

SSP Strategic Assessment 2010

*****Draft*****

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Contents

Introduction – Page 3
Performance overview – page 6
Crime & disorder scanning review – page 16
Offenders in Southwark – Page 20
Victims of crime in Southwark – Page 26
Locations of crime in Southwark – page 31

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Introduction

The Safer Southwark Partnership (SSP) is Southwark's crime and disorder reduction partnership (CDRP) and drug and alcohol action team (DAAT). The SSP brings together a range of statutory and voluntary sector services to jointly determine how they can work together to reduce crime, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance abuse. The overall decision making body of the partnership is the SSP board.

The Crime and Justice Act 2006 brought in a new statutory framework for CDRPs in England and Wales that abolished the requirement to produce a three yearly crime audit, followed by a crime reduction strategy. The new framework requires CDRP's:

- ❖ To produce an annual strategic assessment
- ❖ To produce a three year rolling plan setting out partnership priorities together with actions to deliver their priorities
- ❖ To meet the minimum standards for a CDRP

The purpose of the strategic assessment is to be more analytical in nature and to adopt a problem orientated approach looking at issues and their causal factors. In addition to providing a commentary on our progress towards our LAA targets, the information in this strategic assessment plays a fundamental role in identifying and setting the strategic priorities of the SSP that will be addressed through our rolling action plan.

The SSP strategic assessment has 3 primary objectives;

1. To review the performance of the SSP against key indicators (such as the LAA) and identify emerging trends
2. To identify through scanning and analysis strategic priorities for the SSP
3. To provide results of any community consultation and anecdotal information that is available

What has changed since the last strategic assessment and rolling plan update?

The Policing and Crime Act 2009 received royal assent on November 14th 2009. This Act creates three key changes for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships;

- ❖ Partnerships will have a statutory duty to reduce re-offending;
- ❖ The Probation Service will change in legal status from a co-operating body to a full responsible body as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
- ❖ Responsible authorities will each be required to routinely reduce re-offending through an extension of their section 17 duties.

The emphasis on the reduction of re-offending will require a review of the current focus of priorities by CDRPs with both offences and offenders requiring consideration. The inclusion of the Probation Service will bring a new dimension to partnership working, including much closer links with wider Local Strategic Partnership planning and delivery to support pathways around integrated offender management.

Since the last strategic assessment the SSP has been working in partnership with Lambeth with colleagues in Public Health to develop our relationships with local A&E departments. This work falls under the umbrella of the Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP) and in April 2009 we became one of the first boroughs in London to start receiving assault related data from our two local A&E

departments, St Thomas's hospital and Kings college hospital. This data adds a new dimension to our ability to profile assaults that are happening in Southwark.

Through the strategic assessment and rolling plan process in 2008/9, our partners agreed that in 2009/10 they would focus on key performance outcomes, both for our communities and those individuals who are most affected by crime and anti social behaviour. With that in mind we revised our strategic priorities for 2009/12. These new priorities were;

- ❖ Violent crime
- ❖ Tackling youth crime
- ❖ Tackling anti-social behaviour
- ❖ Drugs & Alcohol
- ❖ Reducing re-offending
- ❖ Communities & communications

Based on our initial scanning and partnership working throughout 2009/10, we do not propose to change the six priorities that we established at the end of last year.

Like many other areas, Southwark are looking to make huge efficiency savings over the coming years and with that comes the potential risk of our diminished ability to continue delivering the huge range of programmes that we currently do. This strategic assessment recognises that risk and focuses on a problem orientated approach to identify what we feel are the key strategic priorities in Southwark.

As the economic downturn gathered pace obvious concerns were raised about the links between recessions and rising crime rates. Early indications in Southwark, based on anecdotal information suggested that the economic down turn was a contributory factor in our increasing domestic violence levels. Other offence categories that were perceived at risk from the economic downturn were acquisitive crimes such as residential burglary, vehicle crime and theft. This strategic assessment shows serious acquisitive crime reducing in the borough and whilst it is difficult to attribute the rise in domestic and other violent crimes to the economic down turn, this possibility is still being examined.

In early 2010, Southwark was identified as a pilot borough for a new Home Office initiative around tackling organised crime. This will be of particular benefit to us in building upon the existing work we are doing to tackle organised crime in the borough, especially with regards to illegally operating businesses linked to organised criminality, gangs, illegal drugs markets and gun supply.

The Southwark Pathways programme has delivered tailor made multi-agency interventions to almost 50 young people who are involved in gang related violence, with the aim of reducing serious violence. Only two individuals so far have committed a violent offence after the call in or home visit. By linking these individuals with local advocates and diversionary programmes we make positive inroads to prevent their behaviour escalating.

Southwark's alcohol strategy was launched in early 2010. The strategy (which is aligned to the Southwark health inequalities strategy 2010-12) has three key priorities:

- ❖ Children and young people
- ❖ Health and social care
- ❖ Crime and disorder

In 2009, Southwark revised its CCTV strategy. Part of this work included a new agreement with partners in TFL to have a camera sharing project in Southwark, which increases the number of cameras that we have access to. This will increase our coverage across the borough and will have huge benefits to our operational capacity to use CCTV to tackle crime and ASB.

After a very successful five years, we have decided that in 2010 our operational delivery arm of the SSP, the Partnership Operations Group (POG), will be merging with the police tactical tasking & coordination group (TTCG). We anticipate that this will have huge benefits to our intelligence led business process that falls under the minimum standards for CDRPs, with us now working even closer with partners and pooling resources, which in the current economic climate is essential.

In late 2009, the Home Office announced that those CDRPs with an ASB perception rate of greater than 25% would be required to produce a local improvement delivery plan that sets out how they will tackle ASB in 2010. These CDRP's were also each given £40k to spend by the end of the financial year and a new set of minimum standards was agreed. With a perception rate of 29%, Southwark was identified as one of the boroughs for this programme and that is now reflected within our strategic priorities with regards to ASB.

Since the last strategic assessment, violence has been increasing in Southwark thus remaining our top priority. Given the new emphasis this year towards a problem orientated approach, violence accounts for a large proportion of this year's strategic assessment, being a central theme throughout. Along with other pieces of analytical research, we will be looking in detail at domestic violence and the impact that our most serious violent offences are having on the borough.

Performance Overview

This is the 2nd year of a three year performance framework linked to the new set of 198 national indicators for local authorities and local authority partnerships. This new single set of indicators replaces all other performance indicators set for local government by central government, including best value performance indicators (BVPIs) and performance assessment framework indicators. This new set of national indicators forms the basis for local strategic partnerships (LSPs) to agree 35 local area targets for their area (Local Area Agreement). The Safer Southwark Partnership (SSP) has responsibility for five of the indicators within the LAA and these are indicated within this performance section.

Although we don't have a specific indicator against which we measure all recorded crimes that have taken place in Southwark, the annual strategic assessment uses this total number of crimes as a starting point in reviewing its performance. Table 1 below shows all recorded crimes in Southwark, often referred to as TNO's (total notifiable offences). With the exception of 2007/8, Southwark is now in its 6th year of consecutive crime reduction.

Table 1: Recorded crime in Southwark 2003/04 to 2009/10

	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10 (Apr to Dec)
All crimes	46276	43771	41432	39713	40029	39264	27930
Change against previous year	-	▼ -5%	▼ -5%	▼ -4%	▲ 1%	▼ -2%	▼ -8%*

* change based on Apr to Dec 09 data compared to same period in previous year

Note: Each year runs from Apr 1st to March 31st

In 2008 we saw several changes to the way that some crimes were recorded. This had a particular impact upon classifications of certain violent crimes. As a result of this it was not possible in last year's strategic assessment to conduct comparisons of all offence types as the year was used somewhat as a baseline year in which the new classifications were introduced. However, 2009/10 provides us with an opportunity to start looking once again at trends in these offences, some of which are included in our LAA. Table 2 below shows some of the key offence types that we have been measuring against this year. It shows increases across several of our violent crime categories and of up most concern in Southwark are increases in the most serious violent crimes and also the levels of domestic violence, that, whilst showing little change at present, have been increasing over the past 18 months. In contrast to the violent crime figures, our rates of acquisitive crime have reduced considerably this year, especially with regards to vehicle crimes.

Table 2: Progress against key crime indicators

	2009/10 target	2009/10 performance	Comments
NI15 Most serious violence	-4%	▲7%	Up from 547 to 583
NI28 Knife Crime	-5%	▲12%	Up from 567 to 634
NI29 Gun Crime	-5%	▲18%	Up from 146 to 172
NI20 Assault with injury	-4%	▲5%	Up from 2081 to 2180
LI2 Serious youth violence	-4%	▲4%	Up from 329 to 342
Domestic offences		◀0%	Down from 2033 to 2032
NI16 Serious acquisitive crime	-2.1%	▼-16%	Down from 6386 to 5385
Res Burg	-1.1%	▼-5%	Down from 1504 to 1432
LI1 - Robbery person	-3.5%	▲3%	Up from 1304 to 1348
Robbery com	-3.5%	▲5%	Up from 144 to 151
TFMV	-2.3%	▼-36%	Down from 2565 to 1630
TOMV	-1.3%	▼-5%	Down from 869 to 824

Note: 2009/10 data runs from Apr 09 to Dec 09

Comparison against our most similar grouping (MSG)

The Home Office has grouped all crime and disorder reduction partnerships into most similar groups (MSGs) in order to provide a benchmark for comparison of crime rates with similar areas elsewhere in England & Wales. Our MSG is:

Southwark, Brent, Camden, Greenwich, Hackney, Hammersmith & Fulham, Haringey, Islington, Kensington & Chelsea, Lambeth, Tower, Hamlets, Leicester, Norwich, Birmingham, Brighton & Hove

Table 3 lists Southwark's ranking within its MSG for the volume of crime per 1000 resident population (except for burglary which uses the number of households). Southwark has made little progress against its MSG with regards to our violent crimes and robbery but has seen improvements in serious acquisitive crimes such as theft from motor vehicle and residential burglary.

Table 3: Comparison to most similar grouping

	As at 31 March 2009		As at 31 st December 2009		Progress
	Ranking	Above/below group average	Ranking	Above/below group average	
Most Serious violence	1st	Above	1st	Above	=
Assault with injury crime	4th	Above	3rd	Above	X
Serious acquisitive crime	6th	Above	8th	Average	✓
Personal robbery	2nd	Above	2nd	Above	=
Business robbery	2nd	Above	2nd	Above	=
Domestic burglary	11th	Above	11th	Below	=
Theft from motor vehicle	8th	Just above	12th	Below	✓
Theft of motor vehicle	8th	Just above	7th	Just above	X

Cost of crime

The cost of crime is estimated by considering the impact of a crime in terms of the value of goods stolen, including the insurance costs, the emotional and physical costs to victims, the lost hours of work, the health costs of treating injuries, and other health impacts and the criminal justice costs. The crimes that cost society the most are those with a large estimated emotional and physical impact, such as murder, wounding, robbery and sexual offences. Using Home Office data that estimates these costs of crime we have calculated the approximate costs of some of our main offence types in Southwark

The increase in the cost of crime this FYTD reflects an increase in violent crime offences, whilst acquisitive crime (property crime) offences have decreased.

