



Have your say - send us your views

Kingston's Crime Audit



Reducing Crime Together



Working for a safer London



Kingston **NHS**
Primary Care Trust



MPA
Metropolitan Police Authority



Introduction



Please help us set our plans for the next three years by completing and returning the very short questionnaire on the last page by 31 January 2005.

Kingston is one of London's safest Boroughs. Our aim is to work with you to make it safer still. Crime and anti-social behaviour are rightly priority concerns for Kingston's residents. In low crime areas the perception of crime often creates concerns that are out of proportion to crime itself.

The Kingston Crime and Disorder Partnership wants to know the views of a wide ranging sample of residents before setting the plans for the next three years.

We're sending you this Summary Audit so you can be part of this process- Please help us by completing and returning the very short questionnaire on the last page.

This document gives you some background information about the Borough and tells you about the patterns of crime, drugs, disorder and anti-social behaviour from 1 April 2001 to 31 May 2004. It also highlights how Kingston is doing relative to other similar Boroughs, contains key statistics about crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour and reflects the results

of local surveys carried out since the last audit. We have also included some examples of what we're planning to do to tackle crime-related issues and anti-social behaviour and to enhance public reassurance. Many of these initiatives will build on the work we have been doing over the last six years.

To do this we have provided information from a number of sources on what has been happening and what we are planning to do in the future. For example in our MORI 2003 survey 78% of those who responded told us that a low level of crime was the top priority in making somewhere a good place to live.

As well as responding to residents' priorities, there is a requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (as amended by the Police Reform Act) for a range of agencies to work together in partnership. This includes: carrying out a review of crime, drug misuse, disorder and anti-social behaviour; publishing and consulting widely on the findings;

producing a plan listing the most important things we are going to tackle; and regularly reviewing the plan to check out if it is really making a difference.

Main Issues

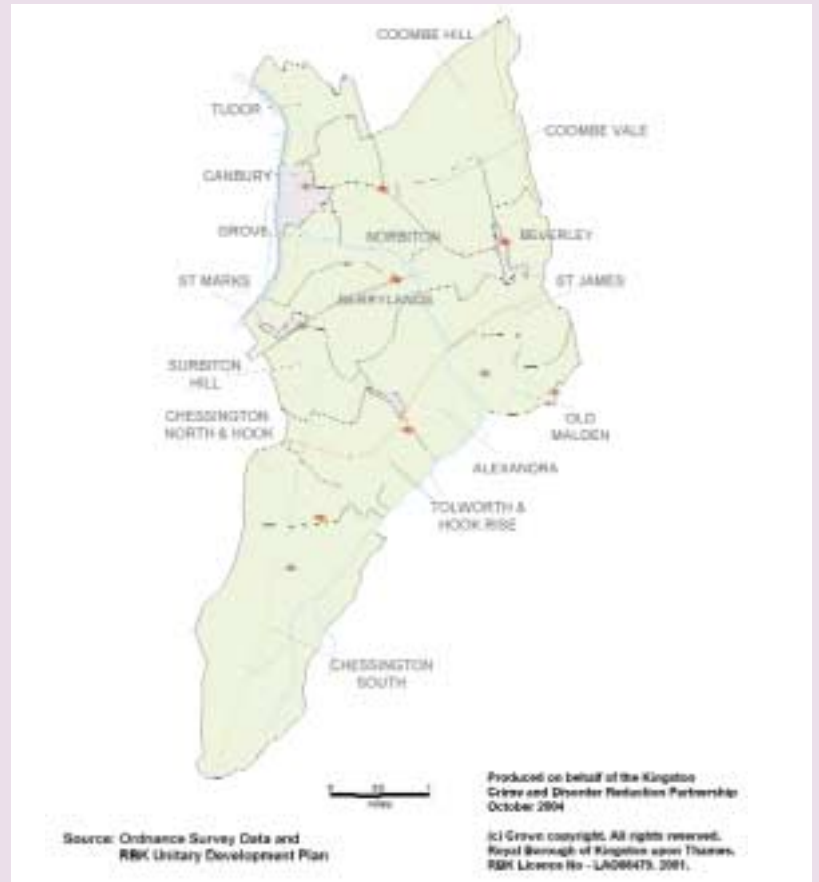
- Anti-social behaviour remains a significant problem for many residents throughout the borough.
- There is a concentration of crime and anti-social behaviour in the town centre.
- In low crime areas, such as Kingston, the perception of crime often creates concerns that are out of proportion to the level of crime itself.

Kingston Borough

Who are the key partners?

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership comprises:

- Kingston Community and Police Consultative Group
- Kingston Council
- Kingston Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- Kingston Magistrates Court
- Kingston Primary Care Trust
- Kingston Racial Equality Council
- Kingston Town Centre Management Limited
- Kingston University
- Kingston Voluntary Action
- Kingston Youth Offending Team
- British Transport Police
- Metropolitan Police Authority
- Metropolitan Police Service Kingston
- London Fire Brigade
- London Probation Area - Kingston & Richmond
- Transport for London



How we got the information for our audit

We

- Collated statistical data from a range of sources and agencies
- Looked at patterns of offending - who the victims are, where crime, drug misuse and anti-social behaviour are happening and who the perpetrators are - to help us understand the reasons behind offending and take steps to reduce it.
- Reviewed the initiatives which are up and running to reduce crime, drug misuse, disorder and anti-social behaviour

We continuously collate the views of residents, businesses and visitors to enable us to adapt our initiatives to address current concerns. Since 2001, as well as on-going feedback from our partners and residents, we have gathered views from the following:

- 6,241 local people - (Residents who responded to MORI questionnaires.)
- 1,924 users of our Shopping Centres
- 101 people in Norbiton Ward in preparation for the introduction of Safer Neighbourhood policing
- 441 residents of the Cambridge Road, Alpha Road and Kingsnympton Park Estates in preparation for the introduction of Estate Rangers.
- 2478 secondary school students, 1877 of whom were Borough residents
- 42 businesses and 101 visitors to Tolworth on the business environment, including personal safety issues
- Kingston businesses in connection with the Business Improvement District proposal covering concerns regarding commercial crime, theft and related issues of incivility to staff
- 600 responses from visitors to the town centre on perceptions of the environment, facilities and personal safety
- A range of other organisations

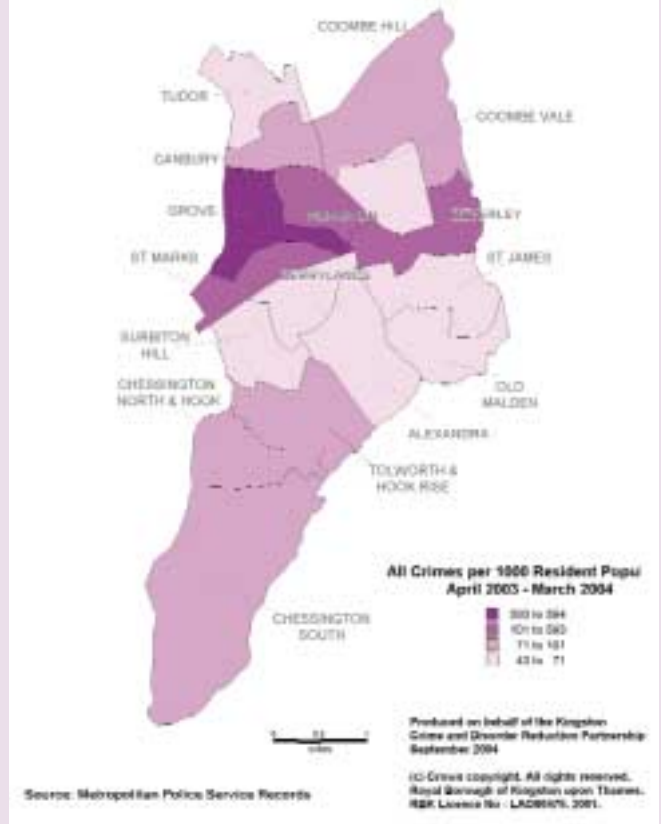


About Kingston



- Kingston, along with Richmond and Sutton, is one of the safest Boroughs in London
- The Borough is one of the largest retail and commercial centres in the south east with Kingston Town Centre having a well-established night-time economy. Its regional role means that it has a very transient population, including some 20,000 University and College students.
- Licensed establishments currently have a capacity of some 31,545 with a capacity of some 14,675 in Kingston Town Centre. These figures include three major night clubs whose total capacity is 5,720.
- Three District Centres: Surbiton, New Malden and Tolworth, and a range of smaller local shopping clusters complement the town. Industrial areas are scattered throughout the Borough.
- The Borough's population is 147,273, of which some 13.5% (22,881) are from visible ethnic minority communities with a large Korean population in the New Malden area. (Source: Census 2001).
- Young people under the age of 16 are estimated to be 19.1% of the population, with 12.6% 16-24, 17.5% 25-34, 37.5% 35-64, and 13.3% 65 years or over.
- Whilst Kingston is the fourth most affluent Borough in London, significant pockets of deprivation do exist.

