



**Working together
to make Herefordshire
a safer place to
live, work and visit**

**Strategic
Assessment
2007**



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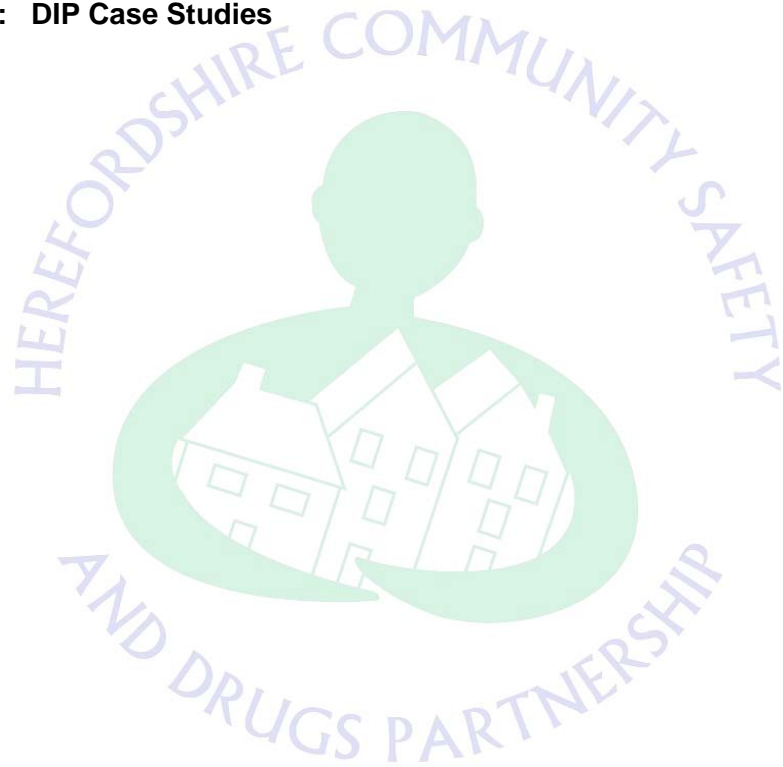
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Appendix 1: Detailed analysis from HCSDP Community consultations

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Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Strategic Assessment 2007

Executive Summary

The Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership is required as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) to undertake an annual strategic assessment to evaluate the effectiveness of the Partnership and how it performed to meet the 2005-2008 strategy. The strategic assessment for crime, disorder and drugs misuse in Herefordshire took place between October 2007 and January 2008 starting with a series of public consultations in the county. The assessment included results from the consultation, survey results from West Mercia Constabulary and Herefordshire Council in relation to crime and disorder, data from partners, and desktop analysis of all of the available data by scanning and detailed analysis. This process of data analysis concluded by identifying key priorities, including priorities identified by the public, to take to the HCSDP Strategy Group. The draft strategic assessment and presentation of key findings was given to the HCSDP Strategy Group in January 2008 for discussion and decision from the priorities identified from the assessment process.

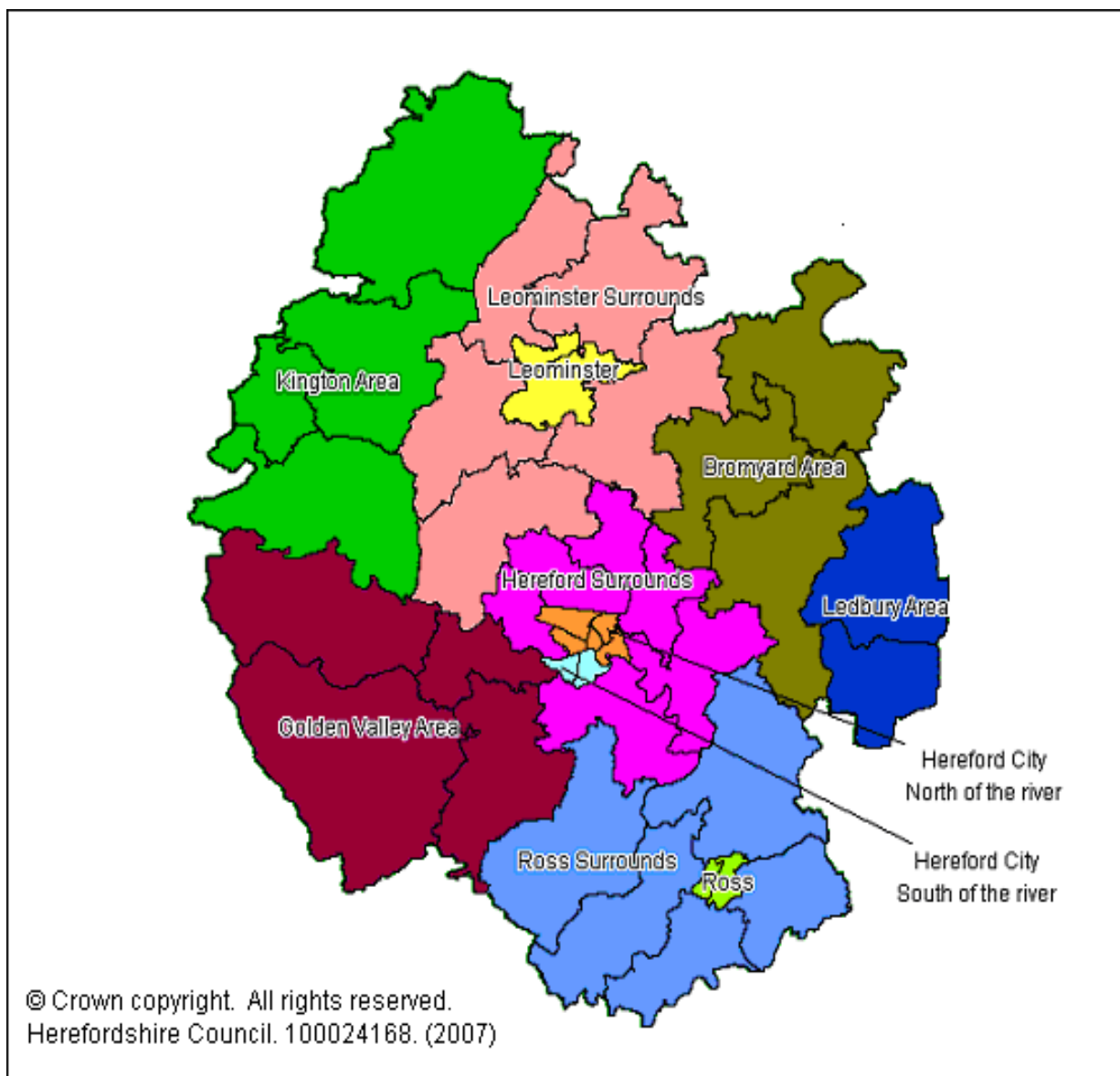
At the meeting the HCSDP Strategy Group agreed five overall priorities, which include cross-cutting themes such as young people and domestic abuse which fall into more than one priority area.

The five priorities agreed by the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs partnership are:

- **Reducing Crime further through effective Offender Management and other interventions**
- **Reducing Drug and Alcohol Harm**
- **Promoting increased Road Safety**
- **Providing Community Reassurance (ASB, Disorder and Crime)**
- **Responding Dynamically through Multi-agency Tasking.**

These priorities are carried forward to the new Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Strategy period 2008-11, subject to review each year during the annual strategic assessment.

HEREFORDSHIRE WARD GROUPS



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

The Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership is required as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) to undertake a strategic assessment during 2007 to evaluate the effectiveness of the Partnership and how it has performed to meet the 2005-2008 strategy.

CDRP's were required to conduct an audit every three years to establish key priorities for Herefordshire. This process has now changed and the Statutory Instrument '*Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007*' which was laid before Parliament in June 2007 and came into force on 1st August 2007 (England only) confirms that CDRP's are required to carry out annual strategic assessments to revise the Partnership's plan. Full details of who must lead and prepare the strategic assessment, including guidance on what the assessment shall include are detailed within the Home Office Guidance "*Delivering Safer Communities: A guide to effective partnership working*" (September 2007).

This strategic assessment will review to what extent performance to date has met set targets within the current Partnership 3-year strategy which concludes on 31st March 2008.

A range of data and information is available and is included within this strategic assessment. Results from annual surveys, public meetings, surveys and consultations with local communities, especially reaching the most vulnerable. Joined up work with partners by sharing information remains essential to the process to ensure the strategy is robust and has shared ownership.

It should be acknowledged that West Mercia Constabulary conducts its own 6-monthly strategic assessment which includes levels and patterns of crime and disorder. Detailed analysis and hotspot areas from the Police are included within this document to provide a focus to enable the planning of Partnership priorities for the coming strategy period.

AIM

The aim of the strategic assessment is to review the effectiveness of the current Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership strategy which ceases on 31st March 2008

PURPOSE

This document will provide strategic guidance to the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Strategy Group to assist in identifying medium and long-term issues in particular areas to be addressed through the Partnership Plan priorities from April 2008.

The document will provide a strategic assessment of key community safety issues that are founded on intelligence and performance-led information. This information is available from West Mercia Constabulary, Herefordshire Council, Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, and other partner data systems. It will identify neighbourhood priorities for crime, disorder and substance misuse for the County of Herefordshire.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

If you wish to discuss the information contained within this Assessment, please contact Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership;

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Special thanks to Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Programme Manager and Team members, Herefordshire Council Research Team, particularly Maxine Bassett and Michael Brown, and to the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Strategy Group and key partners and their staff, West Mercia Constabulary Data Analysts, and thank you to Alison Smith, Temporary Research Assistant who was employed to assist in collating information and producing graphs and tables for this Assessment.

THE PARTNERSHIP

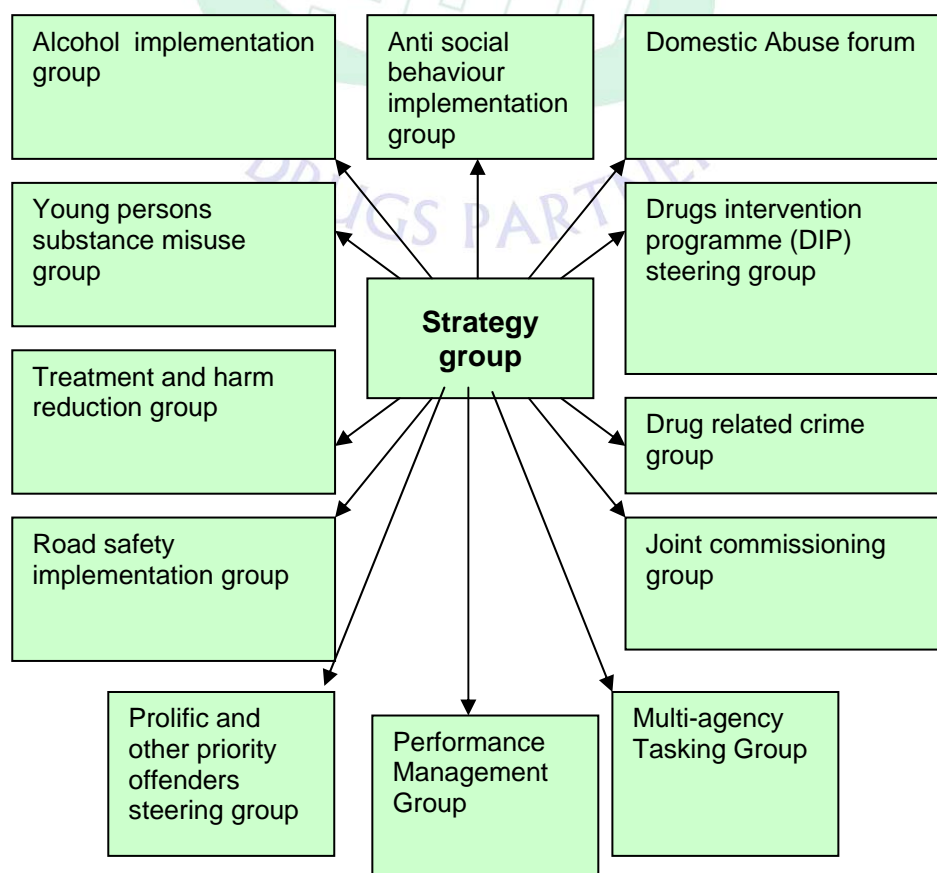
Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership is represented by a number of organisations who work together to tackle community safety and drug issues in Herefordshire.

These organisations are:

- Herefordshire Council
- Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
- Herefordshire Housing (representing the Registered Social Landlords Forum)
- Herefordshire Primary Care Trust
- Hereford & Worcester Youth Offending Service
- West Mercia Constabulary
- West Mercia Police Authority
- Hereford and Worcester Probation Service

The Partnership is supported by a series of multi-agency implementation groups. These groups have been working over the past three years to reach the objectives and targets set out in the Partnership's three-year plan for the period April 2005 to March 2008.

The Partnership is structured as shown in diagram below:



The Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership team has experienced some staffing changes and new posts created during 2007 and now has a full complement of staff.

METHODOLOGY

This is the first Strategic Assessment for the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership. Herefordshire is a Unitary area, therefore one strategic assessment for the County is required.

The data provided comes from a variety of sources and is used to measure to what extent the current strategy has met its targets. It is also used to identify priority areas to focus upon for the coming strategy period from April 2008.

There is a considerable amount of information and data already available to the Partnership and as such the majority of the work for this process has involved desktop analysis. West Mercia Constabulary conduct their own 6-monthly strategic assessments which are detailed and include temporal analysis for local crimes, hotspot areas and key trends. The Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership used this information to form a key part of the strategic assessment.

Methods for engaging with local communities where crime and safety is involved were the West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey, Herefordshire Council Satisfaction Survey (Local Government User Satisfaction survey), Youth surveys, Community Forums (PACT) meetings and the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Community Consultations during October 2007.

Information and data has been collected from:

- Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Performance Management Framework (PMF) which records data from key Partners on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis and is RAG assessed¹ for performance against target.
- West Mercia Constabulary – Detailed analysis, current strategic assessments, joint crime and safety surveys.
- Herefordshire Council - Local Government User Satisfaction Survey, State of Herefordshire Report,
- Herefordshire Council Youth Services – Teenage Lifestyle Survey.
- Hereford & Worcester Youth Offending Service – performance against targets.
- Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP)
- Hereford and Worcester Probation Service
- Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
- Highways and Transportation
- PACT meetings
- Drug Forums
- Environmental Health
- Trading Standards
- Community Consultation
- Iquanta – Police Performance website to measure Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership with our peer group of most similar CDRP's (MSG = most similar group)
- NDTMS (National Drug Treatment Monitoring System)
- HCSDP Adult and Young Persons Needs Assessments

During July 2007, the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Performance and Data Officer drafted a Project Brief which included proposed activities and Gantt chart. This was presented to the Strategy Group in August for endorsement. A range of information and data had already been identified and

surveys due to commence through the Summer and Autumn months would ensure results were available to be incorporated into the strategic assessment.

As the strategic assessment involves using detailed analysis, temporal analysis and hotspot/priority areas, data has been used from the West Mercia Constabulary Herefordshire Division analysts through the 6-monthly strategic assessment. The strategic assessments conducted for period October 2006 to March 2007, and now for April to October 2007 have been made available to the HCSDP. This information and data is included within the HCSDP Strategic Assessment to identify priority areas for Herefordshire.

Information Gaps

On 1st August 2007 new Crime and Disorder Information Sharing Regulations (No.1831) came into force. These regulations describe the nature of information that must be shared between relevant authorities under a new duty to share depersonalised electronic information and must be shared at least quarterly. The first information sharing running period commenced 1st October to 31st December to cover the three-month period prior to 1st October, therefore July to September 2007.

At the time of writing this report effort was put into obtaining incident specific data from the NHS Acute Trust, Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service and Herefordshire Council to comply with these regulations. In general, experience to date from discussions held with responsible officers within the relevant departments in each of the responsible authorities to obtain the incident-specific data has been positively received in principle, the regulations state that this information will already be held by each responsible authority. However in practice, obtaining the data during the information sharing running period took longer than expected and has been problematic and resource intensive for some departments. Further detailed discussions are required during early 2008 to iron-out specifically what data is required, when, and how this can be provided electronically to the HCSDP. Possibly a degree of compromise may need to be established in some instances.

It must be noted here that the HCSDP does not currently own a database and, due to the restrictions imposed on sourcing and acquiring any new systems within Herefordshire Council through Herefordshire Connects Programme, the likelihood of obtaining one in the near future does not look promising. This area does need further discussion to actively push for a suitable recording database for the Partnership as it would vastly improve upon the data and information that is currently available.

Analysis and Data sets

The analysis for this strategic assessment includes, where available, data, issues and problem profiles for specific areas in Herefordshire which will identify hotspot areas to focus attention. The data for identifying these problem areas are taken from a variety of sources as mentioned on the previous page.

Engaging with Local Communities

Following the production of new Home Office Regulations during 2007 with regards to preparing a CDRP Strategic Assessment, the lead Officer proposed, through the production of a Project brief to Strategy Group, to engage further with local communities by initiating a series of planned, advertised consultations in Hereford City and the surrounding Market Towns. This was carried out following consultation

with the Herefordshire Partnership's Community Involvement team, and involved a trailer-tour on the most "active" days in each community, coinciding with Market days. Further consultations with other "hard to reach" or vulnerable groups have taken place and the needs and concerns of these groups have been included within this report. Lessons learned from this process were that it was difficult to organise focus groups with some "vulnerable groups" at fairly short notice and the feeling was that discussions around needs in relation to community safety and drugs issues should be built-in as part of an ongoing process of good practice in community engagement and the ongoing development of service user groups.

Forums that are already in place to consult with local communities must continue. There is a useful source of information and consultation available in the shape of PACT (Partners and Communities Together) meetings. *'Herefordshire Council and its partners are committed to improving the way they engage with local residents and respond to the priorities and needs of local communities'*. The PACT meetings are held in "rounds" every 3-4 months. The number of meetings have increased from nine to twelve to respond better to each local community. These meetings allow people the chance to raise issues from their own communities directly with representatives from Herefordshire Council and its partners and to provide an update on progress made towards addressing the issues raised at the previous meeting. Future meetings are planned for 2008. The issues raised at the 3 rounds of PACT's across the County in 2007 have been analysed and are included within this assessment.

Analytical Capacity

Any issues relating to analytical capacity and resources will be dealt with later in the report.

DATA SOURCES

Data is provided to the HCSDP by Partner organisations to enable the effective monitoring and performance management of its strategic priorities and key performance indicators which individually feed into the following:

Annual Performance Assessment / Joint Area Review	Local Area Agreement (LAA) / Integrated Performance Report (IPR)	Adult and Community Services - Service plan	Herefordshire Council Corporate plan	Public Service Agreement (PSA)	Local PSA (LPSA)	Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI)	Children and Young People's Plan	National Treatment Agency – NTA	Locally set Targets
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Currently, the data provided to the HCSDP on a monthly/quarterly or annual basis is from the following sources:-

Partner Organisation	Data received	Frequency
West Mercia Constabulary	Crime figures relevant to the current HCSDP strategic targets	Monthly
Hereford & Worcester Youth Offending Service	Data on 1 st time entrants to Youth Justice System and re-offending rates. The proportion of young offenders receiving substance misuse and interventions	Quarterly
Hereford and Worcester Probation Service	Adult re-offending rates – measured through successful completion of Orders and Licences and rates of compliance (<i>new measures introduced in 2007</i>)	Quarterly
West Mercia Women's Aid	Number of calls in Herefordshire to Women's Aid Helpline	Monthly
Herefordshire Council Highways and Transportation Department	Numbers of those slightly injured, killed or seriously injured on Herefordshire roads	Annual
National Drug Treatment Monitoring Service (NDTMS)	Drug treatment data for drug treatment agencies operating in Herefordshire (<i>this will soon provide alcohol data from April 2008</i>)	
HCSDP Drug Intervention Programme (DIP)	KPI data recorded centrally by Liverpool John Moores University for percentages of those where initial contact is made by DIP team, further intervention required, and those entered into treatment programme	Quarterly
WMC Prolific and Priority Offender Scheme (PPO)	Re-offending rates of identified cohort of PPO's as at 1 st April 2007	<i>Bi-annual*</i>
Herefordshire Housing and Domestic Abuse Forum	Information provided for BVPI – Action against Domestic Violence	Quarterly
West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey	Monitor Fear of crime and neighbourhood issues through annual survey to Herefordshire residents	Annual
Herefordshire Council User Satisfaction Survey	Measure perceptions of anti-social behaviour through annual survey to Herefordshire residents	Annual

* The measure for the PPO scheme was introduced in 2007 for an identified cohort of PPO's as at 1st April 2007. The data for this cohort will not be available until 31st March 2009, as the PI is to measure the number of convictions of the PPO cohort for the 2 years prior to 1st April 2007 (eg from 01/04/2005 to 31/03/2007), then measure for the coming 2-year period from 01/04/2007 to 31/03/2009. This will measure the reconviction rate (target is 15% reduction in overall conviction rate) for the identified cohort.

Some difficulties with data monitoring have been experienced during the Strategy period which have made it difficult to accurately assess and compare data sets.

In the majority of cases the current HCSDP strategy was written using baseline data for 2004/05 (although some were 2003/04) and targets were set based upon the baseline data. However in some instances, changes in recording methods or codes have changed during the strategy period which has resulted in data sets not being comparable. For instance changes in NSIR (The National Standard for Incident Recording) codes for alcohol-related anti-social behaviour changed during early

2007 meaning that set targets cannot apply and comparisons with previous years' data cannot be made. This has also been the case for;

- Young People as victims of crime** – *National Management Information System (NMIS) report amended*
- Young People as victims of violence** – *NMIS report amended*
- Domestic Abuse offences reported** – *the recording of incidents changed to offences*
- Domestic Abuse arrests** – *change in recording method*

Numbers in drug treatment – the National Treatment Agency have increased the target for Herefordshire from 500 to 720 in 2007/08 as it was felt the original target was not stretching enough.

With regards to anti-social behaviour, data is currently provided exclusively by West Mercia Constabulary for the 14 sub-categories that make up that crime type. However some of these sub-categories are collected through another principal agency eg. Environmental Health for Abandoned Vehicles, also Rowdy and Inconsiderate behaviour may be collected through Registered Social Landlords (RSL's), however a robust system needs to be in place to ensure that if data is to be collected in the future from all of the principle agencies, that no instances of double-counting occur whereby an incident is reported to and recorded by more than one agency.

Information flow

It must be stressed that, although there have been some changes in recording methods and the introduction of new performance measures during the strategy period there have not been any gaps experienced in data recording and provision by each responsible agency. Experience has shown that the flow of information and data between agencies has and should continue to work well.

It is envisaged closer working links between the HCSDP Performance and Data Officer and West Mercia Constabulary Analysts during 2008 will improve further still the flow of information and detailed analysis where required, to enable the Partnership's implementation groups to accurately review performance and swiftly target efforts appropriately in priority areas.