Table 4: Cost of crime in Southwark

Crime Type	Last FYTD	FYTD	Cost difference
Violence Against the Person	£24,727,032.00	£26,038,314.00	£1,311,282.00
Serious Wounding	£13,217,374.00	£14,224,208.00	£1,006,834.00
Sexual Offences	£9,305,648.00	£9,965,846.00	£660,198.00
Robbery	£10,893,872.00	£11,694,892.00	£801,020.00
Residential Burglary	£5,719,000.00	£5,470,632.00	-£248,368.00
Theft (of vehicle)	£3,989,032.00	£3,881,444.00	-£107,588.00
Theft (from vehicle)	£2,398,968.00	£1,583,868.00	-£815,100.00
Total change			£2,608,278.00

Progress towards targets and partnership activity

The following section looks in slightly more detail at our progress towards some of our key performance indicators and also at some of the partnership activity that has been taking place to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Southwark since the last strategic assessment. A full list of all of our indicators and progress towards them can be found in appendix A

Violent crime

Levels of violent crime in Southwark remain amongst the highest in London. The SSP has continued to successfully deliver innovative programmes to tackle most serious violence that are now showing signs of success, especially the pathways programme where we have been successful in engaging with some of our most well know gang members. However increases in serious violence (inc gun & knife crime), domestic violence and the emerging trend in rape and homophobic offences require continuing focussed action over the coming year. We have several key indicators for violent crime, which are detailed below.

Most serious violence (NI15)

Most serious violence¹ (MSV) is one of our key crime indicators for the SSP and is included in our LAA. Chart 2 shows the trajectory of MSV since April 2008 and our target for 2009/10 was a reduction of 4% against the previous year. At the time of writing this strategic assessment we are reporting an increase of 7% in MSV. This is primarily due to above average levels of offending in the first two quarters of this year. This is supported by chart 2, which show MSV at its peak in May 2009 before beginning a downward trajectory to December 09. When recently compared to our family group of most similar boroughs (MSG) in and around London, Southwark recorded an above average score of MSV offences per 1000 population and ranked 1st within its MSG.

Chart 1: Quarterly totals of MSV in Southwark

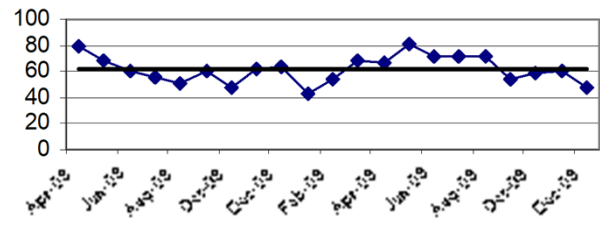
Chart 2: Trajectory of MSV in Southwark

¹ (MSV) includes homicide and attempts, GBH / wounding, and fatal driving offences. This indicator now includes the offence GBH without intent; this was collected with actual bodily harm (ABH) before April 2008, so data before and after this time is not comparable. Similarly, for the assault with injury (AWI) indicator, this indicator now excludes GBH without intent and so data before and after April 1st 2008 is not comparable.

Ni15 Most serious violence in Southwark



Ni15 Most serious violence in Southwark



Assault with injury (NI20)

Although not in our LAA, assault with injury (AWI) is another key indicator for Southwark. Along with MSV we have targeted AWI through many of our initiatives in Southwark over the past year. As with MSV we have a target reduction of 4% in AWI this year. At the time of writing this assessment we are reporting an increase of 4% in AWI. In a similar fashion to MSV, our AWI performance shown in chart 3 was higher than expected in Q1 and Q2 before levelling off in Q3.

Chart 3: Quarterly totals of AWI in Southwark

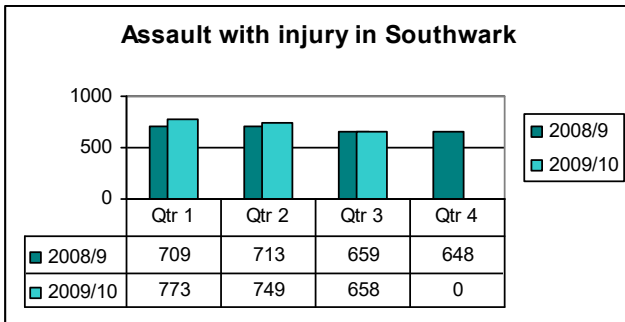
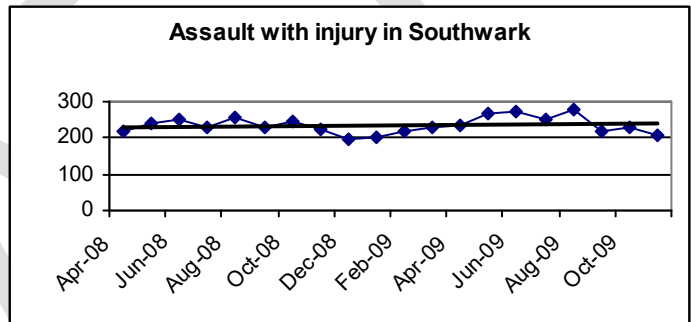


Chart 4: Trajectory of AWI in Southwark



Domestic Violence

We do not have an indicator for domestic violence (DV) that just looks at numbers of offences. The indicator that we have looks at levels of repeat victimisation, which is one of our LAA indicators, but does not report until 2011. For the purposes of this performance section, we have looked at the number of offences recorded by the police. DV in Southwark has shown an increase at times over the past year and given its severity and complexity, is of critical importance to the SSP. However, at the time of writing, we are reporting neither an increase nor decrease in domestic violence on financial year to date as shown in chart 5. However we anticipate huge levels of underreporting with regards to DV and evidence from our partner agencies suggest that levels remain high. Include repeats data for LAA

Chart 5: Quarterly totals of DV in Southwark

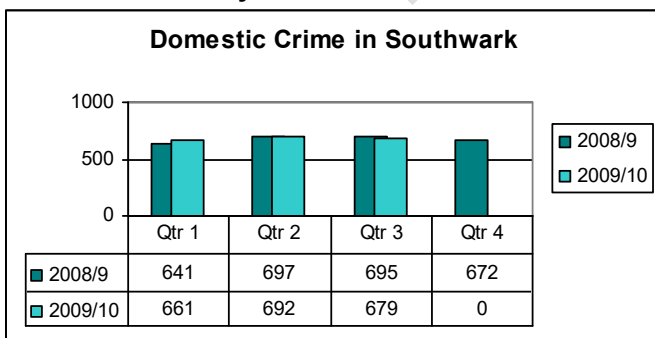
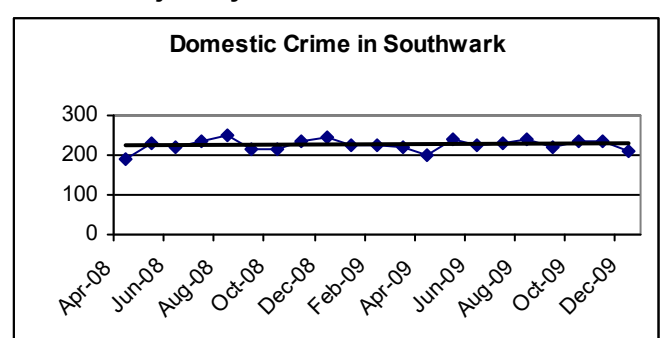


Chart 6: Trajectory of DV in Southwark



Gun and knife crime (NI29 and NI28)

Since the last strategic assessment there have been changes in the definitions of gun and knife crime. Whilst this will not necessarily have an impact upon the total number of offences (see footnote²) it does impact on the two indicators that we use to measure gun and knife crime, NI29 and NI28 respectively.

At the time of writing, gun crime has increased by 18% when compared to last year and in a similar fashion knife crime has increased by 12%. Both are analysed in more detail in later sections of the strategic assessment and both show sharp rises in offending levels since April 2009, when new counting methods were introduced.

Chart 7: Quarterly totals of gun crime in Southwark

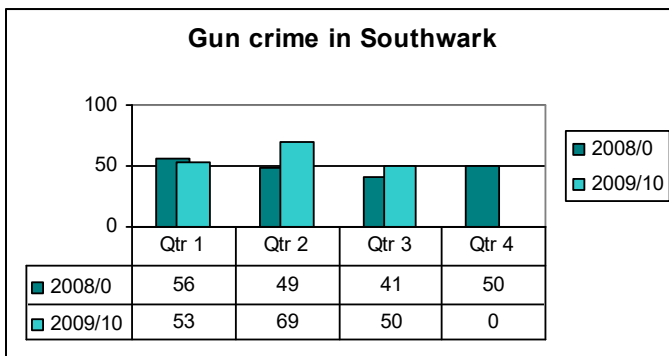


Chart 8: Trajectory of gun crime in Southwark

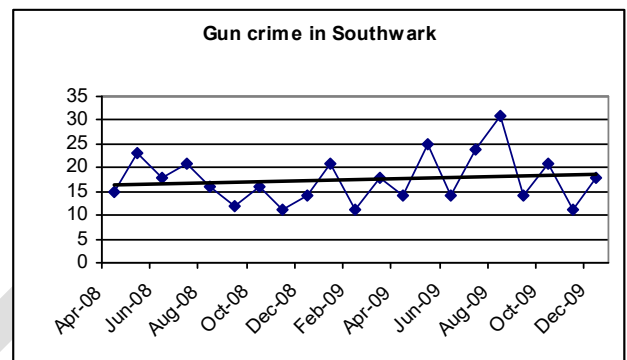


Chart 9: Quarterly totals of gun crime in Southwark

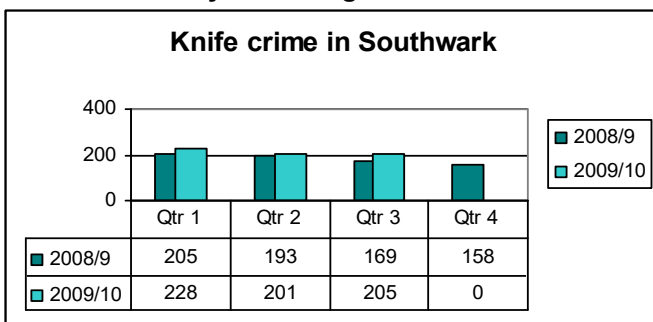
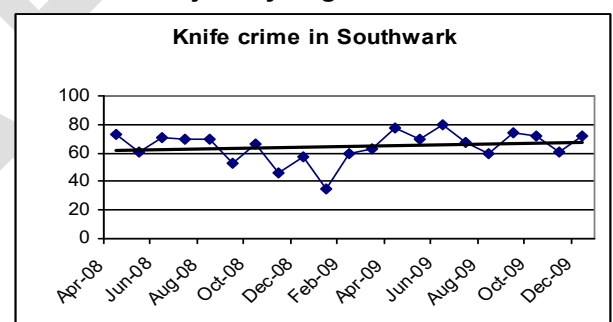


Chart 10: Trajectory of gun crime in Southwark



Partnership activity to tackle violent crime

- ❖ The pathways scheme has been developed over the last year with seven high risk individuals involved in gangs having a “call-in”. All of these seven signed up to the help strand and engaged with an advocate turning away from their gang involvement.
- ❖ A reassurance and awareness campaign around violent crime has been rolled out to engage with communities. This has included successful talkaoke road shows to engage local people in debates about violent crime.
- ❖ The Southwark safe accommodation programme (SERVE) has been developed to remove individuals and families from the threat of gang violence. To date, four referrals have been processed, so far ensuring successful outcomes for the families.

