



Harrow Strategic Assessment 2008/9

Executive Summary

Produced by

The Joint Analytical Group



Executive Summary

Hotspots

- Robbery - Greenhill and Marlborough Wards (Wealdstone Corridor)
- Snatch - Greenhill and Marlborough Wards (Wealdstone Corridor)
- Violent Crime (Non Domestic Violence) - Greenhill and Marlborough Wards (Wealdstone Corridor)
- Residential Burglary - Border of West Harrow and Greenhill, border between Kenton East and Queensbury and Wealdstone
- Theft from Motor Vehicle - Stanmore Park, South Harrow and on the borders of West Harrow and Greenhill (repeat hotspots from the previous year)
- Environmental Crime (Abandoned vehicles, Graffiti, Noise, Litter, Fly Tipping) - Wealdstone High Street, Buckingham Road, Queensbury Parade, Greenhill Way, Belmont Circle.

Victims

- Robbery - Male IC1/IC4 aged 17 years or under
- Snatch - Female IC1/IC4 aged 25-49 years
- Violent Crime (Non Domestic Violence) - Male IC1/IC3 aged 18-25 years
- Domestic Violence - Female IC1/IC4 aged between 25-49 years and then 18-24 years
- Residential Burglary - 10% of Harrow's victims are aged 70 years or over
- Race Crime - Male IC4 aged 18-49 years
- Sexual Assault - Female IC1 aged 17 years or under followed by 18-49 years

Suspects

- Robbery - Male IC3 (followed by IC1) aged 24 years or under
- Snatch - Male IC1/IC3 aged 17 years or under and then 18-24 years
- Violent Crime (Non Domestic Violence) - Male IC1/IC3 aged 18-25 years

- Domestic Violence - Male IC1 (Followed by IC4 and then IC3) aged 25-49 years and then 18-24 years
- Residential Burglary - Male IC1 aged 11-30 years
- Theft from Motor Vehicle - In 86% of offences, suspect(s) were not seen. However, where they were - Male IC1 aged 11-30 years
- Theft of Motor Vehicle - In 74% of offences, suspect(s) were not seen. However, where they were - Male IC1 aged 11-30 years
- Race Crime - Male IC1 aged 18 - 29 years
- Sexual Assault - Male IC4, then 1C3 and IC1 aged 25-49 years and then 17 years or under

Property targeted

- Robbery - Mobile Phones (new technology having an impact)
- Snatch - Mobile Phones and Handbags
- Residential Burglary - Currency, followed by Jewellery. 6% of Residential Burglaries involved a high value vehicle being taken from the drive. (The most common property targeted - semi detached, locked, not alarmed, entry via the rear / side)
- Theft from Motor Vehicle - Number plates, Sat Navs and Currency
- Theft of Motor Vehicle - Fords, followed by Nissans
- (Target areas with regards to Motor Vehicle crime - Side streets, driveways and ground level car parks)

Peak days and times for offending in Harrow

- Robbery - Spread right across the week, 1500-2200 hours. Night time robberies are least likely
- Snatch - Again a fairly even spread, 1200-1600 hours and then 2000-2200 hours
- Violent Crime - Friday and Saturday Late Turn and Night Duty
- Residential Burglary - Again a fairly even spread (Friday has a slight peak), 1700-2000 hours
- Transport related – peaked on Wednesday, 1500-1900 hours

Youths - Good News

- Youths accounted for only 6% of all reported victims in Harrow. Ranked 32nd (lowest) for rate in London, with 391 youth victims per 10K of the youth population. The number of youth victims decreased by 25% compared to 2006/07
- Youths accounted for only 15% of all reported victims of violence against the person in Harrow. Ranked 32nd (lowest) for rate, with 170.3 youth victims of violence against the person offences per 10K of the youth population. The number of youth victims of violence against the person offences decreased by 9% compared to 2006/07.
- Youths accounted for 40% of all reported victims of personal robbery in Harrow. Ranked 2nd lowest for rate, with 87.8 youth victims of personal robbery per 10K of the youth population. The number of youth victims of personal robbery decreased by 41% compared to 2006/07
- Youths accounted for 24% of all persons accused of Notifiable Offences in Harrow. Ranked lowest for rate, with 180.4 youths accused per 10K of the youth population. The number of youths accused of Notifiable Offences decreased by 12% compared to 2006/07
- 46% of Harrow pupils have never had an alcoholic drink compared to 25% nationally
- 7% of Harrow pupils have taken drugs compared to 11% nationally (yr 8 and 10 only)