**All Crimes per 1000 Resident Population
April 2003 - March 2004**



Overall crime

- Over the audit period reported crime increased by 18.1% from 13,811 offences in 2001/02, to 14,330 in 2002/03 and 16,309 in 2003/04. There was a significant increase in reported violence against the person. An element of this increase will be attributable to new reporting procedures which came into effect in 2002/03.
- Offences are heavily concentrated in Grove ward (covering the town centre), where 30.2% of all recorded crimes were committed in 2003/04.
- The map shows the average crime rate for every 1,000 residents for 2003/04. It is important to remember that if we were able to take account of all the visitors to our Borough, the rates would be even lower.

Characteristics of victims

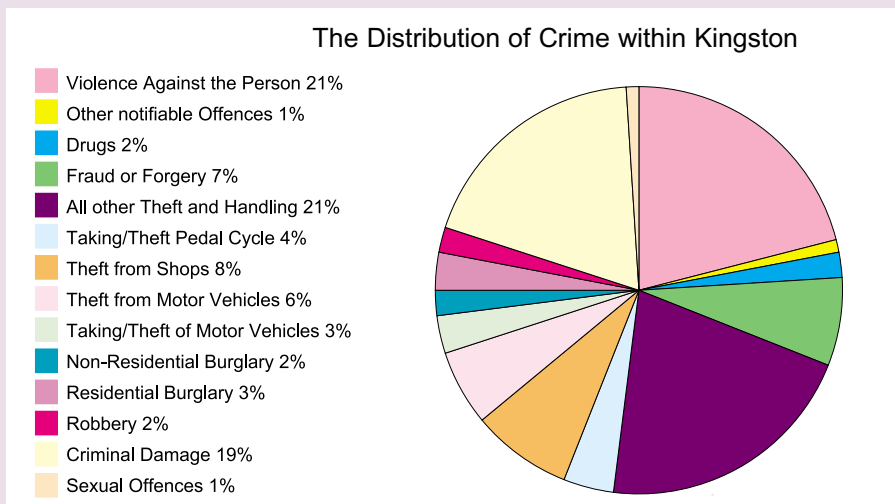
- The number of male victims generally exceeds that of females by 1.2:1
- 17.2% of male victims are aged 19 years or under, compared with 15.7% of female victims. In contrast, 9.8% of female victims are aged over 60, in comparison with 7.2% of the males
- White Europeans account for 75% of male victims and 80% of females
- Asian males (11.2%) and Asian females (6.5%) form the largest groups of non-white victims; these proportions are consistent year-on-year
- An increasing number and proportion of African and Caribbean people have become the victims of crime in the last three years



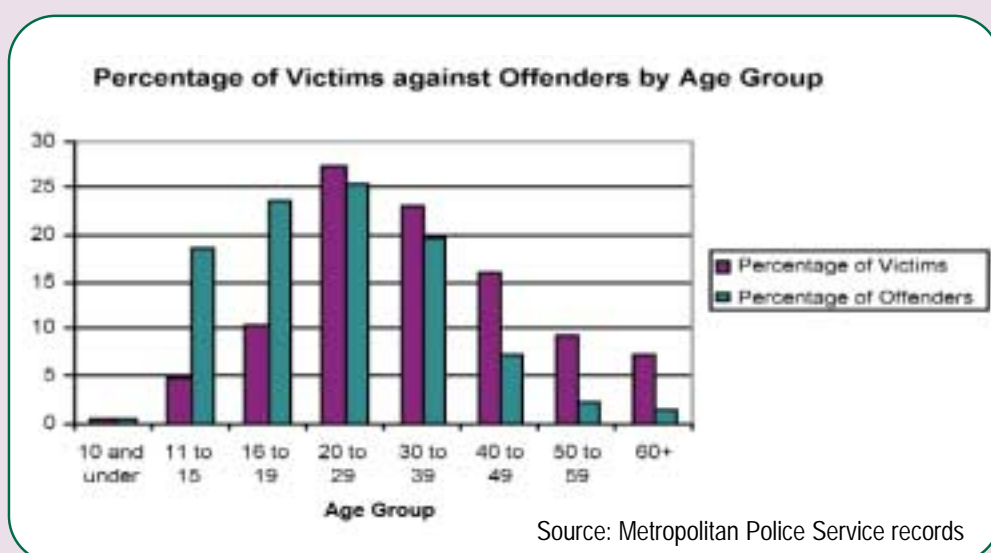
- 25% of the females who suffered burglary were aged 60 or over
- Nearly five times as many men as women are victims of robbery; this adverse situation is most pronounced for those aged under 29
- Over eight times as many women as men are the victims of sexual crimes: 77.2% of female victims are aged under 39; 56.2% are under 20
- Almost equal proportions of both sexes have been victims of Violence against the person. These crimes are spread across all age groups, but reduce markedly after the age of 49.

Characteristics of offenders

- Male offenders exceed females in a consistent ratio of 2.8:1
- Males aged 19 or under account for 42% of all offenders: the equivalent proportion for females is 46%
- The proportion of female offenders aged 11-15 years has risen from 26% in 2002/03 to 31% in 2003/04
- White Europeans account for 73% of all male and 77% of all female offenders
- Dark European, Caribbean and Asian males have increased as proportions of the offenders during the audit period
- The overwhelming majority of burglaries, cases of criminal damage and motor



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records

vehicle crime were perpetrated by males, the majority of whom were aged under 39

- Males aged under 20 were prominent in acts of motor vehicle crime and, especially, theft and handling and robbery
- Proportionately more females than males engaged in fraud and forgery, and theft and handling
- Males dominate drug offences - after the age of 16, totals rise for both genders and peak in the age range 20-39.

Cost of Crime

Whilst it is very difficult to measure the full impact of crime on society in financial terms,

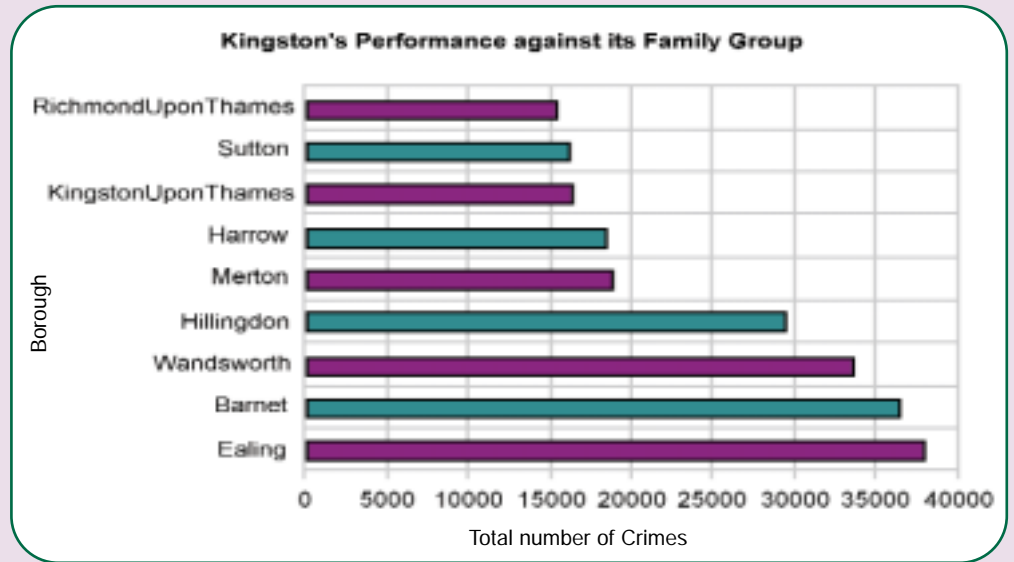
a Home Office research project has estimated the costs of one incident of violent crime, robbery, domestic burglary and theft of, and from, motor vehicles. These range from £580 for each theft from a motor vehicle to £18,000 for each violent crime offence. Using these figures for recorded crime and British Crime Survey data for unreported crime, the cost of these five crimes in Kingston totals some £68 million for recorded crime alone for 2003/04 with the costs of unrecorded crime being estimated to be well above that.

Achievements

– since last audit in 2001

How Kingston measures up

To make comparisons fairer the Government has grouped Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships with similar characteristics and Kingston's performance against the other London Boroughs in its 'family' is shown in the graph.



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records

Our last audit in 2001 highlighted 8 areas to concentrate on. The information below shows how we have done. Figures are crimes per 1000 population (per 1,000 households for burglary).

