Birmingham Community Safety Partnership

Crime and Disorder Audit

Summary for Consultation

January 2005

Contents:

Introduction:

This document is an executive summary of the key findings of the crime, disorder and drugs audit for the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (BCSP).

The audit provides a thorough picture of community safety in Birmingham by:

- o Assessing achievements made against the key crime priorities delivered during the Community Safety Partnership strategy 2002-2005.

- o Identifying current and emerging community safety priorities.

In doing so it provides an evidence base for the selection of strategic priorities incorporated into the third Birmingham Community Safety Strategy for the period 2005 - 2008.

The audit process has demonstrated that crimes rates in Birmingham are falling. The city is proud of this success achieved through a variety of interventions by partners. The priority is now to ensure residents feel safer.

With a population of 1 million residents Birmingham is the largest Crime and Disorder Partnership in the country. As well as being a young city with 23.4% of people aged under 16 (2001 Census), it is also a city of great diversity, with a Black and Minority Ethnic population of 29.6% compared with 9.1% for England as a whole. While this enhances Birmingham's vibrancy and creativity, it also provides a challenge to the public agencies to demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to the variety of needs within different communities across the city.

Central to the future vision for Birmingham is the empowerment of local communities - the vision of a city comprised of flourishing neighbourhoods. For the crime reduction agenda this is crucial, as there is strong correlation between high rates of crime and deprivation.

The City's size and the lack of co-terminosity of partner organisational boundaries have proved a challenge for partnership working. To address this problem Birmingham Community Safety Partnership reorganized it's structure during 2004 to align to the 11 District Strategic Partnerships that now make up the local authority. Local Delivery Groups (LDGs) have been created to determine and deliver the community safety agenda in each District area. LDGs will bring together at local level key public agencies, representatives of business, community and voluntary sectors to achieve more effective joined up action with particular focus upon the identification, management and resolution of local community safety priorities. LDGs will also provide the delivery mechanism for the Community Safety Partnership enabling delivery of the strategic priorities identified by core priority groups as well as local and national floor targets.

Five Core Priority Groups have been established by the Partnership to identify and develop multi-agency responses to the main community safety priorities in Birmingham. The Core Priority Groups are:

- o Safer & Cleaner Neighbourhoods

- o Offender Management and Drug Treatment

- o Violence and Vulnerability

- o Young People

- o Birmingham Reducing Gang Violence

Birmingham's Community Safety Partnership has achieved significant success during the period of the last strategy. We have achieved two exceptionally challenging Public Service Agreement targets to reduce house burglary and reduce the numbers of death and injury through house fire. To do so we reduced house burglary by 5,000 a year in comparison to 1998 figures to an annual total last year of just over 12,000 offences, we reduced fire deaths by almost 50% and injuries by 45% against 1999-2000.

In addition in December 2004 our success in developing five neighbourhood based community safety projects across the City was recognised when Birmingham was awarded first prize in the European Community Safety Awards.

The document will follow the structure below:

- o Methodology – analytical approach/data sources
- o Key Findings – assessment of key crime categories
- o Core Priority Groups – detailed assessment of Core Priority Groups
- o Partnership Structure and Governance – assessment of business process
- o Summary and Discussion

If you require more detailed information please reference the full audit of crime and disorder or contact the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Team.

Methodology:

The audit provides a broad overview of community safety across the city of Birmingham. It begins with a detailed analysis of key crime indicators in the city followed by information relating to the BCSP core priorities. It is largely based upon the following key data sources providing both primary and secondary information:

- o West Midlands Police
- o West Midlands Fire Service
- o Birmingham Youth Offending Service

- o Birmingham City Council
- o Health Authority
- o West Midlands Ambulance Service
- o Birmingham Chamber of Commerce

- o Drugs Intervention Programme
- o National Drug Treatment Monitoring Service
- o Feeling the Difference - Household Public Consultation Survey
- o Mori Polls
- o British Crime Survey
- o CENTRO
- o Voluntary Organisations

NB: This list is not exhaustive but intended to show main data sources

This audit has been compiled by members of the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Team. Contact details are available at the rear of this document.

Data Analysis

Hotspot Mapping

Hot spot analysis is calculated on the basis of the number of offences that have been reported within a 200m^2 grid. Red squares indicate higher numbers than orange squares and so on through faint orange, yellow and beige; red squares with a blue outline represent the highest counts across the city. The maps show a detailed view of the spatial distribution of crime in the city. A hot spot is an area of unequal distribution relative to the whole of Birmingham.

Key Findings

Key crime indicators present graphs showing rates and trends over a two year period and maps compiled from over a 12 month period.

Composite Index of Core Priority

The geographic analysis mapped within the core priority group sections attempt to combine key indicators relevant to the issue and highlight the long term priority localities. Data is compiled from a 3 year period April 2001 - March 2004. It presents figures for Birmingham as a whole using a 200m^2 grid. The analysis shows the areas where there is an over representation of crime or incidents compared to the average levels experience in Birmingham. The maps indicate where there is consistent long term over representation of community safety priority indicators.

In order to avoid bias due to differing volumes or rates for each different category, a formula has been applied calculating an index score. This relates to the average score for the city, which stands at 100. A score of 200 would mean an area has twice the amount of incidents than the Birmingham average.

Key Indicators

The diagram above outlines the key crime categories and core priority groups together with the individual categories of data contained within each theme.

Limitations of Data Sets

Data in the audit is sourced from a wide range of community safety partners. It must be recognised that there are limitations with the data. Firstly whilst issues of validity and accuracy are assessed, problems such as locational accuracy will mean the data provided herein may be susceptible to a degree of error due to the complexities of compiling and preparing the data. A key process of the audit is to identify knowledge gaps. It is clear that whilst the audit draws on a wide range of primary and secondary information there are areas that require more access to information. An example is the current difficulties in defining what is anti-social behaviour and how the Partnership should be measuring it.

Key Findings: All Crime

The audit shows that Birmingham has achieved a marked decrease in recorded crime. However, in Birmingham as a whole, despite decreasing trends, there were a total of 427,742 recorded crimes over the three year period Aug 2001 to Jul 2004. On average this number equates to 438 per 1000 population or 43.8% of the population affected by crime over the three year period. These figures indicate the challenge of community safety within Birmingham. Overall Birmingham is ranked 20th on the list of authorities with the highest crime rates in England and Wales.

The graph below shows the total number of recorded crimes for the two year period Dec-02 to Nov-04.

Recorded Crime Trend

Police - Crime
Crime Type (All)
by Month

Source: West midlands Police/COSMOS
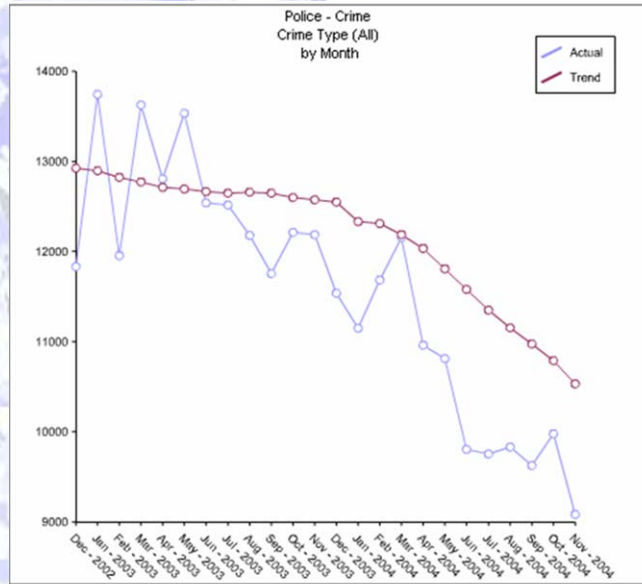
The graph shows that Birmingham has experienced a continued and strong reduction of recorded crime over the last two years.

Consideration must however be given to Birmingham's position as 20th highest crime rate authority. Inevitably overall crime will be a key consideration for Birmingham moving into the next strategy period. This will be driven by a Home Office Public Service Agreement Number 1 for the period 2005 – 2008 which sets a national reduction of 15% on the year 2002 – 2003. Because Birmingham is the largest Community Safety Partnership in the country we will be able to make a significant contribution to the delivery of this target.

Key Findings: Public Perception and Fear of Crime

Despite the audit showing that recorded crime levels in Birmingham have decreased, it is clear from consultation with the public that this is not their perception. The following table shows the results of a household survey completed by West Midlands Police.

Extent to which respondents think the level of crime has changed over the last 12 months (Birmingham only)	
A lot less crime	1.2%
A little less crime	9.9%
About the same amount of crime	47.1%
A little more crime	21.6%
A lot more crime	5.8%
Don't know	14.4%

Source: West Midlands Police (July 2004): 'Feeling the Difference' Research

Of the 85.6% of respondents who gave an opinion, almost 9 out of 10 people believed that crime levels over the last 12 months have stayed the same or increased.

During the public consultation process for the audit a total sample of 1,300 letters were sent out to individuals and organisations. An analysis of the information showed that the key community safety priorities for Birmingham residents are:

- o   Reducing incidents of anti-social behaviour.
- o   Clean streets and neighbourhoods that look and feel safer.
- o   Preventing young people from getting into trouble.
- o   Tackling the harm caused by drugs.

This reflects the West Midlands Police 'Feeling the Difference' research which concluded that the main priorities that Birmingham residents set for the police are :

- o   Troublesome teenagers or children.
- o   Vandalism and Graffiti.
- o   Burglaries.
- o   Muggings.

Whilst it is important to reduce the levels of crime it is equally important to reduce fear of crime by providing a cleaner environment for people to live in where they feel safe.

Key Findings: Residential Burglary

Birmingham has experienced a significant decrease in the levels of residential burglary over the calendar year 2004.

Residential Burglary Crime Trend
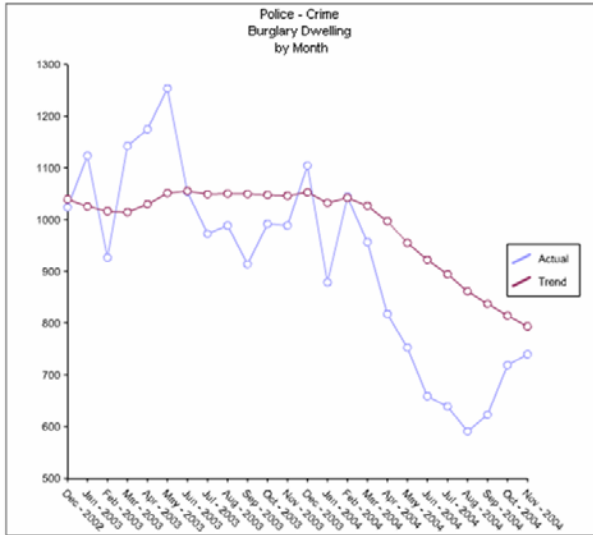
The trend graph shows the huge reduction in burglary over the last two years. In real terms this equates to a reduction from a rate of 31.2 per 1000 households (Aug02-Jul03) to 26.7 per 1000 households (Aug03 - Jul04).

