

RECORDED CRIME & DISORDER

This report sets out the recorded crime and anti-social behaviour figures for **April 2014-May 2014** compared to the same time period in 2013/14.

KEY FINDINGS

- During the first two months of the financial year, victim based crime in the borough has reduced by 2.4% (-40 crimes) when compared to same time last year.
- Alongside this, total crime has also reduced by 1% (-19 crimes).
- Reductions have also been seen in Middlesbrough (-7.4%) and Hartlepool (-0.2%) however crime has increased by 6.2% in Redcar & Cleveland.
- Comparisons with our peers also shows that Stockton remains the safest place to live in the Tees Valley area based upon crime rates per 1000 population for both publicly and total crime.
- Despite a reduction in overall crime, there are several categories that have increased during the first two months: Violence (15.9%/17 crime), Rape (60%/9 crimes), burglary domestic (35.9%/23 crimes), Bicycle theft (21.1%/12 crimes) theft from person (216%/6 crimes) and criminal damage & arson (1.6%/6 crimes).
- However reductions in total theft (-7.3%/-74 crimes), robbery (-20%/-2 crimes) and non-domestic burglary (-4%/-6 crimes).
- To date, the detection rate is similar to last year – 26.4%(-0.6%).
- Based on current crime levels, this gives a year end projection reduction of 0.9%.
- However incidents of ASB have increased slightly (0.9%) but are the lowest increase when compared to our neighbours.

Crime Statistics for Stockton April 2014 – May 2014

Figure 1

Crime Type	April - May 2014/15	April-May 2013/14	Change	% Change
Violence against the person	289	270	19	7%
Homicide	0	0	0	-
Violence with injury	165	163	2	1.2%
Violence without injury	124	107	17	15.9%
Sexual offences	47	36	11	30.6%
Rape	24	15	9	60%
Other Sexual offences	23	21	2	9.5%
Robbery	8	10	-2	-20%
Business Robbery	1	1	0	0%
Personal Robbery	7	9	-2	-22.2%
Theft	940	1014	-74	-7.3%
Burglary - Domestic	87	64	23	35.9%
Burglary - Non domestic	143	149	-6	-4%
Bicycle Theft	69	57	12	21.1%
Theft from the person	19	6	13	216.7%
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	94	145	-51	-35.2%
Shoplifting	255	268	-13	-4.9%
Other Theft	273	325	-52	-16%
Criminal damage and Arson	373	367	6	1.6%
Publicly Reported Crime	1657	1697	-40	-2.4%
Total crime	1851	1870	-19	-1%

Details in figure 1 relate to each category of crime and the current levels between April and May with comparison to the same time last year.

Reductions in crime are shown in green with vehicle crime seeing a reduction to date of 51 offences. This has been within all types of vehicle crime with theft of motor-vehicle offences decreasing by nearly half (22/42 last year). Shoplifting, which has been a category of note during last 12 months, has also reduced so far this year.

Despite an overall reduction in crime, there are several categories with increases:

Violence against the person

Increase in both with and without injury, in particular without injury (+17 crimes). Increases in violence with injury have been more prominent during May with 98 crimes compared to 77 last May whereas violence without injury offences were similar during May but increased in April (63 compared to 47).

Research of the offences shows no specific areas of concern with regards to domestic related assaults or racially motivated crimes. There have been several historical offences reported from HMP Holme House along with several incidents which have resulted in multiple crimes being reported which have added to the increase in numbers.

Homicide offences are now included as a separate heading within this category and this shows there have been no offences during the first two months. This compares to two offences in Middlesbrough and one in Hartlepool (domestic related).

Sexual offences

During May, offences of rape and sexual assault both increased however nearly half of the 46 offences are historical offences (prior to start of 2014 financial). This is also similar for the rape offences with majority of the victim's knowing the offender and there are no concerns within the borough with regards to 'stranger' rapes.

Theft offences

Domestic burglary – Increases in domestic burglary in both April and May so far this year and in particular during May (+16 crimes). Offences have occurred around the borough however clustering of offences and similarities in the offence entry in several wards (Eaglescliffe/Yarm) have resulted in the arrest of numerous offenders. Alongside this, there are police led operations in place in order to deter and arrest offenders of domestic burglary. To date, the detection rate for burglary is 20.7% which is an increase on last year despite a rise in offending.

