



Safer Croydon

Community Safety Strategy

2017-2020

Initial draft v Feb 10 2017

Introduction page x

Croydon Facts page x

2011 – 2014 Key achievements page x

Crime Overview page x

Strategic Assessment - Key Findings page x

Public Consultation Summary page x

Delivery Framework page x

Key Strategic Priorities page x

- **Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic violence**
- **Improve the safety of children and young people**
- **Improve public confidence and community engagement**
- **Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime**
- **Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime.**

Links with other strategies page x

Introduction

The Safer Croydon Partnership (SCP) acts as the statutory Community Safety Partnership for Croydon as stipulated by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The SCP is responsible for co-ordinating the development and implementation of Croydon's Community Safety Strategy. The partnership comprises police, council, fire, probation and health agencies, as well as businesses, community and voluntary sector organisations.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales published September 2016, estimated 6.7 million adults aged 16 and over, were a victim of at least 1 crime and that 4.6 million offences were reported in 2016, an annual rise of 7%. However, a large proportion of the rise is considered to be due to continued improvements, in crime-recording practices and processes.

Here in Croydon, we saw a small rise of 1.20% in the total number of recorded offences compared to 2014 and 2015, then in March 2016, we saw significant reductions in burglary, theft and robbery but an increase in violent crime. Looking at crime volumes and rates across all London boroughs for the financial year 2015/2016, Croydon ranks 6th by volume and 19th by rate per 1,000 population (1 being the highest).

There is a correlation between areas of high deprivation and crime rates in Croydon; more crime is committed in the north of the borough, largely due to a higher population density, and more pockets of deprivation. Vulnerability is becoming increasingly concentrated within certain places and amongst certain individuals. According to MOPAC's Vulnerable Localities Profile, the top 10 per cent 9 of wards (63) are disproportionately impacted compared to other parts of London. On average, over 3 times more victims of burglary, robbery, sexual offences live in these top 10 per cent compared to the least vulnerable. Repeat victimisation is also a key issue; around one in 10 crimes is committed against people who have been victims of crime in the previous year. Other crimes, such as domestic abuse, have much higher levels of repeat victimisation.

This is why the SCP will focus on local priorities and those crimes that harm our communities the most.

Croydon's reputation as a place is improving, but there is more work to do. The findings from the 2016 Fear of Crime Survey confirms most residents do feel safe, but 23% feel unsafe to some degree. The results of the 2016 Crime Quiz found all of the respondents thought levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in Croydon are much higher than they actually are (see page x)

We want to increase public confidence and reduce the fear of crime in Croydon. We believe the best way to do this, is to continuously improve the way all of our local partner agencies and services, work together, delivering solutions to local crime and anti-social behaviour problems; only then will communities feel safer. In this challenging financial climate, adopting this multi-agency problem solving approach delivers solutions and increases efficiencies; it also puts the victims of crime first.

As we set out our three-year plan, we also need to consider external factors such as on-going financial pressures, the impact of Brexit, the threat of terrorism, and how crime is changing. For example, burglary offences are reducing but on-line fraud has nearly doubled during the

past few years. The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB), recorded 119,426 incidents in 2011/12 but this rose to 230,406 in 2014/15 and 85% of all identity fraud now occurs online.

Taking into account these factors, and the findings from the 2016 Strategic Crime Assessment, public consultation as well as the views from stakeholders, during the next 3 years our strategic priorities will be:-

- **Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic violence**
- **Improve the safety of children and young people**
- **Improve public confidence and community engagement.**
- **Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime**

Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime.

The strategy supports the 2017-2021 London Police and Crime Plan and builds on a solid foundation of successful partnership working on crime and anti-social behaviour in Croydon. Much of what we set out in our previous strategy has been achieved (See [page ? for details](#)). However, we also recognise that there is still much more to do, but we are determined to work together to make Croydon a safer place to live, work and visit.

Croydon facts

Croydon is London's southern-most borough and covers an area of 87 square kilometres. It is one of London's biggest local retail and commercial centres, with good rail, tram and road links, more than 120 parks and open spaces and some of London's most expensive housing.

We are just about to embark on a long term Growth Programme which is a partnership between Central Government, Croydon Council, the Greater London Authority and Transport for London. The aim is to finance and deliver an infrastructure programme, at a cost of £495m, which is essential to facilitate growth in central Croydon.

Croydon is a great place to live and work in and to visit, but we still have areas that are among the most disadvantaged in the country.

Croydon's population is changing rapidly. Over the next 25 years 75,000 more people will be living in the borough. It has one of the largest and fastest growing black and minority ethnic populations in South London (with 100 languages spoken), and the largest population of young people in London.

Croydon is a safe place for most residents; the number of offences fell by over 5,000 in 10 years and is near the London average, but fear of crime is still significant. There are concerns over youth crime, violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual violence, and hate crime. We need to build trust among local people that agencies will deal with the issues that matter most to all communities.

