

safer new forest
Targeting Crime and Antisocial Behaviour



Safer New Forest Strategic Assessment 2015

DRAFT v.2.0

‘THE NEW FOREST IS ONE OF THE SAFEST PLACES IN THE UK TO LIVE IN, WORK IN AND VISIT. THE SAFER NEW FOREST PARTNERSHIP IS WORKING TO MAKE IT EVEN SAFER’

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Safer New Forest Statutory Partnership is made up of a number of local agencies who work together, by law under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, to reduce crime, disorder, substance misuse and reoffending in the New Forest.

Every year the Partnership undertakes an assessment using local community safety and crime data to assess and evaluate the work of the partnership in the previous year and reassess future key priority areas.

KEY COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS

- The New Forest can be viewed as **low crime area** when compared both nationally and locally to other Hampshire district and boroughs. When compared to similar authority areas crime rate in the New Forest is considered average.
- When viewed collectively there has been a **year on year reduction in all crime** in the New Forest, 7% reduction in the past year, and 9.2% in the previous year
- Crime reduction in the last year include anti-social behaviour (↓ 7%) non-dwelling burglary (↓ 19%) theft from motor vehicles (↓ 18%) and youth entrants to the criminal justice (↓ 14%)
- Conversely there has been an increase in the following crime types:
 - **Violent crime has increased by 30%** comparing the 2013-2014 financial year with 2014-2015 (increase from 1355 to 1756). In the New Forest, violent crime accounted for 29% of all recorded crime during the last financial year. The national overall violence rise is thought to reflect improvements in the way police record crime following widespread criticism that forces had been 'fiddling the figures'¹.
 - Protecting the vulnerable; **domestic violence, hate crime, child abuse and serious sexual offenses has increased** in the New Forest. These are key priority areas for the strategic partnership. The increase in the New Forest is consistent with a national rise² attributed to greater public awareness, improvements in public confidence and better recording.
- A **high percentage of vulnerable people** affected by crime are **under the age of 18**; for example 40% of sexual abuse victims are under 18 and 30% of the total number are under 16. Often these victims live in New Forest areas of deprivation.
- **Alcohol and drugs** are a principle driver for crime in the New Forest, there has been an increase in alcohol related public place violence, alcohol and drugs are also a **large contributing factor to domestic violence incidents** and **violence against a person** in the New Forest which have increased in the past year
- The **hotspot crime locations** include **Hythe neighbourhood, Totton East, Milton and Ringwood South** which are some of the more densely populated wards in the New Forest but there has also been an **increase in rural crime** across the whole of Hampshire
- Although the 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 reoffending rates are unavailable there has been an **overall 2.3% decrease in reoffending rates** between 2009 to the end of September 2013
- A larger majority of the offenders are **male** with the peak **age range 15-29**

¹ For further information please see: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/10590490/Crime-figures-at-record-low-amid-claims-of-police-fiddling.html>

² <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/apr/09/reported-child-sexual-abuse-has-risen-60-in-last-four-years-figures-show>

PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2014-2017

The priorities previously identified under the Safer New Forest Partnership Plan 2014-2017 are listed below along with the % change from 13/14 to 14/15 following the 2014-2015 interventions:

Priority	Value 13/14 to 14/15	% Change
Reduction of anti-social behaviour	3885 to 3622	↓ 7%
Reduction of arson	44 to 54	↑ 23%
Reduction of abuse: Domestic abuse	459 to 605	↑ 32%
Sexual abuse	98 to 105	↑ 7%
Reduction of acquisitive crime	983 to 813	↓ 17%
Reduction of alcohol and drug related crime	100 to 115 ³	↑ 15%
Reducing weapons related crime: Knife Crime	101 to 77	↓ 24%
Gun Crime	12 to 21	↑ 75%
Reduction of re-offending	Data unavailable	N/A
Reduction in killed and seriously injured on the road	120 to 107	↓ 11%
Increasing confidence of community knowledge	N/A	N/A

Table 1 2014-2017 Partnership Plan Priorities, Actions and Outcomes

FUTURE PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS 2015-2016

With ever decreasing resources both financial and professional there is a need to rationalise priorities and ensure that attention is focused where best value can be delivered through multi agency partnership working. Whilst a traditional analysis has highlighted high volume crimes there is a clear need for the Safer New Forest Partnership to look at what is practically achievable and to take into account the underlying drivers of crimes as well unreported crime that may have a huge impact on vulnerable victims leading to long term health and well-being concerns.

REDUCING ASB AND VIOLENT CRIME

Although ASB has reduced in the past year it is recommended that this remains a priority area for the New Forest. Knife crime has reduced however gun crime has increased although the numbers remain low. Further work needs to be undertaken in the New Forest over the coming year to better align the Early Help Hub and Supporting Families programme with the priority area of reducing ASB and violent crime and also increasing training and education in schools particularly around weapons related crime.

REDUCTION IN ARSON

Arson has increased by 23% in the past year. Key hotspots for arson include Hythe, Ringwood and Totton with offences typically occurring overnight. The Waterside Arson Forum (WAF) will take forward a workplan to reduce incidences of arson along the waterside

³ The data provided only reflects Alcohol and Public Place Violence. The influence of alcohol was recorded by Hampshire Police to be a factor in 5% of the total crime recorded in the New Forest, this doesn't include ASB and DV where the impact is thought to be as high as 29%

PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE (REDUCTION IN SEXUAL VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC AND CHILD ABUSE)

There has been an increase in sexual crime, domestic and child abuse which has a devastating impact on individuals, families and communities. The Partnership must do more to deal with the underlying causes for both victims and perpetrators. This includes assessing drugs and alcohol as a driver for offences and increasing vulnerability for victims, considering the impact of increasing financial and emotional pressures on families and developing education and emotional resilience support within New Forest schools.

TACKLING DRUG AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

There needs to be increased awareness of drug and alcohol misuse. Alcohol is a trigger for a fifth of violent offenses where it is recorded; increasing to over a quarter of all domestic violence offenses, specifically within the New Forest there is a lack of suitable alcohol treatment programmes. There is limited data on drug crimes within the Forest and it would be useful for the Partnership to obtain this for next year. A small project however, assessing those arrested for five or more serious acquisitive crime offenses showed 58% have links to drug intelligence.

REDUCE RE-OFFENDING

It is estimated that around 18% of offenders re-offend with each offender having committed an average of 10 historic offences⁴, with younger people being likely to re-offend than adults. The partnership needs to better identify and reduce the risk factors that lead to criminal behaviour as well as deal with offenders in a more integrated way. Integrated Offender Management (IOM) needs to be included in the planning and delivery of the ensuing Partnership Plan and as the Partnership is responsible for the IOM initiative in the New Forest area it must influence the contracted service to be as appropriate as possible to meet the specific needs of the local community.

MANAGING RURAL CRIME

Rural crime is a priority of the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the partnership has worked tirelessly to reduce rural crime. Although there has been an overall increase in rural crime in Hampshire there has been a decrease in non-dwelling burglary. The partnership will continue to support the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Rural Policing Strategy and actively look for opportunities to better manage rural crime particularly in light of recent police restructuring of response teams which could result in a reduction of a visible policing presence in rural communities.

MAKING OUR ROADS SAFER

Although we have reduced road traffic accidents by 11% during 2014/2015 the New Forest remains an outlier for those killed and seriously injured on the road and is worse than the England average. The partnership will continue to build on and implement the 2014 partnership action plan which is starting to have a positive impact and improve road safety in the New Forest.

In conclusion, working in partnership is often more effective than working as a sole agency when tackling complex issue as it brings different skills and opportunities for pooling resources and budgets

⁴ Data taken from 2012 to 2013 as not available for 2014/2015.

2. INTRODUCTION

This is the annual Safer New Forest strategic assessment for 2015 which informs the planning process for the coming year. This assessment is required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the minimum information to be considered is contained in SI 1831⁵.

The aim of the strategic assessment is to provide a **profile of crime and disorder** in the New Forest, **identify high risk areas, consider future threats and opportunities and assess the impact of current actions to tackle identified issues**. This assessment brings together a number of sources of reports and analysis including consultation data from the partner organisations

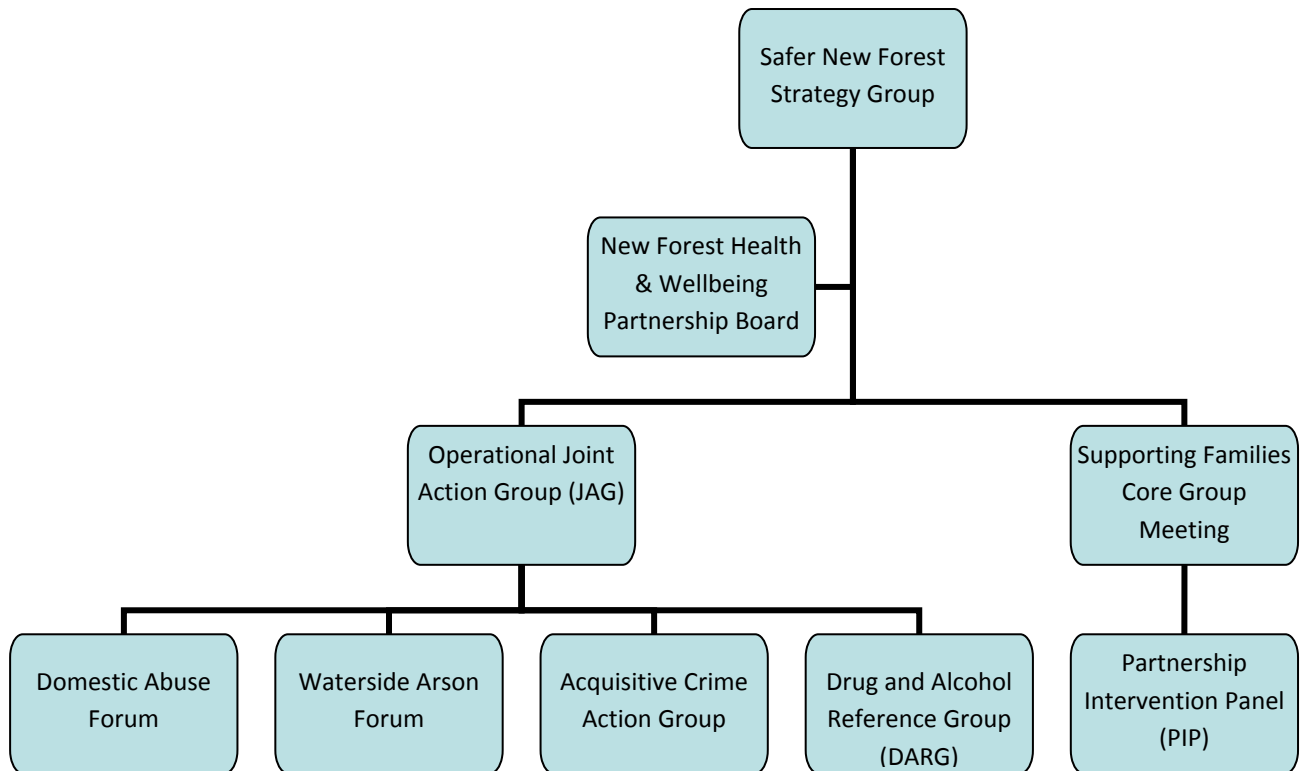
Priorities and objectives for tackling crime and disorder, directed by the evidence within this assessment will be reflected through a **number of objectives** in the next Partnership Plan 2015-2016.

A full glossary of terms can be found in Appendix 1.

⁵ Please see: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2007/1831/pdfs/uksi_20071831_en.pdf

3. SAFER NEW FOREST PARTNERSHIP

This assessment has been developed by Safer New Forest Strategy Group which is a statutory partnership group consisting of a number of statutory, community and voluntary organisations. The Safer New Forest Strategy Group oversees a number of other operational groups (see governance structure below) tasked with the delivery of the Safer New Forest Partnership Plan. It also works closely with the New Forest Health & Wellbeing Partnership Board.



4. LOCAL CONTEXT

The New Forest is the second largest district council in England serving approximately 176,000 residents and is an area of many contrasts; with rural, coastal and environmentally sensitive areas, interspersed with villages and historic market towns where affluence sits alongside some of the most disadvantaged areas in the South (see Figure 1 below). The majority of the district (88%) is rural, and 30% of the population resides here, the remaining 70% of the population lives in 12% of the districts urban towns

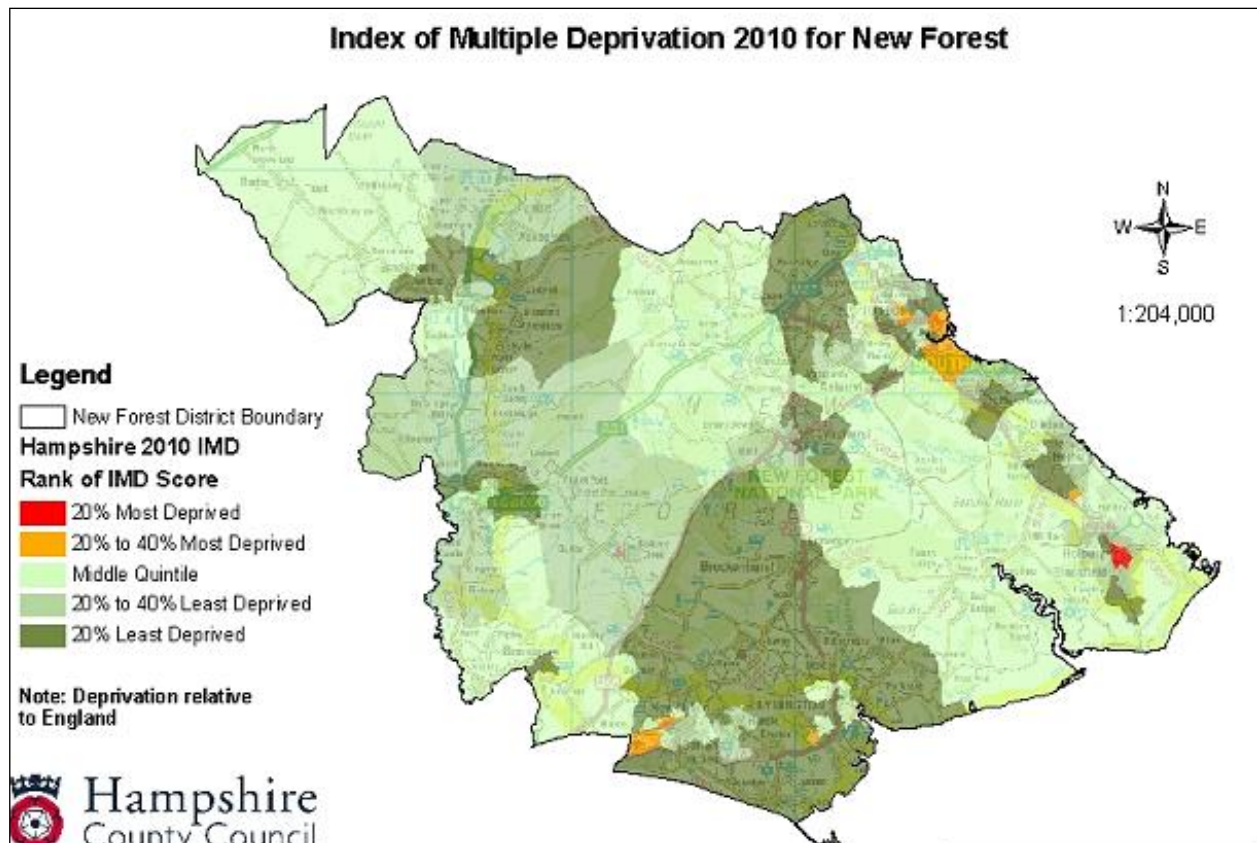


Figure 1 Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010 for the New Forest

The impact of deprivation in the New Forest can be more markedly shown when child poverty is reviewed. The national Child Poverty Unit has developed a 'basket' of 20 indicators to provide a broad assessment of both the incidence and impact of child poverty in an area, covering the three key blocks detailed in the previous section of this needs assessment. This also ensures that factors contributing to intergenerational cycles of poverty are captured. In Hampshire, the data for these indicators has been collated and weighted to establish a local ranking of child poverty at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level

The top 20 LSOAs in the basket of indicators assessment are all in the New Forest and Havant. 6

6 For further information see: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/child_poverty_needs_assessment_2011.pdf

Area	Issue & Impact
Population	Dispersed and sparsely populated settlement, with poor transport. This leads to issues of accessibility rurality and isolation
	Oldest age structure in Hampshire, 25% of New Forest population over 65, in some wards e.g. Milford this rises to 52%
	Low representation of minority, ethnic groups. However gypsy and traveller community is the highest in Hampshire. These groups may have acute feelings of isolation and vulnerability and have poor health outcomes including a higher prevalence of mental health
	Concentrations of populations in the larger villages and towns which exhibits the same crime and disorder issues as urban areas elsewhere in the UK
Housing	Lack of suitable and affordable housing contributes to deprivation. This is a particular problem for probation services and impacts on offender rehabilitation
Health & Wellbeing ⁷	Higher prevalence of chronic, long term conditions including, cancer, diabetes and coronary, heart disease and dementia
	Under 18's alcohol hospital admissions and self-harm rates worse than the England average
Deprivation	Pockets of deprivation. Mainly around Holbury/North Blackfield, New Milton, Totton and Pennington.
	Significant levels of child poverty in certain wards ⁸
Labour Market	Low workforce population- both the 16 to 29 and the 30 to 44 age groups are under-represented.
	Few local work opportunities, compounded by location and transport issues. Generally young people who are NEET have poorer life outcome and there is evidence that if people are unemployed for more than 12 months they find it increasingly difficult to find permanent employment.

ISSUES AFFECTING THE LOCAL CRIME & DISORDER PROFILE

Table 2 ISSUES AFFECTING THE LOCAL CRIME DISORDER PROFILE

⁷ For further information see the New Forest Health Profile 2015:

<http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=web&cd=5&ved=0CDkQFjAEahUKEwjp1uzhttPIAhUJTbQKHV8lBcw&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.apho.org.uk%2Fresource%2Fview.aspx%3FRID%3D171957&usg=AFQjCNHMxWfP4of8iZ5yYIOPICjMkgAAg&bvm=bv.105454873,d.bGQ>

⁸ http://www3.hants.gov.uk/child_poverty_needs_assessment_2011.pdf

5. CHANGING COMMUNITY SAFETY LANDSCAPE

There are a number of influences which will impact on the role of the Safer New Forest Partnership over the forthcoming period including the following:

ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

From the 1st April 2015 Purple Futures took over the running of Hampshire Probation Services as part of the governments Transforming Rehabilitation programme⁹. Key features of this new arrangement is that as well as managing low-to-medium risk offenders, the work will now include provision for offenders who have left prison after serving sentences of less than 12 months. There are also plans for improved rehabilitation of offenders, with a programme of support prior to leaving prison as well as 12 months supervision on release. This will introduce a new dynamic into the community safety landscape in the New Forest; it comes with a number of challenges, not least around information sharing, capacity to participate and the need for Purple Futures to have a full understanding of the local context in the New Forest and in particular, the challenges due to the district's rurality and aging population.

NEW LEGISLATION

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 will introduce simpler, more effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour and provide better protection for victims and communities. The new powers will be faster and more flexible seeking to stop anti-social behaviour and tackle underlying issues. Measures such as the Community Remedy and 5 Community Trigger will see victims and communities have a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints of anti-social behaviour and in out-of-court sanctions for offenders. Agencies including local authorities, the police, local health teams and registered providers of social housing will have a duty to undertake a case review when someone requests one and their case meets a locally defined threshold. A key action for the Safer New Forest Partnership will be to ensure that the key agencies have working practices and information sharing procedures in place to address community triggers. As such in 2014 the CSP will need to develop and approve processes to deal with Community Triggers and Community Remedies. The Act also confers on Police and Crime Commissioners responsibility for commissioning services for victims.

