Emerging Issues

1. Introduction

1.1 Emerging Issues is the sixth key issue in the 2011-14 Community Safety Plan. The purpose of the Emerging Issues strand is to examine those current issues that require potentially immediate remedial action to an emerging trend in order to prevent an escalation in recorded crime

1.2 The overall aim of each strand is the reduction of offending and improving the quality of life for the residents of the Borough

1.3 The Emerging Issues Action plan is appended to this report at Appendix A and will be updated on a quarterly basis.

2. Emerging Issues

2.1 This report examines two issues which have recently been highlighted as causing a problem within the Borough and the third a more strategic approach as to how long term criminality may be influenced by this Partnership.

3. Prostitution

3.1 The Partnership will be aware that this issue was raised at the last meeting and there was a full report submitted at that time by Chief Inspector Allen as to the issues that had been identified and the progress made.

3.2 One key issue was the emergence of street prostitution around the Yarm Road area and the second issue was the general prostitution of female offenders that were known to the Police and Probation services.

3.3 In relation to the first issue the Police increased patrols within the vicinity and the latest information is that it is reported to be less noticeable than previously identified.

3.4 The second initiative was to identify 10-12 local prostitutes that were known to local services and adopt an Integrated Offender Management style working with them as potential victims.

3.5 A group of twelve have been identified and the Police, Probation services, Drug Treatment service, Housing services, Harbour and Social care are now working with this group in an effort to move them away from this particular activity.

4. Other Theft

4.1 The other theft category is contains a number of sub-categories and they are identified in the chart at para 4.4 below.

4.2 Currently two trends are emerging, an increase in the number of shop thefts and the increase in the number of metal thefts.

4.3 The data below is extracted from Police documentation which highlights the level of detail at which the Police analyse the data they receive in relation to each of the categories. The author has only selected relevant information from their extensive document.

4.4 Offence Types and detections

Offence	April	March	Monthly Change	% Detected
049/10 - Theft if not classified elsewhere	150	159	-9	9
046/00 - Theft from shops and stalls	94	85	9	56
044/00 - Theft of pedal cycle	38	41	-3	0.3
040/00 - Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	13	14	-1	15
039/00 - Theft from the person of another	5	4	1	0
041/00 - Theft by an employee	2	3	-1	0
047/00 - Theft from automatic machine or meter	1	0	1	0
137/18 - Take or ride a pedal cycle without consent	1	0	1	0
049/12 - Theft of conveyance other than motor vehicle or pedal cycle	0	1	-1	0
054/01 - Receiving stolen goods	0	2	-2	0
Grand Total	**304**	**309**	**-5**	**23**
047/00 - Theft from automatic machine or meter	**1**	**0**	**1**	**0**
137/18 - Take or ride a pedal cycle without consent	**1**	**0**	**1**	**0**
049/12 - Theft of conveyance other than motor vehicle or pedal cycle	**0**	**1**	**-1**	**0**
054/01 - Receiving stolen goods	**0**	**2**	**-2**	**0**

4.5 As can be seen from the Table overall there has been a slight decrease in the total number of offences, reflected in all of the offence categories aside from Shoplifting, Theft from Machine/Meter and TWOC of Pedal Cycle. It is worthy of note however that these categories which have seen an increase, have only seen slight increases.

4.6 In terms of detections, overall there has been a 23% detection rate in this category, however Theft if not classified elsewhere, which saw the highest number of offences, only saw a 9% detection rate. More than half of the Shoplifting offences were detected.

5. Metal Thefts

5.1 There have been 97 offences during April which have resulted in metal being stolen. 80 of these offences are categorised under "Theft if not Classified Elsewhere", 12 offences of Burglary Other and five offences of Burglary Dwelling. This demonstrates that metal theft continues to pose a large problem for the Other Theft category and the District as a whole. This is the same number of offences as reported in the previous period.

