



**Performance and Finance  
Select Committee**

9<sup>th</sup> December 2009

**Report from the Director of  
Policy & Regeneration**

For Information

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**In-Depth Review of Local Area Agreement Priorities (2):  
Priority 1 Crime Prevention 18-28 Age Group  
Priority 3 Violent Crime**

**1. Background**

1.1 The initial report in Committee members' packs was intended to provide a foundation to underpin this data report.

**2. Priority 1 Crime Prevention**

2.1 This is measured by the number of offenders in the 18-25 age group who commit and are charged with serious acquisitive crime. This age group was chosen as it indicates those young adults who have moved on from so called petty crime to committing higher end offences

2.2 Serious Acquisitive Crime includes:

- burglary in a dwelling
- aggravated burglary in a dwelling
- robbery of business property
- robbery of personal property
- theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle
- aggravated vehicle taking
- theft from a vehicle

**3. Current Position Against the Target Serious Acquisitive Crime**

3.1 NI16, is defined as Serious Acquisitive Crime per 1000 head of population. The target was to reduce this crime type by 2.2%. Currently, this crime rate is

static and the target is classed as “amber”, meaning there is a reasonable prospect of success, but this not guaranteed (a green rating) hence this area needs more work.

### Robbery

| FY                      | All offences | Number where suspects aged 18-25 |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 2006/2007               | 1970         | 919                              |
| 2007/2008               | 1988         | 970                              |
| 2008/2009               | 1526         | 719                              |
| 2009/2010 (to November) | 1153         | 566                              |

### Burglary

| FY                      | All offences | Number where suspects aged 18-25 |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 2006/2007               | 2274         | 258                              |
| 2007/2008               | 2553         | 256                              |
| 2008/2009               | 2502         | 268                              |
| 2009/2010 (to November) | 1736         | 199                              |

Note: Very few suspects are actually seen in this type of offence

### Vehicle (theft from and theft of)

| FY                      | All offences | Number where suspects aged 18-25 |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 2006/2007               | 4570         | 252                              |
| 2007/2008               | 3950         | 206                              |
| 2008/2009               | 3017         | 166                              |
| 2009/2010 (to November) | 2056         | 97                               |

Note: Very few suspects are actually seen in this type of offence

3.1 As explained in the overview report crime is a continuum, and cannot be addressed by focusing on any one aspect. Hence the inputs used to prevent people and their homes, vehicles and businesses from becoming victims of crime is complex. Appendix one of this report is the action plan for the Crime Prevention Strategy Group.

3.2 This document is updated as crime patterns change or where evaluation has highlighted that work needs to be reviewed and revised.

3.3 By their very nature some things cannot be put into this semi public plan. Most notably the special operations carried out by the Police.

3.4 Recently, operations Ladden and Soto have been carried out against drug dealers in the borough and those higher up the organisational chain outside our borough. This resulted in a number of arrests for front line drug dealing and higher level dealers. The latest information will be supplied during the presentation to the committee.

3.5 This will have an impact on acquisitive crime as the major drugs charity, Drugscope estimates a drug user needs between £1,500 and £3,500 per year to feed their addiction.

3.6 Whilst there are people who are termed as “organised users” they hold down a job and support their addiction, they are very much in the minority. The vast majority of drug users fund their habit via crime. Most of that offending will fall with the Serious Acquisitive Crime Category.

#### **4. Priority 3 Violent Crime**

4.1 This crime type is defined by the Metropolitan Police Authority as:

##### ***Most serious violence & assault with injury***

*"MSV: Homicide and Child Destruction, Attempted Murder, Wounding or other act endangering life, Grievous Bodily Harm (Part), Causing Death by Dangerous/Careless/ Inconsiderate Driving, Causing Death by Aggravated Vehicle Taking.*

*Assault with injury: Actual Bodily Harm and other injury and racially or religiously aggravated ABH and other injury"*

4.2 This is measured by the number of serious violent crimes per 1000 head of the population. The target was to reduce this by 3%. This monitoring line is showing red as in fact this area of crime has risen 16%

| FY                      | MSV | DV MSV | % of MSV crimes flagged as DV |
|-------------------------|-----|--------|-------------------------------|
| 2006/2007               | 190 | 21     | 11                            |
| 2007/2008               | 168 | 10     | 6                             |
| 2008/2009               | 496 | 101    | 20                            |
| 2009/2010 (to November) | 362 | 65     | 18                            |

4.3 As shown in the table below much of this rise is caused by the increased reporting of Domestic Violence, the level having returned to the reporting level of 2003.

4.4 There is no evidence that domestic violence is increasing, this rise could be an indication of increased confidence in both the services offered by the local authority and the Police.

4.5 This heading also covers

## **5. Future Plans**

5.1 The attached action plan is reviewed annually, and the effectiveness of projects and work streams are tested.

5.2 Part of the role of the Council's Community Safety Team is to keep "best practice" under review and explore what has worked elsewhere that can be tailored to fit the needs of the communities in Brent.

5.3 Brent has a strong partnerships reaching down from top of the partner agencies to the front line. This bedrock of understanding and common purpose underpins the planning and future work.

5.4 It should be noted that all agencies are anticipating a 10-20% reduction in funding, as outlined in the background report the agencies coordinated and supported by the Community Safety Partnership Unit have been enterprising, making good use of current resources and pursuing every funding.

5.5 Gaining additional funding, seeking efficiencies and prioritising to gain maximum impact will all have to be tackled as main concerns for the Crime Prevention Strategy Group.

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