	2001/02	2003/04	
Street Crime:	2.68	2.34	Kingston has the lowest number of recorded Street crimes of all London Boroughs.
Burglary	19.2	15.2	Kingston has the lowest number of burglaries in London and has the lowest number of burglaries per 1000 household within its "family"
Motor Vehicle crime	8.06	9.29	Kingston has the lowest number of motor vehicle crimes in London and is the best performing borough within the family group; with 9.29 motor vehicle crimes per 1000 population (2003/04),
Drug related crime	2.57	2.38	Over 140 offenders have been brought to justice for supplying Class A drugs over the audit period.
Hate Crime	8.7	10.17	High priority has been given to increasing the numbers of hate crime incidents reported to Police, either direct or through other agencies. These include domestic violence, racist and homophobic incidents.
Violence Against the Person	18.11	23.41	Police have targeted patrols to those areas where assaults occur most.
Anti-social behaviour			38% of people surveyed in 2003 stated that they felt safe or very safe out alone in their local area after dark. There has been a 30% reduction in graffiti reported to Police
Young people and crime			There have been initiatives targeted towards primary and secondary pupils.

Burglary

Kingston has the lowest number of residential burglaries in London and, in 2002/03 and 2003/04, was ranked in the lowest three London boroughs for non-residential Burglary.



Burglary offences have gone down steadily for the past four years. In 1999/2000 1503 burglaries were recorded. Three years ago, this number had fallen to 1180 and by 2003/4 it had fallen even further to 939.

Most burglaries are committed between Wednesday and Friday and tend to peak in the afternoon, evening and night times. Residential Burglary happens most in the North of the borough, in particular the town centre wards and St. Mark's and Coombe.

The distribution of offences for non-residential Burglary coincides with the main shopping areas, Norbiton, Grove and St. Marks and occurred mainly on Fridays and Saturdays. Kingston Town Centre Management Limited's preparations for the creation of a Business Improvement District included a survey of town centre businesses. Concerns centred more on theft, anti-social behaviour and the evening economy as opposed to burglary.

There were fewer than 40 allegations of distraction burglary in each year from 2001/2 (where the suspect entered a property posing as a bogus official). Of the 534 burglaries in

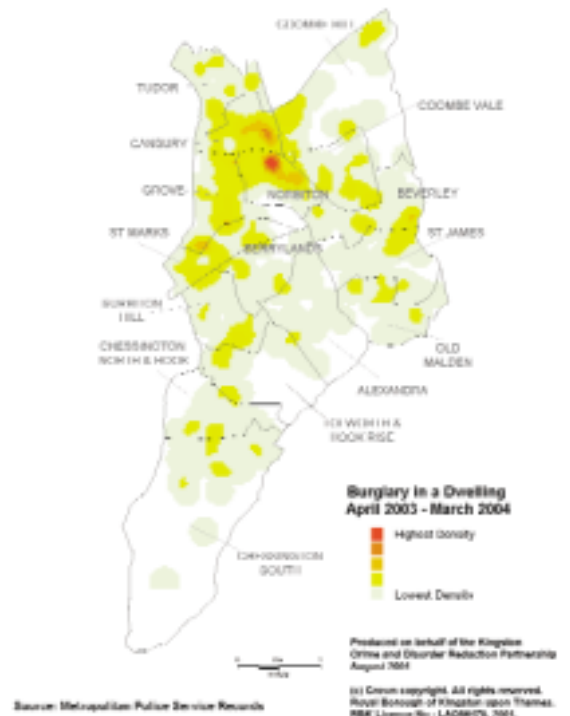


residential properties in 2003/4, 28 (5.2%) were repeats and of the 405 burglaries in other buildings, 2 were repeats. There was an even spread of burglaries across the age ranges. 25% of the females who suffered burglary were aged 60 or over.

What you told us

In 2002 the MORI Citizen's Panel survey told us that other concerns, particularly anti-social behaviour, were a much greater problem for you than burglary. However, in the same survey, you highlighted Burglary and Property Crime as the crimes of which you were most worried about becoming a victim. This trend has continued.

Burglary in a Dwelling Hotspot
April 2003 - March 2004



What we're planning to do

The Partnership has a range of successful current initiatives designed to prevent burglary, investigate crimes; and support victims. Future examples could include:

- Targeting known offenders; especially Priority and Prolific Offenders
- Crime Prevention Advice Packs
- Encouraging the expansion of Neighbourhood Watch, especially in the Safer Neighbourhood areas
- Encouraging the sharing of intelligence about burglary trends between the Police, and the public through the Ringmaster system and Crimestoppers.
- Enhancing police and partnership response to repeat victims and over 60's

Street crime

Kingston has fewer Street Crime offences than any other London Borough, with less than one reported incident a day. Street Crime includes robberies of personal property and snatches.

What we're planning to do

As with burglary and other crimes, we have a range of current initiatives aimed at reducing street crime even further and to help victims. We plan to build on these in our new strategy. Examples could include:

- Targeting Priority and Prolific Offenders involved in street-related crime against young people.
- Encouraging young perpetrators of street crime to participate in restorative conferencing
- Providing advice, particularly to young people, to help them to keep safe - through schools, youth centres, the internet
- Encouraging mobile phone owners to record the IMEI number so that the phone can be disabled if stolen.
- Joint working between the CCTV Control Centre and the Police to proactively target offenders in hot spot areas.



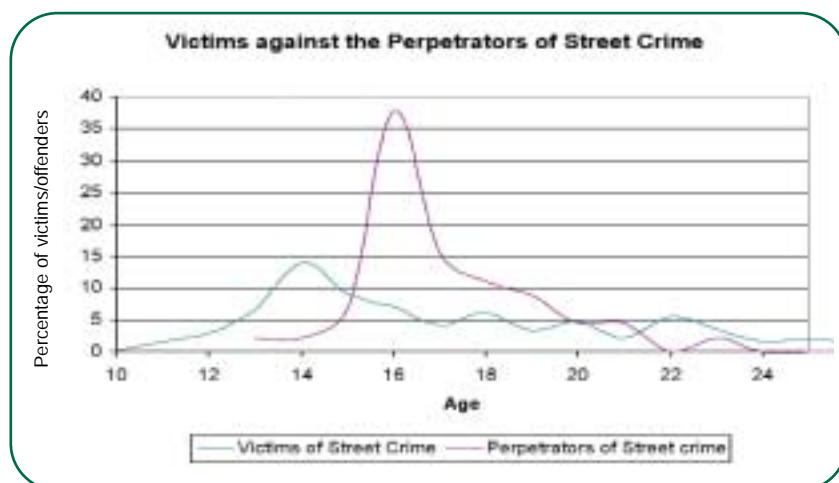
In the last 3 years reports of Robberies (of personal property) have gone down by 6.76% and Snatches have also reduced by 28.1%. This equates to a rate of just over 2 street robberies per 1,000 population.

Street Crime is most frequent in the five wards containing significant shopping facilities. Grove, Canbury and Norbiton stand out in the Town Neighbourhood, St. Mark's in Surbiton and Beverley in Maldens and Coombe.

Higher levels of street crime are committed towards the weekend with Saturday as the peak.

What you told us

In the Kingston Town Centre Fear of Crime street surveys the proportion of people claiming to have been victims of street crime fell from 5.1% in May 2000 to 2.7% in 2004. In the same period your anxiety over becoming a victim of street crime had decreased by 4.2%.



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records

Motor vehicle crime

Kingston Borough contributes the lowest number of vehicle crimes in London. We are also the best performing borough within the family group (see chart below); with 9.29 motor vehicle crimes per 1,000 population (2003/04). This is significantly below the family average of 15.63.



What we're planning to do

Examples could include:

- Seek to maintain 'Park Mark' (Safer Parking Accreditation) - for our Town Centre Car Parks.
- Work towards 'Park Mark' for all other RBK car parks.
- Promote Crimestoppers, the anonymous crime information telephone line, in car parks and other locations.
- Encourage vehicle owners to be more aware about vehicle security through targeted crime reduction campaigns.
- Targeted Police operations to reduce motor vehicle crime and the anti-social use of motorcycles, mopeds and scooters.
- Utilise the forensic services available to target motor vehicle crime.

The number of crimes for every 1,000 of the population has increased marginally from 8.1 in 2001/02 to 9.2 in 2003/04. Although there has been an overall increase, the last two years have shown a slight decrease and this is a continuing trend.

Motor vehicle crime includes theft of and from motor vehicles, motorcycles, mopeds and scooters.

A high proportion of the perpetrators of motor vehicle crime were aged under 20. The peak time for this type of crime was between 2300 and 2400 hrs and the peak day was Saturday.

Motor vehicle crime is unevenly spread throughout the Borough with the primary areas being Grove, Canbury, St Mark's and Chessington South wards. Secondary clusters have emerged in the south and east of the borough; and the hotspot in Chessington South has intensified. Rigorous analysis over the last year however has shown no definite pattern.

