was a 6% increase in theft from motor vehicle and this crime type represents the third highest proportion of all PSA1 offences. Together, robbery, wounding and theft from motor vehicle account for 40% of all BCS crime. While there were large increases in vehicle interference and bicycle theft, the number of actual crimes in these categories is relatively small. The discussion in section 9 will focus on the key areas of concern, namely acquisitive and violent crime.

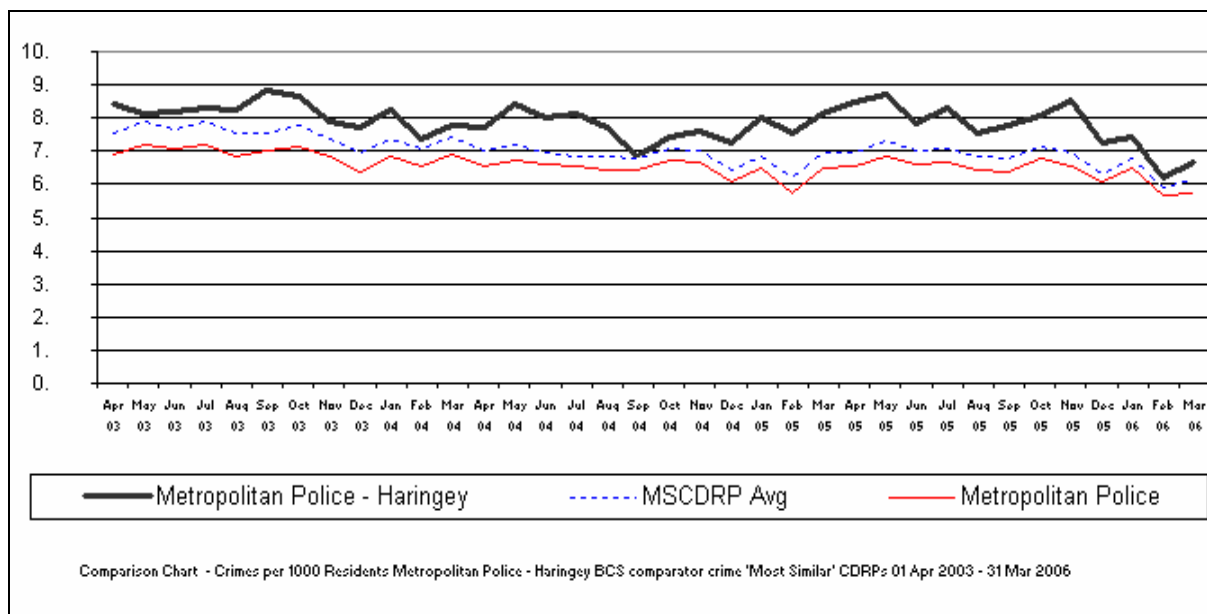
The table below summarises all BCS comparator crimes for Haringey for 2005/06 and compares these against the target and 2004/05 performance.

| Target achieved | | Trend | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| GREEN | RED | ↑ | ↓ |
| Achieved target | Missed target | Better than 2004/05 performance | Worse than 2004/05 performance |

| 'Basket of 10' BCS crimes ³ | Performance | | Change (%) | Target 05/06 | Target achieved? | Trend |
|---|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|-------|
| | 2005/06 | 2004/05 | | | | |
| Theft of motor vehicle | 1902 | 2089 | -9.0% | 1880 | RED | ↑ |
| Theft from motor vehicle | 3090 | 2907 | 6.3% | 2762 | RED | ↓ |
| Vehicle interference | 97 | 73 | 32.9% | 67 | RED | ↓ |
| Bicycle theft | 405 | 339 | 19.5% | 329 | RED | ↓ |
| Residential burglary | 2851 | 3184 | -10.5% | 2929 | GREEN | ↑ |
| Theft from person (snatch and pickpocket) | 1985 | 2129 | -6.8% | 2086 | GREEN | ↑ |
| BCS Criminal damage | 3827 | 4364 | -12.3% | 4173 | GREEN | ↑ |
| BCS Wounding | 3320 | 2561 | 29.6% | 2374 | RED | ↓ |
| BCS Common assault | 1416 | 1803 | -21.5% | 1569 | GREEN | ↑ |
| Personal robbery | 1919 | 1365 | 40.6% | 1338 | RED | ↓ |
| Total | 20812 | 20814 | 0.0% | 19507 | RED | ↑ |

The comparison chart on the following page shows the overall reducing trend in Haringey BCS crimes since 2003/04 (5% reduction). The trend line shows that we are now almost equal to our Most Similar boroughs and only just above the Metropolitan Police average.

