



**CLEVELAND  
POLICE**  
*Putting People First*

## Stockton Intelligence Unit

# Violence overview (April 11-Aug 11)

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This scanning document has been prepared for the purpose of providing an overview on violence to assist with SSP meeting at the request of Ch Insp Allen. It contains Intelligence in an abridged format and may contain 'Sensitive Material' as defined in the Attorney General's guidelines for the disclosure of "Unused Material" to the defence and therefore may be subject to the concept of public interest immunity.

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Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Introduction

This document has been produced at the request for Ch Insp Allen, Management Team, Stockton, in order to aid with tasking from Safer Stockton Partnership.

This report will provide an overview on performance relating to violent crime within the Stockton District. This will include overview on crime levels over past five years, then more detailed analysis on crime levels since start of the new financial year (April 11).

Information relating to funding, violence action plan and initiatives have also been provided by Ch Insp Allen.

This report is not intended to provide detailed analysis on locations, suspects or victims, but generic overview as to what the main areas of note are with violence in order to aid with reducing crime levels over the forthcoming financial year and to aid with discussion at the SSP meeting in September,

Caution should also be taken with details relating to research using 'crime indicator fields'. This is due to fields either being left blank, 'Not known' or may not show full details such as dates of births of full names. Therefore the true picture relating to alcohol misuse/offender/suspect details is still not known.

## Scanning results

### Violent crime

Offences of violence are categorised into four areas:-

- Serious Violence
- Assault with injury
- Assault without injury
- Other violence

Each category (exc Other violence) has its own monthly target: Serious Violence (7 crimes), Assault with injury (93 crimes), Assault without injury (44 crimes).

Each of the violence headings encompasses a wide variety of offences dependant upon the severity of the crime and injuries. In total there are 39 Home Office codes categorised as violence.

Serious Violence includes most serious offences from murder/manslaughter, wounding with intent to causing death by dangerous driving along with several of these offences carrying maximum sentences of life imprisonment (14 offences in total).

Assault with injury relates to Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (AOABH) and Malicious wounding.

Assault without injury relate to offences of 'Assault without injury' (previously common assault) and racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury.

Other Violence category relates to less serious offences, such as harassment, however it also includes 'Cruelty to and neglect of children' and 'Assault on a Constable' and possession of bladed articles.

During the last financial year, the most common offence type was 'Assault without injury' accounting for 49% of all violence, this was followed by 'Assault with injury' with 25%, 'Other Violence' accounting for 22%, and finally serious violence relating to 4%.

Serious Violence during 2010/11 also shows that there was only one offence of Murder during that 12 month period, with rest relating to Inflicting GBH or Wounding with Intent.

Domestic Violence is also main concern for this type of crime accounting for 33% (679 crimes)

### Performance overview.

The end of the financial year (April 10 - March 11) saw the District once again reduce crime levels by 8.9% which was well above the yearly target reduction of 4%. This equated to 1054 fewer victims of crime.

Stockton also retained its position as the safest place in Tees Valley to live, with the lowest crime rate per 1000 population.

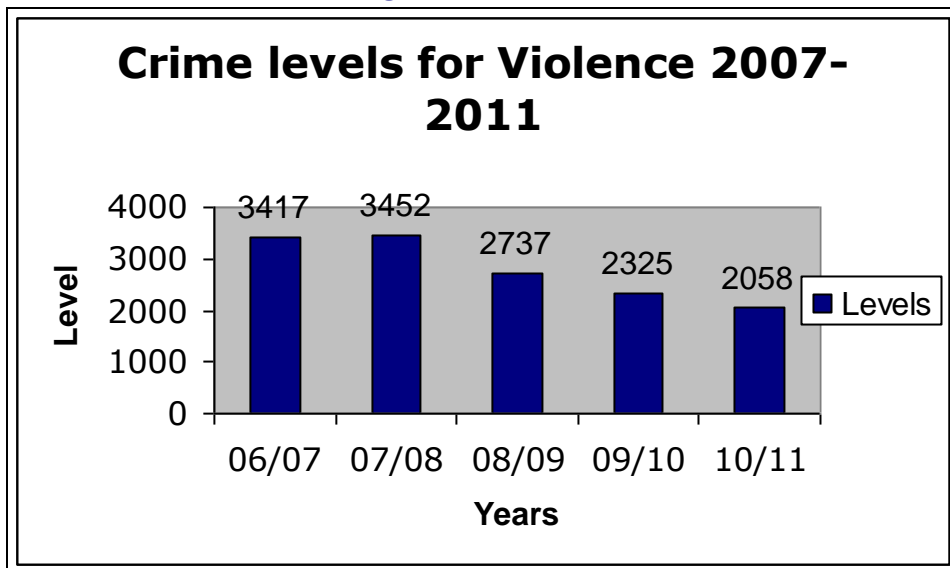
Reductions were seen in the majority of crime categories including Violence (2058 crimes), which reduced by 11.5% when compared to previous financial year. This equated 267 fewer victims of violence. This also equates to 10.6 crimes per 1000 population.