However there has been a slight upturn in the trend for the period Sep-04 to Nov-04.

Burglary Concentrations

The analysis identified five burglary concentrations across the city.

o   Erdington Ward
o   Lozells in Perry Barr
o   Bournbrook Student Area in Selly Oak
o   Frankley and Rubery in Northfield
o   Brandwood and Billesley Ward Boundary in Hall Green

Birmingham Community Safety Partnership focussed considerable attention on burglary reduction during the strategy period 2002-2005.
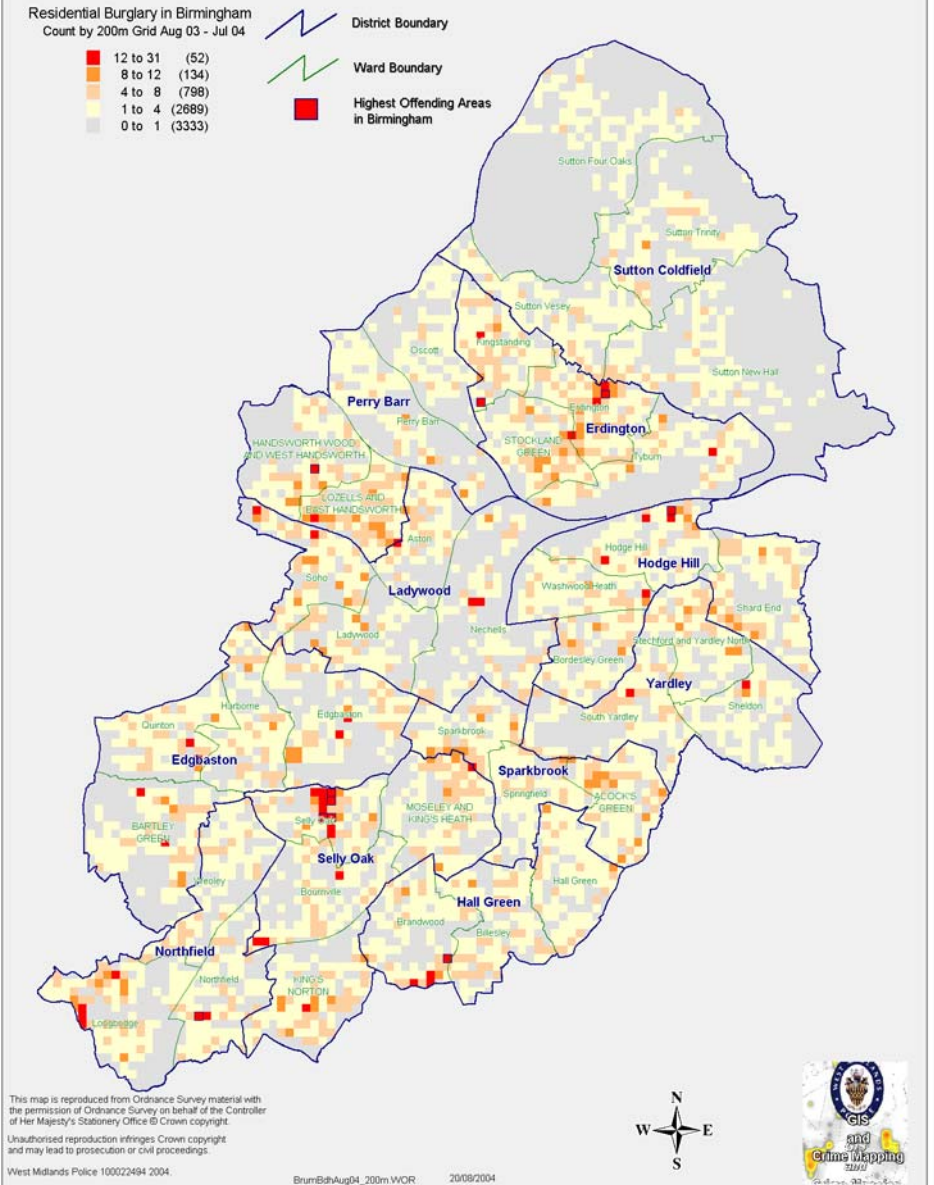
Targeted responses through partnership funded initiatives have included target hardening, communication strategies, raising public awareness and gating.

A key success for Birmingham was the achievement of a government PSA target for burglary reduction which resulted in the city receiving a substantial reward grant that can now be reinvested into making the city a safer place to live and work.

Residential Burglary

August 2003 - July 2004   Count by 200m Grid

Residential Burglary in Birmingham
Count by 200m Grid Aug 03 - Jul 04

■	12 to 31	(52)
■	8 to 12	(134)
■	4 to 8	(798)
	1 to 4	(2689)
	0 to 1	(3333)

District Boundary
Ward Boundary
■ Highest Offending Areas in Birmingham

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West Midlands Police 100022494 2004.

BrumBdhAug04_200m.WOR   20/08/2004
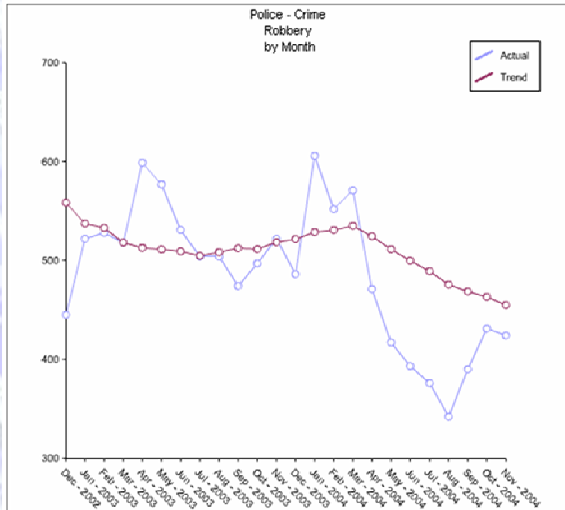
Key Findings: Robbery

Tackling robbery proved to be a challenge during the period of the last strategy 2002-2005. This is also reflected by the West Midlands Police 'Feeling the Difference' public survey, which showed mugging as the third most important policing and community safety issue facing people in their neighbourhoods.

Robbery Crime Trend

The trend shows that during the period 2002/03 robbery was increasing. From March 2004 robbery rates have dropped significantly. The number of robberies recorded reached a low in August with 150 fewer offences than the trend was showing 6 months previous. The graph does illustrate a recent rise in robbery offences Sep04 to Nov-04.

Robbery Concentrations

The analysis identified four key robbery concentrations.

o   Nechells Parkway in Ladywood District
o   Soho Road, Lozells and Aston in Ladywood and Perry Barr Districts
o   City Centre
o   Coventry Road on the Ladywood, Bordesley Green and Yardley Border.

There are clearly environmental or location specific factors influencing these concentrations including high streets, evening entertainment, subways, schools and general areas that attract people either during the day or evening.
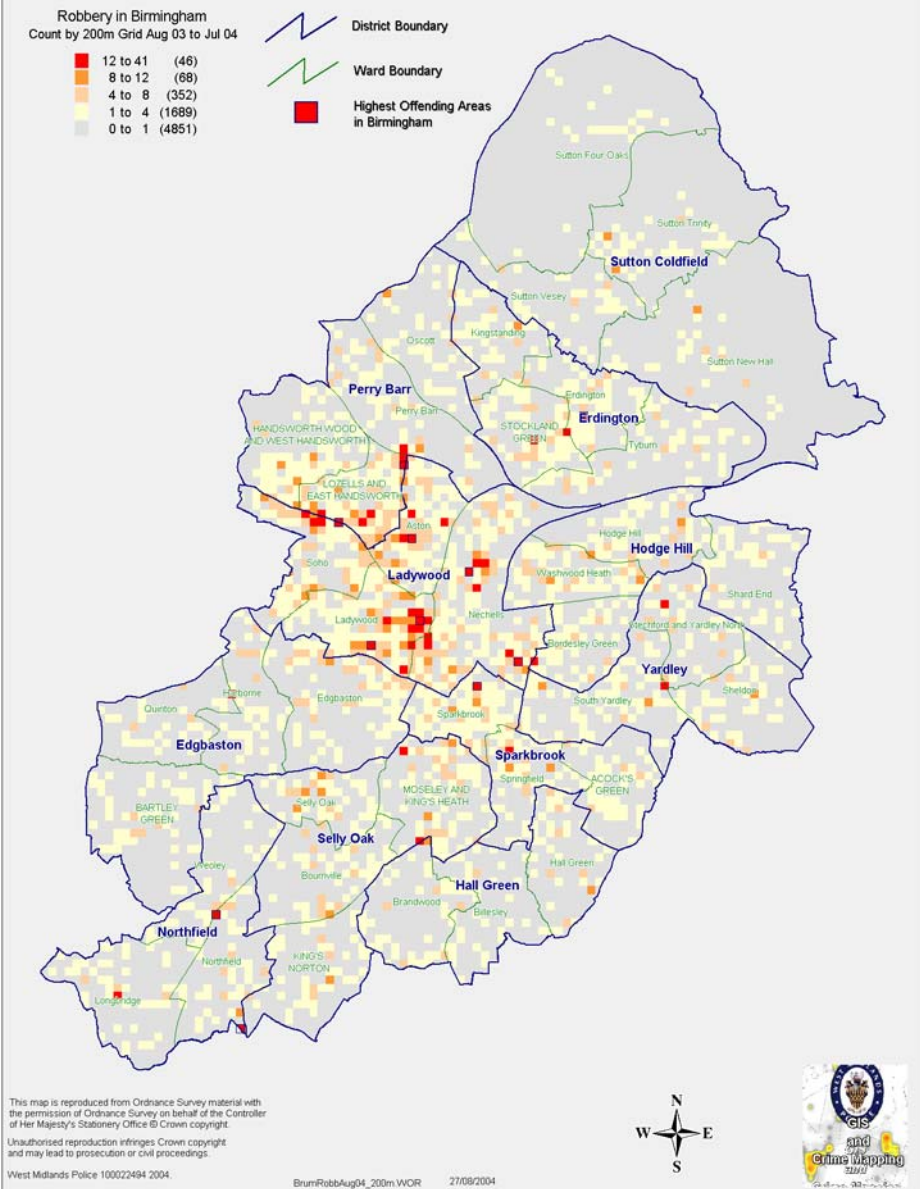
Also of key consideration is the very young profile of robbery for both offenders and victims, with over 50% of our offenders and victims being under 18 years of age.

