

Violence Reduction Network

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2019

Delivering for Croydon

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Executive Summary

This report provides analysis on crime and ASB in the borough, specifically violence. The data analysed is for the calendar year 2019 and it should be noted that recent impacts of Covid-19 are not included in the main data set.

Croydon has seen crime rise year-on-year in the last three years with violence representing the largest proportion of all crime in the borough at almost 30%. Violence has reflected this year-on-year increase with a 7% increase in 2019 compared to 2018 and a 12% increase in 2019 compared to two years before. It has been the second highest borough in London for the number of violent offences in the last three years. This report looks at the specific crime types which make up violence and recommend what can be done to reduce these specific crimes and, therefore, overall violence.

The types of analysis conducted in this report include statistical analysis, hotspot analysis, temporal analysis and suspect and victim analysis to name a few. Other types of analysis are also conducted and proposed to be fully implemented into the intelligence process. All of these types of analysis are done to identify patterns and trends to provide strategic direction for the Safer Croydon Partnership in reducing crime, particularly violence, in the borough.

The key findings of this report are the following:

- **The increase in all violence in the borough is significantly due to an increase in violence without injury:** it can be assumed that an increase in violence in the borough means there is an increase in people receiving serious physical harm. However, for the last three years around 60% of all violence is categorised as violence without injury. The increase in overall violence in the borough is significantly due to the rise in violence without injury offences.
- **Domestic abuse is a main factor towards the increase in all violence in the borough:** a third of all violence in the borough is domestic abuse and it has seen a similar year-on-year increase to overall violence. In terms of volume of offences, Croydon is ranked first in the past three years for domestic abuse and even if calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents (where Croydon has the second highest household population in London), the borough is ranked seventh, which is still relatively high.
- **There is a high volume of non-domestic violence with injury offences:** Though the increase in the past year has been relatively small, the volume of offences is high compared to other boroughs with Croydon being ranked the third highest in London. The temporal and victim and suspect analysis shows the increase is strongly linked to both youth violence and alcohol-related violence.
- **The involvement of young females in violence:** violence remains to predominantly involve males but the data shows that a significant proportion of female victims and suspects involve those of a younger age. For non-domestic violence with injury (VWI), over a quarter of all female suspects were aged 10-17 and over a fifth of all victims were in the same age category – the largest proportion of all female victims and suspects. Also, even though victims of youth violence are predominantly overrepresented by males, victims aged 14 and 19 years old were overrepresented by females. All those aged 1 to 19 years old treated by the London Ambulance Service also show females were overrepresented of those aged 15 and 16 years old. A significant proportion of victims and suspects involved in youth violence also pose an emerging problem.
- **There are common hotspots of all crime, particularly violence:** Croydon town centre is the primary hotspot for most crime and, specifically, all violent crime types. There are other common hotspots too including Thornton Heath High Street, South Norwood High Street, Purley High Street and parts of London Road.
- **Other types of violence-related data reveals other hotspots:** police crime data is primarily used to identify hotspots of violence. However the use of other types of data, specifically LAS, A & E and weapon sweeps data, reveals other hotspots not initially identified.
- **Youth violence continues to be a factor towards all violence in the borough:** this includes both youth violence and serious youth violence. Even though both types have seen a year-on-year decrease, the borough's ranking for volume of offences is still high (2nd for YV and 5th for SYV). The temporal analysis also shows strong links to other violent types including non-DA VWI and knife crime. The suspect data of youth violence also shows a significant proportion of offences that are linked to domestic abuse which have not been 'flagged' as such, especially females.

- **Knife Crime and SYV are significantly made up of personal robbery offences:** even though there has been a small increase in personal robbery last year compared to 2018, the rate is lower than the London average and Croydon's ranking (both volume and crime rate) is at its lowest in the last three years. Yet despite this, half of all knife crime and 40% of SYV involves personal robbery.
- **There is a significant decrease in self-referrals and those being sign-posted to the FJC:** even though direct referrals have seen an increase of 15% in 2019 compared to 2018, there has been a 12% decrease in self-referrals and those sign-posted to the FJC by an agency is down by a third.
- **There is a common demographic of victims and suspects of violence:** They are highly represented and overrepresented in a demographic including coming from large poor, most likely single parent families with very low income or claiming benefits due to mainly being unemployed. Many families struggle financially with loan repayment or house payments. Many live in overcrowded properties where a high number of children are present. They live in areas where residents feel it is highly affected by crime and vandalism. There is an increased probability they suffer from a range of health issues, both physical and mental. The communities they reside within are made up of residents from a variety of ethnic backgrounds.
- **Particular events and experiences in a young person's life contribute to them being involved in SYV:** life course analysis of a small sample of high risk perpetrators of SYV support the detailed analysis provided in the Vulnerable Adolescents Review¹ that significant events in a young person's life lead to being at risk of being involved in certain types of crime, whether as a victim or perpetrator (or in many cases, both). The brief life course analysis provided in this report showed a wide pattern of life events including domestic abuse, child neglect, older siblings involved in ASB and crime to name but a few.
- **Including crime harm provides more context to violence:** crime count can tell us the amount of crime by type is occurring and what time, where, who to etc. but it doesn't tell us how much harm is being committed. This report uses the Cambridge Crime Harm Index to provide an example of the different picture of overall violence including the identification of new hotspots. Analysis also states that only 2% of victims of domestic abuse in the borough were subject to over 50% of all harm in 2019.
- **Other crime types are significantly increasing:** these crimes include the following:
 - *Sexual offences:* offences are up by 8% compared to 2018 and up by almost a fifth compared to 2017. The borough is also ranked 8th which is highest in three years.
 - *Hate crime:* even though the borough has a lower crime rate compared to the London average, offences are up by over a quarter compared to 2018. The borough is still ranked 8th which is its highest in three years.
 - *Vehicle crime:* overall vehicle crime is up by over a fifth but it's theft from motor vehicle which is mainly contributing to this increase. Theft from motor vehicle is up by over a quarter compared to 2018 and up by over a half compared to 2017. Croydon is ranked 6th in London which is its highest in three years.
 - *Residential burglary:* even though there has only been a small increase of 0.3% compared to 2018, there has been a 10% increase compared to 2017. The borough is also ranked 8th which is its highest in three years.
 - *Shoplifting:* offences are up by almost a quarter compared to 2018. The borough is also ranked 8th which is its highest in three years.
 - *Business robbery:* offences are up by a third compared to 2018 and up by over 40% compared to 2017. The borough is also ranked 4th which is its highest in three years.
 - *Anti-social behaviour:* ASB calls are up by over 10% compared to 2018. Even though the rate is lower than the London average and Croydon's ranking is relatively low and static over the last three years, there has been an increase in rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and/or nuisance neighbours by over a fifth. The Council's ASB team has also seen a harassment/abuse or assault increase by over 40% compared to 2018. These measures are both clear indicators of violence.

¹ Croydon's Vulnerable Adolescent Review can be found here: <https://croydonlcsb.org.uk/2019/02/croydon-vulnerable-adolescent-review-report-2019/>

The key findings show many types of violence are interlinked with each other as well as other types of crime and ASB. However, there are also isolated challenges of specific types of violence which the borough must tackle. From these findings this report provides the following recommendations:

- 1. Domestic abuse should be at the core of the VRN's approach to reducing violence.** There are several reasons for this: the large proportion of overall violence being domestic abuse, the severity and impact on those subject to the abuse and it is common a factor in the lives of those being involved in other types of violence, mainly youth violence and serious youth violence. The significant impact and crossover domestic abuse has on overall violence in the borough makes it vital to centralise it in the VRN's strategy.
- 2. Increase awareness of the FJC.** The decrease in self-referrals and agencies sign-posting to the FJC shows that a much wider and improved strategy in increasing awareness of the FJC is required, therefore to ultimately reach more of those at risk of domestic abuse and to ensure they are in safer and secure environments.
- 3. Both youth violence and SYV to be priorities of the VRN.** Even though there has been a decrease in both types of violence (albeit with SYV only slightly in the last year), the borough is still ranked highly for volume of offences and the analysis has shown they are both significant drivers of other types of violence e.g. Non-DA VWI.
- 4. A focus on knife-enabled personal robbery.** The direct links knife-enabled personal robbery has on overall knife crime and SYV shows that in order to reduce knife crime and SYV in the borough, the VRN should focus on reducing knife-enabled personal robbery. Then in turn both knife crime and SYV will notably fall too.
- 5. A greater focus on young females and violence.** It is easy and understandable that the VRN's approach to reducing violence, especially among young people, is focused on males due to the statistics. However, there is emerging evidence that young females are becoming involved in violence, both as victims and perpetrators. Therefore, it is key that greater attention is paid to young females at risk of violence and interventions are devised and delivered to suit them so to prevent them from causing and receiving harm.
- 6. Implement the Cambridge Crime Harm Index.** Whether to divert, disrupt or enforce, measures and interventions based on crime count can lack knowledge, focus and direction. By providing a greater focus on harm there is greater context provided on violence. Therefore, this provides greater intelligence, insight and clarity on violence being committed in the borough and also supplies a greater evidence base in coordinating specific priorities and initiatives in preventing violence. This report provides greater detail on how the Cambridge Crime Harm Index can be implemented and used in the VRN's work.
- 7. Use micro-hotspots and the strategy of targeting, testing and tracking.** This report details the necessity in targeting specific areas within a hotspot – known as micro-places or micro-hotspots. Micro-hotspots have been proven to be effective in reducing crime in the areas where there is a high crime concentration and therefore reducing crime in the hotspot. Using this approach on Croydon town centre is detailed in this report and emphasises that it will only be effective by targeting the area, testing specific interventions in that area and, most importantly, continuously tracking the specific tasks are being carried out in the area.
- 8. Improve our understanding of the demographic links to violence:** The analysis provided by the Acorn system shows there is a clear demographic of victims and suspects highly represented and overrepresented compared to the rest of the borough. These demographic characteristics should be considered and discussed throughout the intelligence gathering, coordinating and decision-making process.
- 9. Other data sources are required to provide a clearer picture of violence.** There is a clear reliance on police crime data for performance measurement and analysis of violence. Relying and focusing on one data source restricts the perception of violence in the borough and therefore can be misleading. Attention is focused elsewhere then if a wider range of data sources are used, greater clarity is given as well as other factors of violence are identified. An example of this is using LAS, A & E and weapon sweeps data to uncover other hotspots of violence not identified by police crime data.
- 10. Other crimes and ASB should also be prioritised.** Sexual offences, ASB and hate crime should remain priorities for the SCP, which are all types or indicators of violence. Residential burglary, theft from motor vehicle, shoplifting and business robbery should also be considered to be priorities for the SCP due to the significant increases there has been in the borough. However, as these are mostly acquisitive crimes it is possibly more relevant for these crimes to be recommended as priorities for the police in the borough.

Introduction

The aim of this report is to identify the key factors in the rise in crime in the borough, specifically violence. From the key findings of this report, it is reinforced that the evidence-based public health approach currently adopted by the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) is continued and enhanced in order to significantly reduce violence in the borough. Therefore, for this approach to be effective, it is emphasised that it must be data-driven at every stage.

What does this report mean by 'Violence'?

This report is split mainly into two main sections. The first section is on violence and the second section is on other major crimes. 'Violence' can cover a wide range of offences and many research documents differ in what offence types are included and excluded under 'violence'. This report focuses on the broad violent crime category used by the Home Office which is Violence against the Person, and then looks at the specific violent crime types that make up the majority of these offences: Violence with Injury (Non-Domestic), Domestic Abuse, Knife Crime, Youth Violence and Serious Youth Violence. Gun crime is also examined but to a lesser extent due to data limitations.

It can be argued that other crime types should also be included under 'violence', for example, personal robbery, sexual offences and hate crime. However, firstly, a significant number of personal robbery offences involve a young person being a victim and/or a weapon being used or imitated. These types of offences are both included in the definitions of knife crime, youth violence and serious youth violence, which are used in this report. Secondly, a significant number of sexual offences are included in the definitions of knife crime, domestic abuse, youth violence and serious youth violence. However, due to the complexities and seriousness of sexual offences including historical crimes, this report recognises it cannot provide the detailed examination of data required to give thorough and reliable analysis. Thirdly, reliable analysis of hate crime requires data from a wider range of sources which are currently being explored.

There are other high priority crime activities which this report also recognises are heavily linked to violence, specifically gang crime and county lines. These types of crime are looked at in great depth in collaboration with the Council's Gangs Team and other relevant departments in a yearly report, which due to its confidential nature is a restricted document.

The Cost of Violence

The tragic human consequences that comes from violence are obvious and unmatched. Alongside the tragic loss of life and misery experienced by families and communities are high economic consequences. These consequences are in three main cost areas:

- Costs in anticipation of violence e.g. CCTV.
- Costs as a consequence of violence e.g. physical and emotional harm to the victim, health services required, victim services etc.
- Costs in response to crime e.g. costs to the police and criminal justice system.

To put the cost of violence into context with most other major crime types in the borough, by using Home Office figures, calculations show that in 2019 overall violence made up almost 60% of the cost of crime in the borough, costing almost £110 million²:

Major Crime Type	Cost (£) 2015/16 prices	% Total Cost
Arson and Criminal Damage	4,036,420	2%
Burglary	22,224,800	12%
Robbery	13,666,760	7%
Sexual Offences	22,740,560	12%
Theft	2,361,180	1%
Vehicle	14,742,450	8%
Violence Against the Person	109,643,900	58%
Total	189,416,070	100%

² Calculated based on Heeks et al. (2018) *The economic and social costs of crime*. Home Office: London. Costs are calculated by multiplying the number of offences in the borough from MetStats by the unit cost. Note that only certain crime major types have unit costs provided so therefore they have only been calculated. Criminal damage costs have been calculated at an individual level rather than business to maintain consistency as the statistics cannot be broken down by individual and business.

By examining violence against the person into its major types, based violence statistics in the borough in 2019, the costs were the following:

Violence Type	Number of recorded offences	Unit Cost (£) 2015/16 prices	Total Cost (£) 2015/16 prices
Homicide	7	3,217,740	22,524,180
Violence with Injury	3,540	14,050	49,737,000
Violence without Injury	6,304	5,930	37,382,720
Total	9,851	3,237,720	109,643,900

Excluding homicide where the unit cost far outweighs other violent types, the unit cost of violence with injury is almost 2.5 times higher than violence without injury. Also even though the number of violence without injury offences were almost 2 times higher than violence with injury, the total cost of violence with injury is significantly higher (over 30%) than violence without injury. This reinforces the need for a focus on crime *harm* rather than *count*, which is detailed further in this report.

Borough Demographics

A detailed profile of the demographics of the borough is provided at the Croydon Observatory³. There are key demographics of the borough which are useful when reading this report including:

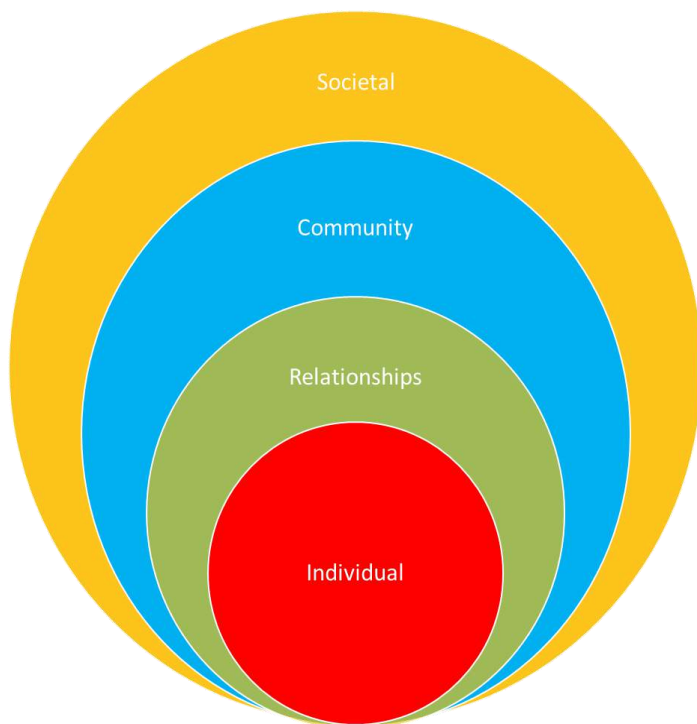
- According to housing-led projections of residents provided by the Greater London Authority (GLA), Croydon has the second highest resident population in London of almost 384,000 residents in 2019.
- Using housing-led projections of residents provided by the GLA, with a resident population of those aged 1-19 being just over 94,000 in 2019, Croydon has the highest number of residents of this age range in London.
- Croydon has a diverse population with a higher proportion of residents from Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds than the national average according to both the 2011 Census and GLA housing-led projections.
- According to local area migration indicators in 2018 from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) 17.1% of the borough's population is made up of non-UK residents.
- According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019, out of the 220 lower super output areas (LSOA) in the borough, one is in the top 5% most deprived in the country. Five LSOAs are in the top 10% most deprived in the country.
- For the crime domain of the IMD, three of the 220 LSOAs are in the top 5% of the most deprived in the country. Twelve LSOAs are in the top 10% most deprived in the country.

³ The Croydon Observatory can be found at <https://www.croydonobservatory.org/>

The Public Health Approach to Reducing Violence

The Violence Reduction Network (VRN) has been formed in Croydon to specifically reduce violence in the borough with a focus on the most prevalent types of violence. The VRN's plan in reducing violence is built around the public health approach, which is used by the London-wide Violence Reduction Unit set up by the Mayor of London in late 2018 and was originally established by Police Scotland in 2005 and is shown to be very successful in reducing violence⁴.

The public health approach⁵ involves a holistic view of both violence and coercion. It adopts an ecological framework based on evidence that no single factor can explain why some people or groups are at higher risk of interpersonal violence, while others are more protected from it. This framework views interpersonal violence as the outcome of interaction among many factors at four levels:



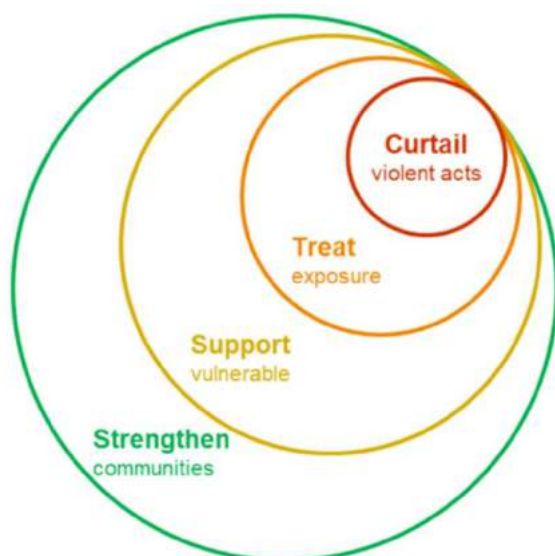
These include economic and social policies that maintain socioeconomic inequalities between people, the availability of weapons, and social and cultural norms such as parental dominance over children and cultural norms that endorse violence as an acceptable method to resolve.

The contexts in which social relationships occur, such as schools, neighbourhoods and workplaces, also influence violence. Risk factors here may include the level of unemployment, population density, mobility and the existence of a local drug or gun trade.

Family, friends, intimate partners and peers may influence the risks of becoming a victim or perpetrator of violence. For example, having violent friends may influence whether a young person engages in or becomes a victim of violence.

Personal history and biological factors influence how individuals behave and increase their likelihood of becoming a victim or a perpetrator of violence including being a victim of child maltreatment, psychological or personality disorders, alcohol and/or substance abuse

A more practical way of showing how the VRN adopts this ecological framework in reducing violence is by embedding the following core actions in its approach:



Curtail violent acts at source, pursuing perpetrators and enforcing action.

Treat those who have been exposed to violence to control the spread.

Support those susceptible to violence due to their exposure to risk factors.

Strengthen community resilience through a universal approach.

⁴ BBC News (2019) – How Scotland stemmed the tide of knife crime <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-45572691>

⁵ Local Government Association (2018) – Public Health Approaches to Reducing Violence <https://www.local.gov.uk/public-health-approaches-reducing-violence>

To achieve this there has to be a whole borough and networked approach to tackling violence involving a wide range of relevant partners. It is vital that evidence is at the heart of how the VRN will operate and that both victims and perpetrators are worked with. It is also important that the approach continually evolves and adapts to the changing nature of violence.

Violence against the Person (VAP)

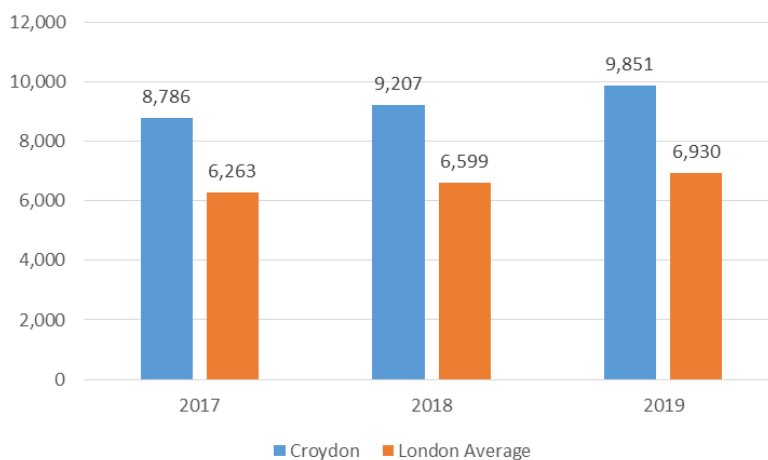
Definition

- The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) defines Violence against the Person (VAP) as that which ‘includes a range of offences from minor offences such as harassment and common assault, to serious offences such as murder, actual bodily harm and grievous bodily harm’⁶.

Statistics

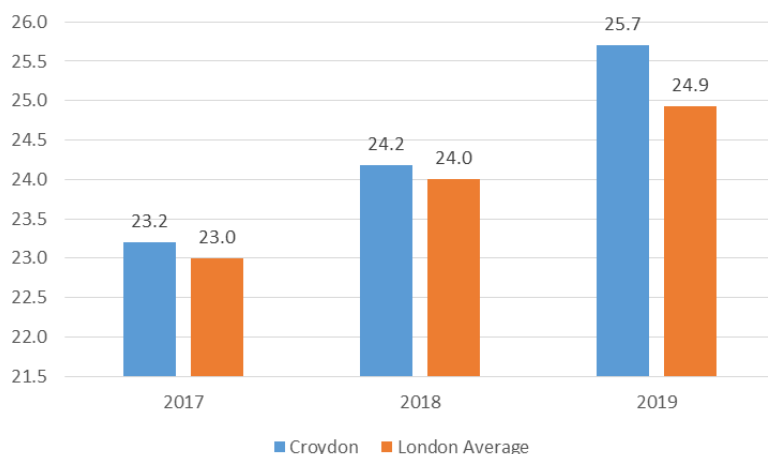
- There was a total of 9,851 VAP offences in 2019, an increase of 7.0% (644 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 9,207 offences recorded. This is a larger percentage increase compared to the London average⁷ where there was a 5.0% increase (331 offences) from 6,599 offences in 2018 to 6,930 offences in 2019. By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 12.1% increase (1,065 offences) in Croydon. Again, this is a larger percentage increase compared to the London average where there was a 10.7% increase (667 offences).

VAP statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 of residents, the rate of offences in the borough has risen year-on-year from 23.2 in 2017 to 24.2 in 2018 to 25.7 in 2019. The London average has also seen a year-on-year increase from 23.0 in 2017 to 24.0 in 2018 to 24.9 in 2019.

VAP crime rate per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Even though there has been an increase of offences in the borough, Croydon’s ranking has remained the same in the last three years (2nd). By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough’s ranking has also remained the same in the last three years (17th).

⁶ Metropolitan Police Service: Crime Type Definitions <https://www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data/met/crime-type-definitions/>

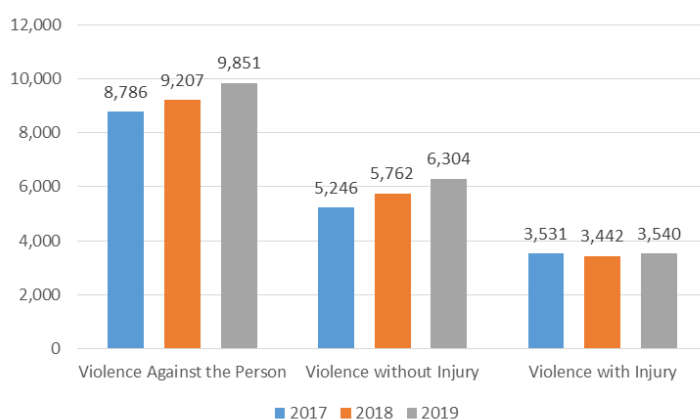
⁷ The ‘London average’ is defined in this report as the mean average borough in London.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and the highest crime rate.

	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	2	17
2018	2	17
2019	2	17

- VAP is made up of three sub categories: violence with injury, violence without injury and homicide. Violence without injury has a similar trend to VAP where it has been increasing year-on-year, whereas after a decrease in 2018, Violence with Injury saw a rise in 2019. Violence without injury made up 64.0% of all VAP offences.
- In 2019 there was a 9.4% increase in violence without injury compared to 2018 and a 20.2% increase compared to 2017. For violence with injury there was a 2.8% increase compared to 2018 and a 0.3% increase compared to 2017. In Croydon there were nine homicides in 2017, three in 2018 and seven in 2019.

VAP offences and the sub-categories Violence without Injury and Violence with Injury in Croydon in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.

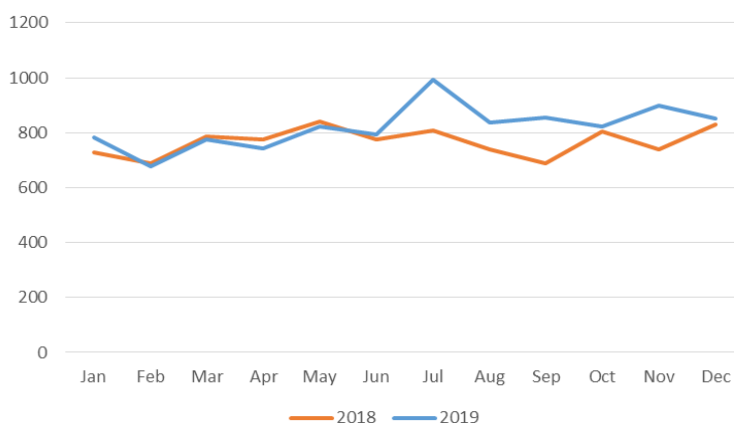


- The majority of VAP offences are made up of Common Assault (31.0%), ABH (24.1%) and Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety (14.8%). In regards to the third crime type, the majority of these crimes are due to threats or malicious posts made on social media or via texting/online messaging.
- 33.7% of all VAP offences were flagged as domestic abuse (DA).
- 17.4% of all VAP offences were alcohol-related and 15.0% of all non-DA offences were alcohol-related.
- The use of social media or online messaging was used in 15.1% of all offences⁸.

Temporal Analysis

- In 2019 the peak months for VAP were July and November. The peak months in 2018 were May and December. There is a similar trend in both 2018 and 2019 for the first six months of the year.

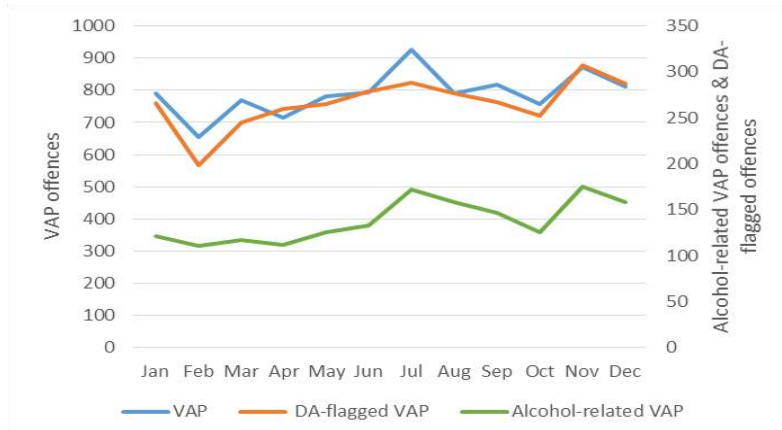
VAP offences committed by month in Croydon in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



⁸ To extract crimes where the use of social media and online messaging is used, a query is manually built with the use of 'wildcards' i.e. words or a set of words associated with social media and online messaging which are stated in the crime report. As well as the alcohol flags already on CRIS, the use of 'wildcards' are also used for alcohol-related crimes due to the unreliability of the use of alcohol flags.

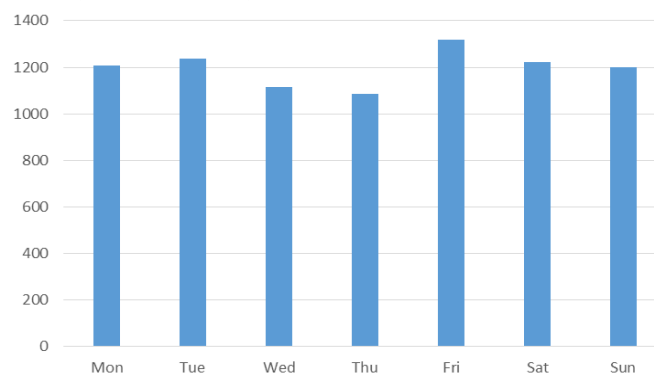
- The large increase in offences in July and November is linked to alcohol-related offences as well as domestic abuse flagged offences.

VAP, DA-flagged VAP and alcohol-related VAP offences by month in Croydon in 2019 taken from CRIS.



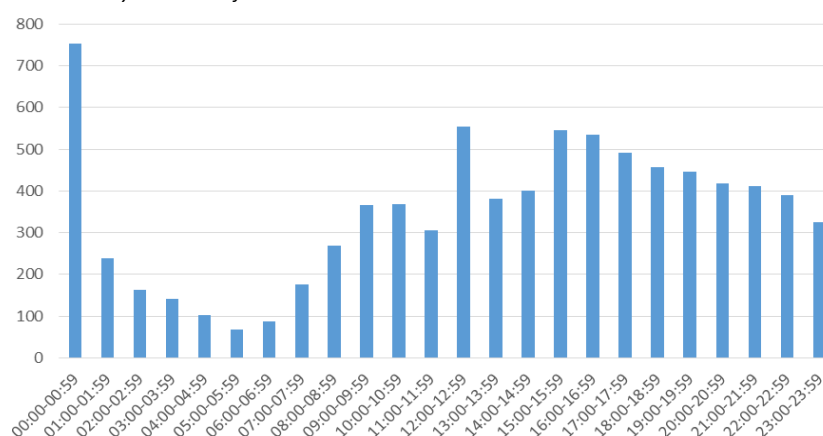
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the week with the peak days being Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.
- Friday and Saturday correlates with the night-time economy where VAP offences on these days peak from 18:00 to midnight. The rise in offences on Tuesday correlates with the 'after-school' hours of between 15:00 and 19:00.

VAP offences committed by day of the week in Croydon in 2019 taken from CRIS.



- The peak time for VAP offences was between 00:00 and 01:00 and between 12:00 and 13:00. However, it must be noted that many offences that involve electronic communication (e.g. harassment on social media or via texting) that midnight (00:00) and midday (12:00) are the default time(s) it will be recorded as. This is because these types of offences can occur over a period of time and therefore a specific time cannot be provided.
- Other times where a high volume of offences were committed were between 15:00 and 17:00, which correlate with the 'after-school' hours and is reflected by Youth Violence and Serious Youth Violence offences.
- On Friday and Saturday there is also a link to the night-time economy with an increase in offences between 18:00 and 00:00.

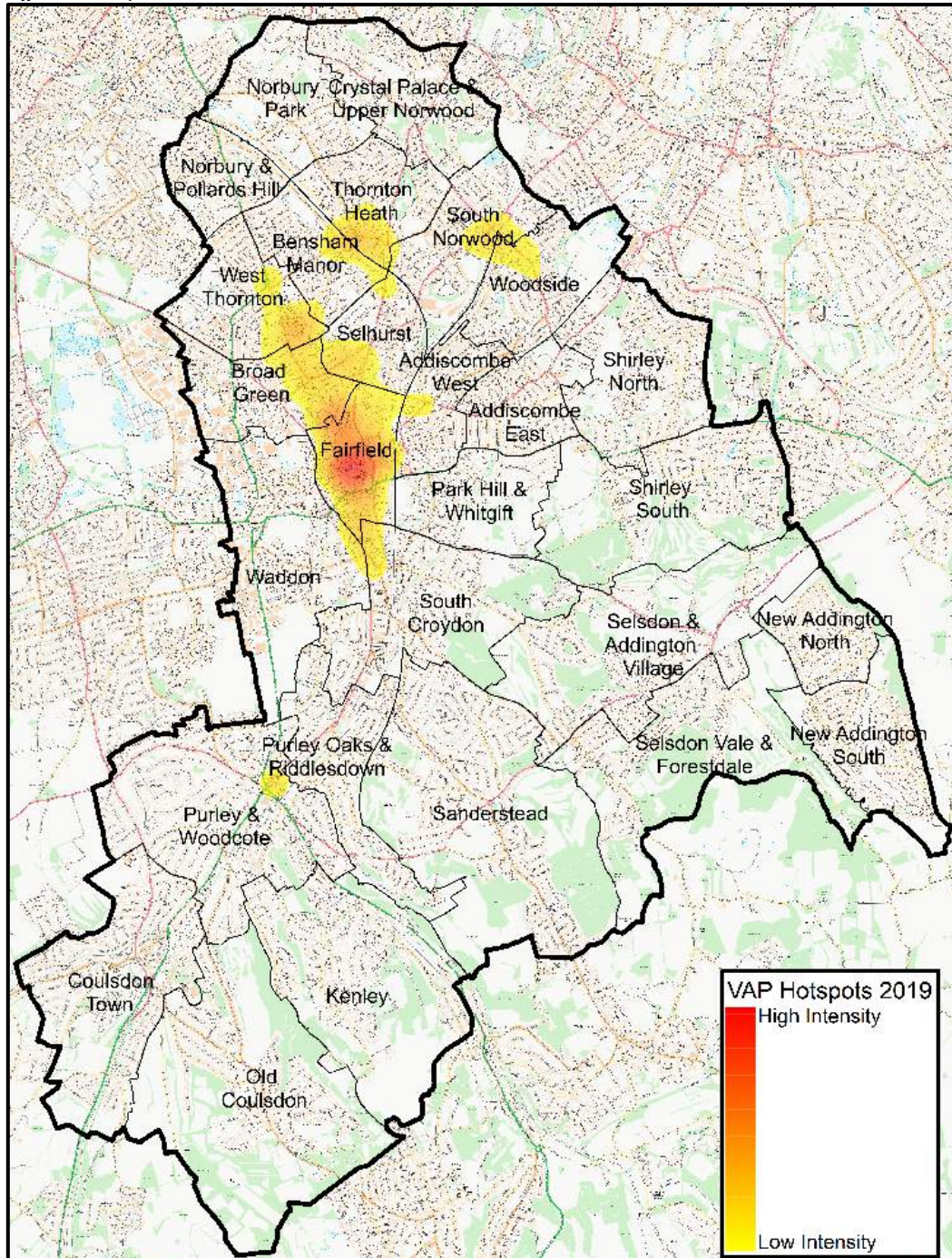
VAP offences committed in Croydon in 2019 by hour taken from CRIS.



Hotspots

- The primary hotspot for VAP is Croydon Town Centre with 17.4% of all mapped VAP offences being committed in this area.
- Secondary hotspots are in and around Thornton Heath High Street, South Norwood High Street and Purley High Street.
- Where the location type was recorded, 20.6% of offences were committed in the street, 17.5% were committed in a flat/maisonette and 10.5% were committed in a terraced property.

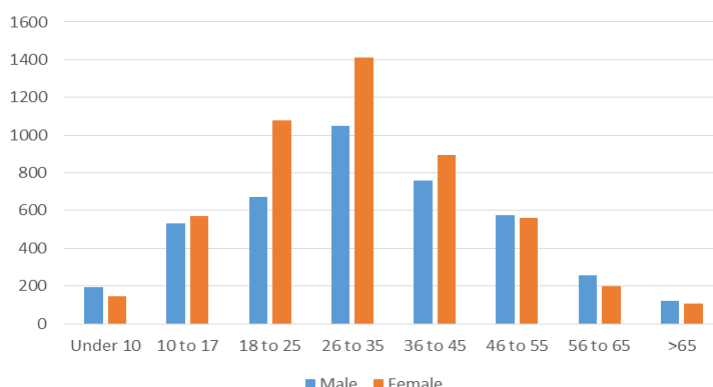
Hotspot map of VAP offences in Croydon in 2019.



Victim Profile

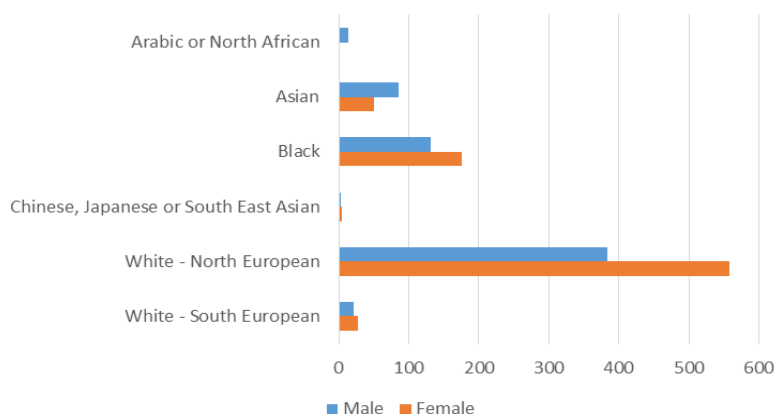
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 54.4% of victims were female and 45.6% were male.
- 27.0% of all victims were aged 26 to 35 years old, 19.2% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 18.1% were aged 36 to 45 years old⁹.
- 28.5% of all female victims were aged 26 to 35 years old, 21.7% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 18.0% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 54.9% of females aged 18 to 25 years old and 56.3% of females aged 26 to 35 years old were involved in offences flagged as domestic abuse.
- 25.2% of all male victims were aged 26 to 35 years old, 18.2% were aged 36 to 45 years old and 16.2% were aged 18 to 25 years old.
- 20.1% of male victims and 20.0% of female victims aged 26 to 35 years old were subject to alcohol-related VAP offences.

Victims of VAP in Croydon in 2019 by age and gender from the MPS' Crime Reporting Information System (CRIS).



- **The ethnic appearance types used throughout this document are those provided and used by the police.**
- Of those victims where gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 64.7% were White - North European and 21.1% were Black¹⁰.
- 50.1% of female victims were White - North European, 34.4% were Black and 9.9% were Asian.
- 45.8% of male victims were White - North European, 31.8% were Black and 16.0% were Asian.

Victims of VAP in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- Out of all victims where their home address was identified, 84.3% lived in the borough.
- Out of the victims who did not live in the borough, 11.5% lived in Lambeth, 10.8% lived in Bromley, 10.1% lived in Sutton and 9.2% lived in Merton.

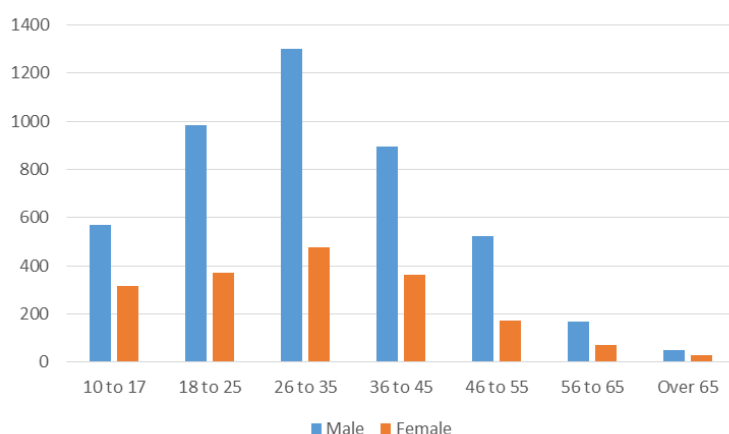
⁹ The written commentary of the breakdown of age and ethnic appearance in this document only details the highest proportions represented which make up the majority of the victims or suspects. The charts and graphs show the full breakdown.

¹⁰ The ethnic appearance categories (also known as identity codes) used are from the MPS' CRIS reporting system. Seven categories are available to choose from including 'Unknown'. The descriptors for each IC code are referenced here <http://policeauthority.org/metropolitan/publications/briefings/2007/0703/index.html>

Suspect Profile

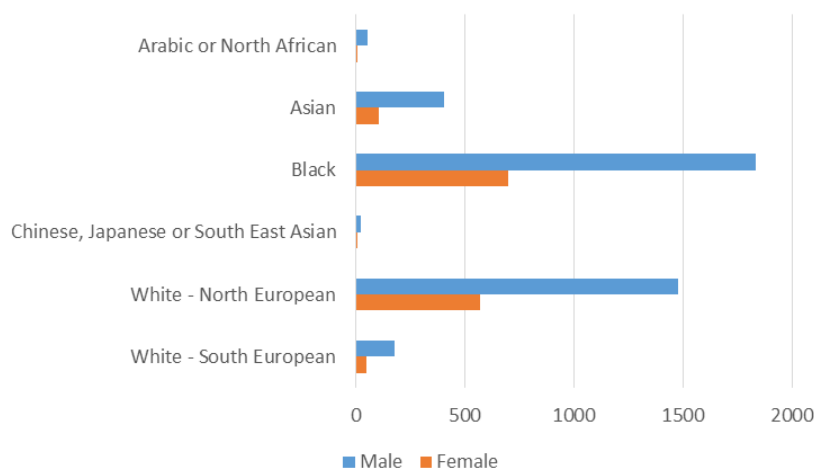
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 71.5% of the suspects were male and 28.5% were female.
- Where the suspect age was recorded, 28.3% were aged from 26 to 35 years old, 21.5% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 20.0% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 29.0% of all male suspects were aged 26 to 35 years old, 21.9% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 20.0% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 26.5% of all female suspects were aged 26 to 35 years old, 20.7% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 20.1% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 50.5% of all male suspects aged 26 to 35 years old, 50.2% of those aged 36 to 45 years old, 47.1% of those aged 46 to 55 years and 37.6% of those aged 18 to 25 years old were involved in offences flagged as domestic abuse.
- 35.1% of all female suspects aged 18 to 25 years old, 33.1% of those aged 46 to 55 years old, 33.0% of those aged 36 to 45 years old and 32.7% of those aged 26 to 35 years old were involved in offences flagged as domestic abuse.
- 22.5% of suspects aged 26 to 35 years old were involved in alcohol-related VAP offences. 24.8% of males in the same age category were involved in alcohol-related VAP offences.

Suspects of VAP in Croydon in 2019 by gender and age from CRIS.



- Where the suspect's ethnic appearance and gender were recorded, 46.8% of suspects were recorded as Black. This was followed by 37.8% who were White - North European. This is reflected when specifically looking at ethnic appearance by gender.

Suspects of VAP in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- Out of all suspects where their home address was identified, 80.3% lived in the borough.
- Out of the suspects who did not live in the borough, 16.5% lived in Lambeth, 9.9% lived in Bromley, 8.8% lived in Merton, 8.4% lived in Lewisham and 8.3% lived in Sutton.

Non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury (VWI)

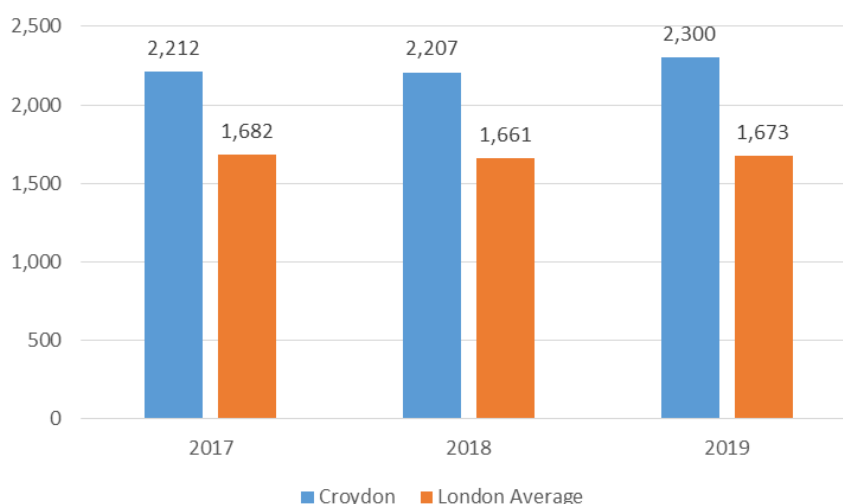
Definition

- The Office of National Statistics (ONS) defines Violence with Injury (VWI) as 'consisting of wounding and assault with minor injury'¹¹. The MPS use a definition which closely replicates the broad one given by the ONS. The MPS statistics and crimes in this analysis do not include any domestic abuse flagged offences.

Statistics

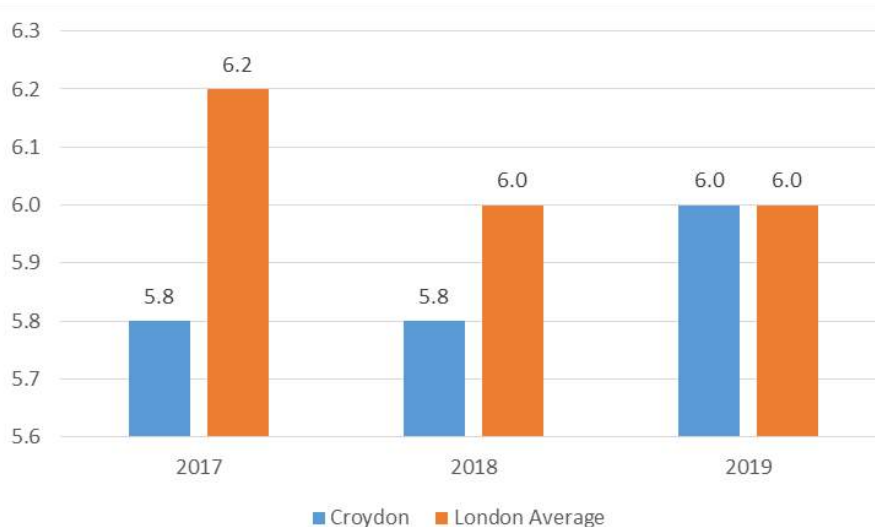
- There was a total of 2,300 VWI offences in 2019, an increase of 4.2% (93 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 2,207 offences recorded. This is a larger percentage increase compared to the London average where there was a 0.7% increase (12 offences) from 1,661 offences in 2018 to 1,673 offences in 2019. By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 4.0% increase (88 offences) in Croydon. In comparison, there was a decrease of 0.5% (9 offences) in the London Average.

Non-DA VWI statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 of residents, the rate of offences in the borough has risen from 5.8 in 2017 and 2018 to 6.0 in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 6.2 in 2017 to 6.0 in 2018 and 2019.

Non-DA VWI crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



¹¹ Office of National Statistics: 'The nature of violent crime in England and Wales: year ending March 2018'

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/thenatureofviolentcrimeinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2018>

- Croydon's ranking has risen year-on-year from 2017 with its ranking in 2019 being 3rd. However, Croydon's ranking for offences per 1,000 residents was much lower at 18th for 2017 and 2018 and it rose one place to 17th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and the highest crime rate.

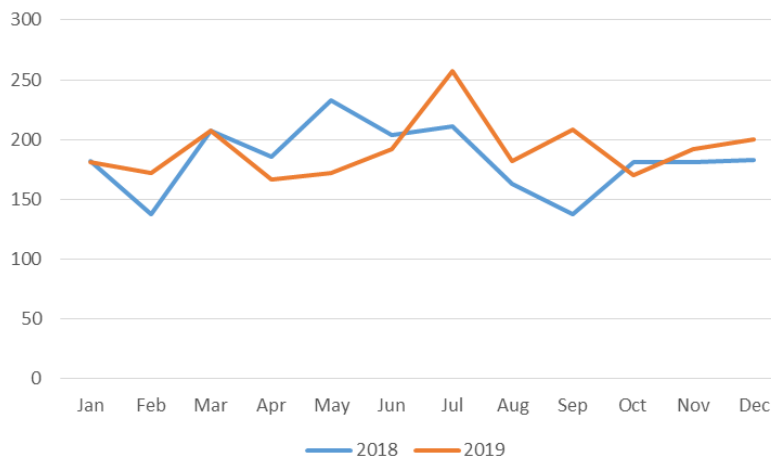
	Ranking	
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	7	18
2018	5	18
2019	3	17

- The majority of Non-DA VWI offences were made up of Actual Bodily Harm (59.3%) and Grievous Bodily Harm (35.3%).
- 17.9% of offences were alcohol-related.

Temporal Analysis

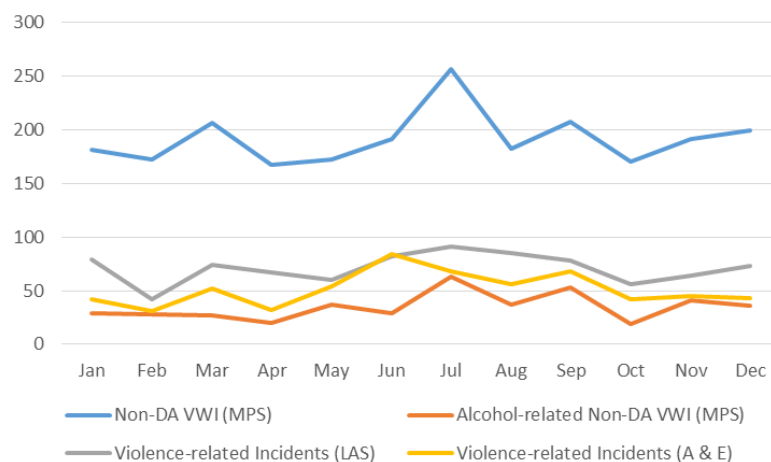
- In 2019 the peak months for Non-DA VWI were March, July, September and December. The peak months in 2018 were May and July. There is a similar pattern in both 2018 and 2019 from January to May. Offences also sharply decrease in August.

