Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership



Strategic Assessment 2013-14

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The Aim of this Strategic Assessment

This is the strategic assessment produced for the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership for the period October 2011 to September 2012 and puts in place the priorities and planned activities for the 2013-14 Partnership Plan.

The purpose of this strategic assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety issues to the members of the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership. This will be done through intelligence analysis and will identify the emerging priorities by considering the patterns, trends and shifts relating to crime, disorder and substance misuse. Additionally, it will include a performance assessment of how far the partnership has achieved its previous priorities and an update of those issues that the local community consider to be priorities.

The Background of Strategic Assessments

In 2006, a review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police Reform Act 2002 led to a series of recommendations to strengthen and extend existing requirements through the experience gained from partnership working. This resulted in a new set of national minimum standards which came into force in August 2007.

The 1998 Act included the requirement to produce a detailed crime and disorder audit through consultation with key agencies and the wider community and to use the findings to identify strategic priorities and take action to address them. The new national standards placed a legal obligation on responsible authorities to comply with the specified requirements, one of which was the creation of an annual strategic assessment in place of the previous 3 yearly audit.

The strategic assessment would identify current and possible future crime, disorder and substance misuse issues from sound evidence and robust analysis. The introduction of strategic assessments hoped to move partnerships toward a more intelligence-led business planning approach. It was also hoped that by removing the need to produce a three year audit and replacing it with the requirement to produce a strategic assessment at least yearly, that partnerships will improve their understanding of problems and their potential causes and also respond more effectively to the communities they serve.

Who Produced this Strategic Assessment?

The Strategic Assessment has been produced on behalf of Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership by Chris Goddings, in consultation with the Partnership's Executive Group using data and analysis supplied by the relevant agencies, through the Kent Partnership's Central Support Team. The structure of the Strategic Assessment is based on a template used throughout Kent.

Methodology

Data collected for this Strategic Assessment relates to the time period October 2011-September 2012 unless otherwise stated.

The main body of this assessment is broken down into four sections.

Part one looks at contextual information such as Population, Diversity and Unemployment.

Part two gives a brief overview of Crime, ASB, Disorder and Substance Misuse issues affecting the Sevenoaks District. This includes an analysis of trends since the previous assessment.

Part three is 'The In-Depth Analysis', which will first look at the emerging partnership priorities with recommendations for the Sevenoaks District 2013-14 Strategy & Action Plan. Then it will further analyse the priorities and give greater detail on the scope of the problem, including the scale of the problem, reasons for changes in levels and the suggested cause of the problem including the relevance of location, time, the offender or the victim.

Following this further analysis, after going through a priority selection process, a final list of recommended partnership priorities for the upcoming year will be produced.

The views and priorities of the local community have been gathered through the Kent Crime and Victimisation Survey (KCVS) and the Partners and Communities Together (PACT) process.

Part four looks at a broader range of issues including those that are important across the County, and those that have previously been priorities in the Sevenoaks District.

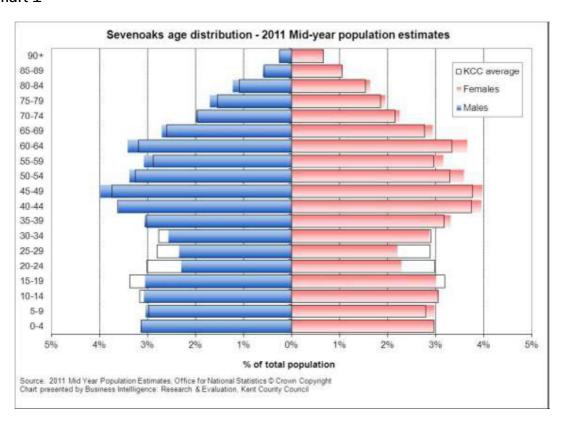
Population profile

The latest population figures for mid-2011 estimate that there are 115,400 people living in Sevenoaks District¹. This population size ranks Sevenoaks District the 7th most populated Kent local authority district area.

49.9% of the District's population live in urban areas with the remaining 50.1% living in the surrounding rural area and settlements². 22% of the District's total population live in the Sevenoaks area urban whilst 18% of the total population live in the Swanley urban area.

The age profile of the District's population is shown in Chart 1. Overall Sevenoaks District has a very similar age profile to the county average. The District has a slightly higher proportion of people aged 40 and older, and a smaller proportion of teenagers and those aged 20-30 compared to the KCC average.

Chart 1



Over the last 10-years Sevenoaks District's population has grown by 5.1% (an additional 5,600 people)³. This is the lowest rate of growth of any Kent district. The population of the District is forecast to grow at a slower rate over the coming years with current

¹ 2011 Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)

² 2011 Lower Super Output Area population estimates (experimental), Office for National Statistics, aggregated to 2011 ward level population estimates by Research & Evaluation, Kent County Council

³ 2001 census to 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics (Crown Copyright)

forecasts suggesting a 0.1% growth over the next 15-years⁴. This rate of growth is considerably lower than the county average (10.9%) and places Sevenoaks District as the slowest growing Kent local authority district area. This forecast is based on KCC's assessment of the district authority's future housing targets as at June 2011. Such targets will be subject to changes as district authorities develop their Local development framework.

Ethnic profile

91% of the District's population is of white ethnic origin with the remaining 9% being classified as of Black Minority Ethnic (BME) origin⁵. The proportion of the District's population classified as BME is lower than the County average of 11%.

Deprivation

The Indices of Deprivation 2010 provide a measure of deprivation at both district and sub-district (Lower Super Output Area) level, relative to other areas in England⁶.

Table 1 presents the national and county rank of Sevenoaks District based on the 2010 Index and also shows how the rankings have changed since the 2007 Index⁷.

In 2010 Sevenoaks District was ranked as the least deprived district in Kent (ranked 12 out of 12 districts, with the most deprived being ranked 1). Nationally, Sevenoaks ranks 276th out of 326 local authority districts in England.

The county rank of Sevenoaks District has remained the same between 2007 and 2010. On the national ranking, the District has moved down by 6 positions from 270th in 2007 to 276th in 2010. This indicates the Districts level of deprivation has increased, relative to other areas in England.

⁴ KCC Strategy forecasts (Oct'2011). Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

⁵ 2011 Census data (KCC)

⁶ Indices of Deprivation 2010, Department for Communities and Local Government

⁷ Based on the indicator 'national rank of average score'

Table 1: National and county rank of Kent districts based on the 2007 and 2010 Indices of Deprivation (table displayed based on 2010 rank)

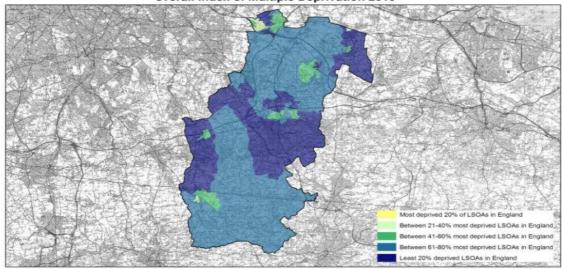
		2007 Inc	dex	2010 Index		Change in rank*		
LA CODE	District	National rank (out of 326)	KCC rank (out of 12)	National rank (out of 326)	KCC rank (out of 12)	National position	KCC position	
29UN	Thanet	60	1	49	1	11	0	
29UL	Shepway	114	3	97	2	17	1	
29UM	Swale	108	2	99	3	9	-1	
29UE	Dover	142	5	127	4	15	1	
29UG	Gravesham	132	4	142	5	-10	-1	
29UC	Canterbury	180	7	166	6	14	1	
29UD	Dartford	170	6	175	7	-5	-1	
29UB	Ashford	206	8	198	8	8	0	
29UH	Maidstone	225	9	217	9	8	0	
29UQ	Tunbridge Wells	250	10	249	10	1	0	
29UP	Tonbridge & Malling	256	11	268	11	-12	0	
29UK	Sevenoaks	270	12	276	12	-6	0	

^{*} A minus change in rank illustrates that a district has moved down the rankings and is therefore now less deprived relative to other LAs in England Source: Indices of Deprivation. Communities and Local Government

The levels of deprivation vary across the District. Whilst there are no areas in Sevenoaks District within England's top 20% deprived, there are areas that are within England's top 20-40% deprived and in contrast there are other parts within England's least 20% deprived of areas. More detail is shown on Map 1.