5.2 To date only four of the 97 offences have been detected, with 13 offences stating enquiries are ongoing.

5.3 Metal thefts (not including burglaries) also accounted for 27% of thefts as a whole, again, the same as the previous period.
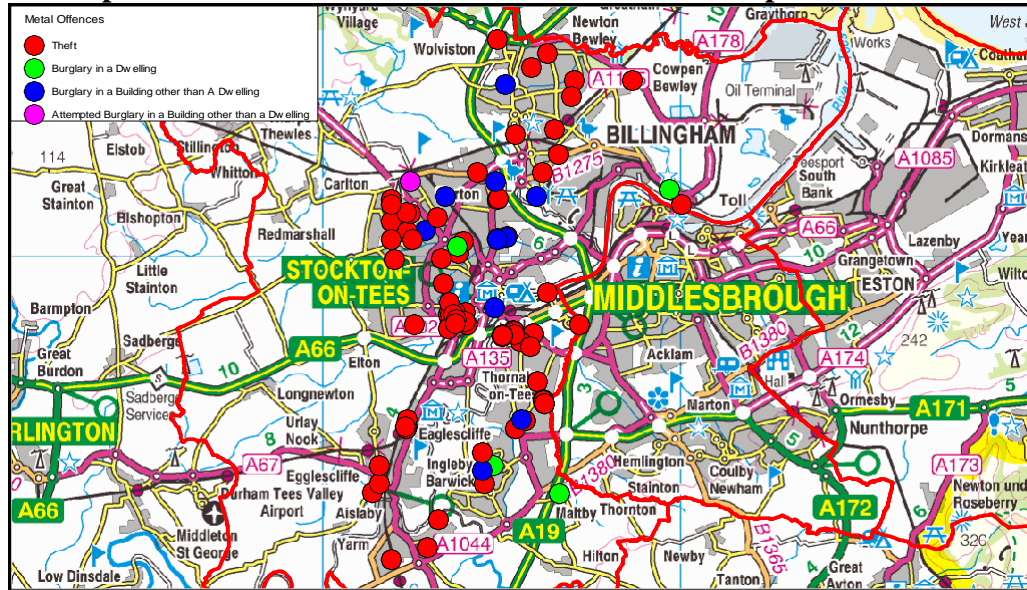
5.4 As highlighted in the previous document, there continue to be multiple offences in the same street, which has no doubt had an overall detrimental effect on the figures for this offence type and Other Theft as a whole. For example Balmoral Terrace (2), Cuthbert Close (7), David Road (3), Edison Drive (3), Leahope Court (4), Swainby Road (3), Swinburne Road (4), Thornaby Road (5), Urlay Nook Road (2) Walter Street (2). Items stolen from these offences continue to relate to a theft of lead and cable.

5.5 As highlighted previously scaffolding and cable continue to be stolen. Cable continues to be taken at a rapid rate. This is of concern due to the cost to local businesses and interruptions to supply of services to local communities.

5.6 The burglary offences included in this analysis, are mainly concerned with thefts from commercial premises/premises under construction, as such a lot of the property taken was boilers and copper piping. To date, only one of the burglary offences has been detected.