The strategy will reflect the importance of robbery for Birmingham. We regard it as such a significant priority that we are seeking to make robbery reduction a new crime reduction local PSA target for the City.

Robbery

August 2003 - July 2004   Count by 200m Grid
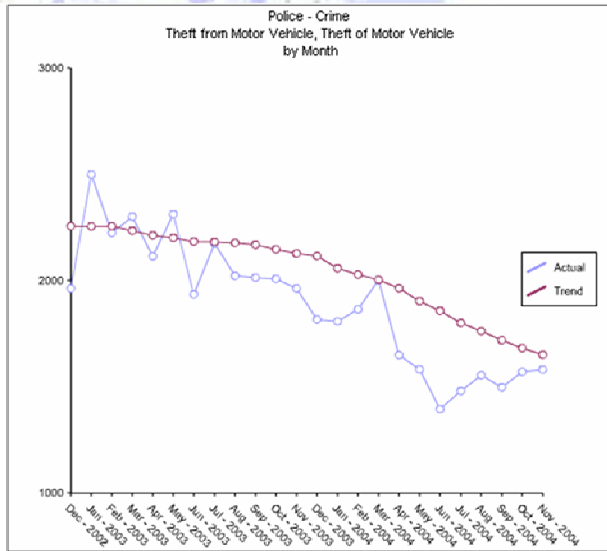
Robbery in Birmingham
Count by 200m Grid Aug 03 to Jul 04

12 to 41   (46)
8 to 12   (68)
4 to 8   (352)
1 to 4   (1689)
0 to 1   (4851)

District Boundary
Ward Boundary
Highest Offending Areas in Birmingham

Key Findings: Vehicle Crime

Vehicle crime has seen a consistent period of reduction.

Vehicle Crime Trend

The graph shows that the reductions have accelerated through 2004. However it is clear that vehicle crime has started to rise slowly between Jul-04 and Nov-04.

Success can be attributed to the use of new technologies such as automatic number plate recognition, the continued improvement in the security of our vehicles and collaboration within the Partnership. An example being operation 'Cube It' which specifically targeted untaxed or abandoned vehicles and was successful in compounding over 500 vehicles, often those targeted by the police for vehicle crime offences.

Another trend that has emerged is that of 'car key' burglaries, where an offender deliberately enters the home to obtain the car keys, often of high performance vehicles.
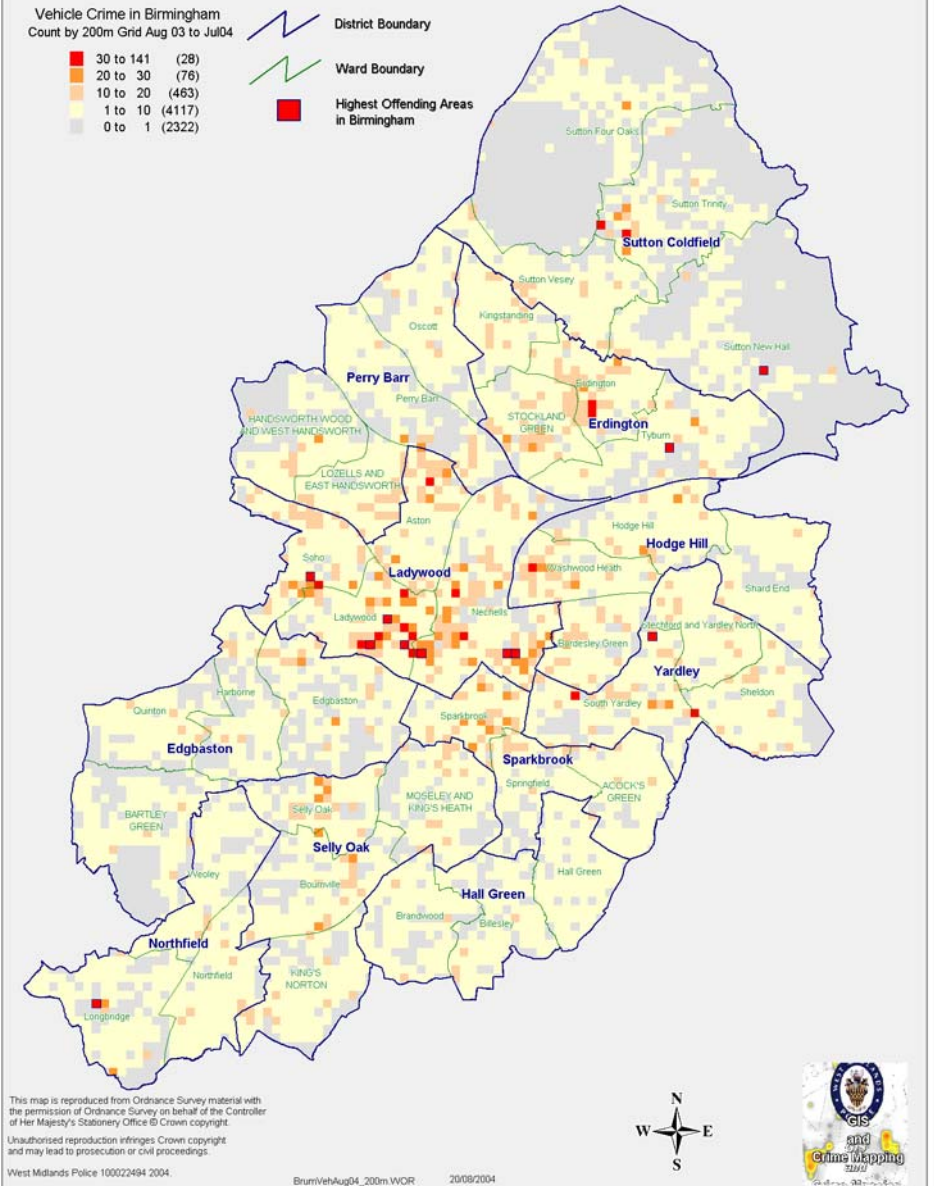
Vehicle Crime Concentrations

o   City centre areas are the worst affected, 60% occur within car parks.
o   Soho and Ladywood ward boundary
o   Coventry Road and vicinity, on-street parking
o   Erdington, on-street parking
o   Sutton Coldfield in proximity to the centre

The persistent reduction in vehicle crime across the city tells a story of effective targeting hardening in neighbourhoods most affected, but the trend indicates the need to keep a focus on reducing vehicle crime.

Vehicle Crime

August 2003 - July 2004

Count by 200m Grid

Vehicle Crime in Birmingham
Count by 200m Grid Aug 03 to Jul04

30 to 141	(28)	
20 to 30	(76)	
10 to 20	(463)	
1 to 10	(4117)	
0 to 1	(2322)	

District Boundary
Ward Boundary
Highest Offending Areas in Birmingham

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West Midlands Police 100022494 2004.
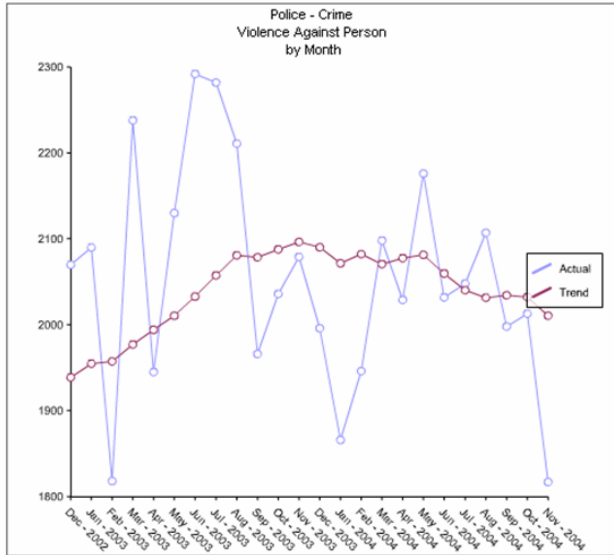
BrumVehAug04_200m.WOR   20/08/2004

Key Findings: Violence Against the Person

Violence Against the Person has fluctuated considerably over the past 2 years.

Violence Against the Person Crime Trend

The trend graph shows that violent offences increased. During 2003 recent trends are slightly downward there is a strong need to better control violent offences in order to see marked and consistent decreases in the level of offending.

Also key to consider is the involvement of youth in violence, either in relation to vulnerability as victims, or as offenders. This is indicated by the continual rise in the number of victims of violence aged 25 or under compared to year on year reductions for older age groups.

Violence Against the Person is a wide category of offence and one that typically requires a varied understanding and response. Over 50% of violence in Birmingham can be attributed to domestic violence between partners.

Another key trend over the audit period has been the emergence of alcohol related violence.
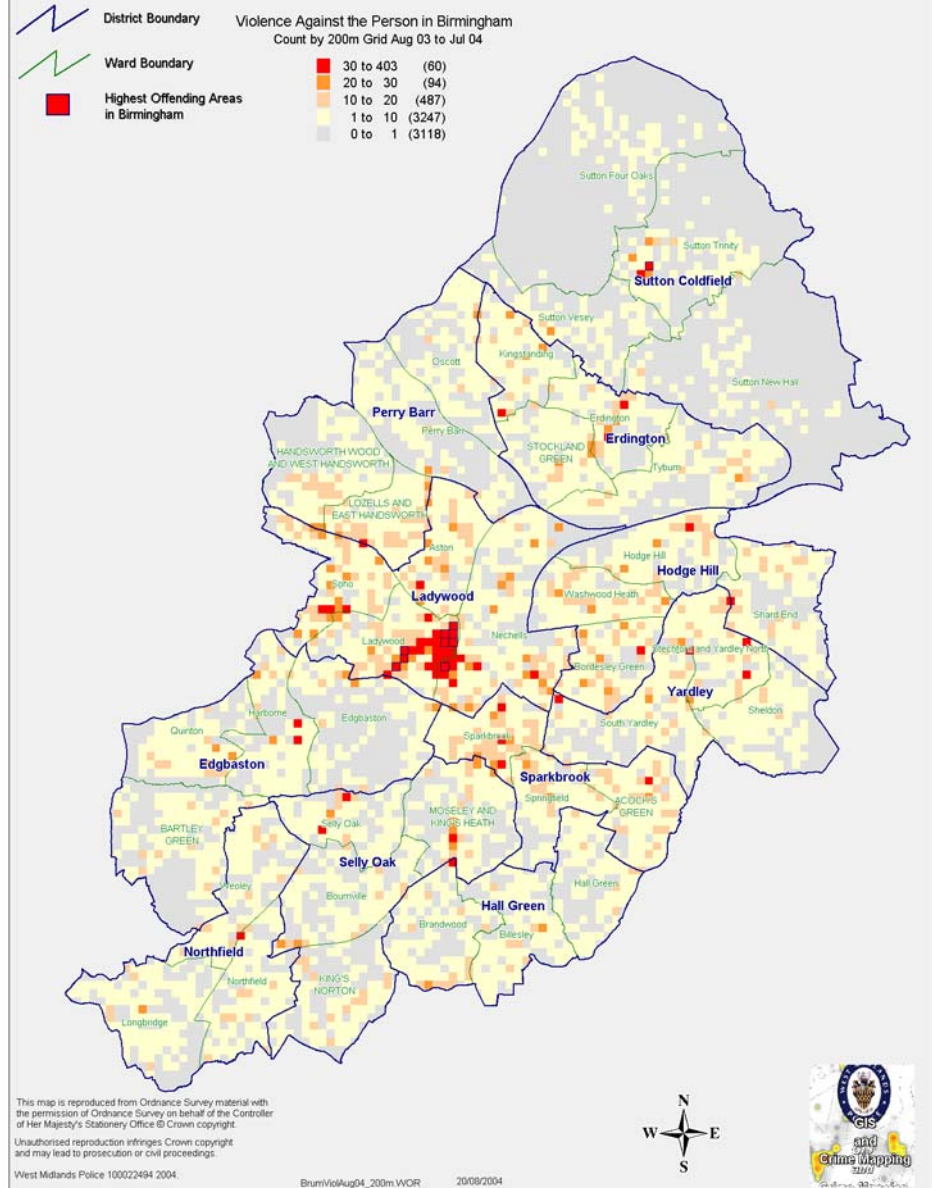
Violence Against the Person Concentrations

