



PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

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2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The sixth annual Partnership Strategic Assessment has been jointly produced by analytical staff of the Local Authority and Cleveland Police on behalf of the Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP). The assessment centres on six key thematic chapters, which use a victim offender and location methodology where appropriate and looks at a 12-month strategic period of 01/10/11 – 30/09/12.

Performance management for Stockton shows that total crime has increased by 4% (+415 offences) compared to the same strategic period last year. However, it can be noted that from April 2012 crime has been following a decreasing trend and crime has reduced by 7.2% and we have seen some good reductions for serious violence, robbery, theft of and interference with vehicles, other theft and criminal damage. Performance against set targets is generally going well, and Stockton remains the safest place in the Tees Valley and outperforming in comparison to peers in most crime types.

Levels of ASB reported to the police continue to reduce whilst reports to the Local Authority are showing an increase of 49% compared to the last assessment. Key themes remain consistent with the last assessment with incidents relating to noise, youth disorder and alcohol related ASB. ASB remains interrelated to deliberate fire setting; young males continue to be responsible for most of these incidents occurring on weekend evenings and clustered within the same areas.

Alcohol and drug related crime are two of the key priorities for SSP, with alcohol continuing to be an integral part of violent crime, and apparent within domestic violence. Drug offences have reduced slightly (-1%) and drugs litter has also reduced, as have positive drug tests on arrest for trigger offences. There remains a high level of drug treatment penetration, but females, young people, stimulant users and those from the BME community remain under-represented with treatment.

There are some serious health concerns in relation to alcohol consumption within the Borough with the Local Alcohol Profile for England (LAPE) showing that Stockton is performing worse than the national average across a range of alcohol specific illness and mortality rate, as well as hazardous binge drinking levels.

Offences of violence have increased by 11.7%, with violence accounting for 19% of total crime; DV offences have increased by 5.3%. Racially or religiously aggravated crime causing intentional alarm or distress has seen a significant increase from 7 to 25 in this assessment period which is an increase of 257%.

Acquisitive crime remains a concern and accounts for 57% of total crime. Metal thefts in this period are showing a decrease in comparison to the last assessment. Male offenders continue to dominate this crime type, and Stockton Town Centre still features as the main ward for this crime category.

As reported in the previous assessments there is a strong link between crime / ASB and deprivation and 12 of the census output areas that have been identified as particularly vulnerable. The top five wards for crime have remained the same. These top five are also the top five for deprivation, and Stockton Town Centre (highest for all crime and ASB) is now the 17th most deprived ward in England, falling from 25th previously.

The offending population in Stockton is very much male dominated, even more so in relation to the most prolific and problematic offenders. Shoplifting and fraud offences are favoured among female offenders. There have been some good reductions in relation to youth offending. When compared to the same period last year, first time entrants have reduced by 6%. Repeat offending is fairly common,

with those who commit burglary the most prolific in their offending behaviour. Substance misuse continues to be a key feature within the offending population and most offenders live in the most deprived high crime neighbourhoods.

There are likely to be some key challenges continuing into the forthcoming year, in relation to the current economic state. Reduced funding to key public sector agencies will impact upon service delivery and financial pressures could lead to a change in the behaviour of our residents and visiting population which in turn may impact on the profile of crime in the area.

3. INTRODUCTION

Aim and purpose

This is the sixth annual Partnership Strategic Assessment and the second assessment that has been jointly produced by the analytical staff of the Local Authority and Cleveland Police on behalf of the Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP). The purpose of the document is to provide the Partnership with an overview of the current crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues in Stockton, as well as taking into account the harm caused by misuse of drugs and alcohol. It should be used by the Partnership to consider in more depth if the key priorities identified by residents through the audit consultation remain a key issue, and if any emerging issues need to be included as strategic priorities. It is not intended to provide detailed analysis of each crime type or issue; rather it is a tool for strategic decision makers and should support the problem solving approach of the Partnership by identifying knowledge gaps where further analytical products such as problem profiles need to be commissioned. Intelligence products and performance monitoring documents that have been produced within the strategic period will be used to inform the assessment.

Scope

The assessment reviews the period 1st October 2011 to 30th September 2012 wherever possible, and any data outside of this period will be noted individually.

Methodology

The assessment considers a wide range of data and information from partners; a full list can be found in appendix 1. The structure of the assessment follows the format of the last assessment in that the report is set out in thematic chapters with victim, offender and location considered within each chapter. This approach will assess each of the partnership's current key priorities as well as identifying any emerging issues, and will be more beneficial for the relevant strategic groups that drive the priorities.

4. PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

This section will review recorded crime and ASB statistics including detections, and will also consider the composition of crime. It will also assess performance against the actions and targets set for each of the SSP priorities, as well as providing a comparison of performance against our peers.

4.1. Review of statistics

Overall recorded crime has increased by 4% (+415 offences) during the current strategic period compared to the same period last year. Of particular note, good reductions have been achieved for Serious Violence, Robbery, Theft of and interference with vehicles, Other Theft, and Criminal Damage. However, there have been increases in Violence, Burglary, Theft from vehicles, shoplifting and forgery and fraud.

Table one: recorded crime statistics¹

Offence Types	October 11 - September 12			
	Current Period	Previous Period	Change	% Change
Serious Violence	74	83	-9	-11%
Assault With Injury	1063	961	102	11%
Assault Without Injury	549	464	85	18%
Other Violence	456	406	50	12%
Sexual Offences	203	185	18	10%
Burglary Dwelling	611	486	125	26%
Burglary Other	781	730	51	7%
Robbery	65	82	-17	-21%
Theft Of A Motor Vehicle	217	237	-20	-8%
Theft From A Vehicle	600	508	92	18%
Vehicle Interference	61	81	-20	-25%
Other Theft And Handling	2136	2256	-120	-5%
Shoplifting	1298	1149	149	13%
Fraud and Forgery	278	223	55	25%
Criminal Damage	2219	2314	-95	-4%
Drug Offences	504	505	-1	0%
Other Offences	127	157	-30	-19%
Total Crime	11242	10827	415	4%
Overall Violent Crime*	2410	2181	229	10%
Overall Vehicle Crime	878	826	52	6%
Overall Burglary	1392	1216	176	14%

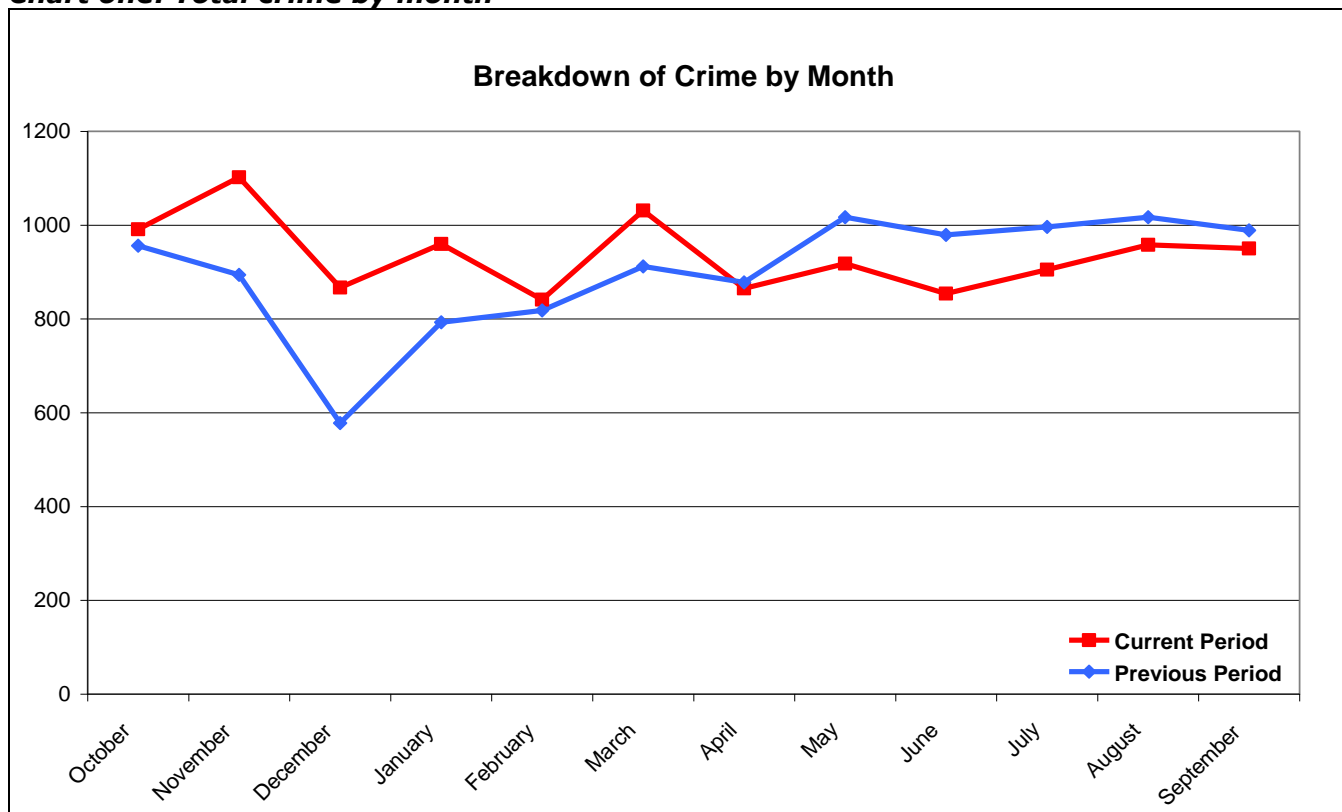
*Overall Violent Crime includes Violence, Robbery, and Sexual Offences.

¹ All Police statistics are taken from Cleveland Police Performance database

Although crime has increased by 4% over the last 12-months, it has been following a decreasing trend. From April 2012 crime has reduced by 7.2%. The graph below shows a breakdown of Total Crime by month for both the current and previous strategic periods and clearly shows a difference in crime levels in the first half of the strategic period compared to the latter. For each month since April 2012, crime has been lower than the same month in the previous year. It should also be noted that during November 2010 to January 2011 crime levels were lower than previously recorded due to severe weather conditions ie. heavy snow which impacted on total crime levels for that financial year.

However, it is evident that crime levels are increasing and are approaching the levels of the previous period.

Chart one: Total crime by month



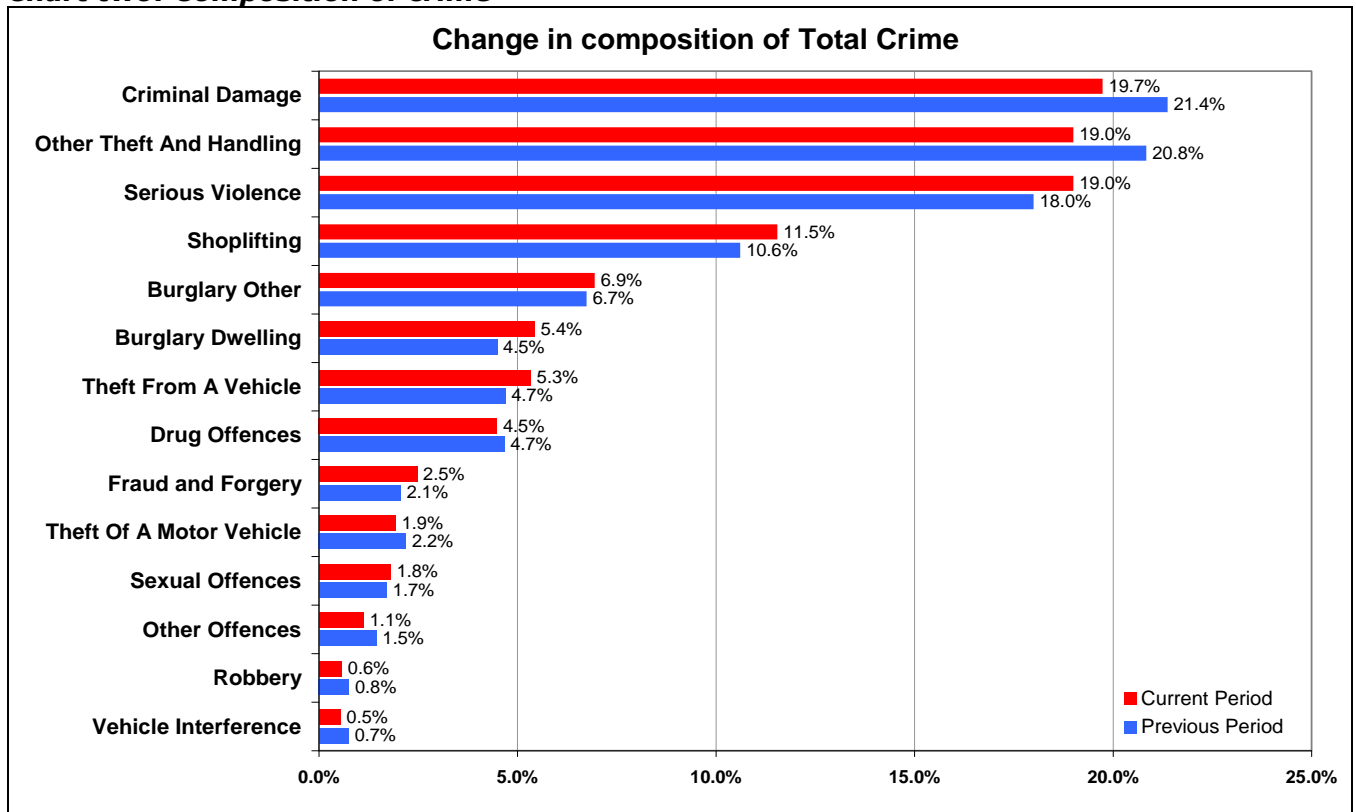
The three categories that make up the most volume of crime have remained the same as the past year, but the percentages have changed slightly with overall violent crime now accounting for a higher percentage

- Criminal Damage – represents 20% of all crime and is down 1% from previous year
- Other Theft and Handling – represents 19% of all crime and is down 2% from previous year
- Overall Violent Crime – represents 21% of all crime and is up 1% from previous year
 - Assault without injury is the category of violence responsible for this increase.

Other changes to the composition of crime include an increase of 1% with Dwelling house burglary now representing 5% of all crime, and an increase of 1% with Shoplifting now representing 12% of all crime.

The Graph below shows the composition of total crime by category for both the current strategic period and the previous strategic period.

