



Community Safety

***Early Overview and findings from the
Coventry Strategic Assessment***

2014-15


Document Objective

- Statutory Annual Document (*since 2009*).
- Based on a wide range of data – analysed in context of wider social trends and knowledge sought from a range of professionals and agencies.
- Seeks to understand trends within Crime & Disorder and determine / understand relationships between wider social issues impacting on Community Safety
- Identify causes and drivers of various crime and nuisance with which to tackle collectively

Local Context



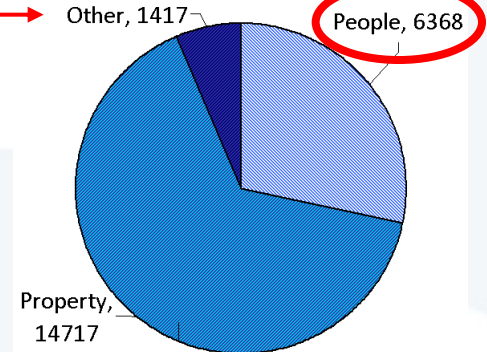
Population 323,100  2% since **2011** Census

Households 133,800  6% since **2001** Census



Increasingly diverse Non White British 33.3%

Calls to Services	Number	Rate per 1000 Population
Recorded Crime - Police	22495	69.6
Anti Social Behaviour - Police	8843	27.4
Coventry Rape & Sexual Assault Centre	4900	15.2
Environmental Services	3315	10.3
Registered Social Landlords	3400	10.5
Council Reporting Line	2232	6.9
Domestic Violence 3rd Sector Agencies	704	2.2
Accident & Emergency (Violence related attendees)	298	0.9
Total above	46187	142.9

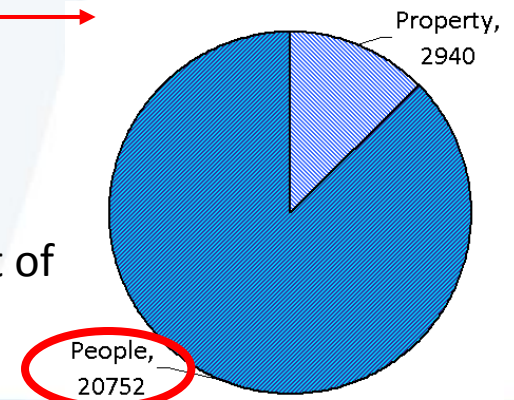


In Addition

CCC Social Care; **649** Looked After Children

CCC Social Care; **755** Child Protection Cases

Around **450** Families have been worked with as part of Program



Crime Trends *Continued...*

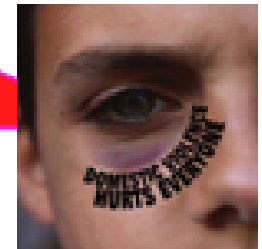
Recorded Crime has been decreasing from a **peak in 1999** to **lowest level across 2013** (*down by 40% between the two periods*)

Most offence types falling.