HCSDP Information Sharing Protocol

During 2005 the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership introduced an Information Sharing Protocol. The purpose of the Protocol is to provide a framework to facilitate the exchange of data and to give guidance for the operation of an effective and co-operative partnership between the signatory parties.

The exchange of information is to enable partner agencies to improve their effectiveness in tackling crime, disorder and drug misuse and making Herefordshire safer.

It is the responsibility of all the Partners who have signed the Protocol to ensure that:

- Realistic expectations prevail from the outset
- Ethical standards are maintained
- A mechanism exists by which the flow of information can be controlled
- Appropriate training is provided for all staff

- Adequate arrangements exist to test adherence to the Protocol
- Data Protection and Crime and Disorder Acts and all other relevant legislation is complied with.

The HCSDP Information Sharing Protocol is in the process of being reviewed as part of the strategic assessment process to ensure it is still relevant and any change in Partners have signed the document. A series of Information Sharing workshops for Partner agency staff who are involved in information sharing will be available during 2007, to ensure staff fully understand the process for sharing information for the purpose of tackling crime, disorder and drug misuse. The existing Information Sharing Protocol may be found under *Appendix 2*.



SECTION 2: ANALYSIS

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Detailed information including socio-economic factors, demographics and population, including future population change are included in the Herefordshire Partnership “*State of Herefordshire Report*”, 2007.

As an overview, Herefordshire is a predominantly rural county of 842 square miles situated in the south-west corner of the West Midlands region and borders Wales. The city of Hereford is the centre in the county for employment, administration, health, education facilities and shopping. Other principal locations are five market towns of Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye.

Overall population

The following are excerpts from the State of Herefordshire report:

“The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publish mid-year population estimates for local authorities each autumn; the 2005 figures were released in August 2006. Herefordshire has a much smaller population than the neighbouring English counties but larger than its Welsh neighbours”.

“Population is estimated on a ‘usual residence’ basis, i.e. people are counted where they usually live. As the estimates are based on the Census, this is self-defined to a certain extent, but rules are applied to particular groups of the population. It is worth noting, particularly for Herefordshire, that students are counted at their term-time residence rather than their family home. This means that around 2,600 students living away from home are not counted in Herefordshire’s population. Seasonal workers are also not included”.

“Since the Unitary Authority was formed in 1998, Herefordshire’s usual resident population has grown by 4.6%, from 171,000 people to 178,800 in 2005. This is a similar rate of growth to other neighbouring authorities, although Gloucestershire’s growth was very slightly lower - as was that of England and Wales as a whole. At 1.8%, the rate of growth of the West Midlands region as a whole is markedly less.”

Percentage change in total population, 1998 to 2005 (%)

Area	% change	Area	% change
Herefordshire	+4.6%	Shropshire ¹	+4.2%
Worcestershire	+3.8%	Gloucestershire	+3.5%
Powys	+4.9%	Monmouthshire	+4.5%
West Midlands Region	+1.8%	England and Wales	+3.2%

Source: ONS – Crown Copyright and ONS 2005 mid-year estimates

“Herefordshire covers an area of 217,973 hectares (excluding inland water). Analysis at the level of counties and unitary authorities shows that, at 0.8 persons per hectare, Herefordshire has the 9th lowest population density in England and Wales, but the 4th lowest in England only. Of the neighbouring areas, only Powys has a

¹ Shropshire figures do not include the area covered by Telford and Wrekin Unitary Authority
Further information available at www.herefordshirepartnership.com

lower density, although Shropshire and Monmouthshire have similar figures (0.9 and 1.0 respectively). Gloucestershire and Worcestershire both have higher population densities”.

“The recent growth in Herefordshire’s population is entirely due to net in-migration (i.e. more people moving into the county than moving out). Over the period January 1998 to December 2005 there were about 13,300 births and 15,400 deaths in the county, representing a natural *decrease* in the population of about 2,100”.

“Herefordshire has an older age profile than both the region and England and Wales, with a noticeably higher proportion of its population in the older age groups. People aged 60 and over constitute 26.6% of the county’s population, in comparison with 21.2% nationally. Whilst all the neighbouring counties also have higher proportions of people aged 60 and over compared to England and Wales, only Shropshire and Powys have proportions as high as Herefordshire (25.6% and 27.6% respectively). Conversely, 27.6% of Herefordshire’s population is under 25, compared to 31.0% in England and Wales as a whole and 31.8% within the West Midlands. Again though, it must be noted that students away from home are excluded from the county’s population, and the county’s proportion of under 15s is only slightly lower than the national figure”. Further detail about the age groups are included within the State of Herefordshire Report, 2007.

“Herefordshire Council’s Research Team produces population forecasts for the county which are based on recent and nationally projected trends in births, deaths and migration, but also take into account anticipated housing provision under the Unitary Development Plan – which has a constraining effect on in-migration. Until the Regional Spatial Strategy is decided it is not possible to anticipate what housing provision there may be after the UDP, so forecasts can only be produced up to 2011”.

“2005-based interim forecasts have been produced which take account of a higher than average net international in-migration between 2004 and 2005 (see page 20), but do not make any attempt to forecast future trends in international migration. Whilst anecdotal evidence suggests continuing increases in the number of international migrants to Herefordshire, there is currently no statistical evidence on which to base future forecasts of trends in international in - or out - migration. Little is known, even at a national level, about the impact of the expansion of the European Union on the population in the longer term”. Again full details and graphs are included within the State of Herefordshire Report.

“The total county population is expected to increase by 1.5% over the period; less than the projected growth of 3.0% nationally. However, changes within age-groups are expected to be more dramatic in Herefordshire than nationally for all age-groups except 45-64 year-olds - although movements are generally in the same direction. Of particular note is the rapid forecast growth in the numbers of elderly people. The number of 75-84 year-olds in Herefordshire is expected to increase by 6.7% and the number of over 85s by 35.5%; the equivalent figures for England and Wales are 3.0% and 19.4%”.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (IMD 2004) from the ODPM is used widely to identify areas of deprivation. These levels of deprivation are calculated by combining a number of indicators across 7 domains which are: income; employment; health and disability; education, skills and training; barriers to housing and services; living environment deprivation and crime and disorder.

Deprivation in terms of crime

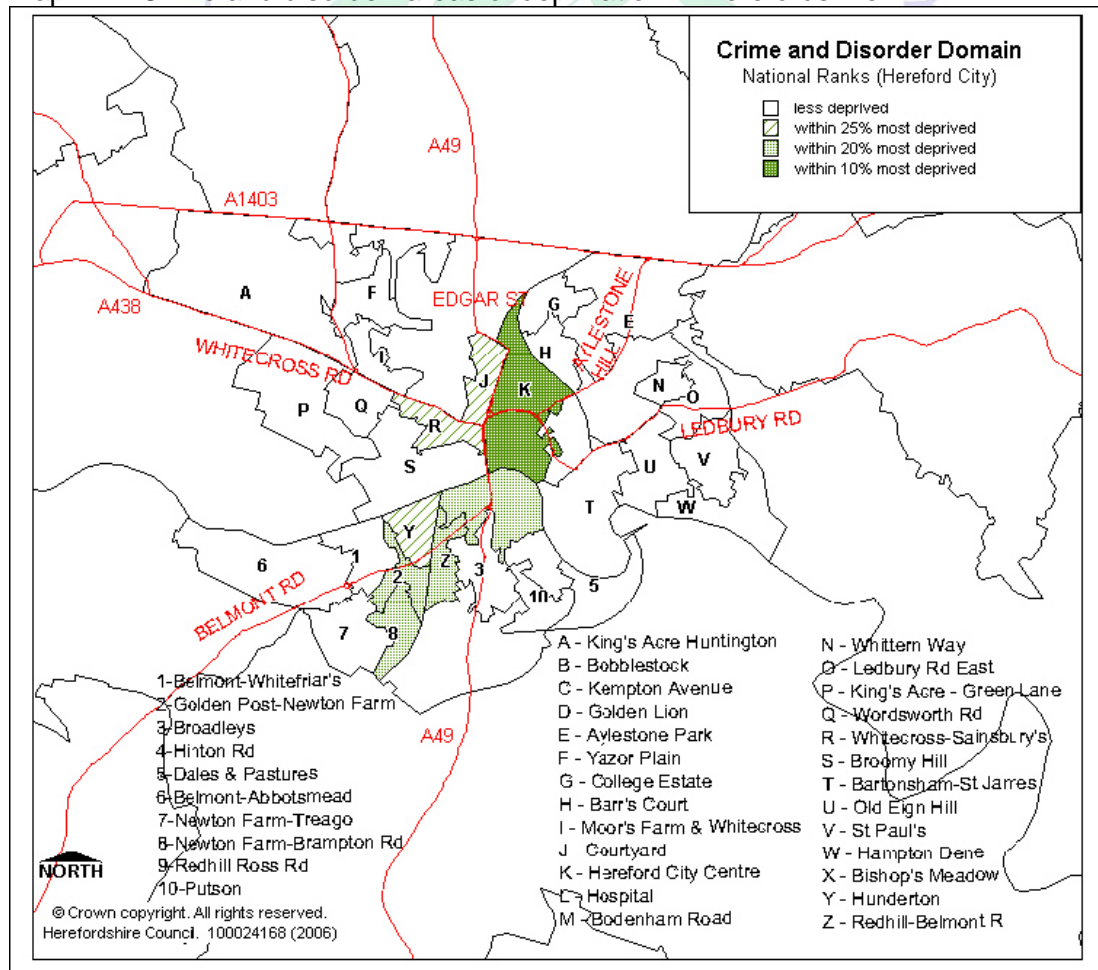
This domain is made up of 4 separate indicators that are combined to give an overall score and rank of deprivation for each Super Output Area (see the *Herefordshire Council State of Herefordshire Report 2007 Section 3 for an explanation of Output Area geographies*).

The four indicators are as follows:

- Burglary (April 2002 – March 2003)
- Theft (April 2002 – 2003)
- Criminal Damage (April 2002 – March 2003)
- Violence (April 2002 – March 2003)

There are 11 areas in Herefordshire which fall within the most deprived 25% nationally in relation to this domain. 8 of these are in Hereford City, 2 in Leominster and 1 in Ross-on-Wye. 7 out of the 11 areas also fall within the 20% most deprived, including both Leominster areas, the 1 in Ross on Wye and 4 in Hereford City; 1 area Hereford City Centre falls within the 10% most deprived nationally. It must be noted here that Hereford City Centre has a low number of residents with a large crime hotspot.

Map 1.1: Crime and disorder: areas of deprivation in Herefordshire



Source: State of Herefordshire Report 2007. Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004, ODPM; 2001 Census; OA Boundaries, ONS. Crown Copyright

Note: All the areas shaded on the map are within the 25% most deprived in England. Those areas shaded as 10% most deprived are also included in the 20% most deprived.

Migrant Workers

A study into “***The economic impact of migrant workers in the West Midlands***” has been carried out by the West Midlands Regional Observatory on behalf of Advantage West Midlands and a report made available in November 2007. The study involved quantitative surveys with 712 migrant workers, and 223 employers of migrant workers in the West Midlands, a qualitative survey with 40 third-party organisations involved with supporting migrant workers and 8 mini-focus groups with migrant workers.

A paper produced by the Herefordshire Council Research team states:

The National Insurance number (NINo) allocations record much higher numbers of people registered in Herefordshire than the immigration estimates suggest. For example, 3890 overseas nationals living in Herefordshire registered for a NINo in the 2004/05 and 2005/06 financial years whilst the ONS estimate that just 1,000 international in-migrants moved to the county between mid-2004 and mid-2006.

What is evident, however, is that Herefordshire has substantial numbers of short-term international migrants. Each year since 2004¹ at least 2,000 seasonal workers per year outside the European Economic Area have come to work on farms in Herefordshire for between one and three months, under the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme (SAWS). It also appears that numbers coming into the county have increased substantially since Accession in May 2004. This is demonstrated most dramatically by noting that 640 foreign nationals living in Herefordshire registered with NINo in the two years prior to A8 accession (when eight European states² joined the European Union in May 2004), but that this number increased 6-fold (to 3,890) over the subsequent two years.

Future planned events in Herefordshire

It should perhaps be noted here that there are large-scale development plans due to commence in the forthcoming strategy period that could have an effect on crime and disorder in Hereford City.

Edgar Street Grid

A massive transformation of Hereford City Centre, known as the Edgar Street Grid is due to commence in 2009/10 with completion in 2020. It involves physical redevelopment of 100 acres of central Hereford. The development includes a civic quarter, retail quarter, new housing and canal basin. New restaurants and bars will be included in the retail quarter.

The redevelopment involves the demolition of existing buildings, new road layout and change in traffic flows. Once the development is complete there will be an increase number of visitors to the City Centre and increased footfall through City Stores. With this there is also potential for an increased opportunity for crime.

The Big Chill Festival

A further annual event that has an impact on crime statistics, particularly during the Summer, is the Big Chill Festival.

¹ Data is not available before January 2004

² Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia

During August each year the Big Chill Festival takes place at Eastnor Castle estate near Ledbury, to the East of Herefordshire. This Festival has been running from Eastnor castle since 2002 and is increasing in popularity each year, attracting large numbers over the 3-day event. Experience has shown that the number of thefts in Herefordshire increase or “spike” during this period, and this is mainly contributed to the Big Chill Festival.

OFFENCE BREAKDOWN	
OFFENCE TYPE	# OF OFFENCES
THEFT NOT OTHERWISE CODED	137
THEFT FROM PERSON	6
THEFT FROM M/V	2
COMMON ASSAULTS	1
POSS OF DRUGS	5
BURGLARY DWELLING	1
ATTEMPT THEFT	1

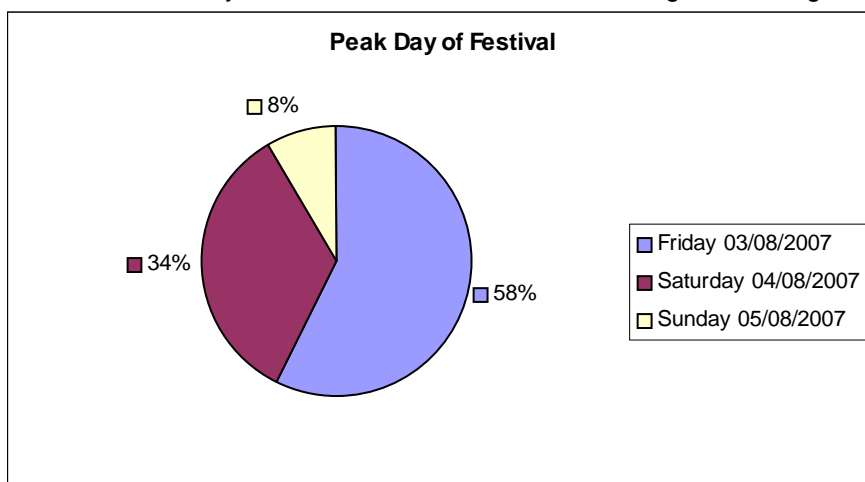
PEAK TIMES	
FESTIVAL DAY	PEAK TIME
Friday 03/08/2007	0100 > 0800 2000 > 2300
Saturday 04/08/2007	0200 > 0830
Sunday 05/08/2007	Spreadout

COMPARING TO PREVIOUS YEAR	
NUMBER OF OFFENCES - 2007	153
NUMBER OF OFFENCES - 2006	141

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

It is noted that 130 thefts occurred from tents, 100 of these whilst the tent was occupied at the time. Cash and mobile phones being the main items targeted.

Chart 2.1 Peak days where offences occurred at The Big Chill during 2007



Point of note:

- Over half of offences (58%) occur on the first day of the festival (Friday).

The Festival hires private security, however as 100 of the 153 offences (65%) were thefts from tents whilst they were occupied, the recommendation would be to increase publicity to raise the awareness of thefts from tents at future events to promote those camping overnight to keep cash and mobile phones on their person.

In 2004 an audit of crime, disorder and drugs within Herefordshire was carried out by the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership. A full report was published. The results of the audit were used to determine eight local strategic priorities and four national public service agreements (PSA's) for the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership for a 3-year period 2005-2008. Within the eight priorities sit a series of local targets and key performance indicators (also known as KPI's) for Herefordshire. There are also some new targets that have been introduced during the strategy period hence they do not appear in the strategy but have been included in the scanning process.

The following scanning exercise is therefore structured as per the current HCSDP Strategic priorities, unless it causes repetition. In view of this, several targets currently under the HCSDP Priority 1 'Young People' are included in the priority headings for which they relate, such as re-offending rates of young people are listed under the Priority heading 'Offender Management', young people killed or seriously injured is under road Safety. Only young people who are victims of crime and violent crime are included under Priority 1, below.

More emphasis has been put into the areas which are presenting as priorities, with less emphasis on those that are not.

Priority 1: Young People

AIM: To support the "Every child matters" outcomes through education, prevention, treatment and enforcement.

1.1 Young People (aged under 25 years) as Victims of crime

To reduce the number of Young People (<25 years old) who are victims of crime by 6%

The system used by West Mercia Constabulary Headquarters to collect this data has changed since the target was originally set, therefore comparisons cannot be made to the baseline. However as a result of the amended report a new baseline was established and new annual targets set.

During the strategy period there have been concerns over the escalating number of young people as victims of crime and during the Autumn/Winter of 2007; detailed analysis was undertaken between the HCSDP Community Safety Officer and Crime Risk Manager at West Mercia Constabulary. Comparisons are being made over a 2 year period to show where the increases have occurred.

During August 2007, HCSDP received a breakdown of the number of young people aged 0-24) who were victims of crime in Herefordshire during the period 01/04/06 – 31/03/07, from West Mercia Constabulary Analysts. The figures showed that from the 14 sub-categories that make up victims of crime, the largest featured were;

- Violence against the person - N = 3349
- Criminal damage - N = 779
- Other theft - N = 719
- Theft from a motor vehicle - N = 348
- Theft of a pedal cycle - N = 366
- Burglary dwelling - N = 256

The total number of young people who were victims of crime during 2006/07 was 6670. During 2005 the mid-year estimate of young people aged 0-24 living in Herefordshire was 49,200, therefore the proportion of young people as victims of crime in 2006/07 (total) in relation to 2005 mid-year estimate of young people aged 0-24 was 13.5%

Further analysis was then undertaken to ascertain if there were themes or clusters for these crimes against young people aged 18-24. Main points of note:

- **Criminal Damage:** 85 out of 132 offences (64%) were damage to vehicles, the majority of which were in Hereford City.
14 in Belmont area,
19 in St Martins,
10 in Holmer area,
5 in Beattie Avenue
4 in Kingsway in the City's College Estate.
- **Other thefts:** mainly thefts of mobile phones, wallets and handbags.
Age category 18-24: 42 out of 67 thefts occurred in pubs and nightclubs in Hereford central area.
17 thefts occurred in Eastnor area, 11 of these took place at The Big Chill Festival – all from tents.
Age category <17: 21 thefts occurred in Hereford City to those under age 17. 6 of these occurred in pubs and nightclubs, 6 in shops, and 3 in cafes.
17 thefts occurred in Ross Town, 16 of these occurred at John Kyrle High School.
7 thefts occurred in Aylestone area, 6 of these occurred in Schools/colleges

Further analysis by West Mercia Constabulary's Crime Risk Manager and HCSDP Community Safety Officer reveal theft from a motor vehicle (against young people aged 18-24) in the City's car parks do not show an identified hotspot, the crimes are spread across various city car parks.

1.2 Young People aged under 18 who are victims of violent crime (violence against the person)

This is another target whereby the measure has changed during the Strategy period. The baseline figures have changed significantly (from 524 to 1851), therefore as a result the annual targets amended accordingly.

There was an increase in common assaults during 2007 against school children by other school children. Further analysis has been undertaken on each incident, and it's becoming clear that Schools (as a responsible Authority) are reporting assaults/incidents to the Police when they should be dealt with by the school, hence the increase in violent crime rate. An Acting Detective Inspector was appointed during 2007 to review all volume crime processes and management.

Youth Surveys

Herefordshire Council Youth Services conduct Youth Surveys on a bi-annual basis. A Youth Survey was carried out in the Summer of 2007 to get young people's views about the services they use in Herefordshire and some of the aspects of life in the county, there were some interesting responses with regards to bullying which will be looked at later in this report.

In addition to these surveys, during 2006 Herefordshire Council Research Team carried out a survey with young people aged between 11-15 years (year groups 7-10) through maintained schools in Herefordshire about health and lifestyles. This was the first survey of its kind since 2000.

A working group was established with representatives from a wide range of services within the Council & Primary Care Trust (PCT); Smoking Cessation, Public Health, Healthy Schools, Herefordshire Environmental Health & Trading Standards, Herefordshire Community Safety & Drugs Partnership, Sports Development, HP Support, Research Team. The Schools Health Education Unit (SHEU) from Exeter was commissioned to carry out the survey, benefits were: expertise, educational materials for schools and comparisons with other areas.

Nearly 4000 pupils from year groups 7, 8, 9 & 10 (i.e. 11-15 year olds) from almost all maintained schools in Herefordshire took part, only Aylestone & John Masefield declined.

Topics covered included: drugs, alcohol & tobacco, citizenship, school & career, leisure & work, emotional health & wellbeing, healthy eating, relationships & sexual health, health & safety and physical activity.

The following results were made available showing responses for alcohol and drugs.

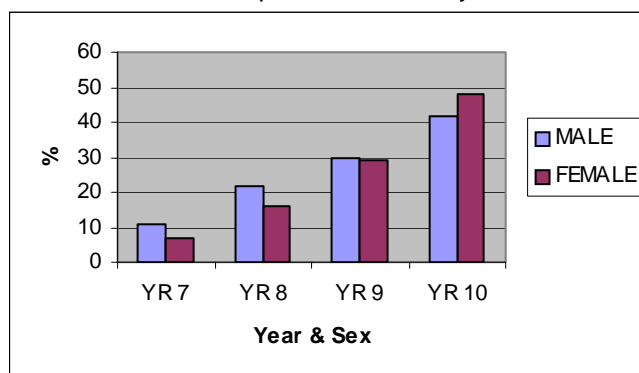
Alcohol

Percentage of young people who had at least one alcoholic drink in the week prior to the survey

- 26% had at least one alcoholic drink in the week before the survey

DETAIL	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9	YR 10
MALE	11%	22%	30%	42%
FEMALE	7%	16%	29%	48%

Chart 2.2 Percentage of young people who had at least one alcoholic drink in the week prior to the survey



Source: Herefordshire Council Research Team

Points to note:

- In year 10 only, a greater percentage of females had at least one drink compared to males.
- In year 10 just under half of those surveyed had at least one alcoholic drink in the week prior to the survey.