Chart two: Composition of crime



During 2012, Cleveland Police has adopted a performance approach of focussing upon the reduction of publicly reported crime in line with national best practice. The force now separately reports and counts 'Publicly Reported Crime' i.e. crimes that are reported by the public, and exclude 'Police Generated Crime' i.e. crimes recorded following proactive policing activity such as drugs raids, public order arrests, etc. This is so positive policing that could help to reduce crime and criminality over the longer term is not discouraged in a drive to reduce overall crime. The key interest is in reducing Publicly Reported Crime.

The table on the next page shows a breakdown of Publicly Reported and Police Generated crime for the period under review. Overall publicly reported crime is showing an increase of 3.8% compared to the previous period. Police generated crime is showing a 2.1% reduction.

Table two: Publicly Reported vs Police Generated Crime

Crime Statistics Publicly Reported	12 Months			
	Current Period	Previous Period	Change	% Change
Violence against the person	1850	1634	216	13.2%
<i>Violence with injury</i>	1139	1044	95	9.1%
<i>Violence without injury</i>	711	590	121	20.5%
Sexual offences	203	184	19	10.3%
<i>Rape</i>	60	56	4	7.1%
<i>Other Sexual offences</i>	143	128	15	11.7%
Acquisitive Crime	5729	5495	234	4.3%
<i>Burglary - Domestic</i>	611	485	126	26.0%
<i>Burglary - Non domestic</i>	781	730	51	7.0%
<i>Robbery - personal</i>	56	78	-22	-28.2%
<i>Robbery - Business</i>	9	7	2	28.6%
<i>Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)</i>	877	827	50	6.0%
<i>Shoplifting</i>	1298	1149	149	13.0%
<i>Other Acquisitive</i>	2097	2219	-122	-5.5%
Criminal damage and Arson	2208	2308	-100	-4.3%
Publicly reported offences	9990	9621	369	3.8%

Crime Statistics Police Generated	12 Months			
	2012/13	2011/12	Change	% Change
Public Disorder	317	310	7	2.3%
Drug offences	504	506	-2	-0.4%
<i>Trafficking of drugs</i>	110	81	29	35.8%
<i>Possession/Use of drugs</i>	394	425	-31	-7.3%
Crime Prevented / Disrupted	104	126	-22	-17.5%
Other State based / Non Victim	46	50	-4	-8.0%
Police Generated offences	971	992	-21	-2.1%

Fraud and Forgery	278	217	61	28.1%
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Total Recorded Crime	11239	10830	409	3.8%
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The overall detection rate of crime for the 12-month strategic period is 36.6%. This is a reduction of 2% on the previous 12 months. Most notably there has been a big reduction in the detection rate of Theft of motor vehicle and sexual offences (both down -13%). Improvements can be seen in the rate of detection for serious violence, assault without injury, vehicle interference and other crime.

The table shown below provides a breakdown of detection rates by crime type, and a comparison with the previous year.

Table three: Detection rates

Detection Statistics	October 11 - September 12			
	Current Period	Previous Period	Detection Rate	% Point Change
Serious Violence	42	41	56.80%	7%
Assault With Injury	475	461	44.70%	-3%
Assault Without Injury	274	192	49.90%	9%
Other Violence	382	361	83.80%	-5%
Sexual Offences	81	97	39.90%	-13%
Burglary Dwelling	118	129	19.30%	-7%
Burglary Other	110	133	14.10%	-4%
Robbery	24	35	36.90%	-6%
Theft Of A Motor Vehicle	40	74	18.40%	-13%
Theft From A Vehicle	52	45	8.70%	0%
Vehicle Interference	17	20	27.90%	3%
Other Theft And Handling	396	409	18.50%	0%
Shoplifting	981	949	75.60%	-7%
Fraud and Forgery	97	96	34.90%	-8%
Criminal Damage	390	442	17.60%	-2%
Drug Offences	508	503	100.80%	1%
Other Offences	124	150	97.60%	2%
Total Crime	4111	4137	36.60%	-2%
Overall Violent Crime*	1278	1187	53.00%	-1%
Overall Vehicle Crime	109	139	12.40%	-4%
Overall Burglary	228	262	16.40%	-5%

*Overall Violent Crime includes Violence, Robbery, and Sexual Offences.

Total Arrests were down by 6.8% this strategic period, although notifiable arrests were up by 1.4%. Arrests increased for offences of violence, Burglary, Theft of vehicle, and Fraud and Forgery.

The following table shows a comparison of all arrests including notifiable and non-notifiable, as well as warrants for the current strategic period compared to the previous strategic period.

Table four: Arrests

Arrests	October 11 To September 12			
	Previous Period	Current Period	Change	% Change
Notifiable Arrests				
<i>Violence - Assault</i>	1086	965	121	12.5
<i>Violence - Public Order</i>	217	165	52	31.5
<i>Violence - Other</i>	146	142	4	2.8
<i>Sexual</i>	118	112	6	5.4
<i>Robbery</i>	72	102	-30	-29.4
<i>Burglary</i>	686	594	92	15.5
<i>Theft of MV/TWOC</i>	152	141	11	7.8
<i>Theft from MV</i>	53	56	-3	-5.4
<i>Other Theft</i>	1425	1568	-143	-9.1
<i>Criminal Damage</i>	445	486	-41	-8.4
<i>Fraud & Forgery</i>	97	87	10	11.5
<i>Drugs</i>	322	329	-7	-2.1
<i>Other Notifiable</i>	338	340	-2	-0.6
Total Notifiable	5157	5087	70	1.4
Non-Notifiable Arrests				
<i>Drunk & Disorderly</i>	419	517	-98	-19.0
<i>Breach of the Peace</i>	223	270	-47	-17.4
<i>Drink Driving</i>	241	252	-11	-4.4
<i>Other Non-Notifiable</i>	599	1006	-407	-40.5
Total Non Notifiable	1482	2045	-563	-27.5
Warrants	326	314	-12	-3.7
Total Arrests	7458	6953	-505	-6.8

In April 2011 the Police adopted a new coding system for recording Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents. The previous 14 categories have been amalgamated into just three categories of incidents; Personal, Nuisance and Environmental. Data is now available for a year on year comparison of police recorded anti-social behaviour. There has been a 19.3% reduction in police reports of anti-social behaviour over the 12 month period. Data recorded by the Multi-Agency ASB Team (MAASBT) shows that ASB incidents have increased by 104% over the last 12-months, although this is largely due to the fact that calls received via the 24-hour ASB hotline number have increased dramatically over the past year as the number becomes more widely known.

Table five: ASB incidents

ASB Statistics	October 2011 - September 2012			
	Current Period	Previous Period	Change	% Change
Police ASB Incidents	12859	15938	-3079	-19.3%
ASB Team Service Requests	6552	3,216	3,336	104%

Closely linked to ASB is deliberate fire setting. Cleveland Fire Brigade has recorded a reduction of 19.3% for overall primary deliberate fires² and 11.1% for secondary deliberate fires³. However, there has been an increase in the number of primary deliberate other fires (+6). Of note, accidental fires have also reduced by 19.8 % during the same time period.

Table six: Fire statistics

Deliberate Fire Stats	October 2011 to September 2012			
	Current Period	Previous Period	Change	% Change
Primary Fires (F1s)	92	114	-22	-19.3%
Primary Dwelling Fires	15	24	-9	-37.5%
Primary Vehicle Fires	43	62	-19	-30.6%
Primary Other Fires	34	28	6	21.4%
Secondary Fires (F3s)	561	631	-70	-11.1%
All Deliberate Fires	653	745	-92	-12.3%
Accidental Fires	275	343	-68	-19.8%

² A Primary fire includes anything of value (i.e. a building or vehicle)

³ Secondary fires include items such as refuse, grassland, and derelict buildings

4.2. Performance against key priorities including actions and targets

The strategic period spans two separate financial years (2011/12 and 2012/13). The previous SSP Community Safety Plan came to an end in March 2011, and overall the majority of targets were achieved (26 out of 34 that could be measured, 76%). A new strategy was introduced as of April 2011 based around six key priorities, with an associated action plan and performance measures for each priority, which are as follows:

1. Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour
2. Reduce Alcohol related Crime and ASB
3. Reduce Violent Crime
4. Reduce Drug related offending
5. Reduce Criminal Damage
6. Emerging Issues (currently Other Theft)

The first five priorities were identified through consultation with residents in the summer of 2010, with the sixth priority remaining Emerging Issues which will respond to any other community safety issues identified through analysis. A brief summary of performance for the current financial year to date against the actions and targets of each key priority is outlined below. The full details of the action plans and targets are available on www.saferstockton.com

Anti-Social behaviour

All of the actions are on-going, with no cause for concern. An intelligence led approach has been maintained to tackle ASB with data analysis directing operational activity, especially within the top five wards which have all been registered as a Problem Orientated Policing (POP) and are managed via the JAGs (Joint Action Groups). A strategic ASB and Criminal Damage group meets quarterly and acts as a forum where issues that cannot be resolved at JAG level can be escalated up. Repeat callers to the Police, the MAASBT and the biggest RSL's are cross checked each week so that those most at risk are identified and can be supported where necessary. Focus groups information was utilised to gain a better understanding of residents' perceptions of ASB including reporting levels to different agencies, and identified any barriers to reporting, and officers from the MAASBT have undertaken mediation training so that we can maximise the use of mediation to resolve disputes. There are three targets for ASB as outlined below:

Table seven: ASB targets

	No	Performance Measure	Q1	Q2	Comments
ASB	1.1	Reduce repeat callers to the Police, MAASBT and RSLs	☺	☺	Cohort continues to be monitored and reduction seen so far
	1.2	Reduce the perception that ASB is a serious problem	-	-	Focus Groups requested for November 2012, awaiting confirmation of dates. Resident Survey results will be available for Q3 reporting.
	1.3	Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour in the top five wards	☺	☺	Police incidents down -16% however MAASBT service requests up +40.3%

Alcohol related Crime & ASB

This is the first time alcohol has been a key priority for SSP, after it was identified as the second most important issue to residents following consultation. A strategic group meets six-weekly with quarterly performance meetings and monitors both this action plan and the control element of the Alcohol Strategy. The quarterly performance meetings are intelligence led with a scanning document produced including Police, Council and Health data. The Think B4U Drink campaign continues to run throughout the Borough and in schools and colleges, to promote responsible drinking as well as deliver key safety messages, such as getting home safely after a night out and how to reduce vulnerability when under the influence of drink. Street Pastors continue to provide a support service on Friday and Saturday nights in Stockton High Street and also now in Yarm.

The targets mainly relate to offenders on Alcohol Treatment Requirements (ATRs) and Alcohol Specified Activity Requirements (ASARs) using baseline data that was collected in the last financial year.

Table eight: Alcohol targets

	No	Performance Measure	Q1	Q2	Comments
Alcohol	2.1	Increase the number of section 27 notices issued	☺	☺	Currently at a 19.7% increase on baseline YTD.
	2.2	Reduce the number of alcohol related crimes for those on an ATR	☹	☹	Currently showing an increase on baseline target set in 2011/12
	2.3	Reduce the number of alcohol related crimes for those on an ASAR	☹	☹	Increase on baseline recorded year to date.

Violent Crime

This key objective includes Domestic Violence (DV) and the action plan contains activities that aim to raise awareness of DV issues within Health to empower health providers to deal with DV more effectively, particularly within A&E and with GPs. A DV lead has been identified by the Primary Care Trust and this work is moving forward. The action plan also seeks to utilise aspects of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) approach to target prolific perpetrators of DV, and to provide intensive support for repeat cases of DV. This compliments the work of the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference), which ensures that support is in place for the most serious cases of DV. For all Violence Against the Person offences the top five wards have been identified and researched, and activity is directed to these priority locations.

Table nine: Violence targets

	No	Performance Measure	Q1	Q2	Comments
Violence	3.1	Maintain a reduction in Violence with Injury	☹	☺	Currently showing a -53% reduction on baseline.
	3.2	Reduce Violence Against the Person offences in the top five wards	☹	☹	Overall violence has increased by 4.3% in the top five wards, compared to an overall 12.2% reduction for Borough.
	3.3	Reduce repeat perpetrators of Domestic Violence		☺	During the second quarter 94% of men had no police call outs within 6 months of completing the perpetrator programme.
	3.4	Increase the number of repeat victims in MARAC accessing support from Harbour		☹	Current slip in engagement numbers with only 46% engaging support.

Drug related offending

The action plan aims to increase housing and employment opportunities for drug users by maintaining a range of support services and to increase the number of female drug users accessing support, with two providers now offering women only sessions. Peer mentors are being utilised as part of rehabilitation and support, as well as Narcotics Anonymous, which is being extended to a second group and also within the Borough's two prisons. The plan sets out to maintain our IOM approach for the most prolific of drug using repeat offenders and to carry out six drugs dog operations within the year.

Table ten: Drugs targets

	No	Performance Measure	Q1	Q2	Comments
Drugs	4.1	Increase the number of female drug users accessing support.	-	-	Data not available on NDTMS
	4.2	Reduce drug related repeat offending	☺	-	Data not available on NDTMS
	4.3	Increase the number of people leaving treatment services drug free	☺	☺	In the rolling 12 months to the end of September 2012; 42 people tested positive on three or more occasions which is a reduction of 19% on the baseline.

Criminal Damage

As previously mentioned a multi-agency strategic ASB and Criminal Damage group has been established, which is driving the action plan. Actions mainly relate to repeat victims of damage, with the group looking to analysis to guide resources. The top five repeat streets for damage have been registered as POPs and are owned by the relevant neighbourhood Police Inspectors.

Table eleven: Criminal Damage targets

	No	Performance Measure	Q1	Q2	Comments
Criminal Damage	5.1	Reduce Criminal Damage	☺	☺	Currently showing a 20% reduction on the baseline FYTD.
	5.2	Reduce the number of repeat victims of Criminal Damage	☺	☺	26 individual victims on three or more occasions in rolling 12 months to end of Q2; which is a 24% reduction on the baseline year.

Emerging Issues

The emerging issues action plan focuses on a cohort of individuals who are High Crime Causers (HCCs), and in particular the plan seeks to address their offending by ensuring their substance misuse issues are resolved with a specific focus on obtaining a planned discharge from treatment. The plan sets out to maintain the use of the IOM model to provide intensive support and enforcement work to the HCCs and research is conducted into each HCC's family history. Actions are also set for the Other Theft group, especially in relation to metal theft and shoplifting.