² Gun and knife offences are not crimes in their own right. They are flags attributed to other offences. i.e if a victim is robbed an knife point, the crime is robbery but a knife flag will also be added to the crime

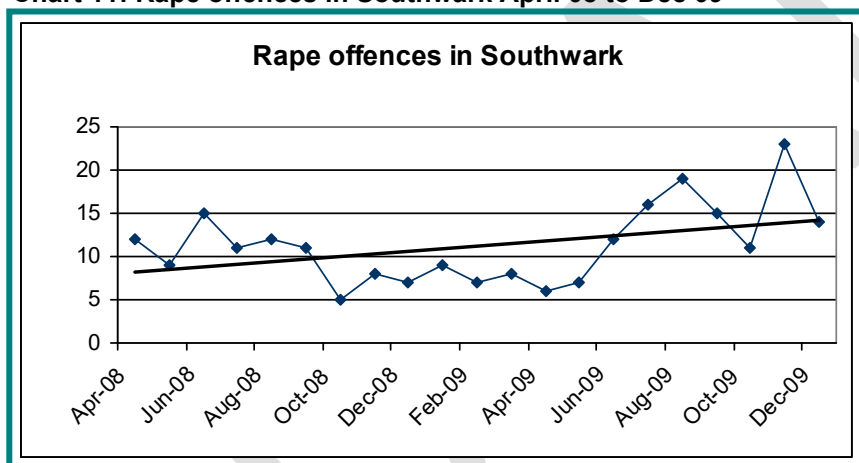
Partnership activity to tackle Domestic Violence

- ❖ Multi-agency work to address dating violence has been carried out in the borough including a dating violence education programme in schools and the introduction of a dedicated worker for 16-24 year old victims of dating violence.
- ❖ Routine enquiry has been introduced in Southwark's anti-social behaviour unit (SASBU) to improve reporting of domestic violence. Due to the success of this pilot, there are plans to roll out routine enquiry to other frontline services
- ❖ The IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) service has been expanded so that IDVAs are now provided in children's centres, enabling an increased number of young mothers to access domestic violence support services
- ❖ Victim Support Southwark have continued to provide the Sanctuary scheme over the last year, enabling domestic violence victims to remain safe in their homes through improving the security of their house

Rape and other sexual violence

Of note to the SSP in 2009/10 has been a very sharp increase in rape offences. Rape is increasing across London with our neighbours in Greenwich and Lambeth being no exception to this and, although low in numbers, the severity of this offence makes this increase a key focus of this strategic assessment. At the time of writing, rape offences in the borough are up by 37%. In real terms, that is an increase of 33 cases of rape when compared to the same period in 2008/9. Chart 11 shows the trajectory for rape since April 2008 with a very clear increase from May 09 onwards. With regards to other sexual offences, Southwark has been recording decreases this year with figures down 3% on last year.

Chart 11: Rape offences in Southwark April 08 to Dec 09



Racial & homophobic crimes

Racial and homophobic offences have risen by 29% and 41% respectively since April 2009. In real terms, this equates to an increase of 82 racial crimes and 19 homophobic crimes.

Youth violence

Serious youth violence measures the number of victims and is a London wide indicator to support performance on most serious violence (NI 15).

The level of youth victims of violence in Southwark has varied somewhat over the last 18 months. Whilst overall levels of youth violence have reduced 8% to 758 victims, levels of serious youth violence have increased 4% to 342 victims. However this increase in serious youth violence isn't because of a huge rise in victim levels this year, rather it is a result of extremely low figures in quarters 3 and 4 last year. This can be seen in chart 12.

Chart 12: Quarterly totals of youth violence

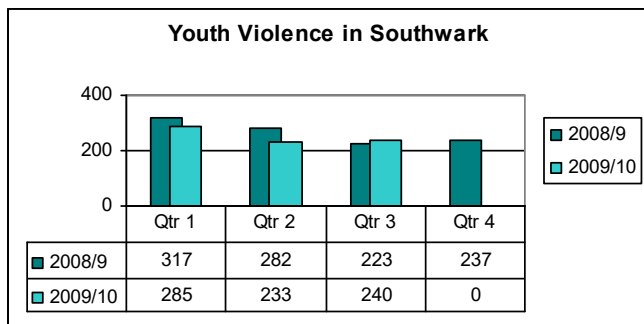
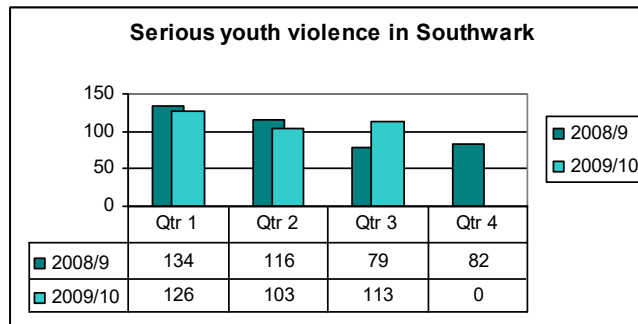


Chart 13: Quarterly totals of serious youth violence



Partnership Activity to prevent youth crime

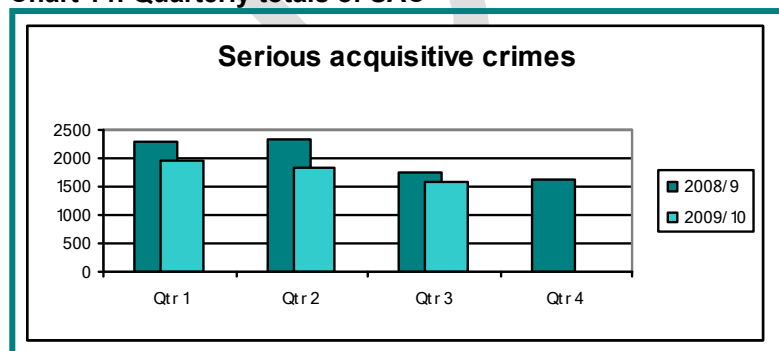
- ❖ There are now dedicated warden patrols on key bus routes as well as a presence at transport hubs to help prevent and deter youth crime at peak times.
- ❖ Early intervention work has been delivered in primary schools to prevent children joining gangs and encourage them to reject the “gangster lifestyle”.
- ❖ The gangs disruption team based in the YOT has worked with 250 young people at risk of gang-related offending as well as supporting young people to leave gangs.

Serious acquisitive crimes (NI16)

Serious acquisitive crime (SAC) has been reducing at noticeable levels during 2009/10. Table xx shows quarter on quarter reductions, resulting in a decrease of 16% against the year’s target of -2.1%. A large reduction of more than 30% in theft from motor vehicles has been the biggest factor in this overall reduction. However, both residential burglary and theft of motor vehicles have also seen good reductions during the year. Comparatively speaking, SAC in Southwark is below average when compared to it’s MSG, ranked 9th out of the 15 areas for offences per 1000 households.

A concern within the SAC category is LI1, personal robbery, which is another of our LAA indicators. Our personal robbery target for 2009/10 was a reduction of 3.5%. At the time of writing, the levels are 3% higher than they were at this point last year, an increase of just less than 45 offences, to a total of 1348 this financial year to date. Continuing with this theme, we also note that commercial robberies are showing an increase of 5% this year; an increase of seven offences to a total of 151 this financial year to date. Personal robbery and commercial robbery are both above our MSG average and ranked 2nd out of the 15 areas.

Chart 14: Quarterly totals of SAC



Adult re-offending

NI 143 and NI144 are LAA targets for the number of offenders under probation supervision who are living in settled accommodation and employment. Shown in table 5, both of these factors are pathways to offending so therefore, if successfully addressed, will aid in preventing re-offending.

Data is also available to assess the rate of re-offending of a cohort of 5373 Southwark adult offenders who are being managed by the Probation service. This indicates that for July 2008 to June 2009 the rate of re-offending for this cohort was 8.23% compared to a predicted baseline of 8.91% (a percentage difference of -7.63%), illustrating the success of the partnership in reducing re-offending. However, Probation data indicates that 71.3% of all Southwark offenders have been assessed as having a medium or high risk of proven re-offending in the next two years, illustrating the importance of continued partnership activity to address factors linked to offending in Southwark.

Table 5: Offenders under probation supervision living in settled accommodation / in employment or training

	2009/10 target	2009/10 performance (YTD)
NI143 - Offenders under probation supervision living in settled accommodation*	77.5%	75%
NI144 - Offenders under probation supervision in employment*	36.0%	34%

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

One of our key indicators for measuring anti-social behaviour is the 2008 Southwark residents' survey. It shows that litter / rubbish and teenagers hanging around remain the key concerns for residents of Southwark. However, overall concern over ASB has reduced by 10% since the 2006 survey (from 44% to 34%). The survey shows that concerns around ASB do vary across the borough, with ASB significantly more likely to be seen as a serious problem in Bermondsey (43%) and Walworth (47%).

According to the 2008 Southwark residents' survey:

- ❖ 92% of residents now feel safe in the day time; a 6% increase from 2006
- ❖ A significant increase in night time safety to 54%; an increase of 8% from 2006
- ❖ The key concerns that make residents feel unsafe, during both day and night time, are muggings/street crime, knife crime, gangs and groups of teenagers

Table 6: Progress on our perception targets is set out in the table below.