Percentage of young people who said they got drunk at least one day in the previous week

- 9% said that they got drunk on at least one day in the previous week

DETAIL	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9	YR 10
MALE	3%	4%	9%	16%
FEMALE	1%	3%	10%	25%

Points to note:

- In year 10 significantly more females were drunk at least once during the previous week compared to males.
- In year 10, 1-in-4 females had been drunk at least once during the previous week.

Most revealing was where the young people had drunk alcohol:

- 5% had drunk alcohol in the last week at a pub or bar (Yr 10: males – 9%, females – 10%)
- 5% had drunk alcohol in the last week at a disco, club or party (Yr 10: males – 8%, females – 13%)
- 7% had drunk alcohol outside in a public place (Yr 10: males – 9%, females – 21%)

Yr 10 males were most likely to say that they'd drunk beer/lager or cider

Yr 10 females were most likely to say that they'd drunk pre-mixed spirits, wine or Spirits.

Drugs

When asked about illegal drugs the responses were as follows;

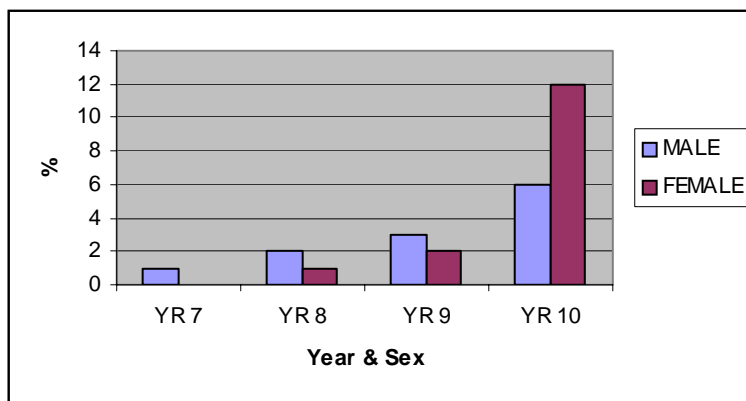
- 31% were 'fairly sure' or 'certain' that they knew someone who used drugs that were not medicines
- 14% had been offered cannabis (approx 1-in-3 year 10's had been offered cannabis)
- 9% had been offered other drugs (just under 1-in-5 young people in year 10 at school)
- 4 % reported taking an illegal drug and alcohol on the same occasion
- 2% of pupils said they have taken more than one type of illegal drug at the same time

Percentage of young people who had taken some form of illegal drug within the last month

- 3% had taken some form of illegal drug within the last month

DETAIL	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9	YR 10
MALE	1%	2%	3%	6%
FEMALE	0%	1%	2%	12%

Chart 2.3 Percentage of young people who had taken some form of illegal drug within the last month



Source: Herefordshire Council Research Team

Points to note:

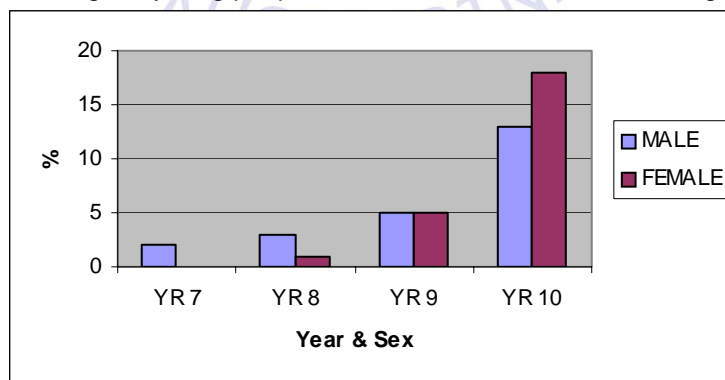
- In year 10 just over 1-in-10 females had taken some form of illegal drug within the last month.
- In year 10 just over 1-in-20 males had taken some form of illegal drug within the last month.

Percentage of young people who had taken some form of drug in the last year

- 6% had taken some form of drug in the last year

DETAIL	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9	YR 10
MALE	2%	3%	5%	13%
FEMALE	0%	1%	5%	18%

Chart 2.4 Percentage of young people who had taken some form of drug in the last year



Source: Herefordshire Council Research Team

Points to note:

- Year 10 females more predisposed to take drugs than their male peers
- Nearly 1-in-5 year 10 females took cannabis over the past year prior to the survey.
- Illegal drugs most commonly ever taken by YR 10 males were: cannabis (14%); poppers (4%); hallucinogens (4%)
- Illegal drugs most commonly ever taken by YR 10 females were: cannabis (18%); poppers (6%); solvents (4%); cocaine (3%); ecstasy (3%)

Data source: Herefordshire Council Research team, Teenage Lifestyle Survey

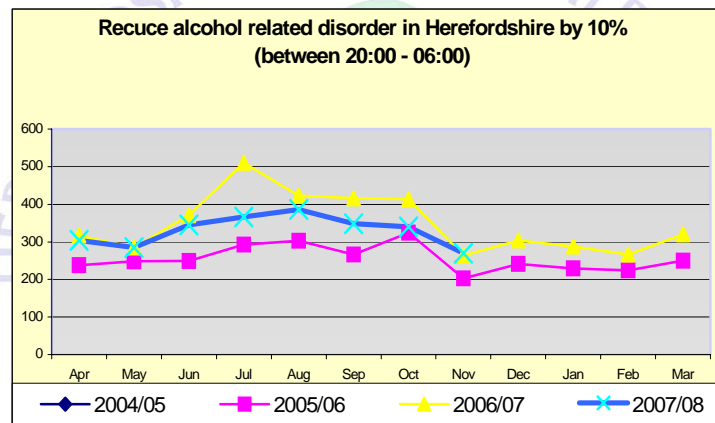
Priority 2: Alcohol related crime and disorder

AIM: To ensure a co-ordinated approach to the reduction of alcohol related crime and to increase social responsibility through a problem orientated approach to education, prevention, treatment and enforcement.



2.1 To reduce alcohol-related disorder in Herefordshire by 10% (between 20:00 and 06:00hrs)

Chart 2.5 Incidents of alcohol related disorder – monthly trends



The chart above shows the monthly level of alcohol-related disorder in Herefordshire. The annual performance chart cannot be shown due to recording codes having changed during the strategy period, therefore set targets do not apply and comparisons between years cannot be made.

The number of incidents for period 1st April to 30th November 2007 was 2644, with an average figure of 330.5 per month.

Alcohol-related Antisocial Behaviour and CCTV

Additional CCTV cameras are being sought where there are areas that are attracting drinking and antisocial behaviour in areas of Leominster, Ledbury, Ross-on-Wye and Hereford.

Where drinking and antisocial behaviour problems are being encountered, existing CCTV has highlighted the following as problem areas:

- **Leominster** – The Grange and Corn Square
- **Ross-on-Wye** – The Crofts, Gloucester Road, Market Place and Broad Street
- **Ledbury** – Market Hall, High Street
- **Hereford** – Widemarsh Street, High Street, High Town, Commercial Road/Street, St Peter's Street, Union Street, Broad Street, St Martins Street, Gaol Street.

Trading Standards

A series of test purchasing exercises are initiated at different times in the year to ascertain premises selling alcohol to under age people.

Underage Alcohol Sales Test Purchasing Campaign May – July 2007

Number of premises targeted.	Area	Sales obtained
14	Hereford City	12
4	Leominster	4
2	Ross	0

Points of note:

- 20 different premises targeted, some premises sold on more than one occasion. Approx 77 visits undertaken in total covering 1st May – 15th Jul 2007.
- One premise in Hereford sold on four separate occasions – this premise subsequently closed.

Christmas 2007 under age sales project

Test purchases were attempted at **48** retail premises throughout Herefordshire. (shops, supermarkets and off licences). Resulting in **12** sales of alcohol to volunteers aged 15 and 16. Therefore **25%** failure rate.

Each time the assistant said they thought the buyer was 18 and so did not question them. This is despite all the premises claiming to operate an ID policy for anyone who appears to be under 21.

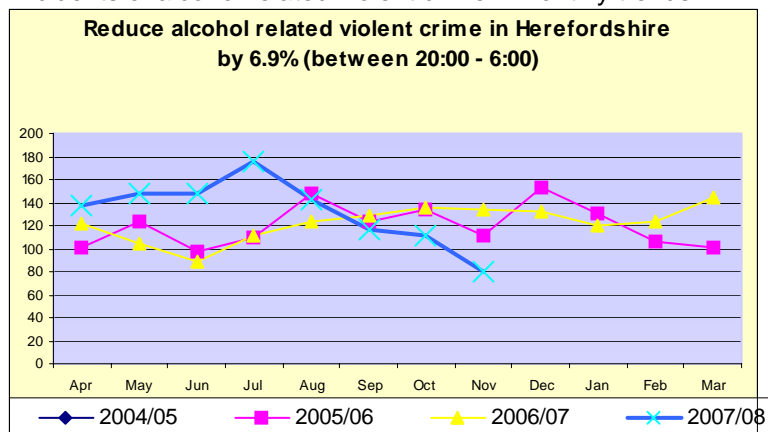
In November 2007 letters were sent to each of the 20 stores tested in the summer. The letter reminded them that Trading Standards test purchase all year round and that they must insist on ID for anyone who looks under 21. Out of those 20 premises 3 still sold over Christmas - The Local in Leominster and Spar stores in Ross and Leominster. Therefore 9 out of 28 sold who had not received letters = 32% failure rate. 15% failure rate for those who had received letters. From the list of premises which sold over the Christmas period, 4 out of the 6 premises tested in Leominster sold to underage people.

2.2 Reduce alcohol-related violent crime in Herefordshire by 6.9% between 20:00 and 06:00 hrs.

As with alcohol-related disorder above, the codes were changed during the strategy period therefore comparisons cannot be made, therefore the performance chart has not been included. The monthly data is shown below;

Chart 2.6 Incidents of alcohol related violent crime – monthly trends

The total number of alcohol related violent crime for period 1st April to 30th November 2007 was 1043, an average of 130 per month. The chart shows figures have started to reduce since September 2007 (*indicated by the blue line*).



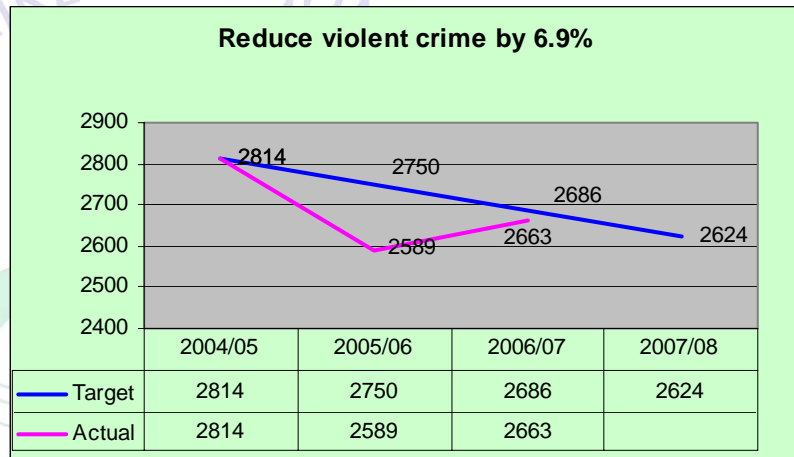
2.3 To reduce violent crime in Herefordshire by 6.9%, (or by 7.8% with LPSA stretch target from 2004/05 baseline)

Performance of this target to 31st March 2007 was below the strategy target (below target being good). However between March and June 2007 inclusive the figures rose sharply. As a result of this rise in violent crime an Acting Detective Inspector was appointed during 2007 to review volume crime processes and management, in particular violent crime.

However, it appears unlikely that the target of 2624 for 2007/08 will be reached, which means the stretch LPSA targets will also not be reached.

Chart 2.7 Performance to date for violent crime

The West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessment for period 1st April to 30th September 2007 reports that violent crime accounted for 23%, nearly a quarter, of all crime in the division.



Priority 3: Anti-social behaviour

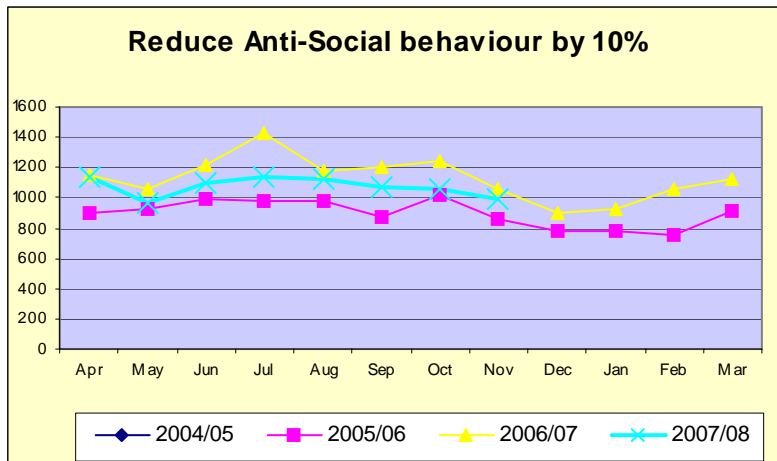
AIM: Reduce anti-social behaviour in Herefordshire through education, prevention and enforcement.

3.1 Reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour by 10%

There are 14 sub-categories that make up anti-social behaviour as provided by West Mercia Constabulary. However it is vitally important to note that antisocial behaviour is much wider than the figures received from West Mercia Constabulary,

Not all of the 14 categories are exclusively collected by West Mercia Constabulary as the principal agency, however it is only the Police data that is used to measure performance for this target. For example the principal agency dealing with abandoned vehicles is Environmental Health, therefore the data should be collected from that source, however there are some instances where abandoned vehicles are reported to and recorded by West Mercia Constabulary, therefore some thought and discussion needs to take place on how the full dataset can be robustly collected from all of the principal agencies concerned without duplication if incidents are reported to and recorded by more than one agency. Other instances of antisocial behaviour are reported to and recorded by Registered Social Landlords, therefore this data needs to be taken into consideration, again ensuring non-duplication between agencies.

Chart 2.8 Incidents of anti-social behaviour – monthly trends



This is a further example whereby performance cannot be compared to previous years due to changes in recording. All National Standard for Incident Recording (NSIR) codes and definitions changed in April 2006, therefore annual performance is not included here. The above chart shows the monthly trends.

Figures for period 1st April to 30th November 2007 were 8579, an average of 1072 per month. If figures continue at the rate they have been since September 2007, there should be a slight reduction in the annual figure compared with 2006/07.

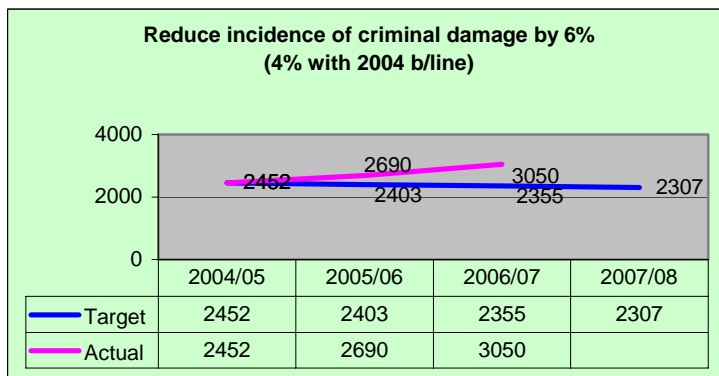
There has been proactive work in this area with more Community Support Officers and encouraging the public to report incidents of antisocial behaviour, therefore more crimes have been reported resulting in positive action.

Anti-social behaviour remains a focus in Herefordshire often being raised in local PACTs as well as being highlighted by results from the consultation that HCSDP undertook in October 2007, the Herefordshire Council Satisfaction survey and West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety surveys.

Anti-social behaviour will be discussed in more detail through the findings from the above methods, and the West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessment later in this report.

3.2 Reduce incidence of criminal damage by 6%

Chart 2.9 Performance to date for criminal damage



Over the two years, there has been an increase in the numbers of criminal damage incidents recorded.

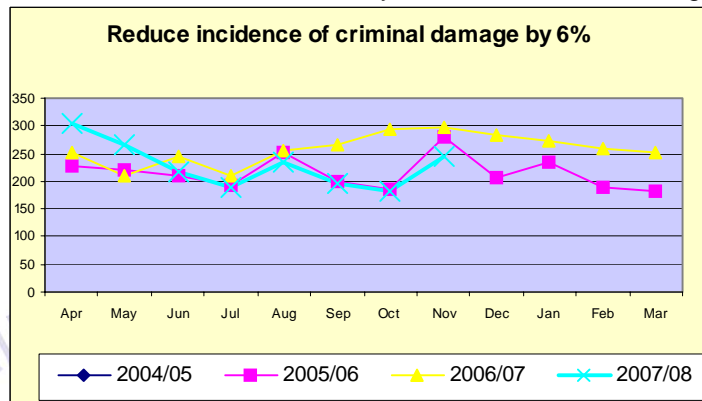
However, this may in part be due to encouragement to report more incidents to the police, therefore more crimes recorded which is a positive action.

As a result of the increase there has been a good deal of focus on the performance of criminal damage during 2007. The RAG assessment (Red, Amber, Green) for criminal damage has been graded RED consistently for each quarter for more than two years, however in

Quarter 2 (July to September 2007) criminal damage was graded amber), which is encouraging.

Chart 2.10 Monthly trends for criminal damage

The chart shows the monthly position since April 2005, the yellow line shows a steady increase in the number of criminal damage incidents recorded from August 2006 to May 2007, since then the figures started to reduce. There is a trend in November each year where figures have consistently seen an increase since 2005.



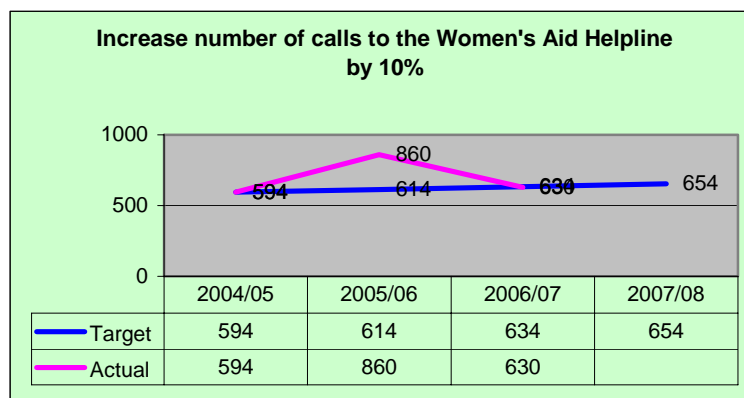
Priority 4: Domestic Abuse

AIM: To address domestic abuse in Herefordshire through education, prevention and enforcement.

4.1 Increase the number of calls to the Women's Aid Helpline by 10%

The chart below shows the annual targets from 2004/05 baseline of 594 calls to the Women's Aid Helpline (note the data is for Herefordshire only) and the actual number of calls made in 2005/06 and 2006/07. The number of calls exceeded the 614 target in 2005/06 with an actual of 860. Performance in 2006/07 fell short of just 4 calls against a target of 634. Performance for period 1st April to 30th November 2007 was 429 calls to the Helpline for Herefordshire, which is graded as Amber in the RAG assessment, this is primarily due to a lower number of calls recorded in May and June 2007.

Chart 2.11 Performance for Number of calls to the Women's Aid Helpline



4.2 Increase domestic abuse offences (previously incidents) reported by 10%

During the current strategy period there has been a change in recording methods for Domestic Abuse, from the number of incidents reported to the Police, to the number of offences reported. As a result of the change in recording, annual performance cannot be compared.

As at November 2007 there are 748 Domestic Abuse offences recorded for Herefordshire.

In addition to this change in recording a new measure has been included during 2007 to record the percentage of arrests for Domestic Abuse offences as a proportion of the incidents/offences reported where a power of arrest applies, this is felt to be a more meaningful measure.

4.3 Increase arrests for Domestic Abuse by 10%

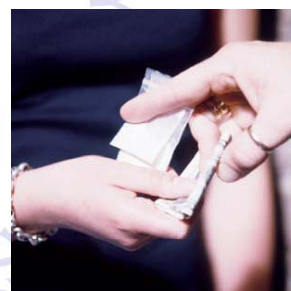
The Home Office measures arrests made for Domestic Abuse. There are three category codes to measure:

- No power of arrest
- Power of arrest and arrest made
- Power of arrest and no arrest made

Where changes in recording has changed during the Strategy period, comparisons cannot be made with previous years and set targets cannot apply. As at November 2007 there were 326 arrests made for Domestic Abuse.

Priority 5: Drug supply and drug related crime

AIM: To reduce drug related crime and supply



5.1 Increase class A drug supply offences brought to justice by 25% by March 2008

Performance against this target has been met during the strategy period 2005/06 and 2006/07. The number of offences brought to justice during 2007/08 as at 30th November 2007 is 18, with good indication that the target will be met in 2007/08

The targeting of class A drug supply has recently been added to the West Mercia Constabulary Control Strategy for Herefordshire Division. Herefordshire police have again been involved in a number of proactive investigations based on the supply of class A drugs.

5.2 Record no more than 600 domestic burglaries

Figures have been consistently low since 2005 with very low incidents of domestic burglaries recorded in Herefordshire.

The annual targets were set at 600 until 31st March 2008, in 2005/06 the end of year figure was 372, and 323 recorded in 2006/07. As at 30th November 2007 the number of domestic burglaries recorded stands at 179, with an average of 22 per month since April 2007.

5.3 Record no more than 1086 vehicle crimes

The annual performance for this target of no more than 1086 recorded vehicle crimes has been met during 2005/06 and 2006/07.

Data as at 30th November 2007 is 573 with an average of 71.6 per month since April 2007, the indications are that this target will be reached in 2007/08, and the RAG assessment for this target is Green.

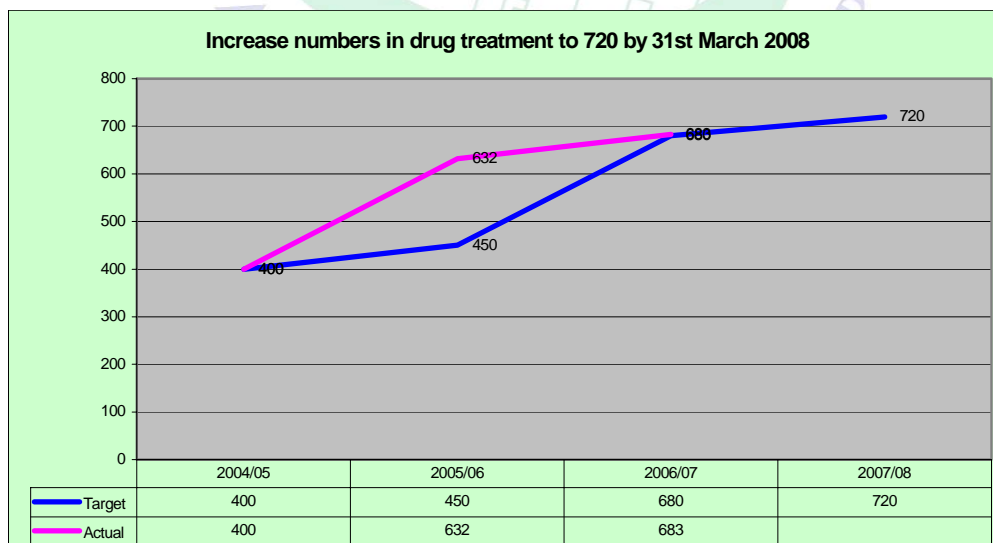
Priority 6: Drug treatment and harm reduction

AIM: To enable people with drug problems to overcome them and live healthy and crime-free lives.