General trend
- Predates recession



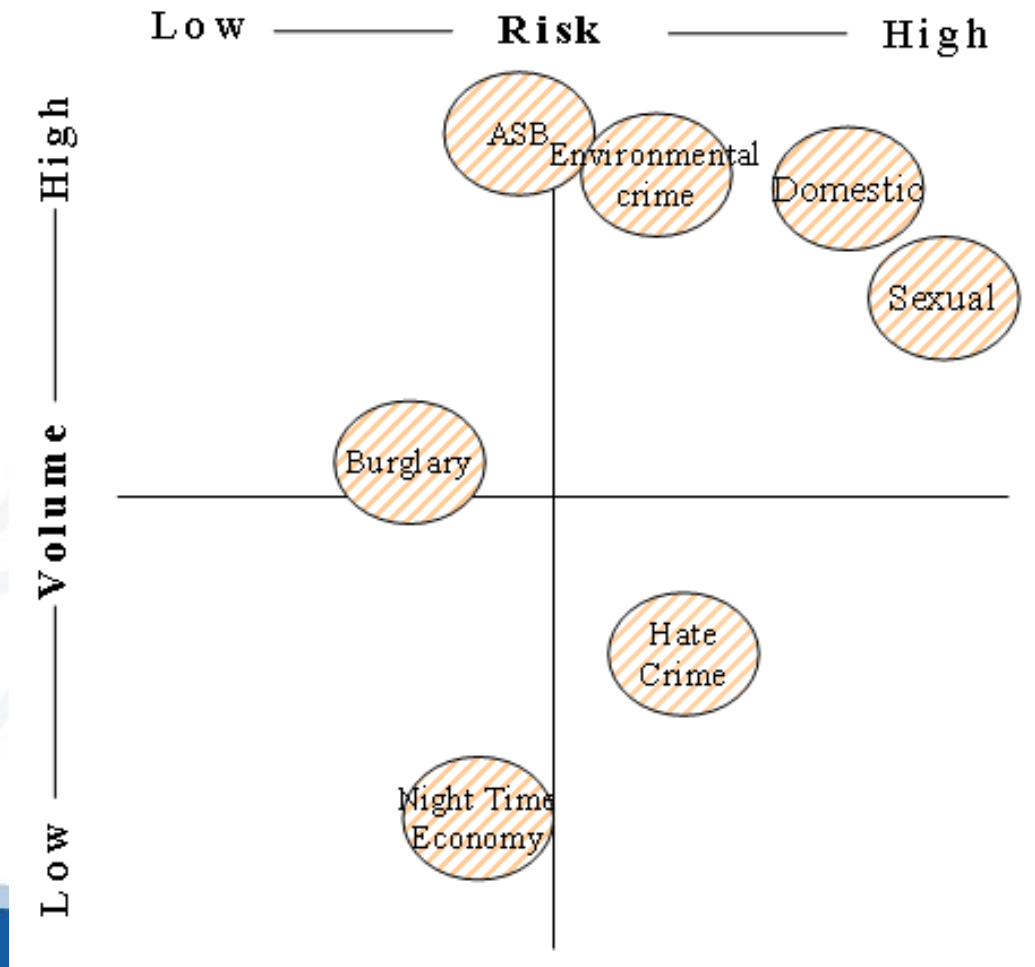
Increases in Reports of most damaging issues –
Sexual offences / Domestic Violence



Levels of Sexual offences and Domestic Violence across the same timeframe are relatively static; and making up ever increasing proportions of offences, (9% of *all* offences were domestic in 2013)