Young people committing crime and young people being the victim of crime are key issues for the SCP. The borough has the largest 10 to 17 year population of the London boroughs at 37,411. It is a relatively young and socio-economically diverse borough, ranked 19th out of 32 London boroughs in terms of overall deprivation however some wards are amongst the most deprived in England. Croydon is also very diverse ethnically and includes a significant number of refugees and asylum seekers with the percentage of the youth population with a black or minority ethnic heritage standing at 54%.

Key achievements 2014 – 2017

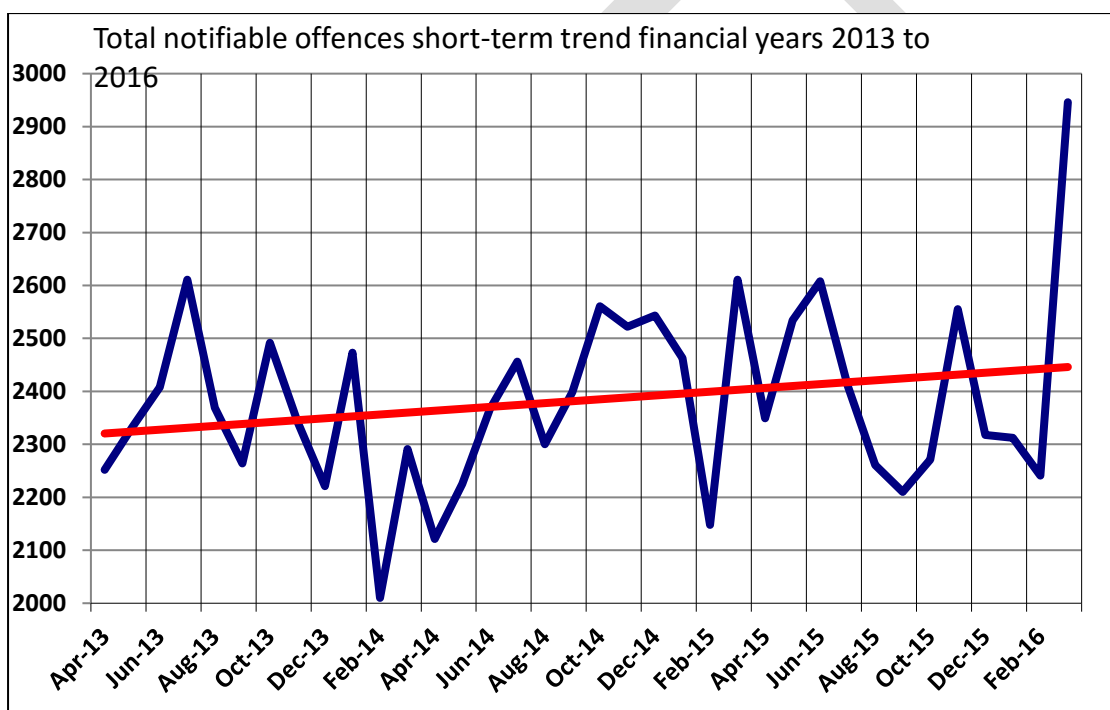
The 2014-2017 strategy set out four main objectives:

- Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime
- Improve the safety of children and young people
- Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
- Improve public confidence and community engagement.

Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime

Table 1 below shows the short-term trend of TNO's by financial year for the 3 year period from April 2013 to March 2016. The chart shows that the short-term trend is increasing.

Table 1 TNO 3 year crime trend April 2013 to March 2016 – to include 2017 figures when available



The current trend is up by 1.20% (346 offences) when compared to the previous financial year. Croydon ranks 6th by volume and 19th by rate per 1,000 populations (1 being highest) when compared with all the other London Boroughs.

Financial year	Volume	Financial year	Volume	Variance	% change
Apr 14 - Mar 15	28715	Apr 15 - Mar 16	29061	+346	+1.20%
Apr 13 - Mar 14	28066	Apr 14 - Mar 15	28715	+649	+2.31%
Apr 12 - Mar 13	31070	Apr 13 - Mar 14	28066	-3004	-9.66%

Anything else to add here?

Violence with injury

The table below shows Croydon police have seen 484 more incidents (17.3% increase) in the number of Violence with Injury incidents since the introduction of the MOPAC 7 performance framework in 2011/12.

MOPAC 7 crime type	Baseline 2011/12	Position at 31 March 2016	Percentage change
MOPAC 7 total	17333	13577	-21.7%
Burglary	4492	3075	-31.5%
Criminal damage	4544	2943	-17.0%
Robbery	1834	930	-49.3%
Theft from MV	2871	1970	-31.4%
Theft from person	795	513	-35.5%
Theft of MV	995	860	-13.6%
Violence with injury	2802	3286	17.3%

(Source: [Londongovuk 2016](#)) update with 2016/17 figs when available?

This increase is not Croydon specific, as many boroughs reported an increase in violent crime for the same period. The increases may in part, be due the changes the Metropolitan Police made in their recording systems; all incidents are now being more accurately recorded than previously.

Anything else to add here?