³ British Crime Survey data is recorded in each borough in the Crime Reporting Information System (CRIS) and centrally by the iQuanta team at the Police Standards Unit (PSU). Due to recording anomalies, there are slight differences in the actual numbers between the Haringey CRIS and the iQuanta figures. For the purposes of this report CRIS figures are used to monitor performance in Haringey (as agreed with GOL), however iQuanta figures are also noted.



BCS comparator crimes per 1,000 population, April 2003 – March 2006

The table below shows the headline BCS figures by ward for each crime type for 2005/06.

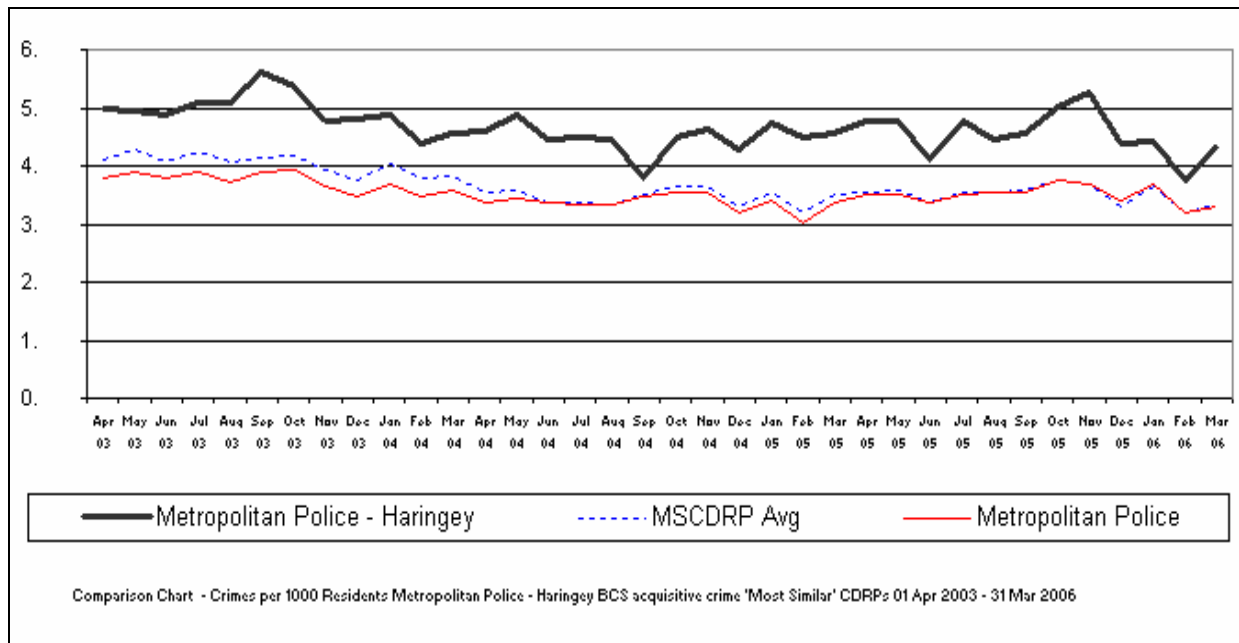
| Ward | Domestic burglary | Motor vehicle interfer. | Personal robbery | Bicycle theft | Theft of motor vehicle | Theft from motor vehicle | Theft from person | Criminal damage | Wounding | Common assault | Total BCS |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Hornsey | 9% | 100% | 7% | 18% | 2% | 82% | -45% | 10% | 41% | -16% | 17% |
| Crouch End | 29% | 267% | -9% | 20% | -10% | 49% | -20% | -15% | 77% | -4% | 12% |
| Northumberland Park | -2% | 133% | 115% | 38% | 0% | 25% | -14% | -11% | 28% | -27% | 9% |
| Fortis Green | -14% | 100% | -3% | 93% | -6% | 17% | 82% | -1% | 81% | -5% | 8% |
| Alexandra | -25% | 14% | 123% | 62% | 2% | 30% | 74% | -10% | 27% | -49% | 7% |
| White Hart Lane | 19% | -25% | 44% | 69% | -17% | -3% | 50% | 2% | 8% | -13% | 4% |
| Tottenham Hale | -6% | 33% | 149% | -25% | -26% | 9% | -19% | -12% | 29% | -27% | 3% |
| West Green | -20% | -50% | 43% | 25% | -31% | 30% | -21% | -4% | 45% | 3% | 2% |
| Bounds Green | -16% | 0% | 10% | -38% | -6% | 11% | 23% | -13% | 47% | 14% | 2% |
| Seven Sisters | 26% | 100% | 37% | 136% | -19% | -25% | -11% | -16% | 49% | -39% | 1% |
| St Ann's | -26% | -67% | 69% | 22% | -1% | 12% | 7% | -10% | 23% | 2% | 0% |
| Stroud Green | -23% | 800% | 62% | -15% | 91% | 2% | 0% | -17% | 4% | -31% | -1% |
| Tottenham Green | -8% | -67% | 47% | 12% | -4% | -35% | 3% | -25% | 26% | -22% | -4% |
| Muswell Hill | -1% | 75% | 72% | 50% | -32% | -6% | -15% | -13% | 32% | -41% | -4% |
| Highgate | -8% | -25% | -19% | -47% | -22% | 36% | -19% | -20% | 15% | -21% | -5% |
| Bruce Grove | 2% | -50% | -11% | 38% | 15% | -33% | 18% | -36% | 38% | -4% | -7% |
| Harringay | -40% | 1100% | -17% | -24% | -7% | 11% | 13% | -9% | 34% | -31% | -10% |
| Woodside | -37% | 100% | -13% | -20% | -16% | -4% | 12% | -18% | 22% | -21% | -12% |
| Noel Park | -40% | -33% | 43% | 63% | -32% | -21% | -38% | -18% | 12% | -32% | -21% |