Table twelve: Emerging Issues targets

	No	Performance Measure	Q1	Q2	Comments
Em Issue	6.1	Reduce convictions for HCCs	☹	☹	Reductions YTD for PPOs & HCCs but increase for DRRs.
	6.2	Research emerging issues throughout the year Carry out at least four problem profiles / in-depth analyses throughout the year into emerging issues.	☺	☺	Drug related offending document was presented and discussed at SSP on 25 th September 2012, with further analysis completed in Parkfield & Oxbridge.

4.3. Comparison with peers

Stockton has the lowest overall crime rate in the Cleveland force area for the 12-month strategic period, and is below the force average for all crimes types. The table below shows the rate (per 1,000 population) for each of the four districts as well as the Cleveland average. The lowest crime rate is highlighted green. For the previous period, Stockton was showing the lowest rates of violence, however, Redcar and Cleveland have the lowest violence rates in the force over the last 12 months.

Table thirteen: Crime rates across Cleveland

Crime rates	Hartlepool	Redcar & Cleveland	Middlesbrough	Stockton	Cleveland
Serious Violence	0.50	0.35	0.76	0.38	0.49
Assault With Injury	8.49	5.47	9.69	5.53	7.04
Assault W/o Injury	4.28	2.78	5.19	2.85	3.66
Other Violence	4.21	2.24	4.67	2.37	3.22
Sexual Offences	0.96	0.68	1.22	1.06	0.99
Burglary Dwelling	3.50	3.20	6.54	3.18	4.09
Burglary Other	3.33	4.47	5.21	4.06	4.33
Robbery	0.27	0.21	1.03	0.34	0.47
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	1.00	1.13	1.85	1.13	1.29
Theft From Vehicle	2.89	2.66	7.16	3.12	3.99
Vehicle Interference	0.38	0.42	0.93	0.32	0.51
Other Theft	11.65	10.76	16.08	11.10	12.37
Shoplifting	7.71	6.24	14.51	6.75	8.74
Fraud and Forgery	1.15	1.17	1.75	1.45	1.41
Criminal Damage	16.21	14.94	18.57	11.53	14.90
Drug Offences	4.90	2.55	5.49	2.62	3.70
Other Offences	1.05	0.90	1.57	0.66	1.01
Total	72.50	60.18	102.21	58.44	72.20
Violent Crime	17.48	10.84	20.31	11.13	14.41
Vehicle Crime	4.27	4.21	9.93	4.56	5.79
Burglary	6.83	7.67	11.75	7.24	8.42

Stockton also has the third highest overall detection rate (behind Hartlepool and Redcar & Cleveland), and was slightly below the Cleveland average. This compares with the second highest detection rate for the previous period where Stockton was second only to Hartlepool.

Current data on iQuanta shows that we are performing better than our Most Similar Community Safety Partnership Group average (MSCSP) for Total Crime, and for most categories. The table below provides an overview of our current position with a comparison to the MS group average⁴.

Table fourteen: iQuanta overview

iQuanta Comparison	Position	Rate	MS CSP Average	Difference from Average
Total Crime	5	59.002	63.837	-7.6%
Violence	7	9.801	10.474	-6.4%
Most Serious Violence	7	0.292	0.329	-11.2%
Robbery	5	0.339	0.581	-41.7%
Sexual	12	1.09	0.878	24.1%
House Burglary	6	7.475	9.523	-21.5%
Other Burglary	7	4.17	4.95	-15.8%
Criminal Damage	5	11.62	12.247	-5.1%
Other Theft	8	11.537	11.06	4.3%
Shoplifting	10	6.897	6.424	7.4%
Vehicle Crime	6	4.551	6.132	-25.8%

⁴ The MS group consists of 15 partnerships in total ranked from 1 (best performing) to 15 (worst performing).

5. COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW

5.1. Anti-Social Behaviour & Criminal Damage including Deliberate Fires

There is a strong relationship between Anti-Social Behaviour, Criminal Damage, and Deliberate Fire setting so all three will be considered within one chapter. Operationally, all three issues are addressed at the relevant geographical JAG meeting, with any ongoing problems escalating up to either the ASB Problem Solving Group or the newly formed strategic Criminal Damage & ASB Group for consideration.

Overall recorded incidents for ASB has shown a reduction of 19.3%, which is 3079 less incidents than during the same period last year. Research of police qualifying codes to identify the types of ASB shows that 12% were alcohol related (13% last year) along with 40% recorded as youth related. This compares to 38% last year. In terms of neighbour disputes, incidents of this nature account for 11% of all ASB, compared to 9% previously.

The recording practice of ASB within the Local Authority with Neighbourhood Enforcement Service (NES) both using the same codes as the ASB team means that data is now more accurate and consistent, but not necessarily comparable with the previous assessment periods. NES have also been promoting the 24-hour ASB hotline instead of their direct contact number which continues to influence the big rise in incidents reported this way.

The vast majority of ASB recorded across the Local Authority was reported via the hotline, the majority of the calls related to noise nuisance, particularly on a weekend with 80% of calls relating to loud music late at night and problems with noisy neighbours. Of the incidents dealt with by the MAASBT, 35% were directly related to rowdy / youth nuisance. This is just over a third of all of all incidents, however, in terms of actual numbers alcohol related incidents have increased by 14% (+90 incidents). At the same time incidents of noise related ASB have increased almost three-fold and now represent 36%, which has been heavily influenced by the reports generated via the 24-hour hotline.

A total of 14 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) and two Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) / CRASBO⁵s with a further two Interim Orders granted for a three month period within the strategic period, compared to 20 ABCs and 7 ASBO / CRASBOs last year. The number of AS13 forms issued saw a reduction of 21%, but the number of section 27 notices (directions to leave) increased from 404 in the previous strategic period to 468, which has contributed to the increase in alcohol related ASB incidents.

Criminal Damage, this has also seen a decrease of 4.3%, equating to 99 fewer crimes. Damage also accounted for 21% of total crime, compared to 24% last period. Types of damage were fairly evenly spread between dwelling and vehicle, both accounting for 43% of damage (not including arson figures). In total, only 7% of all crime was recorded as being domestic related. Type of damage is consistent with previous years with doors and windows being smashed, along with cars suffering from bodywork being scratched to tyres being punctured.

Arson accounted for 5% and for this type of crime alone, has seen reduction of 13 crimes (11%). Arson endangering life has reduced by five crimes (16 to 11) along with arson not endangering life reducing by 14 crimes (14%).

There have been a number of initiatives throughout the year to try and tackle ASB, Criminal Damage and deliberate fires. Much of the work has been focused within schools to educate young people about various issues such as the consequences of committing damage and the effect damage has to neighbourhoods, as well as explaining that anyone can become a victim of crime or ASB regardless of age, gender, ethnicity etc. and how the behaviour of young people can be perceived as anti-social even when it is not intended in that way. The effects of alcohol are

⁵ A CRASBO is a criminally related ASBO granted on conviction of a crime

discussed in secondary schools, with a particular emphasis on how drinking can lead to risk taking that can result in pregnancy, sexual health, and drug problems as well as crime and ASB.

Victims

Victims of damage are not generally targeted due to their gender or age with offenders targeting a vehicle or dwelling. Those where dwellings were targeted shows that ages generally range from 25-44 years, however this is to be expected as most are reported by the resident or owner of the house. Those 65 years and over, only accounted for 8% of all victims.

Repeat victims accounted for 11% of total victims (7% previously), with 42 people reporting three or more offences. Of these victims, they were linked to various damages including both vehicle and dwelling. There were no repeat victims linked to arson offences.

In terms of premises linked to offences of damage to dwelling, there were 86 locations which were subject to two more crimes with 17 of these suffering three or more offences. This is an increase on previous period (57 repeats). Most of the repeats were at residential premises within wards where overall crime is also higher than average.

There has been ongoing work throughout the year to identify those who make repeat calls of ASB to both the Police and Local Authority. These repeat callers are risk assessed and those classified as vulnerable are offered support. Gender of the repeat callers was evenly divided and most are aged between 35 – 64 years, although the age was not known for many of the callers. Only a very small proportion of repeat callers were assessed as high risk (4%) most of which were females aged over 45 years.

An analysis document looking at callers using the ASB hotline in 2010/11 found that just over half of all callers fell within six Dominant Household Types (DHTs) as identified using Experian Mosaic Public Sector (EMPS) data. Common characteristics were low incomes, high levels of deprivation, unemployment and benefit claims as well as high fear of crime and perceptions of a poor service from the Police.

Repeat victims of damage are highlighted on a daily basis through the research and analytical work conducted by police analysts. This is recorded for the officer dealing to be aware of when dealing with the incident. Repeat victims are also highlighted at the monthly JAG meetings.

Work continues in identifying repeat callers of ASB on daily basis from both local authority and police data in order to identify so they can be dealt with quickly before escalate. These repeat callers are risk assessed and those classified as vulnerable are offered support.

For deliberate fires, it is mainly refuse (38%) and grassland (22%) that is targeted, with only 2.3% of all deliberate fires committed towards dwellings and 6.6% to vehicles.

Offenders

Criminal damage continues to have a low detection rate, with the majority of offenders remaining unknown. Those arrested for damage and arson offences, shows that male juveniles are of note for this type of crime, accounting for 20%. When expanding this age group to those 25 years and under this increases to 65% of all suspects. This is the highest proportion for any crime type for this age group.

Of these, 13% were arrested for two more crimes, compared to 16% in the last assessment. Repeat offenders of arson however remains low with only three suspects linked to two or more crimes. Overall profiles for both damage and arson were similar.

The profile of ASB perpetrators was very similar in that the vast majority were male, with no ASBOs granted against females in the strategic period. In total, 85% of all AS13 forms including Section 27's were issued and 59% were to males of juvenile age with the peak ages between 13 –

16 years. Unlike the previous Strategic document 50% of the ABCs issued during this reporting period were issued to owner occupiers followed by 28% THL and 22% private rented.

The wards where perpetrators and suspects live are the same wards with high incident levels and tend to be the most deprived areas of the Borough. Overall, the profile has remained constant for a number of years with no change in the age and gender of those committing ASB or Criminal Damage.

Location

The top five wards for ASB, Criminal Damage and Deliberate Fires were very similar, as shown in the table below (based on rate per 1,000 population):

Table fifteen: top five wards ASB, Criminal Damage and Deliberate Fires

	Police ASB	MAASBT Incidents	Criminal Damage	Deliberate Fires
1	Stockton Town Centre	Stockton Town Centre	Stockton Town Centre	Stockton Town Centre
2	Mandale and Victoria	Billingham Central	Mandale and Victoria	Stainsby Hill
3	Parkfield and Oxbridge	Stainsby Hill	Newtown	Hardwick
4	Billingham Central	Newtown	Hardwick	Newtown
5	Stainsby Hill	Parkfield and Oxbridge	Parkfield and Oxbridge	Norton South

ASB issues within individual wards continue to be discussed at the monthly Joint Action Group meetings (JAGs). This includes analytical research conducted by police analysts with updates from other partnership agencies, in particular local authority Community Safety Team. Common themes for most ward locations continue to be linked to youth related ASB, neighbourhood disputes and misuse of alcohol. A high proportion of service requests to the MAASBT are noise related. This is slightly different for Stockton Town Centre which has a higher proportion of ASB linked to alcohol, due to incidents linked to the night time economy. The peak days and times are evenings and weekends (especially Friday evening into the early hours of Saturday) and less ASB is youth related. ASB in Yarm was also alcohol related and linked to the night-time economy, albeit to a much lesser degree.

Misuse of vehicles, in particular off road bikes has been highlighted in previous assessments with 9.5% (1228) of all incident linked to this type of issue. However this figure also includes vehicles. Those where bikes have been involved account for third of this total. This compares to nearly 50% of all vehicle incidents linked to bikes in the last assessment. This decrease has been evident in wards such as Hardwick (reduction of 44%) and Roseworth (-63%). Overall the misuse of off road bikes appears to have greatly reduced (-18%).

Levels of damage within wards have also seen changes within several, both increases and decreases. However Stockton Town Centre remains the top ward followed by Mandale & Victoria, which is the same as previous assessment. However, both have experienced increases.

Looking at the table you can also see slight changes in the placing of the wards for damage and ASB however as STC and Mandale & Victoria are the most active for both damage and ASB. Both of these were identified as priorities for the Partnership in the last assessment.

5.1 Key Findings:

- ASB recorded by the Police has reduced by 19.3% since the last assessment period.
- Service requests to the MAASBT have increased by 49%.
- Criminal Damage has also decreased by 4.3% which equates to 99 fewer crimes.
- Key themes of ASB continue to be linked to alcohol and youth related activity, and noise nuisance.
- Refuse and grassland continue to be items targeted for deliberate fires.
- Repeat victimisation exists for damage with increase in the number of locations this period.
- Locations of offences and ASB remain similar, in particular for the top two wards – Stockton Town Centre and Mandale & Victoria which has remained the same as last assessment.

5.2. Alcohol & Drug Related Crime & ASB

Alcohol and drug relating offending remains a priority for the partnership, with alcohol related crime and ASB added in April 2011. The true extent of this type of crime continues to be unknown due to inconsistencies with use of crime indicator fields and qualifier codes. However bi-monthly violence documents are produced by police analysts which provides an overview on this type of crime.

Overall, 7% of total crime showed crime indicator fields as being linked to alcohol/and or drugs with the majority being linked to drug and violent crimes. This is similar to the previous year (7.7%).

Further research of violence offences shows that in total, 29% of all violence and public disorder offences were flagged as being committed under the influence of alcohol/and or drugs, with over half linked to Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm. This is a similar picture to the last assessment. However, nearly 50% have the flag as unknown, therefore this figure could be a lot higher. Of those flagged as alcohol/drug related, 29% were also recorded as domestic related, showing the continuing theme that alcohol and drugs has on DV related assaults. This figure is higher when looking at all DV related violence (32% of total violence) which shows that at least 37% of all DV related violence is alcohol/drug related.

In relation to ASB Incidents only 4% of calls received by the MAASBT were directly reported as alcohol related and this continues to be a reduction as detailed in previous assessments. Alcohol related incidents recorded through AS13s / Section 27 forms accounted for 38% of all forms received, the majority of which occurred within Stockton Town Centre and Yarm. The night-time economy of both Wards remains a contributing factor. It is however difficult to assess if drugs also play part in ASB issues.