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV)

A complete review of our response to domestic violence has been undertaken at both an operational and strategic level. There is a new governance structure and a multi-agency action plan in place to prevent and tackle domestic and sexual violence, links with the voluntary sector have been strengthened and the services available have been firmly embedded within the 'Think Family' model of intervention.

Anything else to add here?

Serious Youth Violence (SYV)

Key performance indicators:

Reduction in the number of young people enter the criminal justice system for the first time

On target. YOS has continued to have a relatively stable number of first time entrant's with a reduction from 221 to 208 young people. In the last 12 months the YOS and police have diverted 247 young people from prosecution with a 14% re-offending rate for this group.

Reductions in the numbers of young people re-offending

Good progress has been made with the re-offending rate which has, over the last 12 months, reduced from 47% to 43% but this remains a risk area in terms of performance as it is subject to unpredictable changes in performance.

Anything else to add here?

Improve the safety of children and young people

Here in Croydon, the Safer London Foundation deliver workshops and engage with young people at risk of sexual exploitation working alongside multi-agency partners to ensure victims receive timely and appropriate help.

Key performance indicators:

Improved identification and targeting of young people involved in gang activity and are provided opportunities and support to exit gangs

30 young people involved in gang activity have been provided opportunities and support to exit gangs as part of a holistic approach across partner agencies with a focus on identification, diversion and enforcement leading to improved life chances.

To reduce the number of victims of youth crime

The YOS contacted 498 victims in 2015/16, around 80% made contact to seek information, advice and support and engage in a restorative process.

Improved partnership working to protect young people at risk violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse

The Gangs Manager attends the MASE, MARAC, JAG and Missing Persons Panel to ensure intelligence and operational information is being shared appropriately with each of these multi-agency groups.

Active engagement is also in place, to ensure young people are contributing to solutions in regard to crime issues of concern to them.

Anything else to add here?

Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

The partnership has improved the information and intelligence sharing around repeat ASB incidents, in relation to victims and locations. This has resulted in an increase in enforcement activity and a reduction of nearly 20% in the number of ASB reports during 2015/16.

- Around 1,000 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued each year for the last two years; January 2017 total is 772 FPNs
- Prosecuted over 130 people as part of the Don't Mess With Croydon campaign (launched 2014)
- Carried out over 2,000 Duty of Care visits on shops across the borough to ensure they are disposing of trade waste correctly
- Around 200 Croydon residents have volunteered to become Community Champions and have removed hundreds of tonnes of waste from problem areas over the last two years
- The council successfully applied for a three-year injunction to give police enforcement powers over the racing, known as the Croydon Cruise that took place on a weekly basis in Imperial Way. All persons were forbidden from participating in a Car Cruise within the area.

Anything else to add here?

Improve public confidence and community engagement

The new policing model has seen a total restructure of the way police operate at neighbourhood level, improving its response to local issues and the way that it engages with the community.

The borough is currently performing well in terms of treating everyone fairly; however improvements should be focussed toward raising awareness of the local policing team function, as well as methods of contacting the local policing team.

The SCP has continued to publicise its work and engage with the public to get their perceptions on crime and ASB in the borough. However, we continue to experience negative perceptions in relation to crime and ASB. The most recent surveys are summarised **on page x?**

Anything else to add here?