The greatest levels of deprivation are found within the Swanley area. Neighbouring some of the most deprived areas in the District are areas with relatively low levels of deprivation.

Map 1 Deprivation Rank of areas within Sevenoaks based on the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010



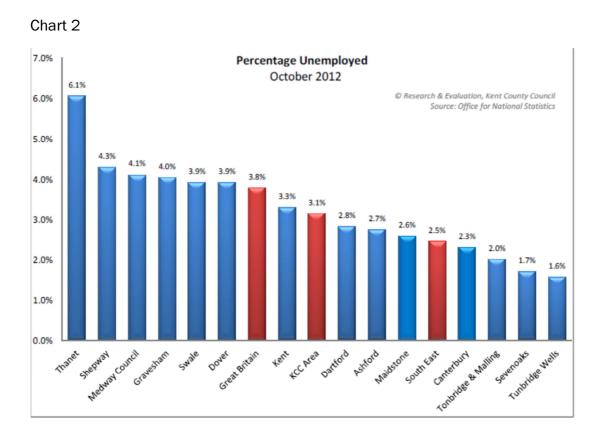
Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010, Communities and Local Government (CLG) Produced by Research & Evaluation, Kent County Council

Crown Copyright and database right 2011. Ordnance Survey 100019238

Unemployment

Sevenoaks District's unemployment rate is currently 1.7%. This is considerably lower than The County average of 3.1% and lower than the national average of 3.8%.

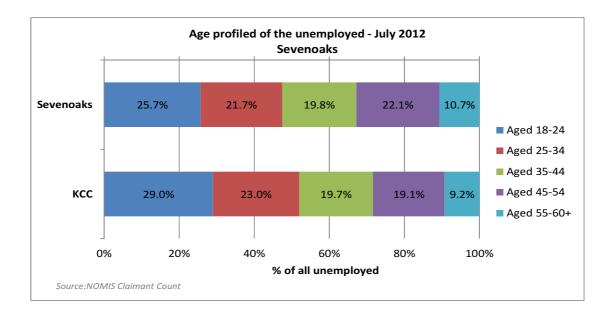
As shown in Chart 2, in October 2012, there were 1,195 unemployed people in the District. This is a 1% reduction (12 fewer people) since September 2012 and an 8.8% reduction (108 fewer people) since October 2011.



Unemployment rates vary across the District. The lowest unemployment is in Leigh & Chiddingstone Causeway where 0.7% of the working age population are unemployed. The highest rate is in Swanley St Mary's ward where 4.5% of the working age population are unemployed.

The majority of those unemployed are aged 18-24 years old. This is a pattern seen locally and nationally. In Sevenoaks, 18-24 year olds account for 25.7% of all of those unemployed and in the KCC area the proportion is 29%. More information is provided in Chart 3.

Chart 3: Age profile of the unemployed

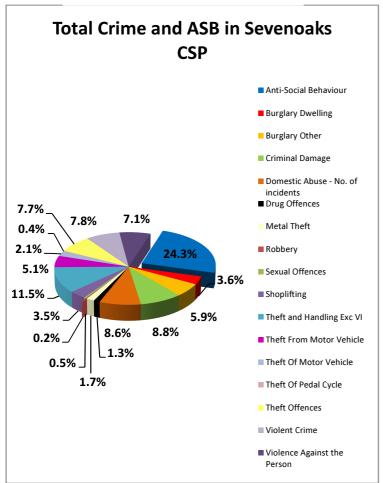


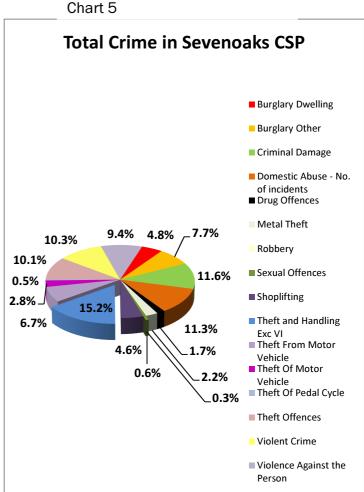
Part Two - Overview of crime in the District

Pages 10 to 14 look at 18 community safety issues to identify trends and performance. This will help the Partnership to determine its priorities going forward.

Overall crime within Sevenoaks District has dropped from 5,058 (October 2010 - September 2011) to 5,031 (October 2011- September 2012). This is a reduction in **Total Crime of 0.5**% and 27 fewer offences. Although the crime rate has dropped, Sevenoaks District still only has the second lowest overall crime rate in the County. The categories and percentages are shown in Charts 4 and 5







Although the overall levels of crime have fallen within the District over the past year there has been a fluctuation, in specific crime types with large increases and reductions to be found that do not match the trend found elsewhere in the County. The issues in the above charts will be examined to provide a greater understanding of where changes in levels of crime have taken place.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-Social Behaviour accounts for the largest recorded offence when compared to crime in the District. There has been a reduction in the number of reports to the District's Anti-Social Behaviour Officer. The total number of calls received by the Council between October 2011 and September 2012 is 190. This is 27 fewer calls than the same period last year, when 217 calls were received.

This is in contrast to incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by Kent Police who saw an additional 54 (2.2%) reports compared to the previous year. This increase is counter to the Countywide average decrease of 3.6%. Despite this Sevenoaks District still remains the lowest District in the County for reports of Anti-Social Behaviour.

As the most prominent community issue in the Sevenoaks District, Anti-Social Behaviour (including environmental issues) will continue to be a priority for the CSP.

Burglary

Burglary in Sevenoaks District has seen an increase in both 'Dwelling' and 'Other' offences over the past year. Although individually these offences only account for a small percentage of total crime in the District (3.6% and 5.9% respectively), when compared to the rest of the County, Sevenoaks District ranks poorly 8th and 10th (12th being highest placed). This is largely due to the 36% increase in offences which is significantly higher than the County average increase of 17%.

Burglary Dwelling and Burglary Other will remain a priority for the CSP.

Criminal Damage

Criminal Damage within the District has seen a successful reduction year on year since 09/10. This year's decrease of 5.8% (56 fewer offences – down to a total of 903) is below the County average of 11.9% and Sevenoaks District still retains its first place ranking.

Violent Crime

Violent Crime April – Sept 2012 saw an increase of 9% 58 crimes.

The main reports of violent crime are Incidents of domestic abuse. Domestic Abuse continues to increase in Sevenoaks District and at a higher rate than the County average. Per 1,000 population, the District has the lowest rate of domestic abuse incidents and repeat victims in the County. 22.8%, of victims are repeat victims. This is the 6th highest in the County.

