

# North Worcestershire Community Safety Strategic Assessment

## Bromsgrove

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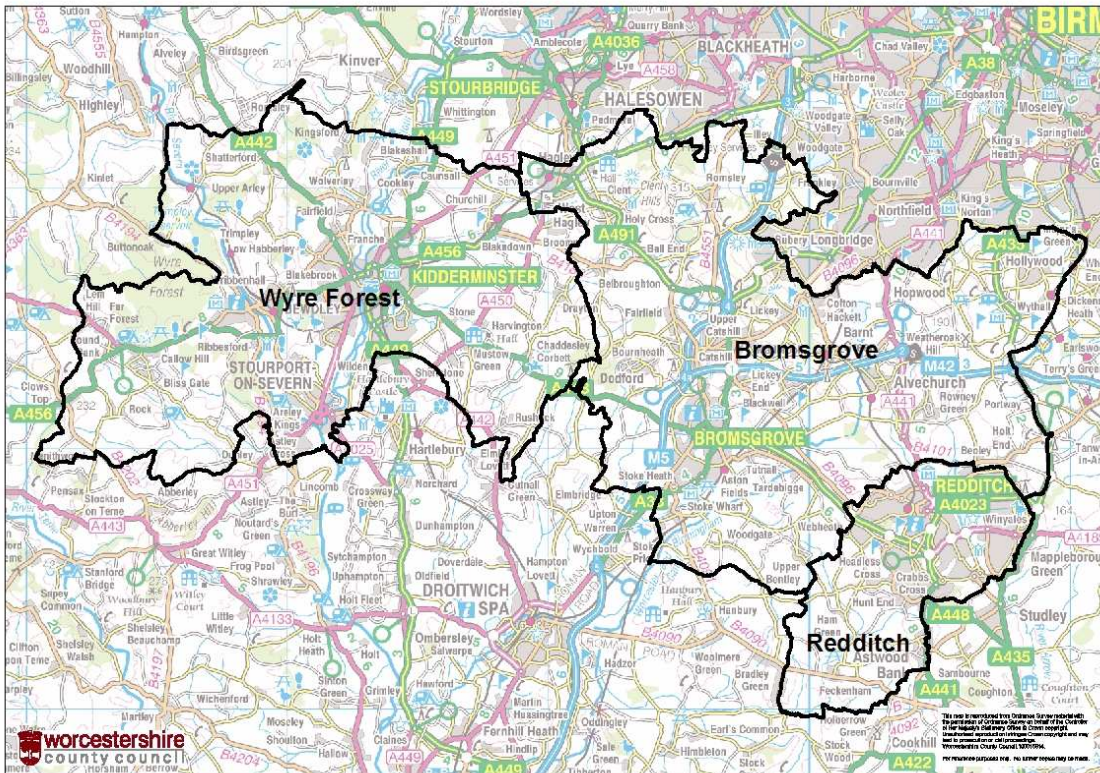
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## Introduction

### North Worcestershire

North Worcestershire consists of three districts; Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest. Community safety initiatives are delivered by three Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) corresponding to each of the districts. Each CDRP has a strategic group and an operational delivery arm or “tasking” group. In addition, there exists a North Worcestershire Shadow Community Safety Partnership (NWSCSP) Board which is responsible for providing strategic direction for community safety across the whole of North Worcestershire.

Figure 1: Three Districts in North Worcestershire



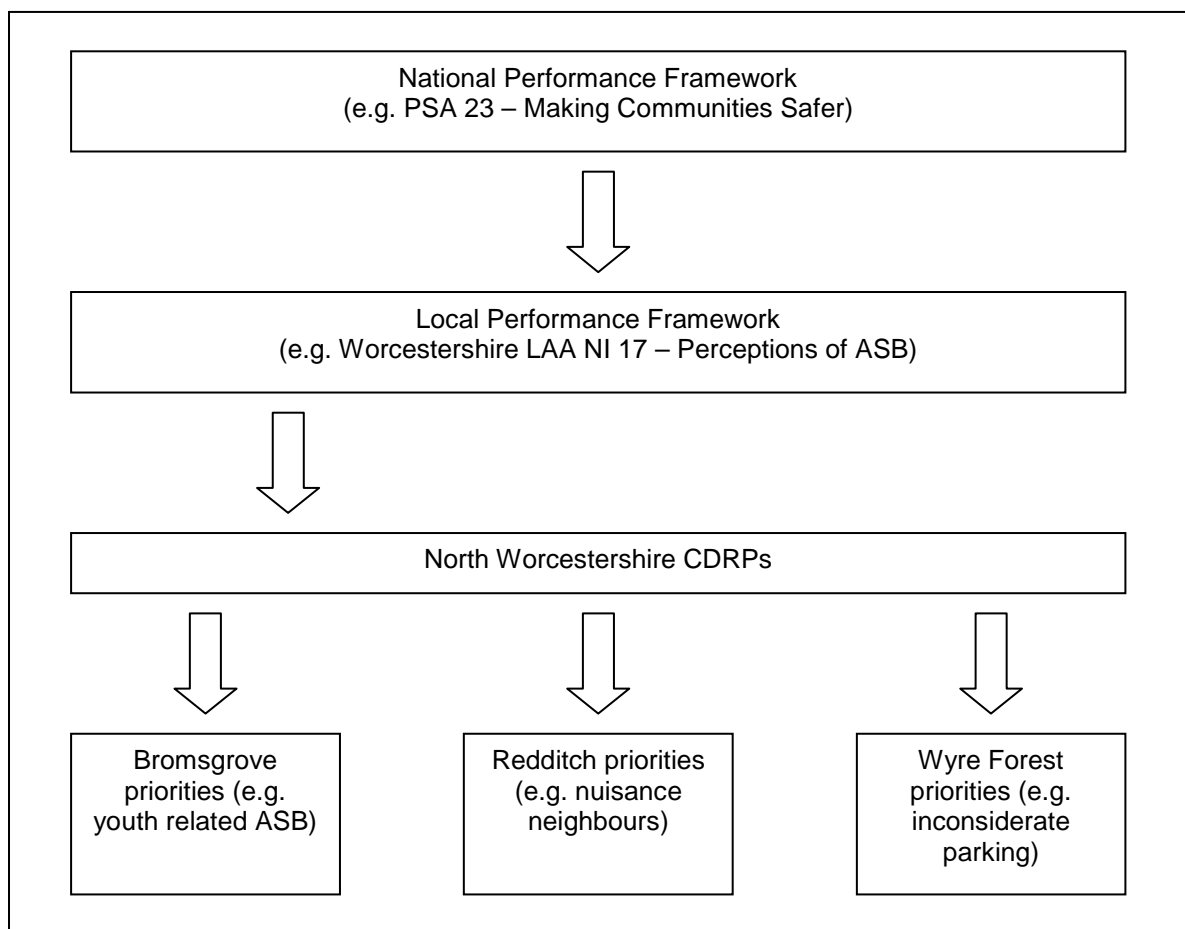
The production of a Strategic Assessment is a statutory requirement for each CDRP (in two-tier authorities such as Worcestershire, there is a requirement for an additional countywide Strategic Assessment to be created). The assessment is an internal, intelligence-based document, the production of which is overseen by a Worcestershire-wide strategic assessment project group. Following the effective practice from the 2007/08 strategic assessment, it was decided by the project group to produce two documents to cover the Worcestershire area, one for the three CDRPs in North Worcestershire, and one corresponding to the merged South Worcestershire CDRP (therefore ensuring that the Community Safety Partnerships’ strategic assessments covered the same areas as the two police divisions in the County).

The North Worcestershire Strategic Assessment has been produced by the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership Analysts – Emily Humphreys (Bromsgrove), Laura Moore (Redditch) and Eve Williams (Wyre Forest), in

conjunction with each of the CDRPs, and the Research and Intelligence Unit at Worcestershire County Council.

The priorities of the Strategic Assessment are evidence-based and intelligence-led, as it is this document in which analysis of partnership data is brought together to drive the business of the CDRP, to improve the quality of life for local residents. The priorities are derived from the specific needs of the individual CDRPs and do not simply replicate the Local Area Agreement (LAA) indicators, which are Countywide. Moreover, the strategic assessment is the first step towards setting a meaningful, local action plan to address local and national performance frameworks, which have undergone significant change since the 2007/08 strategic assessment. The figure below shows how CDRP priorities might fit in with national and local performance frameworks such as the LAA.

Figure 2: CDRP priorities and national/local performance frameworks



**Aim**

The Strategic Assessment aims to identify current and potential crime, disorder and substance misuse issues from sound evidence and robust analysis. Furthermore, it aims to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety problems to enable partners to understand emerging patterns and trends, set clear priorities for the partnership, develop activities that are driven by intelligence and meet the needs of the community, whilst offering value for money.

The specific aims of this document are:

1. To identify the strategic priorities of the Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnerships for 2009/10, and the North Worcestershire Shadow Community Safety Partnership, based on reliable evidence and the needs of the local community.
2. To enable Community Safety Partnerships to effectively plan their activity for 2009/010 via the Community Safety Partnership Plans.
3. To enable appropriate measures of success, and identify how these measures relate to local and national performance frameworks, particularly the LAA.

The priorities identified in this document will also be used in conjunction with the South Worcestershire Community Safety Strategic Assessment to inform the Countywide Community Safety Agreement, which is a requirement for two-tier areas, and to link with the Countywide LAA.

## **Methodology**

Within each district, local surveys, trend information, geographical analysis and local intelligence from the CDRP tasking processes is used to perform an initial prioritisation<sup>1</sup> to derive the key “themes” for community safety in each district. A two-page summary of the theme is available, with further detail and analysis available at the rear of the document in the relevant annex.

Within these annexes the nature of each theme is expanded upon and more detailed theme profiles are developed through in-depth analysis of raw data, reviews of existing service plans from partner agencies, and broader context derived from PESTELO (political, economic, social, technical, environmental, legal, organisational) analysis; this can be found under the “issue” and “justification” subheadings contained within the annexes.

In addition, an assessment of risk is made against each theme, and opportunities for effective partnership working identified, under the “adding value” subheading. Furthermore, methods of assessing success and how these might contribute to local and national performance frameworks, such as the Local Area Agreement (LAA), and the National Public Service Agreement (PSA) are reviewed and where appropriate, local targets are recommended under the “measuring effectiveness” subheading.

Broad actions to be taken forward for the partnership planning process are generated within a PIER (prevention, intelligence, enforcement, reassurance) model, and recommendations are suggested. Across North Worcestershire, common issues resulting from district analyses will be combined to form County wide priorities where appropriate.

## **Strategic Assessment 2007/08**

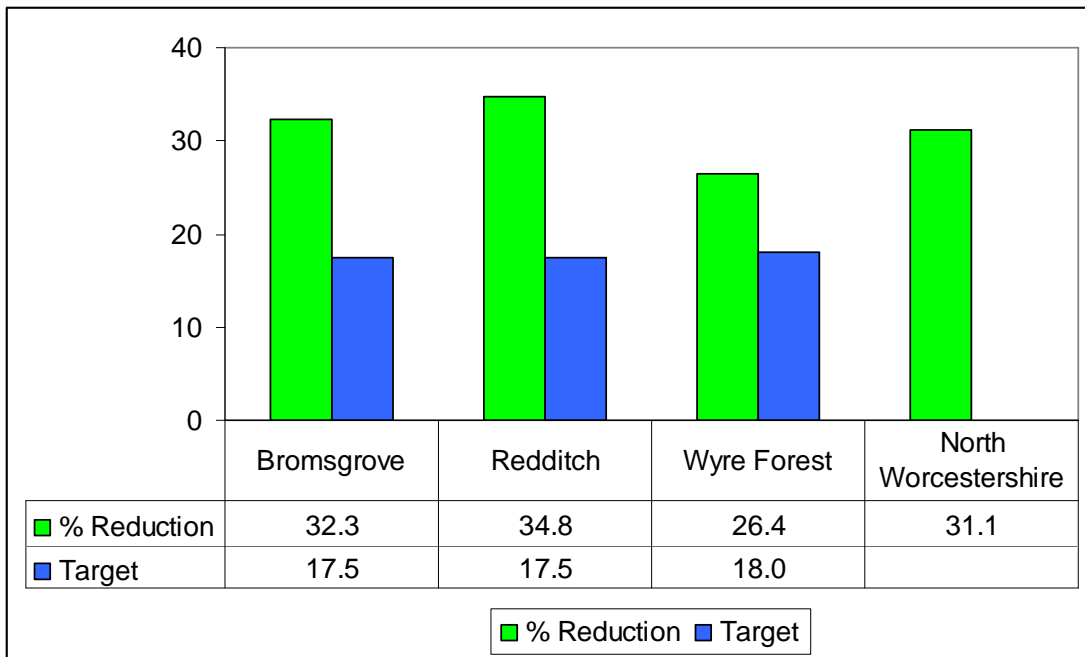
The 2007/08 North Worcestershire Strategic Assessment focussed mainly on crime, particularly domestic burglary, vehicle crime, assaults and criminal damage. These

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<sup>1</sup> Using a prioritisation matrix approach as described by the Home Office guidance for Strategic Assessments.

crime types formed the majority of the British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator crime set, for which the CDRPs in North Worcestershire had nationally determined reduction targets established as part of the PSA1 framework. In addition, the 2006-2008 LAA contains a series of further stretch targets, or reward elements, in Redditch and Wyre Forest based upon these same crime types and deliberate fires. The successful achievement of these stretch targets in March 2009 will result in over £2m performance reward grant (PRG) becoming available to the Worcestershire Partnership – the upper-tier local strategic partnership (LSP) in Worcestershire (see district chapters for more information). At the end of the PSA1 in March 2008, North Worcestershire had experienced a large reduction in BCS comparator crime across all three districts, far in excess of the PSA1 targets. Overall, BCS Comparator crime had fallen by over 31% in the four years between 2003/04 and 2007/08.

Figure 3: BCS Comparator Crime Reduction 2003/04 to 2007/08, North Worcestershire



Source: iQuanta Police Performance Website, September 2008

However – public opinion about what needs improving in North Worcestershire, and the major concerns of residents in the three districts, remain focussed around crime and disorder. Therefore there is a significant challenge in communicating with and reassuring the residents of North Worcestershire that it is a safe place to live and that Community Safety Partnerships in North Worcestershire are doing all they can to address local concerns.

**New Performance Frameworks**

Since the writing of the 2007/08 strategic assessment, there have been significant changes to the performance frameworks to be used by Community Safety Partnerships to assess their performance. The introduction of the National Indicator set and the Association of Police and Community Safety (APACS) frameworks has established a new set of indicators for which Community Safety Partnerships are responsible. Locally, the most significant of these are the indicators that are contained within the 2008-2011 LAA, but there are a number of other indicators that will need to be taken into consideration (see appendix 1 for more information).

Figure 4: 2008-2011 LAA Indicators and Targets (where applicable)

Target	Baseline	08-09	09-10	10-11
NI 2: Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood	<b>Deferred</b>			
NI 17: Perceptions of ASB	<b>Deferred</b>			
NI 18: Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision	<b>Deferred</b>			
NI 20: Assault with injury rate	7.12 per 1,000*	7.12	7.00	6.91
NI 21: Dealing with local concerns about ASB & crime by the local council and police	<b>Deferred</b>			
NI 39: Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates	1,245 per 100,000**	+ 8% (1,518)	+ 3% (1,564)	- 2% (1,533)
NI 195: Improved street & environmental cleanliness (litter)	11%*	10%	9%	8%

\* 2007/08 baseline

\*\* 2006/07 baseline

Indicators NI 2, 17, and 21 will be measured using the new Place Survey, which is a new biennial resident survey that has replaced the Best Value Satisfaction Survey. The first results from the Place Survey will be available in early 2009, so targets have not been set for these indicators. Similarly, data required to measure NI 18 will not be available until 2009, so the target and baseline setting for this indicator has been deferred also.

The nature of the new performance frameworks in Worcestershire is such that crime and disorder reduction targets have been largely replaced by targets aimed more toward dealing with public concerns, or perceptions, and broader underlying issues such as alcohol or re-offending behaviour. The priorities identified in the following document reflect this change in emphasis.

## Bromsgrove Introduction

### Demographics

The population in Bromsgrove is 92300<sup>2</sup>, with a projected decline to 89,000 by 2026. Despite this decline, the over 65 population is set to increase by roughly 7,600 from the current estimate of 23,200, and will then account for over 27% of the total population of the district. An estimated 23.7% of the population are, at present, aged between 0-19 (n=21900). Bromsgrove has a predominantly White British population (92.9%).

Based on the IMD 2007, there are 2 Super Output Areas in Bromsgrove, one in Charford and one in Sidemoor, that are in the top 30% most deprived SOAs nationally. However, Bromsgrove also contains the least deprived areas in Worcestershire, including Barnt Green, The Oakalls and Harwood Park area, The Forelands area and Hagley. Unemployment in Bromsgrove is currently at about 1.8%<sup>3</sup> (August 2008), an increase of 13% on the number of unemployed people in the District in August 2007.

### Performance and review since last assessment

At the end of 2007/08, BCS comparator crime had reduced by 32% in Bromsgrove surpassing the target of 17.5% reduction from the 2003/04 baseline. This was exceptional when compared to the nationally achieved reduction of just 4%, and the county-wide figure of 24%. Reductions were seen in all BCS crime types, with the largest decrease in domestic burglary at 53%, the smallest in criminal damage which only reduced by 12% compared to the baseline year 2003/04.

Whilst Bromsgrove doesn't have a specific reward target in the 2006/09 LAA, the partnership will continue to monitor BCS Comparator crime as all of the crime related reward targets in Worcestershire are dependant on there being no more than 24,417 BCS crimes across the county in the current financial year.

The priorities highlighted by the 2007 Strategic Assessment were vehicle crime, violent crime, and criminal damage. ASB was also included as a cross-cutting North Worcestershire issue.

Vehicle crime has not been included in this years document as there has been a 6% reduction in this crime type since in April-September 2008, compared to April-September 2007, and the 2007/08 end of year reduction compared to the baseline 2003/04 was a massive 39%. The partnership is still sensitive to potential threats to the low rate of vehicle crime, for example, in March 2008, the issue of potential vehicle theft over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend was brought to tasking. As a result, of the outcomes of tasking, there was a 91% drop in vehicle crime incidents over the Bank Holiday weekend compared to previous years.

Violent crime has also decreased rapidly in the District in the last few years, a 34.8% reduction compared to 2003/04 at the end of the last financial year, and continues to decrease (7.5% reduction Apr-Sep 08 compared to Apr-Sep 07). It has therefore not been included this year as a priority in it's own right, though it is still a high impact crime seriously affecting it's victims. This year, violent crime is addressed in relation to the links to the night time economy in Bromsgrove town centre, outlined in the

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<sup>2</sup> Source: ONS mid-2007 estimates ([www.worcestershire.gov.uk/research](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/research))

<sup>3</sup> Source: Monthly Economic Assessment ([www.worcestershire.gov.uk/research](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/research))



## Bromsgrove Priorities

alcohol related crime theme. The large reduction in total violent crime has allowed the partnership to now be more specific in tackling key issues, which has the potential to be more effective locally at producing positive results.

Based on initial prioritisation process (see annex Ba), the themes for the Bromsgrove Strategic Assessment 2008 are:

1. Youth Related ASB
2. Alcohol Related ASB - night time economy, youth alcohol
3. Criminal Damage – links to environmental crime
4. Alcohol Related Crime

The change in themes from the 2007 Strategic Assessment is representative of a change in the targets that the Partnership is now working towards. Due to the volume of reduction in all crime types across the county, it is difficult to achieve sustained improvement on current position. Furthermore, the public continue to indicate that they feel crime is an issue in their local area. As a consequence, targets leaning towards tackling perceptions and disorder are more appropriate.

The reduction in all crime types within the national PSA target is an indication that the priorities identified in Strategic Assessment 2007, and the resulting actions, have had a positive effect on crime. The one exception is criminal damage which despite being a feature in the 2007 Strategic Assessment and 2008/09 Partnership Plan has continued to increase in volume.

Furthermore, burglary, violent crime, vehicle crime and robbery are all monitored by the BVPI's at a District Council Level. These crimes are low in number in the district and in some cases the greatest impact they have is adding to the fear of crime, now addressed by the perception measures in the new LAA. Also, none of them seem to be following an increasing trend.

## **Youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour**

Please refer to Annex B1 for the full analysis related to this profile.

### **Issue:**

A total of 5091 anti-social behaviour incidents were reported in Bromsgrove between 01 August 2007 and 31 July 2008<sup>4</sup>, of which 47% were youth related. Rowdy behaviour was the most commonly recorded category, accounting for over three-quarters of youth incidents, and frequently including complaints of youths gathering, vandalism, verbal abuse and stone throwing. The pattern of incidents is seasonal; the frequency increasing through the spring and summer, and decreasing after Halloween and through the winter. Incidents are most likely to occur between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. and over the weekend (the pattern of incidents over time varies from area to area and with months of the year). Incidents are more common in urban areas, specifically in St Johns, Charford, Sidemoor, Waseley and Catshill, and especially in open spaces and recreation areas, and in residential streets.

Youth related ASB is thought to be the product of a lack of youth facilities in the District. The number of incidents is strongly influenced by school holidays and the weather.

### **Justification:**

Almost half of all reported ASB incidents in Bromsgrove August 07-July 08 were youth related, By specifically targeting youth behaviour and perceptions of the behaviour of young people, the partnership will be able to make significant alterations to the pattern of ASB recording in the District.

Based on a snapshot of incidents in July 2008, more incidents were perpetrated by youths in Bromsgrove than any of the other North Worcestershire Districts. Bromsgrove also has a comparatively high proportion of incidents taking place in open spaces, most of which are complaints related to youth gathering.

Youth related issues accounted for 36% of all problems raised at PACT meetings across the District between August 2007 and July 2008, with specific and continuing issues mentioned in Sidemoor, Alvechurch and Catshill.

ASB has been the main subject, or an incorporated feature, in CDRP Tasking 7 times since April 07 and was the main focus in every meeting from April to September 2008. Furthermore, in the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey, 70% of Bromsgrove respondents agreed that groups of people loitering or hanging around in public places was a problem in their local neighbourhood. The lack of activities for youths in the District was identified by residents in 2006/07 BVPI survey and May 2008 Citizens Panel as a problem. As the proportion of the population aged 19 or below has also increased in Bromsgrove since the last census, the limited youth facilities in the district may continue to be stretched in the future.

### **Added Value:**

The partnership is already making steps towards a more joined up approach to youth related issues in the District with the initiation of the Youth Provision Group and involvement in the South Bromsgrove High School multi-agency meetings. The

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<sup>4</sup> Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

partnership itself represents an opportunity for all agencies to utilise intelligence to target their services where the need is greatest, and work together to ensure that all areas are covered. Analytical resources could be better shared between partner agencies to improve data quality and information sharing to aid this intelligence-led response. There is also a widening gap in terms of the strategic priorities of individual partners. The alignment of strategic objectives would allow the CSP to work together more effectively, with all partners able to engage fully in the process, working towards joint aims without the risk of missing their own targets.

### **Measuring Effectiveness:**

Public perceptions of youth ASB will be measured through the Place Survey and the West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey, as well as monitoring under National Indicator 17: perceptions of anti-social behaviour.

The level of incident reporting can also be monitored through OIS ASB logs, as well as through the number of incidents reported to Neighbourhood Wardens, BDHT and through PACT.

### **What can we do?**

- Diversionary Activities
- Improved youth services and youth facilities
- Education
- Intelligence-led targeted youth support
- Improve the quality of the available data – Police OIS recording, data sharing between other partners, recording of incidents by other agencies.
- Use of Fixed Penalty Notices for Anti-Social Behaviour
- Community Cohesion Strategy – focus on older and younger people
- Public Education and Publicity Campaigns
- Alignment of Strategic Priorities between Partner Agencies.

## **Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour**

Please refer to Annex B2 for the full analysis related to this profile.

### **Issue:**

There are essentially 2 strands to alcohol related ASB in Bromsgrove District:

1. Town centre issues: rowdy behaviour caused by people leaving licensed premises, disturbing local residents with associated noise, litter and sanitation issues (e.g. Hanover Place - complaints of people urinating and throwing up causing unsanitary conditions for residents). The problems mainly occur on weekend evenings/nights. Almost a quarter of all alcohol related ASB incidents take place in St Johns ward, hence there is a strong focus on the town centre.
2. Youth related Issues – Young people gathering in parks and open spaces across the District to drink alcohol (e.g. Sanders Park, Lingfield Walk). This leads to issues with underage sales, proxy sales, health issues (personal safety, alcohol sickness, sexual health) and has a huge impact on public perceptions of young people, ASB and recreation areas. The behaviour is most common on Friday nights between 7 and 11 p.m.

The number of alcohol-related incidents reported is linked to the weather, with increases in warmer months, as well as holiday seasons and sporting events.

### **Justification:**

Alcohol related incidents account for roughly 10% of total ASB reports in Bromsgrove District. Based on a snapshot of incidents in July 2008, Bromsgrove recorded the highest proportion of incidents related to alcohol of the North Worcestershire Districts. Furthermore, Bromsgrove recorded more incidents taking place in licensed premises than any other District in this snapshot study, as well as more in open spaces. Alcohol related ASB was the main theme of May 2008 Tasking, and crime and disorder in the town centre was the lead theme in October 2007.

Alcohol related incidents strongly influence the public perception of ASB and the reputation of the town centre and open spaces in the District. Roughly 12% of all issues raised at PACT meetings across the District between August 2007 and July 2008 were alcohol related. It was also through PACT that the Partnership was made aware of the issues surrounding Hanover Place. According to the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey, the proportion of people in Bromsgrove who think people being drunk or rowdy in public places is a problem in their neighbourhood and should be tackled is on the increase. Also, 67% of Bromsgrove respondents think under age drinking is a problem in their neighbourhood, indicating the widespread nature of the issue.

Alcohol related incidents also have an impact on a range of partners, including PCT, education services, youth services, and Environmental Services.

### **Adding Value:**

Having been raised at Tasking a number of times in the last year, this issue is something that the Partnership are aware of and have made progress in tackling. There is an opportunity for more joined up working using the links and networks

founded by the tasking process to continue to maintain strong working relationships between partner agencies and provide a holistic approach to ASB. The partnership has links to several data analysts, whose skills can be utilised to provide guidance to a range of partners in order to improve the quality of the data they record and therefore the reports they produce. Especially where young people and alcohol are concerned, the platform that is created by the Partnership to provide a unified approach and share resources is essential in tackling the issue effectively and efficiently.

### **Measuring Effectiveness:**

Public perceptions of ASB will be measured through the Place Survey and the West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey, as well as monitoring under National Indicator 17: perceptions of anti-social behaviour. Though not included in the new LAA, NI 41: perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour, will also be monitored at a County level through the Place Survey.

The level of incident reporting can also be monitored through OIS ASB logs as well as assessment of the number of incidents reported to Neighbourhood Wardens, BDHT and through PACT, though improvements in recording of incidents by a variety of partners would improve the accuracy of this measure.

### **What can we do?**

- Exit strategy for licensed premises
- Clean streets agreement with food outlets
- Alcohol education with input from a range of partners
- Targeted underage and proxy sale campaign, including messages to parents who provide alcohol for young people.
- Risk assessment – drinking in open spaces, including good practice research, comparisons to other areas, youth consultation and full assessment of underlying issues
- Town centre EVA.
- Incorporate appropriate conditions into licensing agreements of town centre premises.
- Public education and publicity campaigns including focus on alcohol, and well as general healthy living themes.
- Improve data quality and data sharing protocols.
- Use of Fixed Penalty Notices including adequate data collection and recording procedures.

## **Criminal Damage & Environmental Crime**

Please refer to Annex B3 for the full analysis related to this profile.

### **Issue:**

Almost half of all criminal damage offences recorded in the District are damage to a vehicle, with damage to other property (including graffiti and damage to fences) the second most common category. The profile of damage offences seems to be more strongly influenced by young people in Bromsgrove than the other North Worcestershire Districts, and most offenders are aged between 15 and 19.

Seasonally, damage offences are most frequent in April, lower through the summer months, and become more frequent again as the hours of darkness increase around October to remain above average through to the spring. Offences are more frequent over the weekend – and there are clear links in the problem profile to levels of anti-social behaviour. Most offences occur overnight with a peak around 10 p.m.

