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**saferbromley**  
partnership

## Bromley Borough

### Summary Strategic Assessment 2011 to 2012

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The aim of this Strategic Assessment document is to identify the long-term concerns and implications of crime and future threats that affect Bromley Borough Operational Command Unit (BOCU). As requested, this document is a *summary* version of a full Strategic Assessment under the NIM process and is meant to highlight the key areas for Bromley BOCU and Safer Bromley Partnership to assist planning for the next year. All research and data collated to support this document is held in the Borough Intelligence Unit and can be accessed if required. Data used from Police indices only. For a full Strategic Assessment, all Partnership data would be considered. Due to timescales Domestic violence has not been analysed separately.

The purpose of the Strategic Assessment is to support decision-making and the review of the Control Strategy.

### Current Control Strategy:

Anti Social Behaviour  
Serious Acquisitive Crime  
Violence Against Person  
Youth Crime & Disorder  
Public Confidence

### Proposed Control Strategy:

ASB  
Crimes against Property  
Violence against Person  
Public Confidence

### Proposed Intelligence requirements:

Terrorism  
Drugs & alcohol related crime

- Recommendation – consider a review of the tactical tasking process to ensure control strategy and Intelligence requirement are fulfilled.

The evidence to support the proposed control Strategy is summarised below. This document has been set out using new working practice guidance, focusing on the *VOLT* model - Victim, Offender, Location and Time.

**Victims**

The population of London is growing and it is estimated there will be 8.2 million residents by 2016. At the last census, Bromley's population was 295,532, making Bromley the largest London Borough geographically with the smallest population density. The breakdown of the population shows 48% female and 52% of males, 91.6% of white ethnicity with Bromley's BAME (Black, Asian or minority ethnics) being smaller than the London average. Bromley has a significant aging population with 8.2% of the population over 75 years.<sup>1</sup>

Victim data<sup>2</sup> for the last three years has been analysed and the overall highest volume of offences shown below.

2008	2009	2010
<b>Criminal Damage (4,295)</b>	<b>Criminal Damage (3,630)</b>	<b>Residential Burglary (3,318)</b>
<b>MV<sup>3</sup> Crime (4,105)</b>	<b>MV Crime (3,515)</b>	<b>MV Crime (2,971)</b>
<b>Other Theft (2,377)</b>	<b>Residential Burglary (2,319)</b>	<b>Criminal Damage (2,815)</b>

The main victim profile for Bromley borough is a mix of white male and females aged 20 to 50 years old. A further look into these victims show the highest volume of crime committed against this group is Residential Burglary, Theft from MV and domestic violence. It is expected that this is mainly due to this vast group owning or renting property which has been criminally targeted, and having increased confidence in reporting crimes.

Vulnerable victims (young, elderly, physically or mentally impaired)

The percentage of crime committed against children under 10 years over the last three years is less than 1% and has dropped in 2010. The gender and ethnicity of the victims is representative of the borough. The highest volume of crime committed against this victim group is common assault, ABH and exposure.

Elderly victims (60+) account for 10% of victims within Bromley Borough. Artifice burglary, residential burglary, other theft, theft from motor vehicle and pick pocketing being the main crimes committed.

- Recommendation - consider a focussed approach on how we deal with vulnerable adults.

**Youth Victims**

The percentage of crime committed against the youth (11 to 19years) is around 8%. The gender of victims is split evenly, representative of the borough; as is the majority being of white ethnicity. The highest volume of crimes committed against this victim group is Common Assault, Other Theft, Robbery and ABH.

<sup>1</sup> London Development Agency/Bromley.

<sup>2</sup> Taken from the Metropolitan Police live Crime Reporting Information System.

<sup>3</sup> MV = Motor vehicle

### Crimes against Property

Burglary Artifice - the vast majority of victims being white females aged over 70 years. Around 12% of these victims were flagged as being a repeat victim.<sup>4</sup>

Burglary Residential - as expected this has the widest victim profile being male and females, predominantly white, aged 20 to 60 years. Although this may not assist with strategic planning, the breakdown of this group into vulnerable victims is so low, and, with a wide spectrum of repeat victims - it would appear that suspects are not specifically targeting vulnerable victims or a specific profile for repeat victims. Further analysis may identify reasons for targeted burglaries, for example for high value cars, which would assist tactical planning.

Motor Vehicle (theft of) – there is no specific make or model of car targeted for this offence.

### Violence against Person

Sexual Offences - Victims of sexual offences were mostly white females with a majority under 20 years of age. Due to this a high percentage are vulnerable victims. Around 12% of victims were repeat victims.

Robbery - Majority of victims are males between 9 to 20 years old (last year 73% were white and 18% black). There is an increase of black male repeat victims from 2008 to 2010.

### ASB

The case of Fiona Pilkington in 2007 has highlighted the need for a coordinated approach for ASB and vulnerable victims. With the majority of ASB not being recorded as a Crime<sup>5</sup>, the victim profiles have not been analysed, other than where they appear as victim of Criminal Damage.

