

**Parkfield and Oxbridge Analysis**

1. Members will recall that the fourth Partnership Strategic Assessment highlighted increases in crime and deprivation in Parkfield and Oxbridge ward. It was recommended that these issues be explored further in a separate piece of analysis.
2. The attached report provides an in-depth analysis of crime and ASB in Parkfield and Oxbridge for the last financial year 2011/12. The report forms one of the four analysis documents to be produced this year under target 6.2 of the Emerging Issues priority.
3. The analysis found that two particular crime series in the last six months of 2010/11 were the main reason for the increase in crime within the last Partnership Strategic Assessment. The main themes of deprivation within the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) related to health and education, which lowered the ranking overall.
4. Both crime and ASB have reduced in the ward in 2011/12 compared to 2010/11, at rates exceeding the overall Stockton performance.

Community Safety Analyst  
13<sup>th</sup> June 2012

## **Parkfield and Oxbridge Analysis**

### **Introduction**

Parkfield and Oxbridge ward was raised as a growing concern in the 2011 Partnership Strategic Assessment due to increasing crime and deprivation rates. Within the strategic period this ward went from 5<sup>th</sup> worst to 2<sup>nd</sup> worst for overall crime rate and saw increases in deprivation and vulnerability as measured by the Vulnerable Localities Index (VLI).

The following report has been commissioned by the Safer Stockton Partnership to examine Parkfield and Oxbridge in more detail and will consider the current picture looking at data from the last financial year April 2011 to March 2012; six months on from the strategic assessment period.

### **Performance**

2011/12 has been a successful year for Parkfield and Oxbridge with an overall 7.2% reduction in total crime compared to 2010/11. This is a particularly good result given that there has been an increase of 7.7% for the whole Borough during the same time period, and only two other wards achieved an overall crime reduction both of which are affluent areas (Yarm and Northern Parishes).

The table below shows a breakdown by crime category for the last three years. It shows particularly good reductions in burglary offences and violence, with vehicle crime showing the largest increases over the last year.

