

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Warwick Area Committee

Date of Committee 22nd November 2005

Report Title **Crime Statistics and Crime Hot Spots Warwick**

Summary To provide the committee with an overview of crime statistics in Warwick and provide performance information for 2004/5.

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers Warwick Crime and Disorder and Drugs Misuse Strategy 2005-8.

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive David Carter Reporting Officer .
- Legal Peter Endall
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Warwick Area Committee - 22nd November 2005.

Crime statistics and Crime Hot Spots in Warwick

Report of the County Solicitor and Assistant Chief Executive

Recommendation

The committee notes the report and make any comments back to the Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 June following discussion of a report by the Police on Crime figures for the County, Cllr Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, suggested that Area Committees might wish to look at the crime figures and crime "hotspots".
- 1.2 This report provides an overview of recorded crime and disorder statistics in Warwick district. It details performance during 2004/05 and provides a comparison with previous years. The source of the raw data is Warwickshire Police. The analysis has been carried out by the Research Unit at Warwickshire County Council.
- 1.3 Due to recent changes (which took effect from July 1st 2005) to the way that the police now record incidents there is no recent data for anti-social behaviour incidents. The Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership is examining ways to measure anti-social behaviour, this is likely to include a survey of local residents.

2.0 Headline Figures

- 2.1 Total recorded crime rates in Warwick district have fallen by 8% over the last twelve months. There have been rises in violent crime (5%) as well as criminal damage (16%). Business crime, vehicle crime and burglary have all shown significant reductions. These reductions have been achieved by successful partnership working with the police, the County Council, District Council and other agencies.

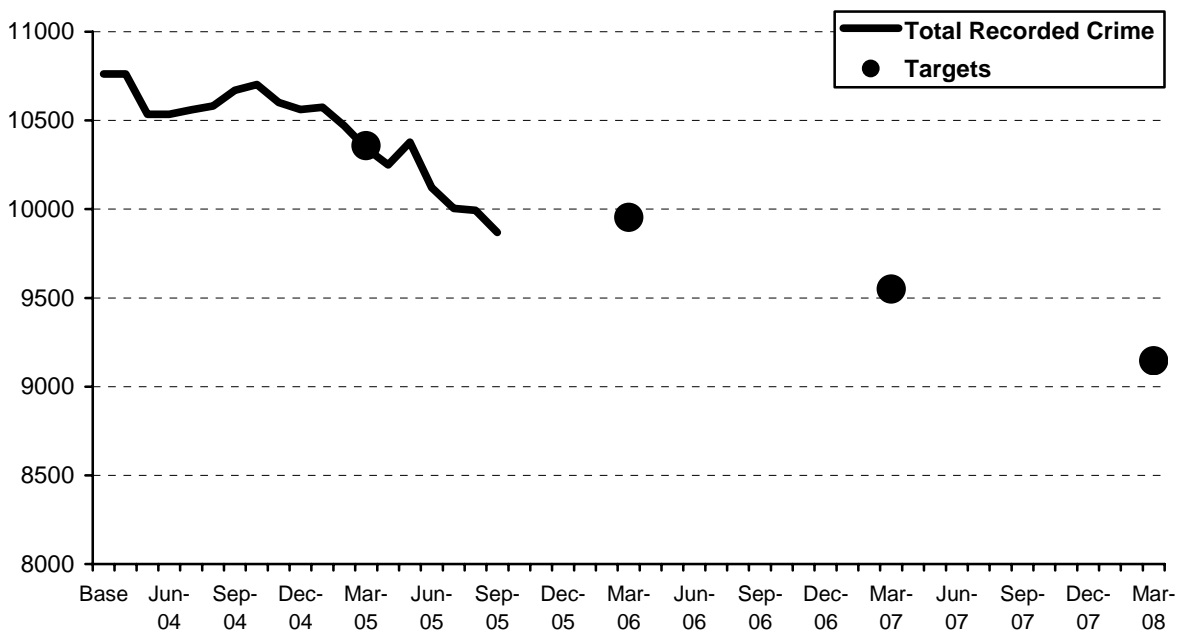
All Recorded Crime

Crime Type	2003/04 Baseline	Last 12 months	Change on Baseline
Domestic burglary	782	494	-37%
Violent crime	1,907	1,996	+ 5%
- violence against the person	1,717	1,812	+ 6%
- robbery	110	71	- 35%
- sexual offences	80	113	+ 41%
Vehicle crime	1,479	1,010	- 32%
- theft of vehicle	256	208	- 19%
- theft from vehicle	1,223	802	- 34%
Business crime	3,929	2,991	- 24%
- commercial burglary	471	443	-6%
- shoplifting	654	484	- 26%
- other	2,804	2,064	- 26%
Criminal damage	2,043	2,380	+ 16%
Drug offences	160	179	+ 12%
Total Recorded Crime*	10,761	9,869	- 8%

