

CRIME & DISORDER AUDIT SUMMARY



Burnley Community Safety Partnership

Working Together for a Safer Burnley

Burnley Community Safety Partnership

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document summarises the findings from an audit of all crime and disorder issues in Burnley. It includes statistics and the views of the community about levels of crime and disorder. Where possible, it compares the crime and disorder rates in Burnley with Lancashire averages and other similar areas.

Why conduct an audit?

Every three years all Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) are required by law to audit crime and disorder in their area. This is so the Partnerships can highlight areas of concern to be included in a strategy document, and which will be tackled during the following three years.

Who prepared this audit?

Burnley Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership has prepared the Audit with assistance from the Multi-Agency Data Exchange Project, with information provided from:

- Lancashire Police
- Lancashire Fire and Rescue
- British Transport Police
- Probation Service
- Local Authorities
- Health Service

The full audit report is on the [saferlancashire](http://www.saferlancashire.gov.uk) website for members of the public and interested parties to view. www.saferlancashire.gov.uk

Structure of this summary

This audit summary takes a holistic view of crime and disorder by looking first at overall crime levels and then the following themes:

- Safe and Secure Homes
- Safe and Secure Streets
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Substance Misuse
- Safe and Secure Travel
- Ensuring Equality and Diversity
- Young People
- Business and Retail

Consultation

We would like to hear what you think of the audit. Please send comments or observations to: Melva Burton, Community Safety Officer, Burnley Borough Council, Town Hall, Manchester Road, Burnley, BB11 1JA Email: MBurton@burnley.gov.uk

2. BURNLEY...

...has a population of 89,542, with slightly more young people aged under 17 than the national average.

...has a thriving Asian community (7.2% of population), mainly Pakistani and Bangladeshi.

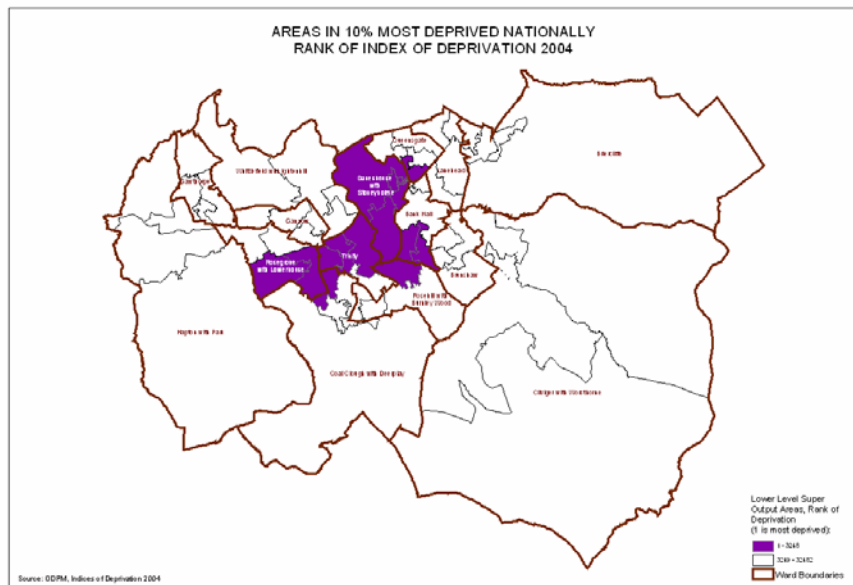
...has slightly lower unemployment levels than the national average.

...has slightly more lone-parent households (8.7%) than the national average (6.4%).

...has a higher proportion of people saying their health is 'not good' (11.9%), compared to the national average (9.2%).

...is ranked as the 37th most deprived District out of 354 Districts nationally, so is in the top 15% most deprived.

...has several areas which are in the 10% most deprived in the Country: such as parts of Daneshouse with Stoneyholme, Trinity, Rosegrove with Lowerhouse, Bank Hall, Rosehill with Burnley Wood and Queensgate. The map below shows the most deprived wards.



3. OVERVIEW OF CRIME, VICTIMS AND OFFENDERS

National Crime Picture

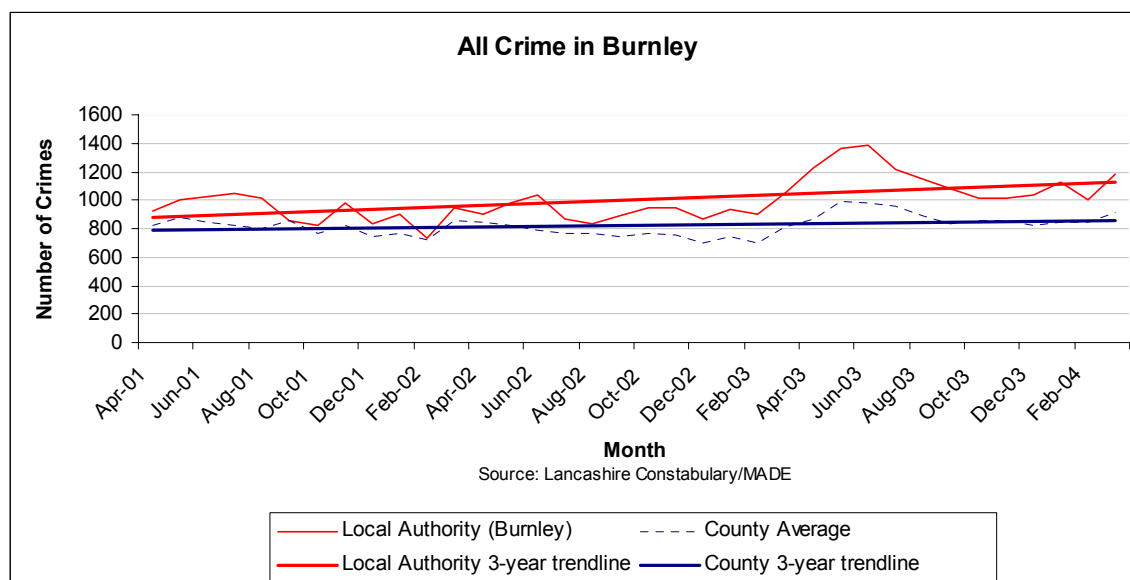
According to the British Crime Survey (which interviews people about their experiences of crime, rather than rely purely on police figures of reported crime) crime has fallen by five per cent between 2002/03 and 2003/04. During this time, national police figures of reported crime showed an increase by one per cent.