Care Act 2014 is the legal requirement of each local authority to set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) formalising the arrangement that Hampshire already has in place. The boards must include health organisations and the police who will discuss and act upon any local safeguarding issues. They must work with the local people to develop plans to protect the most vulnerable adults. The Act will also introduce a minimum eligibility threshold for services as well as place a duty on local authorities to provide or arrange for the provision of services that prevent, reduce and delay needs for care and support.

THE SHARED AGENDA BETWEEN HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Safe communities are inextricably linked with healthy communities. There are direct links with health practitioners dealing with the health needs of victims of crime, treating those with mental health, drug or alcohol problems which make them more vulnerable to crime or more likely to offend.

With effect from April 2013, Public Health became a local authority responsibility. With this change over, Public Health also became responsible for the commissioning of drug and alcohol services. There is therefore need for effective liaison between Public Health and Community Safety. The New Forest Health &

⁹ For further information please see: <https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/transforming-rehabilitation/results/transforming-rehabilitation-response.pdf>

Wellbeing Partnership Board is responsible for preparing the Joint Partnership Action Plan and it is therefore important to ensure a close and effective dialogue between them and Safer New Forest Partnership: Moving forward the Annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment needs to feed into the three-yearly New Forest Health & Wellbeing Partnership Plan. Both boards are chaired by the Head of Public Health and Community Safety at the New Forest District Council which promotes a joint approach to shared agendas, such as alcohol harm reduction.

THE SHARED AGENDA BETWEEN SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The New Forest Supporting Families programme aims to support the most chaotic and vulnerable families in the district. Whilst this is a national programme with some set criteria, there is provision for local criteria to reflect local issues and therefore the programme can be focused on the families that locally need help. Both the national and local criteria have a clear link to community safety issues (young people with a proven offence and or have been apprehended for anti-social behaviour; families known to the police; where there is domestic violence and abuse in the household. There are significant opportunities to link up with this programme which focuses on targeted support, especially as these families are often those which have multiple problems which are reflected in the local community safety priorities.

BUDGET PRESSURES

All partners within the Safer New Forest Partnership are experiencing continuing financial challenges which are leading to organisational restructures and redefining service delivery. At a time of reduced resources, the Partnership recognises the need for greater joint working to ensure that any changes to service delivery are planned and co-ordinated, to minimise impact on crime levels and fear of crime. Partners recognise the need to encourage individuals and communities to take greater responsibility and do more for themselves and for their local area. The Partnership also needs to ensure that it focuses on delivering effectively against a smaller number of the key priorities.

6. PARTNERSHIP PLAN PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES 2014-2015

Safer New Forest Priority 2014-2015	Value 13/14 to 14/15	% Change
<p>Reduction of anti-social behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership Intervention Panel (facilitated by NFDC, work focuses on reducing the ASB of identified perpetrator, and reducing the victimisation) Multi agency Operational Joint Action Group (facilitated by NFDC - work focussed on identified hotspots and trends) New Forest Drug and Alcohol Reference Group (facilitated by Options Counselling, focussed on reducing issues related to drug and alcohol use) the Supporting Families Initiative (facilitated by NFDC) The Victim Support single point of contact project (commissioned from Victim Support - end date of project August 2014) 	3885 to 3622	↓ 7%
<p>Reduction of arson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing deliberate fire setting through the work of the Waterside Arson Forum (facilitated by the Fire Service and focussed on the reduction of deliberate fires in the Holbury, Hythe areas)¹⁰ 	44 to 54	↑ 23%
<p>Reduction of domestic abuse and sexual violence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The New Forest domestic abuse forum (facilitated by NFDC and focussed on increasing reporting and reducing repeat victimisation) Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (facilitated by police and focussed on cases at high risk of death or serious harm) Provision of Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (NFDC leading on work to increase IDVA provision for New Forest and Eastleigh following grant funding by PCC) 	<p>Domestic Abuse</p> <p>459 to 605</p>	↑ 32%
	<p>Sexual Abuse</p> <p>98 to 105</p>	↑ 7%
<p>Reduction of acquisitive crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery through the Operational Joint Action Group (JAG) The Acquisitive Crime Action Group (Facilitated by the New Forest District Council and the Police jointly and previously focused on the reduction of metal theft) 	983 to 813	↓ 17%
<p>Reduction of alcohol and drug related crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of Hampshire Alcohol Strategy (10 point plan) are assessed for local delivery and implemented where practical 	100 to 115	↑ 15%

¹⁰ The Waterside Arson Forum will focus on fire setting in other areas but these issues are very rare outside of the Waterside area.

Safer New Forest Priority 2014-2015	Value 13/14 to 14/15	% Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JAG is tackling identified hotspots for alcohol related crime • Programme of test purchase operations at off licences and on licence premises • Working in partnership to manage the supply and use of Class A Drugs 		
Reducing weapons related crime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the work of the Be Safe Weapons Programme available in secondary schools, including work with parents/carers • Targeted group work and 1-2-1 with offenders • Test purchase operations and education sessions with the retail sector 	Knife Crime 101 to 77	↓ 24%
	Gun crime 12 to 21	↑ 75%
Reduction of re-offending: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through Integrated Offender Management (Local group facilitated by Probation, and Western Area strategic group facilitated by police and focussed on reducing the offending behaviour of those offenders causing most impact to the community) • Partnership Intervention Panel • New Forest Drug and Alcohol Reference Group 	Data unavailable	N/A
Reduction in killed and seriously injured on the road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through HCC and Police casualty reduction scheme • Highways infrastructure improvement scheme • Support from Countrywatch Team and Safer New Forest communications campaign 	120 to 107	↓ 11%
Increasing confidence of community knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of a Communications resource (facilitated by NFDC and funded by Partnership) • The provision of the Safer New Forest website and linked Twitter account (facilitated by NFDC) • Accessing a range of communications opportunities offered to the Partnership by partners and community (facilitated by all partners) • The media chronology delivered by the Ops JAG 	N/A	N/A

Table 3 Partnership Priorities 2014 to 2015

7. DATA SOURCES

Data for the figures shown in the data table (Table 4) have been extracted from Police systems; these are the crimes / incidents that occurred during the data period between 01/04/2014-31/03/2015. Relevant filters were applied to extract specific details regarding location, offenders and victims such as age breakdown and detections.

Other data sources include:

- Safer New Forest Joint Action Group documents
- New Forest Integrated Offender Management quarterly reports March 2015 Hampshire & Isle Of Wight CRC
- Hampshire Police Strategic Review
- New Forest Health Profile 2014 and 2015
- West Hampshire CCG data provided through the Commissioning Support Unit (CSU)
- Hampshire County Council Children's Services Exclusions data
- Fire Service Data
- Forest Commission data

Data not available for this year:

- Data from the Local Alcohol Profile for England (LAPE) for the New Forest

8. OVERVIEW

The New Forest can be viewed as low crime area when compared both nationally and locally to other Hampshire district and boroughs (see Figure 2 below). When compared to similar authority areas crime rate in the New Forest is considered average (see Figure 3)

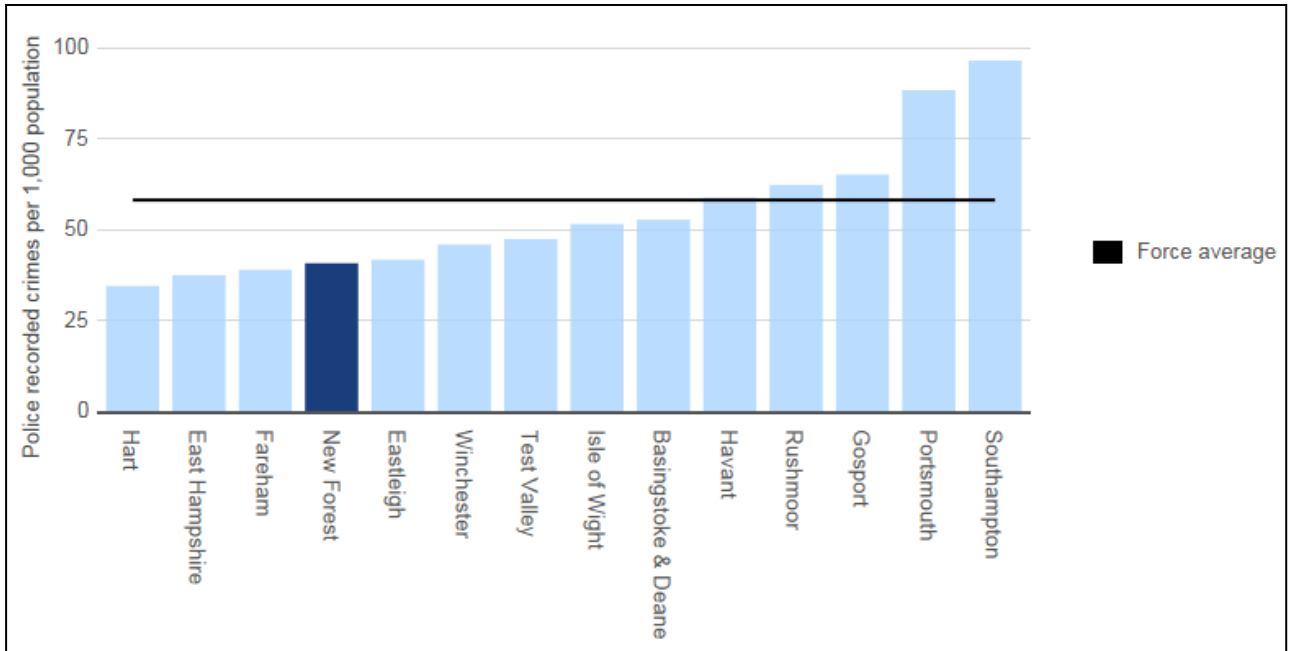


Figure 2 Crime rate in the New Forest compared to other districts and boroughs in Hampshire

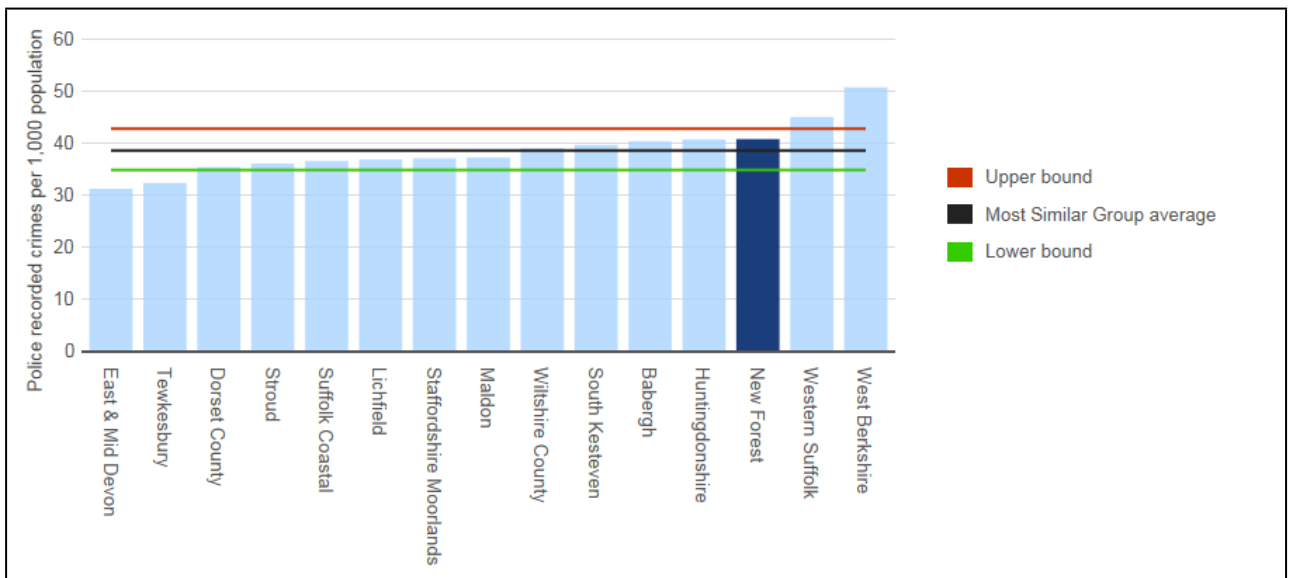


Figure 3 Crime rate in the New Forest compared to similar areas in England

Crime can be split into numerous offence categories. Table 4 shows the crime types that were committed in the New Forest and how they compare to the previous reporting period. Definitions of the crime types are included as Appendix 1.

Control Strategy Category	Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change	%age of all local crime
		01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014- 31/03/2015		
Catching Criminals and Managing Offenders	Serious Sexual Offences	98 (reported = 94)	105 (reported = 165)	7% increase in reported figures	1.7%
	Violent Crime	1355	1757	30%	29.1%
	Violence with Injury	648	790	22%	
	Knife Crime	101	77	-24%	
	Gun Crime (inc BB gun use)[1]	12	21	75%	
	Youth on Youth Violence	81	91	12%	
	Alcohol and Public Place Violence	100	115	15%	
	Homicide	1	1	0	
	Threat to life	31	43	39%	
	Serious Acquisitive Crime	983	813	-17%	13.3%
	Burglary Dwellings	321	275	-14%	
	Car Key Burglary	15	8	-47%	
	Robbery	22	15	-32%	
	Thefts from Motor Vehicle	538	440	-18%	
	Thefts of Motor Vehicle ¹¹	102	83	-19%	
	Protecting the vulnerable				
	Hate Crime	52	61	17%	
	Domestic Violence	459	605	32%	
	Missing Persons	529	534	1%	
	Child Abuse (Current)	39	76	95%	

¹¹ 11 TOMV (48/1) and TWOC offences (130/1 & 131/1) and aggravated vehicle taking (37/2)

Control Strategy Category	Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change	%age of all local crime
		01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014- 31/03/2015		
	Child Abuse (Non Current)	34	50	47%	
	MAPPA's [2]				
	Criminal Damage	1309	1173	-10%	19.4%
Active presence in every N'hood	ASB Incident¹²	3885	3622	-7%	
	Burglary Non-Dwelling	853	694	-19%	11.5%
Other crime types of interest.	Theft (other)	1396	1117	-20%	18.5%
	Shoplifting	503	386	-23%	6.4%
	Total crime¹³	6497	6045	-7%	

Table 4 Total number for crimes for periods April 2013 to March 2014 and April 2014 to March 2015

12 Reported date figures

13 Total crime reporting only includes the following crimes: SSO, VAP (occurred dates), SAC, Criminal Damage, Non-dwelling burglary, theft (other), shop theft

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY PROBLEMS IN THE NEW FOREST

This section explores the key issues that contribute to the New Forest's crime; disorder and ASB profile (see Table 4 above). It uses recorded data from the Police and other partner agencies as well as information gathered from the community to help identify the strategic priorities that relate to community safety problems.

9.1 Crime Type and Location¹⁴

9.1.1 Serious Sexual Offences

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Serious Sexual Offences	98 (reported = 94)	105 (reported = 165)	7% (75% increase in reported figures)

Offences that have occurred within the New Forest during the review period have **risen 7%**. This is less than that reported within the Western region of Hampshire, where offences rose by 20%. **However, there has been an overall rise of reported serious sexual offences, which includes non-recent offences, of 75%**. This increase is higher than the Western Hampshire area (70%) and Forcewide, where a 71% increase was recorded in serious sexual offences including rape¹⁵. Nationally, a rise of reported rape incidents of 31% has been reported in the national press (Sept 2013-2014)¹⁶.

This increase is likely to reflect some positives, suggesting there is more confidence in police and public services in coming forward and reporting sexual violence. Crimes may also have increased due to heavy focus on data integrity, as with violence offences, following concerns that Police forces were not fully recording all incidents reported to them. Nationally sex offences are the highest recorded by Police since 2002/2003¹⁷.

Offences generally occur in the larger towns within the New Forest, and clusters are visible around Totton and New Milton. In both locations, offences are concentrated around areas of small, mid-sized towns with mixed housing often with families on lower incomes and they are in the more deprived areas of the New Forest. In Totton, offences are most likely committed by a person known to the victim and in both towns; half of the offences are against females over 16 years. However, in contrast, offences in New Milton are slightly more likely to be committed by a partner or family member, with no stranger offences recorded in this sector. 40% of victims in Hythe were under 18 years old, but relationships with offenders varied more greatly.

101 victims are identified, 90 of which are female, and 3 repeat victims identified, 2 females and 1 male. **The main issue for the New Forest is offences committed against under 18s**. A third of all victims are under the age of 16 years (33) and this increases to 40% (40) when 16 and 17 year olds are included.

¹⁴ For a definition of each crime type please see Appendix 1

¹⁵ Western Area Serious Sexual Offences Profile 01/04/14-31/03/15 Author Vicky QUICK & Hampshire Police Force Strategic Assessment 2014/15 v1.0 15/04/15 Author Holly Matthews and Senior Analysts

¹⁶ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/11362013/Violent-crime-surges-16-in-new-figures.html> Figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS)

¹⁷ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_392380.pdf

Generally, victims are more likely to be 30 years of age or younger with almost four fifths of victims falling into this category.

Only 1 female has previously been linked as missing within the year, but 14 victims have previously been subject to a missing persons report, suggesting behavioural traits making them vulnerable more early on.

23 victims are flagged as a vulnerable person and 20 of these are for domestic violence within their family home, often from their partner. Incidents between acquaintances make up almost half of the sexual offences in the New Forest (50, 48%) and domestic incidents between partners accounts for 27% (28) of incidents.

Only 10 incidents are flagged as having the offender in drink at the time of the offence.

Victims of serious sexual offences are often from indebted families living in areas of deprivation.

9.1.2 Violent crime

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Violent Crime	1355	1757	30%
Violence with Injury	648	790	22%

Overall, **violent crime has increased in the New Forest by 30%** over the past year. Breaking this down further, violence without injury is up 36% to 969 incidents and violence with injury has increased by 22% across the district. In comparison to the Hampshire Constabulary force wide picture, violence crimes without injury across the force have gone up by 41% and violence with injury up by 26%¹⁸. Open source research has shown that **nationally violent crime has been increasing**, after several years of falling figures. As at September 2014, violent crime had risen 16% on the same 12 month period the year before. A recent article in *the Telegraph* lead with '*Violent offences jumped by 21 per cent last year to drive the first rise in recorded crime for more than a decade, new official figures show*'¹⁹. This is for the calendar year of 2014. Every force in England and Wales recorded a rise in violent crime. Metpol recorded an increase of 25% and the largest increase was recorded in Cambridgeshire, up 45%.

There may also be an **element of crime data integrity** involved in this increase, with officers now recording all incidents of violence more accurately following criticism that the figures were being skewed by incidents being incorrectly "non-crimes". An ONS spokesman quoted in *The Telegraph* in January 2015 stated: "*The renewed focus on the quality of crime recording is likely to have prompted improved compliance with national standards, leading to more crimes being recorded than previously.*"

"This is thought to have particularly affected the police recorded figures for violence against the person (up 16 per cent), public order offences (up 10 per cent) and sexual offences (up 22 per cent)."

This will have to be monitored in next year's review to see if the data is more similar to this year's recording.

Within the district, **the most common violent crime offence is common assault and battery (724)**, with a further 695 offences of Actual Bodily Harm (ABH). Harassment accounted for 110 incidents and there were

18 Figures provided by Business Objects for the Draft Performance Profile March 2015

19 <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/11557188/Violent-crime-jumps-by-21pc.html>

Figures from the ONS

60 offences of allowing a dog dangerously out of control injuring a person. There were 18 recorded crimes of serious violence. 134 incidents record the use of weapons (8%) and of these, the majority are bladed implements, likely to be knives (77).

New Forest NHS records indicate that there were 37 cases of treatment following assault in the period April 2013 to March 2014 with a small reduction to 31 cases in the subsequent period April 2014 to March 2015. These numbers appear small when compared against statistics of violent crime with injury and this is considered to be a possible result of injuries not being specifically recorded as being a result of assault in the NHS data.