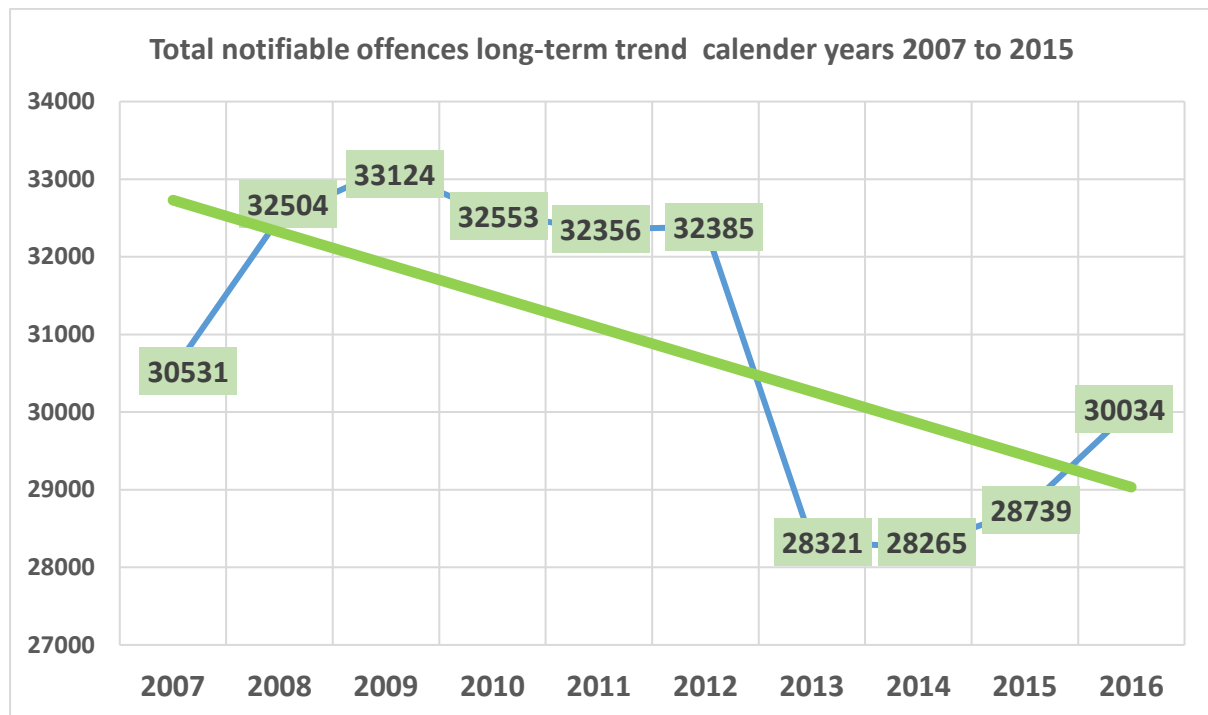
Other achievements

- SCP has continued to improve its multi-agency approach to the reduction of offending by tackling prolific and priority offenders and identified gang members, incorporating a risk based case management process. **stats/figures?**
- Burglary, robbery reductions **stats/figures?**

Anything else to add here?

Crime Overview

Table 2. Total Recorded Crime 11-year crime long term trend calendar year from 2007 to 2016



- Overall the volume of TNO crime in Croydon, has been going down, reaching a low of 28265 TNO offences in 2014 from a base line of 34194 TNO offences in 2005
- 2015 saw a small rise overall in the volume of TNO's to 28739 offences however this was still a 16% reduction against the baseline year of 2005
- 2016 again saw a rise overall in the volume of TNO's to 30034 offences however this was still a 12% reduction against the baseline year of 2005
- The direction of travel demonstrates a clear downward trend with a current average of 2,421 TNO's per month and rate of 6.38 crimes per 1,000 population.

The full Strategic Assessment can be downloaded from: [insert link here](#)

Police recorded crime summary

Table 3 below shows the volume variance and percentage change for the main crime types committed, when comparing the financial 2015/16 year with the previous strategic assessment produced in 2012/13 financial year.

There were 16,809 offences recorded in the financial year 2015/16; 744 offences less than in the financial year 2012/13 a 4% reduction.

Crime type	2012/13	2015/16	Vol. variance	% change
Assault with injury (non DV)	1084	996	-88	-8%
Violence with injury	2739	3389	+650	+24%
Serious youth violence	318	286	-32	-10%
Common assault	1556	2486	+930	+60%
Gun crime	115	67	-48	-42%
Knife crime	607	389	-218	-36%
Domestic violence	2432	3737	+1305	+54%
Racist and religious crime	314	515	+201	+64%
Residential burglary	2909	1687	-1231	-42%
Theft of motor vehicle	921	694	-227	-25%
Theft from motor vehicle	2681	1996	-685	-26%
Personal robbery	1877	567	-1310	-70%
Total	17553	16809	-744	-4%

Table 3. Recorded Crime

- Of the violent crimes, violence with injury, common assault, and domestic violence have all seen an increase, only assault with injury (non DV) has seen a reduction
- Racist and religious crime has seen an increase
- Gun crime has seen a reduction and knife crime has seen a marked reduction
- Serious youth violence has seen a relatively low reduction
- Residential burglary, and personal robbery have seen a marked reduction
- Theft of a motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle have both seen a reduction.

Strategic Assessment 2016

The Strategic Assessment interprets and presents the summary findings of an intelligence analysis of data provided by the police, the council and partner agencies. The product identifies current and possible future issues from sound evidence and robust analysis. Its purpose is to help inform the SCP's work programme for the coming year and beyond. A copy of the full Strategic Assessment is available at:- [insert link here](#)

The partnership takes a problem solving approach by analysing data from a combined victim, offender and location perspective.

The diagram below demonstrates problem solving crime prevention theory at its simplest. By addressing or removing one of the three components the chances of a crime occurring are reduced or removed altogether.

Using this approach helps the SCP to:

- Both target and work with offenders and potential offenders to stop and divert them from committing crime
- Provide support, advice and protection to victims, repeat victims and potential victims of crime
- Identify problem locations and reduce the opportunities for crime to occur.



From March 2017, MOPAC are proposing to adopt a new method for prioritising and scrutinising local policing priorities on the following basis:-

The issues of greatest concern in one borough may be very different to those of another. Therefore, antisocial behaviour and volume crime priorities will be selected by each borough on the basis of their local assessments, crime statistics and local residents' views to result in a manageable level of priorities.

High harm crimes and protecting vulnerable people – child sexual exploitation, violence against women and girls, knife crime and gun crime will be included in local priorities in every borough to ensure that the police and local partners are focused properly on these most serious and harmful offences against vulnerable people.

MOPAC will provide support to this process, making data on crime and antisocial behaviour in every borough publicly available, and holding the Commissioner to account for the MPS' engagement and performance in tackling local crime priorities. In addition, we will use data from our quarterly surveys to monitor Londoners' levels of confidence and satisfaction in the job the police are doing

MOPAC will publish new crime data when the Police and Crime Plan is finalised in March 2017.