9. Robbery and Violent Crime

The discussion in this section will focus on those crime types for which Haringey did not meet its targets in 2005/06 and which show an increasing trend.

Acquisitive crime⁴

As seen in the chart below, the rate of acquisitive crime in Haringey remains higher than the Metropolitan Police average and the average of our Most Similar Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, as it has for the last three years. However, the gap between Haringey and the other two groups is reducing.



BCS acquisitive crimes per 1,000 population, April 2003 – March 2006

Robbery

The 40% increase in personal robbery offences in 2005/06 follows a 25% reduction in 2004/05. This increase was reflected across our peer group boroughs and London as a whole, rising on average by 20% in our peer group boroughs and by 18% across London. A further factor that may have impacted negatively on Haringey's robbery performance is Hackney's 9% reduction in robbery this year. This follows a 26% reduction in 2004/05, suggesting that Hackney's successful anti-robbery activities may be pushing their robbers into Haringey.

In 2004/05 there was a significant amount of police activity focused on robbery and snatch. Although successful these were expensive, and in 2005/06 there were only two major operations: *Chenet* from May to July and *Cracker* in November and December. *Chenet* had minor success in reducing robberies in June but this was not sustained throughout the operation. The Police Territorial Support Group was drafted in to reduce the increasing robbery trend, but this did not have an impact.

It appears that two separate smaller scale operations had the greatest impact, resulting in a 12% reduction during the last three months of the financial year. Operation *Butler* placed Safer Schools Police Officers, Volunteer Cadets, and ASBAT and Arriva staff on buses after school and *Verbier* was a joint operation between Police, revenue inspectors, British Transport Police and Transport for London in the Bruce Grove, Wood Green and Seven Sisters hotspot areas. All of these operations had knock-on effects for all crime that occurs on the street, i.e. most acquisitive crime, wounding and common assault.