344 (20%) offences have identified an offender as either under the influence of alcohol or drugs, a likely driver for this offending type. When relationship with offender is reviewed, 203 crimes do not record this data (12%), but of those that have, the most likely relationship with the offender is spouse or partner, 424 (24%), followed by an acquaintance (387, 22%) and then family (300, 17%). Stranger incidents account for 244 offences, or 14%.

A breakdown of hotspot locations is provided in Figure 4 and include **Totton, New Milton, Pennington, Hythe, Lymington and Blackfield**. It should be noted that the hotspot north west of Totton is associated with **Bluebird House, Tatchbury Mount**. This is a single establishment, already identified as a repeat location for criminal damage and is an **isolated issue** not representative of the whole ward it is situated in. This is a **secure unit caring for young people (12-18 years) with complex mental health issues**. Therefore, this is not commented on further other than to note that 57% of Violence Against Person (VAP) crimes within the Ashurst/Copythorne South/Netley Marsh ward occurred at this location, and to state Police have engaged with the establishment to offer crime prevention advice. However, multiple assaults against staff are recorded throughout the year, equating to more than 4 a month, so there may need more engagement between Bluebird and the NHS Trust that manages it to try to ensure staff safety taking into account recent NICE guidance on managing violence and aggression in community settings²⁰.

Temporal Summary: Friday to Sunday are more likely for overall violence offences, with peaks daily from 1500 to 1900 and then between 2300 and 0100 hours.

²⁰ For further information see: <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng10/chapter/Key-priorities-for-implementation>

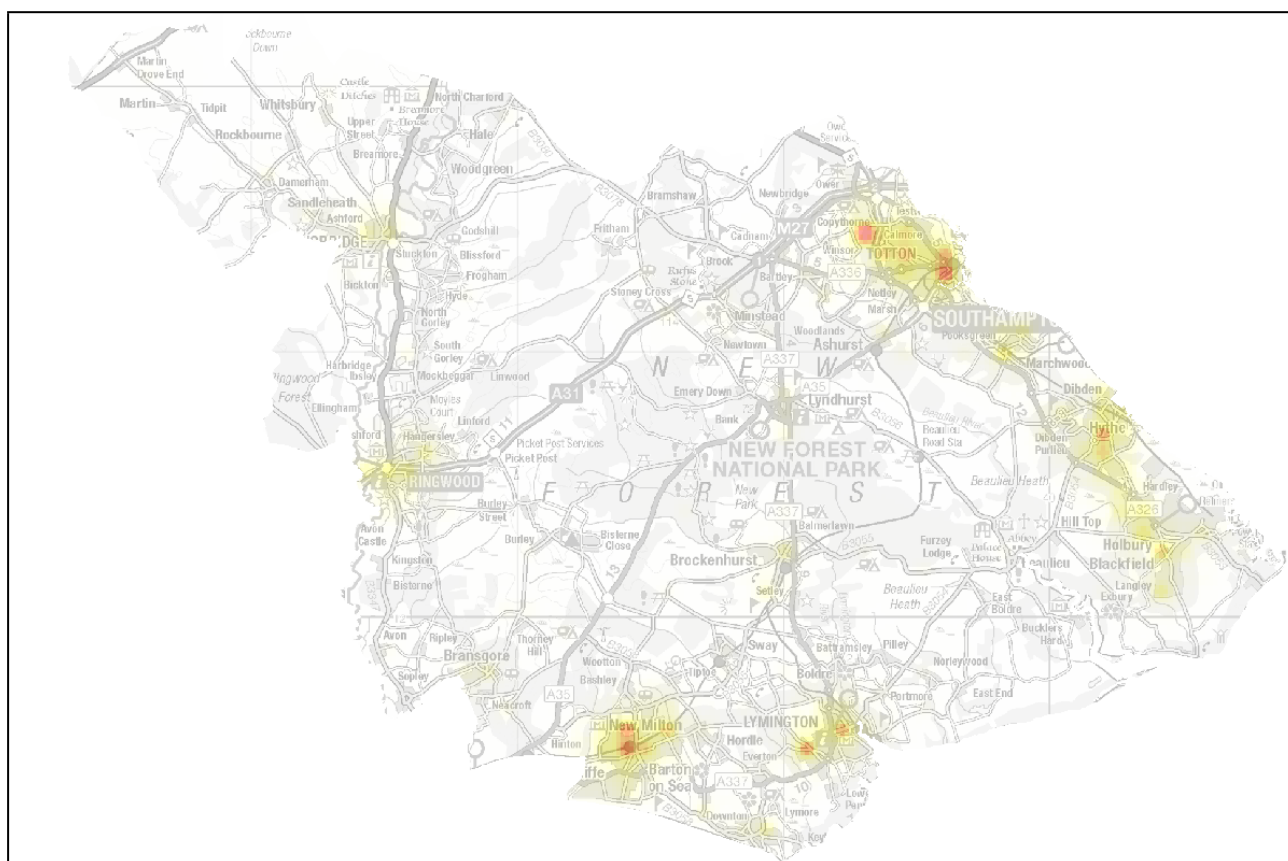


Figure 4 New Forest hot spots of Violent Crime with Injury

9.1.3 Knife & Gun Crime

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Violent Crime	1355	1757	30%
Knife Crime	101	77	-24%
Gun Crime (inc BB gun use)[1]	12	21	75%

Knife crime is calculated by reviewing incidents involving a bladed weapon. Fortunately knife crime has reduced in the New Forest by 24%, this may be as a result of an increase in the Be Safe Weapons Awareness Programme.

Gun Crime reported an increase in the Autumn Strategic Review and over the course of the whole year **crimes involving a firearm have risen by 75%, or up 9 offences. Offences remain small overall (21) and largely involve air weapons (14 were identified).** Most are **criminal damage incidents**, 6 to property but 5 to animals, as reported in the Autumn review. Cats have been targeted on 3 occasions, twice by a 75 year old neighbour of the aggrieved. Cows and a horse have also been the other targets but no offenders identified. Four crimes where animals have been injured occurred in **the Hythe neighbourhood**. Overall, where a suspect has been identified, they are likely to be males up to the age of 30 years.

9.1.4 Youth on Youth Violence

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% Change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Youth on Youth Violence	81	91	12%

Hythe has already been identified as a hot spot for youth on youth violence, with 23 incidents recorded in this sector, a quarter of all New Forest violence involving persons under 18 years.

12 offences occurred in Schools over the district, no more than 3 at any individual premise.

The majority of victims are assaulted by persons known to them, with 77% (70) of offenders labelled as acquaintances of the aggrieved. 50 offences did not have a positive outcome, and of these, 28 were due to victims not supporting or withdrawing support for a police prosecution even though a named suspect was identified, this may be through fear of retribution. Community resolutions and youth cautions were the most common positive outcome.

Temporal Summary: Offences occur on various days of the week **and peak hours are between 1500 and 1700 hours**, but offences can occur at all times between 0800 until 0100 hours.

9.1.5 Alcohol and Public Place Violence

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Alcohol and Public Place Violence	100	115	15%

'Alcohol-related' violent incidents are defined as those violent incidents where the victim perceived the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident'. These alcohol related, public place violent offences have risen by 15 incidents this year, so **there is no large increase in offending linked to these factors**. Overall, **Hythe, Lymington and Ringwood** record the most number of incidents, with no hotspot locations identified other than the **main town centres** where licensed premises exist in larger numbers (see Figure 5 for hotspot locations), with 39% of the incidents linked to one of these establishments. Although stranger offences account for 40% (47) of crimes in a public place linked to alcohol consumption, 10 of these relate to assault of Police offences and a further 10 are assaults on staff within a premise. 31% (36) of crimes were committed by an acquaintance and a further 16% (18) were assaults by partners.

Nationally, it is identified that alcohol was a particularly prevalent factor in violence incidents between strangers, 64% of which were perceived to be alcohol-related²¹.

Alcohol remains a trigger to a fifth of violent offences where it has been recorded, increasing to over a quarter of all domestic violence offences. Therefore appropriate services to treat those who misuse alcohol remain important and a review of where these services are placed in relation to both the residence

²¹ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-violent-crime-and-sexual-offences--2013-14/index.html>

of service users and the violence hotspots identified would be useful to ensure they are most appropriately placed to assist delivery.

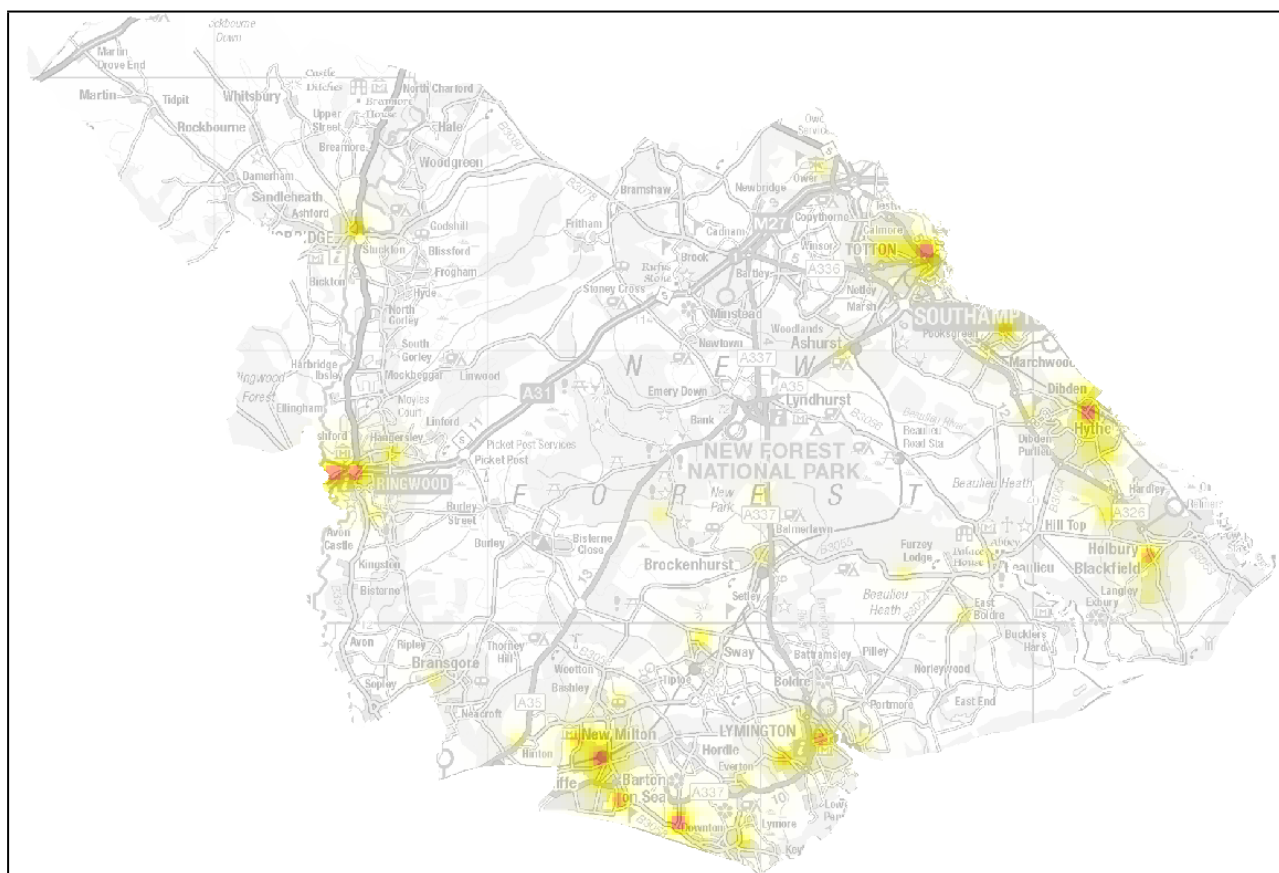


Figure 5 New Forest hot spots of Alcohol and Public Place Violence

9.1.6 Serious Acquisitive Crime

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	% change
Serious Acquisitive Crime	983	813	-17%
Burglary Dwellings	321	275	-14%
Car Key Burglary	15	8	-47%
Robbery	22	15	-32%
Thefts from Motor Vehicle	538	440	-18%
Thefts of Motor Vehicle ²²	102	83	-19%

Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) continues to fall, with an overall reduction of 17% and reductions in all crime types within this category. Dwelling burglary accounts for 34% of all SAC, slightly more than last year, but this may be due to the falling number of theft from motor vehicle offences, which have historically

²² TOMV (48/1) and TWOC offences (130/1 & 131/1) and aggravated vehicle taking (37/2)

accounted for a large proportion of the SAC in the district, but this is falling each year. It still accounts for 54% of all SAC in the New Forest but this is less than previous reporting periods. A driven offender focus in both TFMV and dwelling burglary offences has led to successful operations resulting in identifying, charging and remanding offenders. This in turn assists in reducing offences. However, this may be more difficult to sustain by Police following structural changes, mainly due to centralisation of teams and competing priorities across districts, so maintaining reductions may prove problematic. Positive outcome figures would need to be monitored in relation to this.

9.1.7 Dwelling Burglary

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Serious Acquisitive Crime	983	813	-17%
Burglary Dwellings	321	275	-14%

23% (62) of the dwelling burglaries have occurred in the Hythe sector and 20% (55) in Ringwood, however, individual wards with 15 or more breaks are linked to identified operations/series, with the exception of Bransgore/Burley (see Figure 6 for hotspot map). In this beat, integral garages were targeted and burglaries have occurred during the day. 2 local nominals linked to the travelling community but resident in Ringwood area arrested for 6 of these burglaries

The Barton area and Brockenhurst/Forest South East ward have been vulnerable to dwelling burglaries where detached dwellings in quiet residential areas are targeted. Just under half of the properties have been vacant or the victims have been away on holiday. Jewellery is often targeted and some of these offences may also link to issues in neighbouring Dorset. The area is targeted by both local offenders and also offenders from out of county who travel to commit crime. This area is not immediately off of main road routes but continues to be historically vulnerable.

Within Fawley/Blackfield/Langley, operation Clyne ran over the winter of 2014/15 with detached bungalows targeted where access was easily gained via side gates etc. Again no offenders were identified but it is likely they were local to the area and committing crime to fund a drug habit or repay drug debts.

Temporal Summary: Peaks in burglary offences occurred towards the later end of the year 2014/15, this is like to be due to series such as Brambling and Clyne. Offences area more likely towards the end of the week and over the weekend, and offences are generally during the day, particularly in the afternoon. However, it should be noted that it is more difficult to determine when offences have occurred in those circumstances where occupants have been away.

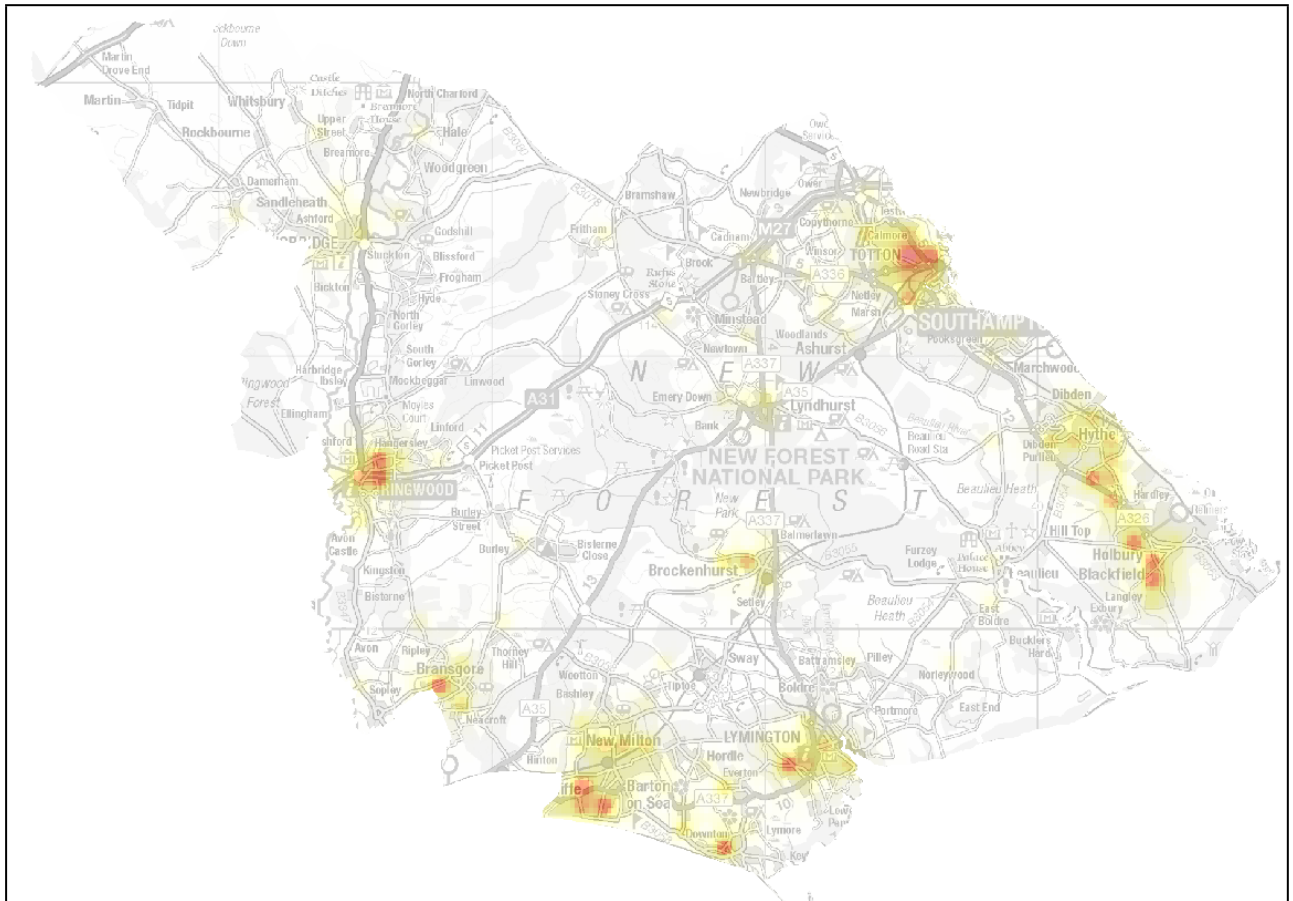


Figure 6 New Forest hot spots for Dwelling Burglary.

9.1.8 Theft from Motor Vehicles (TFMV)

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Serious Acquisitive Crime	983	813	-17%
Thefts from Motor Vehicle	538	440	-18%

Ringwood is a peak sector for theft from motor vehicle offences (TFMV) (118, 27%) and **Totton** follows with 23% of TFMV (103) (see Figure 7). Unsurprisingly, the more rural beats feature in the top 3 for TFMV, and this is linked to the **repeatedly targeted beauty spot car parks** within the New Forest as well as **theft of tools from vehicles**. Top wards are Bramshaw/Copythorne North/Minstead (51), Brockenhurst and Forest South East (33) and Ringwood South (35). There are 12 repeat locations, most often in Lyndhurst, and all except one relates to a beauty spot car park. **The four car parks that have reported 4 or more TFMV crimes are:**

- Gorley Buses Car Park Lyndhurst
- Andrews Mare Care Park Lyndhurst
- Knightwood Oak Car Park Lyndhurst

- Puttles Bridge Care Park Brockenhurst

Within Ringwood South, just under a third are theft of tools from vehicles.

Within the 2 wards in Totton that record more offences, **Totton East (25) & Totton South (20)**, a variety of offences are recorded, some of which are fuel thefts or theft of vehicle parts, others where items had been left on display.

Temporal Summary: Beauty spot TFMV offences tend to occur during the day but other TFMV offences are likely to occur overnight.