Non-DA VWI offences committed by month in Croydon in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



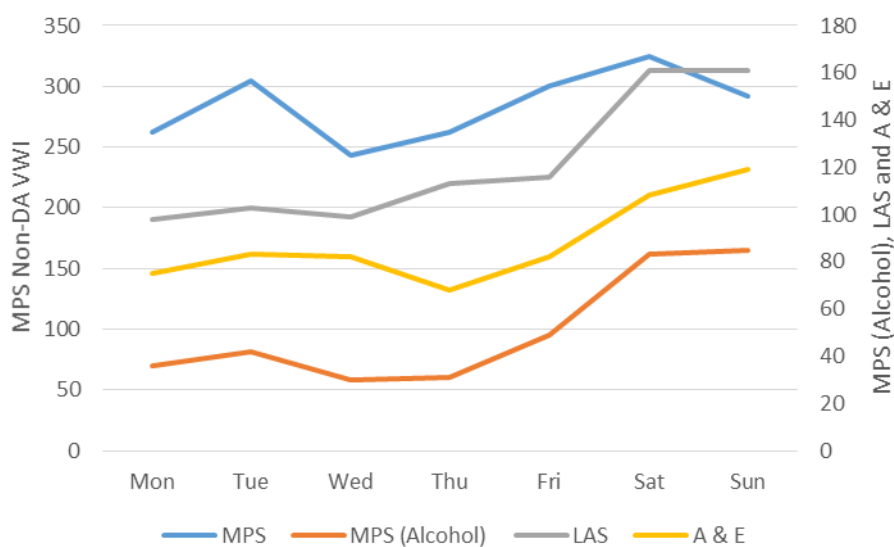
- By comparing Non-DA VWI offences to alcohol-related Non-DA VWI offences, violence-related incidents from the LAS and A & E, there is a pattern of March, July and September being the peak months (shown by at least three out of the four measures).
- LAS and MPS data also showed December to be a peak month. A & E data showed June to be a peak month.

Non-DA VWI offences from MetStats, alcohol-related Non-DA VWI offences from CRIS and LAS and A & E violence-related incidents from SafeStats by month in Croydon in 2019.



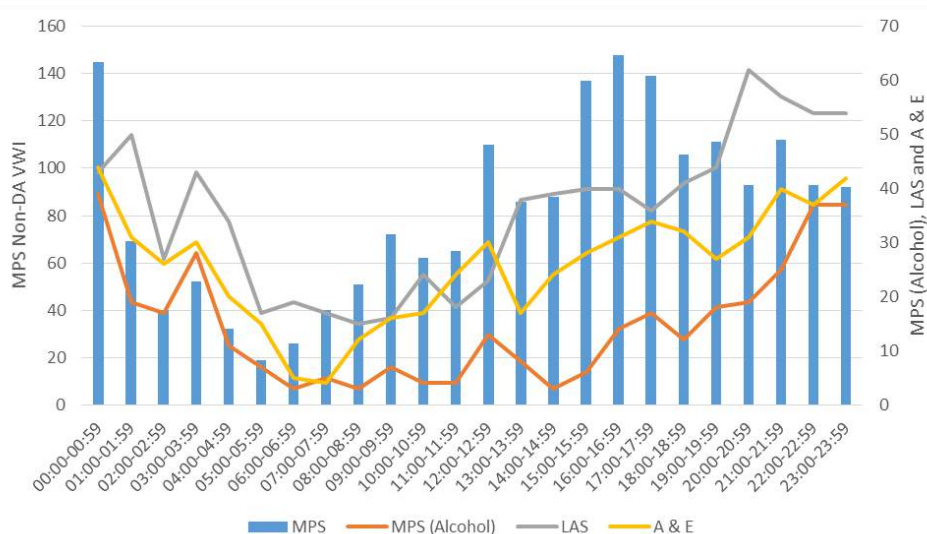
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the week with the peak days being Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.
- The large volume of offences on Tuesday partly correlates with the 'after-school' hours where over a fifth of offences (22.4%) on this day occur between 15:00 and 17:00.
- On Friday and Saturday, a significant proportion of offences are linked with the night-time economy with them occurring on Friday being committed between 18:00 and 00:00, Saturday between 00:00 and 05:00 and between 18:00 and 00:00.
- There is also a peak time on Sunday with offences being committed between 00:00 and 04:00.
- There is a clear trend of offences and incidents peaking on the weekend. However, alcohol-related Non-DV VWI offences, LAS and A & E violence-related incidents show Sunday is also a peak day. Even though this peak can be explained by incidents and alcohol-related offences occurring in the 'early hours' of Sunday, there is also a high number of incidents between 20:00 and 23:00 on Sunday evening.

Non-DA VWI offences from MetStats, alcohol-related Non-DA VWI offences from CRIS and LAS and A&E violence-related incidents from SafeStats by day of the week in Croydon in 2019.



- The peak time for offences is between 00:00 and 01:00 and between 15:00 and 18:00. Alcohol-related Non-DA VWI, LAS and A & E violence-related data mostly correlate with these times as well as showing peaks between 03:00 and 04:00 and 20:00 and 00:00.

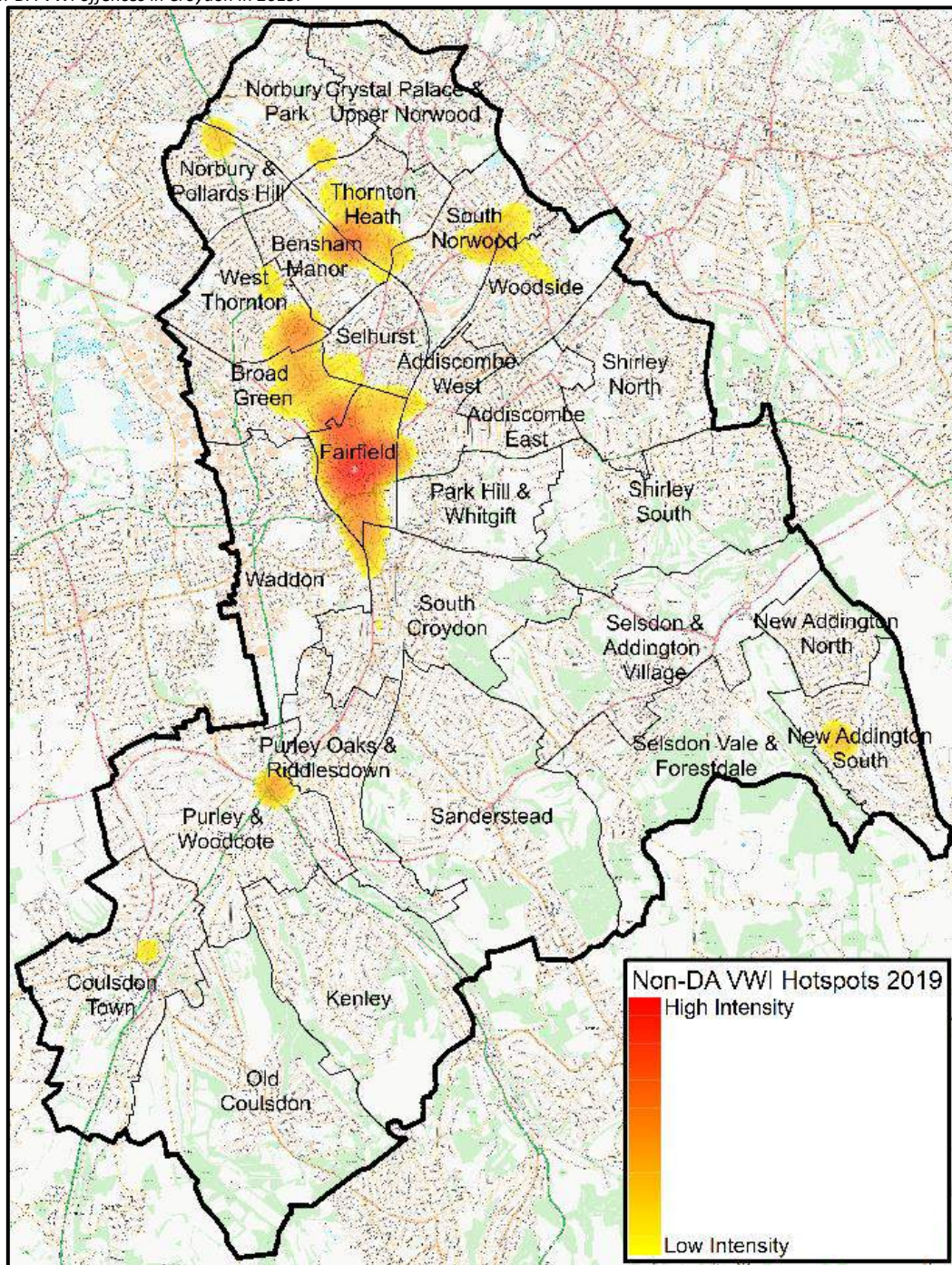
Non-DA VWI offences from MetStats, alcohol-related Non-DA VWI offences from CRIS and LAS and A & E violence-related incidents from SafeStats by hour in Croydon in 2019.



Hotspots

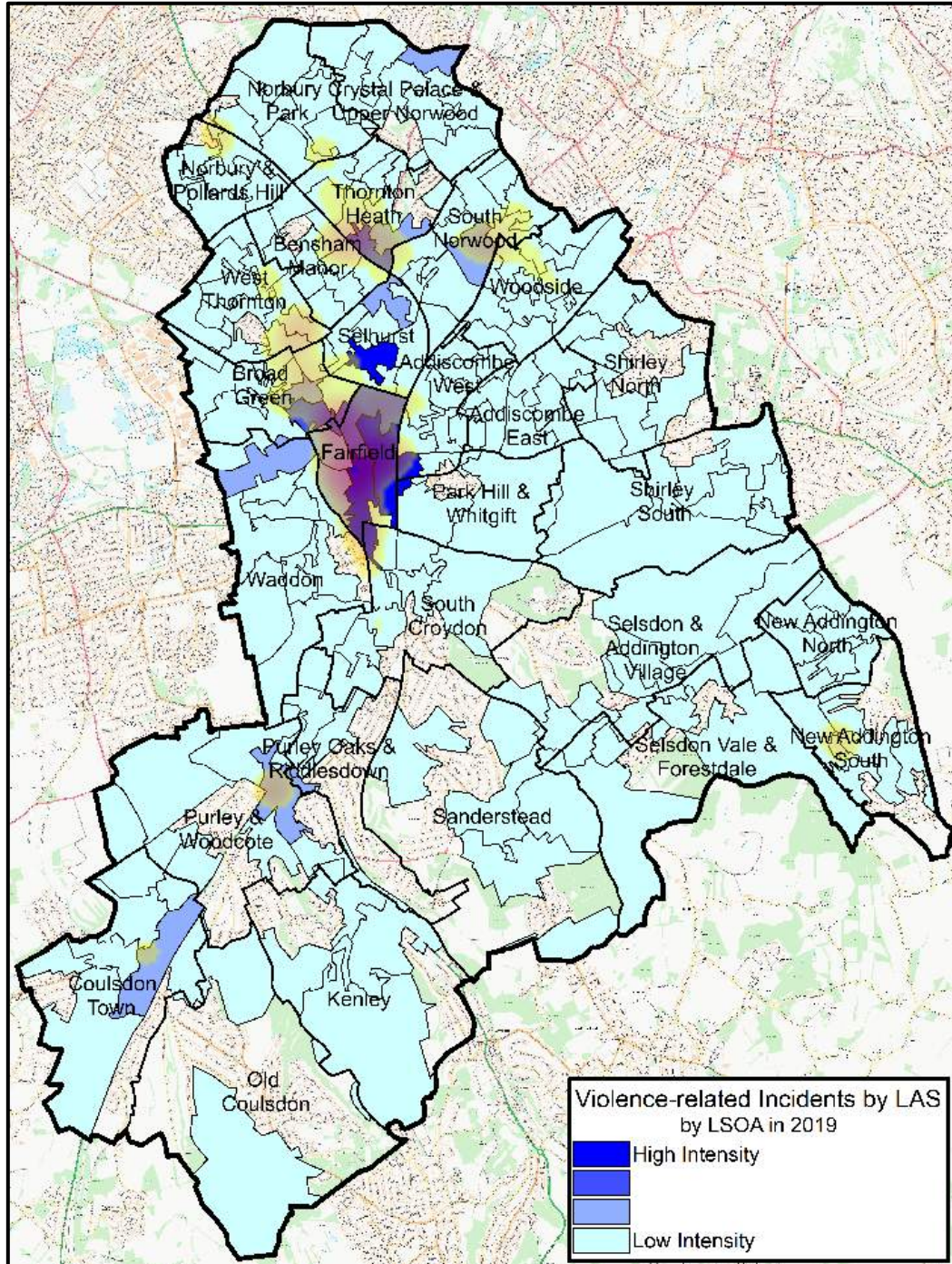
- The primary hotspot for Non-DA VWI is Croydon Town Centre with a third (33.4%) of all mapped Non-DA VWI offences being committed in this area.
- Secondary hotspots are predominantly areas where there is high footfall including high streets, a night-time economy and where there are transport links specifically, in and around Thornton Heath High Street, in and around South Norwood High Street, around Norbury train station, in and around Purley High Street, in and around Central Parade in New Addington, in and around Mayday Hospital on London Road, parts of the area in and around Green Lane in Thornton Heath and in and around Brighton Road near Coulsdon Town train station.
- Where the location type was recorded, over a third (37.0%) occurred in the street.

Hotspot map of Non-DA VWI offences in Croydon in 2019.



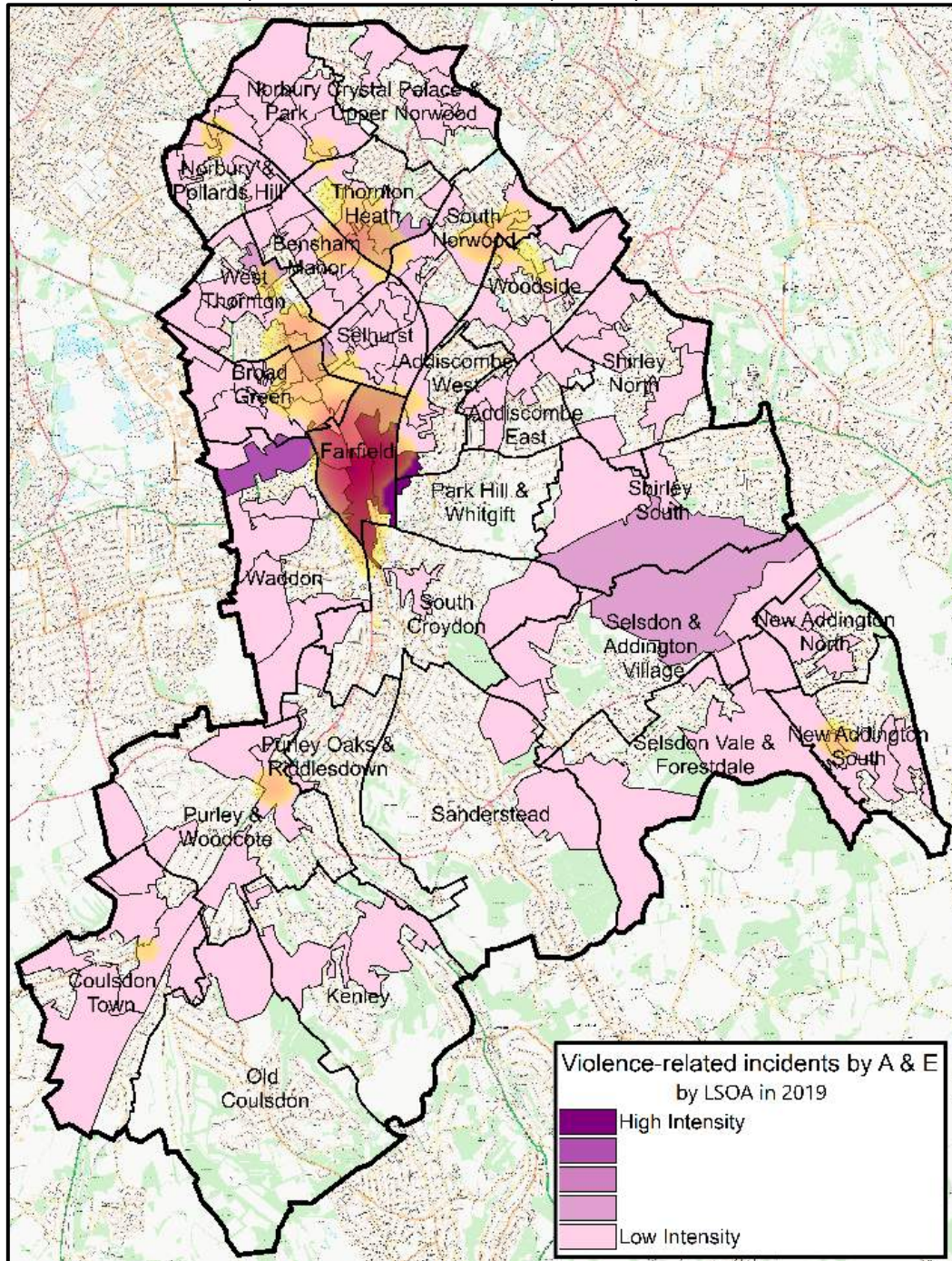
- LAS data shows that the majority of LSOAs where the highest number of violence-related LAS incidents have occurred are reflected by the Non-DA VWI hotspot areas. These are Fairfield, Broad Green, Waddon, Selhurst, Thornton Heath, Coulsdon Town, Purley & Woodcote and South Norwood wards.
- There is also a significant proportion of offences in an LSOA in the Crystal Palace and Upper Norwood Ward. This is an area with high footfall and night-time economy and the incident date and times reflect that shown by overall Non-DA VWI offences.
- LAS data also shows parts of Selhurst ward as hotspots not shown by the Non-DA VWI hotspots.

Thematic map of LAS violence-related incidents by LSOA overlaid with Non-DA VWI hotspots in Croydon in 2019.



- A & E data also shows hotspots within Shirley South and Selsdon and Addington Village wards. However, these represent a high number of individuals receiving injuries from a very small number of violent incidents.

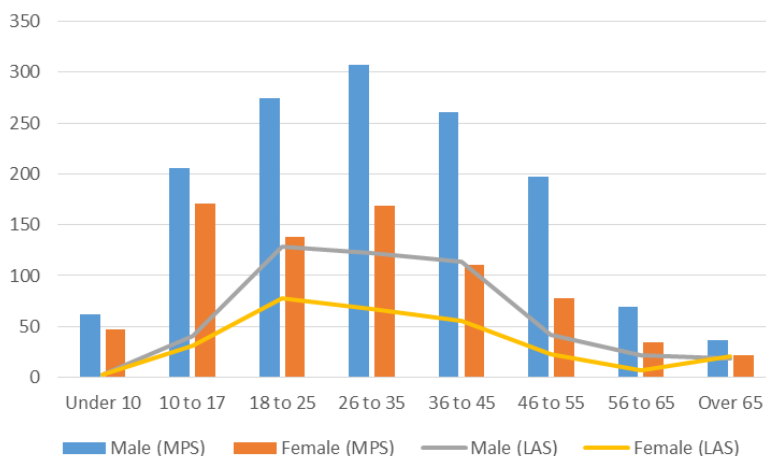
Thematic map of A & E violence-related incidents by LSOA overlaid with Non-DA VWI hotspots in Croydon in 2019.



Victim Profile

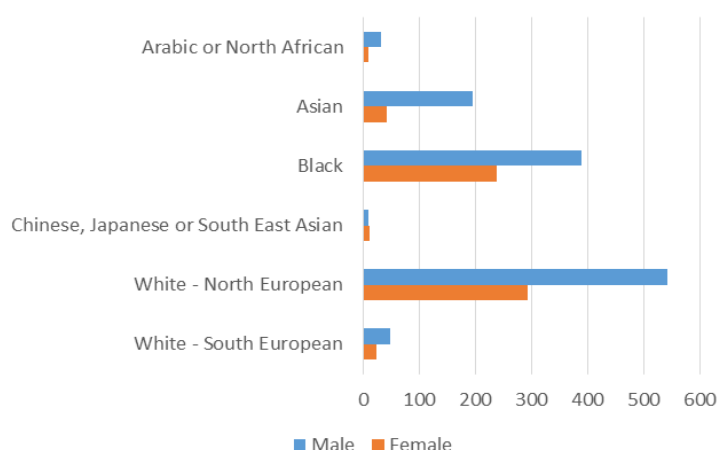
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 64.8% of victims were male and 35.2% were female.
- Violence-related LAS incidents recorded 63.2% of victims who were male and 36.8% who were female.
- 21.8% of all victims were 26 to 35 years old, 18.9% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 17.3% were aged 10 to 17 years old.
- LAS recorded 26.6% of all victims were aged 18 to 25 years old, 24.3% were aged 26 to 35 years old and 21.9% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 21.7% of all male victims were aged 26 to 35 years old, 19.4% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 18.5% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- LAS recorded 26.2% of all male victims were aged 18 to 25 years old, 24.8% were aged 26 to 35 years old and 23.2% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 22.2% of all female victims were aged 10 to 17 years old, 22.0% were aged 26 to 35 years old and 17.9% were aged 18 to 25 years old.
- LAS recorded 27.3% of all female victims were aged 18 to 25 years old, 23.4% were aged 26 to 35 years old and 19.6% were aged 36 to 45 years old.
- 18.4% of all victims were subject to alcohol-related Non-DA VWI offences.
- 26.3% of male victims aged 18 to 25 years and 26.1% of male victims aged 26 to 35 years old were subject to alcohol-related Non-DA VWI offences.

Victims of Non-DA VWI (MPS) and individuals treated as a result of violence-related incidents (LAS) by age and gender in Croydon in 2019.



- Of those victims where gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 45.6% were White - North European and 34.2% were Black. This is closely reflected when broken down by gender.
- 50.6% of all victims aged 10 to 17 years old were Black, 45.1% of all victims aged 18 to 25 years old were White - North European and 51.7% of victims aged 26 to 35 years old were White - North European. This is reflected by gender.

Victims of Non-DA VWI in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- Out of all victims where their home address was identified, 80.4% lived in the borough
- Out of those victims that lived outside of the borough, almost half lived in neighbouring boroughs including 12.3% lived in Lambeth, 12.1% lived in Bromley, 11.6% lived in Merton and 10.3% lived in Sutton.
- By using the Acorn system, which is a segmentation tool which categorises the UK population into demographic types, we can determine which types victims are over-represented compared to the whole borough¹²
- Out of the victims where their home postcodes were identified mapped, the highest proportion were 'Educated young people in flats and tenements' at 12.4%. This type is briefly described as singles or young couples renting flats often found in urban cosmopolitan areas. Most incomes are below average due to young people being at the earlier stages of their career. The number claiming benefits is going to be higher than average.¹³
- The second highest proportion were 'Low Income Terraces' at 10.3%, which can be briefly described as areas usually found in towns and cities and are a mix of right to buy owners, private renters and socially rented housing. The residents are most likely to be younger with a high proportion of single parents and families, some with many children. These areas are diverse including people from African, Caribbean and Eastern European backgrounds. Incomes are significantly lower than the average with a high proportion claiming benefits.
- The third highest proportion were 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' at 10.1%, which is briefly described as typically found in towns and urban areas where it is home to a mix of working families and children. Likely large size of the families living here would mean accommodation is short of space. Unemployment is relatively low where family incomes are around or above the national average.

Acorn types where VWI Non-DA victims represented the highest proportions (from left to right).



- The type which showed the largest overrepresentation of victims of Non-DA VWI in comparison to the borough's total population was 'Poorer families, many children, terraced housing', which victims were overrepresented by over 200% more than the total population. This type is briefly described as poor families in low rise estates where there are as many single parent families as traditional two parent families. There are many school age children and families are larger than average. Accommodation is crowded and many residents consider suffer from vandalism and crime. Long-term unemployment is high with many claiming benefits. There are also some residents who suffer health issues both mental and physical.
- The second largest type of victims being overrepresented by more than 150% than the borough's population was 'Deprived and ethnically diverse in flats'. This type is briefly described as areas where it is common for younger people with many children will be living. There are possibly higher concentrations of couples with young children, single parents, single people and students. Around a quarter are of African and Caribbean descent as

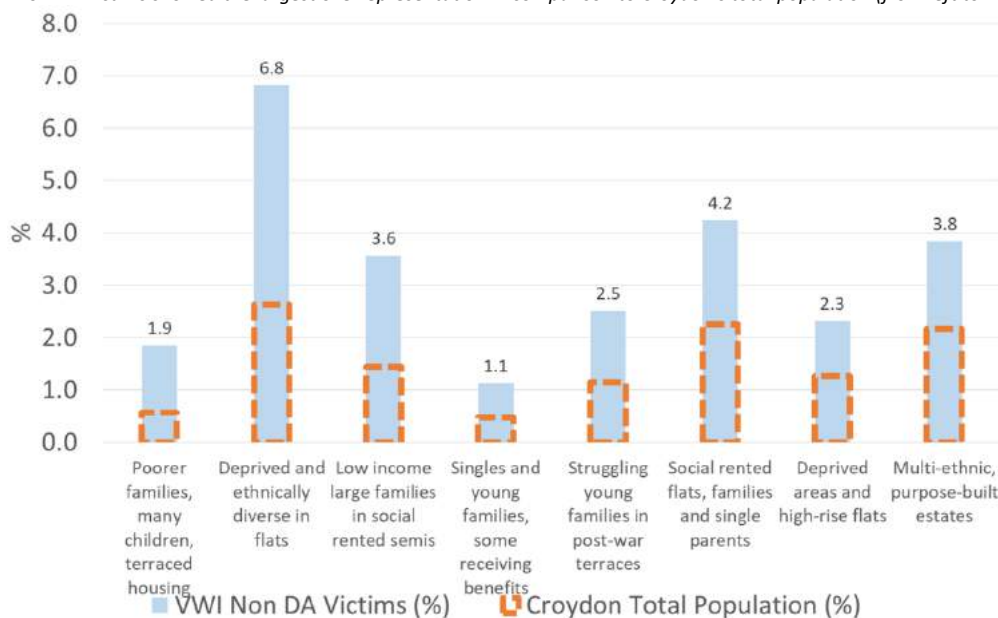
¹² Acorn analyses demographic data, social factors, population and consumer behaviour in order to provide precise information and an understanding of different types of people. It segments households, postcodes and neighbourhoods into 6 categories, 18 groups and 62 types. This report focuses on types.

¹³ This type's description and all other types are described in full detail in the guide on Acorn which can be found at www.acorn.caci.co.uk

well as others from other ethnic backgrounds. People here live in smaller flats, which are mostly rented from the council or a housing association. The large number of children living in these properties make them the most overcrowded homes in the UK. Unemployment is high with many claiming benefits. Residents are also three times more likely to feel there are issues of crime and vandalism in their area.

- The third largest type of victims being overrepresented by 140% was 'Low Income large families in social rented semis'. This type is briefly described as large families who mostly live in semi-detached or terraced council housing. Many families have three or more children and there is a large number of single parents. Unemployment is double the national average and many claim benefits, whereas those who work are in very low income jobs.

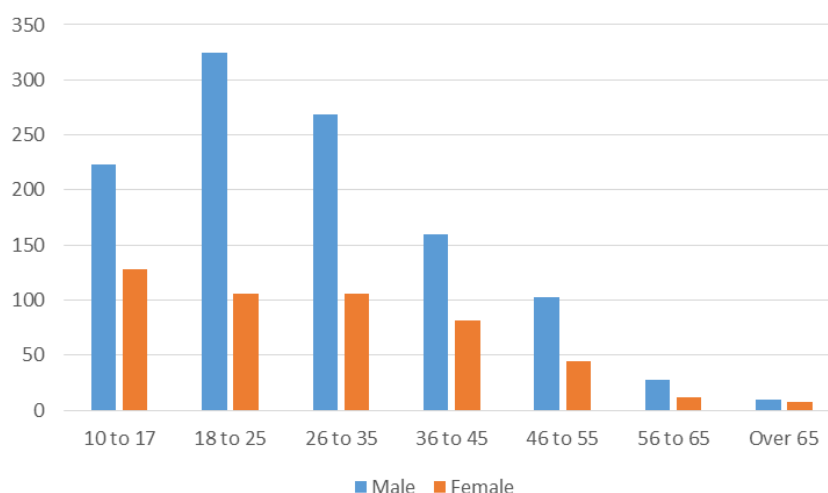
Acorn types where VWI Non-DA victims showed the largest overrepresentation in comparison to Croydon's total population (from left to right).



Suspect Profile

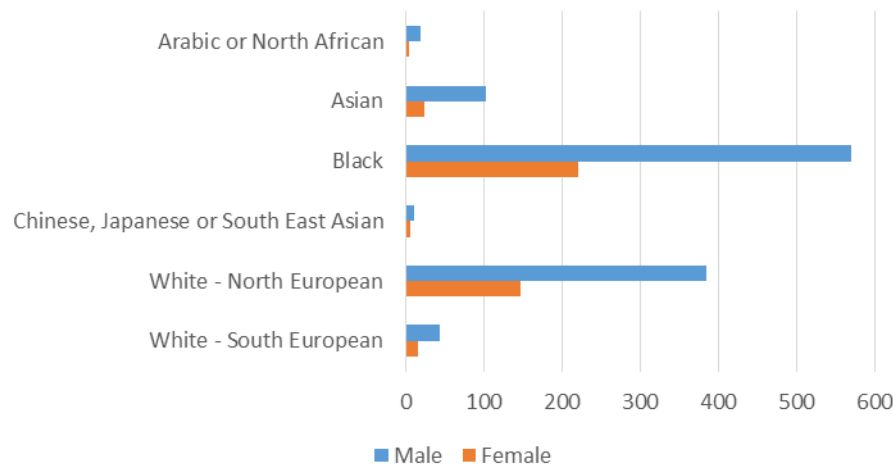
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 71.3% of the suspects were male and 28.7% were female.
- Where the suspect age was recorded, 26.9% were aged from 18 to 25 years old, 23.4% were aged 26 to 35 years old and 21.9% were aged 10 to 17 years old.
- 29.1% of all male suspects were aged 18 to 25 years old, 24.1% were aged 26 to 35 years old and 19.9% were aged 10 to 17 years old.
- 26.4% of all female suspects were aged 10 to 17 years old, 21.9% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 21.9% were aged 26 to 35 years old.
- 26.2% of male suspects each aged 18 to 25 years old, 21.7% of male suspects aged 26 to 35 and 29.4% of male suspects aged 36 to 45 years old were involved in alcohol-related offences.

Suspects of Non-DA VWI in Croydon in 2019 by gender and age from CRIS.



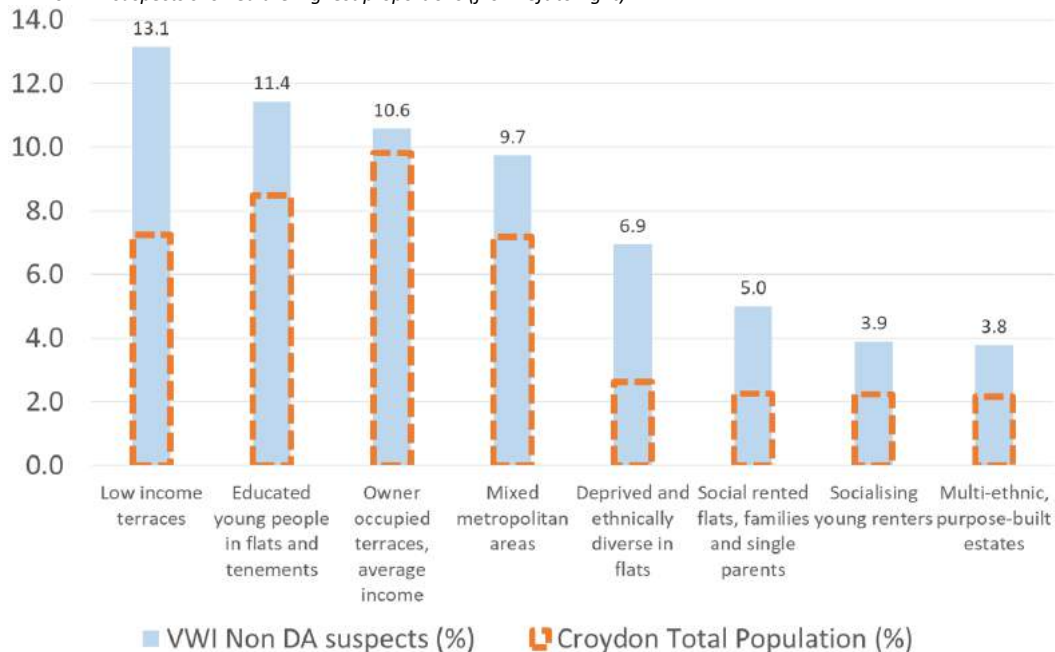
- Where the suspect's gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 51.3% were Black and 34.3% were White - North European. This is similar when ethnic appearance is broken down by gender.

Suspects of Non-DA VWI in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



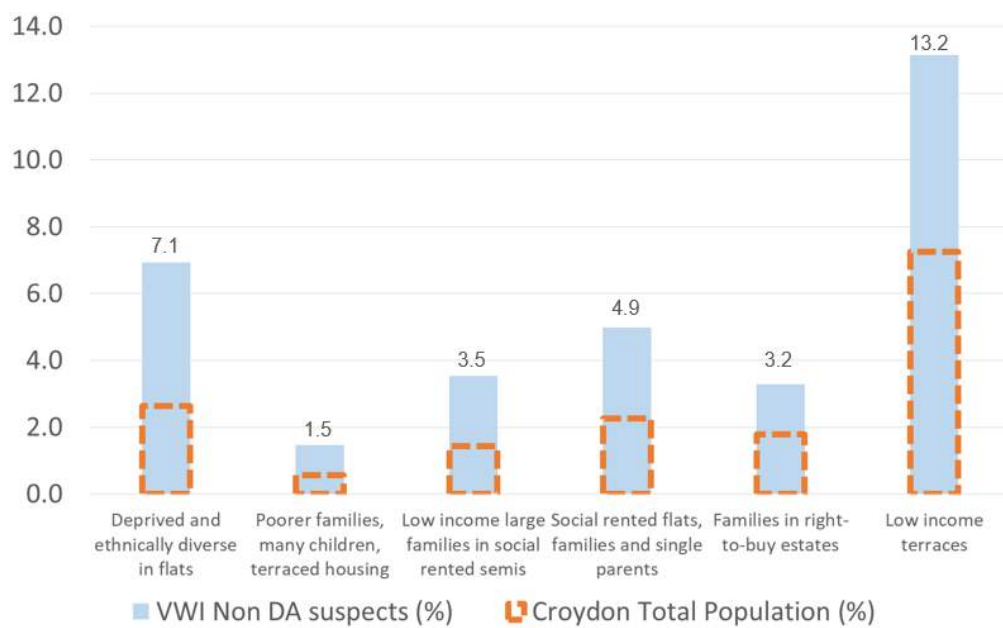
- 41.4% of suspects recorded had a specific relationship with the victim. Out of these suspects, 28.6% were recorded as an 'acquaintance of the victim'. This is followed by 9.4% of suspects attending the same school as the victim and 9.3% of suspects who were a neighbour of the victim.
- Out of all suspects where their home address was identified, 82.2% lived in the borough
- Out of those victims that lived outside of the borough 16.2% lived in Lambeth, 11.9% lived in Merton, 9.7% lived in Lewisham, 8.1% lived in Bromley, 8.1% lived in Sutton and 7.0% lived in Southwark.
- Using the Acorn tool, out of the suspects where their home postcodes were identified and mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' at 13.1%. The second highest was 'Educated young people in flats and tenements' with 11.4% and the third highest was 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' with 10.6%.

Acorn types where VWI Non-DA suspects showed the highest proportions (from left to right).



- The type which showed the largest overrepresentation of suspects of Non-DA VWI in comparison to the borough's total population was 'Deprived and ethnically diverse in flats', which victims were overrepresented by over 150% more than the total population. The second largest type of victims being overrepresented by more than 100% than the borough's population was 'Poorer families, many children, terraced housing'. The third largest type was 'Low income large families in social rented semis' with more than 100%.

Acorn types where VWI Non-DA suspects showed the highest difference in comparison to Croydon's total population (from left to right).



Domestic Abuse (DA)

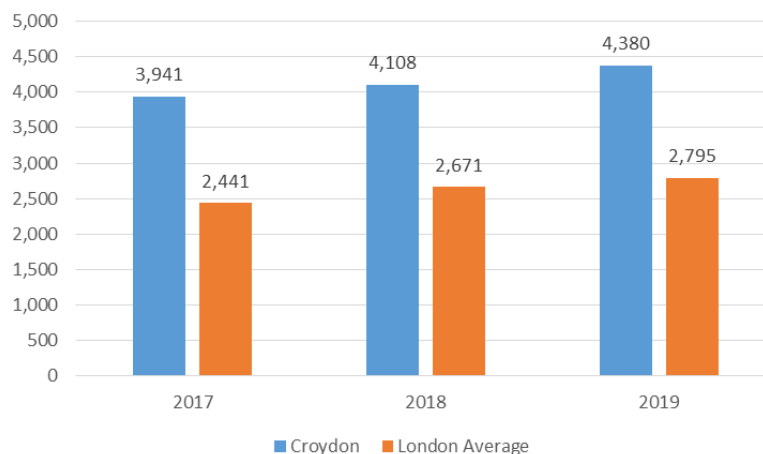
Definition

- This report uses the national definition of Domestic Abuse. This defines Domestic Abuse as any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members¹⁴ regardless of gender or sexuality. A Domestic Abuse crime is any Domestic Abuse incident that constitutes a criminal offence¹⁵

Statistics

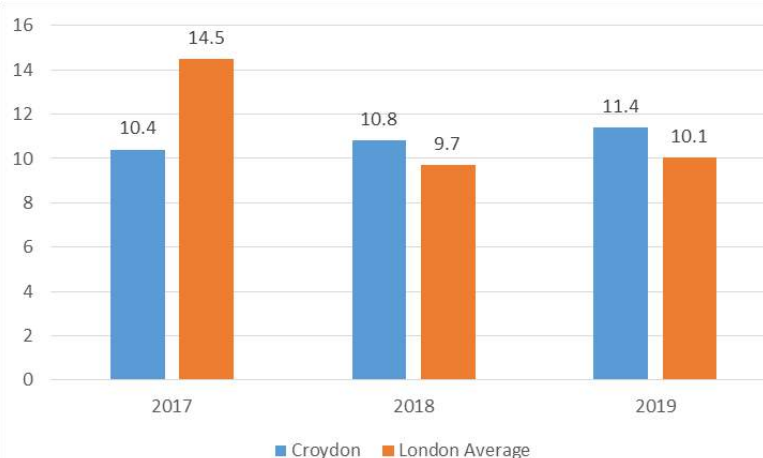
- There was a total of 4,380 recorded DA offences in 2019, an increase of 6.6% (272 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 4,108 offences recorded. In the same period there has been an increase in the London average where there was a 4.6% increase (124 offences) from 2,671 offences in 2018 to 2,795 offences in 2019. By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been an 11.1% increase in offences in Croydon (439 offences). In comparison, there was a larger percentage increase in the London average of 14.5% (354 offences).

DA statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 of residents, the rate of offences in the borough has seen a year-on-year increase from 10.4 in 2017, to 10.8 in 2018 to 11.4 in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 14.5 in 2017 to 9.7 in 2018 and then an increase to 10.1 in 2019.

DA crime rate per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



¹⁴ Family members are defined as; mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister and grandparents, whether directly related, in-laws or step-family (National Police Chiefs Council/NPCC).

¹⁵ Metropolitan Police Service – What is Domestic Abuse? <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/daa/domestic-abuse/what-is-domestic-abuse/>

- Croydon's volume in ranking in the past three years has been 1st. By going by the ranking per 1,000 residents, Croydon ranked 6th in 2017 and then dropped to 10th in 2018 but then rose to 7th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and the highest crime rate.

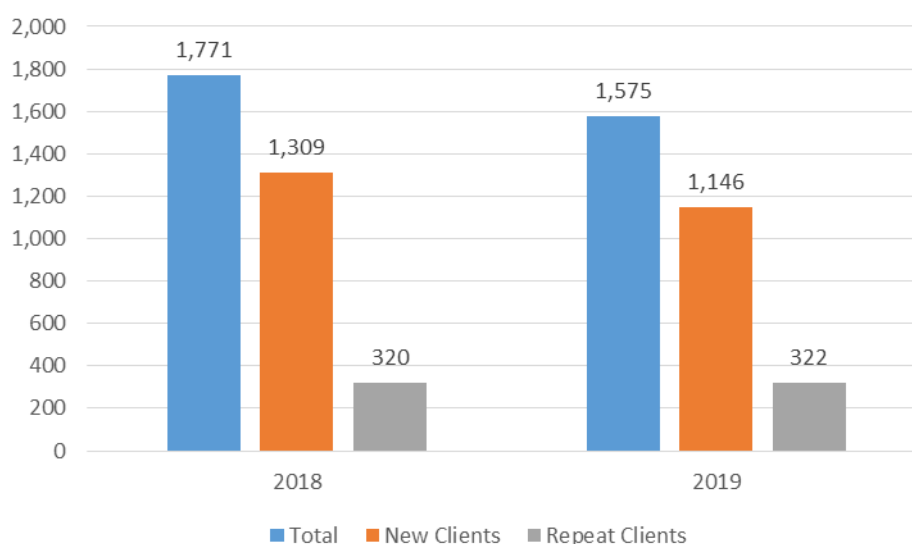
Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	1	6
2018	1	10
2019	1	7

- The majority of offences were made up of Common Assault (25.4%), ABH (24.0%) and Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety (10.4%), GBH/wounding (7.0%) and Harassment (6.4%).
- 24.8% of DA offences were alcohol-related.
- The use of social media or online messaging was used in 19.6% of all offences.

FJC Statistics

- The FJC (formerly Family Justice Centre) is a council-run service within the Violence Reduction Network which provide support and guidance to those who are a victim of Domestic Abuse, whether that is by a partner, ex-partner, family member or acquaintance.
- In 2019 there were 1,575 clients that were referred to the FJC in 2019, which is an 11.1% decrease compared to 2018 where there were a total of 1,771 clients that were referred.
- Out of those cases where it was stated whether they were new or repeat clients (this was stated for 92.0% of all clients in 2018 and 93.2% in 2019), in 2019 78.1% were new referrals and 21.9% were repeat referrals. In 2018, 80.4% were new referrals and 19.6% were repeat referrals.
- There were 1,146 who were new clients in 2019, which is a 12.5% decrease is compared to 2018 where there were 1,309 new clients referred.
- In 2019 there were 322 repeat clients, which is a 0.6% increase compared to 2018 where there were 320 repeat clients.

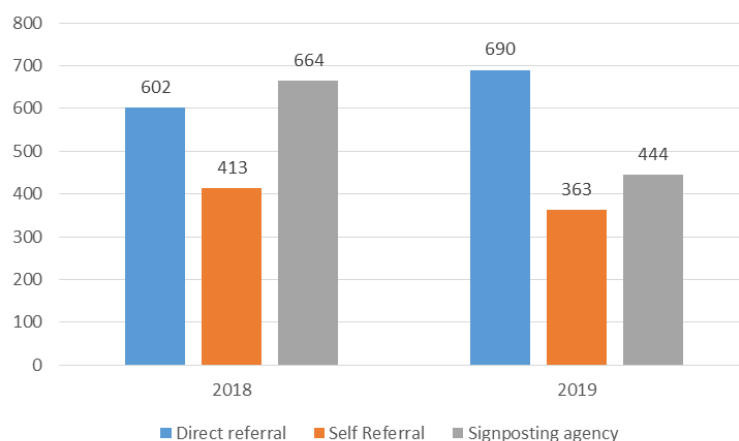
Referrals made to the FJC in 2018 and 2019 categorised by total, new clients and repeat clients. Note that total figure also includes those where it was not recorded whether they were new or repeat clients.



- For each client the question can be asked 'how did they find out about the FJC?' where the answer to this questions was recorded on 94.8% of the cases in 2018 and on 95.0% of the cases in 2019.
- There are three answers to this question to choose from. The first is a direct referral which is an internal referral e.g. from within the council including children's social care, housing etc. The second is a self-referral where those involved in the domestic abuse have directly contacted the FJC for support. The third type of referral is by a signposting agency e.g. a referral from outside partner agencies e.g. the police, voluntary organisations etc.

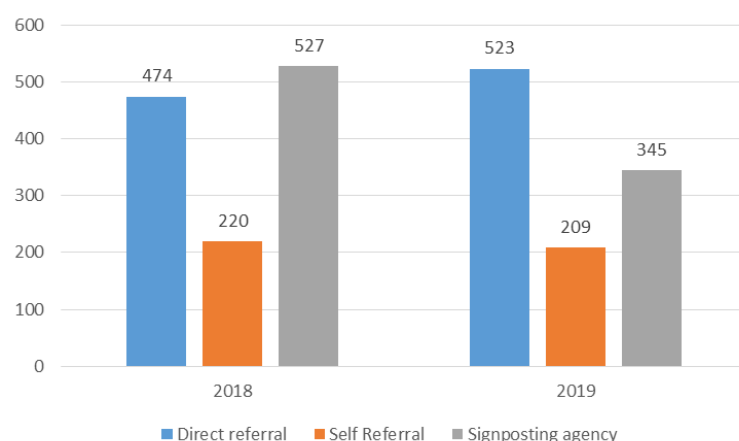
- Out of these cases, 690 clients were directly referred in 2019, which is a 14.6% increase compared to 2018 where 602 clients had been directly referred.
- For clients that were self-referred, there were 363 in 2019 which is a 12.1% decrease compared to 2018 where 413 clients were self-referred.
- There were 444 clients that were signposted by an agency in 2019, which is a decrease of 33.1% compared to 2018 where there were 664 clients signposted.

How all clients were referred to the FJC in 2018 and 2019.



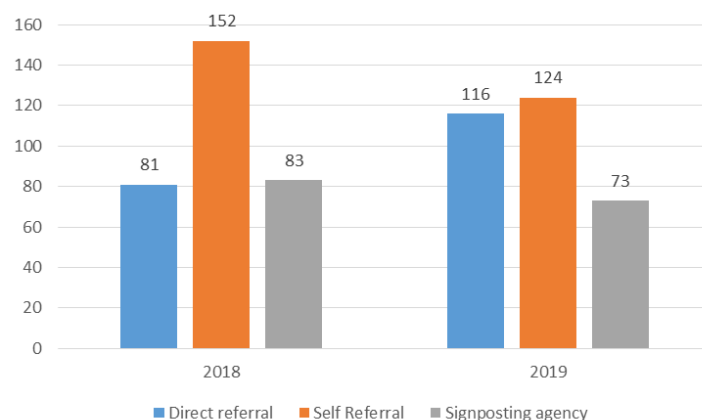
- For new clients referred to the FJC in 2018 and 2019, there was a 10.3% increase in direct referrals in 2019 compared to 2018, a 5.0% decrease in self-referrals and a 34.5% decrease in clients being signposted by an agency.

How new clients were referred to the FJC in 2018 and 2019.



- For repeat clients referred to the FJC in 2018 and 2019, there was a 43.2% increase in direct referrals in 2019 compared to 2018, an 18.4% decrease in self-referrals and a 12.0% decrease in clients being signposted by an agency.

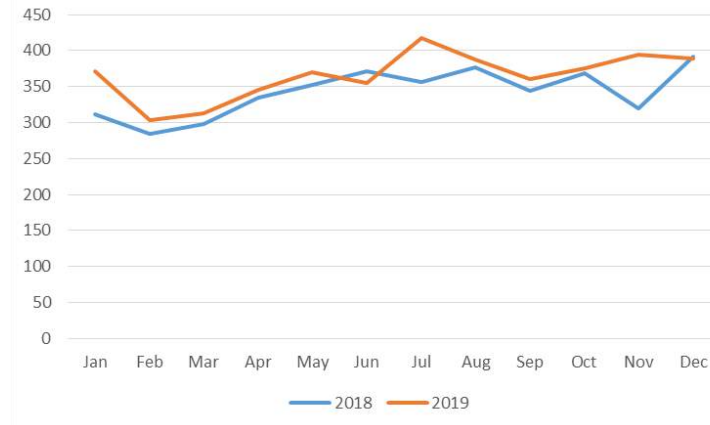
How repeat clients were referred to the FJC in 2018 and 2019.



Temporal Analysis

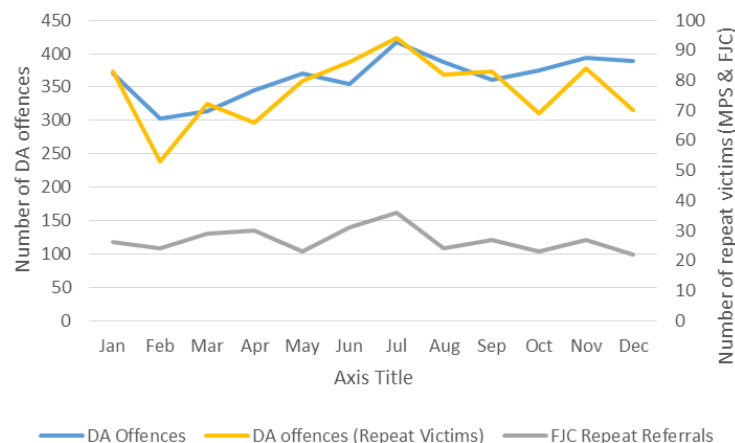
- Offences in 2018 and 2019 are fairly consistent throughout the year. In 2019 the peak months for DA were July, November and December. The peak months in 2018 were December, August and June. There is a similar pattern in both 2018 and 2019 from January where offences decrease in February, increase in March and continue to rise into May. There is a similar pattern from August where offences decrease in September but rise in October.

DA offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



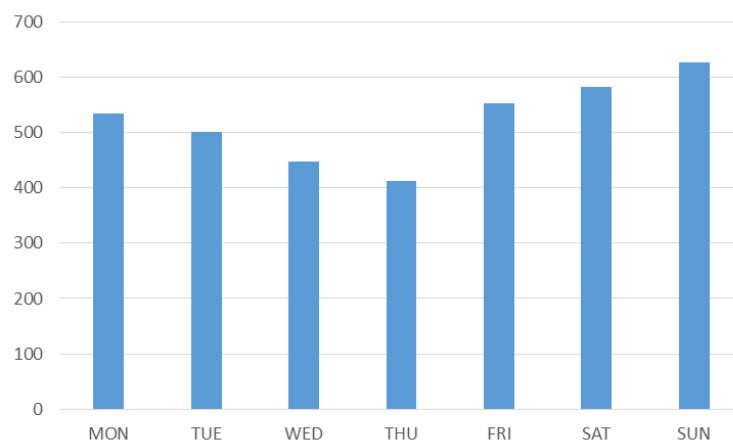
- By comparing the number of DA offences in 2019 by month to the number of repeat victims within these offences and repeat referrals to the FJC, there is a pattern between the number in repeat referrals and repeat victims in DA offences to the peak number of DA offences in July and November.