In the last nine years, crime recorded by the British Crime Survey has fallen by 39 per cent, with vehicle crime and burglary falling by roughly half, and violent crime falling by over a third during this period. You are also much less likely to be a victim of crime now than you were nine years ago – the risk has fallen from 40 per cent to 26 per cent.

People across the country are less worried about the main crime types and anti-social behaviour compared with the previous year. Levels of confidence in most aspects of the criminal justice system have improved compared with the previous year.

The Picture in Burnley

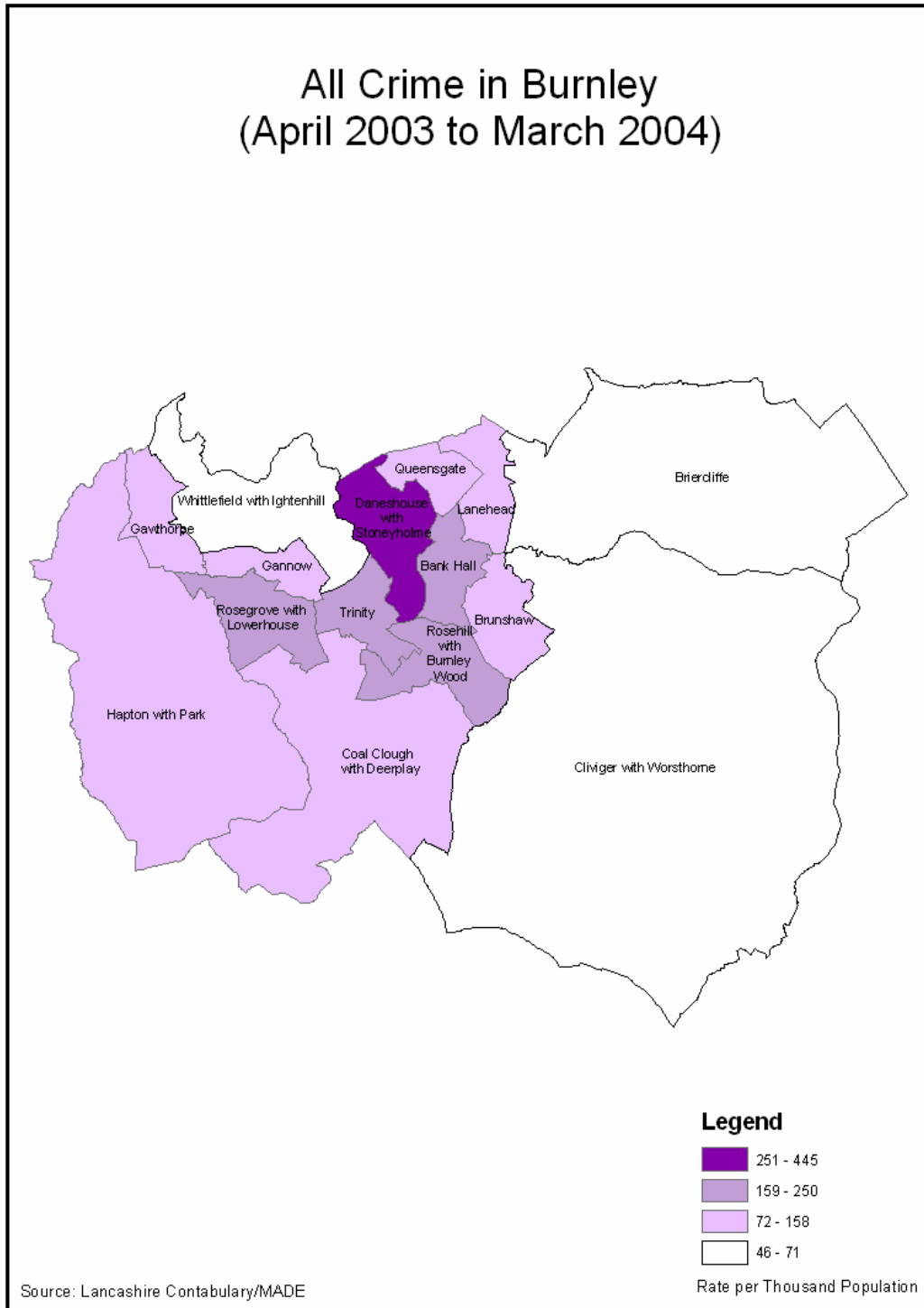
Over the past three years (April 2001 to March 2004), levels of the total crime recorded by the police have increased in Burnley. Since the previous year, the total crime rate has gone up by 16% across Lancashire and by nearly a quarter in Burnley (24%). This is partly due to sudden increases in the summer of 2003, when good weather led to an increase in burglaries and recording practices changed in relation to violent crime.