All categories of violence saw reductions, in particular 'Assault with injury' (-154 crimes) and 'Most Serious Violence' reduced by eight offences.

When reviewing previous crime figures for violence, the District has seen significant reductions in crime from five years ago when there were 3417 offences of violence recorded. Therefore, when compared to the most recent statistics, violence has reduced by 40% over five year period, or 1359 fewer victims of violence<sup>1</sup>

GRAPH 1

<sup>1</sup> Details obtained from Performance Management, HQ.



Violence is also the third most common crime type affecting the District, and accounted for 18.9% of all crime in last financial year. However looking back to five years ago, this is similar percentage to total crime (19.5%). Therefore although violence is reducing year on year, it still accounts for similar percentage to total crime.

**Targets/Reductions**

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The annual target for Stockton District for 2011/12 is to achieve a reduction in recorded crime when compared to 2010/11 (10,832 crimes).

This equates to a minimum reduction of one crime over the 12 month period. However the District has set its own target of achieving 900 crimes or less per month. This would equate to 10,800 crimes giving a reduction of 0.29%.

In terms of violent crimes, this equates to a monthly target of 171 crimes, along with a detection rate of 59%.

As of end August 2011, the District is showing a reduction of 15.9% in relation to violence (April 11-Aug 11) when compared to April 10-Aug 10. This equates to 163 fewer victims of crime and averages 171.8 crimes per month. Of note, violence is the only category, with exception of vehicle interference and other crime, which is showing a reduction so far this year. Total crime is also over by 11 crimes (0.2%), compared to last year.<sup>2</sup>

Serious violence however is over target with 46 crimes recorded, compared to 41 in 2010/11. This equates to 12.2% increase. Assault without and with injury are both under target (AWI/-14.5% and AWOI/-17%).

In terms of detection this is just below target for year to date, standing at 53.9% (Dist target 59%), however when compared to last year, the detection rate is up 0.2%.

**Analysis of current crime levels (April 11-Aug 11)**

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The District has been set a target of reducing all crime, including violence for the financial year 2011/12.

During 2010/11 there were 2058 offences of Violence in Stockton District and therefore the District has set at monthly target of 171 crimes or less, which equates to 2052 crimes.

The monthly targets for each category are as follows:-

- Serious Violence (7)
- Assault with injury (93)

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<sup>2</sup> Performance Management crime statistics, based on recorded crime – August 2011.

- Assault without injury (44)
- Other violence – No Target.

To date (April-Aug) there have been 859 offences of violence, which is a reduction of 15.9% (-163 crimes) when compared to same months in 2010. With the exception of serious violence, all categories are showing a reduction. It should be noted that increase in serious violence only equates to five more crimes.

If offences continue at this rate then levels would be this would also give a projection of 2049 crimes for end 2012 financial year. This would be reduction on last year’s crime total of 2058 crimes (859 crimes divided by 153 days\*365 days).

The table on the next page shows the number of violent offences for each category between April 2011-Aug 2011.

The table has also been colour coded to show if the number of offences were above or below the monthly target:

Green – under target

Red – over target

White – No target for Other Violence

The table also shows the percentage to total crime that violence accounted for each month.