Key Findings

Victims

- There were 10,698 victims of crime in Croydon. Of those victims, there were slightly more females than males, and slightly more white female victims than white male victims.
- The peak age range for victims are aged 20 to 24, the most vulnerable age group are aged 15 to 34.

Offenders

- There were 2783 offenders of those there were more male offenders than female, of the male offenders the highest number were black males closely follow by white males.
- The offenders most likely to commit offences of violence are aged 15 to 29. Offenders aged 15 to 19 are most likely to commit knife crime offences.

Locations

- Croydon town centre is the key crime hot spot together with the northern wards, primarily due to their large population and transport links.

Time and day

- Across the week the peak time for all offences is from 3pm to 7pm and 8pm to 1am, and the peak days for crime are Sunday and Saturday
- Domestic abuse continues to see an upward trend across London. In the rolling year to September 2016 there were 3,829 domestic abuse offences. Compared to the other 32 boroughs in London Croydon is ranked 25th highest for domestic abuse, with 21 incidents per 1,000 population in the rolling year to September 2016
- Fly tipping has also increased and is a concern for the public; however this may be a consequence of our successful 'Don't Mess With Croydon Campaign resulting in more people being aware of the problem
- Offenders most likely to commit offences of violence are aged 15 to 29

- Offenders aged 15 to 19 are most likely to commit knife crime offences
- There was a small rise of 1.20% in the volume of TNO's when comparing the financial years 14/15 to 15/16. However there is a 16% reduction against the baseline year of 2005. The direction of travel demonstrates a clear downward trend with a current average of 2,421 TNO's per month and rate of 6.38 crimes per 1,000 population
- There were 16809 offences recorded in the financial year 2015/16; 744 offences less than 2012/13
- In the financial year 2012/13 residential burglary was ranked first and violence with injury ranked second and theft from motor vehicles ranked third
- In the financial year 2015/16 domestic violence ranked first and violence with injury was again ranked second and common assault ranked third
- The current trend shows that anti-social behaviour has dropped by 19.58% when compared with the previous financial year.

Public consultation summary

The key findings from the on-line survey which started 19 September and ended 20th November 2016 (sample size of 567 respondents) are set out below.

- The previous survey (2013) had 581 respondents, the top 5 crimes of most concern at that time were: violent crime, anti-social behaviour, youth crime, robbery and burglary. In this survey the top 5 crimes of most concern are: anti-social behaviour, burglary, fly-tipping, people dealing or using drugs and violent crime.
- In the previous survey 386 respondents thought anti-social behaviour in Croydon town centre is a problem; this time 104 neither agreed or disagreed, 377 agreed anti-social behaviour in Croydon town centre is a problem and 46 did not answer the question.
- In the previous survey 359 respondents thought crime in Croydon town centre is a problem; this time 161 neither agreed or disagreed, 323 agreed crime in Croydon town centre is a problem, and 58 did not answer the question.
- In the previous survey 107 respondents thought Croydon town centre is a safe place for people; this time 165 agreed crime in Croydon town centre is a safe place for people to visit.
- In the previous survey 388 respondents thought the number of police patrols including Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers (NEO's) had increased or not changed in the last 12 months; this time 150 neither agreed or disagreed, 230 agreed the number of patrols had increased or not changed and 43 did not answer the question.
- Respondents living in Croydon, were asked if crime in their local area has increased or decreased in the last year. This question was not asked in the previous survey. 58 did not answer the question, 63 did not live in Croydon, 41 said it had decreased and 255 said it had increased, with 147 respondents saying it had stayed the same.
- In the previous survey respondents identified the following top 5 crimes in their local area as a problem: graffiti, abandoned vehicles, vehicle related nuisance, noise nuisance and nuisance behaviour. In this survey fly tipping, burglary, drugs (dealing and using) street drinking and theft were identified as the top 5 local crimes.
- In the previous survey the top 5 comments identified the following issues as a concern:
 - more police patrols
 - praise for the police, council and SCP
 - fear of crime
 - lack of police resources
 - fly tipping.
- In this survey the top 5 comments identified the following issues as a concern:
 - more visible policing in the borough, especially in the Town Centre at night
 - more CCTV coverage for the borough
 - tougher sanctions on fly tipping, littering and spitting
 - more wardens patrolling housing estates
 - tackling ASB in local neighbourhoods.

The SCP note that although crime and anti-social behaviour are reducing, the fear of crime remains a concern for residents; the findings from the 2016 Crime Quiz below evidence the perception of crime is far greater than the reality.

2016 Croydon Crime Quiz findings

A total of 423 replies were received, not all of the respondents answered all of the questions.

Overall all of the respondents thought levels of crime and asb in Croydon are much higher than they actually are.

Questions 1, 2 and 3 asked respondents to think about the number of specific crimes e.g. burglary, robbery, vehicle theft, that take place on average each day in Croydon. The majority of respondents thought the figure was far higher than it actually is.