* total recorded crime does not equal sum of listed categories

Warwickshire has a target to reduce total recorded crime by 15% by 2007/08 (with a 2003/04 baseline). The graph below plots progress towards this target locally, with annual targets indicated.

Total Recorded Crime: Warwick District



3.0 Performance against Warwick CDRP Targets

3.1 The Crime and Disorder and Drugs Misuse Reduction Strategy (2005 - 2008) contained a number of specific targets, listed below.

Priority Themes

Warwick CDRP has the following priority themes:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Business crime
- Fear of crime
- Alcohol-related violence

There is an additional target to reduce people's perception of the harm caused by drugs.

Theme	2007/08 Target	2003/04 Baseline	Last 12 months	Change on Baseline	Status
To reduce people's perception of anti-social behaviour	6% increase in the percentage of residents that do not think anti-social behaviour is a problem in their local area	19%	2005/06 figures due in Dec 2005		
To reduce anti-social behaviour	5% reduction in the number of recorded ASB incidents (as defined in Audit 2004)	10,818	n/a*		
To reduce business crime	15% reduction in the number of recorded business crimes	3,929	2,991	- 24%	GREEN
To reduce the fear of crime	<i>Reduction in the percentage of residents that are very or fairly worried about...</i>		2005/06 figures due in Dec 2005		
	Having their home broken into and having something stolen to 53%	56%			
	Being physically attacked by strangers to 40%	43%			
	Having their car stolen to 40%	45%			
To reduce alcohol-related violence	16.75% reduction in reported incidents of violent crime	1,907	1,996	+ 5%	RED
To reduce peoples perception of the harm caused by drugs	To reduce the percentage of people that think drug dealing/use is a problem in their local area by 2% each year	41%	2005/06 figures due in Dec 2005		