Type	April	May	June	July	Aug
<b>Serious Violence</b>	5	11	11	10	9
<b>Assault with injury</b>	76	88	89	83	82
<b>Assault without injury</b>	36	44	55	38	51
<b>Other Violence</b>	16	35	32	36	52
<b>Total</b>	133	178	187	167	194
<b>% Total crime</b>	15%	18%	19%	17%	19%

TABLE 1

The table illustrates that for three months so far, the district has been over the District monthly target (171 crimes), however the reduction on April has assisted with the District showing a reduction compared to last year (as noted on page 3, reduction of 163 crimes, or 15.9%).

Serious violence has been over target on four of the five months, in particular May and June. However analysis was conducted during these months which showed no particular areas of note.

**Reducing Violent crime is also a priority for Safer Stockton Partnership. Several targets have been set in order to aid in reducing violent crime:-**

- **Maintain a reduction in Most Serious Violence.**

During the first quarter of 2011 there have been 27 MSVC which is a reduction of seven crimes on 2010/11. However, research of most up to date crime statistics (April-Aug) shows that serious violence is showing an increase of five crimes when compared to 2010/11. There have been 46 crimes recorded to date, this averages 9.2 crimes per month and gives a projection of 110 crimes for the year. This would be well over SSP target of 82 crimes.

- **Reduce Violence against the person in the top five wards<sup>3</sup>**

Stockton Town Centre	Reduction of 8% (-107 crimes) during first quarter
Parkfield and Oxbridge	Increase of 12% (+46 crimes) during first quarter.
Mandale and Victoria	Increase of 7% (+40 crimes) during first quarter
Newtown	Increase of 16% (+41%) during first quarter.
Hardwick	Decrease of 24% (-22%) during first quarter

The top five wards are also the same top five wards for Anti-social Behaviour as identified by the Partnership, with target to reduce ASB in these areas.

<sup>3</sup> Details taken from SSP Quarterly report.

Since the start of the financial year, Parkfield has featured within the TCG process for crime (raised 29.06.11) and Hardwick has also featured, however this was mainly for ASB linked to off road bikes, and spate of crime (no concerns with violence).

Research on violence from April 11 to August 11 still shows four of these wards within the top five, however Norton North is just slightly above Hardwick, moving this ward to sixth position.

None of the neighbourhood priorities for the above five areas relate to violence.

Domestic violence (DV) features heavily within these five wards, in particular Newtown, with 45% of all violence in 2010/11 linked to DV. This was followed by Mandale and Victoria (42%). This is well above the percentage of DV to total violence in 2010/11 (accounted for 33% of violence).

This has also continued into the new financial year (April- Aug) with DV featuring heavily again in Mandale and Victoria (45%) and Newtown (42%).

Research of the wards for more up to date picture of crime levels (April-Aug) shows that the wards have remained similar however Hardwick is now sixth ranking, just below Norton North.

- ***Reduce repeat perpetrators of Domestic Violence***

Details researched for the first quarter of the financial year show that four out of the five offenders who completed programmes have refrained from re-offending.

Repeat offenders of DV is particularly high, with research showing that between April 11- Aug 11 there were five repeat offenders of DV during the five month period.

Further details in relation to DV will be covered later in this report.

- ***Increase the number of repeat victims in MARAC accessing support form Harbour.***

These details are to be established in 2011/12.<sup>4</sup>

There are also several key areas within violence which are researched for the monthly violence documents:-

- Domestic Related Violence
- Night-time economy
- Alcohol related crime
- Youth crime
- Knife/Weapon
- Racially motivated crime

### ***Domestic related violence***

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#### **Cleveland police definition of Domestic Violence:**

"Domestic violence relates to any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse, including psychological, physical, sexual, financial, or emotional abuse between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members over 18, regardless of gender" However it should be noted that if victims/offenders were aged between 16-18yrs and in an intimate relationship the vulnerability unit would review these incidents to ascertain if DV intervention is required.

During 2010/11 domestic related violence accounted for 33% of all violent offences. This equates to one in three offences having a domestic related link.

At present domestic related violence is reviewed as part of the morning intelligence meeting, along with DV incidents discussed at the daily management meetings

The monthly violence document also provides an overview on DV related violence, although not in depth.

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<sup>4</sup> Details obs from Q1 update – A/Clark, Comm Safety Team, Stockton Borough Council.