Perception indicators	2006	2008				
	Baseline	Actual	% change	Traffic light	Target	
Place Survey						
NI 17 % of residents who perceive ASB as a serious problem	29%	29%	0%	G	no change	
NI 22 % who agree that in their local area parents take enough responsibility for the behaviour of their children*	35%	29%	-5%	R	+4%	
NI 21 % who agree that police and other local public services seek their views on dealing with asb and crime in local area*	question not asked	28%	n/a		n/a	
NI 27 % who agree that police and other local public services are successful in dealing with crime/asb issues in local area*	question not asked	26%	n/a		n/a	
NI 42 Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a serious problem	29%	37%	8%	R	-3%	
NI 41 Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem	65%	41%	-24%	G	-10%	
NI 37 Awareness of civil protection arrangements in the local area	question not asked	12%	n/a		n/a	
Southwark residents survey						
LI 3 Feelings of safety	day time	86%	92%	+6%	G	+4%
	night time	46%	54%	+8%	G	+4%
% of residents who perceive ASB as a serious problem	44%	34%	-20%	G	-6%	
Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a serious problem	17%	13%	-4%	G	-2%	

Partnership Activity to tackle ASB

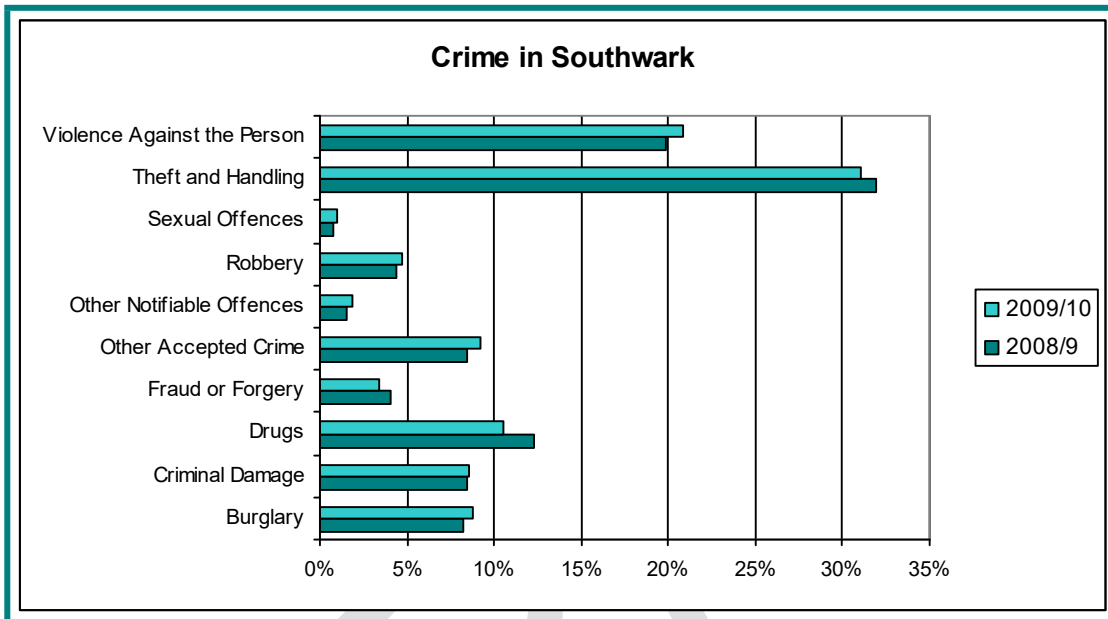
- ❖ Street based teams have engaged with over 400 young people to help address anti-social behaviour.
- ❖ 17 families have engaged with the ASB Family Intervention Project to help tackle the underlying causes of ASB using a whole family approach. This has contributed to the 20% decrease in the breach rate for young people's ASBOs over the past five years.
- ❖ An accredited ASB training package has been delivered to 57 delegates to improve Southwark's response to ASB, particularly around providing support for victims of ASB.
- ❖ Seven ASBOs (with supporting Individual Support Orders and Parenting Orders) have been secured on known gang members
- ❖ 3744 fixed penalty notices were issued for ASB related issues between April 09 and December 09.

Crime & Disorder scanning review

What types of crime happen in Southwark?

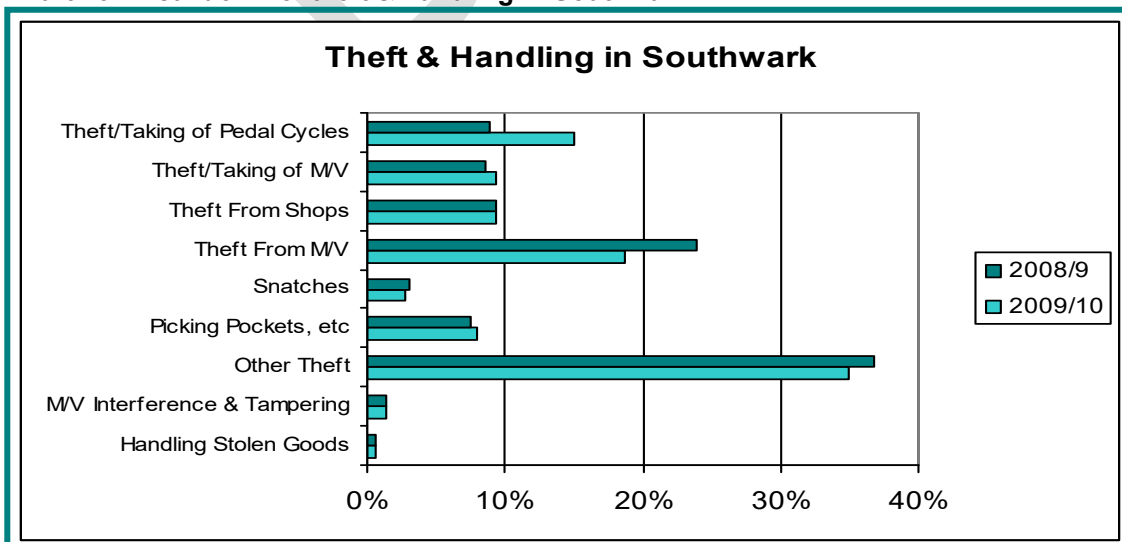
There are numerous categories that different types of crime are split into. For the purposes of providing an overview of the current situation in Southwark, we have looked at some of the major offending types and calculated how much of our total crime rate they account for. Chart 15 shows that the breakdown of crime in Southwark has changed very little over the past two years. Approximately one third of crime in Southwark is categorised as theft and handling offences. This includes crime such as shoplifting, handling stolen goods and vehicle crime, all of which are regarded as volume offences.

Chart 15: Breakdown of crime in Southwark



Further examination of theft & handling offences in Southwark (chart 16) shows that whereas theft from motor Vehicle (TFMV) used to account for 25% of thefts in the borough, that figure is now closer to 18%. In reverse of that, theft of pedal cycles is now more prominent within this category, accounting for 15% of theft & handling offences, compared to 9% in the previous year. Other theft is still the most prominent offence relating to theft & handling, accounting for approximately 35%. These offences are often constituted from thefts from purses, handbags in licensed premises

Chart 16: Breakdown of theft & handling in Southwark

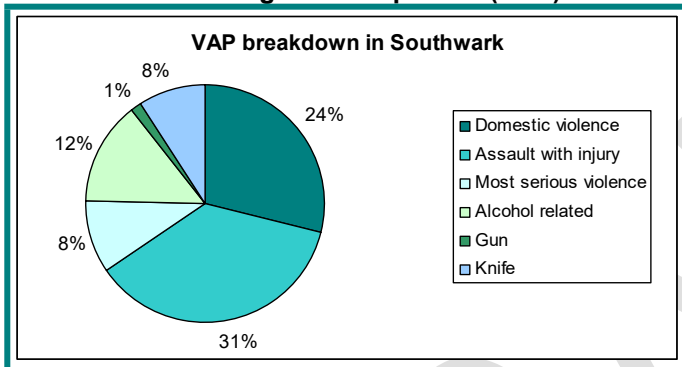


An area of concern within our crime & disorder overview is the category of violence against the person (VAP). Chart 15 shows VAP accounting for approximately 1 in every 5 offences in Southwark and we note that this rate is increasing slightly. Looking back over the past two years, it is clear that approximately 50% of our VAPs are either common assault or harassment offences which are normally considered less serious violent crime. However, approximately 40% are in the more serious bracket. This ratio is of major concern to the SPP as within the more serious VAP crimes are offences such as gun crime, knife crime, MSV, AWI and murder, many of which have been increasing over the past 18 month period. We go on now to examine in more detail some of the attributes of violence in Southwark.

Key features of violent offences in Southwark

Chart 17 breaks down further some of the attributes that are assigned to offences. We estimate that approximately 25% of VAP is related to domestic violence, 32% to assault with injury, 12% to alcohol, 9 to MSV, 8% to knife enabled offences and 1.5% to gun enabled crimes. These ratios have changed very little over the past 2 years and impact upon both the most serious and less serious violent offences in Southwark

Chart 17: Violence against the person (VAP) breakdown in Southwark



Note: An offence can have more than 1 flag assigned.

Domestic violence in Southwark

Looking in slightly more detail at one of our current strategic priorities (DV), we were keen to see if DV incidents were concerned with the serious or not so serious end of violent crimes. In order to do this we took a brief snapshot of data from this financial year and compared it to the same period last year. The comparison we made was to look at some of the different categories of violent crime both with and without the DV flag³ present. What we found based on this snapshot was that domestic violence incidents are more commonly associated with less serious violent crimes such as common assault. However it is also present within many 'assault with injury' offences. Table xx shows the change in volumes of offences between this financial year and the same period last year. It is clear that when DV flags are removed from the crimes that the numbers of common assault and assault with injury offences are greatly reduced.

	Violent offences sample Apr109 - Oct09 compared to same period in 2008/9	
	volume change including DV	volume change exluding DV
Assault with injury	82	56
Common assault	107	16
Harassment	-262	-236
Murder	-6	-4
Offensive weapon	-73	-73
Other violence	55	45
Serious wounding	26	27

³ Where it is thought or known that there has been an element of DV within an offence a flag will be applied to the crime report

Knife & gun enabled crime in Southwark

As shown in the performance overview chapter, the indicators for gun and knife crime are of utmost importance to the SSP and this year the offence levels for gun and knife enabled crimes have increased by 18% and 12% respectively. In real terms we are talking about 172 gun enabled offences and 634 knife enabled offences this year to date

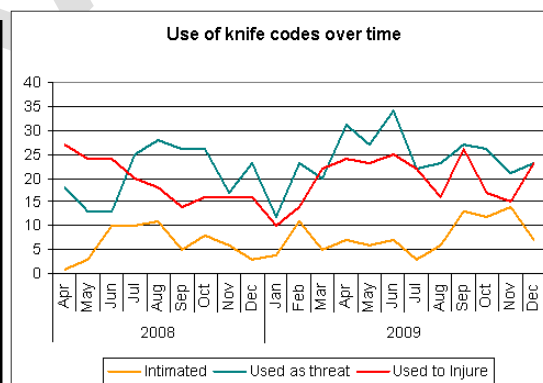
Looking in more detail at knife and gun crime our analysis shows that just over half of all knife enabled offences are concerned with robbery of the person offences and almost 30% are concerned with our most serious violence offences. However, when compared to gun enabled offences there is a slightly different profile. Personal robbery still accounts for the highest percentage of gun enabled crimes at 28%. However 18% of our gun crimes are linked to commercial robbery and interestingly only 14% are linked to our most serious violent offences.