5.7 Lead and cable appear to be the most popular items stolen. There do not appear to be any offences of meters stolen for this period.
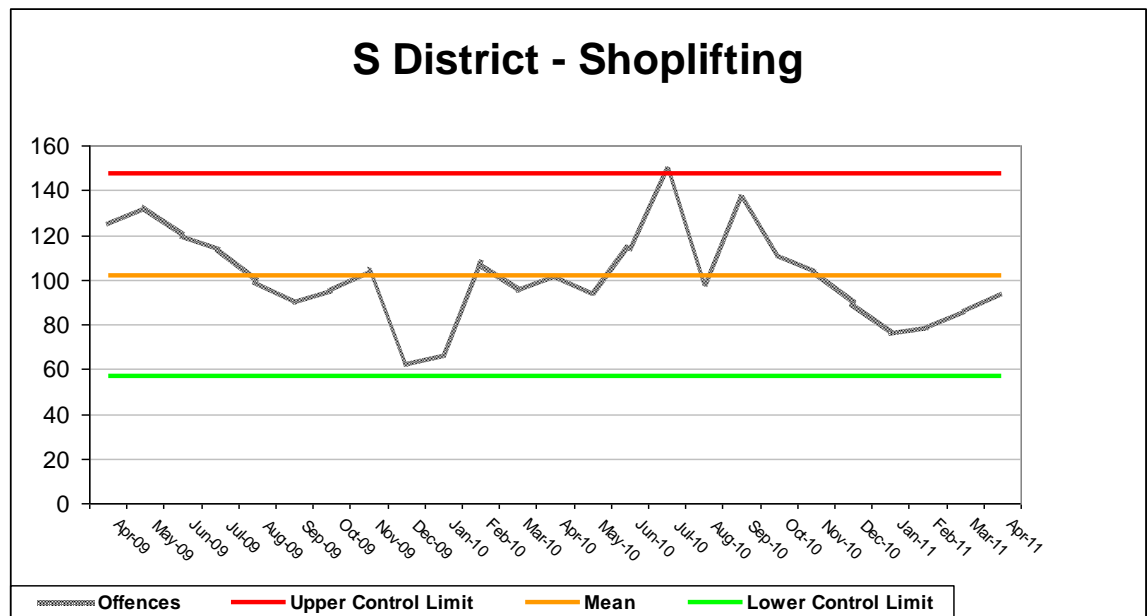
5.8 Map- Metal Offences for the Stockton District for April 2011.

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5.9 The map above shows that offences continue to be clustered around the S1 sub-district, in particular around Hardwick and Parkfield. The map highlights the persistence of offences in Yarm/Eaglescliffe, particularly around Aislaby area; these and other offences have lead to this area being a TCG hotspot for recent weeks. There is also a cluster of offences around the Mandale area.

6.Theft from Shops and Stalls

6.1 The above graph shows that offences have been following an upward trend since January 2011. There have been 94 offences for April, which is an increase on March (83 offences). During April, shoplifting accounted for 31% of all thefts, which is a slight decrease compared to the previous month (33%).

6.2 S1 Sub District (includes Stockton, Teesdale Park)

The S1 sub district accounted for 71 shoplifting offences, which is an increase on last month (58) and accounts for 78% of all shoplifting offences in Stockton, which is an increase on 70% for last month and 23% of total theft. To date 43 have been detected (61%).

Repeat store locations have been identified and reports sent out separately detailing these locations.
- Asda (8)
- Boyes (3)
- Debenhams (4)
- Netto (3)
- Somerfield, Norton North (3)
- Tesco, Roseworth (12)
- Wilkinson (4)
- Morrisons (2)

S2 Sub District (Billingham etc)

- The S2 sub district accounts for six shoplifting offences, which is a decrease compared to nine for the previous period. There are no repeat locations for this period.

S3/4 Sub District (Thornaby, Ingleby Barwick, Yarm etc)
The S3/4 sub district accounts for 17 shoplifting offences, which is an increase, compared to 15 offences for the previous month. This sub district accounts for 18% of shoplifting offences and 6% of total theft.
To date nine offences have been detected (47%).

The repeat locations are as follows:
- Asda, Allensway (6)
- Bells Store, Newton Dr - (2).
- Bells Store, Pearson Way (3)
- Bells Store, Thorntree Rd (2)
- Wilkinsons (2)

7. Key Findings

- **April Crime Levels:** There were 310 crimes of other theft that occurred and were validated during April 2011. This is a decrease of 13 crimes compared to March (323). The current detection rate for those offences that occurred and were detected in April is 23%, which is 69 out of the 304 crimes.

- *Metal Theft: There have been 97 offences during April. 81 of these offences are categorised under "Theft if not Classified Elsewhere", 12 offences of Burglary Other and five offences of Burglary Dwelling. This demonstrates*

that metal theft continues to pose a large problem for the Other Theft category and the District as a whole. This is the same number of offences as reported in the previous period.