## R E S T R I C T E D

Anna Clark, Community Safety analyst, also produces a quarterly report on behalf of the Partnership. This document provides an overview on DV related crime and incidents, along with other partner involvement and activity.

It is quite apparent from research in relation to this type of violence that there is higher percentage of both repeat victims and offenders, when compared to non-domestic related violence.

For example, since the financial year, there have been 30 repeat victims of domestic related violence, accounting for 11% of all DV victims. This compares to only 6% of all non DV victims being repeats (caution should be taken with these statistics as dependant upon indicator fields and links to crimes being accurate and up to date. Therefore these details should be taken as a guide only).

This is similar picture with suspects of DV related violence. During same researched period, 18% of all DV related suspects were repeat offenders, this compares to only 11% of non DV offenders being repeats.

This is key to reducing overall DV crime, and has been raised as a priority for reducing violence by SSP.

Females continue to remain vulnerable, accounting for 78% of all DV victims.

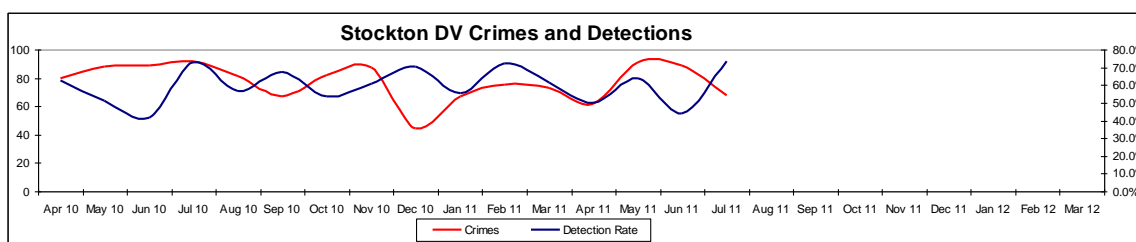
It is still not possible to obtain true reflection of whether alcohol or drugs plays role in DV related crime, with nearly third crimes having the indicator field of 'Committed under influence code' as 'Not known'.

Other partner agencies, such as Harbour, will also hold further details on victims backgrounds that would provide more accurate and true reflection on the issues linked to DV.

In relation to detections, the graph below illustrates the number of crimes and detection rates. This shows that since the new financial year, crimes have increase during May and June, and detection rates decreased during this time. However, during July this was the opposite, with crime decreasing and detections increasing.<sup>5</sup>

It is also apparent from this graph that both crimes and detections fluctuate at different times, and in particular of note is December. The graph shows dip in offending even though this is festive time of year with increased activity linked to alcohol consumption.

**Graph 2**



The following table relates to the levels of domestic related incidents along with DV submissions, which shows decrease in both since the start of the financial year. DV related incidents have reduced by 109, equating to 7.1% decrease, which is similar picture for DV forms. However this would be the case that if incidents are reducing, then there would be less DV forms.

**Table 3**

Domestic Incidents	July 2011				May 11 To July 11				August 10 To July 11				April 11 To July 11			
	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change
DV Incidents	359	461	-102	-22.1%	1104	1202	-98	-8.2%	4413	4110	303	7.4%	1436	1545	-109	-7.1%
DV Forms	365	372	-7	-1.9%	1054	1170	-116	-9.9%	4254	3974	280	7.0%	1408	1525	-117	-7.7%
Rate per 1000 Pop.	1.87	2.40	-0.53	-22.1%	5.75	6.27	-0.51	-8.2%	23.00	21.42	1.58	7.4%	7.48	8.05	-0.57	-7.1%

**Table 4<sup>6</sup>**

<sup>5</sup> Performance Management, July, Stockton (Aug not available until mid Sept)

<sup>6</sup> As above

**R E S T R I C T E D**

Arrests	July 2011				May 11 To July 11				August 10 To July 11				April 11 To July 11			
	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change
Arrests	97	78	19	24.4%	231	221	10	4.5%	871	876	-5	-0.6%	287	298	-11	-3.7%
Arrest Rate	27.0%	16.9%	10.1%	10.1%	20.9%	18.4%	2.5%	2.5%	19.7%	21.3%	-1.6%	-1.6%	20.0%	19.3%	0.7%	0.7%
Custody Arrests	50	50	0	0.0%	132	132	0	0.0%	468	486	-18	-3.7%	164	177	-13	-7.3%

Table 4 shows that the number of arrests has decreased since April 2011, however the arrest rate has increased by 0.7%.