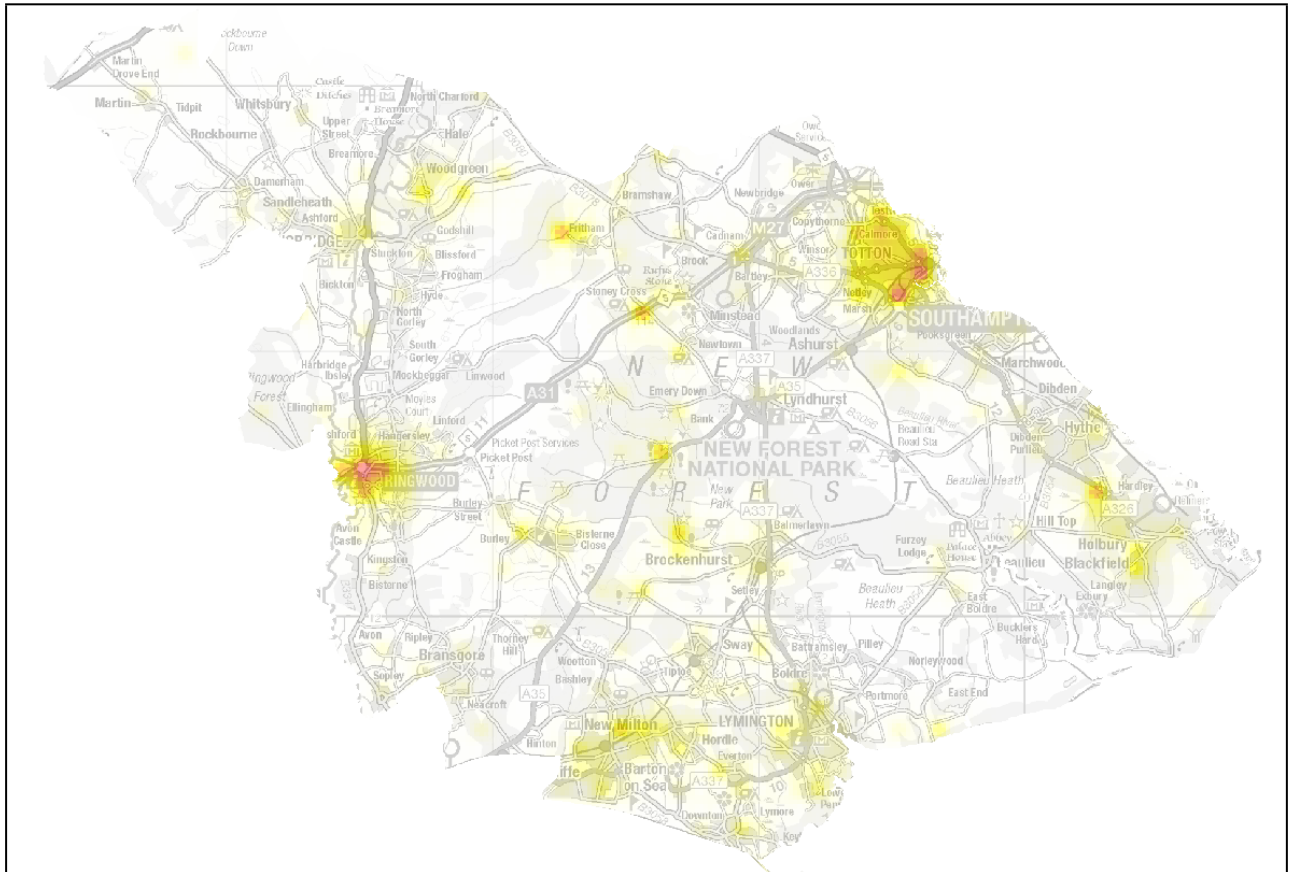


Figure 7 New Forest hot spots of Theft from a Motor Vehicle.

9.1.9 Protecting the vulnerable

Overall, females under the age of 18 are more likely to be vulnerable persons who become subject to sexual violence or exploitation. There is also a risk around those who are frequently missing. Recent Missing, Exploited and Trafficked person meetings are being held amongst partners, and there are plans for multi-agency hubs which may prove effective at tackling this issue and preventing a risk of harm to these vulnerable females. The issue of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) has been in the media spotlight recently and partnerships are beginning to start to identify and address issues where they can. This is only to be encouraged, with greater information sharing helping to establish a better understanding of the issues, influences of victims and identify an offender profile.

9.1.10 Hate Crime

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	% change

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Protecting the vulnerable			
Hate Crime	52	61	17%

Hate crime has increased by 17% (+9) to 61 offences. In comparison to the force wide picture, where incidents had increased by 48%, it is possible that this issue remains under reported within the New Forest and an increase should not necessarily be viewed in a negative light if it means that victims are more confident in reporting this type of crime.

Race hate crime has the highest reporting rate accounting for 54% (43) of hate crime within the New Forest. The majority of incidents are public order offences (25) or violence without injury (10). **Higher numbers of occurrences are recorded in Totton (11) and Lymington (12).** There is not the correlation with the Night Time Economy as recorded overall in the force, with incidents in both towns relatively random, stemming from neighbour disputes, disagreements over parking, and incidents in shops and when victims challenge inappropriate behaviour.

Victim ethnicity is more commonly Afro-Caribbean or Asian, but there are also high numbers of White victims and those from Eastern European backgrounds, particularly Poland, seem to be targeted within the white community. Offenders, where identified, vary in age but are predominantly white male, with peak ages between 16 and 18, 21-30 years and 41 and 50 years

9.1.11 Domestic Violence

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Protecting the vulnerable			
Domestic Violence	459	605	32%

The geographic spread of offences is not too dis-similar to that of the overall violence picture. Looking specifically at those incidents with a domestic violence flag, the majority of incidents occur in **Hythe (171), Totton (137) and New Milton (107)**. Further breakdowns are provided in the localities below.

Domestic violence is much more likely to occur in a residence than in a public place (81%). Where it is recorded, 29% of incidents state the offender was affected by alcohol and a further 3% by either alcohol or drugs, suggesting this is a large contributing factor to domestic violence incidents in the New Forest. This is similar to the picture in the Autumn review 2014.

Temporal summary: Offences are likely to occur on all days of the week although they are slightly higher at weekends from Saturday through to Monday. You First23 has suggested that weekends are more likely as this is when the children are at home and there is an increase in stress

9.1.12 Missing People

Count (occurrence dates)

	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	% change
Protecting the vulnerable			
Missing Persons	529	534	1%

Missing persons incidents are spread out across the more residential areas of the New Forest, with the towns more likely to have greater reporting, as may be expected. Children's Homes in the area are often repeat locations for missing person reports. Fernhill Lodge Children's Home, New Milton, is a hotspot for missing persons, with the most number of incidents, followed by a private family residence, also in New Milton, where a female teenager is repeatedly reported missing. However, Paper Bag Cottage, Sway Road, Lymington, another children's home, also report larger number of missing occurrences as do 2 private homes that offer foster care and both of which currently house frequent missing teenagers, one at each address within Totton and Hythe. Marchwood Priory Hospital is also a repeat location for missing persons. This establishment cares for people with mild to moderate mental health issues as well as those seeking treatment for addictions, with various patients reported missing throughout the year.

14 other addresses in the New Forest have reported 4 or more missing person incidents over the past year, 2 of which are support housing or a children's home, the remainder are mainly family residences with 2 foster homes also identified. These repeat locations, with the exception of the Priory Hospital, all house individuals that are frequently missing, rather than having a number of different children going missing from these addresses. A number of schools have also reported several missing people.

296 people are linked to 534 missing incidents, with 41 persons reported missing more than twice in the year, **12 of them with 5 of more missing occurrences linked to them**; these are all children aged between 14 and 17 years, with 4 boys and 8 girls identified, and **collectively, they have 136 missing occurrences linked to them this review year**, a quarter of all missing incidents in the New Forest. Several of the repeat locations are linked to these missing persons, as well as others. **These frequent repeat missing children are all aged less than 18 years, with other vulnerabilities identified.** These include having been victim to previous neglect, child abuse or sexual assault (6), mental health and self-harm (5), Substance misuse (4) and mental health issues (3).

9.1.13 Child Abuse

There were 1,984 reports of child abuse in Hampshire during the strategic year 2014/2015. This is an increase of 85% (n. 914) compared to the previous year. The average percentage increase across the force

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Protecting the vulnerable			
Child Abuse	73	126	72%

area has been approximately 92.7%. Most offences in Hampshire are reported from Southampton (n.381).

The New Forest reported 126 total offences during 2014/2015, which is an increase of 72%, this is partly as a result of improvements in public confidence with the Police as well as the Operation Yewtree effect for non-recent offenses, and it is also a result of improved recording. Nonetheless by categorising offenses as either current or non-current with non-current showing those occurrences outside of the 6 month window

between the occurrence start date and the reporting date (see below) there has still been an increase from last year which needs further investigating.

	2013/14	2014/15
Current	39	76
Non Current	34	50

The main issues were: *Distribute/Take/Make/Publish Indecent Photo/Pseudo Photo of a Child* (n.22) and Sexual Assault on a Male Child Under 13 (n.12) and Sexual Assault of a Female Child Under 13 (n.9) The peak location was Fawley/Blackfield/Langley (n.15).

Locally more work could be undertaken to increase parent/carer awareness in relation to the triggers and risk factors that increase vulnerability to child abuse

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE)

11 New Forest residents are currently recorded as having a CSE warning flag, only 1 of whom is male and all are between the ages of 14 and 17 years. Several of these children have been moved into care residences within the Forest from elsewhere in the county (6) and over half are regular missing people (7). Half have been subject to some form of abuse either physical or sexual, with a further 3 believed to be involved in substance misuse making them more vulnerable. Links with NPS are still being realised and there remains a risk from drug related CSE. Totton, Hythe and New Milton are more likely to have children flagged as at risk of sexual exploitation but this may be more likely to be linked to the availability of foster care.

9.1.14 Criminal Damage

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
Criminal Damage	1309	1173	-10%

Criminal damage was recorded at higher numbers in the Hythe, (272), Totton (284) and Ringwood (246) neighbourhoods and beats with more than 50 incidents include Totton East (70), Ringwood South (73), Milton (64), Holbury and North Blackfield (51) and Ashurst/Copythorne South/Netley Marsh (50). These include a variety of criminal damage including vehicle damage and damage to property (often windows smashed). This is often committed by persons not know to the victim. Repeat locations are around schools, but a fifth of the incidents in Ashurst/Copythorne South/Netley Marsh occurred at Bluebird House and a repeat location in Lymington is a school for those on the autistic spectrum so there are limited links to mental health. Alcohol is a known factor in only a small amount of incidents, but where offenders are often unknown this is unlikely to be an accurate reflection.

Only 10% of criminal damage incidents have resulted in an arrest, with 104 persons identified. This makes it **difficult to provide an idea for the drivers of these incidents.**

Temporal summary: Overall, there is a slight peak for incidents on Friday but they can occur on any day, at any time, with peaks reported overnight.

9.1.15 Arson

54 incidents of Arson have been recorded in the New Forest during 2014/15, which is an increase of 10 offences, or 23%. **44% (24) of these incidents occurred within Hythe.** Ringwood and Totton each recorded 7 offences each, or 13%. The Hythe area has been a hot spot for arson for the last 3 years, and the peak beat also remains unchanged even with the new Police borders; **Fawley/Blackfield/Langley record 10 (19%) arson offences this year, with Butts Ash and Dibden Purlieu recording 7 crimes.** Half of the offences in Fawley ward have been arsons at Calshot Beach, 4 to Beach huts and 1 to several wheelie bins, all of which occurred in the early hours of a Monday morning on the same day in July. No suspect was identified. 4 further offences have been arsons to vehicles. In Butts Ash, 4 offences occurred at the same address, 3 within 48 hours, but these are believed to have been down to a family member. The other 2 incidents in this area relate to Gorse fires which have previously been more of an issue in this area.

Temporal profile: In the hotspot area, arson offences were generally on a week night evening between 21:50 and 05:45 hours.

9.1.16 Anti-Social Behaviour

Crime Type	Count (occurrence dates)		% change
	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2014	01/04/2014-31/03/2015	
ASB Incident ²⁴	3885	3622	-7%
Burglary Non-Dwelling	853	694	-19%

Anti-Social Behaviour continues to fall within the New Forest district. Partnership work has been key to this, with housing and Police often working together to target problem residences. However, it is still a **main focus for the CSP** and this work needs to continue in order to provide continual reductions, particularly in light of a more centralised police response, now based at Lyndhurst, **there is concern that areas on the outskirts of the Forest may become more vulnerable to ASB** without the visible police presence.

Figure 8 shows the key hotspots of ASB in the New Forest. The neighbourhoods of **Hythe and Totton** account for almost half of the reported ASB within the New Forest, 48%. However, when individual wards are reviewed, the top scorers are outside of the Hythe Sector, with the exception of **Holbury and North Blackfield** which record 195 incidents. The highest number of reports is recorded in **Ringwood South** (261, 7%), followed by **Totton East** with 248 reports, **Milton** with 236 and **Totton North** with 196.

The majority of this issue is **youth nuisance and neighbour disputes** within these areas. Typically, complaints come from **areas that border recreation grounds** across the district making reports of youths gathering and making noise. There are also isolated areas where **convenience stores** will be used as a place for youths to gather which can often cause intimidation for customers of these establishments. Some of this rowdy behaviour is **fuelled by alcohol or suspected drug consumption**, but there may also be an **issue of tolerance amongst some of the community.**

Temporal summary: peak months for ASB are the summer months, June – August, and into September. This is likely to be linked to the lighter evenings, better weather and school holidays. Offences are linked to occur on all days but are more frequent on weekends, including Friday through to Sunday. Peaks on Friday and Saturday nights are between 2000 and 0100 hours, possibly coinciding with peak licensing hours, but

²⁴ Reported date figures

incidents are also more commonly reported from 1600hours. During the week, offences peak earlier between 1700 and 2000 hours.

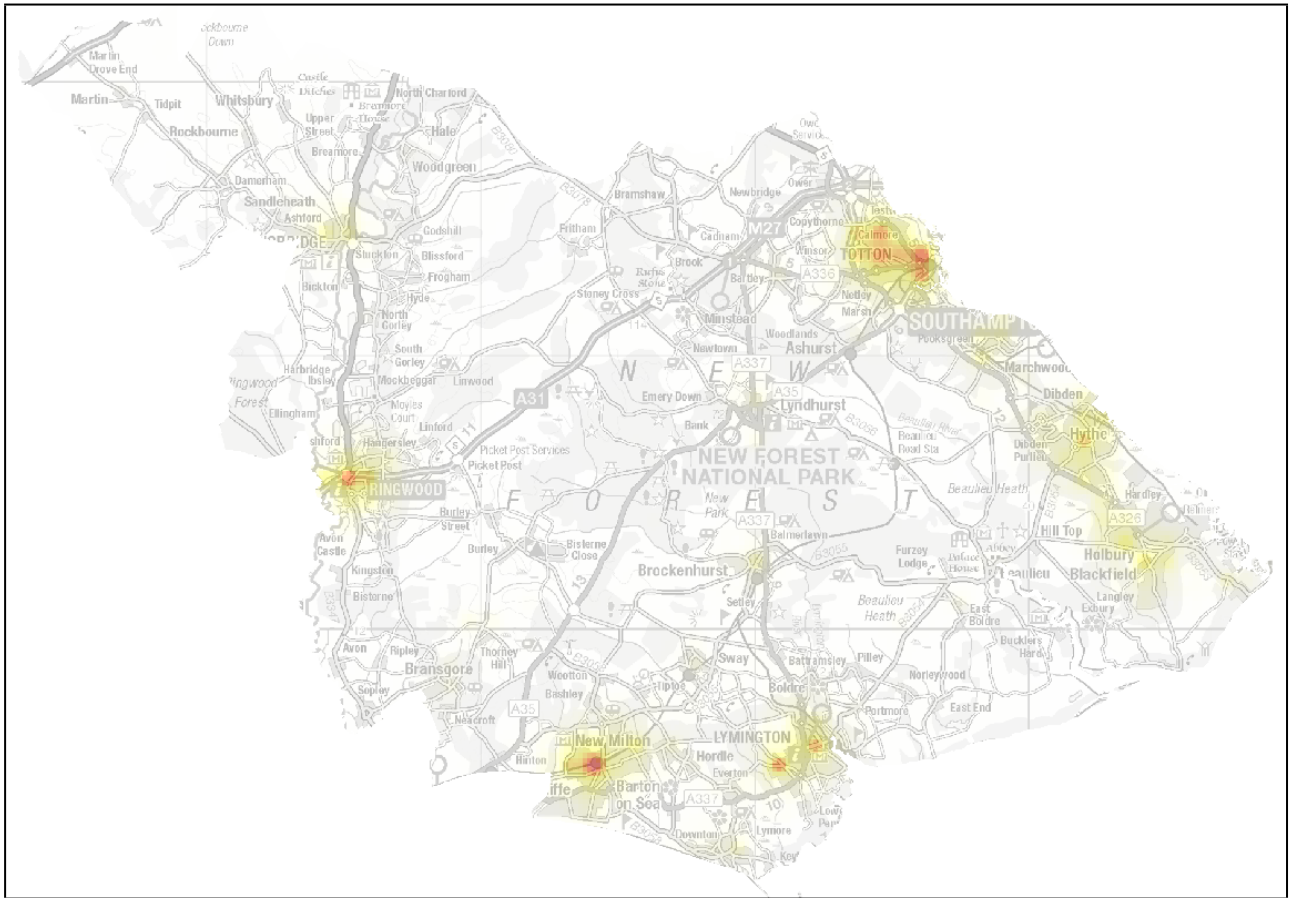


Figure 8 New Forest hot spots of Antisocial Behaviour.

9.1.17 Road Casualties

Road casualties are worse than the England average. The total number of KSI (killed or seriously injured) casualties in the New Forest is reflected in Table 7, and shows that this financial year an overall reduction has been recorded, although fatal numbers have increased slightly back to 2011/12 levels.

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Fatal	10	6	7	10
Serious	133	113	113	97
Total	143	119	120	107
Slight	508	490	470	442
Total	651	609	590	549

Based on the casualties by road user groups, the priorities for the New Forest moving forward are:

- Pedal cyclists, especially commuters (between 1600-1800 hours)
- Pedestrians

- Car occupant casualties

Deaths of those on pedal cycles have remained similar for the last 3 years, but the reduction in motorcyclist casualties could indicate campaigns such as “think bike” are being successful. Campaigns need to focus on both car users in relation to pedal cyclists as well as the cyclists themselves in order to try to reduce casualties.

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Motorcyclists	85	83	67	46
Car occupant casualties	421	401	405	365
Pedal cyclists	80	70	71	70
Pedestrians	59	42	53	41

10. PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

This section explores where and when crime, disorder and ASB occurred in the New Forest. It also identifies specific neighbourhoods that require particular attention. This year, Hampshire Police have amended their structure and one of the results has been to align beats with council wards. Therefore this should make it easier to understand partnership problems within specific geographic locations, build local networks and obtain the right resources to help solve them. Please see Appendix 2 for the code list for police beat areas.

The wards identified as hotspots for violence and anti-social behaviour, below, are often more densely populated areas of the New Forest and violence is often between persons known to the victim and alcohol is a driver in around a fifth to a quarter of offences. Domestic offences are also more likely. ASB hot spots are generally around schools, recreational areas and roads where shops and licensed premises are situated.

With the exception of Holbury & North Blackfield ward, which records greater unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, as well as higher young adult population, the other wards do not record higher unemployment than the rest of the Forest, although they often border areas of greater deprivation which may also be a factor.

10.1 Hythe Neighbourhood

Hythe has repeatedly been identified as a hotspot for Anti-Social Behaviour, as well as criminal damage, violence and Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) as discussed above. There has also been **continued intelligence suggesting a high demand for drugs**, both recreational and class A, which is met by local suppliers.

Overall, the wards within Hythe do not account for top numbers of ASB, with the slight exception of **Holbury and North Blackfield** (195 incidents). This beat also records the highest number of violence incidents (95) in Hythe neighbourhood including domestic violence (37) and youth on youth offences (8), as well as criminal damage (51). This is the **second most densely populated ward in the New Forest** according to population estimates, so may be expected to record more incidents (although this is not reflected in the most populated ward, Fordingbridge). However, **the ward also contains the highest number of 20-29 year olds** of any ward, according to population estimates 2015²⁵.