The map below covers the period from April 2005 to March 2006. It shows hotspot locations for personal robbery offences overlaid on a thematic ward map showing the total number of

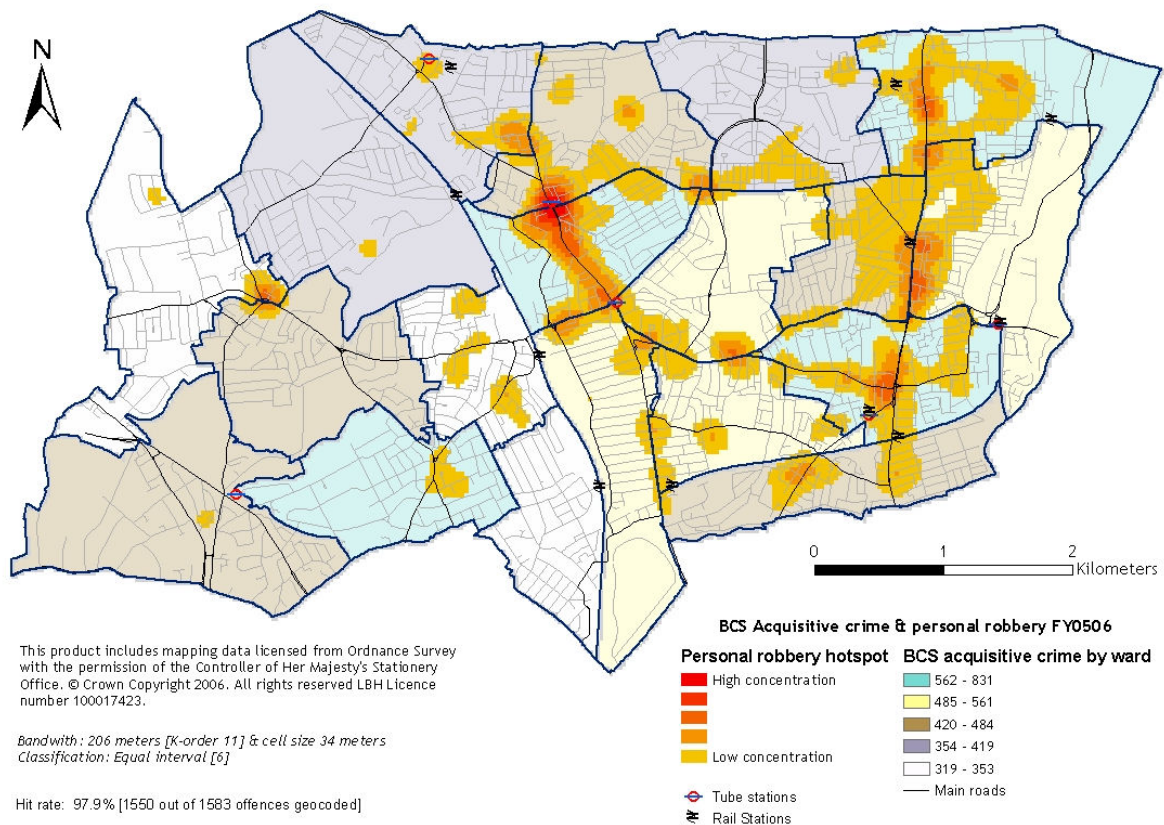
⁴ iQuanta classifies acquisitive crime as including residential burglary, theft of motor vehicle, theft from motor vehicle, vehicle interference, bicycle theft, theft from person and personal robbery.

acquisitive crime offences in each ward. It can be seen that the majority of offences occur in the east of the borough (approximately two-thirds).

The map shows that robbery is prevalent generally along the two main arterial routes through the borough, i.e. High Road N22 and High Road N17, and is often centred near busy shopping areas and transport interchanges. Wood Green and Seven Sisters are long-term hotspots precisely because of this.

Tottenham Green and Noel Park continue to record the highest numbers of offences (contributing almost a quarter of all robberies). The most significant percentage increases however occurred in Northumberland Park and Tottenham Hale, which rose by 115% and 142% respectively and were the third and fourth highest wards for robbery. The percentage share of borough robberies in Northumberland Park almost doubled from 6% in 2004/05 to 10% for 2005/06 and from 5% to 8% in Tottenham Hale. These wards run adjacent to High Road N17 and this activity is represented by the three major hotspots shown on this road.

