

5 Days in August – Recommendations

1. In December 2011 the Riots, Communities and Victims Panel established by the Government published '5 Days in August' – an interim report on the 2011 English riots, which runs to 111 pages. The Panel is chaired by Darra Singh, Permanent Secretary at DWP, and former Chief Executive of Ealing Council and Luton Council and included Simon Marcus, founder of the Boxing Academy (nominated by David Cameron), Heather Rabbatts, former Chief Executive of Lambeth Council among other appointments (nominated by Nick Clegg) and Baroness Maevé Sherlock, former head of the Refugee Council and the National Council for One Parent Families (nominated by Ed Miliband).
2. Appended to this report are the 33 Recommendations from the report, with comments in some cases (many of the recommendations are for action by Central Government).
3. One section of the report addresses the question 'Why didn't the riots happen everywhere?' Points of interest include:
 - (a) the concentration of riots in the 30% most deprived areas in the country
 - (b) the most 'lootable' shops not being located in other centres, because of nearby out-of-town shopping centres.

In other discussions, it has been noted that concentration of riots took place in major conurbations e.g. Greater London, Greater Manchester and the West Midlands, with particularly strong traditions of alienation between local people and the local police forces.

4. Further analysis is being carried out on the use of stop and search powers in Stockton.