6.1 Increase numbers in drug treatment

Since the strategy was agreed in 2005, the National Treatment Agency have increased the annual targets from 500 to 680 in 2006/07, and from 525 to 720 in 2007/08. The target was met in 2006/07 with 683 in treatment as at 31st March 2007, Quarter 2 data (April to September 2007) from the National Treatment Agency confirms there were 551 in treatment against an expected number of 610 for that period, therefore graded as Amber in the RAG Assessment. The National Treatment Agency have projected the number in treatment at year end to be 618.

Chart 2.12 Numbers in treatment – annual targets and performance



6.2 Retention of those in drug treatment

Similar to the previous target, the National Treatment Agency has revised the annual targets for Herefordshire. The target for 2007/08 was 72% but has increased to 85%. Performance in the last 12 month reporting period – 1st July 2006 to 18th June 2007 shows 80% retained in treatment. This has been graded as Red by the National Treatment Agency as it falls below the threshold of 83%. The number of individuals still in treatment as at 30th September 2007 is 109. Quarter 3 data is not yet available for inclusion in this strategic assessment.

6.3 Percentage of those in substance misuse treatment who are under age 18

Government Office for the West Midlands are monitoring the work of the Young Person's Substance Misuse Group and this measure is also picked up through the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) dataset but is not a HCSDP Strategic target.

As at the end of Quarter 2 (30th September 2007) there were 69 people under age 18 in treatment against a total of 551 in treatment at that time.

The proportion of young people in treatment = 13%.

Adult Drug Treatment Plan 2007-08

The Adult treatment Plan for 2007-08 is now complete and will be submitted to the National Treatment Agency by 18th January 2008. Data to be included in the plan includes "Bullseye" data. The bulls eye displays the percentage of problematic drug users (PDU) using opiate and/or crack in Herefordshire.

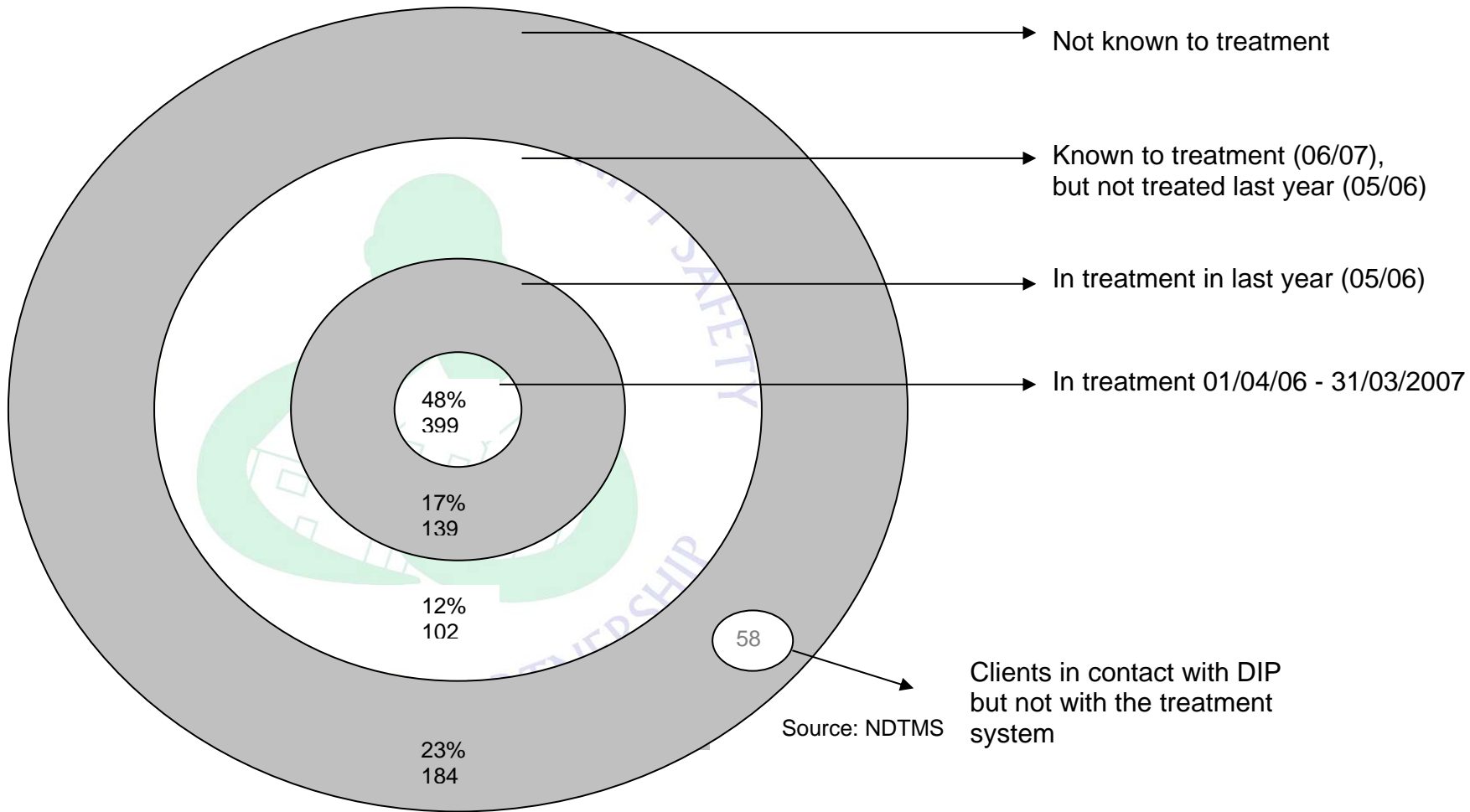
From the total problematic drug user population (824):

- 48% (399) were in treatment as of 31/03/2007
- 17% (139) of the total PDU population were in treatment the previous year.
- From the total PDU population, 12% (102) of the users were known to treatment, but not treated last year.
- 23% of the PDU population were not known to treatment.
- There were 58 clients in contact with DIP but not with the treatment system.

The bulls eye included here shows the total PDU data. The treatment plan then breaks this down further to age ranges and male/female users.

Stratifying the opiate and/or crack users and % of whole problematic drug user population (PDU)

(Overall PDU = 824)



Analysis – Defining the Population/ Bulls Eye Data

- Dedicated intervention required to engage with Herefordshire’s migrant population. Provision should be in place across the whole Tier system.
- Approximately 1 in 5 people in the problematic drug using population are aged under 25 years.
- Approximately half of the problematic drug using population is aged between 25 and 34 years.
- Approximately one third of the problematic drug using population is aged between 35 and 64 years.
- Approximately one quarter the problematic drug using population is female.
- The majority of DIP clients were male.
- From the total clients in treatment 2006/07 more than half were currently injecting and 73 had previously injected. The Treatment plan must reflect the high proportion of those in treatment that are injectors.
- It is estimated that over half of the opiate and or crack cocaine population (916) are injectors (587)

Healthcare Commission

During 2007, an audit was carried out by the healthcare Commission on drug treatment services in Herefordshire. The results from the audit identified some areas for improvement and offered assistance to the HCSDP to prepare an action plan for improvement, this was welcomed by the HCSDP.

The main actions were to:

Complete Needs Assessment	-	Now completed
DASH Recovery Plan	-	Care Plans in place, review
Review of Care Plans Tier 4		
Set up Service User Forum		
Workforce Strategy	-	Currently being drafted
Commissioner Career Development	-	To be completed over 12 months
Harm Reduction Strategy	-	In draft form
Needle Exchange Pilot & Subsequent Review	-	Pilot commences 07/01/08

Other Matters:

Future SLA’s to include section on workforce development

Hidden Harm

A Hidden harm report is currently being prepared by the HCSDP. The report looks at:

- the impact of parental problem drug use on children
- listening to the voices of children and their parents
- the legal framework and child protection arrangements
- recent relevant developments in Government strategies
- policies and programmes
- the practicalities of protecting and supporting the children of problem drug users and the services involved such at Health services, Police, early years and social care, courts and prisons etc.

The report then sets out actions and responsibilities and presents a gap analysis.

Young People's Substance Misuse – High Focus Area (HFA)

The Dept for Education and Skills and the Home Office invited Herefordshire to participate in a second round of High Focus Area work, along with 17 other areas.

This was a good opportunity to receive support for faster and sustained progress in the implementation of the Young People's agenda. Geoff Eagle, HFA Consultant, provided Herefordshire with support; this included interviewing and collecting data in order to provide an assessment and recommendations at a stakeholder event that was held in October 2006.

There has been positive progress made in many areas, as shown on Red, Amber, Green (RAG) assessments, however further work needs to be made on the tier review work and solutions implemented, to push forward final areas for improvement. Changes in the structure and processes around the Young Persons Substance Misuse Group now mean we are picking up information that has been previously missed.

Priority 7: Offender Management

AIM: To reduce crime by targeting those who offend most or otherwise cause the most harm to their communities.

7.1 Youth Offenders

1st-time entrants to Youth Justice System (YJS) (age < 18 years)

With a baseline of 379 for 2004/05, the target is to reduce by 5% (N=360) by the end of the strategy period to 31st March 2008. Year 1 saw the target exceeded with an end of year figure of 344, however year 2 (2006/07) increased to 396. During 2007/08, quarter 1 data saw a 10.4% reduction on the previous quarter. At the time of writing this report the figures to the end of Quarter 2 (April to September 2007) is 161 and is on course to meet the set target for 2007/08.

Reduce Re-offending rates of Young people

The original target for this was set from a baseline of 46.7% in 2003/04 and to reduce re-offending by young people by a further 5% by 2006. End of year data for 2004/05 saw an increase to 54% and 2005/06 end of year was 50%, therefore the target was not met. A new measure has been introduced to reduce the proportion of young offenders who re-offend by 2.5% from a 2006/07 baseline figure of 396. The target is to reach 386 by 2008/09 financial year. This figure is provided annually, therefore there is no in-year data available to date for 2007/08. The data is generally for young people aged under years, however this target may track young people beyond their 18th birthday.

Young Offenders (aged < 18 years) receiving substance misuse assessments and interventions

This is measured in two parts for the percentage of those receiving assessments, and the percentage of those going on to receive interventions. Baseline data was 100% for 2006/07. Data is available quarterly and at Quarter 2 end the data stood at 100% on both counts (14/14 young people received assessments within 5 days). There is no local target set for this other than to maintain 100%.

7.2 Reduce the proportion of adult offenders who re-offend

Reduce the proportion of adult offenders who re-offend by measuring the following:

- Successful completion of Orders
- Successful completion of Licences
- Rates of compliance with Orders and Licences

These measures were introduced in early 2007. Data is being collected from Hereford and Worcester Probation Service by the HCSDP from April 2007 and this data will be used as the baseline.

7.3 Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP)

The current Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) caseload is approximately 25 clients.

Prison “in-reach” (i.e. support visits within Prison) continues at HMP Gloucester on a 4-6 weekly basis.

Herefordshire Council's Performance Improvement Manager completed an interim review of the DIP case files in August 2007, and the initial outcome was that they were felt to be robust, containing all information that is required. Any recommendations for improvement have been fully achieved. A feedback report is currently being completed by the Performance Improvement team.

A review of the Criminal Justice Integrated Team (CJIT) is currently being undertaken by the Herefordshire Community and Safety Drug Partnership.

It is felt improvement is required from the Arrest Referral aspect of the CJIT given the limited referrals from that service to the DIP team. From January to October 2007 there were just 3 referrals. However data provided by West Mercia Constabulary shows that between April and September 2007 1799 sanctioned detected offences were recorded. This equates to 299.8 sanctioned detections per month of which 123.6 are classed as “trigger offences”. Trigger offences are offences that should enable a response from the Arrest Referral worker.

This relates directly to the DIP KPI 1 and affects the following KPI's (as shown on latest dashboard paperwork, which is a performance management system).

Referrals received by the DIP team remain around an average of 12 per month. From January through to October 2007 a total of 120 referrals have been received.

New referrals September 2007 = 9 October 2007 = 11,

All referrals responded to = 100%, therefore target being met.

<u>DIP Targets</u>	<u>Progress</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 60% of adults with whom initial contact is made and who are not already on the caseload, to be assessed by the DIP in 2006/07. 2. 85% of adults assessed as needing a further intervention, to be taken onto the caseload in 2006/07. 3. 95% of adults taken onto the caseload to engage in treatment in 2006/07. 4. 80% of CARAT clients who are transferred to a DIP to have follow up action taken by that DIP in 2006/07. 	<p>The latest official central performance data are included below for period August to October 2007.</p> <p>Source: DIMIS Compact data</p> <p>3-month rolling average - RAG</p> <p>KPI1 – Green Achieved 93%</p> <p>KPI2 - Green Achieved 100%</p> <p>KPI3 - Green Achieved 100%</p> <p>KPI4 - No longer valid, to be amended by Government Office West Midlands.</p> <p>This shows green across all 3 targets and the lowest in terms of unit cost across the region. Currently standing at £1390, way below the West Midlands average of £1924 per unit cost.</p>

Case studies have been completed with three clients which talk about their individual backgrounds and substance misuse prior to engaging with the DIP team and how their lives are now. *Please see appendix 3 for case studies.*

7.4 Prolific and Other Priority Offenders (PPO scheme)

To reduce the proportion of prolific and other priority offenders who re-offend:
To reach a 15% reduction in reconvictions of an identified cohort of PPO's, compared to their convictions for equivalent periods before becoming PPO's

The measure for the PPO scheme was introduced in 2007 for an identified cohort of PPO's as at 1st April 2007. The data for this cohort will not be available until 31st March 2009, as the PI is to measure the number of convictions of the PPO cohort for the 2 years prior to 1st April 2007 (eg from 01/04/2005 to 31/03/2007), then measure for the coming 2-year period from 01/04/2007 to 31/03/2009. This will measure the reconviction rate (target is 15% reduction in overall conviction rate) for the identified cohort.

Three case studies were recently presented to the Strategy Group which outlined the PPO's conviction history before joining the PPO scheme then tracking their offending behaviour and the cost savings involved.

7.5 Reduce all recorded crime by 15% by 31st March 2008.

This target measures all recorded crime. Performance shows that during 2005/06 the target of 11,535 was not quite reached and increased further in 2006/07. Figures as at 30th November 2007(N = 7945) indicate the target will not be reached in 2007/08 and has been graded Red in the RAG assessment. The reasons for this

would be the “knock-on effect” of increases in other crimes such as antisocial behaviour and criminal damage, particularly during 2007.

Chart 2.13 All recorded crime – annual targets and performance



7.6 BCS (British Crime Survey) Comparator crime

This target is a national Public Service Agreement (PSA1). Ten crime types are included within BCS comparator crime, as follows;

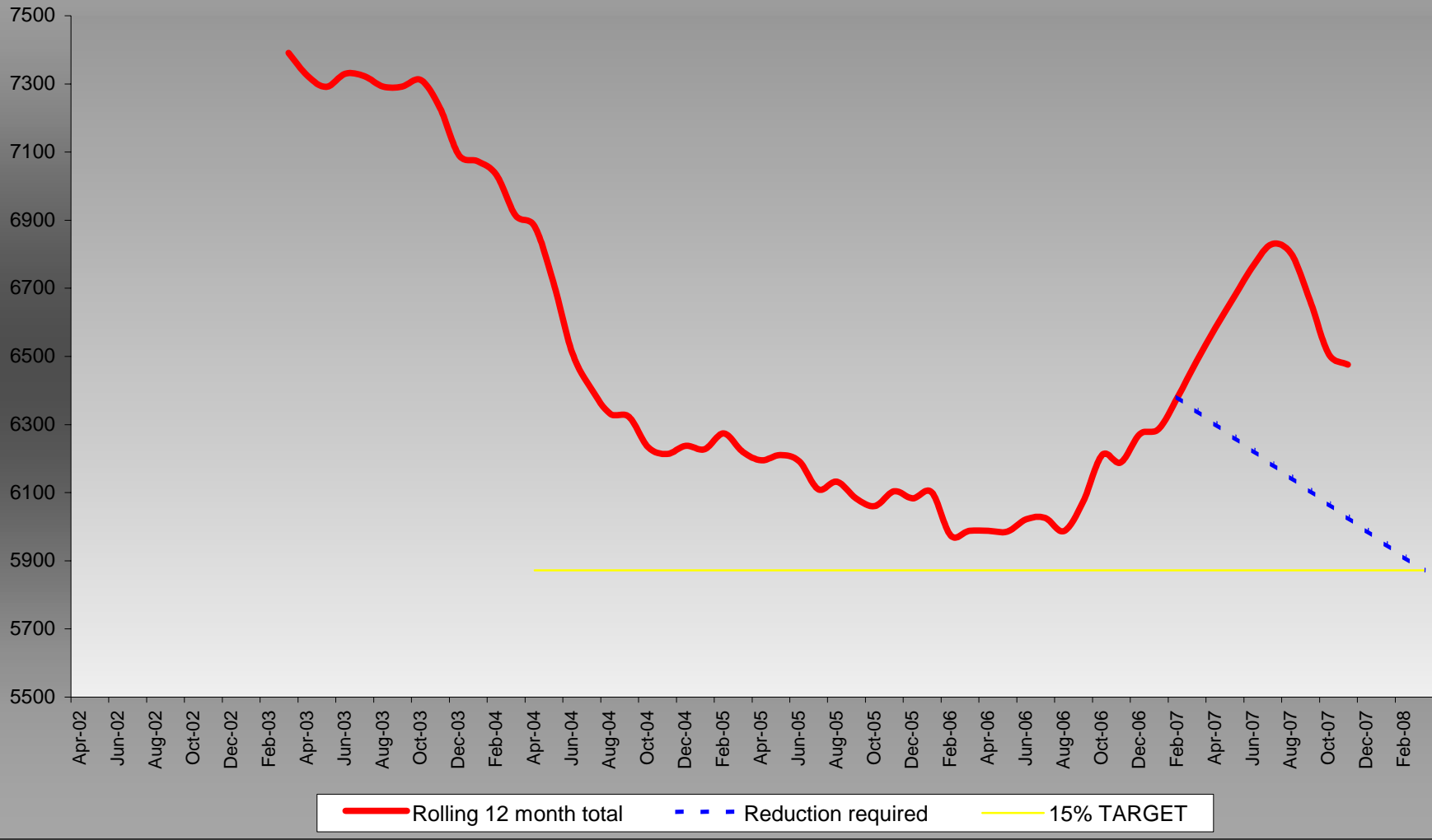
- Theft or unauthorised taking of vehicle (incl. attempts)
- Theft from a vehicle (incl. attempts)
- Vehicle interference
- Domestic burglary (incl. attempts)
- Theft or unauthorised taking of a cycle
- Theft from person
- Criminal damage
- Common assault (incl. on a Police Constable)
- Woundings (serious and other)
- Robbery of personal property

These are closely monitored by the HCSDP, West Mercia Constabulary and Government Office for the West Midlands. The data is also made available on a monthly basis on the iQuanta Police Performance secure website.

The chart on page 39 summarises the rolling totals of all of the above crimes in order to achieve a 15% overall reduction in the BCS comparator crime by 31st March 2008. There were sharp increases from September 2006 until July 2007 when numbers started to decrease again. Indications are that this target will not be reached. Contributory factors for this are the increases in;

- criminal damage
- theft from a person
- common assault

BCS Comparator Crime - 15% Reduction by March 2008



Priority 8: Road Safety

AIM: To reduce the number of road traffic collisions on Herefordshire's roads.

8.1 Road Safety and Young People (aged 0-15 years)

To reduce the number of 0-15 year olds killed or seriously injured (KSI) on Herefordshire roads to 13 by 31st March 2008: data is produced annually for period January to December.

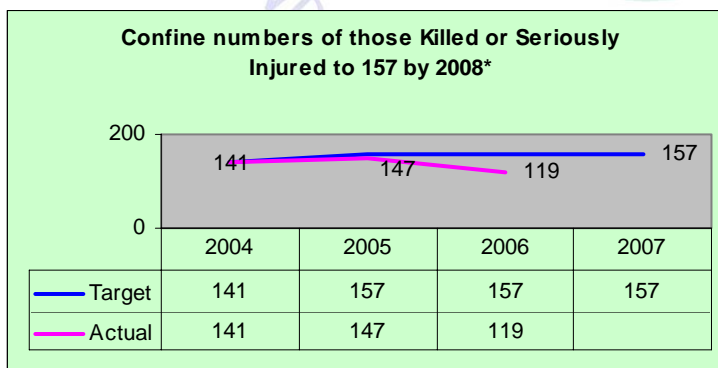
The number of those killed or seriously injured increased in 2005 but fell below the target of <15 for that year. The increase was anticipated as published in the Partnership Plan 2005-08 due to an expected increase in traffic flow on the County's roads. In 2006 the number fell to 10, at the time of writing this report figures up to 31st October 2007 were 11, this figure excludes any changes that may occur over the coming months to 31st December 2007. Therefore at this stage it may be difficult to predict whether the annual target of 13 will be reached.

The targets set for the three-year strategy period came from the Local Transport Plan.

8.2 Confine numbers of those killed or seriously injured to 157

The targets within the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership 2005-08 Strategy for reducing those who are killed or seriously injured on Herefordshire roads were to confine the number to 157. The baseline was 141, however annual targets allowed for an anticipated increase in traffic flow on the County's roads. This data was taken from the Local Development Plan.

Chart 2.14 Annual performance and targets for those killed or seriously injured



Figures from the Highways and Transportation department for the period 1st January to 31st October 2007 show 110 people have either been killed or seriously injured on Herefordshire roads, but this does not account for any late changes.

Indications are that the target for 2007 will be met. Data is for calendar year.

Further discussions are to take place to ascertain what data, and in what format, will be shared between Highways and Transportation department and HCSDP, these discussions are to take place in early February 2008. This should then ensure sufficient information and collision data, particularly hotspot areas, are shared.

8.3 Reduce those slightly injured to 769

Figures from the Highways and Transportation dept for this target continue to reduce well below the annual target during the strategy period. For the period 1st January to 31st October 2007 show 575 people have been slightly injured on Herefordshire roads, again this does not account for any late changes. Indications again are that this target will be met. Data is for calendar year.