More recent crime figures (July 2004) show a 15% decrease in crime levels in Burnley compared to last year. When compared to other similar areas in the country, Burnley's total crime rate and levels of 'theft and handling stolen goods' are worse. Other types of crime levels are similar in Burnley to other comparison areas.

Victims

Crime is not equally shared across the District. There are higher rates of crime in Daneshouse with Stoneyholme (which includes the town centre), followed by the four wards of Trinity, Rosegrove with Lowerhouse, Bank Hall, and Rosehill with Burnley Wood. The map below shows the wards with the highest crime rates.



Likewise, crime is not equally shared amongst victims, 12.5% of victims had been victims of crime or disorder more than once in the previous year (where details were known). More victims were male (57%) than female (43%) and victims were more likely to be aged between 20 and 45.

The most common crimes in Burnley are criminal damage (22% of all crime), violent crime (19%) and vehicle crime (11%). This is the same as the national picture where crimes against property are the most frequent (78%).

Offenders

In the year between April 2003 and March 2004, 1,694 offenders were caught in Burnley and they were responsible for 3,843 crimes. They were mostly men (83%) and aged between 15 and 35. The ethnicity of the offenders (89% white and 6% Asian) reflects the general population in Burnley. Just over one quarter of offenders came from outside of Burnley, travelling into the district to commit their crimes. As with victims, crime is not equally shared amongst offenders, with 12% of offenders responsible for 41% of detected crimes.

What the Public Think

According to several surveys and interviews conducted in Burnley...

...45% of respondents in Burnley feel that their quality of life is negatively affected by crime. This compares to 36% across the rest of Lancashire.

...9% have witnessed a crime in the last 12 months and 16% have been a victim of crime compared to 11% across Lancashire.

...the most common crime experienced in Burnley was vandalism/damage to car/home (48.2%). This is similar to other districts, and the police recorded crime figures.

...general crime levels in the area and vandalism to property are the biggest concern for respondents in Burnley.

...21% of respondents did not report any of the crimes they experienced, compared to an average of 18%. Nationally it is estimated that 58% of crime goes unreported.

...most people in Burnley feel safe in their home and in their workplace, when out shopping or when in a pub, club or restaurant in their neighbourhood.

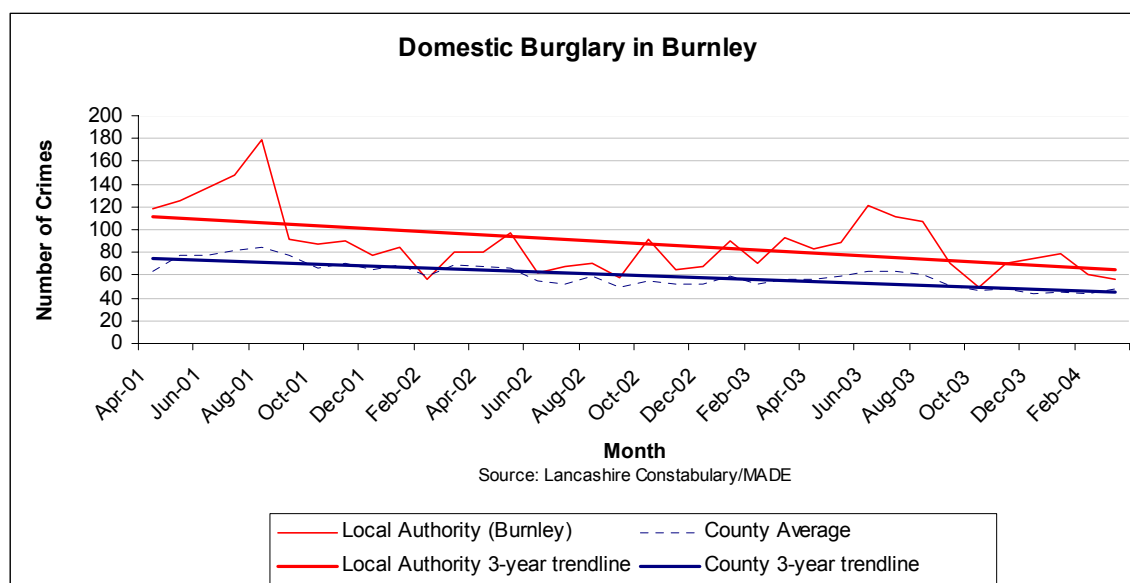
...the place Burnley residents feel least safe is in is a town centre pub or club after dark.

...when asked about neighbourhood problems, the main areas of concern to the public are rubbish and litter lying around, dog fouling and speeding cars.

4. SAFE AND SECURE HOMES

Domestic Burglary

Burglary of people's homes in Burnley has reduced by nearly one quarter since April 2001. At a rate of 26.4 burglaries per thousand households it is less than average compared to similar areas, although it is still higher than the average across Lancashire (15.6). The police recorded 971 domestic burglaries in the last year.



Trinity ward suffers significantly more burglaries than any other ward in the District, with a rate nearly two and a half times more than the Burnley average (63.2). Domestic burglars are predominantly male (98.5%) and in the 30 to 34 age range in Burnley.

Most burglaries are committed during the day, with lunchtime, teatime and late evening peaks. These are often "sneak in" burglaries when burglars enter the building through open doors and windows. During good weather in June 2003 there was a peak when people were leaving their doors and windows open.

Last year in Burnley there were 12 'distraction burglaries' (also sometimes called bogus callers). In 75% of the crimes the victim was aged over 60 years. It is likely that many more were committed, as victims of distraction burglary will not always report the crime to the police.

Initiatives

Campaigns to raise awareness through press coverage, road shows at supermarkets and leaflet drops in hot spot areas are thought to have helped reduce 'sneak in' burglaries. Security packages are offered to victims of burglary throughout the Borough. The Trading Standards Service is involved in a number of initiatives designed to tackle doorstep crime and bogus property repairers.

