

Crime and Disorder (police data)

Key aspects

- The police system used to record occurrences is called RMS (Record Management System) which was introduced to Hampshire Constabulary in 2005. Crimes and non-crime occurrences are recorded, all results can be filtered to allow for temporal and location analysis
- “Business Objects” search criteria is a facility used for the retrieval and analysis of data from a range of Hampshire Constabulary source systems, primarily RMS
- The Home Office crime classifications changed in 2014. All recorded Violence against the Person crimes are presented at HMIC Crime Tree level [*Homicide, Violence with Injury (offences of ABH and above) and Violence without Injury*] Due to these changes, it is not possible to accurately compare violent crime figures from April 2014 onwards with those from previous years
- In April 2011 new national definitions for Anti-Social Behaviour were introduced, In June 2011, Hampshire introduced a combined definition reviewing risk and behaviour. The ASB data from April 2011 is set in terms of both the risk (Personal, Nuisance, Environmental) and the behaviour (based on Hampshire categories, developed using the previous National Category Incident List (NICL))
- Hampshire Constabulary went through an “Operational Change Process” (OCP) on lead up to April 2015. This meant all geographical boundaries were changed or merged to co-align to local authority districts, Due to these changes, it is not possible to compare location figures from April 2014 onwards with those from previous years (for all Crime and ASB)
- The reports published by the ‘Research and Analysis’ department (Hampshire Police) are produced from raw data extracted from RMS, they are completed by members of police staff with NO licensing background so the scope of the report is limited beyond its raw statistical analysis of trends and patterns from temporal and geographical data
- The reports published by the ‘Research and Analysis’ department are focussed purely on violence offences and ASB (note: there is reference to SOA and robbery offences). The level of assaults and ASB in the NTE are the two key concerns of local residents.
- The reports attempt to draw patterns and trends from temporal and geographical data, the NTE zones cut across different beats so a precise analysis of purely NTE crime and ASB can never be 100% accurate
- I introduced a process in April 2014 to more accurately capture Night Time Economy and licensing related occurrences (Crime, ASB and non crime occurrences) for the **whole Southampton district**. This system is called a “business organisation” whereby overnight searches of RMS are conducted by licensing staff, any NTE occurrences are manually to this organisation. Although not 100% reliable, it is more accurate than previous analysis which was limited to geographical boundaries that have been subject to further changes. [**Note:** *Further work is ongoing to refine process to allow for NTE and licensing data to be extracted relating specifically to each of the 5 NTE zones (within soton)*]
- Crime classification is now conducted by the attending officer, it is then verified by that officers line manager. Crime data integrity training was introduced after the OCP within Hampshire Constabulary, pre change a dedicated unit of police staff completed this task
- The new crime data integrity drive across force means we are actually more rigorous reporting crime compared to previous years the crime figures across whole force (and crime types) have shown an increase
- The **2013/14** report is for **9 month** period only recording **1440** violence related crimes (produced early for the late night levy consultation). This compares to a **full year 2014/15** which records **1225** violence related crimes
- The ASB figures for 2014/15 are considerably lower. The report for 2013/14 was erroneously covered alcohol related ASB for the whole of the Southampton district, whereas the 2014/15 report captures alcohol related ASB linked to occurrences within NTE zones or within licensed premises across Southampton district. Pre 2015

- figures would have erroneously captured alcohol related occurrences, for example within local authority housing residences by tenants (NOT NTE related)
- Stats provided relate to **reported** occurrences in the, there will be “hidden violence” or other offences not reported by individuals for a myriad of reasons
 - Data collation anomalies could also account for the figures being adjusted downwards, these could include;
 - (a) Occurrences reported the following day after an incident by victims or
 - (b) Occurrences where the offence location is outside the NTE, however, the offence is still related to drunkenness / intoxication from the NTE (eg serious sexual offences, victims of robbery followed from the NTE zones)
 - The returns provided are adjusted downwards, this to centre on assault and ASB in the NTE zones of Southampton
 - The views of local residents and any fear of crime, in terms of public confidence is naturally difficult to fully quantify
 - The negative effects of a vibrant NTE can be represented by the adverse impact it has on the “quality of life” issues suffered through ASB (damage, noise, graffiti and other ASB)
 - A successful and vibrant NTE in Southampton attracts tourists, local residents and students into the licensed venues.
 - The levels of crime and disorder linked to taxis and fast food establishments is **significantly lower** than those linked to licensed premises, closer analysis of those figures would undoubtedly show that a significantly high proportion would be linked to individuals being intoxicated / leaving licensed premises

CONCLUSION

- The crime and ASB commission figures demonstrate that this time period specified is the peak impact times for demand on the Night Time Economy of Southampton, the statistics clearly show that there are definite peaks in crime and ASB at these times linked to the licensed venues operating in the city centre beyond midnight **also linked to NTE zones**

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