Domestic Abuse will continue to be a priority for the CSP. An in-depth analysis is given on page 11.

Drug Offences

Reported offences of substance misuse to Kent Police have marginally increased this year with an additional 7 cases (5.6%). Despite the increase Sevenoaks District remains one of the best performers in the County but has fallen from first to second place in overall rankings. This will continue to be a CSP priority under Substance Misuse

Metal Theft

This marks the first year of recorded data for metal thefts across the County with Sevenoaks District having 171 reported offences between October 2011 and September 2012. Specific data on the types of thefts taking place is limited, but in comparison to the rest of Kent, Sevenoaks District is currently 11th (of 12) highest number of thefts.

Although these thefts only account for 1.7% of overall crime in the District, the severity of the ranking indicates that Metal Thefts should be closely monitored and the Community Safety Partnership should devise methods to tackle any increases and reduce the current total.

The CSP has been targeting this through its current Strategy and Action Plan. The only scrap dealer merchant in the District was regularly visited and many cross border initiatives have taken place and especially with the Metropolitan Police. Boot fairs and markets were targeted, advice was given and some arrests were made.

Robbery

Robbery has seen a minimal increase from 20 offences to 24. These figures remain comparatively low when compared to the rest of Kent and Sevenoaks District is ranked 2nd best in the County.

Sexual Offences

There has been a slight increase in Sexual Offences within the District over the past year with an additional 8 recorded offences, bringing the total to 50 (19% increase).

Although this increase is contrary to the Kent average decrease of 4.5%, the District still records considerably lower figures year on year when compared to the rest of the County. Sevenoaks District retains 1st place ranking in the County and Most Similar Groups (MSG).

Theft incl Shop Lifting

Levels of Theft and Handling of Stolen Goods have remained fairly consistent within Sevenoaks District over the period 2009-2012, with minor increases and decreases each year. This year saw a reported decrease of 16.2% to 1191 offences which is greater than the County decrease of 7.8%. The size of this decrease means Sevenoaks District ranked 1st (lowest) in the County and 2nd lowest in its MSG.

General Theft Offences have also seen a decrease of 18.4% within the District (790 offences compared to 968 in the previous year), which also means that Sevenoaks District is ranked 1st (lowest) in the County.

Shoplifting has seen a 4.6% increase compared to the previous year. This has been a rise of one off incidents, partly blamed on the economic situation. Sevenoaks District continues to have the lowest recorded number of shoplifting offences in the County.

British Transport Police have reported a 9.1% increase in Theft Offences across Sevenoaks District stations, compared with a county wide decrease of 23.3%. Although Sevenoaks District is ranked 10th highest in the County, reported figures are still generally low with less than 25 reported thefts across all stations over the last year.

Vehicle Crime

Reported figures for vehicle offences (Speeding Vehicles, Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Theft from a Motor Vehicle and Pedal Cycle Theft) are relatively low, accounting for only 7.6% of the total crime recorded in the District

However at County level these figures put Sevenoaks as one of the worst performing areas in Kent. Sevenoaks District is placed only 11th (12th being highest) for Theft of Motor Vehicle after a 6.3% rise, compared with a County decrease of 12.1%. Similarly, Thefts from Motor Vehicle ranks Sevenoaks only 10th (12th being highest) with a 7.3% rise which is more than the County increase of 1.4%. Vehicle crime remains a priority for the Community Safety Partnership.

Pedal Cycle Thefts to do not reflect the above trend. Sevenoaks District ranking $1^{\rm st}$ (lowest in county) in the County and the Most Similar Group, having had a 25% reduction compared with last years figures.

The annual crime figures identified as priority issues by Kent County Council are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 - Sevenoaks District Annual Crime Figures (Kent Police)

Category	Oct 10 -Sept 11	Oct 11 - Sept 12	Difference	Percentage	Per 1K Population	County Position
All Crime	5058	5031	-27	-0.5%	44.1	2
Anti-Social Behaviour	2449	2503	54	2.2%	21.9	1
Burglary Dwelling	275	374	99	36.0%	7.8	8
Burglary Other	554	604	50	9.0%	12.6	9
Criminal Damage	959	903	-56	-5.8%	7.9	1
Domestic Abuse - No. of incidents	824	886	62	7.5%	7.8	1
Domestic Abuse - No. of repeat victims	190	202	12	6.3%	1.8	1
Domestic Abuse - % of repeat victims	23.1%	22.8%	-0.3%	-1.1%		6
Drug Offences	126	133	7	5.6%	1.2	2
Metal Theft	0	171	171	0.0%	1.5	11
Robbery	20	24	4	20.0%	0.2	2
Sexual Offences	42	50	8	19.0%	0.4	1
Shoplifting	398	359	-39	-9.8%	3.1	1
Theft and Handling Exc VI	1422	1191	-231	-16.2%	10.4	1
Theft From Motor Vehicle	490	526	36	7.3%	4.6	10
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	208	221	13	6.3%	1.9	11
Theft Of Pedal Cycle	56	42	-14	-25.0%	0.4	1
Theft Offences	968	790	-178	-18.4%	6.9	1

Part 3 - Community Safety Issues 2013 - 2014

- 3.1 In addition to looking at crime trends, the Partnership has considered wider issues. These include County priorities and those issues known to be important to people in the Sevenoaks District.
- 3.2 Each issue has been subject to a scanning process as set out below.

The data that was made available to Sevenoaks District Council was collated and analysed. Each of the selected issues was graded using the following criteria:

- Perception of Community Concern
- Level of Harm / Impact on the Community
- Volume
- Trend Over Time
- Performance compared to Districts/County/Most Similar Group
- Partnership Contribution

Each of these criteria has been scored using a scoring system based on these values: 0 (No evidence/impact), 1 (low impact/problem), 3 (Slight impact/problem), 5 (serious impact problem).

Table 3 below shows the outcomes of the scanning process as described above. The Partnership has prioritised the top 8 of these issues for further analysis and action during 2013/14.

Table 3 - Sevenoaks District Community Partnership Ranking

Community Safety Issue	Community Concern	Trend Increase	Volume	Level of Harm	Poor Performance comparison	Partnership Contribution	Total
Anti-Social Behaviour*	5	3	3	3	5	5	24
Burglary	5	5	3	5	3	3	24
Vehicle Crime	3	3	3	5	5	5	24
Road Safety	5	3	1	3	5	5	22
Substance Misuse	5	3	3	3	1	3	18
Youth Issues	5	1	1	5	0	5	17
Domestic Abuse*	3	3	3	3	0	5	17
Shoplifting	3	3	3	3	0	5	17
Repeat Offenders	3	3	1	3	0	5	16
Criminal Damage	5	1	5	1	1	3	1 5
Vulnerable Adults	3	1	1	3	1	5	14
Fires	1	1	3	3	-	3	11

The following sections of this Strategic Assessment provide a detailed analysis and summary of each of the identified existing and emerging priorities across Sevenoaks District.

^{*} County Community Safety Agreement priorities

Anti-Social Behaviour (including Environmental Issues)



Evidence shows that Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) remains one of the priority issues within Sevenoaks among residents and continues to rank highly in reported figures when compared to other issues and recorded crime within the District.

It is important to note that reported calls of ASB to the Police may or may not have also been reported to other partners so trying to establish a standardised total is difficult.