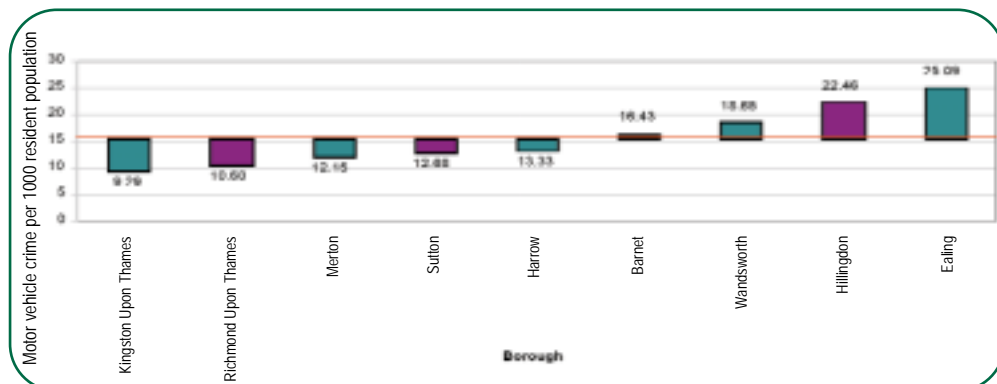
What you told us

In the Kingston Town Centre Crime Surveys, the proportion of car owners feeling either 'very' or 'quite' worried about the theft of their vehicles has fallen steadily from 45% in 1998 to 29% in 2004. The trends in the District centres are similar, although over a shorter period.

The 2002 and 2003 MORI surveys told us that you felt other concerns, particularly anti-social behaviour, were a much greater problem than motor vehicle crime in the Borough.



Motor vehicle crime compared to the London Family Group



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records

Disorder and anti-social behaviour

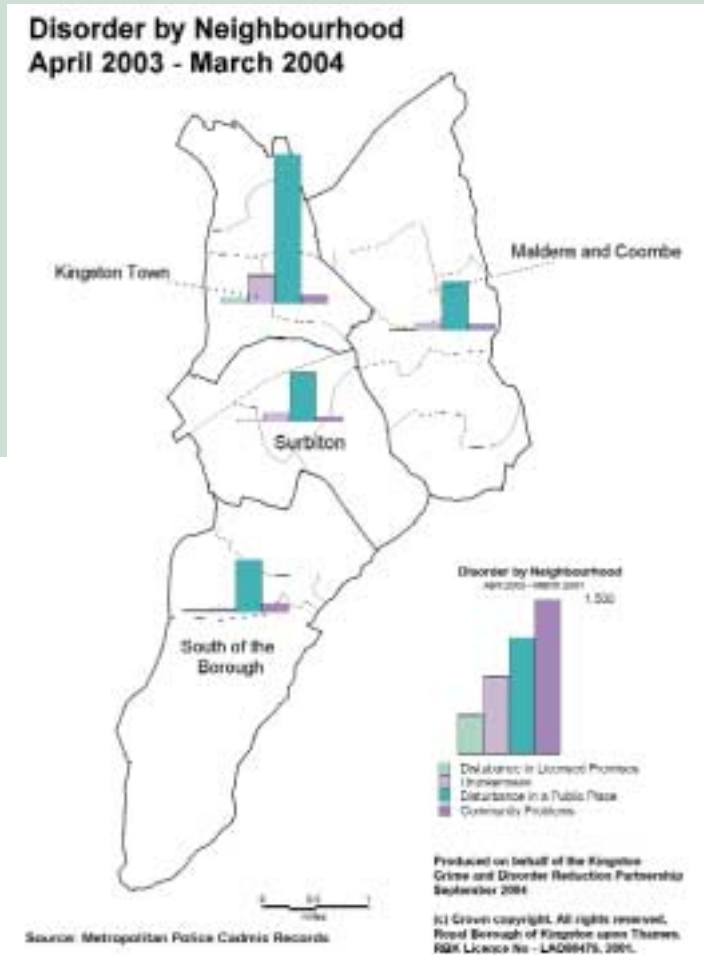
Anti-social behaviour covers a range of offences and behaviours. These range from vandalism and graffiti, to noise, drunkenness and arson. It is often a combination of these factors, together with a number of other environmental crimes and issues that reduces your quality of life.

Since 2003/04 Kingston has obtained eight Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

In addition to the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams Kingston now has a full-time Anti-Graffiti Officer, four Neighbourhood Services Officers, and a dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator.

Between 2001/02 and 2003/04

- Vehicle arson decreased by 18% (from 141 to 115). Norbiton, Tolworth and Hook Rise, Alexandra and Old Malden had the largest number of occurrences. The majority of all incidents occurred between midnight and 7 a.m. and showed a peak in offences on Sundays.
- The number of motor vehicles reported as abandoned reduced by 14% (from 1270 to 1087). 2614 vehicles have been surrendered to the Council under the unwanted vehicle scheme.
- The number of noise complaints received by Environmental Health has reduced by 12% (from 1406 to 1323 in 2003/04).
- Reports of Graffiti made to Police fell by 30% (from 559 to 391).



- In 2003/04 there were 4,266 incidents of disorder recorded by the Police, compared with 4,123 in 2001/02, an increase of 3.4%.
- In 2002/03 the Kingston Partnership was recognised for work in tackling graffiti and was awarded the 'Environmental Campaigns' (ENCAMS) 'People and Places' Award.
- Since 2001/02 the number of malicious calls to the Fire Brigade has decreased by 41%. The highest concentrations in 2003/04 were in Grove and Chessington wards. The location of the calls generally coincided with areas of greater deprivation within those wards.

- The number of non-accidental fires has risen over the last three years, from 201 in 2001/02 to 288 in 2003/04.

Public Transport

The number of offences reported on the ten train stations in the borough has increased from 211 in 2001/02 to 517 in 2003/04.

In 2003/04, Surbiton (31%), New Malden (11%) and Worcester Park (10%) had the highest number of reports. More offences occurred on Fridays, Saturdays and especially Mondays. Sunday had the lowest totals in each year.

Disorder and anti-social behaviour

congregating on the streets and drunken behaviour. Theft of a mobile phone and theft from the person were matters of equal concern.

In a survey of three housing estates, prior to the establishment of the Government-funded Neighbourhood Ranger scheme, residents on all estates identified vandalism, litter and dumped household refuse as their priority concerns.

What we're planning to do

Build on our success by:

- Reducing the number of abandoned motor vehicles on our streets - By continuing
 - Our successful initiative which enables residents to surrender old vehicles to us.
 - Our participation in the London-wide initiative 'Operation Scrap-It' - This allows us to remove many abandoned

The most prevalent incidents were graffiti, (129) theft of pedal cycles (122), railway trespass (89), common assault (69) and disorderly behaviour (68).

419 bus related incidents were recorded in 2003. The most common was disturbance on a bus (43% of the total). Fare disputes accounted for a further 21% and 11% were disturbances off the bus. 8% related to vandalism on the bus.

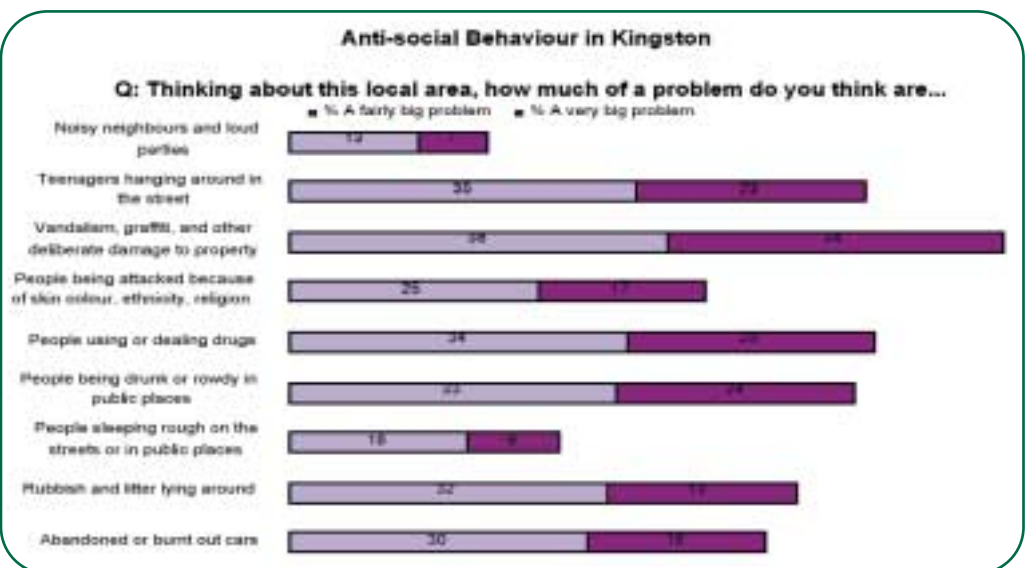
Over half the incidents occurred on a Friday (19%), Saturday (21%) or Monday (14%).