Offences are predominantly clustered around Bromsgrove Town Centre and the surrounding residential areas, with additional hotspots areas in Catshill, Alvechurch, Wythall and Rubery urban centres. The same pattern is true of deliberate fires. However, flytipping is more of an issue, according to Bromsgrove District Council Depot Services, in rural locations and along highways. This difference could be due to incidents in the more residential and town centre areas being dealt with by other sources/agencies (e.g. BDHT).

The volume of damage offences in an area is linked to the general appearance of an area. Litter, flytipping and graffiti on roads, as well as detritus in housing areas, could be improved in Bromsgrove District.

### **Justification:**

Criminal damage accounted for just under a quarter of all criminal offences in Bromsgrove between August 2007 and July 2008 and so is the highest volume crime type in the District. The number of criminal damage offences recorded increased by 19.7% in the last financial year compared to 2006/07, and the overall reduction since the 2003/04 baseline was much smaller in Bromsgrove than the other districts in Worcestershire. Based on the last 12 months of data, iQuanta predicts damage will continue to increase in Bromsgrove over the coming year. The issue of damage has been raised at CDRP Tasking 6 times since June 2007.

Environmental crime and criminal damage are key drivers for perceptions of ASB, a measure included in the new performance framework. Environmental Issues have featured in 29% of all issues raised at PACT meetings over the last year covering a range of issues including those related to overgrown alleyways, dog mess, reporting of “run down” areas. Over 50% of all Bromsgrove respondents to the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey had felt fearful of vandalism or damage to their property in the last 12 months, even though only 8.4% had experienced this type of crime. Furthermore, half agreed that vandalism, graffiti or other damage was a problem in their area.

### **Adding Value:**

The Partnership is already undergoing a substantial amount of work to combat criminal damage through the Damage and ASB Action Plan, but due to the

widespread nature of the problem, there is a need for a joined up approach. Especially where youth related activities are concerned, it is important for partners to communicate with each other to ensure that work is not repeated, and that all areas in need are covered. As has been proved by the outcomes of Tasking meeting over the last 12 months, a rapid response to issues by partners can have an immediate effect on the levels of criminal damage, especially where preventative measures are concerned. Longer term projects need to be well managed and maintained through the partnership, and there is a need and an opportunity for further engagement in the process from all partners.

It is essential that the partnership uses the resources it has in terms of the range of agencies involved to work together on long term projects. Though agencies have the opportunity to work closely together through the Partnership, there is a gap in terms of data recording and data sharing. Improvements in this area, especially where it comes to the quality of data recorded and the level of data shared, would aid the close working relationships and help partnership work to be intelligence-led, based on a broad range of data for an holistic perspective on issues. For example, regular analysis of fly-tipping data, or the graffiti incidents reported to the Bromsgrove District Council, in addition to Police recorded criminal damage offences, would help in assessing the areas the Partnership should be focussing on for interventions and initiatives beneficial to all agencies involved.

### **Measuring Effectiveness:**

In the new LAA, there is no National Indicator directly related to levels of criminal damage, however NI 195 (Improved Street Cleanliness) is closely linked. Though not in the LAA, NI 196 (fly-tipping) and NI 33 (arson incidents) will also be monitored on a quarterly basis.

Effectiveness can also be measured in terms of the number of offences recorded by the police, incidents logged with Neighbourhood Wardens or BDHT, as well as other environmental factors measured by other partners.

### **What can we do?**

- Graffiti Management Policy, including graffiti database
- Education Strategy
- Outcome Focused CDRP Tasking and Effective Management of Long Term Action Plan
- Use of Fixed Penalty Notices
- Frequent EVAs linked to PACT areas
- Improved Data Sharing and Data Quality between Partner Agencies
- Diversionary Activities

## Alcohol Related Crime and the Night-time Economy

Please refer to Annex B4 for the full analysis related to this profile.

### Issue:

Though alcohol related crime covers a wide range of offences, in Bromsgrove town, the two main issues are:

1. Violent crime and disorder offences within and outside licensed premises
2. Criminal damage in the town centre and along the main routes to residential areas.

Almost 40% of all violent crime in the district<sup>5</sup> takes place in the ward of St Johns. The main problem premises are Love 2 Love nightclub, the Dog and Pheasant and the Golden Cross, but many offences occur outside on the street or on the walk home, with more criminal damage offences in the early hours of the morning in the wards that border the town centre – Charford and Sidemoor. Violent crimes tend to occur where people gather after leaving clubs and pubs, especially where they are waiting for food. Most criminal damage offences occur in the same areas, but also along the main routes from the town centre to the residential areas.

Most offenders and victims are aged between 20 and 24 years of age, with home addresses in Charford, Whitford and Sidemoor, but most victims of violent crime did not know the offender.

The peak day for offences to occur is Friday, with most incidents between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. Offences are more frequent in holiday seasons, both during the winter and the summer, and are also affected by sporting events.

### Justification:

Alcohol related crime accounts for 16% of total crime in Bromsgrove, including 40% of violent crime and 8% of criminal damage. Love to Love nightclub is the location with the second highest number of linked offences of all the town centre licensed premises in Worcestershire<sup>6</sup>. There is a potential for many agencies to be affected by this type of behaviour.

Roughly 10% of all issues raised at PACT meetings across the District between August 2007 and July 2008 were alcohol related. Anecdotally, the public perception is that the town is a place to avoid at night, and that several licensed premises have issues with violent behaviour. 42% of Bromsgrove respondents to the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey stated they had felt fearful of drunk people causing a problem in the last 12 months, a 20% increase on the similar question in the 2007 survey. However, the proportion of respondents who had actually been a victim of an assault in a public place was just 1.1%. There seems to be an increasing trend in terms of number of alcohol related offences – a 9% increase in April to July 2008 compared to the same period in 2007.

### Adding Value:

The Partnership has already implemented a number of initiatives to help to tackle the issue of alcohol related crime in Bromsgrove, including an application for a taxi rank

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<sup>5</sup> CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary (August 2008)

<sup>6</sup> Licensed Premises Study, April 2006 to August 2008



in the town centre. However there is opportunity to improve not only the existing measures but to initiate new methods of tackling the problems.

Currently gaps exist in terms of the engagement from a range of Partners especially where health and risk issues are concerned, with the local policing teams, District Council and Neighbourhood Wardens leading on existing initiatives. There is also a gap in data sharing with the ambulance service and A&E, improving which would give the Partnership a wider understanding of alcohol related crime and allow outcomes to be based on a broad understanding of the underlying issues.

### **Measuring Effectiveness:**

The new LAA contains an indicator which can be used as a proxy measure for alcohol related violent crime: NI 39 – Alcohol Related Hospital Admission Rates.

Other potential measures include: overall % of crime that is alcohol related; criminal damage offences, especially those occurring in the early hours of the morning leading away from hotspot drinking areas; alcohol related violent crimes; level of criminal offences and incidents in and around licensed premises.

### **What can we do?**

- Dispersal Strategy
- Risk Assessment of Licensed Premises
- Improved Data Sharing with PCT
- Method of Defining Alcohol Related Crimes
- Effective Use of Town Centre CCTV
- Promotion of Partnership Work to Reduce Crime linked to the NTE

## Worcestershire Priorities

The majority of the priorities identified in the 2008 Community Safety Strategic Assessment have been derived from a district level focus on community safety issues, and will be particular to each district. However, a number of additional priorities have emerged from the analysis that are perhaps more appropriate for consideration and/or action at a wider geographical level such as Countywide. These include issues for which there is a consistent or underlying cause, where there is a need for a County wide approach to resolving the issue, or simply where the same issue has been identified across a number of districts.

Crime in Worcestershire, particularly acquisitive crime, has reduced dramatically in recent years. In the 12 months between September 2007 and August 2008, British Crime Survey (BCS) comparator crime reduced by 10% compared with the previous 12 months, and serious acquisitive crime fell by 12%. What crime that continues is increasingly due to a minority of persistent offenders, such as the Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs). For example, in the 2007/08 financial year, just 4% of all known offenders were responsible for nearly 20% of the offences for which an offender was caught. As the downward trend in numbers of crimes continues, it becomes increasingly challenging to maintain this trend across the whole range of offending behaviours. Therefore a focus on persistent offenders may be a more effective means of reducing crime in the future.

Alcohol remains a key contributing factor to crime, anti-social behaviour, and perception issues across the County, and alcohol related violent crime manifests itself in a variety of ways, including domestic abuse and violence linked with the night time economy (NTE). Across Worcestershire, approximately one half of all violent crime in town centres is alcohol related, and a similar proportion of domestic abuse can be associated with alcohol. The Worcestershire Substance Misuse Action Team (SMAT) has recently produced its countywide alcohol needs assessment, within which there is a large amount of information relating to alcohol and crime/ASB, for which there was significant contribution from CDRP analysts. It is suggested that the findings from this needs assessment are used as the basis for setting strategic priorities around alcohol related violence for the CDRPs in Worcestershire.

ASB is a label for a range of issues that affect many areas in Worcestershire, in a variety of ways. Where specific problems have emerged at a district level, these have been addressed in the district priorities (for example issues associated with neighbour disputes or inconsiderate parking). However, ASB associated with "youths" (including children and young people, but also young adults) has emerged as a consistent concern across the County. Boredom and lack of activities are seen as the main reasons behind this, and this is reflected by the respondents of recent surveys, who would prioritise improved activities for teenagers above anything else, and who also cite teenagers hanging around on streets as a significant problem<sup>7</sup>. At a County level, there is currently significant discussion surrounding the role of Worcestershire County Council Children's Services and the Children and Young People's sub-groups of the district Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs), in the delivery of youth activities and the promotion of positive activities across the County. It is recommended that a Worcestershire wide, strategic priority recognising the importance of youth issues in relation to ASB should be included in this strategic assessment, with specific reference to raising awareness of youth activities provided by partner organisations, and how these can be distributed most effectively. Of

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<sup>7</sup> Best Value Satisfaction Survey 2006/07

particular importance will be the need to develop an efficient means of communication between partner agencies to ensure that the intelligence and local knowledge that exists within the CDRPs can be incorporated into all appropriate service delivery, to address the issue of youth ASB and improve the quality of residents' lives.

The importance of public perception in establishing CDRP strategic priorities has increased significantly in recent years. In Worcestershire, the community safety measures in the new 2008-2011 LAA are more focussed on assessing residents' perceptions about how issues are dealt with, and less about reducing numbers of crimes, as has been the case in the past (in for example the 2006-2009 LAA). In Worcestershire, the recent trend has been of a reduction in the numbers of crimes (and therefore numbers of victims). However, this has not been accompanied by significantly improved perceptions of crime, ASB, or policing. Whatever the reason behind the apparent divergence between level of crime and perception in Worcestershire, it is clear that within the new performance frameworks for CDRPs, there must be a significant shift in emphasis towards improving quality of life for residents as they see it, and ensuring that people are aware when improvements are made. Central to this would be a strategy around communicating success and providing reassurance to members of the public. Whilst this has been identified as a key area within each of the priorities identified in the district level analysis – there may also be value in developing some consistent countywide approaches. For example, it might be helpful to identify appropriate communication groups to promote the work of the CDRPs (such as the County Communications Group which brings together marketing and communications officers from the County Council, District Councils, Police, and Fire and Rescue Service), or to produce profiles of the County in order to allow targeted communications in deprived areas, areas of high worry and concern, areas of high crime, areas with emerging communities, and areas whose residents have particular needs in terms of how they like to be kept informed.

Monitoring performance will become more of a challenge for CDRPs as the new performance frameworks move away from regular monthly crime data to a greater variety of information including crime, ASB, and survey data. At the time of writing, a countywide Safer Communities Performance Group is being established in Worcestershire that will report performance of each of the CDRPs up to the Safer Communities Board (the community safety theme group of the upper tier LSP – the Worcestershire Partnership). It is expected that in order for effective monitoring of performance, each CDRP will need robust methods to determine whether the initiatives being delivered are having a positive impact. It is recommended that evaluation and forecasting be considered as a countywide strategic priority.

The countywide priorities are, therefore, as follows:

1. Dealing with crimes committed by re-offenders (including PPOs and other persistent offenders).
2. Alcohol related violent crime
3. Youth issues
4. Public reassurance
5. Monitoring performance

These are summarised in the subsequent Worcestershire PIER table.

### **Summary and Recommendations for Bromsgrove**

The priorities for the Bromsgrove Community Safety Strategic Assessment are as follows:

1. Youth Related ASB
2. Alcohol Related ASB - night time economy, youth alcohol
3. Criminal Damage – links to environmental crime
4. Alcohol Related Crime

The PIER table below shows brief information about each priority along with broad recommendations for the Community Safety Partnership, and links with the new NI performance framework. Worcestershire-wide priorities are presented in a separate table. The Action column has been left blank for consideration as part of the Partnership Plan process.

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
<p>B1 – Youth related ASB</p>	<p>“Soft” ASB generally committed by younger children, such things as throwing stones, minor criminal damage, gathering, bikes, skateboards. Generally in the early evening from 4 p.m. onwards, school holidays.</p>	<p><b>Prevention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversionary Activities</li> <li>• Improved youth services and youth facilities.</li> </ul>		<p>Relevant National Indicators:                      NI 17 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour                      NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police                      NI 22 Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area                      NI 24 Satisfaction with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour                      NI 25 Satisfaction of different groups with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour                      NI 27 Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police</p>
		<p><b>Intelligence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intelligence-led targeted youth support</li> <li>• Improve the quality of the available data – Police OIS recording</li> <li>• Data sharing protocol</li> <li>• Alignment of Strategic Priorities between Partner Agencies</li> </ul>		
		<p><b>Enforcement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of Fixed Penalty Notices including adequate data collection and recording procedures</li> </ul>		
		<p><b>Reassurance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Cohesion Strategy – focus on older and younger people</li> <li>• Public Education and Publicity Campaigns</li> <li>• Education Strategy</li> </ul>		

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
B2 – Alcohol related ASB	“Hard” ASB – more serious and potentially dangerous activities. Town centre adults related to night-time economy, rowdiness, noise, litter, hygiene issues. Youth – gathering and drinking in parks, alcohol abuse, risk of harm, sexual health, lead on to more serious issues. Later into the evening, weekends/ school holidays.	<b>Prevention:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exit strategy for licensed premises</li> <li>• Clean streets agreement with food outlets</li> <li>• Alcohol education strategy with input from a range of partners</li> <li>• Town Centre Environmental Visual Audit</li> </ul>		Relevant National Indicators: NI 22 Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area NI 39 alcohol harm related hospital admissions NI 41 perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem NI 115 substance misuse by young people
		<b>Intelligence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk assessment of licensed premises</li> <li>• Risk Assessment - drinking in open spaces, including good practice research, comparisons to other areas, youth consultation and full assessment of underlying issues</li> <li>• Improve data quality and data sharing protocols</li> </ul>		
		<b>Enforcement:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of Fixed Penalty Notices including adequate data collection and recording procedures</li> <li>• Incorporate appropriate conditions into licensing agreements of town centre premises</li> </ul>		

Summary and Recommendations for Bromsgrove

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
		<p><b>Reassurance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Visibility Presence at key times in the town centre</li> <li>• Targeted underage and proxy sale campaign, including messages to parents who provide alcohol for young people</li> <li>• Public education and publicity campaigns including focus on alcohol, and well as general healthy living themes</li> </ul>		

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
B3 – Criminal Damage	Mainly damage to vehicles in Charford area, most frequent in April. Links to environmental issues such as fly-tipping. Main offenders are aged under 25 – could be those who have progressed from ASB.	<b>Prevention:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graffiti Management Policy</li> <li>• Education Strategy</li> <li>• Diversionary Activities</li> </ul>		Relevant National Indicators: NI 195 Improved Street Cleanliness NI 196 (fly-tipping) NI 33 arson incidents.
		<b>Intelligence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome Focused CDRP Tasking and Effective Management of Long Term Action Plan</li> <li>• Improved Data Sharing and Data Quality between Partner Agencies</li> </ul>		
		<b>Enforcement :</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of Fixed Penalty Notices including adequate data collection and recording procedures</li> </ul>		
		<b>Reassurance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequent Environmental Visual Audits linked to PACT areas</li> </ul>		



Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
B4 – Alcohol Related Crime	Links to the night-time economy (NTE), main issues are disorder, assaults and damage after consuming alcohol. Key times are pub/club closing times. Key area is the town centre and main routes into housing areas. There are also links to domestic abuse.	<b>Prevention:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispersal Strategy</li> </ul>		Relevant National Indicators: NI 39 alcohol harm related hospital admissions NI 41 Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem
		<b>Intelligence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Assessment of Licensed Premises</li> <li>• Improved Data Sharing with PCT</li> <li>• Regular Analysis of NTE Data</li> <li>• Method of Defining Alcohol Related Crimes</li> </ul>		
		<b>Enforcement:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of Fixed Penalty Notices including adequate data collection and recording procedures</li> </ul>		
		<b>Reassurance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of Partnership Work to Reduce Crime linked to the NTE</li> <li>• Effective Use of Town Centre CCTV</li> </ul>		

### **Summary and Recommendations for Worcestershire**

The Worcestershire priorities for the Community Safety Strategic Assessment are as follows:

- Dealing with crime committed by re-offenders
- Alcohol related violent crime
- Youth issues
- Public reassurance
- Monitoring performance

The PIER table below shows brief information about each priority along with broad recommendations for Community Safety Partnerships, and links with the new NI performance framework.

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
W1 – Dealing with crime committed by re-offenders	Significant proportion of crimes in Worcestershire are known to be committed by minority of offenders. Following large reduction of crime across the County (28.2% reduction since 2003/04) the most effective means to continue reducing crime (particularly acquisitive crime) is to target the prolific offenders, either through the PPO scheme or other re-offending programmes.	<b>Prevention:</b> PPO/Information sharing		NI 18 Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision (LAA)
		<b>Intelligence:</b> PPO/Information Sharing		NI 19 – Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders
		<b>Enforcement:</b> PPO		NI 16 – Serious acquisitive crime rate
		<b>Reassurance:</b>		NI 30 – Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
W2 – Alcohol Related Violent Crime	Problems associated with alcohol abuse are not restricted to violence in Worcestershire. For example, alcohol fuelled vandalism and criminal damage features in each district in a variety of ways. However – the issue of alcohol related violence (either associated with the NTE and/or domestic abuse) may benefit from a more general Countywide approach, as the causal factors associated with alcohol related violence tend to be similar in each CDRP.	<b>Prevention:</b> Promote responsible drinking		NI 20 – Assault with injury crime rate (LAA) NI 39 – Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates (LAA) NI 41 – Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem (contributes to NI 17 – perceptions of anti-social behaviour, which is in the LAA) NI 32 – Repeat incidents of domestic violence
		<b>Intelligence:</b> Licensed Premises Risk Assessment, Coordination of Domestic Abuse Services		
		<b>Enforcement:</b> FPNs for irresponsible drinking. License review for licensed premises who sell to the intoxicated.		
		<b>Reassurance:</b> Promoting “good” licensed premises and accreditation schemes.		

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
W3 – Youth issues	Youth related ASB has been identified across Worcestershire as a priority issue for community safety partnerships. Often – lack of activities and/or places to go is cited as being a causal factor, particularly among harder to reach groups or those who may more readily engage in ASB.	<b>Prevention:</b> establish diversionary activities.		NI 17 – Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (LAA)
		<b>Intelligence:</b> Coordinating activity to meet the greatest need Ensuring effective communication between partner agencies responsible for delivery of youth activities.		NI 21 – Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police (LAA)
		<b>Enforcement:</b> Underage drinking/proxy sales/parental attitudes to alcohol.		NI 39 – Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates (LAA)
		<b>Reassurance:</b> Working with complainants to build tolerance and community cohesion.		NI 22 – Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area. NI 110 – Young people’s participation in positive activities.

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
W4 – Public reassurance	New performance framework places great emphasis on reassuring the public about community safety issues and improving perceptions of areas	<b>Prevention:</b> N/A		NI 17 – Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (LAA) NI 21 – Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police (LAA)
		<b>Intelligence:</b> Develop socio-economic/ deprivation profile of Worcestershire. Intelligently target and tailor messages to specific communities.		
		<b>Enforcement:</b> N/A		
		<b>Reassurance:</b> Strategic guidance on producing effective reassurance. Consistency across Worcestershire. Ensuring messages and communication is joined up.		

Priority	Key Findings	Broad Recommendation	Action(s)	Measure(s)
W5 – Monitoring Performance	Due to changes in performance frameworks, it is not so straight forward to monitor partnership performance.	<b>Prevention:</b> N/A		All LAA NIs
		<b>Intelligence:</b> Formal reporting to full partnerships, NWSCSP Board, and link with Safer Communities Board Performance Group. Production of forecasting model to enable effective judgement of performance, including potential use of proxy measures for attitudinal and perception data.		
		<b>Enforcement:</b> N/A		
		<b>Reassurance:</b> Use performance reporting as basis for communicating success to local residents.		

## **Appendix 1: Community Safety National Indicators**

From 2008, community safety partnerships have a number of new performance frameworks against which to operate. At the national level, the new Public Service Agreements, PSA 23 – Make Communities Safer and PSA 25 – Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs, came into being in April 2008. At the same time, the police performance framework was replaced with the Assessments of Policing and Community Safety (APACS), and the Best Value Performance framework for local authorities was replaced by the National Indicators (NIs). There exists significant overlap between indicators within these performance frameworks, and the following is a list of national indicators (NIs) appropriate to community safety partnerships. The first list shows those NIs that are contained within the 2008-2011 Local Area Agreement (LAA). The second list contains all other relevant NIs.

### Worcestershire LAA 2008-11 – Performance Indicators for Community Safety

NI 2 % of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood  
NI 17 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour  
NI 18 Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision  
NI 20 Assault with Injury crime rate  
NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and the police  
NI 39 Alcohol - harm related hospital admission rates  
NI195a Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter)

### National Indicators for local authorities and local authority partnerships

NI 15 Serious violent crime PSA 23  
NI 16 Serious acquisitive crime PSA 23  
NI 17 Perceptions of anti-social behaviour PSA 23  
NI 18 Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision PSA 23  
NI 19 Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders PSA 23  
NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate PSA 25  
NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police PSA 23  
NI 22 Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area  
NI 23 Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and consideration  
NI 26 Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence PSA 23  
NI 27 Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police  
NI 28 Serious knife crime rate  
NI 29 Gun crime rate PSA 23  
NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders  
NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence PSA 23  
NI 33 Arson incidents  
NI 34 Domestic violence – murder PSA 23  
NI 35 Building resilience to violent extremism PSA 26  
NI 36 Protection against terrorist attack PSA 26  
NI 37 Awareness of civil protection arrangements in the local area  
NI 38 Drug-related (Class A) offending rate PSA 25  
NI 39 Rate of Hospital Admissions per 100,000 for Alcohol Related Harm PSA 25



## Appendix 1: Community Safety National Indicators

- NI 40 Number of drug users recorded as being in effective treatment PSA 25
- NI 41 Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem PSA 25
- NI 42 Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem PSA 25
- NI 43 Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody
- NI 44 Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals
- NI 45 Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment
- NI 46 Young offenders' access to suitable accommodation
- NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- NI 48 Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- NI 49 Number of primary fires and related fatalities and non-fatal casualties (excluding precautionary checks)

Further information about the National Indicators can be found on the Communities and Local Government website:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/nationalindicator>

Information on the PSA and national Community Safety issues can be found on the Home Office Crime Reduction website:

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/crimereduction020a.pdf>

## Appendix 2: Data Sources

The following is a list of data sources used in the 2008/09 Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessments.

- West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessments & CRIMES/OIS data
- Worcestershire Trading Standards Strategic Assessment & proxy sales data
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Assessment/Strategic Document – Service Delivery Plan 2008/09
- Worcestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Worcestershire SMAT Alcohol Needs Assessment & Substance Misuse Strategy
- Worcestershire Economic Assessment
- North West Public Health Observatory Report
- Community Safety Strategic Assessment and Partnership Plan 2007/08
- Worcestershire PCT data
- West Midlands Ambulance Service data
- Priority Mapping – HW Fire & Rescue Service
- Local Authority Environmental data – flytipping/abandoned cars/graffiti
- ENCAMS Local Environmental Quality Reports
- WMC Crime & Safety Survey
- Citizens Panel / BVPI General Satisfaction Survey
- PPO Reports
- Youth Offending Service Data
- PACT priorities – West Mercia Constabulary
- NI 195 Transect Survey Results
- Safer Roads Partnership Data
- Schools, Health, Education Unit
- Worcestershire Research and Intelligence Unit

### Appendix 3: Glossary of Terms

ABH	Actual Bodily Harm
AFZ	Alcohol Free Zone
APACS	Assessments of Police and Community Safety
ARZ	Alcohol Restriction Zone
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
BCS	British Crime Survey
BDC	Bromsgrove District Council
BVPI	Best Value Performance Indicator
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CDRP	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
CLG	Communities and Local Government
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CYP	Children and Young People
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
DPPO	Designated Public Place Order
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm
GOWM	Government Office West Midlands
HO	Home Office
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
KSI	Killed or Seriously Injured (Road Traffic Collisions)
LAA	Local Area Agreement
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
MHDC	Malvern Hills District Council
NI	National Indicator
NTE	Night Time Economy
NWSCSP	North Worcestershire Shadow Community Safety Partnership
PACT	Partners and Communities Together
PAT	Problem Analysis Triangle
PIER	Prevention, Intelligence, Enforcement, Reassurance
PND	Public Notice for Disorder
PRG	Performance Reward Grant
PSA	Public Service Agreement
RBC	Redditch Borough Council
RTC	Road Traffic Collision
SA	Strategic Assessment
SARA	Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment

### Appendix 3: Glossary

SCB	Safer Communities Board
SMAT	Substance Misuse Action Team
SWCSP	South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership
WCC	Worcestershire County Council
WCDC	Worcester City District Council
WDC	Wychavon District Council
WFDC	Wyre Forest District Council
WMC	West Mercia Constabulary
WP	Worcestershire Partnership
YISP	Youth Inclusion Support Program
YOS	Youth Offending Service

## **Appendix 4: Acknowledgements**

Jocelyn Anderson – Chief Officer, Worcestershire Rape and Sexual Assault Referral Centre

Richard Arthur – Intelligence Analyst, West Mercia Constabulary

Stan Baker, Crime Risk Manager, West Mercia Constabulary

Debbie Baker-Price – Health Improvement Co-ordinator, Worcestershire PCT

Mike Bell – Head of Street Scene & Community Services, Bromsgrove District Council

Claire Bloss – Principal Research Analyst, Worcestershire County Council

Joe Brazier – Intelligence Analyst – West Mercia Constabulary

Sally Carpenter - Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service

Dave Clee – Safer Roads Team Leader, Worcestershire County Council

Bridget Cooper - Children's Services, Worcestershire County Council

James Cooper – Community Safety Project Officer, Redditch Borough Council

Dave Evans – Children's Services, Worcestershire County Council

Michelle Garrett – Business Support Manager, Street Scene & Community Services, Bromsgrove District Council

Clive Griffiths – West Mercia Constabulary

David Hemming – Community Safety Manager, Wychavon District Council

Kathryn Hebbert – Community Safety and Partnerships Officer, Wyre Forest District Council

Sue Horrobin – Waste Manager, Redditch Borough Council

Bev Houghton – Community Safety Manager, Redditch Borough Council

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Jude Langton – Community Safety Coordinator , Safer Worcester

Anne Mann – North Worcestershire Manager, Youth Offending Service

Phillipa McDonald – Principal Research Officer, Worcestershire County Council

Hollie Phillips – Intelligence Analyst, West Mercia Constabulary

Angela Preece – Street Scene Supervisor, Wyre Forest District Council

David Pritchard – Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service

Kate Ray – Programme Lead, Communities and Alcohol, Worcestershire SMAT

Guy Revans – Head of Environmental Services, Redditch Borough Council

Angie Rich – Community Safety Coordinator, Malvern Hills

Graham Rocke – Community Safety Manager, Bromsgrove District Council

#### Appendix 4: Appendix 4: Acknowledgements

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Launa Walker – Programme Manager, South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership

Simon Wilkes – Trading Standards, Worcestershire County Council

Katherine Woakes – Intelligence Analyst, West Mercia Constabulary

## Annex Ba – Prioritisation

In order to prioritise the themes for further investigation within this document, a prioritisation matrix was used to identify the main themes. These themes were selected on the basis of how much they contribute (on a scale of one to four) a number of criteria, including volume of crime/incident, level of performance, trend, seriousness, and public concern. For Bromsgrove, the results were as follows:

Figure 1: Prioritisation Matrix of Community Safety Themes in Bromsgrove, September 2008

Type	Volume	Performance	Trend	Seriousness	Public		TOTAL
					Concern	PESTELO	
Assaults	1	1	1	3	2	3	11
Criminal Damage	4	2	3	2	3	4	18
Domestic Burglary	1	1	1	3	3	3	12
Acquisitive Crime	1	1	1	3	2	2	10
Litter	3	2	2	2	2	2	13
Fires	1	1	1	3	2	2	10
ASB - Youth	4	3	3	2	3	3	18
ASB - Alcohol	4	3	3	3	3	3	19
Road Traffic Collisions	1	1	1	3	2	2	10
Alcohol Related Harm/Disorder	3	3	3	3	3	3	18
Sexual Offences	1	1	1	4	1	1	9

Key: 1= little cause for Concern, 2=Slight cause for concern, 3=significant cause for concern, 4=high cause for concern.