DA offences from MetStats, DA offences involving repeat victims from CRIS and repeat referrals made to the FJC by month in Croydon in 2019.



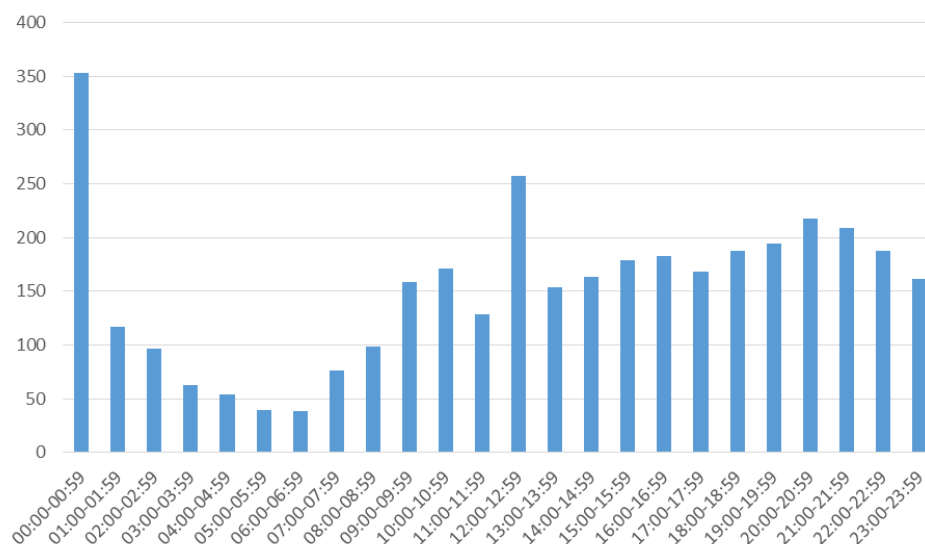
- The peak days for offences are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, making up almost half of all offences throughout the week (48.2%).

DA offences by day of the week in Croydon in 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences are shown between 00:00 and 01:00 and between 12:00 and 13:00. However, it must be noted that the majority of these offences involve offences that have occurred over a range of time e.g. malicious communication has been made a number of times over the phone, text, online messaging etc. In these cases, the default time to put on a crime report (as no specific time can or has been specified) is 12:00 or 00:00, therefore causing a disproportionate number of offences around these times.
- Outside of these times, the peak times for offences are between 18:00 and 23:00 hours, which correlate with the peak days of Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- Offences also increase between the hours between 15:00 and 17:00. Even though this could be presumed to be linked with 'after-school' hours, almost half of offences (48.6%) occurring between these times are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

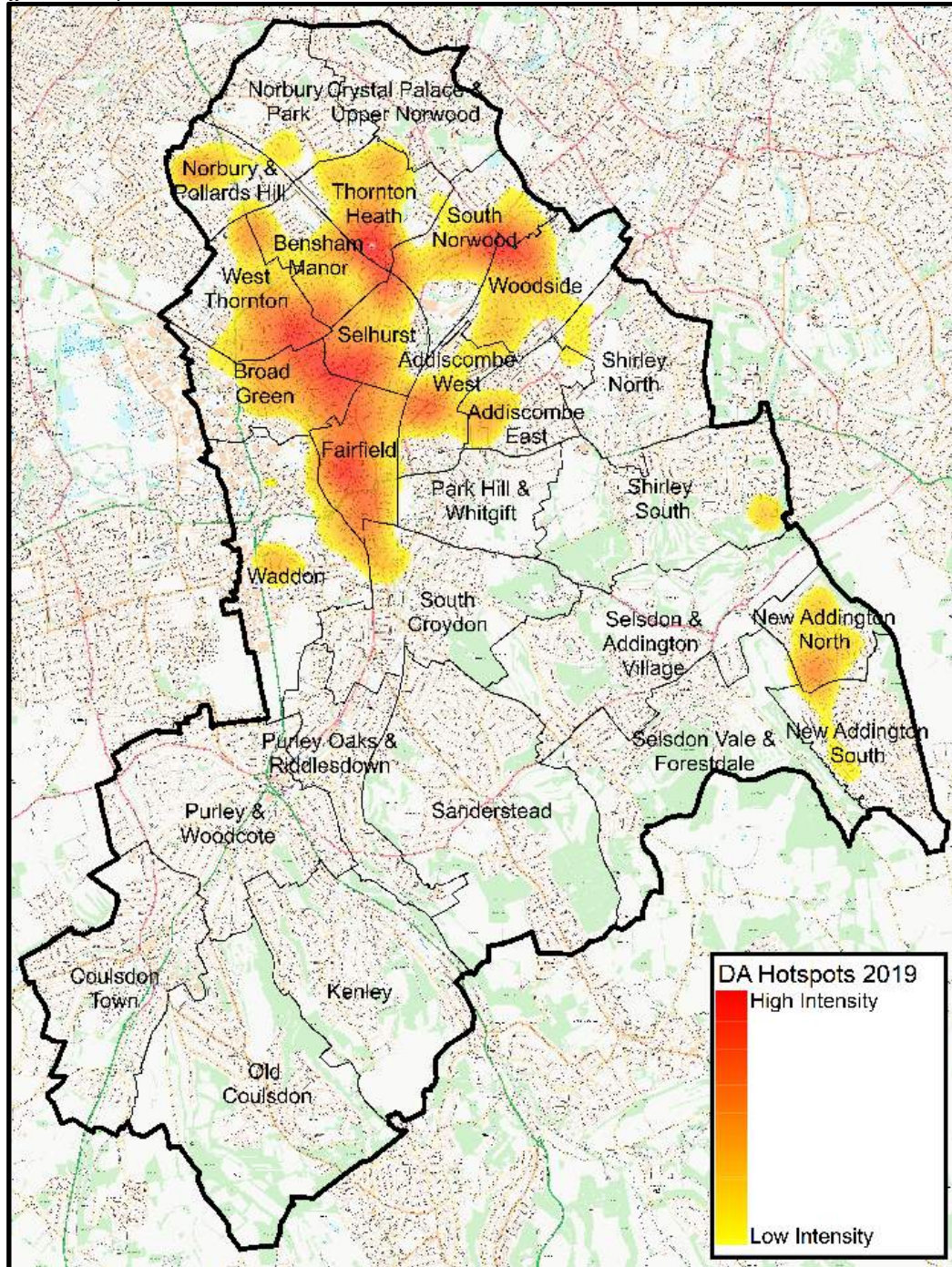
DA offences committed in Croydon in 2019 by hour taken from CRIS.



Hotspots

- The primary hotspots are in areas where there is high footfall and are densely populated including Croydon Town Centre, in and around Thornton Heath High Street, and in and around South Norwood High Street. Other areas where there are primary hotspots are parts of Broad Green, Selhurst and West Thornton wards.
- Secondary hotspots are in Waddon, Norbury & Pollards Hill, Norbury Park Addiscombe West, Addiscombe East, Woodside, Shirley North, Shirley South, New Addington North and New Addington South wards.

Hotspot map of DA offences in Croydon in 2019

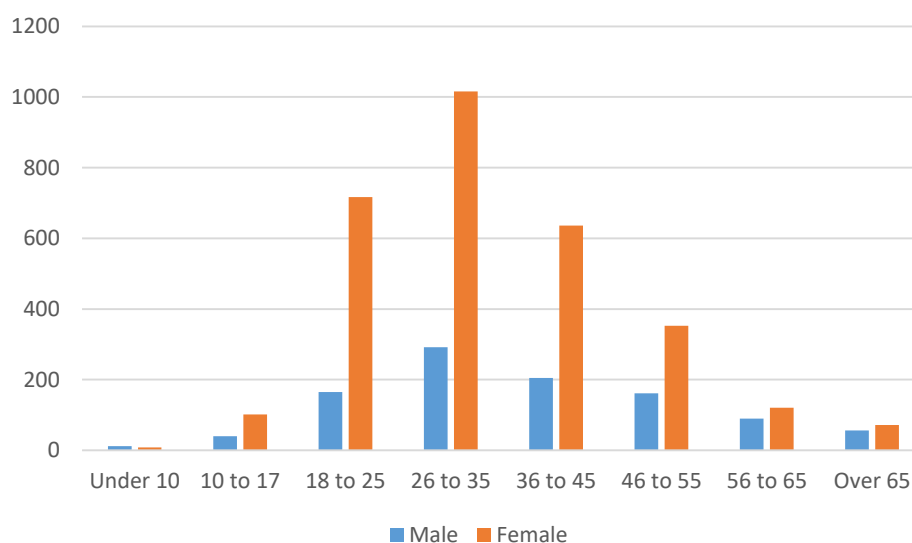


- A location type was given for 81.7% of the crimes recorded. Out of these crimes, 31.0% of crimes were committed in a flat/maisonette, 18.3% were committed in a terraced house, 11.7% were committed in a semi-detached house, 11.1% were committed in a house/bungalow, 10.2% were committed in the street, 5.8% were committed in a council-owned property and 3.8% were committed in a detached house.

Victim Profile

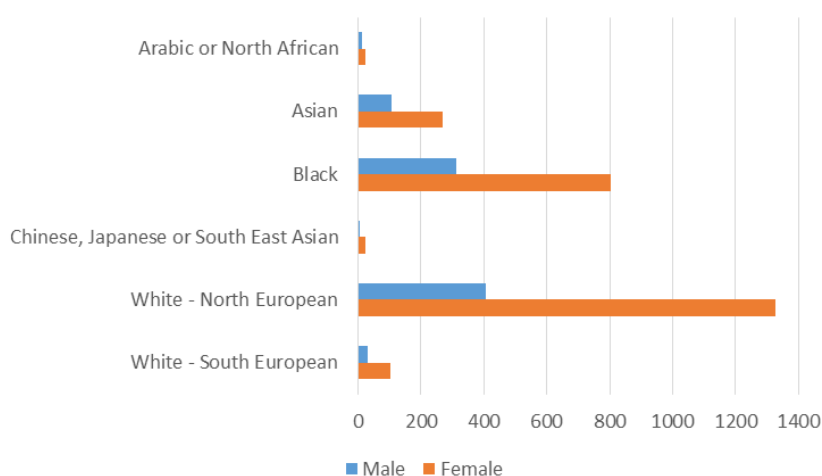
- Out of the victims where gender was recorded, 74.7% of victims were female and 25.3% were male.
- 32.3% of victims were aged 26 to 35 years old, 21.8% were aged 18 to 25 years old, 20.8% were aged 36 to 45 years old and 12.7% were aged 46 to 55 years old.
- 33.6% of female victims were aged 26 to 35 years old, 23.7% were aged 18 to 25 years old, 21.0% were aged 36 to 45 years old and 11.7% were aged 46 to 55 years old.
- 28.6% of male were aged 26 to 35 years old, 20.1% were aged 36 to 45 years old, 16.2% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 15.8% were aged 46 to 55 years old.
- FJC data recorded 96.1% of referrals in 2019 were female and 3.9% were male.
- Out of all referrals where age was recorded 38.3% were aged 26 to 35 years old, 24.9% were aged 36 to 45 years old, 19.0% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 11.5% were aged 46 to 55 years old. When broken down by gender the figures closely reflect this.

Victims of DA in Croydon in 2019 by age and gender from CRIS.



- Of those victims where gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 50.7% of victims were White - North European, 32.6% were Black and 11.0% were Asian.
- 52.1% of female victims were White - North European, 31.5% were Black and 10.5% were Asian.
- 46.6% of male victims were White - North European 35.6% were Black and 12.2% were Asian.
- These figures are closely reflected by the FJC data.

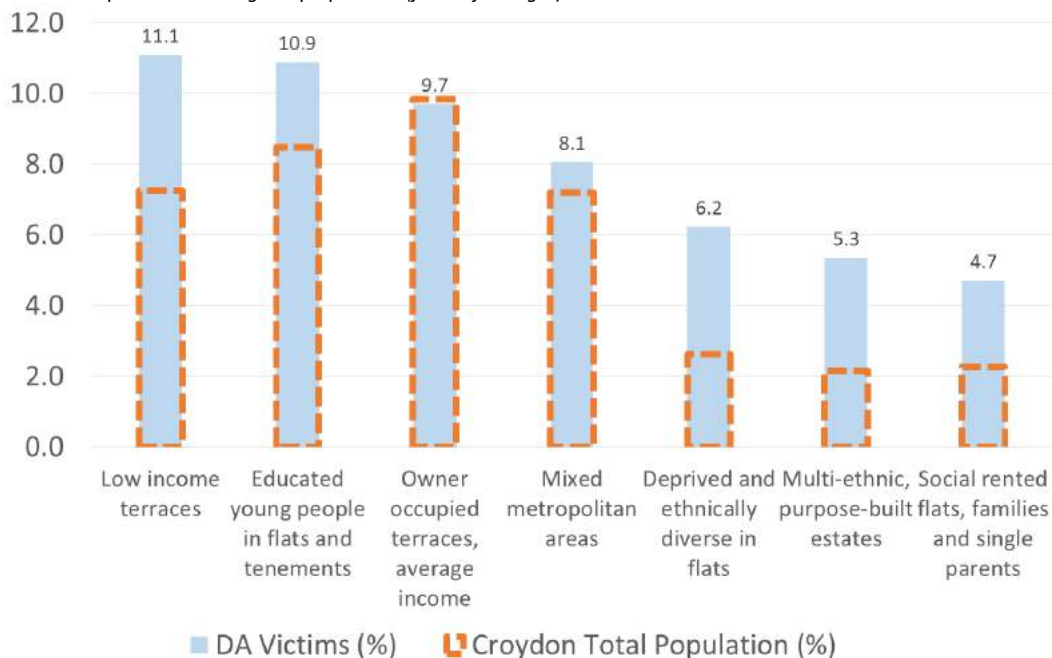
Victims of DA in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- Out of all victims where their home address was identified, 86.9% lived in the borough

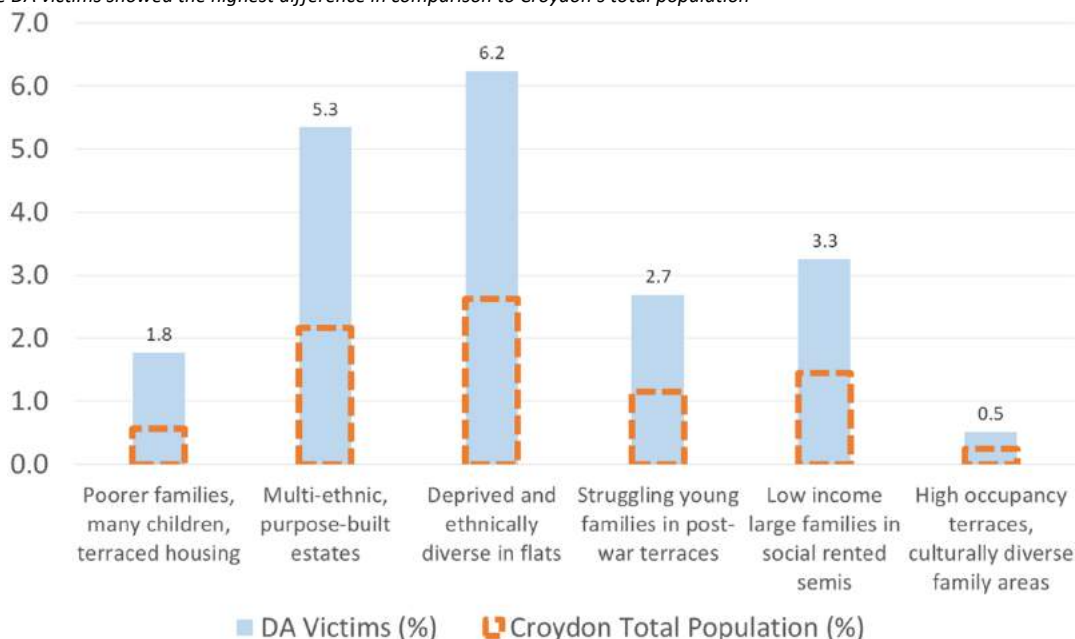
- Out of those victims that lived outside of the borough, 10.1% lived in Bromley, 9.7% lived in Lambeth, 8.0% lived in Merton, 6.8% lived in Sutton, 6.0% lived in Lewisham and 5.2% lived in Southwark.
- 27.1% of all victims were repeat victims.
- Using the Acorn tool, out of the victims where their home postcodes were identified and mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' with 11.1%. The second highest proportion were 'Educated young people in flats and tenements' with 10.9%. The third highest were 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' with 9.7%.

Acorn types where DA victims represented the highest proportions (from left to right).



- The type which showed the largest overrepresentation between the victims of Non-DA VWI and the borough's total population was 'Poorer families, many children, terraced housing', which victims were overrepresented by over 260% more than the total population.
- The second largest type of victims being overrepresented by more than 130% than the borough's population was 'Multi-ethnic, purpose-built estates'. The third highest type of victims being overrepresented by more than 120% than the borough's population was 'Deprived and ethnically diverse in flats'.

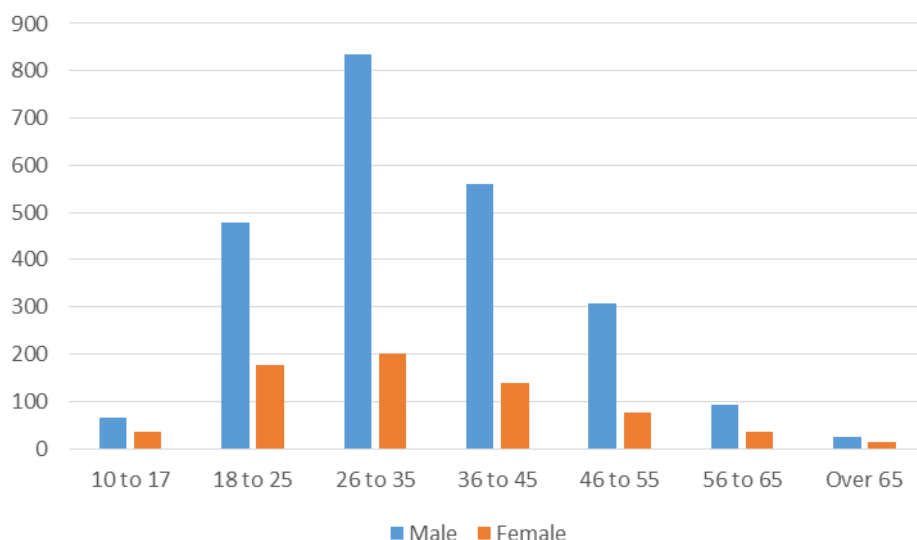
Acorn types where DA victims showed the highest difference in comparison to Croydon's total population



Suspect Profile

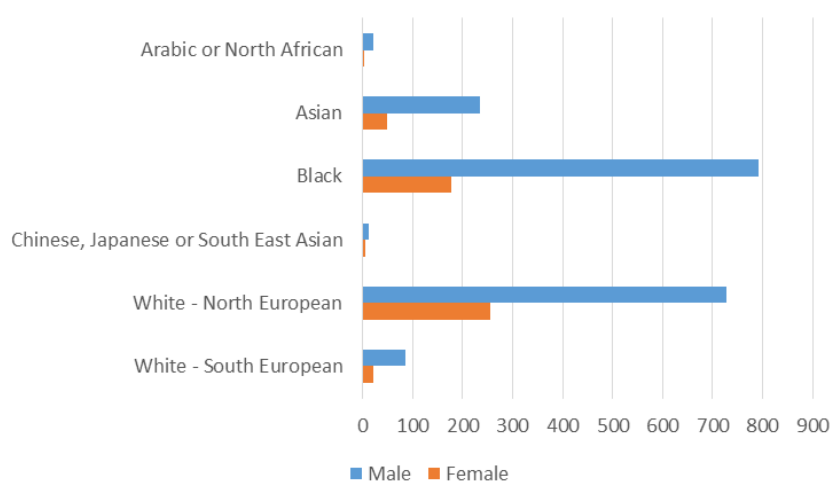
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 77.4% were male and 22.6% were female.
- 34.0% of suspects were aged 26 to 35 years old, 22.9% were aged 36 to 45 years old, 21.6% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 12.6% were aged 46 to 55 years old.
- 35.3% of male suspects were aged 26 to 35 years old, 23.7% were aged 36 to 45 years old and 20.3% were aged 18 to 25 years old.
- 29.5% of female suspects were aged 26 to 35 years old 26.1% were aged 18 to 25 years old and 20.4% were aged 36 to 45 years old.

Suspects of DA offences in Croydon in 2019 by gender and age from CRIS.



- Where the suspect's ethnic appearance and age were recorded, 41.2% were White - North European, 40.6% were Black and 11.9% were Asian.
- 42.3% of male suspects were Black, 38.8% were White - North European and 12.6% were Asian.
- 49.8% of female suspects were White - North European, 34.8% were Black and 9.6% were Asian.

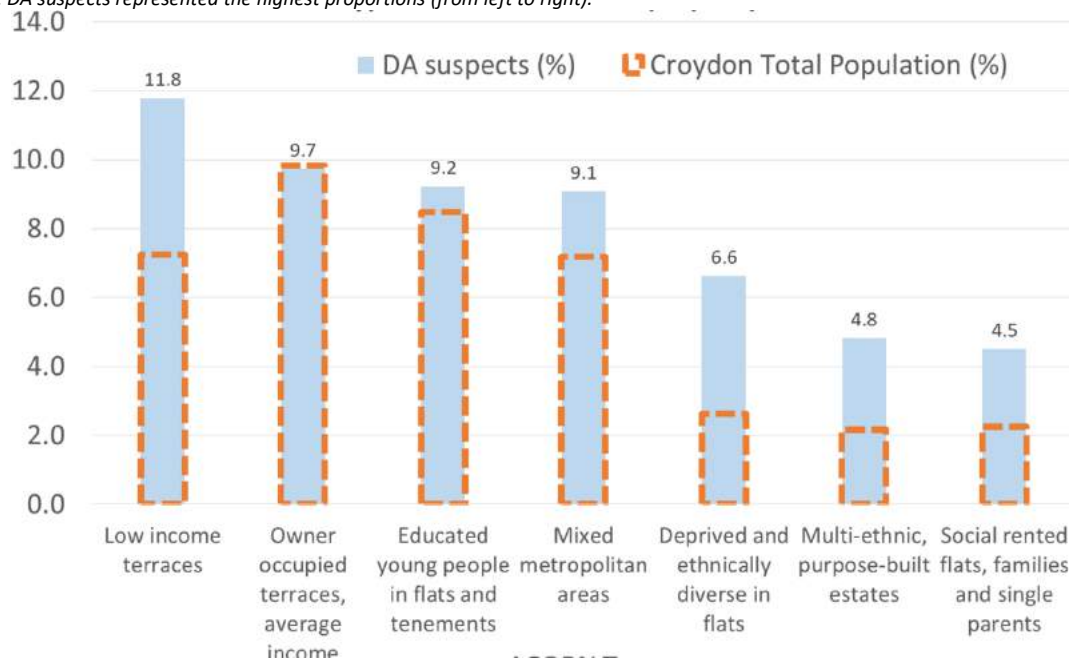
Suspects of DA in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- 86.9% of suspects had a type of relationship with the victim. Out of these suspects, 27.2% were an ex-boyfriend of the victim, 18.5% was the boyfriend of the victim, 9.3% was the husband of the victim, 6.7% was the ex-girlfriend of the victim and 6.4% was the son of the victim.
- Out of all suspects where their home address was identified, 78.8% lived in the borough.
- Out of those suspects that lived outside of the borough, 16.3% lived in Lambeth, 11.0% lived in Bromley, 7.9% lived in Merton, 7.9% lived in Sutton and 7.5% lived in Lewisham.
- 20.0% of all suspects were repeat suspects, meaning they committed at least two or more domestic abuse offence in 2019.

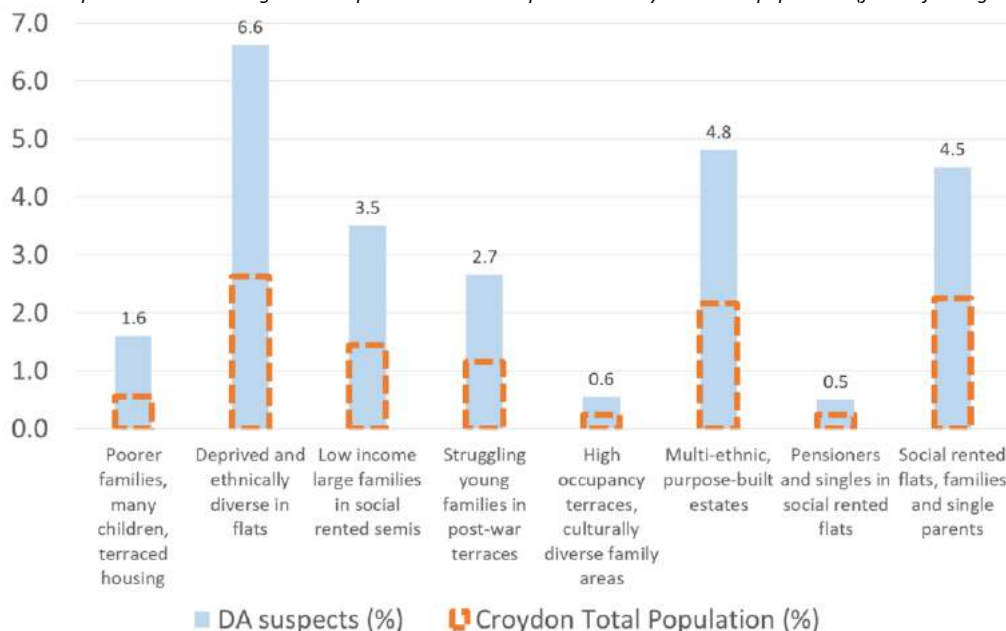
- Using the Acorn tool, out of the suspects where their home postcodes were identified and mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' at 11.8%. The second highest was 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' with 9.7% and the third highest was 'Educated young people in flats and tenements' with 9.2%.

Acorn types where DA suspects represented the highest proportions (from left to right).



- The type which showed the largest overrepresentation between the suspects of Non-DA VWI and the borough's total population was 'Poorer families, many children, terraced housing' which victims were overrepresented by over 160% more than the total population. The second largest type of victims being overrepresented by more than 140% than the borough's population was 'Deprived and ethnically diverse in flats'. The third largest type was 'Low income large families in social rented semis' with more than 130% than the borough's population.

Acorn types where DA suspects showed the largest overrepresentation in comparison to Croydon's total population (from left to right).



Knife Crime

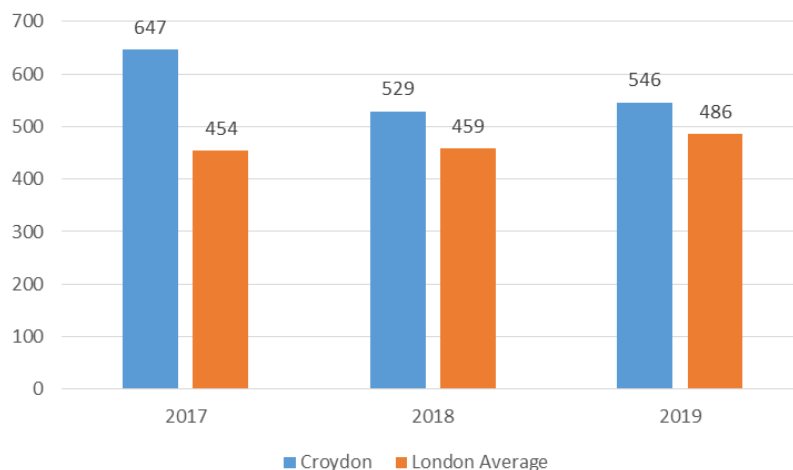
Definition

- The MPS and the Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) defines Knife Crime (in accordance with the Home Office) as any offences that satisfies the following criteria:
 - Is classified as an offence of homicide, attempted murder, assault with intent to cause harm, assault with injury, threats to kill, sexual offences (including rape) and robbery;
 - Where a knife or sharp instrument has been used to injure, used as a threat, or the victim was convinced a knife was present during the offence.

Statistics

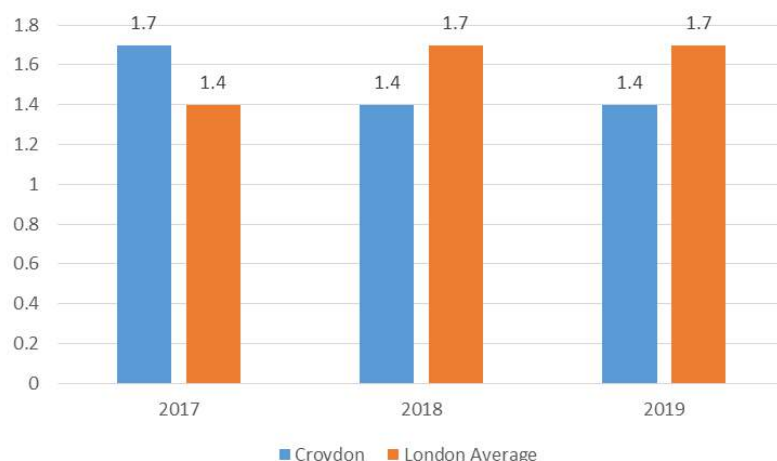
- There was a total of 546 knife crime offences in 2019, an increase of 3.2% (17 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 529 offences. This is a smaller percentage increase compared to the London average where there was a 6.0% increase (28 offences) from 459 in 2018 to 486 in 2019. By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 15.6% decrease in Croydon (101 offences). In comparison, there has been an increase of 7.1% (32 offences) in the London average.

Knife Crime statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 of residents, the rate of offences in the borough has fallen from 1.7 in 2017 to 1.4 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019. The London average has seen an increase from 1.4 in 2017 to 1.7 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019.

Knife Crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking has fallen from 7th in 2017 to 13th in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019. Croydon's ranking for offences per 1,000 residents was much lower at 15th in 2017 and it had fallen to 19th in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and the highest crime rate.

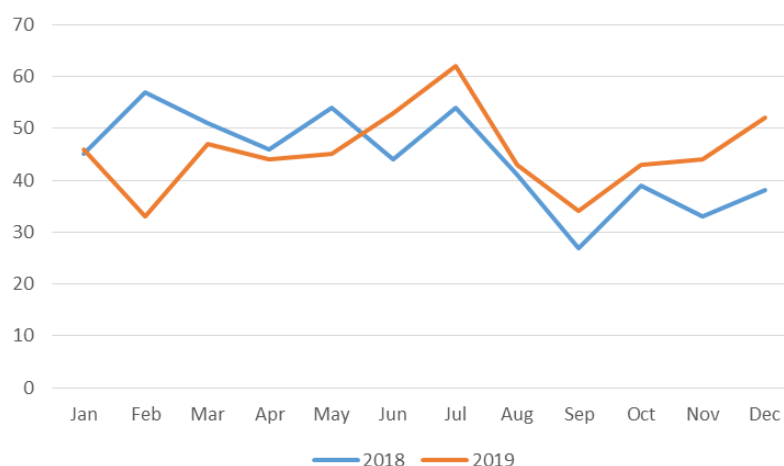
	Ranking	
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	7	15
2018	13	19
2019	13	19

- The majority of knife crime offences in Croydon in 2019 are made up of Personal Robbery (49.3%) followed by GBH with Intent (17.8%), GBH/Serious Wounding (12.2%), ABH (8.6%) and Threat to Kill (5.2%).
- 14.3% of knife crime offences were flagged as Domestic Abuse.
- 16.1% of knife crime offences were alcohol-related.
- The use of social media or online messaging was used in 9.4% of knife crime offences.

Temporal Analysis

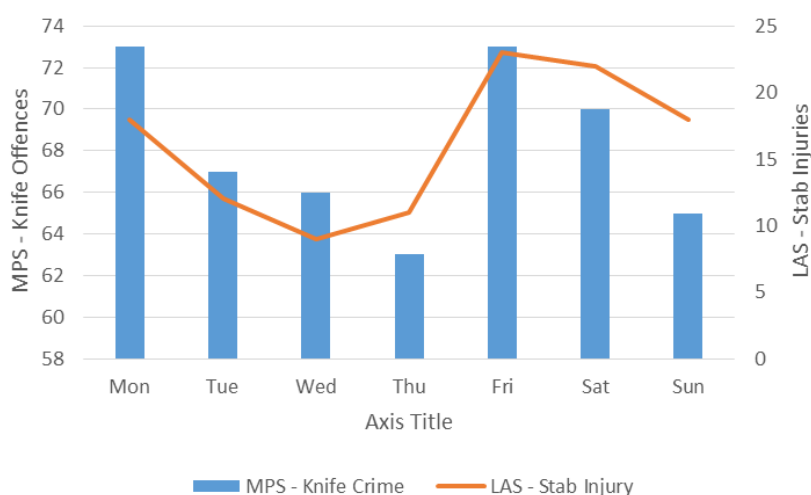
- In 2019 the peak months for Non-DA VWI were June, July and December. The peak months in 2018 were February, May and July. There is a similar pattern in both 2018 and 2019 where offences sharply increase in July and then rapidly decrease continuously in August and September before increase in October. Offences also increase in December.
- The high number of offences in June, July and December correlate with the high number of offences in SYV and YV in the borough where a high number of victims of Knife Crime are aged 1-19.

Knife Crime offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



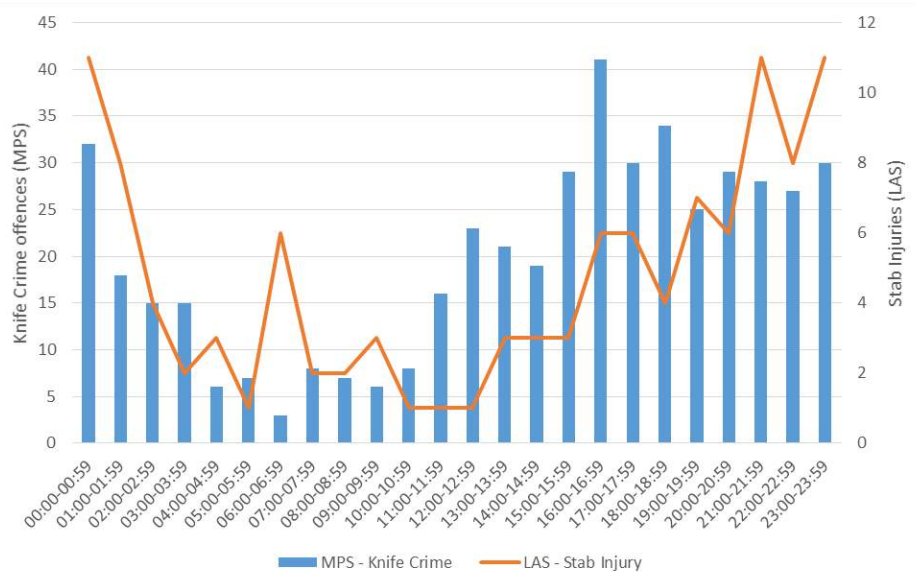
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the week with the peak days being Monday, Friday and Saturday.
- Stab injuries reported by the LAS show the peak days as being Friday and Saturday.

Knife Crime offences from CRIS and stab injuries reported by LAS from SafeStats by day of the week in Croydon in 2019.



- The peak time for Knife Crime offences was from 16:00 to 19:00, which correlates with 'after-school' hours. Times are from 20:00 to 01:00 which correlate with the night-time economy.
- Stab injuries reported by LAS showed peak time being from 06:00 to 07:00, 16:00 to 17:00 and 19:00 to 01:00.

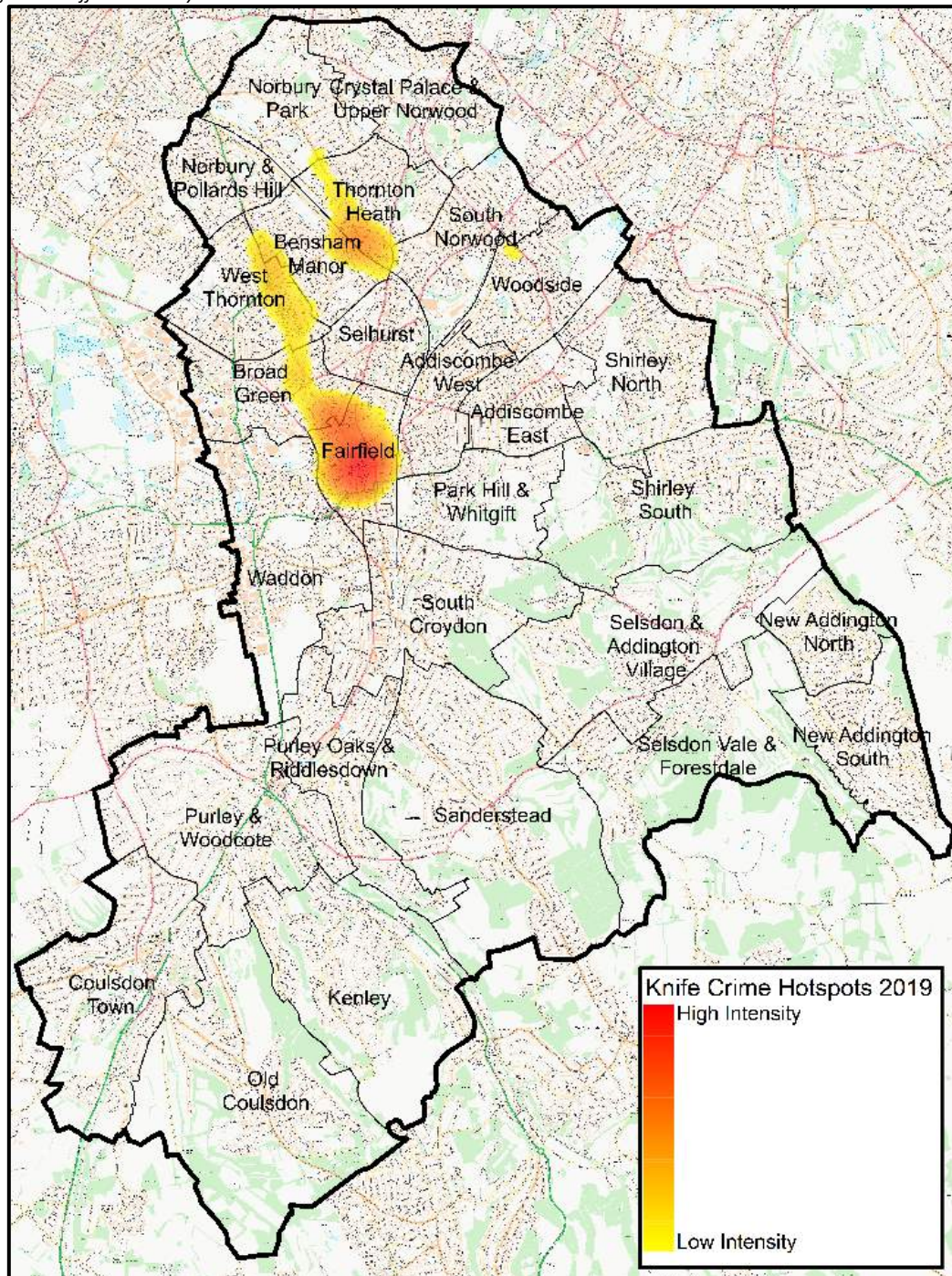
Knife Crime offences from CRIS and stab injuries recorded by the LAS from SafeStats by hour committed in Croydon in 2019.



Hotspots

- The primary hotspot for SYV is Croydon Town Centre with almost a fifth (18.7%) of all mapped knife crime offences being committed in this area.
- Secondary hotspots are predominantly areas where there is high footfall including London Road, in and around Thornton Heath High Street and Green Lane and South Norwood High Street.

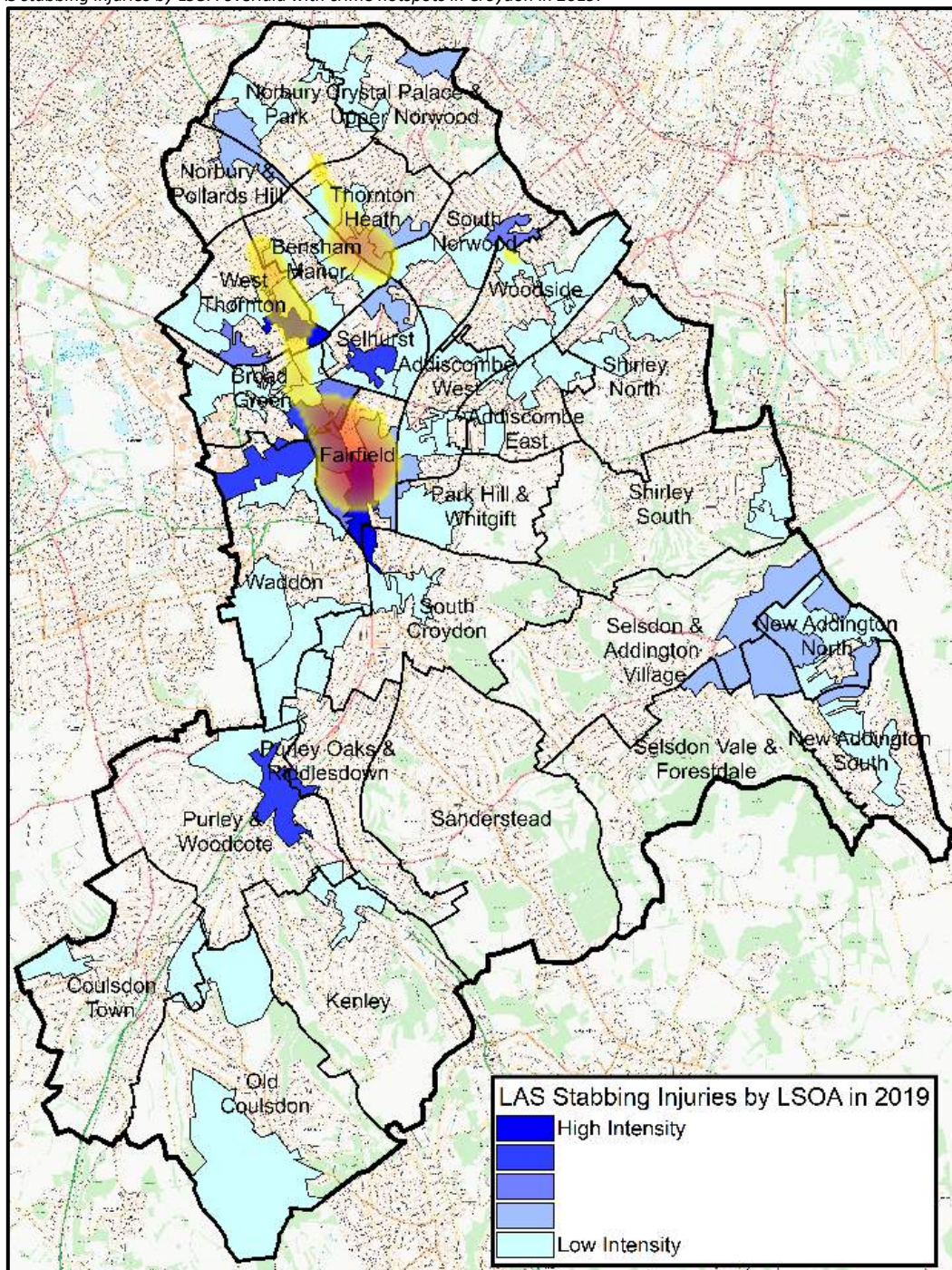
Hotspot map of Knife Crime offences in Croydon in 2019.



- Where the location type was recorded (88.8% of all offences), 50.5% occurred in the street followed by 9.9% occurring in a flat/maisonette and 5.2% occurring in terraced properties.

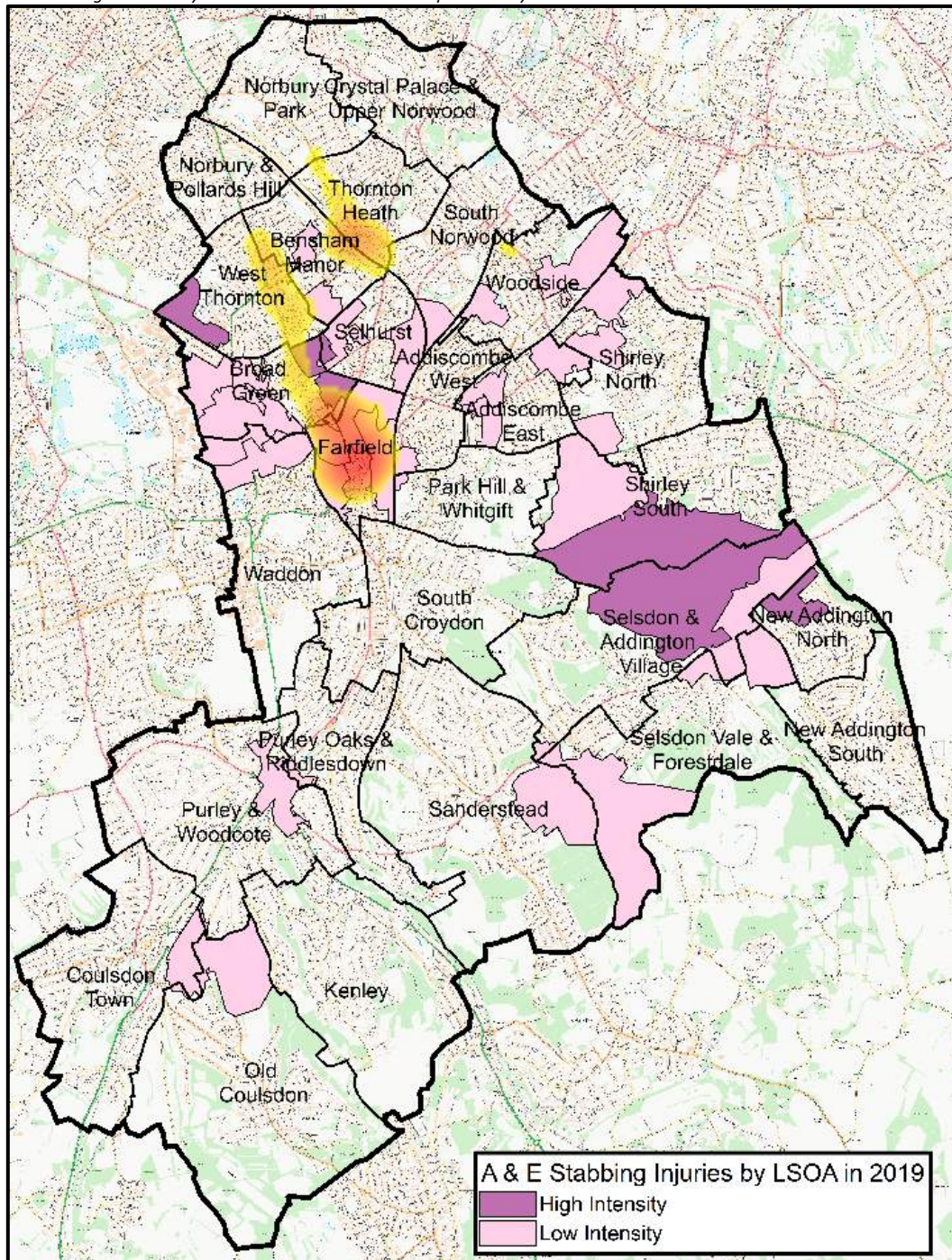
- By mapping LAS stabbing injuries by LSOA, areas where there is a high number of these occurring cover the town centre and parts of London Road. However there are also areas which are not covered by the crime hotspots including parts of Waddon ward, Selhurst ward and Purley & Woodcote ward.

Thematic map of LAS stabbing injuries by LSOA overlaid with crime hotspots in Croydon in 2019.



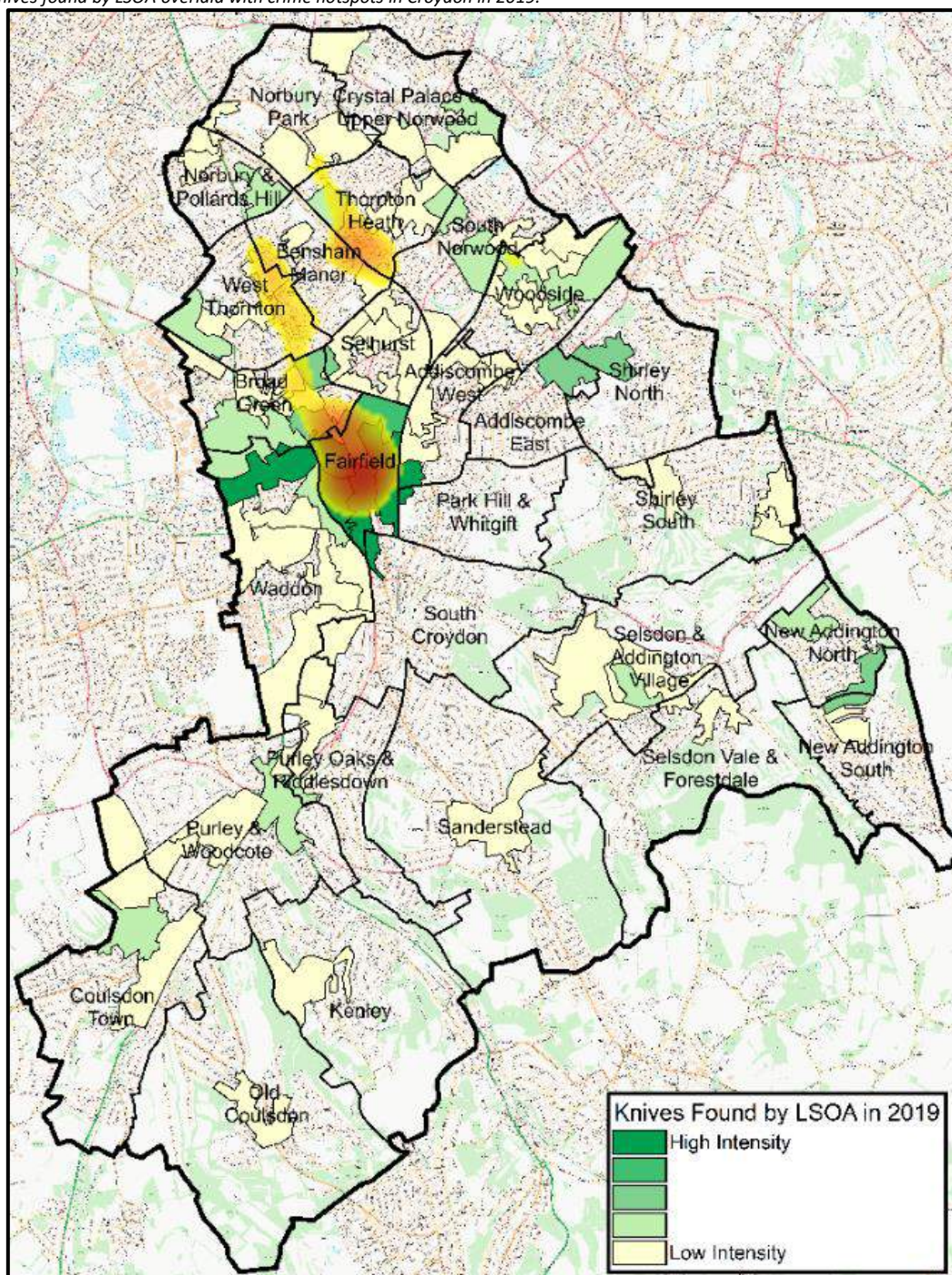
- By mapping A & E stabbing incidents by LSOA, other areas of concern appear outside of the crime hotspots including parts of West Thornton, Shirley South, Selsdon and Addington Village (which as stated in the Non-DA VWI section, this is represented by one incident involved several victims) and New Addington North wards.