GREEN - Forecast to achieve by target date

AMBER – Some risk of not achieving by target date

RED - Target unlikely to be achieved by target date

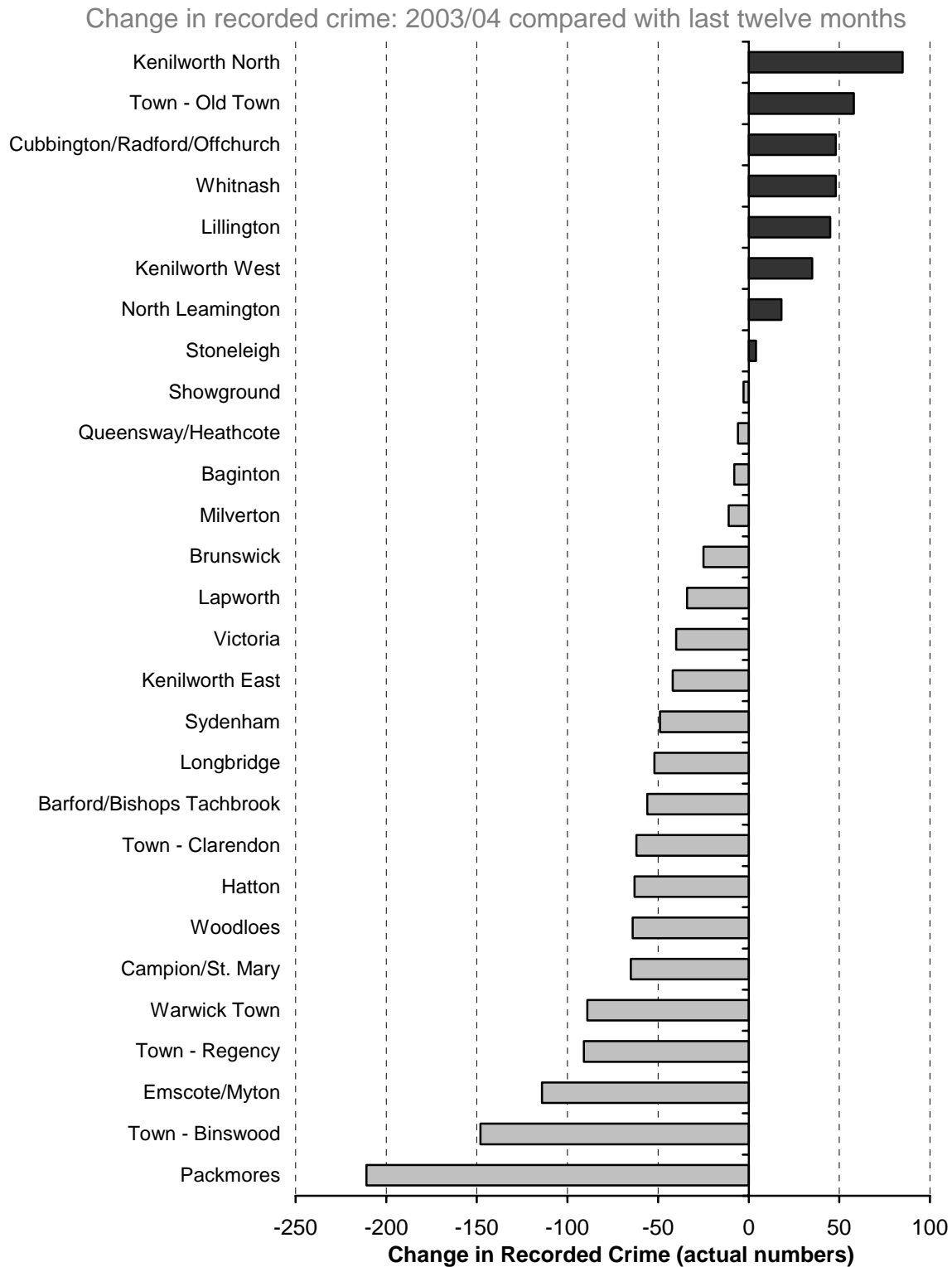
* This is no longer available under the old definition of ASB due to changes in the Police incident coding system.

4.0 Beat-level Statistics

4.1 The graph below demonstrates the change in total recorded crime in each Police beat area during 2004/05, compared with 2003/04.

Sub-District Statistics

Police Beats

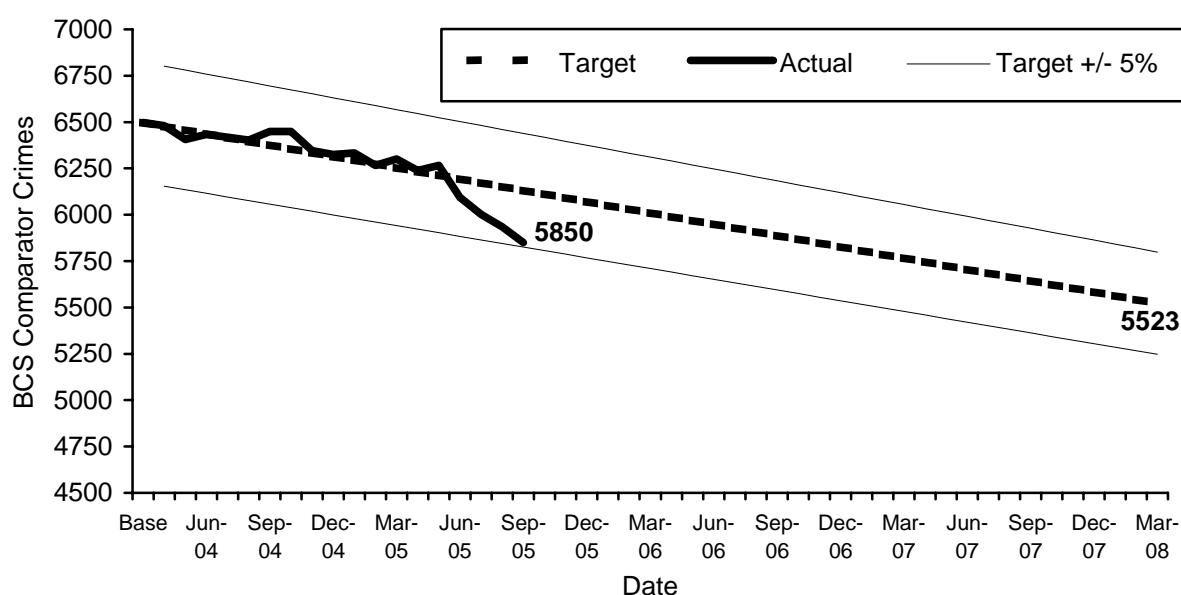


5.0 British Crime Survey Comparator Crime

5.1 Government Office for the West Midlands has asked Warwick CDRP to achieve an overall reduction of 17.5% by 2007/08 in the crime types listed below, based on 2003/04. This table illustrates performance during the first year of this period.