From the table above, there are a number of concerns in Bromsgrove that appear to be of similar priority. Since some of the issues are known to overlap, the following four priority themes were identified.

- Criminal Damage
- Litter
- ASB – Youth
- ASB – Alcohol
- Alcohol Related Violent Crime (combines assaults and alcohol related disorder)

## Annex B1 – Youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour

### 1. Issue

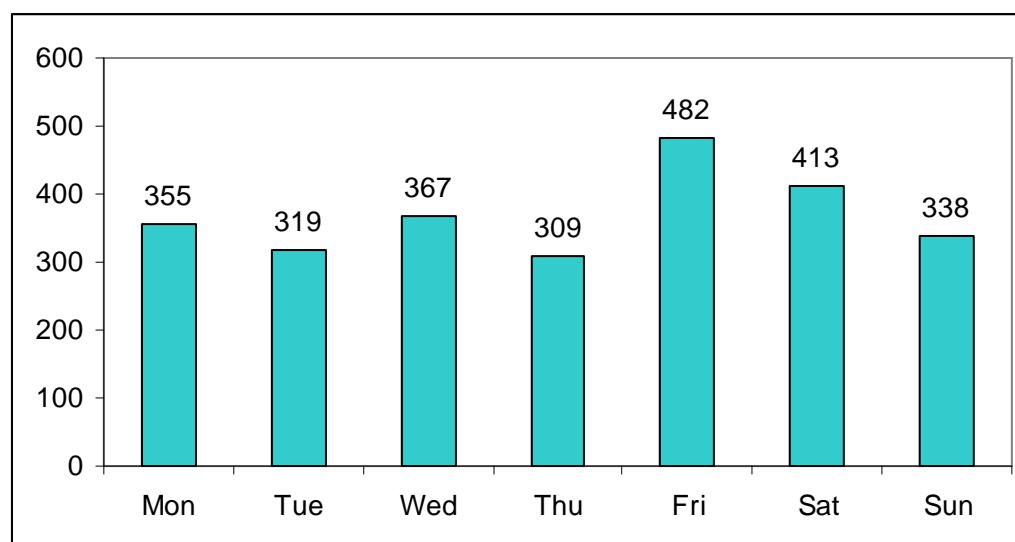
Anti-social behaviour is recorded on the Operational Information System maintained by West Mercia Constabulary. Reports are logged based on all '999' calls and calls to the non-emergency number, with the call taker assigning the incident to a relevant category. The total number of anti-social behaviour incidents is defined as those recorded with an AS (Anti-Social Behaviour) code, under the various categories. Reports can also be created by Police Officers and Staff, but initial reports of anti-social behaviour are not always investigated or verified. Volumes of reported anti-social behaviour are likely to be affected by an individual calling about the same issue a number of times; several individuals reporting the same issue; the police and other agencies proactively encouraging the reporting of anti-social behaviour; under reporting due to high tolerance or fear of repercussions.

### Problem Profile

A total of 5091 ASB incidents were reported in Bromsgrove District between August 2007 and July 2008<sup>8</sup>. Of those, 2388 or 47% were flagged up as being youth related by a key word search of the log text<sup>9</sup>

### *Temporal Analysis*

Figure 1: Youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour by Day, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

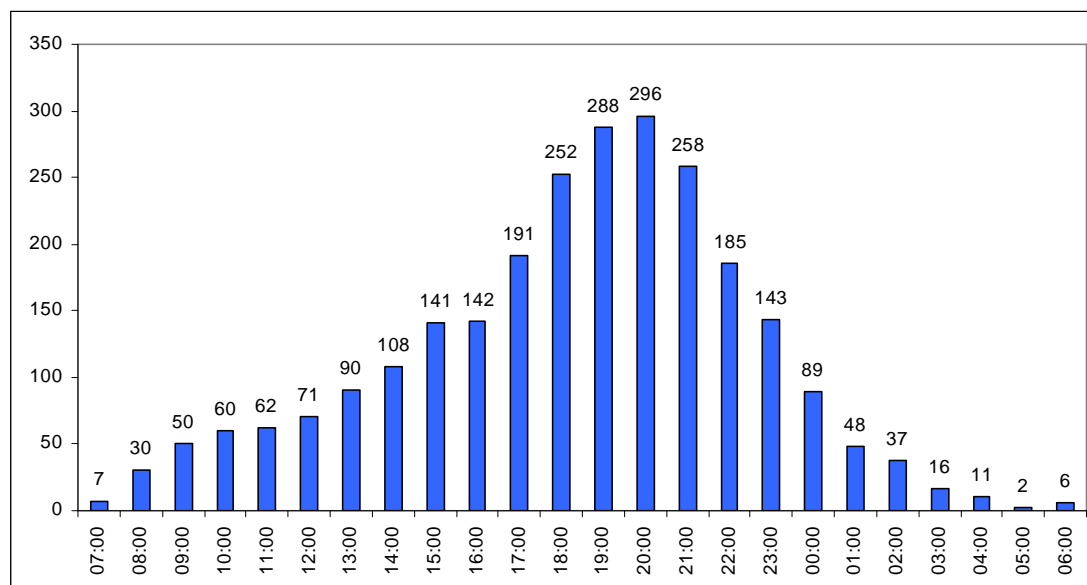
Over the last year, youth related ASB incidents have been most common on a Friday. During the school holidays, the weekend increase in incidents is much less pronounced than during term time, leading to a fairly even spread over the days of the week when looking at the year as a whole.

<sup>8</sup> Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

<sup>9</sup> (key words: youth, young, kid, child, boy, girl, lad, yth)



Figure 2: Youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour by Hour, August 2007 to July 2008

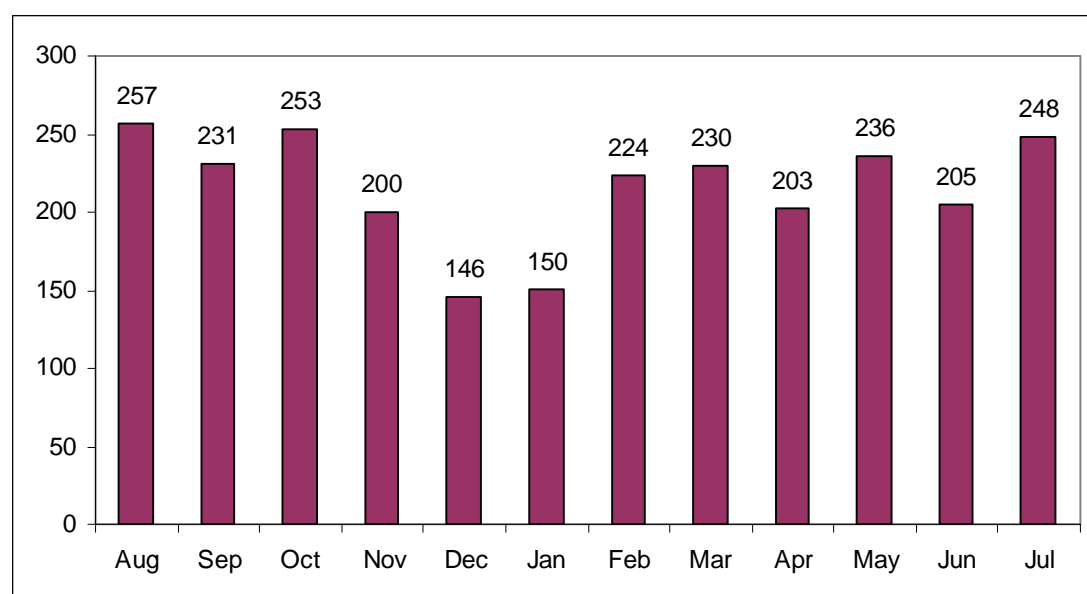


Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

The peak time for incidents is between 8 and 9 p.m. Almost half of all incidents (n=1094 or 42%) occur between 6 and 10 p.m.

Again, this pattern varies depending on the time of year, with an earlier peak in incidents through the winter months, and more incidents late in the evening and into the early morning through the summer.

Figure 3: Youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour in Bromsgrove, August 2007 to July 2008

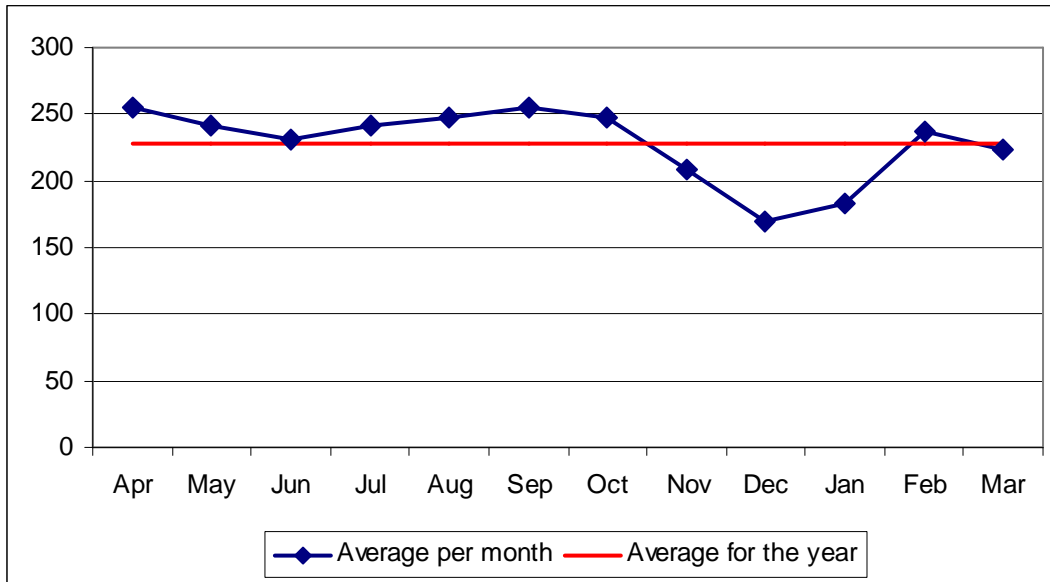


Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

During the last 12 months, youth related ASB peaked in August 2007 at 257 incidents, with notable high points in October 2007 (n=253) and July 2008 (n=248) in

keeping with the seasonal trend of the last few years (high frequency in spring/summer, lower in winter).

Figure 4: Average number of youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents per month (data range: April 2006 - August 2008)



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

The seasonal trend in terms of youth related ASB follows much the same pattern as that of ASB as a whole, showing the strength of the influence youth related incidents have on total recorded ASB. Incidents are highest in number in April, remaining above the average for the year through to October. After Halloween, the number of incidents per month drops quickly to the low point in December, beginning to climb again after January.

#### *The Influence of School Holidays*

Due to the high volume of youth related incidents in Bromsgrove, the pattern of total ASB over the course of the year is highly influenced by the school holidays. Over the last two financial years (2006/07 and 2007/08) the average number of youth related ASB incidents per week in Bromsgrove increased during the holidays on average by 5 incidents per week, a 12.5% increase compared to term time.

The comparative increase is greatest during the Easter Holidays, averaging 19 incidents per week more than term time, an increase of 48%.

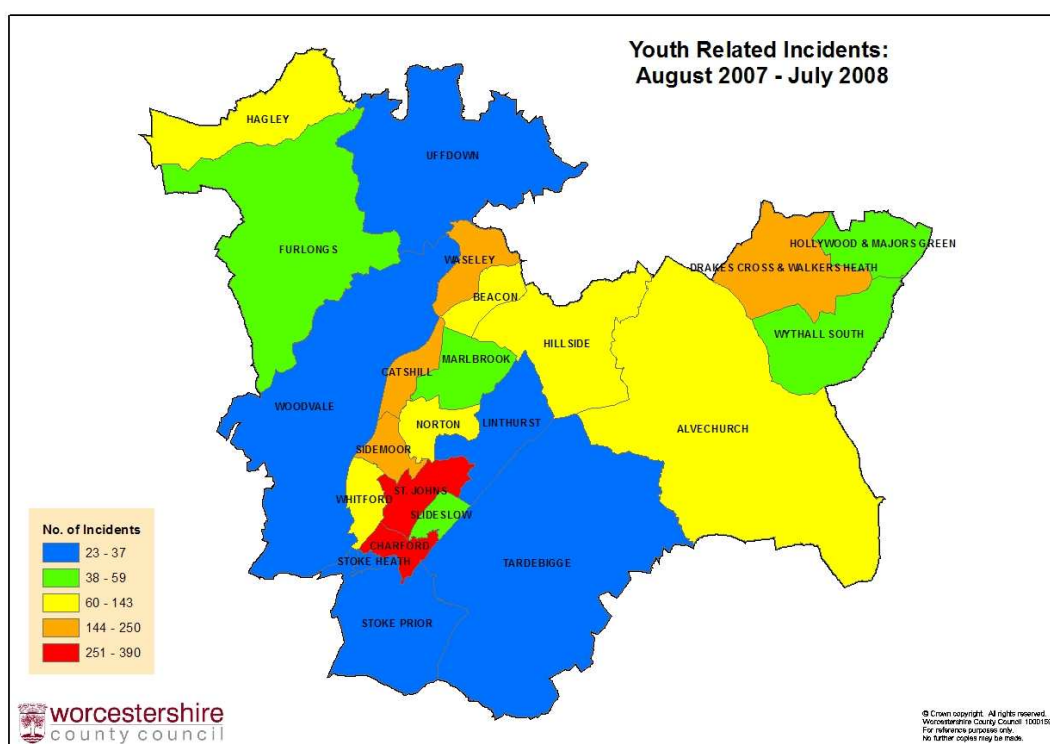
It is important to note that patterns in ASB, especially those reported to be related to young people in the school holidays, can be greatly influenced by the weather. The number of reports of nuisance gatherings is likely to be greater in hotter and drier weather.

#### Geographical Analysis

Anti-social behaviour incidents are allocated to a ward by plotting the grid co-ordinates as logged in OIS database using ArcGIS, and therefore the number of incidents per ward is only as accurate as the easting and northing given.

Figure 5: Youth Related ASB Incidents by Ward, August 2007 to July 2008

Bromsgrove Annex B1: Youth-related anti-social behaviour



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Figure 6: Number of Youth-related ASB Incidents per ward, August 2007 to July 2008 – Top 10 Wards

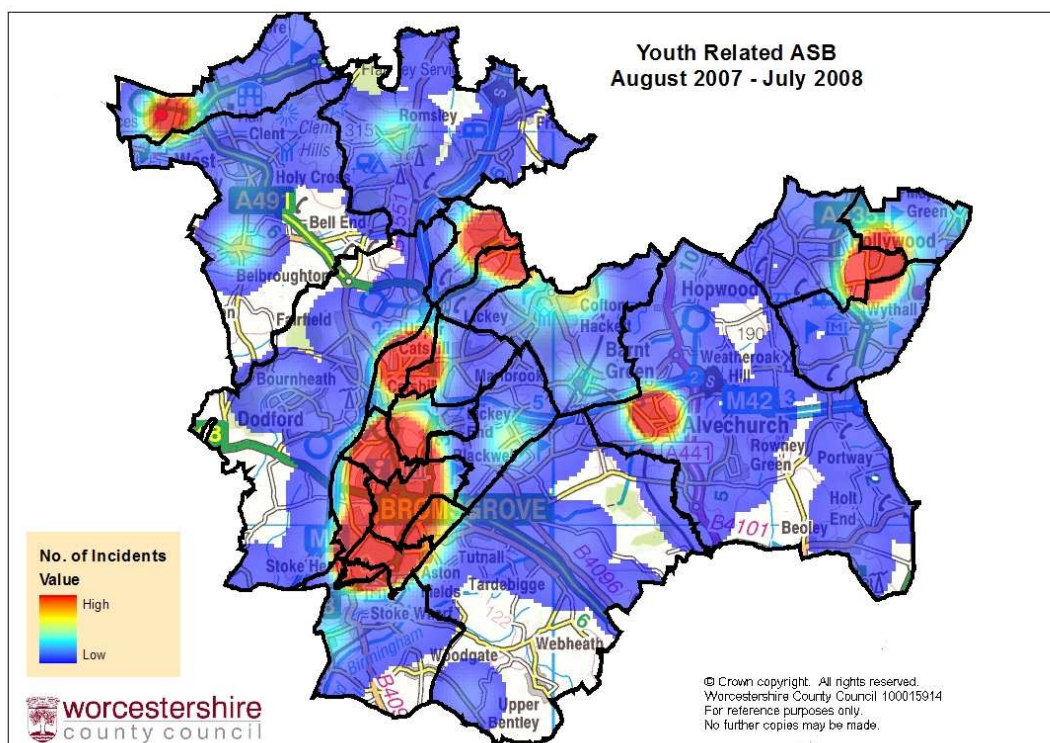
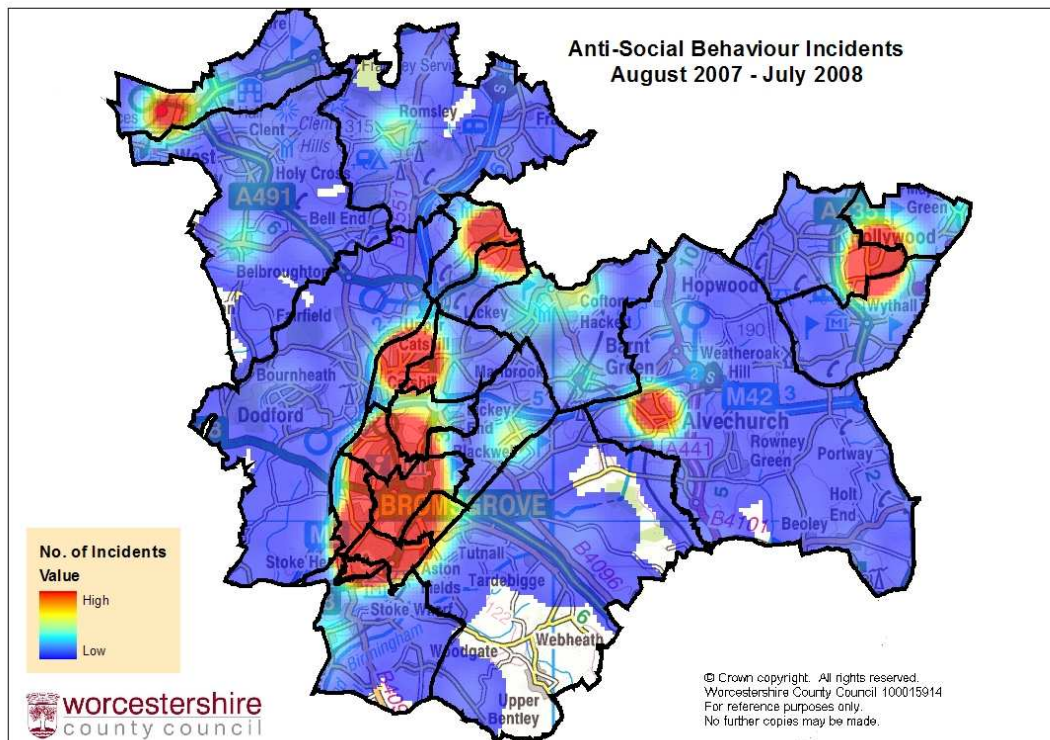
Ward	No. Incidents
St Johns	390
Charford	337
Sidemoor	250
Waseley	216
Catshill	186
Drakes Cross & Walkers Heath	177
Alvechurch	143
Beacon	96
Hagley	96
Whitford	91

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

As with total ASB, St Johns is the ward where most youth-related incidents were recorded, closely followed by Charford. 66% of all incidents were recorded within the top 7 wards (30% of the wards in the District).

Bromsgrove Annex B1: Youth-related anti-social behaviour

Figure 7: Anti-Social Behaviour Location of Incidents (by Hotspot) – Total ASB and Youth-related Incidents



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

The similarities between the size and intensity of total ASB and youth related ASB hotspots indicate just how much influence over total incidents recorded youth related incidents have. Thus, by specifically targeting youth behaviour, and perceptions of the behaviour of young people, the Partnership will be able to make significant alterations to the pattern of ASB recording within the District.

## Bromsgrove Annex B1: Youth-related anti-social behaviour

The hotspot maps in figure 7 reveal the specific localities where youth related ASB is an issue. These include Bromsgrove town including Sidemoor, Charford, Whitford and Stoke Heath areas as well as the villages of Catshill, Alvechurch, Rubery, Hagley and Wythall.

NB: Many reports of anti-social behaviour are made straight to the local registered social landlord (e.g. Bromsgrove District Housing Trust) or to the Neighbourhood wardens. Therefore, potentially a significant number of incidents do not get recorded in Police OIS system, hence a problem profile based solely on incidents recorded by the Police may not tell the complete story.

### *Categories of Anti-Social Behaviour*

Figure 8: Youth-related Anti-Social Behaviour by Category, August 2007 to July 2008.

<b>ASB Category</b>	<b>No. of Incidents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Nuisance - Rowdy Behaviour	1855	77.68%
Vehicle Related Nuisance	363	15.20%
Nuisance Neighbours	95	3.98%
Fireworks	27	1.13%
Street Drinking	27	1.13%
Harassment Incident	20	0.84%
Substance Misuse	1	0.04%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2388</b>	

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Over three-quarters (n=1855 or 78%) of youth related incidents were recorded as rowdy behaviour, compared to 59% of total ASB in the same time period. This equates to 66% of total rowdy behaviour complaints in the District that were youth related. This is clearly, therefore, the category where the partnership can have the most influence when attempting to reduce the number of ASB reports logged.

Interestingly, youth related incidents also account for 65% of total fireworks reports, and 63% of street drinking, as opposed to just 42% of vehicle related nuisance.

### July 2008 Snapshot

Since rowdy behaviour accounts for such a large proportion of total ASB it is necessary to examine individual reports for a perspective on specific types of behaviour. To complete this analysis for the study period August 2007 to July 2008 (a total of 2826 records in Bromsgrove) was considered to be too time-consuming for this assessment. Consequently, the decision was made to conduct a "snapshot" analysis of incidents recorded during July 2008 across the County. In Bromsgrove, there were 586 ASB reports in July 2008, of which 322 were categorised as nuisance-rowdy behaviour.

The snapshot analysis was undertaken using the same methodology for all districts in Worcestershire, in order for it to be possible for the results to then also be used to draw comparisons between different areas.

Figure 9: Perpetrators of rowdy behaviour in North Worcestershire, July 2008

Perpetrator	Bromsgrove	Redditch	Wyre Forest	North Worcs.
Adult	11.2%	13.1%	15.6%	13.5%
Unknown	34.2%	51.1%	33.5%	38.9%
Youth	54.7%	46.3%	50.9%	50.7%

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

As figure 9 shows, in July 2008, Bromsgrove recorded the highest proportion of incidents with youth perpetrators of the North Worcestershire Districts with 55% of incidents compared to 46% in Redditch, 51% in Wyre Forest and 51% in North Worcestershire as a whole.

Figure 10: Type of behaviour reported, July 2008

Type of Behaviour	Bromsgrove	Redditch	Wyre Forest	North Worcs.
Gathering	18.63%	11.82%	16.28%	15.68%
Criminal Damage	16.15%	4.47%	11.63%	10.89%
Verbal abuse & threats	15.53%	18.85%	16.51%	16.90%
Misc	14.29%	12.46%	17.91%	15.21%
Violence	9.01%	15.02%	13.72%	12.68%
Stone Throwing	7.76%	8.63%	1.63%	5.54%
Intimidation	4.66%	1.92%	4.19%	3.66%
Football/sports	3.73%	1.92%	2.56%	2.72%
Noise	3.73%	7.03%	6.51%	5.82%
Banging on doors	2.48%	4.79%	5.81%	4.51%
Unknown	2.17%	0.00%	0.00%	0.66%
Fires	1.86%	2.88%	0.93%	1.78%

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Bromsgrove also recorded a higher proportion of incidents related to gathering, criminal damage/vandalism and football/sports in July than any other North Worcestershire district. These types of incidents are generally regarded as the types of behaviours commonly linked to youth perpetrators, therefore implying that there is a greater youth-related ASB problem in Bromsgrove than other Districts. Also, stone throwing, another behaviour synonymous with youths, accounted for 7.76% of rowdy behaviour reports in July 2008 in Bromsgrove, compared to just 1.63% in Wyre Forest and a North Worcestershire average of 5.54%.

When looking specifically at the youth related incidents in Bromsgrove in July 2008 (see figure 10), the most common cause for complaint was gathering youths, followed by incidents related to damage being caused, or the threat of damage being caused.

Figure 11: Type of behaviour reported, Youth-related Incidents only, July 2008

Type of Behaviour	No. of Incidents	Percentage
Gathering	54	30.68%
Criminal Damage	35	19.89%
Verbal abuse & threats	20	11.36%
Stone Throwing	17	9.66%
Football/sports	12	6.82%
Miscellaneous	10	5.68%
Violence	8	4.55%
Noise	7	3.98%
Intimidation	5	2.84%
Banging on doors	4	2.27%
Fires	4	2.27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Miscellaneous includes:

- 4 instances of concern for the safety of the youths involved in ASB
- 3 incidents where youths were trespassing on private property
- An incident when alcohol was seized from an underage drinker, and one reporting underage drinking in a licensed premise.
- An incident of theft

Figure 12: Location of Incidents, July 2008

Where	Bromsgrove	Redditch	Wyre Forest	North Worcs.
Street	32.92%	34.19%	21.86%	28.83%
Dwelling	25.78%	23.32%	21.63%	23.38%
Open Space	15.22%	5.75%	13.26%	11.64%
Public Building	15.22%	18.85%	18.84%	17.75%
Licensed Premise	6.83%	4.79%	3.72%	4.98%
Unknown	3.42%	13.10%	19.30%	12.68%
Other	0.31%			0.09%
Transport	0.31%		1.40%	0.66%

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Figure 12 highlights again the effect of the high frequency of youth related incidents in Bromsgrove. The district has a comparatively high proportion of incidents that occur in open spaces – 15% compared to just 6% in Redditch and an average across North Worcestershire of 12%. The actual amount of open spaces and parks may be a factor in this, but the trend also highlights again that one of the major issues in Bromsgrove at the moment is youths gathering. Incidents in open spaces and recreation areas are more likely to be those associated with youths, as more adult based incidents such as neighbour nuisance or drunken behaviour associated with the night time economy are more likely to occur in residential streets, or streets in the town centre.



Figure 13: Location of Youth-related Incidents, Bromsgrove, July 2008

Location of Incidents	Total	Percentage
Street	59	33.52%
Dwelling	42	23.86%
Open Space	40	22.73%
Public Building	29	16.48%
Licensed Premise	3	1.70%
Garage	1	0.57%
Transport	1	0.57%
Unknown	1	0.57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

By far the most youth related incidents took place in the street, either in residential or commercial areas. 24% took place in or just outside dwellings, and 23% were in open spaces.