o   Night Time Economy – Broad Street, Hurst Street (Arcadian), Sutton Town Centre
o   Domestic Violence – Key for all areas of Birmingham

The audit highlights violence as an area of community safety that requires controlling in order to achieve the required reductions.
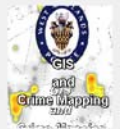
Key Findings: Arson

Arson is analysed from Fire Service and Police data.

Fire Service Arson Trend
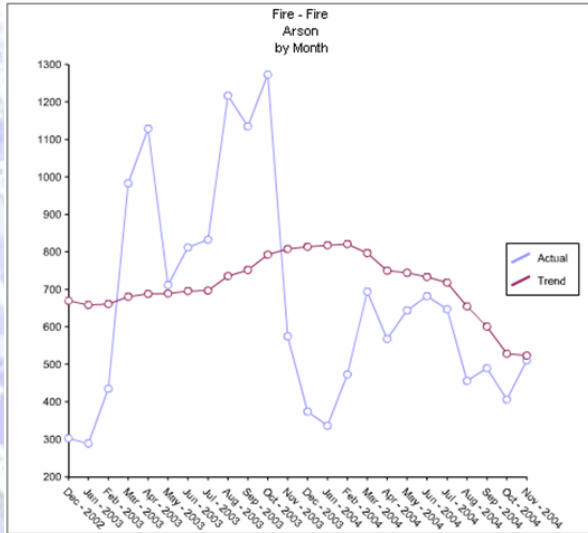
The overall trend of arson has been reducing after a period of large activity in 2003.

Recent trends are down, largely influenced by both vehicle and property arson. Secondary arson, more commonly associated as a form of visible anti-social behaviour in areas such as open space, rubbish and industrial estates, has seen the greatest increase.

The reductions in vehicle arson align with the reduction in vehicle crime. However the reduction in vehicle arson can also attributed to a rise in the demand for scrap metal providing people with a means of getting rid of unwanted vehicles.

It is estimated that people aged under 18 are responsible for 50% of all arson related incidents.

During the period of the strategy 2002-2005 the Partnership experienced success in achieving a PSA target for the reduction of accidental deaths caused by fire. This target will be continued and reflected in the new strategy.

The map opposite shows the concentration of secondary arson. This type of arson has risen and can, given its high visibility, be closely related to public reassurance.

The Hodge Hill area of the city has a clear part to play in the new strategy in combating secondary arson.

Secondary Arson

August 2003 - July 2004   Count by 200m Grid
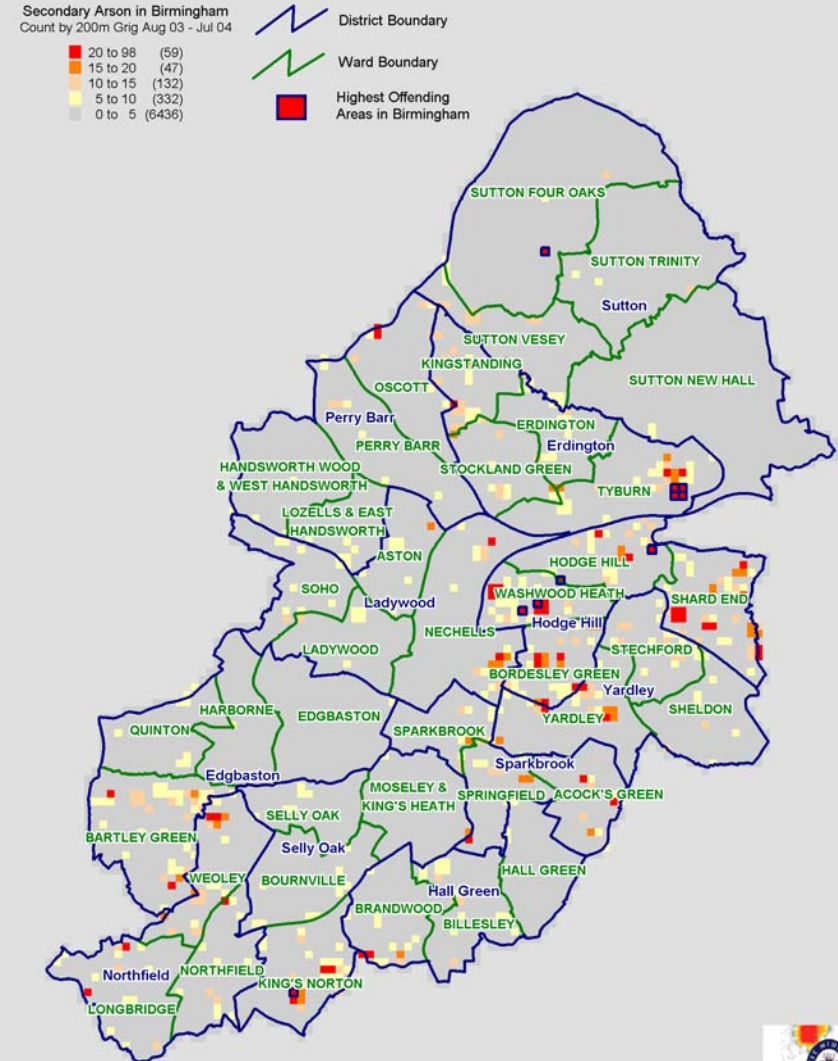
Secondary Arson in Birmingham
Count by 200m Grig Aug 03 - Jul 04

|		
20 to 98	(59)	District Boundary
15 to 20	(47)	Ward Boundary
10 to 15	(132)	
5 to 10	(332)	Highest Offending Areas in Birmingham
0 to 5	(6436)	

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West Midlands Police 100022494 2004.

Core Priority 1: Safer and Cleaner Neighbourhoods

Core Priority Group Safer and Cleaner Neighbourhoods is concerned with a wide range of issues incorporating:

- o   Key Crime
- o   Anti-social Behaviour
- o   Cleanliness and Public Reassurance
- o   Drugs – On Street Dealing

The map combines key variables to identify the long term priority neighbourhoods in Birmingham relating to anti-social behaviour.

Areas showing as red experience 4 or more times the average number of offences in this category. *(An area with an index of 100 is equivalent to the Birmingham average).*

Last year the Partnership achieved considerable success as a result of the 'Clean and Safe' campaign. Working together the City Council, Fire Service and Police visited every ward in the city, held public meetings to identify local priorities, and then delivered on those priorities. Not only was the campaign instrumental in delivering the burglary reduction and fire PSAs but we also removed 10,000 tonnes of fly-tipped waste from 3,000 sites. This campaign of community engagement appears to have resulted in a long tern change in behaviour as fly tipping is currently running at 10% of its previous level.

The meetings also clearly demonstrated the clear link between perceptions of personal safety and the state of the environment, a factor identified by the National Reassurance Project that is based in Aston.

Key Points:

- o   Anti-social behaviour is a key issue for the community and needs tackling.
- o   Analysis proves a demonstrated link with drug misuse and some types of crime such as shoplifting and prostitution.
- o   Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) test results show younger adults are less likely to test positive through DIP suggesting youth nuisance and associated impact on neighbourhoods cannot be so definitely linked to class A drug misuse.
- o   Key areas are Ladywood District including the influence of the city centre, with smaller areas of consistent issues in Erdington, Hodge Hill and Sparkbrook.
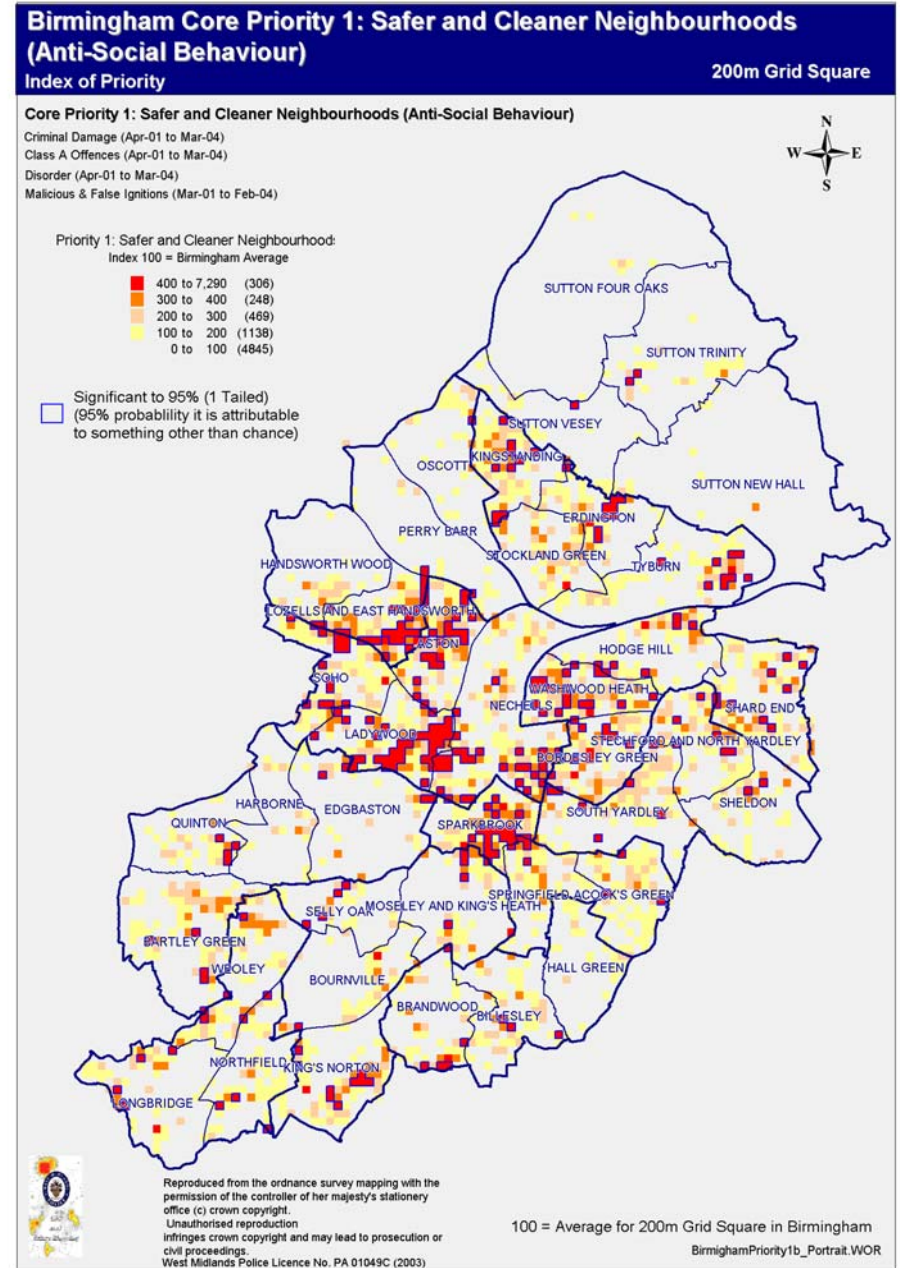
Core Priority 2: Offender Management ,and Drug Treatment

