





# Richmond upon Thames Financial Year 13-14 Strategic Assessment

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# Executive Summary

- Richmond remains the fourth safest borough in London, according to the Iquanta Home Office website. It is the safest borough for violent crime and race hate crime
- Overall crime in Richmond has seen a reduction of 9% or 753 crimes from April to December 2013
- Police anti-social behaviour (ASB) has seen a reduction of 14% or 581 calls from April to December 2013
- From Drug Test on Arrest records, the majority of offenders arrested in Richmond remain non-residents, only 32% or 202 arrests, were residents of this borough
- Domestic violence incident reporting remains level, there has been a 5% or 41 case reduction in domestic violence offences
- Integrated Offender Management (IOM) has had a successful first 12 months, with a 31% re-offending rate. In the previous 12 months the offending rate was 66%, for the initial IOM cohort.

(All summary statistics are for the period of the 1 April 2013 to the 31 December 2013)

#### Introduction

The overarching aim of this Strategic Assessment is to identify mid to long term crime and disorder issues which are impacting on residents of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. The implications of these issues and possible future threats will also be considered.

The main purpose of this product is to provide a clear and concise summary of the problems faced by Richmond Borough, in order to review the Metropolitan Police Control Strategy and support strategic decision making and resource allocation within the Community Safety Partnership.

# Methodology

The date parameters for this Strategic Assessment are 01/04/13 to 31/12/13 unless otherwise stated. Iquanta data has been used for statistical police crime data and graphs.

#### **Limitations**

Iquanta crime data has been used to populate charts and graphs in this assessment. This has been necessary as a re-organisation of the intelligence function of the Metropolitan Police Service has resulted in a reduced capacity to provide data. This re-organisation fell directly during the collating and writing period for the Strategic Assessment. Iquanta crime data is supplied by the Home Office.

While there are likely to be limitations on predictive analysis, the overall statistical breakdown should not be affected by these issues.

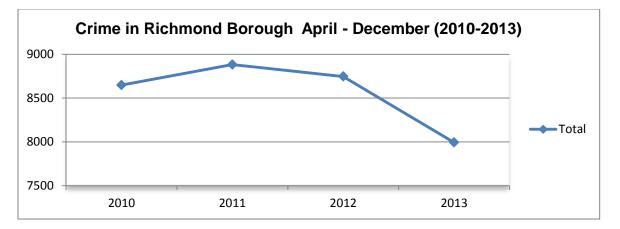
All council data has been gathered from partnership databases and internal council data.

# Richmond upon Thames Borough

Richmond upon Thames is a unique London borough as it is the only borough that is situated to both the north and south of the River Thames, with a river frontage of 21 miles. The borough is not entirely urbanised and contains a significant number of parks and open spaces including Richmond Park, Bushy Park and Kew Gardens. Richmond Borough is well connected to central London by National Rail and London Underground District Line Services run from Richmond and Kew Gardens.

There are 189,145 (2012) residents in Richmond, with 14% recorded as being from a BME background. Whilst it is far less diverse than neighbouring boroughs to the North and West, there are still wards with higher ethnic populations than the average of 14%. According to the Office for National Statistics estimations, forward from 2012, show 52% of the borough population are aged between 0-39, 43% are aged between 40-79 and 5% are aged 80 years or over.

Significant development is scheduled around Twickenham Station leading up to the 2015 Rugby World Cup.



# **Statistical Overview**

Over the last twelve months the Metropolitan Police has experienced significant change, with the implementation of the Local Policing Model and changes to Safer Neighbourhood policing.

During 2013, crime in Richmond has seen a 9% reduction (or 753 crimes) between April and December 2013; this is the most significant crime reduction since 2010.

There were 7993 crimes between April to December 2013, compared to 8746 in the same period in 2012.

Of the three main crime types which are important to the local police and the Community Safety Partnership, there has been a reduction across the board:

- Burglary has seen a 15% reduction during this period, equal to 233 crimes
- Vehicle offences have reduced by 16% or 217 crimes

• Violent crime has fallen by 9% or 165 crimes and Richmond remains the safest borough for violent crime from April to December 2013.

All these figures remain the most positive for four years, since Richmond was last recorded as the safest borough in London.

Predictive analysis from Iquanta suggests that the end of year figures (April 2013 - March 2014) will be even better, with a possible 11% crime reduction over the entire year.