## 2. Justification

### Local Concerns

#### *Partners and Communities Together (PACT)*

It is not always clear from the category description titles under which PACT issues are recorded whether or not they were linked to young people. Furthermore, some issues raised at meetings could fall into a number of categories, and so youth related issues may not always be recorded in the "Youth Related" category. In order to establish a more accurate assessment of the number of youth-related issues, all records were examined in greater detail. The results are presented in figure 14. PACT represents the views of only those residents who take the time to attend meetings and therefore the sample size may skew findings.

Figure 14: Issues related to youth ASB raised at Bromsgrove PACT Meetings, August 2007 to July 2008

Category	Description	No. of issues
Anti-social Behaviour	Inappropriate gathering in public places	30
	Other	21
	Noise: Swearing and Shouting	3
	Noise: Vehicles (e.g. Exhausts/revving)	2
	Fireworks Being Set Off	1
Criminal Damage	Vandalism/Graffiti	21
Alcohol Related	Under age Drinking (Supply to Under 18s)	8
	Drunken Disorder	4
	Street Drinking	5
Youth Related	Youths Inappropriate Gathering	4
	Lack of youth facilities	4
Vehicle Related	Mini Mopeds/Vehicles Cruising	7
	Boy Racers	3
Drugs/Substance Misuse	Drug Use	1

Source: West Mercia Constabulary, September 2008



## Bromsgrove Annex B1: Youth-related anti-social behaviour

Youth related issues have been raised a total of 106 times in PACT meeting across the District over the last year, accounting for 36% of the total number of issues raised. Youth issues seem to be most prominent in:

- St Johns – gathering outside food outlets, in Sanders park etc. prompting complaints about littering and noise, especially after school.
- Sidemoor – loitering gangs of youths at a number of locations across the ward
- Charford – ASB, damage and mini mopeds.
- Catshill – Lingfield Walk and racecourse area.
- Alvechurch – where specific mention of the lack of youth facilities led to the implementation of a new Multi-Use Games Area facility. Nuisance behaviour, noise and feeling of intimidations causing by gangs of people were the main issues of concern.
- Waseley – where a complaint of youths drinking on Rednal Hill Lane led to an application for an Alcohol Free Zone.

### *BVPI Survey 2006/07*

3 of the 23 wards in Bromsgrove District identified activities for teenagers as the top priority for improvement in their area. These were Alvechurch, Drakes Cross & Walkers Heath and Charford.

### *British Crime Survey (BCS) 2007/08:*

Of the 7 strands of ASB used in the British Crime Survey 2007/08 to indicate perception of ASB, the one which respondents are most concerned about nationally is teenagers hanging around on the street, with 31% of people stating that this was a problem.

### *Citizens Panel June 2008*

47% of Bromsgrove respondents said that availability of activities for teenagers was poor or very poor in their area, 6.5% more than the average for the County. Furthermore, 55% of residents in Bromsgrove said that the quality of existing activities for teenagers was poor or very poor, compared to a 31.7% Worcestershire average.

People or groups in the street making others feel intimidated was thought to be a minor problem by 50% of Bromsgrove residents, compared to an average of 45.6% in the county, and 13.2% thought it was a major problem. Only 25.6% of residents did not think it was a problem.

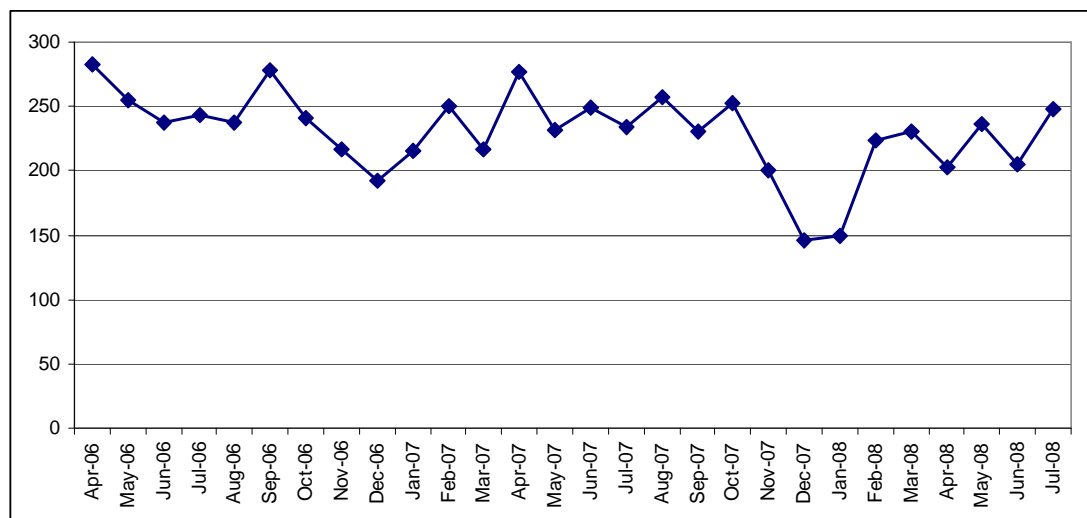
### *West Mercia Crime & Safety Survey 2008*

70% of respondents agreed that groups of people loitering or hanging around in public places was a problem in their local neighbourhood, and 30% thought that this was one of the 3 issues which should be addressed first across the District, an increase on the 25% of residents in the 2007 survey.

64% of residents agreed that the use of fixed penalty notices to tackle anti-social behaviour would be an effective approach.

## Trend

Figure 15: Youth Related Incidents per month, April 06 to July 08



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

So far this year total ASB has fluctuated month on month, varying between a lower a higher number of incidents than the same months in 2007. During June 2008, the number of incidents was particularly low, and in July it was comparatively high. As the pattern of ASB is linked to the weather, in warmer months, more people spend time outside, and remain outdoors later into the evening, prompting complaints of noise nuisance. In wetter weather, residents tend to stay inside or in sheltered areas so they are not as likely to be noticed by the complainants.

Youth related ASB clearly follows a seasonal pattern with lows in the winter months compared to highs through the spring and summer. In the current financial year, from April to July, the number of youth related ASB incidents was 15% lower than the same period in 2007/08 suggesting a decreasing trend.

## Tasking Priorities

ASB has been the main subject or an incorporated feature in CDRP Tasking 7 times since April 07, and was the main focus of every meeting from April to August 2008. It is therefore clearly a recurring issue affecting a range of partners.

Youth ASB, specifically related to Sanders Park on a Friday evening, has been raised at Tasking a number of times in recent months, and as a result, the neighbourhood wardens have assisted the police in combating this issue.

## Risk

As the new LAA and PSA targets set for the partnership are more focused on perceptions of ASB, not tackling problem could lead to those targets not being reached, with possible financial implications.

Though youth related ASB may currently be associated with the less serious types of crime and disorder, there is a potential for the young people perpetrating the behaviour today to progress on to more serious crimes in the future. Therefore, early

intervention and distraction from potentially criminal activities could help in the long run to reduce crime.

### Other Factors – PESTELO Analysis

The redevelopment of Bromsgrove town centre, and of the former MG Rover site at Longbridge, could bring additional facilities for young people in the area, thus helping to reduce ASB levels.

Bromsgrove has an ageing population: the proportion of the population aged 60 or over has increased since the 2001 census by 2.27%<sup>10</sup>. The proportion of the population aged 19 or below has also increased, though only by 0.05%. With over 60's and under 19's already accounting for almost half of the population of the District, further increases could lead to an enhancement of existing issues and lack of community cohesion. Any further increase in the younger population could put further strain on the limited resources available for young people in the area.

The redevelopment of the old motor works at Longbridge also brings with it the potential for a high number of affordable housing sites in the District. Current plans are to build 1,450 new houses in the area. However, the current economic situation raises questions as to whether these houses will even be built, and if they are, whether or not the more expensive end of the housing stock will be sold.

The provision of £10,000 by GOWN to be used for street lighting bids could provide a key opportunity to improve the lighting situation in Sanders Park and other ASB hotspots across the District. Furthermore, improvement of the quality of CCTV equipment across Bromsgrove may help to deter young people from gathering in key areas.

Merged services between Bromsgrove and Redditch councils, beginning with the merge of the Community Safety Teams, could lead to a change in the way the partnership is able to operate. Specifically, this could affect the way the Neighbourhood Wardens operate and the amount of time they are able to spend helping to tackle ASB in person around the District.

Limited funding and resources can present a significant risk to the outcomes related to youth ASB, as outreach and youth work and implementation of youth facilities can be effective yet expensive.

### **3. Adding Value**

Multi-agency meetings are already frequently taking place at South Bromsgrove High School with great effect. This type of meeting could be rolled out and used in all the High Schools in the District. This would help the partnership to present a unified approach to youth ASB between schools, youth services, sports development, Neighbourhood Wardens, Police etc.

Through the partnership, all agencies can utilise intelligence to target their services where the need is greatest, and work together to ensure that all areas are covered. For example, working together and ensuring that all partners are aware of activities being run by other agencies is vital, so that if, for example, the Police are running sport activities for youths in Charford, the District Council can target another area.

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<sup>10</sup> Source: ONS mid-2007 estimates ([www.worcestershire.gov.uk/research](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/research))

There is an opportunity for partners to work together to instigate improved data quality and information sharing protocols. The partnership has links to several data analysts, whose skills can be utilised to provide guidance to a range of partners in order to improve the quality of the data they record and therefore the reports they produce.

There is currently a gap in terms of the strategic priorities of individual partners. All agencies have protocols to follow and targets to reach. Issues arise where these targets vary, making it difficult to present a partnership approach to problem solving. For example, County Youth Services have targets in their business plan based on certified outcomes of work they undertake with young people. These can be met by inclusion of young people on courses such as the Duke of Edinburgh award. However, this type of interaction with young people, though beneficial, has a limited capacity in terms of the number of young people it can reach. The strategic priority for the Community Safety Partnership is to reduce youth related ASB, and many of the recommendations in this assessment focus on providing facilities and activities that reach a wide range of young people of varying ages, with a range of interests, in order to affect the trends in large gatherings. Therefore, if the youth service were to engage in this process, they would not be continuing to work towards their own targets and risk not meeting them. In order to provide a joint response to ASB and youth issues, it is essential that the strategic priorities of all agencies involved follow the same ethos, so each partner is able to aid the resolution of highlighted issues without the risk of not hitting their business plan targets.

#### **4. Measuring Effectiveness**

There are a number of indicators in the new performance framework which measure perceptions of ASB. There is a target to reduce the percentage of people in the survey area who think ASB is a problem. Subsections of this survey question will allow us to identify areas where work is most needed to reduce youth related ASB and improve perceptions.

Public perceptions of youth ASB will be measured through the Place Survey and the West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey, as well as monitoring under National Indicators:

- NI 17 - perceptions of anti-social behaviour.
- NI 21 – Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
- NI 27 – Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by local council and police.

The level of incident reporting can also be monitored through OIS ASB logs, as well as through the number of incidents reported to Neighbourhood Wardens, BDHT and through PACT.

#### **5. What Can We Do**

Recommendations for partnership planning are made following the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to classify initiatives/actions into prevention, intelligence, enforcement, reassurance (PIER).

##### Prevention

*Diversionsary Activities* – Provision of a range of activities including things that will appeal to a wide range of interests. Sports based activities are wide-spread and very

well received across the district already. To reach a broad range of young people, it may be necessary to provide additional activities following different themes in order to reach those young people who do not wish to participate in sports.

*Improved youth services and youth facilities* – for example an increase provision of youth club nights and outreach work, give young people a place to go without the imposition of a structured activity.

### **Intelligence**

*Intelligence-led targeted youth support* - Use of data analysis to target youth support in hotspot areas, and continual monitoring to ensure it remains effective in the area where it is most needed.

*Improve the quality of the available data* –

Police OIS recording: assess the possibility of adding an age field to report logs, even if it was just “youth” or “adult” in relation to the perpetrator or complainant.

Recording of incidents by other agencies: establish a data sharing protocol with BDHT and Neighbourhood Wardens, including a regular agreement to provide updates. Ensure that the data captured is informative and accurate by assessing the current recording systems.

*Alignment of Strategic Priorities between Partner Agencies* - Ensure that the strategic priorities of partners are aligned so that all agencies are able to engage in a unified approach to solving the problem, whilst still able to hit their own individual targets.

### **Enforcement**

*Use of Fixed Penalty Notices for Anti-Social Behaviour* – ensure that useful data is collected and stored to aid the work towards achieving a holistic profile of ASB in the District by increasing available data sources.

### **Reassurance**

*Community Cohesion Strategy* – tackling perceptions between older and younger age groups by use of existing initiatives like the Silver Hoodies, as well as implementation of more community based projects.

*Public Education and Publicity Campaigns* – advertisement of the definition of anti-social behaviour and provision of alternative routes to incident reporting to ensure that the data stored by Operational Information System is accurate.

*Education* – Work closely with schools and youth groups to inform young people of the definition of ASB and help to discourage unacceptable behaviour.

## Annex B2 – Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour

### 1. Issue

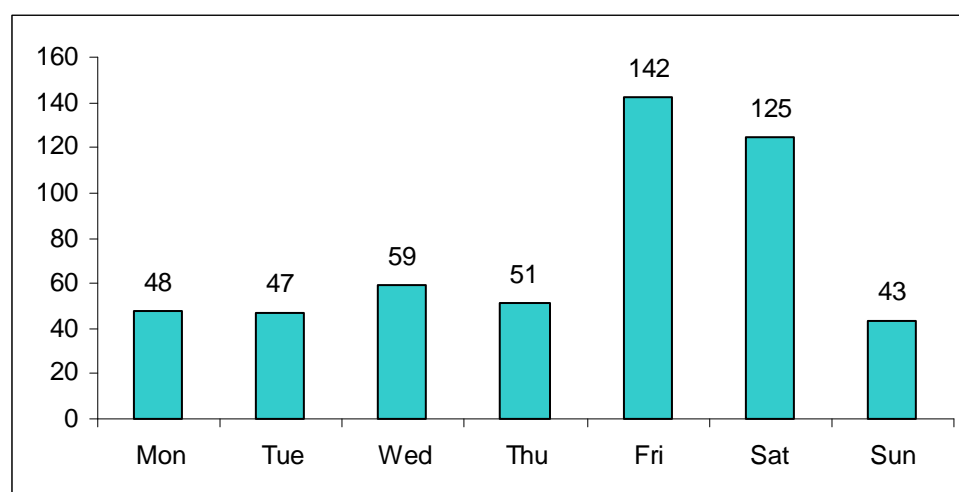
Anti-social behaviour is recorded on the Operational Information System maintained by West Mercia Constabulary. Reports are logged based on all '999' calls and calls to the non-emergency number, with the call taker assigning the incident to a relevant category. The total number of anti-social behaviour incidents is defined as those recorded with an AS (Anti-Social Behaviour) code, under the various categories. Reports can also be created by Police Officers and Staff, but initial reports of anti-social behaviour are not always investigated or verified. Volumes of reported anti-social behaviour are likely to be affected by an individual calling about the same issue a number of times; several individuals reporting the same issue; the police and other agencies proactively encouraging the reporting of anti-social behaviour; under reporting due to high tolerance or fear of repercussions.

#### Problem profile

A total of 5091 ASB incidents were reported in Bromsgrove District between August 2007 to July 2008<sup>11</sup>. Of those, 515, or 10%, were flagged up as being linked to alcohol by a key word search of the log text<sup>12</sup>, or by having taken place within a licensed premise.

#### *Temporal Analysis*

Figure 1: Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour by Day, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Note: Where incidents took place between midnight and 5 a.m. they have been attributed to the previous day.

In a similar pattern to that of total ASB, alcohol related incidents peak over the weekend. However, this pattern is much more pronounced when only looking at

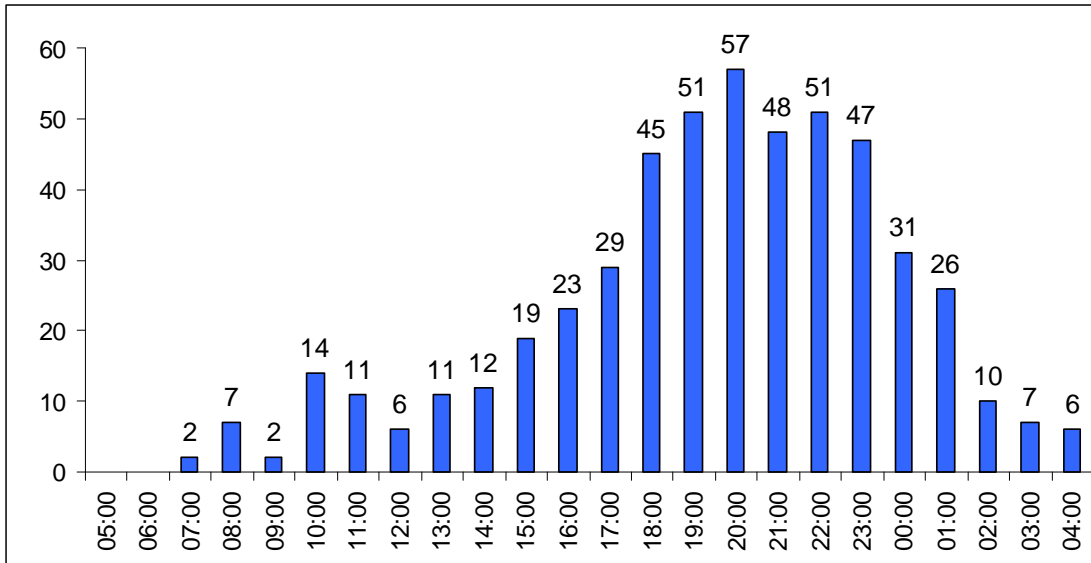
<sup>11</sup> Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

<sup>12</sup> Key words: Drink, drunk, alcohol, intoxicated, public house, licensed premise, wine, beer, vodka, lager, spirit.

Bromsgrove Annex B2: Alcohol-related anti-social behaviour

those incidents linked to alcohol consumption. Friday night seems to be the peak night for disorder.

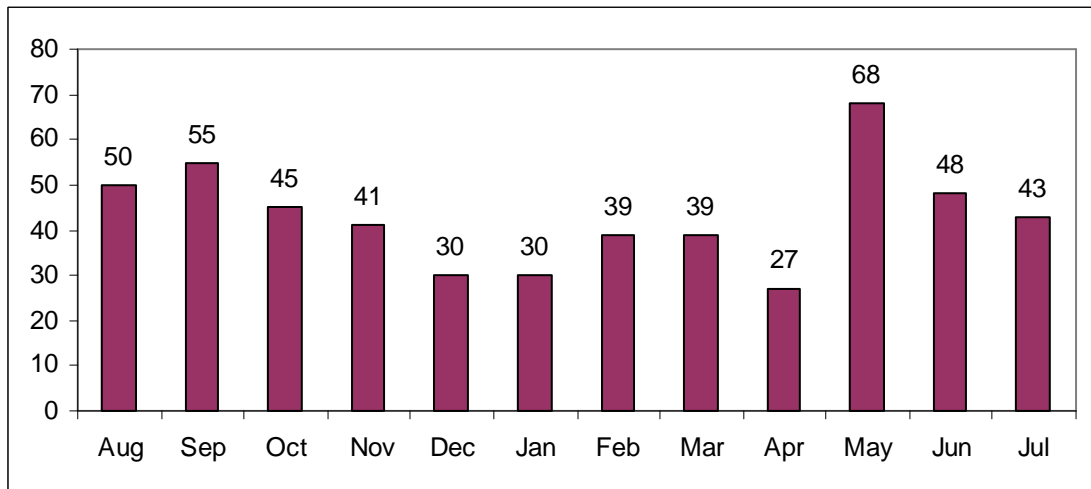
Figure 2: Alcohol- related Anti-Social Behaviour by Hour, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

The peak incident time is 8 p.m. with reports still being logged through to 4 a.m. 40% of incidents occur between 7 and 11 p.m.

Figure 3: Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour in Bromsgrove, August 2007 to July 2008



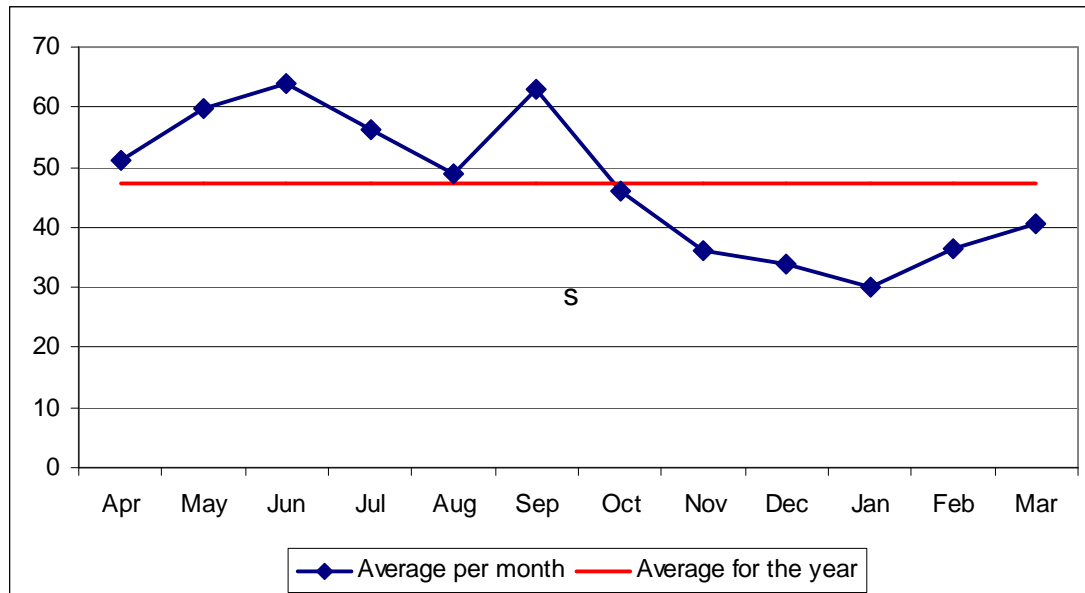
Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

May 2008 was “provisionally the warmest May in series back to 1914 for the UK”<sup>13</sup> so there was an increase in the number of reports of noise and rowdy behaviour disturbing residents as customers sat out in the beer gardens of public houses.

<sup>13</sup> (Source: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/ukweather/year\\_review/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/ukweather/year_review/))

### Seasonal Trend

Figure 4: Average number of Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents per month (Data Range: April 2006 – August 2008)

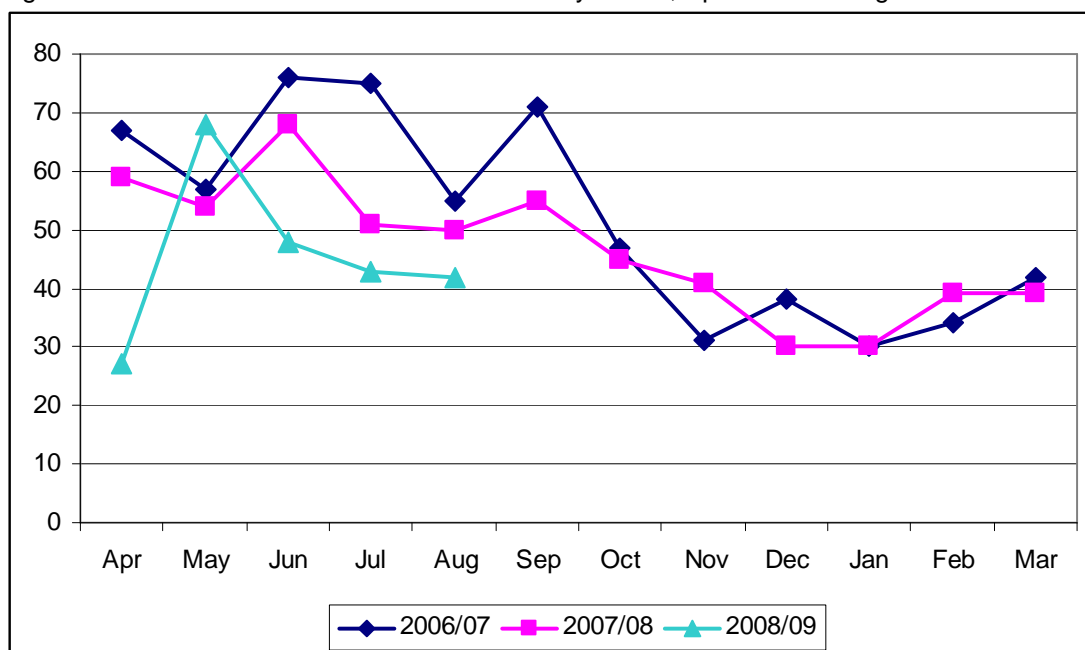


Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Alcohol related ASB follows the same pattern as that of total ASB: above average from April through to September, and below average through the winter.

As figure 5 shows, this pattern has varied slightly year on year.

Figure 5: Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour by month, April 2006 to August 2008.



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

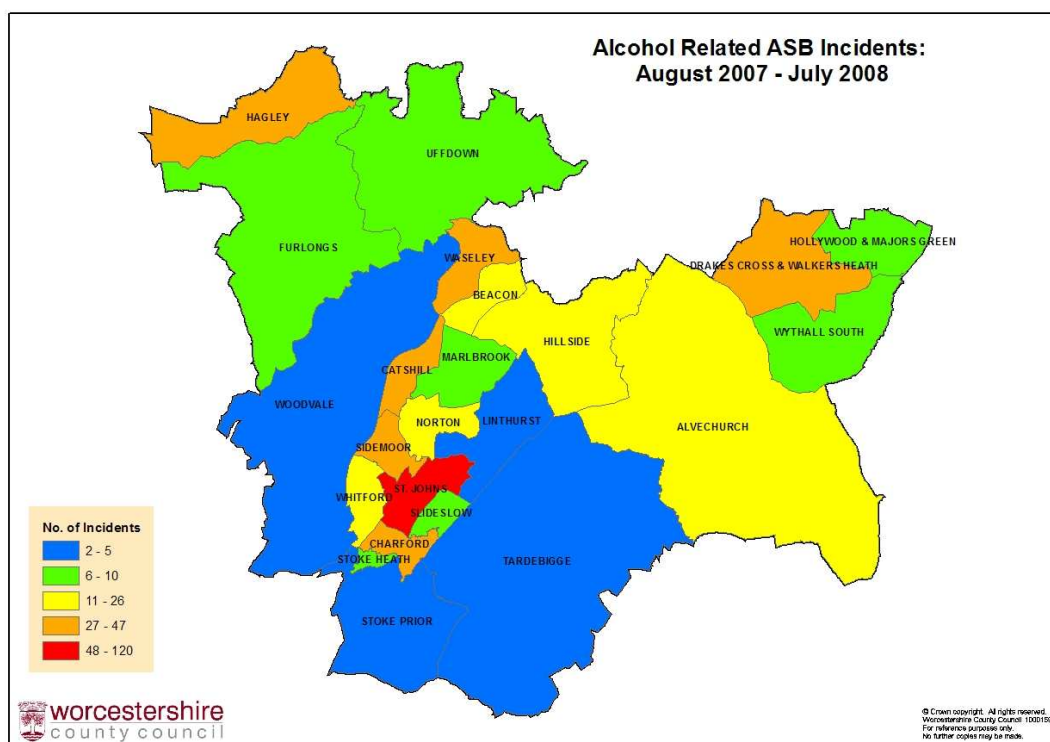
Spikes in June and July in 2006 can be linked to the European football cup.



### Geographical Analysis

Anti-social behaviour incidents are allocated to a ward by plotting the grid co-ordinates as logged in the OIS database using ArcGIS, and therefore the number per ward is only as accurate as the easting and northing given.

Figure 6: Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents by Ward, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Figure 7: Number of Alcohol-related ASB Incidents per ward, August 2007 to July 2008 – Top 10 Wards

Ward Name	No. of Incidents
St Johns	120
Charford	47
Sidemoor	43
Waseley	39
Drakes Cross & Walkers Heath	37
Hagley	31
Catshill	30
Beacon	26
Hillside	23
Whitford	17

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

St Johns is by far the ward where the most alcohol related incidents occur. Reports there account for 24% of the total alcohol related incidents, which is unsurprising as it covers the town centre and not only contains the main pubs and club for the District, but also Sanders Park where there are known to be issues relating to youths drinking.