The Partnership recognises that the effective management of those people who are classed as offenders is a key area for delivery, and one that it's the Partnership's expertise in collaborative working can make a significant impact upon. The merger of the Birmingham Drugs Action Team with the Community Safety Partnership has enhanced our ability to support and rehabilitate those offenders who are drug dependant and our capabilities are developing all of the time as we engage with new national Home Office initiatives such as the Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP), which identifies drug dependent offenders so as they can be offered drug treatment, and the Persistent and Priority Offenders Programme which, as well as supporting interventions to prevent and deter young people from committing crime, also strengthens our ability to catch and convict criminals and resettle and rehabilitate those offenders who what to exit a life of crime.

Numbers Accessing Treatment
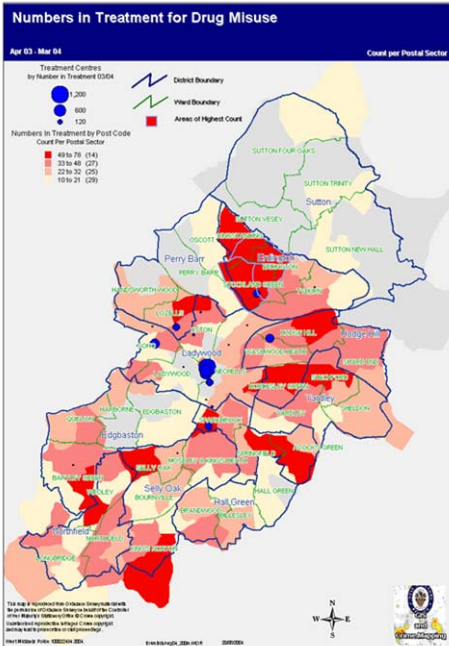
The maps show the pattern of known drug related offending and offenders by residence. It highlights an interesting comparison to the spatial distribution of people accessing treatment services.

Key Points:

o   A demonstrated clear link with Persistent and Priority Offenders (PPOs) and Drug Offenders.
o   Differing geographic and demographic picture of known drug offenders and persons accessing treatment.
o   Drug misuse is predominantly a poly drug issue with this effect exaggerated in younger adults.
o   Younger adults were significantly less likely to test positive in DIP tests.
o   Drug related hospital admissions have been steadily rising, but the spatial distribution of those admitted again differs from both offender residence and those in treatment with the concentration of admission in South Birmingham.
o   The delivery of the PPO programme and DIP will be a priority for BCSP.
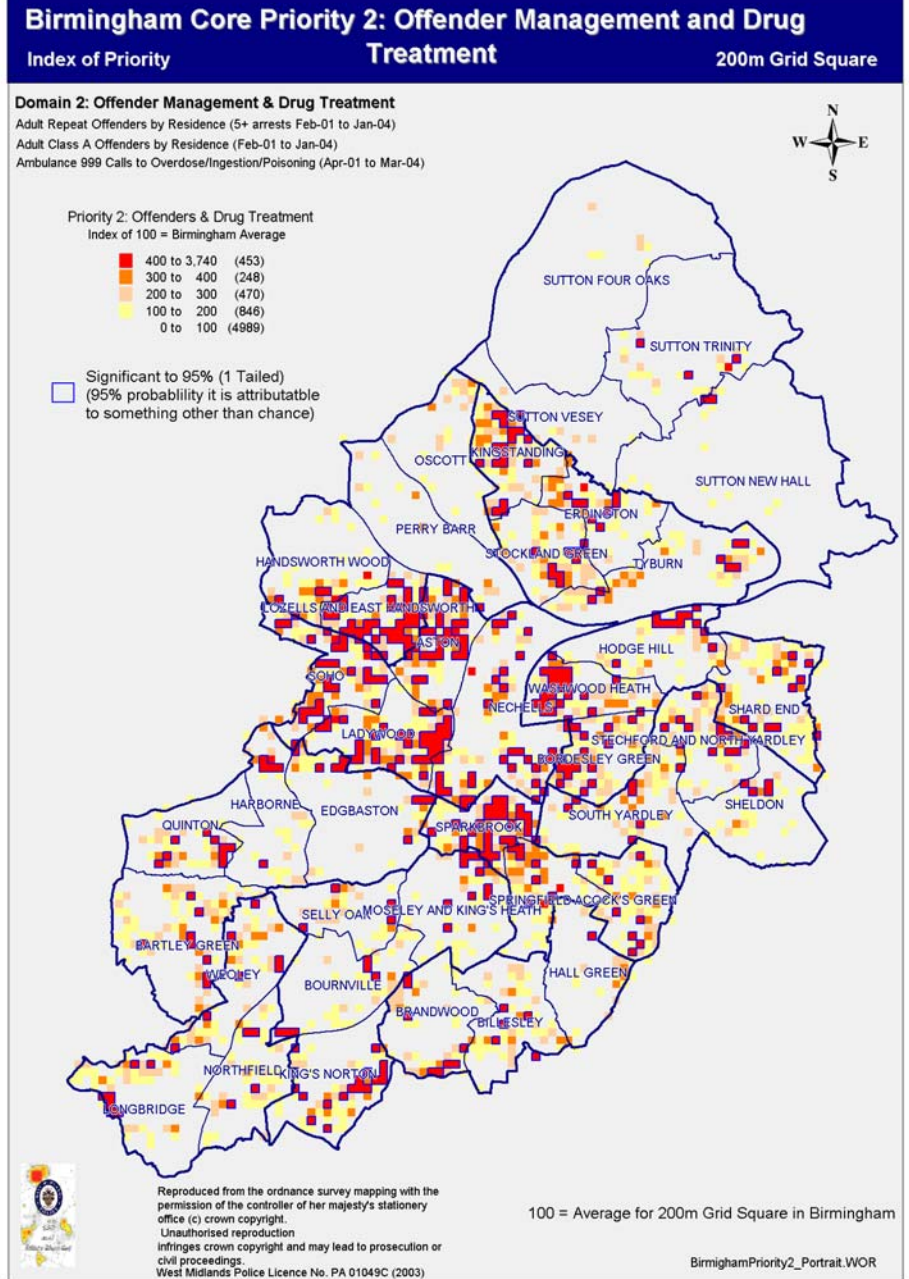
Core Priority 3: Violence & Vulnerability

The Violence and Vulnerability Core Priority Group has been set up to tackle the rise in violent crime. It specifically targets the sections of the community that are vulnerable to specific forms of violence such as Hate Crime, Domestic Violence and Street Violence.

Domestic Violence is a high volume crime, estimated to account for over 50% of all violent crime. Domestic Violence costs the criminal justice system nationally £1billion per annum.

British Crime Survey Results Extrapolated for Birmingham:

o   25% of women experience domestic violence in their lifetime.
o   13% women will have experienced domestic violence, sexual victimisation or stalking over the last year.
o   Women experiencing domestic violence will be subjected to an average of 20 separate incidents of physical domestic violence per annum.
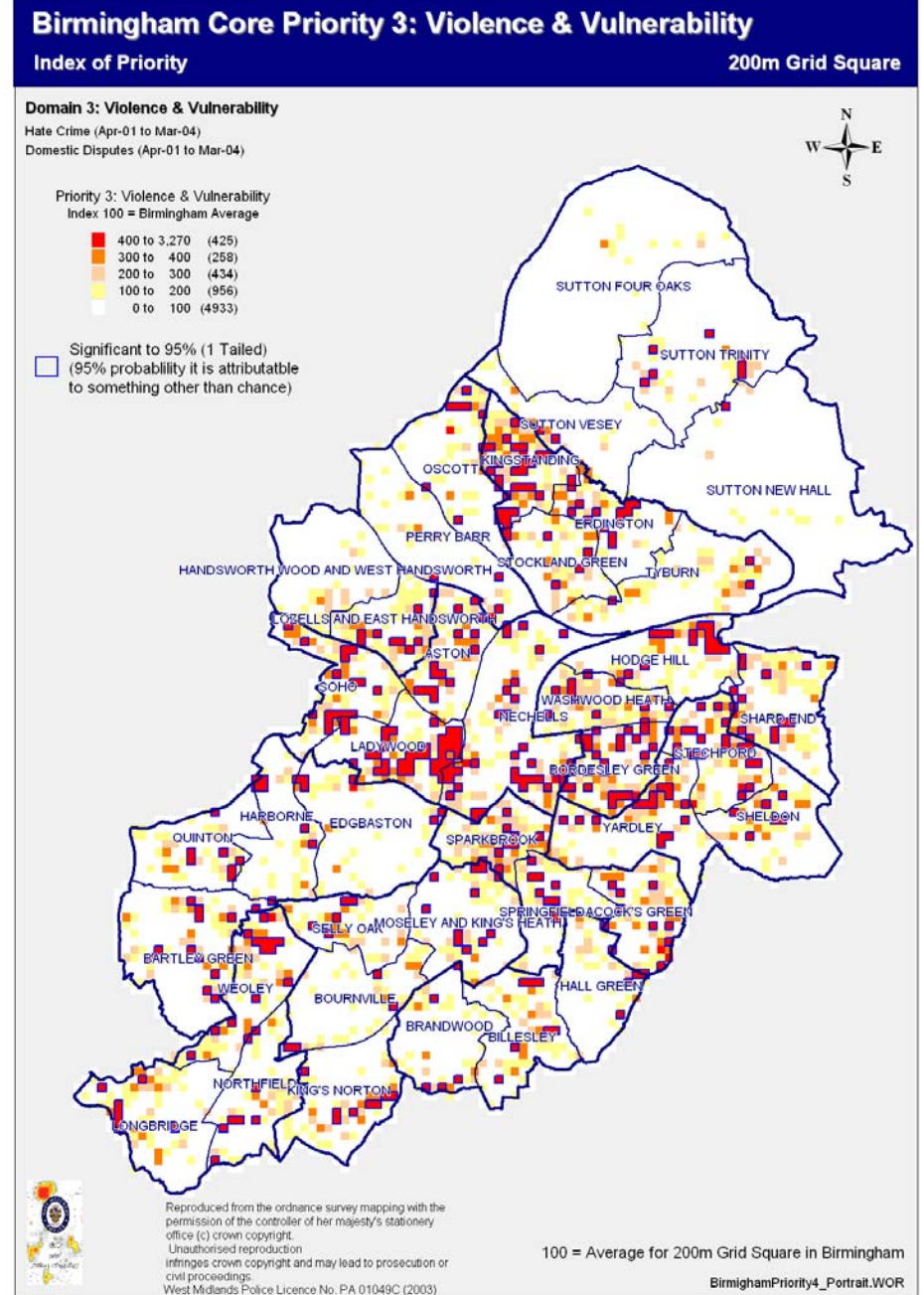o   31% of women experiencing inter-personal violence this year will not have told anyone about the violence.