Table 5 relates to conviction rates.

**Table 5<sup>7</sup>**

Conviction Rate	May 2011				March 11 To May 11				June 10 To May 11				April 11 To May 11			
	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change	2011/12	2010/11	Change	% Change
Convictions	21	27	-6	-22.2%	49	81	-32	-39.5%	197	229	-32	-14.0%	31	46	-15	-32.6%
Conviction Rate	72.4%	79.4%	-7.0%	-7.0%	81.7%	94.2%	-12.5%	-12.5%	73.5%	79.0%	-5.5%	-5.5%	66.0%	74.2%	-8.2%	-8.2%
Discontinued Cases	5	2	3	150.0%	13	8	5	62.5%	40	39	1	2.6%	9	3	6	200.0%
Discontinued Rate	17.2%	5.9%	11.4%	11.4%	21.7%	9.3%	12.4%	12.4%	14.9%	13.4%	1.5%	1.5%	19.1%	4.8%	14.3%	14.3%

This final table shows that there has been considerable decrease in convictions between April 11-Aug 11, along with increase in number of cases which are discontinued (nine compared to only three in 2010/11).

Further information surrounding the reasons behind the cases being discontinued are not available, however these details would aid in ascertaining why, for example if the victims are refusing to attend court or lack of evidence. They would also be of use to feature as part of the quarterly DV report.

Locations for offending also differ to non DV related violence, often with more affluent areas, suffering higher percentage of DV crime when compared to total violence for that ward areas. However the number of offences is generally a lot lower than those in lower deprivation areas.

The table on the following page illustrates the number of DV and non DV violent offences in each ward between April- Aug.

The table has been sorted to show the wards with highest number of offences then descending.

This shows that four of the five wards noted by SSP are still top location for offending; however Norton North is now fifth ranking.

Further analysis was then carried out to show the percentage of violence relating to Domestic Violence and non Domestic Violence. They were then ranked from 1 to 24 in relation to percentage totals for each type of violence.

Those highlighted in green relate to those wards ranked in the top 5 for each category.

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<sup>7</sup> As above

<sup>8</sup> Details relate to violent crimes that have occurred between 01/04/11-31/08/11.



**R E S T R I C T E D**

Ward	Non DV	DV related	Total offences	% DV to violence	Ranking DV related violence	% Violence non DV related	Ranking non DV violence
Stockton_Town_Centre	145	52	197	26	18	74	7
Mandale_and_Victoria	38	31	69	45	9	55	16
PARKFIELD_AND_OXBRIDGE	41	22	63	35	14	65	11
Newtown	34	25	59	42	12	58	13
Norton_North	32	22	54	41	13	59	12
Hardwick	35	11	46	24	19	76	6
Billingham_East	24	20	44	45	8	55	17
Norton_South	17	17	34	50	6	50	18
Billingham_Central	26	6	32	19	22	81	3
Stainsby_Hill	19	10	29	34	15	66	10
Roseworth	11	13	24	54	4	46	21
Billingham_South	12	9	21	43	10	57	14
Yarm	19	2	21	10	24	90	1
Bishopsgarth_and_Elm_Tree	7	11	18	61	2	39	23
Billingham_North	8	9	17	53	5	47	20
Eaglescliffe	13	4	17	24	21	76	5
Billingham_West	13	4	17	24	20	76	4
Village	8	6	14	43	11	57	15
Ingleby_Barwick_East	5	6	11	55	3	45	22
Ingleby_Barwick_West	8	3	11	27	17	73	8
Fairfield	2	6	8	75	1	25	24
Grangefield	4	2	6	33	16	67	9
Hartburn	5	1	6	17	23	83	2

This shows a completely different picture with wards that feature within top five for all violence, showing lower ranking when categorised into DV and non DV related violence.

Wards which feature in top 5 for DV related crime mainly due to the lower number of crimes committed in these areas.