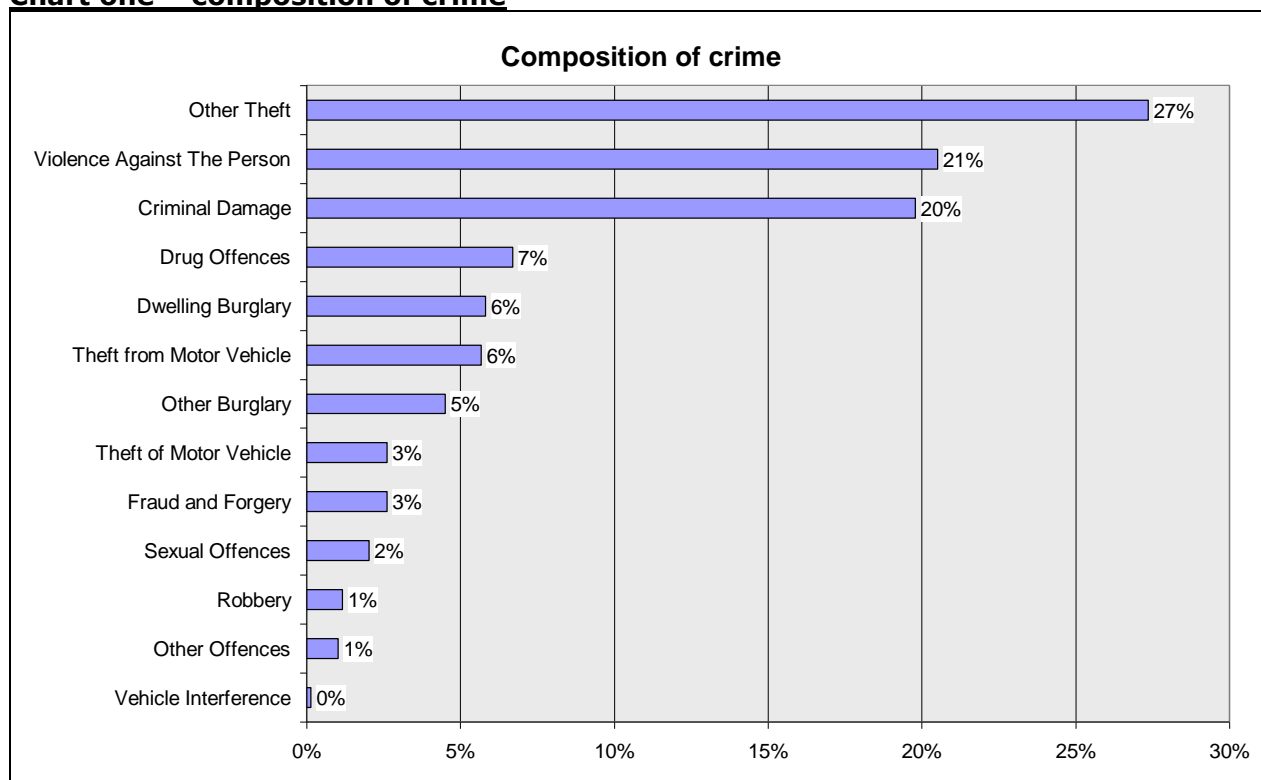
**Table one – crime breakdown**

<b>CRIME CATEGORY</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Criminal Damage	173	145	136	-9	-6.2%
Drug Offences	61	44	46	2	4.5%
Dwelling Burglary	52	57	40	-17	-29.8%
Fraud and Forgery	17	14	18	4	28.6%
Other Burglary	45	57	31	-26	-45.6%
Other Offences	13	6	7	1	16.7%
Other Theft	105	186	188	2	1.1%
Robbery	6	7	8	1	14.3%
Sexual Offences	9	13	14	1	7.7%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	34	34	39	5	14.7%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	22	11	18	7	63.6%
Vehicle Interference	10	5	1	-4	-80.0%
Violence Against The Person	141	161	141	-20	-12.4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>-53</b>	<b>-7.2%</b>

Other Theft offences account for the highest proportion of crime within this ward (27%), which is also the case for the entire Borough where it accounts for an even higher proportion (31%). Violence against the person is the next highest accounting for 21% of all crime, followed by Criminal Damage with 20% overall. This is slightly different to the Borough profile; Criminal Damage 21%, Violence against the person 18%.

The chart below provides a breakdown of the composition of crime within Parkfield and Oxbridge ward.

**Chart one – composition of crime**



There has also been a reduction in Police recorded anti-social behaviour incidents in Parkfield and Oxbridge over the last financial year of -15.7%. This has once again out performed the Borough average of a 7.2% reduction overall. In terms of ASB incidents recorded by the Local Authority there has been a reduction of 3% over the last financial year despite an increase of 20.8% across the Borough. The majority of ASB incidents dealt with by the Multi-Agency ASB Team (MAASBT) were youths related and the main categories were rowdy / nuisance behaviour, shouting and swearing, playing games in inappropriate areas and throwing missiles.

Deliberate fires have also reduced in Parkfield and Oxbridge ward over the last financial year, particularly in relation to primary deliberate fires. Table two below provides a breakdown of ASB and fire statistics.

**Table two – ASB & fire breakdown**

ASB incidents	2010-11	2011-12	Change	% Change
Police ASB	1,145	965	-180	-15.7%
LA ASB	168	163	-5	-3.0%
Deliberate Fires	2010-11	2011-12	Change	% Change
Primary Fires (F1s)	24	17	-7	-29.2%
Primary Dwelling Fires	12	7	-5	-41.7%
Primary Vehicle Fires	8	7	-1	-12.5%
Primary Other Fires	4	3	-1	-25.0%
Secondary Fires (F3s)	59	53	-6	-10.2%
<b>All Deliberate Fires</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>
Accidental Fires	32	23	-9	-28.1%

It was noted in the Partnership Strategic Assessment that Parkfield and Oxbridge had increased in deprivation from the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) to the most recently published version in 2010. The overall estimated rank of the ward is 589<sup>th</sup> out of 7,934 wards in England, making it within the top 10% deprived wards nationally (7.4%). In the previous IMD of 2007 Parkfield and Oxbridge was ranked 664<sup>th</sup>, 8.4%.