Thematic map of A & E stabbing incidents by LSOA overlaid with crime hotspots in Croydon in 2019.



- By mapping knives found and recorded by the MPS by LSOA, other primary hotspots not shown by knife crime data include parts of Waddon, Addiscombe East, Shirley North, New Addington North and New Addington South wards.

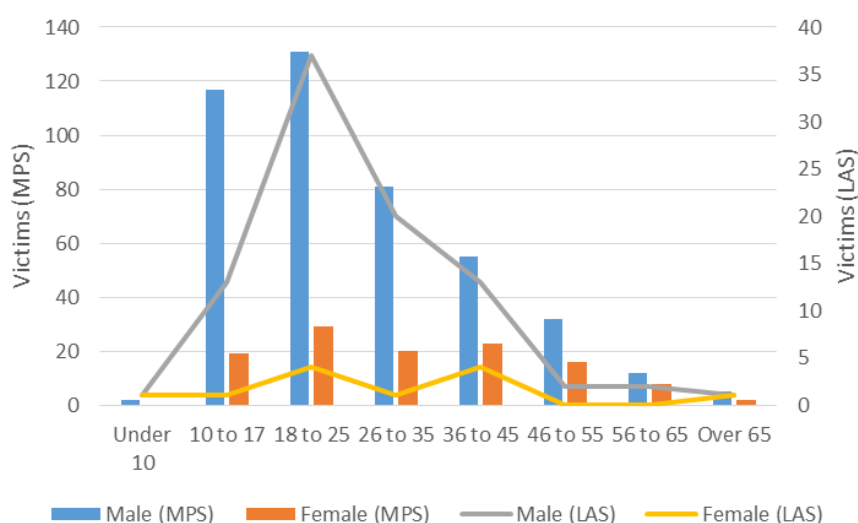
Thematic map of knives found by LSOA overlaid with crime hotspots in Croydon in 2019.



Victim Profile

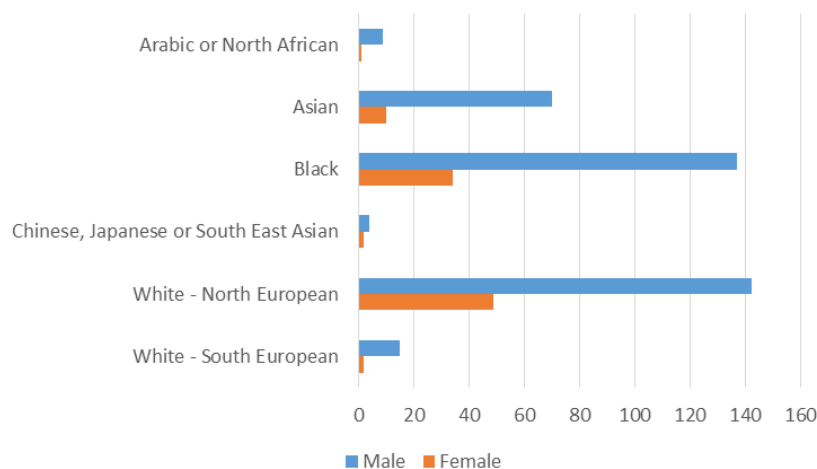
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 78.8% of victims were male and 21.2% were female.
- Violence-related LAS incidents recorded 88.1% of victims who were male and 11.9% who were female.
- 29.0% of victims were aged 18 to 25 years old followed by 24.6% of those aged 10 to 17 years old and 18.3% of those aged 26 to 35 years old.
- LAS incidents recorded the 40.6% of those treated for were aged 18 to 25 years old followed 20.8% of those aged 26 to 35 years old and 16.8% of those aged between 36 to 45 years old.
- 30.1% of male victims were aged between 18 and 25 years old. LAS incidents recorded 41.2% of males were aged between 18 and 25 years old.
- 24.8% of female victims were aged between 18 and 25 years old. LAS incidents recorded 33.3% of female victims were aged between 18 and 25 years old.
- LAS incidents also recorded 33.3% of female victims were aged 36 and 45 years old – the joint highest proportion of female victims. MPS recorded 19.7% of female victims were aged between 36 and 45 years old – the second highest proportion of female victims.

Victims of Knife Crime (MPS) and individuals treated as a result of stabbing injuries (LAS) in Croydon in 2019 by age and gender.



- Of those victims where gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 34.6% of victims were White - North European followed by 31.0% of victims recorded as Black.

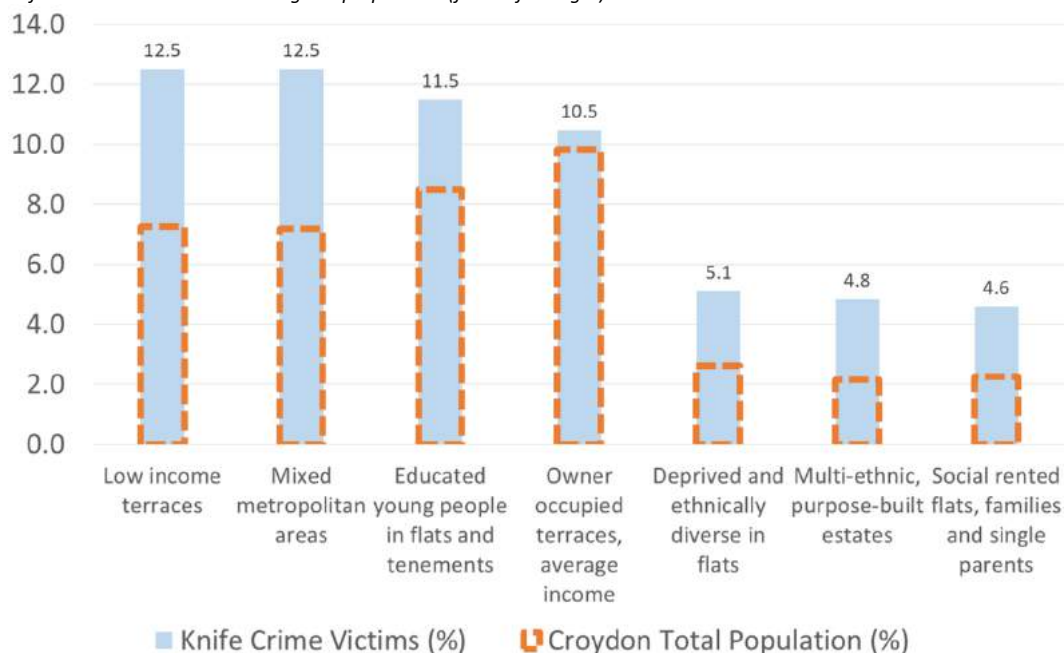
Victims of Knife Crime in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- Out of all victims where their home address was identified, 78.1% lived in the borough.
- Out of those victims that lived outside of the borough, almost half lived in neighbouring boroughs including 15.0% lived in Merton, 12.4% lived in Lambeth, 12.4% lived in Sutton and 8.0% lived in Bromley.

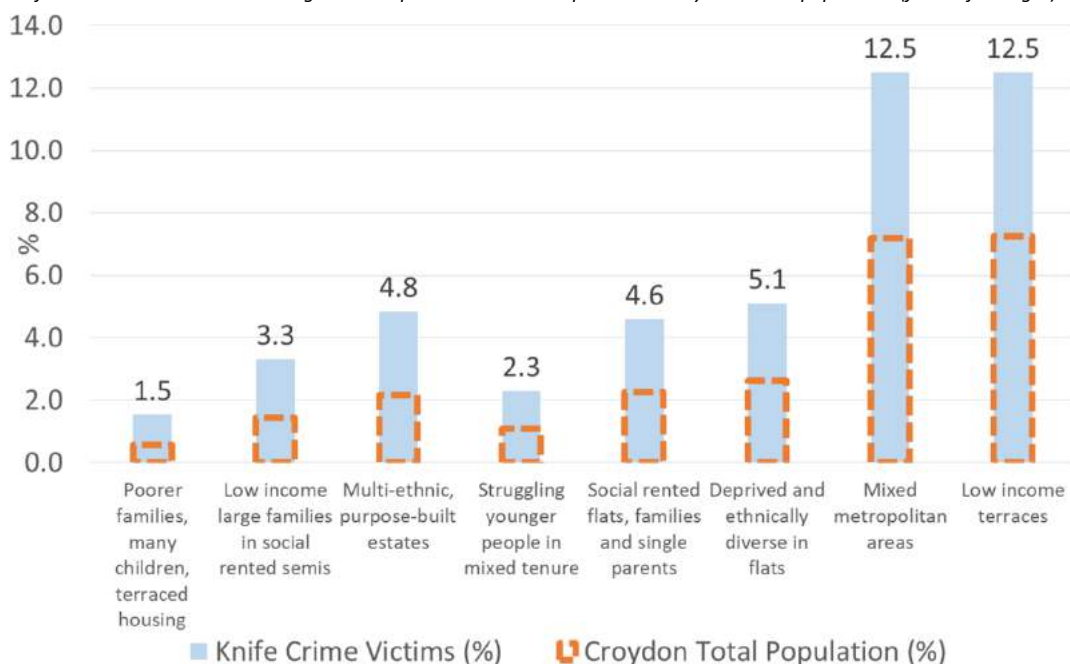
- By using the Acorn system, out of the victims where their home postcodes were identified mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' with 12.5%. The second highest proportion were 'Mixed metropolitan areas' with 12.5% and the third highest proportion were 'Educated young people in flats and tenements' with 11.5%.

Acorn types where knife crime victims showed the highest proportions (from left to right).



- The type which showed the largest overrepresentation between the victims of knife crime and the borough's total population was 'Poorer families, many children, terraced housing', which victims were overrepresented by 200% more than the total population.
- The second highest type of victims being overrepresented by 120% more than the borough's population were 'Low income large families in social rented semis'. The third highest type of victims being overrepresented by over 110% more than the borough's population were "Multi-ethnic purpose-built estates'.

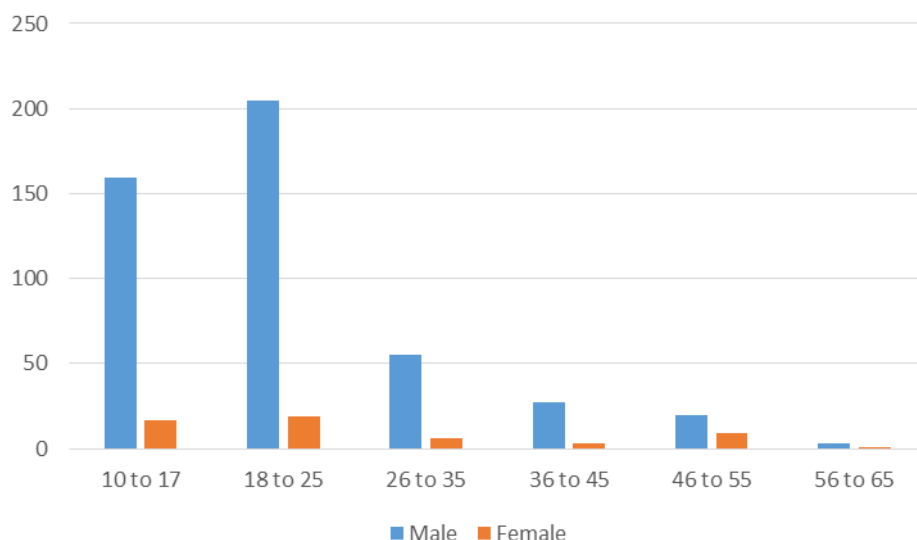
Acorn types where knife crime victims showed the largest overrepresentation in comparison to Croydon's total population (from left to right).



Suspect Profile

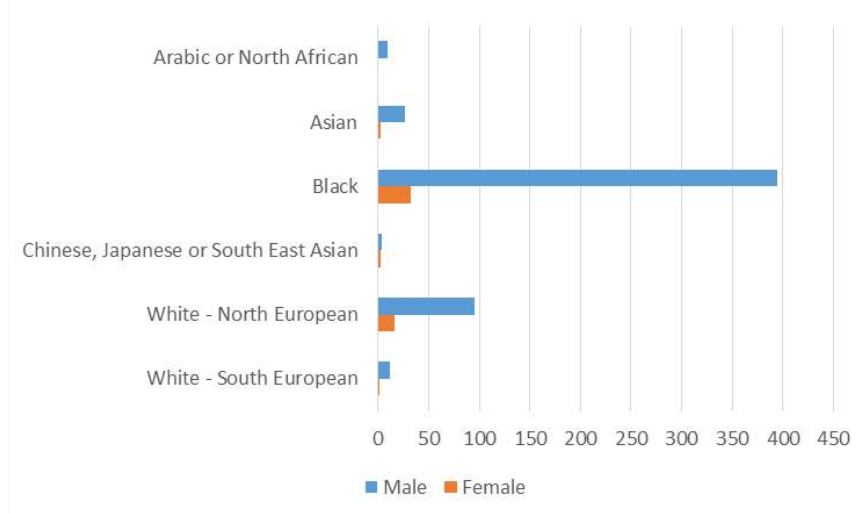
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 90.9% of the suspects were male and 9.1% were female.
- Where the suspect age was recorded, 42.7% were aged from 18 to 25 years old, 33.6% were aged 10 to 17 years old and 11.6% were aged 26 to 35 years old.
- 43.7% of male suspects were aged 18 to 25 years old followed by 33.9% of those aged 10 to 17 years old then 11.7% of those aged 26 to 35 years old.
- 34.5% of female suspects were aged 18 to 25 years old followed by 30.9% of those aged 10 to 17 years old and then 11.6% of those aged 26 to 35 years old.

Suspects of Knife Crime in Croydon in 2019 by gender and age from CRIS.



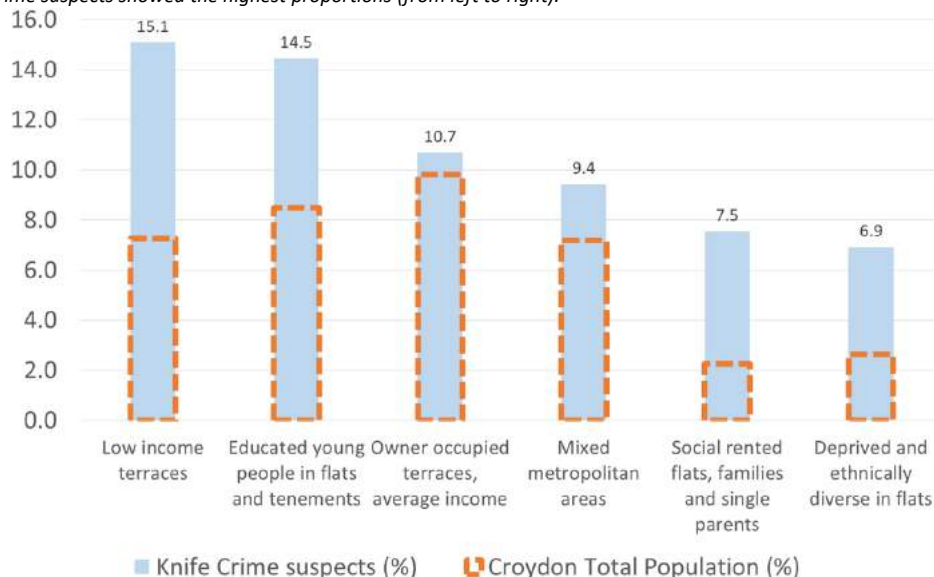
- Where the suspect's ethnic appearance is recorded, 71.9% were recorded as Black followed by 18.7% recorded as White - North European.

Suspects of Knife Crime in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



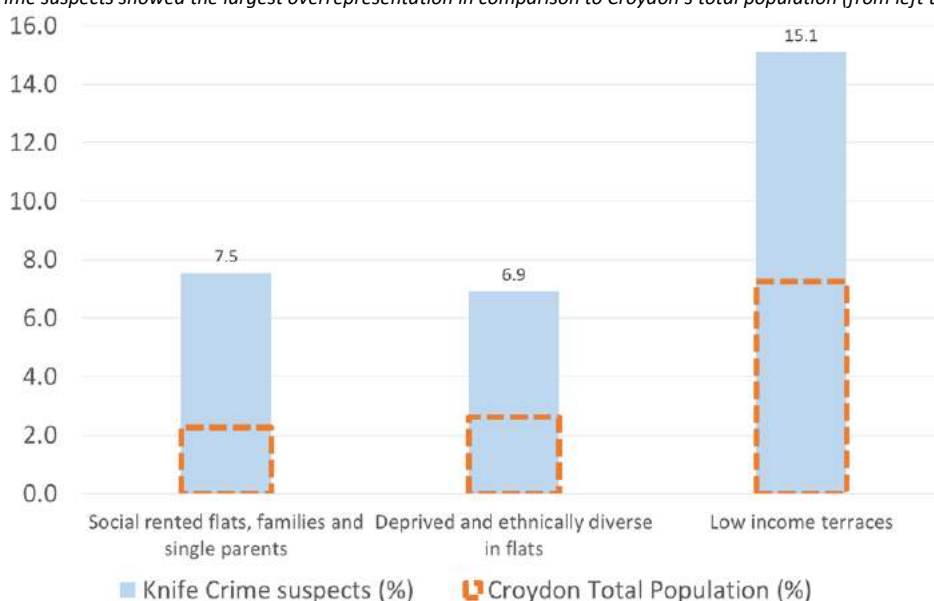
- 22.3% of suspects were recorded as having a specific relationship with the victim. Out of these suspects, 35.7% were recorded as an 'acquaintance of the victim'. This is followed by 9.4% of suspects being the boyfriend of the victim, 7.6% of suspects being the ex-boyfriend of the victim and 7.0% of suspects being the neighbour of the victim.
- Out of all suspects where their home address was identified, 76.2% lived in the borough.
- Out of those victims that lived outside of the borough, 17.6% lived in Merton, 11.8% in Lambeth, 11.8% in Sutton and 7.8% lived in Southwark.
- Using the Acorn tool, out of the suspects where their home postcodes were identified and mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' at 15.1%. The second highest was 'Educated young people in flats and tenements' with 14.5% and the third highest was 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' with 10.7%.

Acorn types where knife crime suspects showed the highest proportions (from left to right).



- The type which showed the largest overrepresentation of the suspects of knife crime compared to the borough's total population was 'Social rented flats, families and single parents', which victims were overrepresented by over 240% more than the total population. The second highest type of victims being overrepresented by more than 170% than the borough's population was 'Deprived and ethnically diverse in flats'. The third highest type was 'Low income terraces' with more than 100%.

Acorn types where knife crime suspects showed the largest overrepresentation in comparison to Croydon's total population (from left to right).



Youth Violence (YV)

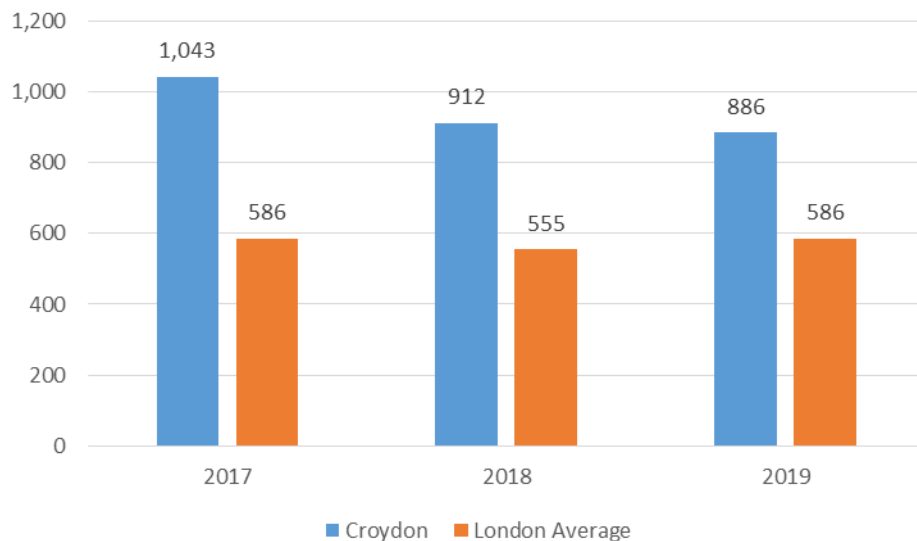
Definition

- This report uses the MPS' definition of YV. YV is defined by the MPS as 'a count of victims for any offence of Assault with Injury, Most Serious Violence or Gun Crime or Knife Crime, where the victim is aged 1-19.'

Statistics

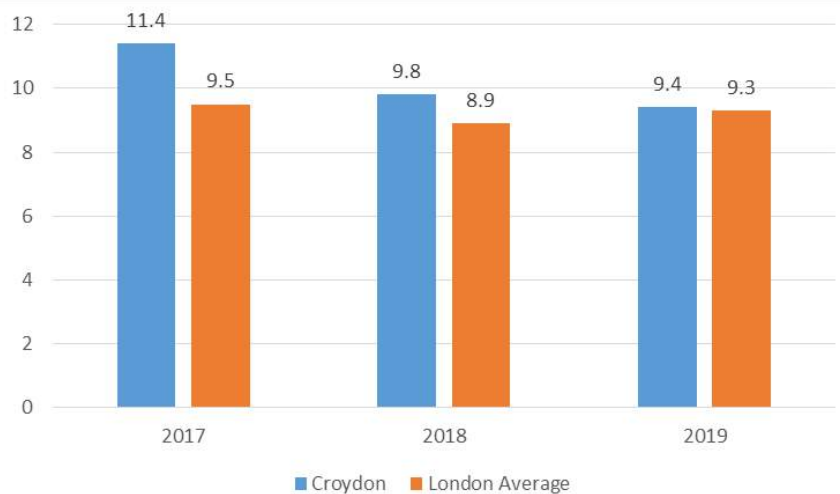
- There was a total of 886 YV offences in 2019, a decrease of 2.9% (26 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 912 victims recorded. In the same period there was an increase in the London average of 5.6% (31 offences) from 555 offences in 2018 to 586 offences in 2019. By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 15.1% decrease (157 offences) in offences in Croydon. In comparison, there was a zero change for the London average.

YV statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 of residents aged 1-19, the rate of offences in the borough has decrease from 11.4 in 2017, to 9.8 in 2018 to 9.4 in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 9.5 in 2017 to 8.9 in 2018 and then an increase to 9.3 in 2019.

YV crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents aged 1 to 19 from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking has fallen from 2017 and 2018, where it was ranked 1st, to being ranked 2nd in 2019. However, Croydon's ranking for offences per 1,000 residents aged 1-19 has fallen year-on-year from 8th in 2017 to 12th in 2018 to 14th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents aged 1-19 (using Housing-led projections of residents aged 1 to 19 from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and the highest crime rate.

	Ranking	
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	1	8
2018	1	12
2019	2	14

- The majority of YV offences were made up of ABH & Minor Wounding (57.2%). GBH/Serious Wounding (16.9%) and Personal Robbery (16.1%) also made up a significant proportion of offences.
- 18.0% of all YV offences involved a weapon other than a firearm used and 0.8% of offences involved a firearm.
- 15.6% of all YV offences were Domestic-related.
- The use of social media or online messaging was used in 12.4% of all YV offences.
- 10.9% of all YV offences were alcohol-related.

Temporal Analysis

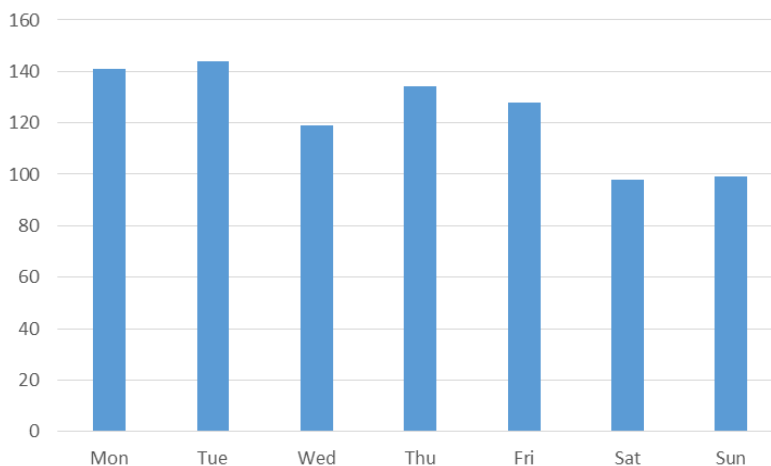
- In 2019 the peak months for YV were March, July and December. The peak months in 2018 were January, May and June. There is a similar pattern in both 2018 and 2019 from January where offences decrease in February, increase in March and then fall in April. Offences then rise throughout May and June. Offences also sharply decrease in August, which correlates with the school summer holidays.
- The decreases in February and April can also be linked with the half-term and Easter holidays during these months.

YV offences committed by month in Croydon in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



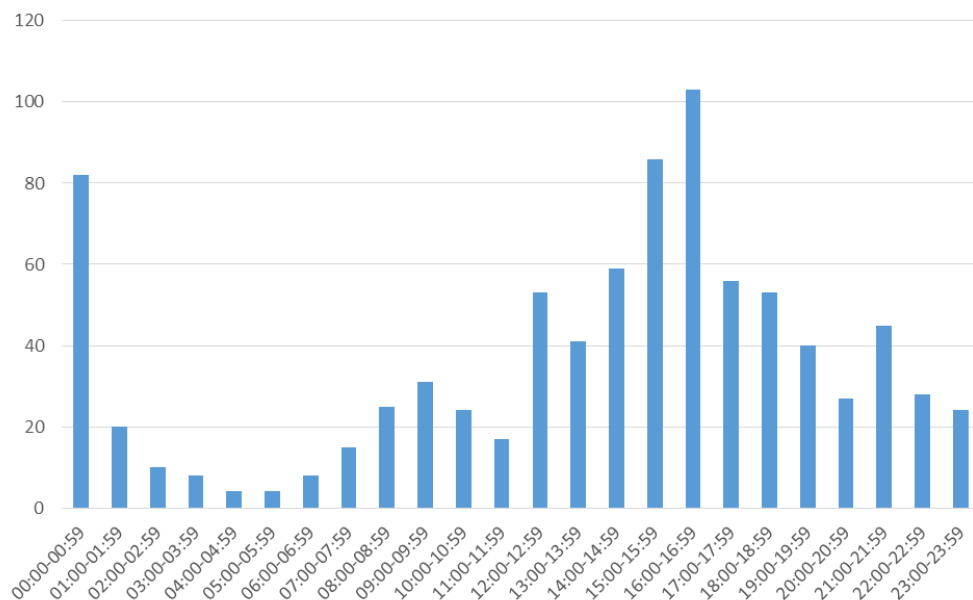
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the weekdays with the peak days being Monday and Tuesday.

YV offences in by day of the week in Croydon in 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak time for YV offences was between 14:00 and 17:00 which partly correlates with ‘after-school’ hours.
- There is also a high number of offences which apparently occur between midnight and 01:00. However, it must be noted that many of these offences involve children turning up to school and reporting to teachers they have been hit at home by a family member and so once it is reported to police no specific time of the offence is established and midnight is the ‘default’ time on the crime report.
- On Monday a third of offences (33.3%) which occur on this day are committed between 14:00 and 17:00. On Tuesdays over a quarter of all offences (28.5%) which occur on this day are committed during the same time.

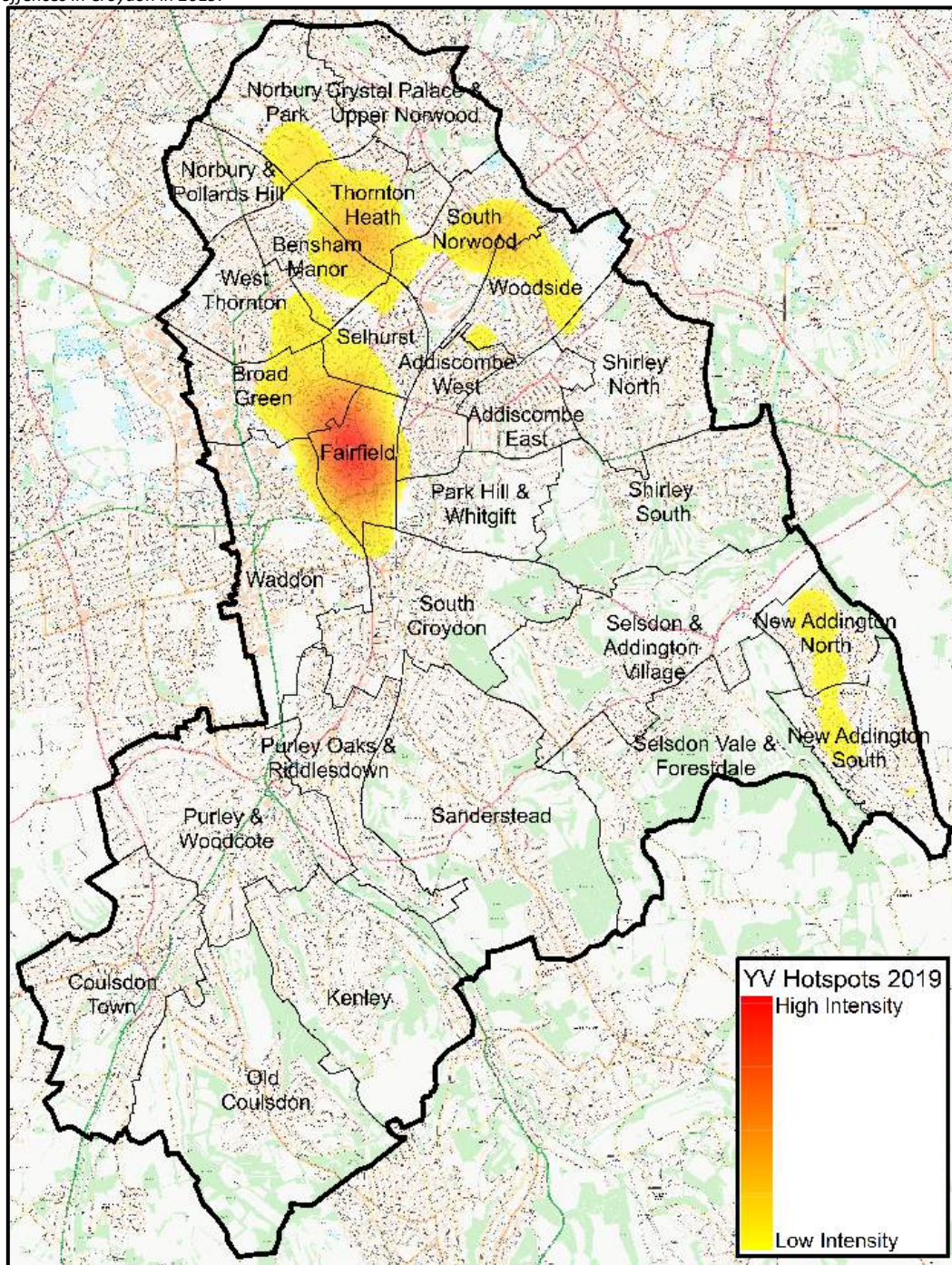
YV offences committed in Croydon in 2019 by time of the day taken from CRIS.



Hotspots

- The primary hotspot for YV is Croydon Town Centre with 15.8% of all mapped offences being committed in this area.
- A third of all YV offences (33.3%) in Croydon Town Centre committed during the peak times of between 15:00 and 17:00 were committed within 100m of West Croydon train station.
- Secondary hotspots were in and around Thornton Heath High Street leading up into Norbury Park ward, in and around High Street in South Norwood and into Woodside ward and parts of New Addington North and New Addington South. Parts of Broad Green, West Thornton, Selhurst and Bensham Manor wards also had a high number of offences.

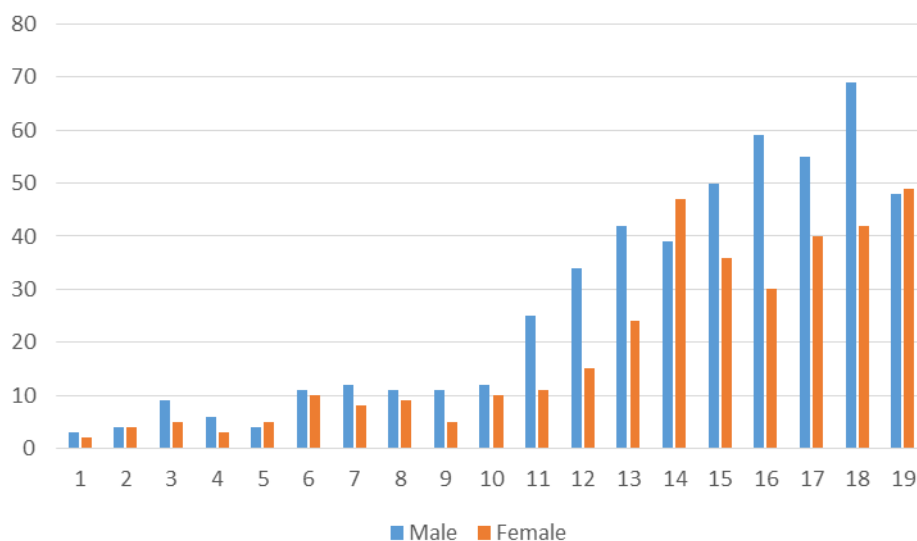
Hotspot map of YV offences in Croydon in 2019.



Victim Profile

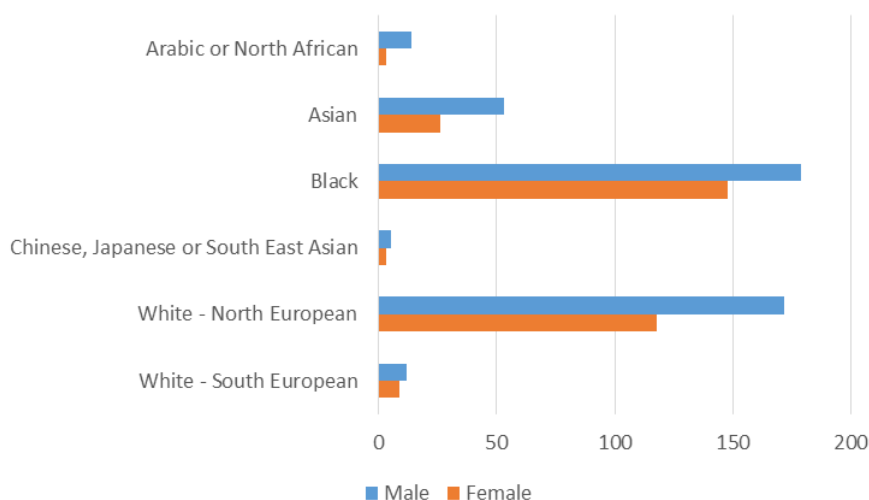
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 58.7% of victims were male and 41.3% were female.
- The highest proportion of male victims were aged 18 (13.7%) followed by those aged 16 (11.7%) and then those aged 17 (10.9%).
- The highest proportion of female victims were aged 19 (13.8%) followed by those aged 14 (13.2%) and then those aged 18 (11.8%).
- The proportion of male victims was higher than female victims apart from age 14 where 54.7% of victims were female and age 19 where 50.5% of victims were female.
- 61.2% of female victims aged 19 and 57.1% of female victims aged 18 were flagged as domestic abuse.
- For female victims aged 14, 4.3% were flagged as Domestic-related, however when going through each crime report it was found that actually 29.8% of these victims should have been flagged as domestic-related.

Victims of YV by age and gender in Croydon in 2019 from CRIS.



- Of those victims where age and ethnic appearance were recorded, the highest proportion of victims were Black (44.1%) followed by those recorded as White - North European (39.1%) and then those recorded as Asian (10.6%).
- The highest proportion of male victims were Black (41.1%) followed by White - North European (39.4%).
- The highest proportion of female victims were Black (48.2%) followed by White - North European (38.4%).

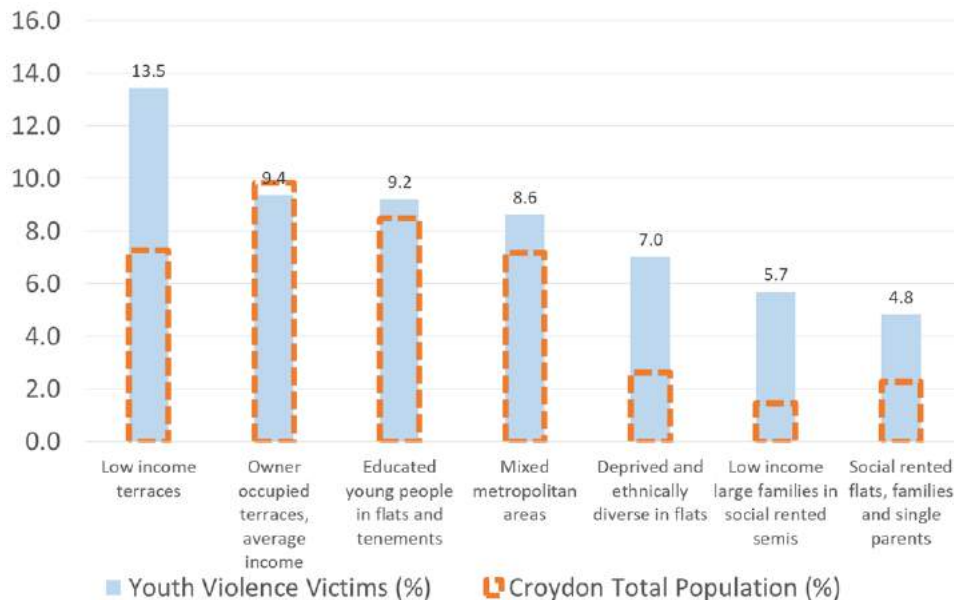
Victims of YV victims in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- Out of all victims where their home address was identified, 84.4% lived in the borough

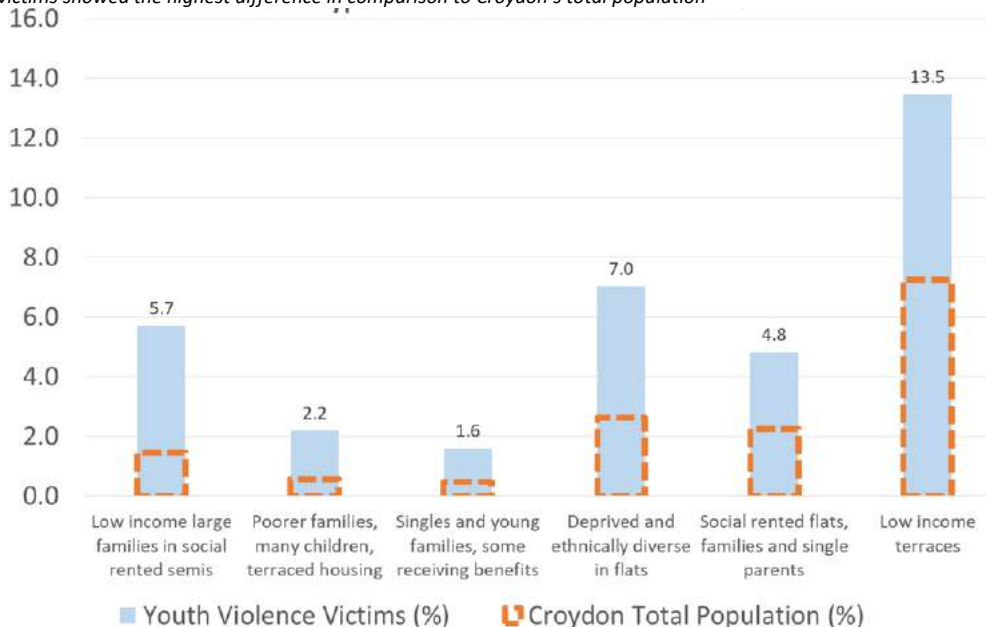
- Out of those victims that lived outside of the borough, over half lived in neighbouring boroughs or boroughs geographically close including 15.0% lived in Lambeth, 15.0% lived in Sutton, 10.2% lived in Bromley, 9.4% lived in Lewisham and 9.4% lived in Merton.
- Out of the victims where their home postcodes were identified mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' with 13.5%. The second highest proportion was 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' with 9.4% and the third highest was "Educated young people in flats and tenements" with 9.2%.

Acorn types where YV victims showed the highest proportions



- The type which showed the largest proportion difference between the victims of Non-DA VWI and the borough's total population was 'Low income large families in social rented semi', which victims were overrepresented by over 300% more than the total population. The second highest was 'Poorer families, many children, terraced housing' and the third was 'Singles and young families, some receiving benefits'.

Acorn types where YV victims showed the highest difference in comparison to Croydon's total population

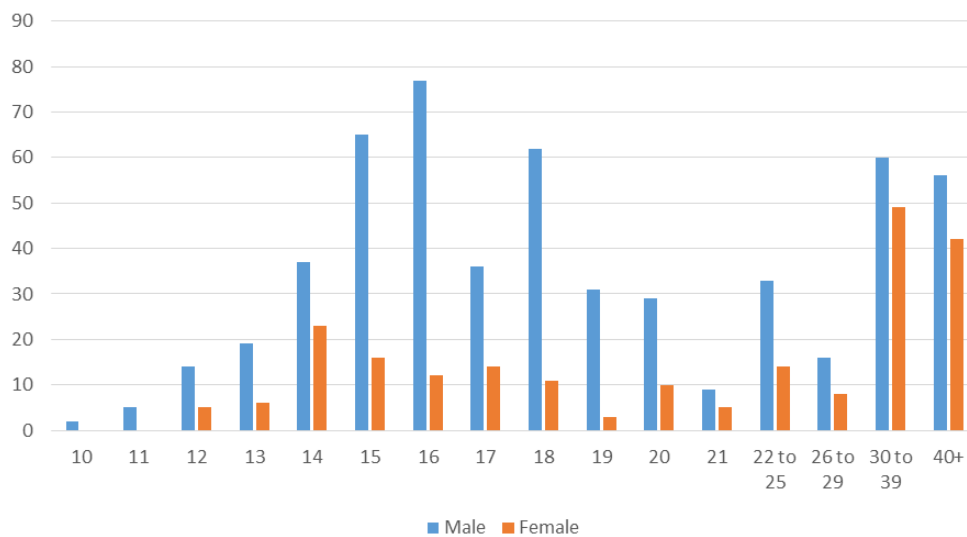


Suspect Profile

- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 71.6% of the suspects were male and 28.4% were female.
- Where the suspect age was recorded, the highest proportion were aged 16 years old (11.5%) followed by those aged 15 years old (10.5%) and then those aged 18 years old (9.4%).

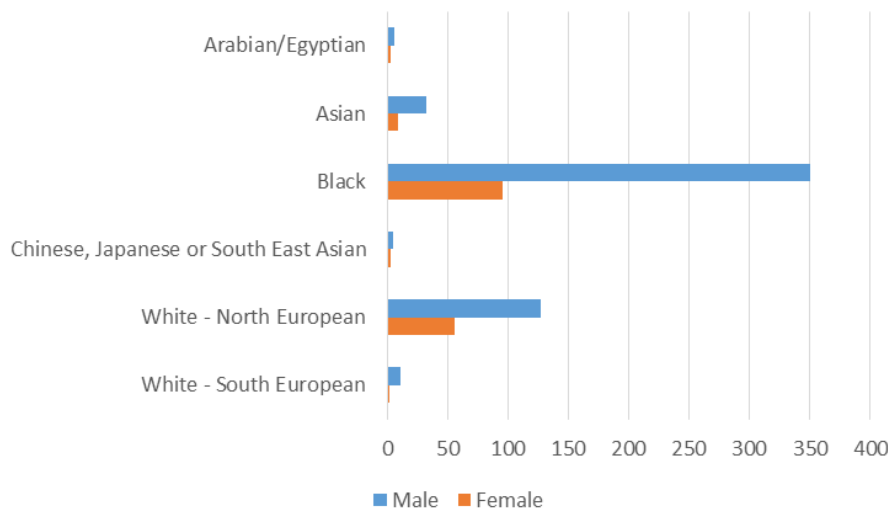
- The highest proportion of male suspects were aged 16 years old (13.8%) followed by those aged 15 years old (11.7%) and then those aged 18 years old (11.1%).
- The highest proportion of female suspects were aged 36 to 40 years old (12.8%) followed by those aged 14 years old and those aged 31 to 35 years old (10.6% each). The older age range of suspects highlights the high number of offences which are domestic abuse and have not been flagged as such.

Suspects of YV offences in Croydon in 2019 by gender and age from CRIS.



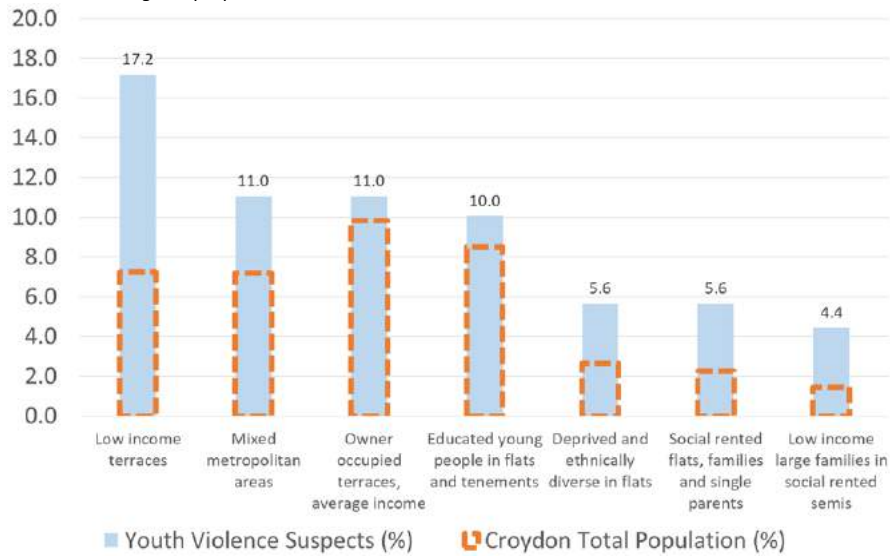
- Where the suspect's ethnic appearance is recorded, 63.7% were Black followed by 26.2% being White - North European. This is similar when ethnic appearance is broken down by gender.

Suspects of YV in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



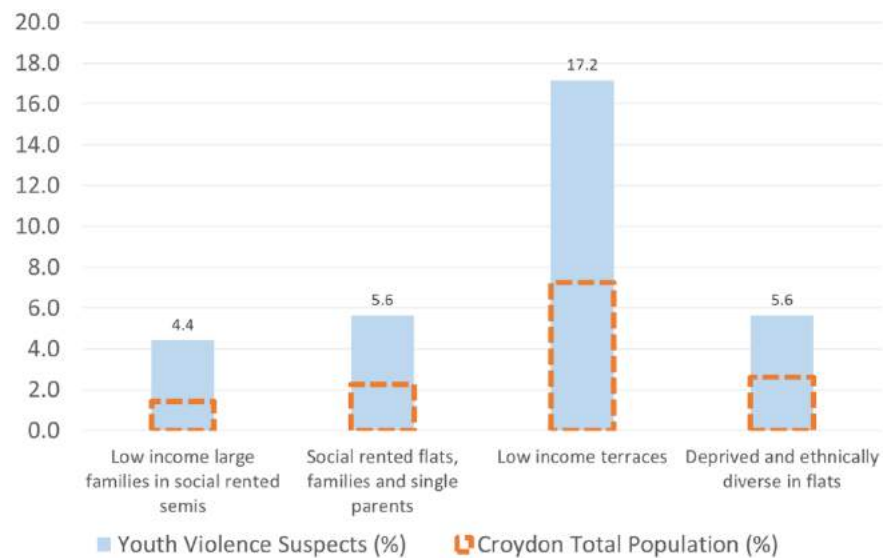
- Almost half of suspects had a type of relationship with the victim (48.5%). Out of these suspects, 17.7% of suspects attend the same school as the victim, followed by 16.3% of suspects being an acquaintance of the victim.
- The next highest proportions of relationship types highlight the magnitude of domestic abuse of YV offences with 14.4% of suspects being the mother of the victim, 11.5% being the father of the victim, 5.3% being the boyfriend of the victim, 4.9% being the brother of the victim and 4.0% being the ex-boyfriend of the victim.
- Out of all suspects where their home address was identified, 84.5% lived in the borough.
- Out of those suspects that lived outside of the borough, 18.7% lived in Lambeth, 12.0% lived in Merton, 9.3% lived in Sutton and 8.0% lived in Tandridge.
- Using the Acorn tool, out of the suspects where their home postcodes were identified and mapped, the highest proportion were 'Low income terraces' at 17.2%. The second highest was 'Mixed metropolitan areas' with 11.0% and the third highest was 'Owner occupied terraces, average income' with 11.0%.

Acorn types where YV suspects showed the highest proportions



- The type which showed the largest proportion difference between the suspects and the borough's total population was 'Low income large families in social rented semis'. The second largest proportion was 'Social rented flats, families and single parents' and the third highest was 'Low income terraces'.

