



Metropolitan Police Authority

Domestic Violence Board – 5th April 2006

Croydon Borough Response to Domestic Violence

Appendix 1

**CROYDON
FAMILY JUSTICE CENTRE
CLIENT INFORMATION FORM**



FJC no.
CRIS no.

Date: _____

Client Name: _____

Language Spoken: _____

Client's Post Code of Residence: _____

1. FJC assessment performed by: _____
2. CSU assessment performed by: _____
3. Community Advocate assessment performed by: _____
4. Civil Legal assessment performed by: _____

3. **All FJC Partner Staff** Please check your organisation's line when you see the client. (Advocates, please make sure CSU, Hospital, Probation, or Faith Groups are checked if those groups assist you with a client.)

GOV'T AGENCIES: <input type="checkbox"/> CSU <input type="checkbox"/> LBC (H) <input type="checkbox"/> LBC(S) <input type="checkbox"/> LBC(S, children) <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Probation <input type="checkbox"/> IDV	<input type="checkbox"/> LFEP <input type="checkbox"/> COURT COMMUNITY GROUPS: <input type="checkbox"/> CDVAS <input type="checkbox"/> WELCARE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELATE <input type="checkbox"/> CWA <input type="checkbox"/> NSPCC <input type="checkbox"/> ST MARYS <input type="checkbox"/> YMCA <input type="checkbox"/> CCDA <input type="checkbox"/> CACS <input type="checkbox"/> RASASC	<input type="checkbox"/> SNWC <input type="checkbox"/> CAB <input type="checkbox"/> CT&IS <input type="checkbox"/> VSC <input type="checkbox"/> CHAS <input type="checkbox"/> CDF <input type="checkbox"/> Sanctuary	CIVIL LEGAL GROUPS: <input type="checkbox"/> Grants Solicitors <input type="checkbox"/> D.Curry & Co <input type="checkbox"/> ThackrayWilliams <input type="checkbox"/> Atkins Hope <input type="checkbox"/> Streeter Marshall <input type="checkbox"/> DKLL
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4. **Services** Instructions: All providers, please place a check next to any service you provided (check all that apply)
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Victim/survivor advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal justice advocacy/Court accompaniment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crisis intervention | <input type="checkbox"/> Civil legal advocacy/Court accompaniment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance with refuge | <input type="checkbox"/> Civil legal assistance by a solicitor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual counselling session | <input type="checkbox"/> Referred to an offsite partner: (check all that apply) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital accompaniment | <input type="checkbox"/> CWA <input type="checkbox"/> CAFCASS <input type="checkbox"/> WALK IN CENTRE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance with permanent housing | <input type="checkbox"/> CAB <input type="checkbox"/> PROB. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Victim witness notification | <input type="checkbox"/> LBC <input type="checkbox"/> MAYDAY OTHER <input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> |

4a. **CSU only** Instructions: Please place a check next to the service provided (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First reported d.v. case

<input type="checkbox"/> Repeat victim

<input type="checkbox"/> Statement taken | <input type="checkbox"/> Case referred to other agency

<input type="checkbox"/> Number of offences alleged

<input type="checkbox"/> Provided general POLICE information

<input type="checkbox"/> Suspect charged <input type="checkbox"/> Suspect cautioned |
|---|--|

4b. Probation only *Instructions: Please place a check next to the service provided (check all that apply)*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Checked probation status of offender | <input type="checkbox"/> General probation information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obtained probation officer's name and telephone number | <input type="checkbox"/> Case referred to other agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Created statement for complaining witness | |

4c. Solicitors Only

IDV eligible Referred to: CSU CDVAS Sanctuary Other _____

5. Partner doing assessment *Instructions: At intake, please complete the following demographic questions*

5a. Does client need any of the following;

- Help obtaining refuge
- Help obtaining new permanent housing
- Help moving
- Help with benefits
- Counselling for children
- Counselling for self
- Other, please specify: _____

5f. How did you hear about the FJC?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend/Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Community group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DV hotline | <input type="checkbox"/> Faith Groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Police | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital/Medical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Court | <input type="checkbox"/> Brochure/Flyer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Off-site Partner, please specify: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ | |

5b. Rec. public assistance? Includes cash assistance, (check one)

- Yes Unknown
 No

5g. Other demographics? (check all that apply)

- Disability
- Limited English proficiency
- Specify country of origin: _____

5c. Employed? (check one)

- Yes Unknown
 No

5h. Victim's relationship to offender? (check all that apply)

- Current/former spouse
- Child in common with offender
- Intimate Partner/dating relationship
- Other family/household members (in-law, son, etc.)
- Relationship unknown

5d-1. Does client have minor children?

- Yes No Unknown

5j. Gender? (check one)

- Female Male

5d-2. If Yes, check box for each child below:

- Child 1. Age: 0 - 3 4 - 12 13 - 17
 Child 2. Age: 0 - 3 4 - 12 13 - 17
 Child 3. Age: 0 - 3 4 - 12 13 - 17
 Child 4. Age: 0 - 3 4 - 12 13 - 17
 Child 5. Age: 0 - 3 4 - 12 13 - 17
 Child 6. Age: 0 - 3 4 - 12 13 - 17

5k. Age? (check one)

- 0-17
- 18-24
- 25-45
- 46-59
- 60+
- Unknown

5e-1. Ever sought help for DV before? (check one)

- Yes Unknown
 No

5e-2. If yes, from whom? (check all that apply)

- Faith group
- Family/Friends
- Health
- Domestic Violence Hotline
- Police
- Family Court
- Other: _____ (write)



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Appendix 2



SAFER CROYDON

CRIME REDUCTION

Strategy 2005 - 2008



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Introduction



The Safer Croydon Partnership is the body responsible for co-ordinating the development and implementation of Croydon's Crime Reduction Strategy. The Partnership comprises public sector agencies, businesses, community and voluntary sector organisations. The purpose of the strategy is to provide a framework for joint action by agencies to prevent and reduce crime. This strategy sets out the Partnership's priorities, aims and targets for the next three years. For each priority area there is a mini partnership action plan providing a summary of activity for the year ahead.

The strategy has been based on an extensive audit of available data on crime in the borough and on wide public consultation. A summary of the audit was sent to each household in Croydon encouraging people to highlight their own concerns about crime. Croydon's residents stated that reducing crime was their main priority for improving the borough.

The aim of this strategy is to reduce the level of reported crime by 20% by March 2008. This presents all agencies with a tough challenge which can only be achieved by working together with the support and involvement of local people and businesses. If we are able to reduce the crime committed in the borough this will ultimately reduce the chances of becoming a victim.

This crime reduction programme covers a wide range of prevention and enforcement activity which includes identifying young people at risk of offending and targeting prolific and priority offenders. Other initiatives involve providing support to people who are dependant drug users, have mental health concerns and/or lack education, training, employment and accommodation. At the same time, agencies will address the main quality of life factors that have a detrimental impact on people who live, work and/or visit Croydon. These include anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and violent crime.

The Partnership recognises the need to improve the way it communicates and consults with the public. Despite the audit showing that crime levels are falling, public perception is one of rising crime. We need to encourage local communities to become involved in the crime reduction agenda to ensure that the right issues in the right places are tackled at the right time. We also need to reward organisations and people who are prepared to work to reduce crime for the benefit of others and their community.

The strategy sets out the main priorities for the next three years but remains a 'living' document able to incorporate new national initiatives and tackle emerging local concerns. The implementation of the action plans will be closely monitored and reviewed on an annual basis. Every year an action plan will be published highlighting what the partnership has achieved and what future actions will be taken to reduce crime.

I look forward to providing regular updates on how well we are progressing in tackling crime and in achieving our vision of **'making Croydon a safe place to live, work and visit'**.

Paul Smith

Chair of the Safer Croydon Partnership

SAFE NEIGHBOURHOODS

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Anti-social behaviour blights people's lives, destroys families and ruins communities. If left unchecked it creates an environment in which crime can take hold.

Although there are many different forms of anti-social behaviour, a definition given in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 is "acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more person not of the same household as the perpetrator". Three main forms of anti-social behaviour can be distinguished:

- interpersonal / malicious behaviour towards individuals, groups or organisations causing harassment, alarm or distress (e.g. hoax calls and intimidation);
- behaviour degrading the local environment (e.g. dog fouling, noise nuisance, graffiti, setting fires and fly tipping);
- threatening or physically-obstructive behaviour stopping people from using public spaces (e.g. intimidating behaviour by groups of youths, aggressive begging, street drinking and drug misuse).

From 2002/03 to 2003/04 the police recorded a 12% increase in reports of criminal damage from 5,127 to 5,737 per annum. People living in the north of the borough experience higher rates than those living in the south, who express a higher fear of crime.

In 18 wards, criminal damage is in the top three of all crimes reported to Croydon's police. Categories of anti-social behaviour recorded by the housing department and street wardens included harassment, criminal damage, vandalism, threatening behaviour, and graffiti.

A London-wide one-day count of anti-social behaviour was conducted in September 2003. In Croydon, 857 incidents of anti-social behaviour were reported. These included 229 reports of criminal damage and vandalism and 172 of littering.