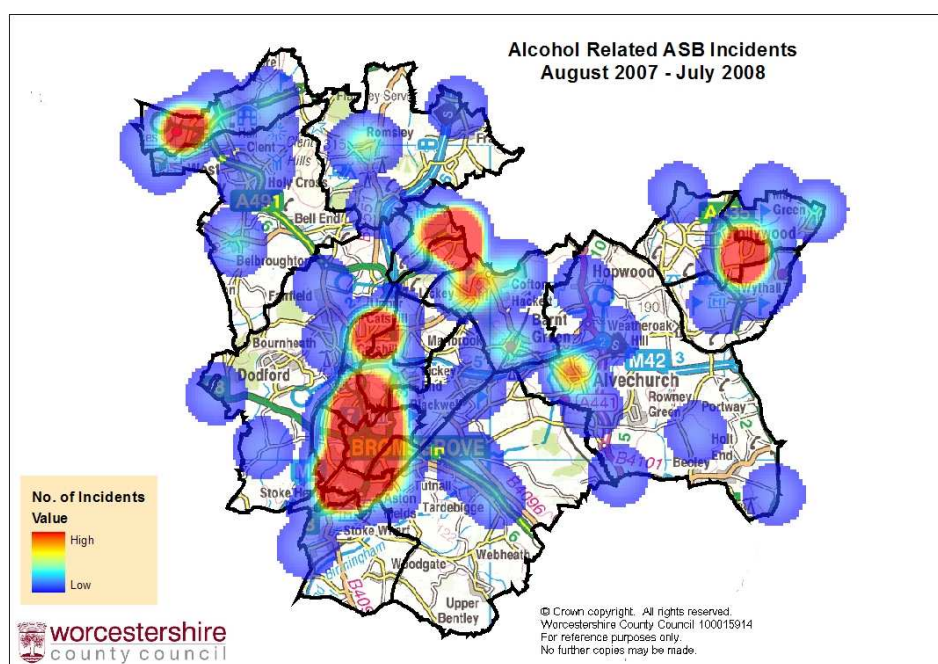
## Bromsgrove Annex B2: Alcohol-related anti-social behaviour

Interestingly, Hagley is the 6<sup>th</sup> ranked ward in terms of number of alcohol-related ASB incidents, but is not typically ranked that highly in terms of total ASB. 24 out of the 31 incidents recorded in Hagley were to do with youths gathering with alcohol – suggesting this is an issue which may not have been covered to the appropriate extent by the partnership.

Hillside does not feature in the top 10 wards for ASB as a whole, but is the 9<sup>th</sup> ranked ward for alcohol related ASB. This is mainly due to instances of youths gathering and drinking on the Lickey Hills.

In the town centre, most incidents are related to adults and the night time economy, though there are also issues to do with underage drinkers in Sanders Park. In the more rural wards, most alcohol related ASB is linked to young people gathering in open spaces and drinking.

Figure 8: Location of Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents (by Hotspot)



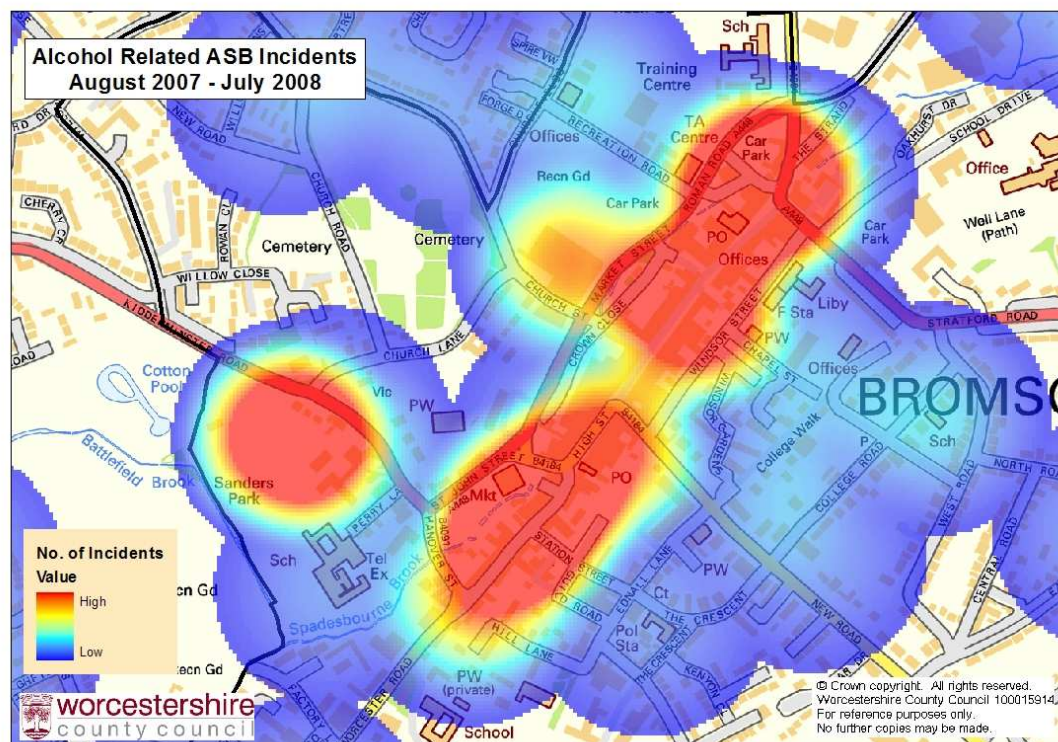
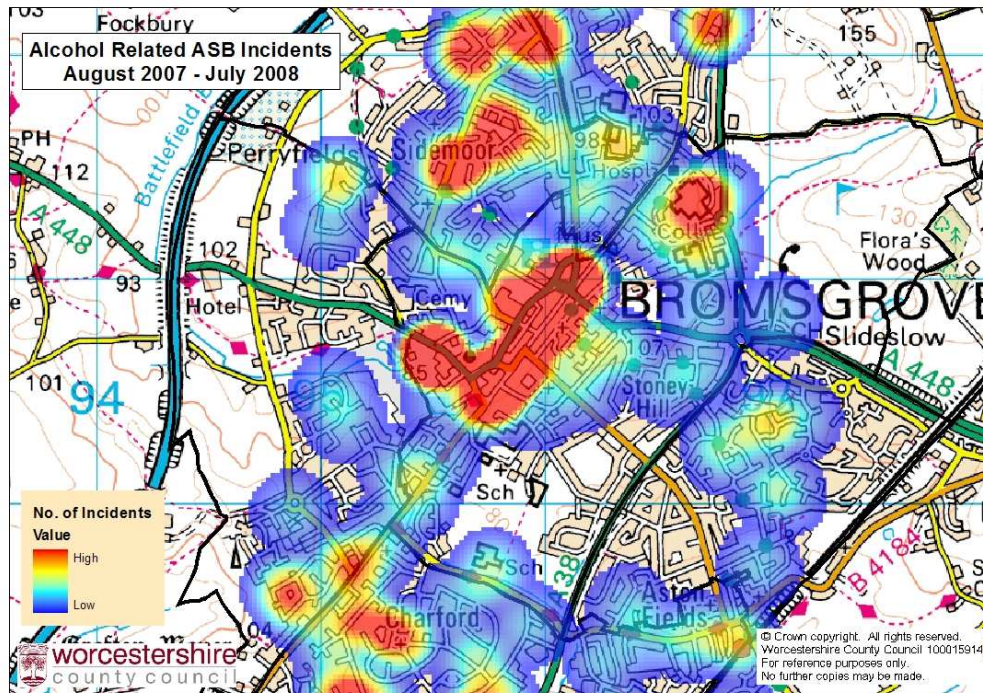
Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Figure 8 shows again the emphasis on Bromsgrove Town centre as the hotspot for alcohol related ASB. It also indicates that there are issues around Rubery, Wythall, Catshill (Lingfield Walk) and Hagley.



## Bromsgrove Annex B2: Alcohol-related anti-social behaviour

Figure 9: Location of Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents (by Hotspot) – Focus on Bromsgrove Town Centre



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

When focusing in on the town centre, it is clear that there is a distinct separation between the 2 main incident areas:

- The night time economy areas at either end of the high street
- Sanders Park where underage youths gather.

*Categories of Anti-Social Behaviour*

Figure 10: Alcohol-related Anti-Social Behaviour by Category, August 2007 – July 2008.

<b>ASB Category</b>	<b>No. of Incidents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Nuisance Rowdy Behaviour	410	79.61%
Street Drinking	41	7.96%
Vehicle Related Nuisance	20	3.88%
Nuisance Neighbours	17	3.30%
Noise Nuisance	7	1.36%
Malicious Communications	6	1.17%
Hoax Call to the Emergency Services	5	0.97%
Harassment Incident	4	0.78%
Environmental Nuisance	4	0.78%
Fireworks	1	0.19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>515</b>	

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Almost 80% of all alcohol-related ASB is logged as rowdy behaviour, followed by around 8% as street drinking. The sum of all other ASB categories account for less than 13% of total alcohol-related ASB.

Problems with data: the use of a key word search is not an entirely accurate and precise method of ensuring all alcohol related incidents are captured. Mis-spelled words, use of other words not included in the key words list, and the use of key words in relation to incidents that are not linked to alcohol may lead to inaccuracies.

With ASB logs, it is sometimes very difficult to define information on the victims and offenders because the log in itself is a measure based on opinion rather than proved fact. Therefore it is difficult to make an assessment based on the profile of perpetrators and complainants. However, it is important to remember that that the offender and victims of alcohol related ASB are sometimes one and the same, especially where young people are concerned. There is a need to tackle the health issues arising from alcohol abuse as well as the ASB issues.

Of the 525 alcohol related incidents between August 2007 and July 2008, 54% were youth related. There is a fairly even split in alcohol related incidents between those that are linked to youths gathering to drink alcohol (usually in the parks and open spaces of the district), and those incidents related to adults and the night time economy (mainly in the town centre causing for concern related to noise late at night, rowdiness and drunken disorder, litter associated with food outlets, and sanitation issues associated with urinating and vomiting).

July 2008 Snapshot

Since rowdy behaviour accounts for such a large proportion of total ASB it is necessary to examine individual reports for a perspective on the specific types of behaviours. To complete this analysis for the study period August 2007 to July 2008, a total of 2826 records in Bromsgrove, was considered to be too time-consuming for this assessment. Consequently, the decision was made to conduct a “snapshot” analysis of incidents recorded during July 2008 across the County. In Bromsgrove,

## Bromsgrove Annex B2: Alcohol-related anti-social behaviour

there were 586 ASB reports in July 2008, of which 322 were categorised as nuisance-rowdy behaviour.

The snapshot analysis was undertaken using the same methodology for all districts in Worcestershire, in order for it to be possible for the results to then also be used to draw comparisons between different areas.

Figure 11: Location of Incidents, July 2008

Where	Bromsgrove	Redditch	Wyre Forest	North Worcs
Street	32.92%	34.19%	21.86%	28.83%
Dwelling	25.78%	23.32%	21.63%	23.38%
Open Space	15.22%	5.75%	13.26%	11.64%
Public Building	15.22%	18.85%	18.84%	17.75%
Licensed Premise	6.83%	4.79%	3.72%	4.98%
Unknown	3.42%	13.10%	19.30%	12.68%
Other	0.31%			0.09%
Transport	0.31%		1.40%	0.66%

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

A higher proportion of total incidents took place in public houses in Bromsgrove than in other districts: 6.83% of rowdy behaviour incidents in July compared to an average of 4.98% in North Worcestershire.

Also, 15.22% of offences in Bromsgrove took place in open spaces compared to a North Worcestershire average of 11.64%, thus providing further supporting evidence of the 2 strands to alcohol-related ASB in the District.

Figure 12: Number and proportion of Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents that were alcohol-related, July 2008

	Bromsgrove	Redditch	Wyre Forest	North Worcs.
No. Incidents	55	47	62	164
Percentage of Total	17.08%	15.02%	14.42%	15.40%

Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

In July 2008, Bromsgrove recorded the highest proportion of incidents related to alcohol of the North Worcestershire Districts with 17.1% of incidents compared to 15.0% in Redditch, 14.4% in Wyre Forest and 15.4% in North Worcestershire as a whole.

Based on the detailed analysis of alcohol-related rowdy behaviour incidents in July:

- 47% of the perpetrators were youths, 22% were adults – again highlighting the split between the night time economy and the gathering of underage drinkers in open spaces.
- Most incidents related to gatherings, so it seems the issues related to youths in parks are most common. There were a high number of incidents which fell into the miscellaneous category, including things such as: 4 incidents where alcohol was seized from youths, 5 where drunken perpetrators refused to leave premises, and 3 issues related to concern for safety.

## 2. Justification

### Local Concern

#### *Partners and Communities Together (PACT)*

It is not always clear from the category description titles under which PACT issues are recorded whether or not they were linked to alcohol. Furthermore, some issues raised at meetings could fall into a number of categories, and so alcohol related issues may not always be recorded in the "Alcohol Related" category. In order to establish a more accurate assessment of the number of alcohol-related issues, all recorded were examined in greater detail. PACT represents the views of only those residents who take the time to attend meetings and therefore the sample size may skew findings.

Figure 13: Alcohol-related issues raised at Bromsgrove PACT meetings, August 2007 to July 2008

Category	Description	No. of times raised
Alcohol Related	Drunken Disorder	17
	Underage Drinking (supply to under 18s)	8
	Street Drinking	6
ASB	Inappropriate gathering in public places	2
	Noise: Vehicles (exhausts/revving)	1
Youth Related	Youths Inappropriate Gathering	1

Source: West Mercia Constabulary, September 2008

Roughly 12% (n=35) of all issues raised at PACT meetings across the District between August 2007 and July 2008 were alcohol related.

Alcohol related drunken disorder has been mentioned twice in St Johns PACT over the last year. The main cause for complaint is gatherings of pub and club goers in and around Hanover Street and Worcester Road, leading to issues with noise disturbing residents, as well as litter and hygiene issues relating to urine and vomit. As a result of these problems being raised at PACT, the local Crime Risk Manager has been tasked to conduct an initial investigation into gating the passageway on Hill Lane.

The situation at Hanover Place highlights an important issue associated with the night time economy which is not always immediately obvious. It is common practice for customers of licensed premises to purchase food from the various late night take away premises before leaving the town centre in the early hours of the morning. This provides not only a place where people from different social groups have cause to gather together, which can lead to tensions and assaults, but also can subsequently create a significant mess in terms of litter from food packaging. This not only affects the look of the areas, especially an issue for local residents, but also impacts on the services of the District council, as they have to allocate time and resources to make the streets clean again. Ultimately, this source of litter and detritus could affect the local area scores for NI 195.

#### *Citizens Panel June 2008*

People or groups in the street making others feel intimidated was thought to be a minor problem by 50% of Bromsgrove residents in the June 2008 Citizens Panel



## Bromsgrove Annex B2: Alcohol-related anti-social behaviour

Survey, compared to an average of 45.6% in the county, and 13.2% thought it was a major problem. Only 25.6% of residents did not think it was a problem.

Furthermore, 54% of Bromsgrove participants thought that drunk people or people drinking in the streets was a problem in the area, be it major or minor, compared to an average of 45.6% of people across Worcestershire.

### *British Crime Survey 2007/08*

The British Crime Survey 2007/08 indicates that nationally only 18% of people report incidents of drunk or rowdy behaviour (Upson, 2005).

Furthermore, of the 7 strands of ASB used in the British Crime Survey 2007/08 to indicate perception of ASB, people being drunk or rowdy in public places was the 5<sup>th</sup> most likely to be thought of as an issue by respondents, with 25% of people stating that this was a problem. Therefore, it seems that alcohol-related incidents are generally not the type of ASB with which people are most concerned nationally, though evidence from other surveys suggests the issue is thought to be a more serious problem in Bromsgrove.

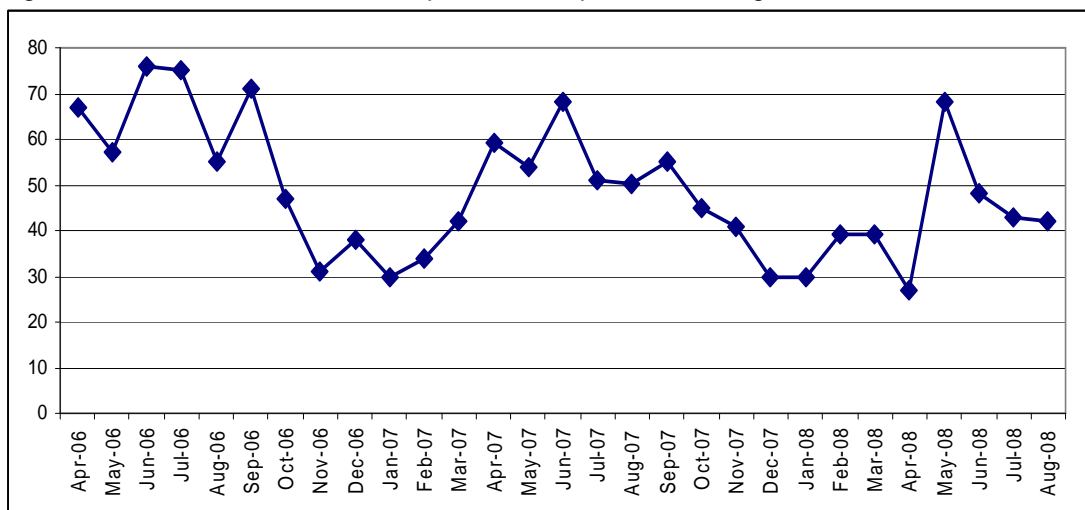
### *West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey 2008*

67% of respondents agreed that under-age drinking was a problem in their local neighbourhood, with 55% thinking people being drunk or rowdy in public places was a problem. Under age drinking was also the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked issue to feature in residents opinions of which problems should be addressed first, with 24% of people listing it in their top 3, an 8% increase on the previous year. Only 14% of respondents thought that people being drunk or rowdy in public places should be tackled first of all the issues listed, but this is an 8% increase on the proportion of respondents placing the issue within their top 3 in the 2007 survey.

64% of residents agreed that the use of fixed penalty notices to tackle anti-social behaviour would be an effective approach. 73% agreed that this approach should be used to tackle drinking in an alcohol free-zone, and 70% for under-age drinking.

## Trend

Figure 14: Alcohol-related Incidents per month, April 2006 to August 2008



Source: Operational Information System, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

It seems that the number of alcohol-related incidents in Bromsgrove has been following a decreasing trend over the last few years – with an uncharacteristically large jump to 68 incidents in May 2008.

In the current financial year, from April to July, the number of alcohol related ASB incidents was 19% lower than the same period in 2007/08 suggesting the decreasing trend is still continuing despite the anomaly during May.

### Tasking Priorities

Anti-social behaviour has been the main subject or an incorporated feature in CDRP Tasking 7 times since April 07 and was the main focus of every meeting between April and August 2008. It is therefore clearly a recurring issue for all partners.

Specifically, alcohol related ASB was the main theme of May 2008 Tasking, and crime and disorder in the town centre was the lead theme in October 2007.

### Risk

The risks associated with not tackling alcohol related disorder in the district include the obvious risk of the number of alcohol-related incident reports increasing, as well as the risk of a potential increase in the perceived problem, which could lead to the Partnership not reaching its targets for reduction over the next few years. However, alcohol related ASB also comes with significant health risks. An increase in alcohol consumption could lead to an increase in alcohol related admissions to hospitals and even deaths. Alcohol related youth ASB could also have significant sexual health risks. Youth related alcohol abuse can also impact on achievement in school, which can have a long term effect on employment prospects.

At present, anecdotally, the perception of Bromsgrove town centre during the evening is a negative one. The public seem to feel it is an unpleasant place to be filled with rowdy, drunken people. Similarly, there are many parks around the District, including Sanders Park and Lingfield Walk, which have a reputation as places where young people gather and drink alcohol. As a consequence, other residents avoid the area.

### Other Factors – PESTELO Analysis

The redevelopment of Bromsgrove town centre will stretch as far as the main night time economy areas on the High Street and Worcester Road. Spending money on improving the area may create a sense of ownership and local pride meaning that people are less likely to damage and deface it, but there is also an additional risk to the investment and money spent on the redevelopment.

The CCTV cameras in the town centre have recently been upgraded and now provide a much better quality of picture. This improvement will act as an additional deterrent to causing disorderly behaviour within the sight of CCTV operatives. It also gives the control room operators a better view when disorder is taking place, enabling them to better help to direct the Police to key areas.

The credit crunch could lead to increased financial pressure on low income households, which can result in an increase in alcoholism as a means of escape. This could then increase the disorder in the town centre related to excessive alcohol consumption.



The introduction of the use of Fixed Penalty Notices to be issued by Bromsgrove District Council Staff will increase the speed and volume for dealing with complaints of alcohol-related ASB. FPN records will also aid the intelligence base with which the partnership has to work in order to gain a more holistic view of ASB across the District.

### **3. Adding Value**

There is an opportunity for partners to work together to instigate improved data quality and information sharing protocols. The partnership has links to several data analysts, whose skills can be utilised to provide guidance to a range of partners in order to improve the quality of the data they record and therefore the reports they produce. For example, there is an opportunity to interview the people causing issues in Sanders Park, trace their details back to their home life and look for common ground and help to identify factors that can be tackled to change behaviour by a range of agencies.

### **4. Measuring Effectiveness**

Public perceptions of ASB will be measured through the Place Survey and the West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey, as well as monitoring under National Indicator 17: perceptions of anti-social behaviour. Though not included in the new LAA, NI 41: perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour, will also be monitored at a County level through the Place Survey.

The level of incident reporting can also be monitored through OIS ASB logs as well as through the number of incidents reported to Neighbourhood Wardens, BDHT and through PACT, though improvements in recording of incidents by a variety of partners would improve the accuracy of this measure.

### **5. What Can We Do**

Recommendations for partnership planning are made following the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to classify initiatives/actions into prevention, intelligence, enforcement, reassurance (PIER).

#### Prevention

*Exit strategy for licensed premises* – Good practice examples include: staggered leaving times, selling food in the pubs/clubs while people are drinking up to prevent issues at the food outlets, giving out lollipops to well behaved patrons (as used during Operation Christmas Presence), selling soft drinks only for an hour or so before the final closing of the premises to give people the opportunity to leave the premises over a longer period of time rather than large groups leaving at the same time.

*Alcohol education with input from a range of partners* – Schools package delivering education in terms of alcohol abuse, sexual health, the danger of alcohol consumption etc. “Off the shelf” packages are available, contact should be made with schools to discuss the capacity and opportunity to deliver such initiatives.

*Clean streets agreement with food outlets* – The implementation of an agreement between the food outlets to make an effort to reduce the amount of litter from food packaging outside premises. Suggestions include provision of litter picking

equipment to the food outlets; the staff can then make regular trips to maintain cleanliness at the front of their premises. Incentives can take the form of awards for clean streets to go to premises signed up to the agreement, with the possibility of FPNs for littering acting as a deterrent to customers making the mess.

*Town centre EVA* – an assessment targeting litter levels (it may be necessary to make an assessment on a Saturday or Sunday morning) as well as looking for any items that could potentially be used as missiles. The result would then be a public cleanup involving the local residents as well as Partners.

### ***Intelligence***

*Risk assessment of licensed premises* - conduct an assessment of the current and historic situation and provide the partnership with regular updates on the situation (e.g. a quarterly or monthly quick update on the latest data). Include both town centre disorder and the reported problems in open spaces. Ensure that seasonal differences are accounted for. Use historic data to try to predict future peak times.

*Risk Assessment: drinking in open spaces, including good practice research, comparisons to other areas, youth consultation and full assessment of underlying issues*

- Assessment as to what activities young people would like to be provided in the area to discourage them from gathering with alcohol.
- Comparisons to other areas, e.g. why other areas with parks and open spaces are not having the same problems;
- Address the underlying issues through research and intelligence gathering on the background of the young people who area gathering. There are links between social background, home life, school attainment etc and the use of alcohol. Gathering information on the type of young people gathering in the park, as well as further research into studies conducted around underage drinking, could help the partnership to better understand the problem. However, given that issues, especially when it comes to drinking in parks, tend to increase rapidly in the summer and die off in the winter, it may be necessary to defer this research until next summer.

*Improve data quality and data sharing protocols.* - Improved data quality and collection protocols: the definition of alcohol related ASB is a contentious issue and it is not always clear cut which incidents are linked to alcohol. Inclusion of an alcohol “flag” for all incidents may be of use, but it would need to be a mandatory requirement for all OIS logs. This may still provide problems though, as it is not always clear whether or not an incident has involved alcohol. Data sharing with other agencies, especially ambulance and A&E data would also be beneficial.

### **Enforcement:**

*Use of Fixed Penalty Notices including adequate data collection and recording procedures* - including issuing FPNs for proxy sales, parents allowing their children to drink, drunken disorder etc. Ensure that when FPNs are used, data is collected and stored effectively, and this information may be useful for future assessment of the issue, as well as for monitoring performance.

*Incorporate appropriate conditions into licensing agreements of town centre premises* – where problem premises have been identified, the use of additional conditions in licensing agreements can help to ensure improvements are made.

Reassurance:

*High Visibility Presence at key times in the town centre* - this does not just have to be police presence, it can include taxi marshals, street wardens, door staff etc. The presence of more capable guardians helps members of the public to feel safe when walking around the town centre. It also provides the opportunity for immediate response to incidents, and the intervention in incidents before they escalate.

*Targeted underage and proxy sale campaign, including messages to parents who provide alcohol for young people.* - Public education and publicity campaigns – possibly linked to existing SMAT or Trading Standards Campaigns – to set guidelines, promote acceptable behaviour and reassure the public. Also, gather intelligence as to the premises providing alcohol to under-age youths for a crack down.

*Public education and publicity campaigns including focus on alcohol, and well as general healthy living themes* – a more positive take on the public message to encourage healthy lifestyles in general including exercise, diet and the effect of alcohol. If a healthier lifestyle was adopted by parents, this may lead to an influence on the health of younger people. There are many positive implications in terms of weight, fitness, alcohol, healthy eating (e-numbers) and smoking, all of which may impact on ASB issues.

## Annex B3 – Criminal Damage

### 1. Issue

#### Problem Profile

Criminal damage accounts just under a quarter of all criminal offences in Bromsgrove District – 23% between August 2007 and July 2008. (Source: iQuanta) and so is the highest volume crime type in the District.

#### *Criminal Damage Category*

Figure 1: Criminal Damage by Type, August 2007 to July 2008

Type of Damage	Bromsgrove		North Worcestershire	Worcestershire
	Total	Percentage		
To a Vehicle	221	47.17%	42.20%	43.96%
To Other Property	138	20.13%	19.26%	19.67%
To a Dwelling	567	18.39%	22.04%	20.30%
To a Non-Dwelling	242	11.48%	12.94%	12.90%
Arson	37	3.08%	4.04%	3.50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1202</b>			

Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

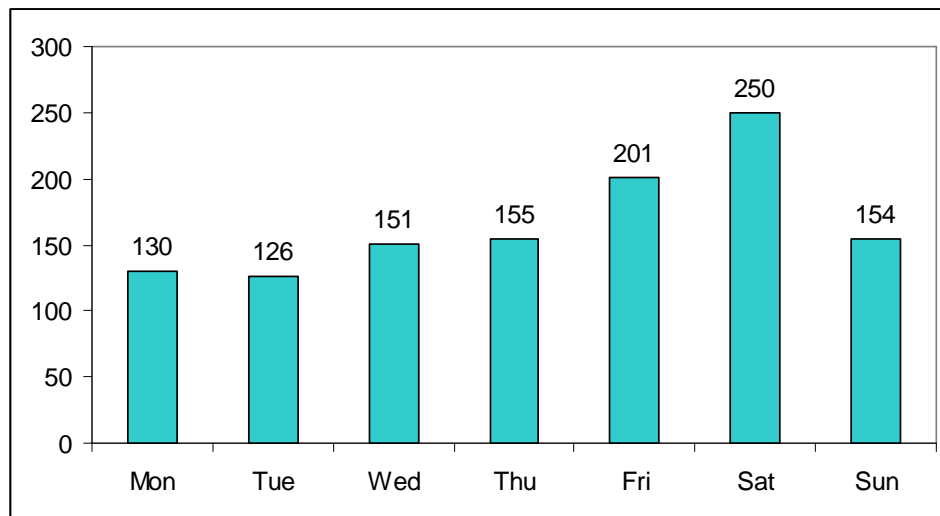
The proportion of criminal damage offences that is made up of damage to a vehicle (almost half of all damage offences) is greater in Bromsgrove than any other Worcestershire District. Criminal damage to a vehicle most commonly consists of damage to or removal of wing mirrors or windscreen wipers, scratched paintwork or dented body work, smashed windows or windscreens, or damage to tyres including slashing. This type of damage is the most likely to be experienced in a spate of offences of the same type, e.g. 17 cars had their tyres damaged in one night in the Charford area in September 2007.