Acorn types where YV suspects showed the highest difference in comparison to Croydon's total population



Serious Youth Violence (SYV)

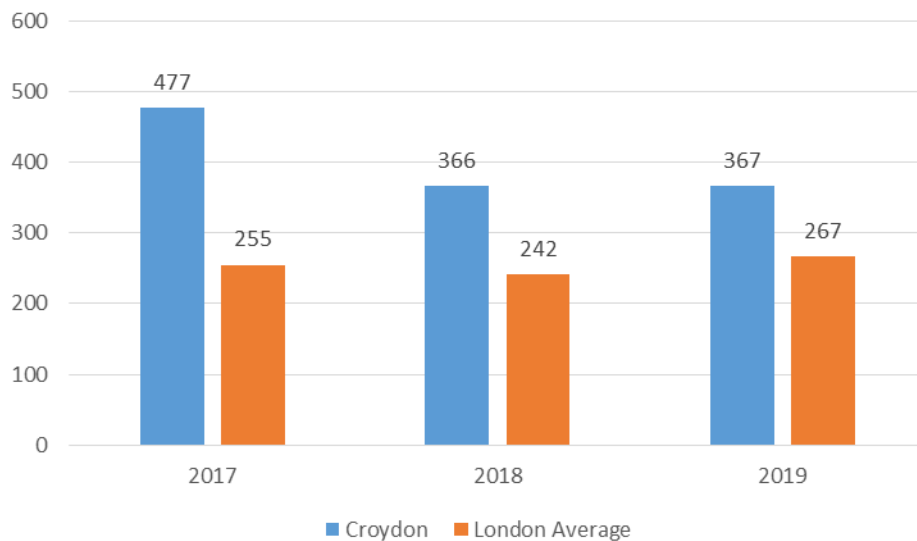
Definition

- This report uses the MPS' definition of SYV. SYV is defined by the MPS as 'any offence of most serious violence or weapon enabled crime, where the victim is aged 1-19'.

Statistics

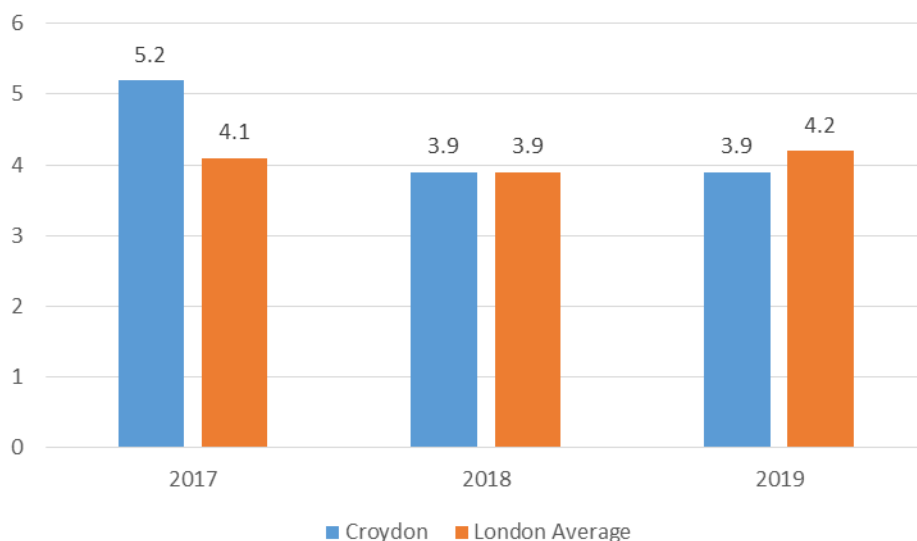
- There was a total of 367 SYV victims in 2019, an increase of 0.3% (1 victim) compared to 2018 where there were 366 victims recorded. In the same period there was an increase London average of 10.4% increase (25 victims). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 23.1% decrease in Croydon (110 victims). In comparison, there has been an increase of 4.6% (12 victims) in the London average.

SYV statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents aged 1-19, the rate of offences in the borough has fallen from 5.2 in 2017 to 3.9 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 4.1 in 2017 to 3.9 in 2018 where it has increased to 4.2 in 2019.

SYV crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents aged 1 to 19 from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Even though there has been a slight increase of offences in the borough, Croydon's ranking has dropped two places to 5th in 2019. By comparing rankings to 2017 it has dropped four places where it was ranked first. By

calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents aged 1-19, the borough's ranking has also dropped one place to 15th in 2019 and eight places when compared to 2017.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents aged 1 to 19 from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	1	7
2018	3	14
2019	5	15

Breakdown of Offence Type

- The largest proportion of offences committed in 2019 were GBH/Serious Wounding (40.8%) followed by Personal Robbery (39.9%) and GBH with Intent (13.5%).
- Out of all offences 10.6% were alcohol-related, 8.3% were flagged as domestic abuse, 1.7% of offences involved a firearm and 39.3% were classified where an 'other weapon' was used.
- The use of social media or online messaging was used in 13.8% of all SYV offences.

Temporal Analysis

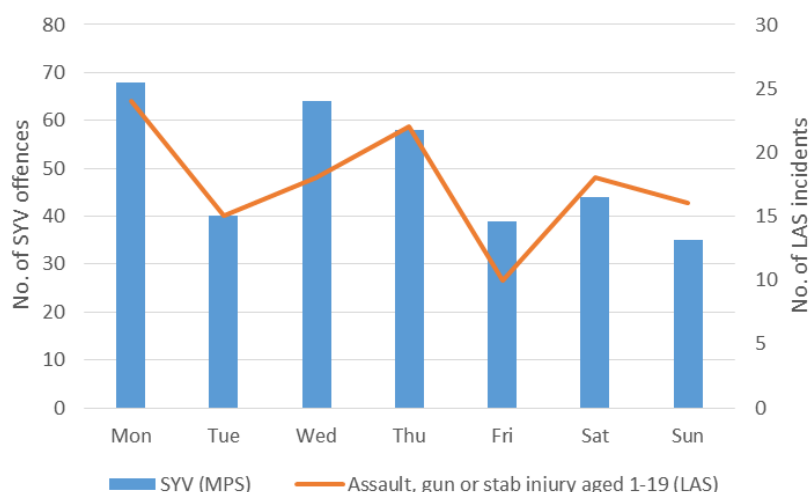
- In 2019 the peak months for SYV were January, June and December. January was reflected as a peak month in 2018. There is a similar pattern in both 2018 and 2019 where offences decrease significantly in August, which is when the school summer holidays happen. There is also a similar pattern where offences increase (more so in 2018 than 2019) when the autumn term starts in September.
- The high number of offences in January 2019 correlate with the beginning of spring term in schools and pupils being targeted for robberies as well as being involved in school fights.
- The rise of offences in June again correlate with the beginning of school after the summer half-term.
- The rise in offences in December is significantly linked to older victims (specifically 18 years old) where they were targets of serious violence.

SYV offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



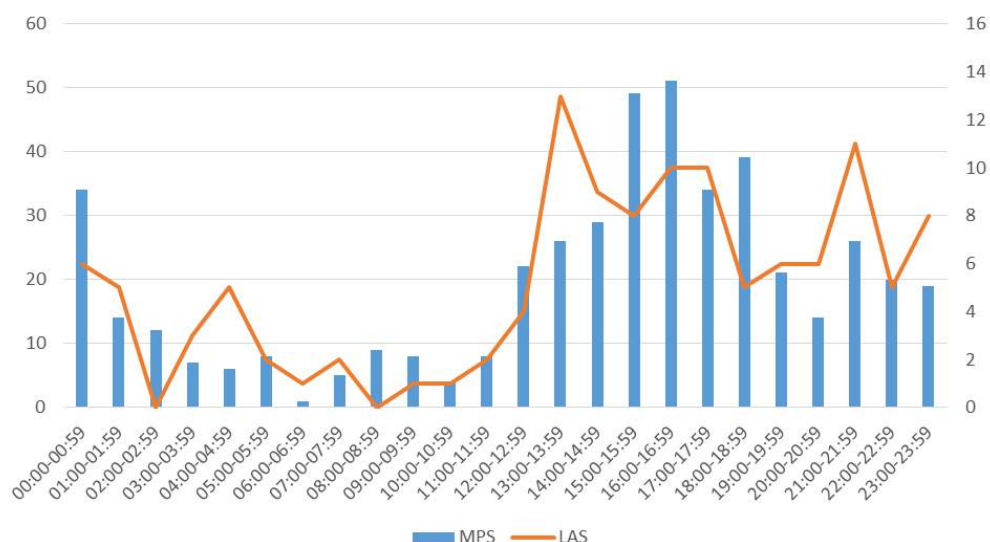
- The peak days for SYV offences were Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. LAS data on assaults, stab or gun injury aged 1-19 show the peak day of Monday is reflected followed by Thursday.
- Recorded LAS incidents follow a very similar weekly trend to SYV offences recorded by the MPS.

SYV offences committed in Croydon in 2019 by day of the week taken from CRIS and LAS incidents in Croydon in 2019 of individuals aged 1-19 who have received an assault, stab or gunshot injury taken from SafeStats.



- The peak time for SYV offences was between 1500 and 1900 hours.
- Other times where a high volume of offences were committed were between 1300 and 1500 hours, 2100 and 2200 hours and between 0000 hours and 0100 hours. These times are also reflected by the LAS data.

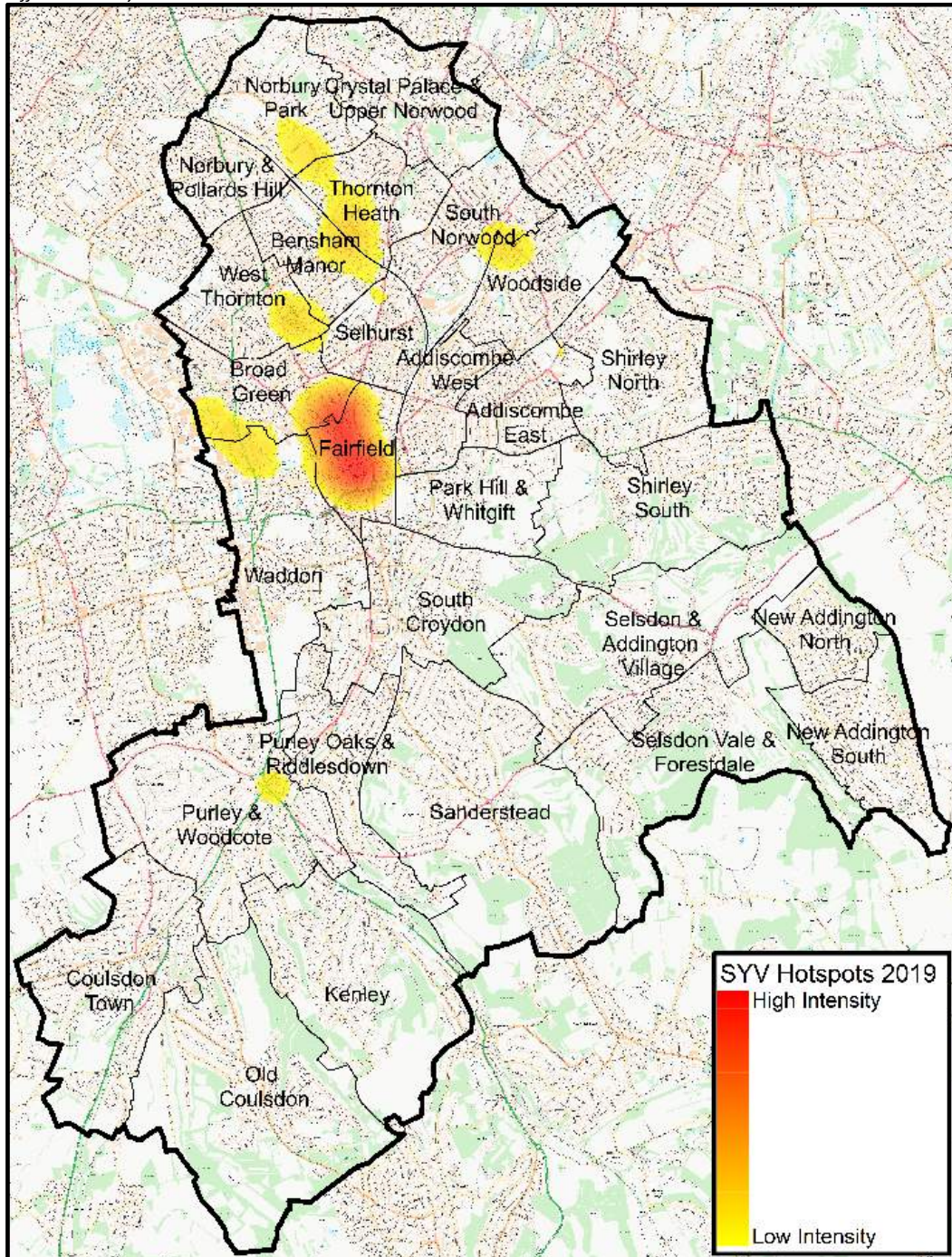
SYV offences committed in Croydon in 2019 by time of the day taken from CRIS and LAS incidents in Croydon in 2019 of individuals aged 1-19 who have received an assault, stab or gunshot injury taken from SafeStats.



Hotspots

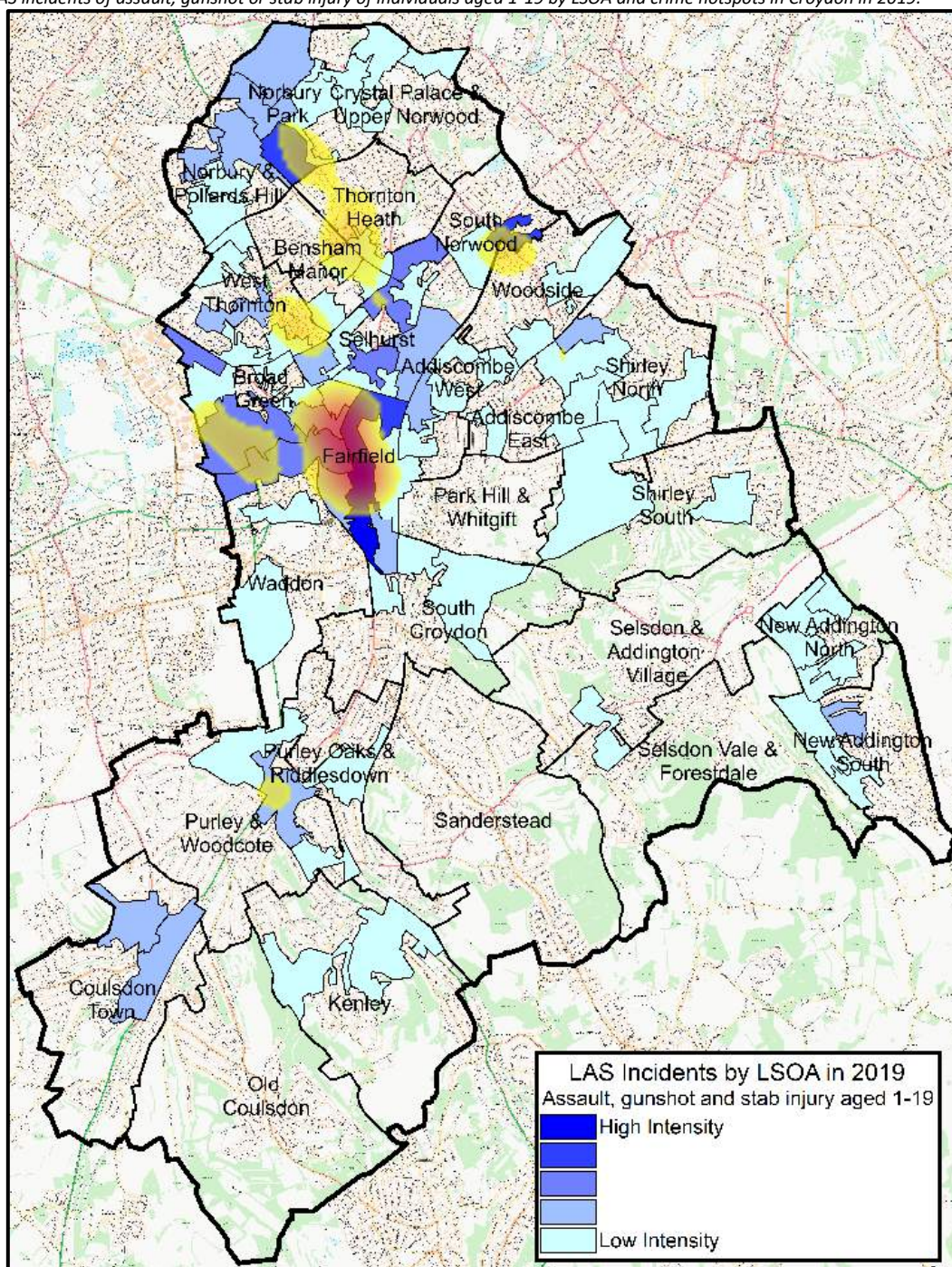
- The primary hotspot for SYV is Croydon Town Centre with a fifth (20%) of all mapped SYV offences being committed in this area.
- Other hotspots are in Waddon and Broad Green wards (specifically in and around Valley retail park), in and around Thornton Heath High Street leading up Green Lane into Norbury Park ward, in and around South Norwood High Street, in and around Addiscombe Road/Long Lane, in and around Fieldway in New Addington and in and around Purley High Street.

Hotspot map of SYV offences in Croydon in 2019.



- The primary LSOAs for LAS incidents are in Fairfield, Broad Green, Selhurst, Norbury Park and South Norwood wards.
- The map shows that the majority of LSOAs where the highest number of LAS incidents have occurred are reflected by the SYV hotspot areas. However there are also areas in Broad Green, Selhurst and Thornton Heath not identified by SYV crime data.

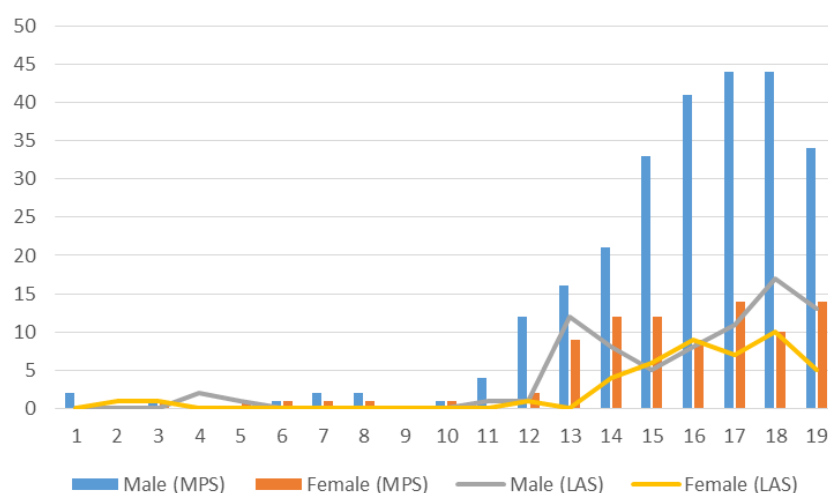
Thematic map of LAS incidents of assault, gunshot or stab injury of individuals aged 1-19 by LSOA and crime hotspots in Croydon in 2019.



Victim Profile

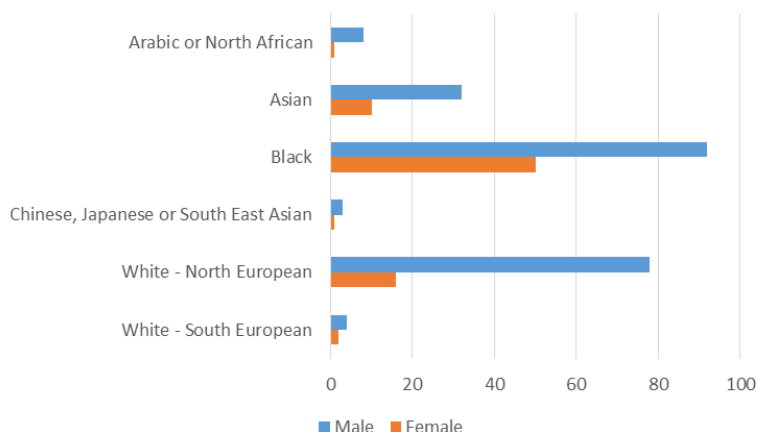
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 74.6% of victims were male and 25.4% were female.
- LAS data shows 64% of victims were male and 36% were female.
- The highest proportion of male victims were aged either 17 or 18 years old (17.1% each) followed by those aged 16 years old (15.8%) and then those aged 19 years old (13.2%).
- The highest proportion of female victims were aged either 17 or 19 years old (31.8% each) followed by those aged 14 or 15 years old (13.6%).
- LAS data shows the age for the highest number of incidents involving either male or female victims was aged 18 years old (22%).
- The highest proportion of males recorded by LAS were 18 years old (21.5%) followed by those aged 19 years old (16.5%) and then those aged 13 years old (15.2%).
- The highest proportion of females recorded by LAS were 18 years old (22.7%) followed by those aged 16 years old (20.5%) and then those aged 17 years old (15.9%).

Victims of SYV in Croydon in 2019 by age and gender from CRIS. LAS incidents in Croydon in 2019 involving individuals aged 1-19 who received treatment for assault, gunshot or stab injury – taken from SafeStats.



- Almost half of all victims 47.8% of victims were Black followed by 31.6% who were White - North European.
- Of those victims where gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 42.4% of male victims were Black, 35.6% were White - North European and 14.7% were Asian.
- Of those victims where gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 62.5% of female victims were Black, 20.0% were White - North European and 12.5% were Asian.

Victims of SYV in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.

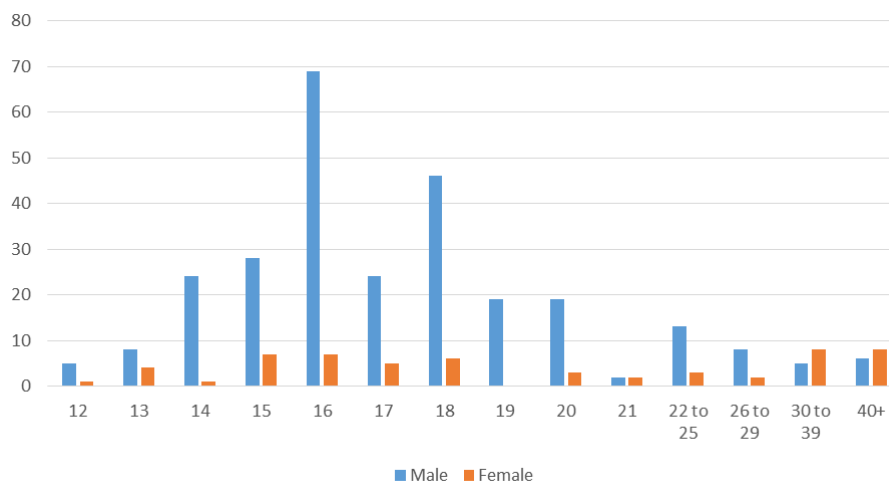


- Out of all the victims where their home addresses could be mapped, 80.2% of them lived in the borough.
- Out of those who lived outside of the borough, 18.5% lived in Sutton, 16.9% lived in Lambeth, 12.3% lived in Lewisham, 9.2% lived in Merton and 6.2% lived in Bromley.

Suspect Profile

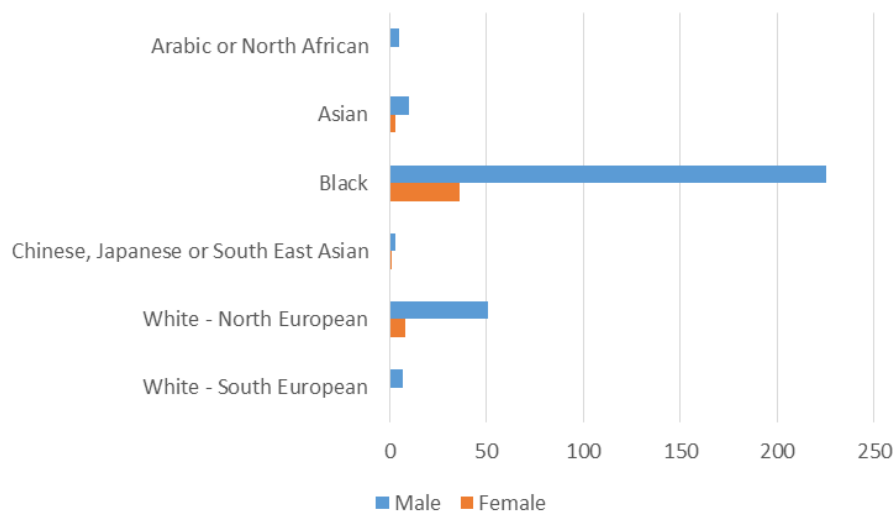
- Out of the crimes where gender was recorded, 82.5% of the suspects were male and 17.5% were female.
- Where the suspect age was recorded, the highest proportion were aged 16 years old (22.5%) followed by those aged 18 years old (15.4%) then those aged 15 years old (10.4%).
- The highest proportion of male victims were aged 16 years old (24.7%) followed by those aged 18 years old (16.5%) then those aged 15 years old (10.0%).
- The highest proportion of female victims were 40 plus (15.2%) followed by those aged 30 to 39 and 40 plus (13.6% each), which the majority were flagged as domestic-abuse. The third highest proportions were those aged 15 and 16 years old (11.9%).

Suspects of SYV in Croydon in 2019 by gender and age from CRIS.



- Where the suspect's gender and ethnic appearance were recorded, 74.8% of suspects were recorded as Black followed by 16.9% recorded as White - North European. Figures closely reflect this when broken down by gender.

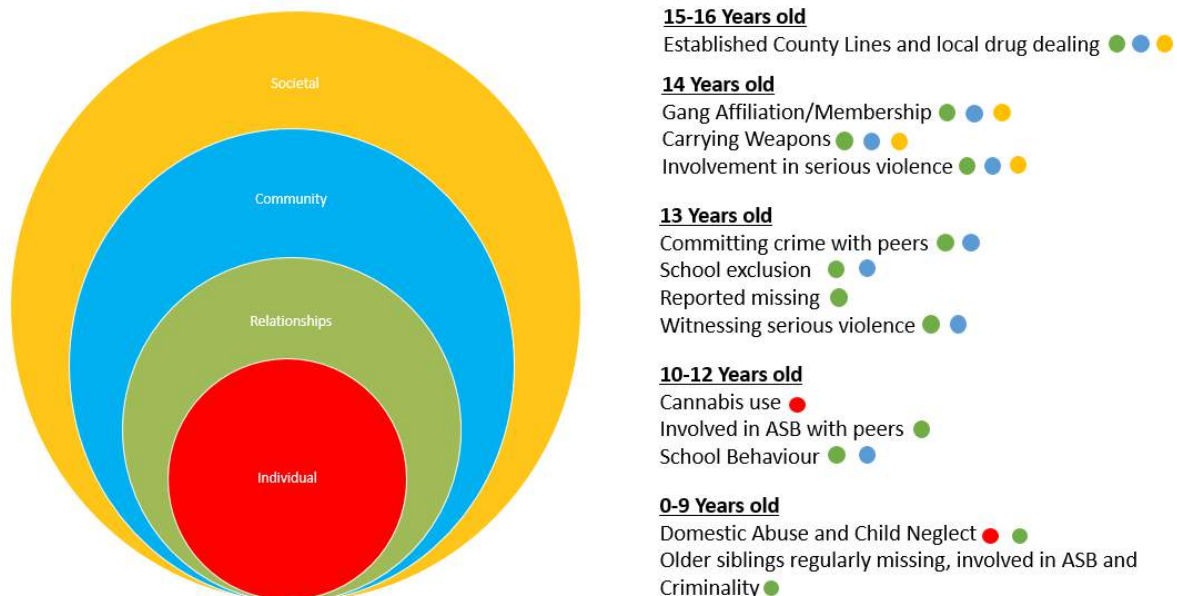
Suspects of SYV in Croydon in 2019 by gender and ethnic appearance from CRIS.



- 53.3% of all male suspects were involved in personal robbery offences. The main types of property targeted in personal robbery offences are mobile phones and air pods.
- 40.6% of all male suspects were involved in GBH offences.
- 78.8% of all female suspects were involved in GBH offences.
- Out of all suspects where their homes addresses were mapped, 76.0% lived in the borough. Out of the suspects who lived outside of the borough, 18.9% lived in Lambeth, 10.8% lived in Bromley and 10.8% lived in Merton.
- The common demographics of victims and suspects of SYV reflected those involved in youth violence.

Life course Analysis

For a small sample of high risk SYV offenders¹⁶, a brief life course analysis was conducted to identify any common events or factors which contributed to them becoming perpetrators (and in some cases victims) of SYV. Information was retrieved from a wide range of sources from police to the youth offending service and children's social care. From this analysis, in accordance with the ecological framework of the public health approach, the following common events and themes were identified and which level of the framework they fall under:



In the first 9 years of their lives the individuals in the sample experienced domestic abuse, especially from parents, as well as child neglect too, which ranged from parents leaving them at home alone for long periods of time to parents not realising where their children were when picked up by the authorities e.g. when police have approached them outside late at night and taken them home. Those with older siblings – which most of them had – were also heavily being reported missing and were also involved in ASB and crime, with the severity of crime determined by their age i.e. the older they were the more serious the crime they were committing.

Between the ages of 10 and 12 years old there was a clearly formed regular use of cannabis. As well as this they were involved in minor ASB with their peers (e.g. congregating in parks, public spaces and outside properties smoking cannabis and making noise) as well as their behaviour in school declining.

By the age of 13 they are committing crime regularly involving personal robbery, shoplifting and possession of cannabis. They also witnessing serious violence on a regular basis both amongst their peers and family members. They are being excluded from school although it must be noted that, on a strategic level, analysis of school exclusions in 2019 found no direct link to the increase in youth violence or serious youth violence. They are also regularly being reported missing but with no clear indication to where they have been.

By the age of 14 there is a clear gang affiliation or membership of all the individuals in the sample. As a result of this (but not exclusive to) they are carrying weapons on a regular basis. From witnessing serious violence they are now involved in it, whether that is as a victim or a perpetrator.

At 15 and 16 years old there is a clear focus and motivation to make money by an illegal means, which mainly involves drug dealing. They are not only dealing locally but are also involved in county lines which can mean they are being fully exploited on a regular basis. The drugs they are dealing can range, especially due to location, where they are more likely to deal cannabis locally whereas when doing county lines they are involved in dealing Class A drugs from cocaine and crack to heroin.

Although brief, this life course analysis can be used to identify the early signs of being involved in SYV, therefore providing suitable interventions, but also give an idea of what future the young person can lead to having if no relevant and effective intervention is given at the right time.

¹⁶ A sample of ten high risk and prolific offenders of SYV chosen. Information on each were extracted from police, YOS and children's social care databases.

Gun Crime

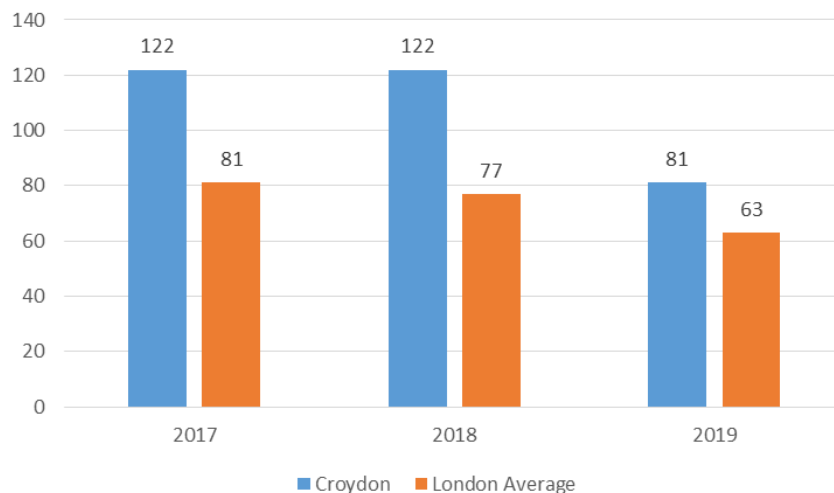
Definition

- This report uses the Home Office definition of Gun Crime, which is used by the College of Policing and is defined as the following: “Gun crime is crime (violence against the person, robbery, burglary and sexual offences) in which guns are taken to be involved in an offence. A gun is taken to be involved in an offence if it is fired, used as a blunt instrument, or used as a threat. Where the victim is convinced of the presence of a firearm, even if it is concealed, and there is evidence of the suspect’s intention to create this impression, then the incident counts. Both real, and fake firearms, and air weapons are counted within this category”¹⁷

Statistics

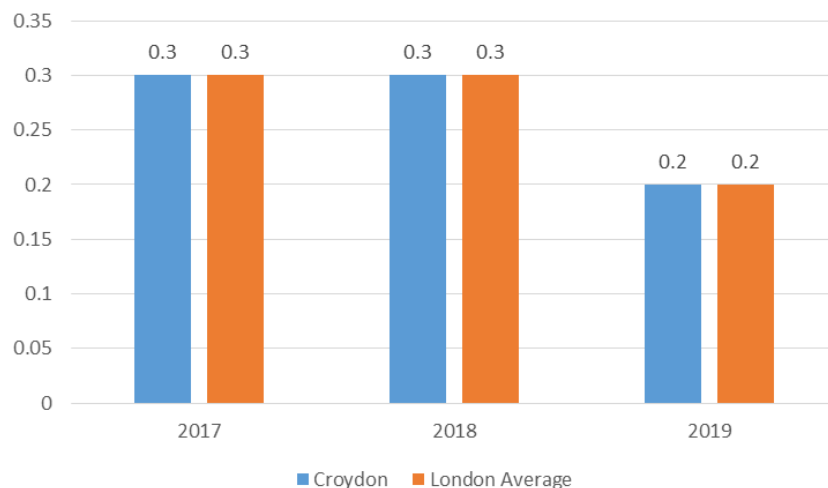
- There was a total of 81 gun crime offences in 2019, a decrease of 33.6% (41 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 122 offences recorded. This is a large percentage decrease compared to the London average where there was an 18.2% decrease (14 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there was the same percentage and volume decrease in Croydon. In comparison, there has been a decrease of 22.2% (18 offences) in the London average.

Gun crime statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents the rate of offences in the borough has fallen from 0.3 in 2017 and 2018 to 0.2 in 2019. This is reflected in the London average.

Gun crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



¹⁷ College of Policing <https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/major-investigation-and-public-protection/gun-crime/>

- Croydon's ranking has dropped five places to 10th in 2019 from 5th in 2018. By comparing rankings to 2017 it has dropped three places where it was ranked 7th. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking has also dropped four places to 16th in 2019 and three places when compared to 2017.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	7	13
2018	5	12
2019	10	16

As gun crime is largely police-generated e.g. warrants executed, operation-led etc. and due to the low volume of offences it is difficult to provide reliable temporal, hotspot and victim and offender analysis. Therefore, this report will not contain further analysis but a more detailed analysis of gun crime will be conducted in the gangs and SYV review, which due to its confidential nature is a restricted report.

Using the Cambridge Crime Harm Index to Measure and Analyse Violence

Introduction

The Cambridge Crime Harm Index (CCHI) is based on the principle that not all crimes are equal. Therefore, the current common process of summing up all crimes by the count of offences and measuring performance in this way is at the very least misleading. This leaves a demand for a meaningful measure of crime to classify each crime type according to how harmful it is, relative to all other crimes. This is what the CCHI looks to answer by multiplying each crime event in each crime category by the number of days in prison that crime of that category would attract if one offender were to be convicted of committing it¹⁸.

This measure would not be used to replace a crime count report but rather to supplement it, therefore giving a different picture of crime. This report will demonstrate the use of the CCHI on VAP and highlight the different results compared to using crime count. In turn, using the CCHI will increase the effective use and impact of risk assessments, resource allocation and accountability when looking at violence in the borough.

Using the CCCHI on types of violence

By comparing the first ten offence types of VAP by crime count to the first ten calculated by CCHI, there is a significant difference in what types of crimes make up the majority of all VAP. The top three crimes calculated by count which make up around 70% of all VAP are Common Assault, ABH & Minor Wounding and Sending letters etc. to cause distress or anxiety. In contrast the top three crimes calculated by CCHI, which also make up around 70% of all VAP offences, consist of GBH with Intent, GBH/Wounding on a Constable and Murder, therefore providing greater emphasis and exposure on more serious crimes and, therefore, crimes which result in greater *harm*. Also it must be highlighted that under crime count the top crime (Common Assault) doesn't even make up a third of all VAP offences whereas by CCHI the top crime (GBH with Intent) makes up over half of all VAP offences. Therefore, the CCHI could be used to redirect and/or fund more resources in tackling the more serious harmful crime of GBH with Intent.

Top 10 offences which make up the majority of VAP offences calculated by Crime Count and CCHI.

Crime Count		
Rank	Offence	%
1	Common Assault	31.1%
2	ABH & Minor Wounding	24.1%
3	Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety	14.8%
4	GBH/Wounding	9.4%
5	Harassment	5.6%
6	GBH with Intent	2.5%
7	Making Threats to Kill	2.4%
8	Cruelty/Neglect of Children	1.8%
9	ABH on a Constable	1.2%
10	Assault of a Constable	1.1%

Cambridge Crime Harm Index		
Rank	Offence	%
1	GBH with Intent	55.6%
2	GBH/Wounding on a Constable	7.1%
3	Murder (Persons aged 1 and over)	5.5%
4	ABH & Minor Wounding	4.1%
5	Require person to do forced/compulsory Labour	3.3%
6	GBH/Wounding	3.0%
7	Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety	2.5%
8	Murder (of Infants under 1 year of age)	2.2%
9	Possess firearm to endanger life	2.1%
10	Attempted Murder	2.0%

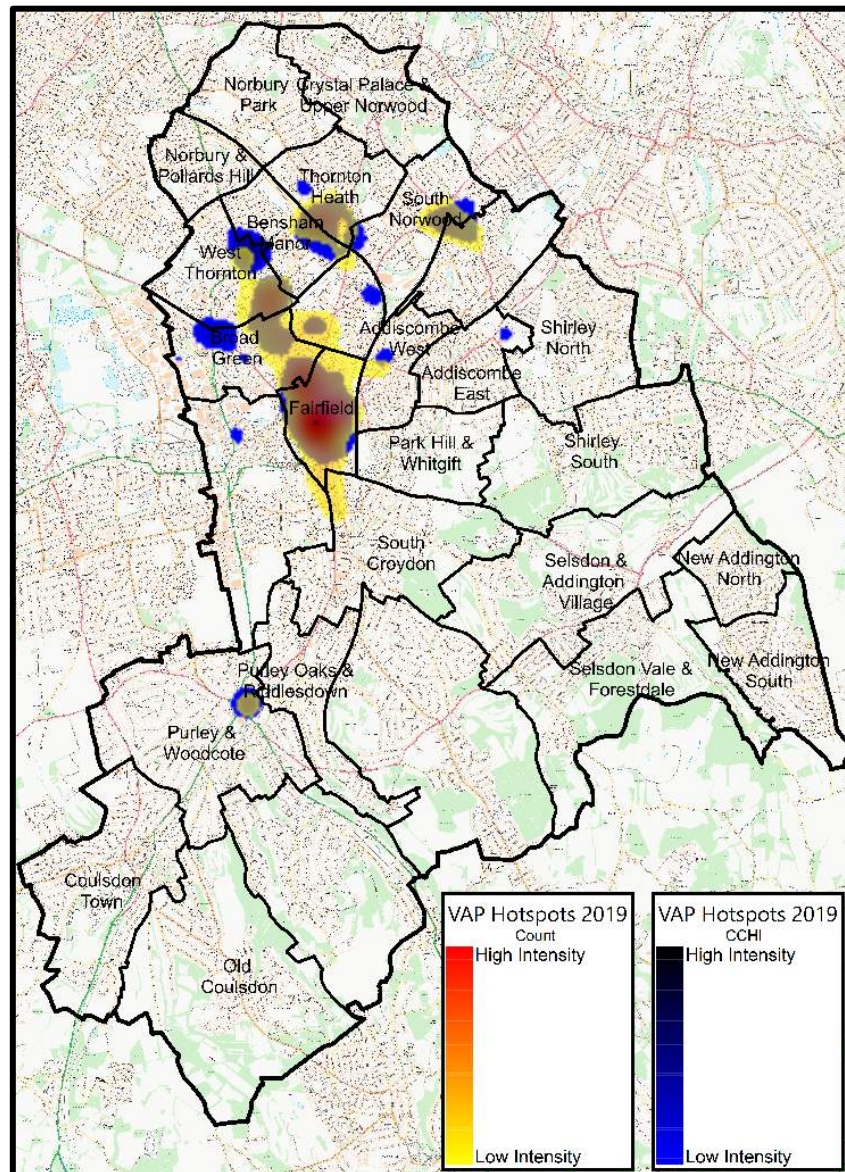
¹⁸ Sherman L. Neyroud P W. Neyroud E. (2016) The Cambridge Crime Harm Index: Measuring Total Harm from Crime Based on Sentencing Guidelines *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*, Volume 10, Issue 3, September 2016, Pages 171–183, <https://doi.org/10.1093/police/paw003>

Hotspots vs 'Harm spots'

Research on comparing hotspots to 'harm spots' has provided several key findings including harm being three times more concentrated in space than crime count calculated hotspots and around a quarter of hotspots and harm spots are in the same areas¹⁹. Therefore, calculating 'harm spots' by CCHI provides the main benefit of showing areas of high harm not detected by crime count, which can result in targetting resources in those areas.

By taking VAP hotspots as an example, the below map shows hotspot areas by crime count and harm spots by CCHI where they have both been calculated in the same way (same search radius, cell size etc.). By overlaying the crime count hotspots over the CCHI harm spots, the majority of primary hotspots overlay primary harm spots in the same areas, however the CCHI show other areas not initially identified and are a lot more specific in some cases, which is crucial for tasking resources e.g. police or NSO patrols or outreach services.

VAP Hotspots by Crime Count and CCHI in 2019.



Through the generation of CCHI hotspots to supplement tasking reports, it will not only assist in tasking resources to other areas not identified by crime count but uncover areas which, statistically, contain high harm crimes. By providing interventions in these areas, this will increase the likelihood of serious violent crimes not being committed and ultimately increase the safety of the community. This may also result in reducing other associated activity including gang crime and anti-social behaviour.

¹⁹ Weinborn C. Ariel B. Sherman L. (2015). Hotspots vs. Harmspots: Shifting the Focus from Counts to Harm in the Criminology of Place.' Institute of Criminology, Cambridge University <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2017.06.009>

Benefits

Generally, using CCHI provides more clarity for evidence-based initiatives, therefore it ensures the partnership is using its limited resources to maximum effect. The examples highlighted above are only a small number of a wide range of benefits which the use and implementation of CCHI in intelligence and analysis can bring in reducing all crime, specifically violence, in the borough. The CCHI would be broken down by crime type under violence against the person to give a consistent focus and measure across the partnership e.g. serious youth violence, domestic abuse, knife crime etc.

There are many other benefits that have been highlighted including recidivism analysis and identifying possible escalation in the frequency and severity in domestic abuse as well as the significant proportion of unique and offender units (dyads) that account for all domestic abuse harm²⁰. In regards to domestic abuse, applying the CCHI in Croydon showed that 2% of domestic abuse victims in 2019 were subject to over half of overall harm²¹. This in turn can be used to direct specific resources most suited to these victims and aim to reduce overall harm of all of those potentially at risk of suffering domestic abuse. This highlights, as Sherman et al. (2016) state, that the use of CCHI would potentially move the motivation of treating crimes and victims as a mere 'tick' to a greater focus on making life better for victims or at the very least reduce serious harm.

²⁰ Bland M. Ariel B. (2015). Targeting Escalation in Reported Domestic Abuse Evidence from 36,000 Callouts International Criminal Justice Review 25 (1): 30 – 53 <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1057567715574382>

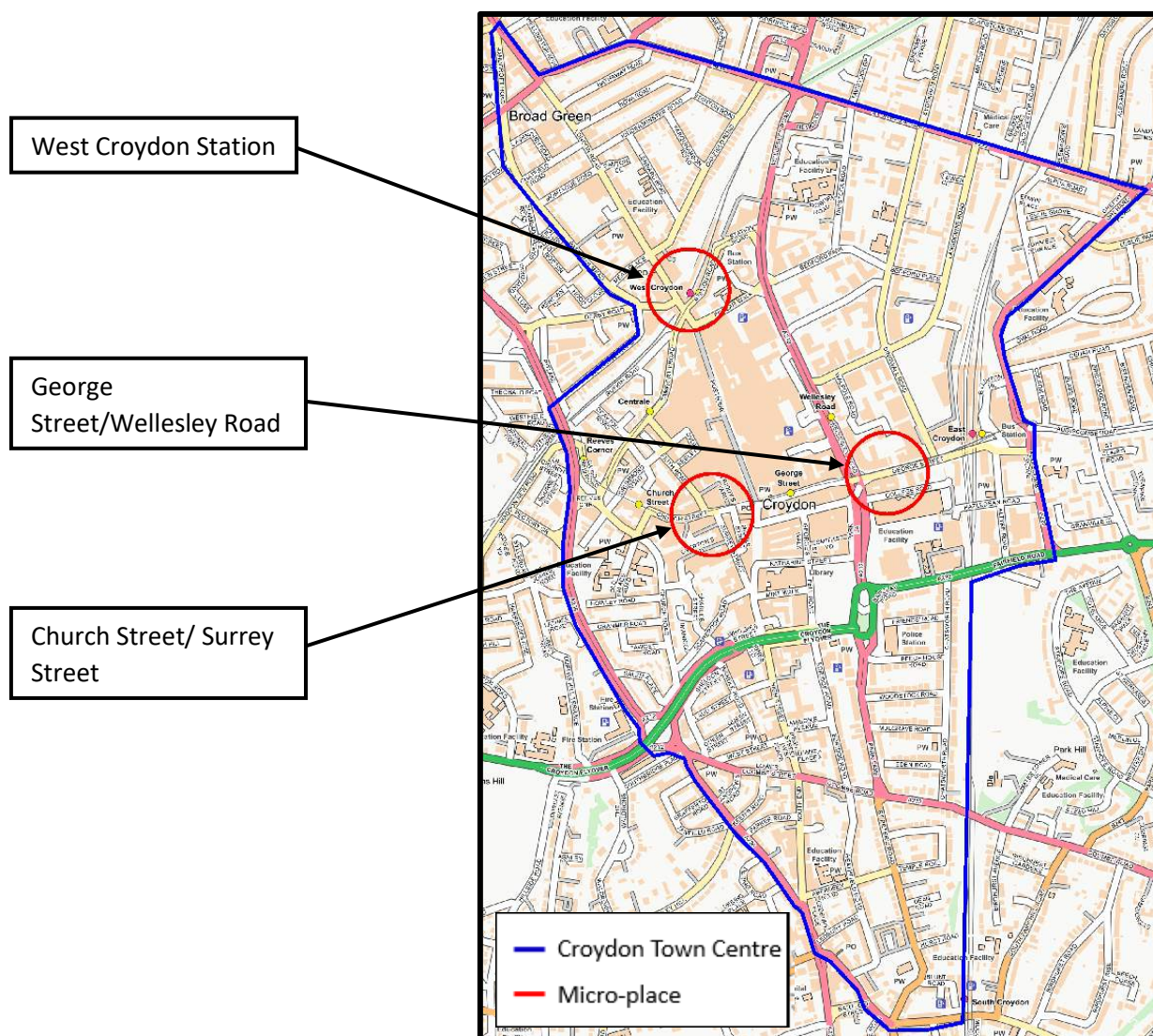
²¹ This did not include murder. This also only included victims where full details (forename, surname and DOB) were recorded.

Micro-hotspots and Targetting, Testing and Tracking

All hotspots maps in this report show at least one of the primary hotspots to be Croydon town centre. This is not surprising where it has a higher footfall compared to the rest of the borough. However, the town centre only represents 2.7% of the borough's total geographical area and yet it accounts for almost a fifth of all violence in the borough. For more specific violent types of crime the proportion is even higher including a third of all Non-DA VWI is committed in the town centre.

As the town centre is a prevalent primary hotspot across most crime types, it requires for it to be looked at as a separate area from the rest of the borough altogether and so further hotspot analysis is required. Therefore, identifying 'micro-places' or 'micro-hotspots' is required to identify which areas within the town centre have the highest concentration of violent crime. Research has shown that a proportion of micro-hotspots can account from 25% to 50% of all crime²². This type of analysis has been widely used²³ and reinforced the common recommendation that this type of analysis should be used when coordinating interventions to reduce crime e.g. police patrols.

By looking further into the town centre, further hotspot analysis was carried out on personal robbery and all types of violent crime highlighted in this report (excluding domestic abuse and gun crime). Three common areas – or micro-hotspots – were identified as areas of high concentration of violent crime and personal robbery in the town centre. Each crime/incident was extracted within a 100 metre radius of the centre from each of these micro-hotspots.



²² Weisburd, D. (2015). The law of crime concentration and the criminology of place. *Criminology*, 53(2), 133–157

²³ Hardyns, W. Snaphann, T. Pawels, L. (2019). Crime concentrations and micro places: An empirical test of the "law of crime concentration at places" in Belgium, *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Criminology* (Sage Publications Ltd.). Sep2019, Vol. 52 Issue 3, p390-410. 21p.

The centre of each of the three micro-places identified were West Croydon train station, George street near the junction with Wellesley Road and Chruch Street at the junction with Surrey Street. From the crimes extracted from each of these areas, the key findings were the following:

1. VAP: All three micro-places accounted for over a fifth (22.3%) of all VAP offences in the town centre with between 7% to 8% being committed in each of these areas.
2. Violence recorded by A & E: Almost a third (32%) of all violence in the town centre recorded by A & E occurred in these three micro-places.
3. Personal Robbery: Almost a third (29.7%) of all robbery offences in the town centre occurred in these three micro-places. Specifically, West Croydon Station was the micro-place where a significant proportion of offences were committed representing 13.0% of all robberies in the town centre.
4. Non-DA VWI: Almost a third (29.7%) of all Non-DA VWI offences in the town centre occurred in these three micro-places, with crimes spread evenly across these areas.
5. Knife Crime: A quarter (25.6%) of all knife crime offences in the town centre were committed in two of these micro-places – West Croydon station and Church Street.
6. SYV: West Croydon station was a key micro-place with almost a quarter (23.4%) of all offences occurring in this area.
7. Youth Violence: Almost a quarter (23.9%) of all youth violence offences occurred in two micro-places – West Croydon station and Chruch Street – with West Croydon Station specifically accounting for a large proportion (17.1%).
8. Offences during the peak ‘after-school’ hours were more likely to be committed in the West Croydon station micro-place. In the evening offences were likely to be committed in the other two micro-places.

The “Triple-T” Strategy – Targetting, Testing and Tracking

For any new method or approach which is explored, used and implemented in order to reduce crime must be evidence-based, which in itself is a method of making decisions about “what works”. This objective is reached by following what it is known as the “triple-T” strategy²⁴, which will be demonstrated by applying the micro-place analysis above. The “triple-T” startegy is the following:

1. Targetting: Apply evidence from best available data to target resources on crime problems. Crime data has been used to identify the primary hotspots of Croydon town centre and then further used to identify the micro-places within the hotspot.
2. Testing: Having identified the problems areas, review and test methods to determine the most effective response to reduce the problems, threats and harm. Methods which can be recommended to be used in these micro-places can be police patrols during peak days and times and other inteventions e.g. youth outreach resources to be directed in the West Croydon station micro-place during the peak ‘after-school’ hours.
3. Tracking: Generate and use internal evidence to track delivery-evaluation. The new data generated by tracking informs the basis for new research and more reliable evidence of “what works”. It is imperative that actions which have been tasked are actually carried out. Therefore, along with manual returns provided by individuals/teams tasked, further methods should be used to ensure actions are met and accountability is upheld e.g. the use of CCTV in the micro-places to confirm police patrols and/or outreach services are carrying out the specific actions tasked.