Results from Talkabout Croydon found that community safety issues of vandalism, damage to property and graffiti had the greatest effect on residents' quality of life in the last 12 months.

Our Aims

To tackle the perpetrators of anti-social behaviour with a range of civil and criminal enforcement activities.

To reduce criminal damage, graffiti and other acts of vandalism experienced by local communities.

To create cleaner and safer neighbourhoods by cracking down on 'envirocrime', such as abandoned or burnt-out cars, litter and rubbish lying around and fly-tipping.

Our Targets

To reduce criminal damage by 32% by 2008.

To reduce deliberate fires by 10% from 1270 by 2010.



ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Deploy a further six Safer Neighbourhoods teams in Thornton Heath, Couldson East, Bensham Manor, Selhurst, Broad Green and Woodside by December 2005.

Increase the number of neighbourhood wardens deployed on council housing estates from 19 to 25.

Develop Neighbourhood Renewal programmes in North West Croydon and Fieldway and New Addington that support the police Safer Neighbourhoods teams.

Investigate the possibility of setting up a Junior Warden scheme by March 2006.

Expand the Junior Good Citizens Award scheme from one to six schools by 2006.

Enrol three new secondary schools on the Citizen Card system and promote awareness of the proof-of-age scheme for under 18s to retailers through a publicity campaign by March 2006.

Carry out a review of the CCTV coverage in the borough by 2005 to establish its impact on reducing crime and disorder.

Upgrade 15% of Croydon's street lights by March 2006.

Develop a borough-wide award scheme by July 2005 for residents and communities who take a stand against anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhood.

Consider conducting an awareness campaign in the summer of 2005 jointly led by the police and Council's Mobile Patrol Team highlighting the nuisance caused by off-road bikes, quad bikes and go-peds in New Addington / Fieldway, Waddon and South Norwood.

Carry out an audit of existing support services for victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour.

Investigate sharing information with the other agencies to assist with the identification and prosecution of perpetrators who commit arson.

Fire service to conduct fire safety awareness campaigns with community groups, schools and businesses.

Run a fireworks safety campaign promoting safety messages on their use in October/November 2005 led by trading standards.

At a local neighbourhood level target the perpetrators of anti-social behaviour including acts of criminal damage and vandalism by:

- issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for low-level anti-social behaviour, nuisance and environmental crime;
- enforcing environmental legislation for dealing with noise, graffiti and fly-tipping;
- applying for demotion orders to reduce tenant security of tenure when family or visitors cause nuisance and annoyance;
- targeting persistent perpetrators with injunctions and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs);
- applying for powers of arrest to be attached to injunctions where violence has occurred or been threatened;
- enforcing housing legislation to repossess the homes of nuisance neighbours for breach of tenancy;
- evicting tenants and their families where other measures to stop their anti-social behaviour have had no effect;
- enforcing dispersal powers to tackle groups congregating and causing a nuisance;
- enforcing criminal and civil orders aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour;
- conducting four test purchasing days by trading standards by March 2006 targeting retailers who are selling alcohol to young people under age;
- applying for ASBOs on suitable Priority and Prolific Offenders (PPOs).

Reduce graffiti in Waddon, New Addington, Fieldway and Woodside through partnership problem-solving approach.

Actions to include:

- using police stop and account/search powers against people who are suspected of having items intended to be used to cause criminal damage;
- issuing FPNs for minor graffiti offences;
- targeting offenders who repeatedly cause criminal damage with ASBOs;
- prosecuting shopkeepers who sell aerosol spray paints to young people below 16 years of age;
- pursuing civil and criminal prosecutions against perpetrators who damage property by inflicting vandalism, graffiti or arson (including acts motivated by racial or religious hatred).

PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIONS

Review the Street and Neighbourhood Warden service to identify whether schemes are making a local difference and helping people to feel safe.

Continue the expansion of the Junior Citizens Award scheme.

Continue the Safer Neighbourhoods roll out, an assurance policing programme, which will deploy dedicated teams of six officers into every neighbourhood by 2008.

Continue the roll out of the street lighting programme.

Continue Trading Standards age-related work focusing on its test purchase and education programmes.

Investigate the feasibility of setting up a rehabilitation scheme for nuisance neighbours identified for causing serious anti-social behaviour.

Expand Croydon's Community Mediation Service so that it is accessible to all residents regardless of their housing tenure.

Develop victim and witness support services for people suffering from anti-social behaviour.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

Vicki Marr, Borough Commander, Croydon Police

Steve Halsey, Director of Environmental, Cultural and Sport Services, Croydon Council

Kevin Sexton, Borough Commander, Croydon Fire Service

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM:

Mike Pilgrim, Community Protection Team, Environmental, Cultural and Sport Services, Croydon Council

 020 8760 5433

Email: mike.pilgrim@croydon.gov.uk



A SAFE TOWN CENTRE

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Croydon is the largest commercial and retail centre in the south-east, excluding central London, with approximately 13,000 businesses. The town centre is served by a good transport infrastructure of buses, trains, and trams. Every weekday between 3pm and 5pm, approximately 50,000 young people travel in and around Croydon, often congregating in the town centre and around busy transport interchanges.

A booming night-time economy can often contribute to increases in the level of recorded disorder and violent crime. Currently approximately 1,000 licensed premises operate in Croydon. These include off licences, restaurants, pubs and night clubs. Changes in licensing legislation will allow bars and pubs to apply to stay open 24 hours.

The number of people frequenting pubs/clubs and restaurants varies according to the day of the week. Friday and Saturday night are traditionally the busiest trading times of the week when approximately 25,000 people visit the town centre at night. The promotion of 'happy hours' attracts people who consume more alcohol early in the evening, creating additional pressures on the police and health services.

Croydon's town centre is located in Fairfield ward which has the highest volume of crime especially with regard to theft, shoplifting, actual bodily harm and common assault. Violent incidents often result in a visit to Mayday Hospital's Accident & Emergency Department with alcohol-related incidents accounting for 41% of people seen in A&E for crime-related injuries during 2003/04.

In 2004 our programme of consultation with the neighbourhood partnerships, community groups and the Safer Croydon Partnership found the main concern focussed on the level of alcohol-related town centre disorder and the impact this has on Croydon's image and the fear of crime.

Our Aims

To make the town centre a welcoming and safe place to visit by tackling violent crime and disorder.

To promote a mixed night-time economy by encouraging family entertainment, safe travel, safe drinking and personal safety.

To tackle licensed premises that continue to sell alcohol to people already intoxicated or those who are under age.

To reduce the prevalence of begging, homelessness and street drinking.

Our Targets

To reduce common assault by 14% by 2008.

To reduce wounding (ABH and GBH*) by 12% by 2008.

*includes hate crime and domestic violence

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Maintain a high-visibility presence of patrolling police officers, community support officers and street wardens within the town centre.

Targeted patrols of "hot spot" areas in the town centre will be made at peak times to include licensed premises, fast food outlets and transport facilities.

Conduct a "Safer Travel At Night" campaign offering visitors information about how to get home quickly and safely using public transport. The aim is to reduce the opportunity for certain types of crime to take place such as rape and deter people from congregating in the town centre.

Explore joint initiatives between the health and police services aimed at reducing the number of alcohol-related injuries recorded at Mayday Accident and Emergency Department.

Expand the criteria used to judge pubs and clubs that promote personal safety and crime prevention as part of the "Best Bar None" awards.

Accredit four bars, clubs or pubs with 'Best Bar None' status, increasing the number accredited from 11 to 15 by 2006.

Introduce a code of practice by December 2005 to prevent the sale of cheap alcoholic drinks via 'happy hours' and other drink promotions that encourage binge drinking.

Run an annual "Think Safe, Drink Safe" campaign which highlights the issues of binge drinking, drug taking and road safety.

Seek voluntary agreements with off-licence proprietors not to sell to known street drinkers.

Conduct a poster campaign to deter giving to beggars and explore the 'tokens for food' initiative introduced successfully elsewhere.

Implement the new licensing legislation to restrict the development of drinking-only establishments.

Explore the introduction of a "Safe Haven" in the town centre, providing a secure place for vulnerable people and victims of crime.

Develop a multi-agency Rough Sleepers Strategy aimed at extending outreach facilities to people vulnerable to alcohol-related anti-social behaviour (i.e. street drinkers and beggars in the town centre).

Trading standards to promote the Citizen Card Scheme to schools in and around the town centre.

Conduct at least 12 police and council inspections of licensed premises in the town centre to ensure that they comply with relevant legislation on underage sales and selling to people who are intoxicated.

Test purchase alcohol sold to young people from off-licenses and supermarkets in and around the town centre.

Take appropriate enforcement action against any persons contravening the town centre drinking ban.

Increase the use of on the spot fines, fixed penalty notices, acceptable behaviour contracts and anti-social behaviours orders in dealing with individuals committing any offence including racist incidents in Croydon town centre.

Apply to the courts for orders that prohibit the entrance of people found guilty of violent crime and disorder into licensed premises and/or to the town centre.