Long Lane and Heather Road areas are most vulnerable. Violence offences in the area have mostly been committed by persons known to them. Heather Road estate is a hotspot location, but incidents are generally spread out across the Holbury estate. Heather Road itself is a repeat location (15) as is Long Lane (13). 1 repeat location for domestic incidents identified within these 2 roads where 4 incidents have occurred over the year and all of which are flagged as being affected by alcohol. **Most of the incidents in Long Lane have occurred outside a dwelling, unlike Heather Road.** All offenders in the incidents in Long Lane were known to the victims, and 3 incidents involved pupils from the same school, The New Forest Academy, assaulting each other on the way home. **Over half (57%, 47) of all victims are aged under 30 years with 34% (28) of victims aged less than 21 years, the majority of which are less than 15 years old** (21, 25% of all victims) This is the highest proportion of any victim age bracket. Of those 40 persons arrested for violence offences in the ward, 23 are aged over 30 but 14 offenders are aged between 20 and 30 years (35%). **A quarter of incidents are flagged as domestic in this area (24, 25%).** Alcohol or substance misuse is a likely driver for violence in the ward; 22 incidents have identified an offender as affected by either alcohol or drugs (23%). 8 violent offences involving youths are recorded, 4 occurred in Gang Warily Recreation Ground and another 2 in Long Lane after school.

²⁵ Population estimates for all wards in New Forest District 2015 – Hampshire County Council's Small Area Population Forecasts (2013 base)

For ASB, Hotspot areas are again around Heather Road, and neighbour disputes are the main problem in relation to repeat locations here. The exception is Long Lane where there are reports of rowdy behaviour from the location of the New Forest Academy and also the Waterside Sports and Social Club.

Threat to life incidents have recorded an increase of 39% (+12) and 51% (22) incidents occurred in the Hythe sector. Overall in Hythe, the offender is known by the victim, with 11 domestic incidents recorded (9 partner, 2 family) and 8 offenders acquaintances. Often threats are made over the telephone, with 5 incidents being by text message and 7 by telephone call. Only 2 incidents have occurred over social media within Hythe.

Temporal Summary: Incidents of youth violence in Hythe are more common on Mondays, Thursday and Sundays and peak times are between 1500 and 1800 hours. During the week, this is likely to co-inside with school closing hours

10.2 Totton East

Totton Town Centre is situated within this ward and there are a number of shops, licensed premises and takeaway outlets here. It is **one of the more densely populated wards**, although the numbers of young adults is not as high as elsewhere in the district, and unemployment not as great as in other wards of a similar structure. Issues have been recorded in a **number of residential roads**, and these are **often domestic related** with some evidence of **alcohol as a driver for violence**, with 22% of offences linked as having the offender in drink. Overall, Totton East records the most number of domestic incidents (32). **Testwood Lane and Commercial Road** are the exceptions to this, with violence incidents recorded at Testwood School or between pupils on their way home from school on Testwood Lane and incidents in commercial road linked to public houses here, with offenders likely to be known to their victims.

Sexual offences are slightly higher in this ward, although no themes are identified, and ASB issues of **youth nuisance are recorded in Water Lane, Commercial Road (particularly around McDonalds since November 2014) and Testwood Lane**. Water Lane also has repeat reports of vehicle nuisance. Neighbour disputes have been a problem in Salisbury Road and Rumbridge Street/Rumbridge Gardens, which is also identified as a repeat road for violence. The issues within Rumbridge Street/Gardens may well link in with recreational drug use but recent Police and partner activity to evict repeat offenders appears to have assisted in reducing the reports of ASB in this area.

Neighbouring ward, Totton North also has increased reports of ASB, with a hotspot identified around Calmore Drive, particularly around the Community Centre, Calmore Schools, the neighbouring recreation ground and the convenience store on Nutshalling Close. Youths are often noisy, intimidating and have also been reported to ask customers of the local store to buy alcohol and cigarettes for them

10.3 Milton

Another more densely populated ward, third overall according to projections, Milton records the second highest number of violence offences of any beat. 24 VAP incidents (23%) are flagged as having an offender in drink and the majority of offences are committed by persons known to the victim (75, 73%), most likely a spouse/partner (26, 25%) or family member (24,23%)

There is a cluster of offences around Station Road and also on and around Davis Field and Elm Avenue/Ashley Road. **Offences in this area are more likely to be committed by someone known to the victim**. Milton beat records 40 Domestic Violence offences and neighbouring Fernhill another 28. Old Milton Road, another repeat location, is a slight exception as 45% of offenders were strangers. Incidents here were recorded in shops and the Skate Park. Of note, **6 domestic serious sexual assaults were also recorded in this ward**.

Neighbour disputes are identified at a number of repeat roads within this ward, but youth nuisance has been repeatedly reported from Parkview Mews Recreation Ground on Station Road, Davis Field, New Milton Recreation Ground, Whitefield Road, the stake park Old Milton Road and the Youth Centre/Phoenix Centre on Culver Road. The latter has been addressed within local joint action groups and ongoing work there has seen a reduction in reported incidents.

10.4 Ringwood South

Much of the south of this beat area is rural farmland so VAP offences are concentrated in the town centre and surrounding estates. Unsurprisingly, **the High Street and surrounding areas record a cluster of offences**. 19 stranger incidents have been recorded but the **majority of offences are committed by persons known the victim**. Over a third of incidents (31, 34%) are flagged as having an offender in drink, with **Market Place identified as a repeat location**. Although the Ringwood area does not overall record large numbers of domestic violence, Ringwood South records 33 incidents.

Hot spot areas for ASB are towards the west of the beat, particularly around **recreational areas**, with repeat locations identified as Carvers Recreation Ground (10), Ringwood Recreation Centre (10) and also around Sainsburys, Meeting House Lane (6). Most of the incidents in these locations involve **groups of youths congregating causing rowdy and intimidating behaviour**. **Market Place** is also a repeat location but these largely relate to **drunken anti-social behaviour** and a take away outlet reports repeated incidents there, both with persons under the influence of alcohol within the premise and also homeless persons outside.

10.5 Rural Areas

Rural crime is a priority of the OPCC and the New Forest has consistently delivered work to reduce rural crime particularly non dwelling burglary. The re-organisation of the police neighbourhoods has resulted in a new neighbourhood covering the predominantly rural wards within the New Forest. This approach will enable the police and partners to develop and implement a joint rural crime action plan for delivery in the beats contained within the neighbourhood, however, it is noted that with Police restructuring of response teams the more rural areas may not benefit from such visible policing and maintaining this reduction will be a challenge moving forward into the new financial year.

The National cost of rural crime has been estimated to be £37.8 million in 2014 by insurance company NFU Mutual on the basis of insurance claims during that period, this is a 15% reduction from the previous year. However NFU Mutual estimates the cost of rural crime in Hampshire actually increased 75% during that same period from £970,000 to £1.7 million. The true cost may be significantly higher as a survey by the National Rural Crime Network in May 2015 indicates that only 27% of rural crimes were reported. They estimate the total cost of rural crime nationally to be in the order of £800 million. ^{26 27}

The main targets of rural crime according the NFU Mutual include theft of tools, all-terrain vehicles like quad-bikes, machinery and bicycles, with theft of fuel also mentioned and cybercrime and theft of solar panels on the increase.

The **New Forest District** consistently records the most beauty spot TFMV offences over the three year period across the force. Peak beats are in: Lyndhurst, Cadnam and Brockenhurst & Boldre.

Vulnerable car parks over the three year period:

- Brockenhurst & Boldre - Hinchleslea, Puttles Bridge and Wilverley.

²⁶ <http://www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net/content/uploads/2015/09/NRCN-National-Rural-Crime-Sur...pdf>

²⁷ 'Rural crime costs Hampshire £1.7 million in 2014' NFU Mutual press release 3rd August 2015

- Lyndhurst – Andrews Mare, Knightwood Oak and Millyford Bridge.
- Cadnam – Eyeworth Pond, Janesmoor Pond and Stoney Cross Lodge.
- Also to be considered are: Deerleap Lane, Godshill, Fritham and various locations at Burley.

Poaching

Period	New Forest
01/04/2012 – 31/03/2013	122
01/04/2013 – 31/03/2014	106
01/04/2014 – 31/03/2015	112
01/04/2015 – 31/08/2015*	34
Total	374

A total of 374 poaching occurrences were recorded in New Forest District.

Neighbourhood Code	No. of Occurrences
Ringwood (1NW01)	198
New Forest Heart (1NE03)	103
Hythe (1NE02)	31
Totton (1NE02)	23
Lymington (1NW02)	19

Forestry commission data shows that there has been a reduction in fly tipping from 220 in 2013-2014 to 191 in 2014-2015. The main areas in 2014-2015 are Darkwater where there were 10 incidences, Osmonds Bushes where there were 9 incidences and Broadley, Blackwell Common and Burbush where there were 6 incidences respectively.

A survey by the National Rural Crime Network indicate that nationally 39% of rural people are very or fairly worried about becoming a victim of crime. Compared to 19% across the general population. There is also a perception of increasing levels of crime as 32% are more fearful of becoming a victim of crime now then five years ago. This is coupled with a lower police satisfaction rate amongst the rural community with 39% of the survey respondents rating the police as either good or excellent compared with 63% of the national population.

Other concerns raised by the National Rural Crime Network survey include road safety and fly tipping.

11. EMERGING ISSUES ACROSS THE DISTRICT

11.1 Drug Crime and NPS

A potential driver for some of the Acquisitive Crime committed within the New Forest; drug crime within the New Forest tends to centre around the towns and larger sub-urban areas. Mephedrone is emerging as a popular drug for young adults within the New Forest, and across Hampshire, with intelligence suggesting there are markets in Hythe and Totton, and potential emerging issues around Lymington. The drug's popularity may be down to it being cheap and providing an immediate high. However, it impacts on physical and mental wellbeing of the user and can be highly addictive. Within the New Forest, there are suggested supply lines to local networks from neighbouring counties as well as cities within Hampshire. There is a risk that this drug leads to the sexual exploitation of the younger users, with issues recorded elsewhere in Hampshire, and sexual violence offences reported recently have come from young females known to use of be involved in the MCAT market.

Class A drug markets have been disrupted across the district by partnership working assisting to evict problem residents as well as targeted operations to arrest offenders. This joined up action should continue in order to disrupt any identified offending and reduce ASB reports from neighbours when issues are identified.

An emerging threat to be aware of across the district is the supply and use of New Psychoactive Substances, or "legal highs". Not tested for human consumption and sold as various other substances, there is no guarantee what the effect of consuming this product will be and long-term health implications are unknown. Available on the internet and also the main cities within Hampshire, including Southampton, they are popular with young people and could become an issue within the New Forest, **although current intelligence remains limited**. Education with users on the dangers the drugs pose and engage with retailers may assist in reducing its use, however, as of the end of May 2015, the Government was looking to introduce a bill to ban new psychoactive substances, similar to that introduced in Ireland five years ago. This may assist in the reduction of demand as well as limit the supply of these drugs.

11.2 Cyber Crime

From the Hampshire Police Force Strategic assessment, there are no Organised Crime Groups identified with cyber-crime as their main or secondary criminality type. The key identified threats identified in the county are cheque, plastic card and online bank account fraud, online shopping and auctions, computer software service fraud, hacking and ransomware²⁸. These can occur across Hampshire, with **no hotspots identified for the New Forest**.

11.3 Serious & Organised Crime

The New Forest as a district is often targeted by offenders from outside of the area. Often these offenders are from neighbouring counties or Southampton city and can also be part of serious and organised criminal groups. Some may also originate within the New Forest, and be larger families from the local area who have established themselves here and are believed to be continually criminally active.

These groups can be involved in high value commercial breaks, targeting safes or cigarettes, as well as dwelling burglaries, often for high value vehicles or jewellery. Intelligence would suggest the district is

²⁸ Hampshire Police Force Strategic Assessment 2014/15 v1.0 15/04/15 Author Holly Matthews and Senior Analysts. Extract from the Cyber Crime picture of Threat, p. 23

targeted by those with an involvement in vehicle crime and also agricultural plant theft; the New Forest is a prime target for theft of plant which, despite its size, is rarely recovered. This has a negative impact on business in the New Forest and is very costly.

11.4 Modern Slavery

Organised crime groups are also likely to be involved with human trafficking and modern slavery. As reported in the New Forest Strategic review, warrants were executed in August in Totton in relation to concerns of human trafficking. That involved a number of persons being used for labour by members of the travelling community. However, the workers did not regard themselves as being victims. **Hampshire wide, very little is known about this topic.** Reviewing the total number of Potential Victims of Trafficking referred to the National Referral Mechanism across Hampshire, the profile is likely to be of adult males between 20 and 30 years, trafficked for labour exploitation, mainly from Eastern European countries. Intelligence would suggest if females are trafficked in this region then this is likely to be for sexual exploitation, with Romanian and Chinese nations identified as vulnerable to this. Often, these persons are trafficked by their own nationality. However, the incident in Totton is in exception to this, as the exploitation was believed to be from the travelling community. **Moves towards multi-agency engagement with potential victims and premises employing them will be required to ensure any necessary safeguarding** can occur and to provide opportunities to gather more intelligence²⁹.

²⁹ Hampshire Police Force Strategic Assessment 2014/15 v1.0 15/04/15 Author Holly Matthews and Senior Analysts. Extract from the "Modern Slavery incl. Human Trafficking" picture of threat p.10

12. OFFENDERS

12.1 Who commits offences in the New Forest

1073 persons were arrested for crimes that occurred in the New Forest between 01/04/14-31/03/15.

12.1.1 Gender of offenders

82% (876) of those arrested were male, suggesting that crime in the New Forest is predominantly committed by men, with this figure similar the year before. ASB incidents do not record persons arrested as it is not a classified crime and frequently, no subjects responsible for the ASB are linked. This is often because they are not identified. Therefore it is difficult to establish a true picture of those responsible for ASB in the area with the data available.

However, the table below shows ASB subjects against those arrested for the crime types specified. Men are the majority of offenders in all crimes and incidents listed. This is very similar to last year's figures, although those identified as arrested for Arson offences this year, is similar to the pattern recorded 2 years ago, rather than the all male figure last year.

	Arson	Burglary Dwelling	Criminal Damage	TFMV	Theft	Shop theft	VAP	ASB
Male	8 (67%)	41 (89%)	90 (87%)	29 (97%)	63 (85%)	56 (72%)	421 (77%)	716 (70%)
Female	4 (33%)	5 (11%)	14 (13%)	1 (3%)	11 (15%)	22 (28%)	125 (23%)	312 (30%)

12.1.2 Age of offenders

Figure 9 shows the age profile of those who commit crime in the New Forest (based on persons arrested). There is a peak in those aged between 15 & 29, similar to last year. This may be that young offenders are still continuing to commit crime into their late 20s.

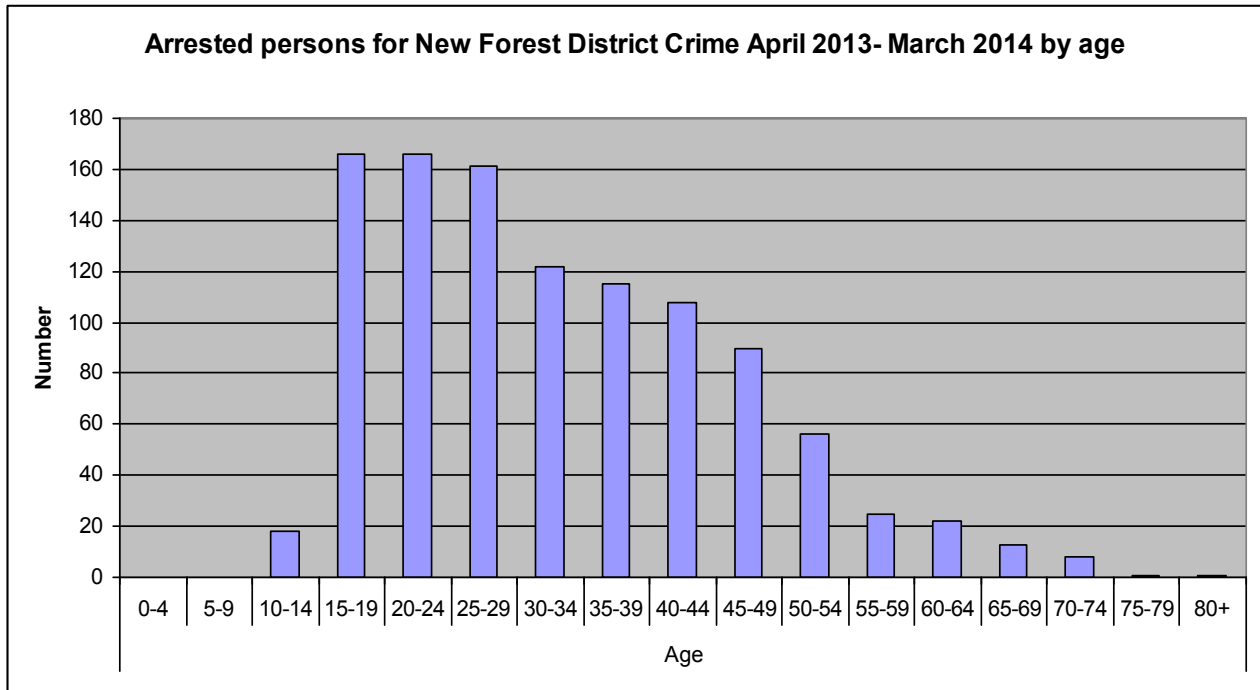


Figure 9 Age range of offenders in the New Forest

12.1.3 Ethnicity

Where the offender ethnicity was recorded, 84% (898) of offenders were of White European origin. Data on ethnicity recorded by the police does not allow for a more detailed breakdown of this group to identify the proportion of offenders from different European immigrant groups.

Those of Black and African-Caribbean heritage were the largest minority group representing 3% (27) of those arrested, but ethnic minority groups remain a small percentage of offenders in the New Forest overall.

12.2 Offending that was domestic

The number of crimes in the New Forest flagged by police as “Domestic” has increased this year by 136 offences this year. The increase is likely to have occurred as a result of an increase in domestic violence reporting, as those numbers have increased by 32%. When offender’s ages are reviewed for domestic violence crimes, the most populated age group is 21-30 years, followed by 31-40 years. This is a similar reflection to VAP offences overall, with males making up over three-quarters of offenders (77%). A further breakdown of domestic crimes and victim-offender relationships is provided in Section 12.6.4 ‘Domestic victimisation.’

12.3 Prolific Offending

302 (28%) were arrested for more than 1 offence, and 26 (2%) were arrested for 5 or more incidents. Of these, 5 people were arrested for more than 10 offences. These 5 people were arrested for 35 offences which is a reduction from last year when 19 offenders were identified for 10% of all crime linked to persons arrested (251 offences.) Repeat offenses included theft, TFMV and non-dwelling burglary, with 3 offenders from the same family arrested for several TFMV offences. The reduction in prolific offending may identify a lack of suspects this year, or better partnership working with identified prolific offenders to attempt to prevent this pattern.

12.4 Use of Weapons

Weapons have been reportedly used in 350 offences, or 5% of offences. Over a third of offences are VAP (134, 38%), and 27% of incidents are criminal damage offences where weapons have been used to smash or damage property.

When all violence offences with the use of a weapon are reviewed, 67 persons have been arrested for 65 crimes. 12 are aged under 18 years (18%). Just under a quarter of those arrested are aged between 18 and 24 years (16/24%) which is similar to the picture reported last year. Any awareness and prevention campaigns that have been undertaken with schools, youth groups should be encouraged to continue as the message will hopefully be retained as these children grow older, further reducing the number of young offenders.

12.5 Motivations and Drivers

12.5.1 Substance Addiction

There are such a large number of serious acquisitive crimes where substance involvement is not recorded that Hampshire Constabulary statistics do not provide an accurate assessment of the impact of drugs.