The table also shows that if the priority (SSP) is to reduce violence in the top Five wards then further reductions/activity/resources need to be inputted toward DV related crime. For example, it action plans are in place to tackle Mandale and Victoria, then one of the thrusts of the plan should be to tackle DV related crime as it accounts for 45% of all violence. Whereas in Stockton Town Centre, DV only accounts for 26%, therefore the action plan should be structured towards tackling other types of violence in this ward. However the key theme with these wards is that they nearly always feature as the Top 5 wards for all crime, and as such should be priority for the overall reduction in crime and disorder.

***Night time economy***

A monthly violence document is produced by Stockton police analytical unit which researches all validated crimes relating to violence during that particular month.

This document is for the attention of Ch Insp Allen in order to identify any areas of concern and aide with future planning. All crimes are reviewed and categorised into Night time economy (NE), DV related crime, DV Night time economy and Other violence.

To date (April-Aug), there have been 65 crimes linked to the night time economy that have been researched as part of the monthly documents. However this is subject to change if crimes are reported after the research has been conducted. Offences linked to the NE therefore account for only 14% of all violence during April 11 - Aug 11. Of these 65, only two were recorded as domestic related.

However when these details are cross referenced against crime indicator fields, this shows that 301 crimes stated the offence was committed whilst under the influence of alcohol (189) and drinks and drugs (112). More importantly there were 338 crimes where the indicator was not known.

Although it is essential to allocate extra resources and patrols to the High St areas during the weekend period, the key underlying theme for all violence is the link with misuse of alcohol/alcohol and drugs. This has been noted through the SSP with Reducing Alcohol related crime and ASB a priority.

In relation to repeat/problematic locations, these are dealt with robustly by the licensing department, along with pub watch scheme continuing, Op Tranquillity, Public houses regularly visited and all violent crimes in Public houses reviewed daily.

### ***Alcohol related crime***

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In relation to alcohol related crime, a quarterly report in relation to alcohol related crime and disorder is produced by Anna Clark, Community Safety analyst.

This report reviews all crime with indicator field of 'under the influence of alcohol'. This report also includes A&E data and ASB incidents.

The last report was published in August, relating to first financial quarter of 2011.

Arrest referral data utilised in quarterly report shows that 44% of all arrests between April and June 2011 were alcohol related. One in five of those arrested also received a full intervention which showed that 87% drank more than 10 units of alcohol in a typical day.

In order to ascertain the current picture, all crime (not just violence) has been researched between 01/04/11-31/08/11 to identify the percentage that alcohol related violence accounts for. This shows that 7% of total crime had indicator field of 'Yes' relating to 'Under the influence' and of this 7% (348 crimes), there were 303 crimes (87%) were linked to violence. Therefore it would appear the motivating factor for violence stems from misuse or under the influence of alcohol and does not appear to affect other crime types.

Alcohol related violence also accounts for 35% of all violent crime during the five month period. It is likely that this will be higher as 39% of violent crimes have this indicator field as 'Unknown'. This also includes offences that have occurred at Public Houses which will more than likely have involved alcohol consumption.

Anti-social behaviour also continues to have strong link with alcohol consumption. During the researched period there were 851 ASB incidents with alcohol related qualifier code. These incidents only accounted for 12% of all ASB incidents. However it is quite clear from daily research in relation to ASB that this figure could be higher, for example there were 182 incidents with word 'alcohol' in the remarks field and of these 23 didn't have alcohol qualifier code utilised.

At present there are only three Neighbourhood Priorities specifically related to under age drinking or alcohol related ASB for the District. However the majority of wards have ASB and youths congregating as a priority, which often involves under age drinking.

### ***Youth crime***

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Research of suspect profiles shows that 20% of all suspects were aged 17 years or under, with ages ranging from 10 yrs, with most common ages 14yrs and 15yrs. This relates to crimes where the suspects details have full names and dates of birth. Again caution should be taken with these figures and percentages and are only a guide, due to the high number of crimes which don't have full details or indicator fields completed.

A dip sample of these offences shows that none of the offences were recorded as domestic related, and only four were linked as being racially motivated. 60% of the offences related to assault without injury such as harassment and common assault.