Youths - Areas of concern

- Youths accounted for 22% of all persons accused of Wounding in Harrow. Ranked 17th highest for rate, with 24.4 youths accused per 10K of the population. The number of youths accused of Wounding increased by 72% compared to 2006/07.
- Youths accounted for 29% of all persons accused of Theft of a Vehicle in Harrow. Ranked 2nd lowest for rate, with 4 youths accused per 10K of the youth population. The number of youths accused of Theft of a Vehicle increased by 13% compared to 2006/07.

- Youths accounted for 29% of all persons accused of Domestic Burglary in Harrow. Ranked 9th lowest for rate, with 7.5 youths accused per 10K of the youth population. The number of youths accused of Domestic Burglary increased by 70% compared to 2006/07
- Comparing April 2008 to September 2008 with the same period in the previous year, there was a 20.9% increase in the number of first time offenders in Harrow compared to a 9.7% decrease in London as whole and a 22% decrease in England overall.
- Young Black people are over-represented both in relation to 'first time entrants' and as 'young offenders', Young Asian people are under-represented in these areas.
- Youth violence increased by 11% comparing April 08 – October 08 with the same period in 2007.

Emerging issues

- Unemployment will increase in Harrow as in London as a whole. This is likely to lead to an increase in acquisitive crime and possibly violent offending.
- With a substantial Jewish and Muslim population, recent events in the Middle East might increase tension between these communities.

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) for which Harrow Council is responsible

- ASB ranked highly as a problem for Harrow residents relatively to more serious crime.
- Litter was viewed as the most serious problem by most residents followed by vandalism/graffiti and youths hanging round.
- There was a decrease in all the main categories of ASB: noise, fly-tipping, graffiti, abandoned vehicles and litter.
- Fly tipping is the most frequently recorded problem with nearly 6000 incidents. This is despite an 11% decrease from the previous 12 months

Alcohol misuse

- There were 663 alcohol related calls to London Ambulance Service, a 3% increase from the previous 12 months
- A high percentage of these calls came from Harrow town centre

ASB and crime on public transport

- Harrow bus station was by a substantial margin the dominant hotspot for ASB on buses. There were 214 incidents at the bus station.
- There was a distinct peak of incidents between 16:00 and 17:00 hours. A large proportion of incidents at this time are committed by school-age children
- Two bus routes stand out as having high levels of incidents: the 140 and H12
- There was a 6% increase of crime on Harrow's stations and trains
- 46% of crime recorded by the British Transport Police took place at Harrow on the Hill station
- There was a 45% increase in offences at Harrow on the Hill station
- Harrow & Wealdstone and South Harrow also recorded high levels of crime. The high level of crime at South Harrow station is unexpected as it has a relatively low passenger volume.

CCTV

- Recorded incidents begin to increase after 11am and peak between 3pm to 4pm
- There is a later peak at Harrow Bus Station between 4pm and 5pm which coincides with school children taking buses home.

Hate Crime

- There were 213 racist offences, an increase of 10% increase over the same period in the previous year
- Harrow's neighbouring boroughs, with the exception of Ealing, have also recorded substantial increase in racist offences

Domestic violence

- There were 1008 domestic violence offences compared to 904 offences in the previous 12 months
- A disproportionately high number of black-African and black-Caribbean victims reported incidents to Harrow Council

Fear of crime and perceptions of crime

- 70% of respondents in the Harrow Residents Survey who expressed a view felt safe in their area
- Pinner was felt to be the safest ward and Greenhill the least safe
- 6% of residents thought the crime and community safety was being dealt with very effectively and 34% fairly effective.