With this strategy applied to the town centre, a more effective evidenced-based apparoach is built and can then be applied to other parts of the borough where there is a high crime concentration e.g. Thornton Heath, South Norwood and Purley. It is important that this is used at a strategic, tactical and operational level so that information and knowledge is regularly and consistently shared and transparency and accountability is present throughout.

²⁴ Sherman, L. (2013). The Rise of Evidence-Based Policing: Targeting, Testing, and Tracking. *Crime and Justice*. 42. 377-451.

Total Notifiable Offences (TNOs)

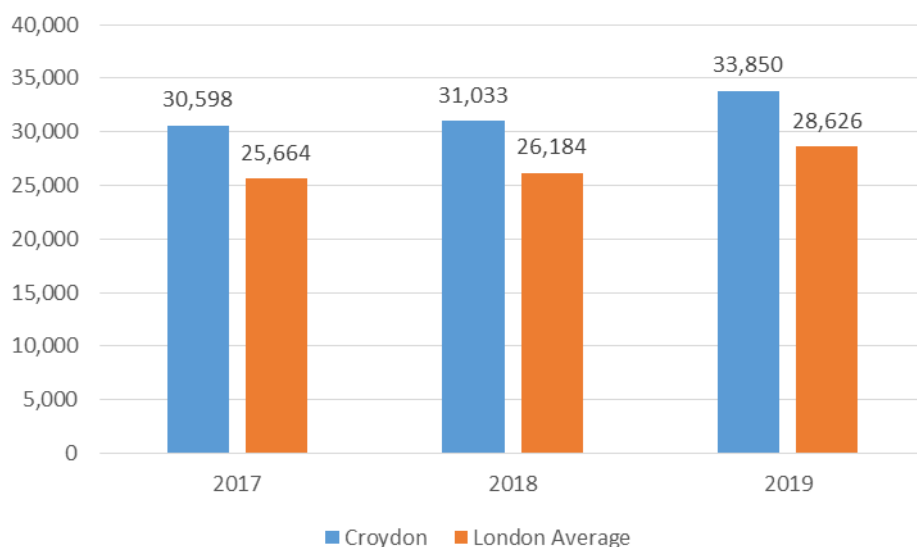
Definition

- Total notifiable offences are all offences which are statutorily notifiable to the Home Office.

Statistics

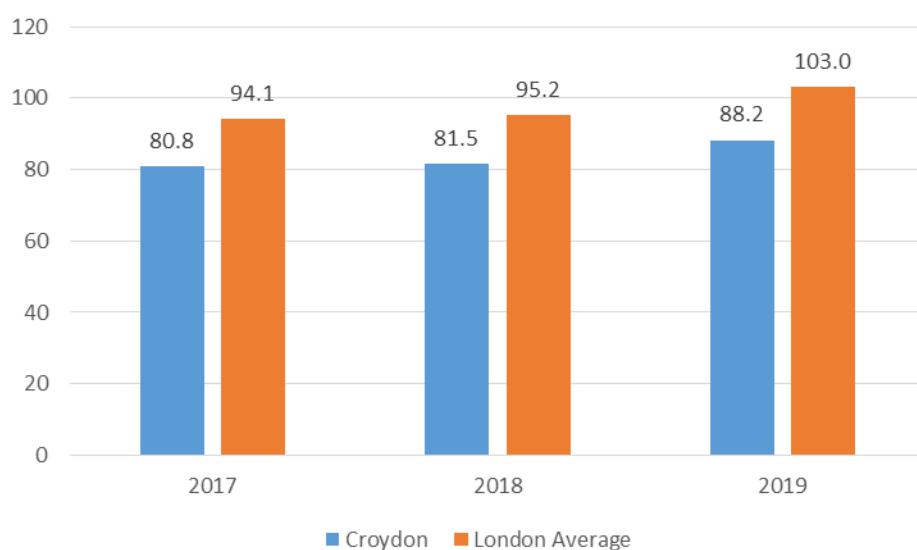
- There was a total of 33,850 TNOs in 2019, an increase of 9.1% (2,817 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 31,033 offences recorded. This is a slightly smaller percentage increase compared to the London average where there was a 9.3% increase (2,442 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 10.6% increase in Croydon (3,252 offences). In comparison, there has been an increase of 11.5% (2,962 offences) in the London average.

TNO statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough has risen from 80.8 in 2017 to 81.5 in 2018 and to 88.2 in 2019. The London average has seen an increase from 94.1 in 2017 to 95.2 in 2018 and to 103.0 in 2019.

TNOs crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents aged 1 to 19 from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking has risen by one place from 9th in 2017 to 8th in 2018 where it has remained in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 20th in 2017 where it dropped one place in 2018 to 21st where it rose again one place back to 20th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	9	20
2018	8	21
2019	8	20

Breakdown of Offence Type

- The largest proportion of offences committed in 2019 were Violence against the Person accounting for 29.1% of all offences in the borough. The second highest proportion was Theft (17.7%) and third highest was Vehicle crime (15.1%).
- By comparing 2019 to 2018 there has been significant percentage increases in Drug offences (41.9%), Vehicle crime (20.9%) and Public Order offences (20.6%). There has also been a significant volume increase in Violence against the Person (644 offences).
- There has been decreases in three major crime types in borough: Arson and Criminal Damage (-4.2%), Miscellaneous Crimes against Society (-0.4%) – which include a large variety of offences from Handling Stolen Goods to Perverting the Course of Justice – and Possession of Weapons (-1.6%).

TNOs broken down by Major Crime Type in Croydon in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.

Major Crime Type	2018	2019	+/-	% +/-
Arson and Criminal Damage	2,568	2,461	-107	-4.2%
Burglary	2,809	2,827	18	0.6%
Drugs	1,691	2,399	708	41.9%
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	459	457	-2	-0.4%
Possession of Weapons	385	379	-6	-1.6%
Public Order	1,768	2,132	364	20.6%
Robbery	1,099	1,167	68	6.2%
Sexual Offences	976	1,050	74	7.6%
Theft	5,841	6,013	172	2.9%
Vehicle	4,230	5,114	884	20.9%
Violence Against the Person	9,207	9,851	644	7.0%
Total	31,033	33,850	2,817	9.1%

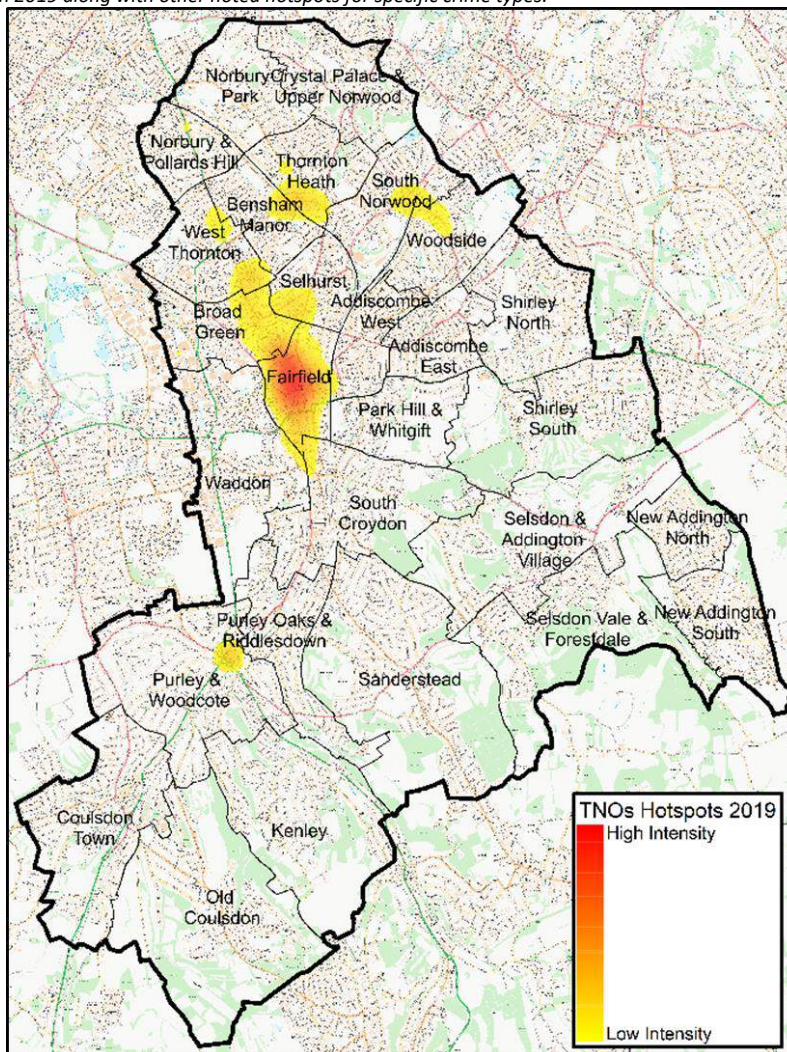
- This report provides an analytical overview of each major crime type in the borough excluding 'Miscellaneous Crime against Society' due to the extensive range of crimes it covers.
- A number of the major crime types in this report is further broken down to the crime types which make up all or the majority of the volume of offences e.g. under 'Vehicle' the analysis is broken down to 'Theft from motor vehicle' and 'Theft/taking of motor vehicle'.

Hotspots

The primary hotspot for all TNOs is Croydon Town Centre with secondary hotspots leading up London Road from the town centre in to Broad Green and West Thornton wards, in and around Thornton Heath High Street, in and around High Street in South Norwood and in and around Purley High Street. There is also a small secondary hotspot at the top of London Road in Norbury.

Most of the crime types and ASB detailed further in this report reflect the same hotspots, particularly Croydon Town Centre. Other hotspots for specific crime types are detailed below.

Hotspot map of TNOs in Croydon in 2019 along with other noted hotspots for specific crime types.



Residential Burglary (other specific hotspots)

- In and around West Thornton Road (West Thornton Ward)
- In and around Lower Addiscombe Road (Addiscombe East Ward)
- In and around Whitworth Road (South Norwood Ward)
- In and around Whitehorse Road (Selhurst Ward)
- In and around Parchmore Road (Thornton Heath)

Non-Residential Burglary (other specific hotspots)

- Mayday Hospital (West Thornton Ward)
- Portland Road (Woodside Ward)
- Lower Addiscombe Road (Addiscombe East Ward)

Theft from Motor Vehicle (other specific hotspots)

- Valley Retail Park (Broad Green Ward)
- In the area of London Road at the junction with Handcroft Road (Broad Green Ward)
- In the area of Brigstock Road the junction with Bensham Lane (Bensham Manor Ward)
- In and around Mersham Road (Thornton Heath Ward)

Theft of Motor Vehicle (other specific hotspots)

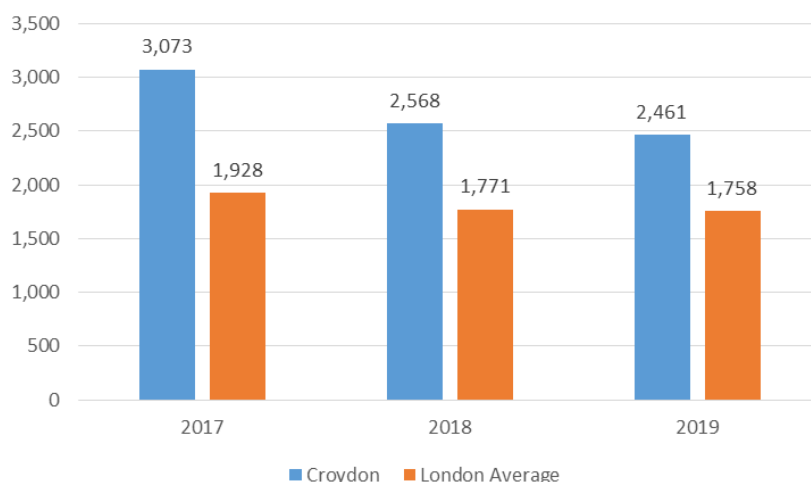
- In the area of London Road at the junction with Norbury Crescent and Craignish Avenue (Norbury & Pollards Hill Ward)
- In the area of Parchmore Road and Bensham Grove (Thornton Heath)

Arson & Criminal Damage

Statistics

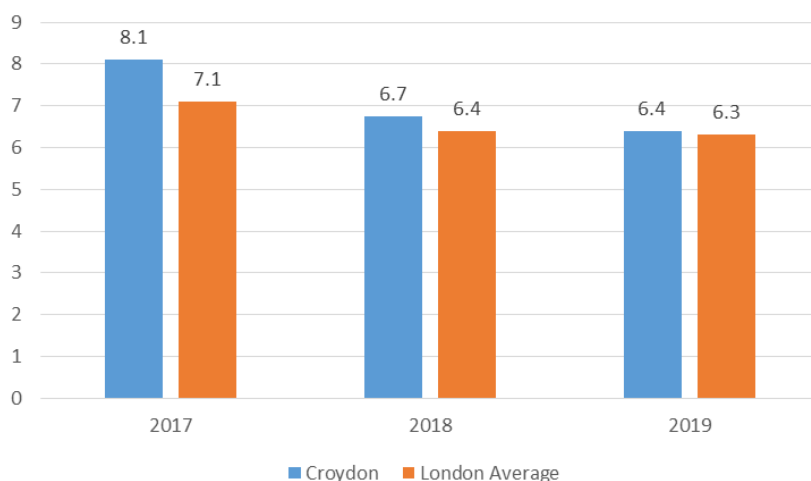
- There was a total of 2,461 arson and criminal damage offences in 2019, a decrease of 4.2% (107 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 2,568 offences recorded. This is a larger percentage increase compared to the London average where there was a 0.7% decrease (-13 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 19.9% decrease in Croydon (-612 offences). In comparison, there has been an 8.8% decrease (170 offences) in the London average.

Arson & Criminal Damage statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough has risen from 8.1 in 2017 to 6.7 in 2018 and to 6.4 in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 7.1 in 2017 to 6.4 in 2018 and to 6.3 in 2019.

Arson & Criminal Damage crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking has remained at first place for the past three years. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 5th in 2017 where it dropped eight places in 2018 to 13th where it dropped another two places to 15th in 2019.

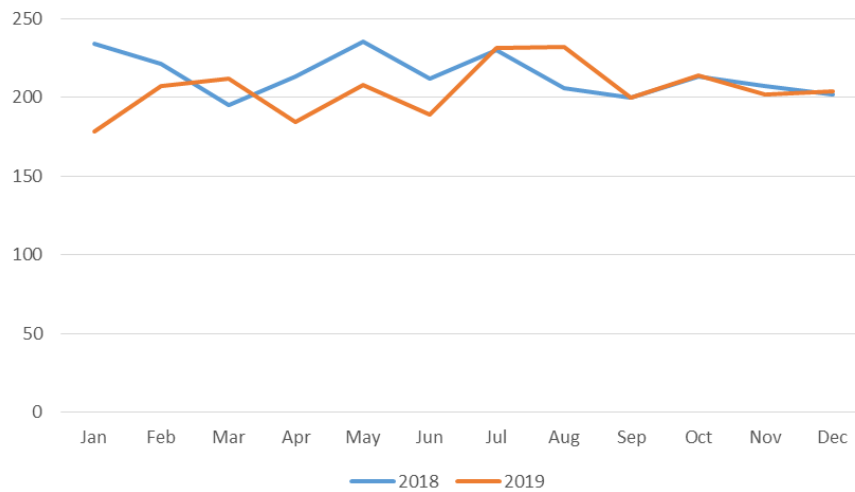
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	1	5
2018	1	13
2019	1	15

Temporal Analysis

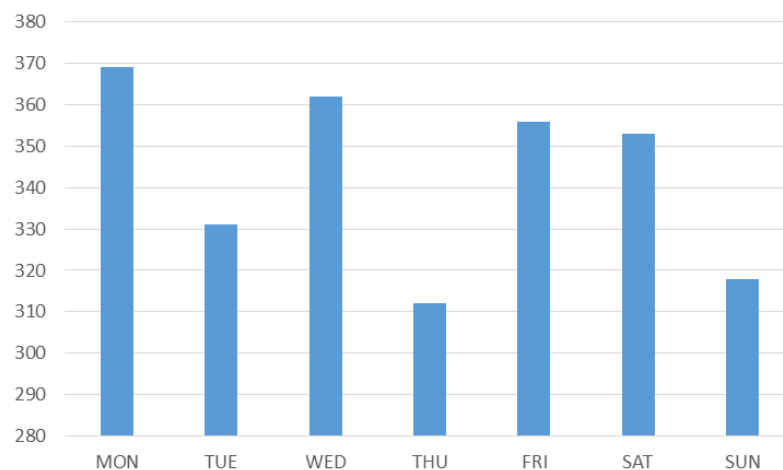
- In 2019 the peak months were August (232), July (231) and October (214). In 2018 the peak months were May (235) and January (234).

Arson & Criminal Damage offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



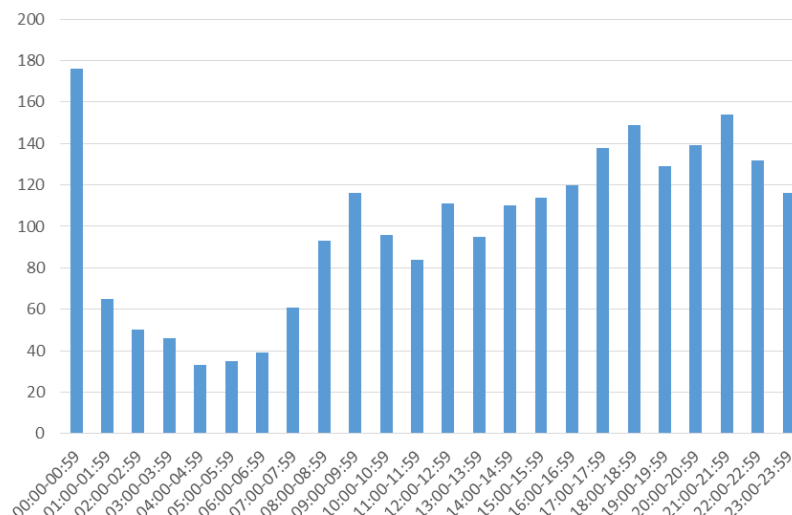
- The peak days for offences were Monday followed by Wednesday and then Friday.

Arson & Criminal Damage offences committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 00:00 and 00:59 and between 21:00 and 21:59. Offences predominantly take place in the evening from 17:00.

Arson & Criminal Damage offences committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

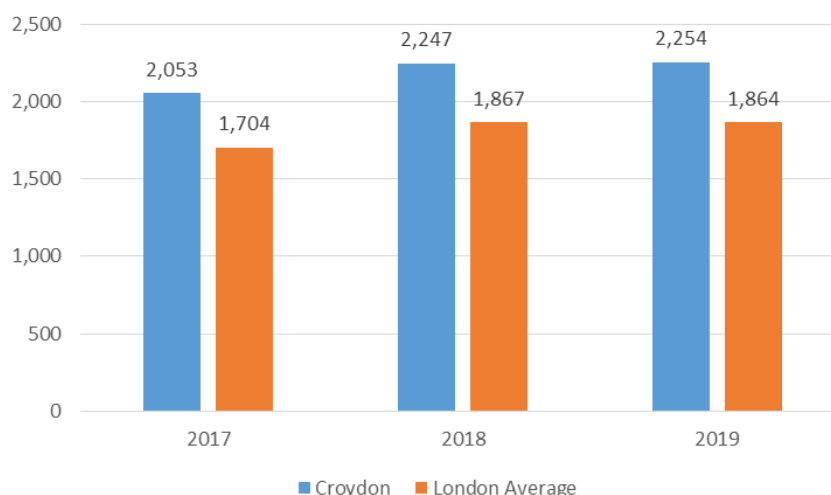


Burglary - Residential

Statistics

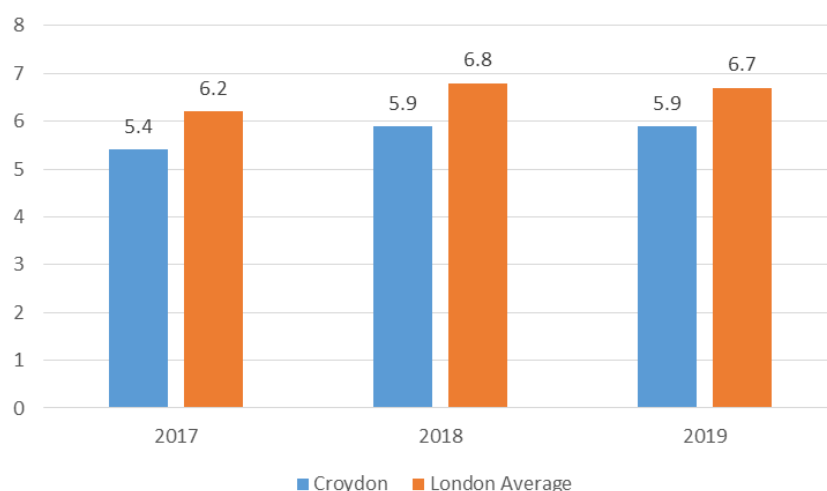
- There was a total of 2,254 residential burglary offences in 2019, an increase of 0.3% (7 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 2,247 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 0.2% decrease (-3 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 9.8% increase in Croydon (201 offences). In comparison, there has been a 9.4% increase (160 offences) in the London average.

Residential Burglary statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough has risen from 5.4 in 2017 to 5.9 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019. The London average has seen an increase from 6.2 in 2017 to 6.8 in 2018 and it has slightly decreased to 6.7 in 2019.

Residential burglary crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking dropped two places from 7th in 2017 to 9th in 2018 where it rose one place to 8th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 28th in 2017 where it rose three places in 2018 to 25th where it rose another place to 24th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	7	28
2018	9	25
2019	8	24

Temporal Analysis

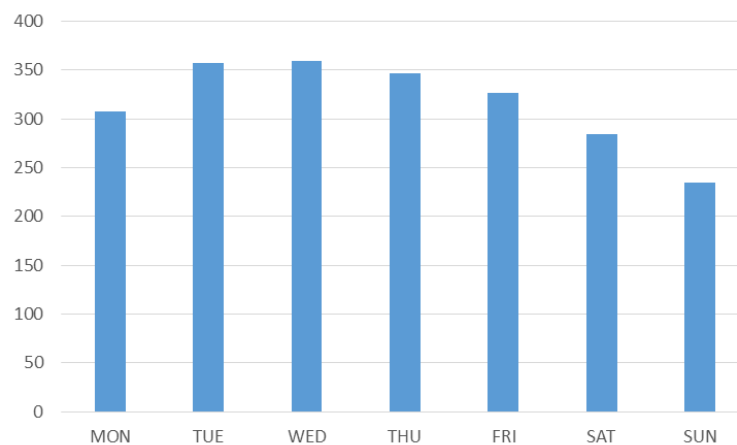
- In 2019 the peak months were October (248), March (214) and November (212). In 2018 the peak months were February (219), November (219) and January (211).

Residential Burglary offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



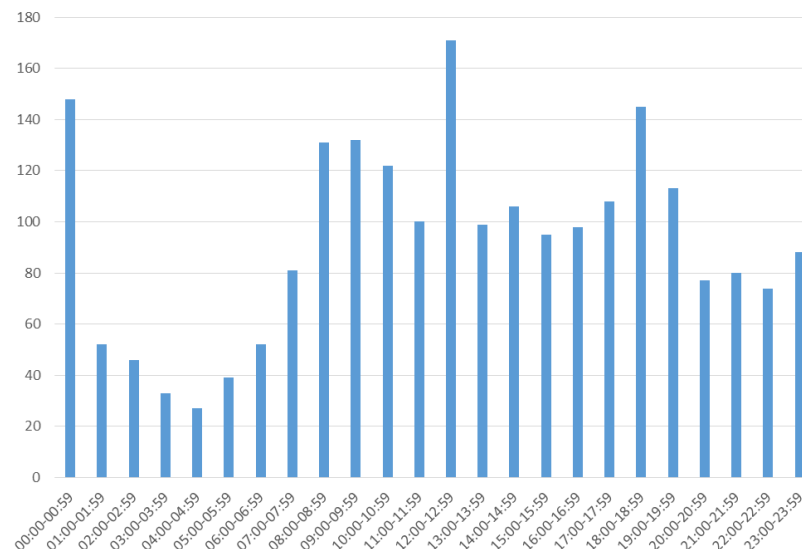
- The peak days for offences were Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Residential Burglary offences committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 12:00 and 12:59 and between 00:00 and 00:59. However, this could be the default reporting time for the offence due to the victim not knowing when the offence occurring as they were most likely not present.

Residential burglary offences committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

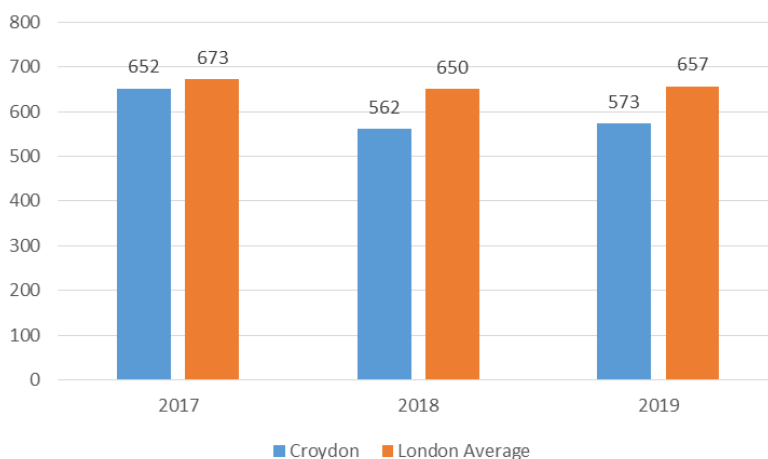


Burglary – Business and Community

Statistics

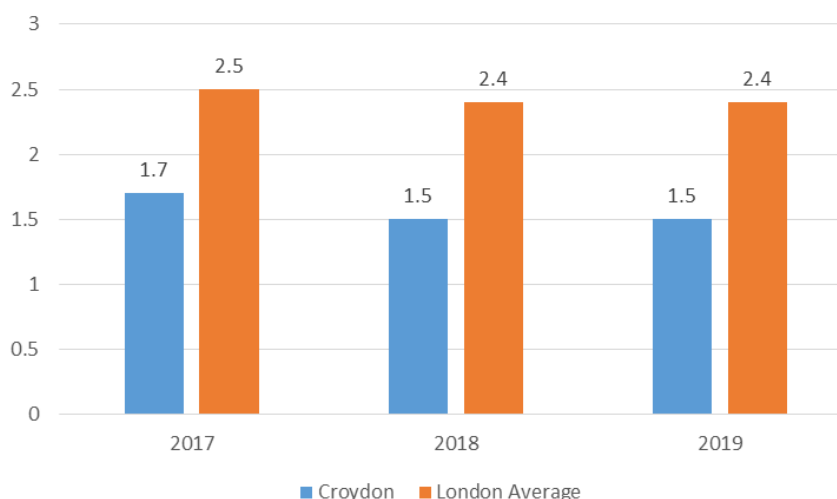
- There was a total of 573 offences in 2019, an increase of 2.0% (11 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 562 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 1.1% increase (7 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 12.1% decrease in Croydon (-79 offences). In comparison, there has been a 2.4% decrease (-16 offences) in the London average.

Burglary – Business and Community statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough has dropped from 1.7 in 2017 to 1.5 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 2.5 in 2017 to 2.4 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019.

Burglary – Business and Community crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking dropped five places from 11th in 2017 to 16th in 2018 where it dropped another place to 17th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 26th in 2017 where it rose one place in 2018 to 25th where it dropped one place to 26th in 2019.

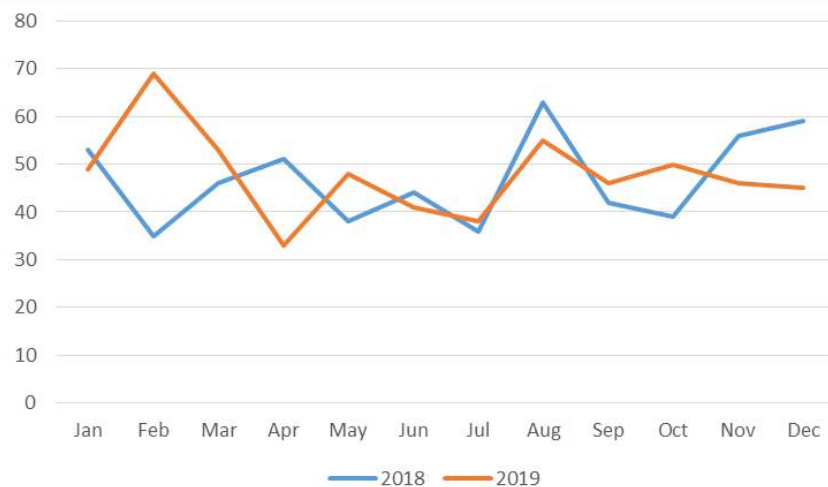
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Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	11	26
2018	16	25
2019	17	26

Temporal Analysis

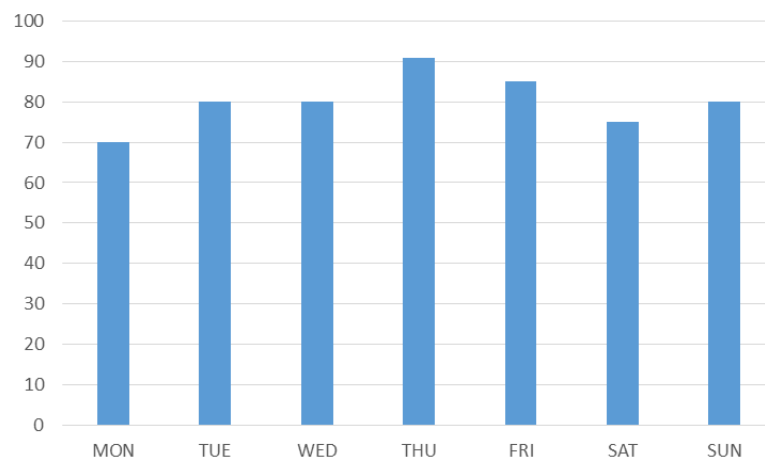
- In 2019 the peak months were February (69), August (55) and October (50). The peak months in 2018 were August (63), December (59) and November (56).

Burglary – Business and Community offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



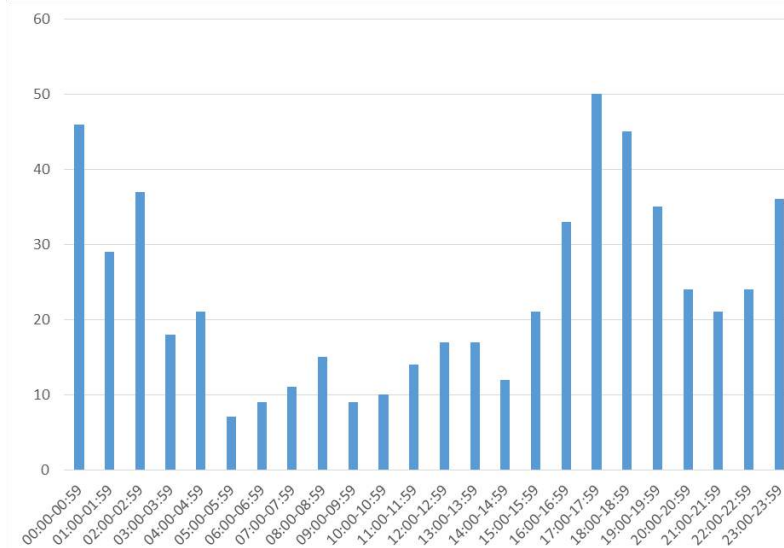
- The peak days for offences were Thursday and Friday.

Burglary – Business and Community offences committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 17:00 and 18:59 and between 00:00 and 00:59. However, the latter time could be the default reporting time for the offence due to the victim not knowing when the offence occurring as they were most likely not present.

Burglary – Business and Community offences committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

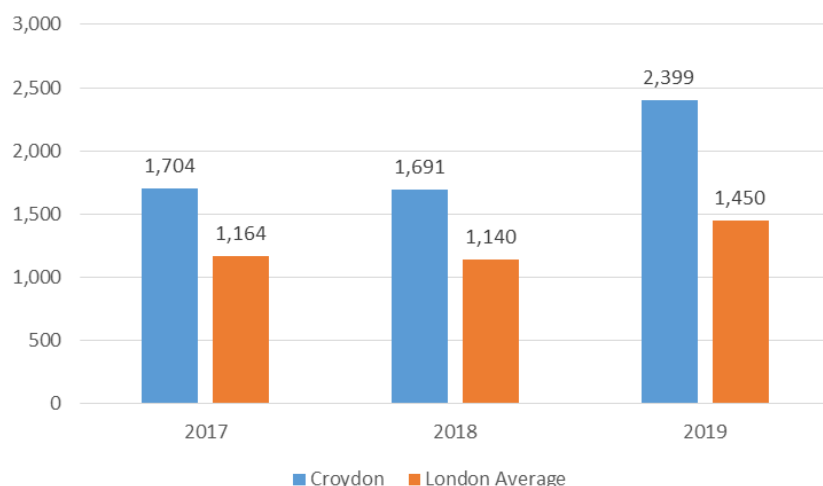


Drugs

Statistics

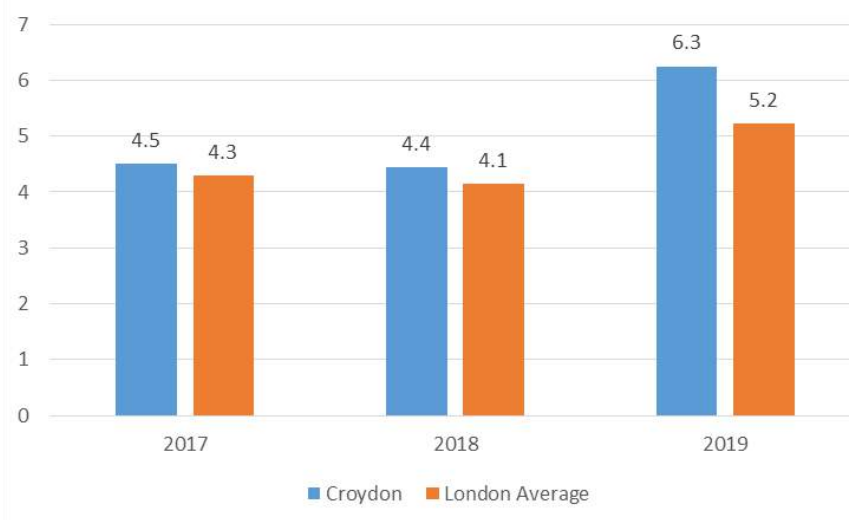
- There was a total of 2,399 drug offences in 2019, an increase of 41.9% (708 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 1,691 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 27.2% increase (310 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 40.8% increase in Croydon (695 offences). In comparison, there has been a 24.6% increase (286 offences) in the London average.

Drugs statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough dropped from 4.5 in 2017 to 4.4 in 2018 but it then increased to 6.3 in 2019. The London average saw a decrease from 4.3 in 2017 to 4.1 in 2018 but it then increased to 5.2 in 2019.

Drugs offences crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking dropped one place from 6th in 2017 to 7th in 2018 where it rose three places to 4th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 14th in 2017 and in 2018 but then rose 5 places to 9th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

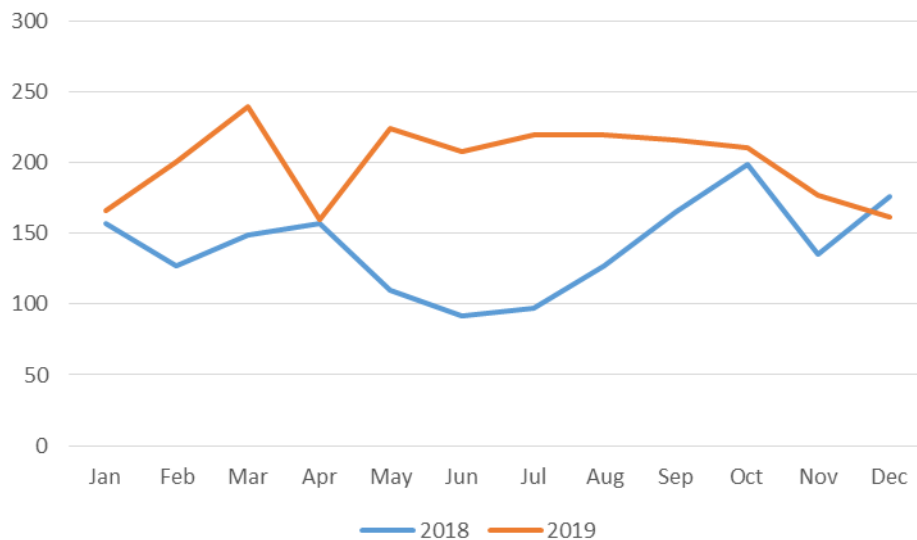
Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	6	14
2018	7	14
2019	4	9

- It must be noted that offences are significantly driven by stop and searches and, for example, where a serious violent incident has occurred and the police enforce a Section 60²⁵ to search those who are possibly carrying weapons, which increases the use of stop and search and in turn increases the number of individuals found carrying drugs. This must be taken into consideration when looking at all statistics on drugs offences.

Temporal Analysis

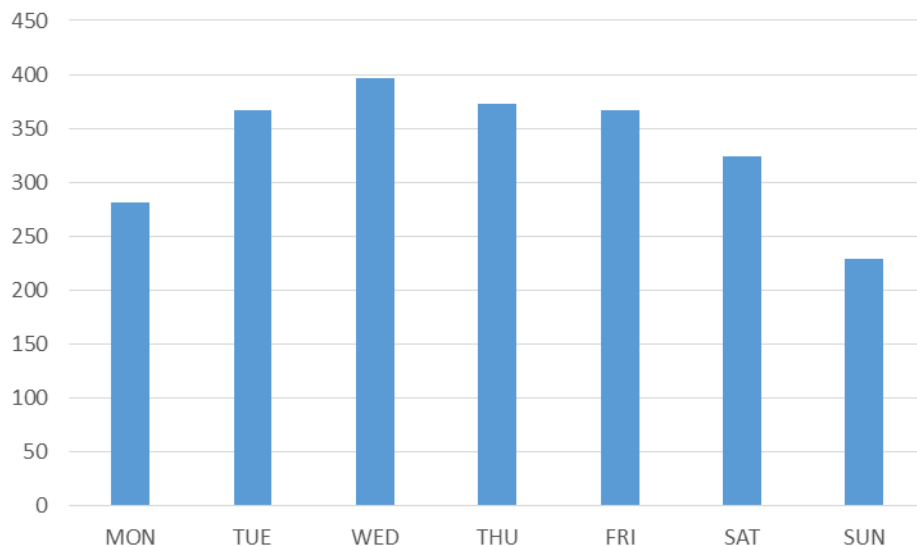
- In 2019 the peak months were March (239), May (224), July (219) and August (219). The peak months in 2018 were October (199) and December (176).
- At least one section 60 was carried out in March and May 2019 which partially explains the rise in offences in these months.

Drugs offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



- The peak days for offences were Wednesday followed by Thursday then Tuesday and Friday.

Drugs offences committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

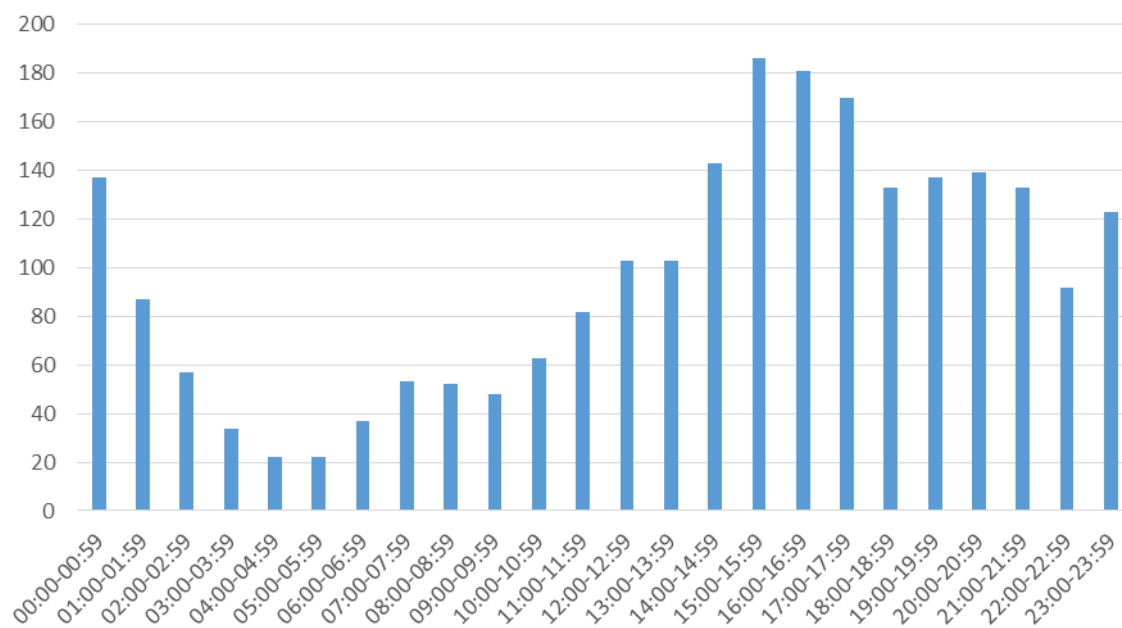


- The peak times for offences were between 15:00 and 17:59. This correlates with the 'after-school' hours where young people are more likely to be stopped and searched due to a range of factors predominantly searches

²⁵ Section 60 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (s.60) gives police the right to search people in a defined area during a specific time period when they believe, with good reason, that: serious violence will take place and it is necessary to use this power to prevent such violence; or that a person is carrying a dangerous object or offensive weapon; or that an incident involving serious violence has taken place and a dangerous instrument or offensive weapon used in the incident is being carried in the locality <https://www.met.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/central/advice/met/stop-and-search/section-60-stop-and-search.PDF>

conducted under section 23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 or an incident of serious youth violence has occurred and a section 60 has been enforced.

Drugs offences committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

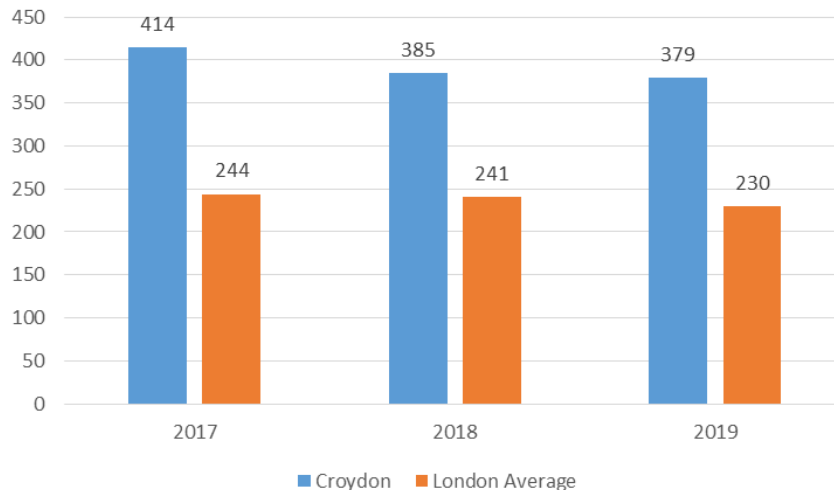


Possession of Weapons

Statistics

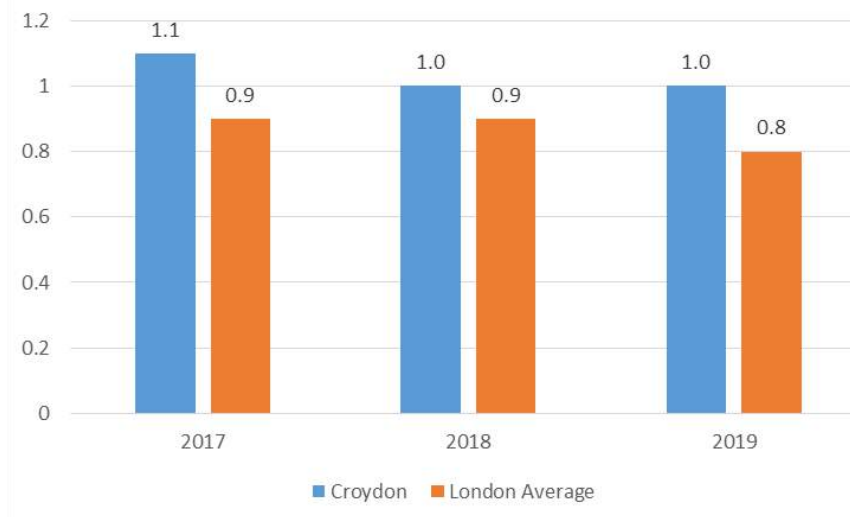
- There was a total of 379 offences in 2019, a decrease of 1.6% (-6 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 385 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 4.6% decrease (-11 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been an 8.5% decrease in Croydon (-35 offences). In comparison, there has been a 5.7% decrease (-14 offences) in the London average.

Possession of weapons statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough has dropped from 1.1 in 2017 to 1.0 in 2018 where it has remained the same in 2019. The London average has seen a decrease from 0.9 in 2017 and 2018 to 0.8 in 2019.

Possession of weapons crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking rose one place from 5th in 2017 to 4th in 2018 where it rose another place to 3rd in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 9th in 2017 where it dropped two places in 2018 to 11th where it rose one place to 10th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

	Ranking	
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	5	9
2018	4	11
2019	3	10

Temporal Analysis

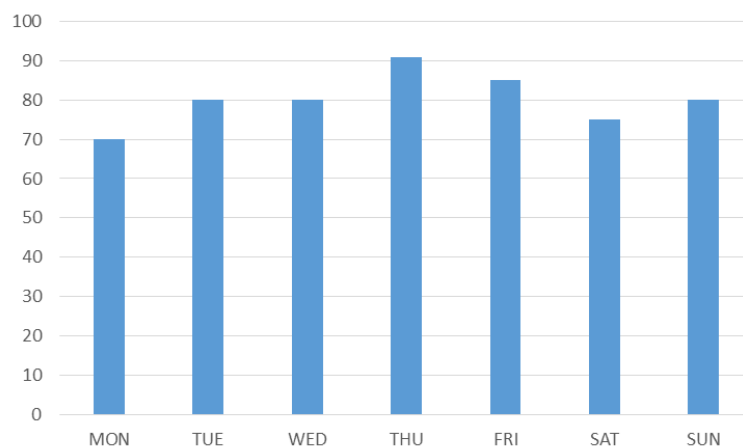
- In 2019 the peak months were March (52), August (38) and October (37). The peak months in 2018 were April (44), December (38) and May (36).

Possession of weapons offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



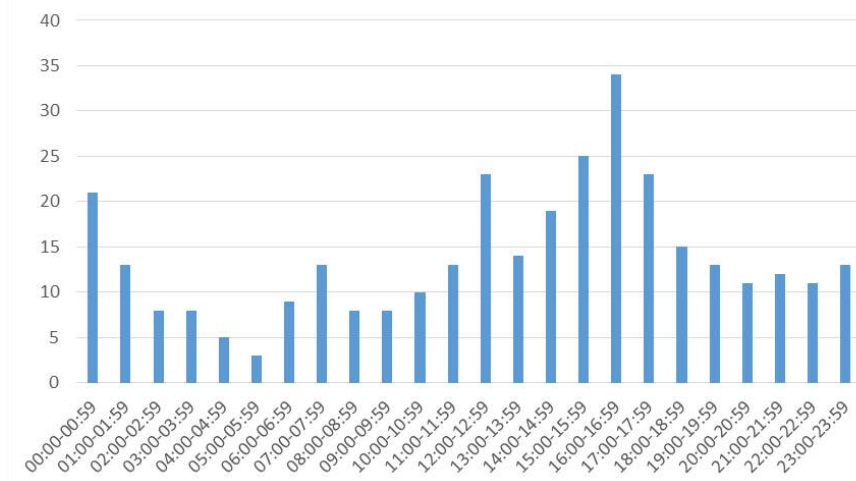
- The peak days for offences were Thursday and Friday.

Possession of weapons offences committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 15:00 and 17:59, specifically between 16:00 and 16:59. This correlates with the 'after-school' hours where young people are more likely to be stopped and searched due to a range of factors predominantly searches conducted under section 23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 or an incident of serious youth violence has occurred and a section 60 has been enforced.

Possession of weapons offences committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

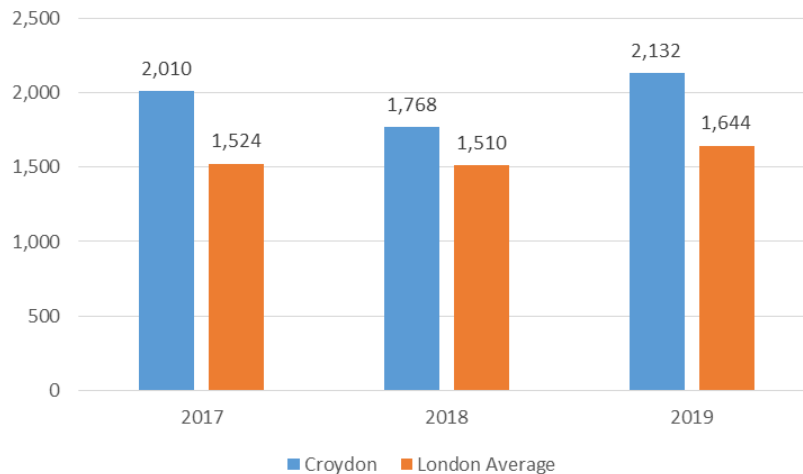


Public Order Offences

Statistics

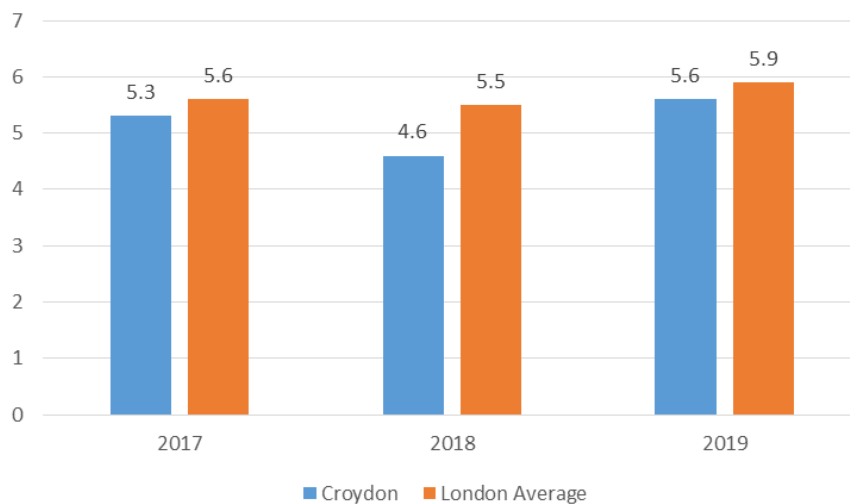
- There was a total of 2,132 offences in 2019, an increase of 20.6% (364 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 1,768 offences recorded. For the London average there was an 8.9% increase (134 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 6.1% increase in Croydon (122 offences). In comparison, there has been a 7.9% increase (120 offences) in the London average.

