

# Safe City Partnership Annual Plan

## 2012/13



# Southampton Safe City Partnership annual plan

The Southampton Safe City Partnership (SCP) is a group of agencies working together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, as well as the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse.

The partnership is legally obligated to publish an annual plan based on a Strategic Assessment of crime (and crime-related data) in Southampton. Our assessment is part of the Southampton Profile analysis project and can be viewed at [www.southampton-connect.com/profile](http://www.southampton-connect.com/profile).

This plan outlines the performance of the partnership over the last year and identifies the top priorities for 2012/13, and beyond. The data used in this plan relates to the period January 2011 to December 2011.

## What have you previously told us?

Reducing crime is a very important issue for local residents. The biennial Southampton survey of residents (last taken in 2010/11) tells us that crime is second only to the global economic situation as a top issue of concern for local people. More recently, you told us the crime-related issues of greatest concern are antisocial behaviour, alcohol-related crime, and drugs.



## 2011 partnership success: winners of the Tilley Award

Southampton Safe City Partnership won the 2011 Tilley Award for crime reduction and partnership work in the night time economy. This prestigious national award is given in recognition of joint initiatives developed in Southampton which aim to tackle alcohol-related violence. These have included the introduction of the ICE Bus (In Case of Emergency Bus provides medical and welfare support), Street Pastors, the Yellow Card scheme and taxi marshals, alongside effective policing and licensing in the city centre and efficient use of hospital Emergency Department data.

As a result of this work, the number of cases involving alcohol-related violence in Southampton late at night has reduced over two successive years, making our city centre a safer place to be at night.

## Who are we?

The Southampton Safe City Partnership consists of senior representatives from:

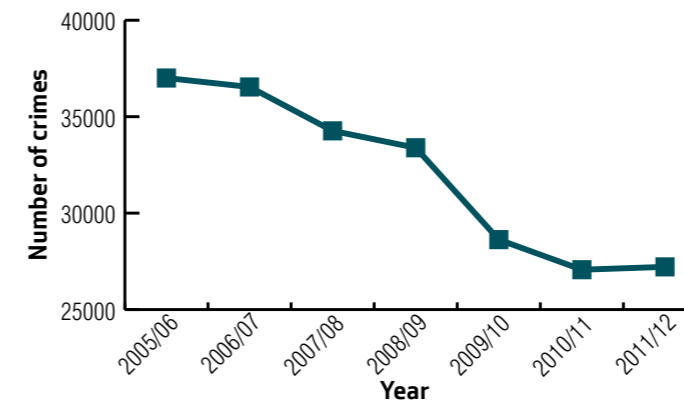
- ▶ Southampton City Council
- ▶ Hampshire Constabulary
- ▶ Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service
- ▶ Police Authority (until November 2012)
- ▶ NHS
- ▶ Hampshire Probation Trust
- ▶ Voluntary sector
- ▶ Youth Offending Service

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# Our performance last year

## 'All Crime' rates have decreased over five years

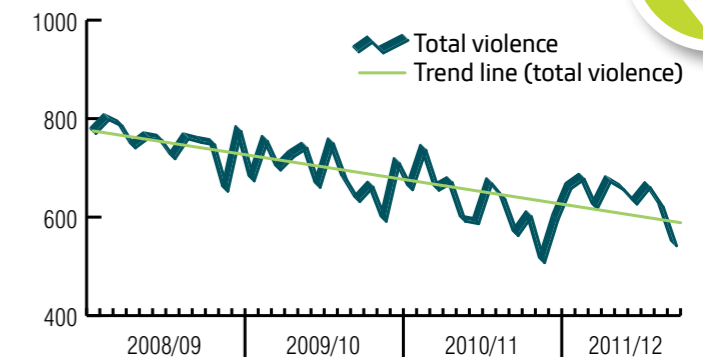


Total crime in Southampton has reduced substantially over the last five years. Crimes recorded by the police in 2007 totalled 36,540, whereas in 2011, the number of recorded offences dipped to 27,214. This signals an overall reduction in crime of 26%.