The IMD can be broken down into seven themes of deprivation and looking into these in more detail the main areas of deprivation in Parkfield and Oxbridge ward are health and employment. Both of these indicators are within the top 5% most deprived in England, with income deprivation also a big issue at 6.9% most deprived. The table below provides a full breakdown of each theme of deprivation for Parkfield and Oxbridge ward. Figures coloured red are within the top 5% most deprived in England and those in orange in the top 10%.

**Table three – IMD 2010**

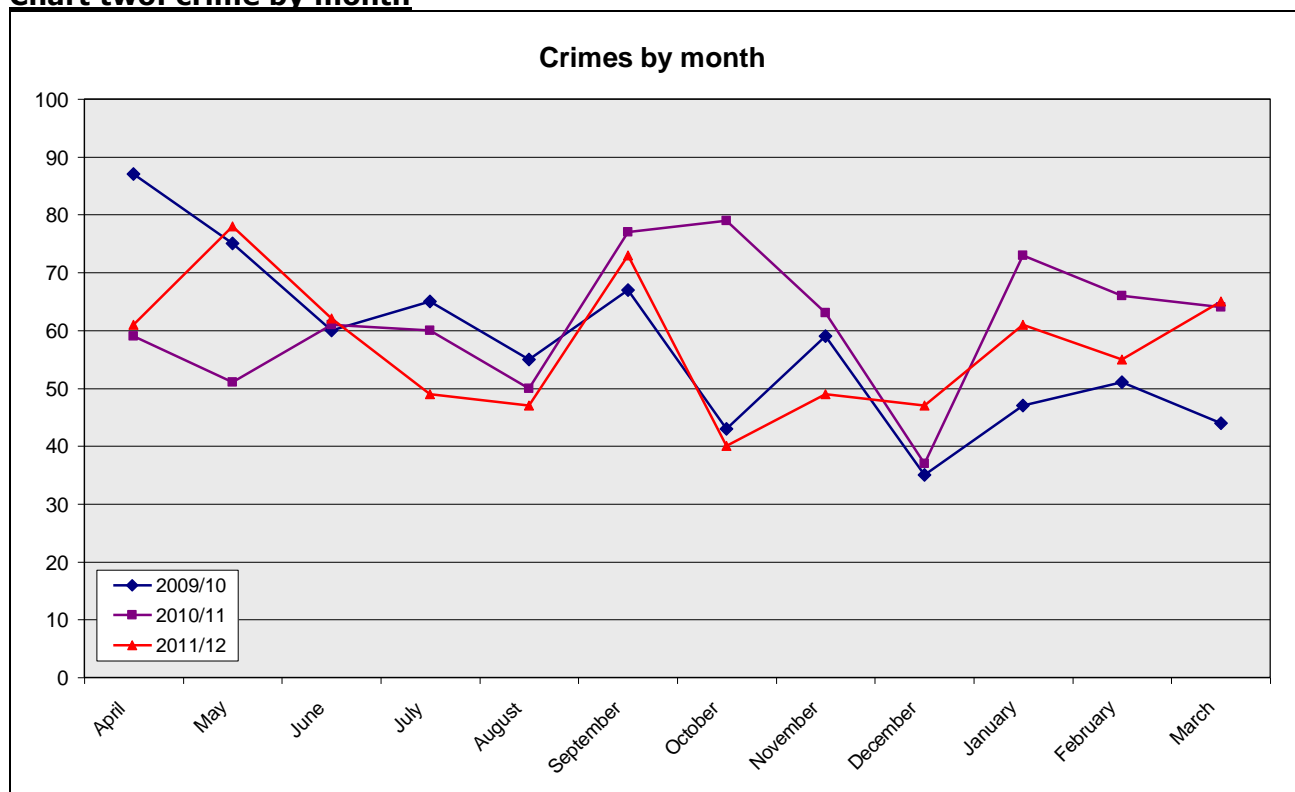
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010		
IMD Theme	Nat. Rank	Nat. %
Income	551	6.9%
Employment	382	4.8%
Health	319	4.0%
Education	1,452	18.3%
Barriers	6,170	77.8%
Crime	1,488	18.8%
Living Environment	1,563	19.7%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>7.4%</b>

**Crime & ASB overview**

Crime in Parkfield and Oxbridge ward peaked in May and September in the last financial year. Looking back at the seasonal pattern to crime over the last three years we see that September has consistently seen a peak in crime following a quiet August and that December is a low crime month overall, which is likely to be due to the bad weather conditions we have seen over the past few years.