Enforce any contravention of the new licensing legislation including closure of premises and criminal prosecutions of serious breaches.

Use police stop and account/search powers against people suspected of having items intended to cause criminal damage, supplying class A drugs, using weapons or being involved in disorder and violent crime.

Instigate a programme of test purchasing and prosecute shopkeepers who sell aerosol spray paints to young people below 16 years of age.

Introduce "No Drinking" zones in South Norwood and Thornton Heath by December 2005.

Inspect at least 300 licensed premises during night-time hours to ensure compliance with relevant legislation by March 2006.

PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIONS

In 2006/07 conduct a review to ascertain what impact the new licensing legislation and 24-hour opening has had on creating a safer town centre.

To progress the proposal for the town centre to become a Business Improvement District (BID). The aim is to raise funds for crime-reduction services for the centre of Croydon.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

Steve Halsey, Director of Environmental, Cultural and Sport Services, Croydon Council

Vicki Marr, Borough Commander, Croydon Police

Caroline Taylor, Chief Executive Croydon's Primary Care Trust

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM:

Mike Pilgrim, Community Protection Team, Environmental, Cultural and Sport Services, Croydon Council

 020 8760 5433

Email: mike.pilgrim@croydon.gov.uk



VIOLENT CRIME AND PROPERTY CRIME

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Violent crime, whether defined by action, intent or motivation, is categorised by the police as murder, grievous and actual bodily harm (GBH and ABH), common assault, offensive weapon, harassment, sexual and rape offences and other offences such as robbery of business property and personal robbery. These categories include hate crime, domestic violence and gun-enabled crime. Home Office research found that young people aged between 10 and 15 experience higher levels of violent crime and men aged between 16 and 24 are 4.4 times more likely to be the victim of stranger violence.

In recent years across London, recorded violent crime increased. Between 2002/03 and 2003/04 Croydon experienced a 4% increase in recorded violent crime incidents from 8,069 to 8,328. During this period robberies reduced by 6% but other violent crime increased. Some of the rise in violent crime can be explained by efforts to actively encourage the reporting of domestic violence, hate crimes, rape and sexual offences. However, the rise in violent crime does include an increase in alcohol-related disorder in the town centre.

Croydon has recorded significant reductions in burglary and vehicle crime between 2002 and 2004. Information about improved security measures for vehicles and homes alongside targeted policing has contributed to the reductions of 15% for burglary and 24% for theft from vehicles.

In 2004 our programme of consultation with the neighbourhood partnerships, community groups, the Safer Croydon Partnership and Croydon's Talkabout survey found that most residents were concerned about the level of violent crime particularly in the town centre. Despite significant reductions in burglary and motor vehicle theft, residents remain concerned about these types of crime.



Our Aims

To reduce property crime in Croydon by targeting burglary and vehicle crime.

To reduce violent crime in Croydon by targeting all violence against the person including robbery and the use of weapons.

Our Targets

To reduce theft of vehicles by 24% by 2008.

To reduce theft from vehicles by 24% by 2008.

To reduce interference with and tampering with vehicles by 6% by 2008.

To reduce theft of pedal cycles by 6% by 2008.

To reduce domestic burglary by 14% by 2008.

To reduce robbery of a person by 8% by 2008.

To reduce theft from a person – snatch and pick-pocketing by 17% 2008.

To reduce recorded gun-enabled crime by 5% from 172 per year by 2005/06.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

As appropriate deploy more police officers, police community support officers and special police officers in local neighbourhoods, the town centre and on public transport.

The council will support the police by:

- jointly targeting council resources at hotspots and potential offenders;
- briefing all Neighbourhood and Street Wardens and other mobile enforcement officers about the main hotspots and perpetrators of crime;
- jointly tasking the council's mobile CCTV unit;
- promoting the Croydon Radio Against Crime system by providing radios for trial periods in Croydon town centre, Norbury, Upper Norwood and Thornton Heath;
- attending police strategic and tasking meetings.

Action on robbery

Target priority and prolific offenders who commit robbery.

Conduct analysis of intelligence to identify areas and people where robbery is an issue and/or increasing.

Conduct joint anti-robbery operations involving Croydon's police, British Transport Police, Transport for London and council officers.

Target known offenders including those who are members of street gangs responsible for robbery.

Police transport links and terminals.

Police Youth Involvement Team to deliver diversionary robbery programmes in all secondary schools,

Ensure that offenders comply with curfew restrictions and bail conditions set by the courts.

Apply for anti-social behaviour orders and other civil enforcement orders as appropriate.

Action on weapons

Conduct analysis of intelligence to identify areas and people where gun-enabled and knife crime is an issue and/or increasing.

Police and/or trading standards to conduct joint operations targeting shops selling imitation weapons, including the sale and distribution of illegal guns.

Target known offenders including Priority and Prolific Offenders involved with gun-enabled and/or drug crime.

Conduct targeted operations at licensed premises and other locations where firearms and other weapons may be present.

Police to provide a swift response to incidents where there is the potential for firearms to be involved.

Police Youth Involvement Team to deliver diversionary programmes in all secondary schools on the dangers of weapons.

Action on burglary

Target Prolific and Priority Offenders who commit burglary.

Target people who assist burglars by handling and disposing of stolen property.

Expand the use of Smartwater and other forensic opportunities as a method of preventing offences and detecting offenders.

Promote a range of crime prevention initiatives aimed at educating the public on how to protect their property and reduce repeat burglary.

Apply for anti-social behaviour orders and other civil enforcement orders as appropriate.

Action on vehicle crime

Target offenders who deal in stolen vehicles and parts of stolen vehicles.

Ensure forensic evidence is recovered from stolen vehicles to detect offenders.

Promote a range of crime prevention initiatives aimed at educating the public on how to reduce theft of and theft from motor vehicles.

Establish a specialist team of police officers responsible for dealing with all aspects of motor vehicle investigations.

Apply for anti-social behaviour orders and other civil enforcement orders as appropriate.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

Vicki Marr, Borough Commander, Croydon Police
Steve Halsey, Director of Environmental, Cultural and Sport Services, Croydon Council

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM:

Peter Gibbons, Partnership Superintendent,
Croydon Police Station

 020 8649 0200

Email: peter.gibbons@met.police.uk

DRUG MISUSE AND CRIME

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Heroin and crack use has grown across London impacting on recorded crime rates. It is estimated that there are approximately 1,800 problematic drug users in Croydon who are often combining a number of drugs such as crack, heroin and alcohol. There is a strong link between drug misuse and crimes such as shoplifting, burglary, vehicle crime and theft. Heroin, crack and cocaine users are responsible for 50% of these crimes and around three-quarters of crack and heroin users claim to be committing crime to feed their habit.

Getting people into treatment quickly can have a significant impact on reducing drug-related crime. There has been extensive expansion of drug treatment services in Croydon over the last five years and the number of people involved in drug treatment programmes in Croydon has increased from 245 in 1998/99 to 849 in 2003/04. The majority of these people are being treated for heroin or crack use but in recent years there has been a significant increase in those presenting for treatment that are using both. This poses challenges for treatment services in being able to successfully meet the needs of this complex client group.

In addition, the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) targets people who offend and use drugs. It aims to locate and provide rapid access to drug treatment programmes that reduce potential re-offending. Initial analysis of data from the DIP in Croydon has found that approximately 45% of people charged with a trigger offence (possession/supply of drugs, shoplifting, burglary and other acquisitive crime) between April and December 2004 tested positive for Class A drugs with 30% of this number for both cocaine and heroin.

The supply of Class A drugs is largely conducted through a mobile market of arranged exchanges across the borough in various locations agreed using mobile phones. This poses challenges for the police in keeping track of the volume of drug supply in Croydon. However, sustained police activity has seen a reduction in the number of crack houses opening in the borough over the last two years. Where crack houses and static open dealing does occur, rapid action is taken by the police in partnership with other agencies to secure closure and prosecute the perpetrators.

Evidence suggests that there has been an increase in the use and supply of crack in Croydon over the last five years with offences for possession and supply rising by 22% and 9.2% respectively. There has also been a significant increase (40%) in the numbers of young people being arrested for drug offences over the last two years. This is primarily for the possession of skunk weed (a strong version of cannabis).

Through our programme of consultation we found that residents and other participants were concerned about the detrimental impact on individuals and communities of the availability of drugs through crack houses, dealers and related offending such as gun crime.

Our Aims

To enable people with drug problems to overcome them and live healthy and crime-free lives by improving the availability, quality, access, retention and overall success of drug treatment services.

To protect Croydon from drug-related anti-social and criminal behaviour by extending and improving the range of local services targeting drug-related offenders to reduce the likelihood of further offending.

To stifle the availability of illegal drugs in Croydon by tackling Class A drug markets, particularly crack and heroin.

To help young people resist drug misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society by increasing the availability and quality of drug prevention for young people, particularly those most vulnerable to problematic substance misuses.

Our Targets

To increase the numbers of people entering drug treatment from 849 (03/04) to 884 (04/05), 972 (05/06), 1050 (06/07) and 1176 (07/08).