Despite the high priority of ASB, Sevenoaks District currently has the lowest levels in the County.

Chart 6

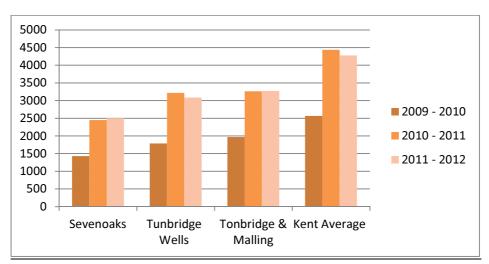


Chart 6 - Levels of Anti-Social Behaviour between the three best ranking areas in Kent (Source: Kent Police)

It is clear that the number of reports of anti-social behaviour have increased significantly since 2009/10. This is mirrored across the County and may reflect the introduction of the 101 Police non emergency number across Kent meaning that people find it easier to report. As demonstrated in chart 6 Sevenoaks continues to maintain low levels of ASB even with a 2.2% increase this year which is against the County decrease of 3.6%.

Sevenoaks District Council has received 190 calls regarding ASB between October 2011 and September 2012, which represents a decrease of 14.2% compared to the previous year.

The most prominent ASB issues reported across the District are:

- Intimidation / Harassment
- Neighbour Nuisance
- Noise
- Rowdy Behaviour

The wards with the highest number of calls are from Swanley White Oak, Swanley Christchurch and Swanley St Marys.

Fly Tipping has seen a year on year decrease but still remains one of the most prominent issues according to residents. Reports to the Environmental Team at SDC saw 618 cases of fly tipping between October 2011 and September 2012.

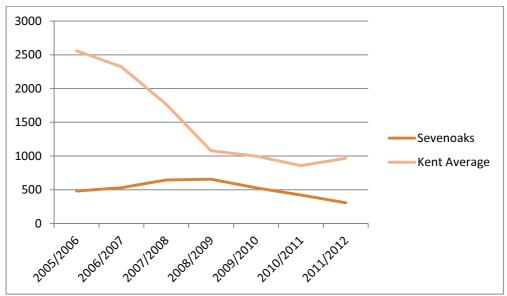


Chart 7 - Fly capture data (Source: DEFRA)

Chart 7 shows fly tipping data collated by DEFRA. DEFRA data shows that there were 309 reported cases of fly tipping between 2011-2012 which is a 26.7% decrease on the previous year and a 53% reduction from its peak in 2008-2009. The chart shows an average rather than factual figure due to irregular data submitted to the Environment Agency.

Abandoned Vehicles have also seen a steady decrease from previous years with 90 vehicles reported to SDC and 7 of them removed. The low proportion of vehicles removed is because many vehicles have either been declared SORN (Statutory Off Road Notice) and parked off-road, or the owner has come forward voluntarily to remove the vehicle. In a similar trend to the fly tipping data, there has been a 29% decrease in reported abandoned vehicles compared to last year.

Graffiti reports to the Council have fallen dramatically during the current period with 29 recorded incidents which is a 64% reduction compared with 80 reports last year.

Priority Ranking

Anti-Social Behaviour scored a total of 24 in last years strategic assessment and scores 24 again this year. As such, Anti-Social Behaviour remains a key priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern				5	
Trend Increase			3		
Volume			3		Sevenoaks District
Level of harm			3		Community Safety Partnership
Poor Performance compared to				5	
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					24

Current Partnership activities addressing this priority:

- Monitor and respond to ASB through the monthly ASB task group and report back on outcomes from daily tasking
- Local community payback schemes
- "Grimebuster" weekly graffiti project
- Promotion of Neighbourhood Watch and West Kent Watch
- Environmental visual audits
- PACT Panels (current and new ones identified)
- Neighbourhood Police Training
- Responding to reports of anti-social behaviour, acknowledgement within 2 working days and full reply within 25 working days of initial report
- Use of mobile CCTV cameras to deter anti-social behaviour, monitored by Tasking
 & Co-ordination Group
- PSCOs and Wardens reporting abandoned vehicles and dumped rubbish
- Fixed penalty notices for littering and dog fouling
- SDC/KCC abandoned vehicle process and vehicle surrender scheme
- Supporting Swanley White Oak action group
- Supporting Neighbourhood Respect agreements

Recommendations

- Continue to use PACT to identify key community concerns relating to anti-social behaviour
- Continue to use PACTs to prioritise hotspots
- Continue to target fly-tipping hotspots
- Continue to publicise the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Unit
- Continue to target through the CSU daily briefings repeat and vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour
- Use daily tasking to target ASB hotspots
- Continue to use EVA in areas where environmental community safety issues are identified.
- PCSOs and wardens to continue to report abandoned vehicles and dumped rubbish.
- Continue to promote vehicle surrender processes.
- Continue to promote Neighbourhood Watch and e-watch
- Continue to use CSU Twitter account to update residents, businesses and partners of community safety issues including ASB
- Continue working with Probation's Community Payback scheme
- Targeted work through the troubled families to identify vulnerable families
- Use the ASB Task Group to educate, support and use enforcement of perpetrators of ASB
- Continue to make referrals to the YISP Panel
- Increase the use of cameras to deter and reduce fly tipping



The data provided for this year's strategic assessment shows that there has been an increase in burglary offences across Kent over the past year of 17.5%. In Sevenoaks District the rise in burglary offences is significantly higher than the County increase of 36%.

Burglary Dwelling has seen the most dramatic change with a 36% increase in recorded offences from the previous year's figures which represents the third highest increase in the County (Ashford 97%, Tonbridge & Malling 51%). The number of offences rose from 275 to 374. As a result of this increase Sevenoaks District has dropped to only 8th best in the County ranking and 12th in its MSG.

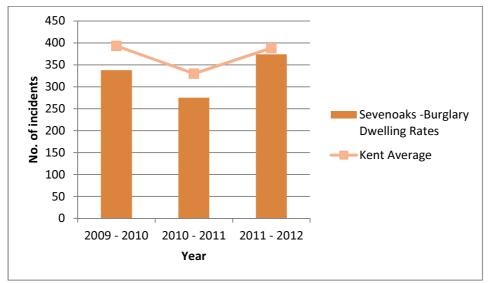
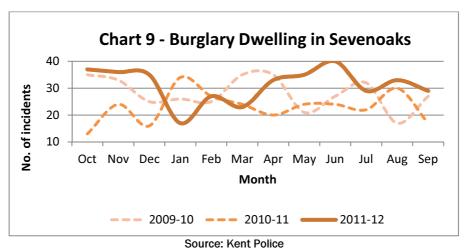


Chart 8 - burglary dwelling, Sevenoaks District still remain slightly lower than Kent average despite a significant increase this year (Source: Kent Police)

This upturn marks an end to the three year trend where burglary dwelling rates had decreased within the District and had been predicted to decrease again this year.

When taking an in-depth look at monthly figures it is noted that there was an initial improvement before an uncharacteristic peak between May and June.



It will be important to monitor future monthly rates. At present burglary dwelling rates have reduced to within expected levels but future analysis will be required to determine there is an on-going increase or if this was a minor anomaly.

Burglary Other Than Dwelling has also witnessed a spike in reported offences with a second consecutive rise in the past three years. This year has seen an additional 50 reports (604 total) which is a 9% increase compared with the previous year. Although there has been a general increase across the County, the rise found in Sevenoaks is noticeably higher than the 3.6% average in Kent.

