

BODY: CABINET

DATE: 31st October 2005

SUBJECT: EASTBOURNE CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP
ANNUAL REPORT 2004 TO 2005

EVALUATION OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER
REDUCTION STRATEGY 2002 TO 2005

REPORT OF: Neil Fuller Director of Housing Health and Community
Services

Ward(s): All

Purpose: To inform Cabinet of the progress of the third year of the
Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002 to 2005.

To inform Cabinet of the evaluation of the impact of the Crime
and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002 to 2005.

Decision type: Information Report as requested by Cabinet 5th December
2002 Member Involvement in the Crime Reduction Partnership
“That, in future years, the Council receives the Annual Report
of the Crime Reduction Partnership at one of its meetings with
an associated presentation on its content from the Cabinet
Portfolio holding Member”.

Contact: Justine Armstrong, Crime Reduction Partnership Co-ordinator,
Telephone 01323 415346 or internally on extension 5346.
E-mail address justine.armstrong@eastbourne.gov.uk

Recommendations 1. That members note the significant achievements made by
:
the Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership in reducing
crime and disorder.

1.0 Background/Introduction

- 1.1 The Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership (ECRP) was formed in
response to the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, which aims to tackle the
prevention of crime and disorder. Organisations with statutory responsibility
to reduce crime and disorder are Eastbourne Borough Council, East Sussex
County Council, Sussex Police. The Act places local authorities under
specific duties:
- (1) to consider the crime prevention implications of their decisions
 - (2) to co-operate with the police and other agencies in local crime audits
 - (3) to formulate crime prevention strategies

The focus is on a community-wide approach with partnerships between the
police, local authorities and other relevant agencies.

The aim of the ECRP is to reduce crime, disorder and the Fear of Crime.

In 2002 the Police Reform Act placed a further duty on partnerships to include the misuse of drugs and increased the number of organisations with statutory responsibility for the prevention of crime and disorder and substance misuse to include the Police Authority, the Fire and Rescue Authority and the Primary Care Trust.

- 1.2 After extensive consultation and the analysis of crime and disorder levels in Eastbourne the partnership prepared an updated Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, which covers the period 2002 to 2005.

The activities of the Partnership during the lifetime of this strategy aim to address six priority areas, which reflect a balance between the demands of the community and the crime reduction priorities from the Home Office. These are:

- The fear of crime
- Violent crime
- Domestic burglary
- Substance misuse
- Vehicle crime
- Anti-social behaviour

- 1.3 Each year the Partnership conducts an annual review to assess progress towards targets, set new targets and review the actions that have been undertaken to achieve them. This report considers both the third annual review of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002 to 2005 and an evaluation of the impact of work undertaken by the partnership over the three years of the Strategy.

2.0 Partnership Performance 2004 to 2005

- 2.1 In 2004-05 there were 10,649 offences recorded in Eastbourne. This equates to approximately 30 offences a day. Recorded Crime has decreased compared to the previous year, with 135 fewer offences, a 1% reduction. This reduction compares favorably to East Sussex (1%) and Sussex as a whole (4%) where Recorded Crime has increased. Crime in Eastbourne has been steadily decreasing over the last four years.

The greatest reductions in terms of numbers of offences were Theft, Theft From A Vehicle, Burglary Dwelling, Fraud & Forgery, Theft Of A Motor Vehicle and Theft From The person. Violent Crime (including Common Assault, ABH, Wounding, Stranger Violence, Violent Crime Public Place and Violence Against The Person) together with Criminal Damage have increased the most. A large proportion of this increase in Violent Crime can be attributed to the continued effect of changes in the way crimes are recorded¹.

Further information on recorded crime in Eastbourne is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Other Partnership Achievements in 2004 to 2005 include:

- 38% reduction in vehicle crime (548 Offences - theft of and from vehicles)
- 35.1% reduction in domestic burglary (295 offences)
- 42% reduction in the number of deliberate car fires (42 Offences)

¹ National Crime Reporting Standards and widening of offences included in the category of Violent Crime

- 34% reduction in the number of deliberate fires - (excluding vehicles (134 offences)
- 38.9% reduction in personal robbery (70 Offences)
- 2.6% increase in the number of reported incidents of domestic violence (30 incidents)
- 7.4% increase in the number of racially motivated incidents reported (7 incidents)
- 91% of abandoned vehicles removed within 14 days of receiving reports (275 removals)
- 9 Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and 30 Good Behaviour Contracts in place

Source: Sussex Police Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership by Crime Type March 2005.

3.0 Evaluation of the Impact of the 2002 to 2005 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy

Over the 3 years of the 2002 to 2005 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy a wide range of initiatives has been undertaken. **Appendix 2** details the evaluation of the impact of the 2002 to 2005 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and considers:

- the changes in recorded crime between 2002/03 to 2004/05
- how Eastbourne compares to National, regional and family crime rates
- which crimes have increased and decrease
- how the partnership has addressed perceptions of crime
- examples of initiatives undertaken in each of the 6 priority crime areas

A sample of partnership initiatives has been subject to greater evaluation and these are also detailed in **Appendix 2**.

4.0 Crime, Disorder and Substance Misuse Strategy 2005 to 2008

4.1 Every three years the Partnership is required by law to carry out an audit to identify the extent of crime and disorder problems within their community and develop strategies that deal effectively with them.

During 2004 the partnership conducted an audit of crime and disorder and produced a new three-year strategy, which covers the period 2005 to 2008. This is the third audit and strategy process that the partnership has undertaken.

The Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership and the East Sussex Drug and Alcohol Action Team worked together to develop and deliver the Crime and Disorder Reduction and Substance Misuse Strategy for 2005 to 2008.

The aim of the two partnerships is to tackle crime and disorder (including anti-social behaviour) and the misuse of drugs and alcohol in Eastbourne.

For more information on the three strategies please log on to www.eastbourne.gov.uk/crime.

Partnership Priorities for 2005 to 2008:

1. Targeting prolific and priority offenders.
 - preventing and deterring young people from becoming frequent

- offenders;
 - catching and convicting those who offend the most often and;
 - rehabilitating and resettling offenders who stop offending by offering a range of supportive initiatives
2. Preventing and reducing drug and alcohol misuse.
 - disrupting the supply of illegal drugs;
 - increasing the number of offenders entering and completing treatment; and
 - reducing the communities perception of drug misuse and drug dealing
 3. Preventing and reducing property crime.
 - business crime;
 - domestic burglary;
 - vehicle crime; and
 - theft from the person
 4. Preventing and reducing violent crime.
 - reducing alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour occurring in public places;
 - encouraging victims of domestic, race and homophobic crime to come forward to report crime and to feel supported throughout the process
 - preventing young people from becoming victims of public place violent crime
 5. Preventing and reducing anti-social behaviour.
 - developing multi-agency initiatives and procedures to deal effectively with anti-social behaviour
 - introducing initiatives which support people on Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, Good Behaviour Contracts, and those identified through the Prevent and Deter agenda to reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour and crime
 - joint working initiatives which reduce criminal damage
 - developing initiatives which prevent young people from becoming victims of crime
 - working to improve community perception of young people
 - identifying sustainable arson reduction strategies in partnership with all responsible agencies

A number of issues have not been selected as priorities but this does not mean that they will not be tackled when they arise within the community only that they will not be part of a three year targeted approach.