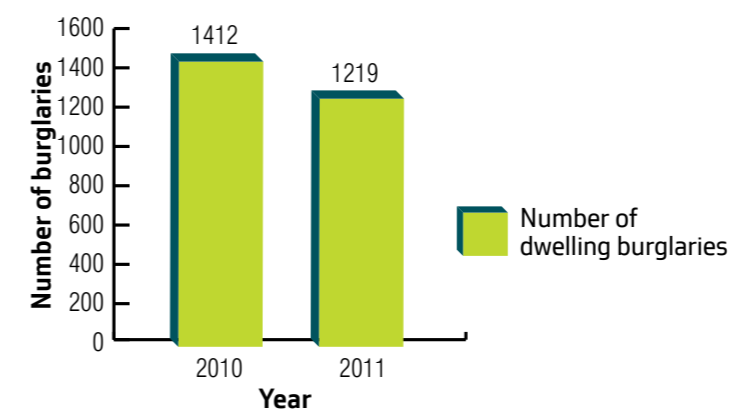


## Violent crime continues to decline

In 2011 overall violent crime reduced by 4% on the previous year. This continues the year-on-year decline in crime rates, which has now extended to its fifth year. Since 2007 violent crime has fallen by 26% from 9,009 offences to 6,658. Alcohol-related violent crime during the night time economy (city centre late at night) declined by 10%. Additionally, repeat incidents of domestic violence for those identified at highest risk declined by 17%, while youth offending data shows a drop of 16% in violent offences.



## Burglary rates have declined



Historically, in comparison to other similar cities, Southampton has witnessed very low rates of house burglary. However, in 2009/10 there was a rapid increase in this crime-type. Consequently, in 2011/12, the police and partnership prioritised their effort to reduce burglary rates. Although the rate of burglary began to decline near the end of 2011 (in comparison to offences in 2010), the average rate of burglary for the entire year was up by 7%. Despite this, March 2012 saw a reduction of 9%.



## We work together to reduce burglary

One particular group sometimes targeted by burglars is Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), which includes properties where students live. Last year, the Safe City Partnership worked with local universities via the Safer Student Forum, to ensure students were vigilant and aware of the need to keep their homes secure at all times. Examples of collaborative work include visits by the police

and Southampton City Council Community Safety Team to approximately 1,500 homes in the student areas. If occupants were not available for a chat on the doorstep, messages were left, urging them to make sure their properties were secure. This action was very well received by residents and helped promote goodwill between neighbours, as well as an awareness of crime prevention measures.



# Our current level of progress

## Our progress in 2011



## Examples of successful ventures

Collaborative work between the police and the Youth Offending Team (YOT) to 'triage' (provide interventions at an early stage) has directly contributed to a year-on-year decline in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time.

The delivery of a joint approach in identifying and supporting vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour (ASB) has led to a significant increase in the number of cases identified as 'vulnerable' and more cross-agency support.

## How we compare to other cities

Compared to 'Core Cities' (the major cities in the country), Southampton sees 28.32 crimes per 1,000 persons, whereas the average for the group is 24.37 per 1000. Despite this, the discrepancy between the number of offences in all the core cities is small. We rank two places behind our neighbour city, Portsmouth, for 'All Crime' (out of a total of 15 cities).

**Did you know?**

**Criminal damage rates have fallen by 51% since 2007 from 9,005 to 4,406 offences in 2011. Theft from a vehicle rates have also decreased by 58% in five years.**

Our records show that we are moving in the right direction. This year the number of offences for the majority of crime-types has reduced, in comparison to previous years. This continues a five year trend which reveals an overall decline in crime rates. The police and Safe City Partners intend to address any increases in crime-types over the forthcoming year, and curb the number of offences.



## Our work with residents

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the key ways the partnership measures resident involvement in crime reduction. Over the last year, we have increased the number of Neighbourhood Watch schemes by 30, an increase in schemes of 23%. This is the third year of growth. For information about where Neighbourhood Watch schemes are located, and how to join or set one up, visit [www.southampton.gov.uk/living/safersouthampton/SafeCity/NeighbourhoodWatch](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/living/safersouthampton/SafeCity/NeighbourhoodWatch)



## Having a cuppa during Neighbourhood Watch Week

This year all Neighbourhood Watch coordinators and residents were invited to 'enjoy a cuppa' with their neighbours and join together at a Neighbourhood Watch conference. As a result of this campaign alone, 22 new schemes were established.

## Other new projects



Following the success of our **Street Pastors** initiative, where trained volunteers help reduce crime and provide welfare support late at night in the city centre, there will soon be School Pastors patrolling after school to help prevent anti-social behaviour along key routes.