Wards that experienced the highest burglary offences for the 2011-2012 period are as follows:

- Brasted, Chevening and Sundridge
- Ash
- Sevenoaks Kippington
- Halsted, Knockholt and Badgers Mount

Priority Ranking

Burglary scored a total of 22 in last year's strategic assessment and scores 24 this year. As such, Burglary remains a key priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern				5	
Trend Increasing				5	
Volume			3		Sevenoaks District
Level of harm				5	Community Safety Partnership
Poor Performance compared to			3		
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value			3		Grand Total
TOTAL					24

Current partnership activity addressing this priority:

- Prolific & Priority Offenders scheme, identifying prolific offenders
- No Cold Calling Zones, where cold callers are not encouraged
- Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
- Partnership media campaigns around specific crime types
- Community events to raise awareness of the importance of home and shed security
- Advice about rogue traders
- Tasking & Co-ordination Group prioritising Burglary initiatives

Recommendations

- Continue media releases and targeted campaigns, particularly during summer and busy shopping periods.
- Multi-agency town centre prevention advice such as the use of purse chains, should also be considered and utilised to increase awareness.
- Link National and local campaigns around specific crime types such as Oil Thefts, Metal Thefts, Fraud and shed/garage breaks
- Research and Development officers to continue to regularly liaise with BT's Crime Intelligence Unit with regard to theft of telephone cable in order to monitor and investigate the problem.
- Initiatives targeted in rural areas such as saddle marking, oil thefts from farm land and expensive garden equipment/power tools.
- More NHW initiatives such as Country Eye
- Link with Police Operations such as Op Weymouth (Jan 2013 May 2013)
- Standard agenda item on the monthly T&CG meeting



Theft from a Motor Vehicle has seen a noticeable increase this year both at District and County level.

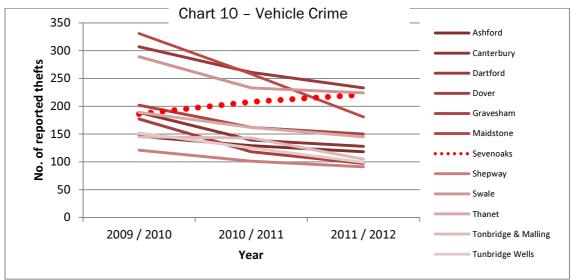
With an additional 36 reported thefts (7.3%), this shows Sevenoaks as only one in five other districts to have an increase in theft from a Motor Vehicle. This prominent rise is also higher than the Kent average of increase of 1.3%. As a result Sevenoaks has dropped to 10^{th} in its Kent ranking and remains 12^{th} in its MSG.

From monitoring the monthly data for the past three years it's apparent that there are noticeable trends for when thefts are likely to occur. A high proportion of thefts often occur during the months of December – February and again in August after a continual drop in theft between May and June. These trends appear to be unique to Sevenoaks but the evidence suggests that there is a clear pattern emerging.

Theft of a Motor Vehicle has also seen a surge in Sevenoaks District, and it is also important to note thefts have risen continually each year for the last three years.

Thefts have increased by 6.3% (13 additional reports compared to last year) and the District ranked 11^{th} in Kent, which is the District's worst ranking when compared to all other categories of crime.

More significantly, while Sevenoaks District has seen a growth in Thefts of a Motor Vehicle, every other area within Kent has seen a decrease every year for the last three years.



At the current rate Sevenoaks will account for the highest amount of thefts in Kent by 2014(Source: Kent Police)

Theft of a Pedal Cycle has a seen the completely opposite effect and had a 25% decrease (14 fewer), from 56 to 42. Sevenoaks ranks 1^{st} (best) in the County and 1^{st} (best) in its MSG for its rate of theft of pedal cycle. For the current financial year to September 2012, at ward level Sevenoaks Town and St John's ward recorded the highest volume of theft of pedal cycle with 4 recorded offences.

Priority Ranking

Vehicle Crime scored a total of 18 in last year strategic assessment and scores 24 this year. As such Vehicle Crime is a key priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern			3		
Trend Increasing			3		
Volume			3		Sevenoaks District
Level of harm				5	Community Safety Partnership
Poor Performance compared to				5	
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					24

Current Partnership activity addressing this priority:

- Publicity
- Tasking and coordination monthly meetings
- Identify Priority & Prolific Offenders
- DNA Selecta Marking scheme and Safer Plates Scheme, deterring theft of number plates
- Vulnerable Vehicle Scheme, identifying vehicles with items on display
- PACT Panels
- Social networking advising how to look after vehicles through text messages and tweets

Recommendations

- Tasking & Co-ordination Group to consider targeted activity in response to identified trends
- Continued use of the safe plates initiative
- Continuation of Neighbourhood Watch initiatives such as DNA Selecta and UV Pens
- Advice given through community events, community engagement, e-watch, twitter, face book page and front counter screen
- Looking at repeat locations and tasking of mobile CCTV where possible
- Standard agenda item on monthly T&CG meeting
- Work with National Trust and other organisations linking in with Beauty Hotspots
- Link in with Police Ops such as Op Weymouth (Jan2013 May 2013)
- Reminder of taking valuables with you on back of car park stickers
- Partners to address hot spot locations
- CSU to write to car owners who have left valuables on display



Throughout Sevenoaks there are major trunk roads i.e. M25/A21 which facilitate the majority of traffic through the District. As a result figures for Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs) fluctuate depending on the area that is being assessed.

Roads under the responsibility of KCC have seen a 2.3% decrease (493 incidents) in the total number of casualties over the past three years but when figures for Highways Agency roads are included the results see an overall increase of 4% across the District.

This increase is at odds with the Kent average decrease of 7.2%, which means Sevenoaks is currently positioned only 10th in the County ranking.

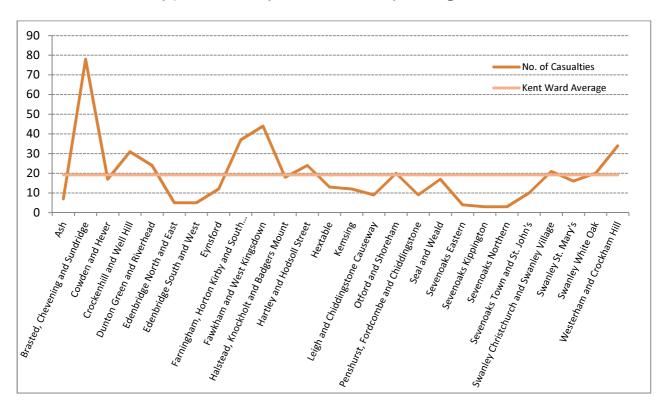


Chart 11 - Wards located close to motorway junctions have seen higher than average number of accidents (Source: Jacobs)

At ward level, Brasted, Chevening and Sundridge had the highest count of RTA casualties in Sevenoaks with a figure of 78 and ranks 11th highest of all wards in the KCC area. From the above chart it's clear to see that the wards displaying a higher than average casualty rate are those within close proximity to the junctions of the M25 (Brasted, Chevening and Sundridge) and M20 (Farningham, Horton Kirby and South Darenth). Where there are no major roads or motorways, the majority of wards can be seen to have a lower than average casualty rate.

There was a 57% decrease (19 reports) in casualties aged 16 or under in 2011 compared to 2010. This was still the lowest number of child casualties recorded by a District or Borough in Kent and Sevenoaks is ranked first in this category.