Criminal damage to other property accounts for just over 20% of damage offences in Bromsgrove, compared to a North Worcestershire average of 19.26%. This type of damage is likely to be linked to young people, and consists of damage to fences and public property such as signs and bus stops, including graffiti. Fences are particularly targeted where they border alleyways, with the damage often taking the form of graffiti. This is an indication that the levels of criminal damage in Bromsgrove have slightly stronger links to the younger population than in other areas.

Criminal damage to both dwellings and non-dwellings is most likely to be damage to windows, or window or door frames, commonly caused by thrown stones or bricks.

### Temporal Analysis

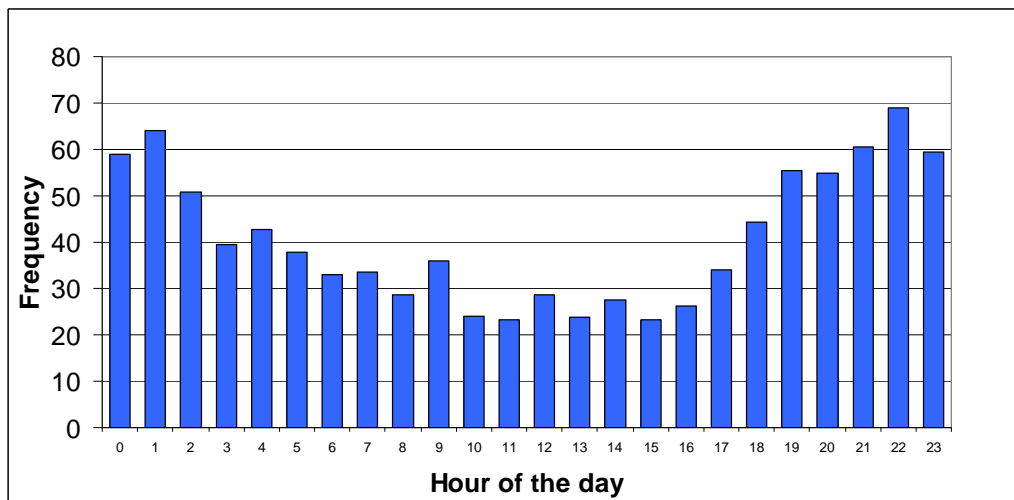
Figure 2: Criminal Damage Offences by Day, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Most offences occur over the weekend with the peak day on Saturday.

Figure 3: Criminal Damage Offences by Hour, August 2007 to July 2008



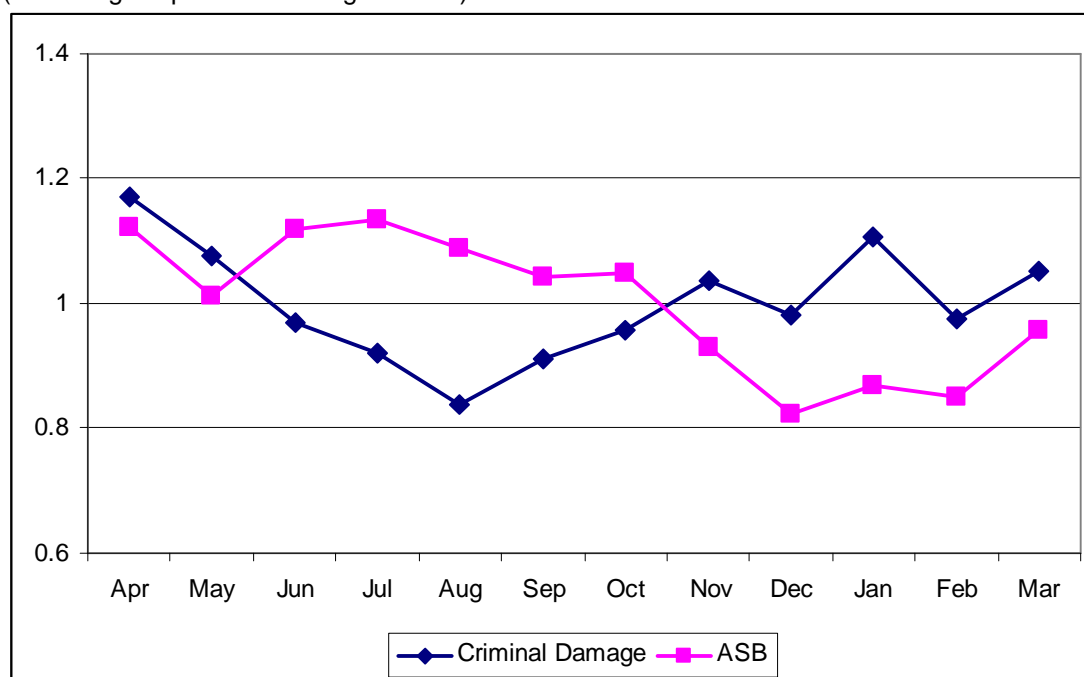
Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Most offences occurred over night with the peak around 10 p.m. There are clear links between increased offending and the hours of darkness.

Around half of all offences took place over the course of an hour or less, with all others over a longer time period.

Seasonal Trend

Figure 4: Seasonal Trend Criminal Damage and ASB – 1 represents the average for the year (data range: April 2006 to August 2008)



Source Damage: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Source ASB: Operational Information Systems, West Mercia Constabulary

Criminal Damage offending is most frequent in April, with offence number also above average in May, November, January and March. Conversely, the seasonal pattern of ASB is also high in April, but then remains high through the summer months, decreasing after October to low levels through the winter. The trends, as displayed in figure 4 almost mirror each other around their respective average trend lines. This can be explained by the theory that the majority of both ASB incidents and criminal damage offences are being caused by the same people. Through the summer months, as young people spend more time outside, more incidents of ASB are reported as the culprits are more visible, incidents may get reported before they escalate to a point when damage is caused. Through the increased hours of darkness in the winter months, gathering youths become less visible and so it is possible that any damage or graffiti caused under the cover of darkness is not discovered until the next day, rather than being prevented by increased daylight.

Also, the limitation of natural surveillance by increased darkness makes it easier to commit criminal damage, hence the winter increase, with ASB incidents decreasing in volume in November, almost as soon as the clocks go back.

## Victims and Offenders

Figure 5: Age of Criminal Damage Offenders and Victims, August 2007 to July 2008

Age Group	Accused	Victim	Total
10-14	6		6
15-19	42	28	70
20-24	9	55	64
25-29	6	53	59
30-34	4	68	72
35-39	3	116	119
40-44	4	121	125
45-49	6	96	102
50-54		87	87
55-59		72	72
60-64		60	60
65-69		38	38
70-74		33	33
75-79		16	16
80-84		15	15
85-89		5	5
90+		3	3
Unknown		5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>951</b>

Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Most offenders (53%) were aged between 15 and 19 years. However, it is important to note that of a total of 1202 offences between August 2007 and July 2008, offenders were only identified in 80 offences. The age of victims is more varied, with most aged between 35 and 50 years.

36% of the 80 known offenders (n=29) lived in Charford ward.

### *Repeat Victims and Offenders*

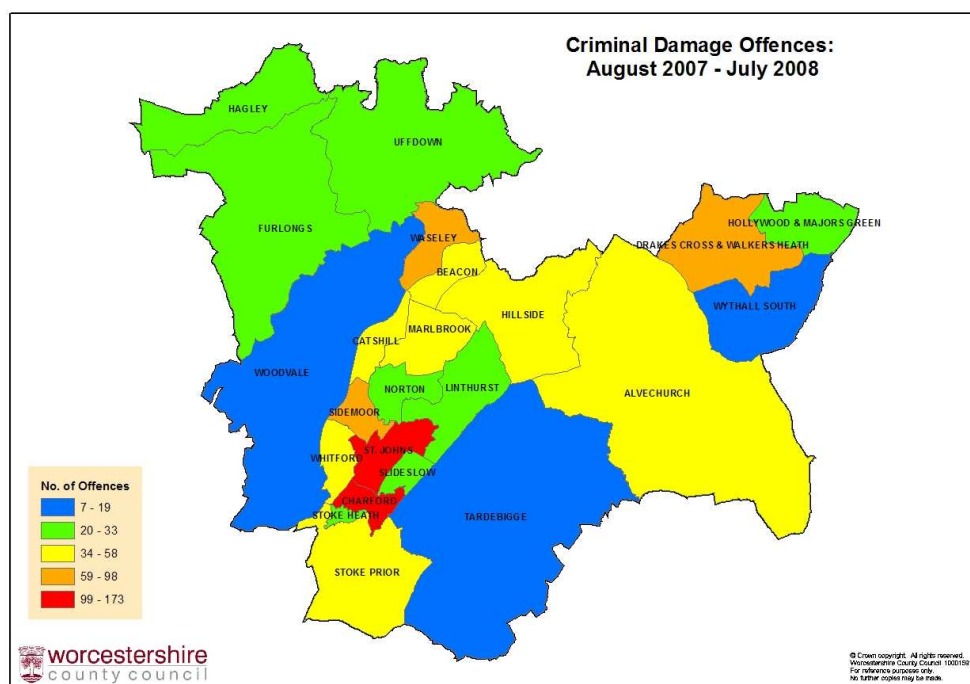
41% of offences were committed by just 9 offenders, one of whom had committed 10 damage offences in the 12 month period studied.

Just over 10% of victims had experienced more than one criminal damage offence in the between July 07 and August 08.

### **Geographical Analysis**

Offences are assigned to a ward for mapping purposes using the grid reference as stated in the offence recorded in the location field.

Figure 6: Criminal Damage Offences by Ward, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: *CRIMES*, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Figure 7: Number of Criminal Damage Offences per Ward, August 2007 to July 2008 – Top 10 Wards

Ward	Total	Percentage	ASB Rank
St John's	173	14.82%	1
Charford	172	14.74%	2
Waseley	99	8.48%	4
Sidemoor	66	5.66%	3
Drakes Cross & Walkers Heath	63	5.40%	5
Catshill	60	5.14%	7
Alvechurch	54	4.63%	6
Stoke Prior	52	4.46%	18
Hillside	44	3.77%	11
Marlbrook	44	3.77%	13

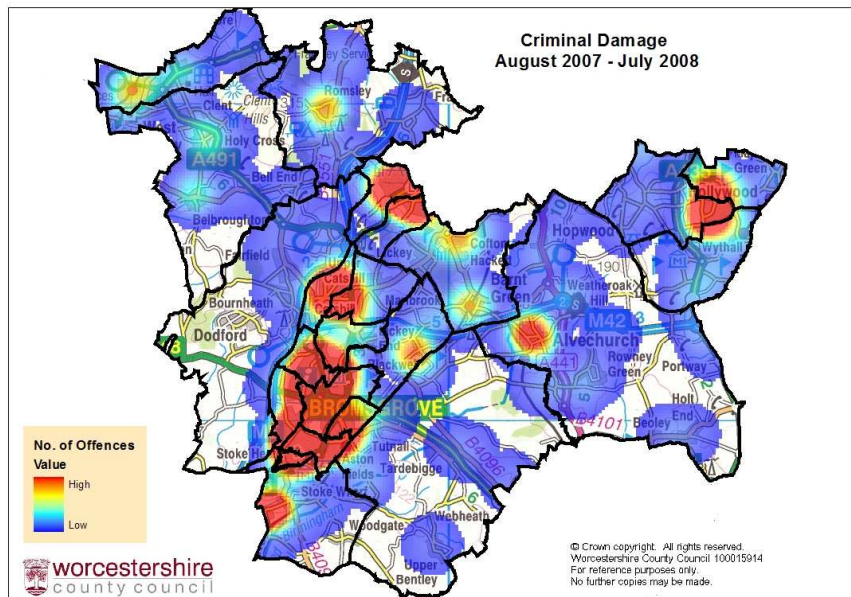
Source: *CRIMES*, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

More damage offences were recorded in St John's ward (covering Bromsgrove Town Centre) than any other, closely followed by Charford. As the third ranked ward (Waseley) recorded over 42% fewer offences than the top 2 ranking wards, it is clear that Charford and St John's dominate the number of criminal damage offences in the District.

Criminal damage is often said to be closely linked geographically to deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour. Figure 8 shows that the top 7 wards in terms of volume of criminal damage and ASB are the same, but with a few slight changes in the order. Stoke Prior is the 8<sup>th</sup> ward in terms of frequency of damage offences (Aug 07 – Jul 08), but does not suffer from high levels of ASB. Stoke Prior experienced a spate of criminal damage to a vehicle offences in December 2007 when 17 offences were recorded, compared to an average of just 3 per month for the rest of the 12 month period. In Hillside, there were a number of damage offences in Barnt Green and Cofton Hackett, but these villages again do not experience high levels of ASB.



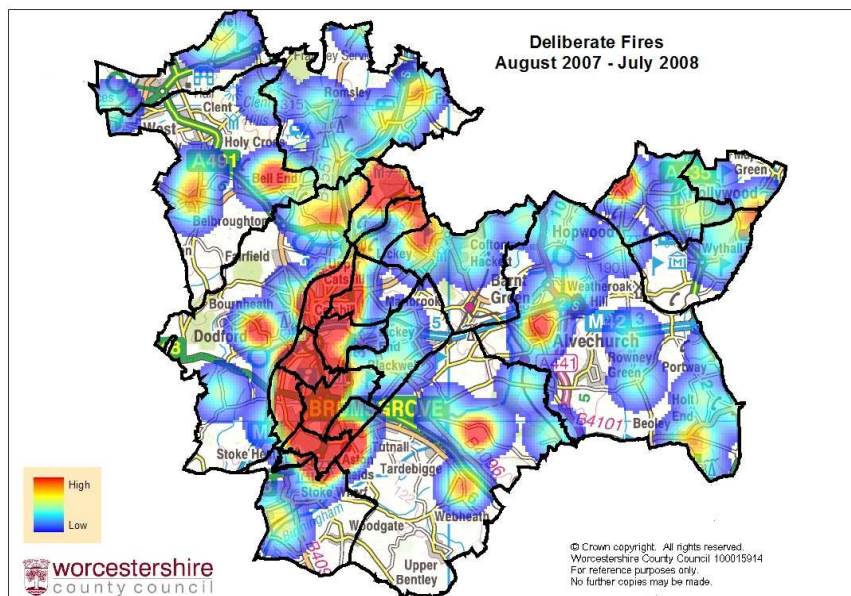
Figure 8: Criminal Damage Location of Offences (by Hotspot)



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

The above map shows the “hotspot” analysis of criminal damage offences between August 07 and July 08. Further to figure 6, this indicates that offences are clustered around Bromsgrove town itself, reducing in intensity further away from the town centre. Offences also seem to focus on the more urban areas of the district, the town and village centres, including Catshill, Rubery, Alvechurch and Wythall. Criminal Damage offences are more limited in the large rural expanses of the District.

Figure 9: Deliberate Fire Location of Incidents (by Hotspot)



Source: Hereford & Worcestershire Fire & Rescue Service, August 2008

As figures 8 and 9 show, the links between deliberate fires and criminal damage offences can also be seen most strongly in the urban areas of Bromsgrove, with incidents clustering around Bromsgrove Town, including the wards of St Johns, Charford, Sidemoor and Catshill. In these areas, incidents are most likely to be refuse/container, derelict building, and tree/fence/lamp fires. However, it is important

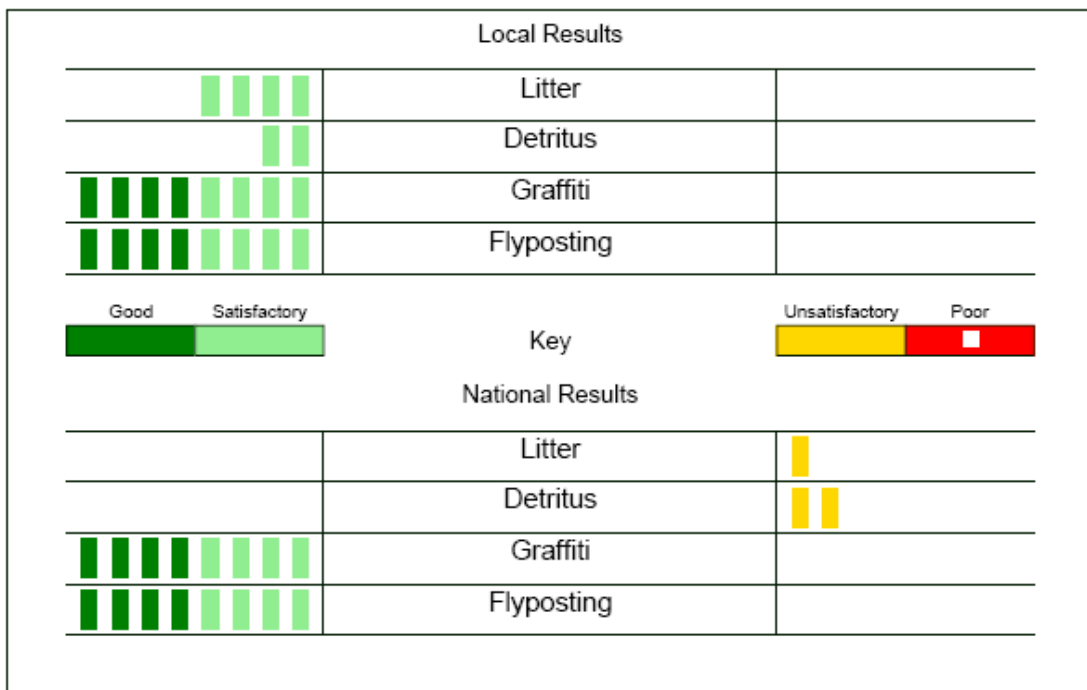
to note that deliberate fires are also common in the more rural areas of Bromsgrove district where more grass and heath land fires tend to occur.

### Environmental Data

Criminal Damage is also known to have close links with environmental crime. Studies show that areas with high levels of flytipping, litter and detritus are more likely to attract further criminal damage and graffiti. If an area appears to be run down, people are more likely to damage it further. The following section outlines the current issues in Bromsgrove related to environmental crime.

National Indicator 195, included in the Worcestershire LAA 2008, is a measure of street and environmental cleanliness including levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly-posting.

Figure 10: Bromsgrove District Council NI 195 Survey Tranche 1 Results, including National results



Source: NI195 Report September 2008

Figure 10 indicates that Bromsgrove District Council is performing excellently in terms of graffiti and fly-posting, in keeping with the national average with results of Good in both areas.

Results for litter locally are at the top end of satisfactory, compared with a national result of unsatisfactory.

The local results for detritus place the District towards the middle of the satisfactory category, which, compared to a national result towards the middle of the unsatisfactory category, is a positive result.

Figure 11: Bromsgrove District Council NI 195 Survey Tranche 1 Results by Land Use Type

Land Use	Litter	Detritus	Combined	Graffiti	Fly-posting
All Areas	6%	16%	11%	2%	0%
Main Retail and Commercial	4%	0%	2%	1%	0%
Other Retail and Commercial	0%	7%	4%	0%	0%
Higher Obstruction Housing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medium Obstruction Housing	0%	40%	20%	0%	0%
Low Obstruction Housing	0%	6%	3%	0%	0%
Industry and Warehousing	3%	9%	6%	0%	0%
Main Roads	10%	10%	10%	0%	0%
Rural Roads	1%	31%	16%	0%	0%
Other Highways	25%	37%	31%	13%	0%
Recreation	9%	0%	4%	1%	0%

Source: NI195 Report September 2008

Figure 11 can be used to identify the land use types in most need of attention in terms of levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly-posting – the lower the percentage, the better the score.

#### Areas for Improvement:

- Litter: “other highways” (including lay-bys, bridleways etc), main roads, recreation areas main retail and commercial areas.
- Detritus: medium obstruction housing<sup>14</sup>, other highways, rural roads and main roads.
- Graffiti: Despite excellent scores, there is room for improvement around main roads.
- Fly-posting: 0% result for all land use types – an indication of the excellent job done by the neighbourhood wardens of the area.

#### Flytipping

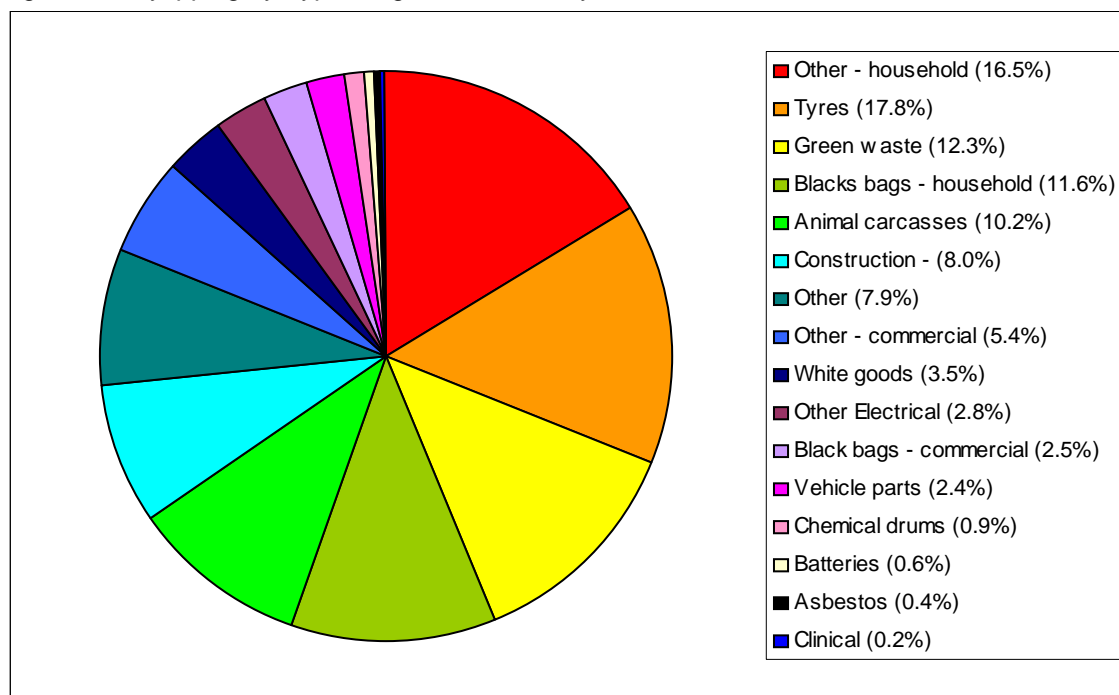
National Indicator 196 measures improved street and environmental cleanliness including flytipping. A total of 1723 instances of flytipping were reported to and attended by the Bromsgrove District Council Depot between August 2007 and July 2008. (Source: Depot Flytipping Record)

In 14 cases nothing was found at the described location, giving a total of 1709 flytipping instances attended where the items were removed by the Depot.

In 66% of cases, the load could fit into a small van or car. There were 29 instances where a significant amount of items had been tipped, requiring multiple loads for removal.

<sup>14</sup> Observation based on the potential obstruction by on street parking (Source: Defra website)

Figure 12: Flytipping by Type, August 2007 to July 2008



Type	Total	Type	Total
Other - household	282	White goods	60
Tyres	252	Other Electrical	48
Green waste	210	Black bags - commercial	43
Blacks bags - household	199	Vehicle parts	41
Animal carcasses	174	Chemical drums	16
Construction	136	Batteries	11
Other	135	Asbestos	6
Other - commercial	92	Clinical	4
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1709</b>

Source: Bromsgrove District Council Depot Flytipping Record

Of a total of 1709 recorded incidents, the most common type of material removed was “household-other” (n=282) which includes household items other than items in black bags or electrical goods. This can also include mattresses etc. Tyres are the second most commonly fly-tipped material (n=252), the cause of which is likely to be linked to the fact that highways are by far the most common location for flytipping.

Figure 13: Location of flytipping, August 2007 to July 2008

Location	Total	Percentage
Highways	1377	80.57%
Footpath/ bridleway	238	13.93%
Council Land	40	2.34%
Back Alley	23	1.35%
Watercourse	12	0.70%
Private Residential	7	0.41%
Other 1	7	0.41%
Commercial/ Industrial	3	0.18%
Agricultural	2	0.12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1709</b>	

Source: Bromsgrove District Council Depot Flytipping Record

The vast majority of flytipping was located on or adjacent to Highways – 81%, followed by bridleways (14%). Other location types only account for around 5.5% of flytipping between August 2007 and July 2008.

Flytipping is most common in the rural areas of the District, with comparatively very few reports in the more urban areas. Of those in Bromsgrove town itself, most reports were in the St Johns area, followed by Charford, Catshill and Sidemoor. It is important to note that in the more high density housing areas, many flytipping incidents are reported directly to the local Registered Social Landlord (in most cases Bromsgrove District Housing Trust) and so are not recorded by the District council database.

In terms of the rural areas, though the area field in the data provided was slightly ambiguous, it seems that slightly more incidents of flytipping were reported in the north-eastern section of the District, specifically around Wythall and Hollywood, and the Woodvale/Uffdown, areas including a significant number of reports around Romsley, Frankley, Fairfield, and Wildmoor. There were also a significant number of reports in the ward of Tardebigge, and many of these were located along the Bromsgrove Highway. The ward of Alvechurch was also the location of a significant number of incidents.

## 2. Justification

### Local Concern

#### *Partners and Communities Together (PACT)*

It is not always clear from the category description titles under which issues at PACT meetings are recorded whether or not the problem was associated with criminal damage. Furthermore, some issues raised at meetings could fall into a number of categories, and issues linked to criminal damage may not always be recorded in the “Criminal Damage” category. In order to establish a more accurate assessment of the number of criminal damage and environmental issues, all records were examined in greater detail. PACT represents the views of only those residents who take the time to attend meetings and therefore the sample size may skew findings.

Figure 14: Issues related to Criminal Damage and Environmental Issues raised at Bromsgrove PACT Meetings, August 2007 to July 2008

Category	Description	No. of Issues
Environmental	Other	31
	Poor Road Conditions	12
	Rubbish/Litter	11
	Overgrown Vegetation	4
	Dog Mess	3
	Street Lighting	1
	General Appearance of Area	1
	Problems with Drains	1
Criminal Damage	Vandalism/Graffiti	21

Source: PACT Database, West Mercia Constabulary, September 2008

Environmental Issues are clearly a key concern to the residents of Bromsgrove District as they have featured in 29% of all issues raised at PACT meetings over the last year.

Examples include:

- Complaints about the frequency and effectiveness of rubbish collections
- Issues surrounding overgrown alleyways
- Dog mess
- Poor road and footpath conditions
- Reporting of run down nature of areas.

### **Citizens Panel May 2008**

35% of Bromsgrove residents questioned in the May 2008 Citizens Panel survey said they felt the quality of street lighting was good or very good in the District, but 37.7% said they thought it was average.

35.6% thought the cleanliness of the area was poor or very poor, a more negative response than the Worcestershire average of 27.5%.

### **British Crime Survey (BCS) 2007**

The British Crime Survey 2007/08 reports that 30% of victims of vandalism have suffered more than one offence, making it the second most likely crime to be a repeat victim of, after Domestic Violence.

Also, of the 7 strands of ASB used in the British Crime Survey 2007/08 to indicate perception of ASB, rubbish or litter lying around and vandalism, graffiti and other damage were the second and third ranked issues that respondents thought to most be a problem, with 30% and 27% of people stating that this was a problem respectively.

### **West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey 2008**

56% of respondents in the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey stated that they had felt fearful of vandalism or damage to their property in the last 12 months. This is 27% more than the residents who stated they had been worried about the same thing in the 2007 survey.

56% of respondents agreed rubbish or litter lying around was a problem in their local neighbourhood, with 51% thinking dog mess was a problem, and 50% thinking vandalism, graffiti and other damage was. In the 2008 survey, 17% of people would put vandalism, graffiti and other types of damage in their top 3 issues to be dealt with first, compared to 23% in 2007 – suggesting the situation is improving. However, 13% of people would tackle rubbish and litter lying around as one of the top 3 in 2008, an increase of 6% compared to the previous survey.