Criminal Damage - victims of criminal damage almost mirrors residential burglary, with profile being male and females being predominantly white, aged 20 to 50 years. In 2010 the total number of repeat victims of criminal damage was 26%, however nearly half were recorded with no gender or age and therefore a full victim profile is not possible.

- Recommendation – CRIS data standards to be completed.
- Recommendation - Continue prevention advice to decrease opportunistic crime

### Offenders

The Crime data used for this analysis was taken from the suspect pages of CRIS. It will often be where the victim has described a suspect and will therefore differ from data where the offender has been charge or found guilty of an offence.

There were 15,397 suspects shown on Bromley BOCU crime data in 2010<sup>6</sup>. Of these, 42% did not show a home address and 37% are shown as residing on PY borough. Therefore at least 21% of suspects for Bromley Crime travel to the borough to commit offences. The highest volume of suspects listed are from Lewisham, followed by Bromley's other surrounding

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<sup>4</sup> Repeat victim is where the victim has been the victim of another crime within 12 months of the allegation.

<sup>5</sup> CAD data

<sup>6</sup> Taken from the Metropolitan Police live Crime Reporting Information System

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boroughs including the counties. This is fairly constant when comparing suspect data from previous years.

Repeat offenders are currently identified centrally and assigned an action plan locally as part of structured meeting processes under NIM<sup>7</sup>.

The vast majority of suspects offending in Bromley Borough are white males, whose ages differ according to each crime category. The occupation shown for offenders on Bromley BOCU in the main is Unemployed or Student/pupil.

### Crimes against property

Artifice burglary – white males aged between 20 to 40 years. From the victim profile for this offence, the majority of victims are elderly and may not describe a suspects age as accurately as other victims might.

Residential burglary – predominantly committed by males aged between 10 to 29 years, with ethnicity around 60% white and 20% black.

Motor vehicle – predominantly committed by males aged between 15 to 30 years, with ethnicity around 70% white and just over 10% black.

### Violence against Person

Sexual Offences – predominantly committed by male suspects, ethnicity averaging around 60% white and 20% black, in a wide age range between 14 to 50 years. The occupations vary from unemployed to roles regarded as guardians within society such as nurses and shop managers/workers (e.g. fast food restaurants or retail).

Robbery – suspects are predominantly males aged between 13 to 25 years with the main occupation shown as student/pupil. The three year data shows in 2008 the ethnicity of suspects being 41% white and 43% black, in 2009 41% white and 44% black and in 2010 33% white and 55% black. Therefore there is an increase of black male suspects for robbery offences in Bromley.

### ASB

Criminal Damage – predominantly committed by white males aged 10 to 20 years.

According to the Safer Transport Command, Bromley BOCU only has issues around committing bus related ASB, usually by school children.

- Recommendation: Consider Strategic planning with Safer Transport Teams regarding links into the borough.
- Recommendation: consider further intelligence gathering to identify causation of sudden increase of black male robbery suspects.

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<sup>7</sup> National Intelligence Model

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- Recommendation - continued Safer Transport, Safer Neighbourhood patrols in liaison with Schools Officers for prevention of ASB.

### Location

The strategic Hotspots for crime in Bromley can be shown below:

**Bromley Town centre** is the Boroughs primary hotspot for all crime. Due to the town centre structure having a relatively high volume of offences (theft from shop, other theft, harassment, pickpocket and common assault being most common) in a small condensed area will always appear as the 'hotspot' of note. The town centre is a secondary location for violence (GBH / ABH) due to the increased footfall for the Glades shopping centre along with Bromley's night time economy of pubs, clubs and restaurants.

**Penge** - is the Boroughs the 'true' hotspot for all crime with residential burglary, violence, vehicle crime, criminal damage and antisocial behaviour (ASB) featuring heavily. The ASB occurs in three distinct areas - The High Street, Penge East Railway Station and Ravenscroft Road area.

**St Marys and St Pauls Cray** are secondary hotspots where vehicle crime (damage to and theft from), violence (common assault), criminal damage and residential burglary feature.

Other Locations of note:

- **Kimmeridge Road** and its surround for residential burglary, violence and criminal damage
- **Beckenham High Street** suffers to a lesser degree but has an element of violence with its night time economy, vehicle crime and theft from shops. Burglary and motor vehicle also feature.
- **Orpington High Street** is a hotspot for ASB, theft from shops, violence, vehicle crime and criminal damage.
- **The Ramsden Estate** primarily ASB, and does suffer from vehicle crime secondary along with residential burglary.

Bromley Borough also shares its borders with 8 other operational command units and this may increase the propensity for cross border offending.

- Recommendation: consider an increase in Environmental Visual Audits by Safer Neighbourhoods in liaison with Council.
- Recommendation: Consider multi-agency preventative measures on locations highlighted.

### Time

Performance data currently shows Bromley meeting all Key Performance targets with the exception of personal robbery which is currently showing a very slight increase year on year. Total Notifiable Offences have decreased over last three years from 24131 in 2008, to 22580

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in 2009 and last year showing 20550. Due to the current crime picture showing this reduction the Borough is potentially vulnerable to increases.