Peaks in the number of offences of graffiti and criminal damage to bus shelters and timetable displays were noted close to certain schools during term time.

What you told us

The areas you identified as 'Very big' or 'fairly big' problems in the most recent MORI survey are shown in the graph.

In our 2004 town and district centre surveys, over one-third of respondents claimed to be 'very' or 'quite' concerned by rowdy behaviour, groups of people loitering and



Base: All valid BVPI responses Source: MORI 2004

Feedback from the consultation with public transport operators showed that stations remaining un-staffed for long periods heightened passengers' perceptions of personal risk. However, help-points in all stations and the presence of Travel Safe Officers re-assured passengers.

In the Kingston Town Centre and District Surveys, the proportion of bus and train station users feeling either 'very' or 'fairly' safe increased marginally over the audit period.

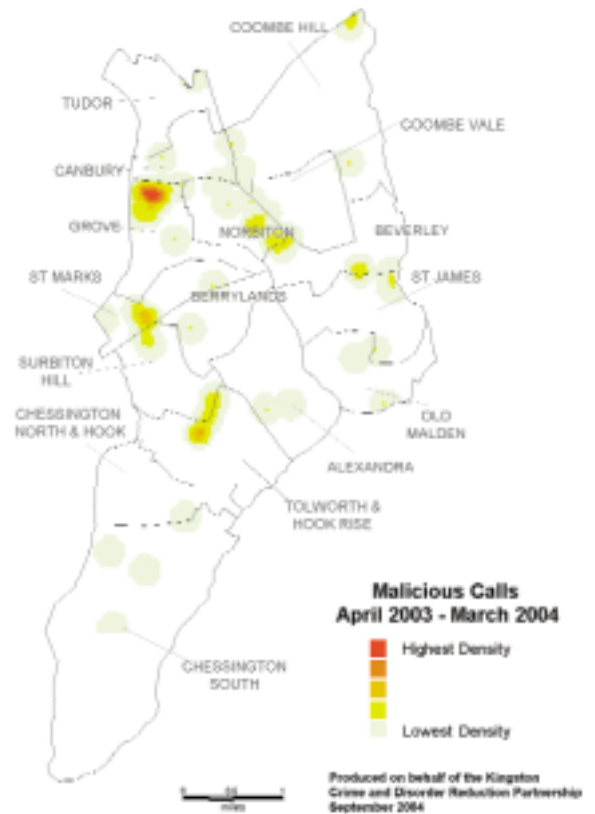
vehicles, which not only litter our streets but which may also become potential hazards and targets for vehicle arson, much sooner.

- Continuing to make clear to tenants and leaseholders that we will not tolerate anti-social behaviour in any form
- Supporting Housing Associations in using the new powers available to them to deal with anti-social behaviour.
- Continuing to enhance existing measures

Disorder and anti-social behaviour



Malicious Calls Hotspot April 2003 - March 2004



Source: London Fire Brigade



social behaviour with ASBOs being sought for the most serious perpetrators.

- Using mediation services to assist in the most difficult cases of neighbour disputes
- Operating noise patrols on Friday and Saturday evenings during the summer
- Monitoring the impact of the new Licensing Act provisions.
- Police targeting 'Rowdiness' through patrols in the areas of greatest need
- Joint operations to target the perpetrators of graffiti offences
- Building on our joint Anti-Graffiti Strategy, comprising of education, prevention, enforcement and clean up.
- Working in Partnership with Transport for London and bus operators to develop further strategies to reduce criminal damage and anti-social behaviour on public transport.

to respond to anti-social behaviour using additional powers given to us by the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003.

- Continuing to target the perpetrators of anti-social behaviour on a multi-agency

basis and taking steps to reduce the numbers of young people becoming involved in anti-social behaviour

- Negotiating Acceptable Behaviour Contracts for those who persist with anti-

Drug-related Crime and Drug Misuse

Since 2001/02 we have concentrated our efforts on disrupting drugs markets through targeted initiatives and over 140 offenders have been brought to justice for supplying, or possession with intent to supply, Class A or B drugs.



This enforcement activity complements other action to help young people resist drugs misuse; to protect the community from the effects of drugs-related crime; and provide accessible treatment services.

The hotspots for drug offences were Grove, Norbiton and St Mark's Wards. In 2003/04 this extended to Surbiton Hill and Tolworth Rise and Hook Wards. The trend in relation to calls to remove abandoned syringes was broadly similar with an additional emphasis on wards with large areas of public open space.

An assessment of drug misuse in Kingston identified the following issues:

- Growth in crack cocaine use; treatment for opiate use still predominates (apart from alcohol and cannabis); a number of drug users are not engaged with treatment services
- Problem drug users are estimated at 250 of whom 18% are from black and minority ethnic communities, 59% male and 71% aged at least 25.
- The number of drug users in treatment at

March 2004 was 235, of whom 75% were male.

- Arrest referrals have increased
- 60-65% of GPs in the area work with people who are drug dependent and 21% of the 29 pharmacies participate in needle/syringe exchange programmes
- In 2002/03, five Drug Testing and Treatment Orders were completed, increasing to 11 in 2003/04.
- In 2003/04 the local drug treatment providers reported that drug use included cannabis (31%), opiates (34%), cocaine (23%), ecstasy (11%) and amphetamines (10%).
- Youth Offending Team referrals show that drugs offences accounted for 6.5% of all offenders with 7.4% of males and 2.9% of females involved in drug offences.

What you told us

Drug use/abuse emerged as the fourth highest factor affecting residents' perceptions of safety in successive MORI surveys in both 2002 and 2003.

A survey of secondary age pupils conducted by Communities that Care found that 69% claimed not to have smoked cannabis and that very little use is made of hard drugs.

What we're planning to do

Examples could include:

- Developing the Assertive Outreach services for drug users not in contact with treatment services.
- Continuing to provide a crack cocaine and stimulant referral service.
- Prosecuting those who unlawfully supply controlled drugs, especially Priority and Prolific Offenders, and closing known crack houses.
- Appointing a Criminal Justice Services Co-ordinator to develop and improve access to treatment opportunities for drug-using offenders.
- Appointing a Children and Families Young People's Substance Misuse Worker.
- Appointing a Lead Nurse Substance Misuse Specialist to co-ordinate a multi agency team of young people's drug and alcohol workers.
- Implement any new powers to reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and to increase the numbers in treatment.

Violence against the person and sexual offences

Violence against the person, comprising Murder, Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH), Actual Bodily Harm (ABH), Common Assault, Harassment, Offensive Weapons and Other Violence, accounted for 21% of crime in Kingston in 2003/04, a 4% increase on 2000/01.

GBH accounts for only 2% of the total and, in 2003/04, 58% were common assault.

Seven percent of admissions to Kingston Hospital's Accident and Emergency Department (A & E) during the audit period were victims of alleged assault. The number has fallen by 14% from 1101 in 2001/02 to 947 in 2003/04 (721 males and 226 females) and 47% were aged between 16 and 25. The numbers peaked on Saturday (20%) and Sunday (20%). Locations are only available for 29% of the assaults reported to A & E. Of those that are known, 18 % occurred in clubs or public houses, 20% at home, 5% at railway stations and 14% in the road or street.

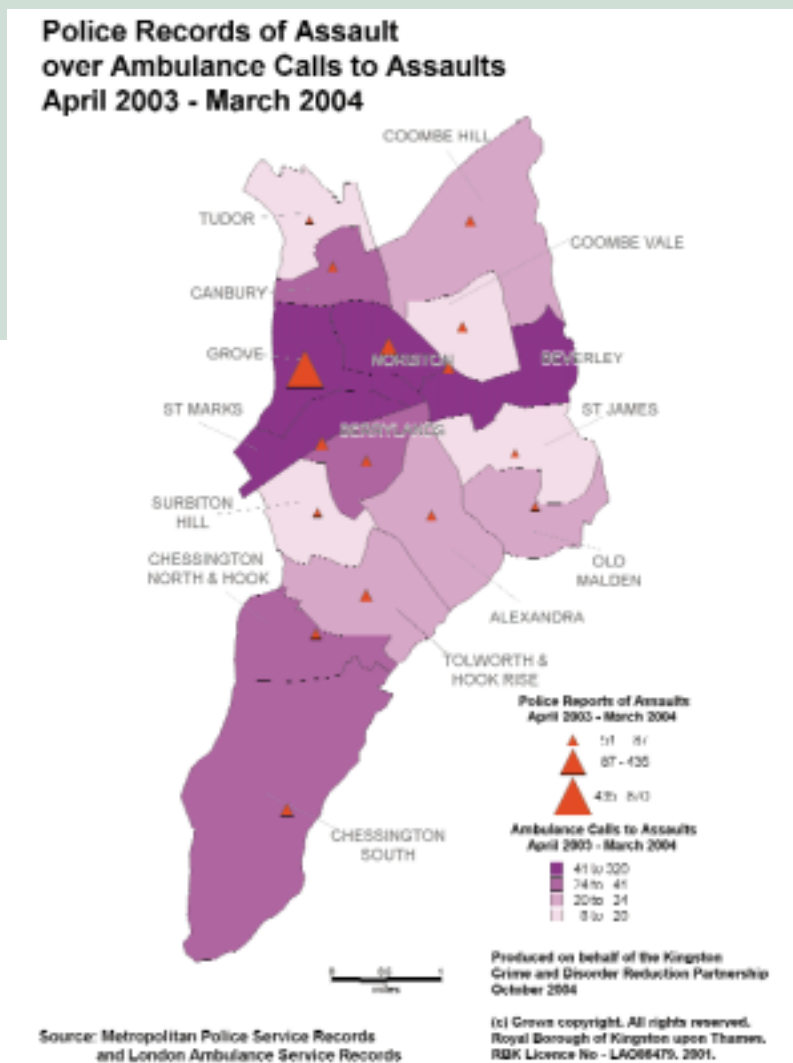
Data from the London Ambulance Service shows that 4% of all calls related directly to assault in 2001/02 with this increasing to 4.4% in 2003/04. The ward which generated most calls for assistance was Grove, coinciding with the main centre for evening entertainment with a high proportion of the calls between 9.30 p.m. and 05.30 a.m. Males were more likely to be the victims. Sexual offences, which cover rape and