5.0 Prolific and Priority Offenders Scheme

5.1 In 2004 the Home Secretary launched a Prolific and other Priority Offender (PPO) Strategy. The strategy is a single, coherent initiative in three complementary strands to reduce crime by targeting those who offend most or otherwise cause most harm to their communities. The three strands are Prevent & Deter, Catch & Convict, and Rehabilitate & Resettle.

5.2 The emphasis is on a multi-agency approach towards tackling the problem, with Police, Crown Prosecution Service, Prisons and Probation working together, with Local Criminal Justice Board co-ordination, to effectively catch, convict, monitor and manage these offenders in the community or

custody and work towards rehabilitating them. The strategy allows Crime Reduction Partnerships to identify and select offenders using the following criteria:

- The nature and volume of the crimes they are committing
- The nature and volume of other harm they are causing to the Eastbourne community
- The adverse impact they cause to the Eastbourne community by their anti-social activity.

5.3 Targeting individuals in this way enables the partnership to deliver all of its crime reduction and anti-social behaviour targets. The system helps to identify those individuals who are the most prolific offenders, the most persistently anti-social in their behaviour and those who pose the greatest threat to the safety and confidence of their local communities. It also allows partnership agencies to work with these identified prolific offenders to stop their offending by offering a range of supportive interventions. Offenders are offered the opportunity for rehabilitation or face a very swift return to the courts

6.0 Consultations

6.1 A Perception of Crime and Safety Survey was undertaken in preparation for the production of the 2005/08 Crime and Disorder Reduction and Drugs Strategy. In addition to the residents' survey, focus groups canvassed the opinion of the black and ethnic minority community, the business community, travelling community, gay and bisexual community, those with disabilities, substance mis-users and young people.

6.2 Future consultation will be undertaken in Partnership with Sussex Police Authority bi-annual public meetings and through Local Action Teams. Local Action Teams are made up of police, residents, businesses and local authorities and are a means of encouraging the community to get involved in helping to resolve problems in their local areas. This will enable ongoing dialogue with the community about their crime and disorder concerns.

7.0 Resource Implications

7.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

8.0 Other Implications

8.1 There are no other implications arising from this report.

9.0 Conclusion

9.1 During the third year of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002/05 the partnership has achieved significant reductions in crime and disorder. The Partnership has also been the driving force behind many local crime reduction initiatives from an Anti-Social Behaviour Officer and Violent Crime Officer drugs outreach workers and a safer schools partnership officer. During 2004 the partnership conducted an audit of crime, disorder (including anti-social behaviour) and the misuse of drugs within Eastbourne in order to inform the new Strategy which will cover the period 2005 to 2008.

Background Papers:

The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002 to 2005

Crime and Disorder Audit 2004

Crime, Disorder and Substance Misuse Strategy 2005 to 2008

To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above.

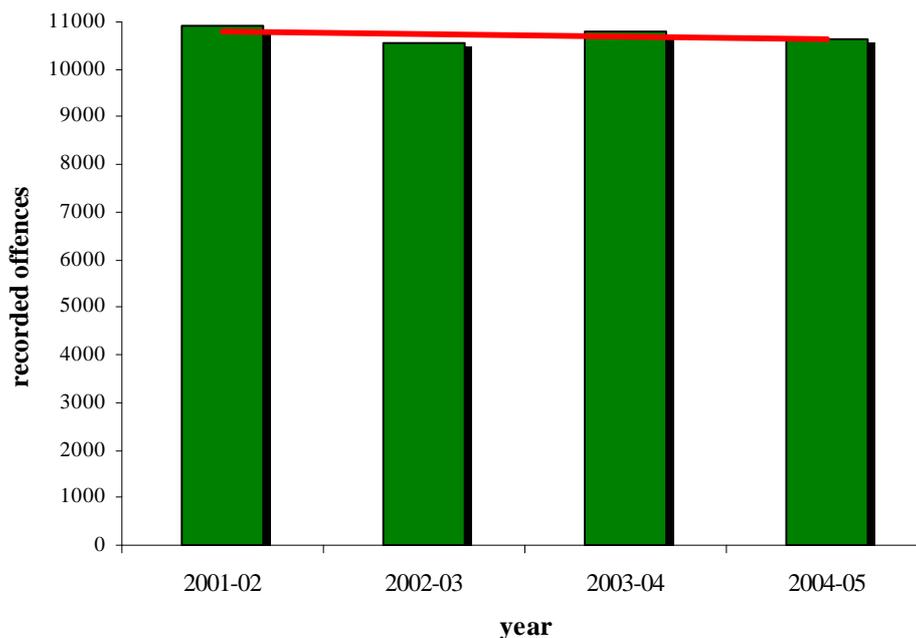
P:\Justine Armstrong\Community Safety Plan\Reports\C&D Annual Report 04-05.doc

Recorded Crime in Eastbourne March 2004 to April 2005

How much crime is there?

In 2004-05 there were 10,649 offences recorded in Eastbourne². This equates to approximately 30 offences a day. Recorded Crime has decreased compared to the previous year, with 135 fewer offences, a 1% reduction. This reduction compares favorably to East Sussex (1%) and Sussex as a whole (4%) where Recorded Crime has increased. Crime in Eastbourne has been steadily decreasing over the last four years.

Chart 1: Recorded Crime 2001-05



Which Crimes have Increased/Decreased?

The greatest reductions in terms of numbers of offences were Theft, Theft From A Vehicle, Burglary Dwelling, Fraud & Forgery, Theft Of A Motor Vehicle and Theft From The person. Violent Crime (including Common Assault, ABH, Wounding, Stranger Violence, Violent Crime Public Place and Violence Against The Person) together with Criminal Damage have increased the most. A large proportion of this increase in Violent Crime can be attributed to the continued effect of changes in the way crimes are recorded³.

The table below shows the change, in number and percentage, of offences comparing 2004/05 to the previous year. Some offences are included in more than one type, in particular Violent Crime such as wounding, ABH, Violent Crime Public Place.

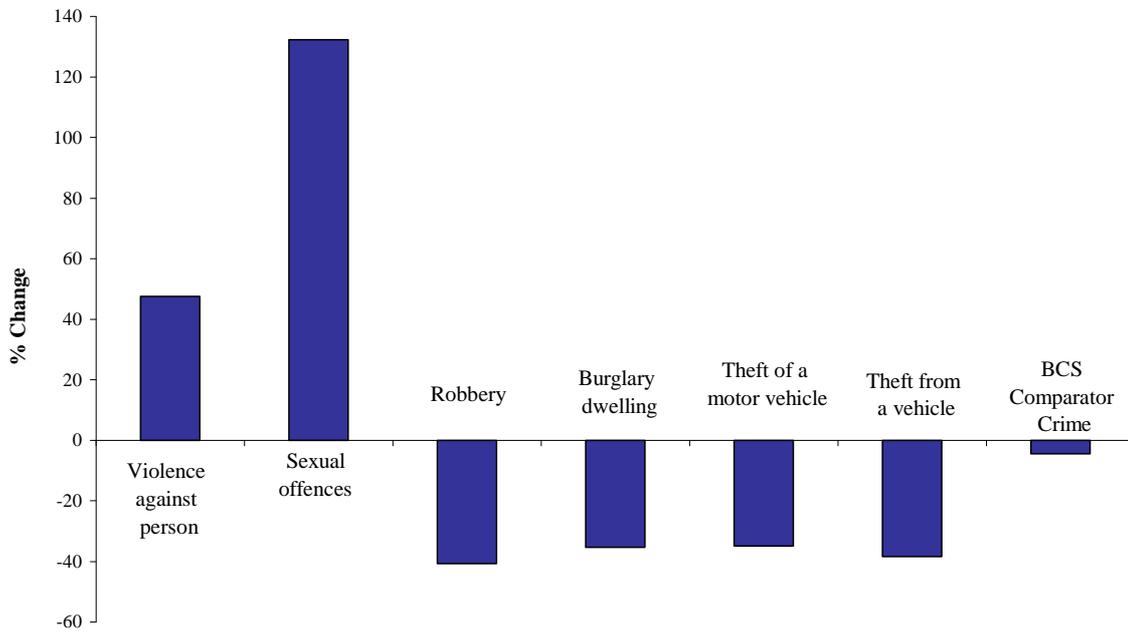
² Source Sussex Police "Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Performance Plan Year" March 2005