The number of drug offences is similar to the last assessment, with a minimal reduction of two. In total there were 504 Drug offences recorded, with 21% linked to the supply of drugs. This compares to 16% last period. The majority of all drug offences (61%) related to cannabis, and mainly possession (262 crimes/292 previous year). Those arrested for possession have mainly been during stop searches or whilst the offender was being arrested for another offence.

There continues to be a reduction in needle finds this strategic period; 97 in total compared to 220 previously which is a 56% reduction.

Victims

Opiate and Crack Users (OCUs, formally Problematic Drug Users, or PDUs) can be considered as vulnerable and will therefore be addressed within the victim section. The following information outlines the key findings relating to adult Opiate and Crack Users (OCUs) in Stockton for the financial year 2010/11.

The National Treatment Agency (NTA) smoothed estimates (2009/10 latest report) suggests that there are approximately 1,587 OCUs in Stockton, with lower and upper limits of 1,406 and 1,859 (95% CI's). Information returned from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) shows that there were 1,161 OCUs in treatment on the 30th June 2012 and that an additional 153 had been in treatment during 2011/12. A further 166 individuals were known to treatment but not treated during 2010/11. This gives a total of 1,410 OCUs known to treatment services in Stockton, suggesting a high level of treatment penetration (approximately 89% based on the smoothed estimate).

The majority of OCUs in treatment were white males aged between 30–39 years (73% male, 98% white, 57%). This profile has remained similar for a number of years with females, those from the BME community, under 21s, and stimulant users continuing to be under represented in treatment. The age of this population continues to grow as very few new OCUs are presenting to treatment. The largest age group is now the 30-34 year olds (32%) with the 35-39 the second highest (28%). Previously the largest group was the 25-29 year olds i.e. the same people getting older.

OCUs are now being more actively targeted for opiate replacement medication reduction and recovery, so we expect numbers in treatment to fall, provided there is no return to opiate or crack use among young people.

Various anonymous surveys and pieces of research carried out in Stockton have suggested that poly-drug use among drug treatment clients is much more prevalent than NDTMS records would suggest, including continued evidence of high levels of alcohol use amongst service users. Service users are now more likely to recognize alcohol as a problematic substance. We have seen the numbers reporting alcohol as their second or third problematic substance has increased 30% since October 2011. This is partially due to improved reporting and recording but also reveals an actual change in substance use. Opiate replacement medication is now more likely to be supplemented by other prescription drugs and alcohol than by heroin or crack.

A young people's substance misuse needs assessment was completed for the period April 2011 to March 2012. From the assessment it was clear that the drugs which cause the most problems for young people remain cannabis and alcohol, and that many users are mixing and matching a range of drugs, often in combination with cheap, strong alcohol. Little is known about the effects of some of the newer drugs they are using, such as mephedrone, and it is too early to predict the impact of prolonged use or what the longer term harms will be. It is clear that these 'legal highs' are not as habit forming as other drugs, as young people report having tried them but few report using on a regular basis.

In total 111 young people were provided with a specialist service for substance misuse issues in the 12 months ending September 2012. 53% of which were aged 16-17 years and most were male (60% male and 40% female). This represents an increase from 36% representation by females and a small lowering of the average age in treatment. Previously, cannabis was the primary presenting issue with young people in Substance Misuse Services (58% of those in treatment). New reporting methodology now shows that cannabis is used by 75% of those in treatment with 79% also reporting Alcohol.

The largest proportion of referrals came from the Youth Offending Service but this has dropped from 34% of referrals to 28%). The improvement in referrals from other sources has resulted in earlier interventions and can be seen in the change in age profile outlined above. It is hoped that this will result in earlier intervention for many as the YOS route implies that other problematic behaviour (principally offending) is also entrenched.

In terms of alcohol misuse, NDTMS data shows that 485 clients presenting with primary alcohol misuse accessed tier 3 or 4 treatment in 2011/12 (a 20% increase on the previous year), which included 200 new treatment journeys that started within that year. Tier 3 treatments are community-based specialised alcohol misuse assessments whereas tier 4 are residential specialised alcohol treatments. In total, 143 of these clients (29%) also reported the misuse of other illicit substances, indicating a link between alcohol and drug misuse. This has grown significantly this year but we believe it reflects better data recording.

Of all those clients accessing tier 3 alcohol treatment in 2011/12, 95 left treatment at some point during this period and 68 (72%) did so in a planned way. This reflects excellent performance, exceeding both the national (56%) and regional (55%) successful exits rates.

Once again the majority of those accessing treatment were male, although at 60% this was less male dominated than the OCUs. This figure continues to drop with 58% male and 42% female in the 2nd quarter of 2012/13. Almost all clients were white (97%) and the largest age group represented was 40-49 years (32%), followed by 30-39 years (27%), although there were significant numbers accessing treatment ranging from under 16 years through to over 65 years.

Health issues due to alcohol misuse are a growing concern; North Tees PCT recorded a total of 5,174 hospital admissions between October 2011 and Sept 2012 on alcohol-related diagnosis codes. Because of targeted improvement activity, admissions have fallen by 4.3% compared to 2010/11 figures. The 2012 Local Alcohol Profile for England (LAPE) reported by the North West Public Health Observatory (NWPHO) showed Stockton to perform significantly worse than the national average in relation to various measures including alcohol-specific hospital admissions, alcohol-attributable hospital admission and the estimates of binge drinking. However, alcohol specific, and alcohol attributable mortality rates are currently better than the England average.

The synthetic estimate showed Stockton as having a significantly higher rate of binge drinking than the national average, as well as having a higher percentage of its non-abstinent adult population consuming alcohol at 'increasing risk' levels (defined as usual consumption of between 22 and 50 units of alcohol per week for males, and between 15 and 35 units of alcohol per week for females).

There is further evidence that alcohol and drugs have close links with Domestic Violence in the Borough. Data from Harbour's perpetrator programme shows that just over a quarter (27%) of those attending between October 2011 and September 2012 admitted to having problems with alcohol. In 20% of the latest incidents, the perpetrator was under the influence of alcohol and 8% of the latest incidents, both the victim and perpetrator were under the influence of alcohol.

The Think B4U Drink campaign continued to promote safe and responsible drinking throughout the strategic period. The campaign work from the last strategic period was still very evident and ongoing for the year. Posters were aimed at young people, victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and vulnerable adults were reproduced and distributed via outlets such as Pubwatch and Children's Centres. Beer mats that highlighted a safer way to get home after a night out drinking alcohol were produced and distributed through Pubwatch over the Christmas period. Radio adverts highlighting the risks of drinking in connection with young people and domestic violence were broadcast within North Tees Hospital, which is ongoing. Think B4U Drink attended various events within the year including young people's events, work place events and community events whereby alcohol awareness activities were delivered. Meetings have been scheduled in the forthcoming year to discuss the future direction for Think B4U Drink.

Offenders

Males account for the majority of offenders linked to alcohol and drug related crime, accounting for 80%, with the most common age group between 25-34 years and mainly linked to offences of violence.

Those linked to DV related violence are also mainly male offenders (80%), varying in age. Female offenders are linked to various crimes, however mainly violence and DV related assaults.

Between October 2011 and September 2012, there were 1943 mandatory drugs tests for 1225 individuals with 308 of these tested on two or more occasions. This is a reduction of 301 tests and 193 individuals. However this still equates to 1.6 tests per person which is the same as previous reporting period.

As noted, 25% of all tested were done so on two or more occasions, with 54 of the 308 tested five or more times. Males were the main gender tested (82%), mainly for Theft offences. This is similar to last year (80%).

The table below shows the test results per drug type for each gender showing that 68% tested negative.

Table sixteen

Test Result	Female	Male	Total	%
Negative	245	1081	1326	68
Cocaine	35	236	271	14
Opiates	35	175	210	11
Both (Cocaine & Opiates)	30	106	136	7
Total	345	1598	1943	100

Overall, 71% of females tested negative, compared to 68% for males.

Those that did test positive were linked to cocaine, followed by opiates giving a total of 31% which again is same as last year. The most common age group was 18-24 for both genders; accounting

for 41% of all tested and is no change from previous years. Those tested were mainly linked to theft offences accounting for 58% of all; however this changes when looking at males and females separately (53% Male/79% female). Burglary was the second most common offence for both, with 386 males tested (25% males).

Those offences with the most positive tests relate to drugs and for both theft and burglary the test rate was just 31% and 39% respectively. This would indicate that those committing this type of crime are not regular drug users or motivated by drugs to commit crime, however this is also dependent upon when the person was arrested. For example if a person had been arrested in the early morning, it is possible they would not have had any drugs in their system or were not daily users.

There are also indications that other drugs are now being used regularly, such as MKAT, which would not show up on a drug test. So although the tests show 68% negative results it should be considered this is due to the type of drug now being used rather than a decline in drug use.

The Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme ran throughout the period Oct 2011 – Sept 2012, and in total 2,568 arrests (38%) were alcohol related, of which 696 (31%) received an intervention. This is significantly higher than the 23% seen in 2010/11 and figures from August 2012 show 47% of arrestees are now seen due to changes in the arrest referral process. Of those receiving an intervention only 10% scored low risk on the audit tool with 90% drinking at harmful / hazardous levels and above. Once again this data set was male dominated (84%) with 18 – 24 years the key age group, closely followed by 25 – 34 years. 64% of those arrested were unemployed and only 2% were students, which is low given the key age range. Most of the arrests were for offences of assault (24%) followed by drunk and disorderly conduct (22%).

2748 Prisoners who entered HMP Holme House between October 2011 and Sept 2012 agreed to have their alcohol use screened via an AUDIT questionnaire. In total, 567 (21%) of them scored eight or more on the AUDIT tool (commonly accepted as drinking at hazardous levels), with 2241 (9%) scoring 25 or more (harmful and/or dependent drinking levels). During the year 54 prisoners were given an alcohol detoxification; 2% of all of those entering the Prison within that year (half of the percentage or 104 of 2,102 in 2010/11).

Location

Stockton town centre continues to be the main location for alcohol and drug misuse and has been this way for most years. This is also the same for overall crime. In total, 31% of all crime committed whilst under the influence occurred in this ward. This is similar to last year (30%).

As reported in last year's assessment, Yarm also features, however this is due to the busy night-time economy for this location. This area has seen a slight decrease, but only by three crimes, and accounts for 3.3% of all crime in this category.

Drug offences also concentrate around the town centre area (25%), followed by Mandale and Victoria (11%) followed by wards just off the town centre – Newtown and Parkfield & Oxbridge. Again, these wards also suffer from higher levels of crime and are higher deprivation areas. The intelligence picture also shows that dealing and using drugs is more prolific around these areas, which is where most of the enforcement activity also takes place. The type of drugs used continues to be influenced by their use, with cocaine continuing to be used for recreational purposes and socialising, compared to heroin for regular users who are often linked to criminal activity in order to feed their habit.

5.2 Key Findings:

1. It remains difficult to accurately identify the true extent of crime and ASB that is alcohol and drug related, but it appears to have reduced for drugs over the last 12 months.
2. The majority of alcohol related crime is violence, with evidence that alcohol continues to play a role within domestic violence offences supported by data from the Police and Harbour.
3. 504 drug offences recorded with 21% linked to Supply, 61% of those arrested for drug offences related to cannabis and those arrested for possession were through stop searches or for another offence.
4. Needle finds continue to reduce showing a 56% reduction compared to the last assessment period.
5. There seems to be a high level of drug treatment penetration in the Borough, based on NTA estimates?
6. As reported in previous assessments there has been no change in the profile of Opiate and Crack Users (OCUs) with the majority white males aged between 25-34 years, with females, BME, young people, stimulant users continuing to be under represented in treatment.
7. Young people are still mainly seeking treatment for cannabis and alcohol use; mainly males aged 16-17 years.
8. White males continue to dominate within alcohol treatment services albeit at a lesser rates than previously reported now at 60%.
9. However, there are some serious health concerns in relation to alcohol consumption in the Borough with the Local Alcohol Profile for England (LAPE) showing Stockton is performing significantly worse than the national average across a range of alcohol specific illness and mortality rates as well as binge drinking.
10. Offenders linked to offences of drug and alcohol related crimes, are males aged 25 – 34 years.
11. There has been a reduction in the number of mandatory drug tests but an increase in the number of individuals tested; the average tests per person has returned to 1.6 from 2.5.
12. Positive drug tests have reduced from 31% to 27%, with no difference noted by gender with females recorded at 26%.
13. The Alcohol Arrest Scheme shows that 38% of arrests were alcohol related with 31% receiving an intervention which is significantly higher than in previous years.
14. Most arrestees were young unemployed males, drinking at very high levels; 90% drinking at hazardous/harmful levels.
15. Of the offenders that were drinking at hazardous/ harmful levels entering Holme House Prison only 2% required detoxification, which is reduction compared to the 4% reported in the previous comparative year.
16. Alcohol related crime and asb remain linked to the night-time economy.
17. New reporting technology within the YOS shows that cannabis is used by 75% of those in treatment and 79% of those also report use of alcohol.

5.3. Violence Including Domestic Violence, the Night-Time Economy & Sexual Offences

Violence, including domestic violence remains a priority for SSP and the Police. There has been an increase in Violence offences over the last year; 225 more crimes of Violence Against the Person, which is an 11.7% increase. Violence accounted for 19% of total crime, which is a slight increase compared to the previous year (17.6%). DV offences have also seen an increase (+5.3%).

Overall there are increases across the board for most offences. Racially or Religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress has seen a large increase from seven offences to 25 for this period, this equates to 257%. Possession of an offensive weapon is one of the few offences which has seen a decrease, from 34 offences in 2010/2011, compared with 18 offences for 2011/2012. In line with previous strategic documents, Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm and Common Assault and Battery account for the largest proportion of offences and both of these categories show an increase for 2011/2012.

The proportion of violence that is domestic shows a slight decrease for this period, accounting for 32.5% compared to 34.4% for the previous period.

Racially aggravated violence accounts for 3.1%, which is an increase on the previous year (2.6%) however this again is dependent upon crime indicator fields being correctly coded.

A total of 11% of violence was related to the Night Time Economy, (offences linked to licensed premises). This is a slight increase on the previous period (9%). A review of all violence offences shows that alcohol continues to play an aggravating factor with 29% linked to alcohol and/or drugs. This figure is a decrease compared with the previous period (34%), however this data is unreliable in the sense that 47% marked this indicator field as being unknown; therefore 29% could well be higher.