Although considered in more detail in the victims and offenders chapters, almost 1 third of knife enabled offences are classified as youth violence⁴ compared to 8% of gun crime.

Our other findings linked to gun and knife crime were that very few knife enabled offences are linked to hate crime. Less than 1% of knife enabled crime was categorised as a racial incident and we've seen no evidence of homophobic or faith hate knife enabled crimes. Like wise only 2.3% of all gun enabled crimes were categorised as a racial incident and again, there were no homophobic or faith hate knife enabled crimes.

Of concern at present is the change in recording practices to both gun and knife crime that happened in April 2009. Since this time any incident where the victim believes that the offender had or it is intimated that they might have had either a gun or knife will now be recorded as such. With regards to knife crimes, our analysis shows that in approximately 15% of knife enabled crimes the knife was intimated, in 47% the use of a knife was threatened and in 38% the knife was used. Table xx shows the breakdown of knife enabled violent offences and table xx shows increasing levels of intimated knife enable offences during this financial year, with intimated offences increasing by 33%, threat increase by 24% and knives used to injure increasing by 9%.

Crime Type	Intimated	Used as threat	Used to injure
Assault with Injury	2.6	53.8	43.6
Business Property	19.2	73.1	7.7
Common Assault	0.0	100.0	0.0
Harassment	14.3	85.7	0.0
Murder	0.0	0.0	100.0
Other Notifiable	20.0	80.0	0.0
Other Violence	12.5	68.8	18.8
Personal Property	24.7	61.6	13.7
Rape	0.0	100.0	0.0
Serious Wounding	0.7	7.6	91.7
Snatches	100.0	0.0	0.0
Theft/Taking of M/V	0.0	100.0	0.0
Grand Total	15	46.8	38.2



Robbery of the person

As identified in the performance chapter, robbery offences in Southwark have been increasing over the past year and at the time of writing the strategic assessment we average about 150 robberies per month in Southwark, of which just over 300 (23%) knife enabled. The rate of personal robberies that are gun enabled is 5%. We also note that unlike other violent crimes, alcohol is not a huge factor in personal robbery offences, accounting for 5% compared to 12% for other violent crimes and in the case of MSV 17.5%.

⁴ Definition of youth violence here

In total there were just fewer than 6,300 items of property stolen from victims by means of robbery in the 18 month period to Dec, with many crime reports noting more than one item stolen. For example, where a handbag was stolen, each individual item within that bag would be typically listed as a separate entity on the property fields in the crime reporting system. The most common types of property stolen can be seen in table xx below along with an estimated average value of that property based on information included within individual crime reports.

Type	No.	Ave Value
Mobile Phone	1405	120.47
Cash (British)	1067	166.21
Credit/Cash/Chq Card	507	0.00
Purse/Wallet	432	23.90
Handbag/Shoulder bag	350	72.06
Travel Document	230	51.15
Key/Padlock	217	15.01
P.Cycle/Accessory	181	231.72
Document-other/NK	180	5.28
Driving Licence	173	9.63

Looking at the 1,405 mobile phones that were reported stolen at an average cost of £120 each, we can estimate that the total value of lost mobiles through personal robbery offences is in the region of £168.6k. Table xx reports on property stolen over a 21 month period, so we are looking at a monthly average of just over £8k in mobile phones stolen during a robbery. Table xx also shows the high value of pedal cycles stolen in the borough, which are also often used as part of the MO of perpetrators committing robbery offences. Again, based on the average value of the bike being £231 we can estimate a total value of £41.8k and a monthly average of almost £2k. We have little recovery information regarding stolen mobile phones and bikes and also their resale value and acknowledge this as an intelligence gap.

Commercial robbery

Along with personal robberies, commercial robberies have also been flagged as increasing this year. Although, comparatively speaking, the numbers are much smaller than personal robberies with 151 commercial robberies this year to date, our analysis shows there to be a strong link with commercial robbery and the use/threat of firearms and to a slightly lesser extent knives. Of the commercial robberies in Southwark that have taken place this year, 23% were flagged as having a firearms link and a further 18% flagged as being knife enabled.

The pattern of commercial robberies in Southwark shows that delivery drivers, bookmakers and other more general commercial premises account for over half of all the commercial robberies in Southwark (see table xx). This trend has continued from 2008/9 where a similar pattern of offending was identified through our commercial robbery problem profile.

When taking a slightly closer look at some of these robberies it is evident that the use of a firearm was most prevalent in robberies involving bookmakers with victims being targeted as they take takings to a bank or building society at the end of the day. However, in the majority of commercial robbery offences there was only the threat of a weapon being used and in very few incidents was a weapon actually used on the victim

Victim	No	% total commercial robbery
Pizza Delivery	29	19%
Bookmakers	27	18%
Commercial premises	24	16%
Cash in Transit	16	11%
Convenience store	16	11%
Off Licence	11	7%
Other	28	19%
Total	151	

Most serious violence in Southwark

Typically, most serious violence (MSV) offences in Southwark are concerned with serious wounding, most commonly known as GBH. Looking at MSV in more detail, we notice that one third of these offences have also been classified as youth violence. As with gun and knife crime, a very small figure (1.8%) of these crimes were flagged as a racial incidents, with even fewer (0.7%) flagged as a homophobic incidents. In addition to the high percentage of MSV offences being linked to young people, approximately one third involved the use of a knife and 6% a firearm. Whilst we acknowledge that the use of the alcohol feature code is not as widespread as it could be, it is estimated that 17.5% of MSV incidents are linked to alcohol use in some way.

Performance and Crime & Disorder overview summary

- ❖ Southwark is in its six year of consecutive crime reduction
- ❖ Theft & handling accounts for 1 third of the recorded crimes in Southwark and of these offences, 35% are considered 'other theft'
- ❖ With the exception of robbery (both personal & commercial), serious acquisitive crime is reducing in the borough
- ❖ 1 in every 5 crimes in Southwark is a categorised as a violent crime
- ❖ Levels of most serious violence, assault with injury, gun & knife crime are all increasing in Southwark
- ❖ DV accounts for approximately 25% of our violent offences
- ❖ DV is more prominent in common assault and assault with injury offences than most serious violent crimes
- ❖ Half of our violent offences are low level harassment or common assault incidents and close to 40% are in the more serious bracket
- ❖ Alcohol is a factor in 12% of our violent offences and this percentage increase to approximately 18% for our MSV offences
- ❖ Robbery of the person is the offence in which guns and knives are most commonly involved.
- ❖ One third of our knife crimes and 8% of our gun crimes are considered to be linked to youth violence. Similarly one third of our MSV offences are youth violence
- ❖ The number of problematic drug users going into treatment is decreasing
- ❖ Rape, racial & homophobic crimes are all emerging as areas of concern for the SSP
- ❖ 71.3% of all Southwark offenders have been assessed as having a medium or high risk of re-offending in the next two years
- ❖ The key concerns that make residents feel unsafe, during both day and night time, are muggings/street crime, knife crime, gangs and groups of teenagers

Offenders

What is the offender profile in Southwark?

In order to assess who commits crime in Southwark, we have looked at a number of sources of information. The first of these sources is the borough wide profile for crime suspects. It shows us the following trends:

- ❖ 85% of suspects of crime in Southwark are male and 15% female
- ❖ 27% are aged between 15 and 19, with a further 18% aged between 20 and 24. These rates have not changed since the last strategic assessment.
- ❖ 56% are Afro-Caribbean and 34% white European; this compares to the demographic profile of the borough of 63% white European and 26% Afro-Caribbean

Looking in more detail at the 15 to 19 year age bracket we have taken some of our major offence categories and calculated the percentage of these crimes where the suspects were described as being aged between 15 – 19 yrs old. Of particular note was that 60% of robbery suspects are in this age bracket and also account for the highest proportion of suspects for each of the listed offences in table xx. BCS figures show a similar national trend in that for 55% of violent incidents the offender was believed to be male and aged between 16 and 24 yrs.

Offence	Percentage with 15-19yr old suspects
VAP	20%
Robbery	60%
Sexual offences	22%
Theft/handling	26%
Drugs	25%
Burglary	32%
Criminal damage	23%
Average	30%

The ethnicity of suspects for crimes in Southwark points overwhelmingly towards Afro-Caribbeans and white Europeans, who between them account for 89% of our suspects for offences. However the ratio between the two differs slightly according to different offence types. Table xx highlights that the robbery, VAP and sexual offences have much higher rates of Afro-Caribbean suspects than white European. It also highlights that suspects for burglary offences are more likely to be white European.

Offence	Ethnicity	
	Afro-Caribbean	White European
VAP	54%	35%
Robbery	83%	13%
Sexual offences	59%	25%
Theft/Handling	49%	39%
Drugs	49%	40%
Burglary	40%	54%
Criminal Damage	41%	49%

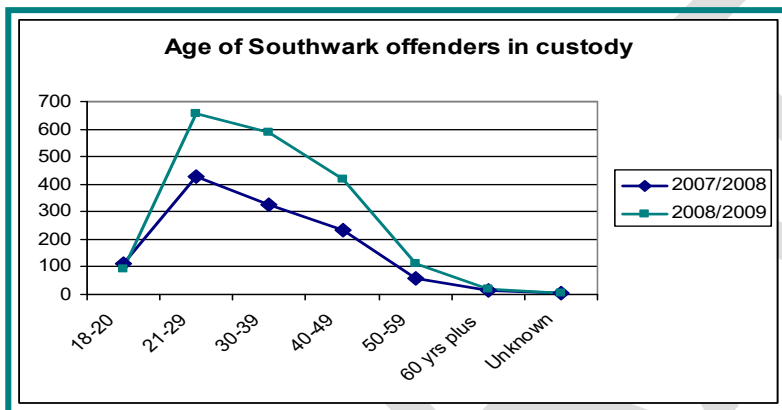
In addition to looking at the ages of our suspects for different crimes in Southwark, we were also keen to examine where, if at all, people were committing offences in groups. In doing this we've found that in just

over 40% of robbery offences there were 3 or more suspects. For the majority of other crimes there was usually between 1 and 2 suspects recorded on the crime report.