Confirmed figures are released in February each year for the previous calendar year.

Distraction Burglaries – Rogue Traders

Data source: Herefordshire Council Trading Standards

There have been some problems relating to Doorstep Callers / also referred to as Rogue Traders that has linkages to distraction burglary/bogus callers.

Some case examples provided by Trading Standards include the elderly and vulnerable where they have been targeted.

A 90+ year old who had 2 tonne of gravel dropped in her driveway by Rogue traders who tried charging her several thousand pounds.

An elderly woman with onset of dementia – a cold caller claiming to be a tree surgeon stating that the tree in her front garden was dangerous and had to come down - charging her £100's for work that didn't need doing

Trading Standards know of at least 12 other occasions where similar incidents have happened involving the same Rogue Trade.

Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires

Data source: Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service

The Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service have seen an increase in the number of deliberate fires compared to 2006, with a total of all 277 fires caused deliberately in 2007 compared to 228 in 2006.

	2006			2007		
	All fires	Deliberate	Deliberate as a % of all fires	All fires	Deliberate	Deliberate as a % of all fires
Fires in properties or large fires (excluding vehicles)	229	39	17.03%	220	40	18.18%
Fires in Vehicles (excluding derelict vehicles)	98	29	29.59%	84	34	40.48%
Outdoor or derelict building fires (excluding vehicles)	263	156	59.32%	339	220	59.00%
Fires in derelict vehicles	4	4	100%	4	3	75.00%
Total Fires	594	228	38.38%	647	277	42.81%

Hoax Calls to Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service

	2006	2007
Hoax calls attended	43	44
Hoax calls unattended*	21	30
Total hoax calls	64	74

- Hoax calls unattended is where the caller was challenged by the Fire Control staff and no attendance was made as a result

Community Consultation

This was touched on briefly earlier in the Strategic Assessment, however this section will go into more detail about how local communities in Herefordshire are asked for their views and experiences in relation to crime and disorder, and anti-social behaviour in Herefordshire.

There are four main identifiable ways that the public has been asked for their views in terms of crime, disorder and substance misuse, three of these are ongoing and one was created as a result of the regulations and guidance for Strategic Assessments. The first three are ongoing;

- Local PACT (Partners and Communities Together) meetings across Herefordshire
- Herefordshire Council annual Satisfaction survey (this mainly focuses upon antisocial behaviour as part of the Respect agenda)
- West Mercia Constabulary joint annual Crime and Safety Survey
- Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Community Consultation – this was organised as a result of the Strategic Assessment

PACT (Partners and Communities Together) Meetings

Herefordshire Council, West Mercia Constabulary and other Partners run a series of PACT meetings to meet directly with people from local communities in order to discuss and review local issues of concern. These meetings are advertised in “rounds” and occur 3-4 times per year. Notes are taken at each meeting in order to formally log the issues raised and prepare an action sheet for response at the next meeting. Copies of which are made available to the public.

From information available from the meetings held during May and June, then September 2007, these are summarised for each individual area as follows:

South Wye

The main problem in South Wye is associated with anti-social behaviour, i.e. teenagers being drunk, disruptive, fighting and stealing. Also, smashed glass on foot/cycle routes within Belmont and dog fouling at Hinton Community field.

Secondary problems are related to alcohol and drugs, i.e. perception of shops selling alcohol out of hours and to under-age drinkers. Needles found at Community Centre by Hollybush and smashed glass (from bottles) at Northolme children’s play area. Lack of police presence was also a frequent topic of discussions with issues relating to lack of information from police, slow responses to incidents and no CSO’s at Fountain Close.

Hereford

Road safety and maintenance are a main concern of PACT members for Hereford. Issues related to parking in Mordiford, Wellington and around schools, which caused obstructions making access into premises difficult. Also, requests for 50 mph road signs to be removed from the Dinmore Hill side of the A49, which has been raised with the Highways Agency. Request for white lines to be repainted at junction of Lumber Lane with A438.

Traffic safety was also an issue of concern particularly speeding traffic at Dormington to Mordiford, Roman Rd, A480 Brecon Road, Canon Pyon, Bartestree and Lugwardine.

North Wye

Although no particular issues were dominant, concerns were generally aimed at the Castle Green area of North Wye. These related to underage drinking and litter on the Green, times that police patrolled the area and how police related to youths.

Kington

Anti-social behaviour was a main concern in Kington in particular graffiti and young children causing antisocial behaviour. Alcohol and drugs were problematic with residents asking for an Alcohol in Open Spaces Order to be implemented by Herefordshire Council. Underage drinking in recreation ground was also mentioned. A further issue related to traffic safety in particular speeding, as there were no speeding restrictions in the Kington area and no speed bumps.

Golden Valley

The main problem in the Golden Valley area was thought to be road safety. Those present stated that speeding was widespread, especially through Peterchurch village and the road to Clehonger (B4349) where a recent fatal accident had happened. It was agreed that education in road safety was a key element along with enforcement by police to reduce speeding, which may contribute to fatalities. Road safety and maintenance was also a concern i.e. road surface through Peterchurch village was poor, road signs (Greyfriars Bridge) often overgrown and white lining on roads especially at road junctions needed to be improved.

Bromyard

Road safety appeared to be the main concern in Bromyard. Speed reduction needs enforcing, especially outside schools. Many issues raised about parking and double yellow lines being ignored in the Town and Tenbury Rd.

Anti-social behaviour was another concern with nuisance being caused by youths every day between 5pm and 10.30pm in Maple Close and Chestnut Way.

Ross-on-Wye

Anti-social behaviour was considered a major problem in Ross especially from 'boy racers' driving cars around town during the evenings. Also, ASB involving young groups of people at the recycling yard, police foot patrol had been increased in the area. Dog fouling in Ross Prospect Terrace/Homs Rd areas was also mentioned.

Crime was highlighted as a concern in Ross. In Gloucester Rd, high level of vehicle vandalism had been reported, along with reports in Merrivale Land and Homs Rd. Patrols around this location had been increased and the area continues to be monitored. Residents questioned whether CCTV was available to these areas.

Ledbury

The main concern highlighted in Ledbury was road safety. Knapp Lane was being used as a rat-run to avoid the town centre having a high volume of traffic (2,300 vehicles per day), and there was an increase in traffic down country roads. Speeding was highlighted in particular at the village of Ashburton. Road safety and maintenance was also highlighted, i.e. dangerous junction at Orchard Rise – it was felt speed ramp was required. The Hereford/Bromyard road junction is dangerous and likely to result in an accident, despite improvements.

Further worries relate to ASB in St Katherine's area. Underage drinking, damage to lights at Master House, residents being verbally abused by children, things thrown into gardens. ASB in the area has been monitored and it was felt that incidents had decreased.

Leominster

The predominant concern in Leominster was road safety and maintenance. Cars parking on Pierpoint Rd, at the doctors surgery and the school were causing problems and considered dangerous. Parking restrictions in these areas are under consideration. Also, residents wanted double yellow lines in Green Lane opposite the Methodist Church and at Oldfields Close there was a similar problem. It was proposed that single yellow lines around the Pinsley Guest House might free up congestion in the daytime as the area was experiencing considerable congestion.

A considerable number of comments raised over pedestrian crossings in Bargates and where these might be situated. Junction at the bottom of Bargates causes concern, especially the timing of traffic lights and problems caused by petrol tankers obstructing the view. It was also suggested that additional signs be placed around the designated cycle route – there is no clear indication at top of Green Lane.

Concerns raised around road safety, such as dangerous parking in Pierpoint Rd, Old Fields Close, Westfield Rd, Etnam St. and Ryelands Rd outside the old Police Station. Speeding was highlighted, particularly in South Street, Botolph's Green, Wigmore, Luston, Ginhall Lane/Pierrepoint Rd.

Herefordshire Council annual Satisfaction survey

Every three years, each authority in the country is required to carry out a Best Value General Survey, known locally as the "Herefordshire Satisfaction Survey". The aim of the survey is to find out what people think of the Council's service delivery and the quality of life in Herefordshire, and to provide data for Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs).

Key findings from the 2006 survey were that health services and the level of crime were seen as most important in making somewhere a good place to live, while traffic congestion and road and pavement repairs are considered to be most in need of improvement. High priority aspects, scoring highly in both importance and needing improvement, are *traffic congestion*, affordable decent housing, *crime* and health services.

The response rate for these annual surveys are extremely good, with a response rate of 51% (2131 out of 4157 surveys completed and returned) during 2006.

The 2007 survey report is currently being written, however some headline findings have been released showing the performance of perceptions of antisocial behaviour. The annual scores for the 7 ASB categories below are used to provide an overall score towards the Government's "Respect Agenda" There are nine categories that make up the antisocial behaviour scores, the final seven of these are measured through the HCSDP.

Anti-social behaviour scores – trend over time	2003	2005	2006	2007
<i>Parents not being made to take responsibility for the behaviour of their children</i>	-	-	65%	
<i>People not treating other people with respect and consideration</i>	-	-	55%	
Noisy neighbours or loud parties ‡	18%	12%	21%	19%
Teenagers hanging around on the streets ‡	48%	32%	52%	50%
Rubbish and litter lying around ‡	42%	32%	46%	49%
People being drunk or rowdy in public spaces ‡	48%	32%	39%	37%

Abandoned or burnt out cars ‡	26%	10%	10%	8%
Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles ‡	54%	31%	36%	35%
People using or dealing drugs ‡	66%	-	60%	52%

Overall perception of anti-social behaviour, as used in the Respect Agenda (based on aspects marked ‡)	2003	2005	2006	2007
High level of perceived anti-social behaviour	37%	-	27%	27%

The HCSDP are currently measuring the seven ASB categories in bold and using the 2006 data as a baseline to reduce by 4% over 3 years - to 2010. All saw an improvement during 2007 with the exception of Rubbish or Litter which declined from 46% in 2006 to 49% in 2007.

Herefordshire Council's Research Team have kindly provided a further breakdown of the above for each Ward group (based on the results from the 2006 survey) to highlight the areas with the largest perceived antisocial behaviour. This is included in the Analysis section.

[West Mercia Constabulary joint Crime and Safety Survey](#)

Each year, since 2005, the West Mercia Annual Crime and Community Safety Partnership survey for West Mercia Constabulary, West Mercia Police Authority and their partners is carried out. These surveys have been carried out by Priority Research. 1164 residents successfully completed and returned questionnaires by the closing date, a response rate of 22%.

The local purpose of the surveys is to collect data that can be used by the Constabulary, the Authority and their partners to help inform the planning and delivery of services and the future deployment of resources.

The questionnaire sent out in 2007 was based upon the previous surveys conducted in 2005 and 2006, therefore where possible any changes in perception can be tracked between them.

Around half of respondents (53%) remembered at least one specific episode in the previous 12 months when they had worried about becoming a victim of crime, which was consistent with the force as a whole and the 2006 results.

The HCSDP currently has targets to monitor the Fear of Crime and Neighbourhood issues. Fear of Crime data is taken to measure the following;

Monitor Fear of crime:	Worried in 2005	Worried in 2006 (used as baseline year)	Worried in 2007	Change compared to 2006
<i>To reduce the percentage of adult residents that felt worried about the following crimes in the last 12 months by 4% by March 2009 (over 3 year period 2007/08/09):</i>				
a) House Burglary	50%	30%	27%	No significant change
b) Vandalism or damage to your property (including car)	41%	28%	29%	No significant change
c) Drunk people causing you a problem	27%	21%	23%	No significant change
d) Having your car broken into	33%	19%	20%	No significant change

To maintain or reduce the percentage of adult residents that have felt worried about the following crimes in the last 12 months by March 2009;				
e) Having your car stolen	28%	12%	13%	No significant change
f) Being harassed whilst in a public place	13%	12%	15%	Rating increased, change is for the worse
g) Being mugged or robbed	24%	11%	10%	No significant change
h) Being assaulted in a public place	13%	9%	9%	No significant change
i) Hate crime	6%	3%	4%	No significant change
j) Other	8%	3%	2%	No significant change

Results in 2006 saw a significant improvement across the board compared to 2005. The majority of results in 2007 saw no significant change compared to 2006. This is taking into consideration *confidence intervals*, which is a statistical calculation used when estimating views of a whole population based on the views of a sample of that population. The only exception was 'being harassed whilst in a public place' where the rating saw an increase (change for the worse).

Detailed analysis on a) to c) as above (House Burglary, Vandalism or damage to your property and drunk people causing you a problem) by Ward area will follow in the Analysis section.

In addition to the above there is a further target to measure Neighbourhood issues, or problems in their local area. There is a list of 26 problems that residents can choose from, five of these are used to monitor neighbourhood issues as part of Local Public Service Agreement 2 (LPSA2).

LPSA2 Neighbourhood Issues. Monitor the % who think that:	2005 <i>(baseline year)</i>	2006	2007	Change compared to 2006
a) speeding traffic is a problem	81%	70%	74%	No significant change
b) Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a problem	60%	52%	61%	Rating increased, change is for the worse
c) People using drugs is a problem	60%	60%	61%	No significant change
d) People dealing drugs is a problem	53%	53%	55%	No significant change
e) Drunken disorder in public places	53%	51%	54%	No significant change

In four of the five problems above the percentage may have increased slightly, however in terms of confidence intervals there is no significant change in 2007 compared to 2006, with the exception of vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles.

In summary, other key findings from the 2007 survey:

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Over half of the sample believed that ASB was very or fairly serious in the county, whilst over a quarter (29%) said that the same was true about their local neighbourhood. The latter was also significantly higher than in 2006 (was 26%).

ASB was a more serious problem in Ross-on-Wye, St Martins & Hinton, Belmont and Leominster South (all 40% or more).

Illegal drugs misuse

Over two thirds of the sample thought that illegal drug misuse was a serious issue in the county (70%), and this was again higher than the equivalent result for the local neighbourhood (39%), and also remained consistent with 2006.

The most common reason given for seeing it as a problem was local media coverage (55%).

HCSDP Community Consultation

As a result of the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Strategic Assessment and the community engagement that is required as a result of this, a series of events were planned, in consultation with the Herefordshire Partnership, across Herefordshire to obtain the views of people who live or work in Herefordshire on crime and disorder. Six events were held between Saturday 29th September and Friday 12th October in Hereford City Centre, and each of the Market Towns of Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye.

In addition to these events a discussion was held with the Rainbow Forum the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender group, to obtain the views and needs of those in attendance at the meeting around crime, disorder and substance misuse in the County.

There were over 200 respondents who either said they have no issues or gave several incidences. The consultation focused on asking "**what experiences or issues have you encountered in Herefordshire**" and expanding upon this we asked to give postcode or Street Name/Area name where possible to pin-point locations.

In summary, the table and chart below show how many problems were highlighted from respondents during the Community Consultations in Herefordshire. The biggest issue encountered was people reporting their concern about incidents of Alcohol and Drugs. Further analysis, broken down into areas will be covered later in the Analysis and Priorities sections of this report.

The top 3 problems highlighted during the consultations were;

- Alcohol/Drugs
- Anti-social behaviour
- None – 32 respondents who took part in the consultations stated that they had not encountered any problems in the area in which they live or work.

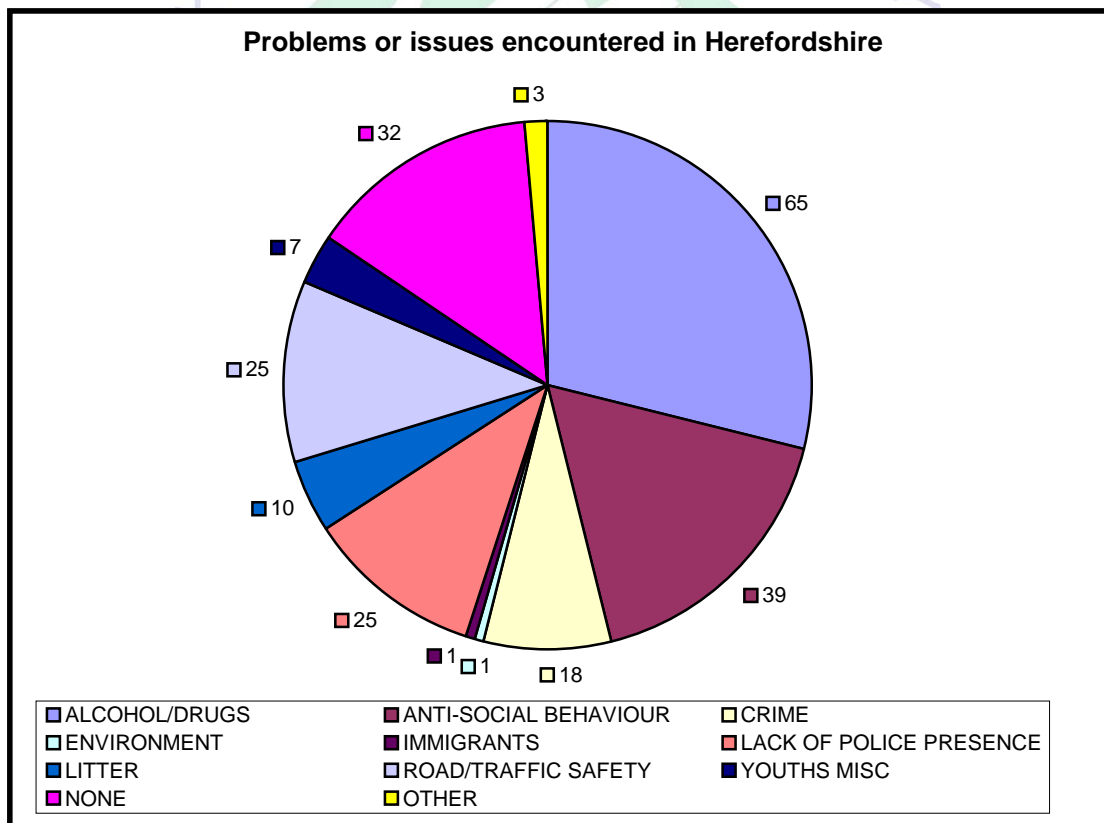
Overall, across all the areas of Herefordshire, the problems or issues encountered are included in the table below;

What problems or issues encountered	Number of respondents
Alcohol/Drugs	65
Anti-Social Behaviour	39
None	32
Lack of Police Presence	25
Road/Traffic Safety	25
Crime*	18
Litter	10
Youths Miscellaneous	7
Other	3
Environment	1
Immigrants	1
Total respondents	226

* Crime is a fairly general category. The responses received related to a range of crime experiences, such as burglary, criminal damage to vehicles, assault (victim of hate crime), vandalism and theft.

The number of respondents who raised issues/concerns encountered in the above table are also shown more clearly in the pie chart below:

Chart 2.15 Problems or issues encountered in Herefordshire



[See Appendix 1 for specific problems relating to Ward groups in Herefordshire]

A summary of the main problems or issues encountered:

Alcohol and/or Drugs

Alcohol

- Underage drinking (kids in park / streets)

- Alcohol related crime and violence
- Alcohol related litter (cans/smashed bottles/fag ends and vomit)
- Drunk driving

Drugs

- Youths taking drugs (boys and girls)
- Drug dealing / dealer
- Perception of drug supply from shop
- Drugs a major problem in schools
- Heroin users / cannabis

Needles

- Young people injecting
- Needles found (as litter)
- Needle bins near playgrounds
- Needle Exchange busy
- Needles found in school fence

Antisocial behaviour (ASB)

Vandalism

- Smashed windows
- Set fire to books at church
- Fighting and violence

Alcohol Related ASB

- Noisy disturbances
- Urinating at front door

Other ASB issues

- Graffiti
- Dog fouling
- Litter
- Fly-tipping
- Boy racers at unsocial hours
- Noisy disturbances by kids at unsocial hours
- Neighbour disputes

Crime Issues

- Burglaries
- Assault
- Vandalism
- Drug related crime
- Car vandalism
- Theft/stolen items

Lack of Police presence

- Need more Community Support Officers
- Not enough local police personnel
- Police aware of drug dealers but do nothing
- Police – too much paperwork
- Unsatisfactory responses to 999 calls
- Police station closed at all times

- Vandalism as a result of lack of police

Litter

- Hereford City College Estate – litter mostly outside shops
- Litter all over town
- Ledbury Town centre – issues with litter
- People not using bins.
- Litter in High St, Homend and New St/Somerfield area in Ledbury. Delays in clearing it up. Getting worse. Take away containers

Traffic Safety

- Speeding traffic
- Cyclist riding through town
- Bike path needed
- No lights on bikes
- Pelican crossing needed
- Parking issues – nowhere to park / illegal parking

Youth Misc.

- Large groups of youths causing problems
- No activities for young people after school. Belmont Tesco's in Hereford – youths hanging around outside the store
- Only problems are kids “mucking about” and elderly people not liking it
- Do not go into town at night due to youths hanging about
- Youngsters hanging around

No problems or issues encountered

- Very quiet and safe
- A lovely area
- No problems – on a night out was impressed with police presence
- Heard of problems in Leominster

Other methods for engaging with communities

In addition to these methods for engaging with local communities, there are also other surveys and audits that are carried out that have a bearing on community safety issue, for example, Herefordshire Youth Services Teenage Lifestyle Survey, there were questions within the survey about alcohol and drug use. The responses from these questions are included within this report, as well as additional intelligence from HCSDP Project Officers and close working links with Community Support Officers, in particular in relation to ASB.

There are currently issues regarding anti social behaviour in Golden valley areas of Madley, Kingstone, Peterchurch and Clehonger. The incidents include vandalism and graffiti of a community centre/village hall and a youth shelter. Eggs being thrown at people's homes and any challenges to the youths end up in verbal abuse.