There are also numerous crimes involving more than one offender which relate to groups youths fighting. For example there were 12 incidents which resulted in 27 suspects being arrested or linked to these crimes with four offenders linked to one incident.

## R E S T R I C T E D

However it should be noted that the types of assault and the MO details show that there is no apparent problems with gang or youth related violence. There are no locations of concern, and ASB incidents and intelligence also show no emergence of gang cultures.

In terms of under-age drinking, only eight crimes had the indicator field as 'Affected by drink/alcohol', however as previously noted, this indicator field is not reliable, as there were also 46 suspects links stating not known.

Victim analysis shows that 17% of all victims were 17 years or under which is similar percentage to suspects. Cross reference of these crimes shows that nearly half were linked to crimes where the suspects were of juvenile age.

### ***Offenders***

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Research of suspect/offender details shows that the most common age group is 26-34 years, however when looking at non DV and DV related crimes the age groups vary.

For example, 20% of non DV related violence are linked to those 17years and under, however only 2.5% within this age group are linked to DV related crime, however this will be due to DV related incidents mainly linked to 18yrs and over (as per the definition of DV).

18-25 age group accounts for similar picture for both DV and non DV (28%/29%), however the following age bracket (26yrs-34yrs) is slightly higher for DV crime accounting for 32%, compared to 28% for non DV crime.

Therefore when looking at reducing offending it is these age groups that need to be looked at.

This is also apparent in relation to repeat offenders, with 18% of DV offenders being repeats, compared to only 11% for non DV violence.

### ***Victims***

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As previously noted, juveniles account for 16% of all victims, with most common age group between 18-25 yrs (30%), followed by 26yrs – 34 yrs (21%). The majority of these juvenile victims relate to incidents at schools, outside schools, or between youths of similar age group.

DV related violence also accounted for 33% of all crimes, and as noted in DV section, females account for majority of DV victims, and higher percentage of repeat victims compared to non DV related violence.

Overall victim analysis shows that female victims account for approximately 52% of all violence, DV and non DV related crime, however when looking at just non DV crime the percentage of males is much higher (67%).

Repeat victims also differs for DV and non DV violence, with 11% of all DV victims during April-Aug being repeat victim (subject to two or more offences), compared to 6% of non DV victims.

### ***Knife crime.***

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Knife crime is not of concern for the District with no areas of concern in relation to gang culture or knives being carried for protection.

During the researched period, there were only 22 crimes with keyword of ITALY utilised, which relates to knife crime (ITALY keyword is utilised for any violent offence where "Any instrument used as a weapon that is sharp and capable of piercing the skin"

This accounts for only 3% of all Violent crime. There were also four crimes resulting from one incident where male was drunk resulting in police officers receiving cuts to their hands whilst arresting the offender.

There were also six offences recorded as domestic related (27%) with four of these resulting in injury.

Further research of crimes show that there were 32 offences relating to possession of knives or pointed articles, accounting for 4% of all violence. This compares to 37 same time period on 2010/11.

### **Racially motivated violence**

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Only 2% of violent offences has crime indicator of racially motivated recorded as Yes.

There are no areas of concern in relation to racially motivated offences, with the majority of the offences relating to harassment, alarm or distress. Of note though is that 10 of the 21 offences occurred in Stockton town centre ward/Parkfield. However there is higher percentage of the BME community living within these areas.

The increase in different ethnicities in Stockton has yet to have any significant impact in terms of tensions between groups of different nationalities.

### **Enforcement activity**

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The current police operation which addresses the night time economy is Tranquillity. This consists of a Police presence on both Stockton and Yarm High Streets and neighbouring areas such as Yarm Lane where there are public houses and late night eating establishments. The operation aims to have the police presence starting from 8pm in Yarm and 10pm in Stockton until 4am. The response overlay team together with the special Constabulary provide the staffing for this operation.

Additionally 1 Sgt and two pc's work from 8.00pm until 02.30am in Yarm High Street on a Tuesday night purely to focus around public houses and the Cross Keys nightclub.

During the summer of 2010 and 2011 The Cross keys in Yarm have put on a "Cannonball night" aimed at the student population on a Wednesday night. A dedicated policing presence has been provided which started with two pc's and then increased to 4 due to the numbers attending and the drunkenness of them. A handful of arrests were made in the first two weeks but none since.