**Many Faces One Voice** is a new approach to providing the same shared safety messages (between the police, fire and community safety services), offering residents appropriate referral routes where more advice is required.

**Buzz Without Booze** is a joint campaign led by NHS Southampton to promote participation and enjoyment in social activities, without alcohol. The project targets young people aged 11 to 16 years.



The council, police and fire service joined together to fund a new project in the city called **Southampton Safe and Secure Scheme**, delivered through the Blue Lamp Trust charity. The scheme offers residents free home safety checks, safety advice and practical support (e.g. lock fittings), to make homes more secure. This project seeks to reach victims of crime, to stop repeat incidents, and to proactively help individuals, or particular areas susceptible to burglary.

This year **Crime Reports** was launched to provide up to date local data on crime and fires. To access this see [www.crimereports.co.uk](http://www.crimereports.co.uk)



# Distribution of crime across Southampton

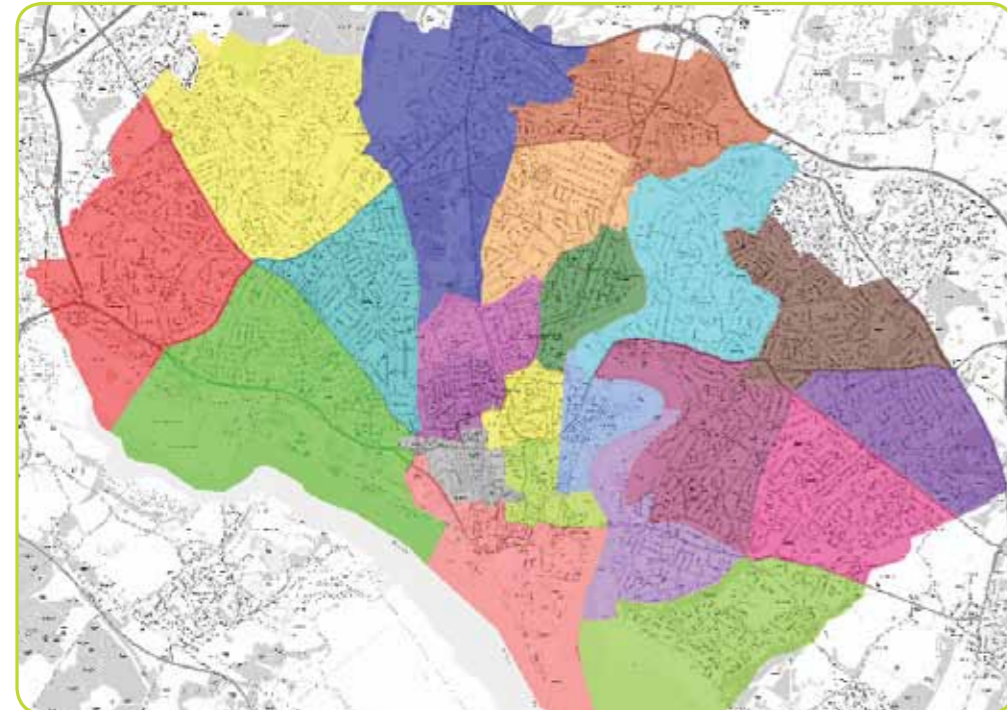
Some neighbourhoods and localities in the city experience disproportionately high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). This is sometimes linked to other social or economic factors unique to an area. Due to the heavy footfall and alcohol-related offences that are prevalent during the night time economy, the City Centre (similar to all urban areas) will inevitably be the biggest hotspot for crime. The tables below are a sample of the different datasets that highlight other hotspot areas.

<b>Index of multiple deprivation</b> Small areas with more crime and other issues Top five areas: Northam Redbridge Millbrook Weston Thornhill	<b>Vulnerable localities index</b> Areas most vulnerable to criminality, victimisation and community tension Top five areas: Polygon Northam Millbrook City Centre & Newtown St Mary's	<b>All crime</b> Top five police beats for all crime: City Centre Coxford Millbrook Freemantle Polygon	<b>Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)</b> Top 5 areas: Millbrook Coxford Polygon Freemantle Upper Shirley	<b>Domestic incidents reported to police</b> Top five areas: Millbrook Thornhill Coxford Regents Park & Freemantle Bitterne & Townhill
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**Appearance in top five**  
 Millbrook 5/5  
 Thornhill 3/5  
 Polygon 3/5  
 Coxford 3/5  
 Regents Park & Freemantle 3/5

## Residents' key concerns

The three priority issues in neighbourhoods, as relayed by residents to the police, are shown in the map below. The most common issues identified through this source were anti-social behaviour, road traffic accidents, and drugs. To get involved in resident consultation about crime in your area, contact your Neighbourhood Policing Team.