³ National Crime Reporting Standards and widening of offences included in the category of Violent Crime

Table 1: Changes By Crime Type⁴

Offence	Absolute difference	% Difference	Offence	Absolute difference	% Difference
Theft	-737	-16%	Homophobic Crime	3	60%
Theft From A Vehicle	-430	-38%	Drug Trafficking/Supply	6	13%
Burglary Dwelling	-295	-35%	Racially Aggravated Crime	9	27%
Fraud & Forgery	-209	-35%	Theft Of A Pedal Cycle	10	5%
Theft Of A Motor Vehicle	-118	-35%	GBH	13	24%
Theft From The person	-103	-26%	Breach Of ASBO	19	173%
Vehicle Interference	-94	-51%	Shoplifting	69	9%
Robbery Personal	-70	-39%	Sexual Offences	125	137%
Drug Possession	-59	-22%	Common Assault	233	97%
Business Crime	-32	-1%	ABH	240	24%
Burglary Other	-19	-3%	Wounding	255	24%
Robbery Business	-11	-69%	Criminal Damage	338	18%
Arson	-4	-3%	Stranger Violence	490	48%
Domestic Violence Crime	2	0%	Violent Crime Public Place	494	39%
			Violence Against The Person	808	48%
			Violent Crime	852	43%

Chart 2: Recorded Crime For Six Key Offences & British Crime Survey Comparator Crime



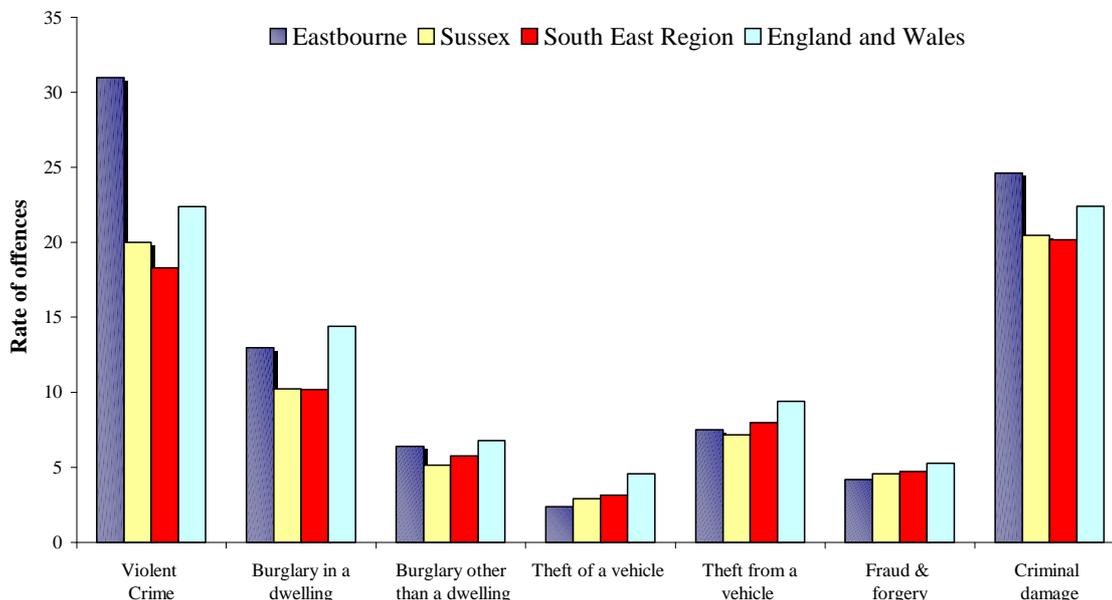
Source: Crime in England and Wales 2004/2005: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office July 2005

⁴ Source Sussex Police "Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Crime By Crime Type" March 2005

How does Eastbourne compare with other areas?

The rate of offences for 2004-05 per 1,000 of the resident population (per 1,000 households for Burglary) in Eastbourne compared to the National Levels, Sussex and The South East are shown in the chart below.

Chart 3: Comparison of Crime Rates 2004-05



Source: Crime in England and Wales 2004/2005: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office July 2005
Sussex Police "Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Crime By Crime Type" March 2005

National Comparison: Burglary in a dwelling, Burglary other than a dwelling, Theft of a vehicle, Theft from a vehicle and Fraud & Forgery all have lower rates in Eastbourne than the national average. Violent Crime and Criminal Damage both have higher rates in Eastbourne than in England and Wales.

Regional Comparison: Eastbourne crime rates are higher than Sussex as a whole in all of the offence types with the exception of Vehicle Crime (Theft of and Theft from a Motor Vehicle). This would be expected as Eastbourne is an urban area within East Sussex with a greater population intensity, areas of deprivation as well as a high number of visitors coming into the area, thereby boosting the population, most notably in the Summer.

Compared to the South East Region, Eastbourne has a lower rate of Vehicle Crime and Fraud & Forgery, whilst rates of Violent Crime, Criminal Damage and Burglary (both domestic and non domestic) are higher.

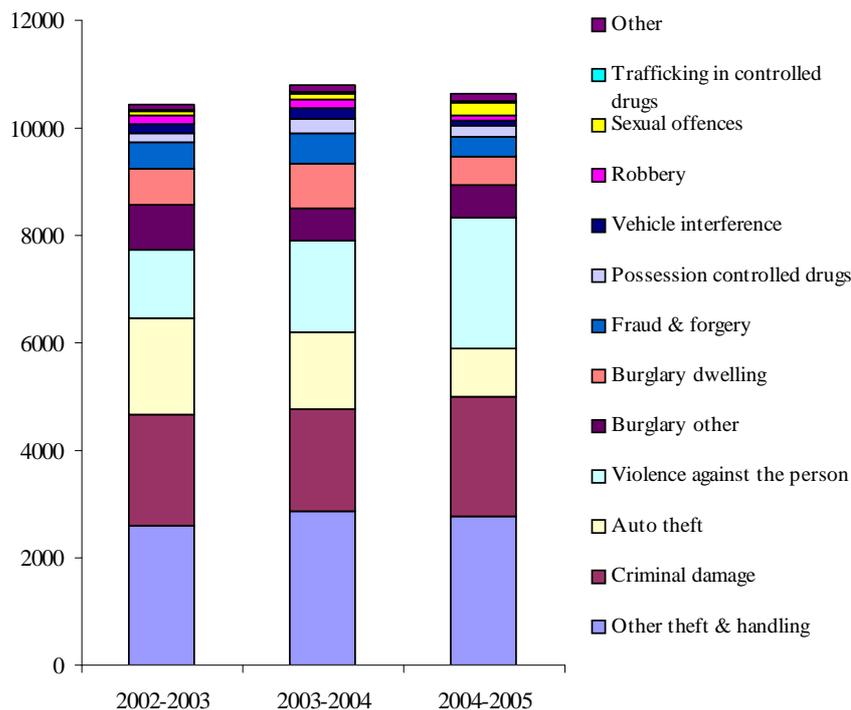
Evaluation of the Impact of the 2002 to 2005 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy

How much crime is there?