Of the 5 most prolific offenders identified this year in the New Forest, all have a long history of committing crime. The 3 linked to TFMV offences are repeat offenders, committing crime for financial gain, with no known links to drugs. The other 2 offenders are known to have class A drug habits and their criminality is likely to stem from needed to fund this addiction.

When those arrested for 5 or more offences are reviewed, 15 of the 26 (58%) have links to drugs intelligence, 11 of them within the last year, suggesting drug habits as a driver for crime is very likely.

The influence of alcohol was recorded by Hampshire Police to be a factor in 5% of the total crime recorded in the New Forest district during the period of review. This is linked to the offender being in drink. Therefore if no offender is identified, or this information has not been recorded, then this data is of little value. Intelligence in relation to alcohol misuse is also limited. As ASB incidents are not crimed, there is no data recorded for those subjects who are in drink whilst causing a disturbance.

12.5.2 Opportunistic Crime

There remains a significant amount of crime and ASB that is opportunistic. As previously stated, although this may be linked in some cases to other motivational factors or drivers such as the need to support a drug habit, many are committed because there is the opportunity to do so and/or it is easy to exploit a vulnerable target or person.

The difficulty to commit the offence must be increased in order to minimise opportunistic crime. As previous reports have suggested, the Community Safety Partnership should still be considering:

- The benefit of designing out crime in counteracting the occurrence of a crime or incident.
- The influence that local developments and changes may have on creating new opportunities for crime.
- Helping people to recognise how their own behaviours and actions can increase their risk of victimisation e.g. not locking doors and windows

12.5.3 Other Factors Driving Crime

Although previously education, training and employment has had a moderate, but not definite link to offending, as recorded by YOT, it may be another factor driving crime. Prisoners are 10 times more likely to have been a school truant.³⁰

Between 2014 and 2015 numbers of pupils permanently excluded from school was low at two pupils in both years across the New Forest. School fixed period exclusions in the year 2013 to 2014 were 804.5 pupil days from secondary education and 309 pupil days in primary education there was a reduction of 16% in the year 2014 to 2015 to 696.5 pupil days for secondary schools and 234 pupil days for primary.

Fixed term exclusions were highest (in terms of total pupils days) in The New Forest Academy (104), Hounslow School (98.5) Noadswood School (92) and The Ringwood Academy (91) in 2014 to 2015. A similar pattern was also evident in 2013 to 2014 with Hounslow School (116), The New Forest Academy (114) and The Ringwood Academy (113) in the top four, the school with the highest number of fixed term exclusions that year was The Arnewood School Academy with 132.5 pupils days however this reduced dramatically in the subsequent year with only 50.5 pupil days of fixed term exclusion. For primary and junior schools New Milton Junior, Blackfield Primary and Cadland Primary experience the highest number of fixed term exclusions days in both years. Despite this both showed a reduction in 2014 to 2015 compared to 2013 to 2014.

Interestingly, when youth unemployment is reviewed, Holbury/North Blackfield (4.1%) and Butts Ash/Dibden Purlieu (4.1%) areas record a higher percentage than the rest of the New Forest of young people 18-24 years as unemployed³¹. This is also higher than the Hampshire and UK totals as well. Holbury/North Blackfield records higher crime and ASB overall, so youth boredom and lack of employment opportunities may be a contributing factor to crime in the area. However, wards such as Pennington and Furzedown/Hardley also recorded higher young adult unemployment, but individually the wards do not record as much crime as say Totton East and Milton, which record less overall unemployment as well as that of young people, but are often peak crime wards. The drivers here may be substance misuse or other factors not identified through the data available.

Probation data also helps to identify the criminogenic needs of offenders i.e. those factors which are linked to the individuals offending. Below in Table 5, this can be shown against the Hampshire wide picture. It can be seen that the largest contributing factor is the thinking and behaviour and the attitudes of offenders. Following that, alcohol misuse is also a large contributing factor. This is an underlying theme through much of the crime data and should remain a focus for the Partnership in order to tackle alcohol dependency and misuse. Relationships and well-being are also important to offenders, and this may be where supporting families can have a positive impact, so healthy relationships are developed from a younger age and can be used as a source of strength rather than a driver for criminality.

³⁰ See the Cost of Exclusion, Princes Trust:

<https://www.princestrust.org.uk/PDF/Princes%20Trust%20Research%20Cost%20of%20Exclusion%20apr07.pdf>

³¹ Unemployment Rate New Forest District January 2015 Information Bulletin March 2015

Criminogenic needs by section												
Team	Not grouped	No. of	Sec 3	Sec 4	Sec 5	Sec 6	Sec 7	Sec 8	Sec 9	Sec 10	Sec 11	Sec 12
CRC New Forest	All	184	55	56	64	102	87	59	103	81	171	114
			30%	30%	35%	55%	47%	32%	56%	44%	93%	62%
Hampshire	All	251	56	106	64	105	88	60	106	82	236	177
			22%	42%	25%	42%	35%	24%	42%	33%	94%	71%

Table 5 Criminogenic Needs³²

Section 3	Accommodation	Section 8	Drug misuse
Section 4	Education, training & employability	Section 9	Alcohol misuse
Section 5	Financial management & income	Section 10	Emotional well-being
Section 6	Relationships	Section 11	Thinking & behaviour
Section 7	Lifestyle & associates	Section 12	Attitudes

The age profile of those in the CRC has a greater number of offenders in the 26-49 year age brackets, which differs from the overall crime data which suggests more under 30's are linked to offending in the New Forest. When the offence category for CRC offenders is reviewed, more are entered into the system following VAP crimes, 31%. As reported above, more violence offenders in the New Forest are aged between 21 and 40 so this may be a reason for the higher age of entrants. The second most common offence category for the CRC is summary motoring offences which may be why the age of entrants is higher than that recorded for most of the crime in New Forest district.

SO40 (Totton and Eling) and SO45 (Fawley) postcodes account for more CRC offenders, 29% and 26% respectively, and this links in with the vulnerable locations identified in Section 10.

12.5.4 Detection of Offenders

Detection levels provide some indication of how effective New Forest authorities are in catching offenders in the New Forest, particularly when broken down to look at detections per crime type. The crime detection recording has changed over this period and is now looking to reflect more on the reasons for those outcomes, so if a suspect is identified but the victim does not want to support a prosecution, this will be recorded as such. Therefore there are a greater number of outcomes than previous years. These are provided as Table 6.

	District Totals		
	Crimes	Positive Outcomes	% Rate
1a Homicide	1	0	0.00%
1b Violence with Injury	810	309	38.15%
1c Violence without Injury	978	278	28.43%
2a Rape	83	10	12.05%
2b Other Sexual Offences	136	24	17.65%
3a Robbery of Business Property	1	0	0.00%
3b Robbery of Personal Property	14	2	14.29%
4a1 Burglary in a dwelling	276	44	15.94%
4a2 Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	705	35	4.96%
4b Vehicle Offences	581	74	12.74%
5a Criminal Damage	1187	175	14.74%
5b Arson	53	6	11.32%
Totals	7190	1683	23.41%

Table 6 New Forest Crime Detection Rates

12.5.5 Summary and Interpretation

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Community Rehabilitation Company is now part of Purple Futures, following the moves by the Ministry of Justice to split community rehabilitation from the National Probation Service (NPS). This move went ahead on 1st February 2015 so the company's progress will be under scrutiny in the year ahead and it is too early for them to provide any meaningful results. No doubt this has led to a strain on resources and morale within the teams and payment for results could lead to further issues as the company progress.

However, the IOM agenda continues and there remains communication between the Police, the Community Rehabilitation Company, The Society of St James, the CSP and HOMER services as well as the NPS where appropriate. Last year it was reported that overall caseload has remained fairly static over time, demonstrating good practice in terms of de-registering and removing cases that are not being actively worked on whilst taking a proactive approach to taking on new cases where the offending patterns would indicate that IOM management would be beneficial.

A new cohort has been added as a result in the change in law to allow for “Statutory IOM Cases” to be included. These include SAC/VAP offenders with a 75%+ OGRS score. OGRS is the Probation services tool to determine the risk of re-offending. New data is only just emerging to take into account these changes.

It was also reported that there was concern around the potential loss of the Jigsaw contract. This contract was not lost, and the work of Jigsaw continues to be integral to the success of IOM in the West where there is little in the way of affordable housing. Whilst some of the successes have not always been welcome by other areas due to the fact that many of the IOM offenders have been found accommodation in Southampton, the work that has been done has been extremely well received. Appropriate accommodation for IOM offenders within the New Forest district is still extremely limited and remains an issue for the team.

Case A:

Mr A was sentenced to 2 years custody on 09/01/14 for Burglary. Mr A was released on 29/08/14. He was identified as a PPO given his high volume of previous offending in the local area.

The IOM team have assisted Mr A in taking him to medical appointments, exploring housing options, implementing relapse prevention planning and exploring his past offending behaviour. Budget planning has been completed and regular home visits have been conducted to include his family in resettlement plans. He has provided negative drug tests since release.

Since release, Mr A has not offended. He has subsequently been deregistered as a PPO. His engagement and compliance is positive and his hard work in desisting from crime has been recognised. Over a year on since release, he has successfully reintegrated back into the community.

Case B:

Mr B successfully completed his 12 month Community Order in April 2015. Despite positive engagement with his order, Mr B found himself without accommodation. Due to his high level of previous offending, Mr B was offered non-statutory IOM interventions. He accepted these and secured a place in the IOM house in Southampton.

Mr B has been a very positive addition to the house. Mr B recently completed a 4 week residential sailing course on the Isle of Wight through IOM, gaining qualifications and experience in something he enjoyed.

Mr B was still using cannabis up until recently, but recently stated he is confident in ceasing this through SSJ support. He has reported that he is “sorting his life out now, this is it”.

Other local PPOs who know Mr B have commented on the support he has had through IOM and how they would like to engage in similar opportunities. Mr B is due to be approached about the possibility of becoming a mentor.

Good Practice Case Studies

12.6 Victims and Targets

This section analyses not only the *people* who are vulnerable to crime, disorder and ASB but also specific *property* types that are also vulnerable. This includes looking at repeat victimisation and people’s perception of crime and ASB and feelings of safety within the community.

Of the 7051 crimes that were reported as occurring in the New Forest in 2014/15, only 5813 crimes have a person linked to them as an aggrieved on the police system. These victims total 4856 individual people.

12.6.1 Gender

As with last year’s data, Males and females are equally as likely to be victims of crime and disorder in the New Forest.

12.6.2 Age

Figure 10, below shows the age profile of those who were victims of crime in the New Forest. As seen, the age profile is quite different to that of offenders but remains similar to the previous year, with a wide spread of ages and the most common age bracket for a victim 45-49 years old.

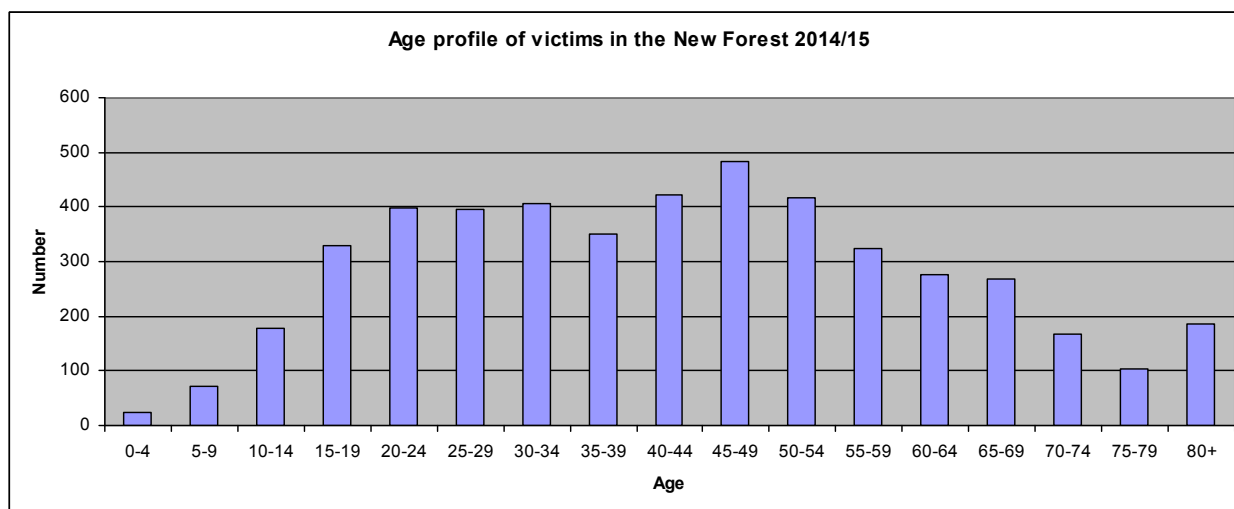


Figure 10 Victim Age Profile

12.6.3 Ethnicity

Table 7 shows the breakdown of victim ethnicity in the New Forest. 53% of victims were White European/White Northern European, with no change from last year. This figure may be even higher if the Ethnicity of all victims was known as this ethnic group accounts for 96% of all victims with a recorded ethnicity.

VICTIM ETHNICITY	NUMBER OF VICTIMS
0. UNKNOWN	2196
1. WHITE EUROPEAN	1154
1. WHITE - NORTH EUROPEAN	1412
2. WHITE - SOUTH EUROPEAN	21
4. ASIAN	37
3. BLACK	12
3. AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN	10
2. DARK EUROPEAN	5
6. ARABIC OR NORTH AFRICAN	7
5. CHINESE, JAPANESE, SE ASIAN	1
6. ARABIC	1

Table 7 Ethnicity of Victims**12.6.4 Domestic victimisation**

Table 8 shows the breakdown of the victim offender relationship for all crime recorded in the New Forest:

Offender-Victim Relationship	Percentage (%) of relationship types
Not seen	22% (1542)
Stranger	16% (1148)
Acquaintance	9% (668)
Spouse/Partner	7% (512)
Family	6% (399)
Neighbour	2% (141)
Carer	2% (113)
Victim refuses to identify	<1% (20)
Crime against the State	6% (437)
None recorded	29% (2071)

Table 8 Victim / Offender Relationships

Although only 7% of incidents were between spouses/partners it is worth noting that a large proportion of domestic abuse incidents are likely to go unreported for a number of reasons including fear of retribution, concern for safety or not knowing who to report to. When family and spouse/partner offenders are combined, they total 911 crimes, but only 732 (10%) are flagged as domestic offences.

71% (386) of victims in DV offences are female. The most common age for a female victim is 21 to 30 years old (123 occurrences, 110 victims) and of this age group, domestic violence is most likely from a spouse or partner (106 occurrences). When males are the victims, the most likely relationship type is spouse/partner (56%), of which 86% are female partners, with only 2 reported incidents of violence towards men by a male partner. This may be an under-reported issue.

Those subject to more than 2 domestic violence incidents in the year total 8 victims, and they have been linked to a collective total of 28 domestic violence incidents. Just over a quarter (27%) of all domestic violence is committed by a family member. A large number of these incidents (35% of all family domestic incidents, 56) are committed by children towards their parents, with the majority being committed by those aged 21 years or under (32 occurrences). However ages vary with much older children also responsible for violence against their parents. A further 25% (40) committed by parents or step-parents. Violence between siblings accounts for 16% (25) of family domestic violence.

Unlike last year, where August was the peak month for DV offences, this year August was one of the more unlikely months for offences of domestic violence. The peak recorded month in 2014 to 2015 is actually March 2015, with 82 (14%) offences recorded. January follows this with 71 (12%) offences. It is unknown why March records this increase in occurrences. The high numbers in January may be partly to do with those reporting long term abuse with the start of the year recorded as the commencement, as well as the New Year and more time inside with dark nights and cold weather. You First have confirmed the increase in cases following the festive period. They have also suggested that a change in a family's financial situation as

well as school holiday periods all result in an increase in reported cases. Where the influence of drink or drugs has been reported, 191 or 32% of incidents state the offender was under the influence of some substance. This is an increase on the 24% recorded last year and is nearly a third of all DV offences. The majority of offences occurred within a residential premise.

12.6.5 Self Harm

The New Forest Health profile has identified a higher than national average trend in self harming within the New Forest Community. Within the New Forest, the rate of self-harm hospital stays was 225.9 per 100,000 populations and the value for England was 188³³. When broken down further 43% of the admissions for self harm were for residents aged 15-29 years with the largest number being for residents aged between 15 and 19 years. Of those aged 10-24 over two thirds of these were female. This is potentially very significant when understanding vulnerable victims in the New Forest

12.6.6 Elderly Mental Health and Suicide

Anecdotally, it would seem recent calls to suicides or suspected suicides within the New Forest have centred around elderly persons either suffering with or caring for those with a form of Dementia. Although only 2 incidents have been found on the system through a cursory search, it would be worth exploring this issue with the Health board and ensuring the support available for those diagnosed or caring for persons with dementia is identified to them.

12.6.7 Vulnerable Properties

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Schools are repeat locations for criminal damage across the district. However, parks and recreation grounds are also frequently targeted for damage. The Bluebird NHS unit within Calmore continues to be a repeat location for damage frequently caused by patients. A farm in Fordingbridge has also been targeted repeatedly this year often by vehicles driving over the fields causing damage, possibly in pursuit of hare coursing.

DWELLING BURGLARY

Detached houses in quite isolated affluent areas including Lymington, Brockenhurst and Ashurst were vulnerable to Dwelling Burglary offences with jewellery being the primary target. Houses within the New Forest South, particularly in Barton-on-Sea and Ashley areas, had previously been vulnerable over the summer months but offences have occurred later in the year in the 2014/15 period, however, this is still often when occupants are on holiday.

NON-DWELLING BURGLARY

Sheds and garages continue to be the main target for non-dwelling burglaries. In the more rural areas, barns and outbuildings have also been at risk with tools and garden machinery again being the target. Areas close to the Dorset or Wiltshire borders remain vulnerable, with Ringwood East/Sopley, Bransgore/Burley and Ringwood South recording 40, 38 and 37 incidents respectively. However, the highest beat is Ashurst/Copythorne South/Netley Marsh that records 41 crimes where sheds and garages are being targeted for garden tools and push bikes in the main. Continued liaison with Dorset and Wiltshire

Police has led to an increased offender focus that is joined up across the area and multi-force days of action continue.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE (TFMV)

Vehicles vulnerable to crime in the New Forest generally fall under one of the following groups:

- Vehicles parked in isolated beauty spot locations whilst the owner is out walking, often with items of property left within the vehicle but hidden in a boot or footwell on their exiting of the vehicle. These vehicles are targeted by career criminals for the wallets/purses/handbags.
- Work vans (often with company signage) targeted for their tools.
- Insecure vehicles.

There has been an increase in the numbers of victims in younger age brackets this year, with those subject to a theft from their motor vehicle most commonly in the 40-49 years age group and then 30-39 years. 22% (86) of victims of TFMV offences which occur in the New Forest live outside of the County, and a total of 35% (139) live outside of the New Forest itself. Therefore, previous recommendations of joined up working with other Community Safety Partnerships, tourist boards, ramblers associations etc would be beneficial in ensuring the vehicle safety message is reaching visitors to the area. The key message to deliver to New Forest residents and visitors is keeping vehicles secure.

12.6.8 Repeat Victimisation

For some crime types, repeat victimisation accounts for a considerable proportion of crime in the New Forest. Repeat locations are more likely in relation to non-dwelling burglary, VAP offences, vehicle crime and criminal damage. This may be due to repeat offenders targeting the same areas, particularly in respect of non-dwelling burglary and TFMV offences. VAP may indicate links to repeat victims and offenders as well as hotspot areas.

- 51 repeat locations are identified for 105 non-dwelling burglary offences, and supermarkets, building sites and more rural estates are included within this list
- 127 vehicle crime offences are linked to 45 locations, and these mostly relate to TFMV offences in rural areas, particularly car parks which have been mentioned above.
- Criminal damage offences are likely to be repeated at schools, recreation grounds and also within residential areas.
- 418 VAP offences have occurred at 93 addresses more than twice in the past year. These repeat locations are often supermarkets, care residences and schools.