To reduce and/or maintain waiting times for drug treatment in line with national targets by March 2006:

■ inpatient detoxification	2 weeks;
■ residential rehabilitation	3 weeks;
■ specialist prescribing	3 weeks;
■ GP prescribing	2 weeks;
■ counselling	2 weeks;
■ structured day care	3 weeks.

To increase the proportion of people completing treatment or being discharged after being retained in treatment for 12 weeks or more from 32% (03/04) to 45% (04/05) and 55% (05/06).

To increase the participation of young problem drug users (under 18 years of age) in treatment programmes by 50% by March 2008 (baseline for 03/04 still to be established).

To ensure that 100% of young people being assessed by the Youth Offending Team and children in the care of the local authority are screened for substance misuse in 2005/06.

Our Targets

To maintain that at least 95% of people charged with Drug Intervention Programme trigger offences are tested for Class A drugs in police custody suites (from a baseline of 100% during 04/05).

To increase the proportion of people that test positive for Class A drugs and receive an assessment for treatment from 24% (January 05) to 80% by March 2006.

To increase the proportion of drug-using offenders released from prison that are case managed by the DIP team from a monthly average of 50% (04/05) to 75% by March 2006.

To achieve 82 drug rehabilitation requirement commencements and a completion rate of 35% by March 2006.

To increase the number of sanction detections for the supply of Class A drugs from 60 (04/05) to 66 by March 2006.

To increase the number of schools with 20% or more of pupils that receive free school meals that are assessed as level 3 against the National Healthy School Standard from seven to 65 by July 2006.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/6

Increase the availability of drug treatment generally and ensure that waiting times remain within local targets, through expanding the capacity of local services.

Move the NHS, Social Services and Criminal Justice substance misuse teams into shared accommodation in the centre of Croydon to increase accessibility and provide a one-stop holistic service.

Ensure that young offenders screened for substance misuse receive an appropriate assessment within five working days and, following the assessment, access the early intervention and treatment services they require within 10 working days. YOT will achieve this by March 2006 and social services by March 2007.

Increase the engagement in treatment of stimulant users and black and minority ethnic groups through expanding targeted outreach.

Implement consistent assessment and referral processes for all young people's agencies to ensure that all those with substance misuse issues are identified and supported appropriately.

Increase the availability of support for people in treatment to increase retention and overall success rates. This includes housing, assertive outreach when people drop out and access to employment and training.

Ensure that all people charged with trigger offences (drug possession/supply and acquisitive crime) are tested for Class A drugs.

Ensure that all people who test positive for Class A drugs are offered an assessment for treatment and support.

Ensure that identified Class A drug users are directed into treatment and aftercare support on their release from prison.

Ensure that drug-using offenders are targeted for community sentences (Drug Rehabilitation Requirements) and that appropriate treatment and support is available for them.

Continue to target the supply of Class A drugs and shut down crack houses through the sharing of intelligence between local partners and executing proactive police operations.

Increase the use of acceptable behaviour contracts and anti-social behaviours orders in dealing with individuals committing drug related anti-social behaviour.

Ensure that schools are delivering drug education in line with Department for Education guidance through the delivery of accredited training for teachers.

Increase the awareness of parents/carers of substance misuse through the delivery of the 'Croydon parents guide to drugs' to all parents/carers of children in Years six and nine.

Ensure that drug prevention education is delivered to young people most at risk of problematic drug misuse including young offenders, children in care of the local authority and children in pupil referral units.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

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YOUNG PEOPLE AND CRIME

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Croydon has a large population of young people at 35,000 and the largest number of young people aged from 10 to 17 of any London borough. Home Office research found that young people aged from 10 to 15 are more likely to be a victim of a violent crime than any other age group.

Each year around 3% of Croydon's young people are known to be involved in the criminal justice system, committing a range of crimes and anti-social behaviour. The crime reduction audit identified the following key crimes that young people are involved in that require partnership action:

- robbery;
- violence against the person;
- criminal damage;
- anti-social behaviour;
- drug offences.

Emerging concerns are:

- use of weapons;
- gang-related crime;
- largest population of young victims of crime.

Young people offend for many different reasons and there are numerous risk factors closely associated with offending. Analysis conducted for the development of the Youth Justice Plan found that many offenders had multiple risk factors. For example:

- 33% were not in education, employment or training (NEET);
- 15% were either homeless or in unsuitable accommodation;
- nearly half had drug or alcohol problems;
- looked-after children were 3 times more likely to offend;
- over a third have mental health problems;
- children from ethnic minority communities were over represented at key stages of the youth justice system.

The Youth Offending Team (YOT) plays an important role in preventing and reducing offending by young people and addresses the risk factors that ensure young people are safe and adequately protected from abuse and neglect.

Our Aims

To prevent and deter the most at risk young offenders from becoming the persistent/prolific offenders of the future through appropriately-targeted community-based interventions to tackle the risk factors that may drive offending behaviour.

To prevent children and young people from becoming involved in criminality, by identifying and targeting those most at risk of offending with appropriate intervention programmes.

To increase support available to children and young people exposed to victimisation and criminality ensuring they are safe, healthy and feel valued and empowered to achieve their full potential.

Our Targets

To reduce the overall percentage of young people re-offending by 5% from 40% by 2008.

To achieve a 5% reduction in the number of young people entering the Youth Justice System for the first time by 2008.

To provide diversionary programmes for around 250 children and young people who are at risk of offending and anti-social behaviour by 2006.

To increase by 50% the involvement of victims of youth crime in the restorative justice process by 2006.

To reduce the number of school exclusions to below 60 (from 106) by 2008.

To ensure that 60% of children and young people referred through the Education Complex Cases Review Panel and other joint panels are re-engaged with education by 2006.

To reduce truancy and absence to no higher than 7% in schools overall by 2008.

To increase the number of young offenders helped into suitable accommodation from 85% in 2003/04 to 95% by 2008.

To continue to ensure that 100% of young people who offend and are assessed as having a mental health and or a substance misuse problem receive a formal assessment and access to appropriate treatment within 15 days by 2006.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Target interventions on 35 of the most active and persistent young offenders to reduce re-offending and put in place programmes to increase the number who are successfully engaged in education, training or employment, receiving help with health and substance misuse problems and living in suitable accommodation.

Expand the role of Youth Inclusion and Support Panels to offer support and diversion programmes to 150 children and young people aged from 8 to 17 identified as being at risk of offending and anti-social behaviour.

Deliver an early intervention Junior Youth Inclusion Programme in the north west of the borough for 40 children aged from 8 to 13 who have been identified as at risk of becoming involved in crime and/or anti-social behaviour.

The police to provide presentations in Croydon secondary schools on subjects relating to: theft and robbery; weapons and gun crime; drugs awareness, solvent and alcohol abuse; and anti-social behaviour and violence.

Deliver a range of projects for up to 250 young people to act as a diversionary strategy away from substance misuse, motor vehicle crime, criminal damage and related offending behaviour which aim to educate young people to resolve conflicts and build self esteem and participation.

Through the Safer Neighbourhoods programme the police will contact all school head teachers within the relevant wards in order to provide appropriate reassurance patrols when pupils arrive and leave school premises.

Ensure that around 1,000 children and young people who have been victims of crime and/or bullying are provided with advice, support and information including a programme of outreach work in schools by Victim Support (RUOK?) by 2006.

Develop accommodation provision for 16 to 18 year olds to reduce over-reliance on bed and breakfast and increase access to appropriate hostel-based/floating support accommodation.

Colleges, school sixth forms and work-based learning providers, working in partnership with London South Learning and Skills Council, aim to expand the provision of suitable post-16 places.

Increase the support to parents known to the youth offending by offering adult and family learning and parenting programmes at two full-service extended schools.

The YOT to advise the Safeguarding Board on the needs of young people who offend to ensure they are safe and adequately protected and that the young people who commit most serious offences against children are monitored by the police-led Multi-Agency Public Protection Panel.

Introduce fixed penalty notices and parenting contracts to improve school attendance and truancy in 2005/6.

Ensure a minimum of six truancy sweeps in the borough in partnership with the police in 2005/06.

Refer around 100 children and young people not engaged in education to the Youth Inclusion and Support Panel and Education Complex Cases panel where a multi-agency response is required.

As part of the Behaviour Improvement Plan, reduce exclusions by establishing initiatives in schools that deliver training to encourage consistent positive behaviour management.

Deliver the police Voluntary Cadet Corps programme to between 20 and 40 young people in 2005/06.

Explore the development of a range of fire-prevention programmes targeting young people who start deliberate fires or cause anti-social behaviour.

Deliver a project to encourage better behaviour of children and young people on public transport.

The Youth Service to continue to develop a programme of conferences to enable young people in Croydon to express their views about personal and community safety and the development of positive attitudes and citizenship skills.

PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIONS

Subject to feasibility, develop a multi-agency early intervention team for children and young people at risk of social exclusion in conjunction with Children's Trust.

Explore the initiatives emerging from the 'Being Safe' conference where young people wanted agencies to focus on bullying at school and adults' perception of young people - especially staff on public transport and the police.