In the three years of the strategy, 2002-03 to 2004-05 there have been 31,856 recorded offences in Eastbourne. Total crime has risen in these three years by 2%, 212 more recorded offences in 2004-05 (10,641) compared to 2002-03 (10,429). However crime has decreased compared to 2003-04, with 145 fewer recorded offences in 2004-05 compared to 2003-04 (10,786), a 1.4% decrease.

The total number of offences equates to around 29 crimes a day.

Chart 4: Recorded Crime 2002-05



How does Eastbourne compare with other areas?

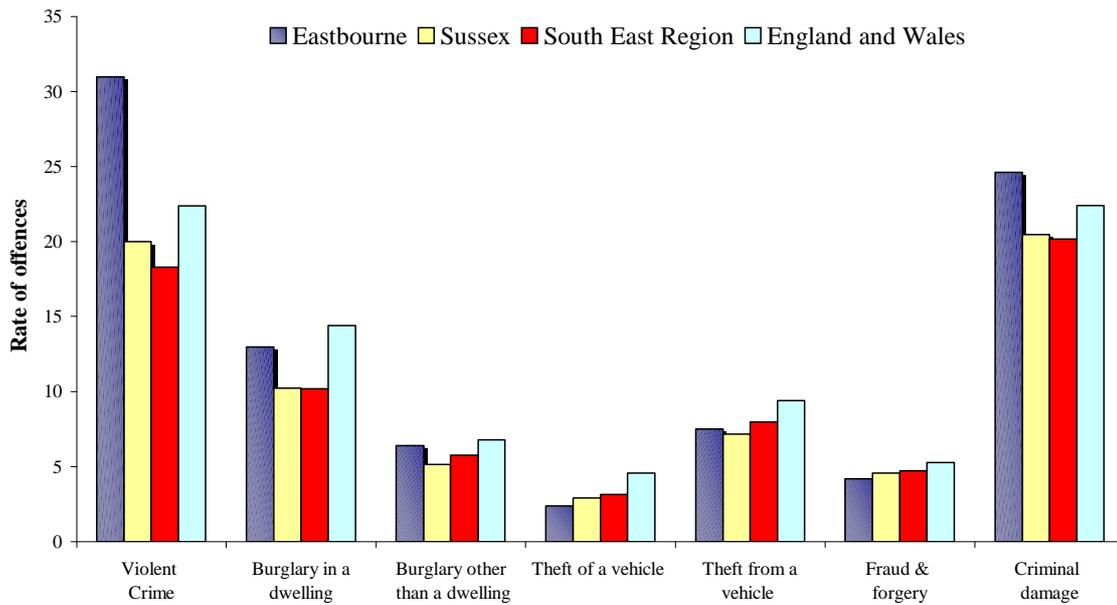
The rate of offences for 2004-05 per 1,000 of the resident population (per 1,000 households for Burglary) in Eastbourne compared to the National Levels, Sussex and The South East are shown in the chart below.

National Comparison: Burglary in a dwelling, Burglary other than a dwelling, Theft of a vehicle, Theft from a vehicle and Fraud & Forgery all have lower rates in Eastbourne than the national average. Violent Crime and Criminal Damage both have higher rates in Eastbourne than in England and Wales.

Regional Comparison: Eastbourne crime rates are higher than Sussex as a whole in all of the offence types with the exception of Vehicle Crime (Theft of and Theft from a Motor Vehicle). This would be expected as Eastbourne is an urban area within East Sussex with a greater population intensity, areas of deprivation as well as a high number of visitors coming into the area, thereby boosting the population, most notably in the Summer.

Compared to the South East Region, Eastbourne has a lower rate of Vehicle Crime and Fraud & Forgery, whilst rates of Violent Crime, Criminal Damage and Burglary (both domestic and non domestic) are higher.

Chart 2: Comparison of Crime Rates 2004-05

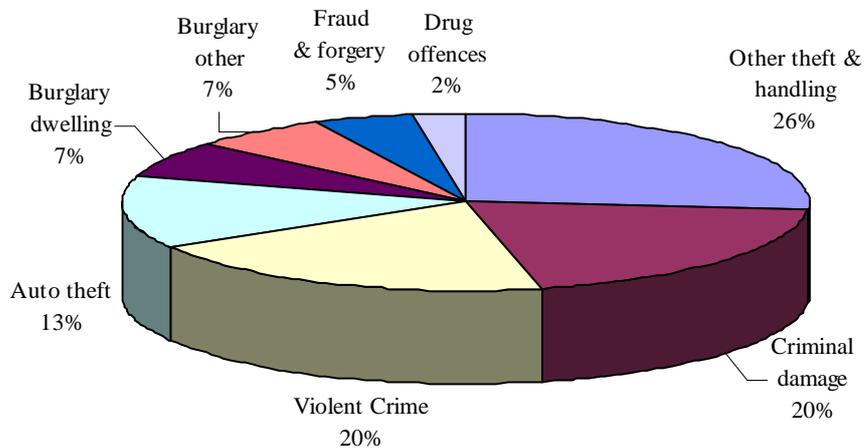


Source: Crime in England and Wales 2004/2005: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office July 2005
Sussex Police "Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Crime By Crime Type" March 2005

What crime takes place in the area?

All recorded offences taken from Sussex Police Performance Data over the strategy period from 2002/03 to 2004/05 have been amalgamated using broad crime classifications in order to provide an overview of the type and frequency of offences in the area.

Chart 3: Type of Offence 2002-05

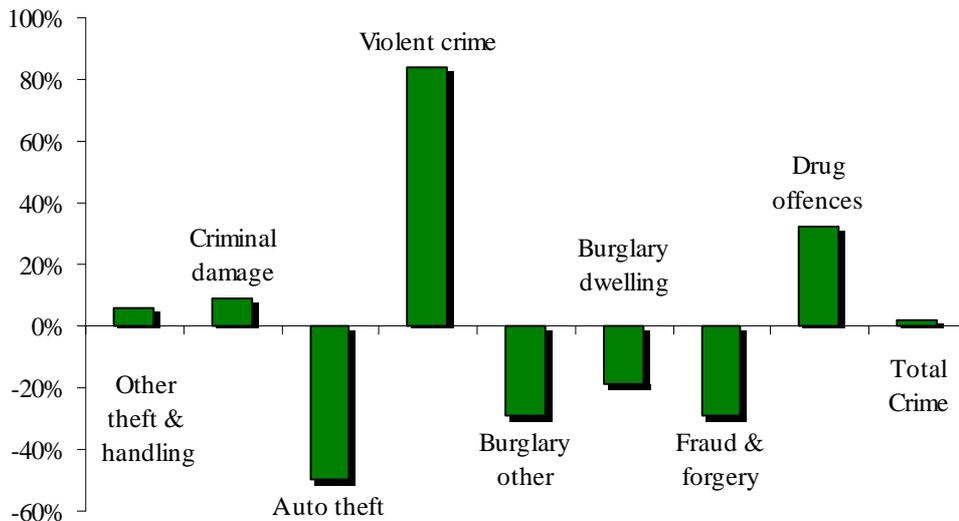


The most common type of offence is Other Theft, with over one in four offences committed and recorded in the area. Shoplifting makes up a significant proportion of these offences, whilst cash, mobile phones, bags and purses make up the bulk of property taken in theft offences.