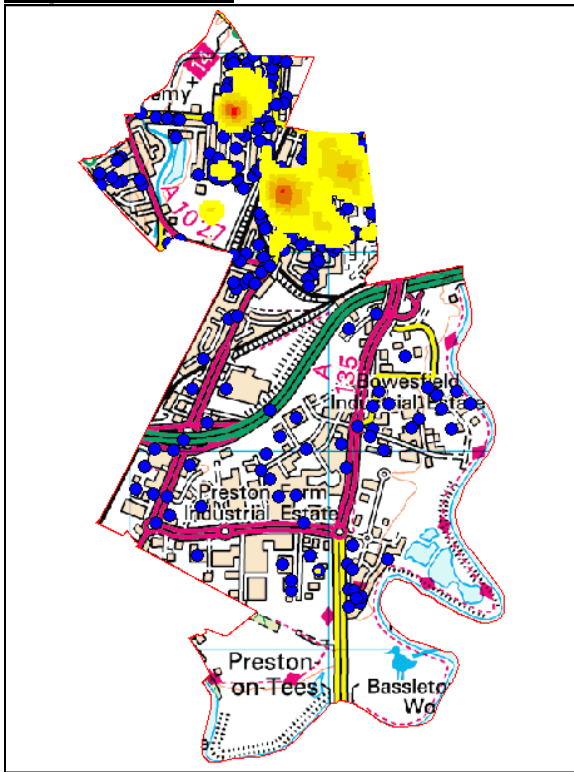
In total 55% of crime was committed in the first six months of the financial year. This coupled with the fact that the months of October 2010 and January 2011 were particularly high in crime is why Parkfield and Oxbridge came to particular note in the last Partnership Strategic Assessment. Research found there was an acquisitive crime series in October 2010, mostly in relation to Other Theft and a spate of Other Burglaries in January 2011. The chart below shows the seasonal pattern of crime over the last three years.

**Chart two: crime by month**

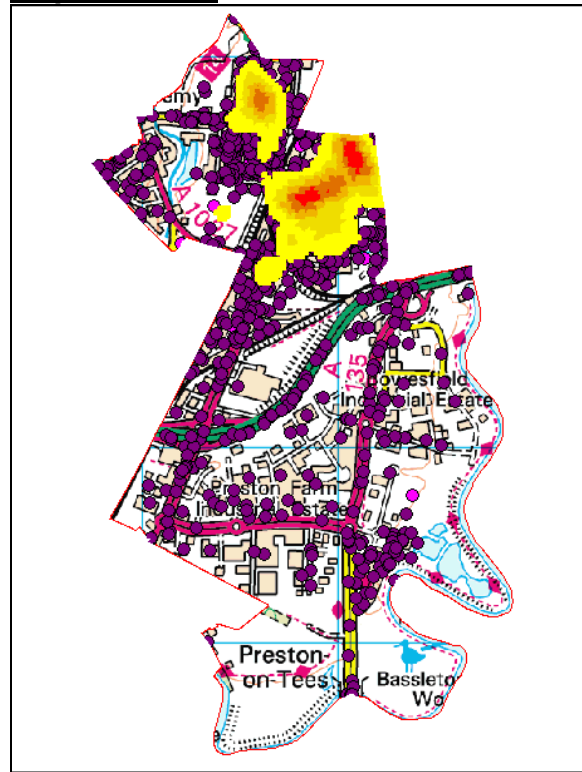


The maps below provide an overview of the hotspot locations of crime and ASB in the ward, and show very similar areas of interest.

**Map one: crime**



**Map two: ASB**



Overall the main street locations of crime and ASB are displayed in the table below. The consistently prolific streets have been highlighted for identification.