Subject to research, explore/establish initiatives that tackle the growing issue of gang-related crime, the use of weapons and bullying amongst young people.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

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MANAGING PROLIFIC AND PRIORITY OFFENDERS

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

The Home Office has developed a new initiative aimed at targeting the most prolific offenders who are responsible for a disproportionate number of offences that concern and harm local communities.

The Prolific and Priority Offenders plan aims to catch and convict and rehabilitate and resettle offenders by developing a joined-up approach with all partners focussed on the same group of offenders. Based on national criteria each local scheme will, on the basis of intelligence, select individuals who are causing most harm to their communities.

A prolific and priority offender:

- Is 18 years and over (PPOs under 18 are managed by the YOT);
- has six or more indications of criminal activity (conviction/reliable intelligence) over a two-year period and/or;
- is involved in offences of person robbery, residential burglary, vehicle crime, domestic violence or a crime of equivalent local priority, and/or;
- is motivated to offend by drug or alcohol abuse.

Our Aims

Actively tackle prolific offenders through effective investigation, charging and prosecution, working to increase the number of such offenders who stop offending by offering a range of supportive interventions.

Manage offenders, whether in the community or in custody, through provision of support and priority access to services, including multi-agency, pre-release support for those serving custodial sentences and monitoring those individuals on release (using surveillance and other intelligence methods).

Our Targets

Targets to be developed in 2005/06 and included in future strategy updates.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Catching and convicting offenders

Set up a PPO Strategic Steering Group to oversee the local implementation and development of the strategy, monitor progress and report back to the Safer Croydon Executive.

Develop the PPO Tactical Joint Agency Group to monitor and manage the identified PPOs (using tracking and intelligence) through a monthly multi-agency meeting. This includes criminal justice, health/drug, education and employment, housing agencies and Social Services and Job Centre Plus.

Manage the local PPO list to remove/add PPOs as appropriate according to the identification process.

Operate a Criminal Justice Service Premium Service agreed by Local Criminal Justice Board.

Make arrangements for fast recall of prisoners who breach bail/prison licence.

Ensure that the Information Sharing Protocol is implemented and updated as necessary.

Engage all partners to ensure intensive case management of PPOs and to meet PPO rehabilitation needs.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Rehabilitating and resettling offenders

Establish a multi-agency/co-located PPO team co-ordinated by the Probation Service to manage identified PPOs and liaise with key agencies to access community resources.

Assign all PPOs on a statutory order/licence to a probation offender manager who will prepare individual action plans.

Provide an enhanced level of intervention for PPOs on statutory orders/licences that meets the needs of police surveillance and their rehabilitation.

Address accommodation needs of this priority group and work with local housing providers.

Work with key education, training and employment stakeholders to enable offenders to develop skills and gain accreditation to enable them to secure employment.

Arrange access to mental and physical health services for PPOs who require them in consultation with key stakeholders.

Establish protocols with drugs and alcohol treatment providers, especially the Croydon Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) team, to ensure fast access to services for offenders with drug and alcohol addictions.

Liaise with benefit and debt services to provide access to benefit and financial management assistance for PPOs.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

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HATE CRIME, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, RAPE AND OTHER SEXUAL OFFENCES

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

Home Office research found hate crime, rape, sexual offences and domestic violence are hugely under-reported often due to fear of reprisals; victims lack the confidence that they would be taken seriously or that effective action would be taken.

Hate crime is committed because of the hatred by an offender of some characteristic of the victim - usually their race, religion, disability, gender or sexual orientation. Most hate crime can be a form of anti-social behaviour causing harassment, alarm and distress. Following the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry most public bodies have adopted the definition of a racist incident as any which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person.

In Croydon, 36.2% of the population is from a BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) community group. Croydon's Crime Reduction Audit 2004 found the police recorded 1,276 hate crimes over a two year period. Race crime accounted for 94% and homophobic crime 6%. Croydon's housing department received 95 complaints relating to race crime. Most people who report a hate crime live in the north of the borough. At the present time we do not know how many people are victims of crime because of their faith or disability.

Domestic violence is any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between people who have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

Home Office research found domestic violent crime is under-reported and recorded. Nationally, domestic violence accounts for 16% of all recorded violent crime. There are more repeat victims of domestic violence than any other crime with an average of 35 assaults perpetrated prior to a first report by the victim. In Britain domestic violence is estimated to claim the lives of two women every week.

In Croydon between 2002/03 and 2003/04, 6,123 offences were defined by the police as a domestic violent crime and 4,214 as domestic incidents, with hotspots throughout the borough. In 2003/04 43 fewer rape and other sexual offences were reported to the police compared with the previous year.

Our Aims

To encourage individuals who experience hate crime, domestic violence, rape and sexual offences to access support from a range of specialist agencies.

To encourage individuals who experience hate crime, domestic violence, rape and sexual offences to report to the police, council and other voluntary agencies.

To raise awareness about what happens to the victim and perpetrator once a report has been made about hate crime, domestic violence, rape and sexual offences.

To support witnesses and victims of crime especially hate crime, domestic violence, rape and sexual offences by examining the feasibility of developing a range of specialist services.

Our Targets

To achieve a total detection target for rape of 35% by the end of 2005/6.

To achieve a total detection target for domestic violence of 60% by the end of 2005/6.

To achieve a total detection target for racial crime of 35% by the end of 2005/6.

To achieve a total detection target for homophobic crime of 35% by the end of 2005/6.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Raise awareness in local neighbourhoods to encourage victims of hate crime*, domestic violence, rape and sexual offences to access support.

Improve the quality and accessibility of information available to the public about how to report hate crime, domestic violence, rape and sexual offences.

Raise awareness about what action takes place once an incident is reported to the police, council, and voluntary agencies.

Investigate third party reporting mechanisms for the victims of hate crime.

Expand or examine the feasibility of the development of a range of innovative support projects including:

- the Stella project which supports victims and tackles the perpetrators of domestic violence where alcohol and drug misuse are serious contributing factors;
- integrated domestic and family violence services, based on the model of the San Diego Family Justice Centre;
- the Victim Support hate crime service widened to include victims that experience harassment/anti-social behaviour.

Produce a directory of available witness and victim support services in Croydon.

Explore the feasibility of revising existing arrangements for inter-agency work that addresses racial harassment, following external consultation with BME community leaders.

Increase civil enforcement action to tackle the perpetrators of hate crime by using anti-social behaviour orders and other appropriate measures.

Consult the victims of hate crime and domestic violence about whether they were satisfied with the service provided by different agencies.

Develop a project to support disabled people who become the victims of crime.

Target prolific and priority offenders perpetrating multiple acts of domestic violence.

* includes hate crime that can be defined as anti-social behaviour

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

Will Tuckley, Director of Policy and Corporate Services, Croydon Council

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

The Criminal Justice System (CJS) is made up of statutory agencies, such as the police, Crown Prosecution Service, Probation Service, Youth Offending Team and the courts who work together with non-statutory bodies, for example Victim Support and drug referral teams. Working in partnership plays an important role in reducing re-offending, anti-social behaviour and making people feel safer.

A key priority for criminal justice agencies is narrowing the "justice gap", that is the difference between crimes reported to the police and crimes brought to justice. This involves reducing the proportion of trials that do not proceed on day of hearing ("ineffective trials") and improving public confidence in the criminal justice system.

Criminal justice agencies need to work even closer together to ensure a co-ordinated and effective approach to the delivery of new services and laws that, as well as reducing crime, aim to protect the public and reinforce citizen and community rights.

In Croydon the lead forum for criminal justice agencies is the Borough Criminal Justice Group (BCJG). This group comprises all the local chief officers of both statutory and non-statutory criminal justice agencies. The BCJG reports to the Local Criminal Justice Board which in turn is made up of all the chief officers for the whole of London. It is the BCJG's role to integrate its own work within this strategy whilst maintaining clear boundaries between judicial issues and partnership working in the management of the CJS.

Our Aims

To narrow the "justice gap" by:

- increasing the number of offences brought to justice (convictions, cautions, final warnings and reprimands);
- reducing the proportion of prosecution cases discharged and the proportion of ineffective trials.

To increase public confidence in the criminal justice system by:

- supporting victims and witnesses through the criminal justice system;
- greater staff engagement in the wider process of criminal justice reform;
- engaging with the local community including on race issues;
- improving public understanding and awareness of the criminal justice system.

Our Targets

To increase the number of offences brought to justice to 5,668 by 2008.

To reduce the proportion of ineffective trials to 23% in the Magistrates' Court and 17% in the Crown Court.*

To reduce the proportion of committals discharged to 8%.

To increase public confidence in the criminal justice system to 50% being satisfied / very satisfied by 2008.

To reduce delay in dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) to an average of 42 days per application.

To increase the number of domestic violence cases heard by the Specialist Domestic Violence Court by 20%.

* Targets for Quarter 4 2005/06 later targets have yet to be fixed.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Introduce a robust case progression function within all key criminal justice agencies aimed at reducing the ineffective trial rate by better management of case preparation to ensure trials go ahead on the day they are listed for hearing.

Implement a Victims Code of Practice for the criminal justice system with the appointment of a witness liaison officer in the magistrates' court.