Which Crimes have Increased/Decreased?

The chart below shows how broad crime group offences have changed between 2002-03 and 2004-05. There have been noticeable reductions in Burglary, Vehicle Crime (Auto Theft) and Fraud. Increases have occurred in Total Crime, Criminal Damage, Drug Offences and in particular Violent Crime. However drug offences are linked to police activity and thereby signify a greater focus and success in combating drugs. Violent Crime had increased, though a proportion of this can be attributed to changes in the way crimes are recorded.

Chart 4: Changes in Recorded Crime 2002/03 to 2004/05



What does this tell us?

- Total Crime in Eastbourne has risen during the period of the strategy.
- Crime Rates for Burglary in a dwelling, Burglary other than a dwelling, Theft of a vehicle, Theft from a vehicle and Fraud & Forgery are all lower rates than the national average.
- Violent Crime and Criminal Damage both have higher rates in Eastbourne than in England and Wales.
- Compared to the South East Region, Eastbourne has a lower rate of Vehicle Crime and Fraud & Forgery, whilst rates of Violent Crime, Criminal Damage and Burglary (both domestic and non domestic) are higher.
- Eastbourne crime rates are higher than Sussex as a whole in all of the offence types with the exception of Vehicle Crime. This would be expected as Eastbourne is an urban area within East Sussex with a greater population density, areas of deprivation as well as a high number of visitors coming into the area, thereby boosting the population, most notably in the Summer
- The most prominent type of offence in Eastbourne is Theft, with over one in four offences committed and recorded in the area. Cash, mobile phones, bags and purses make up the bulk of property taken. Shoplifting makes up a significant proportion of these offences.
- Criminal Damage accounts for one in five offences recorded in the area, mostly made up of damage to vehicles.
- Vehicle crime accounts for 13% of all offences recorded in Eastbourne, with theft from a vehicle being the most common single type of offence.
- Violent crime occurs less often than Theft and Criminal Damage. Sexual Offences and Robbery each account for just 1% of all offences in Eastbourne.
- Burglary makes up 13% of all offences in Eastbourne, divided equally between Domestic Burglary and Burglary Other Than Dwellings.
- There have been noticeable reductions in Burglary, Vehicle Crime (Auto Theft) and Fraud during the lifetime of the strategy.
- Increases have occurred in Total Crime, Criminal Damage, Drug Offences and in particular Violent Crime.
- Changes in the way crimes are recorded partly explain the increase in Violent Crime.

Perception of Crime

In preparation of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002 to 2005 widespread consultation on local crime concerns was undertaken using a variety of mechanisms. This included a Community Safety Survey and focus groups with young people, the business community, ethnic minorities and gay and lesbian groups.

Continuing consultation with the community was undertaken throughout the lifetime of the strategy using mechanisms such as Sussex Police Authority public meetings and by inviting community

representatives to attend partnership meetings to enable ongoing dialogue about their crime and disorder concerns.

The following are examples of the 2001 consultation findings that have driven development and future plans:	How the partnership responded:
<p>Residents wanted action to deal with anti-social behaviour</p> <p>Residents wanted a Community Street Wardens Scheme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employing an Anti-Social Behaviour Officer to undertake a liaison role to ensure effective multi-agency working on cases of anti-social behaviour and nuisance e.g. Good Behaviour Contracts and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders • Holding monthly problem solving meetings between representatives of Police, Housing and Environmental Health to reduce the incidents of anti-social behaviour and deal swiftly and effectively with anti-social behaviour incidents • Developing the Community Street Wardens to proactively engage with the local community to ensure delivery of services aimed at deterring anti-social behaviour, reducing crime and the fear of crime, fostering social inclusion and caring for the physical appearance of streets • Conducting truancy sweeps to reduce school truancy and reduce the opportunity for anti-social behaviour and encourage social inclusion • Continuing to develop detached and mobile youth projects to work in crime hotspots in specific neighbourhoods • Employing two Safer Schools Partnership Officers to assist secondary school Head Teachers to prevent and detect crimes and incidents of anti-social behaviour committed by pupils • Developed a Business Crime Manager post to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the business community
<p>Greater police presence wanted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Community Support Officers introduced in 2003 • The partnership purchased bikes for Neighbourhood Policing Teams to further increase their visibility • Increasing the number of High visibility Patrols in the town centre under operation Confront
<p>More facilities for young people seen as a solution to youth nuisance/crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership to develop specific crime diversionary projects, including the Positive Activities for Young Peoples Programme (please see section below entitled "Anti-Social Behaviour Harassment and nuisance") • Purchasing 2 Youth Shelters • Conducting the summer activities programme for Year 11 school leavers at risk of not pursuing the option of education, training, or work • Implementing the Towner on the Town which provides developmental and diversionary projects targeted at young people at risk of social exclusion, older people and people currently engaged in substance misuse programmes
<p>More CCTV coverage wanted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 fixed CCTV cameras installed in the Town Centre • Purchased a Mobile CCTV Unit to use in crime and disorder hotspot areas
<p>Police to target drug dealers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced a Drugs Fighting Fund for targeted proactive operations against drug dealers
<p>Awareness campaigns wanted for domestic violence, sexual abuse and substance misuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing outreach and crisis support, advocacy and information services to women and men experiencing domestic violence through the Step Forward domestic violence project • Developing and maintaining training for agency workers • Promoting and raising awareness of domestic violence issues

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running Crimestoppers campaigns to encourage the community to come forward and report drug and alcohol related crime • Funding a Community Outreach Worker to engage substance-misusing clients who are not currently in treatment, and to assist them in accessing treatment • Developing a Youth Mobile to engage with young people and raise awareness of substance misuse • Employing an East Sussex Racist Incident Caseworker to promote the reporting of racist incidents, encourage victims and witnesses to come forward and to provide effective casework for victims
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Sources - 1999 Residents Survey, 2001 Community Safety Survey, 2002 Community Strategy Focus Groups, 2002 Best Value Review of Community Safety

Evaluation of Services and their Impact on Crime and Disorder

Over the 3 years of the 2002 to 2005 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy a wide range of initiatives has been undertaken. Listed below are examples of actions undertaken in each of the 6 priority crime areas. A sample of these initiatives has been subject to greater evaluation and these are also detailed below.