- **Pedal bike thefts:** There has been a decrease in the number of pedal cycle offences, from 41 to 38 during April, this equates to a 7% decrease. Of the bikes stolen, the majority were left insecure (22).
- **Making Off Without Payment (MOWP) (fuel) –** There have been five offences within this category for this month, this is the same number as the previous period. Two offences were within days of each other at Morrisons at Teesside Park. All five offences remain undetected.
- **Repeat streets for other theft:** There are numerous repeat streets for this period, they break down as follows by sub district: S1 – 8, S2 – 0, S3 – 6 and S4 – 2.
- **Repeat offenders for other theft (8):** this is the same number as the previous period.
- *Shoplifting: There have been 94 offences for April, which is an increase on March (83 offences). During April, shoplifting accounted for 31% of all thefts, which is the same as previous month*.
- **Repeat locations for shoplifting;** Several repeat stores, for which reports have been prepared and sent to relevant departments.
- **Repeat offenders for shoplifting**; Seven repeat offenders, a decrease on last month (8).
- **Emerging Issues/Threats for forthcoming month:** It is anticipated that this category of crime will continue at the same rate as the previous period due to their being no decline in the interest in metal.

7.1 Police data shows that there were 310 'other theft & handling' crimes validated during April 2011 with a detection rate of 34.5%. This is a decrease of 13 crimes compared to the previous month (323 crimes) and an increase of 13 crimes when compared to April 2010 (297 crimes).

7.2 The district target for this category of crime is **237** offences per month with a detection rate of 39%; therefore the district was over target by 86 crimes, along with the detection rate under target.

7.4 The other theft category of crime accounted for 35% of total validated crime (877 as of 03.05.11). This is the same as the previous month and 31% in April 2010 (297/969 validated crimes). As with the previous documents, there has again been an increase when compared to same period last year.

Detections for April

7.5 There were 108 crimes (104 in April) detected in April relating to the following: Shoplifting (72), Theft if not classified (26) five which were metal thefts, Receiving stolen goods (1), Theft from automatic machine (8) and Theft by employee (1).There were also three detections linked to Burglar Other which were linked to Metals.

7.6 Seasonal patterns are difficult to predict for crime categories. However at this time of year there is often an increase in the theft of pedal cycles, garden furniture, and garden equipment. There appears to be no decrease in the price of metal prices

which will continue to impact on crime levels. Whilst shop thefts are relatively stable they still account for a high proportion of the committed crime and retail initiatives must be continued.

7.7 A presentation regarding the Other Theft category is to be given to the Partnership at the meeting by Detective Chief Inspector Rob Donaghy.

8. Young Offenders

8.1 Whilst researching the data produced for the impact assessment on the de-registered PPOs the most alarming statistic was that collectively the 53 offenders had amassed some 1219 convictions. In order to prevent that happening again it became clear that by strengthening the interventions with young offenders at an earlier age this may be preventable.

8.2 Whilst significant support and success have been provided and achieved within the Youth Offending Service a small number of individuals have chosen not to alter their lifestyle of offending and continue to offend within the community. The purpose of raising this as an issue within the Emerging Issues trend is to promote debate and consideration as to whether or not an IOM approach is required to prevent this cohort of offenders continuing with their criminality.

8.3 The advantages of this course of action are that by continuing supervision it may prevent them from amassing the number of offences they would acquire before they are nominated as a High crime causer or PPO. A further advantage may well be that by close scrutiny and supervision their criminal life span may well be decreased.

8.4 The Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy was introduced in September 2004 and comprised of three complementary strands, which work to reduce crime by targeting those who offend most or cause most harm to their communities. The three strands are Prevent & Deter, Catch and Convict, and Rehabilitate and Resettle.

- Prevent and Deter- to stop young people (overwhelmingly young people) entering the prolific offender group.
- Catch and Convict- actively tackling those who are already prolific offenders.
- Rehabilitate and Resettle-work to enable the identified PPO group to stop offending by offering them a range of supportive interventions.