In contrast there was an 88% increase in pedal cycle casualties between the 2004-08 baseline average and 2011 (15 to 29) and Sevenoaks has the highest number of KSI pedal cycle casualties in Kent.

Speeding and perception of speed is a high concern for residents across the District and has featured in all PACT Panel's action plans. Speed Watch training has worked well in the District with residents being trained by Kent Police to monitor the speed of vehicles passing through their community..

Priority Ranking

Road Safety scored a total of 16 in last year strategic assessment and scores 20 this year. As such, Road Safety remains a key priority for the forthcoming year. PACT Panels

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern				5	
Trend Increasing			3		
Volume		1			Sevenoaks District
Level of harm			3		Community Safety Partnership
Poor Performance compared to			3		
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					20

Current Partnership activity addressing this priority:

- · Carmageddon activity aimed at demonstrating the effects of reckless driving
- Speed watch
- Operation Zigzag activity aimed at discouraging drivers from parking outside school entrances
- Working with landowners to reduce off road-nuisance
- Daily and monthly tasking and coordination
- National Road Safety Week

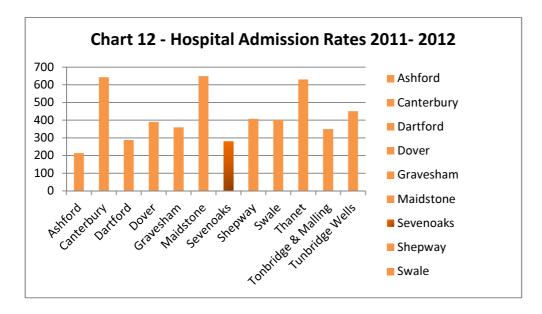
Recommendations

- Continue to target top road casualty wards for Carmageddon operations
- Continue to offer Speed watch to resident's where speeding is identified as a priority
- Identify areas through the new predictive policing model and through the CSU
- Neighbourhood officers to undertake speed enforcement within their areas
- Work with KCC regarding Operation Zig Zag
- Link with national and local campaigns incl Road Safety Week
- Work with Fire Service to do work in schools and on License to kill promotional activity



Between October 2011 and September 2012 there were 1.2 recorded drug offences per 1000 population in Sevenoaks District. This amounted to a total of 133 offences which represents an increase from the previous year of 5.6%. This increase is against a countywide decrease of 10.7%. Despite this, Sevenoaks has a lower rate per 1,000 population than most of the County and ranks 2nd. It ranks 1st in its MSG.

For the current financial year to September 2012, at ward level, Swanley St Marys ward had the highest volume of Drug Offences, ranking 18th highest ward in the County out of approx. 800 wards, with a rate of 2.19 per 1,000 population while the Kent average is 2.0.



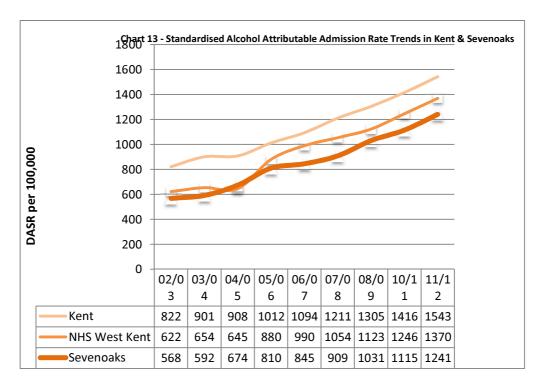
From June 2011 to May 2012 there were a total of 281 hospital admissions for mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use (including alcohol and drugs) in the District. This is the second lowest figure in Kent. The highest numbers of admissions in the District were found in the following wards:

- Swanley White Oak (33 cases)
- Edenbridge South & West (23 cases)
- Swanley St Mary's (20 cases)

Alcohol

Kent has seen a steady increase of alcohol related hospital admissions over the past ten years and alcohol remains the most common substance for those seeking treatment. According to the Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team (KDAAT) there are an estimated 30,432 dependant drinkers and 17,410 binge drinkers in the County.

Alcohol admissions in Sevenoaks have risen from 1,115 to 1,241. Overall levels have remained lower than the average admission rate and this year has the lowest overall number of admissions in Kent.



This year Sevenoaks District has seen a 10.2%% increase on the previous year's alcohol admission rate. This increase is one of the largest increases in the County (only Dartford 17% and Gravesham 19% have seen a greater increase).

When looking at these admission rates in greater detail the rate for men is much higher per 100,000 population than for women which is consistent with County figures. There is also an identifiable peak in the age of those being treated; alcohol users between 20-24 and 40-50 have a significantly higher admission rate than any other age group.

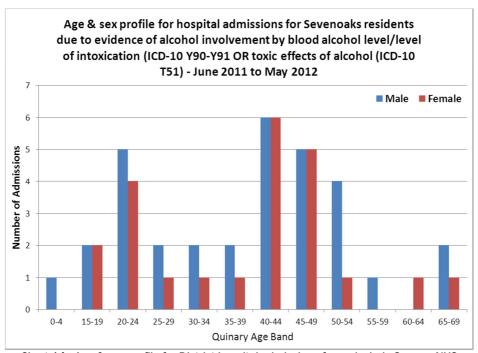


Chart 14 - Age & sex profile for District hospital admissions from alcohol - Source: NHS

In Kent, adults accessing services for alcohol misuse make up less than half of the client population, and yet estimates of dependant drinkers are considerably higher than estimates of the number of dependant drug users. KDAAT surmises that although drug and alcohol services in Kent are working effectively, they appear to be meeting a greater proportion of the need for drug services than for alcohol services. Now that there is greater flexibility around the use of funding for alcohol treatment services, this is being addressed through the commissioning of integrated drug and alcohol services.

Priority Ranking

Substance Misuse scored a total of 18 in last years strategic assessment and scores the same again this year. As such substance misuse remains a key priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern			3		
Trend Increasing			3		
Volume		1			Sevenoaks District
Level of harm			3		Community Safety Partnership
Poor Performance compared to		1			
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					18

Current partnership activity addressing this priority:

- Enforcement of premises doing most harm to communities, including Safer Street operations
- Sensible drinking campaigns
- Alcohol clinics
- Kent Community Alcohol Project in Edenbridge, Swanley & Hextable a multiagency approach to reducing under age sales of alcohol and street drinking

- Restorative Approaches training
- Young person's substance misuse worker (detached youth work and intervention in schools)
- Alcohol Awareness week (Government campaign)
- Substance Misuse Task Group Action Plan addressing enforcement, education and support around substance misuse
- Addressing proxy sales around the District(purchase of alcohol by adults on behalf of underage drinking
- Link with Domestic Abuse incidents

Recommendations:

- Continuation to increase numbers of people accessing substance misuse services.
- Continue to monitor the need for KCAP in other parts of the District.
- Continue alcohol clinics in Swanley and Otford.
- Police, Wardens and PCSOs to continue to gather intelligence on underage and proxy sales at every opportunity.
- Continue Young People's Substance Misuse worker
- Continue work with Sevenoaks District Health Action Team
- Collate and publish West Kent Substance Misuse directory of services
- Cross working with Domestic Abuse Working Group
- Update Drugs in the Workplace policy
- Alcohol Awareness Week 2013/14 (Home Office will release date)
- Drugs worker to attend Domestic Abuse one stop shop

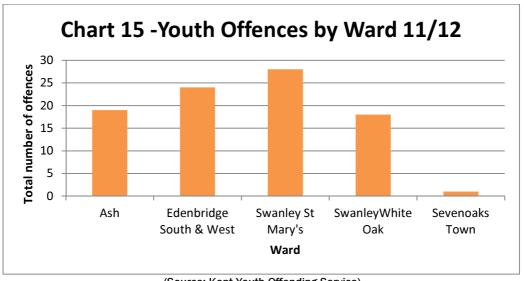


There has been a reduction in the number of youth offenders (under 18 years) within the Youth Offending Service (YOS) in Sevenoaks for the second consecutive year falling by 11.9% to 104 offenders. 0.09% of the total population within the District are recognised as youth offenders. This is a decrease from 1% on last year's figures and is lower than the Kent average of 1.3%.