Partnership Priority	Action
The fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a visible presence – Introducing Community Street Wardens and Police Community Support Officers • Delivering Environmental Improvements • Promoting the work of the Partnership – Community Safety Handbook sent to all households, Articles in the Review , Press articles, local and national radio and television coverage, Sponsorship of the 999 Emergency Event, Features on the partnership in local newsletters such as Neighbourhood Watch, Tenants Newsletters, Borough Beat and Community Newsletters such as Shine-On • Implementing the Towner on the Town which provides developmental and diversionary projects targeted at young people at risk of social exclusion, older people and people currently engaged in substance misuse programmes
Drug Related Crime (including theft of and from vehicles, domestic burglary and Business Crime)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking pro-active operations to tackle local drug markets • Providing close supervision and comprehensive, intensive treatment for convicted offenders through drug treatment and testing orders • Providing community outreach to hard to reach drug users, in particular crack users • Supporting local user/ ex-user support groups • Running Crimestoppers campaigns to encourage the community to come forward and report drug and alcohol related crime • Supporting East Sussex Drug & Alcohol Action Team in providing new drug treatment services, including specialist services for women and crack users • Developing a rapid reaction protocol for closure of crack houses, in partnership with the ECRP, Sussex Police, Housing, Environmental Health, local treatment agencies. • Employing specialist Police Officer and Probation Support Officer to ensure persistent offenders in Wealden, Eastbourne & Lewes are identified and prioritised for treatment. • Developing a supported housing project for people undergoing the Turnaround community detox programme. • Creating a Youth Mobile to engage with young people and raise awareness of substance misuse. • Multi-Agency targeting of prolific offenders • Employing a Business Crime Manager to achieve the Home Office Approved Safer Shopping Award • Purchasing the Business Information Crime System to collate and disseminate local business crime information • Increasing the number of high visibility patrols in hotspot areas • Undertaking Beat the Burglar Campaigns such as Operation sunshine and Operation twilight • Undertaking Operation Hyena in vehicle crime hotspots • Distributing crime prevention messages • Increasing the number of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. • Publishing supplementary planning guidance on designing out crime • Providing additional funding to increase the number of homes receiving security improvements within hotspot areas
Partnership Priority	Action

Violent crime (including public place violent crime, domestic violence and racist incidents)	
Public place violent crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-agency targeting of Prolific and Priority Offenders • Appointing a violent crime officer to extend the pubwatch communications radio-link to all licensed premises and late night refreshment houses and to introduce exclusion orders for violent offenders • Implementing new Licensing policies following the Licensing Act 2003 which gave control of the Licensing system for pubs, clubs, restaurants, theatres and cinemas to local authorities are in place • Introducing of a Standard Code of Conduct for licensed premises which includes; a generic incident report form, incident mapping systems, and an offence violations system • Conducting joint Police and Environmental Health visits to licensed premises visiting pubs and clubs to ensure compliance with licensing laws • Introducing Amnesty boxes for drugs and weapons into clubs • Introducing metal detectors for door staff at clubs • Conducting high visibility policing patrols in violent crime hotspot areas • Undertaking proactive targeting of Community Support Officers at taxi ranks, clubs and violent crime hotspot areas • Purchasing two additional fixed Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) to be located in the violent crime hotspot area within the Town Centre • Adopting a designation order prohibiting consumption of alcohol in public places and enforcing street drinking legislation • Introducing the Citizens Card proof of age scheme • Undertaking joint test purchases for under age sales of alcohol • Purchasing a CCTV van for use in violent crime and anti-social behaviour hotspot areas • Reviewing late night transport arrangements and positioning of taxi ranks in the town centre • Installing CCTV in Taxi Cabs that commit to working in the evenings • Implementing Operation Columbus an initiative designed to reduce student robberies • Continuing to implement the Door Supervisors Registration Scheme • Enforcing by-laws to prevent urination in public • Continuing to implement Operation Columbus an initiative designed to reduce student robberies
Domestic Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing an 8 bedroom refuge with help, advice and advocacy support • Developing an outreach and floating support team to support women living in the community • Providing a service to convicted perpetrators of domestic violence to motivate a change in their behaviour • Providing outreach and crisis support, advocacy and information services to women and men experiencing domestic violence through the Step Forward domestic violence project • Developing and maintaining training for agency workers • Promoting and raising awareness of domestic violence issues • Developing new ways of addressing the links between domestic violence, anti-social behaviour and violent crime • Contributing to the formation of the East Sussex Domestic Violence Strategy which enables new developments to be undertaken on a County-Wide basis and avoids creating gaps in service provision
Partnership Priority	Action
Domestic Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an East Sussex Domestic Violence reporting form for all agencies to capture data in a common way

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a Social Services policy on domestic violence which includes vulnerable adults and people with mental health problems Raising awareness of domestic violence issues with the Health Sector in particular General Practitioners
Racist Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employing a Racist Incident Caseworker to promote the reporting of racist incidents and to encourage victims and witnesses to come forward Working with a range of agencies to develop appropriate procedures and mechanisms for reporting, recording and responding to racist incidents. Setting up support systems for victims of racist incidents. The racist incident caseworker, victim services and victim support all support victims of racist incidents. Building the trust and confidence of black and minority ethnic people and witnesses to come forward and report racist incidents
Anti-Social Behaviour including:	
Abandoned vehicles and vehicle arson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launching Operation crackdown which aims to dramatically reduce the time abandoned cars are left on roads of Eastbourne. Conducting Operation Balmoral a joint hotspot campaigns to target and remove abandoned, untaxed and unsafe vehicles Undertaking quick strike campaigns out following car fires in Hotspot areas to identify any other abandoned vehicles in the area. Undertaking Operation Backdraft – East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service Joint working to apprehend the persons responsible for arson. Developing a diversionary scheme, to run in arson hotspot areas. The Fire Safety Road show is based around the Schools' Education Vehicle, Community Fire Safety staff and local crews engaged with youngsters in activities that were fun and physical, but focused on a fire safety message. Continuing the Juvenile Firesetter Advisors' Scheme dealing with children who have an unhealthy fascination with fire. The program investigates why some young people start fires and aims to help them understand and change their behaviour. Forming a joint Police and Fire and Rescue Service Arson Reduction Team. Enhancing arson detection capability by employing a Hydrocarbon Detecting dog and handler.
Harassment and Nuisance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a Community Street Wardens Scheme designed to proactively engage with the local community to ensure delivery of services aimed at deterring anti-social behaviour, reducing crime and the fear of crime, fostering social inclusion and caring for the physical appearance of streets Employing a Specialist Anti-Social Behaviour Worker post to undertake a liaison role to ensure effective multi-agency working on cases of anti-social behaviour and nuisance Holding monthly problem solving meetings between representatives of Police, Housing and Environmental Health to reduce the incidents of anti-social behaviour and deal swiftly and effectively with anti-social behaviour incidents. Conducting truancy sweeps to reduce school truancy and reduce the opportunity for anti-social behaviour and encourage social inclusion
Partnership Priority	Action
Harassment and Nuisance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registering Houses of Multiple Occupation in order to improve standards, management of tenancies and appearance of buildings Introducing a Safer Schools Partnership Officer into six secondary schools in Eastbourne to assist Headteachers in the prevention and detection of crimes or acts of anti-social behaviour committed within school premises or by pupils travelling to and from school premises Working in partnership to develop specific crime diversionary projects including:

- The Midnight Basketball League sports project in Shinewater
- Contributing £25,000 to the construction of the Shinewater Ball Court/Skate Park – Xtreme Supreme
- Developing the first Eastbourne ramp club following the opening of Xtreme Supreme. The purpose of the club is to reduce anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
- Youth Development initiated Youth Club evenings at Willingdon Trees Community Centre. The Club offers activity sessions, cooking and trips out. The Street Wardens help with this club has proved invaluable
- Developing a film and video project in Hampden Park and Willingdon Trees. Over 100 young people were able to access the equipment during 2002/3 and many short films were made including one on health active lifestyles as an alternative to substance misuse for the partnerships Crimestoppers Event
- Plug into Eastbourne - this was a seven month digital music and video project in which 170 workshop sessions were delivered to over 200 young people aged between 12 to 18
- Conducting a 10 week course of drumming workshops in Old Town
- Establishing a mountain bike park on the side of the South Downs
- Purchasing 2 youth shelters
- A Positive Activities for Young Peoples Programme
- Developing a youth website to provide young people information on what activities, courses, services, events are available for them in Eastbourne.
- Targeted improvement of Council recreation facilities in consultation with the local community on design and equipment in order to reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour
- Introducing Introductory Tenancies for new tenants
- Continuing to develop detached and mobile youth projects to work in crime hotspots in specific neighbourhoods
- Conducting Megabox workshops designed to reduce the number of young people subject to anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and social exclusion
- Continuing to implement Towner on the Town which provides developmental and diversionary projects targeted at young people at risk of social exclusion, older people and people currently engaged in substance misuse programmes
- Continuing the summer activities programme for Year 11 school leavers at risk of not pursuing the option of education, training, or work
- Purchasing anti-social behaviour surveillance equipment

EVALUATION OF SELECTED SERVICES

Where significant resources have been directed into partnership services detailed evaluation has been undertaken. Below is a selection of service from each priority area, which gives greater information on the impact of these services on crime and disorder reduction.

PRIORITY: BURGLARY, VEHICLE CRIME, VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUGS.

Operation Confront

Operation Confront was launched on 17/11/2003 mainly across the wards of Devonshire and parts of Meads. The intention of the operation was to provide high visibility policing and to target known criminals. Many of the Districts priority criminals and drug dealers lived and operated within the area. It continues to be the Districts highest area of crime across all crime types, particularly public place violent crime. This should not be too surprising since the area has the highest density of pubs and clubs in the town.

The initiative continues to focus on high visibility policing and the tactical placing of police officers on the street. Each week over 1,000 hours of high visibility foot and bike patrols continue to take place in the area, targeting car criminals, burglars and drug dealers. Beggars and street drinkers are consistently targeted, with street drinkers, on a daily basis, having their alcohol poured away since they are in the area of the street-drinking ban.

Figures for crime in the Eastbourne area for the rolling 12 months are

- Burglary dwelling -13%
- Car crime -15%
- Robbery - 32%
- Criminal damage + 15%
- Shoplifting +2%

Eastbourne's detection rate is 34% which is top of the force and 5.5% above the force average

There are strong links through the Eastbourne Business Crime group, which is fully supported by the Crime Reduction Partnership and works closely on a day to day basis with the Police. 7 out of 10 reports of shoplifting are detected.

There continues to be an increase in public place violent crime, which has increased by 19% against the force increase of 21%. This could be for two probable reasons. The first is rigorous enforcement of the National crime recording standards and the second is the increased number of officers on the street on points on Friday and Saturday nights. As a result they come into direct contact with violent crime that takes place and arrest suspects. The Crime Reduction Partnership have recently launched Nightwatch, which seeks to ban violent offenders and serve exclusion notices on those who commit violent crime in Eastbourne. Operation Confront will play a key role in the identification of potential offenders for exclusion and the targeting of Public Place Violent Crime hotspot areas.

The Confront operation also includes regular Joint Licensing visits where problem premises and under age drinking are specifically targeted. Test Purchase Operations have been carried out jointly with Trading Standards. Additionally in August 2005, following a number of Foreign Student assaults and reports of disorderly behaviour in the vicinity of Eastbourne pier, 44 young people were stopped on a Friday night and either taken home or had their parents written to regarding their involvement in antisocial behaviour.

There is a new licensing regime coming to fruition in the next month and through negotiation staggered closure between the main nightclubs in the town has been agreed. It is felt however that there will be increased pressure on policing resources over the weekends in particular in managing Public Place Violent Crime fuelled by excess alcohol and operation Confront will continue to be critical in addressing this.

One of the main successes of the direct targeting of Operation Confront has been that of Partnership working. The Police have worked closely with East Sussex Fire and Rescue and various departments of Eastbourne Borough Council. This joint working has successfully

managed two premises, which have caused significant crime, antisocial behaviour and drug problems for residents living in the vicinity of two houses of multiple occupation. These are the Atlantic Hotel in Pevensey Road and the Cambridge Hotel in Cambridge Road. Both premises had a section 20 immediacy notice served on them by East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service. This meant that both premises were closed and both remain boarded up due to the risk of fire. Extremely positive feedback has been received from members of the public and elected members at both locations.

Operation Confront continues and will be part of the policing fabric of the town for the future.

Crime Fighting Fund

The Crime Fighting Fund now assists police in tackling Public Place Violent Crime and Criminal Drug Activity in the area of Eastbourne and has formed a key part of the Crime Reduction Partnerships Strategy to reduce the level of overall recorded crime.

A range of strategies are used in policing operations including

- Active targeting of drug dealers
- Intelligence gathering operations
- Execution of warrants
- Test purchase operations
- Targeting of supply routes to the town (London, Brighton and Hastings)
- Continued monitoring of drug suppliers/market with appropriate intelligence led enforcement activity

Other linked initiatives include

- Use of cycle patrols to provide high visibility deterrent in key areas where drug activity took place
- A positive anti-drug press strategy to provide public reassurance and disrupt drug dealing
- Police officers undertaking joint patrols with a separately funded Priority and Prolific Offenders outreach worker
- Police home visits on suspected drug dealers and criminals

The focus on disruption of drug dealing is believed to have had a direct impact on crime in the area which is showing over the rolling year:-

- Total crime – +6% (+693)
- Burglary dwelling -13%(-72 offences)
- Robbery – -32%(-47)
- Vehicle crime – -15% (-164)
- Criminal damage +16% (+342)

Eastbourne police are fully committed to tackling antisocial behaviour, drug dealing and public place violent crime. This can only be achieved by maintaining the strong partnership working which is now in place. Police anticipate further closure of premises where appropriate. The commitment will also continue in targeting the Prolific Offenders who cause Eastbourne most harm.