Domestic Violence

The number of incidents of domestic violence reported to the police has gradually decreased by almost one third over the past three years, but it is still much higher than the County average.

The police recorded 1363 incidents of domestic violence in Burnley last year, but national research tells us that only between 12% and 20% of domestic violence incidents are reported to the police. In the same time period, Burnley Women's Aid received 5,482 phone calls, 2,421 personal callers and 93 requests for refuge places (with 112 children).

12 out of the 15 wards in Burnley have above County average rates of reported domestic violence with Trinity Ward having the highest rate.

Police figures show that domestic violence increases at weekends and peaks occur round Christmas and holiday periods. Domestic violence occurs during the evening, peaking around 10pm.

A survey conducted in 2001 (WISE) found that 15% of women surveyed in Burnley had experienced domestic violence, and of these 61% had reported the crime to the police. Of those victims who reported domestic violence, a large proportion were repeat victims, with incidents happening more than three times.

Initiatives

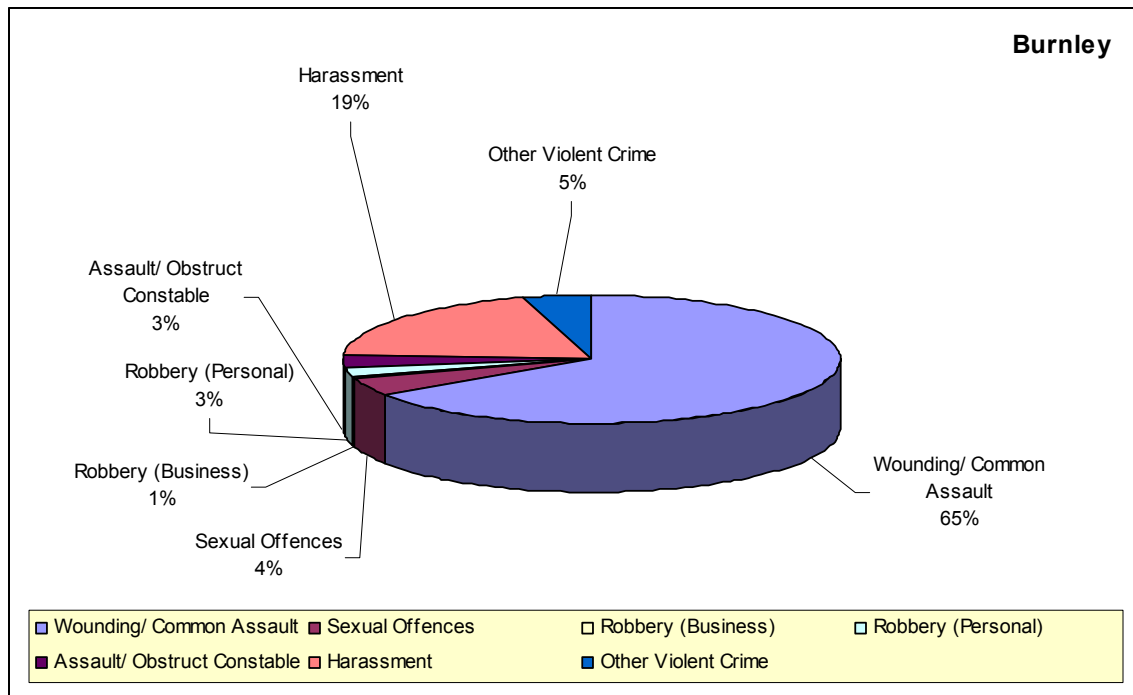
Burnley is the only Community Safety Partnership in Lancashire to have established a sub group with a sole focus on domestic violence, which works closely with the 'Domestic Violence Forum':

- To influence the development of internal domestic violence policies within the major local agencies
- To increase the availability of information about the nature of domestic violence and the support services available locally
- To provide a bespoke educational package for girls at key stage four, enabling them to identify the components of abusive relationships, and to avoid both victimisation and repeat victimisation

5. SAFE AND SECURE STREETS

Violent Crime & Street Disturbances

Violent crime in Burnley is above the average for Lancashire, other similar areas and England and Wales. According to police figures, violent crime is increasing. Recent increases have been partly due to changes in the way the police record violent crimes; which have led to national increases in police recorded figures by up to 20%¹.



As the chart shows, the majority of violent crime in Burnley is made up of 'common assault' and 'wounding'.

'Common assault': where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled but the incident did not result in an injury

'Other wounding': where the injury amounts to no more than grazes, scratches, abrasions, minor bruising, swellings, reddening of the skin, superficial cuts, or a 'black eye'.

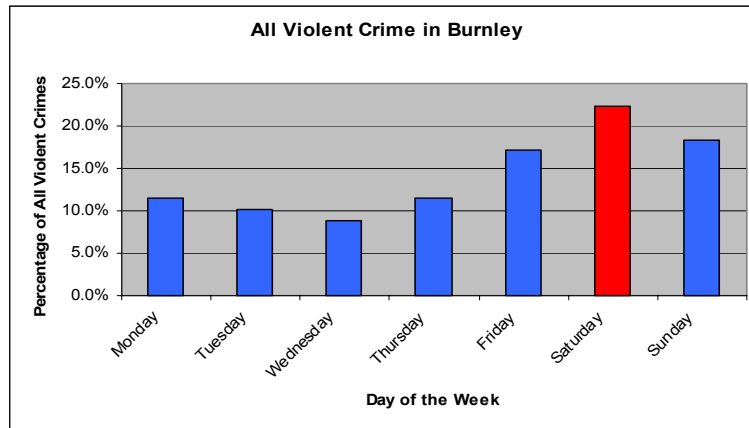
'Wounding or other act endangering life': the more serious offences committed with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The area most affected by violent crime in Burnley is Daneshouse with Stoneyholme (which includes the town centre); 29% of Burnley's violent crime occurs here. Last year 72% of violent crimes in Burnley took place in a public place.