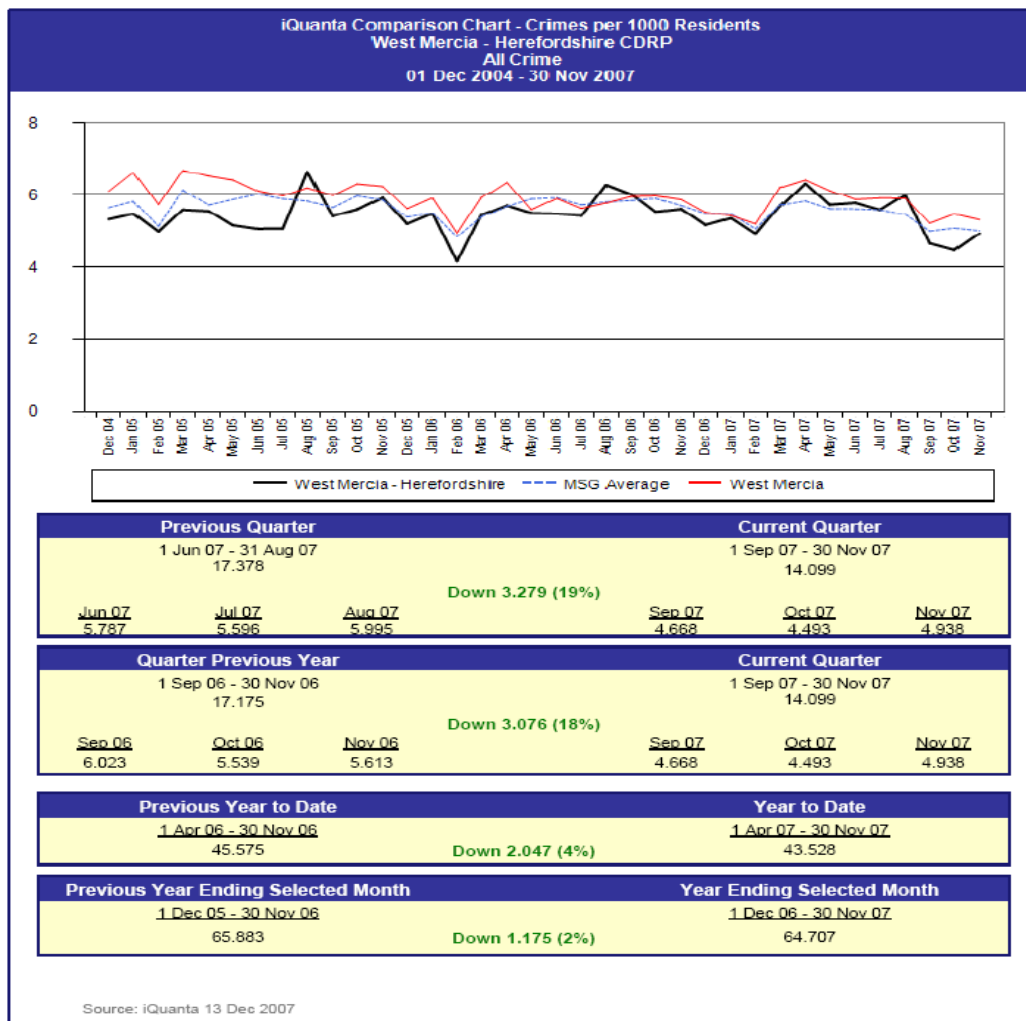
In other areas of Herefordshire antisocial behaviour incidents in Moreton-on-Lugg by one known offender, this is currently being dealt with and victim support sessions are planned in the area to offer support to the victims of the antisocial behaviour.

Comparisons with Herefordshire's Crime and Disorder Partnership (CDRP) most similar group – iQuanta.

Latest data for period September to November 2007 from Iquanta reveals Herefordshire compared to its most similar group (a list of 15 similar CDRP's)

01 September - 30 November 2007

Comparison With Most Similar CDRPS Crimes per 1,000 population			
Crime Type	Above/Below Family Average	Position within Family	Position changed since last period
	Above	1st = best	Worse (down)
	Below	15th = worst	Better (up)
All Crime	Below	6th	Better (up)
BCS Comparator	Below	4th	Worse (down)
Violent Crime	Slightly above	9th	Better (up)
Criminal Damage	Below	5th	Worse (down)
Drug Offences	Below	3rd	Better (up)
Vehicle Crime	Below	2nd	No change
Domestic Burglary	Below	3rd	Worse (down)



The chart above shows Herefordshire in bold black compared to Most Similar Group (MSG) average in blue dotted line and West Mercia area in red.

West Mercia Constabulary Control Strategy

The West Mercia Constabulary Control Strategy for Herefordshire Division for period October 2007 to April 2008 highlights the following areas;

Control Strategy Areas	
Class A Drugs	
Disproportionate ASB and Disorder	To reduce occurrence and the fear of such
Violent Crime	Increase City & Rural (C&R) detection's and continue reduction
Volume Crime (South)	Reduce and detect volume crime in the South section
Acquisitive Crime	Increase detection's of acquisitive crime
Monitored Threats	
Life at Risk	

Summary of emerging list of Priorities

Themes emerging from the scanning exercise, West Mercia Constabulary Control Strategy and Strategic Assessment, and from community engagement are:-

- **Alcohol use – drunken behaviour, and underage drinking**
- **Anti Social Behaviour, including abandoned vehicles, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling**
- **Criminal Damage including graffiti and vandalism**
- **Drug use and dealing**
- **Lack of Police Presence / CSO's**
- **Road Safety**
- **Violent crime**

ANALYSIS

In-depth analysis of the priorities emerging from the scanning exercise are included in this section in order to provide sufficient analysis for the Strategy Group to identify priorities.

The sources of the in-depth analysis are:

- Herefordshire Council Research Team for perceptions of antisocial behaviour by Ward group
- West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessments April and October 2007 for crime data
- Herefordshire Council Highways and Transportation Department for data on those killed or seriously injured
- West Mercia Constabulary Crime Risk Manager and HCSDP Team for Young People as victims of crime analysis
- HCSDP Team for ASB and criminal damage hotspot areas
- HCSDP Commissioning Officer– Adult and Young Person’s Needs Analysis currently being undertaken ref: Drug use
- Herefordshire Council Streetscene - fly tipping, dog fouling and litter
- Herefordshire Council Environmental Health - Abandoned Vehicles
- Herefordshire Council Youth Services Teenage Lifestyle Survey for bullying and instances of common assault

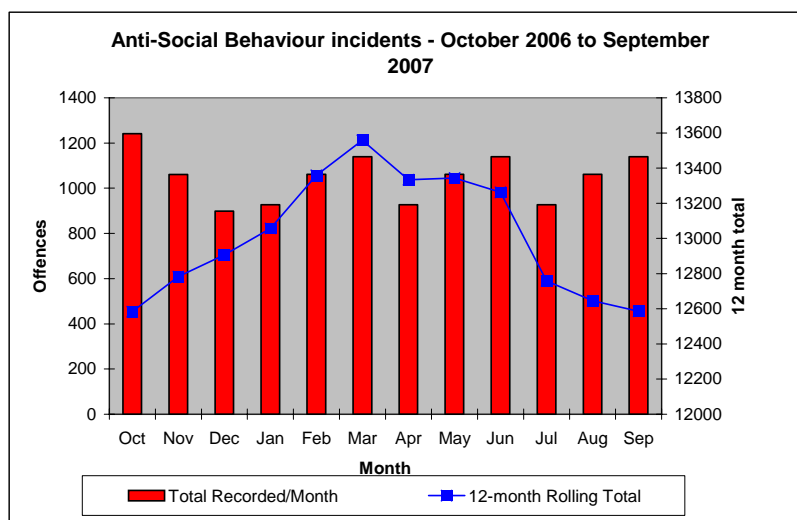
Antisocial Behaviour

Data source – West Mercia Constabulary

Please note – information in this section is based upon incident data, not offence data and is taken from a system called OIS. Therefore, Victim and Offender profiles cannot be included in the following analysis. Analysis of most affected locations is not 100% accurate due to incomplete and inconsistent recording of address data on the OIS system.

During the review period 1st April to 30th September 2007, there has been a 4% increase in this type of incident compared with the previous comparative period. In terms of incident type there continues to be particular focus around South of Hereford City and in more recent months the rural area of Moreton-on-Lugg.

Chart 2.16 Anti-Social Behaviour with twelve-month rolling total



Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Most frequently reported types of ASB for period 1st April to 30th September 2007

Primary Result Description	Incidents	Cumulative % Div Total
NUIS-ROWDY BEHAVIOUR	3734	56.6
VEH RELATED NUISANCE	933	70.8
NUIS NEIGHBOURS	580	79.6
MALICIOUS COMMUNICATION	466	86.7
ABANDONED VEHICLE	192	89.6
ANIMAL PROBLEMS	177	92.3
NOISE	169	94.8
TOTAL	6588	

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Rowdy-nuisance behaviour

There were a large number of reports in the review period of nuisance-rowdy behaviour: a further analysis of these incidents has been conducted separately by West Mercia Constabulary. These types of incidents have affected all months. The most nuisance-rowdy behaviour incidents were reported in July and August and the least in May. The most affected Police beat is Hereford Central (City) N = 692, followed by Leominster Town with N = 357.

For Hereford City the most affected days of the week have been Friday to Sunday with 514 (56%) of all incidents across these three days. April, July and August were the most affected months and June was the least affected.

The number of ASB incidents gradually increases during the day to a peak at 1800hrs, then higher still between 2300 and 0100hrs.

Temporal Analysis for all Police Beats

Most Affected Month	July (18.5%)	Least Affected Month	May (14.4%)
Most Affected Day	Saturday (17.6%)	Least Affected Day	Thursday (12.3%)
Most Affected Hour	2300 – 2359hrs	Least Affected Hour	0600 – 0659hrs

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Geographical analysis for all Police Beats has been carried out by West Mercia Constabulary Analysts to show the most affected premises and streets, as below:-

Most affected premises

PREMISES	NO. OF INCIDENTS	BEAT
PLAY NIGHTCLUB 51-55 BLUESCHOOL STREET HEREFORD	32	EA01
COUNTY OF HEREFORDSHIRE DISTRI HEREFORD LEISURE POOL ST MARTINS AVENUE HEREFORD	17	EA10
TINKERS CORNER CODDINGTON LEDBURY	15	ED10
ASDA STORES LTD BELMONT ROAD HEREFORD	15	EA08
ROYAL OAK HOTEL SOUTH STREET LEOMINSTER	15	EG01
MANHATTANS 10A ST PETERS STREET HEREFORD	14	EA01
TIME NIGHTCLUB 100 COMMERCIAL ROAD HEREFORD	13	EA02
AYLESTONE SCHOOL BROADLANDS LANE HEREFORD	12	EA03
HEREFORDSHIRE N H S PRIMARY CA COUNTY HOSPITAL STONEBOW ROAD HEREFORD	12	EA02
CHESTER CLOSE HEREFORD	11	EA01
GOLDEN POST HEREFORD	11	EA09
VILLA STREET HEREFORD	11	EA09
KINGSTONE HIGH SCHOOL KINGSTONE HEREFORD	11	EB32
TESCO STORES LTD ABBOTSMEAD ROAD BELMONT HEREFORD	11	EA11

Existing CCTV cameras has highlighted alcohol-related antisocial behaviour in the following areas:

- **Leominster** – The Grange
Corn Square
- **Ross-on-Wye** – The Crofts
Gloucester Road
Market Place
Broad Street
- **Ledbury** – Market Hall
High Street
- **Hereford City** – Widemarsh Street
High Street and High Town
Commercial Road/Street
St Peter's Street
Union Street
Broad Street
St Martins Street
Gaul Street.

Vehicle-related nuisance and abandoned vehicles

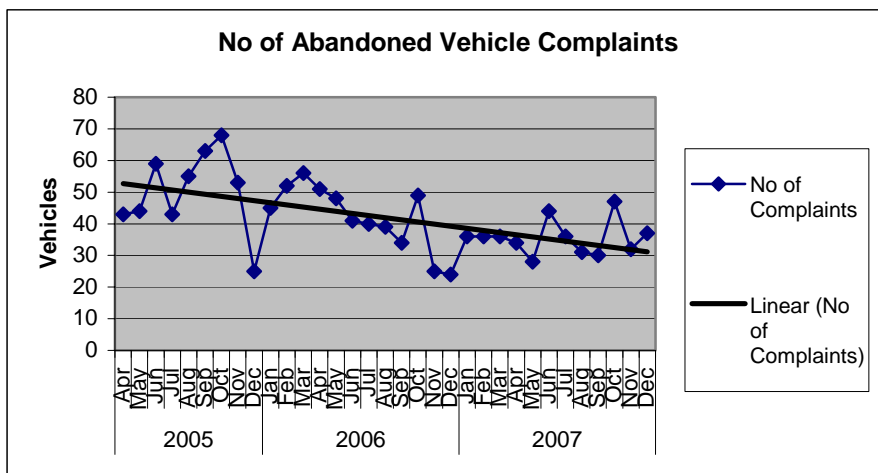
A smaller but significant number of reports concerning vehicle-related nuisance (which is a 30% increase during this period).

Note: The abandoned vehicle incidents are those which have been reported to West Mercia Constabulary, rather than from Environmental Health (*principal data collection agency*).

Abandoned vehicles

The principal agency for data collection is Herefordshire Council Environment Directorate. Data received from Herefordshire Council's Environmental Health Department show the number of abandoned vehicle complaints and notices to clear abandoned vehicles since 2005

Chart 2.17 Abandoned vehicles complaints



Data Source: Herefordshire Council Environmental Health

From chart above, the linear shows that the number of abandoned vehicles is reducing, this can probably be contributed to scrap metal increasing in value.

Litter

Source: Herefordshire Council, Streetscene

Herefordshire Council's Streetscene is responsible for dealing with litter complaints. Data is currently recorded following a complaint about litter, predominantly complaints made are in Hereford City and the Market Towns. It is not yet possible to obtain trends from this data due to software limitations.

Dog Fouling

Source: Herefordshire Council, Animal Health and Welfare

Information from the wardens regarding fouling hotspots indicate there are no real problem "hot-spot" areas. The areas that have been reported as problems with dog fouling are generally open play areas eg Hunderton - Haylease Crescent, the Racecourse, Sidney Box Drive area, Tupsley Open Space; Kington - Memorial Ground; Leominster - Leisure Centre and some streets around the Grange area; Bromyard - Council Estate; Ledbury - walkways to Junior School and the new Town Walk, Ross - Alton Road area.

These areas are regularly visited by Dog Wardens as part of their normal routine patrol patterns and this acts as deterrent. Special surveillance takes place when notifications are received of 'persistent' problems in a locality.

The Animal health and Welfare Department receive approximately 150 calls a month which are fouling related, some of these are general enquiries about legislation or provision of signs, others are more targeted at specific incidents or areas.

Fly Tipping

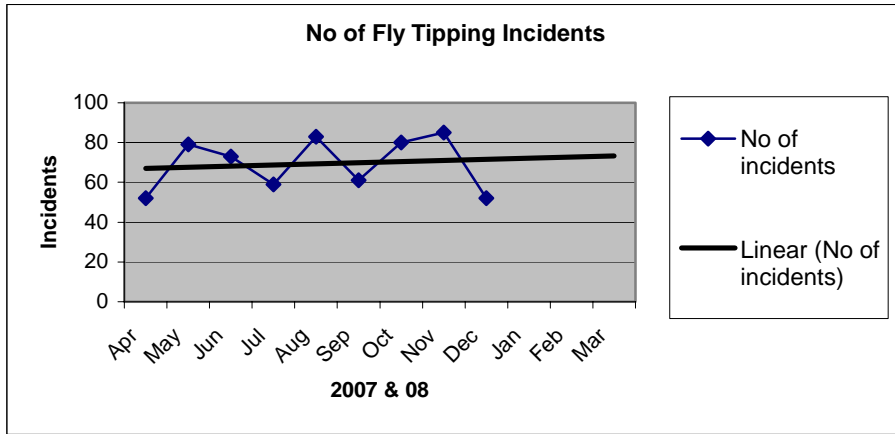
Source: Herefordshire Council, Environmental Health

In general, fly tipping incidents are increasing, this is due to historical under-recording and the introduction of permits to take rubbish to the Recycling Depot in Rotherwas, Hereford.

FLY TIPPING DATA 2007 /08

Total	2007									2008			Overall to date
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
No of incidents	52	79	73	59	83	61	80	85	52				624
No investigated	52	79	73	59	83	61	80	85	52				624
No. of complaints	52	87	88	64	91	65	89	109	57				702
No of formal actions	5	10	5	14	103	54	2	3	4	5	4	2	49

Chart 2.18 Fly Tipping data 2007/08



Data Source: Herefordshire Council Environmental Health

Perceptions of Antisocial behaviour

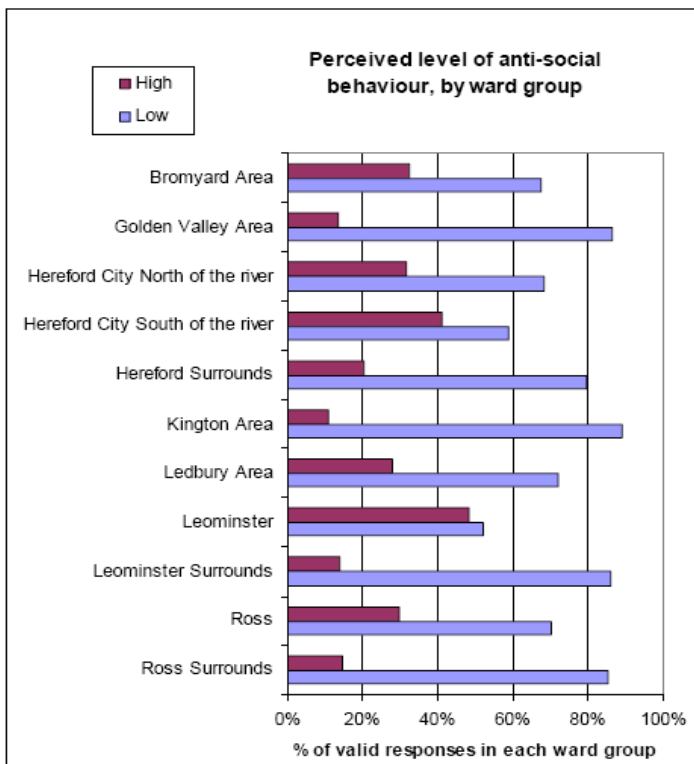
Data Source: Herefordshire Council Satisfaction Survey

Information and data taken from the 2007 Herefordshire Council Satisfaction survey reveals:

The aspects that were perceived to be a fairly or very big problem by the greatest proportion of respondents were: parents not being made to take responsibility for the behaviour of their children (65% of respondents), speeding traffic (57%), and people not treating other people with respect and consideration (56%).

The aspect least thought to be a problem was abandoned or burnt out cars (8%), which would reflect the low levels of complaints / notices received from Environmental Health

Chart 2.19 Perceived level of ASB by ward group



Data source: Herefordshire Council Satisfaction Survey

2007 survey results

Perceptions of anti-social behaviour were seen to vary markedly between some ward groups.

Respondents living in Leominster (48%) and Hereford City South of the river (41%) were most likely to perceive their local area to have a high level of anti-social behaviour, while those in the Kington area were the least likely (11%).

There is no change in the percentage of residents who felt that they felt informed about what the Council is doing to tackle anti-social behaviour as the chart below from the Herefordshire Council research team indicates.

What the Council is doing to tackle antisocial behaviour in your local area – Trend over time	2006	2007
Well informed	20%	20%
Not well informed	80%	80%
Base	1,628	1,305

Data source: Herefordshire Council Satisfaction Survey

Note: There is no data earlier than 2006.

Criminal Damage

Data Source: West Mercia Constabulary

The recent West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessment reports a 12.2% increase in criminal damage during the period 1st April to 30th September 2007, compared to the previous comparative period. However this is starting to reduce and a slowing down of criminal damage reporting in the West Mercia Constabulary Division.

Criminal Damage has accounted for 24% of all crime in the review period, which shows that criminal damage is responsible for around a quarter of all crime, however this is slowing down (July to October 2007).

Breakdown of criminal damage offences between 1st April and 30th September 2007

DESCRIPTION	OFFENCE NUMBER	% CUMULATIVE TOTAL
CRIMINAL DAMAGE VEHICLE £5000 & UNDER	477	35
CRIMINAL DAMAGE OTHER PROPERTY £5000 & UNDER	345	60
CRIMINAL DAMAGE BUILDING NOT DWELL £5000 & UNDER	250	79
CRIMINAL DAMAGE DWELLING £5000 & UNDER	238	96
ARSON NOT M/VEH NOT ENDANGERING LIFE	37	99.5
ARSON MOTOR VEHICLE NOT ENDANGERING LIFE	9	99.5
CRIMINAL DAMAGE OTHER PROPERTY VALUE UNKNOWN	3	99.7
ARSON NOT M/VEH ENDANGERING LIFE	1	99.8
CRIMINAL DAMAGE OTHER PROPERTY OVER £5000	1	99.9
CRIMINAL DAMAGE VEHICLE OVER £5000	1	100
GRAND TOTAL	1362	

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

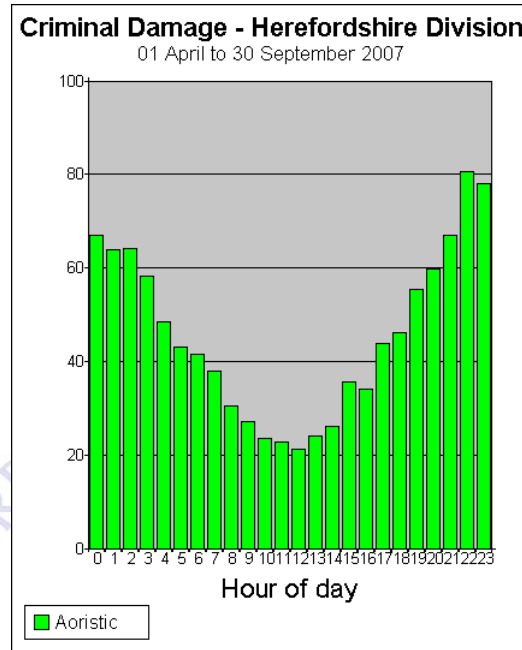
Temporal Analysis

The table below gives brief details of the most common times (April to September 2007) when offences of this nature have occurred

Most Affected Month	April (21%)	Least Affected Month	July (14%)
Most Affected Day	Saturday (21%)	Least Affected Day	Wednesday (10%)
Most Affected Hour	2200- 2259 hrs	Least Affected Hour	1200- 1259 hrs

The chart below provides further detail of the time of day at which most offences were committed.

Chart 2.20 Hour of day for Criminal Damage offences – Herefordshire Division



Offender and Victim profiles for the time period April to September 2007

Offender Profile

- o 14 offenders have committed 2 offences each
- o 3 offenders have committed 3 offences each
- o 3 offenders have committed 4 offences each

Victim Profile

- o 7 locations have recorded 4 offences each
- o 3 locations have recorded 5 offences each

The table below shows the prominent property damaged. It should be noted the quantity does not equal the number of offences as more than one item can be damaged in one offence.