- Drugs/ASB/street drinking
- Drugs/ASB/road traffic offences
- Road traffic offences/ASB/noise nuisance
- Burglary/cycling on pavement/road traffic offences
- ASB/litter/burglary
- ASB/burglary
- Burglary/ASB/noise nuisance
- ASB/vagrancy and begging/road traffic offences/noise nuisance
- Road traffic offences/ASB/youth drinking
- ASB/alcohol/drugs/litter
- ASB/rowdy behaviour/road traffic offences
- Road traffic offences/ASB/drugs
- Drugs/road traffic offences/ASB/ dog fouling
- Burglary/ASB
- ASB/vehicle crime
- ASB/vehicle nuisance/road traffic offences/ASB/litter
- Road traffic offences/parking issues
- Road traffic offences/cycling on pavement/ASB/noise nuisance/vagrancy & begging
- Violence/disorder/theft/vagrancy & begging/theft
- Cycling on pavement/road traffic offences/dangerous parking/speeding/ASB
- ASB/street drinking/noise nuisance/road traffic offences
- Drugs/alcohol/vehicle crime & nuisance parking

## What stimulates crime rates?

There are a number of well-evidenced factors that correlate with crime and community safety. These include the presence of alcohol or drugs, poverty, unemployment, and poor health. Other socio-economic issues which may also contribute to the prevalence of crime in a particular area include the proportion of families with complex needs and individuals with additional vulnerabilities, such as mental health or learning disabilities.

In seeking to reduce crime and improve community safety, the partnership will prioritise many of the factors identified here as the most common causes of crime for future focus.

# Summary of our principal aims and priorities

The primary aim and core business of the Safe City Partnership is to prevent and reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, fires and road collisions across Southampton. The partnership also aims to help tackle the root causes of crime.

The partnership's priority for the next three years (2012-15) is to prevent and reduce crime and offending behaviour in localities that experience disproportionately high levels of crime. These areas may be long suffering, or emerging hotspots for crime. Consequently, the Safe City Partnership will be contributing to Southampton Connect\* priorities by focusing on IMD (Index of Multiple Deprivation) areas (Northam, Coxford, Polygon, Redbridge, Weston) plus

Freemantle. We will also prioritise one of the crucial factors contributing to crime and community safety: drugs and alcohol misuse. We will continue to focus joint work to reduce risks to vulnerable residents and prevent repeat victimisation. See [www.southampton-connect.com](http://www.southampton-connect.com) for details.



## Safe City Partnership priorities for 2012-15

- 1 Reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, fires and road collisions in strategic localities across the city.
- 2 Reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol.
- 3 Reducing repeat victimisation with a focus on vulnerable victims and targeted communities.

## The spotlight

The Safe City Partnership Delivery Plans for 2012/13 are still being developed. Based on the Strategic Assessment and emerging issues plans will include:

- Delivering the national Troubled Families agenda, led by the Children's Trust.
- Progressing the Reducing Reoffending Project, led by Hampshire Probation Trust.
- Delivery of the Alcohol Treatment Programme, led by NHS Southampton.