Hate Crime:

Hate crime refers, in the main, to the systematic targeting of individuals because of their race, religion or sexual preference. Birmingham considers the issue of hate crime as of paramount importance. As a diverse city of 1 million people, with a Black and Minority Ethnic population of 29.6% compared with 9.1% for England as a whole, others look to Birmingham to set a leading example both nationally and internationally.

An important aspect is gaining the trust of the community to improve the numbers of people who feel that they can report incidents to authorities. The 'Feeling the Difference' police public perception survey showed that 76% of the Birmingham population agreed to some extent that their neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously. Addressing these issues are national targets which require a reduction in race inequality and building of community cohesion.

Key Issues:

o   Domestic Violence
o   Hate Crime
o   Street Violence

Birmingham Core Priority 3: Violence & Vulnerability

Index of Priority — 200m Grid Square

Domain 3: Violence & Vulnerability
Hate Crime (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Domestic Disputes (Apr-01 to Mar-04)

Priority 3: Violence & Vulnerability
Index 100 = Birmingham Average

- 400 to 3,270   (425)
- 300 to 400   (258)
- 200 to 300   (434)
- 100 to 200   (956)
- 0 to 100   (4933)

Significant to 95% (1 Tailed)
(95% probability it is attributatble to something other than chance)

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100 = Average for 200m Grid Square in Birmingham
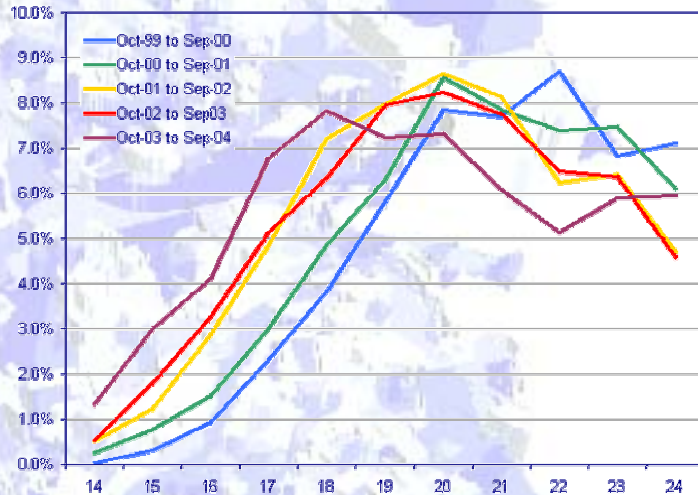
BirmighamPriority4_Portrait.WOR

Core Priority 4: Young People

Young people are a key priority for the city's Community Safety Partnership.

The analysis has shown that young people are a priority in terms of becoming potential offenders but they are also the fastest growing age group being victimised.

Age Profile of Drug Offenders

The graph clearly shows that the age profile specific to drug offenders has shifted over the last three years of the strategy. Also clear is the steep rise in offending that occurs from reaching the teenage years.

A key area for the Young People Core Priority Group is preventative work both with young people at risk of offending and re-offending.

The map demonstrates the ongoing need for positive community safety interventions for all young people across all communities in Birmingham. The Partnership will continue to provide support through education, diversion and rehabilitation interventions.

Key points:

o   Youth crime issues affect all communities in Birmingham.
o   Youth diversion and preventative work must be a priority.
o   Young people are the fastest growing victim group.
o   Perception of young people by others.

It must also be recognised that whilst young people are singled out as a core priority, many of the key points raised in other Core Priority Groups relate directly to young people.

Birmingham Core Priority 4: Young People

Index of Priority — 200m Grid Square

Core Priority 4: Young People
Juvenile Repeat Offenders by Residence (5+ arrests Feb-01 to Jan-04)
Juvenile Drug Offenders by Residence (Feb-01 to Jan-04)
Juvenile Recorded Crime (Feb-01 to Jan-04)

Priority 4: Young People
Index 100 = Birmingham Average

400 to 5,940   (573)
300 to 400   (179)
200 to 300   (444)
100 to 200   (261)
0 to 100   (5549)

Significant to 95% (1 Tailed)
(95% probablility it is attributable to something other than chance)

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100 = Average for 200m Grid Square in Birmingham
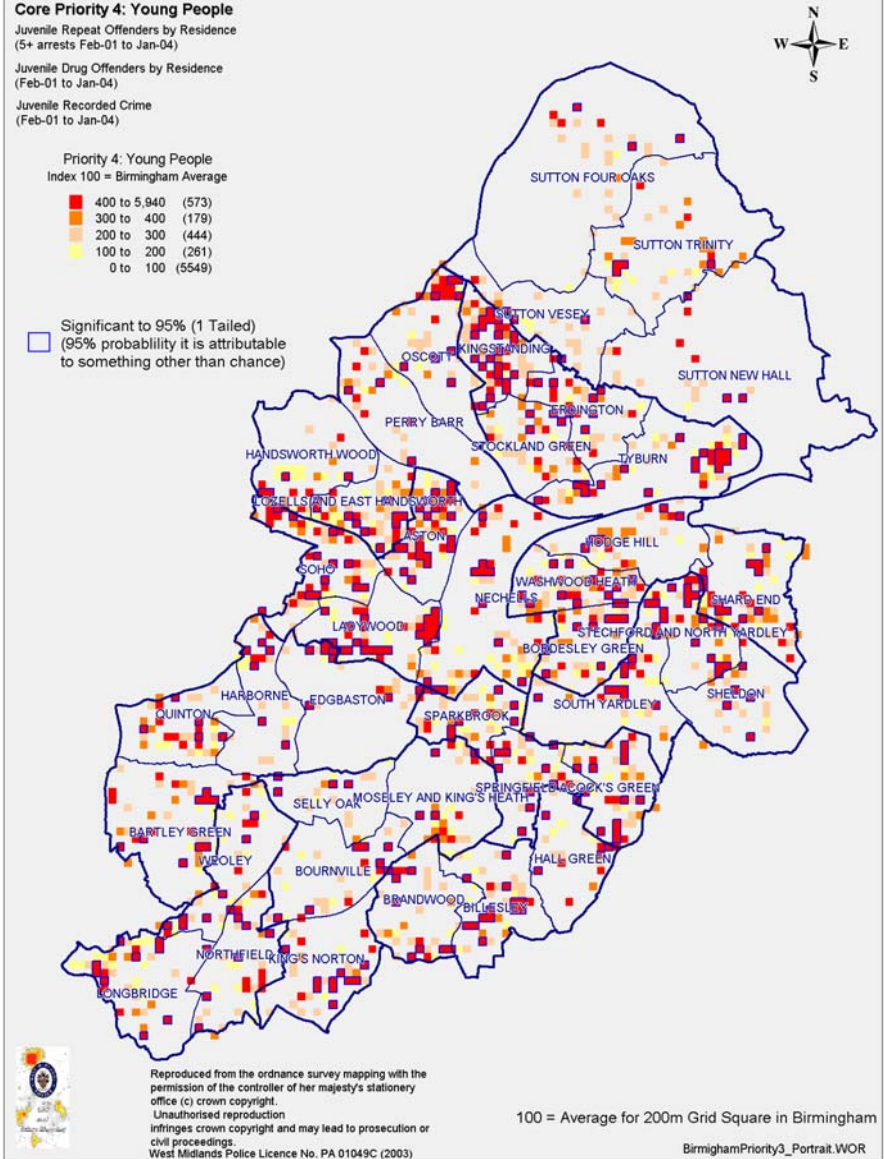
BirmighamPriority3_Portrait.WOR

Core Priority 5: Birmingham Reducing Gang Violence

The complexity of the gun and gang related issues in Birmingham demanded that the Partnership adopt a clear and coherent response and the outcome has been the establishment of Birmingham Reducing Gang Violence Group (BRGV).

Interestingly gang violence and gun crime does not feature in the list of key priorities identified during public consultation. However, due to the extreme seriousness of the crime, its potential to have a significant impact on Birmingham's reputation as a safe City, and the stigma that gang violence can cause a community it is considered a key issue for Birmingham.

It is clear that the localities affected within the city are within Ladywood district and bordering Perry Barr district.

City Hospital Presentations with Firearms Injuries
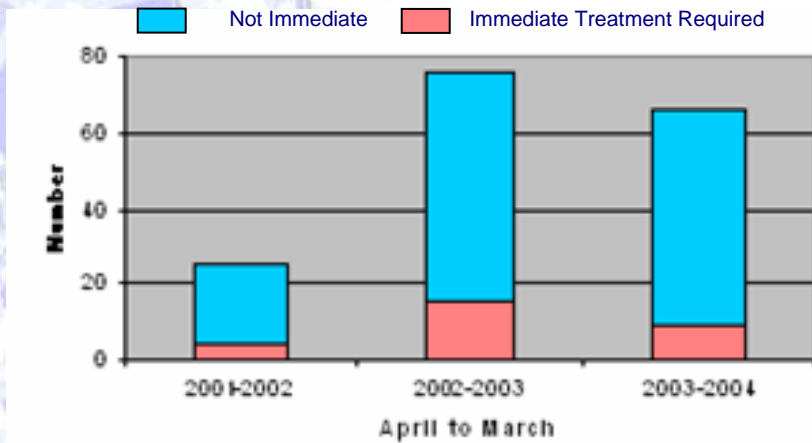
The graph illustrates that while the number of firearms injuries being presented to the City Hospital during the last 3 years has fluctuated, the numbers of serious injuries has remained constant.