Overall sexual offences have remained at a similar level for this strategic period; 198 crimes for this period, compared to 194 crimes for the previous period. However within the category itself there are slight changes. There have been fewer historical sexual offences reported. 37.8% of offences were linked to historical crimes (prior to October 2011), this is a decrease compared to 42.3% for the previous strategic period (prior to October 2010). The detection rate for this crime category has decreased; 35.3%, compared to the previous period of 44.3%.

Rape offences show similar patterns to the previous period. They account for 28.2% (56 offences) of sexual offences, with just under half linked to children aged 13 and under, this was also the same as for the previous period. Rape of a female aged 16 or over and Sexual assault of a female child under 13 have both seen a decrease for this period of 25% (32) and 16% (24) respectively. Sexual assault on a female has seen a 24% increase, from 38 offences in 2010/2011 to 47 offences in 2011/2012.

Gun Crime (Strategic Period)

Offences in Stockton have been spread throughout the District with no particular area of concern. No repeat wards have been identified, with the most common location being Billingham, where two offences were committed (one in Billingham North and one in Billingham South). Other wards have been identified as Western Parishes and Bishopgarth and Elm Tree. Offence levels appear to have risen slightly during the first half of 2012, with none being reported at the end of 2011 (October to December) but four between March and June 2012 (March – one, May – one, June – two). However, between July and September 2012 there have been no offences reported which involved the use of a firearm. There does not appear to be any pattern in relation to when and where these crimes are being committed. The four offences were reported as assaults, during which a firearm was discharged on each occasion. These were committed using either a BB gun or an air weapon, two were on a street/road (one air weapon was discharged from a moving vehicle), one at a children's playground and one inside a dwelling premise which was a domestic related offence. Suspects have been linked to three of the four offences, one of which was an adult male (domestic related, victim did not proceed with prosecution), and two were committed by male youths using BB guns, both have been either charged or reprimanded.

Knife Crime (Strategic Period)

Offences in Stockton peaked in November 2011 with eight offences, which was followed by a reduction in December 2011 and January 2012 where three and two offences were recorded respectively. Following a slight peak in April 2012 crime levels have stabilised with between two and four offences being reported each month between June and September. There does not appear to be an evident pattern in relation to when these offence types are being reported.

11 of the 47 crimes involving the use of a bladed weapon were reported to have been committed whilst the suspect was under the influence. 12 of the offences were highlighted as being domestic related (six of which were also linked to the suspect being under the influence). In 29 of the 47 offences, it was not confirmed whether or not alcohol or drugs were contributing factors. 13 of the crimes were reported as being committed by a stranger, 34 crimes were reported to have been committed by a suspect known to the victim. To date, 23 of the crimes in Stockton have been detected (47.9%). Crimes involving the use of a sharp or bladed weapon have been spread throughout Stockton District with no particular area of concern. Offences are concentrated around the highly populated areas, with a limited number being committed within rural areas. Town centres throughout the District have recorded slightly higher levels than other sections of the towns. Keys wards have been highlighted as Mandale and Victoria, Newtown and Stockton Town Centre, all of which recorded eight offences within the reporting period, with six also being committed in Billingham East. Offences within these four wards have varied between violence and robbery offences, with half of the robberies in Stockton being accounted for within these areas (Mandale and Victoria – four, Billingham East – two and Stockton Town Centre – two).

Victims

On the whole, there have been very few changes within this subsection. Violence against the Person offences continue to be evenly divided between the genders and there remains the persisting trend for victims to be aged between 18 – 24 years and 25 – 35 years. Those victims linked to violence in the Night Time Economy were aged between 18 – 24 years, which is to be expected as this is the most common age group to be socialising in these types of premises. This was followed by those aged between 25 – 34 years, with the two groups accounting for 66% overall (same figure as for previous period).

Although males continue to be more likely victims of violence within the Night Time Economy, this percentage has seen an increase on the previous period, from 62% to 66.2%. It should also be noted that underage youths drinking in licensed premises and involved in violence may be less likely to report the offence, potentially highlighting under reporting within this category.

Domestic Violence continues to be perpetrated predominantly towards females with 82% of Police DV victims being female, which is similar to the previous year (81%). 61% of all females victim to violence were the result of domestic violence, this is the same figure as for the previous period. Victims continued to be aged between 25 – 34 years and 18 – 24 years. 14% of Domestic Violence victims were subject to two or more crimes during this period, this is an increase compared with the previous period (10%), which would suggest that although overall trends remain the same, those most vulnerable to DV are more likely to be repeat victims.

There is little change as regards to victims of sexual offence. As was the case for the previous period, sexual offences remain predominantly linked to those of juvenile age or below, with two thirds of all victims aged less than 17 years assaulted by offenders known to them. Females continue to account for the largest number (87%) of victims, as was the case for the previous year. A total of 5% of offences against those under 18 years relate to child grooming or prostitution, which is a reduction on the percentage reported in the previous assessment (10%). As per the previous period, the majority of these victims did not know their offenders. This year's data shows that none of these nominals were repeat victims.

Offenders

Offenders continue to be aged predominantly aged between 18 – 24 years and 25 – 34 years. This is to be expected due to the nature of locations where the violence occurs, such as licensed premises within Stockton High Street. There has been an increase in the number of female offenders from 22% to 28% during this assessment period. 12% of offenders for this offence type were repeat offenders, with three offenders responsible for three offences. This is a large increase compared to 3% for the previous period.

54% of offenders stated they were under the influence of drink/drugs, an increase compared with 34% for the previous period however this data may be unreliable due to 34% of offenders not having recorded whether they were under the influence.

As per the previous period, the majority of offenders of Domestic Violence were aged between 18 – 34 years. In total 28% of all suspects received were charged, compared with 35% for the previous year. 19% received a caution, which was an increase compared to the previous year. As highlighted in the previous strategic document, the majority of female suspects of domestic offences were more than likely to be in a non-romantic relationship with the victim, such as being a family member or assaulting an ex-partners new girlfriend.

Almost all suspects of Sexual Offences were male, and the majority aged between 18- 34 years, this is the same trend as the previous period. There has been a decrease in the number of juvenile offenders (under 18 years), as they accounted for a quarter of all offenders previously, whereas for this period, they account for only a fifth. Offences continue to be committed by juveniles who know their victim and to be with youths also under the age of 18. 10% of offenders were linked to two or more offences, which is at around a similar level to the previous period (13%). These incidents vary from rape of a female under 13, to exposure and sexual assault and includes one male linked to nine offences of sexual grooming. As per the previous period stranger attacks continue to remain low, accounting for 14% of sexual offences, of which the majority refer to sexual assaults. The motivation for these kinds of offences tended to that they were groomed by one male and then introduced to a group of strangers, and victims that have been approached via social media sites posing as someone they are not.

Location

The top five wards with the largest share of the Violence Against the Person offences remain the same, as per the previous strategic assessment.

Stockton Town Centre and Yarm continue to account for the majority of the Night Time Economy offences (65%). However, this is a decrease from the previous period (80%) and could suggest that due to the economic down turn, people are less likely to travel into these locations for nights out, instead preferring to stay nearer home and drink at potentially cheaper venues such as local pubs and social clubs. Offences occur both on the street outside these premises and within. Locations such as Glam and Ku Bar in Stockton Town Centre and the New Cross Keys in Yarm feature as key locations for Night Time Economy Violence for both this strategic period and the previous.

As with the previous year, Stockton Town Centre is a prolific location for violence, with offences peaking on the weekends into the early hours of the morning. Police led operations continue to patrol these areas at these peak times in order to minimise public disorder.

74% of Domestic Violence offences occurred within the home, which follows the ongoing trend of the majority of this type of crime taking place within this location. It is worthy of note that this is a slight decrease compared to the previous year (80%). Only 2% of Domestic Violence offences took place within licensed premises, which is at a similar level to the previous period (3%). Overall the wards which suffer the highest levels of domestic offences remain the same: Stockton Town Centre, Mandale and Victoria, Newtown and Parkfield and Oxbridge, however for this period Hardwick also features amongst this group, indicating a rise in the number of offences within this area.

5.3 Key Findings:

1. There has been an increase in both Violence and Domestic Violence. Violence accounts for 19% of Total Crime which is a 17.6% increase when compared to the same period last year.
2. Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress has seen a large increase from 7 to 25 offences.
3. Sexual offences have remain consistent to that reported in the last assessment, however, there were fewer historical sexual offences reported in this period.
4. Sexual assaults on females have increased by 24% from 38 to 47 offences.
5. Victim and suspect analysis shows no major changes to previous years; males remain more likely to be assaulted by an acquaintance, and in offences relating to both the nighttime economy and most serious violence.
6. Repeat Domestic Violence remains at a 10% RV rate.
7. The top five wards for violence remain consistent with reports from previous assessments.
8. Location and patterns to those offences linked to the night-time economy relating to Stockton Town Centre and Yarm account for 65% of all night time economy related violence. This is a reduction compared to the previous assessment (80%) which could be attributed to economic downturn

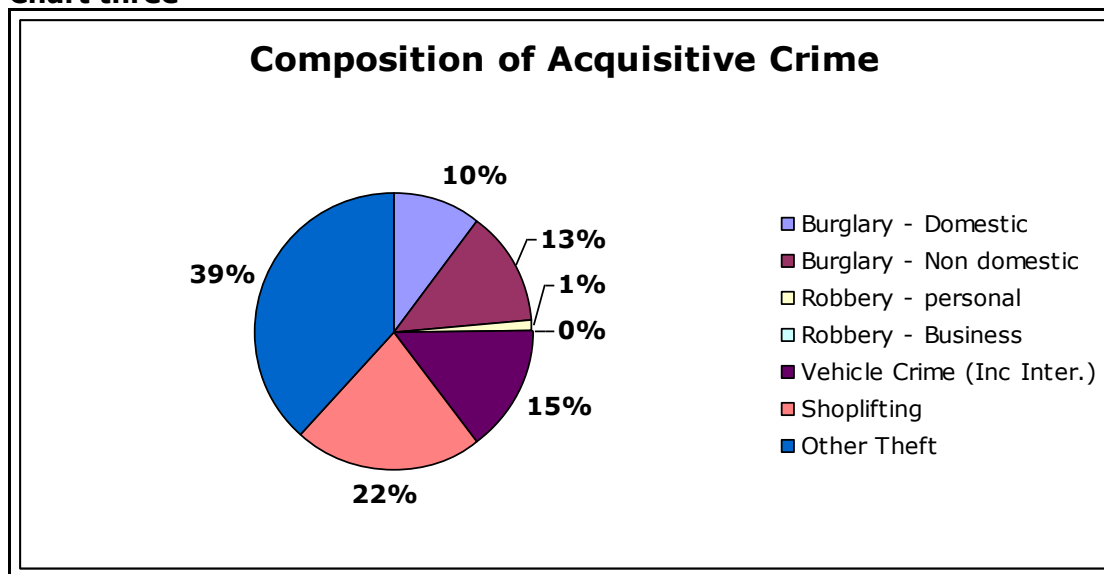
5.4. Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive crime is any crime committed for financial gain and includes Burglary, Robbery and all Theft offences. This section will focus mainly upon Other Theft, Burglary and Vehicle crime, which make up the majority of acquisitive crime for the Borough.

During the review period, this type of crime has seen an increase of 5.7% which equates to 318 more crimes during the 12 month period.

Acquisitive crime also accounted for 57% of total crime, which is the same as the previous strategic period.

Chart three



The pie chart above shows the composition of this type of crime, demonstrating that Other Theft is the main volume crime, representing 39%, followed by shoplifting and then vehicle crime. The actual number of Other Theft offences has decreased slightly this year by 39 fewer crimes (-1.7%). Along with robbery, this is the only other category which has seen a reduction as noted in the table below.

Table Number: seventeen

Crime Types	Oct 11 - Sept 12			
	2012/13	2011/12	Change	% Change
Burglary - Domestic	611	485	126	26.0%
Burglary - Non domestic	781	730	51	7.0%
Robbery - personal	56	78	-22	-28.2%
Robbery - Business	9	7	2	28.6%
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	877	827	50	6.0%
Shoplifting	1299	1149	150	13.1%
Other Acquisitive	2251	2290	-39	-1.7%
Total	5884	5566	318	5.7%

The above data clearly demonstrates the increases in majority of categories, of note being burglary offences. However crime statistics for the first half of the financial year (April 12 to Sept 12) show a different picture, with crime reducing by 5.9% and increases in only two crime types (burglary dwelling and shoplifting).

The Other theft category comprises various crime types, including theft of pedal cycles and theft from person. Theft of pedal cycles has seen a reduction this period by 21% and represents 15% of

the Other Theft crime category. This is a change from last year when thefts of pedal cycles accounted for 19%.

Theft from person and from dwelling both show increases, in particular in a dwelling which has increased by 52% (76 crimes). There is nothing to indicate why this type of crime has seen a rise in offending, with research showing no areas of concern. Other Theft continues to remain a priority for SSP and Police.

Offences where metals have been taken have decreased this period following an increase in the last assessment. This has resulted in a reduction of 22%, with metal offences accounting for 9% of acquisitive crime (prev 13%).

Shoplifting is the next highest category, accounting for 22%, which is similar to the previous period (21%). Levels of shoplifting are also showing an increase when compared to the previous 12 month period, by 13.1% (150 crimes).

Both burglary categories are also showing increases, dwelling by 26% (126 crimes) and Other by 7% (51 crimes). This equates to 173 more victims of crime for burglary offences. Although both have seen increases, the percentage of total acquisitive crime has remained similar for both.

Other burglary has predominantly been made up of domestics (58%), which is no change, with sheds and garages being targeted.

As noted in last strategic assessment, dwelling burglary has increased following a 11.6% reduction in 2010/11 period (Oct 10-Sept11). The rise in burglaries equates to 125 more victims of crime. Dwelling burglary is a priority for Stockton Police District with financial year to date figures also showing an increase (10.3%). Analysis of crime data shows several spates and peaks throughout the year resulting in numerous operations by police to combat this problem.

Vehicle crime has increased slightly (6%) with increases mainly seen in TFMV. As noted in last assessment, Theft of Motor Vehicles (TOMV) continues to follow a downward trend.

Robbery continues to account for 1% of total acquisitive crime with reductions in robbery personal (28.2%) which is 22 less victims. There was a slight increase in robbery at businesses from seven to nine.

Victims (including targets and hot products)

The majority of theft offences do not have a victim due to being linked to a premise or location or item that is being targeted. Therefore this section of the assessment will focus on victims in the traditional sense for theft from person and robbery offences.