Introduce a Witness and Victims Experience Survey for users of the Crown and Magistrates' Courts.

Review the impact on the court process of the Crown Prosecution Service taking responsibility for charging defendants.

Establish Croydon Magistrates' Court as an Anti-Social Behaviour Response Court by 30th April 2005 whereby ASBO applications will be fast-tracked through the court process and specific attention will be paid to the needs of witnesses and victims.

Develop an Integrated Domestic Violence Court where the same judge will hear one case with overlapping issues relating to domestic violence.

Conduct community satisfaction survey.

Organise criminal justice system open day (8 October 2005).

Organise an inter-agency annual training conference to focus on alcohol abuse by offenders and the role of the criminal justice system.

Promote the Magistrates in the Community outreach programme, educating young people about the criminal justice system.

PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIONS

Review victim and witness services across the CJS.

Organise inter-agency annual training conference.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

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COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

In Croydon, despite falling crime and fewer people experiencing it, the fear of crime remains high. The community needs to hear clear messages about the efforts being taken by the Partnership to reduce crime.

Most people find out about crime through local newspapers, community newsletters and word of mouth/gossip. Unfortunately certain issues receive more attention than others such as youth offending, anti-social behaviour and violent crime. Little information is available about the good deeds of individuals, communities and agencies.

Local research conducted through the Talkabout Croydon surveys found 50% of residents said that crime should be the top priority for next year and 88% said that it should be the top activity in a list of five priorities. Two thirds of residents surveyed said that tackling crime is the most important activity to make people want to live in Croydon.

Results also found 58% of residents thought crime is worse than three years ago and 76% said the level of crime needs to reduce. Violent crime (84%) and anti-social behaviour (78%) were seen as worse than a year ago which corresponds with the 4% increase in violent crime and 12% increase in criminal damage in 2003/04.

Croydon's recent programme of consultation found most people wanted to have local information about crime more often, in accessible formats and presenting a balanced picture. Most people want to play an active role in making their community safer but identified a lack of opportunities to participate in the crime reduction agenda.

Our Aims

To reassure the public and reduce the fear of crime by improving communication and consultation with people who work in, live in and visit Croydon.

Our Targets

To reduce the proportion of residents who think that crime has got worse by 2008.

To increase the proportion of residents who feel safe / fairly safe in public places during the day by 2008.

To increase the proportion of residents who feel safe/fairly safe in public places during the evening by 2008.

ACTION WE WILL TAKE IN 2005/06

Produce an annual crime reduction strategy update.

Explore the establishment of an annual Safer Croydon Partnership conference and awards ceremony.

Produce two crime bulletins/newsletters every year containing crime statistics and information about crime reduction initiatives.

Produce an annual crime reduction booklet listing all agency contact details available to businesses, visitors and residents.

Contribute an article about the crime reduction agenda to every issue of Croydon Reports.

Re-design the Safer Croydon website.

Conduct an annual residents' satisfaction survey.

Disseminate local personal safety information and crime reduction information to individuals, communities, visitors and businesses using a range of different methods.

The police and council to jointly set up consultative panels by December 2005 for each Safer Neighbourhood ward for local people to agree local policing priorities and to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the teams in dealing with the local issues.

Introduce an additional 60 Neighbourhood Watch schemes to increase numbers to 658 in Croydon by March 2006.

Increase the number of Partners contributing articles in Croydon's Neighbourhood Watch newsletters from none to three.

Explore the feasibility of developing 'virtual' Neighbourhood Watch schemes for hard to reach groups.

Explore the feasibility of linking with the Community Network to disseminate information about the crime reduction agenda.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

Will Tuckley, Director of Policy and Corporate Services, Croydon Council

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DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY

KEY CRIME FINDINGS

During 2002/04 recorded crime fell by 4%. Some types of crime witnessed greater reductions than others:

- 15% reduction in burglary;
- 24.6% reduction in drug crime;
- 6% reduction in robbery;
- 3% reduction in theft of motor vehicles;
- 24% reduction in theft from motor vehicles.

In line with national trends violent crime (by 4%) and criminal damage (by 12%) increased.

The police received approximately 38,000 reports per annum from the public alleging that a crime had taken place. People living or visiting the ten wards below report approximately two thirds of all crime in the borough:

Fairfield; Broad Green; Selhurst; West Thornton; South Norwood; Thornton Heath; Waddon; Woodside; and Norbury.

In any ward the following top ten offences represent 70% of all crime recorded by the police:

shoplifting; theft; criminal damage; actual bodily harm; common assault; domestic incidents; residential burglary; criminal damage to motor vehicles; and theft from and of a motor vehicle.

STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

The key stages and timescales involved in conducting an audit, a period of consultation and developing the Safer Croydon Crime Reduction Strategy 2005 – 2008 were:

Data collection	Dec – Jul 2003/04
Data analysis	Jan – Aug 2004
Prepare draft audit	Jun – Aug 2004
Conduct consultation	Sep – Dec 2004
Analyse results	Oct – Dec 2004
Develop and publish strategy	Nov – Mar 2004/05

The Safer Croydon Unit conducted an in-house crime-reduction audit to determine future crime reduction priorities by undertaking a review of:

- crime statistics and related data and information;
- performance of the previous strategy;
- allocated external financial resources.

The Crime Reduction Audit 2004 went out to wide community consultation using a range of methods:

- presentations and feedback sessions to statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors;
- commissioning of the Croydon Talkabout survey: a representative study of 1,000 residents;
- publishing the audit findings and draft priorities in local newspapers and Croydon Reports.

A summary of the views expressed throughout the consultation are contained in the Audit Summary 2004.

Consultation provided agencies with an opportunity to engage with Croydon's community to identify the extent of crime, anti-social behaviour and the misuse of drugs that causes concern locally. Consultation helps us to detect underlying issues not identified by statistical analysis.

The main views expressed by residents were the need for more information about how to report crime, who to contact, and local crime prevention initiatives.

Local residents wanted to see more partnership work at a local operational level in communities experiencing anti-social behaviour and environmental crime, including the possibility of extending the town centre drinking ban into residential areas.

More information about the audit and consultation can be found on-line at www.croydon.gov.uk

The consultation programme included:

- BME groups
- Youth groups
- Women's groups
- Gay and Lesbian groups
- Disabled groups
- Faith groups

Criteria for establishing crime reduction priorities

Each priority was considered by the partnership using the following criteria:

- high volume of crime;
- higher level of crime than comparable areas;
- rising trends;
- emerging issues;
- high victim impact;
- public anxiety;
- national priority;
- local concerns from consultation.