Public order statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough dropped from 5.3 in 2017 to 4.6 in 2018 where it then increased to 5.6 in 2019. The London average had seen a decrease from 5.6 in 2017 to 5.5 in 2018 but it then increased to 5.9 in 2019.

Public order crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking dropped four places from 4th in 2017 to 8th in 2018 where it rose four places back to 4th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 14th in 2017 where it dropped seven places in 2018 to 21st where it rose five places to 16th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	4	14
2018	8	21
2019	4	16

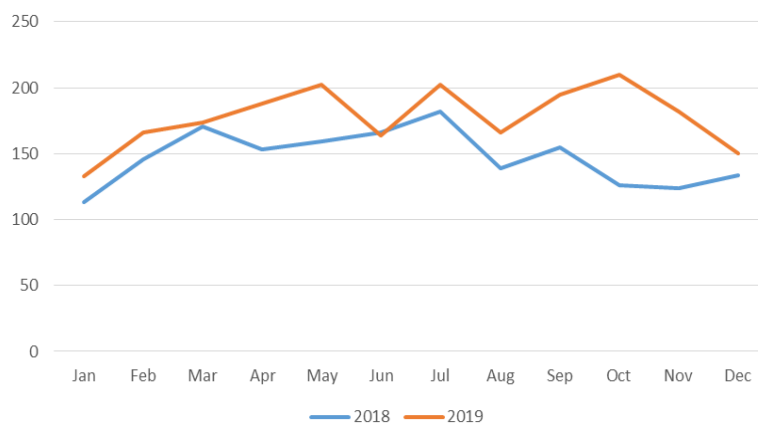
Crime Breakdown

Public order offences cover a wide range of offences but the types that made up the majority of offences in 2019 were 31.0% being Public Order Offence Section 4a (causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress), 28.5% being Public Order Offence Section 4 (fear of provocation of violence) and 17.5% being racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment alarm or distress.

Temporal Analysis

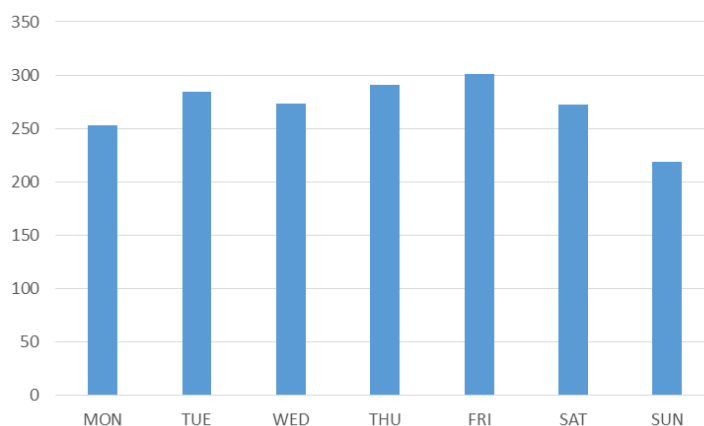
- In 2019 the peak months were October (210), July (202) and May (202). The peak months in 2018 were July (182), March (171) and June (166).

Public order offences committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



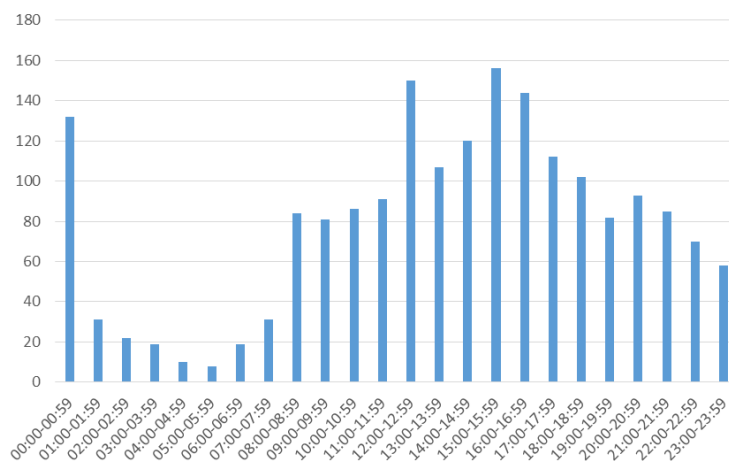
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the week with the peak days being Friday, Thursday and Tuesday.

Public order offences committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 12:00 and 12:59, 15:00 and 16:59 and between 00:00 and 00:59.

Public order offences committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

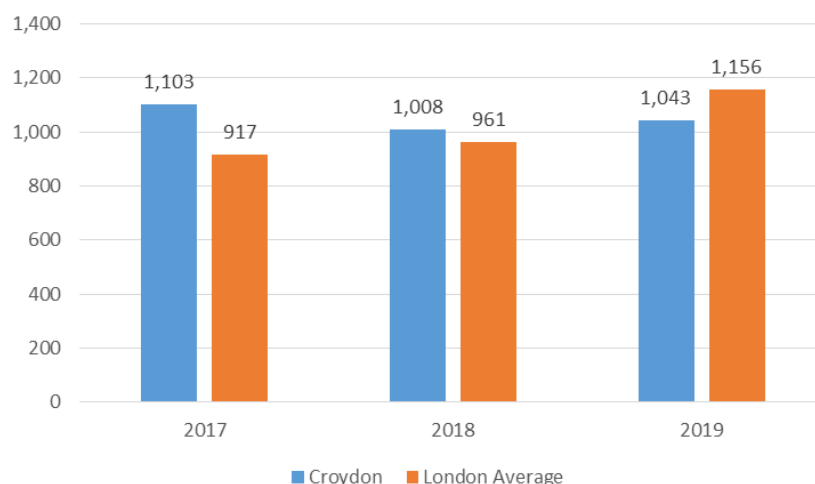


Personal Robbery

Statistics

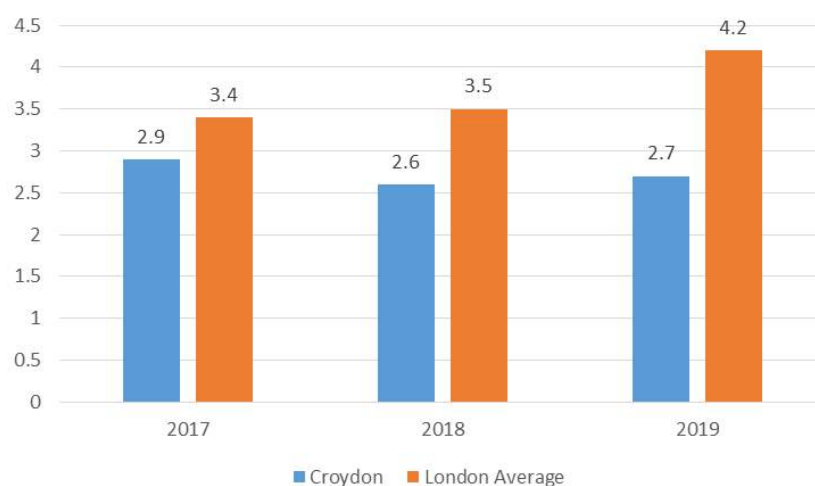
- There was a total of 1,043 personal robbery offences in 2019, an increase of 3.5% (35 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 1,008 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 20.3% increase (195 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 5.4% decrease in Croydon (-60 offences). In comparison, there has been a 26.1% increase (239 offences) in the London average.

Personal robbery statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough dropped from 2.9 in 2017 to 2.6 in 2018 where it then increased to 2.7 in 2019. The London average had seen an increase from 3.4 in 2017 to 3.5 in 2018 and then to 4.2 in 2019.

Personal robbery crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking dropped one place from 11th in 2017 to 12th in 2018 where it dropped three places to 15th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 of residents, the borough's ranking was 15th in 2017 where it dropped three places in 2018 to 18th where it dropped another three places to 21st in 2019.

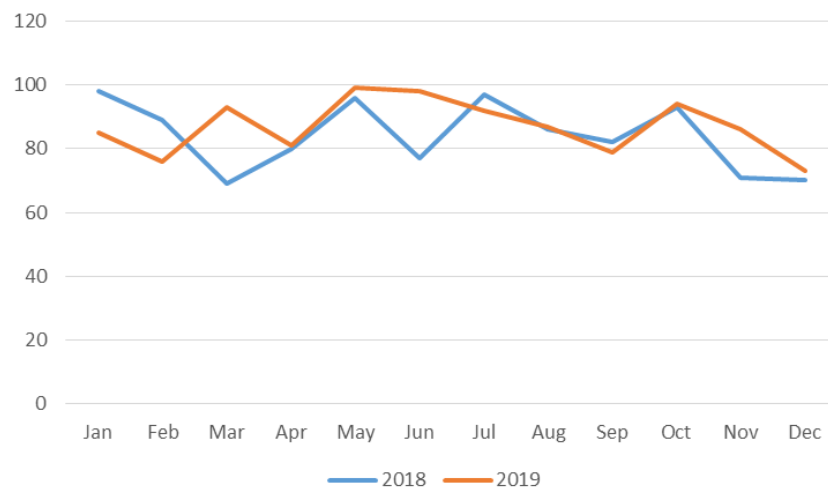
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	11	15
2018	12	18
2019	15	21

Temporal Analysis

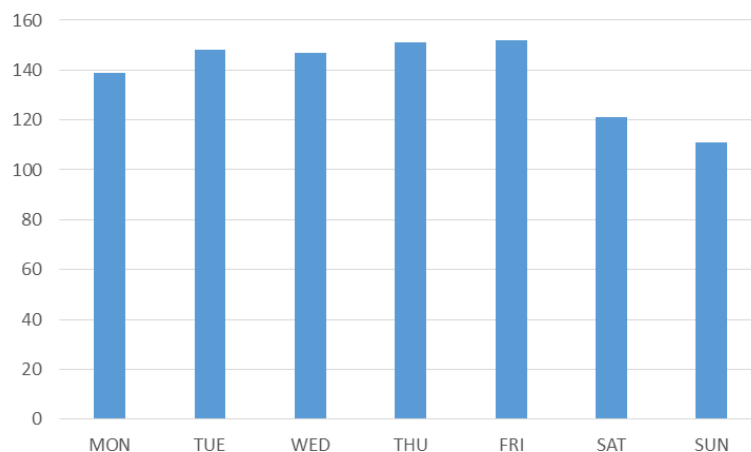
- In 2019 the peak months were May (99), June (98) and October (94). The peak months in 2018 were January (98), July (97) and May (96).

Personal robbery committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



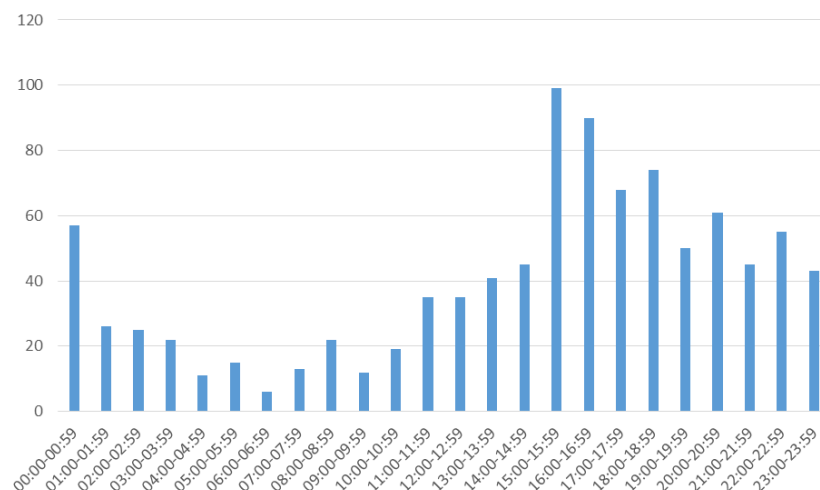
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the week, particularly weekdays, with the peak days being Friday, Thursday and Tuesday.

Personal robbery committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 15:00 and 16:59, which correlates with the 'after-school' hours where young people are highly likely to be victims and suspects of personal robbery.

Personal robbery committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

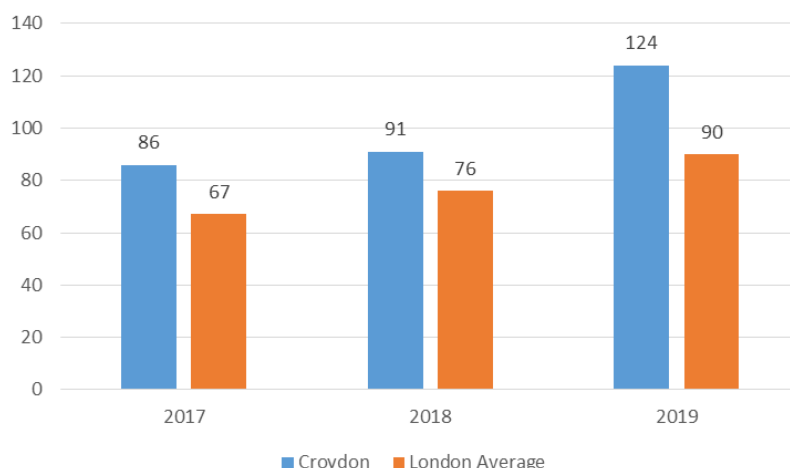


Business Robbery

Statistics

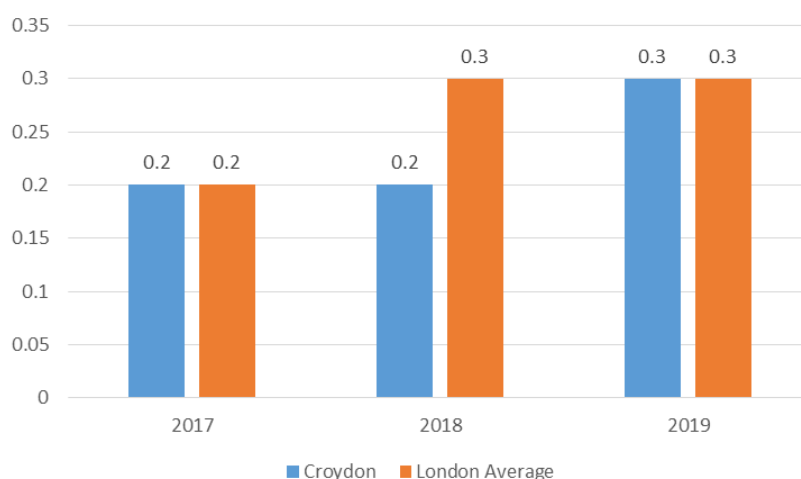
- There was a total of 124 business robbery offences in 2019, an increase of 36.3% (33 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 91 offences recorded. For the London average there was an 18.5% increase (14 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 44.2% increase in Croydon (38 offences). In comparison, there has been a 34.5% increase (23 offences) in the London average.

Business robbery statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was the same in 2017 and 2018 at 0.2 where it then increased to 0.3 in 2019. The London average had seen an increase from 0.2 in 2017 to 0.3 in 2018 where it remained in 2019.

Business robbery crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking dropped one place from 9th in 2017 to 10th in 2018 where it rose six places to 4th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 16th in 2017 where it dropped three places in 2018 to 19th where it rose five places to 14th in 2019.

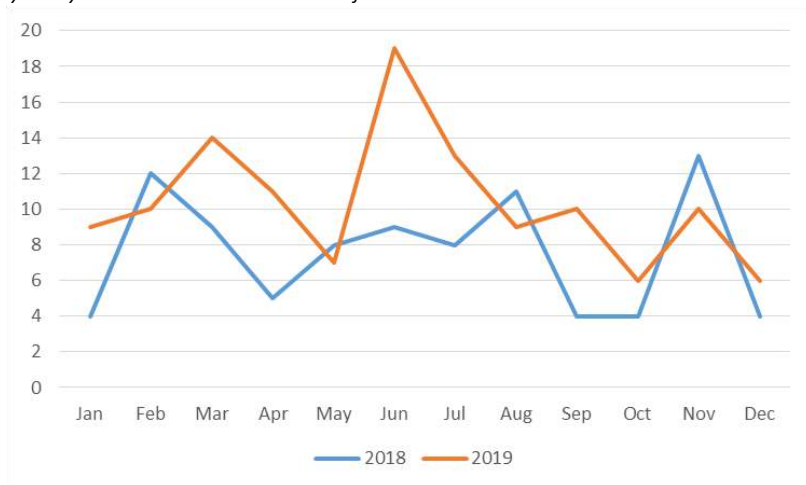
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	9	16
2018	10	19
2019	4	14

Temporal Analysis

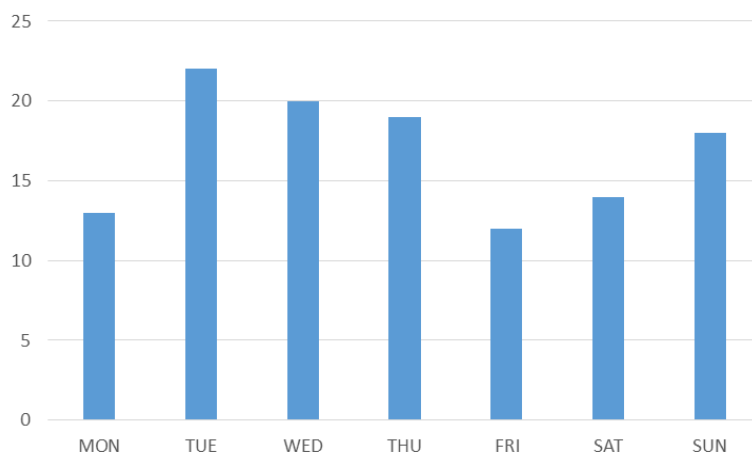
- In 2019 the peak months were June (19), March (14) and July (13). The peak months in 2018 were November (13), February (12) and August (11).

Business robbery committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



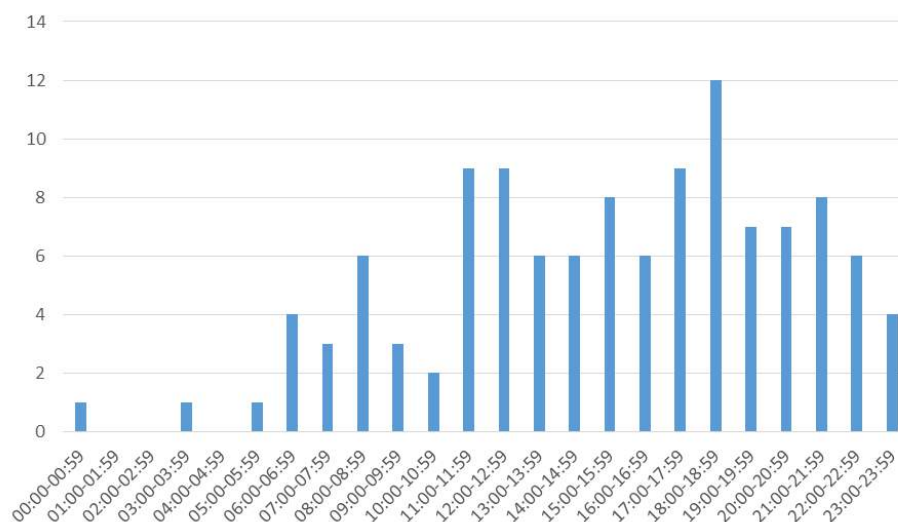
- The peak days for offences were Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Business robbery committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 17:00 and 18:59, more specifically between 18:00 and 18:59 and between 11:00 and 12:59.

Business robbery committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

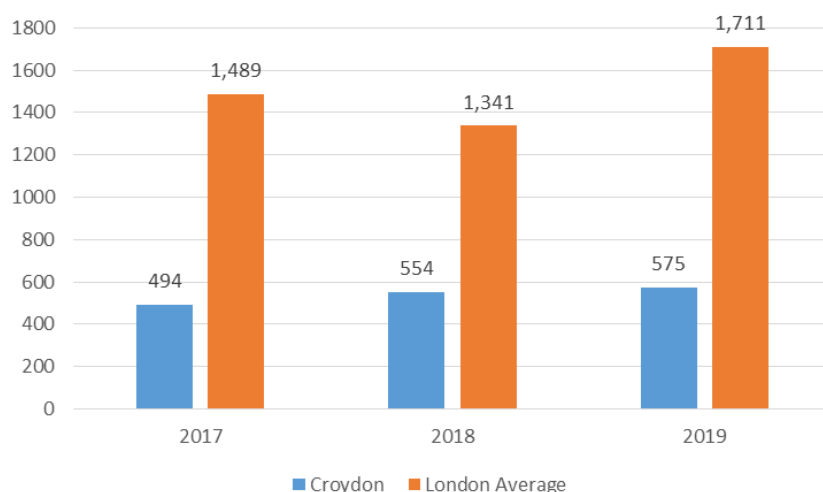


Theft from Person

Statistics

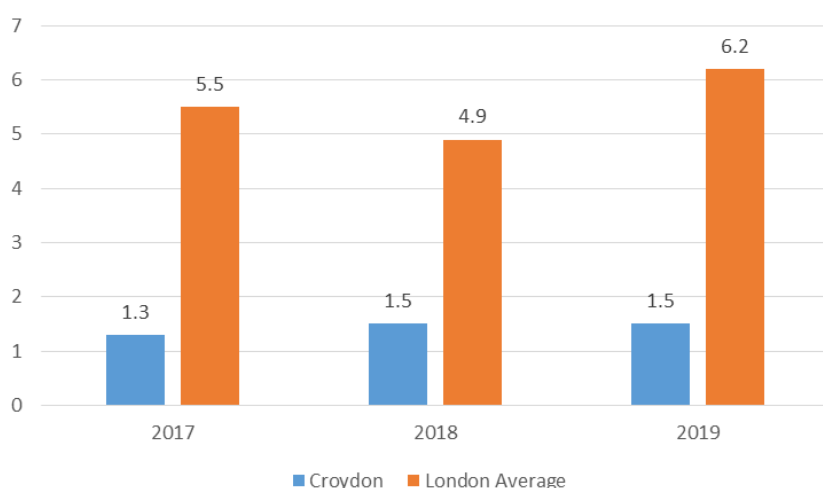
- There was a total of 575 theft from person offences in 2019, an increase of 3.8% (21 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 554 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 27.6% increase (370 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 16.4% increase in Croydon (81 offences). In comparison, there has been a 14.9% increase (222 offences) in the London average.

Theft from person statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was 1.3 in 2017 and it increased to 1.5 in 2018 where it remained the same in 2019. The London average had seen a decrease from 5.5 in 2017 to 4.9 in 2018 where it then increased to 6.2 in 2019.

Theft from person crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking rose two places from 21st in 2017 to 19th in 2018 where it dropped five places to 24th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 25th in 2017 and 2018 where it dropped three places to 27th in 2019.

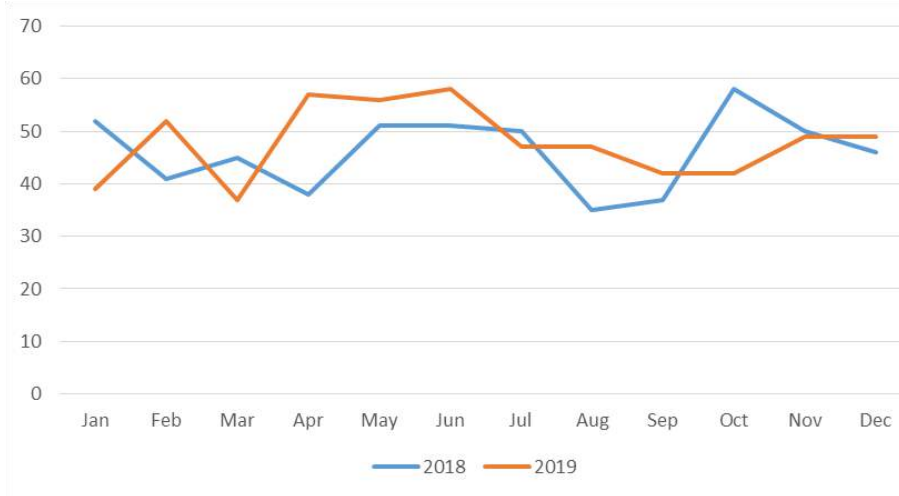
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	21	25
2018	19	25
2019	24	27

Temporal Analysis

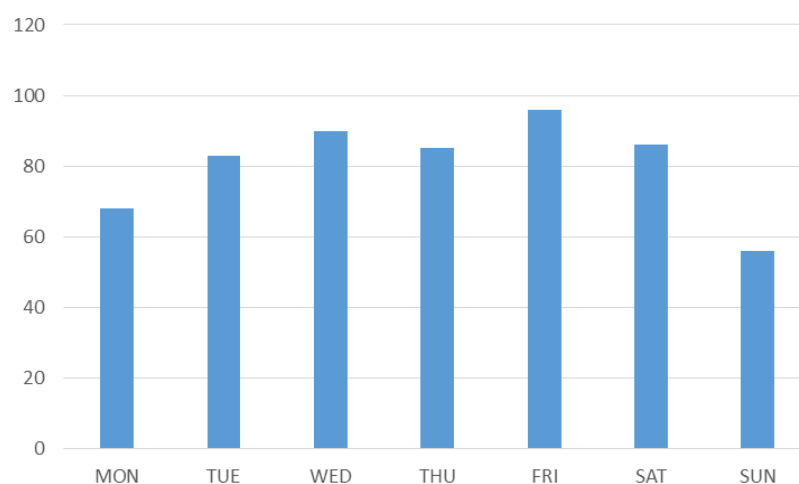
- In 2019 the peak months were June (58), April (57) and May (56). The peak months in 2018 were October (58), January (52), May (51) and June (51).

Theft from person committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



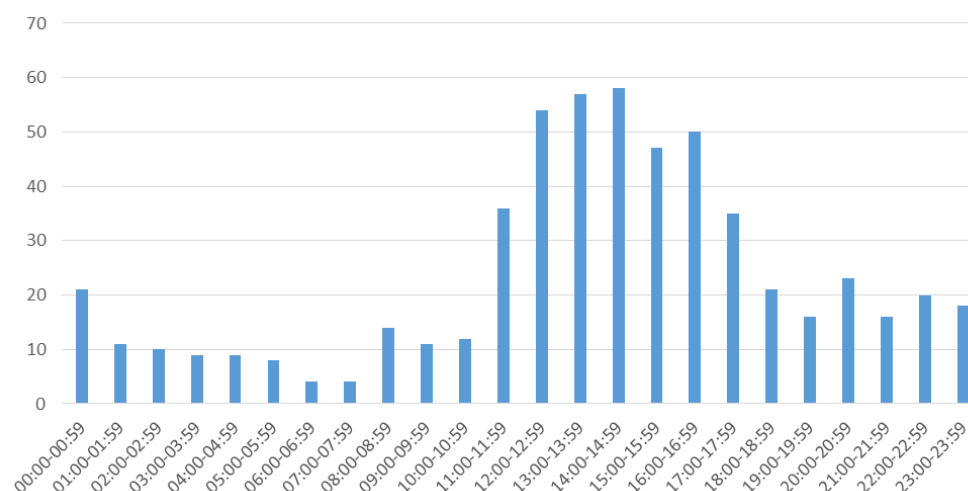
- Offences are fairly consistent throughout the week with the peak days for offences being Wednesday and Friday.

Theft from person committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 12:00 and 14:59. The offences during these times significantly involve those victims being targeted while shopping or eating and drinking in restaurants and pubs.

Theft from person committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

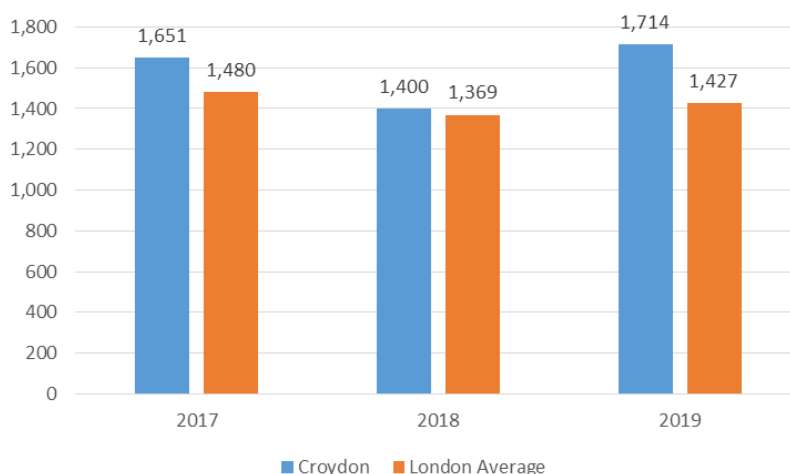


Shoplifting

Statistics

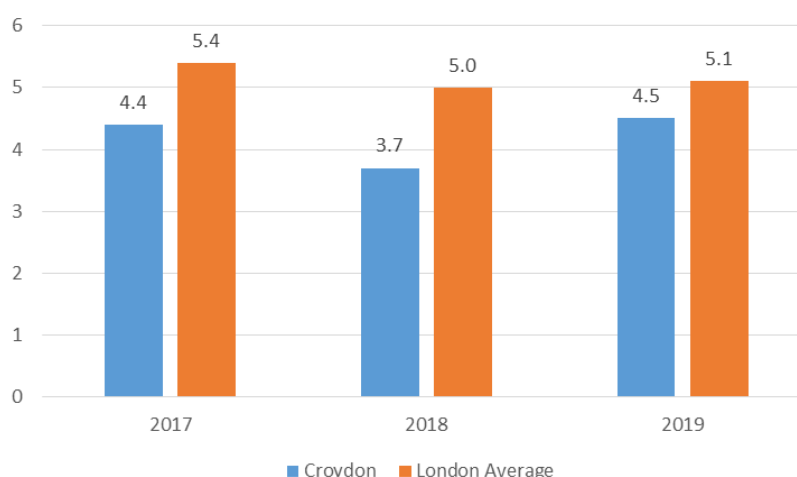
- There was a total of 1,714 shoplifting offences in 2019, an increase of 22.4% (314 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 1,400 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 4.2% increase (57 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 3.8% increase in Croydon (63 offences). In comparison, there has been a 3.6% decrease (-53 offences) in the London average.

Shoplifting statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was 4.4 in 2017 and it decreased to 3.7 in 2018 and then increased to 4.5 in 2019. The London average had seen a decrease from 5.4 in 2017 to 5.0 in 2018 where it then increased to 5.1 in 2019.

Shoplifting crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking was 9th in 2017 where it dropped two places to 11th in 2018 and then rose two places to 8th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 23rd in 2017 and then it dropped three places to 26th in 2018 and then rose ten places to 16th in 2019.

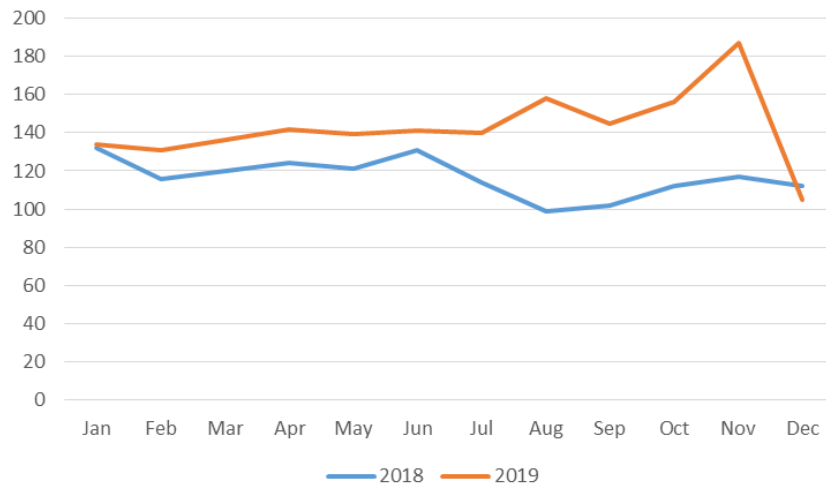
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	9	23
2018	11	26
2019	8	16

Temporal Analysis

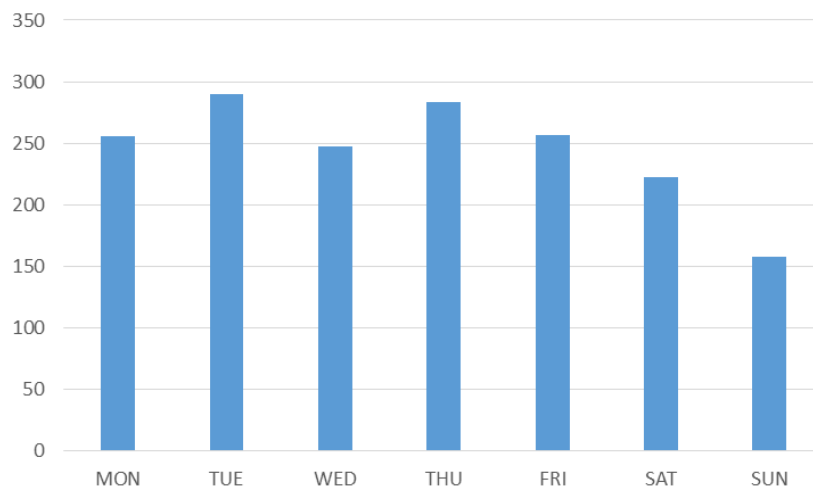
- In 2019 the peak month was November (187) followed by August (158) and then October (156). The peak months in 2018 were January (132) and June (131).

Shoplifting committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



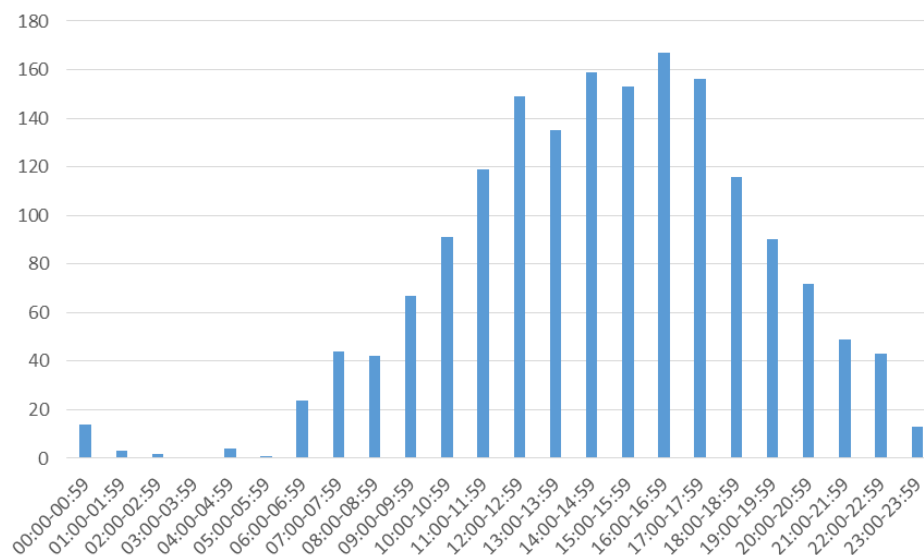
- The peak days for offences were Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Shoplifting committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak time for offences was between 14:00 and 17:59. There was also a peak time between 12:00 and 12:59.

Shoplifting committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

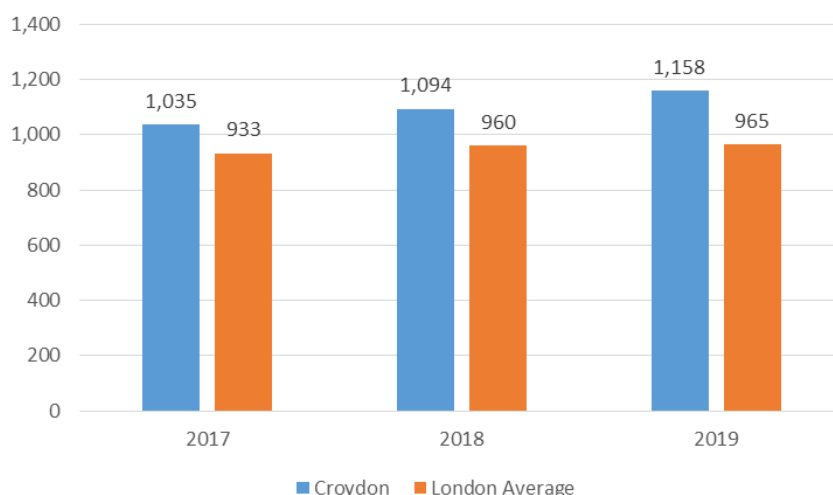


Theft of Motor Vehicle

Statistics

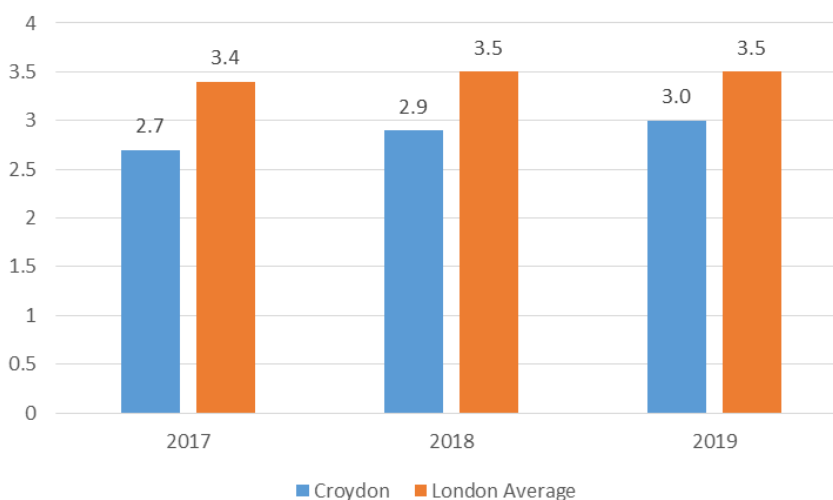
- There was a total of 1,158 theft of motor vehicle offences in 2019, an increase of 5.9% (64 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 1,094 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 0.5% increase (5 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been an 11.9% increase in Croydon (123 offences). In comparison, there has been a 3.4% increase (32 offences) in the London average.

Theft of motor vehicle statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was 2.7 in 2017 and it increased to 2.9 in 2018 and then increased to 3.0 in 2019. The London average had seen an increase from 3.4 in 2017 to 3.5 in 2018 where it remained the same in 2019.

Theft of motor vehicle crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking was 12th in 2017 where it remained the same 2018 and then rose two places to 10th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 26th in 2017 and then it rose two places to 24th in 2018 and then rose one place to 23rd in 2019.

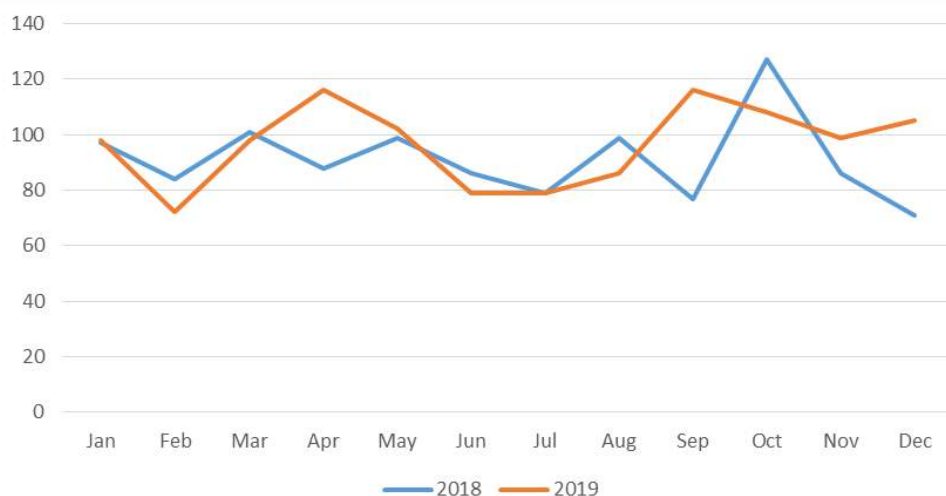
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	12	26
2018	12	24
2019	10	23

Temporal Analysis

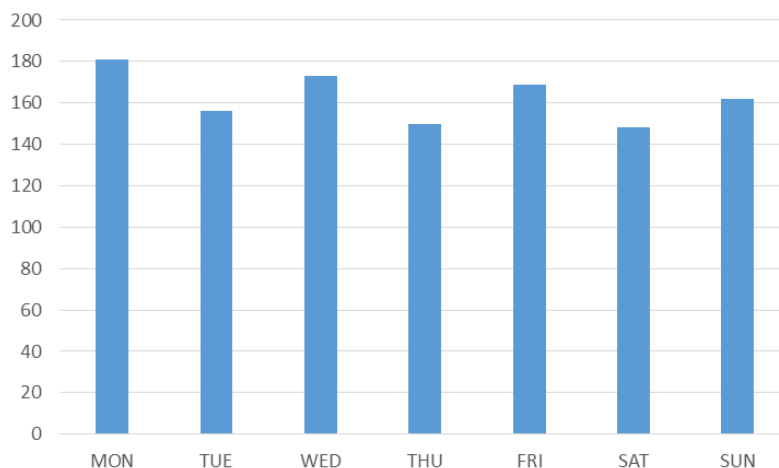
- In 2019 the peak months were April and September. The peak months in 2018 March, May, August and especially October.

Theft of motor vehicle committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



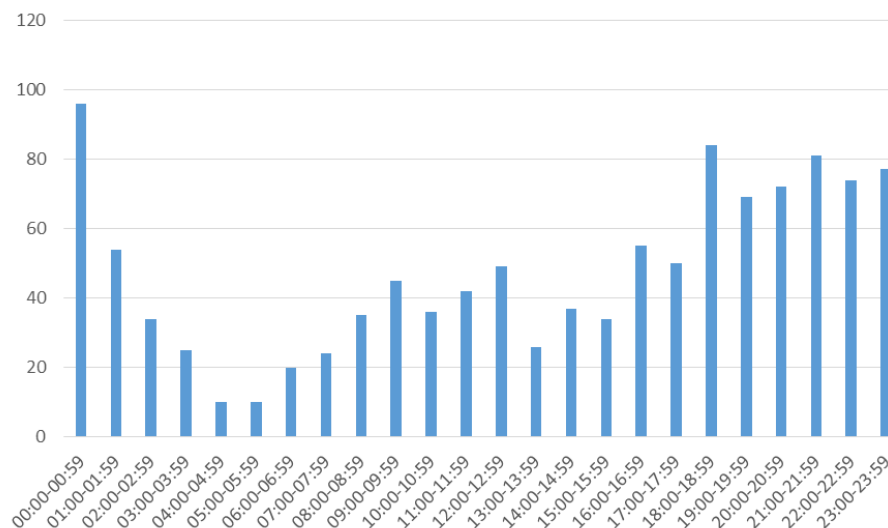
- The peak days for offences were Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Theft of motor vehicle committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak time for offences was between 00:00 and 00:59. However, it is most likely the default time of midnight is recorded because of the likelihood the victim would not know when their vehicle was stolen. The peak times are also in the evenings from 18:00 onwards.

Theft of motor vehicle committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

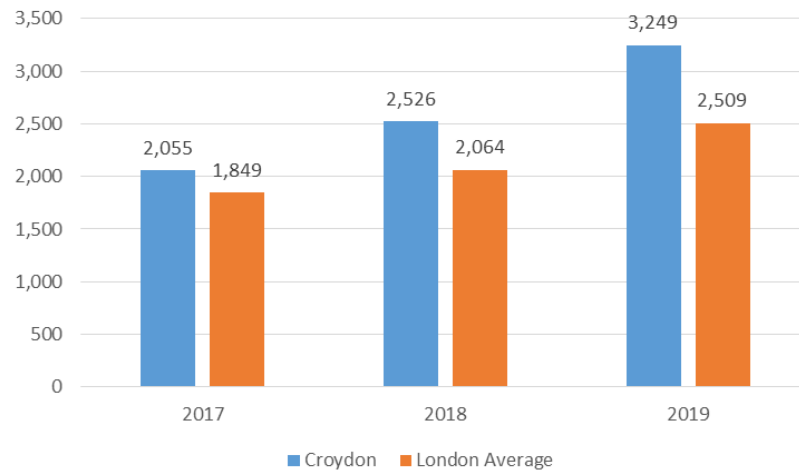


Theft from Motor Vehicle

Statistics

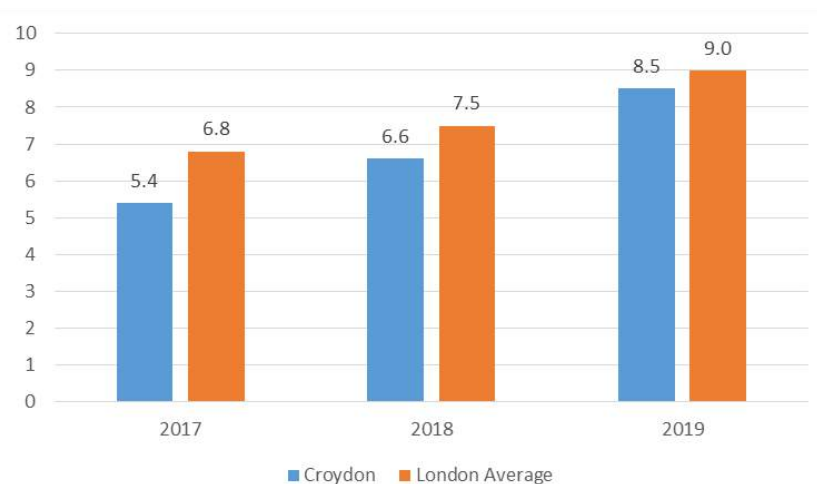
- There was a total of 3,249 theft from motor vehicle offences in 2019, an increase of 28.6% (723 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 2,526 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 21.5% increase (445 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 51.8% increase in Croydon (1,194 offences). In comparison, there has been a 35.7 % increase (660 offences) in the London average.

Theft from motor vehicle statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was 5.4 in 2017 and it increased to 6.6 in 2018 and then increased to 8.5 in 2019. The London average had seen an increase from 6.8 in 2017 to 7.5 in 2018 and it then increased to 9.0 in 2019.

Theft from motor vehicle crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking was 13th in 2017 where it rose five places to 8th and then rose two places to 6th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 23rd in 2017 and then it rose one place to 22nd in 2018 and then rose six places to 16th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

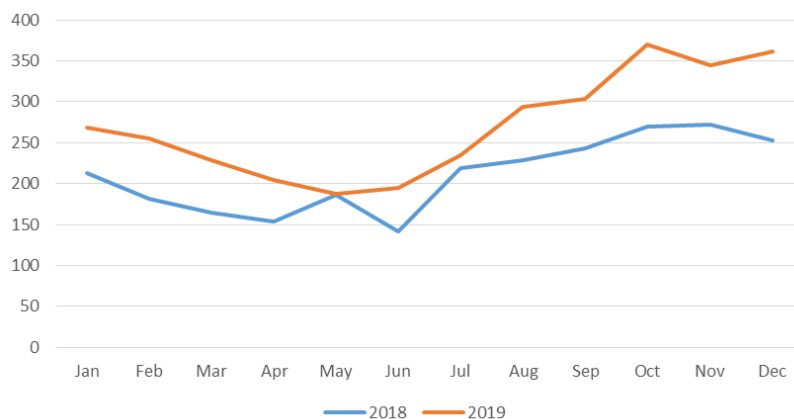
Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	13	23
2018	8	22
2019	6	16

- The most common type of property stolen from motor vehicles were catalytic converters (13.2%). Out of these vehicles, 50.8% were by Toyota (mostly Prius and Auris models), 31.0% were made by Honda (mainly the Jazz model) and 13.2% were made by Lexus (mainly the RX 400 model). The second highest proportion of property stolen were motor vehicles registration plates (10.4%). Out of the vehicles targeted, 48.4% were saloons followed by 17.8% were hatchbacks.

Temporal Analysis

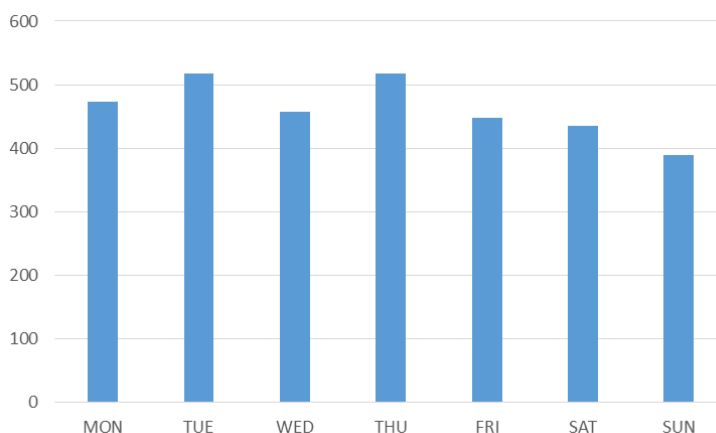
- In 2019 the peak months were October, November and December. These were also the peak months in 2018.