The breakdown in offenders by gender continues to show that the majority of offences are committed by males. However the variation has seen an increase, with 86.5% now accounting for male offences compared to the previous years 77%.

Sevenoaks District has seen a reduction in the number of first time entrants (FTEs) by 21%, with 58 new individuals registered to the Kent Youth Justice System which is the second best performance figure in Kent.

In contrast to the overall reduction in the number of young offenders, the total number of offences committed by young people within Sevenoaks District has actually increased by 2.3% (50 additional offences). This increase accounts for 5.2% of all offences committed within Kent



(Source: Kent Youth Offending Service)

When distinguishing the location of the offences, Ash Edenbridge and Swanley account for the highest proportion of crimes committed.

The types of offences most frequently committed by young people between June 2011 and June 2012 were as follows:

- Theft and Handling Stolen Goods
- Violence against the Person
- Criminal damage

These particular types of offences have also witnessed an increase when compared to last years figures: Theft & Handling Stolen Goods has risen by 41% (18 offences), Criminal Damage 45% (9 offences) and Public Order offences 33% (5 offences). There have been reductions in Motoring offences and offences of Violence against the Person.

Not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Compared to last years figures the number of young people recorded as NEET in Sevenoaks District has decreased to 81 (3.4% from 3.6%). This is significantly lower than the Kent average of 5.9% and the national average of 5.8%.

Schools

Fixed term exclusions have seen a continued reduction within schools in the Sevenoaks District. In the 2011-12 academic year 47 fewer pupils received fixed term exclusions which is a 13% improvement on the previous year and the total of 401 excluded pupils is the lowest number found in Kent.

The wards of Ash (48) and Swanley St Mary's (35) had the highest number of fixed term exclusions – both of which are also an increase on their previous year's figures.

There has also been a decrease in the number of permanent exclusions this academic year (2011-12) with a 45% reduction (5 total exclusions) which is the second lowest figure in Kent.

The data provided for bullying incidents across Kent is not consistently recorded so only speculative analysis would be deduced from the results and is not therefore included in the Assessment. However, anecdotally, this would seem to be an issue for some young people.

Trading Standards

Targeting of retailers has led to three test purchases for alcohol with an underage volunteer and all premises refused the sale. No license reviews, penalty notices or warnings have been issued.

Priority Ranking

Youth Issues scored a total of 18 in last year's strategic assessment and scores 17 this year. As such, Youth Issues remain a key priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern				5	
Trend Increasing				5	
Volume		1			Sevenoaks District
Level of harm		1			Community Safety Partnership
Poor Performance compared to	0				
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					17

Current partnership activity

- Restorative justice projects
- Safer Schools Partnership
- Anti-bullying projects to include cyber bullying
- Services developed in Children's Contact Centres and the Harvey Centre (Swanley)
- PACT (young people attending PACT meetings)
- Sevenoaks Summer Activity Programme through VAWK and West Kent Extra
- 8-12s project through West Kent Extra
- Power Project
- Anti-Social Behaviour Tasking Group
- Community Safety Unit daily and monthly tasking and coordination
- Community Payback schemes
- Detached Youth Work
- Link with the Try Angle Awards
- Roll out Domestic Abuse (sexual respect) programme within secondary schools across the District

Recommendations

- Refer children and young people in need of support to the Common Assessment Framework process.
- Troubled Families Project a new project focussed on families with complex needs
- Continue and monitor Power Project referrals.
- Continue the 8-12s project through West Kent Extra.
- Investigate the potential for further intergenerational projects in priority wards identified in this assessment.
- Continue with detached youth work across the District
- Continue to roll out Domestic Abuse (sexual respect) programme within secondary schools across the District
- Work with KCC Youth Service and town & parish councils on their summer schemes
- Implement a Judo project in the District
- Sencio Youth Project to increase youth provision in leisure centres



Domestic Abuse has seen a marginal increase between October 2011 and September 2012 for the number of incidents and the number of repeat victims. Despite this increase Sevenoaks still maintains the lowest ranked in the County.

There have been an additional 62 incidents of domestic abuse within Sevenoaks District which represents a 7.5% increase from the previous year. This is substantially more than the 1.3% increase across Kent, yet per 1000 population Sevenoaks has the lowest rates of abuse in Kent. This could also be interpreted positively with more people reporting domestic abuse to Police.

Comparably Sevenoaks has observed a similar increase in the number of repeat victims for domestic abuse with 6.3% more (12 reports, totalling 202) recorded cases. Although above the Kent average of 2.1% Sevenoaks has the lowest rates per 1000 population.

The percentage of repeat victims in Sevenoaks has seen a decrease from 23.1% to 22.8% which is still below the Kent average of 24% that has increased very slightly. Despite Sevenoaks' improved performance it still only ranks sixth in Kent.

It is important to remember that these figures are only representative of domestic abuse that was reported to the Police and is widely understood that domestic abuse is still under reported.

The following figures provided by the Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategic Group provide an estimation for the number of unreported abuse case across Kent.

Year - 2010/11	Number
Estimated prevalence (females)	54,773
Police domestic abuse reports	22,000
Charges	1296
MARAC (high risk) cases	764

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) meet regularly to deal with high risk cases of Domestic Abuse. There are 6 MARACs covering the 13 District or Boroughs in Kent.

Table 4 shows the number of referrals to each MARAC compared with the total number of incidents.

MARAC	Districts	Total Incidents 11/12	MARAC Referrals 11/12
Medway	Medway	4248	233
North Kent	Dartford	1377	92
North Kent	Gravesham	1377	92
South	Dover		
Kent	Shepway	4326	181
Rent	Ashford		
East Kent	Canterbury	4332	200
Last Nent	Thanet	4332	200
Mid Kent	Maidstone	3824	137
Wild Relit	Swale	3024	137
	Tonbridge & Malling		
West Kent	Tunbridge Wells	3108	113
	Sevenoaks		
		21,215	956

Table details the total number of domestic abuse incidents per MARAC (Source: Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group)

Priority Ranking

Domestic Abuse scored a total of 18 in last year's Strategic Assessment and scores 17 this year. As such, Domestic Abuse remains a priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern			3		
Trend Increasing			3		Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership
Volume			3		
Level of harm			3		
Poor Performance compared to	0				
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					17

Current Partnership activity addressing this priority:

- Community Domestic Abuse Perpetrators Programme (CDAP) support and assistance to men wishing to stop the cycle of abuse
- MARAC
- Area briefings and daily briefings to raise awareness of high risk offenders with Neighbourhood teams.
- Neighbourhood Teams to deliver DA service to call outs to DA incidents