Breakdown of type of property damage:

ITEM DAMAGED	AMOUNT
CAR	499
WINDOW INCLUDING FRAME, GLASS	327
DOORS INCLUDING FRAME, GLASS	135
FENCE/FENCING MATERIALS	86
TRIMS INCLUDING BADGES, WIPERS, WING MIRRORS, AERIALS ETC	81
WHEELS/TYRES	51
WALLS/CEILINGS	49
GARDEN FURNITURE INCLUDING BARBEQUES, DUSTBINS, GATES	32
PLANTS/TREES/SHRUBS	30
BLOCKS/BRICKS/SLABS	24
TILES/ROOF SLATES/LEAD FLASHING	24
VAN/PICK-UP	24

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

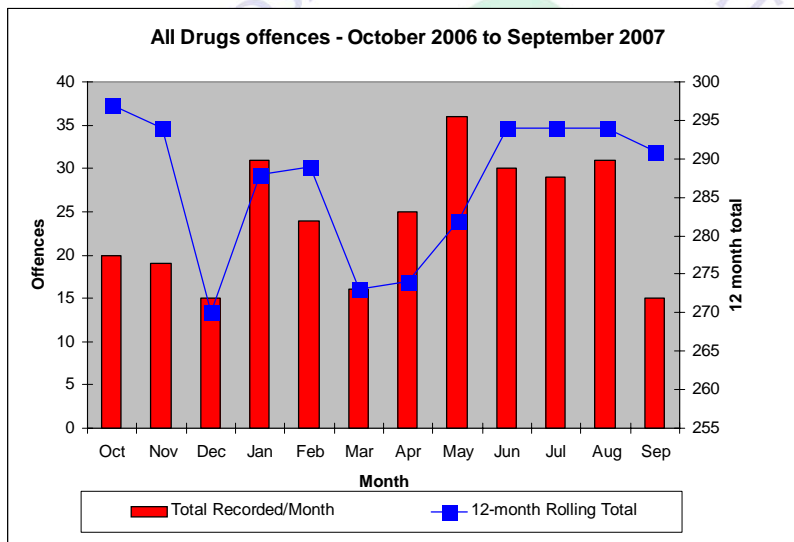
Drug use and Drug Dealing

Data Source: West Mercia Constabulary

When comparing records for all classes of drug offences, there were 293 in this review period, compared to 346 in the previous comparative period. This equates to a reduction of 15.3%. Of the 293 in this review period, 30 of those offences were Class A related, and in the previous comparative period 67 of the 346 were Class A Drug offences.

Detection rate for all drug offences in this review period was 24.2%. There have been no recorded or detected Class A Drug offences in the North during this review period. There have been a small number in the South, but the majority of detections and recorded offences have been in the City & Rural sector.

Chart 2.21 All Drugs offences with twelve-month rolling total



Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Nature of the Offences

The six months from April 07 to September 07 has seen a continuation of the pattern in which a large number of persons are supplying small amounts of drugs to sustain their own habits.

Intelligence indicates that cocaine is being dealt in bulk within the county, often by the ounce to then be dealt on again.

Heroin continues to be mainly sourced from Gloucester. Recent intelligence indicates the drugs from Gloucester is so readily available that users will travel to Gloucester to purchase heroin for personal use rather than source it in Hereford.

Crack cocaine is also being sourced from Gloucester although intelligence indicates not as readily as heroin.

The table below shows the breakdown of all recorded drugs offences in Herefordshire Division into the Class and type of offence. The offences were recorded between April 07 and September 07.

	SUPPLY	POSSESSION	CULTIVATION
CLASS A			
Heroin	7	9	
Cocaine	1	9	
Ecstasy/MDMA	1	8	
Crack Cocaine	4	2	
Methadone		2	
Other		1	
CLASS B			
Amphetamine		7	
CLASS C			
Cannabis (in all forms)	2	84	7

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Offender Profile (Class A – all offences)

Total of 44 defendants – 37 male and 7 female

- The defendants fell into the following age brackets

11 – 20 years	5
21 – 30 years	17
31 – 40 years	13
41 – 80 years	9

There were a total of 44 Class A drugs offences recorded in this period which resulted in 30 charges and 15 cautions.

Geographical analysis shows the Police Beats where class A drugs offence detections have occurred between Apr 07 and Sep 07

Beat Area	Recorded Drugs Offences	Cumulative %
EA01 – Hereford Central (City)	6	14
EA04 – Holmer	6	27
EA08 – St Martins	6	41
EA02 – Hereford Central	4	50
EA05 – St Nicholas	4	59
EG01 – Leominster Town	4	68
EB66 – Lugwardine	2	73
EC01 – Ross on Wye Town	2	77
ED01 – Ledbury Town	2	82
ED03 – Eastnor	2	86
EH01 – Kington	2	91
Divisional Total	44	100

Violent Crime

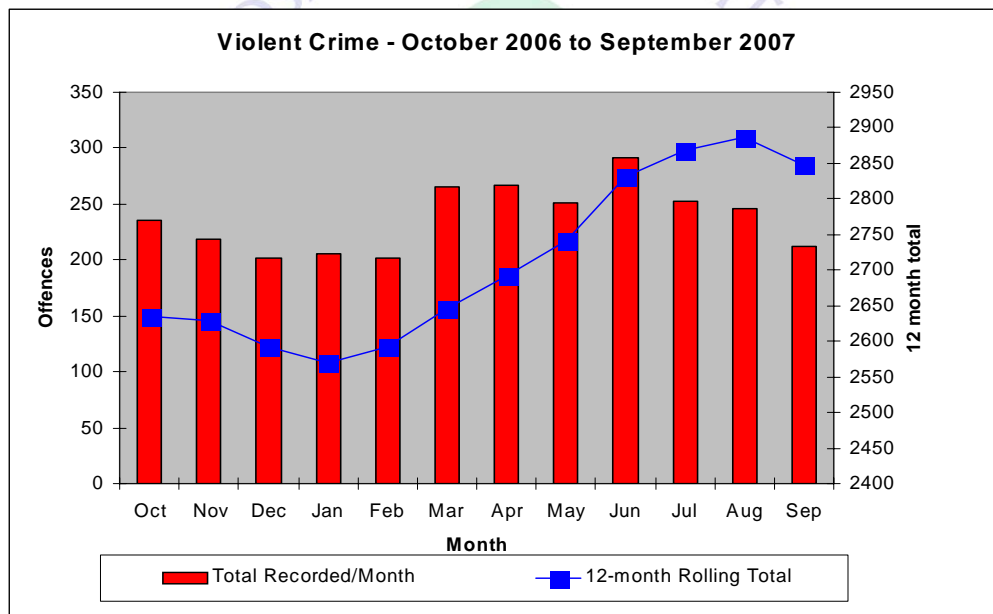
Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

There has been an increase of 8.2% in violent crime offences for the period 1st April to 30th September 2007 compared to the previous comparative period.

There has also been an increase in offences categorised under 'Violence Against the Person' (VAP). 2051 offences of VAP were reported in this review period, compared to 1731 in the previous comparative period. This equates to an increase of 18.5%.

Violent Crime accounted for 23%, nearly a quarter, of all crime in the division during this review period.

Chart 2.22 Violent Crime with twelve-month rolling total



Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Victim profile

There have been 1117 victims of violent crime offences in the data collection period, with 88 having been victims on more than one occasion. One person has been the subject of 5 offences, and three persons of 4 offences.

Offender profile

There have been 605 defendants of violent crime offences detected in the last six months, with 111 people the defendant for more than one violent crime.

Temporal Analysis of all Violent crime

The table below gives a brief breakdown of the peak times when violent crime offences of all types have been committed.

Most Affected Month	June (308)	Least Affected Month	September (202)
Most Affected Day	Saturday (321)	Least Affected Day	Tuesday (149)
Most Affected Hours	2200 - 0200hrs	Least Affected Hour	0500-0600hrs

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

As may be expected, Hereford City has recorded the most offences, with nearly a quarter of the divisional total, followed by Leominster with under half the number of Hereford City.

Violence Against the Person

There have been 1105 offences of this type between 1st April and 30th September 2007 across the whole division, of which 468 (42.3%) have been detected.

The most commonly recorded Violence Against the Person offences have been Assault occasioning ABH (656) and Common Assault by Beating (297).

Not surprisingly, the most affected beat for offences of this nature has been Hereford Central (City), with 229 offences or 20.7% of the divisional total. This is followed by Leominster (9.8%), and Ross-on-Wye (6.0%).

Temporal Analysis of these offences reveals the following as the most and least affected times of the last six months.

Most Affected Month	June (241)	Least Affected Month	September (143)
Most Affected Day	Saturday (234)	Least Affected Day	Thursday (112)
Most Affected Hour	2200 - 2300hrs	Least Affected Hour	0500 - 0600hrs

Data Source: west Mercia Constabulary

Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Herefordshire roads

Data source: Herefordshire Council Highways and Transportation

Some detailed analysis is required and planned during early 2008 between the Senior Accident Investigation Engineer and HCSDP.

	2005	2006	2007*
Fatal	17	12	
Serious	130	107	

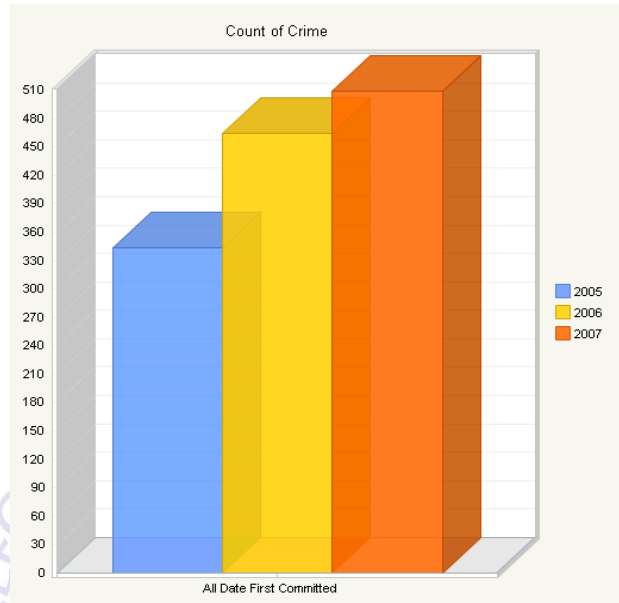
Note: * 2007 data not yet available, will be confirmed in February 2008.

Retail Crime / Shoplifting

A problem profile has recently been prepared by West Mercia Constabulary focusing on shoplifting for the period 1st April and 7th December 2007.

The recent West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessment has identified that Retail crime is an issue within Herefordshire division. This is included in the West Mercia Constabulary Control Strategy area of Acquisitive Crime. This is particularly the case in Hereford city centre area.

Chart 2.23 Shoplifting Crimes since 2005 – 2007



Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Revictimisation

The below chart shows the top ten premises in 2007 that have suffered from repeat victimisation of shoplifting in the county.

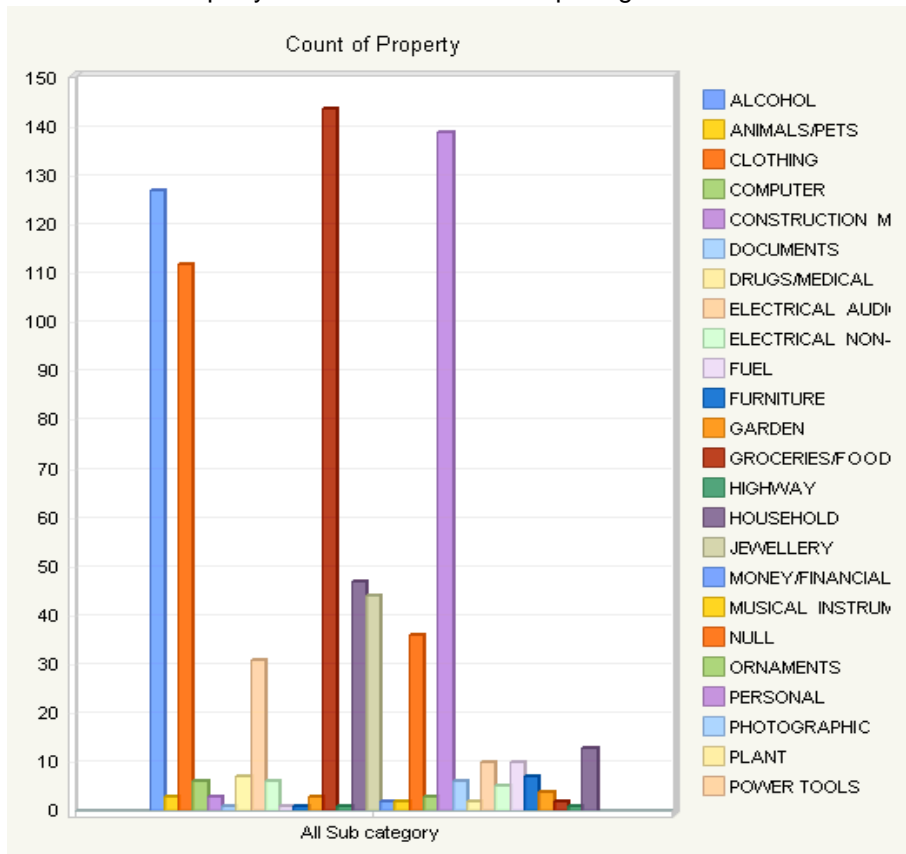
BOOTS THE CHEMIST 12 HIGH ST HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR4 9AA	69
ASDA STORES BELMONT RD HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR2 7JE	50
PRIMARK 9 WIDEMARSH ST HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR4 9ED	32
J SAINSBURY PLC BARTON YARD HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR4 0AG	29
MORRISONS PLC COMMERCIAL RD HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR1 1DN	28
TESCO STORES LTD BEWELL ST HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR4 0BW	25
TESCO STORES LTD ABBOTSMEAD RD BELMONT HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR2 7XS	18
SOMERFIELD STORES LTD DISHLEY ST LEOMINSTER HEREFORDSHIRE HR6 8PX	15
MARKS & SPENCER PLC HIGH TOWN HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR1 2AB	13
T K MAXX MAYLORD ORCHARDS HEREFORD HEREFORDSHIRE HR1 2DA	13
TESCO STORES LTD ORCHARD LA LEDBURY HEREFORDSHIRE HR8 1DQ	12

Data source: West Mercia Constabulary

Property

The most common property stolen in this year as a result of retail crime is as shown in the below chart.

Chart 2.24 Count of Property stolen as a result of shoplifting in Hereford 2007 to date.



Note: Groceries/Food items are the most commonly stolen item, with household goods following shortly behind and noticeably alcohol and clothing.

Temporal Analysis

Most Affected Day	Tuesday	Least Affected Day	Sunday
Most Affected Hours	1100hrs – 1500hrs	Least Affected Hour	1500hrs – 0800hrs

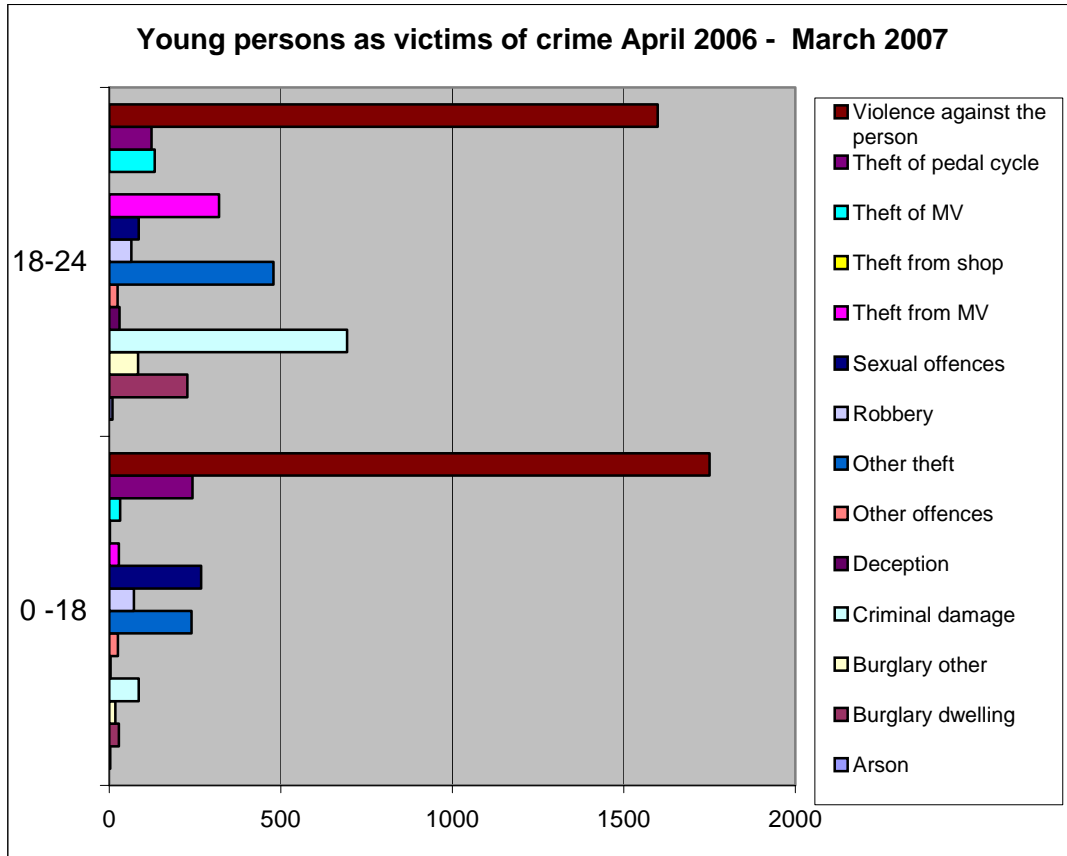
Intelligence clearly identifies that the majority of shoplifting is committed to fund drug habits. The majority of intelligence we hold around handlers of property resulting from shoplifting identifies that handlers are usually also involved in the supply of drugs

Young People as victims of crime

Further analysis is currently being undertaken between West Mercia Constabulary and HCSDP with regards to young people as victims of crime with comparisons against previous years. This analysis is ongoing.

The chart below shows the number of young people as victims of crime between 1st April 2006 and 31st March 2007. Violence against the person features as the largest category.

Chart 2.25 Young persons as victims of crime



With regards to violence against the person and young people, the Herefordshire Council Youth Survey conducted in 2007, with a total of 2,045 returned questionnaires (response rate of 20%) highlighted results about bullying. The table below shows the responses to the section on bullying.

Whether young people have been bullied in the last 12 months

		Younger Males	Younger Females	Older Males	Older Females	Total
Yes	%	26%	35%	13%	22%	24%
	Number of young people	135	179	65	105	484
No	%	71%	61%	85%	76%	73%
	Number of young people	368	313	415	372	1468
Don't know	%	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%
	Number of young people	18	22	11	11	62

Base: 2,014*

Data source: Herefordshire Council Youth Satisfaction Survey

Points of note:

- Overall 24% of young people (484 young people in total) reported that they had been bullied in the last 12 months and 3% didn't know (62 young people).

- 73% said that they hadn't been bullied in the last 12 months.
- Younger age groups were more likely to say that they had been bullied, in particular younger females with 35% reporting that they had been the victim of bullying (179 younger females).
- Older males were less likely to say that they had been bullied than any other group, with only 13% reporting that they had been bullied.

Types of bullying experienced by young people who have been bullied in the last 12 months

	Younger males	Younger females	Older males	Older females	Overall
People calling you names or making things up to get you into trouble	86%	75%	84%	66%	76%
Taking friends away from you, ignoring you or spreading rumours	40%	60%	45%	48%	49%
Threats & intimidation	41%	34%	47%	45%	40%
Hitting, pinching, pushing, shoving	61%	28%	45%	25%	38%
Being frightened so that you don't want to go to school, college, work or training	25%	29%	29%	35%	29%
Abuse by Internet or email	16%	26%	11%	15%	19%
Stealing or damaging your belongings on purpose	23%	12%	27%	15%	17%
Silent or abusive phone calls	9%	15%	26%	22%	16%
Offensive phone texts	8%	15%	15%	24%	15%
Other	6%	10%	18%	10%	10%

Base: 493* respondents (Numbers of young Those who answer) and 48 comments

Note: Percentages do not add up to 100% due to respondents being able to give more than one answer

Point of note:

- The most common type of bullying experienced was people calling them names or making things up to get them in trouble; with 76% of young people reporting they had been the victims of this type of bullying (380 young people). Other most common responses included: 'taking friends away from you, ignoring you or spreading rumours' (49%), 'threats & intimidation' (40%), 'hitting, pinching, pushing, shoving' (38%) and 'being frightened so that you don't want to go to school, college, work or training' (29%)
- Males, particularly younger males, were more likely to state that the bullying involved 'People calling you names or making things up to get you into trouble' and 'Hitting, pinching, pushing, shoving'
- Younger females were more likely to state that the bullying involved 'Taking friends away from you, ignoring you or spreading rumours'
- Most common 'other' responses included: 'name calling' (4 comments), 'talking behind my back' (4) and 'spat at' (3).

Who young people felt bullied by

	Younger males	Younger females	Older males	Older females	Overall
Other people at school/college	83%	67%	47%	55%	66%
Friends	26%	53%	45%	42%	42%
Don't know who they were	17%	6%	35%	13%	14%
Other	5%	8%	17%	10%	9%
Member of staff	5%	4%	7%	7%	6%
Other people at work/training	1%	1%	8%	5%	2%
Family	3%	2%	0%	5%	2%
Employer	0%	0%	2%	5%	1%
Trainer	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Base: 487* respondents who ticked yes or don't know to Q39 and 42 comments

Note: Percentages do not add up to 100% due to respondents being able to give more than one answer.

Of those who had experienced bullying:

- The majority of young people (66%) stated that they felt bullied by other people at school/college, with 'friends' being the second most popular response.
- 35% of older males reported that the 'Didn't know who they were' compared to just 14% of young people overall.
- Most common 'other' responses included: people that live by me/live in my area (8 comments), someone I know at school (not a friend) (6), Boyfriend/ex boyfriend (6).

Data source: Herefordshire Council Research Team

Further analysis of the West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey 2007

The annual West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey was carried out in June 2007, the results of which were made available in October. The following charts have been produced from a question about fear of crime, where respondents were asked to recall a time in the last 12 months where they have felt worried about a list of 10 crimes. From the 10 crimes listed, the top three crimes that people said they felt worried about were, in order of the highest level;

- Vandalism or damage to your property (including car) = 29%, which saw no significant change compared with 2006 results.
- House burglary = 27%, no significant change compared with 2006 results.
- Drunk people causing you a problem = 23%, no significant change compared with 2006 results.

Although House Burglary saw no significant change compared with 2006 results, and actual burglary figures remain low in the County, it still featured as the second most worried about crime in 2007.

The top three crimes that respondents were most worried about are featured in the tables and charts below showing the Ward areas where respondents live.