Theft from motor vehicle committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



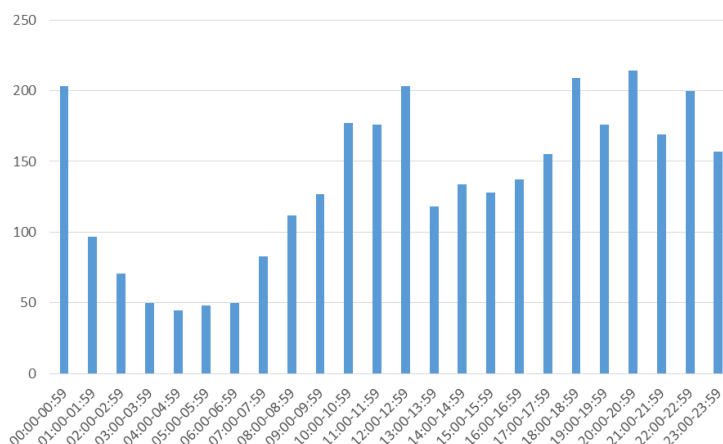
- The peak days for offences were Tuesday and Thursday.

Theft from motor vehicle committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak time for offences were between 00:00 and 00:59 and between 12:00 and 12:59. However, it is most likely the default time of midnight is recorded because of the likelihood the victim would not know when their vehicle was stolen. The peak times are also in the evenings from 18:00 to 22:59. There was also a peak time between 10:00 and 11:59.

Theft from motor vehicle committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

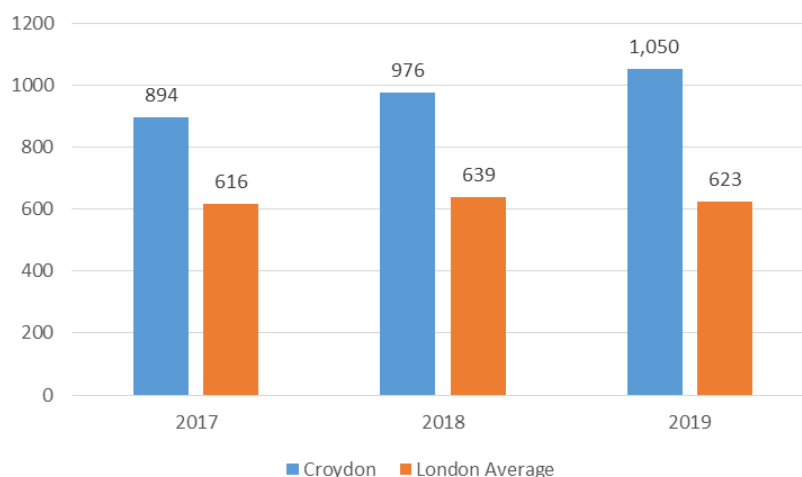


Sexual Offences

Statistics

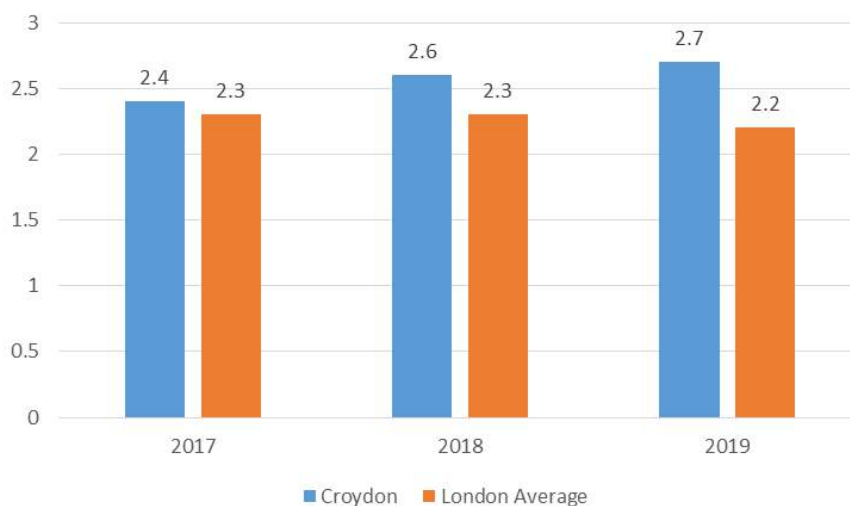
- There was a total of 1,050 sexual offences in 2019, an increase of 7.6% (74 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 976 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 2.5% decrease (-16 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 17.4% increase in Croydon (156 offences). In comparison, there has been a 1.2% increase (7 offences) in the London average.

Theft from motor vehicle statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was 2.4 in 2017 and it increased to 2.6 in 2018 and then increased to 2.7 in 2019. The London average had seen an increase from 2.4 in 2017 to 2.6 in 2018 and it then increased to 2.7 in 2019.

Theft from motor vehicle crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking was 3rd in 2017 where remained in 2018 and then rose one place to 2nd in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 13th in 2017 and then it rose one place to 12th in 2018 and then rose four places to 8th in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

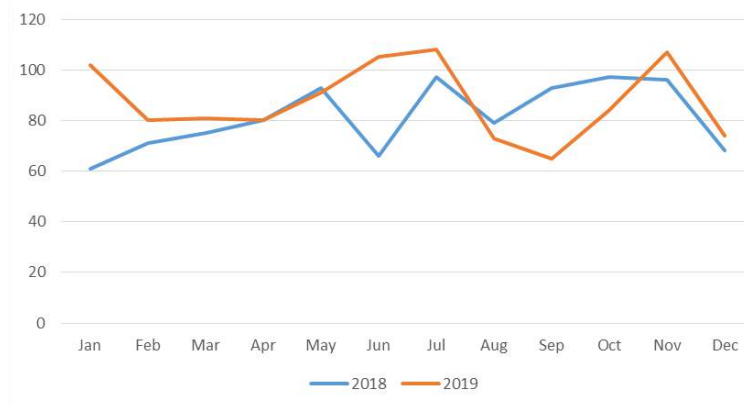
Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	3	13
2018	3	12
2019	2	8

- The highest proportion of offences were rape of a female aged 16 years old or over (31.0%) followed by sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over (23.7%) and then exposure (8.5%).
- 15.2% of offences were flagged as domestic abuse.

Temporal Analysis

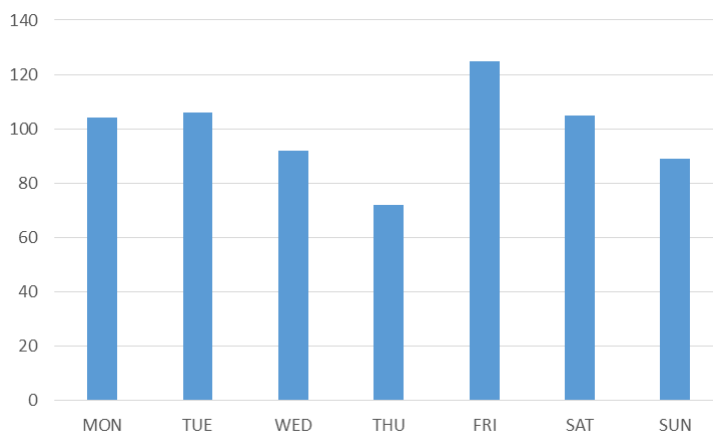
- In 2019 the peak months were June, July and November. The peak months in 2018 were July, October and November.

Theft from motor vehicle committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



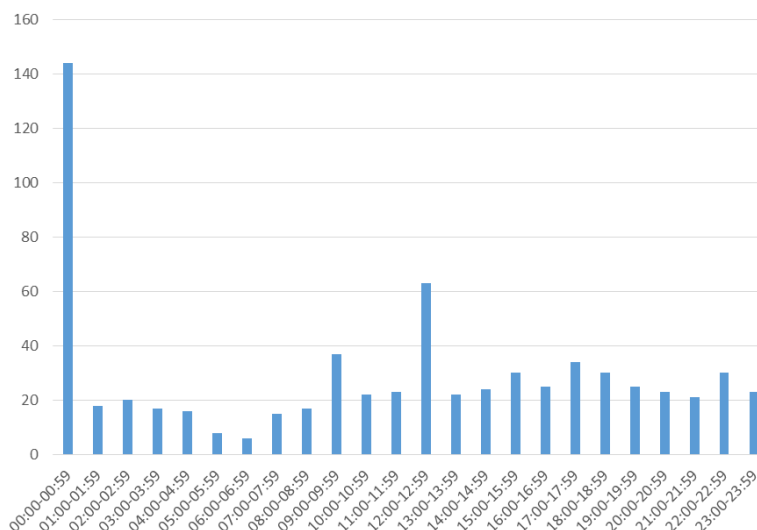
- The peak day for offences was Friday.

Theft from motor vehicle committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak time for offences were between 00:00 and 00:59 and between 12:00 and 12:59. However, it is most likely the default time of midnight is recorded because of the likelihood the victim can not specify the exact time due to the circumstances of the offence.

Theft from motor vehicle committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

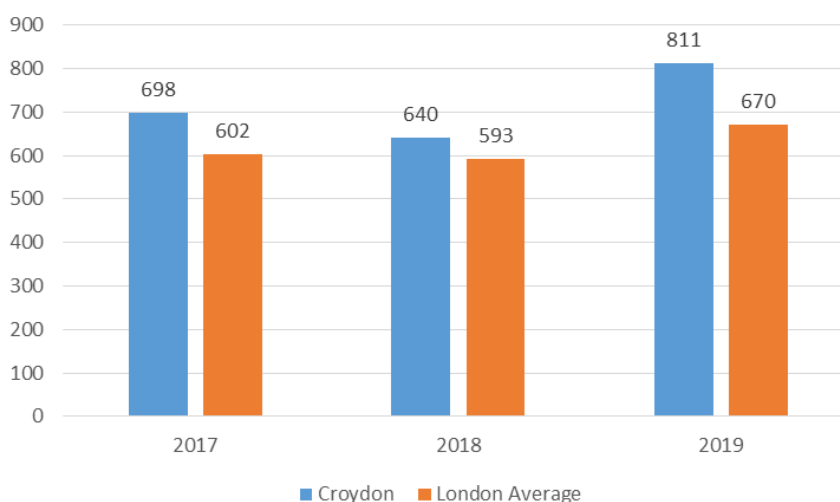


Hate Crime

Statistics

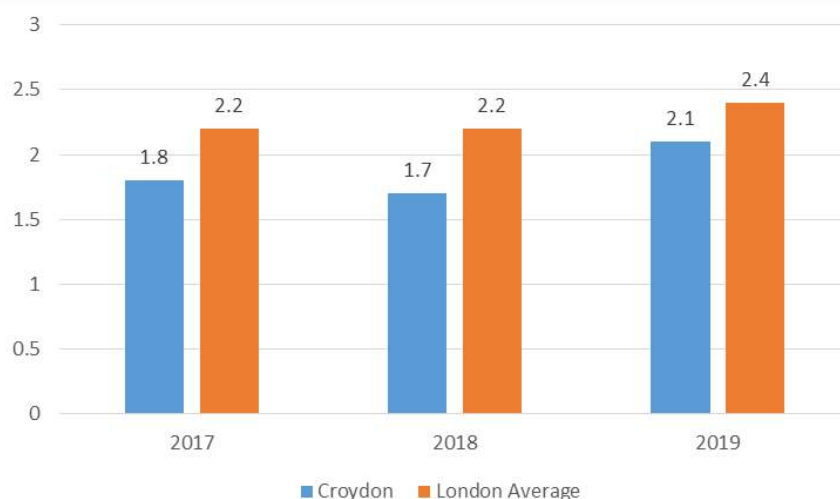
- There was a total of 811 sexual offences in 2019, an increase of 26.7% (171 offences) compared to 2018 where there were 640 offences recorded. For the London average there was a 13.1% decrease (77 offences). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 16.2% increase in Croydon (113 offences). In comparison, there has been an 11.3% increase (68 offences) in the London average.

Hate crime statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the crime rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of offences in the borough was 1.8 in 2017 and it decreased to 1.7 in 2018 and then increased to 2.1 in 2019. In 2017 and 2018 the rate was at 2.2 where it increased to 2.4 in 2019.

Hate crime rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- Croydon's ranking was 10th in 2017 where it then dropped three places to 13th in 2018 and it then rose five places to 8th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 20th in 2017 and then it dropped one place to 21st in 2018 and then rose four places to 17th in 2019.

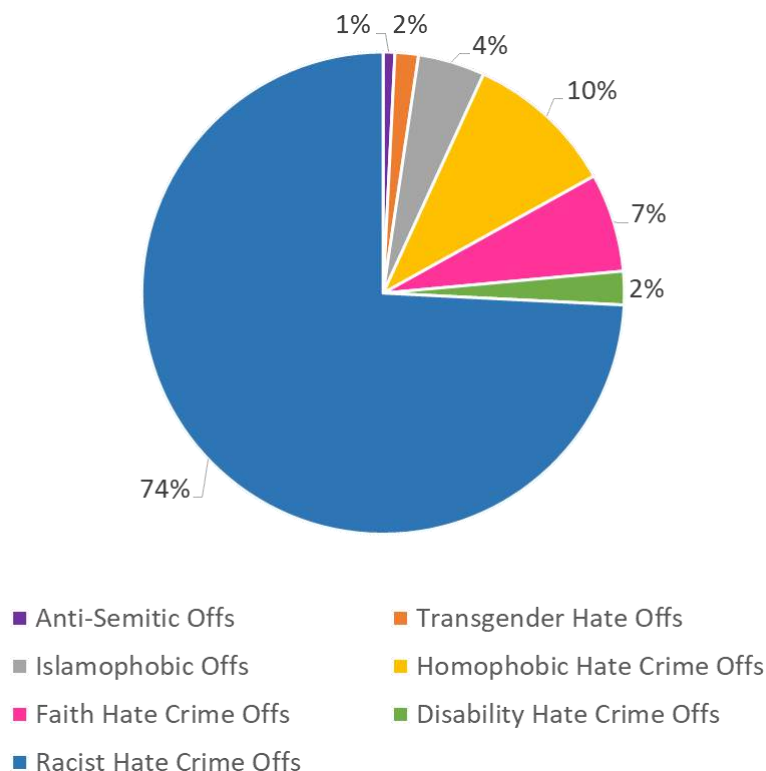
Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

	Ranking	
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	10	20
2018	13	21
2019	8	17

Crime Breakdown

- In 2019 the largest proportion of hate crimes were Racist Hate Crime offences (74%). This is followed by Homophobic Hate Crime offences (10%) and then Faith Hate Crime offences (7%)²⁶.

Breakdown of Hate Crime offences by type in Croydon in 2019 from MetStats.



- By comparing 2019 to 2018 there has been an increase in all types of hate crime with Racist Hate Crime offences having the largest volume increase followed by Homophobic Hate Crime offences.
- 20.8% of hate crimes involved neighbour disputes²⁷.

Breakdown of Hate Crime offences by type in Croydon in 2019 from MetStats.

Hate Crime Type	2018	2019	+/-	% +/-
Anti-Semitic Offs	6	7	1	16.7%
Disability Hate Crime Offs	16	20	4	25.0%
Faith Hate Crime Offs	53	59	6	11.3%
Homophobic Hate Crime Offs	61	90	29	47.5%
Islamophobic Offs	36	40	4	11.1%
Racist Hate Crime Offs	534	664	130	24.3%
Transgender Hate Offs	6	14	8	133.3%
Total	712	894	182	25.6%

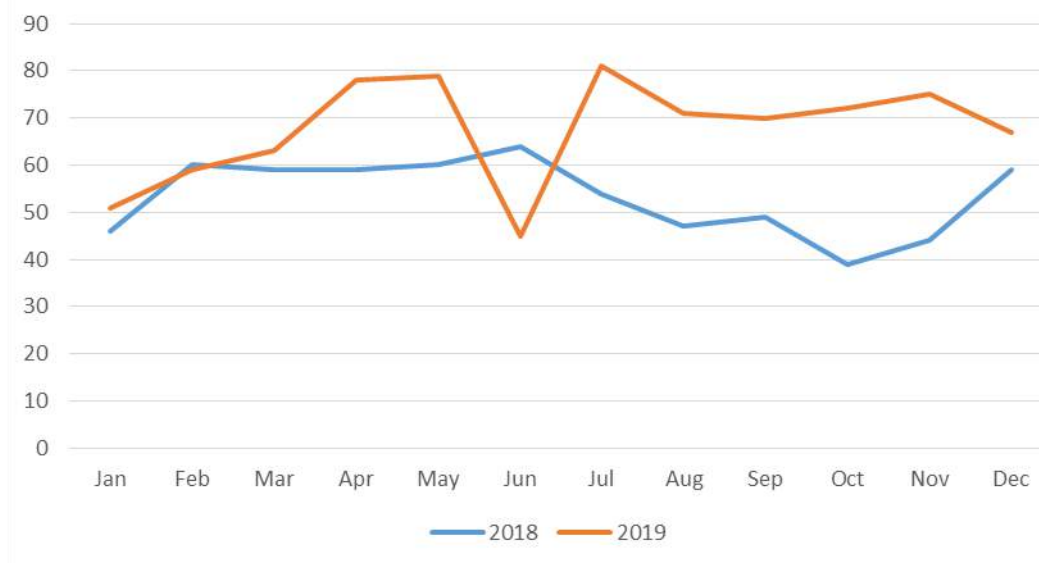
²⁶ It must be noted that the figures shown here are different to the total number of hate crime offences due to the total figure includes TNOs **only**. Also the total figure only includes crimes where only one hate crime flag is used so there is no double counting. For example, there may be one crime which was flagged as a racist **and** faith hate crime, therefore, in the breakdown of offences this is counted twice (one racist hate crime offence and one faith hate crime offence). However, in the total figure of hate crime offences this is only counted as one hate crime flagged offence.

²⁷ This is approximate due to extracting crimes involving neighbours was done by building a query where 'wildcards' are used e.g. words or a set of words associated with neighbour disputes.

Temporal Analysis

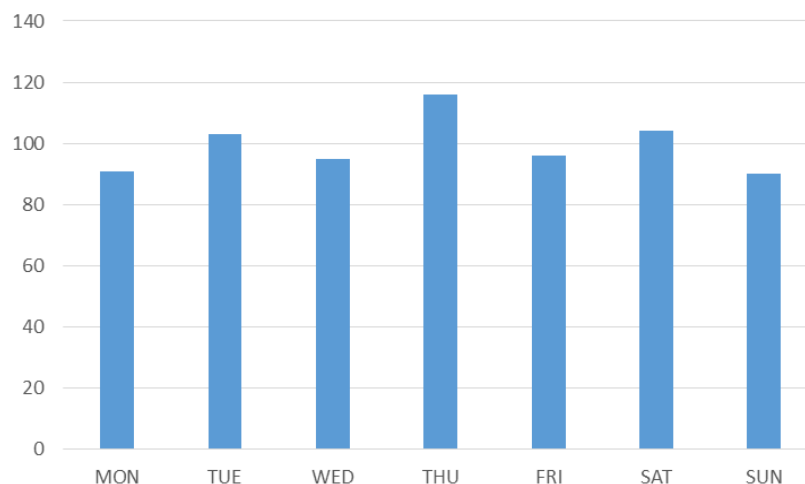
- In 2019 the peak months were April, May and July. The peak months in 2018 were February, June and December.

Hate crime committed in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



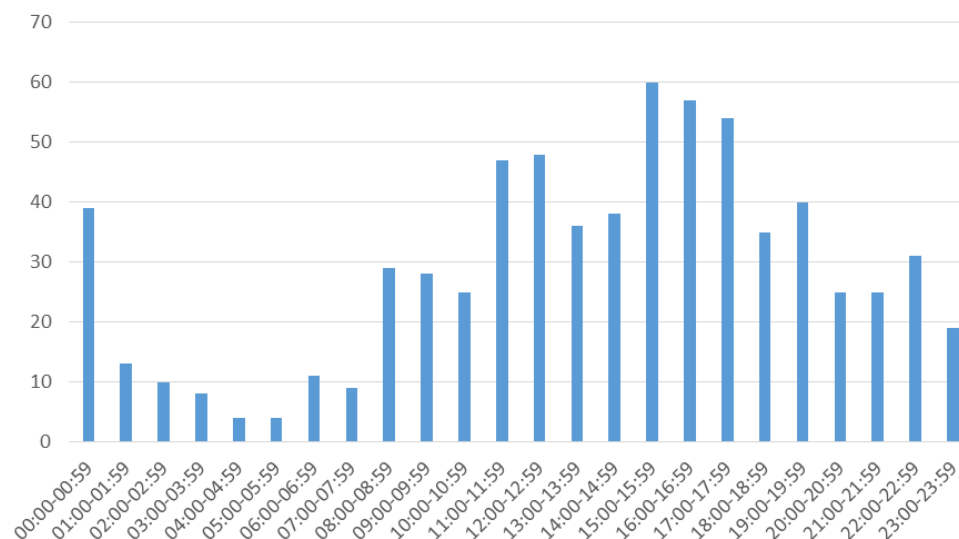
- The peak day for offences were Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Hate crime committed in Croydon by day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.



- The peak times for offences were between 11:00 and 12:59 and between 15:00 and 17:59.

Hate crime committed in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from CRIS.

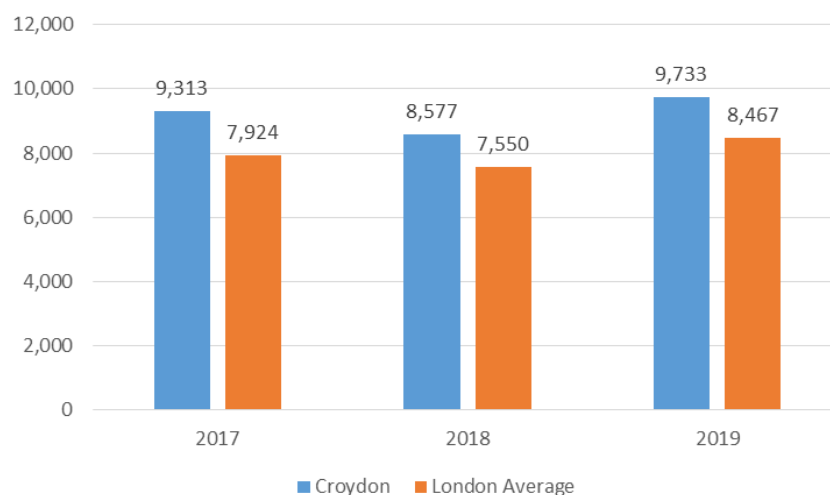


Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)

Statistics

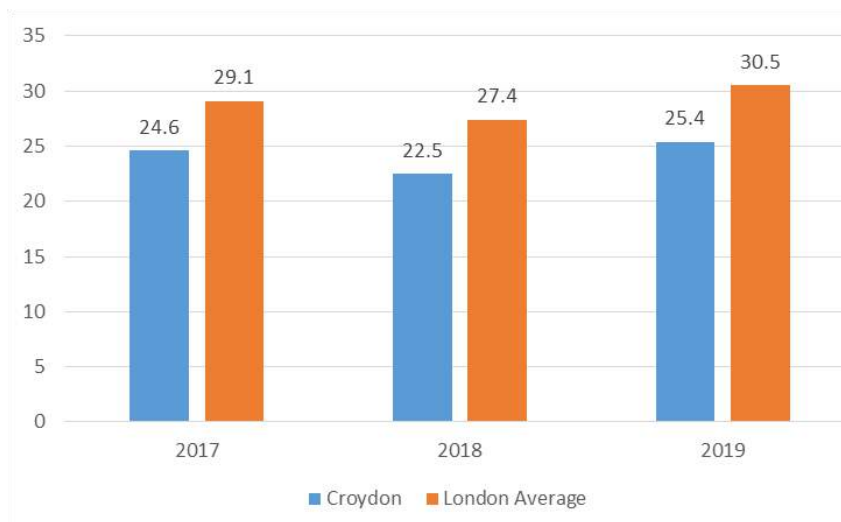
- There was a total of 9,733 ASB calls in 2019, an increase of 13.5% (1,156 calls) compared to 2018 where there were 8,577 calls recorded. For the London average there was a 12.1% increase (917 calls). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 4.5% increase (420 calls). In comparison, there has been a 6.9% increase (543 calls) in the London average.

ASB statistics in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



- When calculating the rate per 1,000 residents, the rate of ASB calls in the borough was 24.6 in 2017 and it decreased to 22.5 in 2018 and then increased to 25.4 in 2019. The London average had seen a decrease from 29.1 in 2017 to 27.4 in 2018 and it then increased to 30.5 in 2019.

ASB call rate (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) in Croydon and the London Average in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from MetStats.



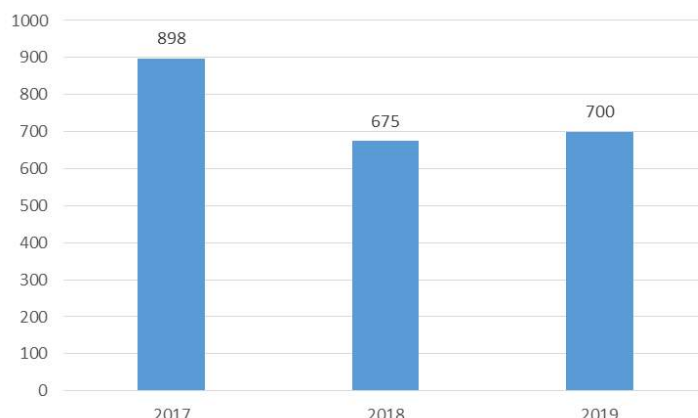
- Croydon's ranking was 10th in 2017 where it then dropped two places in 2018 to 12th and then rose one place to 11th in 2019. By calculating the rate of offences per 1,000 residents, the borough's ranking was 22nd in 2017 where it remained in 2018 and it then rose one place to 21st in 2019.

Rankings by volume and per 1,000 residents (using Housing-led projections of residents from the Greater London Authority) for Croydon and the London Average in 2018 and 2019 from MetStats. Ranking is out of 32 boroughs with the number 1 borough being the borough with the highest number of offences and crime rate.

Ranking		
	Croydon (Volume)	Croydon (per 1,000)
2017	10	22
2018	12	22
2019	11	21

- The number of incidents recorded on the Council's ASB system shows in 2019 there were 700 incidents recorded, which is an increase of 3.7% (25 incidents). By comparing 2019 to 2017 there has been a 22.0% decrease in Croydon (-198 calls).

ASB incidents in Croydon in 2017, 2018 and 2019 recorded on the Council's ASB system.



Breakdown of ASB

- The MPS identify three main types of ASB calls – Environmental, Nuisance and Personal²⁸. In 2019 Nuisance made up 85.7% of all ASB calls in the borough followed by 11.7% of calls which were Personal and then 2.6% of calls which were environmental.
- By comparing 2019 to 2018, there has been an increase of 17.1% in Nuisance calls but an 18.3% decrease in Environmental calls and a 0.5% decrease in Personal calls.

ASB call types in Croydon in 2019 from MetStats.

ASB Type	2018	2019	+/-	% +/-
Environmental	312	255	-57	-18.3%
Nuisance	7,123	8,342	1,219	17.1%
Personal	1,142	1,136	-6	-0.5%
Total	8,577	9,733	1,156	13.5%

- The majority of calls are also categorised (though this is not mandatory) to provide more of a description of the type of call received. Out of those that were, in 2019 the highest proportion of calls were categorised as 'Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour' (54.6%) followed by calls categorised as 'Rowdy/Nuisance Neighbours' (16.8%). By comparing 2019 to 2018 the highest volume increases were for both of these categories.

ASB call categories in Croydon in 2019 from MetStats

ASB Category	2018	2019	+/-	% +/-
Animal Problems	16	23	7	43.8%
Begging / Vagrancy	368	413	45	12.2%
Fireworks	75	83	8	10.7%
Littering / Drugs Paraphernalia	37	74	37	100.0%
Noise	519	479	-40	-7.7%
Prostitution Related Activity	34	23	-11	-32.4%
Rowdy / Nuisance Neighbours	1,198	1,461	263	22.0%
Rowdy Or Inconsiderate Behaviour	3,868	4,748	880	22.8%
Street Drinking	33	30	-3	-9.1%
Trespass	227	215	-12	-5.3%
Veh Abandoned - Not stolen	186	230	44	23.7%
Veh Nuisance / Inappropriate Use	921	917	-4	-0.4%
Total	7,482	8,696	1,214	16.2%

²⁸ 'Personal' is designed to identify ASB incidents that the caller, call-handler or anyone else perceives as either deliberately targeted at an individual or group or having an impact on an individual or group rather than the community at large.

'Nuisance' captures those incidents where an act, condition, thing or person causes trouble, annoyance, inconvenience, offence or suffering to the local community in general rather than to individual victims.

'Environmental' deals with the interface between people and places. It includes incidents where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings including natural, built and social environments. This category is about encouraging reasonable behaviour whilst managing and protecting the various environments so that people can enjoy their own private spaces as well as shared or public spaces.

- The Council's ASB Team record the type of ASB incident they receive. In 2019, the largest proportion of ASB recorded was 'Noise' (25.4%) followed 'Harassment/Abuse/Assault' (14.9%) and then 'Drugs/Solvent abuse' (9.7%).
- By comparing 2019 to 2018 the biggest volume increase has been 'Harassment/Abuse/Assault' (31 incidents).

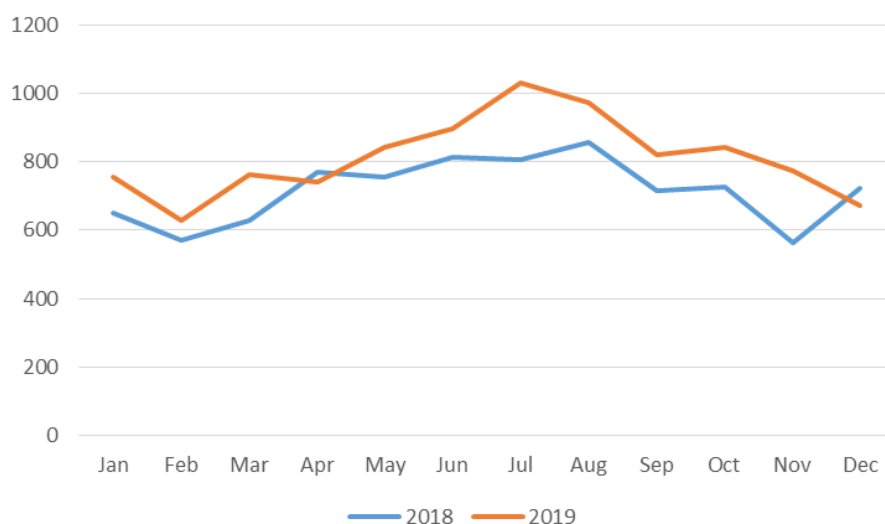
ASB incidents by type in Croydon in 2018 and 2019 recorded on the Council's ASB system.

ASB Incident Type	2018	2019	+/-	% +/-
Animal Problem	13	18	5	38.5%
Congregation of adults / children	40	34	-6	-15.0%
Criminal behaviour	33	31	-2	-6.1%
Domestic Violence / Abuse	12	7	-5	-41.7%
Drink / Alcohol abuse	38	34	-4	-10.5%
Drug Dealing	23	28	5	21.7%
Drugs / Solvent abuse	63	68	5	7.9%
Garden	35	46	11	31.4%
Graffiti	1	1	0	0.0%
Harassment / Abuse / Assault	73	104	31	42.5%
Neighbour Dispute	57	49	-8	-14.0%
Noise	179	178	-1	-0.6%
Nuisance - animals	6	9	3	50.0%
Nuisance - vehicles	3	10	7	233.3%
Property issue	30	15	-15	-50.0%
Prostitution / Sexual Acts / Kerb crawling	4	4	0	0.0%
Rubbish / Fly Tipping	35	39	4	11.4%
Threat of serious assault	4	1	-3	-75.0%
Vandalism to property	26	24	-2	-7.7%
Total	675	700	25	3.7%

Temporal Analysis

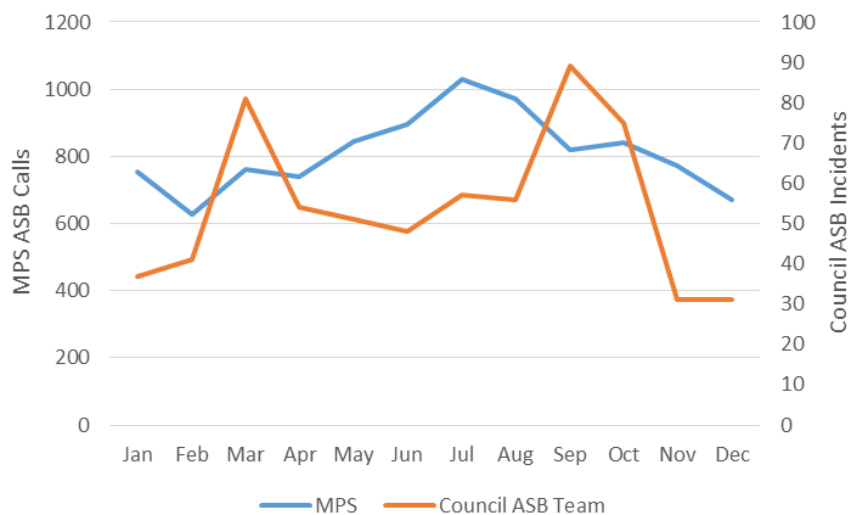
- In 2019 the peak months were July and August. The peak months in 2018 were June and August. And the overall trend correlate with the summer months where the hot weather increases the chances of people being outside, therefore, for example, causing noise or nuisance to their neighbours.

MPS ASB calls in Croydon by month in 2018 and 2019 taken from MetStats.



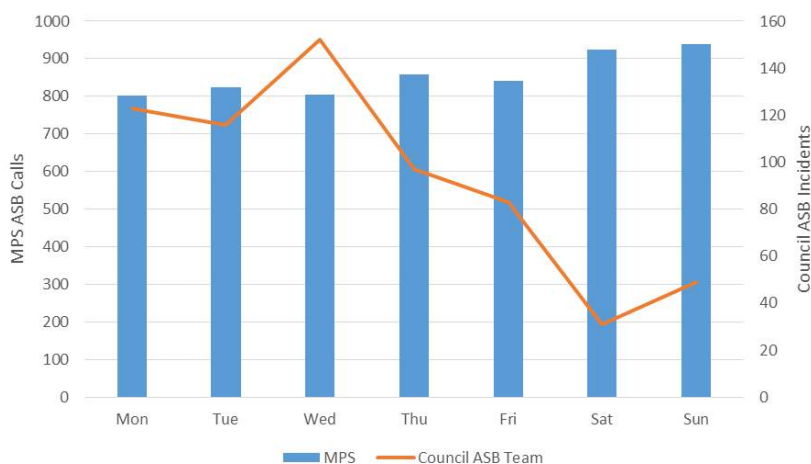
- By comparing the number of ASB calls to the MPS with the number of incidents recorded to the Council's ASB team shows that there is not a similar trend. The peak months for the Council's ASB team was March and September. In March the peak was significantly due to neighbour disputes and in September they were significantly due to rubbish and fly-tipping as well as other incidents which were categorised as criminal behaviour (e.g. drug dealing).

MPS ASB calls and ASB incidents recorded on the Council's ASB system in Croydon in 2019.



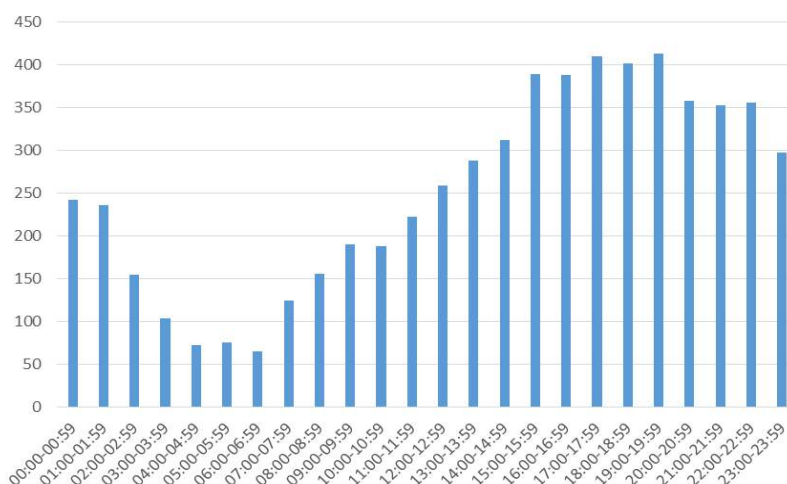
- The peak days for ASB calls recorded by the MPS shows the peak days as being Saturday and Sunday. However, the incidents recorded by the Council's ASB team shows a contrast where the peak day is Wednesday (the same day the MPS recorded the lowest number of calls) and the days where they recorded the lowest number of incidents was Saturday and Sunday.

MPS ASB incidents from DARIS and ASB incidents recorded on the Council's ASB system by day in Croydon in 2019.



- The peak time for offences were between 00:00 and 00:59 and between 12:00 and 12:59. However, it is most likely the default time of midnight is recorded because of the likelihood the victim can not specify the exact time due to the circumstances of the offence.

MPS ASB incidents in Croydon by time of day in 2018 and 2019 from DARIS.



Covid-19 and its impact on Crime and ASB

The Covid-19 outbreak has created a global health crisis which has brought human tragedy and has had a substantive impact on the economy. The outbreak has resulted in government decisions being made which directly affect the way society lives in the short, medium and long term. These decisions have included social distancing rules and a 'partial' lockdown where people can only leave their homes for specific reasons.

One of the main effects of the outbreak is on crime and ASB. There has been much coverage in the reduction of most crime nationally but also a significant rise in other types of crime, especially domestic abuse²⁹. As well as this, there has also been a national rise in ASB³⁰. However, it is important to examine the impact Covid-19 has had on crime and ASB in Croydon specifically so we can anticipate and coordinate our approach in minimising the effects throughout the pandemic.

On 23rd March 2020 the government announced a 'partial' lockdown nationwide. The data examined in this report covers the five week period from 23rd March 2020 to 26th April 2020, which is titled the 'current period'. Comparisons to the previous five weeks is titled the 'Previous period'. The current period is also compared to the same period last year which is titled the 'Previous period-last year'.

By comparing the current period to the last period, there has been a 26.8% decrease in total notifiable offences (TNOs). By comparing the current period to the previous period-last year there has been a decrease of 15.2%. A breakdown of crimes is provided below:

Total Notifiable Offences							
Crime Type	Previous Period - Last year	Previous Period	Current Period	Current Period to Previous Period		Current Period to Previous Period - Last Year	
				+/-	% Diff	+/-	% Diff
Violence Against the Person Offs	869	1016	889	-127	-12.5%	20	2.3%
Sexual Offences Offs	91	88	79	-9	-10.2%	-12	-13.2%
Theft Offs	613	561	292	-269	-48.0%	-321	-52.4%
Arson and Criminal Damage Offs	228	241	215	-26	-10.8%	-13	-5.7%
Drug Offs	221	264	290	26	9.8%	69	31.2%
Possession of Weapons Offs	468	487	519	32	6.6%	51	10.9%
Public Order Offs	201	228	139	-89	-39.0%	-62	-30.8%
Misc Crimes Against Society Offs	48	47	44	-3	-6.4%	-4	-8.3%
Robbery of Business Property Offs	9	17	11	-6	-35.3%	2	22.2%
Robbery of Personal Property Offs	96	101	32	-69	-68.3%	-64	-66.7%
Burglary - Residential Offs	199	227	123	-104	-45.8%	-76	-38.2%
Burglary - Business and Community Offs	38	69	50	-19	-27.5%	12	31.6%
Theft from MV Offs	231	466	224	-242	-51.9%	-7	-3.0%
Theft or Taking of MV Offs	124	124	97	-27	-21.8%	-27	-21.8%

The only increases in the current period compared to the previous period are in drug offences and possession of weapon offences, which are known to be generated by stop and searches conducted by the Police. Compared to the previous period-last year there have also been increases in violence against the person, robbery of business property and non-residential burglary. There are also other crime measures can be compared:

Other Crime Measures							
Crime Type	Previous Period - Last year	Previous Period	Current Period	Current Period to		Current Period to	
				+/-	% Diff	+/-	% Diff
Hate Crime Incidents Excluding DA	77	90	53	-37	-41.1%	-24	-31.2%
Hate Crime Offs Excluding DA	81	93	59	-34	-36.6%	-22	-27.2%
Domestic Abuse Hate Crime Offs	391	428	437	9	2.1%	46	11.8%
Domestic Abuse Incidents	665	705	765	60	8.5%	100	15.0%
Serious Youth Violence	35	35	12	-23	-65.7%	-23	-65.7%
Youth Violence	73	76	42	-34	-44.7%	-31	-42.5%
Non Domestic Abuse VWI Offs	200	193	150	-43	-22.3%	-50	-25.0%
Gun Crime Offs	10	4	3	-1	-25.0%	-7	-70.0%
Knife Crime Offs	52	45	22	-23	-51.1%	-30	-57.7%
Moped Enabled Crime Offs	2	9	2	-7	-77.8%	0	0.0%

²⁹ Refuge Charity. Refuge sees online traffic to its National Domestic Abuse Helpline website rise by 700%. Published 9th April 2020 (cited 30th April 2020). Available from: <https://www.refuge.org.uk/refuge-sees-700-increase-in-website-visits/>

³⁰ BBC. Coronavirus lockdown: Anti-social behaviour on rise but overall crime falls. Published 15th April 2020 (cited 30th April 2020). Available from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52298016>

These figures show the only increases both in the current period compared to both the previous periods are in domestic abuse. Most other crime measures have seen significantly large reductions.

Covid-19-flagged offences

The MPS have also introduced a Covid-19 flag which should be used on the crime reporting system to reflect any crime connected with the virus. This can range from hate crimes to fraud to any other offence the officer believes would not have occurred if not for the virus. In the current period there have been 95 offences with the Covid-19 flag applied to it. Out of these, almost a quarter (23.2%) were common assault, where there have been incidents involving coughing and spitting on or in the direction of the victim. The second highest proportion were domestic incidents (14.7%). The third highest proportion were assault on a constable (8.4%), which again mainly involved suspects spitting or coughing in the direction of police officers.

Missing children

There were 246 missing episodes by Croydon young people recorded on the Council's Children's Services System in the partial lockdown period from 23rd March to 29th April 2020. Out of these:

- 186 missing episodes for Child Looked-After (CLA) missing from placement (76%).
- 60 missing from home episodes (24%).
- 20% reduction in the number of missing episodes compared to same period last year (307 missing episodes from March 23rd 2019 to 29th April 2019).

A further breakdown of the young people going missing during the partial lockdown period shows the following:

- 101 children reported missing at least once since lockdown started.
- 32 repeat missing children since 23rd March 2020 (3+ missing episodes in period). These children account for 66% of all missing episodes recorded during the period (164 out of 246 missing episodes).
- 24 children have had their first ever reported missing episode since lockdown began.
- 44 children with at least one missing episode since lockdown started lasting for a period of 3 days or longer.

Anti-social behaviour

By comparing the current period to the last period, there has been a 212.4% increase in anti-social behaviour CAD calls. By comparing the current period to the previous period-last year there has been an increase of 215.5%. A breakdown of anti-social behaviour is provided below:

ASB Category	Previous Period - Last year	Previous Period	Current Period	Current Period to Previous Period		Current Period to Previous Period - Last Year	
				+/-	% Diff	+/-	% Diff
ASB Environmental	24	31	243	212	683.9%	219	912.5%
ASB Nuisance	752	778	2,433	1,655	212.7%	1,681	223.5%
ASB Personal	120	96	151	55	57.3%	31	25.8%

The extremely large increases in anti-social behaviour calls are directly linked to the governments enforced social distancing measures where members of the public are reporting groups congregating in parks, streets and in neighbours' gardens. Neighbours are also causing much more noise either from inside their properties or outside where they are also eating, drinking and playing music loudly. In some cases there are also reports of drug use, mainly cannabis.

Shops have also been reported for not enforcing social distancing measures. Shops are also reporting ASB themselves where customers are refusing to leave and/or being abusive to staff. A further breakdown of the type of ASB incidents occurring are shown in the following table³¹:

³¹ Not every ASB call requires a 'type' to be assigned to it therefore calls which didn't have been removed.

ASB Type	Previous Period - Last year	Previous Period	Current Period	Current Period to Previous Period		Current Period to Previous Period - Last Year	
				+/-	% Diff	+/-	% Diff
Animal Problems	3	0	3	3	N/A	0	0.0%
Begging / Vagrancy	39	39	50	11	28.2%	11	28.2%
Fireworks	0	1	1	0	0.0%	1	N/A
Littering / Drugs Paraphernalia	3	9	9	0	0.0%	6	200.0%
Noise	34	26	71	45	173.1%	37	108.8%
Prostitution Related Activity	2	1	5	4	400.0%	3	150.0%
Rowdy / Nuisance Neighbours	132	92	449	357	388.0%	317	240.2%
Rowdy Or Inconsiderate Behaviour	422	499	1,638	1,139	228.3%	1,216	288.2%
Street Drinking	3	1	2	1	100.0%	-1	-33.3%
Trespass	27	24	26	2	8.3%	-1	-3.7%
Vehicle Abandoned - Not stolen	22	28	8	-20	-71.4%	-14	-63.6%
Vehicle Nuisance / Inappropriate Use	98	84	109	25	29.8%	11	11.2%

The largest volume increases are for 'Rowdy/Nuisance Neighbours' and for 'Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour'. Again, these are largely linked to the consequences of social distancing measures and neighbours being at home more causing noise. It must be noted that the rise in 'Rowdy/Nuisance Neighbours' and 'Noise' can be indicative of a rise in domestic abuse where a neighbour has reported screaming and/or shouting from next door which is never reported by those residing in the property where it is occurring.

Predicted impact in the future on crime and ASB

It is inevitable that as soon as partial lockdown measures are relaxed or completely removed that crime and ASB will sharply increase. However, it is vital that there is a focus on what types of crime and ASB this will directly affect so that appropriate measures can be put into place to limit the impact as much as possible.

The effects of the partial lockdown on households have led to an increase in domestic abuse, which will further strain the short, medium and long-term relationships of intimate partners and family members, which can lead to further abuse. Also, even when the victim has been moved to a safer location, further measures have to be in place so they do not suffer from further abuse e.g. harassment and stalking. Young people who are involved in domestic abuse may go missing from the home a lot more and, in the more medium to long-term, it has been proven that they may go on to be involved in crime, especially serious violence.

There have been numerous reports of the drugs market being severely disrupted and more drug dealers being arrested during the partial lockdown. It should be anticipated that as partial lockdown measures are relaxed that drug markets will resume and therefore an expected rise in young people going missing through county lines.

When young people are phased into returning to school the temporal analysis of youth violence, SYV and personal robbery shows that there is a strong anticipation there will be a sharp increase in offences. Also with young people mostly being inside for a long period of time, this may also lead to an increase in social media which is known to be a catalyst and trigger for serious youth violence³².

ASB has sharply increased during the partial lockdown period and is predicted to go up as long as these measures are in place. Temporal analysis shows that ASB inevitably increases over the summer months, especially with a predicted higher consumption of alcohol, people being outside and, therefore, more noise is likely to be reported. An increase in complaints about neighbours will strain relationships and could lead to crimes being committed e.g. hate crime. As well as this, as explained above, the rise in 'noise' or 'rowdy/nuisance neighbours' can be indicative of domestic abuse occurring in the property.

Shops may also continue to experience disorder due to people not adhering to the social distancing measures as well as a surge in certain types of crime including shoplifting.

³² Irwin-Rogers K. Pinkey, C. (2017) Social Media as a Catalyst and Trigger for Youth Violence <https://www.catch-22.org.uk/social-media-as-a-catalyst-and-trigger-for-youth-violence/>

Summary and Conclusions

The seriousness and extent which violence exists within society at a national and local level is a public health concern. There is no single way in tackling and preventing violence and it requires a strategic and coordinated multi-agency approach to ultimately have an impact on a large scale to reduce violence in Croydon. The complexities and wide range of factors that enable violence to grow within the community highlights the necessity for a holistic framework in dealing with the needs and issues of individuals, households and groups at risk of violence.

Violence can take many forms. It can be assumed that violence just involves physical harm. However, as this report shows, around 60% of overall violence in the borough is categorised as violence without injury. This doesn't downplay the seriousness of violence but rather highlights the expansive ways which it presents itself.

There are several common key themes and factors of violence identified in this report. Firstly, the magnitude of which domestic abuse is present in the community and how it is a key driver in other forms of violence shows that it should be at the core of the VRN's approach in tackling violence. Not only does it have a direct detrimental effect on those subject to abuse but on a wider scale it makes up a third of all violence, is a common factor in a young person's life who becomes a high risk of SYV and has shown to significantly contribute to a high number of victims of youth violence in the borough, especially amongst females. It must be emphasised that this is also only from what we know from the data and, therefore, the true extent of the problem is likely to be far greater.

The high volume of Non-DA VWI also poses a significant problem and it can be reduced by tackling the types of crimes that heavily contribute to the number of these offences, mainly youth violence and SYV. Again, the emerging problem of young females involved cannot go unnoticed.

Another common theme which is present throughout violence in the borough is the demographic of victims and suspects. They are highly represented and overrepresented in a demographic including coming from large poor, most likely single parent families with very low income or claiming benefits due to mainly being unemployed. There is a likelihood they live in overcrowded properties where a high number of children are present. They live in areas where residents feel it is highly affected by crime and vandalism. There is an increased probability they suffer from a range of health issues, both physical and mental. The communities they reside within are made up of residents from a variety ethnic backgrounds. These are just some of the factors that must be taken into consideration when working with individuals, families and communities who are at high risk of violence.

In regards to SYV, there are common key indicators throughout a young person's life which should be highlighted at the earliest opportunity and incorporated into the decision-making process, such as domestic abuse, child neglect, older siblings involved in crime and ASB, school behaviour and cannabis use. Identifying these as early and quickly as possible is key in the prevention of violence.

Data, intelligence and analysis plays a major part in tackling violence. This requires information sharing to be expanded so that the evidence base is strengthened and initiatives are more informed, coordinated and focussed. This report not only highlights where the use of other data sources is invaluable but also the gaps which exist. Other innovative methods of intelligence and analysis are also required to provide more context and identify problems and the extent of those problems, for instance the implementation of the Cambridge Crime Harm Index to measure and analyse the harm committed and received. The approach of using micro-hotspots can also help to tackle the recurring hotbed of crime, especially violence, in the town centre.

There are also other crimes types which are types or indicative of violence as well offences which are of major concern. Sexual offences and hate crime continues to rise and so does ASB, which is a clear indicator of violence. All are recommended to remain as priorities for the SCP. Then there are also increases in volume of other crimes that cause concern including residential burglary, theft from motor vehicle and shoplifting. Then there are the issues posed by the outbreak of Covid-19 which have been highlighted.

There are many challenges for the VRN and the SCP to reduce violence, other crime and ASB in the borough. This report assists in providing a strategic overview of the work that is required. However, for it to be proven effective there needs to be a continued commitment to communicate, collaborate and coordinate interventions from all partner agencies.