12.6.9 Worries, Perceptions and Public Confidence

- The previous survey was undertaken in 2013; no updates have been received to include at this time.
- The response from the 2015 New Forest West Survey are below, unfortunately at the time of writing this report the New Forest East figures were not available:

413 people took part in the survey and the breakdown of responses were as follows :

Location	Response number
Bransgore/Burley	12

Ringwood East/Sopley	11
Downlands and New Forest	33
Forest North West	19
Ringwood South	12
Ringwood North	15
Fordingbridge	20
Hordle	15
Pennington	10
Lymington	14
Boldre/Sway	18
Milford	17
Fernhill	16
Milton	78
Becton	7
Barton	68
Bashley	12
Not revealed	36
TOTAL	413

The highest age category for those who responded was in the 64 to 74 age bracket.

Having analysed the results and in line with our current patterns of offending the Community Priorities for the next six months for **Ringwood and Fordingbridge** will be, Dwelling Burglary, Violence Offences and Rural theft (inc livestock and machinery)

For Lymington and New Milton the priorities will be, Dwelling Burglary, BOTD and Drugs offences

In relation to ASB 76% of the respondents said they did not have a problem with ASB, again this is reflected in reporting as we are significantly down across the District on reported ASB in the year to date

13. RECOMMENDED PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT

This Safer New Forest Strategic Assessment has thus far assessed the work of the partnership to date, identified high risk areas and considered future threats and opportunities. This next section sets out the future priority areas for the partnership which will be further developed in the 2016-2017 Safer New Forest Partnership Plan.

All partners are working within tight budgetary constraints with further cuts required to public services over the forthcoming years. Therefore any work that the Safer New Forest partnership wishes to undertake will either require delivery within existing resources or innovative decommissioning and retendering new services or the submission of funding applications through an accountable partner. It must be born in mind that this requires considerable resource in both bidding and performance reporting.

Any future work that is developed must include an assessment of collaboration potential with partners and/or other community safety partnerships including the voluntary, community and faith sectors. It is probable that a greater dependency on volunteer bodies will occur in future years. It is also imperative that any outcomes are clearly presented in order that the partnership can successfully measure the impact of their

13.1 Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) & Violent Crime

Although ASB has recorded a reduction in this reporting period, there are concerns that this will not be maintainable in the future with changes to police structure. There is also a note of caution that some ASB may now be recorded as a Public Order crime instead, which may further skew figures. When Public Order offences are review year on year, an increase in the New Forest of 65% (+161, 409) is recorded. There may well be an element of more accurate crime recording in this increase, as discussed in relation to Violence Against a Person (VAP) offences, however, it may give credibility to the theory that ASB recording has also changed. Therefore, it is recommended that next year's review also considers this crime type alongside ASB and VAP.

ASB and Violent Crime collectively make up the greatest proportion of crime types in the New Forest and have a huge impact on the community and individuals living in the area. Violent crime has increased overall by 30% from the last year and although Knife crime has reduced over the past year gun crime has increased. Locally it has been suggested that the rise in certain crime types may in part be attributed to the cessation, since September 2014, of Police Officers physically delivering education packages in schools, instead an online training portal - Police Safe4me Resource Package - has been introduced. This needs to be assessed in more detail with the potential for the partnership to increase school awareness training on ASB and Violent crime.

Hampshire County Council Early Help Hubs have been implemented to assist in identifying individuals who could benefit from early intervention and referral routes to other partners. The Supporting Families programme is set to continue and data in relation to those within the programme linked to the commission of crime would be helpful to future reports. In light of the criminogenic needs recorded by Probation, this programme will be important to build better family relations which may impact offending.

It would be interesting to try to establish if there is a relationship with those within the Supporting Families programme and persons linked to the New Forest Crime Commission. The Supporting families engagement with those who are most impactful may be key to reducing commission of offenses, but understanding the take up of the services will also be important. The Supporting Families team are looking at funding for a mental health support worker which could be valuable resources in tackling partnership priorities.

13.2 Reduction in Arson

Arson has increased by 23% in the past year. Key hotspots for arson include Hythe, Ringwood and Totton with offences typically occurring overnight. The Waterside Arson Forum (WAF) will take forward a workplan to reduce incidences of arson along the waterside

13.3 Protecting the Vulnerable

It is recommended that the Partnership continues to provide IDVA and ISVA resources as these are key for reducing victimisation and re-offending within Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence crimes. The previous level of IDVA resourcing has now been increased to 1.0FTE shared with Eastleigh and an additional 1.0FTE shared with Winchester City Council. The current shared 17hrs/wk ISVA resource with Eastleigh needs to be reviewed over the coming year to see whether it is fit for purpose or whether additional resource is required. There has been an increase in both sexual crime and child abuse which has a devastating impact on individuals, families and communities. Up to 40% of sexual crime victims are under 18. The Partnership must do more to deal with the underlying causes for both victims and perpetrators. This includes assessing drugs and alcohol as a driver for offences and increasing vulnerability for victims, considering the impact of increasing financial and emotional pressures on families and working in partnership to develop education on abuse and to build up emotional resilience support within New Forest schools. In addition it is recommended that this development area be included within the JAG Control Strategy particularly as there is not currently enough funding for the resources needed to support the victims of abuse.

13.4 Tackling Drugs and Alcohol

There needs to be increased awareness of drug and alcohol misuse. Alcohol is a trigger for a fifth of violent offenses where it is recorded; increasing to over a quarter of all domestic violence offenses, specifically within the New Forest there is a lack of suitable alcohol treatment programmes. There is limited data on drug crimes within the Forest and it would be useful for the Partnership to obtain this for next year. A small project however, assessing those arrested for five or more serious acquisitive crime offenses showed 58% have links to drug intelligence.

An increase in the use of the internet, in particular social networking sites, to access unlawful drugs is becoming evident to members of the Drug and Alcohol Reference Group (DARG) and is recognised by the police. There is concern that these drugs are being used by sectors of the population that have not historically chosen to access drugs.

The DARG has identified a need to increase awareness of the reality of what these drugs are and the consequences of use and dealing. The impact on policing psychoactive substances or 'Legal Highs' needs to be considered by the Partnership as a proposed change to ban such substances comes into force.

There may be a policing impact given the proposed changes in May 2015 to ban psychoactive substances previously referred to as "Legal highs".

Knowledge of NPS (legal highs) markets and the supply routes remains limited in the communities of the New Forest and it is recommended that the District try to establish a better understanding of the issue from all partner agencies whose service users may be able to provide a reflection of the market within the area.

13.5 Reducing Reoffending

It is estimated that around 18% of offenders re-offend with each offender having committed an average of 10 historic offences³⁴, with younger people being likely to re-offend than adults. The partnership needs to

better identify and reduce the risk factors that lead to criminal behaviour as well as deal with offenders in a more integrated way. Integrated Offender Management (IOM) needs to be included in the planning and delivery of the ensuing Partnership Plan and as the Partnership is responsible for the IOM initiative in the New Forest area it must influence the contracted service to be as appropriate as possible to meet the specific needs of the local community.

13.6 Rural Crime

Rural crime is a priority of the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the partnership has worked tirelessly to reduce rural crime, unfortunately however there has been an overall increase in rural crime in Hampshire. Within the New Forest area there has been a decrease in non-dwelling burglary and it is expected that this trend will continue, nonetheless it is noted the partnership have been able to assist the Police in tackling this crime type, with access to a number of partners who can assist with crime prevention advice and distribution of devices to assist. To maintain this performance, it is recommended that these crime types will need to remain on the Ops JAG control strategy particularly in light of changing police structures and the likelihood of more cuts to public services that will mean priorities will need to be identified and streamlined to ensure performance remains.

The partnership will also continue to support the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Rural Policing Strategy and actively look for opportunities to better manage rural crime particularly in light of recent police restructuring of response teams which could result in a reduction of a visible policing presence in rural communities.

13.7 Making our roads safer

Although we have reduced road traffic accidents by 11% during 2014/2015 the New Forest remains an outlier for those killed and seriously injured on the road and is worse than the England average. The partnership will continue to build on and implement the 2014 partnership action plan which is starting to have a positive impact and improve road safety in the New Forest.

13.8 Learning from Domestic Homicide Review

As well as the ongoing review for the initial DHR from early 2014, there is to be a commencement of a second DHR in relation to a murder from September 2014. These are both likely to make recommendations following conclusions of the respective trials. These recommendations will require consideration and implementation by partners, and are likely to encourage greater sharing of information between partners, ensuring support is provided in the appropriate places and also that recording of incidents is correctly conducted by each agency and progressed with partners if deemed necessary.

13.9 Prevent / violent extremism

A more recent trend identified following the ongoing crisis in Syria has been that of individuals travelling to the war torn area with the intent to fight alongside extremist groups. There is an evident risk to their personal safety but it also presents the risk of these persons returning radicalised by their experience and with intent to carry out attacks in the UK. It is important that Safer New Forest Partnership remain alert to the risk of radicalisation within their communities and continue to share information amongst partner agencies and refresh their understanding of current issues. A District single point of contact within the Police has now been identified which may assist engagement as will maintenance of the link with the PREVENT agenda locally.

14. MISSING INFORMATION FROM THE STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

Reports and data were not available from several partner agencies. This needs to be improved for the next review.

Action Fraud data was not available and this makes it difficult to identify recommendations to be taken by the CSP with regard to serious organised crime

Police recording system requires any officer recording an offence with alcohol as a contributory factor to check a box. Analysis shows that this is not happening at a frequency that would make the data viable

There is no information on perceptions and worries from the East of the New Forest

MARAC and lower level of risk of harm data relating to DV is required

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Appendix 1 - Glossary

A&E	Accident & Emergency
ABH	Actual Bodily Harm
ACSO	Accredited Community Safety Officer
ASB	Anti-social behaviour
BTP	British Transport Police
CAB	Common Assault & Battery
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DAAT	Drugs & Alcohol Action Team
DV	Domestic Violence
HCC	Hampshire County Council
HFRS	Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service
HOMER	Hampshire Operational Model for Effective Recovery
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MO	Modus Operandi
NHS	National Health Service
NFDC	New Forest District Council
NTE	Night Time Economy
RMS	Record Management System
TFMV	Theft from motor vehicle
VAP	Violence against the Person
VLI	Vulnerable Localities Index
YOT	Youth Offending Team

Appendix 2 - Police Beat Code Areas

HAMPSHIRE POLICE - SECTOR AND BEAT CODES

District	District Name	Sector	Sector Name	Beat Code	Beat Name		
NE	New Forest East	1NE01	Hythe	1NE0106	Furzedown & Hardley		
				1NE0108	Butts Ash & Dibden Purlieu		
				1NE0113	Fawley/Blackfield/Langley		
				1NE0120	Holbury & North Blackfield		
				1NE0121	Hythe West & Langdown		
				1NE0128	Marchwood		
		1NE02	Totton	1NE0134	Dibden & Hythe East		
				1NE0204	Totton Central		
				1NE0207	Totton East		
				1NE0211	Totton South		
				1NE0219	Ashurst/Copythorne South/Netley Marsh		
				1NE0227	Totton North		
		1NE03	New Forest Heart	1NE0232	Totton West		
				1NE0303	Bramshaw/Copythorne North/Minstead		
				1NE0318	Brockenhurst & Forest South East		
		NW	New Forest West	1NW01	Ringwood	1NE0330	Lyndhurst
						1NW0101	Bransgore & Burley
						1NW0109	Ringwood East & Sopley
1NW0114	Downlands & Forest						
1NW0115	Forest North West						
1NW0122	Ringwood South						
1NW02	Lymington			1NW0126	Ringwood North		
				1NW0131	Fordingbridge		
				1NW0202	Hordle		
				1NW0205	Pennington		
				1NW0216	Lymington Town		
				1NW0217	Boldre & Sway		
1NW03	New Milton			1NW0224	Milford		
				1NW0225	Buckland		
				1NW0310	Fernhill		
		1NW0312	Milton				
		1NW0323	Becton				
		1NW0329	Barton				
1NW0333	Bashley						

Appendix 3 - Crime Types and Drug Offences

Crime Types and Drug Offences

1 - VIOLENT CRIME

Violent crimes are those where the victim is intentionally stabbed, punched, kicked, pushed, jostled, etc., or threatened with violence whether or not there is any injury.

In published crime statistics, violent crime – both as measured by the British Crime Survey (BCS) and by recorded crime – is grouped into two broad, high-level categories of violence with injury and violence without injury. However, these categories are not directly comparable between BCS and recorded crime: for example, the BCS violence categories include robbery, but the police recorded crime violence categories do not (recorded robbery figures are shown separately).

Just over half of all BCS violent incidents and just under half of all police recorded violence against the person, resulted in injury to the victim.

- **Violence with injury** includes all incidents of wounding, assault with injury and (BCS only) robbery which resulted in injury. Homicide is only included for police recorded crime. Police recorded crime also includes attempts at inflicting injury, although the BCS would not include these if no actual injury occurred.
- **Violence without injury** includes all incidents of assault without injury and (BCS only) incidents of robbery which did not result in injury. Police recorded crime also includes possession of weapons offences and a number of public order offences, such as harassment.

Police recorded crime statistics for violence, especially less serious violence, are particularly affected by changes in recording practice over time; for the population and crime types it covers, the BCS is the best measure for long-term national trends in violence. Police statistics are important for showing the mix of violent crimes dealt with and recorded by the police. They are an important measure of activity locally and a source of operational information to help identify and address local crime problems, at a lower geographical level than is possible using the BCS. Police statistics also provide more reliable information on less common crimes, such as robbery, and are currently the only source of data on homicides and offences against those not resident in households.

BCS violence

BCS violent crime is categorised in two other ways: by offence type and according to the victim-offender relationship. BCS offence types are as follows (estimates for wounding, assault with minor injury, assault without injury and robbery add up to overall violence):

- **Wounding:** the incident results in severe or less serious injury, e.g. cuts, severe bruising, chipped teeth, bruising or scratches requiring medical attention or any more serious injuries.
- **Assault with minor injury:** an incident where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled and the incident resulted in minor injury to the victim, e.g. scratches or bruises.
- **Assault without injury:** an incident (or attempt) where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled but resulted in no injury.
- **Robbery:** an incident in which force or threat of force is used in a theft or attempted theft.

The categories of BCS violence according to the offender-victim relationship are as follows:

- **Domestic violence**³⁵ comprises wounding and assaults which involves partners, ex- partners, other relatives or household members.

- **Stranger violence** includes wounding and assaults in which the victim did not have any information about the offender(s), or did not know and had never seen the offender(s) before.
- **Acquaintance violence** comprises wounding and assaults in which the victim knew one or more of the offenders, at least by sight. It does not include domestic violence.

Figures are also presented for **mugging** which is a popular rather than a legal term and is the total number of robbery, attempted robbery and snatch theft incidents combined. Snatch theft is excluded from all BCS violence since it includes no violence or minimal threat of force (e.g. just enough to pull a bag away from someone).

In the BCS, the previously used **common assault** (or attempted assault) category, which had been inconsistent with the police recorded offence category, was replaced with assault with minor injury and assault without injury categories in 2006/07. This change was made to align BCS categories more closely with those used by the police.

Police recorded violence against the person

Violence against the person offences contains the full spectrum of assaults, from pushing and shoving that result in no physical harm, to murder. Even within the same offence classification, the degree of violence varies considerably between incidents.

Trends in police recorded violent crime can be very difficult to interpret, as they are influenced by a number of factors. It is important to consider the following issues when interpreting trends:

Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in the levels of public reporting of incidents. The proportion of violent crimes estimated to be reported to the police has increased from the first BCS results in 1981, but has been reasonably stable since 2002/03 (see Chapter 2 of the annual crime statistics publication).

Local policing activity and priorities affect the levels of reported and recorded violent crime. Where the police are proactive in addressing low-level violence and anti-social behaviour, this can lead to more of these crimes being brought to their attention and being recorded. For example, research by the Cardiff Violence Research Group showed an association between the introduction of CCTV surveillance and increased police detection of violence (Sivarajasingam et al., 2003).

Police recorded crime data are subject to changes in police recording practices. The 1998 changes to the Home Office Counting Rules had a very significant impact on the recording of violent and sexual crime; the number of violence against the person offences recorded by the police increased by 118 per cent as a result of the 1998 changes (Povey and Prime, 1999). Much of this increase resulted from a widening of the offence coverage to include assaults with little or no physical injury and offences of harassment (again with no injury).

The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS), introduced in April 2002, again resulted in increased recording of violent and sexual crimes particularly for less serious offences, as well as for some other offences. There was an estimated NCRS effect of 23 per cent on violence against the person offences in the first 12 months of implementation, although it was recognised that this effect was unlikely to be complete within the first 12 months (Simmons et al., 2003).

³⁵Domestic violence figures that relate to incidents reported in face-to-face BCS interviews should be treated with caution. Prevalence rates for domestic violence derived from the self-completion module are around five times higher for adults than those obtained from the face-to-face interviews (Walby and Allen, 2004). Due to the small numbers of sexual offences identified by the main BCS, findings are published solely from the self-completion module.

Audits undertaken by the Audit Commission on behalf of the Home Office indicate substantial improvements in crime recording across forces in the two to three years following NCRS introduction, which would particularly impact on violence against the person and result in increases in recorded crimes for this category.

Incidents of violence against the person recorded by the police include the following categories as described below:

- **Homicide** including murder, manslaughter and infanticide.

The published figures do not separately identify between these individual offences as, when a homicide is initially recorded by the police, the full circumstances of the incident may not be known. Furthermore, the precise nature of an offence may only become clear once a suspect has been apprehended and appears at court.

The Home Office receives two sources of information on homicide from the police forces of England and Wales (including the British Transport Police where the incident occurred within England and Wales). These are:

- The monthly aggregated recorded crime return (see Section 3.1)
- A more detailed statistical return for each recorded homicide containing additional information, including victim and suspect details and the circumstances of the offence. This is used to populate a Home Office database called the Homicide Index.

The Homicide Index contains details about homicides recorded in England and Wales since 1977. In contrast to the aggregated recorded crime return, the Homicide Index is continually being updated with revised information from the police as investigations continue and as cases are heard by the courts. As the Homicide Index is continually updated and provides more detailed information, Home Office Statisticians view the Index as a better source of data than the separate monthly aggregated recorded crime return. However, due to the time permitted for police forces to submit the individual returns (within 30 days of recording an incident as homicide) and the complexities in checking the data, it is not possible to use the Homicide Index figures for the annual crime bulletin. Instead, figures from the monthly aggregated recorded crime return are presented as a provisional homicide estimate, with full analysis published in a supplementary bulletin approximately six months' later. Care should therefore be taken when using the provisional figures for homicide as these are subject to change.

- **Death by driving** offences (includes by dangerous driving, careless or inconsiderate driving, driving under the influence of drink or drugs and while being an unlicensed or uninsured driver).
- **Corporate manslaughter** where an organisation is deemed responsible for a person's death.
- **Grievous bodily harm (GBH)** includes injury resulting in permanent disability, more than minor permanent disfigurement, broken bones, fractured skull, compound fractures, substantial loss of blood, lengthy treatment or serious psychiatric injury (based on expert evidence).

GBH with intent occurs when there is clear evidence of a deliberate attempt to inflict serious bodily harm regardless of level of injury sustained.

GBH without intent occurs when serious bodily harm results but there is no evidence of a deliberate intent to inflict such an injury. Prior to April 2008, GBH without intent was not separated out from a much broader category of less serious wounding that mostly consisted of Actual Bodily Harm (ABH).

The definition of **GBH with intent** rests upon whether “the actions of the offender clearly show a deliberate attempt to inflict serious bodily harm”. The clarification to the rules from

April 2008 makes this clear and that “the gravity of the injury resulting is not necessarily the determining factor”. The rules were clarified as there had previously been some confusion as to whether the degree of injury sustained, rather than intent, should be the sole determining factor in the recording of these offences (see Section 3).