Theft from person offences show no significant changes with victims being predominantly females. However, there has been a shift in age groups with elderly females being targeted for purses or bags. The Last assessment saw a reduction in this age group being targeted with those aged 35-44 being the main age group. The majority of crimes have also occurred in and around Stockton High Street.

Male victims have been linked to various thefts from mobile phones and wallets, often whilst out socialising. This includes high value iPhones.

It is the opposite for robbery, with males being the main gender targeted, with ages varying and research showing no particular age groups being targeted. Only a small number of males were of juvenile age. However, in 46% of all robbery offences, some sort of item was used in order to threaten the victim. This includes knives, bats and stones. Robberies where a knife was involved (11) appears mainly to threaten and intimidate the victim.

This assessment period shows no significant changes or areas of concern with regards to victims of robbery or thefts.

In terms of those crimes where the victim is a location or premise (Burglaries/Vehicle crime and Theft), the common theme is that in most crime types, the main wards continue to be the same and mainly linked to deprived areas. This will be covered under the location section.

Looking at each crime type shows that insecure burglaries continue to be problematic, with a third of all burglaries being committed due to doors or windows being left insecure. It is possible this figure could be higher due to crime reports continuing to have lack of indicator fields or keywords completed. Of note is that a high number of insecure burglaries have also occurred in deprived areas. Those where force has been used or vehicles stolen have been in the more affluent ward areas.

Burglary Other at domestic premises, such as sheds and garages, has accounted for 58%, with force being used in the majority of cases. Throughout the strategic period this type of crime has seen spates of offending seeing numerous premises and ward locations repeatedly targeted. This type of crime is also linked to groups of offenders and generally targeted due to offenders living in close proximity to the crime location. Sheds and garages are vulnerable due to offenders knowing they will more than likely contain items such as bikes, tools and gardening equipment which are easy to steal and resell.

Commercial burglaries have occurred at various establishments from shops to offices and building compounds and sites. There have also been several premises targeted on more than one occasion including education establishments and business premises. These types of premises are targeted for higher value items such as computers, cash and equipment. Detections for this type of crime remains low due to premises often being targeted over weekends or evenings when premises are closed and no customers or witnesses to offences. Lack of CCTV and security also aid offenders in targeting commercial establishments.

Offences where metals have been taken such as copper piping, cables and radiators have been at various establishments including vacant houses and building sites. There have been no new areas of note for this type of crime.

Vehicle crime shows that for TOMV, vehicles are a mixture of ages and types, with those of higher value targeted for resale, and older ones often found abandoned or near to offence location. The advances in car security and fact that there are less older cars on the road has seen this type of crime continuing to reduce. Expensive cars are mainly now taken from dwelling burglaries with offenders having to obtain car keys in order to steal the vehicle.

The makes and models for those linked to TFMV have also varied with no particular cars being vulnerable. Force is used in most cases with items left on display being taken. There have also been spates of offences where registration plates, which have been taken have then been used in other crimes such as making off without payments. Theft of alloy wheels was noted in the last assessment however reductions have been seen in this period.

Offenders

Research suggests that male offenders are predominantly linked to this type of crime for all theft types, including shoplifting which has a higher than average ratio of female offenders to other types of theft.

Age groups vary, dependent upon the type of theft with those of juvenile age linked to shoplifting and TFMV compared to older age groups linked to burglaries and metal thefts.

In relation to female offenders, shoplifting and thefts are the predominant types of crime, with only small numbers linked to burglaries, vehicle crime and robbery offences.

It is also apparent that repeat offenders feature highly within this crime, in particular for shoplifting, burglary and vehicle crime with all HCCS (High Crime Causers) featuring as suspects for acquisitive crime along with majority of PPOs (Priority and Prolific Offenders).

As reported in the previous assessment, there have been no significant changes in relation to those linked to metal thefts, with research indicating that males continue to dominate this

category, often committing offences with another person and often linked to several offences, particularly burglary offences where metals have been taken. The vast majority were in the age group 18-25, linked to both thefts and burglaries. Arrests and detections for this type of theft remain low, with investigations hindered by the ease of the disposal of metals.

Males are also the main offenders for burglaries with age groups remaining the same – younger males (juvenile up to 24) dominating burglary other (sheds and garages) and the 25-34 age group linked to dwelling. This age group and older are also linked to burglaries at commercial premises, rather than sheds or garages.

Those juveniles linked to sheds and garages also show a high number of repeat offenders, who have also been raised as District Targets for Stockton Policing District during the 12 month period. Spates of 'burglary other' offences by these repeat offenders have featured throughout the assessment period.

In relation to vehicle crime, the 18-24 age group is the most common age, linked to all categories, but this is especially the case for TOMV and aggravated TOMV. Those of juvenile age are also linked to this type of crime with numerous individuals also linked to burglary other crimes. It is apparent that those of younger age group favour this type of crime before progressing on to more serious offences as they get older. They also continue to target older cars purely for the enjoyment of stealing the car, rather than the resale value. This is the opposite to older age groups who are linked to theft and dwelling burglaries, where high value cars are taken.

Shoplifting is the main offence committed by females, with 68% of all female offenders linked to this type of crime. The remainder of the offences for which females are linked to are Other Theft (20%), Burglary (8%), Vehicle crime (3%) and Robbery (1%).

Location

Stockton Town Centre continues to feature as the main ward for acquisitive crime followed by Mandale & Victoria, Norton North and Newtown. Parkfield & Oxbridge featured within the top five wards in the last assessment and has moved to sixth worst ward. These ward locations are similar for overall crime.

Stockton Town Centre features as the main ward from nearly all types of acquisitive crime, in particular shoplifting, thefts and burglary other. Burglary Other offences are mainly due to burglaries linked to commercial premises. These were King Edwin School, Norton (2), Newtown Primary, (4), Red House, Norton (2). Vehicle crime is one category in which the Town Centre ward is the main location.

Looking at categories of acquisitive crime shows that those linked to metals being taken feature highly around several wards including Newtown, Norton South, Stockton Town Centre, Parkfield & Oxbridge and Billingham South. There has been slight change in the most prolific areas with Newtown as the most prominent ward, accounting for 11% whereas previously Parkfield & Oxbridge was the main ward (now accounts for 9%/3rd ranking).

Dwelling burglary and burglary other are also centred around Stockton Town Centre ward, followed by Bishopsgarth & Elmtree for Burglary Other. Unlike STC ward, the majority of burglaries in this ward relate to sheds and garages being targeted. This area has featured highly throughout the assessment period and was noted in the last strategic assessment.

In terms of dwelling burglaries, those in most deprived wards continue to feature highly (STC ward, Mandale & Victoria, Hardwick and Newtown).

TFMV and TOMV offences have occurred at differing wards with TOMV featuring highly in most deprived wards where older registration cars are taken, compared with more affluent areas where higher value cars are targeted. This is also similar for '2 in 1' burglaries. Spates of TFMV offences have been seen throughout the period, occurring in numerous wards throughout the district. Mandale & Victoria is the main ward, followed by Stockton Town Centre and Parkfield & Oxbridge.

5.4 Key Findings:

- Acquisitive crime has increased by 5.7%, with all but robbery personal seeing increases.
- Acquisitive crime accounted for 57% of total crime, which is the same as the previous strategic period.
- Composition of this type of crime shows Other Theft is the main volume crime, representing 39%, followed by shoplifting and then vehicle crime. However the actual number of Other Theft offences has decreased slightly this year by 39 fewer crimes (-1.7%). Robbery, is the only other category which has seen a reduction.
- Offences where metals have been taken have decreased this period following an increase in the last assessment. This has resulted in reduction of 22% with metal offences accounting for 9% crime (previously 13%).
- Research suggests that male offenders are predominantly linked to this type of crime for all theft types, including shoplifting which has a higher than average ratio of female offenders to other types of theft.
- Age groups vary dependent upon the type of theft with those of juvenile age linked to shoplifting and TFMV compared to older age groups linked to burglaries and metal thefts.
- Stockton Town Centre continues to feature as the main ward for acquisitive crime followed by Mandale & Victoria, Norton North and Newtown. Parkfield & Oxbridge featured within the top five wards in the last assessment and has moved to sixth worst ward. These ward locations are similar for overall crime.

5.5. Priority Locations & Neighbourhoods

Locations are considered throughout this assessment and it is evident that cross cutting themes remain in terms of crime, ASB and geography. There is a high correlation between the top five wards for a range of crime types, ASB and deprivation in the Borough which was also apparent in previous assessments.

The top five wards account for 47% of all crime in the Borough, which is the same proportion as recorded in the previous assessment. These are also the same wards and in the same order as reported in the last assessment with Stockton Town Centre remaining top (worst) followed by Parkfield & Oxbridge, Mandale & Victoria, Newtown and Hardwick.

The deprivation rankings within the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) have also remained the same as reported in the previous assessment showing that four of the wards have reduced by more than 1% since the previous IMD report (2007) for IMD 2010; Bishopsgarth & Elmtree (-5.5%), Fairfield(-4.4%), Hardwick (-2.3%) and Billingham South (-2.2%). Twelve of the Borough's wards have seen an increase in affluence by more than 1%, five of which have increased by more than 5%; Yarm (8.6%), Eaglescliffe (7.4%), Billingham North (6.2%), Norton West (5.8%) and Billingham West (5.7%).

This reflects the very diverse nature of the Borough of Stockton in that we have five wards in the top 20% most affluent nationally as well as having six wards within the top 10% most deprived nationally. Of note, Stockton Town Centre, our most deprived ward has dropped from 25th worst nationally to 17th most deprived ward in England, despite continuous efforts to regenerate the area. A full breakdown of overall IMD score by ward can be found in appendix 2.

The following table shows the top (worst) five wards for a number of key crime types by rate per 1,000 population/household as well as IMD score and ASB. The top five wards have been shaded to show the variance across crime types and the numbers in brackets relate to the overall ranking based on total crime rates with one being the worst. A full breakdown of these rates can be found at appendix 3.

Table eighteen: Top Five Wards

IMD 2010	Total Crime	Criminal Damage	Drug Offences	Dwelling Burglary	Forgery & Fraud	Other Burglary	Other Thefts	Robbery	Sexual Offences	Shoplifting	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	Violence Against The Person	Police A SB Incidents	MA A SBT Incidents
Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)	Stockton Town Centre (1)
Newtown (3)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Newtown (3)	Newtown (3)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Bishopsgarth & Elmtree (14)	Newtown (3)	Norton North (5)	Billingham South (8)	Stainsby Hill (7)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Newtown (3)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Billingham Central (12)
Hardwick (6)	Newtown (3)	Hardwick (6)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Hardwick (6)	Norton South (11)	Norton North (5)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Hardwick (6)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Billingham East (9)	Hardwick (6)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Stainsby Hill (7)	Stainsby Hill (7)
Mandale & Victoria (2)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Stainsby Hill (7)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Newtown (3)	Billingham South (8)	Hardwick (6)	Billingham South (8)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Roseworth (10)	Roseworth (10)	Norton North (5)	Western Parishes (18)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Billingham Central (12)	Newtown (3)
Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Norton North (5)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Norton South (11)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)	Newtown (3)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Billingham East (9)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Norton North (5)	Mandale & Victoria (2)	Newtown (3)	Hardwick (6)	Hardwick (6)	Parkfield & Oxbridge (4)

Wards are large areas and crime and deprivation levels can vary within one ward, therefore it is important to drill down into smaller areas to identify specific neighbourhoods that may require extra attention.

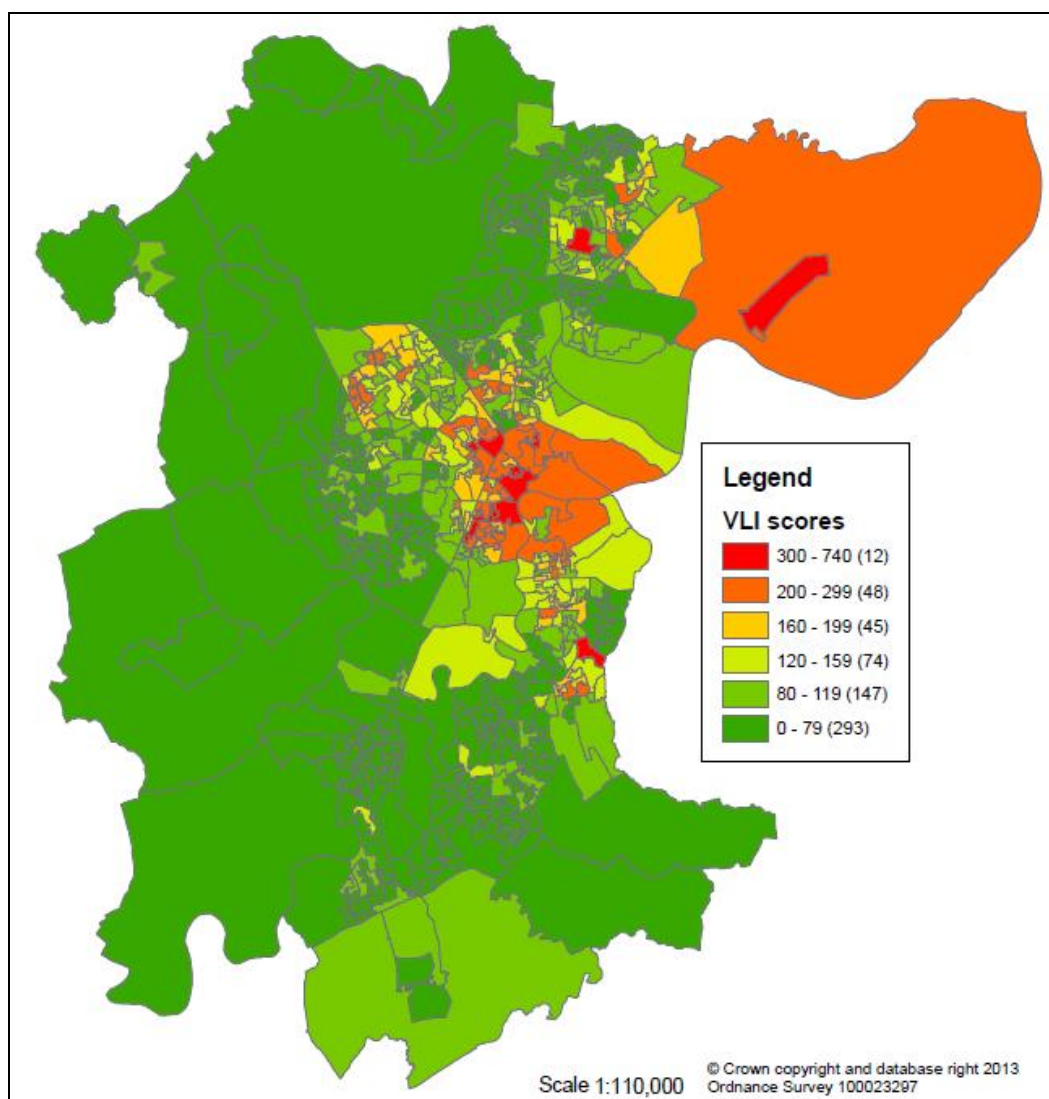
The Vulnerable Localities Index (VLI) is a composite measure designed to help identify the worst affected communities for breakdown, tension, and fragmentation. It does not just identify high crime neighbourhoods but also considers deprivation, socio-economic conditions and demographic characteristics alongside crime data as indicators that could be used for identifying neighbourhoods that require attention.