offences such as indecent assault, amount to less than 1% of all crime in Kingston. Although the actual numbers are very low, Kingston's position is higher than the average when compared per 1,000 population to other boroughs in its 'family'. However this is likely to be due to the relatively low resident population of

Kingston, compared with other boroughs in the "family", and the influx of night-time visitors which distorts the ratio.

What you told us

Over a quarter of respondents in our 2004 town and district centre surveys were either



Violence against the person and sexual offences



'very' or 'quite' worried about being mugged in the street, assaulted or threatened/harassed by strangers. The proportion fearing assault had increased by 6% during the year.

In both the 2002 and 2003 MORI surveys you told us that other concerns, particularly anti-social behaviour, were a much greater problem than violent crimes. Whilst assault and physical attack were ranked second in the list of crimes of which you were concerned about becoming a victim, sexual assault was ranked 11th out of 14.

What we're planning to do

Examples could include

- Targeting known offenders, in particular Priority and Prolific Offenders, on a multi-agency basis and identified "hot spots"
- Developing and integrating the Council and Police After Dark and 24/7 Strategies
- Promoting anti-bullying campaigns in schools
- Continuing to work closely with Kingston Town Centre Management Limited, the CCTV Control Centre and the Business community to reduce crime
- Continuing to provide a Sexual Offence Investigation Team to improve the quality of investigation and services to victims.
- Tackling domestic violence as one means of reducing violent crime (see Hate Crime section).



The impact of Alcohol

In 2003 the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and Drug and Alcohol Action Team, with Government funding, jointly commissioned a wide-ranging audit into Alcohol Services within the Borough entitled '*Alcohol Harm Reduction in Kingston*'.



Key findings from that audit (which covered a series of 'snapshots') were:

- Recorded offences of actual bodily harm, common assault and assault on police were concentrated in the town centre, during the hours of darkness, and at weekends
- Most cases of drunkenness, disturbance in licensed premises and disturbance in a public place, took place at similar times and occurred in Grove, Canbury, Norbiton and St Mark's Wards
- Persons under the age of 19 years accounted for 14% of arrests for breach of the peace and 11% for drunkenness during the period
- Out of 89 people arrested during one week in November 2003, alcohol was evident on 32% of males and 50% of females; of these, 18% were aged under 20 years and 47% over 20. 42% were Borough residents and 30% non-residents
- Incidents of drunkenness peak in the summer, at Christmas and at New Year. Most occur at the weekend, with the

highest totals in the early hours of the morning.

Data from Kingston Hospital's Accident & Emergency Department for the period 2001/04 shows very few alcohol-related cases. This is because the de-personalised case records relate to the primary reason for attendance. In many cases alcohol may well have been a factor in a range of other injuries but was not the condition for which treatment was required. e.g. in the case of an assault.

What you told us

In the 2004 Town Centre Survey, over one-third of respondents claimed to be 'very' or 'quite' concerned by drunken behaviour and the proportion of people worried by this behaviour has increased since 2001. However similar surveys in Surbiton and Tolworth District Centres in 2003 show a downward trend in concern about drunken behaviour from 2001.

Residents on three housing estates identified drunken behaviour as one of their priority concerns.

In 2002 the Greater London Authority identified Kingston as one of 13 hotspots for late-night street crime (excluding anti-social behaviour).

Of the 1,877 Borough secondary age pupils who participated in the survey undertaken by Communities that Care:

- 68% had taken more than a sip or two of alcohol
- 46% had drunk alcohol at least once in the four weeks before the survey
- 21% had had 5 or more alcoholic drinks in a row in the past four weeks
- 14% were regular drinkers, drinking at least once a week
- 22% had been seriously drunk at some stage

It was apparent that boys were more likely than girls to report engaging in various drinking behaviour. Drinking was also more common in the older year groups than in the younger groups.

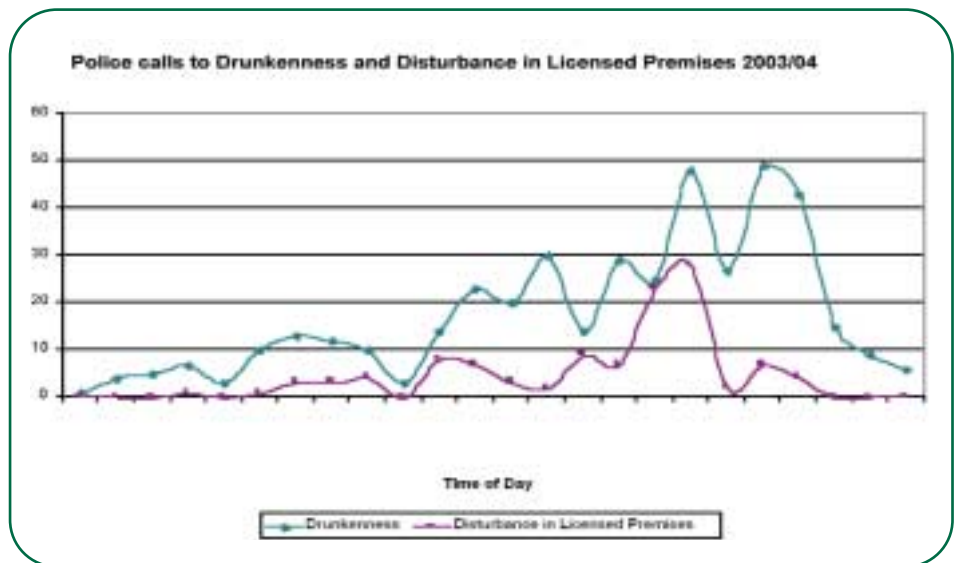
The impact of Alcohol



What we're planning to do

Examples could include:

- Appointing an Alcohol Services Co-ordinator to develop a Borough-wide Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy
- Working with the licensed trade to promote a sensible drinking culture. e.g. PubWatch
- Continuing to use Penalty Notices for Disorder.
- Continuing to enforce legislation in relation to under age sales at off licences, including the use of test purchasing.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the Alcohol Designated Areas.
- Implementing new Proof of Age identity cards for young people.
- Continuing joint work between the Youth Alcohol Worker and the Youth Service Outreach Team
- Continuing to work closely with Kingston Town Centre Management Limited, the CCTV Control Centre, other partners and the Licensed Trade to reduce alcohol-related offending



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records



Crime by and against young people

In 2003/04 there were 1313 victims of youth crime (i.e. aged 17 or under). This equates to 7.2% of all victims. Common assault accounts for 28.2% of these offences. Young men were most often victims of Common Assault, robbery and theft/taking of Pedal Cycles. Young women were most commonly victims of Common Assault, Other Theft, Sexual offences other than rape and harassment. In the 16-19-age range ABH became a greater feature of youth victimisation, predominately against young men.

Disproportionately more young people aged 11-15 had been intimidated by rowdy behaviour and street robbery.

Youth Offending Team records show that, between 200/01 and 2003/04, 1640 males and 418 females (aged 17 or under) committed offences. For male offenders, Theft and handling of stolen goods (17%); motoring offences (16%); and violence against the person (12%) account for 45% of the offences during the audit period.

Four categories of offence account for three-quarters of the crime recorded for young women: theft and handling of stolen goods (52%); violence against the person (12%), public order (7%) and criminal damage (5%). Drug offences (2%) were lower than for males and females were less involved in motor vehicle crime.

In 2002/03 and 2003/04 Kingston had the lowest truancy rate in London and by 2003/04 had moved from fifth place to second in the country.