Key points:

o   Relationship with Drug Markets – specifically crack cocaine
o   Public image of the city and specific neighbourhoods.
o   Need to reduce the numbers of persons killed and injured through the use of firearms.
o   Explore and engage all enforcement and prevention opportunities open to the Partnership to deal with people who possess and use guns.
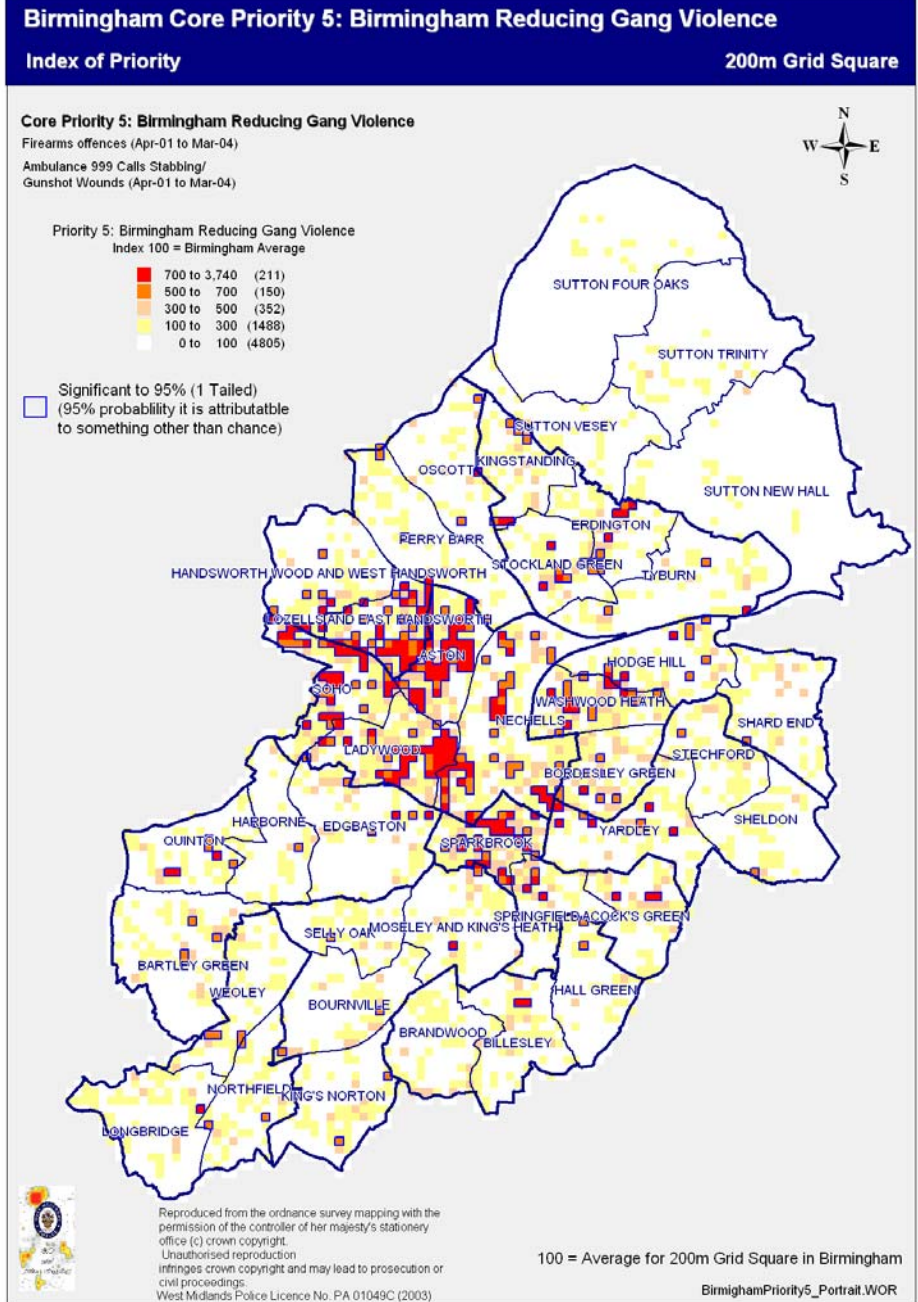
Composite Core Priority Index:

The composite Core Priority index draws on spatially referenced data from a range of Community Safety Partnership agencies. In one simple visual it combines the key variables from each of the Core Priority Groups and the key crime areas. The result is a map that highlights the key geographic 'pinch points' where the greatest impact for community safety in Birmingham can be made.

The map clearly shows that the distribution of the community safety core priorities are not evenly distributed. Rather the picture shows a clear concentration of over representation across a central belt of the city.

The priority of the Partnership will be to ensure that it recognises the clear spatial inequity of the distribution of crime in the city and can focus delivery accordingly ensuring low crime areas remain controlled whilst high crime areas realise reductions.

The audit has shown that outside of the key crime areas communities feel the same need for reassurance with similar levels of fear or perceived levels of crime or nuisance, thus the Partnership will work to allay these fears and enhance peoples perceptions of their safety. The subtle but important difference between actual or perceived crime does not affect the need for all members of our community to feel safe either in their homes or outside in Birmingham.

Via the Local Delivery Groups (LDGs) the Partnership will be able to deliver their strategic priorities, determine local priorities and support delivery of local collaborative responses. The audit assists in providing a solid evidence base for local areas to combine the information outlined in this audit with their own local knowledge to inform their own objectives.

Birmingham Core Priority Areas
Composite Index of Core Priority — 200m Grid Square

Key Crimes
Residential Burglary (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Vehicle Crime (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Robbery (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Violence Against the Person (Apr-01 to Mar-04)

Core Priority 1: Safer and Cleaner Neighbourhoods (Anti-Social Behaviour)
Criminal Damage (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Class A Offences (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Disorder (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Malicious & False Ignitions (Mar-01 to Feb-04)

Core Priority 2: Offender Management & Drug Treatment
Adult Repeat Offenders by Residence (5+ arrests Feb-01 to Jan-04)
Adult Class A Offenders by Residence (Feb-01 to Jan-04)
Ambulance 999 Calls to Overdose/Ingestion/Poisoning (Apr-01 to Mar-04)

Core Priority 3: Violence and Vulnerability
Hate Crime (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Domestic Disputes (Apr-01 to Mar-04)

Core Priority 4: Young People
Juvenile Repeat Offenders by Residence (5+ arrests Feb-01 to Jan-04)
Juvenile Drug Offenders by Residence (Feb-01 to Jan-04)
Juvenile Recorded Crime (Feb-01 to Jan-04)

Core Priority 5: Birmingham Reducing Gang Violence
Firearms offences (Apr-01 to Mar-04)
Ambulance 999 Calls Stabbing/Gunshot Wounds (Apr-01 to Mar-04)

Composite = Average of Domain Indicies

Composite Index of Core Priorities
Index 100 = Birmingham Average

- 400 to 2,330 (314)
- 300 to 400 (269)
- 200 to 300 (545)
- 100 to 200 (1096)
- 0 to 100 (4782)

Significant to 95% (1 Tailed)
(95% probablility it is attributable to something other than chance)

100 = Average for 200m Grid Square in Birmingham

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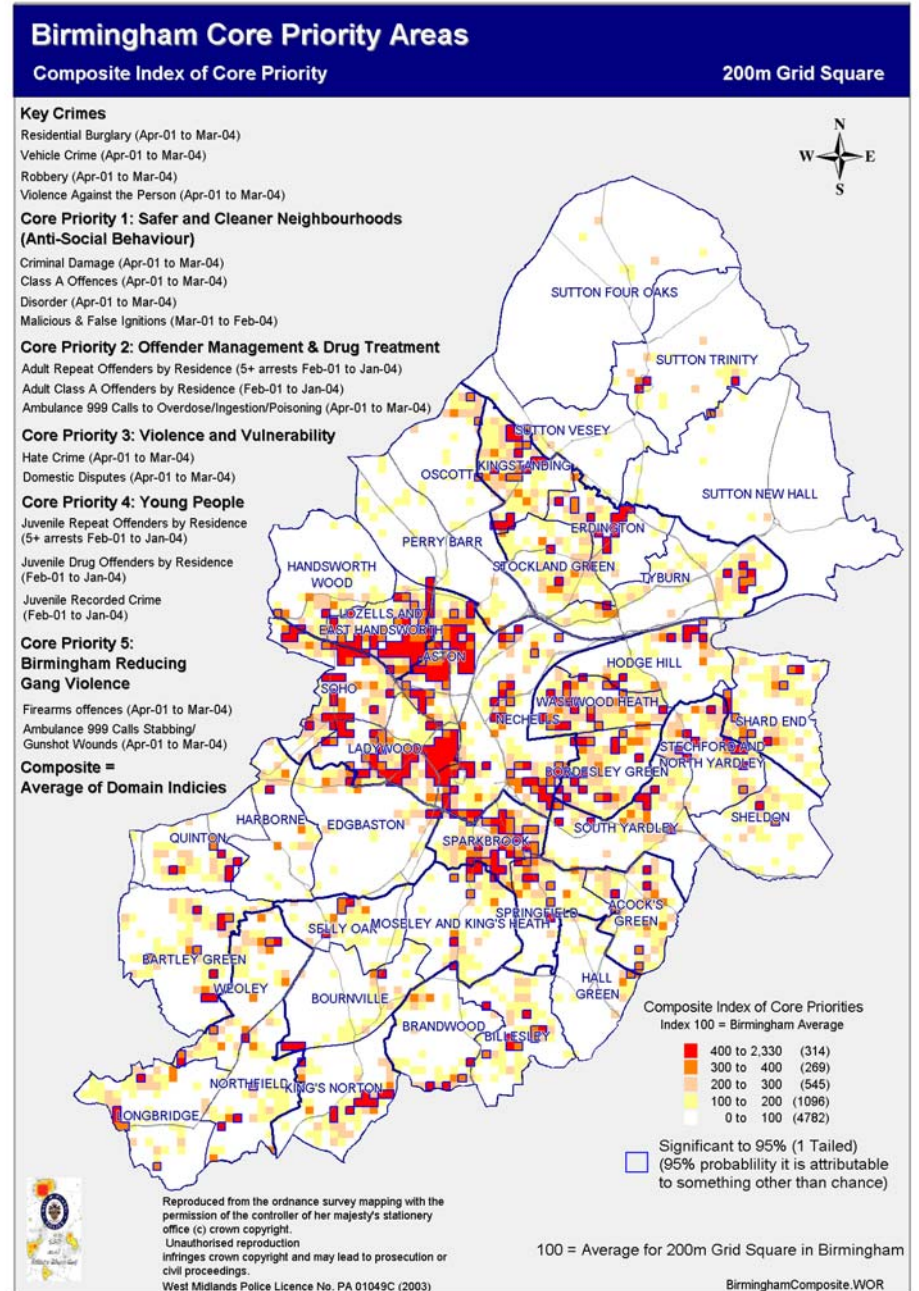West Midlands Police Licence No. PA 01049C (2003)

BirminghamComposite.WOR

Partnership Structure and Governance

A review of the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership in January 2004 highlighted the need for a governance structure for the Partnership that both enhanced pan Birmingham priority setting and delivery and empowers local communities to identify and address local community safety issues. To achieve these aims BCSP created 5 pan-Birmingham strategic Core Priority Groups and 11 District based Local Delivery Groups.