**Table four – repeat streets**

Crimes		ASB incs		MAASBT incs	
Yarm Road	80	Yarm Road	124	Oxbridge Lane	25
Oxbridge Lane	49	Edwards Street	45	Yarm Road	24
Cranbourne Terrace	33	Suffolk Street	38	Windsor Road	14
Bowesfield Lane	29	Bowesfield Lane	34	Hartburn Lane	9
Hartburn Lane	23	Shaftesbury Street	34	Suffolk Street	8
Westbourne Street	17	Oxbridge Lane	32	Grove Street	6
Wembley Way	16	Camden Street	30	Hampton Road	6
Camden Street	15	Cranbourne Terrace	30	Sun Street	5
Lockheed Close	15	Westbourne Street	29		
Edwards Street	14	Northcote Street	24		
Eleanor Place	14	Eleanor Pl	21		
Marlborough Road	13	Grove Street	21		
Bowesfield Crescent	12	Hartburn Lane	19		
Gladstone Street	12	Spring Street	17		
Walter Street	12	Norfolk Street	16		
Spring Street	11	Wembley Way	16		
Sydenham Road	11	Hampton Road	15		
Shaftesbury Street	10				

There were two main locations which stood out overall across each data set; Ropner Park was the location of 17 crimes, 23 police ASB incidents and 10 MAASBT incidents and Stevenson's petrol station on Oxbridge Lane had 39 crimes and five ASB incidents. These locations will be addressed in the following thematic crime and ASB sections

### **Acquisitive crime**

Acquisitive crime includes any crime committed for financial gain such as Burglary, Robbery and all theft offences. The majority of offences fall within the Other Theft category, of which 60% (112) relate to 'theft if not classified elsewhere'. This is followed by Shoplifting accounting for 14% (26) and Theft of Pedal Cycle 13% (25).

Further research shows that 43 of the 112 theft if not classified elsewhere offences relate to metal theft (38%). The metal thefts occurred at a mixture of dwelling and commercial premises, and mainly took place in the beginning of the financial year, particularly April, May and June 2010. The commercial metal thefts occurred mainly at Bowesfield Industrial Estate as well as Preston Farm Industrial Estate, and the dwelling offences occurred to the streets on either side of Yarm Road.

In addition to these offences three Other Burglaries and two Dwelling Burglaries also related to metal theft, which again mainly occurred early on in the financial year. Metal theft offences occurred on all days of the week, and peaked early evening to midnight.

Almost three quarters of the shoplifting offences occurred at one premise; Stevenson's convenience store on Oxbridge Lane which is the shop attached to the petrol station. The most typically stolen items were toiletries or food. Stevenson's petrol station was the top repeat location of crime with 39 offences in total within the financial year including 12 making off without payment of fuel. The pedal cycle thefts occurred throughout the ward, commonly take whilst left unattended outside shops or in residential gardens.

Vehicle crime increased over the last financial year in this area. Theft from Motor Vehicle offences can be divided into two difference types; theft of personal items such as Sat Navs, cash, mobile phone, tools etc from within the vehicle, and theft of car parts such as exhausts, catalytic convertors, wheels and number plates. Many of the vehicles where entry was gained had been left insecure, otherwise a window had been smashed or a lock forced. Theft from motor Vehicle offences peaked on Fridays and between 4pm – 8pm. Many of the Theft of Motor Vehicle offences occurred when the offender had access to the vehicle keys, usually known to the vehicle owner. There was no particular pattern to these offences as they occurred on all days of the week and at various times.

The main location for Dwelling Burglaries was Cranbourne Terrace, Springholme, Yarm Lane, with most offences occurring at flats whereby doors had been forced open. Items stolen were mainly small portable devices (i.e. iPods, games computers) and cash as well as metal articles in some instances such as boilers, piping and taps. Dwelling Burglaries seemed to peak on Thursday and Fridays and between 7pm – 11pm. Other Burglary offences mainly occurred to commercial premises with various items stolen such as tools and building equipment, laptops and boilers / copper pipes. These offences occurred throughout the week mainly in the early hours of the morning.

### **Violence**

In total 36% of all Violence Against the Person offences were flagged as Domestic Violence (DV), which is slightly higher than the Borough average of 32% DV related over the same time period. The majority of offences were Actual Bodily Harm (40% of non-DV and 57% of DV), followed by Assault Without Injury (26% non-DV, 27% DV) and only three offences were classed as Most Serious Violence, of which one was DV related.