British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator Crime						
Crime Type	2003/04 Baseline	2007/08 Reduction Target	2007/08 Target	Last 12 months	Change on Baseline	Status
Theft or unauthorised taking of vehicle	256	-16.75%	213	208	-18.7%	▲
Theft from a vehicle	1,223	-16.75%	1,018	802	-34.4%	▲
Vehicle interference	257	-25.25%	192	145	-43.6%	▲
Domestic burglary	782	-16.75%	651	494	-36.8%	▲
Theft or unauthorised taking of a cycle	257	-25.25%	192	293	14.0%	▼
Theft from person	121	-25.25%	90	108	-10.7%	▶
Criminal damage	2,043	-16.75%	1,701	2,380	16.5%	▼
Common assault	446	-6.00%	419	311	-30.3%	▲
Woundings (serious and other)	1,019	-6.00%	958	1,049	2.9%	▼
Robbery of personal property	94	-6.00%	88	60	-36.2%	▲
Total of selected offences	6,498	15.00%	5,523	5,850	-10.0%	▶
Overall BCS reduction target	6,498	-15.00%	5,523	5,850	-10.0%	▶

- ▲ = current levels at least 5% below extrapolated target
- ▶ = current levels within +/- 5% of extrapolated target
- ▼ = current levels at least 5% above extrapolated target



BCS Comparator Crime

District/Borough	2003/2004 Baseline	2007/2008 Reduction Target	Last twelve months	Change on 2003/2004
North Warwickshire	3,498	(15.0%) 2,973	2,595	-26%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	8,562	(17.5%) 7,063	8,020	-6%
Rugby	5,902	(17.5%) 4,869	5,322	-10%
Stratford-on-Avon	4,059	(12.5%) 3,551	3,821	-6%
Warwick	6,498	(15.0%) 5,523	5,850	-10%
Warwickshire	28,519	(15.9%) 23,981	25,608	-10%

6.0 Anti-Social Behaviour incidents

The most significant concern for communities is “anti-social behaviour”. The following information gives an indication of the level of this behaviour and numbers of incidents involved. The chart illustrates that there has been a 3% increase overall in the incident types detailed below, the most significant of which is a 34% increase in nuisance youth incidents reported to the police during 2004/5 compared with 2003/4.

Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents - Warwick

Incident Type	2003/04	2004/05	Change
Abandoned vehicles	653	534	-18%
Animal-related problems	404	368	-9%
Criminal damage, vandalism	2125	2299	8%
Drug/substance misuse/drug dealing	970	739	-24%
Hoax calls	1809	1849	2%
Intimidation/Harassment	439	477	9%
Noise	281	255	-9%
Nuisance behaviour	3983	4486	13%
Prostitution, sexual acts	154	100	-35%
Total	10,818	11,107	3%
Rate per 1,000 Population	85	84	

Nuisance youths	2203	2959	34%
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6.1 In order to comply with the National Standard for incident recording (NSIR) there have been changes to the way that Warwickshire Police code and therefore record incidents. The main impact of these changes means that

from 1st July 2005 there is no comparable information for anti-social behaviour incidents. This will not result in any major increases to the numbers of incidents however, they are now categorised differently and for example we will no longer be able to specifically see the breakdown for nuisance youth incidents. Officers from the Police and our Research Team are currently working out how we can overcome this problem and ensure that we have some meaningful data to monitor and compare anti-social behaviour incidents.

7.0 Next Steps

- 7.1 Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership will need to build on its successes by focusing on those crime types showing recent rises. In particular, violent crime and criminal damage.
- 7.2 Both these crimes types will require some creative thinking as both offences are often spontaneous and borne out of frustration or lack of respect and are often fuelled by alcohol. The Warwick CDRP will be examining workable interventions which will tackle these problems and, if successful, we should have a resultant reduction in anti-social behaviour and associated fear of crime.

DAVID CARTER
County Solicitor & Assistant
Chief Executive
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Warwick