The new Partnership structure amalgamates Drugs Action Team and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Team resources. Both teams now work together under the executive control of the Birmingham City Strategic Partnership and Birmingham Community Safety Partnership.

The following diagram illustrates current structures:

This revised structure enables Birmingham Community Safety Partnership to be clear about purpose, responsibility and accountability from both a Birmingham wide and local delivery perspective.
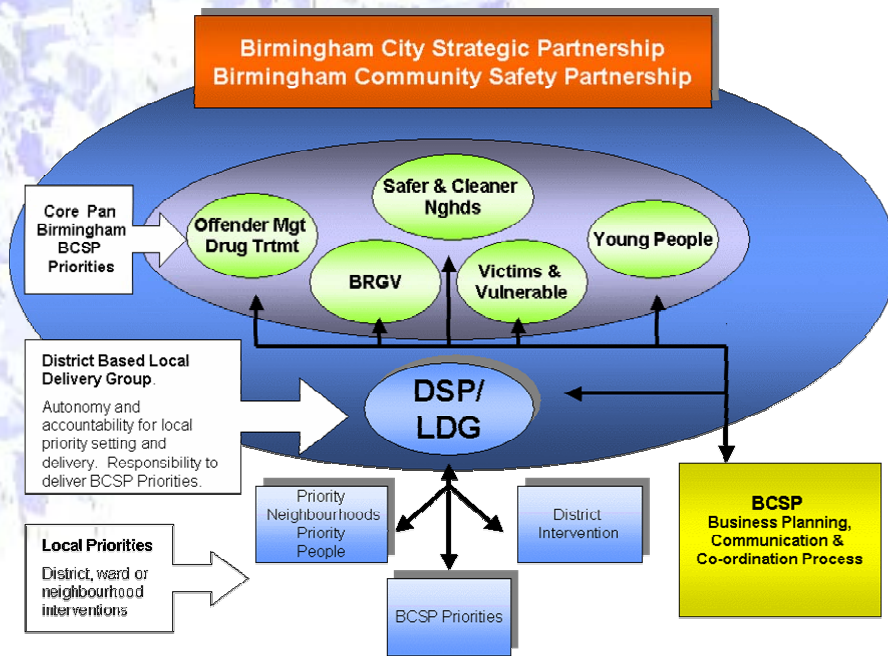
Openness and Accountability

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) came into working existence on January 1st 2004. As a result it is the responsibility of all public authorities to be able to provide information at the request of the public.

The driver behind the legislation is the desire for openness and accountability within public authorities. It is conceivable that the working areas and topic matter that is the work of the Community Safety Partnership will be a key area of interest generating demand for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Key Points:

o Statutory responsibility on public authorities to respond to written information requests
o Requests must be answered within 20 working days
o All authorities must have a publication scheme.
o Request to authorities that require further information from other authorities must be referred.
o The Partnership is represented by public authorities but does not have a legal obligation under FOIA. The obligations rest with each individual agency.
o Requests do not relate to personal information.
o Information can be withheld but only with official exception.

A success from the pervious strategy period for Birmingham was the creation of COSMOS (Community Safety mapping On-Line System www.cosmos-bcsp.com). This is a web site that is dedicated to the dissemination of multi-agency community safety information.

With the FOIA now up and running the Partnership are well placed to accept the challenges it may pose. BCSP is currently considering how best it can use enable the public to access community safety information with a view to enhancing the Partnership's openness and accountability to the public.

Summary and Discussion of Findings

The index of multiple deprivation (IMD) is a national index that highlights over a number of theme domains, areas that compared to national standards are deprived. Links between deprivation and community safety are well established. The map overlays the key geographies from the composite index of core priorities onto the index of multiple deprivation in Birmingham.

The map provides a powerful image showing a clear relationship between the Core Priority Index and the IMD 2004. The areas of most significant community safety priority align closely with the most deprived communities. A key message is that deprived communities will rely on improved service provision through all aspects of a City's Strategic Partnership highlighting the need for communication and collaboration in all public service areas. An underpinning feature in creating vibrant and flourishing neighbourhoods is a clean and safe environment where people do not experience or fear crime.

The audit has been able to produce a list of key issues that face Birmingham and that must be reflected in the strategy for 2005-2008.
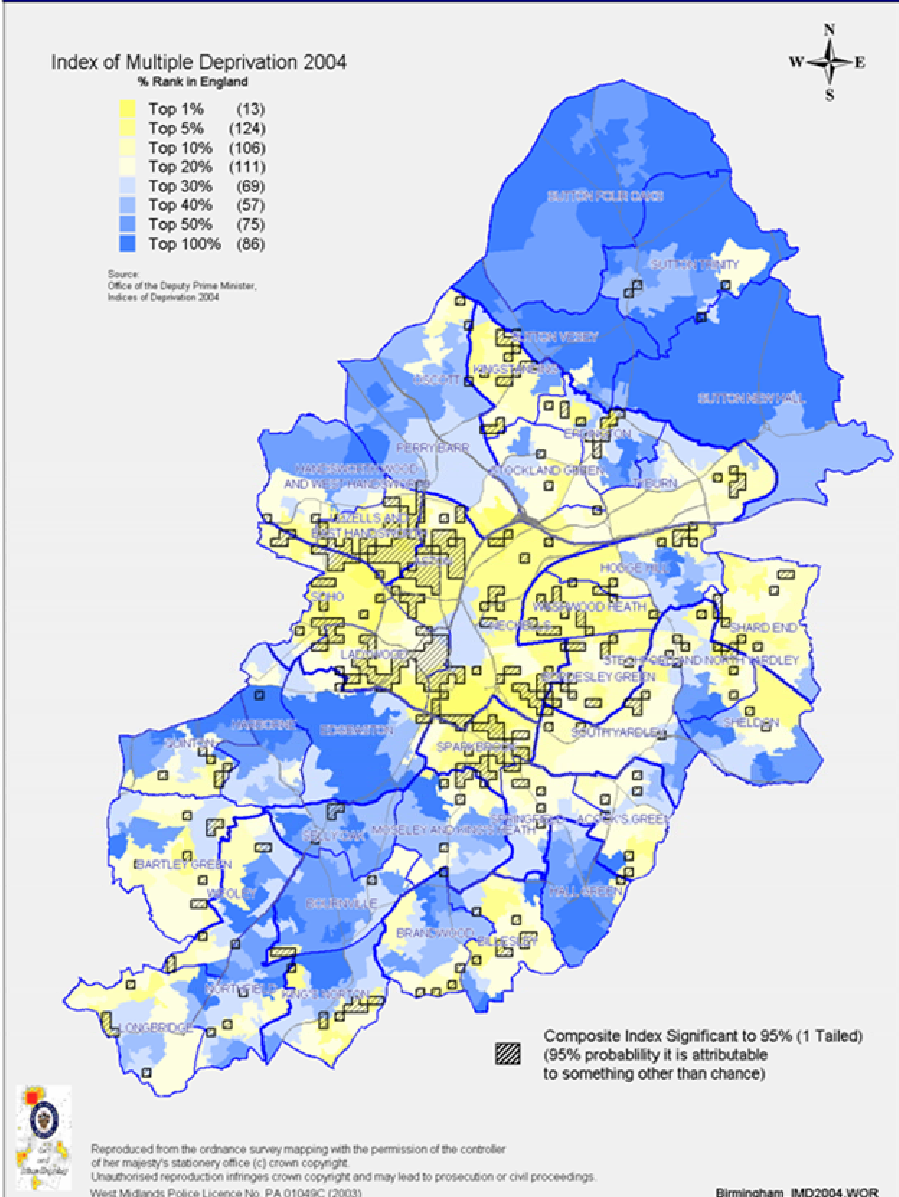
Key Priorities Identified

o Crime Reduction.
o Anti-social behaviour.
o Creating a cleaner and safer environment and tackling fear of crime.
o Drug related offending, substance misuse and drug treatment.
o Offender management and reduced re-offending.
o Youth as offenders and victims and youth diversion.
o Community engagement and cohesion, racial inequality and hate crime.
o Fire injuries and deaths.
o Reducing gang violence
o Violence

The key points listed above have evolved from in-depth analytical research, public consultation and national community safety strategies. Knowledge gaps do exist and will continue to be filled.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004
Overlay of Partnership Composite Core Priority Areas

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004
% Rank in England

Top 1%	(13)
Top 5%	(124)
Top 10%	(106)
Top 20%	(111)
Top 30%	(69)
Top 40%	(57)
Top 50%	(75)
Top 100%	(86)

Source:
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister,
Indices of Deprivation 2004

Composite Index Significant to 95% (1 Tailed)
(95% probability it is attributable
to something other than chance)

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Birmingham_IMD2004.WOR

Additional Information

Copies of the Audit and Strategy

Copies of the full audit and strategy can be made available on request to the Community Safety Partnership contact details as follows:

Contact details:

Tel: 0121 303 2706

Email: info@birmingham-csp.org.uk

Address:

Birmingham Community Safety Partnership
Information and Intelligence Unit
26 Waterloo Street
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 5TJ

COSMOS

If you have a need for regular access to community safety related management information and you are part of a Partnership agency you can apply for a user account for COSMOS (COmmunity Safety Mapping On-line System). Just log on to www.cosmos-bcsp.com for details or contact the team.

Partnership Website

To keep up with community safety related topic matter log on to the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership website at:

www.birmingham-csp.org.uk

Feedback:

If you wish to provide feedback or comment on the BCSP Audit please email:

info@birmingham-csp.org.uk