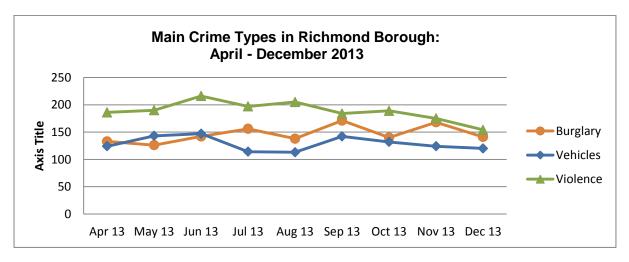
# **Borough Crime Picture (BCP) Summary**

The borough crime picture is a strategic crime overview compiled by the Metropolitan Police and is updated on a quarterly basis

The Borough Crime Picture looks at the main crime and anti-social behaviour problems that affect the borough each year; this then informs decisions and deployments for the following year. Most boroughs have a small set of regular hotspots for crime and anti-social behaviour. The main priorities within Richmond are mainly concerned with the two main town centre locations (Richmond and Twickenham), seasonal trends in violent and acquisitive crimes and troublesome repeat venues. Further priorities are domestic violence incidents and mass sporting events.

These locations and venues are given priority status to ensure a safer borough for residents and visitors alike.

Richmond remains a low crime borough with a small set of priorities; however it does share its borders with a number of very different boroughs, with more diverse populations and higher crime rates. Cross-borough offending is a major issue within Richmond, with 68% or 438 offenders arrested living outside the borough.



# Crime Group Summary

The graph above shows the crime trends by type during the April to December period. The overall trend is positive for all three main crime types showing steady reductions for two out of the three illustrated.

Burglary remains one of the most problematic crime types for the borough, especially nonresidential burglary (where items like pedal cycles are stolen from garden sheds). For the purpose of a clear, simplified analysis, the overall figures are shown here. Local police work to lessen the impact of burglary on local residents has made significant progress and has halted the escalation in burglary crimes over the last 18 months.

Vehicle crime (theft from a motor vehicle and theft of a motor vehicle) has shown the most consistent reduction during this period. Since September 2013 it has been falling gradually, especially during the "autumn nights" period where pro-active police operations have been running, this is a positive advertisement for planned police intervention.

Violent crime is usually concentrated around town centre public houses and venues, though as stated earlier the violent crime levels in the borough are very low compared to other London boroughs. Violent crime levels were slightly higher during expected seasonal peaks in late spring and early summer but have been decreasing steadily since October 2013. A subset of violent crime includes domestic incidents where violent offences have been recorded. These offences form a small minority of all domestic incidents.

Predictive analysis from Iquanta suggests that there will be a fall in all three of these crime groups by the end of 2013-14.

# Strategic Assessment 2013-14: Richmond Council

The following section provides detailed analysis of Council and partners data from April to December 2013, unless otherwise stated.

These sections cover the main areas of responsibility for the Community Safety Partnership. Unlike the Borough Crime Picture (BCP) these are based on statistical evidence and analysis over the last 2-3 years rather than a five year span. They provide the local authority counter-weight to the BCP.

# Performance Against Targets

# Target:

2013 -14 Target: To aspire to be London's safest borough's (Static)

Richmond is currently the fourth safest borough in London, with a rate of 42.62 crimes per 1000 population for April to December 2013 (n=7,993 offences).

Currently Richmond is 753 crimes down (or 9%) for April - December 2013, compared to April - December 2012.

Richmond remains one of the safest boroughs in London (there has been no change in our position (currently fourth) from April to December 2013, therefore we remain static, but with a crime reduction).

Our most similar boroughs are Kingston and Sutton. The safest three boroughs are Bexley, Sutton and Harrow. Kingston is the fifth safest London borough.

For TNO's (total notifiable offences), Richmond (7993) has the third lowest total after Sutton (7786) and Kingston (7060).

# Serious acquisitive crime (SAC)

The rate for SAC was 13.577 crimes per 1000 population; Richmond is the third safest borough for serious acquisitive crime. Serious acquisitive crime has fallen by 17% between April - December 2013 (387 crimes).

# Hate Crime

Hate crime includes racist and religious hate crime, homophobic hate crime and disabled hate crime; the figures cover the period April 2013 - December 2013.