Prioritising Offences

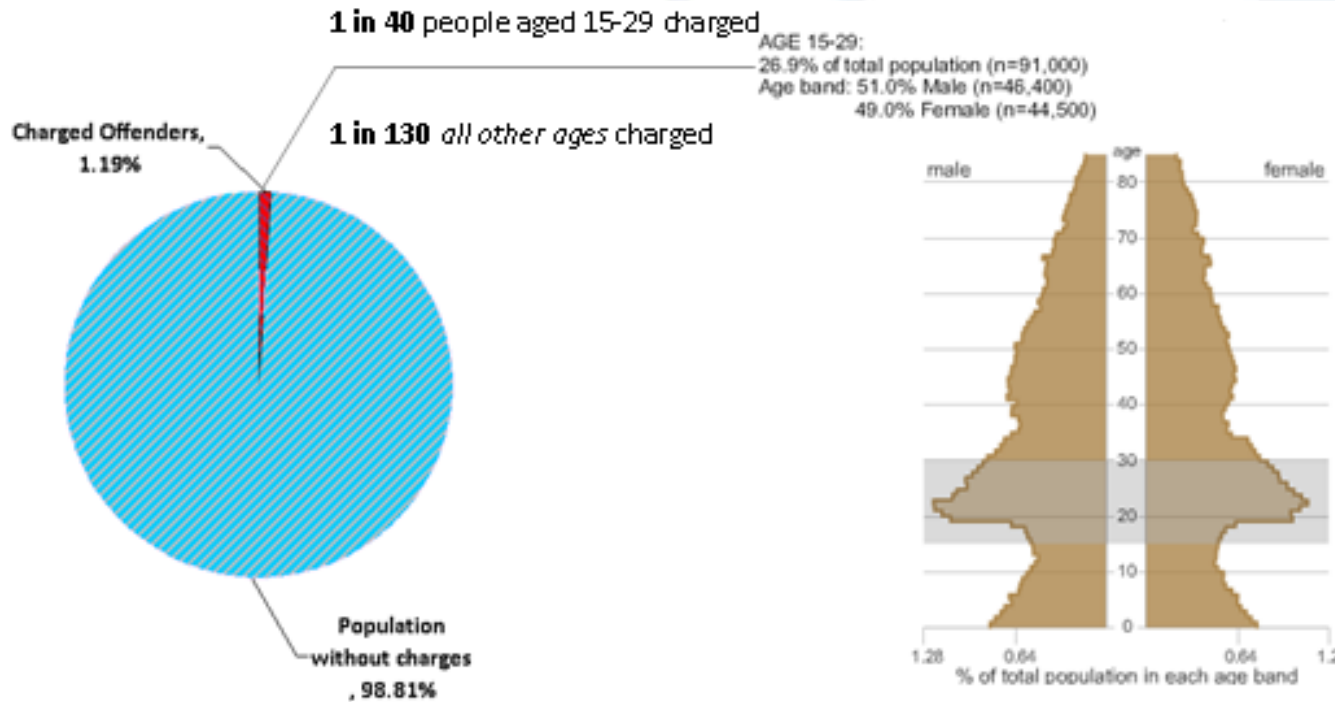
- Despite Crime & Disorder often being symptomatic of wider issues, the Strategic Assessment addresses some issues in greater depth, allowing a more directed response



Offenders

Trends & Issues

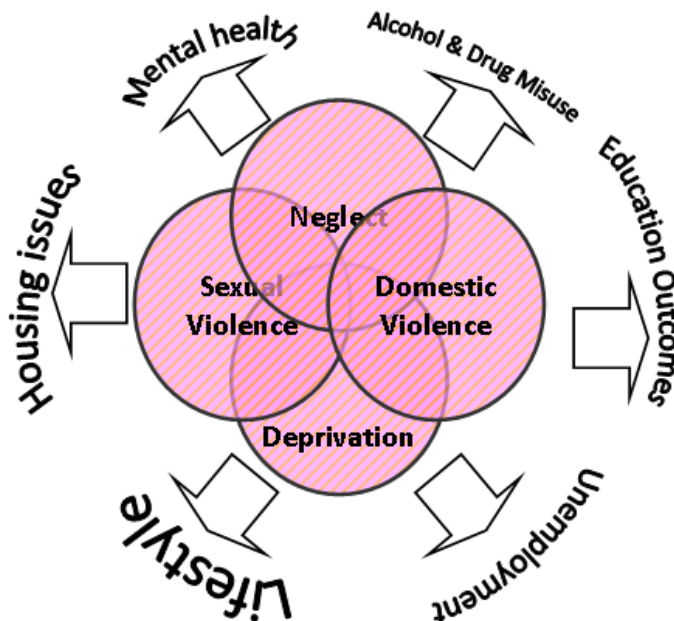
- Disproportionate Young People aged 15 – 29 years, peaking 14 – 26 years.
- Drugs and Alcohol are a factor; Mental Health is an issue
- Learnt behaviour; Limited Education; Peer Pressure; Chaotic Lifestyle