- Domestic Abuse Action Plan
- Freedom programme
- Independent Sexual Violence Advice Service
- Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop Swanley
- Annual DA Conference held for front line workers in Sevenoaks District
- Week of campaigns through National DA week (usually November)
- Partnership contributed towards funding of DAVSS for all victims of Domestic Abuse
- Respect programme for young people in schools

Recommendations:

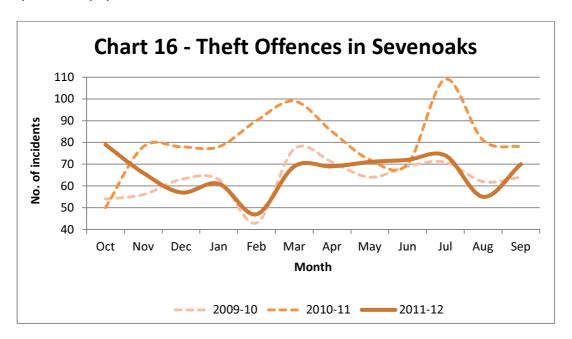
- Continue the Community Domestic Abuse Programme
- In line with the Domestic Abuse, Children's report recommendations:
- Continue where possible funded projects (ISVA, Freedom, North Kent Women's Aid, DAVSS)
- Make the links with Substance Misuse (mainly alcohol)
- Update the West Kent Directory
- Continue training of MARAC and making referrals
- DA One Stop Shop Swanley to go weekly and more services involved
- Continue Domestic Abuse (sexual respect) programme for young people in secondary schools
- Hold annual conference and campaign at certain times eg Christmas, sporting events and National DA week
- Update and make sure targets are achievable in the Partnerships DA Working Group Action Plan
- Continue referrals and attending MARAC
- Set up Freedom Steering Group
- Attend Kent DA Forums



Overall theft offences have seen a significant drop across the board with decreased rates of crime and improved rankings for Sevenoaks in each category.

The shift in volume has seen the level of offences reduce to a level of crime similar to the 2009-10 period. This marks a change from a three year increase between 2008-2011, with 2010-11 displaying the largest increase (28%) recently recorded.

General theft saw an 18.4% reduction from the previous year, a notably higher reduction than the 11.1% found across Kent. Sevenoaks continues to have the best ranking in Kent per 1000 population.



At ward level Sevenoaks Town and St Johns accounted for the highest proportion of theft with 41 separate offences.

Theft and Handling of Stolen Goods

As expected there has been a similar decrease in recorded offences for theft and handling of stolen goods. A 16.2% reduction from (1422 to 1191) compared with the previous year's figures was a greater improvement than the Kent average of 7.8% and Sevenoaks District retains the first place ranking in the County.

Metal Theft

There are no figures from previous years available for comparison purposes. Data from Kent Police shows that levels of metal theft are fairly consistent across the County. However Sevenoaks is currently in the lower tier of performers with 171 reports (highest being 201 and the lowest 85). As such Sevenoaks District is currently ranked 11th (12 being highest) in Kent and this requires careful monitoring by the CSP.

Shoplifting

Sevenoaks District has seen a decrease in the number of shoplifting offences, again with a higher than average reduction than the rest of Kent.

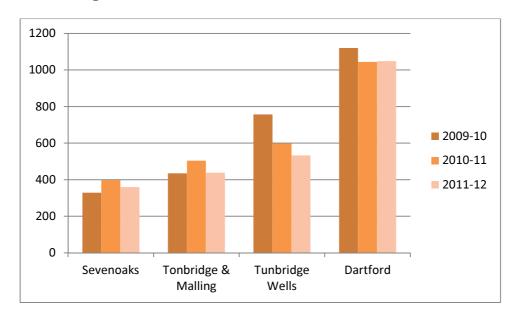


Chart 17 - The rate of shoplifting in neighbouring boroughs demonstrates Sevenoaks District low levels despite a significant increase during 2010-11. (Source: Kent Police)

Shoplifting has decreased by 39 offences (-9.8%), from 398 to 359 during 2011-2012. This rate of decrease is greater than the County's decrease of 3.2% and Sevenoaks is currently ranked 1st (best) in the County.

As with the previous year's strategic assessment, despite Sevenoaks' relatively good performance when compared to the rest of Kent, combined theft offences account for the largest proportion of crime in Sevenoaks accounting for over 25% of all recorded offences.

Priority Ranking

Theft scored a total of 20 in last years strategic assessment and scores 17 this year. As such, Theft remains a key priority for the forthcoming year.

Rationale	None	Low	Med	High	
Community Concern			3		
Trend Increasing			3		Sevenoaks District
Volume			3		
Level of harm		3		Community Safety Partnership	
Poor Performance compared to	0				
MSG/County					
Partnership can add value				5	Grand Total
TOTAL					17

Current Partnership activity addressing this priority:

- New Safer Towns Partnership Co-ordinator to be employed and relaunch of scheme
- Work with CAB around debt
- Community events around purse dipping
- Working with security companies to deter thefts
- Attend boot fairs/markets
- Work with PPOs

Recommendations:

- Continue with promotion of the Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP)
- Continue community events
- · Accreditation of BCRP
- Police Mobile Unit and NWKCPP to attend village and fete days
- Joint operations at boot fairs/markets
- Information around loan sharks and pay day loans
- The CSP produce a leaflet for residents regarding their own property and worked specifically with repeat and vulnerable residents and businesses.

Part four - Conclusion

This Strategic Assessment sets out the priorities that the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) should focus on and identifies the issues that should be considered in developing the 2013-14 action plan.

- 1. The Community Safety Partnership endorses the priorities set out below, as discussed through this Assessment.
- 2. Will consider targeted activities in specific geographical areas.
- 3. Will review current service provision in the light of current needs to ensure effectiveness and efficiency.
- 4. Consider targeted awareness-raising activities for specific crime types.
- 5. Continue to review activity on a regular basis to ensure appropriate and proportionate resourcing.

Levels of recorded crime in Sevenoaks District have seen an overall reduction in the last year with a few notable increases in specific types of offence. Where new trends in particular types of crime and anti-social behaviour have been identified, recommendations have been made by Sevenoaks Community Safety Partnership to help address the priorities identified for the forthcoming year.

The Sevenoaks District CSP agreed priorities for 2013 are as follows:

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Burglary
- Vehicle Crime
- Road Safety
- Substance Misuse
- Youth Issues
- Domestic Abuse
- Theft (Focusing on Shoplifting)

Glossary

- ABA Acceptable Behaviour Agreement
- ANPR Automated Number Plate Recognition
- ASB Anti Social Behaviour
- ASBO Anti-Social Behaviour Order
- BCUs Basic Command Units
- CDRP Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
- DA Domestic abuse
- KCAP Kent Community Alcohol Partnership
- KCC Kent County Council
- KCVS Kent Crime Victim Survey
- KDAAT Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- KF&RS Kent Fire and Rescue Service
- LAA Local Area Agreement
- LCTB Local Children's Trust Board
- MARACs Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
- MSG Most Similar Group- a group of local authorities with similar characteristics
- NEET Not in Employment, Education or Training
- PACT Police And Community Together
- PCSOs Police Community Support Officer
- PCT Primary Care Trust
- PDUs Problematic Drug Users
- SDC Sevenoaks District Council
- SORN Statutory Off Road Notification
- TFMV Theft From a Motor Vehicle
- TOMV Theft Of a Motor Vehicle
- YOS Youth Offending Service