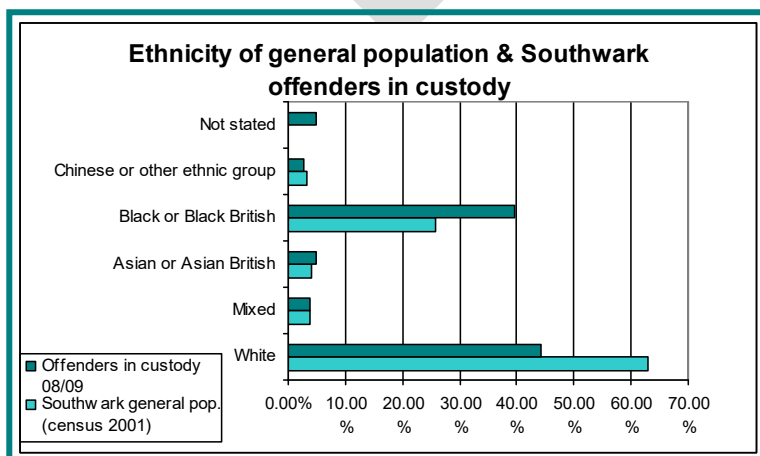
Offence type	% of lone offender	% with 2 offenders	% more than 2 offenders
VAP	82	11	7
Robbery	29	29	41
Sexual offences	78	12	10
Theft/Handling	71	20	9
Drugs	96	2	2
Burglary	57	26	17
Criminal damage	79	12	9

Offenders in custody

In 2008/9 there were just fewer than 2000 Southwark offenders in London prisons, which is an increase of almost 60% on the previous year. Looking at the age profile of Southwark offenders in custody it is evident that there has been little change over the last two years, with the majority of offenders in London prisons from Southwark being aged 21-39 as illustrated in chart x.



The ethnic profile of Southwark offenders in London prisons shows that the majority of offenders serving custodial sentences stated they were either White or Black/Black British. This is a largely similar ethnic profile to the previous year. However, it is worth noting the differences between the ethnic profile of Southwark offenders when compared to the ethnicity of Southwark general population. Chart xx illustrates that, when compared to the general population, individuals from Black or Black British ethnic groups are over represented within the London prison population.



Diamond cohort

Southwark are currently part of the Diamond Districts initiative pilot which involves targeting multi-agency resources at the cohort of offenders who do not receive statutory intervention to help break the cycle of re-offending. This includes those offenders who are either serving custodial sentences under 12 months; who are sentenced to Community Payback and therefore do not receive statutory supervision from the Probation Service or offenders who are referred via their Offender Manager in Probation⁵. The Diamond team are currently actively working with 59 clients within Southwark. Data indicates that the majority of offenders currently being managed by Diamond classify their ethnicity as either Black/Black British or White which concurs with the OASys break down for those Southwark offenders serving over 12 months. The majority of offenders are aged between 25-34 years old and 85% are male and 15% are female. This broadly correlates with the profile of Southwark offenders serving over 12 months in custody.

What are the drivers behind offending in Southwark?

National drivers

According to the 2008/9 BCS, victims believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol in nearly half (47%) of all violent incidents and in nearly 1 in 5 (17%) the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of drugs. The incidents where alcohol was present in violent offences was most prominent in offences where the offender wasn't known to the victim in any way (stranger violence) however there were less differences between alcohol and the types of violent offence.

The BCS also researched people's perceptions of the causes of crimes in England & Wales. Drugs and lack of discipline from parents were identified as two of the major causes. When asked about the single factor that was the main cause, people stated the lack of discipline from parents. Table xx is taken from the BCS and shows the factors considered to be major causes of crime in the country.

Table 5a Factors considered as causes of crime in Britain today, 2008/09 BCS

Percentages	2008/09 BCS	
	Major causes of crime ^{1,2}	Main cause of crime ¹
<i>Percentage perceiving this as a factor:</i>		
Drugs	68	26
Lack of discipline from parents	67	30
Alcohol	53	8
Too lenient sentencing	41	11
Breakdown of family	38	8
Lack of discipline from school	36	3
Unemployment	30	3
Too few police	26	2
Poverty	23	4
None of these	0	n/a
Do not think there is one main cause	n/a	4
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>11,646</i>	<i>11,532</i>

1. Respondents were asked to select from a list the factors they thought were the major causes of crime in Britain today. If respondents selected more than one factor they were then asked which of the factors they believed to be the main cause of crime.

2. Percentages add to more than 100 as respondents could select more than one cause.

⁵ The London Diamond districts initiative is being led by the London Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) and derived from the 'Million dollar block' concept in the USA. Research findings indicate that concentrating resources on areas with high levels of offending can have a significant impact on reducing re-offending rates. Southwark is one of six London pilots.

Local drivers

The figures for Southwark show that in approximately 12% of our violent crime offences the victim perceived the offender to be under the influence of alcohol. However based upon the BCS findings and issues with extracting alcohol related data from our crime recording system, we believe this to be a conservative estimate.

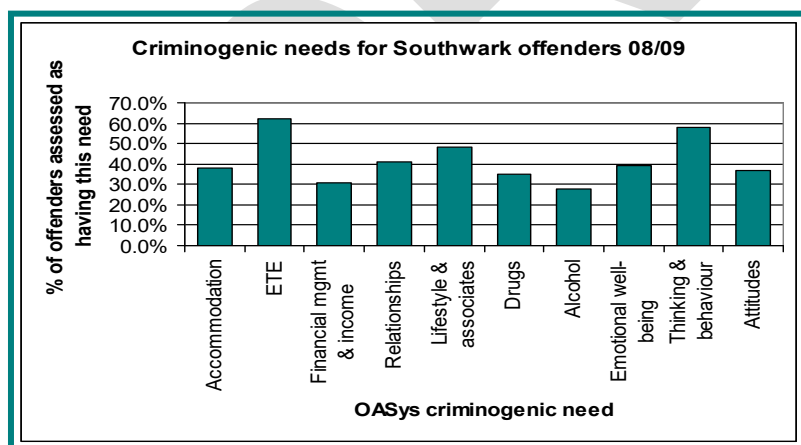
Deprivation in Southwark

Southwark is made up of 165 lower super output areas (LSOAs). The IMD (Index of Multiple Deprivation) table below shows which quartile Southwark's LSOPAs fall for a series of deprivation indicators. From the table it can be seen that 113 LSOAs in Southwark (68.5%) fall in within the first quartile; i.e. are within the top quarter of deprived neighbourhoods in the country.

Type	First Quartile	Second Quartile	Third Quartile	Fourth Quartile
IMD	68.5% (113)	23% (38)	7.3% (12)	1.2% (2)
Income	65.5% (108)	24.8% (41)	3.6% (6)	6.1% (10)
Employment	46.7% (77)	35.2% (58)	9.7% (16)	8.5% (14)
Health	41.2% (69)	45.5% (75)	9.7% (16)	3% (5)
Education/skills/training	3% (5)	57% (94)	29.7 (49)	10.3% (17)
Barriers to housing and services	95% (158)	4.2% (7)	0	0
Crime	60% (99)	26.1% (43)	10.9% (18)	3% (5)
Living Environment	87% (144)	12.7% (21)	0	0

Factors linked to offending

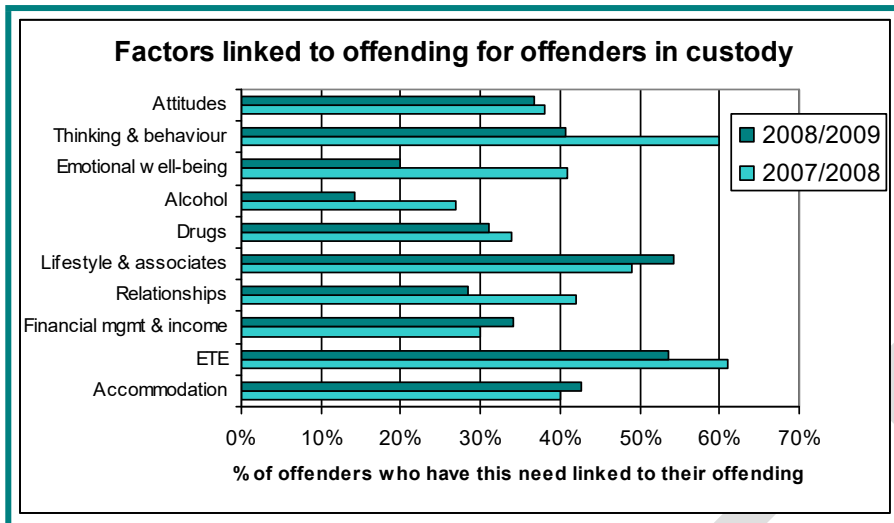
There are also a number of other data sources that can be used to identify the factors that are motivating people to commit offences. For example, offenders who are on the probation caseload undergo a comprehensive assessment of their criminogenic needs (factors which are linked to their offending) using the national Offender Assessment System (OASys)⁶. Probation assessments for all offenders residing in Southwark (those on Community Orders as well as those serving custodial sentences) indicated that Employment, Training and Education (ETE) was the number one criminogenic need in 2008/2009 with 62.4% of offenders being assessed as having this need. This was followed by Thinking and Behaviour which was assessed as related to offending for 57.8% of all offenders in Southwark. This is illustrated in figure x along with the other criminogenic needs assessed using OASys.



This can be compared with Figure x which uses data from the OASys assessments completed only on those offenders in custody. It illustrates that the factors most commonly linked to offending for these offenders in custody during 2008/2009 were Lifestyle and Associates and Employment, Training and Education (ETE), with over 50% of offenders being assessed as having a need in these areas. In

⁶ The assessment covers areas including employment status and basic skills, their accommodation situation, any substance misuse needs (including if offending is to fund drug or alcohol use), their emotional and physical health, relationships with their family including any indicators of domestic violence, patterns in their behaviour and their financial situation

addition, accommodation was identified as a criminogenic need for 43.6% of offenders. These factors are important for the partnership to consider when forming interventions to address re-offending.



However, it is important to note that offenders who are sentenced to less than 12 months in custody will not undergo an OASys assessment unless they are aged 18-21 so will not be represented in this data set. However, there are other data sources that can be used to supplement the OASys data such as the London Initial Screening and Referral Tool (LISAR). LISAR data is self-reported information collected for entrants into London prisons to identify their needs and make appropriate and timely referrals. However, there are substantial limitations to this data that need to be considered such as relying largely on self-reporting.⁷

Data collected regarding offenders' needs using LISAR is largely in accordance with OASys figures although they will not necessarily relate to the same cohort of offenders. LISAR figures indicate that 35.4% of offenders reported to be living in unstable or transient accommodation (either no fixed abode or in temporary accommodation) and 57.9% stated they were unemployed. It is worth noting that in 2007/2008, 37.74% of Southwark offenders stated that they were unemployed prior to their custodial sentence (LISAR needs data). Therefore, there has been a 20% increase in the number of offenders in London prisons who stated that they were unemployed before prison in 2008/2009.