8.5 The Prevent & Deter strand is of particular relevance to the work of the Youth Offending Service (YOS) and involves them more actively than the other two strands. It involves:

- Reducing re-offending, so that those who are already criminally active do not graduate into becoming prolific offenders.
- Reducing the numbers of young people who become involved in crime.

8.6 The purpose of Prevent and Deter is to:

- Prevent the most at risk young offenders from becoming the PPOs of the future through appropriately targeted youth justice interventions, supported by community-based interventions to tackle the risk factors that may drive their offending behaviour.

8.7 This purpose is supported by the secondary aim of:

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

Prevent & Deter allows a greater focus on those children and young people who show every sign of becoming tomorrow's priority offenders.

9. Conclusion

9.1 In deliberating these emerging trends cognisance as to be taken about the most effective and efficient way to deliver changing interventions. In particular deliberations need to be focussed on:-

- What do we know about this issue?
-
- How reliable/complete is our database?
-
- What are we doing about the gaps/what more could we do about the gaps?
-
- Who bears the economic cost and savings?

- What have we tried so far?
-
- How much has the intervention cost?
-
- Do we think that we have been successful?
-
- Have we been able to evaluate the impact?
-
- What else may be worth trying?
-
- Can we afford these other possible interventions?

9.2 This report submitted to the Partnership for discussion

J.Evans
IOM Manager
June 2011

Appendix A

EMERGING ISSUES ACTION PLAN

THEMATIC LEAD: Probation PPO Manager (Jeff Evans)
ACTION POINT LEADS: JE – Jeff Evans
                             RD – Rob Donaghy

No	LEAD	ACTION	UPDATE
1	JE	Maintain the use of the IOM model to provide intensive support and enforcement work with a cohort of high crime causers (HCCs) managed by the IOM Strategy Group. a) Cohort of HCCs identified yearly b) Secure funding beyond 2012 & maintain staff numbers in team c) Maintain counselling model & monitor number accessing counselling	a) 2011/12 cohort identified b) Outreach worker funding application pending c) ongoing
2	JE	Identify a Baseline in 2011/12 of the number of HCC's requiring treatment.	27 out of 29 in treatment (1 non drug user, 1 refuses treatment)
3	JE	Assess the family history of all HCCs by completing a geneogram for those within the cohort	Current Probation practice for all offenders within this cohort
4	JE	Ensure that a brief intervention is carried out for all of those who are arrested for shoplifting involving alcohol and/or they are given details of support services. a) Monitor the take up of support	Ongoing (Provision provided by Addaction in custody suite)
5	JE	Monitor the number of ATR's / ASAR/ DRR that are: a) Granted b) Breached c) Completed	1 ATR imposed to date No ASAR and currently 61 on DRR
6	JE	All HCCs to have a Planned Discharge from treatment a) Monitor the number of planned and unplanned discharges for all	No unplanned discharges from treatment

No	LEAD	ACTION	UPDATE
		HCCs	
7	JE	Monitor the number of families of HCCs requiring support, and the number taking up support.	ongoing
8	RD	Maintain the Other Theft group and action plan including a) Police Priority Crime Team to investigate all Other Theft offences especially theft of metals and shoplifting. b) Police crime prevention officers to continue to provide advice and support to retail stores and repeat locations for metal theft identified c) Maintain support for the Retailers Against Crime group.	All ongoing with specific police operations planned

No	Performance Measure	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3
6.1	**Reduce convictions for HCCs** Use the IOM approach to provide intensive support and enforcement. **Baseline: 22**1 (2010-11)	29 convictions to date (as at 24.6.2011) Projection for year - 125 reduction of -96 (43%)		
6.3	**Increase the number of HCCs accessing treatment services.** Identify the number of HCCs accessing treatment and monitor the number of crimes committed one year prior, during and one year after treatment **Baseline:** 27 in treatment out of a cohort of 29	27 out of 29 remain in treatment (1 non drug user, 1 refuses treatment)		