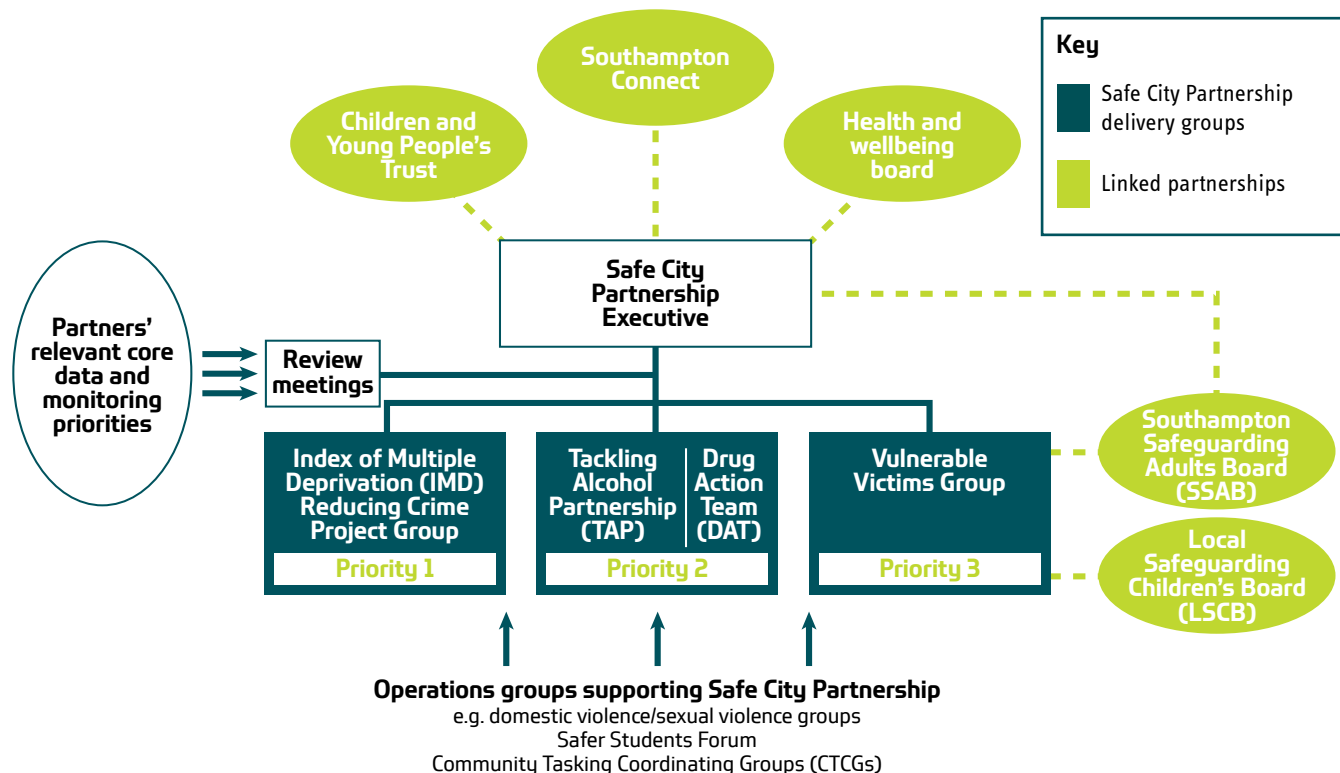
- Deliver Operation Fortress to reduce serious organised crime and retain the 'no gangs' position in the city.
- Reducing seasonal peaks in crime (e.g. during October), led by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service and the police.

- Implementing recommendations from case reviews, including the Domestic Homicide Review, led by Southampton City Council.
- Preparing for the new Police and Crime Commissioner implementation, led by Hampshire Police Authority.

\*Southampton Connect is the city-wide Strategic Partnership in Southampton.

# Our plans for the near future and how we plan to implement them

## Safe City Partnership structure



- ➡ The partnership will deliver joint work identified in a list of actions. These actions will form the basis for monitoring performance.
- ➡ The area based work and core performance will be overseen at partnership review meetings and delivered by the time-limited IMD project group.
- ➡ The wider strategic and preventative measures which aim to reduce the harms caused by alcohol and drug misuse (citywide) will be developed and delivered through the Tackling Alcohol Partnership (TAP) and the Drug Action Team (DAT). Here, the focus will be on improving and commissioning treatment pathways and preventing re-offending.
- ➡ The strategies and approaches which aim to prevent harm to vulnerable victims will be developed and delivered through the new Vulnerable Victims group which is also accountable to the Southampton Safeguarding Adults Board. This partnership activity will focus on victims with additional vulnerabilities including mental health and learning disabilities.
- ➡ All subgroups report to the Safe City Partnership Executive (see diagram above for Safe City Partnership structure).

This written information is available on request in other formats or languages. Please contact 023 8083 3988 for help.

[www.southampton.gov.uk/safersouthampton](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/safersouthampton)