Victims

- Mainly younger people; 14 – 40 years, peaking aged 17 – 30
- Crosses Ethnicity; but broadly in line with cities changing demography
- Contributory factors; Deprivation, Mental Health, Substance misuse, (Lack of Awareness, Vulnerability, Dependency, Lifestyle issues.
- High risk groups; Young people, Domestic & Sexual Abuse victims (females & children), Mentally ill, Students, Troubled Families

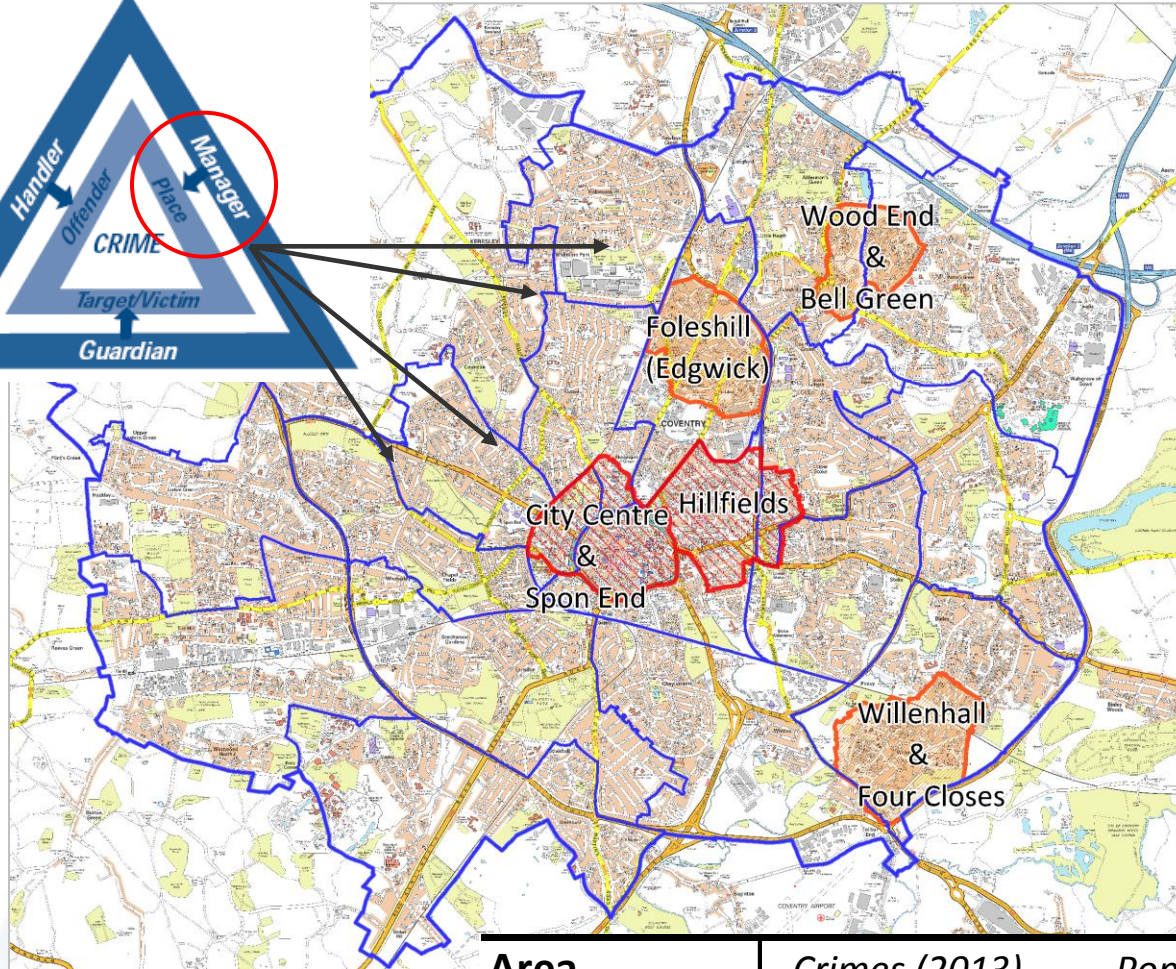
Effects of Hidden Harm offences on victims



Often resulting in.....