The prevalence of substance misuse as a motivating factor linked to offending can be illustrated through OASys data. This shows that the percentage of offenders in custody who have been assessed to have substance related needs is 31% which is slightly lower than last year (34%). However, LISAR data shows that 44.68% of offenders in London prisons answered yes to "do you use drugs" compared to only 27% last year.

LISAR data indicates that for 2008/2009, Southwark had 1441 Probation order commencements which was the 3rd highest number of all London Boroughs. This is compared to 1304 Probation commencements in 07/08. In addition, Southwark had the highest number of residents received into London prisons of all London Boroughs with a total of 1894 LISAR completions for prisoners stating they reside in Southwark. 697 of these offenders had been sentenced, of which 417 (60%) were serving less than 12 months and will therefore be released without any statutory supervision or support. This is in comparison to 2007/2008 when there were 1179 Southwark residents received into London prisons (5th highest in London). Of these, 257 (67% of all the prisoners who had been sentenced) were serving sentences of less than 12 months. This data highlights the continuing need for interventions within

⁷ LISAR only captures data for offenders who are received into London prisons, not those who are from London but are received at prisons outside of London. This is particularly important for women who are more likely to serve their sentence at a prison outside of London.

Southwark that address the criminogenic needs of the cohort of offenders who serve less than 12 months in custody to help prevent them from re-offending.

Data from the Diamond project indicates that the top three needs identified in the cohort of offenders not receiving statutory supervision and support are ETE (82% of offenders), Benefits being the main source of income (70%) and substance misuse (65% of offenders). This data broadly correlates with OASys data, indicating that the most prominent need in both cohorts of offenders within Southwark is Employment, Training and Education. There appear to be no significant differences in the demographics of the Southwark offenders in London prisons and the Southwark Diamond cohort. This is an indication that a move to integrated offender management may have benefits due to the offenders in both cohorts exhibiting broadly the same needs and requiring the same type of supervision and support.

Re-offending rates in Southwark

Data is available to assess the rate of re-offending of a cohort of 5373 Southwark adult offenders who are being managed by the Probation service. This indicates that from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 the rate of re-offending for this cohort was 8.23% compared to a predicted baseline of 8.91%⁸. This is in comparison to the rate of re-offending for the whole of London being 8.49% compared to a baseline of 8.62% indicating that Southwark has had a greater reduction in re-offending over the past year compared to London as a whole. However, this reduction is not statistically significant and there are limitations to the data, particularly as it simply provides a snap shot of a cohort of offenders on Probation caseloads at a particular point in time and whether they were then convicted of any further offences in a 3 month period. In addition, only offences that proceed through the Criminal Justice System within the 3 month period will be included, resulting in many of the most serious offences being excluded from the figures due to the time taken to investigate such cases.

The total cost of re-offending to Southwark for 08/09 has been estimated at £58,638,895 in comparison to £55,904,330 for last year. This figure includes the costs to the victim, the Criminal Justice System, victim services and the health services. It is known that 64% of offenders re-offend within 2 years of a prison sentence and this is even higher for offenders who receive short-term custody (under 12 months) at 73.4%. However, since April 2009 Southwark have become one of the pilot Boroughs involved in the Diamond Districts Initiative and the effects of this initiative are not yet known. It is hoped that this will reduce the rate of re-offending in the borough and will be examined in next year's strategic assessment.

Another way of estimating the rate of re-offending in Southwark is to look at Probation data regarding the Offender Group Reconviction Scale (OGRS)⁹. OGRS is a prediction of the likelihood of re-conviction based on static factors such as age, gender and offending history. Based on 1808 OASys assessments of Southwark offenders who were being managed by Probation in the last year, 28.7% were assessed as a low risk of reconviction; 51.8% were assessed as having a medium risk of proven re-offending and 19.5% were assessed as a high risk of reconviction. This indicates that 71.3% of all Southwark offenders have been assessed as having a medium or high risk of proven re-offending in the next two years. However, please note, that these risk levels are an estimation of the likelihood of re-conviction and do not refer to risk of serious harm so they do not provide any information regarding the severity of further offending.

⁸ Local adult re-offending 1 July 2008 – 30 June 2009 England and Wales Ministry of Justice Statistics bulletin. The local measure takes a snapshot of every offender under probation supervision at the end of each quarter, and combines four such snapshots together. It only includes offences that are committed in the 3 month period that progress through court in another 3 month period (i.e. 6 months in total) so it will exclude the most serious offences that inevitably take longer to progress through the CJS.

⁹ OGRS estimates the probability that offenders with certain characteristics and a given history of offending will be reconvicted or given a warning, reprimand or caution within two years of sentence or release from custody. It is based on static factors so although research shows it to be a strong predictor of proven re-offending, it does not take into account dynamic factors so needs to be considered as only one aspect of risk assessment.

Offenders overview summary

- ❖ Afro-Caribbeans and white Europeans account for 89% of our suspects for offences
- ❖ 15-19 year olds account for the highest proportion of suspects, particularly regarding robbery (60% of robbery suspects are 15-19)
- ❖ Southwark had the highest number of residents received into London prisons (1894 in 08/09) which is an increase of almost 60% on the previous year
- ❖ 60% of Southwark offenders in prison will receive no statutory supervision upon release
- ❖ Individuals from Black or Black British ethnic groups are over represented within the London Prison population
- ❖ 66% of Southwark prisoners are aged 21-39
- ❖ Education, training and employment is the top need for Southwark offenders
- ❖ Nearly 50% of offenders admitted to using drugs prior to custody (compared to 27% in 07/08)
- ❖ The rate of re-offending amongst adult offenders is approximately 8%. However 71.3% of all Southwark offenders have been assessed as having a medium or high risk of proven re-offending in the next two years
- ❖ The total cost of re-offending to Southwark has been estimated at £58,638,895

Victims

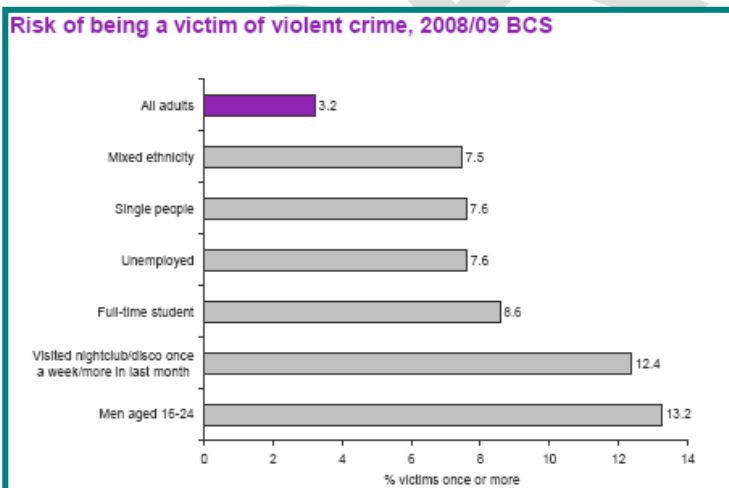
Who are the victims of crime in Southwark?

In order to assess who commits crime in Southwark, we have looked at a number of sources of information. The first of these sources is the borough wide profile for victims of crime. It shows us the following trends:

- ❖ 55% are male, 45% female
- ❖ 57% are white European
- ❖ The next highest category is Afro-Caribbean at 28%
- ❖ 16% are aged 25 and 29, with a further 14% aged 30 and 34
- ❖ Unlike the suspect profile, just 8% of victims are aged between 15 and 19; this indicates that younger suspects tend to target older victims
- ❖ When combining sex, age and ethnicity, the most prominent group to be a victim of crime in Southwark are white Europeans, both male and female, aged between 25 and 29. This is 9% of the total
- ❖ This is followed by white Europeans aged between 30 and 34 (8%) and white Europeans aged between 20 and 24 (7%)
- ❖ The most common range for Afro-Caribbean victims is between the ages of 40 and 44. This group makes up just 4% of the total

Who is at risk of becoming a victim?

The 2008/9 BCS shows that in England and Wales, 3% of adults had experienced violent crime over the last year, with men twice as likely to be victims as women. However the key risks highlighted were amongst men aged between 16-24 (13%) and also regular visitors to night clubs (12.5), both shown in table xx



The BCS also pointed the risk of victimisation among people living in more deprived circumstances. It found that people living in social-rented accommodation were more than twice as likely to be a victim of violence as those living in owner occupied accommodation, 5% and 2.1% respectively. It also noted that the risk of becoming a victim of violence was twice as high for those people living in the 20% most deprived areas in England (4.5% in most deprived areas, 2.2% in least deprived areas)

2008/9 BCS interviews show victims of domestic violence (DV) were the most likely category to be repeat victims, accounting for 66% of all DV incidents. 37% were victimised more than once and 20% were victimised three or more times.

Victims of assault presenting at local A&E departments

Since April 2009 we have been receiving data from our two local A&E departments, both of which fall within Lambeth. The data details all those people that have presented at A&E at either Kings College hospital or St Thomas's hospital having been the victim of an assault. Whilst we are still working with the hospitals to resolve some issues with the data, we have incorporated the data from St Thomas's hospital into this year's strategic assessment to provide further insight to the nature of violent offences in Southwark. In total there were just over 1800 presentation to St Thomas's A&E department for assault between April and December 2009. Of these assaults, 76% of the victims were male with the remaining 24% female. We also found that half of them took place in the street and interestingly 13% took place in the home. Of those incidents that took place in the home, we found that women of all ages were much more likely to get assaulted at home than Men (27% of all assaults on women were in the home compared to 7% of the assaults on men). It is estimate that almost all of the incidents in the home against women were linked to domestic violence. Our other findings included:

- No real differences in the age of victims when broken down by gender. Peak age for both men and women is 19-35
- Majority of assault victims were White British.
- Saturday and Sunday peak days of week
- May to September have higher than average admissions for assaults
Peak time appears to be from 11pm through to 4am

Location of assault	Count	% of total
Street	908	50%
Other	327	18%
Home	245	13%
Work	111	6%
Club	68	4%
Bar / Pub	47	3%
Someone else's home	43	2%
Other Public Place	38	2%
School	15	1%
Other	26	1%
Grand total	1828	

The A&E data also provided details of the types of injuries that were sustained by victims. Of the 1800 plus victims, the data showed that a weapon was involved 90% of the time. There was a big data gap with regards to the type of weapon, however bottles and knives both featured highly as a weapon of choice. The youngest victim of a knife wound was recorded as being 14 years old.