In 2005/06 Noel Park had the smallest numerical increase (55 additional robberies) compared to 92 extra robberies in Northumberland Park. It is possible that the increased enforcement activity around Wood Green has displaced robbery activity to Northumberland Park and Tottenham Hale.



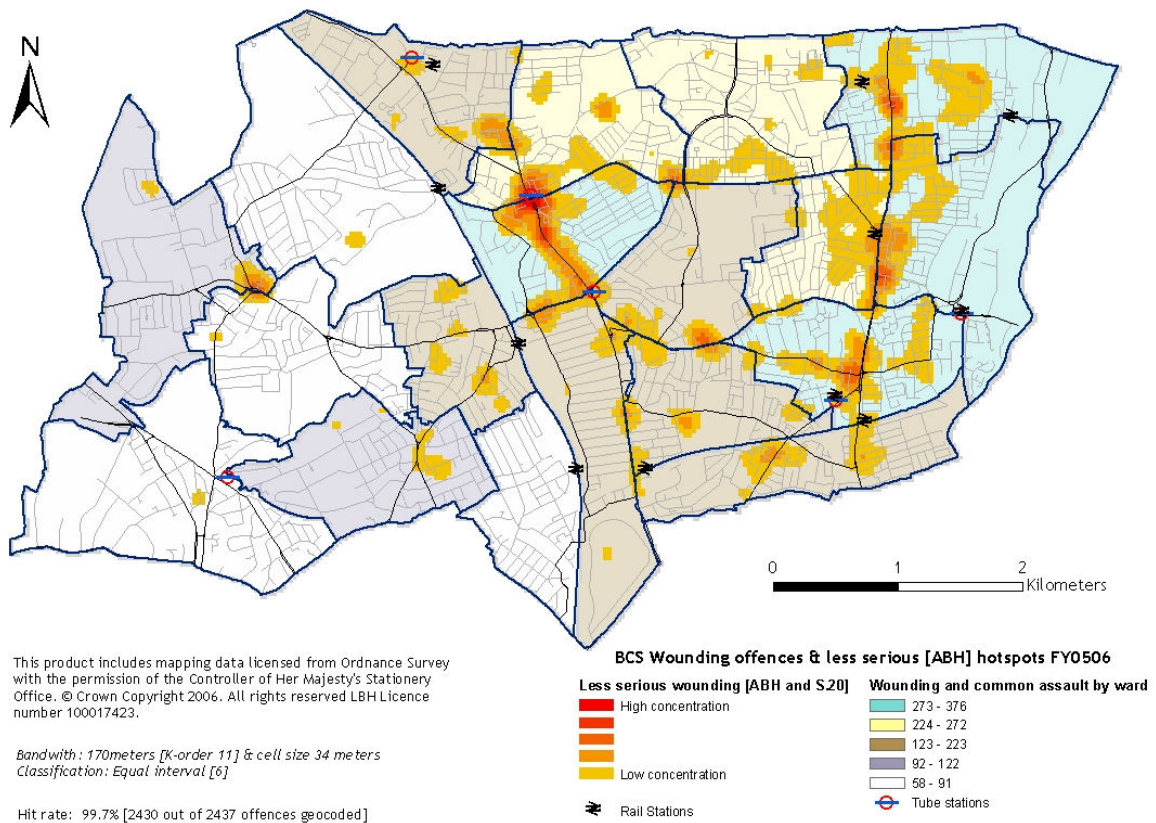
Violent crime

Violent crime saw an overall increase of over 8% last year. There was an increase in wounding offences (actual bodily harm - ABH and grievous bodily harm - GBH), but a decrease in the number of common assault offences. Part of the reason for this is due to changes in the classification of offences, which has led to offences that would previously have been classified as common assault now being classified as ABH offences. However, figures indicate this is not the only reason for the increase.

There has been increased reporting of domestic violence in the borough over the last year and this may account for part of the increase in violent crime figures. The high-profile campaign against domestic violence in the borough and the well-publicised activities of Hearthstone, Haringey’s Domestic Violence Advice and Support Centre, may account for this increased reporting. In addition Police are working more closely with services for domestic violence victims and now provide Hearthstone with 40% of all its referrals. At the end of last year police officers were encouraged to take action in domestic violence disputes if they thought it warranted, even if the victim was unwilling to take further action. This may also have contributed to an increase in the reporting of domestic violence.