- *Anger and Self Harm*
- *Low self esteem*
- *Increased likelihood of victimisation (female) or offending (males)*
- *Failure to realise potential (child & Adult)*
- *Reliance on services*
- *Teenage Pregnancy*
- *Poor Health and higher levels of need - often from an earlier age*
- *Cyclical patterns (Troubled Families)*

Priority Locations



Higher levels of need
across broadest
range of issues
And indicators

Example of crime issues
Experienced in Priority
Areas

Area	Crimes (2013)	Population	Rate per 1000 pop
Priority Areas	7456	59,998	124.3
Rest Of City	15046	261302	57.6
Coventry	22502	321,300	70.0

Priority Focus – Cause & Effect

Moving from dealing with symptoms to tackling cause

Symptoms

School absence
&
unemployment

Crime & ASB

Violence, Abuse &
Exploitation

Root Causes

Chaotic Lifestyle

Drug & Alcohol
Abuse

Poor Mental
Health
& Wellbeing

Circumstances &
Childhood experience

Drivers; Mental Health

- Victims of Domestic Violence are **4x** more likely to suffer depression
- Victims of sexual violence suffer a range of issues including anxiety, anger and depressive conditions.
- Alcohol and drug use is a factor; DV victims are **15x** more likely to drink excessively and **9x** more likely to use drugs
- Multi systemic workers in contact with young people identify emotional or physical abuse as a key factor in the early lives of young people they work with.
- 15% of new drug users in treatment receive dual diagnosis (Drugs & Mental Health).

Drivers; Drugs & Alcohol

- Substances often used to excess to 'mask' hidden harm issues (Domestic / Sexual / Neglect)
- Heroin use is falling, particularly amongst younger people - there remains a 'hardcore' of long term users.
- Use of Cannabis and legal highs increasing. Trends indicate Cocaine and like drugs are re emergent.
- Alcohol is a factor in **1 in 5** Child Protection cases
- **12% of NHS spending** is directly linked to alcohol
- Drinkers are doing so more in the home; despite increasing consumption amongst middle classes those in deprived areas undertake the most damaging drinking patterns.

Chaotic Lifestyle

- Damaging lifestyle has a negative on physical and mental wellbeing
- Households where issues such as unhealthy lifestyle (diet, smoking, drugs, alcohol), employment, budgeting etc - shape or impact on social functioning.
- Poor or unstructured parenting and home life can lead to early social norms becoming distorted
- Intergenerational problems and cycle of low expectation and reliance on services
- Coalescence of similar minded peers can result in patterns being repeated – with little or no resistance
- Youth offending data shows **60%** of offenders recognise a lack of education as a significant barrier.

What do we do?

- Whole family approach - troubled & problematic families
- Harm Reduction Partnership – protect the vulnerable
- Street Drinkers, Rough Sleepers & Beggars
- Sex workers- management treatment & support to change lifestyle
- Gangs & Organised Crime Groups
- Target priority locations – public place crime & nuisance

Case Study

- **Neighbour Nuisance /Drug Use - case dealt with over a 1 month period from initial complaint to resolution.**
- **Initial reports of neighbours social drug use causing nuisance, annoyance and distress.**
- **Initial checks with other agencies & departments including environmental protection and children services - safeguarding**
- **joint action with the Police – initial joint visit to the alleged perpetrator was carried out by officers from the Community Safety Team.**
- **Occupants warned about their conduct, with the potential criminal and civil consequences & referral to treatment services**
- **Repeat of incidents – formal warning issued**
- **Complainant kept informed throughout the process.**
- **Police colleagues continued to monitor the property.**
- **Since formal warning issued – no further incidents and the complainant has confirmed his satisfaction as to how the matter was dealt with.**