Question 4 asked respondents to think about their perception of ASB compared to last year, the majority thought it had reduced (which is correct) but 110 (around a quarter) thought it had increased.

Question 5 asked respondents to think about how many young people (10 to 17) came to the attention of the youth offending service during 2014/15. All of the 353 respondents overestimated the figure. This would indicate public perception of young people and their involvement in crime and ASB is extremely negative.

Question 6 the majority of the 334 respondents correctly guessed the number of fly tips reported to the council and cleared each month (average monthly figure is 1,450) however 91 respondents thought the figure was much higher.

Question 7 Only 10 out of the 317 respondents guessed correctly the number of call-outs completed by the Graffiti team.

Question 8 asked respondents to rank Croydon compared with other London boroughs, again the majority thought Croydon's crime rate was much higher than it actually is.

Question 9 asked respondents if they felt safer after completing the quiz, only 98 out of 261 said yes.

Conclusions

Given the wide range of data sets that have been used, the views of the public and the impact of crime on individuals and local communities this matrix has been specifically designed to assist Safer Croydon Board members with the decision-making process to identify the strategic objectives for the new 2017/2020 Community Safety Strategy.

The matrix assesses each crime and anti-social behaviour type under 8 different categories as follows:

Categories	Definition
Volume	Total number of incidents for the period
Individual impact	The potential vulnerability of and risk and harm to individuals
Community Impact	The potential risk and harm to communities/groups
Environmental impact	The potential risk and harm to public places, retail and residential areas
Public confidence	Whether the public perceived the council and police to be dealing with the things that matter to them, high public confidence in the police and council would have a level of 0 (very low) or 1 (low)
Agency lead	The agency leading
Partnership Capacity	Current level of resources available to tackle the problem
Financial	Having sufficient financial resources in order to be able to operate efficiently and sufficiently well to tackle and reduce crime and ASB

Each of the crime and ASB categories above is scored in terms of impact and what level of impact there is for each particular crime and ASB type, the scoring key is shown in the table below.

Level of impact	Level of risk
5	Very high risk
4	High risk
3	Medium risk
2	Low risk
1	Very low risk

Levels 1, 2 and 3

Ordinary risk or low/medium risk of harm, sufficient resources and capacity available to tackle the issue/crime.

Levels 4 and 5

Increased potential risk of harm, high or very high risk of harm to individuals and places needing active involvement of more than one agency, low public confidence and potential for negative media reporting.

Table 7. Crime Matrix

Impact categories	Volume	Individual Impact	Community Impact	Environmental Impact	Public Confidence	Total	Safer Croydon Partnership Priority	Police and Crime Plan Priority	Total	Grand total
Crime										
Violent crime	Level of impact									
Assault with injury (non DV)	4	4	4	3	5	20	3	3	6	26
Violence with injury	3	5	4	2	5	19	5	4	9	28
Serious youth violence	5	5	5	2	5	22	5	5	10	32
Gun crime	3	5	5	3	5	21	3	3	6	27
Knife crime	4	5	5	3	5	22	5	5	10	32
Domestic violence	5	5	3	2	5	20	5	5	10	30
Common assault	5	3	4	3	5	20	3	3	6	26
Racist & religious crime	3	5	3	2	5	18	4	4	8	26
Total impact categories level	32	37	33	20	40		33	32		
Acquisitive crime										
Residential burglary	4	3	4	2	5	18	2	3	5	23
Theft of motor vehicle	3	3	2	1	3	12	2	3	5	17
Theft from motor vehicle	2	3	2	1	3	11	2	3	5	16
Personal robbery	5	5	5	2	5	22	5	5	10	32
Total impact categories level	14	14	13	6	16		11	14		
Anti-social behaviour										
Reported to the police										
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	5	5	5	4	5	24	4	3	7	31
Begging vagrancy	4	3	5	5	3	20	4	2	6	26
Street drinking	3	3	4	3	4	17	4	2	6	23
Vehicle nuisance inappropriate use	4	3	5	5	2	19	5	5	10	29
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	2	2	4	5	3	16	4	2	6	22
Animal problems	2	3	2	2	3	12	1	1	2	14
Prostitution	2	2	2	2	3	11	1	1	2	13
Total impact categories level	22	21	27	26	23		23	16		
Reported to the council										
Fly tipping	5	4	5	5	5	24	5	1	6	30
Harassment/abuse/assault	3	3	3	3	3	15	5	3	8	23
Noise						0	2	1	3	3
Graffiti	5	5	5	5	5	25	4	1	5	30
Total impact categories level	13	12	13	13	13		16	6		

Based on all the data gathered for the 2016 Community Safety Strategic Assessment, feedback from public consultation, and input from all partner agencies the SCP's strategic priorities for 2017-2020 are:

- **Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic violence**
- **Improve the safety of children and young people**
- **Improve public confidence and community engagement**
- **Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime**
- **Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime.**

In addition the SCP will prioritise child sexual exploitation, violence against women and girls, knife crime and gun crime. MOPAC has set out these priorities to ensure the police and local partners are focused properly on these most serious and harmful offences against vulnerable people across London.