The increase in wounding was reflected across our peer group boroughs and London as a whole, rising by 22% and 19% respectively.

The map below covers the period from April 2005 to March 2006. It shows hotspot locations for actual bodily harm (the violent crime category that has seen the greatest increase) overlaid on a thematic ward map showing the total number of violent crime offences (including domestic violence) in each ward.



Similarly to acquisitive crime, the majority of offences (just over three-quarters) occur in the east of the borough. The hotspot map shows the ABH hotspot being in and around Wood Green tube station and Hollywood Green. There are further hotspots on the High Road N17, although these appear less intense and offences are spread-out along the entire length of the road. Both robbery and assault seem to be most prevalent along the two main roads where there are more people around at various times of the day.

The Wood Green area experiences both afternoon and late night violence. The former is primarily due to the large numbers of school children that congregate in this area after school and the latter to the concentration of late-night entertainment venues. The assumption however that late-night violence is alcohol related and driven by the plethora of licensed

premises in the area is not substantiated by the evidence. Recent research carried out by the police violent crime analyst suggests that the majority of alcohol related offences happen after victims/suspects have been drinking at home or at private parties.

The wards with the highest number of violent crime offences are Northumberland Park, Tottenham Green and Noel Park. The largest percentage increases in wounding offences however were in wards in the west of the borough, notably Fortis Green (81%) and Crouch End (77%).

It is worth noting the significant impact that domestic violence offences have on the violence figures and resultant hotspots. Domestic violence accounts for approximately 30% of all violent crime and it is notable that the wards with the highest number of offences are all in the east (the more deprived areas of the borough). Since research has shown that domestic violence is a crime that crosses all socio-economic and racial backgrounds, it is possible that these figures reflect the higher density of housing in the east where neighbours are more likely to call the police. In addition a higher level of economic dependency on partners means that victims may be less able to extricate themselves from the violent situation themselves.

Motor vehicle crime

While a 6% increase in thefts from motor vehicle appears quite small, the large number of offences in this category means that any increase affects the total BCS crime figures quite significantly. Vehicle interference has increased by over 32%, but the numbers involved are fairly minor.

Haringey police has recently established a Vehicle Crime Unit (VCU) to tackle vehicle crime throughout the borough. Two recent bids submitted for Partnership funding are focused around combating the recent spate of theft of 'Satellite Navigation' systems and number plates from vehicles.

The VCU and Haringey Parking Team have also set up a scheme to combat the theft of disabled badges, especially those occurring at night. Badge holders can use a 'companion' badge instead of the full badge for overnight parking only. These are less attractive to the offenders as they cannot be used outside of Haringey or during the day, which reduces the likelihood of a vehicle being broken into.

Another related recent initiative took place around the Harringay 'ladder' and Green Lanes, involving the Parking Team working in conjunction with police at St Ann's station. Any vehicle displaying a disabled badge which was suspected to be stolen or damaged was issued a ticket by the Parking Attendant. In some cases the vehicle owners would relinquish the badge; otherwise the vehicle was removed by the police.

10. Partnership Initiatives

Some of the ongoing and future actions being undertaken to reduce acquisitive and violent crime include:

Acquisitive crime:

- Research transport interchanges and after school street crime in order to identify trends and hotspots in after school crime.
- Promote awareness in schools of *Immobilise* and *MEND* to reduce number of mobile phones stolen.
- Continue to raise public awareness by reinforcing the specific messages around actions residents can take to reduce their chances of being a victim of burglary.