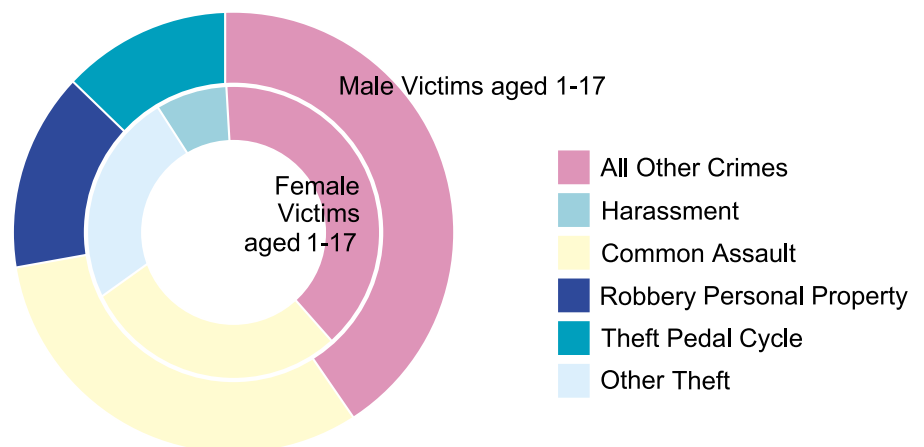
What you told us

Of the 1,877 Borough secondary age pupils who participated in the survey undertaken by Communities that Care:

- 10% of the overall sample claimed to have been the victims of bullying either 'often' or 'very often'.

- 20% said that they would refer to the group of friends they usually hang around with as a 'gang'. In 5% of cases the group was made up of 3 to 5 people; in 6% of cases 6- 9 people; and in 8% of cases the group comprised of 10 or more young people.

Comparison of the Crimes of which Young people are most likely to become a victim



Source: Metropolitan Police Service records

Crime by and against young people



65% of the sample claimed never to have stolen anything.

It was clear from the Survey that peer group pressure can reinforce anti-social behaviour.

In both the 2001 and 2002 MORI Surveys young people/children hanging around the streets were highlighted as the second greatest problem affecting community safety - even though in the majority of cases these young people are not committing any crime. In the 2003 survey this issue was ranked joint third concern by residents.

What we're planning to do

Examples could include:

- Continuing to support young victims of crime
- Continuing to target young offenders and those at risk of offending through multi-agency interventions (such as street-based diversionary work), especially for those who may become Priority and Prolific Offenders.

- Establishing a Youth Inclusion and Support Programme to support young people in the 8 -13 age range likely to become involved in anti-social behaviour.
- Continuing to run regular joint Police/RBK Truancy Patrols.
- Continuing to support pupils as they transfer to secondary school, especially those identified as being at risk of social exclusion, either through truancy or offending.
- Working with young unemployed people with the aim of building self-esteem and offering practical help on accessing further education and employment.
- Continuing to ensure that vulnerable young

people have access to a Connexions Personal Adviser

- Educating young people about the dangers of fire and working in partnership to rehabilitate and educate young offenders involved in arson.
- Continuing to promote opportunities within schools for pupils to learn about personal safety and the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Continuing to develop early intervention schemes such as our youth letter initiative.



Hate Crime

Over the last three years considerable effort has been directed towards encouraging victims to report all types of Hate Crime incidents. This emphasis may account for some of the increase in the number of incidents recorded.

Racist Incidents

Over 300 racist incidents were recorded each year of the audit with a 30% increase since 2001/02. The most common incidents were common assault (16%); causing harassment or distress (14%); criminal damage (13%); threatening/abusive/insulting behaviour (12%); protection from harassment (11%); and actual bodily harm (10%).

Throughout the study period females were victimised more than males in the ratio of 1.9:1. From the available records for ethnic code, the people affected were Asians (40%), Caribbean (18%), White European (15%), Dark European (8%), Arab/Egyptian (8%) and Oriental (7%).

The highest concentration of Racist incidents occurred in Grove, Norbiton, Chessington North and Hook, and Tolworth and Hook Rise. The distribution is shown on the hotspot map.

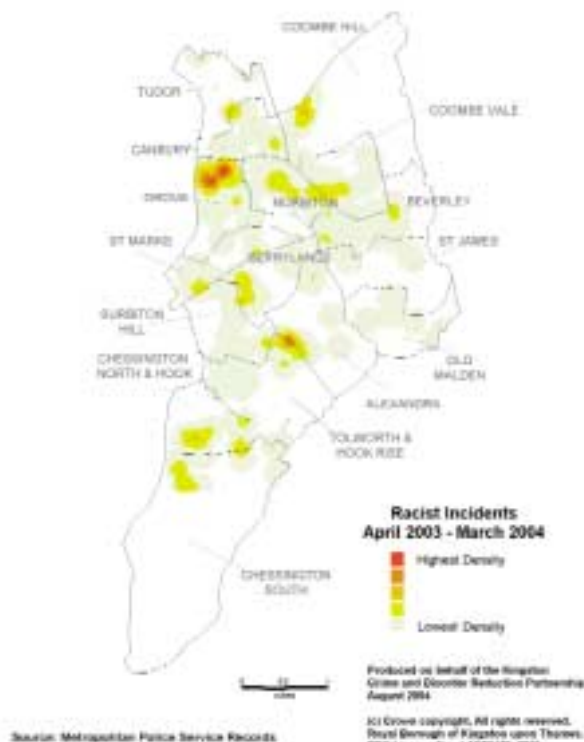
Males (18) and females (16) were almost equally affected by repeat racist incidents in 2003/04 although the numbers are very small as a proportion of the total (8.7%). Of those affected, 8 were subject to further victimisation.

Asians of both genders, aged 30-49, were the most vulnerable to repeat victimisation. This included ABH, harassment, malicious communication and provocation of violence.

Domestic Violence

3072 incidents of domestic violence were recorded from 2001/02 to 2003/04 with an increase of 15% (from 936 to 1080 offences) since 2001/02. Seven principal types of offence accounted for the majority of the incidents with Common assault and actual bodily harm the most prevalent. Criminal Damage, Protection from Harassment Act Offences, Malicious, obscene, threatening and nuisance phone messages, 'threats to murder' and stolen property accounted for the next highest proportions. 57% of the survivors of domestic violence were aged 20-39 with 6% of the total aged under 20 years. There is a marked increase in incidents at the weekend; and this trend has become stronger during the audit period. There is seasonal

Racist Incidents Hotspot
April 2003 - March 2004



variation in the pattern of offences. Peaks in excess of 100 reported incidents occur in August, November and February. The main time when domestic violence offences occur is between 1800hrs and 0100hs.

In 2003/04 Kingston County Court made 177 non-molestation orders with the power of arrest attached. The corresponding totals for the preceding two years were 109 and 116, respectively.

Whilst there were domestic violence incidents in most wards, the hotspots appear to be in Norbiton and Berrylands wards.

In 2003/04, 161 (14.9%) of the 1080 recorded cases were cases of repeat victimisation. Female victims out-numbered males by 7:1. Although the total is relatively low, the proportion of cases recorded for African and Caribbean women exceeds their representation in the borough population.

Hate Crime

Repeat offences on females involved common assault (36 cases), ABH (23 cases), malicious communication by telephone or text (19 cases), minor criminal damage (17 cases) and threats to kill (7 cases).

Between January and June 2004, the new National Domestic Violence Helpline took 67 calls from residents in the borough. The ethnicity is known for 85% of these women: White European (40%), Oriental (18%), Asian (7%), Irish (7%), Black UK (6%) and other groups (7%). In addition, during the period 2003/04, a total of 21 women and 8 children were supported at the Asian Women's refuge.



damage; the third is recorded as a non-crime book homophobic incident.

What you told us

Very few respondents from our residents' surveys either had been, or were concerned about becoming, a victim of Hate Crime. However we recognise that these crimes are under-reported and will be giving them very high priority.

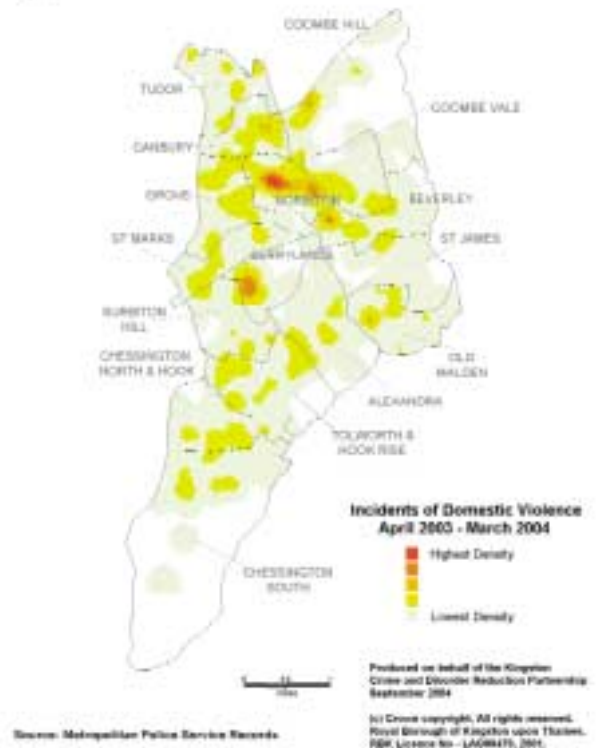
Homophobic Incidents

A total of 78 homophobic incidents were reported over the three-year audit period. Causing harassment/ alarm or distress (18%); minor criminal damage (17%); malicious/ nuisance messages (15%); and actual bodily harm (13%) accounted for almost two-thirds of the incidents. Threats to murder accounted for 5% of recorded crime.