¹ 'Crime in England and Wales 2003/2004', Home Office Statistical Bulletin 10/04

Both offenders and victims of violent crime are mostly teenagers or in their early 20s. 84% of violent crime offenders and 54% of victims are male.

Most violent crimes happen during the weekends and evenings, with peaks at closing time for pubs and nightclubs, and at Christmas or during hot weather. People under the influence of drugs or alcohol committed 38% of violent crimes in Burnley.



The number of incidents of disturbance in the streets has been on the decrease over the last three years.

Arson

There were 203 arson crimes recorded by the police last year, and Lancashire Fire and Rescue recorded 1736 deliberate fires.

Arson: where someone has behaved 'recklessly' or 'intended to damage property' by starting a fire.

Figures for both arson and deliberate fires are higher in Burnley than the County average. The trend for arson is stable but deliberate fires in Burnley are increasing. Fire and Rescue figures show that most deliberate fires are caused by young people aged 10 to 17 (67%).

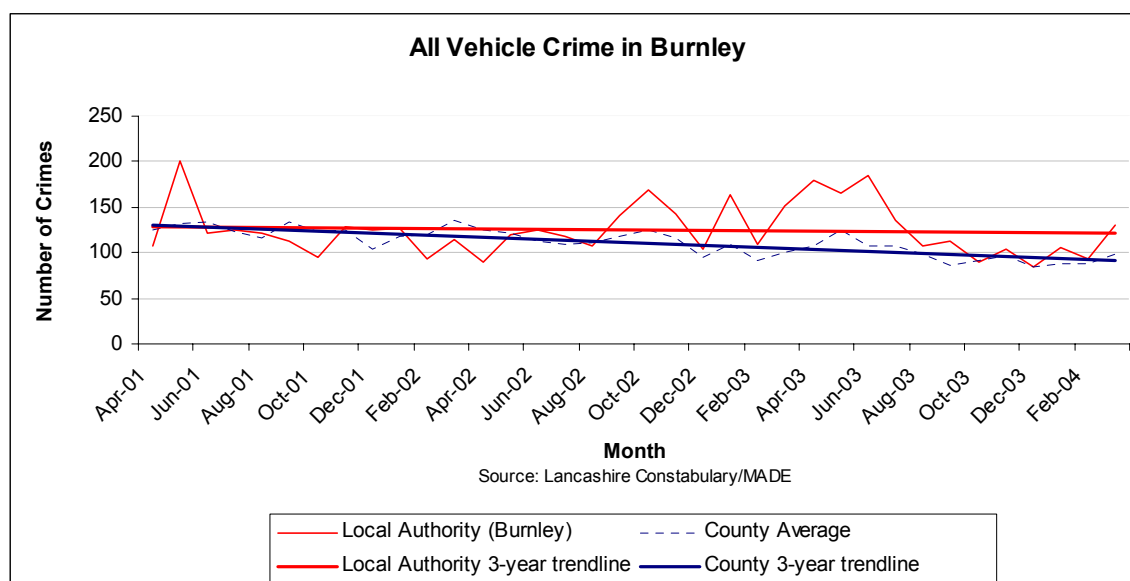
Initiatives

The police and fire service work together in an Arson Reduction Team to tackle arson in Burnley. Environmental Health and the Community Wardens Service also work with them to reduce rubbish and other material that might encourage arson. This includes reporting empty houses that have become accessible, and boarding them up before they become a target for fire-setters.

The Elevate project has also had an impact on arson, through demolishing and refurbishing houses that were fire targets.

Vehicle Crime

There were 1493 vehicle crimes in Burnley last year, which is well below other similar areas, though higher than the Lancashire average.



Theft of vehicles (e.g. cars, vans) is highest in the Trinity Ward; 66 vehicles were stolen there last year (three times the Lancashire average). Thefts from vehicles were higher in Bank Hall (108), Daneshouse with Stoneyholme (111) and Rosehill With Burnley Wood (117).

Vehicles are mostly likely to be stolen on a Saturday night, between 7pm and midnight, whilst thefts from vehicles occur fairly evenly over the week. Vehicle crime offenders who were caught last year were virtually all male and most aged between 10 and 29.

Last year in Burnley there were 1340 incidents of criminal damage to vehicles, and 119 deliberate fires - both rising and higher than the Lancashire average and similar comparison areas. Incidents were highest in the wards of Trinity and Daneshouse with Stoneyholme.

Initiatives

Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers identify vehicles which have been left insecure or have property on view, and write to the owners giving them advice.

Deliberate vehicle fires have been tackled by local agencies working in partnership; through blocking regular sites, use of CCTV (Closed Circuit Television), and a DVLA (Driver Vehicle Licensing Agency) car clamping and removal scheme, which resulted in 142 potential vehicle fires being removed to date.

6. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Anti-social behaviour is defined by the Home Office as acting "in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress". In practice this covers a wide range of behaviour. On 10th September 2003 a 'count' of all anti-social behaviour incidents was done throughout England and Wales. The most common recorded in Burnley were criminal damage/vandalism (37), nuisance behaviour (24) and litter / rubbish (20).