Violent crime:

- Reduce the incidents of violence in persistent hotspots by:
 - Deploying police (and other deterrent teams) where possible to hotspot areas at peak times
 - Establishing an effective relationship between the Violent Crime Partnership Board and the Safer Neighbourhood and Neighbourhood Management teams in the main problem areas of Noel Park, Tottenham Green and Northumberland Park
 - Implementing the key findings from the GOL violent crime research in Haringey and Wood Green in particular
 - Evaluating and, if worthy, extending weapons awareness training provided by Red Cross and the Youth Offending Service (YOS).
- Reduce the opportunity for violent crime by:
 - Using the £50,000 funding under the Tackling Violent Crime Programme from the Home Office to continue to run and develop Operation *Blunt*, to develop work to tackle alcohol-fuelled domestic violence
 - Implementing knife amnesty and providing bins at police stations in Wood Green, Hornsey and Tottenham
 - Undertaking test purchase operations against retailers in relation to knives, alcohol, tobacco, fireworks, etc, measuring the impact and feeding back to key partners
- Increase participation of the most ‘at risk’ young people in key programmes by:
 - Focussing attention on siblings of known offenders
 - Developing a victim strategy in partnership with Victim Support and YOS
 - Improving links between YOS and schools. Utilising youth club provision when schools close for the day
 - Engaging ‘at risk’ young people in the Positive Futures programme with emphasis on education,
 - Focussing on high offending groups.

Domestic violence:

- Encourage identification of domestic violence victims by medical services and through partnership working. Particularly addressing referrals, patient confidentiality, training issues and GP / psychiatric referrals from local refuges.
- Work with appropriate agencies to develop adequate refuge and emergency housing facilities to meet identified needs.
- Request information from the 24 hour National Domestic Violence and Nia helplines as to the number of requests for refuge space in Haringey and the number of callers from Haringey.
- Re-run the Domestic Violence focus groups, as carried out previously, according to the Domestic Violence Best Value Review. Focus groups to be held in community venues with transport available to help women survivors to attend. Event will have a social element and appropriate therapeutic sessions will be available to survivors.
- Investigate funding streams to publicise services to survivors of domestic violence in a variety of media: leaflets, community newspapers and radio stations, particularly those broadcasting in community languages. Encourage local radio stations to broadcast mainstream domestic violence adverts.

Appendix 1: Best Value Performance Indicators FY2005/06

| Ref No. | Performance indicator | Performance FY2005/06 | Progress to target | | | Trend | | Trend | Change compared to target (%) | Change compared to FY2004/05 (%) |
|---------|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|-------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | 😊 | 😐 | 😞 | ↑ | ↓ | | | |
| | | | Projection set to hit target | Projection within 5% of target | Projection set to miss target | Projection better than 2004/05 performance | Projection worse than 2004/05 performance | | | |
| | | Target (% reduction) | Target | Performance 2004/05 | Progress to target | | | | | |
| 126 | Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households | 28.3 | 8% reduction | 29.1 | 31.6 | 😊 | ↑ | -2.7% | -10.5% | |
| 127a | Violent crime per 1,000 population ¹ | 41.7 | 0.5% reduction | 36.2 | 36.4 | 😞 | ↓ | 15.1% | 14.6% | |
| 127b | Robberies per 1,000 population | 9.0 | 2% reduction | 6.2 | 6.4 | 😞 | ↓ | 44.5% | 41.5% | |
| 128 | Vehicle crime per 1000 population | 22.2 | 7% reduction | 20.7 | 22.2 | 😞 | ↓ | 7.4% | -0.1% | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Population 224,728 | Based on mid-2003 population estimates from ONS |
| Households 100,710 | Based on mid-2003 household estimates from ODPM |
| Note ¹ Violent crime includes all offences recorded in the Violence Against the Person, Sexual Offences and Robbery offence groups | |
| Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households | The annual target was achieved but we missed the LPSA minimum performance reward target. We have however submitted a paper to the LPSA team at Department of Communities and Local Government arguing for consideration to be given to a Performance Reward Grant (PRG). We submitted that the only true way to measure burglary reductions is by using substantive burglaries, i.e. someone entered, stole something and left, since these are the only burglaries that have remained unaffected by changes in reporting rules. By using this measure we meet the full 14.3% reduction. |
| Violent crime per 1,000 population | The target was widely missed. While there have been recent changes in police recording practices, this does not account for the significant increase in violent crime offences. GOL has funded a piece of research into the factors behind violent crime in Haringey. |
| Robberies per 1,000 population | Robbery has also missed the target and performed worse than last year. This can be partly explained by the reduction in the funding and number of police anti-robbery operations during the year. |
| Vehicle crime per 1000 population | Vehicle crime has missed its target but achieved an improved performance on last year. |