There were 73 hate crimes reported to Richmond Police from April - December 2013, with a projected total expected to be level with 2012 - 13 (91 crimes) (There were no hate crimes reported to the Richmond Community Safety Team during this period).

63 hate crimes were racial offences, 9 were homophobic offences and 1 was a disabled offence. 15% (11) of these crimes were classified as violent:

- 8 out of 63 racial offences involved violence, 4 of these were actual bodily harm (ABH) or grievous bodily harm (GBH)
- 3 out of 9 homophobic offences involved violence, all were ABH or GBH.

#### **Domestic Abuse**

#### Performance Target:

- 55% customer satisfaction with Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDVA) (97.6% April – December 2013)
- 40% feel safer after intervention (risk reduction) (36.8% April December 2013)
- 40% reduction in severity of abuse (96% April December 2013)

The performance targets are for the commissioned Domestic Abuse Service

# **Currently On Target**

# Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) 2013 -14

One important part of the domestic abuse prevention work on the borough is the high level multi agency conference (MARAC), which looks at the most serious cases on a monthly basis.

The pattern in 2013 -14 (April - December 2013) shows a fall of 7 cases (4%) from the same period in 2012. Case totals for the meetings during the autumn have been lower than normal; this is currently being looked into.

Police figures for domestic abuse between April - November 2013 show there were 900 domestic abuse cases during this period, 308 of these were violence related (34%). Between April - November 2012 there were 901 cases, with 349 being violence related (39%). Therefore there has been a 5% fall in violent domestic abuse, which is a similar figure to the 4% fall in MARAC cases.

Importantly repeat cases are rising again, back to similar levels recorded during April - December 2011. During 2013 -14, there were 38% or 61 cases were classified as repeats; this shows a correlation between lower cases totals and repeat case detection, enhancing

the quality of service that MARAC and partnership agencies deliver in Richmond upon Thames.

161 cases were discussed at MARAC meetings from April 2013 - December 2013, of these 61 were repeat cases.

38% or 61 of the total victims were identified as black or minority ethnic background (BME) or lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT). Of this grouping 28% were from a BME back ground, 9% were disabled and less than one per cent were LGBT.

However one of the main concerns over the last 18 months with domestic abuse is the amount of under-reporting, a significant concern with domestic abuse where the element of coercion and control from the perpetrators can result in very little visibility of victims. The fall in actual reported incidents and violent crimes can be seen as a negative element, which presents the question, how much of these incidents are we missing?

There has been virtually no change in all domestic abuse incident totals from April 2013 - November 2013 compared to the same period last year.

#### **Co-Ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) Statistics**

Statistical evidence of the CAADA and IDVA work with domestic abuse victims is available for the first three quarters of 2013, which can shed light on particular issues and how successful resolution or cessation of these issues have been.

The main victim vulnerability during this period was mental health conditions, sometimes caused by the experiences the victim has gone through but also as previous existing conditions. Most victims are not currently living with their abusive partner, this partner usually being described as "ex-intimate".

When the type of abuse is looked at, "controlling behaviour" rather than physical or sexual abuse is the main type, linked to jealousy and insecurity. While this may not seem to be a classic description of abuse, it is very much a central feature of abusive relationships. Cessation rates for service users passing through the IDVA service are positive, standing above 50% for all three quarters. With around 40 referrals each quarter, this stands at 22 cessations per 40 cases seen. This is despite the incredibly complex issues at the heart of any domestic abuse scenario.

Where service users have asked for specific outcomes (health, support, accommodation etc.), the success rate has been over 90%.

As with all quarterly reporting there will be overlaps and duplication in caseloads and/or cohorts, this should be noted in relation to this kind of data.

#### Drug Test on Arrest (DTOA)

#### **Performance Target:**

- 14% (7) increase in successful completions (28.5% April December 2013)
- Ratio of cost saving for drug test on arrest £1: £5.60 (Level April December 2013)

This information is provided via the Drug Intervention Project.

# Currently on Target

Drug test on Arrest has now been running for almost three years in Richmond. The data below looks at the period from April - December 2013, not including September 2013 data.

There is also an analysis of the link between DTOA and the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) process.

(During September 2013, the custody suite on Richmond borough was closed and all staff moved to Kingston borough. This has led to computer data issues with quality and recording of Drug Testing during the month of September and so data for that month is not included.