Initiatives

There is an Anti-Social Behaviour Group with representatives from the police, environmental health, youth and community service, Burnley General hospital, Probation Service, social services, Calico housing, community wardens, youth offending team, education welfare service and the Council's anti-social behaviour co-ordinator. They meet every six weeks to agree a response regarding individuals who are involved in anti-social behaviour. Another similar group meets every four weeks to target places where anti-social behaviour occurs.

Four 'full' and 15 'interim' Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) have been granted, and 111 'Acceptable Behaviour Contracts' (ABCs) have been signed (up to 26th October 2004). Definitions of ASBOs and ABCs?

Prostitution

There are approximately 30 prostitutes working in the Burnley area who appear to work on Colne Road from the Oaks Hotel down to Hebrew Road Traffic lights.

Initiatives

This year a Sex Workers Group was set up to find out whether or not there is a need for a permanent organisation or scheme for outreach work. Such work is being piloted this Autumn.

Noise

Burnley has seen an increase of more than 40% in complaints about neighbour noise (as have most Councils) over the past three years. These make up the vast majority of noise complaints received by Environmental Health, 778 last year. The most common sources of complaints are loud music, barking dogs, shouting/arguments, banging/other loud noises, intruder alarms and motor vehicles.

Litter, Graffiti and Vandalism

Litter and rubbish is the biggest concern for Burnley residents according to three of the four surveys looked at in the audit. At the moment there is no accurate way of recording the amount of litter, graffiti and vandalism, so it cannot be compared over time or with other areas.

Initiatives

Since April 2003 Burnley has had a dedicated graffiti removal vehicle, now used predominantly by the Community Warden service about twice a week. This year the Home Office have funded a programme called 'Operation Red Card' which has provided a 'Clean Team' to remove rubbish, and other activities that have had a great deal of success in removing litter and graffiti from the streets.

Abandoned Vehicles

The number of abandoned vehicles in Burnley has increased by 22% from 845 in 2001/2002 to 1028 last year.

Aggressive Begging

Burnley has no aggressive beggars. There are four regular beggars in the town centre, but none of them would respond with any threats or violence if members of the public refused to give them money.

Initiatives

All four of Burnley's beggars have had Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) placed on them and since then begging has reduced dramatically.

Malicious False Alarms to Fire and Rescue

There were 144 malicious false alarms to the fire service last year in Burnley, which is similar to the previous two years, but is higher than the County average.

7. SUBSTANCE MISUSE

Illegal Drugs

- Crime rates in Burnley for drugs trafficking and possession are similar to the Lancashire average. Recorded crimes for possession of illegal drugs has decreased by about one quarter over the past three years.
- Burnley district has the second highest percentage of Lancashire's drug misusing population. This could be linked to the fact that the district also has three of the countries most deprived wards (Daneshouse, Barclay and Bank Hall).
- East Lancashire recorded the second highest level of drug related deaths in the country at 7.3% in 2003.
- Last year in the Burnley area the Ambulance Service picked up 507 people with a drug overdose, ingestion or poisoning.
- When Arrest Referral Workers counselled people in custody, the most common 'drugs of choice' were heroin, crack cocaine and cannabis. 80% of people receiving treatment in Burnley for drug misuse use heroin².
- As of March 2003 there were 656 inmates in Preston prison. 40% of those had requested assistance withdrawing from heroin or alcohol addiction.

Drugs Treatment Programmes

Burnley has the highest rate of people in drug treatment in Lancashire – in 2002/2003 there were 608 people in treatment. The average waiting time target is 3 weeks. A 'typical' person having drug treatment in 2001/02 would be male (69%), aged between 20 and 34 (74%), and white (92%). Their ethnicity reflects the population of Burnley.

Initiatives

A Street Agency Project (which links the police, Health Services and County Council) will provide facilities on Colne Road for drug users to drop in and receive advice, information and referrals to other services.

A prolific offender co-ordinator works at Burnley Police station encouraging prison inmates to engage with a prolific offender project, the 'Tower project' and to get support from them when released from prison.

² Lancashire Drug Action Team figures

Alcohol Related Crime & Disorder

- Last year, 16% of violent crimes in Burnley took place in a Licensed Premise (e.g. pubs and clubs).
- Trading Standards received three complaints of underage sales of alcohol, which resulted in one prosecution.
- Research by Liverpool John Moores University found that around 71,000 alcohol-related crimes were committed in the North West in 2002/03 and of those over half (54%) were violent crimes.
- Recorded alcohol related crime and disorder has risen this year compared with last year. During the six months period from January to July 2004 there were 333 alcohol related crimes recorded, which is a 7% increase on the same period last year (312).
- There has been an increase of 20.14% of total crimes in Burnley town centre from 2002/03 to 2003/04. This may be partly due to changes in crime recording (as mentioned earlier).

Initiatives

Burnley Against Night-time Disorder (BAND) is a scheme to give sanctions of up to two years for the most serious offences. There are currently 70 people on the BAND scheme. The scheme raises awareness amongst members of the public of the consequences of disorderly/violent behaviour. Two/three people on the BAND system are currently subject to ASBO applications due to their continual violent and disorderly behaviour. It is hoped this will prevent them from entering the town centre area within defined periods of time

'**Alcohol Designated Zones**' are now in place in the centres of Burnley and Padiham. Two further schemes in Brunshaw and Trinity are likely to be implemented in the future when funding becomes available.

As part of the '**National Alcohol Enforcement Campaign**' there have been regular police operations in Burnley on Friday and Saturday evenings to target alcohol related offending and abuse. Police officers have confiscated alcohol from the under 18's, conducted test purchases and seven premises are being processed for under age sales.