Key strategic priorities

Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime

- Tackling violence against women and girls (Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence)
- Violent Crime; including violence on the streets and personal robbery
- Reduce Reoffending
- Burglary, particularly domestic burglary –
- MOPAC pan London priorities: child sexual exploitation, violence against women and girls, knife crime and gun crime.

Improve the Safety of children and young people

- Reduce Serious Youth Violence
- Reduce Robbery and Knife Crime
- Continue to tackle Gangs
- Provision of early intervention and prevention measures.

Tackle Anti-social behaviour and environmental crime; specifically

- Drug and Alcohol related antisocial behaviour and crime
- Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour
- Vehicle nuisance
- Fly tipping
- Arson
- Street drinking and begging.

Improve public confidence and community engagement

- Give victims a greater voice
- Help vulnerable young people

- Encourage community groups to help themselves e.g. through Community Asset Based Approach, Pathfinders etc.
- Target activity to tackle the fear of crime in Croydon.

Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime

- Closer working with the voluntary sector to support victims of hate crime (MOPAC funded project)
- Continue to support the Prevent Agenda
- Support young people who are victims of hate crime (MOPAC funded project).

Consultation on the draft Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 runs for 12 weeks - from 1st December 2016 to 23rd February 2017. The proposed MOPAC priorities are set out below:

- **Keeping children and young people safe.**
- **Tackling violence against women and girls.**
- **Standing together against extremism, hatred and intolerance.**
- **A better police service for London.**
- **A better criminal justice service for London.**

Delivery framework

The delivery structure for the duration of this strategy is as follows:



SAFER CROYDON BOARD

The Safer Croydon Partnership Board meets five times a year and is responsible for all community safety matters across the borough. This group provides strategic leadership and makes decisions regarding resources, performance management and future developments. The Cabinet Member for Community Safety is the Chair of the Board. The key responsible authorities include, council, police, health, probation, and fire. Members of partner agencies are at a level senior enough to ensure decisions are made and resources are deployed. In addition the Safer Croydon Board has representation from the voluntary sector as well as local residents.

Youth Crime Prevention Board (YCPB) Reducing Serious Youth Violence is a clear priority for the YCPB. This is a complex issue with numerous causes and for this reason it requires a partnership approach to ensure preventative measures are put into place across all partner agencies.

Joint Agency Group (JAG) The JAG is a multi-agency problem solving group tackling anti social behaviour. Member agencies include, Police Neighbourhood Cluster Inspectors, Youth Offending Services, Youth Outreach, Substance Misuse Outreach Services (for individuals displaying anti-social behaviour linked to alcohol and/or drugs) Croydon Connected (multi-agency gang team) Noise Team, Council and Police ASB Team, Safer Transport Teams, Fire Service, UK Border Agency and Neighbourhood Watch.

Each problem location identified is dealt with by a dedicated team, responsible for pulling together short term action plans based on problem solving techniques. These are monitored

by the JAG and the Police Borough Tasking Group. On-going hot spot areas, for example the Town Centre, remain as core agenda items.

Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) The DAAT is responsible for the local delivery of the National Drugs Strategy and its activities include:

- education and prevention
- getting more people into drug treatment
- reducing drug related crime
- reducing supply
- empowering local communities to resist drug misuse.

Integrated Offender Management Group A multi-agency response to reduce re-offending; by targeting the top 40 most problematic offenders the IOM framework helps to address the problems behind an offender's behaviour by effective information sharing across a range of partner agencies and jointly providing the right intervention at the right time.

Croydon Connected Gangs Team Oversee the delivery of the Croydon Connected Gangs Strategy. This group has a weekly case management meeting and a stakeholder forum reporting into it.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Group (DASV) Chief Executive Group Champions leading their organisation, being active members of the DASV Strategic Group and reporting to the Chief Executive Group and the SCP.

Knife Crime Working Group This is a new group bringing together key stakeholders to tackle the recent increase in knife crime incidents. During the period (Dec 15 to Nov16) there was a 70.1% increase in knife crime offences in Croydon compared to a 9.3% increase in the MPS.

Town Centre Group – has been established to develop both strategic and operational plans to tackle crime and asb in the town centre, working closely with local businesses, schools colleges as well as pubs and clubs.

Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV)

Croydon's 2012 to 2015 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy identifies the national, regional and local policy context within which joint working to address domestic violence in Croydon will take place.

The strategy also identifies what we need to do to prevent domestic violence by raising awareness and challenging attitudes, beliefs and behaviour that tolerate and condone violence, provide victims of domestic violence with the support they need and protect victims by managing offenders/perpetrators to prevent further domestic violence and abuse.

Developing an integrated response to domestic abuse and sexual violence through coordinated action across all agencies. This is based on consistent and well informed policies, systems, resource sharing and leadership and will enable us to create an environment where domestic abuse and sexual violence in all its forms is not tolerated and is challenged.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE - KEY ACTIONS
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Violent Crime (non-domestic violence)

A violent crime is a crime where the offender uses, or threatens to use, violent force upon the victim. The police record violent crime as either 'violence against the person', 'most serious violence' or 'serious youth violence'. Overall, last year in Croydon, the total number of violent incidents saw a slight reduction.