There have been 645 arrests between April and December 2013 (not including September), an average of 81 per month. Sixty-seven per cent (434) of these were tested for cocaine, opiates or both cocaine and opiates.

Of these 434 tests, 147 (34%) were positive, the same figure recorded for April - December 2012. Of the positive tests, cocaine was the most common with 70 positive tests, which is just under 50% of all positive tests.

The main trigger offences (initial reason for arrest) for all offenders were acquisitive crime (290) and burglary (90).

Most offenders arrested were non-residents of Richmond Borough, with 32% or 202 being residents. Fifty-eight out of the 147 positive tests were residents of this borough, which is 39% of all positive tests. This 40/60 difference between residents and non-residents has remained steady for three years. There was a 3% fall in positive tests for Richmond residents and a 2% fall in total arrests of Richmond residents compared to 2012-13.

#### Comparison with 2012 -13

There has been no change in the positive test rates from 2012 -13, with 34% of all tested arrests recording a positive result. The percentage of positive tests for cocaine use and both cocaine and opiate use has risen during 2013 -14. opiate use only has remained exactly the same.

The rise in positive cocaine or cocaine and opiates use could be down to more accurate testing, as well as intelligence being used to target individuals where there are previous concerns.

#### **Offender Management**

#### Target:

Reduction of recidivism rates of those on IOM (In Development)

This measure is currently being worked on, the aim is to develop a consistent reduction figure across the many strands of IOM, some of these are already being calculated but others, due to their complex nature, will take more time.

Offender Management is now a statutory duty of the Community Safety Partnership, for the last five months the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) process in Richmond has been running, with monthly panel and strategy meetings. This uses a multi-agency approach to reducing re-offending.

This summary looks at the progress made by the IOM nomination panel and the current offending profile in Richmond. Any Probation data has been supplied by the Kingston and Richmond Probation Trust.

During the first two quarters, Kingston and Richmond Probation have dealt with or are dealing with 128 cases, this equates to about 32 cases per quarter. (These figures are not comparable with 2012 -13, as they are now joint caseloads)

Eighty-eight per cent of offenders were male, with 62% from a white background, 14% of ethnic origin data were classified as "null". (meaning these forms were incomplete or not filled in).

As in 2011-12, the majority of offenders were aged between 18-30, with 45% of offences being either violence or theft offences.

#### Offender Needs Analysis

One key area of offender management moving forward is what assistance can be given to offenders who are engaging with Probation Services. There are a number of indicators which can highlight the needs of offenders tailored to their offending history and background; these support needs are then directed into one of nine pathways out of the re-offending cycle. (For example, an offender with a moderate learning disability could be given training to assist with job applications where the disability may have unconsciously hindered their progress).

When the whole caseload is analysed, there are two main areas of concern for Richmond offenders, these concern "Lifestyles and Associates" and "Thinking and Behaviour". This could involve socializing with fellow offenders, lack of structure/employment and possible domestic issues and mental health concerns. (These figures have not changed from 2012-13).

Accommodation was the lowest need on the caseload with only 26% presenting a need in this area, 40% of the caseload were unemployed. 17% of offenders had reading, writing or numeracy difficulties.

#### Integrated Offender Management Year One September 2012 - August 2013

Integrated Offender Management has been running for just over a year, with the first anniversary falling directly during 2013 -14, therefore these statistics are based on the first IOM year, which was from September 2012 - August 2013.

During the first year 35 offenders were referred to the IOM scheme by various agencies, the main referring agency was Probation followed by the Metropolitan Police. The aim of referring an individual is an attempt to address their needs and assist their rehabilitation from offending.

Of these 35 offenders, 11 re-offended, which is 31%. The rate for the 12 months before the scheme was 66%. The majority of offences were by the prolific offenders referred by the police, who took up almost half of the initial referrals in September 2012.

National and local comparisons of data are difficult due to the complexity of Ministry of Justice recording. Local stand-alone measurements are being developed, with the first year providing a benchmark statistic for measurement.

The most common "needs" for offenders on the IOM cohort are related to drug and/or alcohol abuse and mental health issues. There was a lower need for educational assistance. The engagement levels for offenders is sporadic to low, presenting a challenge for partnership workers.

The upcoming Probation Service reforms will be a challenge to us in maintaining progress over the next year.