8.4% of the residents surveyed had experienced some form of vandalism or damage to property (including car) over the last 12 months, almost doubling the 2007 figure. It was the crime type that the most people had experienced in the survey. 42% of those people did not report the crime, indicating that there is a potential under-representation of incidents in the police recorded data, and strengthening the case for using a wide range of data sources to assess the situation in terms of criminal damage.

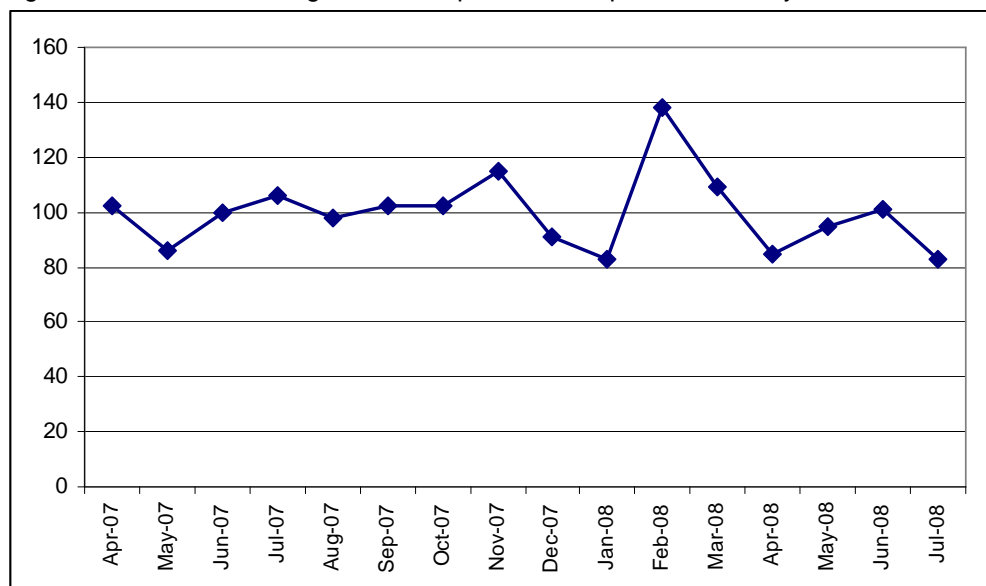
64% of residents agreed that the use of fixed penalty notices to tackle anti-social behaviour was an effective approach. 79% agreed that this approach should be used

## Bromsgrove Annex B3: Criminal Damage

to tackle flytipping, 78% agreed with its use for dog fouling or litter, and 75% agreed with using FPNs for graffiti. Fewer people agreed to this approach being used for fly-posting or unauthorised distribution of free printed material, 57% and 52% respectively.

### **Trend**

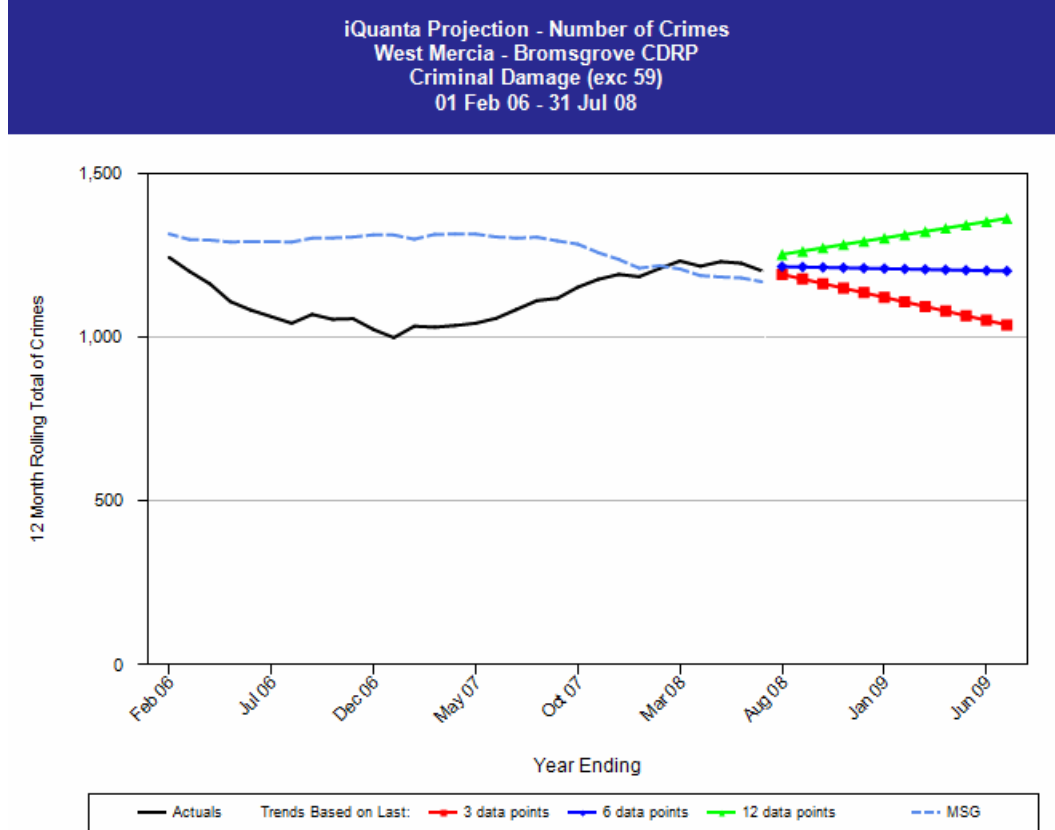
Figure 15: Criminal Damage Offences per month, April 2007 to July 2008



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Since April 2007, the number of damage offences per month in Bromsgrove has fluctuated with a high point at 138 offences in February 2008 (Source: iQuanta), followed by a low of just 83 offences in April 2008.

Figure 16: Criminal Damage Offences per Month, February 2006 to July 2009 (Projected)



(Source: iQuanta)

According to figure 16, based on the last 3 data points, the number of damage offences per month is set to decrease in the coming months, however, based on the last 12 data points, there is a predicted increasing trend.

After a year on year decrease in figures from 2003/04 to 2005/06, the relative change in the number of criminal damage offences over the last financial year was an increase of 19.7% compared to 2006/07. This resulted in the Partnership not hitting the targets for 07/08 reduction. However, this did not impact on the target reduction in BCS crime. (Source: iQuanta)

In the other districts of Worcestershire, reduction in criminal damage was much greater, with an 18% reduction in South Worcestershire, 23% in Wyre Forest and 33% in Redditch since 2003/04.

**Tasking Priorities**

Criminal damage has repeatedly been raised in CDRP Tasking throughout the last year, featuring six times since June 07. Despite many resulting actions from meetings, the number of damage offences each month continued to increase, leading the Partnership to miss the target reduction of 17.5%. This highlighted the need for a long term strategy, and as a result, a 3 year rolling action plan for ASB and Criminal Damage was instigated and is now in place.

**Success of Tasking themes over the year**

In January Tasking, the increasing number of criminal damage offences month on month compared to the previous year indicated that Bromsgrove would not reach it's



target of 17.5% reduction since 2003/04 by the end of the financial year. Therefore, the following actions were instigated:

- Increased high visibility Police patrols at the key times for damage.
- Utilise probation services for the quick clean up of graffiti and other damage.
- Other actions were longer term e.g. adopt a box, blanket graffiti policy.

In February 2008, damage to a motor vehicle was raised at tasking as it makes up more than half of all criminal damage in the District, and overall damage figures were still off target. Despite lengthy discussions on the issue, there were few action points set to tackle the immediate criminal damage to a vehicle problem as a result of February Tasking.

Consequently, the number of offences did not reduce significantly, and continued to be much higher in the months following the meeting than the same period a year before. This highlights the need for responsive and effective tasking – which has been worked on in the last few months.

Crime and Disorder during the Easter Holidays was the theme of March Tasking, as it was found that many crime types and ASB peak during the holidays, which leads to April or March being the peak month of the year seasonally. A correlation has been found between levels of ASB, damage and vehicle crime and the dates on which Easter weekend and the school Easter holidays fall. Vehicles are targeted at local beauty spots in rural areas and items are often taken from them whilst their owners are enjoying the country parks.

As a result, Police teams and fire crews patrolled the local beauty spot car parks throughout the holidays and specifically over the Easter weekend to spot vulnerable vehicles and give out safety advice. Also, the Sports Development (BDC) schedule of diversionary activities was sent round to all partners. This led to the number of anti-social behaviour incidents reported during the Easter Holidays being 27% lower than the previous year. Furthermore, the number of criminal damage offences in the school holidays fell by 15% compared to the previous year, and by 46% compared to the same period in 2005. There was only 1 vehicle crime reported in the entire Bromsgrove district during the Easter Bank Holiday weekend in 2008 whilst police and fire service staff were patrolling and giving out advice, a 91% reduction on the number of offences the previous year. As a consequence, the number of vehicle crimes reported in the Easter Holidays as a whole fell by 49% compared to 2007.

This clearly demonstrates the immediate results that can be seen as a product of Partnership Tasking when Partners engage in the process.

### Risk

Further increases in the levels of criminal damage would not only have cost implications in terms of financing their clean up, but also severely affect perceptions in the District. Vandalism tends to be a very visible crime, and damaged property can lead to people feeling less safe in the area, as well as having a negative effect on attracting businesses/residents/tourists to the area. There is also a potential risk in terms of increasing the cost of home and car insurance – especially relevant to Bromsgrove as it has such a high proportion of vehicle damage.

Damage is a low level crime mainly committed by young offenders, thus there is potential for offenders to start at this level and progress to more serious crimes as they get older. There is a need for offender management and intervention processes to educate young people and prevent increases in more serious crime in future years.

### ***Other Factors – PESTELO Analysis***

As most damage is thought to be caused by young people, an increase in the population under the age of 25 in the District could increase instances of criminal damage. Between the 2001 census and ONS mid-2007 population estimates there was a 0.05% increase in the proportion of the population aged 0-19 in Bromsgrove.

The possible development of a graffiti tagging database for joint use and access by the Police, Neighbourhood Wardens, District Council etc, would aid the detection of graffiti offences, especially in helping to identify where multiple offences have been committed by one person. This would ultimately act as a deterrent. CCTV improvements and expansion of coverage began in September 2008 and will also help to aid convictions and deter further crimes. Tasking of mobile CCTV through Tasking meetings can be used to target hotspot areas.

Bromsgrove District Council is currently in the process of instigating the use of Fixed Penalty Notices for offences, to be given out by District Council Officers such as Neighbourhood Wardens. If FPNs can be used for environmental crimes and graffiti offences, this may have an impact on the number of offences in the District. There is also the potential for the use of conditional cautioning, the condition being that the offender repairs the damage caused, or a sort of restorative justice whereby the offender must clean up the damage as a punishment.

The implementation of merged services between Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough Councils is starting with the combining the 2 current Community Safety Teams. This may result in structure changes, and staff changes affecting the capacity for projects to be run by community safety. Bromsgrove District Council Community Safety Team have also begun a bid for 2 more main stream neighbourhood wardens, the merged Community Safety Team with Redditch Borough Council may affect the operational side of the team.

### **3. Adding Value**

The Partnership is already undergoing a substantial amount of work to combat criminal damage through the Damage and ASB Action Plan, but due to the widespread nature of the problem, there is a need for a joined up approach. Especially where youth related activities are concerned, it is important for Partners to communicate with each other to ensure that work is not repeated, and that all areas in need are covered. This has already begun by the instigation of the Youth Provision Group.

As has been proved by the outcomes of Tasking meetings over the last 12 months, a rapid response to issues by partners can have an immediate affect on the levels of criminal damage, especially where preventative measures are concerned. Long term projects need to be well managed and maintained through the partnership, and there is a need and an opportunity for further engagement in the process from all partners. It is essential that the partnership uses the resources it has in terms of the range of agencies involved to work together on long term projects.

### **4. Measuring Effectiveness**

There is no target this year for criminal damage in the LAA, but the links to Environmental factors are clear, so NI 195 Improved Street Cleanliness applies, and

196 (fly-tipping). Also, NI 33 arson incidents as these contribute towards the overall criminal damage numbers.

The effectiveness of outcome focused tasking can also be measured on a month by month basis by outlining the issue the resulting actions were intended to tackle, and monitoring it's trend and progress.

## **5. What Can We Do**

Recommendations for partnership planning are made following the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to classify initiatives/actions into prevention, intelligence, enforcement, reassurance (PIER).

### Prevention

*Graffiti Management Policy, including graffiti database* – partnership procedure for the fast removal of graffiti from around the district. In order to be successful, we must have buy in from all property owners, a reporting system and a confirmed method for clean up. The incorporation of a criminal damage database would also help to aid detections.

*Education Strategy* - schools packages, could also be used in youth clubs etc. Subject matter could include “what is criminal damage” and the consequences of actions including the cost of criminal damage, victim awareness and consequences of actions such as how a criminal conviction for damage to affect later life.

*Diversionsary Activities* - Criminal damage is strongly linked to ASB caused by lack of activities for young people. Link with youth ASB Actions to provide a wide range of youth activities and facilities across the district to reach as broad a spectrum of young people with a range of interests as possible.

### Intelligence

*Outcome Focused CDRP Tasking and Effective Management of Long Term Action Plan* - targeted long term actions to specific areas monitored constantly, EVAs etc where specific problems continue to occur. As the long term action plan is already in place, we need to ensure that actions are carried over and continue into the following year. Short term fixes can be made by putting a stronger emphasis on the results of tasking meetings, i.e. more action points, more relevant actions and pro-active action points. We know when the key times are for damage throughout the year, and so this should be planned into the tasking schedule to attempt short term fixes in the preceding months. Also, we know we get spates of damage from time to time. These should be brought to tasking as part of the short term reactive process. For example, this was done after a spate of damage to a vehicle in Charford last year. Partner agencies were asked to help with intelligence gathering, especially those working out in the community. Also, actions were put in place linked to trying to educate young people as to the consequences of their actions via an assembly at South Bromsgrove High School: what constitutes criminal damage, what are the potential consequences if they were convicted, i.e. impact on jobs, housing etc.

*Improved Data Sharing and Data Quality between Partner Agencies* - Improved data sharing with BDHT, Wardens, BDC environmental service (flycapture). Instigation of a formal data sharing process, maybe a monthly or quarterly data provision from Depot, BDHT, Wardens, Hub data etc. Further improvements can also be made in terms of quality of the data provided, especially when it comes to geo-coding – the

## Bromsgrove Annex B3: Criminal Damage

Hub are able to give grid co-ordinates in their service requests – this process could be more widely used, and depot/warden/BDHT data could be expanded to include the ward or postcode where damage/environmental issues have been reported for easier data manipulation.

### Enforcement

*Use of Fixed Penalty Notices* - The use of Fixed Penalty Notices for fly-tipping, and conditional cautioning for graffiti and minor damage. It would be essential to include effective and detailed recording procedures so that data collected as a result of FPNs can then be used to aid future intelligence.

### Reassurance

*Frequent EVAs linked to PACT areas* – Regular (annual or bi-annual) EVAs in PACT areas and miniature versions of the Hope 08 clean up. If local support could be counted on, this would need minimal input from the Partnership, but would go a long way towards helping with community reassurance.

## Annex B4 – Alcohol Related Crime, The Night-time Economy

### 1. Issue

Alcohol related offences are defined as those which have been flagged up by the Police with the AI (Alcohol Involved) incident marker, or where the MO field of the crime report includes one or more of the following key words:

drink, drunk, alcohol, intoxicated, public house, licensed premise, wine, beer, vodka, lager, spirit.

### **Problem Profile**

Alcohol related crime accounted for 16% of all crime in Bromsgrove between August 2007 and July 2008. Alcohol related offences account for 40% of violent crime and 8% of criminal damage.

### **Alcohol Related Crime by Category**

Figure 1: Alcohol-related crime by Type, August 2007 to July 2008

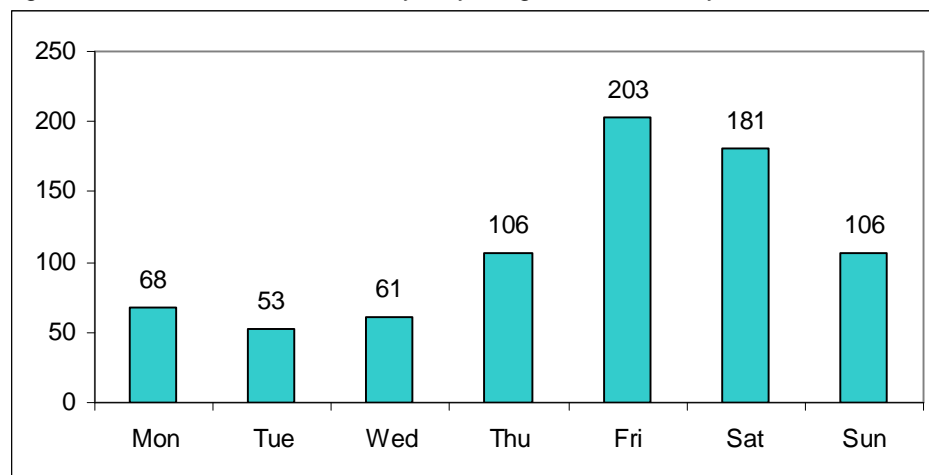
<b>Crime Type</b>	<b>No. of Offences</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Violent Crime	305	39.20%
Theft	122	15.68%
Criminal Damage	95	12.21%
Disorder	79	10.15%
Vehicle Crime	33	4.24%
Burglary	31	3.98%
Drugs	26	3.34%
Possession of Weapons	20	2.57%
Robbery	6	0.77%
<b>Total</b>	<b>778</b>	

Source: *CRIMES*, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Alcohol related crime in Bromsgrove is dominated by violent crime, theft, criminal damage and disorder offences. The theft offences are predominantly “theft – other” offences located in pubs whereby items have been taken from people, for example mobile phones taken from handbags left on tables or on the back of chairs. Theft offences also included shoplifting offences where the items stolen were alcohol. As this profile focuses on alcohol related crime linked to the night time economy, the emphasis will be on violent crime, criminal damage and disorder offences.

## Temporal Analysis

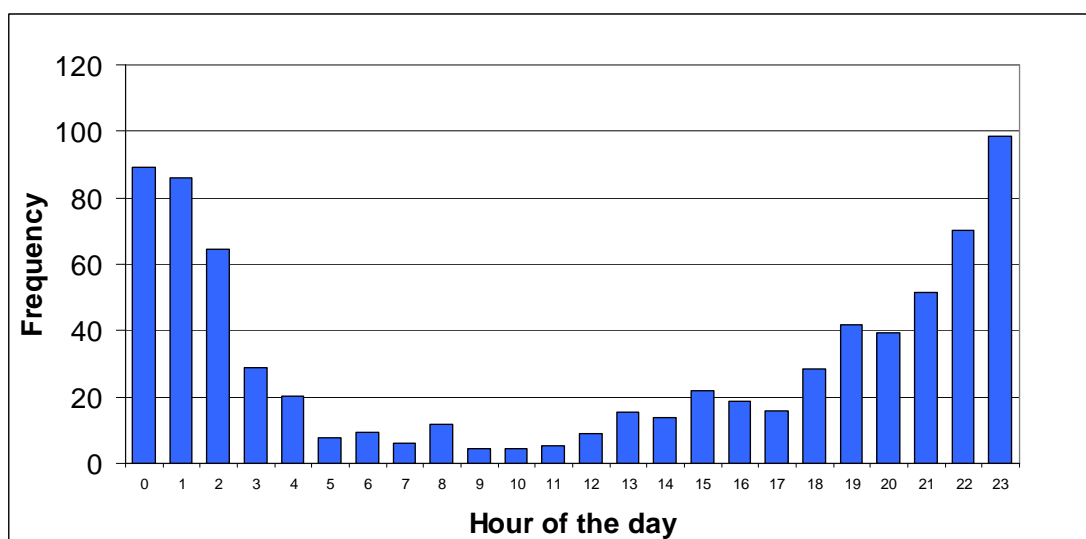
Figure 2: Alcohol Related Crime by Day, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Alcohol-related offences occur mainly over the weekend, with the peak on Friday evening.

Figure 3: Alcohol-related crime by Hour, August 2007 to July 2008

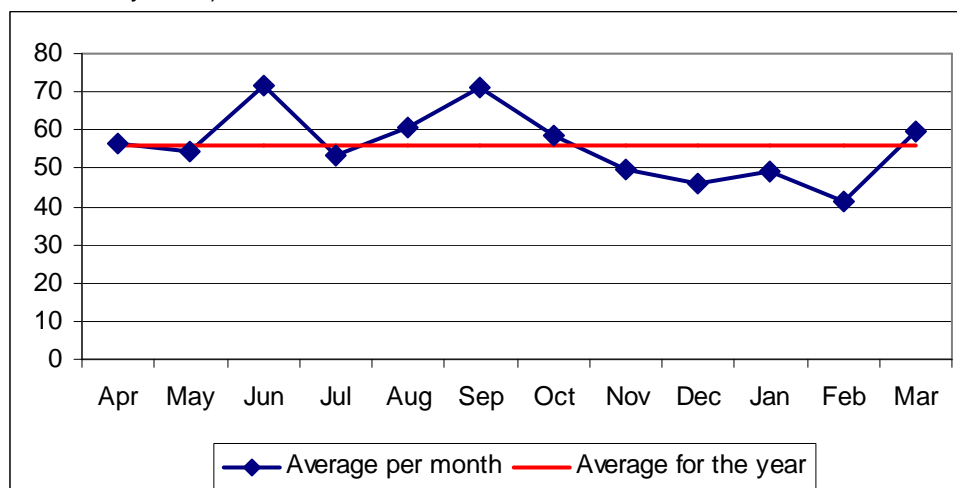


Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

76.1% of all offences took place between 7 p.m. and 4 a.m. with very few offences at any other time of the day. The peak time for offending is between 11 p.m. and midnight, with the volume of offences remaining high through to 2 a.m. There is therefore a correlation between peak offence times and the times when people leave the pubs and clubs, and either go to food outlets or begin to make their way home, thus highlighting the need for an exit strategy for licensed premises.

## Seasonal Trend

Figure 4: Average number of Alcohol-related Criminal Offences per month (data range: April 2006 to July 2008)



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

The seasonal trend in terms of alcohol related crime shows high numbers of offences in June and September. However, as the above graph is based on a period of 28 months, it has included 2 major football tournaments – the World Cup 2006, and Euro 2008. Though the 2008 tournament did not have a great influence on alcohol related crime due to the UK not having a qualifying team, Germany 2006 may have had an influence on these figures.

Alcohol related crime is slightly higher through the summer months than the winter with warm weather encouraging more people to go out drinking. Also, in any substantial holiday periods, alcohol consumption increases.

## Victim and Offenders

Figure 5: Age of Alcohol-related crime Offenders and Victims, August 2007 to July 2008

Age Group	Accused	Victim	Total
5-9		2	2
10-14	1	7	8
15-19	36	61	97
20-24	68	105	173
25-29	23	49	72
30-34	23	41	64
35-39	19	63	82
40-44	18	50	68
45-49	11	51	62
50-54	1	24	25
55-59	4	26	30
60-64	2	10	12
65-69	2	5	7
70-74		5	5

75-79		1	1
85-89		2	2
Total	210	502	712

Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Most offenders are aged between 20 and 24 years old, with a high number of offenders also in the 15-19, 25-29 and 30-34 age categories. The vast majority of victims were also aged between 20 and 24.

One in three offenders were aged between 20 and 24, as were one in five victims.

*An estimated 17.2% of the adult population in Bromsgrove are estimated to be binge drinkers (8 or more units of alcohol, 6 or more for women on their heaviest drinking day in the last week), which is the lowest proportion of the Districts in Worcestershire. Worcester has the highest at 18.2%.*

*The same is true in terms of Harmful drinking (drinking above “sensible” levels and experiencing harm, or 22-55 units per week for men, 15-35 per week for women) with an estimated 3.7% of the adult population, compared to 5.0% in Worcester, 4.8% in Wyre Forest, 4.7% in Redditch and 3.9% in Malvern Hills and Wychavon.*

*However, Bromsgrove has the second highest proportion of drinkers in the county that are estimated to be involved in hazardous drinking (drinking recognised “sensible” levels but not yet experiencing harm, or 22-50 units of alcohol per week for males, 15-35 units per week for females). 20.4% in Bromsgrove, second only to Worcester at 20.6%.*

*Source: North West Public Health Observatory (NWPHO) data gathered from SMAT Alcohol Needs Assessment.*

Figure 6: Home Ward of Victims and Offenders of Alcohol-related Crime, August 2007 to July 2008

Home Ward	Accused	Victim	Total
CHARFORD	41	56	97
WHITFORD	27	42	69
SIDEMOOR	20	35	55
ST. JOHNS	13	41	54
CATSHILL	12	23	35
HOLLYWOOD & MAJORS GREEN	8	24	32
MARLBROOK	5	26	31
NORTON	8	21	29
WASELEY	6	21	27
UFFDOWN	4	20	24

Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

89% of victims and offenders were from Bromsgrove District Wards, with more from Charford than any where else, and a high number also from Sidemoor and Whitford.

98% of nominals were from within Worcestershire, with only 2% travelling in from out of the County.

#### *Repeat Victims and Offenders*

Of a total 502 incidents of alcohol related crime where a victim had been identified, 8 nominals had also been an offender.

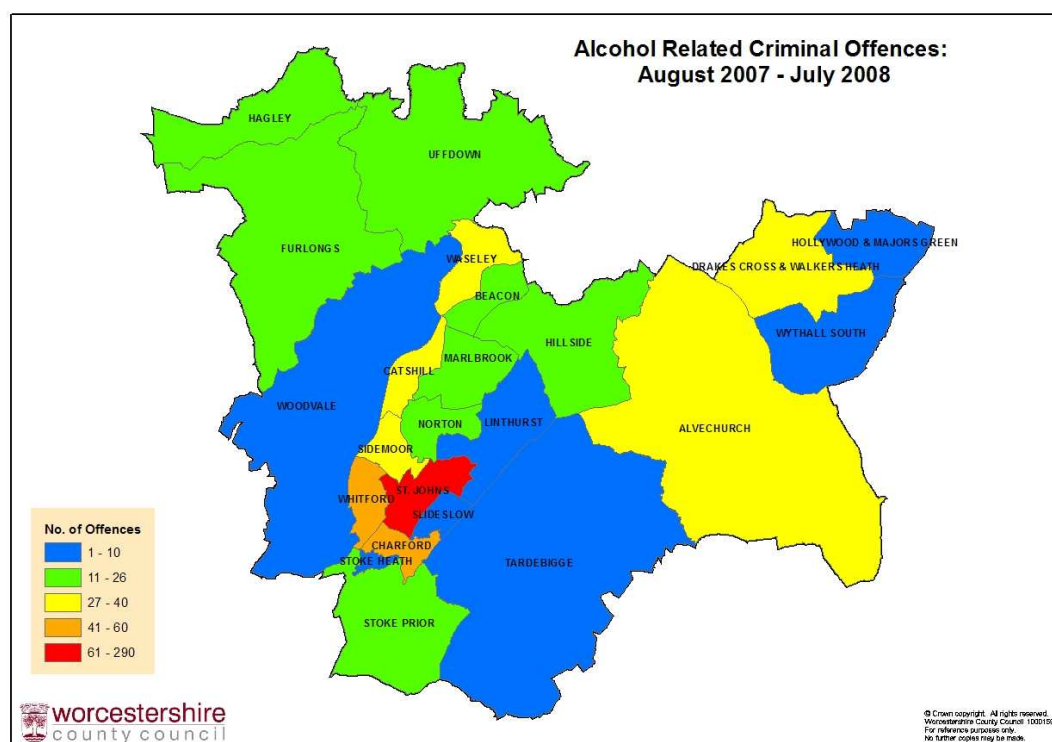


Of a total 158 separate offenders, 35 had committed more than one alcohol related crime in the 12 month study period, with 22% of the total offenders committing 41% of all alcohol related crimes.

There were also 35 repeat victims.