Violent crime is a key concern with 4 of the top 5 crimes identified in the Strategic Assessment, linked to violence.

VIOLENT CRIME - KEY ACTIONS
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Reduce reoffending

A high volume of crime is committed by offenders described as 'prolific or priority offenders'. Providing appropriate monitoring and supervision, and working together with offenders to tackle drug and alcohol abuse, improving their basic skills, tackling their offending behaviour and improving the chances of them getting a job has proven to help break the cycle of offending.

KEY ACTIONS - REDUCING RE-OFFENDING
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Safety of children and young people

- Serious Youth Violence
- Robbery and Knife Crime
- Tackling Gang related activity and membership
- Early intervention and prevention.

The numbers of young people coming to the attention of Croydon Youth Offending Services (YOS) remains at around 600 young people a year (670 in 2015/16). This is just 1.8% of the total 10 to 17 year old population. The average age is 16/17 but we have a small but significant number of 13/15 year olds involved in serious offending.

The crime types such as Serious Youth Violence (SYV) and knife crime overlap and can include the same offences under different headings. Crime types recorded as Serious Youth Violence count the number of victims (aged 1 to 19) rather than the number of offences and also includes offences where a weapon is used, or where the offender threatens to use a weapon.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a hidden crime. Young people often trust their abuser and don't understand that they're being abused. They may depend on their abuser, or be too scared to tell anyone what's happening.

- Young people are particularly vulnerable to violence and robbery
- Young people aged 15 to 24 are more likely to be victims of crime and this matches the age range for offenders
- The incidence of violent offences against young people starts increasing from age 11, peaking between 18 and 21
- The borough has the largest 10 to 17 year population of the London boroughs at 37,411.
- Croydon has the highest number of youth victims in London

- Independent research identifies that much of the crime committed by and against young people is unreported and therefore unrecorded.

KEY ACTIONS - SERIOUS YOUTH VIOLENCE
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Anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

These include those 'quality of life' measures that go a long way to indicate if an area looks and feels safe. They may not be crimes but the impact can be the same.

- Drug and Alcohol related antisocial behaviour and crime
- Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour
- Street drinking and begging
- Vehicle nuisance
- Fly tipping
- Arson.

The strong links between drug misuse and acquisitive crime (e.g. shoplifting, burglary, vehicle crime and theft) are widely acknowledged. Heroin, crack and cocaine users are responsible for 50% of these crimes and around three quarters of crack and heroin users claim to be committing crime to feed their habit. Getting people into treatment quickly can have a significant impact on reducing drug related crime and anti-social behaviour.

Anti-social behaviour causes significant harm to individuals and communities; it can increase the fear of crime and impact on the quality of life for those affected. It also costs individuals, businesses and communities' money through higher insurance and security costs and fewer local amenities due to the high cost of graffiti removal and repairing damage caused by vandalism.

KEY ACTIONS ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
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Improving public confidence and community engagement

- Give victims a greater voice
- Help vulnerable people
- Public confidence in the services that tackle crime and anti-social behaviour although improving, must remain a priority.
- Investment in Croydon is key to improving the local area and this includes attracting businesses who will only come if the area is perceived to be safe.

Increasing awareness of the role and work undertaken by the police and council in tackling crime and ASB is perceived to be key to improving public confidence. This is particularly important with respect to Neighbourhood Policing and understanding the role of the local council. The key is to provide local communities with information to improve their understanding of what is being done locally to respond to their crime and ASB concerns. Recorded crime data is after all, affected by the public's confidence and enthusiasm to report crime.

Restorative Justice Approaches can help to reduce reoffending and improve victim satisfaction

An area will be perceived to be safe if it is clean, environmental issues are addressed quickly and street based behaviour such as drinking and begging is tackled all in a visible way.

KEY ACTIONS TO BUILD TRUST AND CONFIDENCE
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Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime

Text – to do

KEY ACTIONS TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF HATE CRIME
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Links with other strategies

Safety is an important consideration in many social policy initiatives; as such this strategy contributes and compliments other council and partner agency strategies and plans.

This is a crucial factor in the current financial climate where all partners are dealing with significant budget reductions. Furthermore, complex social issues, such as the causes of social exclusion demand the need for joined up long term solutions.

Set out below is an overview of the key links with other strategies; this list is not exhaustive

- **Croydon's Community Strategy**
- **Croydon's Corporate Plan**
- **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Action Plan**
- **Gangs Strategy**
- **Croydon Children and Young People's Plan**
- **Stronger Communities Strategy**
- **Equality Strategy**
- **MOPAC Police and Crime Plan**
- **Fire Strategy**
- **Croydon's Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence strategy and multi-agency action plan**
- **Croydon's Youth Crime Strategy and multi-agency action plan.**
- **Croydon's Child Safeguarding Strategy**
- **Croydon's Adult Safeguarding Strategy.**