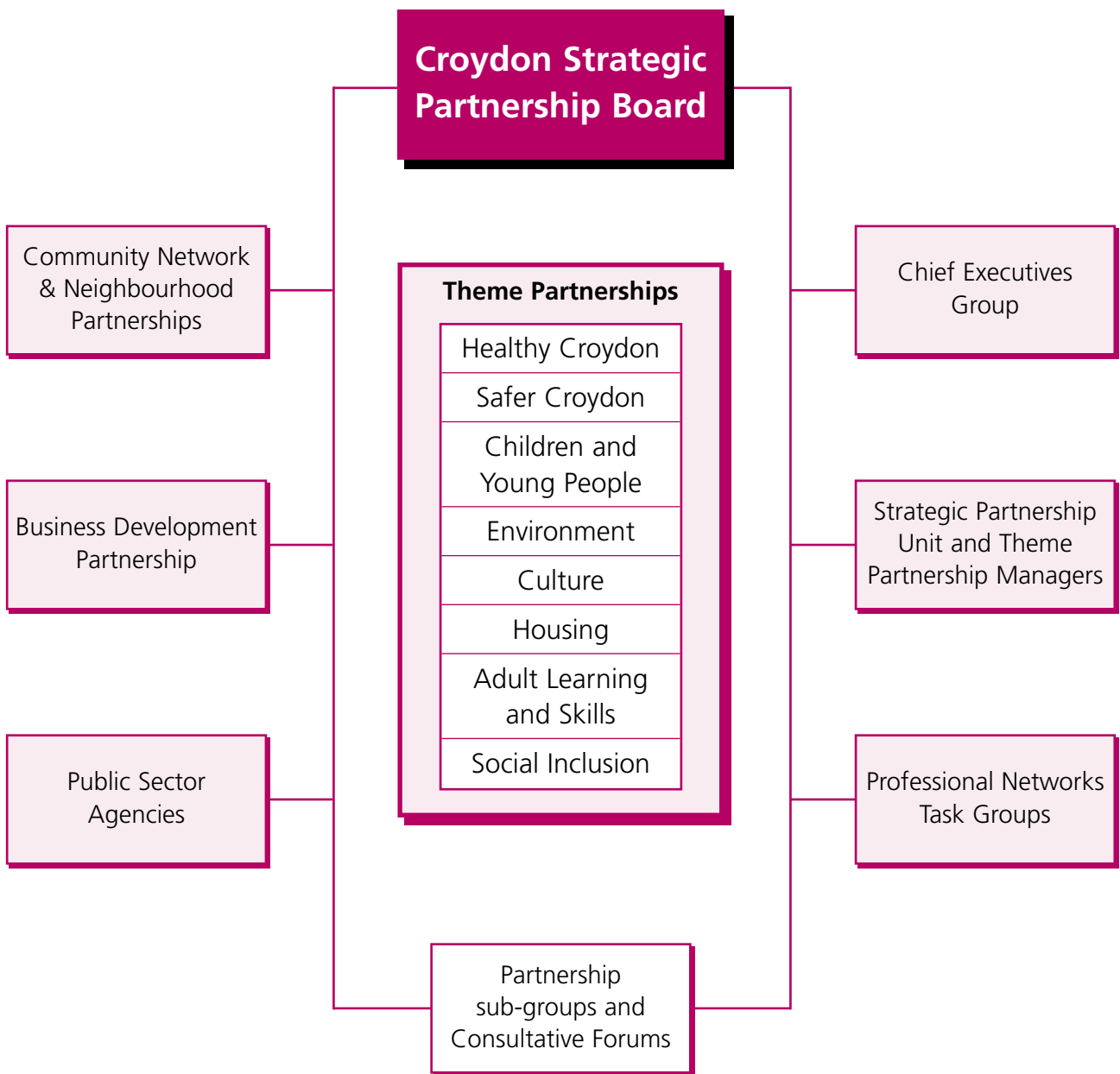
THE SAFER CROYDON PARTNERSHIP

Croydon's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership - **The Safer Croydon Partnership** - is one of eight themed partnerships that constitute the Croydon Strategic Partnership shown in Figure 1.

The Safer Croydon Partnership is a statutory body responsible for co-ordinating the development and implementation of Croydon's Crime Reduction Strategy. Members of the Partnership represent public-sector agencies, businesses and the community and voluntary sector. The Safer Croydon Partnership works to reduce crime and the fear of crime and improve the working of the criminal justice system.

The **Safer Croydon Executive** comprises chief executives representing the statutory authorities of the police, council, primary care trust, MPA, fire authority, and probation. The chief executives of each agency provide a steer for all crime-related policy work in Croydon. The Partnership and Executive are supported by a **multi-agency strategy group** responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of the crime reduction strategy, the development of policy and financial management of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund and any other applicable crime-reduction funding.

Figure 1: Croydon's Strategic Partnership



SUPPORTING GROUPS

SUPPORTING GROUPS

The Prolific and other Priority Offender (PPO) Steering Group is a multi-agency group chaired by Croydon Probation Service that oversees the management of the PPO scheme in Croydon. This involves a range of actions including the diversion of young people away from crime and the targeting of prolific perpetrators of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Youth Crime Prevention Strategy Group is a multi-agency statutory group responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of the Youth Justice Plan, the development of policy and oversight of the Youth Offending Team. The YOT is a multi agency team comprising of specialist officers from a variety of agencies including police, social services, education, probation service, health, drugs and alcohol services and voluntary agencies.

Croydon Drug and Alcohol Action Team brings together representative staff, at a senior level and from a variety of local agencies as the principal strategic group responsible for tackling drug and alcohol related problems in the borough. The DAAT is responsible for taking action to implement local and national strategy related to drugs and alcohol and reports on progress to the Drug Strategy Directorate (Home Office), Government Office for London and the National Treatment Agency (Dept of Health). The Drug and Alcohol Action Team Co-ordination Unit manages this work.

Partnership Problem Solving Group is a multi-agency tasking group chaired by senior council and police officers who are responsible for the pro-active tasking of partnership resources at priority issues and areas.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Policy group aims to lead on the development and co-ordination of all policies to tackle anti-social behaviour in Croydon. The ASB Forum is a multi-agency, case conferencing group. It operates as an ASB Panel where all potential cases are discussed. Separate case conferences can be discussed outside of the forum where the need arises. It provides the mechanism to meet the statutory duty for "applicant authorities" to consult when applying for orders.

Night-time economy group aims to encourage the development of a vibrant, diverse and safe evening economy that is attractive to the local community, businesses and visitors. This group is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the new Licensing Act.

Borough Criminal Justice Board is the lead forum for criminal justice agencies in Croydon. The main role of this group is to integrate its own work within this strategy whilst maintaining clear boundaries between judicial issues and partnership working in the management of the CJS.

SUPPORTING PLANS

The Crime Reduction Strategy provides a summary of the main crime-reduction priorities that each agency will focus on during 2005 – 2008.

Further information can be found by referring to the main delivery plans. To obtain more information about the following plans please contact the Safer Croydon Unit on 020 8686 4433 or safer.croydon@croydon.gov.uk

- Youth Justice Plan
- Drug and Alcohol Plan
- Anti-Social Behaviour Plan
- Criminal Justice Strategy
- Borough Policing Plan
- Prolific and Priority Offenders Plan
- Local Neighbourhood Renewal Plans
- Cultural Strategy
- Behaviour Improvement Plan

CRIME REDUCTION TARGETS

The Safer Croydon Partnership has been set a challenging target to reduce crime by 20% by 2008. This target is one of seven Public Service Agreements (PSA) made between local partners and central government. All seven PSAs have either a direct or indirect impact on reducing crime, of particular note are PSAs 1 – 4 and 6 detailed below:

- PSA 1 (to reduce crime by 15%, and more in high crime areas, by 2007/08).
- PSA 2 (to reassure the public by reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and building confidence in the criminal justice system (CJS) without compromising fairness).
- PSA 3 (to bring 1.25 million offences to justice in 2007/08)

- PSA 4 (reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug-misusing offenders entering treatment through the CJS).
- PSA 6 (increase voluntary and community engagement, especially amongst those at risk of social exclusion).

From April 2005 police authorities' strategic plans and local crime-reduction strategies will cover the same three-year period. This will ensure coherence between local policing and other complementary partnership plans.

The table below shows the 10 indicators that make up PSA 1. Every year each indicator has to achieve a reduction that contributes to an overall 20% reduction by 2008.

Category	Reduction for 2005/06	Reduction for 2006/07	Reduction for 2007/08
Theft of Motor Vehicles (M/V)	8%	8%	8%
Theft from M/V	8%	8%	8%
M/V Interference & Tampering	2%	2%	2%
Burglary in a Dwelling	4%	5%	5%
Theft/Taking of Pedal Cycles	2%	2%	2%
Criminal Damage	8%	12%	12%
Wounding (ABH & GBH)*	3%	4%	5%
Common Assault	2%	5%	7%
Theft Person - Pick Pocketing	3%	3%	3%
Theft Person - Snatch	2%	3%	3%
Robbery of personal property	2%	3%	3%

* includes DV and Hate Crime

FUNDING

The 2004 Spending Review set out plans for a new Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF). The fund brings together a number of existing ODPM and Home Office funding streams which are designed to reduce crime, tackle anti-social behaviour, improve public spaces and ensure services are more responsive to local needs in deprived neighbourhoods.

The new fund is designed to reduce the bureaucracy relating to multiple funding streams and increase flexibility for partnerships to use funding to deliver agreed local and national outcomes.

In line with the approach to increase flexibility around local decision making, the Government is also introducing Mini Local Area Agreements. SSCF outcomes will have to be captured in a mini-LAA.

The actions contained within this strategy are either funded from existing mainstream resources, the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund, the Basic Command Fund and/or other external funding streams.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

There is a robust performance management framework in place to monitor the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund, the strategic actions and targets. Most of the actions are contained within departmental service delivery plans, each with its own performance management framework. Each plan will provide the relevant strategic groups with regular updates regarding the progress of activity and targets.

APPENDIX 1

THE SAFER CROYDON PARTNERSHIP'S STATUTORY OBLIGATION

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 recognised the integral role of working in partnership with other agencies to reduce crime.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) are required by law to carry out audits and produce strategies every three years. For the first time, new legislation means that joint crime and drugs audits must be produced.

Sections 5 and 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA) as amended by Section 97 and 98 of the Police Reform Act 2002 (PRA) require specific agencies, known as responsible authorities, to work together - and with other agencies within the community - to tackle crime and disorder and misuse of drugs (substance abuse in Wales) in their local areas.

The overall aim of section 5 and 6 of the Act is to ensure that responsible authorities:

are aware of the nature of crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and the misuse of drugs (substance abuse in Wales) in their area;

are able to identify ways to develop and implement effective action to reduce these problems and deploy resources accordingly;

develop and publish a strategy that responds to the needs of local communities and sets out the findings of the audit with actions to address priority areas and targets;

carry out annual planning activity informed by a clear picture of where funds need to be allocated.

The Government also expects local authorities and their partners to:

help deliver the Government's key national priorities;

take account of Government priorities when carrying out audits and developing strategies.



APPENDIX 2

NATIONAL POLICY ISSUES

The National Policing Plan sets out a clear overall framework within which local policing is delivered to the public. This framework takes as its starting point the Home Office's new Public Service Agreement on reducing crime by 15% and more in high crime areas by 2007/08.