Additional enforcement activity around the night-time economy is operation Lumberjack which is run roughly once every 6 weeks and consists of approximately 30 officers and a drugs dog visiting a dozen licensed premises and checking for drugs misuse. The licensing officers make up this team and carry out their own inspection of the premises and door staff to check on licence conditions and compliance.

The police licensing unit take robust action against premises where breaches are identified in the form of action plans or a temporary closure of the premises' and ultimately revocation of the licence.

Other policing operational or initiatives include or have included:

Use of sec 27 direction to leave powers initially under operation Exodus but now incorporated into Tranquillity.

Operation Staysafe- A multiagency approach to safeguarding young people on the streets.

Operation Star- tackles drinking issues in and around Trinity Gardens.

Operation Guardian- Additional resources deployed over the two week Christmas period to tackle domestic violence. The use of head-cams and DA trained staff have been selected for this.

Pub watch

The police violence tactical meeting has increased its membership recently to put more emphasis on tackling domestic violence as generally recorded incidents and crimes in this category remain fairly static although of late there has been a significant reduction in both.

Whereas the reduction in other violence largely around the night-time economy has seen bigger and more sustained reductions over several years.

**Funding**

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For several years certain licensed premises have contributed to the policing of the night-time economy but currently only the Wobbly Goblin and The Cross Keys in Yarm contribute. Glam nightclub who were a main contributor (approx £1,000 per month) stopped paying a few months ago as they felt they would get the same police presence whether they paid or not.

The Wobbly Goblin pay £40 per month and The Cross Keys pay approx 1,808 per month which covers every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. It is expected that they will also pay £162 for each Cannonball night on a Wednesday. These payments fall short of the cost of the police operation but that also means that the police can leave those areas if they need to as they are not deployed solely to police the licensed premises.

**Key Findings**

- Violence within Stockton District has reduced by 40% when compared to five years ago (06/07 financial year to 10/11). This equates to 1359 fewer victims of crime.
- The most recent statistics (April 11-Aug 11) show that violence has also reduced by 15.9% when compared to the same time period in 2010/11. This equates to 163 fewer victims of crime.
- However if violence continues at this rate (859 crimes Apr-Aug), the District would actually be over last years target of 2058 crimes. This is based on average monthly level of 171.8 crimes x 12 (2061 crimes).
- Therefore it is essential that reductions are seen during the forthcoming months. Crime levels between Sept-March last year shows there were 1036 crimes recorded which averages 148 crimes per month.
- Top five wards as identified as a priority for reducing violence by SSP shows that during April-Aug four of the five wards continue to be the most problematic. With Hardwick moving to sixth position. During the first quarter of 2011/12 three of the wards also saw increases when compared to same time in 2010/11.
- Domestic violence continues to account for high percentage of all violence, with 33% of violence recorded as DV related (April-Aug). Three of the top five wards also have higher than average levels of DV recorded within their wards.
- Repeat offending and victimisation also features higher for DV related violence.
- Knife and gang related violence is not of concern for the District with levels remaining low. Although juvenile violence accounts for 20%, the types of violence mainly relate to harassment or assaults without injury. There is nothing to suggest that there is gang related culture in Stockton.
- Misuse of alcohol continues to play key role in violent related crime with 35% of all violence in April-Aug linked to alcohol. However the true picture remains unclear with 39% of all crimes recording this filed as 'Not known'.

**Recommendations**

- Quarterly DV report to include more detailed analysis in relation to repeat offenders/victims. Also to include review of what initiatives have been put in place to tackle DV, if they are having any impact in order to direct resources for the forthcoming quarter.
- Police analyst to continue with research and analysis of violence on daily basis in order to identify any emerging areas of concern.
- Repeat offenders of violence (non DV) to be highlighted to licensing/ASB team to assess if suitable for CRASBO/Pub banning.
- Quarterly alcohol related crime report to include section on actions to date, and what impact they have had or having on crime levels.
- Improvement of data quality and crime reports as at present the indicator fields, along with suspect/victim analysis is hampered by lack of detail or updates.