PRIORITY: ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND THE FEAR OF CRIME

Anti-Social Behaviour Officer

The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer post was created in 2002 with the primary aims of:

1. Reducing anti-social behaviour in the community and improving community perceptions of crime and disorder through working with Partner Agencies and Local Action Teams/Community groups to target community problems

2. The postholder achieves this by gathering evidence of antisocial behaviour, entering into Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's) with people who commit antisocial behaviour, monitoring compliance with ABC's and where appropriate, collating evidence for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO's), eventually leading to court applications. The role then extends to pursuing any subsequent breaches of ASBO's

Specific tasks of the antisocial behaviour officer includes:

1. Undertaking contact and home visits in first instance re people who are being identified as committing antisocial behaviour and consider if ABC/ASBO is appropriate
2. Ensuring people on ASBO/ABC's and those identified through the Prevent and Deter group and Problem Solving group are referred to appropriate initiatives aimed at reducing their antisocial behaviour, working closely with Young Person Crime Reduction Worker (a new partnership post).
3. Undertaking a liaison role to ensure effective multi-agency working on cases of antisocial behaviour
4. Monitoring behaviour/offending of people on "warning letters", ABC's
5. Working closely with the prevent and deter group re progress of young people identified by the group, including regular updates
6. Collating information and evidence for action to secure ABC's and ASBO's, ensure witness statements are obtained and witnesses receive support. Liase with Sussex Police force solicitor regarding ASBO applications and act as a professional witness where appropriate.
7. Providing relevant data re ASBO/ABC's to assist targeting of interventions re age/sex
8. Arranging, chairing and minuting the multi-agency Problem Solving Group involving partners in Housing, registered social landlords, social services and schools to develop a multi-agency response to individual cases of anti-social behaviour.
9. Working with local communities through Local Action Teams to target antisocial behaviour in the communities

The current post holder is a seconded police officer. Since taking up the post in March 2004 the following results have been achieved: -

9 community based Antisocial Behaviour Orders have been obtained through applications to the court. This is a great achievement, as ASBO's have historically proved difficult to obtain due to difficulties faced in gathering enough evidence. These ASBO's will have a significant impact on improving the quality of life for many of the Eastbourne residents, as it will reduce the antisocial behaviour they have been experiencing in their communities. They provide greater powers to the police to deal robustly with antisocial behaviour as they provide specific restrictions on the activities of certain individuals, aimed at reducing antisocial behaviour. 2 of these individuals are currently serving custodial sentences for breaches of their ASBO's. There are also 4 ASBO's pending, awaiting court hearings.

It is to the credit of the postholder that they have received praise from the Sussex Police force solicitor on the quality of the ASBO files being submitted.

36 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts have been entered into. Of these, only 2 have had to progress to ASBO applications due to persistent non-compliance. 11 have been removed due to compliance and a reduction in offending/calls over a 6-month period. 10 out of this 11 were young people.

Currently 23 people are being monitored regularly through ABC's. This is in addition to the SSPO ABC's which the ASB officer will also assist with.

The ASB officer has also worked closely with communities, in particular Kingsmere and Langney. This has been in partnership with other agencies to reduce anti-social behaviour in the community. Linked to this the Problem Solving group (chaired by the ASB officer) continues to go from strength to strength.

The postholder liases closely with other agencies and plays a significant role in the newly formed Prevent and Deter group, part of a government strategy aimed at reducing offending by young people. This includes regular case conferences and has led to a new CRP funded post of young peoples support worker that is currently being recruited and will work alongside the

ASB officer assisting with providing assessments, referrals and interventions aimed at reducing offending of young people. This additional post will greatly enhance the prevention side of the ASB role.

Safer Schools Partnership Officer

The Safer Schools Partnership Officer (SSPO) post was created in 2002 to reduce the prevalence of crime and victimisation of young people in and around school premises. The SSPO works in partnership with the school and Head teacher to engage young people, challenge unacceptable behaviour and encourage young people to develop respect for themselves and their community. A key role of the SSPO is to prevent and detect crimes and reduce crime and antisocial behaviour committed by students within schools or whilst travelling to and from schools.

The role has developed to include the monitoring of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts with school pupils and liaison with their parents working closely with Crime Reduction Partnership Antisocial Behaviour Officer post.

The role of the SSPO includes

1. Assisting schools with dealing with incidents of crime and antisocial behaviour committed by pupils
2. responding to incidents of drugs and substance misuse within schools
3. Assisting schools with incidents of bullying as appropriate and in conjunction with the schools own bullying policy.
4. Undertaking contact and home visits in first instance re young people who are being identified as committing antisocial behaviour within school and consider if ABC is appropriate, through liaison with school and ASB officer
5. Ensuring young people on school ABC's are referred to appropriate initiatives aimed at reducing their antisocial behaviour, working closely with Young Person Crime Reduction Worker (new post).
6. Undertaking a liaison role to ensure effective multi-agency working on cases of crime and antisocial behaviour within schools
7. Monitoring behaviour/offending of people on "warning letters", ABC's
8. working closely with the prevent and deter group re progress of young people identified by the group who are attending school, including providing regular updates to the group
9. Supporting CDRP crime prevention initiatives within schools
10. Targeting truancy through joint initiatives/campaigns

The post is considered so successful and demand so great that the post has been increased by another officer (police funded) and has been identified as best practice by Sussex Police. Jointly in the last 12 months (Sept 04 to Sept 05) the two SSPO's have carried out 2193 interventions. An "intervention" can be described as a face to face contact with a pupil and their parent/carer with the objective of preventing, resolving or detecting behaviour that could be described as criminal or antisocial. These interventions for this period are broken down as follows

• Bullying	359
• Crime	508
• Problem Parents	74
• Home Visits	400
• Anti Social Behaviour	780
• Drugs	72
• Total	2193

The majority of interventions have been resolved informally, however a small number were dealt by arrest (38) and 14 were crime detections. The types of offences detected include theft, handling, assault, arson, criminal damage and possession of controlled drugs. A note of caution needs to be struck here in that the recording of crime for detection purposes alone will tend to 'demonise' schools as 'hot beds of criminality' and a degree of common sense needs to be exercised to prevent this. To provide further support to schools the SSSPO will occasionally patrol the schools at lunch times as well as before and after the school day. These patrols have

a positive effect on attendance, punctuality and behaviour. The SSSP also undertakes regular Truancy Sweeps with SLO colleagues and Education Welfare Officers (EWOs) as well as travelling on school buses in response to identified problems.

The SSPO carries out many interventions with 'problem parents' at home addresses and therefore extends the influence of the school beyond the premises in order to resolve problems that would otherwise spill into the school arena if not checked. In excess of 20 school based ABC's signed and monitored with young people

It was hoped to show rates of 'coming to notice again' or 're-offending' following an intervention. Unfortunately these statistics are not currently available although anecdotal evidence suggests these rates to be very low and future evaluations are planned to include some case studies and assess how many young people on ABC's go on to be retained in education and not excluded.

The model of SLO and SSPO provides two sides of the Youth Justice Board's crime strategy, i.e. education and enforcement. The third side of the problem-solving triangle, 'treatment of offenders' is provided by the Youth Offending Team and the Criminal Justice System. However, the SSPO together with the ASB Officer will play a key role in the newly formed Prevent and Deter groups developing closer liaison with Youth offending teams and accessing support services where appropriate

All the Headteachers interviewed in an evaluation conducted in 2003 highly valued the contribution made by the Schools officers to their schools PSHE curriculum. They saw this as an invaluable service provided by the police to their pupils. The knowledge and experience of the SLO in matters of the Law, the Criminal Justice System, Personal Safety, Substance Misuse etc. which provides the pupils with the knowledge to make informed decisions on crime and behaviour should NOT be withdrawn to be replaced by an Intervention Officer. The six Headteachers saw the model of SLO and SSPO working in partnership in their schools as 'Best Practice' a view shared by the Sussex Police Community Safety Department Youth Safety Unit.