Repeat victimisation and offending amongst young people

In last years strategic assessment we looked briefly at the link between young people as victims and offenders of crime. Capacity issues during 2009/10 means that we have not been in a position to fully test the hypothesis that we generated and for that reason we have included the cohort work we did into this year's assessment with a view to once again recommending our hypotheses as strategic priorities to work on during the coming year. Our analysis clearly shows that young people are over represented as both suspects and victims of violent crime. We also hypothesise that;

- ❖ Young people accused of violent crime offences are often victims as well
- ❖ The seriousness of offending and violent nature of offenders escalates over time

To begin exploring these hypotheses in more detail in the last strategic assessment, we have undertaken a cohort study of young people who had either been accused of a violent crime or been the victim of a violent crime in Southwark. Due to the scale of looking at these individuals on a case by case basis, we used a two month snapshot between December 2008 and January 2009 and have only looked at those young people aged 17, our key age for both offending and victimisation.

17 year olds accused of an offence

There were 40 named individuals accused of a violent offence during our two month snapshot. The profile of this cohort showed that:

- ❖ With the exception of four people, all were male, of which 57% were Afro-Caribbean and 33% were white European
- ❖ 82% had been accused of a violent crime in the past and 43% had also been shown as the victim of a violent crime
- ❖ 25% had been 'flagged' as a victim / witness of domestic violence
- ❖ 20% had received a referral from social services (these offences will not always carry a domestic violence flag on the police system and but cases where social services have been notified (usually by a teacher/carers) of risks to a child)
- ❖ 38% have been exposed to some form of domestic violence
- ❖ Almost half of the accused used some kind of weapon when committing an offence, which was predominantly a knife
- ❖ Eight offences were thought to be gang related

Victims

There were 220 named victims of violent crime during our two month snapshot. The profile of this cohort showed that:

- ❖ For over half of the victims this was not the first crime report that they had been shown on
- ❖ 13% victims were also shown as accused for another offence type
- ❖ Just under a third have been 'flagged' as a victim / witness of domestic violence
- ❖ 33% had received a referral from social services (these offences will not always carry a domestic violence flag on the police system and are cases where social services have been notified (usually by a teacher/carers) of risks to a child)
- ❖ 49% had been exposed to some form of domestic violence
- ❖ Weapons were used in 23 of these offences
- ❖ 23 offences were thought to be gang related

Does offending escalate over time?

As part of our cohort study we also looked in detail at a gang member within Southwark to examine how, if at all, their offending escalated over time. The case study showed that;

The family of this male had been known to social services since 1995.

The male was victimised at school and on his estate from the age of seven (1999). It began as fairly low-level anti social behaviour, such as eggs being thrown at his family's front door and quickly escalated to physical violence. There were two occasions when the male was walking home and was punched or slapped in the face for no discernible reason.

By 2005, at the age of 13, the male had started to become known to police and partner agencies and was charged with robbery. However, at this point, he was (at least as far as known to police and the local

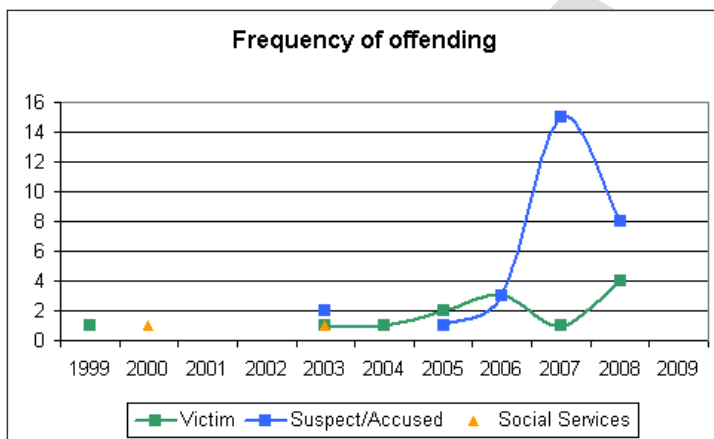
authority) victimised far more often than he was the aggressor, being shown as victim and witness for violence on the estate on which he lived and midway through 2005 stated that he was 'scared to walk to the local shops in case of an attack.'

In 2006, he was committing lower level offences, such as other theft (from changing rooms in his school) and disorder type offences. At this time he was also shown as the victim of two assaults, during one of which he was badly beaten outside a local youth club.

By 2007, he was extremely well known to police and his rate of offending had significantly escalated, in terms of both frequency of offences and their severity. Offences were still mainly of an acquisitive nature, yet increasing in severity, with many of them being robberies in which a weapon was seen or intimated. Such weapons included CS gas spray and knives.

Also in 2007 he was temporarily moved out of his home address and placed into a children's home. Whilst there, it is alleged that he sexually assaulted two other residents.

Again, offences increased in severity in 2008, when he was shown as one of four suspects for conspiracy to rob a jewellers shop and for the subsequent robbery of the same jewellers a week later. In August of that year, his house was set alight whilst he and his family (by this time he was back in his home address) were in it. Nobody was seriously hurt, although they were treated for smoke inhalation. He later moved out of the address, for fear that if he remained, his family may come to harm. In October, he was the victim of a GBH whilst on a bus. Another robbery and a false imprisonment follow later in the year before December, at which point he was stabbed whilst in a fight in Croydon.



The chart opposite shows the potential significance of being a victim/witness to crime (specifically violent crime) at a young age, and demonstrates a real risk that such behaviour may become 'normalised'. This offender was a victim of violent crime no less than four times before he was shown as being accused of a crime, albeit that in 2003 he was shown as a suspect for robbery. This was whilst he was at school, and was a small amount of money from a fellow pupil.

Social services has been involved with this family since 1995, with two referrals to police, one in 2000 and the other in 2003, both of which were before his offending behaviour really escalated.

This chart and case study would also indicate that that gang members continue to be victims of offences, even whilst they are the perpetrators. They are typically the victims of serious wounding or assault with injury. Such events may also become the trigger for further violence in this or a neighbouring borough.

Victims overview summary

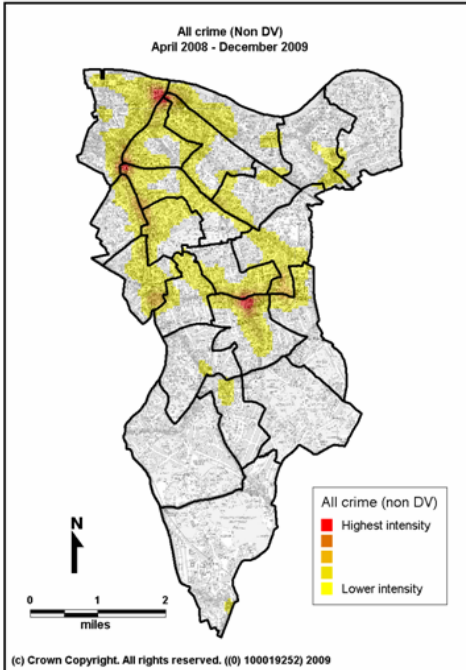
- ❖ Young people often get involved in crime as a result of first being a victim and the pattern of offending amongst young people that gets more serious over time.
- ❖ Being the victim of or witnessing domestic abuse at a young age increase a young person's likelihood of becoming an offender.

- ❖ Young people are over represented as victims of crime in Southwark
- ❖ When combining sex, age and ethnicity, the most prominent group to be a victim of crime in Southwark are white Europeans, both male and female, aged between 25 and 29.
- ❖ The key concerns that make residents feel unsafe, during both day and night time, are muggings/street crime, knife crime, gangs and groups of teenagers
- ❖ DV is more prominent in common assault and assault with injury offences than most serious violent crimes

DRAFT

Locations

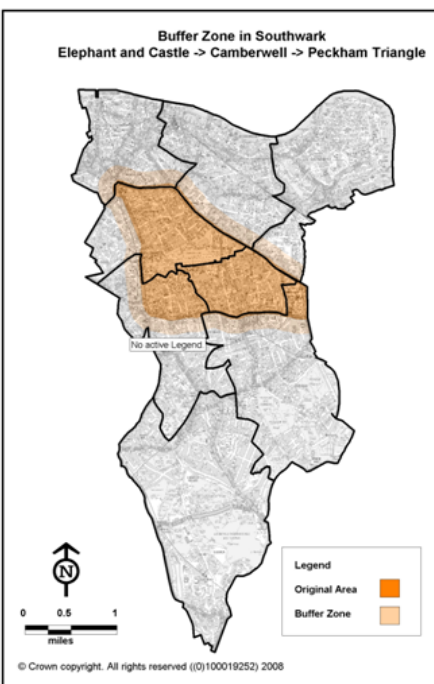
Where does crime happen in Southwark?



As with other inner London boroughs, Southwark is comprised of several town centres, large arterial routes connecting them and numerous transport interchanges, such as London Bridge, one of London's biggest and busiest transport hubs. In general we find that our crime hotspots tend to be perennial, focused around crime generators such as the town centres and transport hubs. However, we do feel that these hotspots all have their own differing characteristics with offending varying across them. The hotspots for crime in Southwark (as shown in map) are focussed in the middle/north of the borough, from the Peckham area up to London Bridge.

See appendix for detailed maps.

When we looked at the geography of incidents in last years strategic assessment, we identified an area within Southwark that upon analysis was identified to account for disproportionate levels of crime when compared to it's population, housing stock and other demographic indicators. This area (shown in map) accounted for approximately 45% of all crime in Southwark and comprises several of our main town centre areas, transport hubs and the main routes connecting them. It runs from Elephant & Castle in the North West, down the Walworth Road to Camberwell, east to Queens Road, Peckham, before moving up the Old Kent road back to the Elephant. In the middle of this priority area is Burgess Park and some of the borough's bigger estates such as the Heygate and Aylesbury. We estimate that approximately 23% of the borough's residents live within this area, although this will decrease as more people leave the Heygate



As we did in the 2008/9 strategic assessment we have again looked at this area and the rates of crime occurring within it to assess any changes since last year. We found the rate of offending in the area still to be disproportionately high during 2009. The exception to this is residential burglary that which has reduced noticeably in the area over the last year.

Offence	% Last FYTD 2008/9	% This FYTD 2009/10
VAP	51	49
Robbery	49	49
Sexual Offences	42	44
Theft/handling	37	34
Drugs	62	68
Burglary	38	30
Criminal damage	41	39
Grand Total	45	43

Recommended strategic priorities 2010/11

- ❖ The SSP continues it's targeted intervention work with young people, who feature highly within gun, knife and MSV violent crimes
- ❖ In order to tackle gun and knife crime in the borough we should review and further develop our LAA target for personal robbery offences with an emphasis on young people.
- ❖ The SSP should identify an approach to tackle commercial robberies in the borough, which as with focussed activities around young people would have an impact upon our gun crime rates
- ❖ The focus of our DV programmes should coincide with working to improve our knowledge of lower level violent offences, such common assault as well as slightly more serious 'assault with injury' offences
- ❖ Sexual violence amongst young people
- ❖ The continued development of our town centre teams to tackle our perennial hotspots
- ❖ Build CCTV into our core intelligence lead operational work