- **Actual Bodily Harm (ABH)** relates to any assault with injury which is not GBH (with or without intent) and includes internal injury and shock (when accompanied by expert psychological evidence).
- **Threats to kill** where an individual fears that the offender’s threat is real and may be carried out.
- **Possession of weapons** offences include possession of firearms with intent, possession of other weapons and possession of article with blade or point. If a weapon is used, then the police will normally record a more serious notifiable offence. Possession of firearms with no intent offences are recorded under other miscellaneous offences.
- **Harassment offences** are those incidents where no other substantive notifiable offence exists, but when looked at as a course of conduct are likely to cause fear, alarm or distress. Public fear, alarm or distress offences are where a course of conduct is not present.
- **Assault without injury** offences are those where at the most a feeling of touch or passing moment of pain is experienced by the victim.

The other violent offences recorded by the police include attempted murder, conspiracy to murder, poisoning or female genital mutilation, cruelty or neglect to children, abandoning a child under two years and child abduction.

Recorded crime statistics do not specifically identify offences of domestic violence since it is not a legal definition. Such offences would be recorded in accordance with the intent of the offence and any injuries sustained e.g. GBH with intent.

Police recorded crime figures for violence against the person quoted in the text and charts also include assault on a constable and racially or religiously aggravated assault, which are both separate categories within recorded crime. Such incidents are not treated separately in the BCS and would fall within the BCS assault with minor injury or without injury categories.

Sexual Offences

Due to the small numbers of sexual offences identified by face-to-face BCS interviews, results from the main BCS are too unreliable to report; these data are not included within the overall count of violence (except for the categories of serious wounding with sexual motive and other wounding with sexual motive which are included in the offence type of wounding).

Respondents may not wish to disclose sensitive information face-to-face and so interviews since 2004/05 (and prior to this in 1996 and 2001) have included self-completion modules on intimate violence (see Section 2.3). These figures have previously been published separately from the annual volume (Mirrlees-Black, 1999; Walby and Allen, 2004; Finney, 2006; Coleman et al., 2007; Povey

et al., 2008, 2009; Smith et al., 2010). Headline figures are also presented in the annual crime statistics bulletin for 2009/10.

Intimate violence is the collective term used to describe domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and the categories are defined as follows:

- **Any domestic abuse:** non-sexual emotional or financial abuse, threats, physical force, sexual assault or stalking carried out by a current or former partner or other family member.
- **Partner abuse (non-sexual):** non-sexual emotional or financial abuse, threats or physical force by a current or former partner.
- **Family abuse (non-sexual):** non-sexual emotional or financial abuse, threats or physical force by a family member other than a partner (father/mother, step- father/mother or other relative).
 - **Emotional or financial abuse:** includes being prevented from having a fair share of household money, stopped from seeing friends or relatives or repeatedly belittled.
 - **Threats** are classified as an affirmative response to the statement 'frightened you by threatening to hurt you/someone close'.
 - **Minor force** is classified as an affirmative response to the statement 'pushed you, held you down or slapped you'.
 - **Severe force** involves being kicked, hit, bitten, choked, strangled, threatened with a weapon, threats to kill, use of a weapon or some other kind of force.
- **Sexual assault:** indecent exposure, sexual threats and unwanted touching ('less serious'), rape or assault by penetration including attempts ('serious'), by any person including a partner or family member.
 - **Rape** is the legal category of rape introduced in legislation in 2003. It is the penetration of the vagina, anus or mouth by a penis without consent.
 - **Assault** by penetration is a legal offence introduced in 2003. It is the penetration of the vagina or anus with an object or other body part without consent.
- **Stalking:** two or more incidents (causing distress, fear or alarm) of obscene or threatening unwanted letters or phone calls, waiting or loitering around home or workplace, following or watching, or interfering with or damaging personal property by any person including a partner or family member.

The police recorded crime category of **most serious sexual crime** encompasses rape, sexual assault, and sexual activity with children. The Sexual Offences Act 2003, introduced in May 2004, altered the definitions of all three categories so comparisons around this time should be made with caution

The group of **other sexual offences** recorded by the police covers unlawful sexual activity, mostly involving consenting adults and is therefore particularly influenced by police activity in investigating such crime. It includes among other offences, exploitation of prostitution and soliciting, but not prostitution itself (which is not a notifiable offence). The Sexual Offences Act

2003, introduced in May 2004, introduced certain offences such as sexual grooming which is included in this group. Offences of indecent exposure have been retrospectively reclassified to sexual offences back to 2002/03 to aid comparisons over time.

2 ACQUISITIVE CRIME

BCS acquisitive crime covers all household and personal crime where items are stolen and can be split into household and personal acquisitive crimes.

Household acquisitive crime:	Personal acquisitive crime:
Burglary	Snatch theft (Theft from the person)
Attempted burglary in a dwelling	Stealth theft (Theft from the person)
Theft in a dwelling	Attempted theft from the person
Theft from outside a dwelling	Other theft of personal property and other attempted theft of personal property
Theft and attempted theft of and from vehicles	Robbery and attempted robbery
Theft of pedal cycle	

Burglary

The BCS covers **domestic burglary** only, which is an unauthorised entry into the victim's dwelling but does not necessarily involve forced entry; it may be through an open window, or by entering the property under false pretences (e.g. impersonating an official).

BCS domestic burglary does not cover theft by a person who is entitled to be in the dwelling at the time of the offence; this is called **theft in a dwelling** and includes thefts committed inside a home by someone who is entitled to be there e.g. party guests, workmen.

The police record an offence of **burglary** if a person enters any building as a trespasser and with intent to commit an offence of theft, GBH or unlawful damage. **Aggravated burglary** occurs when the burglar is carrying a firearm, imitation firearm, offensive weapon or explosive.

Recorded crime figures are provided separately for burglaries that occur in domestic properties and those which occur in commercial or other properties.

- **Domestic burglaries** include burglaries in all inhabited dwellings, including inhabited caravans, houseboats and holiday homes, as well as sheds and garages connected to the main dwelling (for example, by a connecting door).
- **Non-domestic burglaries** include burglaries to businesses (including hotels and similar accommodation) and also some burglaries of sheds and outhouses where these are not clearly connected to the inhabited property.

Using the BCS it is possible to differentiate between burglaries with entry and attempted burglaries and also between burglary with loss and burglary with no loss (including attempts). Burglary with entry plus attempted burglary add up to total burglary. Burglary with loss plus burglary with no loss (including attempts) also add up to total burglary. These are defined below.

An **attempted burglary** is recorded by the police and in the BCS if there is clear evidence that the offender made an actual, physical attempt to gain entry to a building (e.g. damage to locks, or broken doors) but was unsuccessful.

Burglary with entry is a term used in the BCS and comprises burglary where a building was successfully entered, regardless of whether something was stolen or not.

Burglary with loss is a term used in the BCS and comprises burglary where a building was successfully entered and something was stolen.

In the BCS, **burglary with no loss** includes attempted entry to a property and cases where a property was entered but nothing was stolen. In making comparisons with police recorded crime, BCS burglary with no loss (including attempts) is used as a proxy for attempted burglary, though there will be some instances with no loss where entry has been gained.

Vehicle offences

The BCS includes offences against private households only and includes cars, vans, motorbikes, motor-scooters or mopeds used for non-commercial purposes. It identifies three vehicle theft categories:

- **Theft of vehicles** where the vehicle is driven away illegally, whether or not it is recovered.
- **Theft from vehicles** refers to both theft of parts and accessories of motor vehicles and to theft of contents.
- **Attempted thefts of and from vehicles** No distinction is made between attempted theft of and attempted thefts from motor vehicles, as it is often very difficult to ascertain the offender's intention.

If parts or contents are stolen as well as the vehicle being moved, the incident is classified as theft of a motor vehicle.

The police recorded crime category of offences against vehicles covers private and commercial vehicles (although does not distinguish between the two) and comprises:

- **Thefts and attempted thefts of vehicles** where the intent is to permanently deprive the owner.
- **Unauthorised taking of a vehicle** where intent to permanently deprive the owner is not evident – this would typically include 'joyriding' where the car is later recovered.
- **Aggravated vehicle taking** where a vehicle once taken is known to have been driven dangerously, damaged or caused an accident.
- **Thefts and attempted thefts from a vehicle** targeting property in or on the vehicle.
- **Interfering with a motor vehicle** which includes attempts to drive away without apparent intent to permanently deprive the owner. This mostly includes recorded crime offences where there is evidence of intent to commit either theft of or from a vehicle or taking without consent (TWOC), but there is either:
 - (i) No evidence of intent to commit one of these three offences specifically, or
 - (ii) There is evidence of intent to commit TWOC (TWOC is a summary offence but, under the provisions of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981, it is not legally valid to have an attempted summary offence).

Interfering with a motor vehicle offences as presented in the annual crime statistics publication are equivalent to the offence class formerly referred to as 'vehicle interference and tampering'. The BCS

cannot separately identify this category. In comparisons with the BCS it is included in the attempted vehicle theft category but in some instances could be viewed as criminal damage or even a nuisance.

The taking of vehicles during robberies (often termed 'car-jacking') is included within the robbery offence group.

Robbery

A robbery is an incident or offence in which force or the threat of force is used either during or immediately prior to a theft or attempted theft. As with violence against the person, police recorded robberies cover a wide range of seriousness from armed bank robberies to muggings for mobile phones or small amounts of money. Recorded crime offences also distinguish between robbery of personal property (**personal robbery**) and business property (**business robbery**). Robbery of business property is a recorded crime classification where goods stolen belong to a business or other corporate body (such as a bank or a shop), regardless of the location of the robbery. The taking of vehicles during robberies (often termed car-jacking) is also included as robbery. Supplementary data on this offence have been collected in a supplementary collection by the Home Office since 2007/08.

The BCS covers robberies against adults resident in households; these are included in the violent crime count.

Theft

Theft from the person covers theft (including attempts) of a handbag, wallet, cash etc. directly from the victim, but without the use of physical force against the victim, or the threat of it. This BCS category breaks into two components:

- **Snatch theft** where there may be an element of force involved but this is just enough to snatch the property away; and
- **Stealth theft** where no force is used and the victim is unaware of the incident (pick-pocketing). Stealth theft makes up the larger share (over 80%) of the total.

For recorded crime, **theft from the person** offences are those where there is no use of threat or force. Stealth theft is included as part of this recorded crime category and cannot be separately identified from snatch theft.

Other theft of personal property covers thefts away from the home where no force is used, there was no direct contact between the offender and victim and the victim is not holding or carrying the items when they are stolen (i.e. thefts of unattended property).

Other household theft cover a number of theft types: Theft in a dwelling includes thefts that occurred in the victim's dwelling, by someone who was entitled to be there; theft from outside a dwelling covers incidents where items are stolen from outside the victim's home and the category also includes burglaries to non-connected buildings, for example, garden sheds.

The recorded crime offence group of **other theft** offences covers thefts that are not covered by other property crime offence groups (i.e. thefts from vehicles is included in offences against vehicles). Offences included are theft from a person, thefts of bicycles, shoplifting and other theft or unauthorised taking.

Bicycle Theft

The BCS covers thefts of bicycles belonging to the respondent or any other member of the household. Police recorded crime also includes offences where a pedal cycle is stolen or taken without authorisation, within the other theft offences category.

This category does not include every bicycle theft, as some may be stolen during the course of another offence (e.g. burglary) and are therefore classified as such by the police and in the BCS:

- Burglary; if anything else was stolen, or an attempt was made to steal something else, from the household's dwelling.
- Theft from a dwelling; when a bicycle is stolen from inside a house by someone who was not trespassing.
- Theft from a vehicle; if the bicycle is one of a number of things stolen.
-

3 VANDALISM AND CRIMINAL DAMAGE

In the BCS, criminal damage is referred to as **vandalism** and is defined as the intentional and malicious damage to either the home, other property and vehicles. Vandalism shown in the BCS ranges from arson to graffiti. Cases where there is nuisance only (e.g. letting down car tyres) or where the damage is accidental are not included. Where vandalism occurs in combination with burglary or robbery, the burglary or robbery codes take precedence over the damage codes in offence coding.

The BCS produces estimates both for vandalism to the home and other property and against vehicles. **Vandalism to the home and other property** involves intentional or malicious damage to doors, windows, fences, plants and shrubs, for example. Vandalism to other property also includes arson where there is any deliberate damage to property belonging to the respondent or their household (including vehicles) caused by fire.

The BCS defines **vandalism of vehicles** as any intentional and malicious damage to a vehicle such as scratching a coin down the side of a car or denting a car roof. It does not, however, include causing deliberate damage to a car by fire. These incidents are recorded as arson and, therefore, included in vandalism to other property. The BCS only covers vandalism against private households; that is, vehicles owned by any member of the household and company cars which count as belonging to the respondent. Recorded crime includes all vehicle vandalism under the offence classification of criminal damage to a motor vehicle.

Police recorded **criminal damage** results from any person who without lawful excuse destroys or damages any property belonging to another, intending to destroy or damage any such property or being reckless as to whether any such property would be destroyed or damaged. Damage which is repairable without cost, or which is accidental, is not included in police recorded crime statistics. Separate recorded crime figures exist for criminal damage to a dwelling, to a building other than a dwelling, to a vehicle and other criminal damage. Figures are also published for racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage.

Arson is the act of deliberately setting fire to property including buildings and vehicles. In the BCS this is any deliberate damage to property belonging to the respondent or their household caused by fire, regardless of the type of property involved. The only exception is where the item that is set on fire was stolen first (this is coded as theft). Arson is included in vandalism to other property and includes arson to vehicles.

For vehicle crime, if a vehicle is stolen and later found deliberately burnt out by the same offender, one crime of theft of a vehicle is recorded by the police and in the BCS. If there is evidence that someone unconnected with the theft committed the arson, then an offence of arson is recorded by the police in addition to the theft. For the BCS, only an offence of theft of a vehicle would be recorded as in practice it would often not be possible to establish that the arson was committed by someone unconnected with the theft.

4 FRAUD AND FORGERY

The measurement of fraud is challenging as fraud is known to be very substantially under-reported to the police. Better information can be derived from other sources. For example, figures for plastic (credit, debit or bank) card fraud are obtained from The UK Cards Association, which is the leading trade association for the cards industry in the UK. For more information on the various sources of fraud including administrative data and on the nature, extent and economic impact of fraud in the UK, see Hoare (2007), Levi et al. (2007) and Wilson et al. (2006).

Plastic card fraud among individuals resident in households in England and Wales is also covered in a module within the BCS. Stolen plastic cards (i.e. credit, debit or bank cards) are included in the main BCS crime count under the relevant offence, such as burglary or theft from the person, but incidents of fraud are not covered. However, the BCS has included questions on experience of plastic card fraud in a separate module of questions since 2005/06.

Offences of fraud and forgery are recorded by the police, but figures from 2007/08 onwards are not comparable with previous years due to the introduction of the Fraud Act 2006, which commenced in January 2007 and saw significant changes to offences in the fraud and forgery offence group.³⁶

For offences prior to January 2007, fraud is defined as dishonestly deceiving to obtain either property or a pecuniary advantage. Recorded crime statistics were collected for: fraud by company director; false accounting; cheque and credit card fraud; other frauds; bankruptcy and insolvency offences; forgery or use of false drug prescription; other forgery and vehicle/driver document fraud.

Under the Fraud Act 2006, fraud is defined as dishonestly making a false representation to obtain property or money for themselves or another. Recorded crime statistics are collected for: fraud by company director; false accounting; other frauds; failing to disclose information; abuse of position; obtaining services dishonestly; making or supplying articles for use in fraud; possession of articles for use in fraud; bankruptcy and insolvency offences; forgery or use of false drug prescription; other forgery and vehicle/driver document fraud.

The Counting Rules changes in January 2007 also changed recording of fraud so that in most cases cheque and plastic card fraud is counted on a 'per account' rather than 'per transaction' basis. If an account is defrauded only one offence is recorded rather than one offence per fraudulent transaction on each account (as was the practice prior to January 2007). For example, previously if a person had their credit card stolen and it was subsequently used on ten separate occasions to buy goods fraudulently from ten different shops there would be a requirement for one crime record for theft and ten for deception. Now there is a requirement to record one theft and one fraud by false representation. The result of this change means that fewer crimes of plastic card and cheque fraud were recorded by the police during 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 compared with previous years

³⁶ New offences that were introduced from 15 January 2007 were temporarily recorded as 'Other fraud' until the new offence codes came into being on 1 April 2007.

and recorded fraud and forgery figures prior to 2007/08 are not comparable with more recent figures.

This change was made to reduce significant bureaucracy in recording crime (possibly involving several police forces) and to reflect the fact that in the cases when this counting basis is used, the financial loss is generally borne by the financial institution at which the account is held rather than by the merchants who process a transaction or by the account holder.

From April 2007, where a financial institution makes full financial recompense to an account holder, the financial institution (rather than the account holder) can report the crime directly to a single point of contact within the police.

These changes have been supported by The UK Cards Association and ACPO as they have resulted in significant reductions in bureaucracy in relation to the reporting of cheque and plastic card fraud. This has focused police effort on reports of fraud most likely to lead to a suspect being brought to justice and also introduced single points of contact within police forces for the financial institutions to report cases directly to. As victims of fraud are mainly commercial organisations, it is not covered in the same way as other crimes. The government's Fraud Review (2006) also specifically welcomed the changes that were being put in place: http://www.aasbni.gov.uk/pubs/FCI/fraudreview_finalreport.pdf

The 2006 Fraud Act also resulted in the creation of a National Fraud Authority (NFA). One of the key objectives of this new body is to support better reporting of fraud crimes and their subsequent investigation. During 2009/10 the NFA opened a single national point of reporting for a wide range of frauds, in particular those arising from the growing use of the internet and email. This new means of reporting sits outside the police service as a call centre (Action Fraud) with an associated online reporting tool. At the same time the police have established a National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) to receive reports from Action Fraud as well as those from the banks and other financial institutions and to analyse them to identify positive investigatory opportunities which will then be referred to individual forces to follow up. The creation of these new bodies has had little or no impact on police recorded crime data for 2009/10 as they only commenced operation in early 2010.

5 RACIALLY OR RELIGIOUSLY AGGRAVATED OFFENCES

Used in recorded crime, racially aggravated offences are legally defined under section 28 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (section 39) added the religiously aggravated aspect. Racially and religiously aggravated offences are categorised together in police recorded crime and cannot be separately identified. BCS respondents are asked whether they thought the incident was racially motivated and from 2005/06 whether they thought the incident was religiously motivated. Figures on racially and religiously motivated crimes from the 2005/06 and 2006/07 BCS are reported in Jansson et al. (2007).

6 DRUG OFFENCES

Recorded crime figures for drugs offences are published in Table 2.04 of the annual crime statistics publication. With effect from April 2004, ACPO issued guidance to forces over the recording of warnings for cannabis possession (these were termed 'formal warnings' for cannabis possession prior to January 2007). These were incorporated into the Home Office Counting Rules (see Section 3 for more information). From January 2009 it has also been possible to issue a Penalty Notice for Disorder for cannabis possession (this detection method was not separated from Cannabis Warnings in statistics for the period to the end of March 2009).

In addition, the Home Office produces a separate National Statistics bulletin on Drug Seizures for England and Wales, covering seizures made by the police, HM Revenue and Customs, and the UK Border Agency.

Appendix 4 - Outcomes Framework

Outcomes framework

1	1	Charged/Summoned	Formal Action Taken (FAT)
	2	Caution Youths	
	3	Caution Adults	
	4	Taken into Consideration	
	6	Penalty Notice for Disorder	
	7	Cannabis Warning	
	8	Community Resolution	
	2	5	
9		Not in the public interest (CPS) (all offences)	
10		Not in the public interest (Police)	
11		Prosecution prevented - Named suspect under age	
12		Prosecution prevented - suspect too ill to prosecute	
3	13	Prosecution prevented - victim or key witness is dead/ill	No Formal Action Victim based
	14	Evidential Difficulties Victim Based - suspect not identified	
4	16	Evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support police action	No Formal Action Investigation based
	15	Evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim supports police action	
	17	Prosecution time limit expired	
	18	Investigation Complete: No suspect identified	