### Integrated Offender Management Links

These section will look briefly at the cross detection of IOM referrals and drug tested individuals, for the period September 2012 to August 2013.

Of 343 tested individuals from September 2012 - August 2013:

- 47 had been tested more than once (14%)
- 6 or 13% of these 47 repeat tests were on the IOM cohort
- 16 of these 343 tests were on the IOM cohort (5%).

These figures show a steady unchanging trend in the Drug Test on Arrest process, despite Richmond and Kingston custody suites merging in September 2013. The totals for repeat test cases on the IOM cohort are almost identical, while some of the measures are new and are not comparable.

The challenge going forward is to increase referrals from other agencies and identify cross border offenders as well.

NB. IOM referrals are based on a number of different criteria; drug testing is just one part of the overall process.

# Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

#### Target:

- Thinking about your local area, how much of a problem do you think are groups hanging around the street? (Council annual survey question)
- Target for 2013-14 was a reduction (2012-13 actual figure 16%); 3% reduction achieved
- How much would you agree or disagree that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with crime/anti-social behaviour issues in your local area? (Council annual survey question)
- Target for 1013-14 was an increase (2012-13 actual figure 67%); 5% increase achieved

(These targets were agreed at the Community Safety Partnership and are taken from the annual Council Residents Survey)

# **Currently on Target**

#### Anti-Social Behaviour

There have been 23 cases referred to the ASB panel between April - December 2013, as opposed to 45 cases for April - December 2012.

This reduction reflects a more rigorous approach to scrutiny of the risk based arguments for multi-agency support. Acceptable Behaviour Contract's (ABCs) referred to the panel will not

automatically be included on caseload (as the majority are single agency responses provided for evidential purposes only) but will continue to be monitored and fed into the ASB case management process where a multi-agency response is required.

There has been no further activation of the Community Trigger within the period of April -December 2013. In addition to printed materials, the Community Trigger continues to be publicized on both council and Richmond Housing Partnership websites. Although use of the trigger has been referred in some instances (demonstrating resident awareness), there is concern that understanding in relation to the Community Trigger criteria remains low. The ASB Development Group has reviewed its strategy for marketing the benefits of the scheme and is currently planning to re-launch the trigger to coincide with additional publicity around the passing of new ASB legislation in the spring.

# Anti-Social Behaviour in Richmond Borough 2012 -13

This section looks at Police and Council ASB compared to 2012 -13, looking at the main locations, ASB types and putting local ASB into context within the London Metropolitan area. (All data is for April 2013 - December 2013).

# **Richmond Council Anti-Social Behaviour**

ASB in Richmond is recorded by the Local Authority on three databases. The ASB reports are received from members of the public, Environment and Housing Departmental staff and Community Safety Officers. Richmond Council has improved ASB recording over the last 18 months but there are still limitations with data and minimal temporal information (dates and times) on all three databases.

Over the last three years, there has been on-going work to improve database standards and use of new interrogation tools. During 2013 -14 a new program is being used to extract ASB data from multiple databases. This has resulted in an improved range and volume of ASB reports. This means that comparisons with statistics for previous years is unreliable; therefore percentages will be used to gain approximate comparisons.

The majority of council ASB, at least three quarters of reports, are classed as low level "environmental" issues, such as litter, fly-tipping and graffiti. The remaining quarter of reports involve business or personal noise complaints, approximately 3% or 130 of these would be considered high level ASB and in need of further investigations.

Due to the new reporting methods, report types will be compared by percentage, when comparing the last three years of Council recorded ASB.

Report Type	2011-12 %	2012-13 %	2013-14 %	2 Yr. Change
Abandoned Vehicles	12%	7%	7%	-5%
Litter (inc Fly-tipping)	38%	44%	45%	+7%
Graffiti	19%	17%	17%	-2%
Noise	25%	24%	23%	-2%
Other (inc Animals)	7%	9%	7%	Level

(All stats are April - December 2013 of the respective year)

Over the three year period, ASB levels for the top three report types have remained fairly steady by percentage, apart from reports of litter (including fly-tipping). To which there has been a 7% increase between 2011-12 and 2013-14. The majority of these reports are made by council staff. Litter is the only report category that has increased every year in this period.