### Geographical Analysis

Figure 7: Alcohol-related Offences by Ward, August 2007 to July 2008



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Figure 8: Number of Alcohol-related Criminal Offences per Ward, August 2007 to July 2008 – Top 10 Wards

Ward	Total	Percentage
St Johns	289	37.15%
Charford	62	7.97%
Whitford	57	7.33%
Sidemoor	40	5.14%
Waseley	39	5.01%
Alvechurch	36	4.63%
Catshill	30	3.86%
Drakes Cross & Walkers Heath	30	3.86%
Marlbrook	26	3.34%
Furlongs	25	3.21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>778</b>	

Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

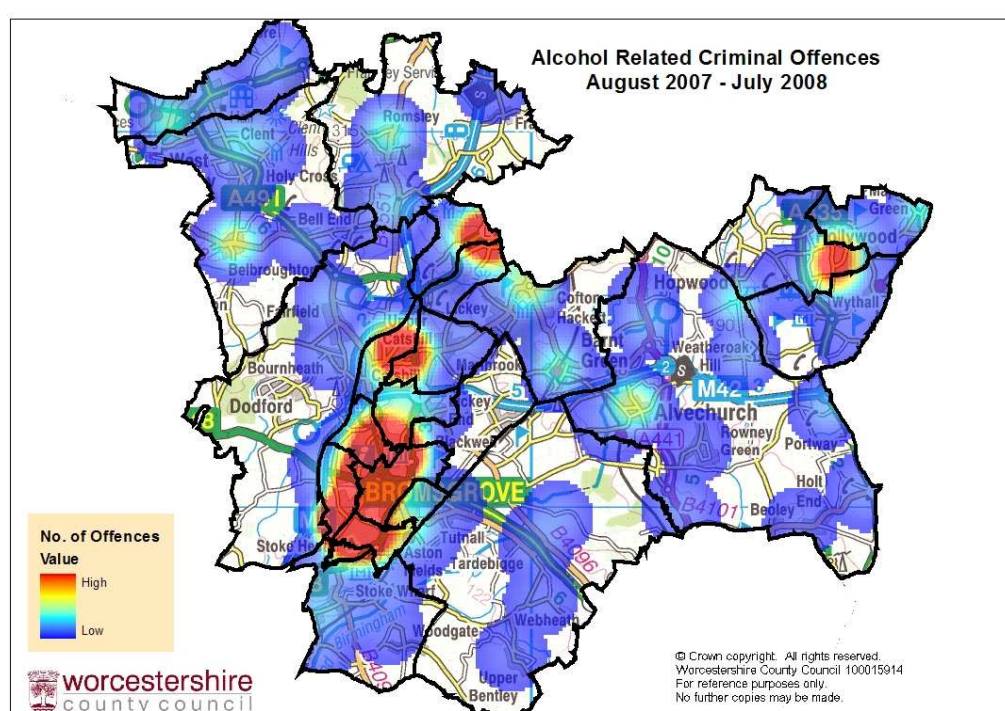
37.15% of all alcohol related criminal offences took place in St Johns ward – Bromsgrove Town Centre. Offences consist predominantly of violent crime (36.3%),

disorder (17.3%) and theft (22.49%), in the form of shoplifting of alcohol and theft other whereby items were taken from bags or pockets when in the town centre.

Domestic Abuse accounted for 18% of total alcohol related criminal offences. Instances of domestic abuse were most common in Charford (25 offences), where offences mainly occurred within or outside homes, followed by St Johns (23 offences) where incidents between partners and relatives happened mainly in or outside licensed premises. Domestic abuse also strongly influenced alcohol related crime in Sidemoor (15 offences), Whitford (13 offences) and Drakes Cross and Walkers Heath (8 offences).

65% of the total alcohol related crime took place in the wards that make up Bromsgrove Town (Charford, Whitford, Sidemoor, Catshill, Norton, Slideslow and St Johns)

Figure 9: Alcohol-related Crimes Location of Offences (by Hotspot)

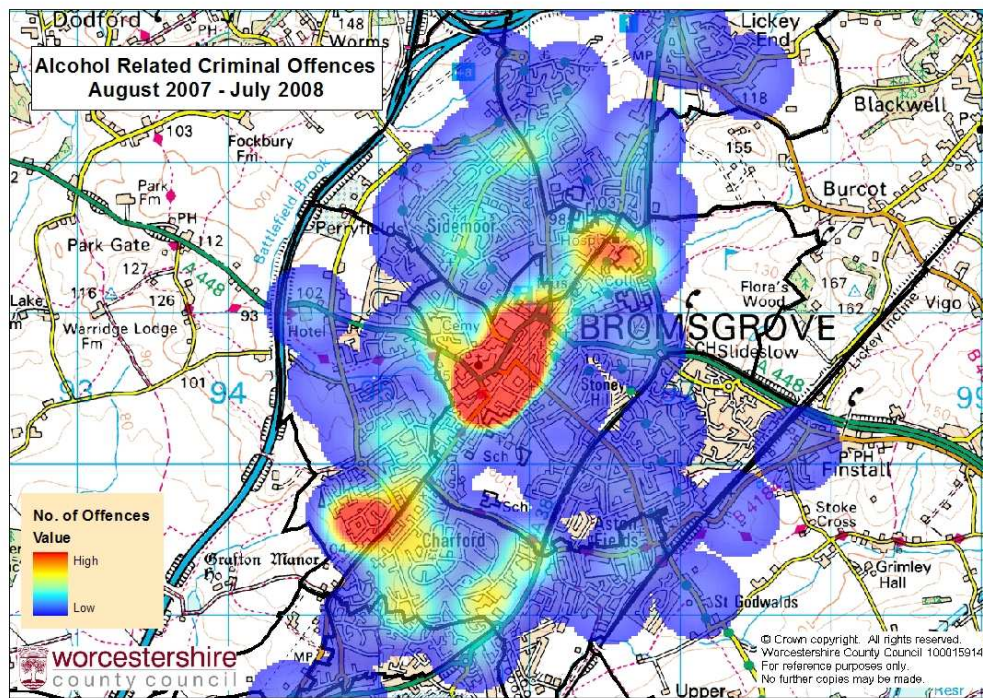


Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

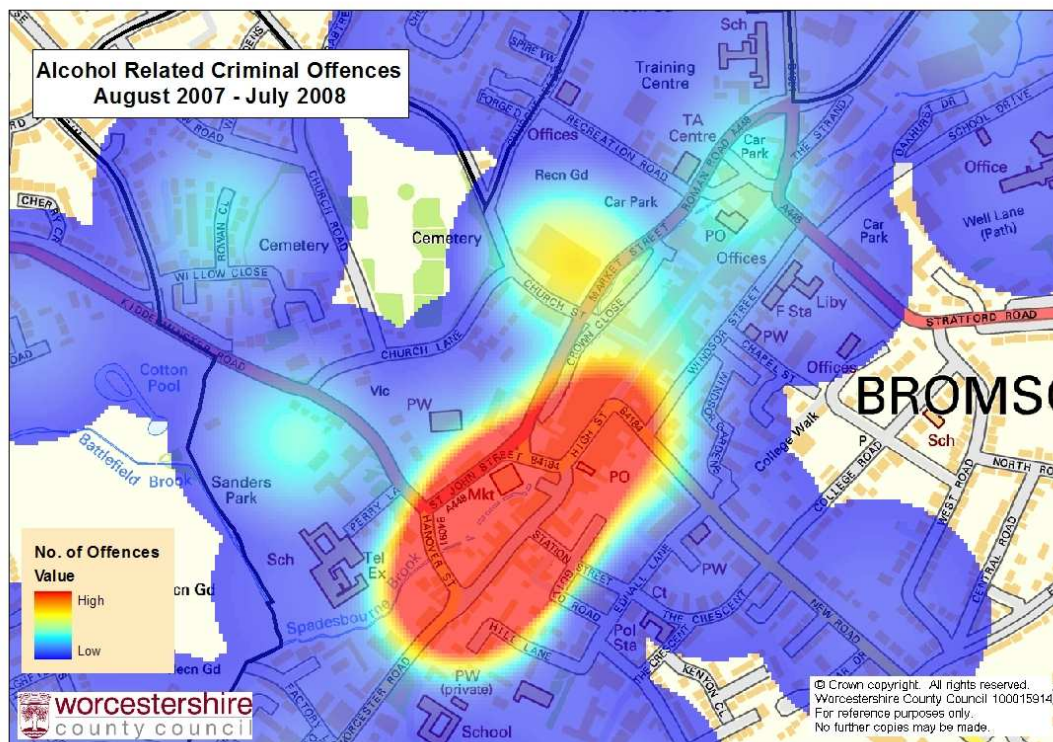
The above map shows the “hotspot” analysis of alcohol related criminal offences between August 2007 and July 2008. Offences are very much focused on the main urban area of Bromsgrove town with very few taking place in other areas, and virtually none in the more rural parts of the district. It is clear that the main problem area is the Bromsgrove Town centre and surrounding housing areas. Additional hotspots can be found in Wythall, Catshill and Rubery.

Closer analysis of the location of alcohol related crimes in the town centre reveal offences are focused on quite a small area of the town.

Figure 10: Alcohol-related Crimes Location of Offences (by Hotspot) – Focus on Bromsgrove Town Centre







Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008.

It is clear from figure 10 that alcohol related crime in the town centre is very localised around the southern end of the High Street and the northern part of Worcester Road.

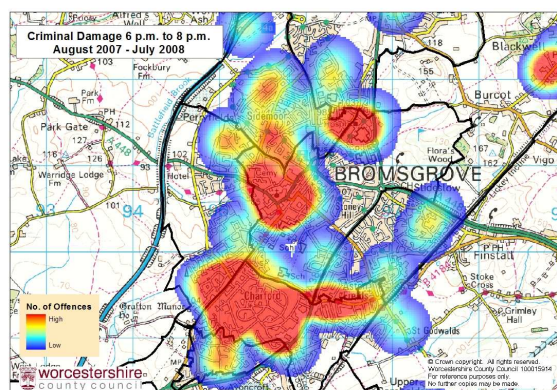
Premises located within this area include: Love 2 Love, The Dog and Pheasant, The Golden Cross, The Rousler and Charlie's Kebabs.

Though violent crime is the most commonly recorded type of alcohol related crime in all wards across the District, other crimes types show a more significant amount of variation based on location and time. In the wards surrounding Bromsgrove town centre, where the majority of residents of the town live, the proportion of alcohol related crime that is made up of criminal damage is significantly higher than in the town centre itself. Specifically, there is a pattern of increasing damage as you move away from the town centre in the early hours of the morning. It is thought that this is caused by people walking home after a night out drinking alcohol.

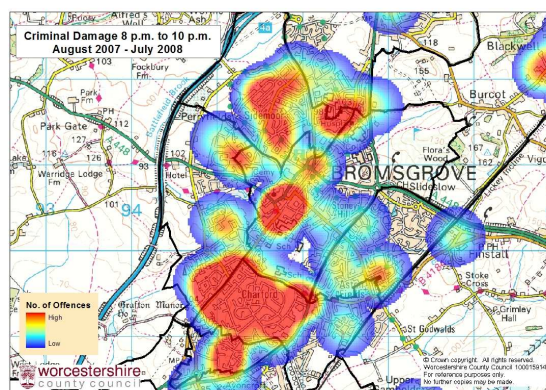
Figure 11: Criminal Damage Offences Location (by Hotspot) over Time



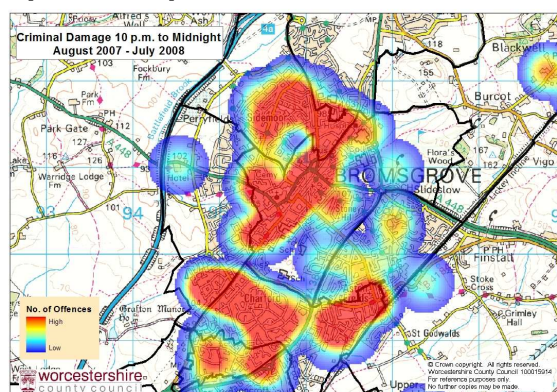
## Bromsgrove Annex B4: Alcohol related crime, the night-time economy



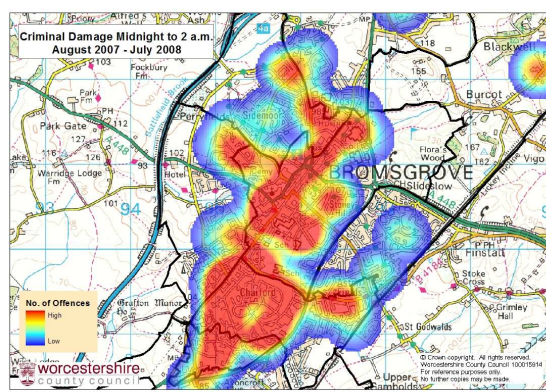
**6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**



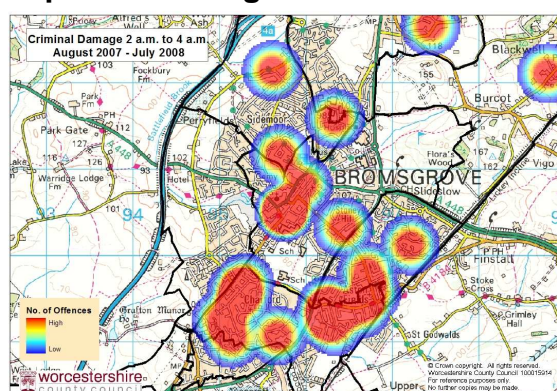
**8 p.m. to 10 p.m.**



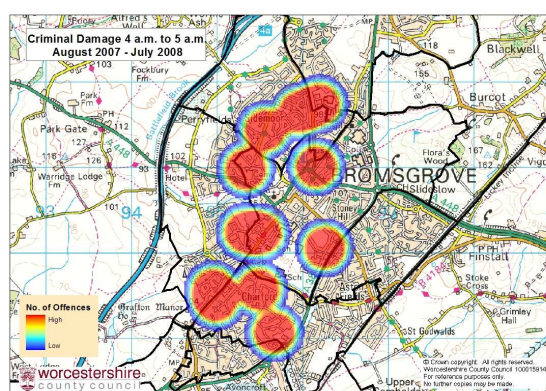
**10 p.m. to Midnight**



**Midnight to 2 a.m.**



**2 a.m. to 4 a.m.**



**4 a.m. to 6 a.m.**

Source: *CRIMES*, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

As the above maps show, criminal damage peaks in the town centre between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. The intensity of the hotspot in the town centre decreases after 2 a.m. and offences further a-field increase. Key offending locations and times, especially for violent crime, damage and disorder, take place when people congregate outside pubs and clubs when queuing for taxis or food. As time progresses into the early hours of the morning, offenders begin to walk home, and damage occurs along the main routes from the town centre to the residential areas, as well as a small proportion of violent crime. With an efficient and low cost means of getting people home more quickly, the risk of offenders being tempted to damage property along their walking route is removed, and this type of offending is reduced.

Also, with effective management of people as they leave the licensed premises, the number of offences in the town centre between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. could be reduced.

The below information is taken from a study of licensed premises across the county. One or two super output areas were chosen for each of the main towns in Worcestershire. Criminal offences including assaults, criminal damage, robbery and disorder offences, occurring within the vicinity of licensed premises in these areas between April 2006 and 24 August 2008 were studied. Records were limited to crimes occurring between 6 p.m. and 5 a.m. to assess the crimes that are related to the night time economy.

Figure 12: Licensed Premises analysis of town centre area (Bromsgrove), Number of Criminal Offences between April 2006 and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Premises	In then out	Inside	Not linked - outside / unknown	Outside & linked	Total
Love 2 Love	17	31	24	9	81
The Dog and Pheasant	3	16	15	2	36
The Golden Cross	3	8	18	1	30
Rousler	2	5	5	2	14
The Black Cross		1	10		11
The Red Lion			2		2
The Wishing Well			1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>175</b>

Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

**Definitions:**

*Inside: There is a clear indication that the offence occurred inside the premises and no indication that it continued outside*

*In then out: There is a clear indication that the offence began inside the premises and then moved outside (e.g. through the continuation of a dispute or fight) OR that someone involved in the offence was ejected and then the offence occurred* Key Words: Ejected, Escorted off the premises, Previous altercation inside

*Outside and Linked: There is a clear indication that the offence occurred whilst an individual involved was queuing, refused entry or immediately after having left (not being ejected) OR a member of staff (usually door supervisor) is actively involved in the offence. Do not include offences where the door supervisor is being threatened/abused from a distance unless these result in conflict. Code these offences as "Outside but not linked / unknown" Key words: Queue, Refused entry, Door supervisor intervened*

*Not linked - Outside but not linked / unknown: The offence occurs outside the premises but is incidental to it (e.g. an offence has occurred in the street outside the premises whilst an individual involved has been walking by and the premises name has been used as a landmark to report the offence) OR there is no indication as to the location of the offence in the MO field.*

Love to Love (previously known as Aura and Euphoria) is clearly the hotspot premises in terms of the number of offences reported in the vicinity. Analysis of all the town centres in the County placed Love to Love second out of all licensed premises in the study area which included super output areas from all towns in Worcestershire.

Between 01 August 2007 and 31 July 2008, there were 48 alcohol related criminal offences where the location was stated to be Love 2 Love, 33 at the Dog and Pheasant, and an additional 25 recorded on Worcester Road, and 58 at various premises on the High Street.

41% of the violent crime and Public Order offences on Worcester Road were flagged up by the police as Stranger violence – where the victim and the offender were not known to each other before the incident.

*Alcohol related to unemployment: those who were unemployed had slightly higher levels of drinking above sensible levels and binge drinking than the working population (SMAT Needs Assessment). People on higher incomes are more likely to drink above sensible levels and to binge drink than those on lower incomes. An individual with low socio-economic status is likely to suffer more harm (through factors such as poorer nutrition, financial problems, less secure employment) than somebody of higher status who is drinking the same amount (Source: London Health Observatory briefing on alcohol Choosing Health 2006)*

## 2. Justification

### **Local Concern**

#### *Partners and Communities Together (PACT)*

It is not always clear from the category description titles under which PACT issues are recorded whether or not they were linked to alcohol. Furthermore, some issues raised at meetings could fall into a number of categories, and issues linked to alcohol may not always be recorded in the “Alcohol Related” category. In order to establish a more accurate assessment of the number of alcohol related issues, all records were examined in greater detail. PACT represents the views of only those residents who take the time to attend meetings and therefore the sample size may skew findings.

Figure 13: Issues linked to Alcohol-related Crime raised at Bromsgrove PACT meetings, August 2007 to July 2008.

Category	Description	No. of Issues
Alcohol Related	Drunken Disorder	17
	Underage Drinking (supply to under 18s)	8
	Street Drinking	6
ASB	Inappropriate Gathering in Public Places	2
	Noise, Vehicles (e.g. exhausts/revving)	1
Youth Related	Youths Inappropriate Gathering	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>

Source: West Mercia Constabulary, September 2008

Roughly 12% of all issues raised at PACT meetings across the District between August 2007 and July 2008 were alcohol related.

Alcohol related drunken disorder has been mentioned twice in St Johns PACT over the last year, with specific issues surrounding gatherings of pub and club goers in and around Hanover Street and Worcester Road. The issues stressed are the noise levels which disturbs residents, and the resulting litter and hygiene issues relating to urine and vomit. These issues are more strongly linked to alcohol ASB than actually crime.

#### *West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey 2008*



42% of respondents in the 2008 West Mercia Crime and Safety Survey stated that they had felt fearful of drunken people causing them a problem in the last 12 months. This is 20% more than the residents who stated they had been worried about the same thing in the 2007 survey.

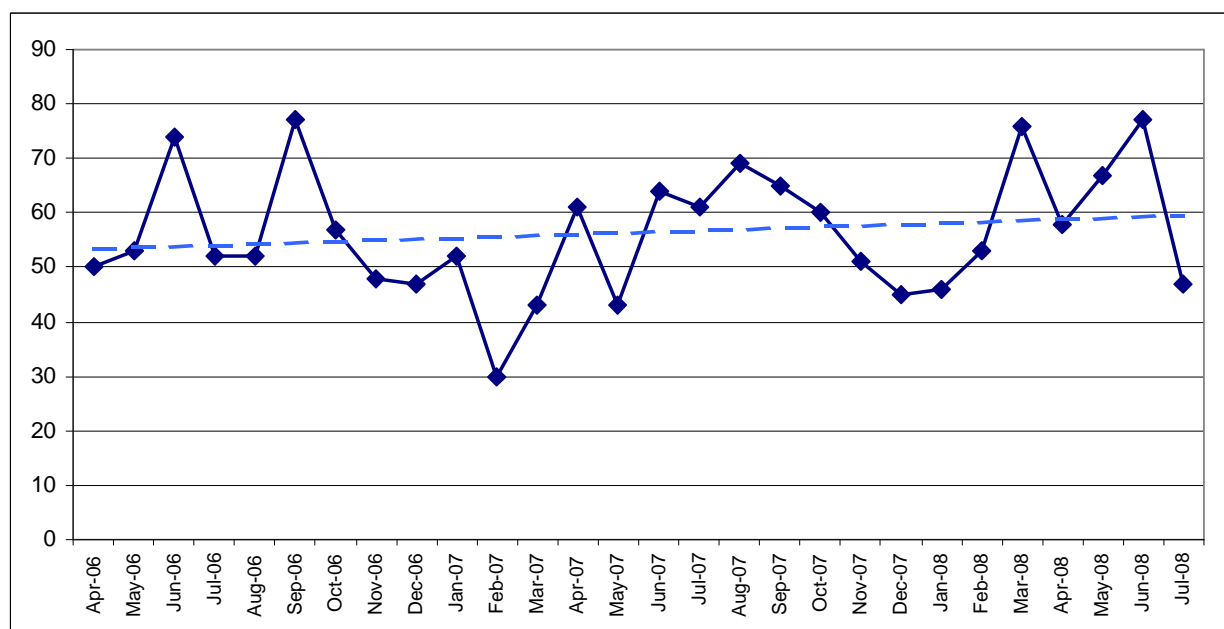
45% of respondents agreed that alcohol-related violence was a problem in their local neighbourhood, but only 8% stated that they thought this was one of the 3 issues that should be addressed first across the District.

The proportion of respondents who had been the victim of an assault in a public place was just 1.1%, but 59% had not reported the crime to the police.

48% of respondents agreed to the use of Fixed Penalty Notices to tackle noise from licensed premises.

### Trend

Figure 14: Alcohol-related criminal offences per month, April 2006 to July 2008



Source: CRIMES, West Mercia Constabulary, August 2008

Alcohol related crime has followed a fluctuating pattern since April 2006 with notable high point with 76 offences in June 2006 and 77 in September 2006. Recently, though still greatly variable month on month, the trend seems to be an increasing one, with an average of 62 offences per month in the first 4 months of 2008/09 compared to a 57 offence average in the same period a year before – a 8.7% increase.

What is clear from the above graph is the influence of the various policing operations such as the one which took place in the winter of 2007. During operation Christmas Presence, messages related to responsible drinking and staying safe on a night out were widely advertised across the District. Lollipops were also handed out to well-behaved people as they left pubs and clubs. In addition to this operation, as a result of initial discussions at October CDRP tasking, a temporary taxi rank was set up in



the town to ensure that people were able to get home quickly and safely, and therefore reduce the number of incidents in the town centre.

### ***Tasking Priorities***

Alcohol related violent crime was the focus of Tasking in May 2008, and the town centre was the main issue of focus in October 2007 leading to the implementation of a temporary taxi rank ready for the festive season, and the opening up of links with the Taxi Association.

### ***Risk***

Offenders and victims of alcohol-related crimes may end up at the door of all other agencies if situations are allowed to progress. For example, following alcohol consumption on a night out, people may end up injuring themselves in which case they would go to A&E, or they may assault someone then be arrested and enter into the criminal justice system possibly ending up with Probation Services. Conviction for offences could lead to a problem with employment leading the offender to the council for benefits advice, or to BDHT for housing advice. If we tackle the problems at the start, early on, it may reduce resource implications further down the line, thus, freeing up more resources to deal with a wider range of people and problems.

With a large sum of money to be invested in the redevelopment of the town centre, it is essential that the night time crime issues are tackled to encourage more people to visit the town on an evening and make the most of the new facilities. Also, as almost 10% of the alcohol related criminal offences in St Johns were criminal damage, it is important to tackle this issue before the redevelopment to ensure the town centre remains a pleasant place to be.

### ***Other Factors – PESTELO Analysis***

The regeneration of Bromsgrove Town Centre covers the main night time economy hotspot areas. One option that is being explored as a part of the project is the promotion of cafes and restaurants in the town centre in order to simulate the night time economy. One of the sustainability options in the BDC Issues and Options report outlines an objective to “reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour” Bromsgrove Town Centre Issues and Options Report (Source: <http://bromsgrove.whub.org.uk/home/bdc-issuesandoptions.pdf>). Another highlighted objective is to ensure that crime is kept at a low level by extending CCTV coverage in the town centre and designing out crime. Therefore, steps are being taken to ensure that the development process does not do anything to antagonise the current situation with regards to crime and the night time economy.

An increase in the population of both residents and visitors to the town centre due to redevelopment could lead to an increase in the level of crime if the situation is not managed properly.

Migration and immigration issues could increase the ethnic diversity of the local population which could potentially lead to increased tensions within the community and an increase in alcohol related, racially motivated violent crime.

CCTV improvements were completed in September 2008 to improve the quality of images of the cameras in Bromsgrove, hopefully resulting in an increase in the usefulness of the cameras to aid detections. Also, better quality imaging will allow the CCTV staff to identify people who have been flagged up as potential offenders, or as serial offenders.

The current issues relating to the credit crunch could potentially lead to further pressures at home for many residents of Bromsgrove town, which may cause an increase in domestic assaults related to alcohol abuse. It could also lead to an increase in alcohol abuse as a result of depression or stress.

### **3. Adding Value**

The Partnership has already implemented a number of initiatives to help to tackle the issue of alcohol related crime in Bromsgrove, including the implementation of a taxi rank in the town centre. However, the existing relationships between the agencies of the CSP provide an opportunity to improve on not only the existing measures but to build on new methods of tackling the problems through partnership working. There is currently a gap in potential delivery of projects in terms of the engagement from a range of Partners, with the local policing teams, District Council and Neighbourhood Wardens leading on the majority of existing initiatives. When it comes to the health and risk issues surrounding alcohol related crime, additional engagement would be beneficial.

Improved data sharing with ambulance and A&E services would improve the understanding of alcohol related crime and allow outcomes to be based on a broad understanding of the underlying issues

### **4. Measuring Effectiveness**

The new LAA contains an indicator which can be used as a proxy measure for alcohol related violent crime: NI 39 – Alcohol Related Hospital Admission Rates.

Other potential measures include: overall % of crime that is alcohol related; criminal damage offences, especially those occurring in the early hours of the morning leading away from hotspot drinking areas; alcohol related violent crimes; level of criminal offences and incidents in and around licensed premises.

### **5. What Can We Do**

Recommendations for partnership planning are made following the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to classify initiatives/actions into prevention, intelligence, enforcement, reassurance (PIER).

#### ***Prevention***

*Dispersal Strategy* - taxi rank, exit strategy for night-clubs. For example see Bar Entertainment & Dance Association (BEDA) dispersal policy guidance.

#### ***Intelligence***

*Risk Assessment of Licensed Premises* - Licensed premises work. Risk assessment of all licensed premises – more in depth analysis of the issues at Love to Love and the Dog and Pheasant.

*Improved Data Sharing with PCT* – including ambulance and A&E Data.

*Regular analysis of the NTE* – quarterly report to tasking on number of linked offences in town centre premises – this can then be used for performance monitoring.

*Method of Defining Alcohol Related Crimes* – Improved method of defining which offences were related to alcohol.

### ***Enforcement***

*Used of Fixed Penalty Notices* - It would be essential to include effective and detailed recording procedures so that data collected as a result of FPNs can then be used to aid future intelligence.

### ***Reassurance***

*Effective Use of Town Centre CCTV* - especially with the new improved technology.

*Promotion of Partnership Work to Reduce Crime linked to the NTE* – Media relations, press releases, promotional events. Advertising reduction in violent offences that resulted from the taxi rank, promotion of the work of the Partnership.