The recently published White Paper 'Building Communities, Beating Crime' promotes strong partnerships that are able to tackle crime effectively and are accountable to their communities. Part of the Government's programme of reform involves undertaking a formal review of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002). The aim of the review is to make CDRPs the most effective possible vehicle for tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse. The review will consider the provisions detailed in sections 5 -7, 17 and 115 of the CDA1998, along with section 97 and 98 of the PRA2002 covering some of the following:

- Role
- Accountability
- Inspections
- Community engagement
- Membership
- Mainstreaming crime-reduction
- Data sharing
- Funding

The Home Office strategy to reduce offending is an integral part of the Government's aim to tackle crime. The central aim of the programme is to offer offenders an opportunity to rehabilitate or face court action. The Home Office expect elements of each section to be contained within the new crime reduction strategies. The programme consists of three complementary sections:

- Prevent and Deter – to stop people (overwhelmingly young people) engaging in offending behaviours and graduating into prolific offenders;
- Catch and Convict - actively tackling those who are already prolific offenders; and
- Rehabilitate and Resettle – working with identified prolific offenders to stop their offending by offering a range of supportive interventions. Offenders will be offered the opportunity for rehabilitation or face a very swift return to the courts.

The purpose of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 is to provide the tools for practitioners and agencies to effectively tackle anti-social behaviour. It contains measures drawn up from across five Government departments and builds on existing legislation to clarify, streamline and reinforce the powers available to practitioners. The Home Office expects the crime reduction strategies to include a section that focuses on detailing how the local authority will tackle anti-social behaviour.

The Children's Act 2004 which comes into effect in April 2005 places a statutory duty on all agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Croydon's Children's Trust will ensure the delivery of the Government's outcomes in relation children and young people.

GLOSSARY

NEET Not in Education or Employment or Training

BMER Black and Minority Ethnic and Refugee

OBJT Offences to Brought to Justice

Children Aged below 10 years old

Young People Aged between 10-18 years old

SmartWater A liquid forensic coding system



The information in this booklet can be made on request in a number of languages. Copies are also available in Braille and large type on request.

Further copies of this document are available from:

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Metropolitan Police Authority

Domestic Violence Board – 5th April 2006

Croydon Borough Response to Domestic Violence

Appendix 3

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

Time period covered: 01 March 2005 - 28 February 2006 vs. previous 12 months

	Mar 2005 - Feb 2006	Mar 2004 - Feb 2005
Overview		
Domestic Violence Incidents	5148	5552
Domestic Violence Offences	2880	3187
Domestic Violence Sanction Detection Rate	19,1%	13,3%
Domestic Violence Detection Rate	45,1%	34,2%
Repeat Victimisation		
Number of victims of DV over year	3584	4354
Number of repeat victims of domestic violence over last year	783	514
% Repeat victims of all victims	22%	12%
Average number of offences per repeat victim over three years	2,4	2,6
Arresting		
Domestic Violence Arrest rate (where a Power of Arrest is applicable)	55%	40%
Criminal Justice		
Number of DV Charges	350	315
Number of DV Charges for GBH & above	16	12
Characteristics of DV case		
Number of DV cases flagged as forced marriage	0	0
Number of survivors identified as having mental health issues	10	0
Number of DV homicides in last twelve months	1	2

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

DV Victims by Age Group: 01 March 2005 - 28 February 2006

	0-16yrs	17-25yrs	26-35yrs	36-50yrs	51+yrs
ABH	34	350	358	310	66
Burglary in a Dwelling	1	10	6	10	3
Burglary in Other Buildings	0	0	1	0	0
Common Assault	38	264	319	257	90
Counted per Victim	0	2	0	2	2
Criminal Damage To a Dwelling	29	86	92	94	35
Criminal Damage To M/V	2	19	26	15	8
Criminal Damage To Other Bldg	1	1	2	1	0
GBH	1	4	17	9	3
Harassment	2	86	99	110	24
Murder	0	0	0	1	0
Offensive Weapon	0	0	1	0	0
Other Criminal Damage	2	24	35	41	16
Other Notifiable	0	15	13	16	0
Other Sexual	4	4	4	1	0
Others - Other Accepted Crime	33	309	397	403	101
Other Theft	0	14	19	26	9
Other Violence	2	19	23	20	2
Personal Property	0	9	4	1	2
Rape	0	5	6	5	0
Snatches	0	3	3	0	1
Theft From M/V	0	1	1	1	0
Theft/Taking of M/V	1	7	2	6	3
Sum:	150	1232	1428	1329	365

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

DV Victims by Age Group: 01 March 2004 - 28 February 2005

	0-16yrs	17-25yrs	26-35yrs	36-50yrs	51+yrs
ABH	73	293	320	308	53
Burglary in a Dwelling	1	6	11	10	1
Common Assault	102	312	368	322	82
Counted per Victim	2	0	3	3	0
Criminal Damage To a Dwelling	30	63	73	119	24
Criminal Damage To M/V	0	21	26	24	3
Criminal Damage To Other Bldg	0	1	0	2	2
GBH	1	8	7	14	2
Harassment	18	53	91	93	20
Murder	0	0	1	0	1
Offensive Weapon	0	2	0	2	0
Other Criminal Damage	5	17	20	42	10
Other Notifiable	2	15	9	7	3
Other Sexual	4	2	1	3	3
Others - Other Accepted Crime	100	398	533	576	142
Other Theft	4	15	18	29	11
Other Violence	13	22	32	37	6
Personal Property	0	2	1	1	0
Rape	1	2	7	3	0
Snatches	0	2	1	0	0
Theft/Taking of M/V	0	2	2	4	0
Sum:	356	1236	1524	1599	363

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

Ethnicity of DV Victims: 01 March 2005 - 28 February 2006

	Asian	Black	Chinese & other	Mixed	Unknown	White
ABH	26	126	11	20	484	314
Burglary in a Dwelling	0	2	0	0	10	3
Burglary in Other Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	1
Common Assault	48	136	16	11	404	238
Counted per Victim	1	0	0	0	2	1
Criminal Damage To a Dwelling	2	37	3	4	158	82
Criminal Damage To M/V	2	7	0	1	33	19
Criminal Damage To Other Bldg	0	0	0	0	3	0
GBH	1	3	0	0	17	4
Harassment	12	29	1	7	114	84
Murder	0	0	0	0	1	0
Offensive Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other Criminal Damage	4	11	1	1	45	44
Other Notifiable	3	0	0	0	11	7
Other Sexual	0	1	0	0	8	2
Others - Other Accepted Crime	30	128	7	14	442	270
Other Theft	5	10	0	0	20	20
Other Violence	3	8	0	2	10	9
Personal Property	0	2	1	0	8	5
Rape	1	1	0	0	7	6
Snatches	0	4	0	0	1	0
Theft From M/V	0	0	0	0	1	2
Theft/Taking of M/V	0	4	0	0	6	6
Sum:	138	509	40	60	1785	1118

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

Ethnicity of DV Victims: 01 March 2004 - 28 February 2005

	Asian	Black	Chinese & other	Mixed	Unknown	White
ABH	43	149	7	20	471	300
Burglary in a Dwelling	0	4	0	2	11	10
Common Assault	47	167	5	17	548	301
Counted per Victim	2	1	0	0	3	1
Criminal Damage To a Dwelling	3	37	0	4	153	90
Criminal Damage To M/V	1	8	1	3	38	20
Criminal Damage To Other Bldg	0	0	0	0	3	2
GBH	0	5	0	1	20	4
Harassment	7	32	4	3	112	99
Murder	0	0	0	0	2	0
Offensive Weapon	0	0	0	0	3	0
Other Criminal Damage	3	8	0	3	45	29
Other Notifiable	2	5	0	0	14	8
Other Sexual	0	2	0	0	6	5
Others - Other Accepted Crime	58	178	15	20	706	399
Other Theft	1	9	0	1	40	22
Other Violence	8	18	1	1	48	22
Personal Property	1	2	0	0	1	0
Rape	0	3	0	0	8	2
Snatches	0	0	0	0	2	1
Theft/Taking of M/V	1	0	1	0	4	2
Sum:	177	628	34	75	2238	1317

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

Month-Year	Domestic Incidents	Domestic Offences	Domestic SDs	Domestic Detections
Feb 2005	395	211	32	88
Mar 2005	449	263	57	120
Apr 2005	453	252	43	76
May 2005	480	267	47	131
Jun 2005	465	261	65	260
Jul 2005	440	249	39	139
Aug 2005	432	233	38	121
Sep 2005	431	234	53	71
Oct 2005	439	248	45	108
Nov 2005	384	220	46	120
Dec 2005	440	259	34	42
Jan 2006	387	194	44	59
Feb 2006	348	200	39	51

...continued on page 7

Appendix 3: Croydon Data Summary - Domestic Violence Board Report

...continued from page 6

Month-Year	Domestic Incidents POA Arrest Made	Domestic Incidents without POA
Feb 2005	66	125
Mar 2005	85	160
Apr 2005	88	152
May 2005	100	165
Jun 2005	95	169
Jul 2005	86	154
Aug 2005	73	133
Sep 2005	84	161
Oct 2005	72	151
Nov 2005	80	134
Dec 2005	85	161
Jan 2006	73	129
Feb 2006	85	161