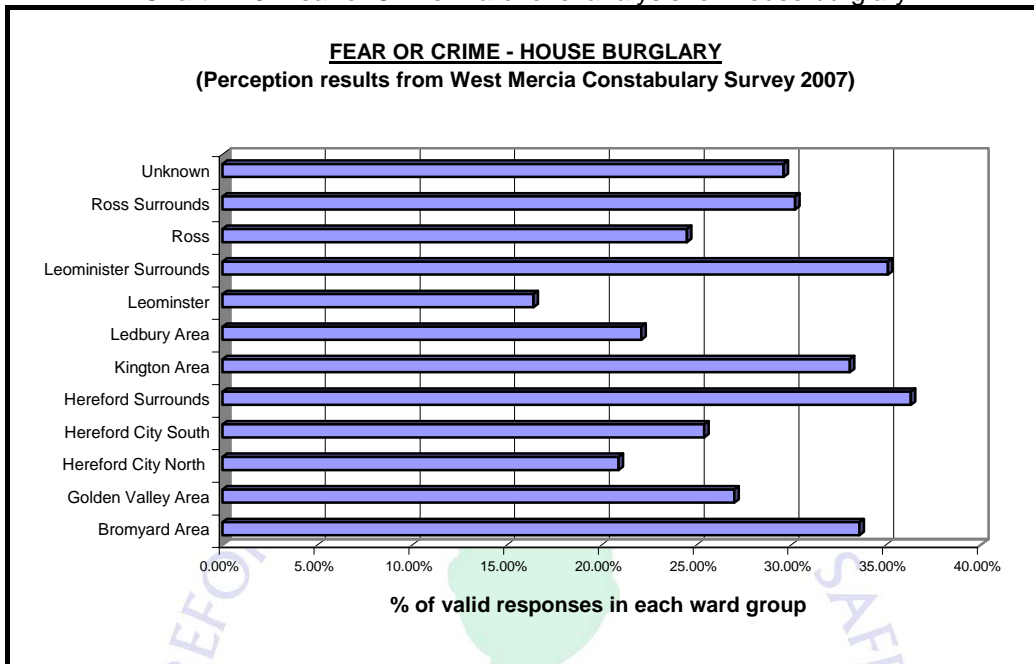
Fear of Crime ward analysis

The annual West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey 2007 provided an overview of the percentage of residents who have felt worried about certain crime in the past 12 months. The three largest areas that residents were worried about include house burglary, vandalism or damage to your property (including car) and drunk people causing you a problem, as identified earlier in this report.

House burglary

The following chart shows the percentage of residents by Ward, with worries of house burglary.

Chart 2.26 Fear of Crime Ward level analysis for House burglary



Leominster and Hereford surrounds have the largest response whereby residents have felt worried about house burglary in the past 12 months, followed by Bromyard and Kington areas.

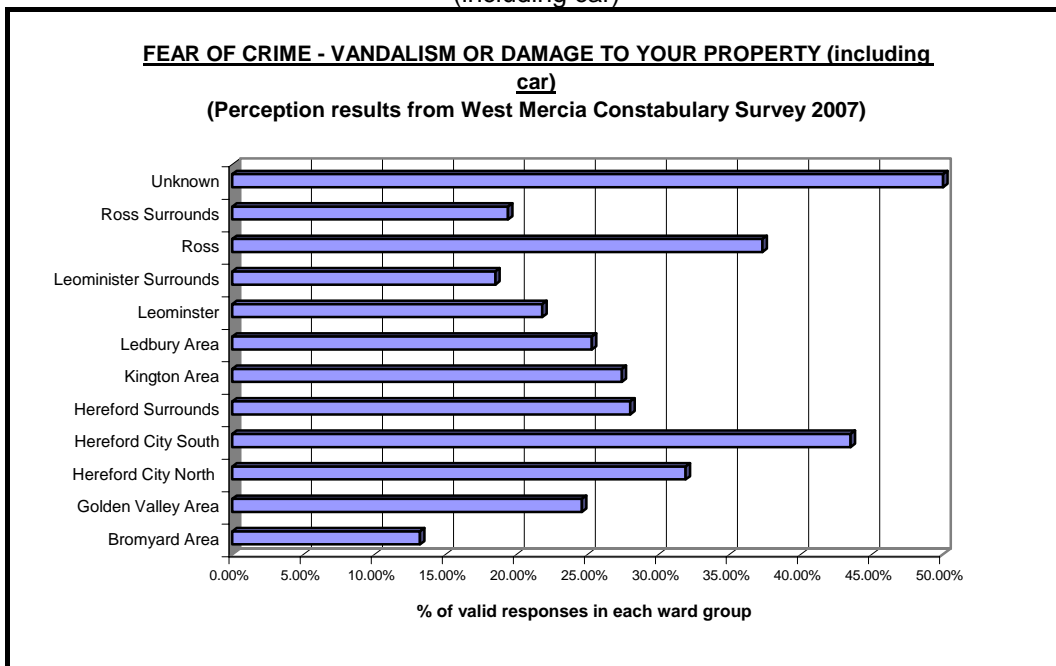
Point to note:

- The hinterland parishes appear to have a higher worry of house burglary than the Towns.

Vandalism or damage to your property (including car)

The following chart provides a breakdown at Ward level for the proportion of residents who have felt worried about vandalism or damage to their property, including their car, in the last 12 months.

Chart 2.27 Fear of Crime Ward level analysis for Vandalism or damage to your property (including car)

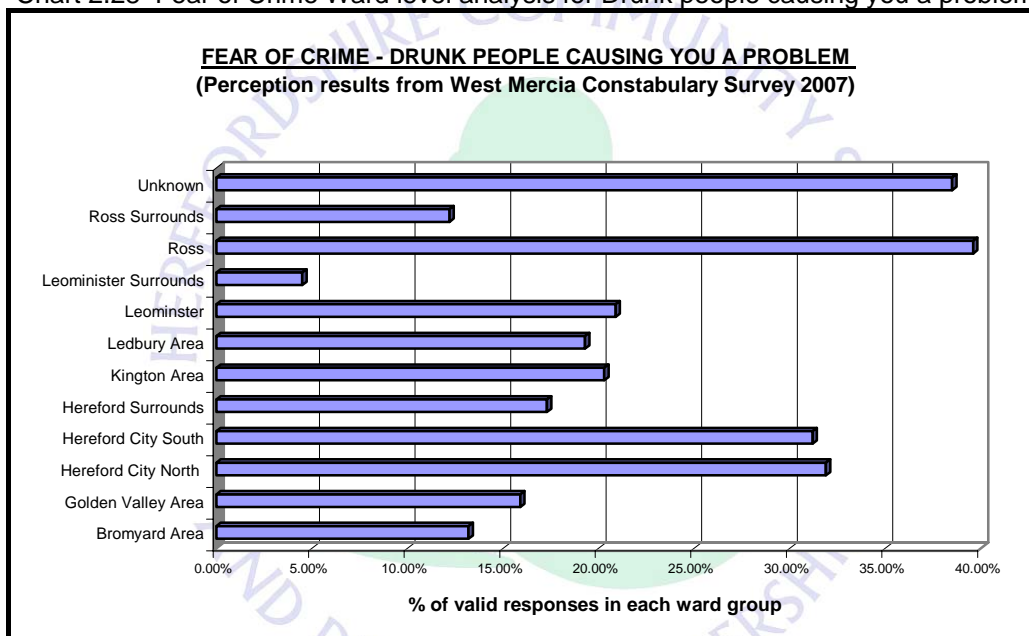


If we disregard the unknown (as unfortunately the Ward data was not provided), Ross and Hereford City South were the largest ward areas whereby residents have felt worried about vandalism or damage to their property in the last 12 months.

Drunk people causing you a problem

The following chart provides a breakdown at Ward level for the proportion of residents who have felt worried about drunk people causing them a problem.

Chart 2.28 Fear of Crime Ward level analysis for Drunk people causing you a problem



Again, if we disregard the unknown, Ross-on-Wye was the largest area by far (almost 40%) with residents worried about drunk people causing them a problem.

This problem was also highlighted in the Consultations about drinking in Ross and also by CCTV cameras in the areas of The Crofts, Gloucester Road, Market Place and Broad Street.

SECTION 3: PRIORITIES

PRIORITY SELECTION PROCESS

The process for selecting priorities have been identified, or dismissed, in the previous sections and stem from statistical and community significance. It is important to include community significance in the priority selection process, particularly problems arising from PACT meetings, the HCSDP Community Consultation and the West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey whereby residents identified which priorities should be addressed.

Main themes emerging from the scanning exercise, West Mercia Constabulary Control Strategy and Strategic Assessment, and from community engagement are:-

- **Anti Social Behaviour**
- **Criminal Damage including graffiti and vandalism**
- **Drug use and dealing**
- **Road Safety**
- **Violent crime**
- **Volume crime**
- **Acquisitive crime**

PACT meetings

- **Antisocial behaviour**
- **Road Safety**
- **Alcohol/Drugs and underage drinking**
- **Litter and Dog Fouling**
- **Lack of Police presence in some areas**
- **Criminal damage to vehicles**

HCSDP Community consultation

- **Alcohol and drug use**
- **Antisocial behaviour**
- **Road Safety**
- **Lack of Police presence in some areas**

West Mercia Constabulary joint crime and safety survey – summary of Community Priorities

Neighbourhood issues that emerged as priorities when residents were asked for the top three that needed to be addressed first were:

- **Speeding traffic (26%)**
- **Drug dealing (24%)**
- **Drug use (18%)**

Speeding traffic was a particularly high priority in wards such as Hollington, Hope End, Pembridge, Kington Town and Golden Valley North & South (all 40% or higher).

Drug dealing was a greater priority in Kington Town (54%), Upton (51%), Mortimer (50%) and Leominster North (45%), and the pattern was similar for drug use.

The HCSDP Strategy Group may wish to consider other elements of the strategic assessment from the scanning and analysis sections for further discussion

STRATEGIC PRIORTIES

From the emerging list of priorities, the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Strategy Group met on 16th January 2008, to discuss the strategic assessment, the emerging priorities and debate which priorities should be addressed for the forthcoming strategy period.

A draft version of the Strategic Assessment was presented to the Strategy Group. The author highlighted key elements of the Strategic Assessment (copies had already been circulated prior to the meeting), the detailed analysis and emerging priorities from the scanning exercise and community consultation to be considered by the Strategy Group.

As a result of lengthy debate on the emerging priorities from the strategic assessment, issues raised were “what are priorities for the HCSDP” and “what should be dealt with as part of core business by some departments”, decisions were reached on the broad priorities for the Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership commencing April 2008.

The priorities are:

- **Reducing Crime further through effective Offender Management and other interventions**
- **Reducing Drug and Alcohol Harm**
- **Promoting increased Road Safety**
- **Providing Community Reassurance (ASB, Disorder and Crime)**
- **Responding Dynamically through Multi-agency Tasking.**

Within these broader priorities will sit a suite of key priorities and targets for the Partnership to focus upon for the forthcoming strategy period. The Partnership Manager will prepare a draft Partnership Plan for further discussion and endorsement at a planned Strategy Group meeting in mid-February. From there the Partnership Plan will be finalised and made publicly available.

SECTION 4: CURRENT ACTIVITY AND PRIORITIES

RECENT ACTIVITIES RELATING TO EXISTING PRIORITIES

Alcohol related crime and disorder

Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership has recently carried out an extensive campaign to raise awareness of alcohol related issues across the county.

This has used a variety of communications channels, including a series of radio adverts, advertising in the Hereford Journal, posters being distributed to county clubs and pubs, information being sent out to alcohol retailers and events in Hereford to engage and educate young people.

This campaign was funded through the partnership's alcohol implementation group. The group has also funded and / or co-ordinated a number of other projects including: 'head cams' for use in test purchase exercises; extended CCTV operation to cover times when alcohol related disorder occurs; education programmes aimed at parents, delivered through Zig Zag; educational drama sessions in primary and secondary schools.

Additionally, there are six community drug and alcohol forums throughout the county who are able to apply for funding for projects from us. Projects have included parent education evenings in market towns, and a recent campaign in Bromyard to discourage adults buying alcohol for underage drinkers. A recent "pilot" in Ledbury included the introduction of "spikeys" in Ledbury Town to prevent bottled drinks being spiked. The success of this has resulted in the Drugs Forums across Herefordshire being interested in the same initiative.

Anti social behaviour

HCSDP has produced information leaflets about anti social behaviour, including details of what is classed as anti social behaviour, the consequences and how to report it. There are different versions of the leaflet for adults and young people, and they are distributed at a range of locations around the county, at events attended by HCSDP and they are also sent out to people who receive anti social behaviour warning letters from West Mercia Constabulary.

The Partnership is working closely with Community Support Officers to identify anti social behaviour 'hot spots' and have run local consultations to engage with the local community around the issues affecting them.

It has supported schemes to tackle graffiti in the county, including the establishment of a graffiti database and the 'graffiti amnesty' initiative, which allowed Herefordshire businesses to have graffiti removed from their walls free of charge for a six-month period.

It has advertised extensively in local media that targets younger people, focusing on the myths and the facts around criminal damage and its consequences. It has also run an anti-vandalism poster competition for young people, to encourage them to think about the consequences of vandalising property.

One of the HCSDP Project Officers is currently undertaking a comprehensive and concentrated community engagement, consultation and capacity building exercise in Clehonger following a spate of criminal damage to the Youth Shelter.

Domestic abuse

The Partnership has promoted domestic abuse services in Herefordshire through advertising in a number of publications, via its website and through the distribution of information at events.

HCSDP organised events at Hereford United Football Club to support the 'White Ribbon Campaign' and promote local services. This included programme advertising, tannoy announcements, publicity materials and the sale of white ribbons around the ground on a match day. This attracted significant local, regional and national publicity, where two radio stations played interviews with representatives of the Partnership.

The Partnership has also supported a 'gala' event at Hereford town hall to raise awareness of domestic abuse issues.

A sub-group of the Domestic Abuse Forum, named the Domestic Abuse and Criminal Justice Task Group, has been set up with an aim to establish and sustain both a Multi Agency Risk Assessment Court (MARAC) and Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC).

Drug supply and drug related offending

HCSDP produced a Christmas card type leaflet in conjunction with Crimestoppers to advise on crime reduction at home and out shopping over the Christmas period. This was distributed by HCSDP staff in Hereford supermarkets and on late night shopping evenings, and by West Mercia's Community Support Officers throughout the county over the festive period.

The Partnership has promoted crime reduction messages in local newspapers as well as in publications targeted to older people. As well as crime reduction over the festive period, promotions have also focused on crime reduction at summer festivals and events, and garden security.

Drug treatment and harm reduction

HCSDP continues to support six Drug Forums across Herefordshire, which work with the community to prevent drug use and educate people about drugs and alcohol. An increasing number of these forums have sited needle bins or are looking to do so in the near future. Several forums have also run 'parent drug information evenings' to educate parents about the effects and risks of drugs.

It has also promoted other local drug and alcohol services including DASH, Zig Zag, and Family Drug Support.

Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership has run a county-wide campaign to raise awareness of hepatitis C. This has involved working closely with DASH to distribute information to service users, raising awareness through information at local GP surgeries, pharmacies and other community buildings as well as press coverage, and holding an event to mark World Hepatitis Day. The

campaign has since been used as a national example of best practice by the Department of Health.

The Partnership is also supporting a needle exchange pilot to trial needle exchange facilities in Herefordshire pharmacies, and there have also been a number of consultation events to obtain the views of service users to inform the adult treatment plan.

A Harm Reduction workshop was held in November, attended by a variety of agencies, which was used to inform the Harm Reduction Strategy. Two further user involvement sessions were held in December 2007.

Offender management

The Partnership oversees the Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP), which has steadily been improving performance. See earlier section on DIP.

DIP is developing closer links with other partner organisations, and during summer 2007 carried out its first joint mediated session with Family Drug Support (FDS).

Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) Scheme

The latest update from the December LAA template states:

21 PPO's in total.

13 currently in community subject to basic monitoring, supervision on licence or community orders.

8 PPO's are in custody serving sentence or on remand awaiting trial or recalled for breach of licence conditions.

5 PPO's are being supervised by the ACCLAIM project and are making good progress.

2 PPO's are being supported by the S.T.E.P. project at West Mercia Probation providing funding for driving lessons.

5 PPO's in the community have re-offended and are within the CJS awaiting due process.

3 PPO's have been referred to the Forward Focus project and one has commenced a work placement through this project.

Criminal Justice

As highlighted earlier in the report currently the Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) team pick up the majority of their clients from the courts and prison releases with few clients referred by the arrest referral process. The HCSDP are about to commission research to investigate the arrest referral process. Drug Rehabilitation Requirement (DRR) clients have a clear treatment pathway.

Gaps in Treatment:

It would appear that the arrest referral process needs to refer more clients to the DIP team with only two referrals up to the end of December 2007 in the current treatment year.

The Sports Referral project is currently on hold pending further funding.

Recommendations:

- That the Criminal Justice and Arrest Referral process is scrutinised to identify and action improvements to the service.
- Funding is made available to operate the Sports Referral Project.

Road safety

Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership Road Safety Implementation Group has actively supported road safety campaigns over a number of years and continues to do so.

To mark Road Safety Week 2007 Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership staged a car crash demonstration in High Town, Hereford. It has also supported the summer drink driving campaign through the distribution of posters to all local pubs and has worked with West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership to implement the winter drink and drug driving campaign.

The Partnership's Road Safety Implementation Group has funded a Skoda Octavia, an unmarked vehicle that police officers will be driving to target examples of bad driving across the county, and supports education campaigns such as Dying to Drive.

Young people

Herefordshire Community Safety and Drugs Partnership is involved in a number of events to engage and educate young people. These include: Crucial Crew, which is attended by every year six student in the county over a four week period and aims to build young people's self esteem and allow them to make safer and more informed choices; The Noise, an annual three day event in the South Wye area of Hereford designed to encourage young people to care for their community; and Dying to Drive, where year ten pupils across Herefordshire learn the dangers of driving as part of the annual 'Dying to Drive' initiative.

The Partnership actively promotes services for young people including Zig Zag and CLD Youth counselling, both through printed advertisements and through promotion at events.

We have organised or had a presence at a number of events to engage with young people, including Herefordshire Sixth Form College Freshers Fair, and the 'You Talk - We Listen' Young People's Consultation Event organized by Herefordshire Council's Youth Services.

LOCAL EXPERIENCE

Local experience of “What works well”

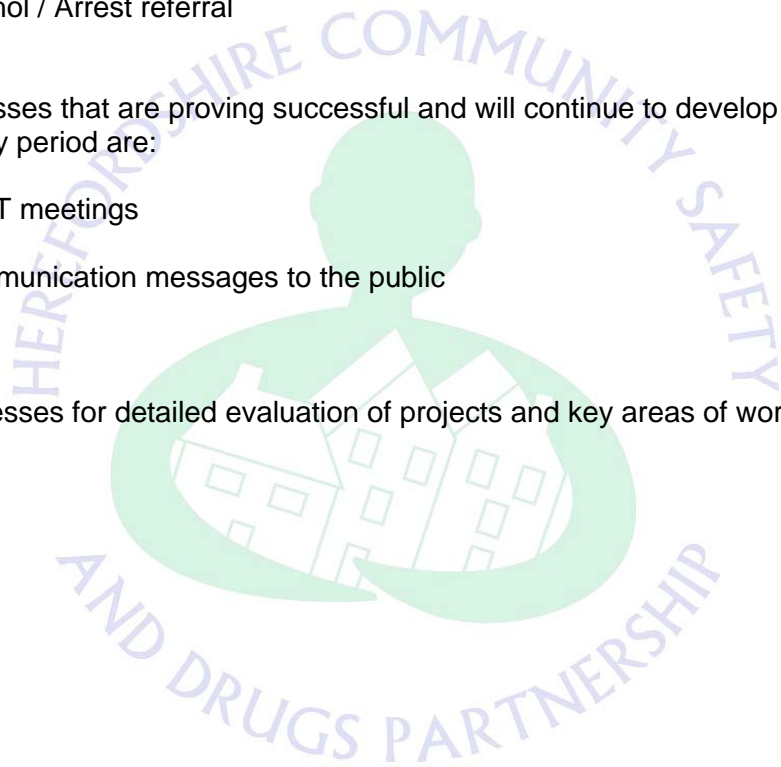
In Herefordshire the Offender Management Programmes are proving to be extremely effective, in terms of:

- Drugs Intervention Programme
- Prolific and Other Priority offenders
- Alcohol / Arrest referral

Other processes that are proving successful and will continue to develop into the new Strategy period are:

- PACT meetings
- Communication messages to the public

Sound processes for detailed evaluation of projects and key areas of work are to be established.



SECTION 5: CONCLUSION

NEXT STEPS

The next step is to finalise the strategic assessment process and prepare a Partnership Plan from the identified priorities. This needs to be completed and made available prior to 1st April 2008.

The priority process has identified the medium to long-term overarching priorities to be addressed by the HCSDP, and these are;

- **Reducing Crime further through effective Offender Management and other interventions**
- **Reducing Drug and Alcohol Harm**
- **Promoting increased Road Safety**
- **Providing Community Reassurance (ASB, Disorder and Crime)**
- **Responding Dynamically through Multi-agency Tasking** (*which will consider anti-social behaviour and criminal damage*)

Future Strategic Assessment process

Discussion was held at the Strategy Group meeting on 16th January with regards to joining up the HCSDP annual Strategic Assessment with the West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessments (which are prepared on a bi-annual basis, in April and October). It was agreed that West Mercia Constabulary will, and must, continue to develop its own strategic assessments, however there is clearly a need to link the work undertaken and the Partnership should look to combine efforts to provide data from wider partners along with the West Mercia Constabulary Strategic Assessment.

Based on the above, I would recommend the HCSDP Strategic Assessment is reviewed in the Winter of 2008/09.

Analytical Capacity

The 2007 HCSDP Strategic Assessment has been led by the Performance and Data Officer, pulling information together from the Performance Management Framework and wider Partners which all use different systems for recording data. Reliance has been put onto the West Mercia Constabulary Divisional Analysts to provide their latest strategic assessment data about crimes, which has in turn been used within this strategic assessment.

The HCSDP does not currently have access to any data systems held by its Partners.

This has been recognised and discussed more recently with permission being granted for West Mercia CDRP analysts (and performance and data officer in this case) to have some (restricted) access and use of software to allow closer working with the data analysts within West Mercia Constabulary and easier access to

information and data to assist in the strategic assessment process. This is welcomed as a positive move forward.

Training is due to commence in February 2008 and, once trained, the HCSDP Performance and Data Officer will commence work at the Police Station with the Divisional analysts to collate data for the Partnership.

Additional training in statistical analysis would benefit the Performance and Data Officer in providing robust information to the Partnership.

Software Solutions

There is an identified need for the Partnership to consider a data solution database/information system to allow mapping of crimes, and additional partner data to assist in tasking hotspot areas. This is an ongoing area for discussion, particularly through the multi-tasking group.

Information Sharing Protocol

As part of the strategic assessment process the current HCSDP Information Sharing Protocol (2005) is in the early stages of being updated to ensure it complies with more recent changes in legislation and MOPI compliance following the Lord Bichard Inquiry following the Soham murders. This will be conducted with legal assistance from Herefordshire Council and West Mercia Constabulary Headquarters, and a new draft version to be presented to the HCSDP for endorsement.

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APPENDICES

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- Appendix 2: HCSDP Information Sharing Protocol**
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