Six variables are traditionally used to calculate the overall VLI score of a neighbourhood as defined using Census Output Areas; two are crime-based (burglary to a dwelling and criminal damage to a dwelling); two are sourced from deprivation variables (income deprivation and employment deprivation from IMD 2010), one is based on educational attainment, and the final

variable is the demographic statistic on the population of young people. Police recorded ASB incidents have also been added alongside the six conventional variables to enrich the overall picture. Of note, two variables (education and population of young people) have been taken from Census 2001 data and may not be reflective of current levels, but this is the only source we have until Census 2011 results are published.

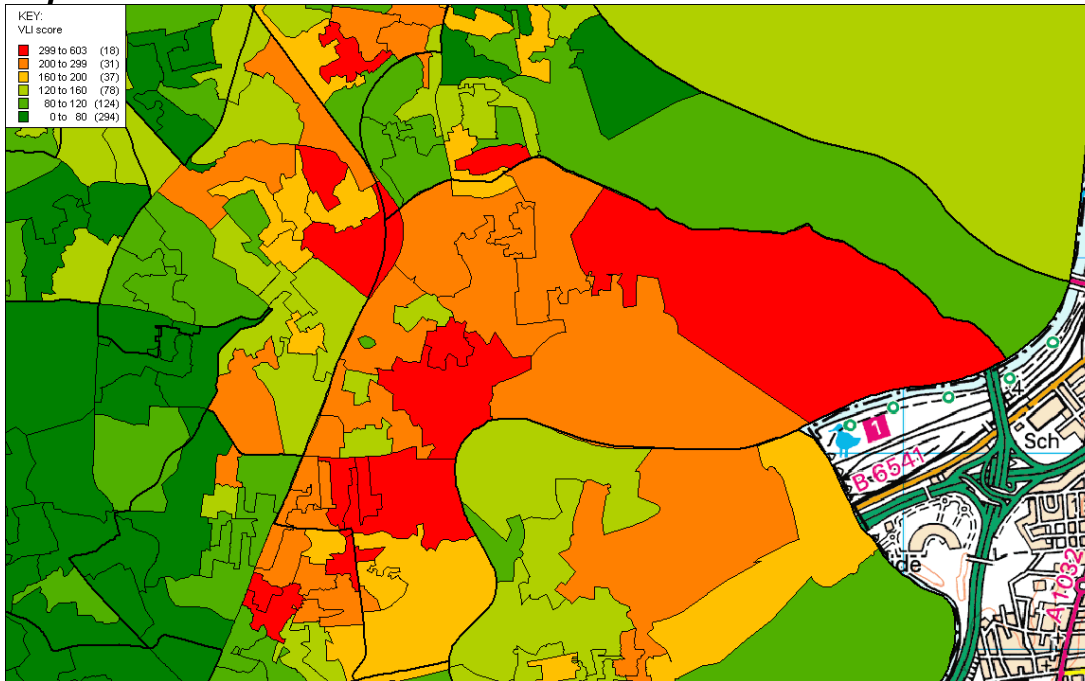
The VLI score alone will not provide details of issues that may exist within the neighbourhood; rather it gives an indication of priority areas that may require further analysis to understand the key issues that contribute to why an area may be particularly vulnerable. The map below shows an overall profile of the Borough shaded by VLI score. Of note, a score of 100 is exactly the Borough average, 200 is twice the average and 50 is half the average.

Map one: thematic map of Stockton shaded by VLI



There are 12 neighbourhoods in total with a VLI score above 300 (i.e. three times the Borough average), and an additional 31 neighbourhoods with a VLI score of 200-300. The majority of the most vulnerable neighbourhoods are clustered in and around central Stockton as shown in the map below. The highest scoring area overall was the south end of Stockton Town Centre (High St / Yarm Lane) that was six times more vulnerable than the Borough average.

Map two: cluster of the most vulnerable localities



These areas have been profiled using Experian Mosaic Public Sector (EMPS) data, which classifies households across the country into 15 groups and 69 types that identify likely characteristics and an indication of residents’ preferences and needs. In Stockton these types have been categorised into Dominant Household Types (DHTs) with one being the most common household type overall; 87.5% of all households in the Borough fall within the DHTs 1 – 26.

In total 78% of all households within the top 18 most vulnerable neighbourhoods can be classified into five of DHTs;

1. DHT 4 (31%) - Vulnerable young parents needing substantial state support
2. DHT 14 (1%) - Tenants in social housing flats with modest social needs
3. DHT 27 (13%) - Transient singles, poorly supported by family and neighbours
4. DHT 6 (9%) - Older tenants on low rise social housing estates where jobs are scarce
5. DHT 8 (5%) - Low income families occupying poor quality older terraces

A full profile of these five DHTs can be found in appendix 4. Common factors among them are low incomes with few qualifications and high rates of unemployment, as well as high levels of deprivation and a high fear of crime. The first three DHTs mainly feature young people (18 – 30 years), often single parents living on benefits in poor quality rented housing, usually flats or terraced houses. The other two DHTs typically feature older people (65 years +) and low earning young families both living in similar poor quality homes.

Table sixteen overleaf provides an overview of the top 12 areas and common wards have been colour coded. The table below does not provide an indication of change in VLI score from the previous strategic period due to the change in the sources used to create the Index. In addition, the Census 2011 Output Areas were used rather than the 2001 areas to enable inclusion of the population estimates from the Census. Office for National Statistics has increased the number of Output Areas from 582 to 618 due to the upper population threshold of these areas being breached. For the below neighbourhoods the Output Areas have not been changed.

Table nineteen: characteristics of the most vulnerable neighbourhoods

Rank	VLI Score	Ward	Main Streets	Mosaic Type
1	740	Stockton Town Centre	High St (south) / Yarm Ln / Riverside Rd	Transient singles, poorly supported by family and neighbours (100%)
2	524	Stockton Town Centre	High St (north) / Bath Ln / Church Rd	Tenants in social housing flats on estates at risk of serious social problems (44.8%) / Tenants in social housing flats with modest social needs (35.1%)
3	427	Stockton Town Centre	Princess Ave / Cromwell Ave / Wade Ave	Tenants in social housing flats with modest social needs (41.7%) / Old people in flats subsisting on welfare payments (27.4%)
4	388	Stainsby Hill	Allensway / Kinloss Cl	Comfortably off industrial workers owning their own homes (45.5%) / Retired people of modest means commonly living in bungalows (17.0%)
5	381	Billingham South	Port Clarence - Lime Tree Cl to Meadowdale Cl	Vulnerable young parents needing substantial state support (94.5%)
6	370	Stockton Town Centre	Routledge Rd / Cowpen Rd	Vulnerable young parents needing substantial state support (57.5%)
7	346	Billingham Central	The Clauseway / Tintern Ave	Old people in flats subsisting on welfare payments (70.2%)
8	340	Parkfield & Oxbridge	Cranbourne Terrace / Walter Street (north)	Transient singles, poorly supported by family and neighbours (39.8%) / Low income families occupying poor quality older terraces (24.8%) / Tenants in social housing flats with modest social needs (22.4%)
9	337	Parkfield & Oxbridge (+STC)	Spring Street / Yarm Rd (north) / Leybourne Terrace	Low income families occupying poor quality older terraces (32.2%) / South Asian communities experiencing social deprivation (31.4%)
10	315	Newtown	Dundas Street (north) / Londonderry Rd (north) / Alder Rd	Vulnerable young parents needing substantial state support (88.3%)
11	309	Newtown	Londonderry Rd (south) / Lambton Rd / Zetland Rd	Vulnerable young parents needing substantial state support (73.0%)
12	301	Stockton Town Centre	Hartington Rd (odd numbers) / Skinners St (even numbers)	Transient singles, poorly supported by family and neighbours (99.3%)

Tees Valley Unlimited produces a Community Vitality Index (CVI) as a measure of deprivation in local neighbourhoods. The last report for 2011/12 showed Stockton to be the least deprived Borough within the Tees Valley region and has seen better improvements than the region average on the baseline (2007/08) across all themes. The CVI uses six different themes of deprivation; housing, unemployment and income, community safety, education, health and sustainable communities. Encouragingly, improvements since the baseline can be seen in community safety, and sustainable communities with housing and education remaining the same. In contrast unemployment & income and health have each seen a decrease in community vitality since the baseline. In addition, no themes have seen an improvement from the previous 12-months. Only five wards improved over the past 12 months, with Ingleby Barwick West improving the most, followed by Parkfield and Oxbridge and Yarm. In contrast, 21 wards have declined over the past 12 months with Hardwick declining the most, followed by Fairfield and Billingham North.

Of note, the Police Operation Diamond continues within Stockton Town Centre ward. This operation aims to use a longer term multi-agency problem solving approach to tackle crime and ASB within the Town Centre ward and include daily briefing and weekly analytical support to inform the deployment of additional resources.

5.5 Key Findings:

1. The top five wards account for 47% of all crime in the Borough, which is the same as reported within the previous strategic period.
2. The wards within the top five remained the same, which is consistent with what was reported in the last assessment.
3. The top five wards featured consistently high for all crime, ASB and deprivation, with Stockton Town Centre the worst in each category.
4. As reported in the last assessment the area ranked most vulnerable overall was six times more vulnerable than the average; this area covers the south end of Stockton High Street and Yarm Lane in Stockton Town Centre ward.

5.6. Offenders Including Repeat Offenders

Offenders Including Repeat Offenders

Throughout this document, when looking at offenders, the common theme is that young, white males make up the majority of offenders and in particular repeat offending.

A profile of offending behaviour has been taken from a sample of Police detected crimes reports whereby individuals have received a sanction for offences ranging from a caution or reprimand to a charge. This sample related to crime detected during the strategic period. In this sample there were 4124 crimes detected and of these, there were 2639 named suspects linked to 3880 crimes. This includes several arrests linked to one crime, along with 717 (16.6%) linked to more than one crime. This also includes 19 offenders linked to more than 10 crimes, with one having 33 detections.

The majority of detected crimes are to males (81%), this is same as last assessment period. The most common age group for males is between 25-34 years (33%) followed by 18-24 (39%). This is slightly different from previous year when these two age groups both accounted for 24%. For females, the most common age group is also 25-34 years (33%).

Table twenty

Crime Type	% Male	% Female	Most common male ages	Most common female ages
Violence	80%	20%	18-24 (26%)	25-34 (30%)
Sexual	98%	2%	25-34 (46%)	evenly spread
Burglary	95%	5%	25-34 (42%)	25-34 (73%)
~ Dwelling Burglary	91%	9%	18-24 (23%)	25-34 (50%)
~ Other Burglary	98%	2%	18-24 (41%)	evenly spread
Robbery	89%	11%	18-24 (38%)	evenly spread
Fraud&Forgery	71%	29%	18-24 (35%)	25-34 (50%)
Criminal Damage	89%	11%	18-24 (38%)	18-24 (40%)
All Drug Offences	91%	9%	25-34 (38%)	25-34 (38%)
~ Supply	91%	9%	25-34 (43%)	25-34 (43%)
~ Possession	91%	9%	18-24 (40%)	25-34 (43%)
All Theft&Handling Stolen Good	73%	27%	25-34 (38%)	25-34 (37%)
~ Shoplifting	65%	35%	25-34 (46%)	25-34 (39%)
Other Offences	91%	9%	18-24 (33%)	evenly spread
Vehicle crime	96%	4%	18-24 (33%)	evenly spread
Total crime	81%	19%	25-34 (33%)	25-34 (33%)

When reviewing the above data against the previous year there has been a slight shift in several groups in terms of percentages however there are no significant changes in terms of genders and types of crime committed.

The data has been examined to determine the nature of known repeat offending evident within the strategic period. Crime categories were checked for repeat offenders and for each category checked, average numbers of offences per person were calculated.

The findings from each category are represented in the table on the following page. The first column represents the number of individuals sanctioned for offences in that crime category and the second column represents the total number of offences in that crime category the individuals were sanctioned for. For example, for violence, there were 980 persons detected to 1085 violent crimes. This data relates to crime reports that had the full offender details (name and date of birth). The third column is the average crimes per person. The next columns represent the number of repeat offenders (linked to two or more crimes), the total number of crimes the repeats were linked to, how many crimes this averaged per repeat and finally the highest number of crimes that any individual was linked to.

Table twenty one

Crime category	Number individual offenders	No. of offences that had offender details	Avg no. of crimes per offender	No .of repeat offenders within that crime type (two or more crimes)	No. offences repeat offenders linked to	Average no. crimes for repeat offenders.	Highest no. of crime for repeat offenders
Violence	980	1085	1.1	154	369	2.40	6
Sexual	57	76	1.05	13	36	2.77	9
Burglary (Dwelling&Other)	164	219	1.21	37	140	3.78	31
Robbery	35	24	1.54	1	2	2.00	2
Theft	950	1411	1.12	252	884	3.51	25
Fraud&Forgery	89	92	1.14	11	27	2.45	5
Criminal Damage	325	362	1.06	39	97	2.49	7
Drugs	469	489	1.06	39	92	2.36	10
Other	119	122	1.14	11	32	2.91	6

Findings indicate that the highest number of repeat offenders were linked to Theft, however when looking at number of average crimes per repeat offender, this shows burglary as the predominant crime (3.78 crimes per repeat offender). This is followed by Theft (3.51 crimes per repeat offender).