The peak months for Council ASB have consistently been during the summer, especially June and July. ASB reporting levels tend to rise when there is combination of good weather, school holidays and major public events; the summer months usually bring together all three of these factors, hence the higher ASB totals. July 2013 saw the warmest summer weather in London for almost six years and contributed to the highest ASB levels in the three year period studied. November and December are the quietest months where call levels fell to their lowest in December 2011.

Conversely, inclement and colder weather can drive ASB down. The Christmas period for December 2013 was the quietest for many years, and this can be linked to stormy wet weather and major flooding.

ASB incidents are usually located in shared public places and areas of concentrated housing, Richmond has moderate levels of both locations, the important difference can be sporadic issues of youths gathering against the consistent targeting of one individual or family by another. Of the 18 wards in Richmond, Ham shares the most common locational problems, with shared public spaces and concentrated housing, as well as being relatively isolated.

The busiest three wards for ASB over the last three years are South Richmond, Ham and Mortlake; there has been no increase in their percentage of overall ASB during this period, which is a positive sign. Of the top 10 wards for ASB between 2011-2013, none saw an increase in their share of overall ASB.

The main locations for ASB are in the main town centre locations (Richmond and Twickenham), arterial roads leading out of the five town centres in the borough and isolated locations where neighbour disputes may be occurring. As mentioned before, the vast majority of reports concern "environmental ASB", the lowest level classification.

# Anti-Social Behaviour Reported to Richmond Police

ASB reports to the Metropolitan Police are administered through the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system; these calls are monitored 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

In Richmond borough (April 2013 - December 2013) there were 4155 reports (48%) made to the police and 4431 reports (52%) to the Council. ASB calls to the Police are almost totally different to the council; the majority of calls concern medium ASB with a small number of high level ASB. These levels are much more evenly distributed than 2012 -13, where ASB share was 57/43 Police to Council.

There have been 4155 calls to the local police during 2013 -14; this is currently 14% down on the same period last year. (These figures are up to date as of 31/12/13). There have been an average of 461 calls per month.

The majority of calls to the police were classified as "rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour", (57% or 2638 calls of the total). This usually involves ASB in town centre locations but can also refer to suburban disturbances. The other common calls are "malicious communications" and "noise". Approximately 5% (or 200) reports could be considered medium to high level ASB. The peak times and days for ASB are usually at the weekends between 8.00pm and 12.00pm, this is usually linked to the town centre night time economy.

Summer is the peak season for ASB, the months of June, July and August saw 1798 calls in 2013 -14, which is 43% of all ASB for the period. July 2013 saw the warmest sustained summer weather for six years in England and this resulted in 716 calls, the highest total for

three years. Summer ASB was 2% down on 2012-13, despite these July figures. Summer ASB (June - August) has seen a reduction in each of the last two years.

The busiest wards for ASB reported to the Police were South Richmond, Twickenham Riverside, Heathfield and Teddington. The first two wards are commonly the busiest for ASB concerns; this is to be expected as they contain the two main town centres in the borough. Heathfield has had some high ASB totals during the late spring, early summer but concerted police and partnership action reduced this by the end of 2013. Teddington is the third town centre in the borough. All four wards have seen a reduction on last year's ASB totals, when compared to April - December 2012.

The main locations for ASB reported to the police remain the town centre locations, especially Richmond and Twickenham. Outside these areas, isolated calls and spates of disturbances are usually the main issues. Local parks where youths congregate remain a particular concern of residents and have been sporadic locations for ASB problems. The Halloween/Bonfire Night/Diwali reports of 2012 -13, where an 11% rise in calls was observed, did not repeat itself in 2013 -14, helped by stormy and inclement weather.

# **Conclusion**

2013 -14 has been a challenging year for local services in Richmond, due to budget and staffing restrictions, with the prospect of further measures to be enacted in 2014 -15.

Crime has reduced significantly for the first time in four years, with a predictive reduction figure of 11%. The problem crimes which include burglary and vehicle crime have seen consistent reductions during the year, which are a testimony to the successful implementation of policing restructures in the borough.

Anti-social behaviour has likewise reduced significantly, in many cases this runs in tandem with crime reductions, especially in the town centre locations. The council has seen a rise in ASB reports, however this is due to changes in the way data is extracted and more accurate reporting tools.

The priorities that were highlighted from last year's consultation are likely to remain the same for 2014 -15. There is still a challenge ahead to maintain the high performance of the many partner agencies in the Community Safety Partnership.