Trend data has been collated for the previous 5 years on all offences to show peak months for crimes:

<b>January</b>	Residential Burglary & Robbery
<b>February</b>	No known peak for individual crime type
<b>March</b>	Non res burg
<b>April</b>	Non res burg, Serious Youth Violence, Robbery, Criminal Damage
<b>May</b>	TNO's, res burg & MV
<b>June</b>	Violence. ASB
<b>July</b>	Violence, Robbery, Residential burglary, ASB
<b>August</b>	No known peak for individual crime type
<b>September</b>	No known peak for individual crime type
<b>October</b>	No known peak for individual crime type
<b>November</b>	TNO's, SYV, Residential Burglary, MV, Criminal Damage
<b>December</b>	Residential Burglary

In addition, ASB data shows offences are predominately committed afternoon and evenings.

- Recommendation – consider Operational tasking to reflect these timings with the possibility of reviewing shift patterns to best police volume crime as well as Serious crime and vulnerable victims.
- Recommendation - Partnership initiatives to reflect seasonal trends.
- Recommendation - Consider tactical policing opportunities/operations for seasonal peaks.

Although Motor vehicle crime remains the second highest volume crime in Bromley Borough, trend data shows a massive decrease in offences in the borough since June 2009. This trend continues.

**Confidence / Satisfaction.** Although taken away as a target by the current Government, the 'confidence of citizens' in the police and the 'satisfaction of service users' continues to be key to good policing. The most recent Confidence and Satisfaction results show Bromley below MPS average for 'Partner confidence' and 'Good job confidence', however above MPS average for overall satisfaction. When broken down, only 8% of the community questioned didn't think the Police were doing a good job in their area, only 13% didn't think their local police were dealing with things that matter in their community and only 13% disagreed that the police and local Council were dealing with ASB and crime issues that matter in this area.

With continued Partnership working, there is clearly room to improve these findings. Bromley Borough had two of the safest wards in London for April to December 2010.

### **Intelligence Gaps**

#### **• Drugs and Alcohol Offences**

Drugs are a known generator for crime. With no complainant, the scale of the Boroughs drug problem is measured on intelligence. By focussing on gathering intelligence for this commodity, and analysing the data, a better understanding of what drives offenders to commit crime can be gained. The Home Office is funding £125m for a new Drugs Strategy to “reducing demand, restricting supply, building recovery & supporting people to live a drug free life”.

- Recommendation – consider intelligence gathering to enable the borough to have a overview of its drugs picture for example to answer unknown such as ‘What proportion of our arrested offenders are drug-fuelled?’

#### **• Terrorism**

Olympics in London in Summer 2012 has the potential to increase the risk of threats from Terrorism. At present the threat Level is showing as ‘Substantial’ from Irish Republican Terrorism, and ‘Severe’ from International Terrorism. It is recommended that Terrorism should remain as an intelligence requirement sitting at high end of the seriousness spectrum with significant potential for loss of life, displacement of resources and damage to the public's confidence in the MPS.

### **Other considerations**

Resources for next few years are reducing and demand continues to be high. Bromley BOCU needs to plan to assist the effective policing major events in London and prepare for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Reduced budgets for both Police and the Council will impact on the ability to resource the borough effectively, in hand with the criminal fraternity's increased need to commit crime. It follows that commodity gaining crimes will rise.

### **Summary and Recommendations**

From the data analysed, it follows that residential burglary, motor vehicle Crime (Crimes against Property) robbery, sexual offences and domestic violence (Violence against Person) criminal damage (Antisocial Behaviour) and Public Confidence become the focus for Bromley for 2011/12, with the following recommendations considered:

- Recommendation – consider a review of the tactical tasking process to ensure control strategy and Intelligence requirement are fulfilled.
- Recommendation - consider a focussed approach on how we deal with vulnerable adults.
- Recommendation – CRIS data standards to be completed.



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- Recommendation - continue prevention advice to decrease opportunistic crime
- Recommendation: consider Strategic planning with Safer Transport Teams regarding links into the borough.
- Recommendation: consider further intelligence gathering to identify causation of sudden increase of black male robbery suspects.
- Recommendation - continued Safer Transport, Safer Neighbourhood patrols in liaison with Schools Officers for prevention of ASB.
- Recommendation: consider an increase in Environmental Visual Audits by Safer Neighbourhoods in liaison with Council.
- Recommendation: consider multi-agency preventative measures on locations highlighted.
- Recommendation – consider Operational tasking to reflect these timings with the possibility of reviewing shift patterns to best police volume crime, Serious crime and vulnerable victims.
- Recommendation - Partnership initiatives to reflect seasonal trends.
- Recommendation - consider tactical policing opportunities/operations for seasonal peaks.
- Recommendation – consider intelligence gathering to enable the borough to have a overview of its drugs picture for example to answer unknown such as ‘What proportion of our arrested offenders are drug-fuelled?’