Alcohol and young people

Surveys with members of the public found that young people drinking alcohol is a problem in Burnley, with the general view that it is young people under the influence of alcohol who create a significant proportion of anti social behaviour, particularly at weekends.

A survey with young people in Lancashire found that 63% of children had experimented with alcohol and 6% admitted drinking every day or every few days. This drinking mainly takes place within the family home and the most popular alcoholic drink amongst young people was alcopops.

8. SAFE AND SECURE TRAVEL

Perceptions of safety whilst travelling

- 81% of the children in a school transport survey felt the place where they boarded the bus was safe, but showed concern about the safety of the journey from the bus stop home³.
- Parents of children with special educational needs said the single most important aspect of the home to school transport service to be the safety of their child in the vehicle⁴.
- Nearly a third (117) of pupils in a school bus survey said they had been bullied.⁵
- For women, insufficient and unreliable public transport is a major contributor to fear, with 48% (1188) of respondents claiming that anti-social behaviour on public transport has 'a great deal/quite a lot' of impact on how unsafe they feel⁶.
- Drivers say the main things that influence how safe they feel when out driving are aggressive drivers (54%), speeding cars (42%) and fear of having property stolen whilst out driving (20%)⁷.
- 91% of respondents to a Lancashire survey said nothing had happened in the last 12 months to make them feel less safe when travelling either in their car or on public transport.

Trains

- Last year there were 82 crimes in the six Burnley train stations, recorded by the British Transport Police (BTP), 60% of which happened at Burnley Central station.
- Three quarters of these crimes at stations were 'line of route offences', which include trespassing on and obstructing the railway and throwing stones at trains.
- Last year there were 4 'public order offences', 4 thefts of passenger property and 3 incidents of criminal damage.

Road Safety

- Daneshouse with Stoneyholme ward has the most road accidents of Burnley wards. Hapton with Park and Trinity also have high numbers of road accidents compared to other wards. Accidents in Bank Hall have almost halved since 2002/2003.

³ Mainstream Home to School Transport Survey (October 2001)

⁴ SEN Home to School Transport Survey (October 2001)

⁵ Lancashire County Council Schools Bus Questionnaire (October 2001)

⁶ Survey of women in Lancashire by 'Women Influencing Safer Environments' (WISE), 2001

⁷ OPINION (2004)

- There were 4 deaths on the roads due to collisions in Burnley last year, 44 serious injuries and 293 slight injuries.
- The number of collisions in Burnley has gone down by 20% in the last year compared to 2002/2003, and the number of child casualties has halved to 8 (although 37 had slight injuries).
- Overall last year there was a 23% reduction in injuries due to road accidents compared to 2001/2002.
- Speeding cars was highlighted as an area of concern in two of the public surveys (Burnley Citizens panel 2004 and Community Safety Consultation 04)

Initiatives

A Road Safety Action Group includes many partners from the Police, Fire and Rescue, Health Services, County Council, Education and Youth Services. It promotes public awareness of road safety and accident prevention, for example through a well-publicised mock road traffic collision, which highlighted the impact and causes of road traffic collisions, such as drink driving, speed and not wearing seatbelts.

Young person's seminar in 2003 discussed vandalism and fear of crime on public transport. Five Burnley schools have educational initiatives on road safety. A poster competition for local youth groups sent out the posters to local schools.

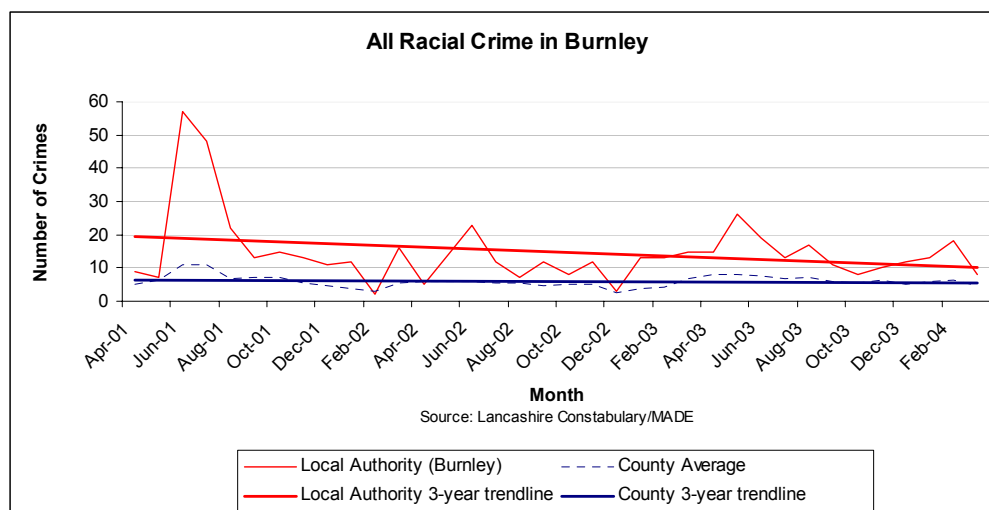
A 'Buswatch' scheme has been set up in partnership with Crimestoppers and Safer Travel to address the fear of crime on buses.

A Lancashire Partnership for Road Safety has supported schools to develop travel plans and safer routes to schools, conducted child road safety audits, provided marketing and training for drivers and child pedestrians and cyclists, supported national and local publicity, and worked with organisations and employers that promote better driving. They also investigate accidents at hotspots, and respond with traffic calming measures.

9. PROTECTING DIVERSITY

Racially Motivated & Homophobic Crime

Racially motivated crime recorded by the police has reduced by one quarter since 2001/2002, when numerous crimes during the disturbances were recorded as racist. It is currently still twice the Lancashire average. 85% of these crimes last year were 'Racially Motivated Violence' and the remainder were 'Racially Motivated damage'.