There has also been an increase in Redcar and Cleveland with burglaries increasing from 46 last year to 82 and compares to Hartlepool area where burglaries have reduced from 57 to 25 crimes.

Bicycle Theft – New category added to crime statistics from April 2014. Increase of 12 offences which mainly occurred during April (+11 crimes). Opportunist thieves are linked to this type of crime with 60% of all bikes taken being left insecure. This is despite numerous crime prevention campaigns relating to bike security.

Detection rate

To date, the detection rate for all crime stands at 32.3%, a reduction of 0.9% on last year however above Redcar & Cleveland (25.5%) with Middlesbrough (33.2%) and Hartlepool having a slightly higher detection rate (34.4%).

Domestic related crime

92 offences have been recorded as domestic related between April and May 2014, which compared to 123 last year and account for 5.5% of publicly reported crime. This is a shift from last year when they accounted for 7.9%.

Comparisons with the three other local authority areas also show reductions in DV related crime in Redcar & Cleveland (-45%/-41 crimes) and Middlesbrough (-9.7%/-16 crimes) however levels have remained static in Hartlepool (84 crimes).

Figure 2 – DV rates per 1000 population¹

Local Authority area	Domestic related crime	Rate per 1000 population
Stockton	92	0.47
Redcar	50	0.37
Hartlepool	84	0.91
Middlesbrough	148	1.06

Figure 2 shows the rates per 1000 population in relation to Domestic related crime showing that Stockton is just behind Redcar & Cleveland for the best rate.

Of the 92 offences, the majority continue to be linked to violence followed by criminal damage and similar levels to previous months.

Hate crime

Details from Cleveland Police Performance Management department in relation to Hate Crimes and incidents are illustrated below.

Figure 3 – HATE Incidents and crimes

All Incidents and Crimes	Year to Date			
	April 2014 - May 2014	April 2012 - May 2013	Diff	% Diff
QL1 - Racial	27	29	-2	-6.9%
QL3 - Transgender	0	0	0	-
QL4 - Disability	1	1	0	0.0%
QL20 - Religion/Belief	3	4	-1	-25.0%
QL36 - Sexual Orientation	1	5	-4	-80.0%
All Hate Incidents*	32	39	-7	-17.9%

*This figure represents the number of incidents where at least one of the above aggravating factors has been identified.

Hate incidents and crimes have reduced by 17.9% however this equates to only seven offences. Racially motivated offences continued to account for the majority with reductions seen in sexual orientation crimes so far this year.

Only 17 of the above incidents resulted in a crime being recorded.

Comparisons with three other boroughs also shows that HATE crimes/incidents have also reduced: Hartlepool (-10 crimes/-41.7%), Redcar & Cleveland (9 crimes/-42.9%) and Middlesbrough (-16 crimes/-27.1%).

¹ Tees Valley mid 2012 population

COMPARISONS WITHIN THE CLEVELAND AREA

Overall, crime within the Cleveland Policing area has reduced by 2% for publicly reported crime and also 2% for Total crime. This gives a current projection of 1.3% reduction for end of 2014/financial year.

As we are only two months into the financial year, rates per 1000 population are not relevant to all crime categories due to the low number of offences. Therefore the below table illustrates the rates for each of the four boroughs within Cleveland in relation to publicly reported and total crime.

Figure 4

Local Authority	Publicly reported	Total Crime
Stockton	8.6	9.6
Middlesbrough	13.8	15.7
Hartlepool	9.9	11.4
Redcar & Cleveland	9.5	10.2

The table shows that Stockton once again has the lowest crime rate per 1000 population for both **publicly reported and total crime** with Middlesbrough continuing to be the worst performing.

ASB APRIL TO MAY 2014

The rolling 12month comparison shows an increase of 7.5%.

Assuming the 'daily average' level of ASB is maintained then an annual increase of 5.5% is anticipated this year.

Looking at the financial year to date, this shows slightly better picture with an increase of 0.9% compared to April-May 2013. Stockton also has the lowest increase in ASB when compared to its neighbours: Hartlepool (6.3%), Redcar & Cleveland (11.9%) and Middlesbrough (15.2%).

Stockton also has the lowest rate per 1000 population (12.1).

END