Over two-thirds of incidents are clustered in four wards: Grove (13 cases), Norbiton (17 cases); Chessington South (9 cases); and Old Malden (8 cases). 74% of victims were male, 23% female and 3% had not specified gender. The offences were fairly evenly spread across the week, with fewer reports on Wednesday and Sunday. 50% of the incidents took place during the 2-hour period 2200-2400hrs.

In 2003/04 the six victims of repeat homophobic crime were white European. The three males were victims of harassment; two of the three females sustained minor criminal

Domestic Violence
April 2003 - March 2004



What we're planning to do

Examples could include:

- Supporting victims through the specialist Police Community Safety Unit and local Outreach Services.
- Bringing perpetrators to justice through our positive arrest policy
- Continuing to promote the reporting of Hate Crime at a range of sites other than Police Stations (Third Party Reporting sites of which there are currently 16 in the Borough).
- Ensuring that victims/survivors from all communities are aware of how to access services.
- Training both staff and community leaders to ensure that all understand the part they can play in the event of a critical incident.

- Undertaking specific police covert operations directed at perpetrators of Hate crime
- As part of our Alcohol Harm Reduction strategy engaging with the survivors of domestic violence.
- Working with statutory and voluntary sector agencies to support survivors and their children (Domestic Violence Forum)
- Continuing to support the Survivors Group
- Developing the Domestic violence One Stop Shop to enable survivors to access information.
- Maintaining the work of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Forum
- Continuing the work of the Police LGBT Liaison Officer.

Business Crime

In 2003/04 Kingston was ranked in the lowest three London boroughs for business robbery, burglary in other buildings and fraud and forgery. In 2002/03 a London-wide analysis of business crime showed that the number of offences ranged from 14,613 offences in Westminster to 3,090 in Kingston. However, the borough was ranked in the top ten highest boroughs for theft from shops and criminal damage to other buildings.



Robbery in a business property, fraud and forgery and burglary in a non-dwelling were concentrated in Norbiton, Grove and St Mark's wards. The distribution coincided with the main shopping areas; it also included the post offices in shopping clusters in the main residential areas. January, May and August had the highest number of incidents. These occurred mainly on a Friday or Saturday. Fraud and forgery offences, which occurred throughout the business day, were strongly represented in Beverley, Coombe Hill and Tolworth and Hook Rise.

As part of the health checks of Shopping Centres undertaken by the Greater London Authority in early 2003, volume crime was analysed for Kingston, Surbiton, Tolworth and New Malden Centres, using the boundaries in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). During the period 2001/02 to 2003/04 the total volume of crime in the Centres increased by 20%. The greatest increases have been in Surbiton and Tolworth followed by Kingston and then New Malden.

What businesses in Kingston told us

Kingston Town Centre Management Limited's preparations for the introduction of the Business Improvement District included a survey of town centre businesses. Findings included:

- Concern about the impact that the evening/late-night economy has on the reputation of Kingston
- Thefts of low-cost items from stores, mainly by local children, can lead to anti-social behaviour, which is a concern for counter and security staff.
- Regular losses from even minor thefts soon amount to large financial losses
- The intermittent presence of large groups of noisy and jostling youngsters around fast food providers and bus stops in the town centre could intimidate visitors to the Town.

What we're planning to do

Examples could include

- Working with businesses throughout the Borough to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Working with Kingston Town Centre Management Limited and businesses to channel resources from the Business Improvement District into crime reduction initiatives
- Supporting the introduction of the Business Information Crime System
- Supporting Kingston Town Centre Management Limited in their endeavours to achieve the Safer Shopping Award accreditation.
- Increasing the level of CCTV coverage by local businesses.
- Continuing the joint training of security staff.

Findings from our Audit

As well as endeavouring to maintain our considerable success in tackling crimes such as Burglary and Robbery the audit identifies some key issues arising and emerging priorities which we will need to tackle.

Main Issues

- Anti-social behaviour remains a significant problem for many residents throughout the borough.
- There is a concentration of crime and anti-social behaviour in the town centre.
- In low crime areas, such as Kingston, the perception of crime often creates concerns that are out of proportion to the level of crime itself.

Emerging Priorities

- Combating anti-social behaviour in its various forms, including drug and alcohol misuse.
- Tackling volume crimes such as theft of/from motor vehicles and theft of cycles.
- Addressing crimes of violence especially those emanating from the town centre and those associated with domestic violence.
- Prioritising race and hate crime to ensure that the experiences of minority ethnic groups are addressed.
- Continuing to support young victims of crime and targeting those young people at risk of offending

What do you think?

To help us work out our priorities for community safety we would like your views on this audit. Please complete and return this form by **31 January 2005** - See overleaf for details of returning by Freepost.

1. Do the results from this crime, drugs and Anti-social behaviour audit match your own experience or perceptions? (please tick)

Yes No

If NO, were you expecting: (please tick)

- the level of crime to be lower?
 the level of crime to be about the same?
 the level of crime to be higher?

2. What are your priorities for tackling crime?

Please indicate your top six priorities by writing 1 to 6 in the boxes.

1 should be your top priority and 6 your lowest.

- Anti-social behaviour
 Burglary
 Crime by and against young people
 Domestic violence
 Drug related crime & Drug misuse
 Homophobic crime
 Motor vehicle crime
 Other Theft e.g. shoplifting, cycles etc.
 Racist crime
 Robbery
 Sexual offences
 Violent crime

Any other priorities or comments? (please list)

3. To make sure that we are listening to all local people, it would be helpful if you would provide some information about yourself. All details given here will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Age (please tick)

- 17 and under 18-29 30-44 45-59 60 and over

Gender (please tick) Male Female

What is your ethnic group? (please tick)

White

- British Irish Any other White

Mixed

- White and Black Caribbean White and Black African
 White and Asian Any other Mixed

Asian or Asian British

- Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi Any other Asian

Black or Black British

- Caribbean African Any other Black

Chinese or other ethnic group

- Chinese Any other

Do you consider yourself to have a disability? Yes No

Please tell us which neighbourhood you live in:

- Kingston Town Surbiton Maldens and Coombe
 South of the Borough

If you have difficulty understanding this document please contact the Kingston Council Information Helpline on 020 8547 5757

Arabic إذا رغبت في الحصول على المزيد من المعلومات بلغة الأم، يرجى مراسلتنا على العنوان المذكور في هذه النشرة.

Bengali যদি আপনি নিজ ভাষায় খবর জানতে চান তবে দয়া করে এই লেখককে বাংলা ভাষায় আমাদের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন।

Chinese 如果您想索取以你的语言写的更多的资讯，请按跟本文件所示的地址和我们取得联系。

Gujurati જો આપને આપની માતાની ભાષામાં વિશેષ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય તો આ દસ્તાવેજમાં જણાવેલ સરનામે અમારો સંપર્ક કરશો.

Hindi यदि आप अपनी मातृभाषा में अधिक जानकारी चाहते हैं तो कृपया इस दस्तावेज़ में लिखे हुए पते पर हम से संपर्क करें

Japanese 日本語での詳しい情報は記載住所までご連絡下さい。

Korean 한국어로 된 정보가 더 필요하신 경우 이 문서에 있는 주소로 연락해 주십시오.

Punjabi اگر آپ اپنی زبان میں مزید معلومات حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو اسے لکھے ہوئے پتے تک رابطہ کریں۔

Punjabi (Gurmukhi) ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਮੋਢੀ ਵਿਚ ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿ੍ਹਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਤੇ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਪਤੇ ਤੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Tamil உங்கள் மொழியில் மேற்கொண்ட தகவல்களைப் பெறவிரும்பினால் எம்மடம் இப்பத்திரத்தில் தரப்பட்டிருக்கும் விவரத்தில் தயவுசெய்து தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும்.

Urdu اگر آپ اپنی زبان میں مزید معلومات حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو اسے لکھے ہوئے پتے تک رابطہ کریں۔

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ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES
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 SURREY
 KT1 1BR