The majority of non-DV assaults were stranger attacks (37%), followed by attacks from acquaintances (31%). This is supported by assault data from A&E at the University Hospital of North Tees which also found stranger attacks to be most common. Only 17% of A&E data showed that the assault was DV related, of which all victims were female. Males accounted for 72% of all non-DV assault victims within A&E data, the vast majority aged between 18 – 34 years who had been assaulted by a stranger.

Violent offences were spread throughout the ward with the main hotspots locations being Westbourne Street / Edward Street and Cranbourne Terrace as well as Ropner Park (seven crimes).

Violence offences peaked at around 11pm to 2am mainly on Saturday nights into early Sunday morning linking to the night-time economy of the neighbouring town centre. DV offences were more spread throughout the week with slightly earlier core hours of 10pm – 2am. Data from A&E backed up this pattern with patients reporting assaults mostly occurred over the weekend period, peaking at midnight on Saturday nights.

### ***Criminal Damage and ASB***

Criminal Damage was evenly divided between offences to dwellings and offences to vehicles within Parkfield and Oxbridge ward. Vehicle damage was mostly scratches made to the paint work or damaged wing mirrors, with tyres slashed on numerous occasions. The damaged caused to dwellings was mostly smashed windows and glass pane of doors.

Offences occurred throughout the week with weekends most busy and seemed to peak between 6pm – 10pm on Friday evenings and between 10pm – 2am Saturday into Sunday morning. Further analysis shows that the incidents known to be youth related occur at an earlier time and during the week peaking on Friday evenings whereas the Saturday offences are not youth related and are linked to the night-time economy, most probably people returning home from drinking in the town centre.

The main hotspots for Criminal Damage offences were around Edward Street, Spring Street and Gladstone Street. This very similar to the main locations of interest for ASB incidents which were Edward Street, Woodland / Grove Street, Cranbourne Terrace, Camden Street and Suffolk / Norfolk Street.

Anti-social behaviour was mainly coded as 'nuisance' with a quarter of all incidents flagged as youth related and 12% as alcohol related. In total 10% of all incidents related to prostitution, which also accounted for 6% of reports to the MAASBT.

The core times for ASB are between 6pm – 10pm on weekdays, but slightly later between 10pm – 1pm on weekend evenings of Friday and Saturdays.

### **Summary**

1. The initial concerns over increasing crime levels in P&O ward seem to be unfounded. Peaks in crime levels in October 2010 and January 2011 contributed to this ward featuring highly over the last Strategic Period.
2. The last six months have seen crime reduce in this area and the ward has out performed the Borough average for both crime and ASB reductions over the financial year.
3. The composition of crime does not differ to that of the Borough with Other Theft, Violence against the Person and Criminal Damage accounting for 68% of all crime.
4. Within the Index of Multiple Deprivation the main deprivation themes of concern are health and education, which are within the top 5% most deprived in England. Income deprivation is also very high (within 7% most deprived) and the overall IMD for P&O ward is 7.4%.
5. The main locations for crime and ASB are very similar overall, with many streets featuring as repeats across all data sets.
6. Two particular locations came to note within the analysis; Ropner Park and the petrol station Stevenson's of Oxbridge on Oxbridge Road.
7. Metal theft remains the biggest problem with acquisitive crime impacting on Other Theft, Burglary and Vehicle Crime, and pedal bikes left unattended have been attractive targets in the area.
8. The proportion of violence that is domestic related is slightly higher in the ward than for the Borough as a whole.

9. Stranger attacks are most common for non-DV related violence, typically occurring at times associated with the night-time economy to young male victims.
10. Criminal Damage and ASB appear to be linked in that both occur in the same areas at similar times.
11. Damage to vehicle paint work and wing mirrors as well as windows and doors of dwellings is most common.
12. Youth related ASB is mostly related to Friday evenings, and other ASB links to the night-time economy on Saturday nights. Another theme of ASB in this ward is in relation to Prostitution.

### **Recommendations**

1. There does not seem to be a sustained problem in relation to increasing crime and ASB within this area and the existing thematic/ problem solving groups should be adequate enough to monitor any emerging issues in the forthcoming financial year.
2. The only real issue within the area relates to metal theft, which will be addressed by the acquisitive crime group.