- Daneshouse With Stoneyholme suffered over one quarter of the recorded racially motivated crime in Burnley, and Bank Hall had 16%. These are the two wards with the greatest percentage of black and minority ethnic population.
- 43% of victims who stated their ethnicity were Asian and 36% victims were white, and the majority were male (79%).
- Last year 102 offenders living in Burnley were caught for racially motivated crimes. Of these, the majority were white (78%), male (89%) and aged 10 to 19.

Racial incidents among school children reported to Burnley Local Education Authority have increased over the last three years, but this is partly explained by more thorough reporting mechanisms. There were 43 incidents reported in 2002/2003, compared to a Lancashire average of 33, the most common incident being verbal abuse between pupils. The majority of victims are South Asian or Black heritage and most perpetrators are white males.

According to police figures for crimes which they believe had a homophobic cause, the number recorded have gone up in Burnley from 6 to 22 in the last year. This is thought to be due to the initiatives below which encourage reporting of such incidents.

'Harassment': is putting people in fear of violence; also continual, persistent attacks causing alarm or distress.

Harassment had more than doubled in Burnley last year compared to 2001/2002, and is currently more than double the Lancashire average. Over one third occurred in the ward of Daneshouse with Stoneyholme, where it is more than 11 times the Lancashire average.

Initiatives

The Forum for Lesbian & Gay (FLAG) members and a police 'Lesbian & Gay Liaison Officer' encourage reporting of homophobic crime, hold police surgeries, and have set up a 'gayflagburnley' website with information on local support groups and how to report homophobic incidents/crimes.

Many other initiatives to improve the reporting of homophobic and racist incidents/crimes include; Third Party Reporting Centres where people can report incidents to organisations other than the police, and recording systems for 'vulnerable individuals' and 'repeat victims'.

Racist graffiti is removed promptly, usually within 24 hours.

The Community Wardens Service and Police Community Support Officers provide high visibility presence in hotspot areas, and there are more police Community Beat Managers.

A Hate Crime Unit has been set up to investigate hate crimes.

Community Safety Leaflets devised and circulated for older people, persons with learning disabilities and the lesbian and gay community.

A Forced Marriage Working Group has been set up to raise awareness within the community and service providers. It hopes to provide a base line service for forced marriage victims/potential victims.

10. YOUNG PEOPLE

Young Victims

A quarter of Burnley's population are under 18. Last year the most common crimes committed in Burnley where the victim was under 18 years old were 'other wounding' (291) and common assault (106).

'Common assault': where the victim was punched, kicked, pushed or jostled but the incident did not result in an injury

'Other wounding': where the injury amounts to no more than grazes, scratches, abrasions, minor bruising, swellings, reddening of the skin, superficial cuts, or a 'black eye'.

A survey of Burnley school pupils found that about one third had experienced bullying, but the playground was generally considered to be a safe environment across all the age groups surveyed. 60-68% of pupils across the age groups are concerned about things being stolen in school.

Juvenile Nuisance

'Juvenile Nuisance': is not a crime. The number of reports of juvenile nuisance are recorded and monitored by the police. It is a measure where a young person is perceived to be being a nuisance.

- The incidents of juvenile nuisance have increased by a quarter since 2001/2002 to 5087 last year. This is 40% higher than the Lancashire average.
- The wards of Trinity and Rosegrove with Lowerhouse have the highest rates of recorded juvenile nuisance.
- Calls to the police reporting juvenile nuisance increase around the end of the school day and peak about 10 o'clock at night, before tailing right off. They are slightly more frequent on a Friday and Saturday.

Youth Offenders in Burnley

- There were 823 individual offenders identified as being aged 10 to 17 years and living in Burnley between April 2003 and March 2004. The Age/Sex profile shows that the majority of young offenders are male and the largest group is aged 15.
- As with victims, the most common crime committed by an offender aged between 10 and 17 last year in Burnley was 'other wounding' (112), followed by shoplifting (76) and harassment (59).
- 39% of these young offenders committed more than one crime in the Burnley area last year.

Initiatives

The Burnley Youth Offending Team (YOT) delivers a service to reduce and prevent offending by children and young people aged 10 to 17. It has developed a system alongside Sports Development, Education Welfare, Connexions, the Prince's Trust, and others to target young people at risk of anti social behaviour and offending. The YOT shares information through review meetings (called MAYOR) to discuss young offenders and groups of young people causing concern, and coordinate activity. People invited to attend these meetings have included Community Wardens, Community Beat Officers, Leaving Care workers, Teachers, Social workers, Education Welfare Officers, and Community Safety Teams (ASBO).

11. BUSINESS AND RETAIL

- There are 2,540 companies in Burnley. Consultation with them shows that the major issues for them are anti-social behaviour and youth nuisance.
- Shoplifting in Burnley has risen by 18% over the past two years to 976 recorded incidents in 2003/2004. It is likely that much shoplifting goes unreported to the police, or even unnoticed by retailers.
- At a rate of 10.9 incidents per thousand population it was above the Lancashire average of 6.0 in 2003/04. Since then it has decreased, and the police think this could be as a result of the initiatives below.
- There were 16 robberies of businesses in Burnley last year, which is similar to previous years and above the Lancashire average.

Initiatives

BEAT-IT is the Burnley Exclusion against theft in town which is a scheme to exclude shoplifters from all participating store in the scheme

Some of the regular shoplifters now have Anti-Social Behaviour Orders served against them.

The local shopping centre management company have increased the security presence within the centre. There is a 'Community radio' scheme to assist with communication between shop owners and managers.