The highest number of crimes for the repeat offenders is also displayed in the last column clearly showing that offenders of burglary and theft commit high volumes of crime. The individual linked to 31 burglaries was due to detections linked to historic offences.

Custody data shows that there were 6603 arrests last year with 88% linked to males compared to 80% last year. Ethnicity of those arrested shows 94% were white which is a slight decrease (98%).

Data from Tees Valley Probation also shows that there were a total of 780 initial assessments carried out, which is a 22% reduction on the 993 carried out the preceding 12 month period. The 781 assessments relate to 676 individuals, of which 83 (12%) were assessed more than once during the 12 months, with one individual assessed five times.

The data also shows that males continue to be the main offenders, accounting for 80%, with the majority being white males (77%). For female offenders, the majority were also white (147 of 149) and overall, only 3.8% were of non-white ethnicity, which is below the estimated BME population for Stockton of 5.8%.

Analysis of ages also shows the most common age group is 25-34 years (37%), followed by 18-24 year olds (30%) which again is similar to previous years.

Types of offences for those assessed were linked to various crime types; however the majority were assessed due to starting a Community Order (65%) for offences such as Violence and Theft. Theft was the most common type (25%) which was followed by violence (22%). This is for both genders whereas last year, violence was the predominant offence for males. In relation to the theft offences, it is shoplifting which remains at the top.

Of the violence, wounding offences are mainly linked to male offenders however the use of a weapon remains low with only 4% recorded as carrying or using a weapon. Of these 34, the majority were male (24).

As reported in last assessment, probation data now incorporates 11 areas of need that are either classed as causing concern or not. The table overleaf shows the proportion of male and females that were of concern for each category.

Table twenty two; Offenders' areas of needs by gender

Areas of Need	Cause for concern	
	%Female	%Male
Accommodation	23%	26%
Education, Training and Employability	36%	38%
Financial management&income	57%	52%
Relationships	59%	48%
Lifestyle&associates	67%	71%
Drug misuse	44%	50%
Alcohol misuse	43%	60%
Emotional well being	51%	32%
Thinking&Behaviour	94%	96%
Attitudes	41%	57%

The table shows that for both sexes 'Thinking & Behavioural' needs was of concern for nearly all of the clients assessed, 'lifestyle and associates' also featured highly both. There are some differences of note in certain categories such as alcohol misuse and Attitude being more of a concern for males compared to females who were more of a concern for emotional wellbeing. Although the percentages have changed slightly from previous strategic period, there have been no changes in the type of concerns that feature higher for gender types.

Those who were recorded as hard drug users (21%) were mainly linked to acquisitive crime types such as theft and burglary and likely to be committed in order to fund their drug habit. They were also linked to excessive and regular drinking (42%). In terms of alcohol consumption, 45% were recorded as excessive drinkers or regular drinkers and linked to varying crimes from violence through to damage and theft.

The Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme is a multi-agency intensive programme that ensures the most prolific / problematic offenders who cause the most harm are dealt with in a coordinated way. Within the IOM there are three groups of offenders; Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPOs), High Crime Causers (HCCs) and those on Drug Rehabilitation Requirements (DRRs). As of end of the strategic period (30/09/13) there were a total of 230 offenders under the IOM. As with all offenders, males dominate each IOM cohort, the most common age range within each sub group was 25 – 34 years representing 70% overall, and all offenders were of white ethnicity.

Drug and alcohol misuse is common among those on IOM with 135 (58.6%) declaring drugs, and 134 (58.2%) with 80 (34.7%) declaring both, drugs and alcohol as a criminogenic need, and therefore is a problem in their lifestyle.

Within this strategic period an interim report has been produced on the 'Effectiveness and Outcomes of the ATR ASRA Pilot'. This report looks at all of those within IOM that have been given such an order, and provides further monitoring on those who have completed one. The outcomes of the original cohort of individuals show there was a 45% reduction in offending observed within the Alcohol Treatment Requirement (ATR) group and a 5% reduction in the Alcohol Activity Specified Requirement (ASAR) group. In relation to alcohol intake 29% within the ATR group remains abstinent and 60% of the ASAR group.

Positive outcomes have been observed within the orders that have been completed with 84% (60) of AUDIT scores improving within the ATR group, with 20 (33%) people choosing to be abstinent. One individual received a medicated community detoxification and a further three accessed residential rehabilitation which supported the attainment of abstinence. There were positive outcomes observed within the wider determinants of health, 26 (36%) individuals secured

accommodation, 10 (14%) have gained employment, and 6 (8%) have accessed training. Of note, one individual now has his own business. In terms of continued treatment support 32 (45%) are still accessing Lifeline. Whereas, 51% (22) of people have shown an improvement in their AUDIT score on an ASAR, 3 (6%) are abstinent and one is now running his own business. In relation to continuing with treatment 25 (58%) are still currently accessing Lifeline for un-structured support.

Wider alcohol offending has been reviewed within the strategic period which highlights that 37% of those arrested for an alcohol related crime received an intervention, and those offences can be largely grouped into the following; a) acquisitive b) assaults, drunk and disorderly, public order, criminal damage c) driving offences.

Outcome data from the Youth Offending Service (YOS) shows that there were 643 offences leading to 440 outcomes committed by 369 young offenders in the strategic period. This is a reduction of 16% of the 761 offences (555 outcomes) committed by 457 young offenders in the previous year. Of the 369 young offenders, 61% (224) were first time entrants (FTEs) meaning that they entered the Criminal Justice System within the strategic year. This is an increase in proportion of young offenders that are FTEs compared to 52% last year, but actually represents a reduction of 6% in the number of FTEs which was 238 in the previous strategic period.

As with previous assessments and in keeping with other offender sections, the majority of young offenders were males (77%) and most commonly aged 16 – 17 years. FTEs were slightly less male dominated at 71%. For female young offenders the peak age was slightly younger at 14 -15 years, which is in keeping with previous findings that females are more represented at younger ages, albeit to a lesser degree this period. For adult offenders the average gender divide is 81% male, so once again there is a slightly higher proportion of female young offenders, and particularly FTEs, than female adult offenders. This suggests that early interventions are more successful for females, and / or females are prone to grow out of committing crime as they get older.

Overall YOS clients remained the same in their offending compared to the previous strategic period with 107 individuals committing two or more offences; 29% compared to 26% last year. Of these repeat young offenders only 4 had committed ten or more offences compared to 5 previously. As with previous assessments, males were more likely to be repeat offenders and are also more prolific in their offending; 31% of all males committed more than one offence compared to 22% of females.

Violence Against the Person (mostly Assault Without Injury) followed by Theft offences (mostly shoplifting), were most common among both male and female young offenders, but males committed a wider range of offences overall. Males were much more likely to commit Criminal Damage, Motoring and Drug offences than females as well as theft of pedal cycle within the theft category.

Males tend to commit more serious offences than females; 20% of offences committed by males had a gravity score greater than three, compared to just 2% for females. This is reflected within the outcomes received with 78% of females receiving pre-court outcomes and only 21% receiving community penalties compared to 59% of males receiving pre-court outcomes and 41% receiving community penalties.

This is also in keeping with the fact that more males are repeat offenders and more females are FTEs. There were no females given a custodial sentence within the strategic period, compared to 6% of males; this proportion has increased slightly from the previous assessment period (5%).

The young offenders tended to live within the wards highlighted as high in crime, ASB and deprivation. The top five wards are as follows: Stockton Town Centre (12%), Mandale & Victoria (11%), Norton North (8%, joint 3rd), Hardwick (8%, joint 3rd), Roseworth (8%, joint 3rd), Newtown (8%, joint 3rd), Billingham Central (6%), Billingham East (5%, joint 5th), Billingham South (5%, joint 5th), Parkfield & Oxbridge (5%, joint 5th).

6. HORIZON SCANNING

The following section seeks to address some of the threats within the forthcoming strategic year, and has been summarized into four key areas.

1. Economic Issues

The main area of concern with regard to community safety continues to be the effect of the on-going economic crisis facing the country where the economy remains in a fragile state with projections of further public sector cuts.

The economic downturn has had a significant impact on unemployment levels within the borough, with Stockton-On-Tees unemployment figures in June 2012 being twice the level they were at the same point in 2005. This trend is reflected in both the North East and Great Britain averages. Over the last two years, the percentage of working age people in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) in Stockton has increased from 4.9% to 5.8% (as of September 2012).

The year-on-year trend for the number of young people (aged 18-24) claiming JSA in Stockton is increasing. In September 2012, this group accounted for 32% (2,345) of the total JSA claimants, with over 1,000 having claimed JSA for over 6 months.

The Consumer Prices Index annual inflation rate reduced to 2.2% in September 2012 from 5.2% in September 2011. This is the lowest rate of inflation since November 2009, when it was 1.9%. The Retail Prices Index annual inflation rate also reduced to 2.6% in September 2012 from 5.6% in September 2011.

Welfare Reform Act:- A fundamental restructuring of the benefit system, bringing substantial changes in a short space in time. These changes are likely to affect deprived families affecting child poverty levels which in turn may impact on crime and disorder as people struggle to make general household payments. Although the Council has contingency plans in place to monitor the full extent of these changes and to work with partner agencies to offer advice and support to those in need.

The combination of these factors with pay freezes and job losses have the potential to cause significant change to a range of issues facing SSP. The continuing income squeeze could lead to financial pressures with the change of behaviour of our residents and visiting population which could continue to affect the profile of crime in the area.

2. Social Issues

The Home Office has launched a number of consultations:-

ASB Bill – proposed changes to this Bill which are expected to be reviewed in the early part of 2013. These incorporate the following:-

- Injunctions to prevent nuisance and annoyance
- Criminal Behaviour Orders
- Dispersal Powers
- Community Protection
 - Chapter 1 – Community Protection Notices
 - Chapter Two – Public Space Protection Orders
- Chapter Three – Closure of premises associated with nuisance or disorder etc
- Recovery of possession of dwelling houses – Anti-social behaviour grounds
- Local involvement and accountability

Community Remedy Consultation – Relevant to the ASB Bill under local involvement and Accountability, with a closing date for comments of 7th March 2013. This consultation seeks to gain views on the proposal to introduce legislation to provide victims of low level crimes (low level

criminal damage and low value theft) and low level ASB have a say in the punishment of the offender. This seeks views to inform legislation that will introduce a community remedy approach used only when low level crimes and antisocial behaviours can be dealt with out of court - either as part of an informal community resolution or alternatively as a more formal conditional caution.

Alcohol Strategy Consultation – running from 28 November until 7th February 2013

This consultation seeks views on five key areas:-

- a ban on multi-buy promotions in shops and off-licences to reduce excessive alcohol consumption
- a review of the mandatory licensing conditions, to ensure that they are sufficiently targeting problems such as irresponsible promotions in pubs and clubs
- health as a new alcohol licensing objective for cumulative impacts so that licensing authorities can consider alcohol-related health harms when managing the problems relating to the number of premises in their area
- cutting red tape for responsible businesses to reduce the burden of regulation while maintaining the integrity of the licensing system
- minimum unit pricing, ensuring for the first time that alcohol can only be sold at a sensible and appropriate price

The Ministry of Justice Transforming Rehabilitation:- commenced consultation aimed at Probation, service providers, judiciary victims, stakeholders and service users with a closing date of 22nd February 2013. This proposal details the Government's proposed approach to address high rates of re-offending, and deliver value for money. Recommending the Criminal Justice System should:-

- Punish offenders properly
- Protect the public
- Support victims
- Reform offenders to stop further offending behaviour

3. Political and Organisational Issues

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, introduced a fundamental change for community safety partnerships. Unlike police authorities, commissioners are not identified as 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and not automatically members of CSPs. In Stockton a decision was taken to invite the PCC to attend as an observer to these meetings. Barry Copping was elected as the Police Crime Commissioner on 15th November 2012. This duty requires that a PCC, when putting together their police and crime plan, must have regard to the priorities of the responsible authorities in their force area, while the CSPs will have regard to the objectives in the PCC's police and crime plan when exercising their functions. PCCs will be able to require a report from a CSP on their work to reduce crime and disorder, if the commissioner is of the view that the partnership is not carrying out its crime reduction functions in an efficient and effective manner.

PCCs have been given powers through regulations to convene and chair meetings with the CSPs in their force area to discuss strategic priorities. Alongside these provisions, PCCs will also be able to make crime and disorder grants to any organisation or person in their force area. The Community Safety Fund, which was reduced by 60% in April 2012, will be paid to PCCs from April 2013. In England, other funding will also be given to PCCs; commissioners will receive the proportion of Drug Intervention Programme funding not going to Health and Wellbeing Boards, as well as funding for services to address violence against women and girls.

PCCs will be able to decide how much of the funding available for Police Community Support Officers is used to support neighbourhood policing and how much is put towards other priorities.

The impact of these measures on the Safer Stockton Partnership is still unknown at the time of writing this document.

4. Legislative Issues

New sentences and criminal offences have come into effect

A range of new sentences and criminal offences introduced in the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO) 2012 have come into effect as of December 2012. The new offences include:

- A mandatory life sentence for people convicted of a second very serious or violent offence
- Aggravated knife possession
- Causing serious injury by dangerous driving
- Measures to strengthen community sentences
- Tough new sentences for hate crime

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations have been proposed for the forthcoming strategic period:

1. To merge the current elements of the Alcohol Crime and Disorder Group into the existing Violence Tactical and Reducing Reoffending groups to effectively tackle alcohol crime and disorder.
2. Explore why there is low representation in drug and alcohol treatment services of females, young people and the BME to determine whether further outreach work is required to work with these minority groups.
3. Assess and analyse A & E data from NT&H Hospital on alcohol related assaults that is missing from this strategic assessment, and to consider whether males are under reporting violence.
4. Continue with the first time offender's research during the next strategic period and explore what additional measures can be put in place to support offenders and prevent repeat offending. In addition to this it is recommended that an additional piece of analysis is brought to a future SSP meeting exploring whether there continues to be an increase in first time female shoplifting.
5. Assess all current targets within the Community Safety Plan and re-set for 2013-14.
6. Continue to provide problem profiles and more in-depth analysis for specific issues throughout the year including alcohol and shoplifting.
7. Establish an operation task group for Domestic Violence to further assess repeat victims of DV and to fully utilise the DV Conferencing group and existing procedures.
8. Continue to monitor the transition process between youth and adult services for both offenders and drug/alcohol misusers to ensure people do not drop out of treatment / support.
9. Continue to prioritise offenders committing burglary and shoplifting offences as they have the highest rate of repeat offending: