



**Cambridge City East
Neighbourhood Policing Team
Neighbourhood Profile**



Cambridge City Council



CONTENTS

Introduction	3
1.0 BASELINE ASSESSMENT	4
1.1 Key Contacts	4
1.2 Cambridge City East Area Key Features	4
1.3 Demographics	7
1.4 Deprivation	8
1.5 Historical Crime and Disorder Context	9
1.6 Hotspot Crime & Disorder Locations	13
2.0 CURRENT PICTURE	18
2.1 Conclusion	21
2.2 Recommendations	21
2.3 Feedback	22
Appendix A – Vulnerable Localities Index	23

Introduction

Background

The National Policing Plan 2005-08 highlighted Neighbourhood Policing as the key national policing priority. The Cambridgeshire Constabulary Community Engagement Strategy published in August 2005 outlined the Constabulary's strategy for implementing Neighbourhood Policing via community engagement. The formation of defined Neighbourhood Policing Areas along with the creation of Neighbourhood Profiles of these areas was identified as a key element within this strategy.

In line with established panels across the Division the 'Current Picture' section of the profile will be updated on a regular basis with current and emerging neighbourhood issues.

Aim

The aim of the Neighbourhood Profile is to help identify current crime and disorder issues in order to facilitate the setting of neighbourhood policing priorities. They can then be addressed in partnership by the police and other agencies.

Purpose

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Profile is as follows:

- To provide multi agency 'Neighbourhood Action Groups' with timely information on which Neighbourhood issues can be identified and effectively prioritised.
- To provide Neighbourhood Policing Teams with a clearer understanding of the area they are policing through analysis of Neighbourhood data.
- To enable development of a system to categorise 'Priority Neighbourhoods' within the Force.
- For future reference in judging the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Policing.
- To provide a document which contains Neighbourhood key statistics and contacts for operational use, particularly in supporting the management of major/critical incidents.

Methodology

This document was produced using the following data sources:

1. Crime data 01/06/2004 to 31/05/2007.
2. Incident data 01/06/2004 to 31/05/2007.
3. Cambridge City Council data:
 - a. Fly Tipping Data, April and May 2007.
 - b. Needle Finds Data, April and May 2007.
 - c. Noise Nuisance Data, May 2007.
4. Census Data 2001.
5. Neighbourhood Policing Team questionnaires and interviews, June 2007.

1.0 Baseline Assessment

1.1 Key Contacts

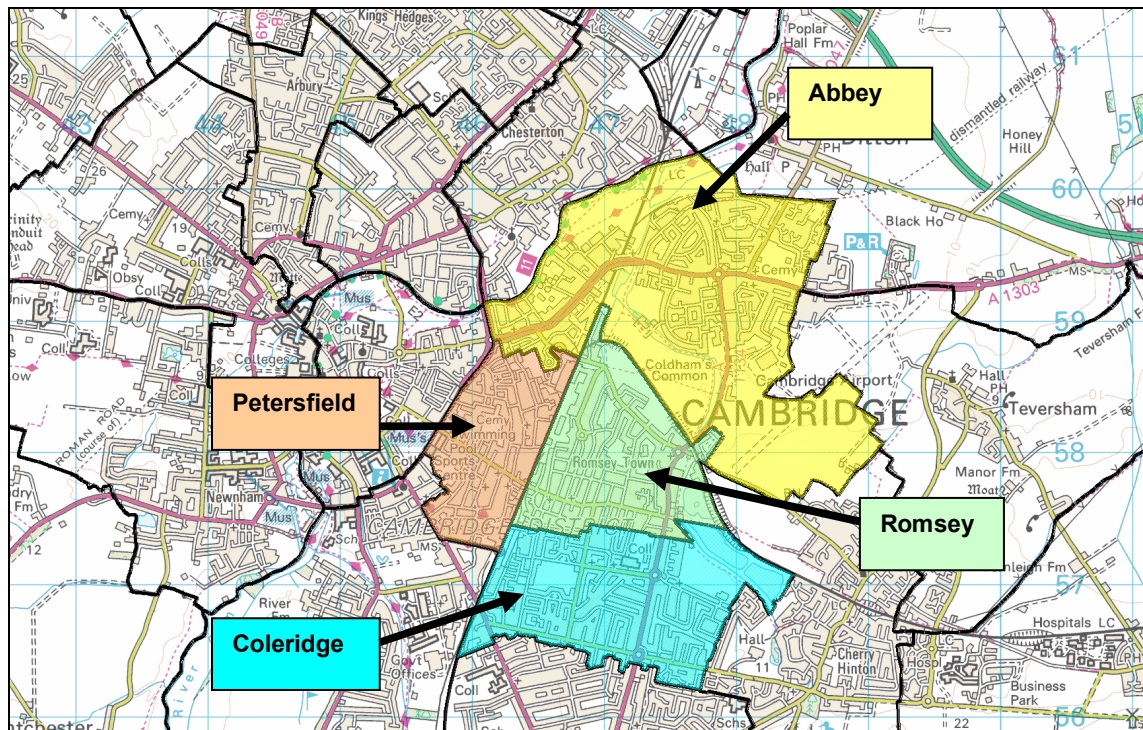
This section provides information on the key contacts for Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Policing Team. The team can be contacted on the police non-emergency phone number 0845 4564564.

Fig. 1: Table to show key contacts in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Policing Team

Title	Name
Sector Inspector	Inspector Jon Hutchinson
Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant	PS Simon Cross
Community Contact Officer	Sarah Gent
Community Contact Officer	Rebecca Haston
Abbey Ward	
Neighbourhood Policing Constable	PC Andy Badcock
Neighbourhood Policing Constable	PC Michael Basford
PCSO	Daniel Smith
PCSO	Jenny Rouse
Coleridge Ward	
Neighbourhood Policing Constable	PC Anna Bye
PCSO	Paul Collier
PCSO	Michael Stribling
Petersfield Ward	
Neighbourhood Policing Constable	PC Simon Birch
PCSO	John Carter
PCSO	Hannah Campbell
PCSO	Chris Adkin
Romsey Ward	
Neighbourhood Policing Constable	PC Martin Flack
PCSO	Tom Taylor
PCSO	Hannah Campbell

1.2 Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area Key Features

Cambridge City East is one of four Neighbourhood Areas in Cambridge City, and is composed of four wards: Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield and Romsey. The area consists of a large quantity of residential housing and retail outlets, as well as being home to Cambridge Airport, Cambridge Railway Station, Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge Leisure Park and several leisure centres and green areas. A number of key arterial roads provide access to Cherry Hinton, Newmarket and the A14.

Fig. 2: Map of Cambridge City East showing composite wards¹

Petersfield

Petersfield is a very busy and vibrant ward from early in the morning until late at night. Its close proximity to the city centre and the location of the railway station, make it a regular thoroughfare for visitors, commuters and local residents. Mill Road consists of an eclectic mix of independent shops and services, and the wide range of restaurants, public houses, cafes and fast food outlets ensure that there is a buoyant night time economy.

The demography of the ward is very mixed in terms of age, culture and religion, which is reflected in the appearance of the ward, and this diversity is reflected in the many varied types of accommodation that exist in the ward. The area is very popular with students and others choosing to rent bedsits or shared homes, and there are also several sheltered housing schemes for senior citizens. These all knit well with the substantial number of sought after Victorian type family homes that are located in the ward.

Key features of the ward include:

Parade of shops/small supermarkets	Number of pubs, bars, restaurants and fast food outlets, Mill Road
Cambridge Railway Station	Beehive Shopping Centre
The Bridge Project, Mill Road (drug advice centre)	Abu Bakr Siddiq Mosque, Mawson Road
Sancton Wood Junior School, Station Road	St Barnabas Church, Mill Road
Sancton Wood Secondary School,	Parkside Swimming Pool

¹ Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

St Pauls Road	
St Matthews Primary School, Norfolk Street	Salvation Army Centre, Mill Road
St Collette's Preparatory School, Tenison Road	Jimmy's Night Shelter, Zion Baptist Church, East Road
Brunswick Nursery, Young Street	Cambridge City Council main depot, Mill Road
Anglia Ruskin University, East Road	

Romsey

Romsey is fairly similar to Petersfield in terms of community features, and covers the section of Mill Road East of the railway line to Brookfields. Many of the homes are very expensive to purchase, but there is a large quantity of student housing and privately rented shared homes/bedsits. There are also several housing schemes for senior citizens.

The community as a whole is interested in police matters and there are several 'action groups' that provide a community voice and campaign on local issues.

Key features of the ward include:

The Broadway (parade of shops), Mill Road	Number of pubs and fast food outlets on Mill Road
Brookfields Hospital, which includes the Drug and Alcohol Service	Sainsbury's and Co-op supermarkets
St Philips School, Vinery Road	Romsey Mill Community Centre

Abbey

Abbey ward covers the largest area out of all the wards in Cambridge City East, and also has the largest population. It is a diverse ward as it has a high concentration of housing, many retail outlets and a wide range of other amenities. Due to its close proximity to the city centre, and the presence of the Park and Ride, Newmarket Road is very busy with commuters and shoppers.

The ward is also very diverse in terms of affluence and deprivation. Riverside and Beche Road consist of high value new/Victorian properties, and there are also several large council estates which show levels of deprivation above the county average.

Key features of the ward include:

Cambridge Airport (Marshalls)	Leisure Centre and Swimming Pool
Newmarket Road Retail Park	Abbey Football Stadium
Tesco Supermarket	Industrial Units (Mercers Row, Garlic Row and Swanns Road)
Coldhams Common and Stourbridge Common	Newmarket Road Cemetery
Early Years Centre, Galfrid Road	Newmarket Road Park and Ride
See Saw Nursery, East Barnwell Centre	Kingdom Meeting Hall (Jehovah's Witnesses), Stanley Road
Steiner School, Newmarket Road	Abbey Church of England Church,

	Newmarket Road
Nursery, Abbey Road	Fuel Distribution Centre, Wadloes Road
East Barnwell Centre	

Coleridge

Coleridge ward has seen many changes to its infrastructure and development in the last few years. The cattle market site was redeveloped to form the Cambridge Leisure Park, which has become a busy entertainments centre enjoyed by a wide variety of people, particularly at the weekends.

The population in Coleridge is steadily increasing due to the extensive building projects in Rustat Road, which will continue in the short to medium term. The new properties vary from small apartments to larger town houses, and are high density. There is a relatively large proportion of senior citizens in the ward, with 19.3% of the population consisting of residents aged 65 or older. Most of the elderly residents live in and around the Lichfield Road area, and there is also a number of council schemes around Budleigh Close and Tiverton Way. A small number of houses are rented privately to students.

Key features of the ward include:

Cambridge Leisure Park, Clifton Road (many amenities including a hotel, multi-screen cinema, the Junction, bowling alley and restaurants)	Industrial/Business Estate, Clifton Road
Coleridge Road recreation ground (Davy Road and Fanshawe Road)	Cambridge Youth Foyer, 1 Rustat Close
St Bede's Secondary School, Birdwood Road	Large housing development on Rustat Road (long term)
Coleridge Secondary School, Radegund Road	Parade of shops, including Budgens supermarket, on Perne Road
Ridgefield Infant/Primary School, Radegund Road	Parade of shops, public house (The Rock) and hotel on Cherry Hinton Road

1.3 Demographics

Fig. 3: Table to show population demographics for Cambridge City East from 2001 Census.

	Cambridge City East	% of Cambridge City
Resident population	30,752	28.3%
Number of households	13,337	31.3%
Area (hectares)	838	20.6%
Population density (People per hectare)	36.7	26.75

		Cambridge City East	% of total popn/hlds	Cambridge City %
Ethnic Group	White	27,729	90.2%	89.5%
	Asian/Asian British	1,149	3.7%	3.8%
	Black/Black British	439	1.4%	1.3%
	Mixed	587	1.9%	1.9%
	Other	846	2.8%	3.5%
Household Type	Pensioners	2,581	19.4%	21.9%
	Lone parents	976	7.3%	7.2%
	Students	375	2.8%	1.9%
Household Tenure	Owner occupied	6,834	51.2%	53.4%
	Rented from local authority, housing association or registered social landlord	3,194	23.9%	23.6%
	Rented privately/other	3,309	24.8%	20.6%
Economic Activity (16-74)	Working	14,841	62.0%	57.7%
	Unemployed	578	2.4%	2.8%
	Retired	1,894	7.9%	8.6%
	Students	2,997	12.5%	21.8%

Of note:

- High population density in City East Neighbourhood Area.
- High proportion of student households in City East Neighbourhood Area.

1.4 Deprivation

The Vulnerable Localities Index (VLI) enables measurement of levels of deprivation by ward taking into consideration economic, health, educational and environmental factors.² The greater the number, the less vulnerable the area is considered to be.

Fig 4: Table to show VLI rankings for Cambridge City East, as at April 2007

Ward	VLI Force Rank	VLI Division Rank	VLI City Rank
Abbey	19/146	4/34	4/14
Petersfield	27/146	6/34	6/14
Romsey	31/146	7/34	7/14
Coleridge	54/146	16/34	12/14

² See Appendix A for further explanation of VLI.

According to the Index, Abbey is the most vulnerable ward in the Neighbourhood Area, closely followed by Petersfield and Romsey. These wards are also amongst the most vulnerable in Southern Division and the Force area. Coleridge is one of the least vulnerable wards in Cambridge City, although it scores relatively highly when compared with all of the wards in the Force.

1.5 Historical Crime and Disorder Context

This section gives an overview of crime and disorder trends in Cambridge City East over the last two years.

Fig. 5: Table to show Cambridge City East Area Ward rankings for total crime within Cambridge City and Southern Division, between June 2006 and May 2007.

Ward	Total Crime Rank Cambridge City	Total Crime Rank Southern Division ³
Petersfield	2/14	2/70
Abbey	3/14	3/70
Romsey	9/14	10/70
Coleridge	10/14	11/70

- **Petersfield and Abbey recorded the highest crime levels in the Division after Market ward over the last two years**

Market ward covers the historic centre of Cambridge, and outside of this ward, Petersfield and Abbey wards recorded the highest volumes of crime in Southern Division. Out of the four Neighbourhood Areas that make up Cambridge City, City East accounted for a quarter (27%) of total crime in Cambridge City; ranking joint second with City North. Petersfield and Abbey wards together accounted for 60% of the total crime in the Neighbourhood Area, with Romsey and Coleridge recording approximately a third less crime than Petersfield and Abbey. When population is taken into consideration, Petersfield has the highest crime rate.

Fig. 6: Total crime in Cambridge City East by Ward, June 2004 to May 2007

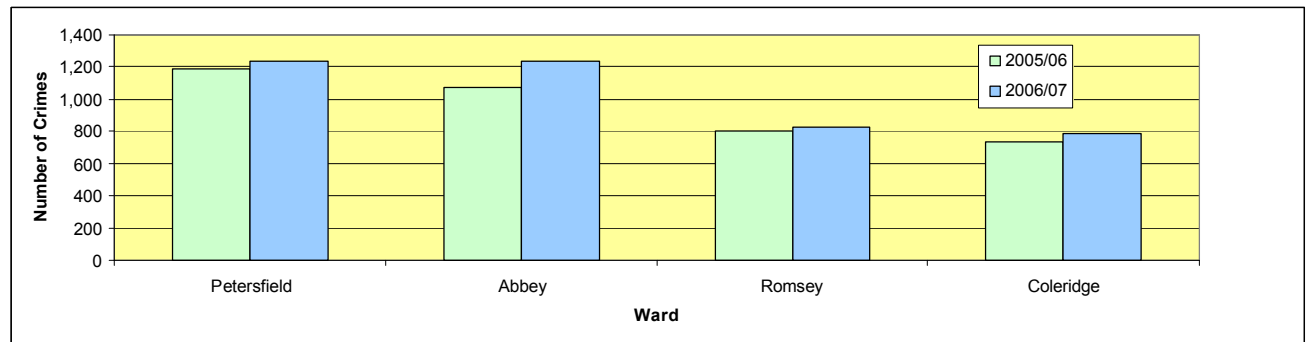
Ward	June 2004 to May 2005	June 2005 to May 2006	June 2006 to May 2007	% Total Crime 06/07	Pop'n ⁴	06/07 Crime per 1000 Pop'n ⁵
Petersfield	1,494	1,189	1,240	30%	6,948	178.5
Abbey	1,023	1,073	1,237	30%	8,396	147.3
Romsey	855	806	828	20%	7,981	103.7
Coleridge	594	740	785	19%	7,427	105.7
Total Cambridge City East	3,966	3,808	4,090	99%	30,752	133.0

³ Southern Division comprises of Cambridge City, South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire.

⁴ Population as at 2001 Census.

⁵ June 2006 to May 2007

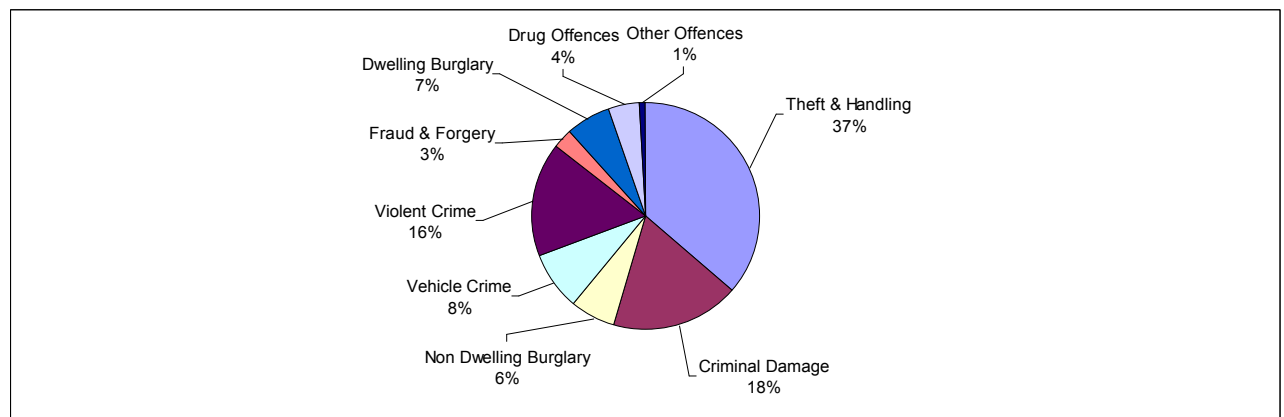
Fig. 7: Graph to show total crime in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area by Ward, 2005/06 and 2006/07(June to May)



- Crime has increased in Cambridge City East over the past year**

All four wards in City East have seen an increase in crime during the last year when compared with the previous year, with an overall increase of 7% in the Neighbourhood Area. This is slightly less than the 8.5% increase seen across Cambridge City and the 10% increase seen in Southern Division over the same period⁶. Abbey saw the greatest increase at 15% and Romsey the lowest at 3%. The rise in Abbey beat was due to a rise in thefts.

Fig. 8: Pie Chart illustrating Offences in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, June 2006 to May 2007



*Vehicle crime offences have been separated out from theft and handling offences.

- Theft of Pedal Cycle was top offence type in Cambridge City East over the past year**

Theft of pedal cycles accounted for 15% of total crime in the Neighbourhood Area over the last year, and this is consistent with the two previous years. The total number of cycle thefts during the last year is static when compared with the previous year. It was the top offence type for all wards except Abbey, where shoplifting recorded the most offences. The other offence types recording the highest volumes across all wards were Theft Not Classified Elsewhere (9%), Criminal Damage to Vehicles (8%) and shoplifting (7%).

⁶ Total crime across the Force increased by 4.1% (June 2005 to May 2006 and June 2006 to May 2007)

- **Increases in Violent Crime and Criminal Damage occurred in Cambridge City East over the past year**

Violent crime increased by 18% (97 offences) during the last year, due to increases in Common Assault and Battery, and Harassment, Alarm or Distress offences. Abbey and Petersfield wards recorded the highest volumes for these offence types.

Criminal damage offences increased by 10% (68 offences) when compared with the previous year. The increase was seen across all the different categories of criminal damage, with criminal damage to vehicles recording the largest increase.

- **Rise in Drugs Offences**

Drugs offences rose by 51% (58 offences) when compared with the previous year, which was partly due to the positive arrest policy relating to the possession of cannabis. Three quarters of the offences occurred in Abbey and Petersfield. Intelligence indicates that Class A and cannabis drug dealing is occurring throughout the Neighbourhood Area, with specific hotspots in all of the wards.

Key Offence Types

- The table below illustrates the offence breakdown by ward for key offence types over the last year. It can be seen that Petersfield and Abbey recorded the highest levels for all the particular crime types.
- In comparison with the other wards, Abbey recorded particularly high levels of violent crime, non dwelling burglaries and vehicle crime (thefts of and thefts from vehicles). Two thirds of the violent crime in Abbey beat was equally split between Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm and Common Assault and Battery. Residential addresses in Ditton Fields recorded 21 offences and a public house on Newmarket Road was the other clear hotspot with 15 offences.
- Petersfield ward recorded the lowest levels of vehicle crime in the Neighbourhood Area, which is surprising considering the high number of vehicles parked on roads.

Fig. 9: Table showing key offence types by ward in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, June 2006 to May 2007

Ward	Criminal Damage	Violent Crime	Pedal Cycle Theft	Non Dwelling Burglary	Theft from Vehicle	Dwelling Burglary	Theft of Vehicle	Theft from Shop	Total
Petersfield	221	179	274	75	23	82	15	109	978
Abbey	193	213	88	90	78	79	40	137	918
Romsey	169	152	132	40	35	77	32	20	657
Coleridge	143	123	115	58	58	33	25	8	563
Total	726	667	609	263	194	271	112	274	3,116

- **Rise in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Incidents**

Anti-social behaviour incidents during the last year rose by 40% in comparison with the previous year; however this increase is similar to other wards across Cambridge City and is thought to be due in part to a change in recording practices.

Abbey recorded the highest volume of incidents and ranked the highest ward outside of Market ward for ASB in Cambridge City. Rowdy and Inconsiderate behaviour was consistently the main type of ASB recorded across all four wards (66%), with Rowdy and Nuisance Neighbours the second most popular type of ASB (9%). Of note:

1. Abbey recorded a high number of incidents relating to Vehicle Related Nuisance/Inappropriate Vehicle Use (11% of all ASB incidents).
2. Petersfield ward recorded a relatively high number of street drinking and begging/vagrancy incidents (56% of such incidents in City East).

Fig. 10: Table to show ASB incidents and rankings for Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07 (June to May):

Ward	June 2004 to May 2005	June 2005 to May 2006	June 2006 to May 2007	% Total ASB (06/07)	Cambridge City Ward Ranking 2006/07
Abbey	612	669	951	33%	2/14
Petersfield	594	460	696	24%	7/14
Romsey	467	490	667	23%	8/14
Coleridge	347	406	530	19%	10/14
Total	2,020	2,025	2,844	99%	

- **'Street Life' Anti-Social Behaviour Continues to be a Problem**

Anti-social behaviour and crime associated with the 'street life' community has been a long term problem in Petersfield and Romsey wards. The Section 30 Dispersal Order which was introduced in April 2004 was again extended in January to include the area around Elizabeth Way in Abbey ward, which was where people were congregating to when dispersed. The Dispersal Order has helped the police to manage large groups congregating, however the problem persists. Members of the 'street life' community frequent the Mill Road area to access support services and other amenities which are concentrated in the area. The main complaints continue to be about congregations of large groups displaying loud, drunken and intimidating behaviour, drug taking and drug dealing, out of control dogs, and theft. In May 2007, 253 needles were collected by Cambridge City Council from Petersfield ward, equating to 60% of collections in the Neighbourhood Area. The hotspot for needle finds was the cemetery, with 128 collected in less than three weeks in May 2007.

- **Traffic Related Incidents**

Between June 2006 and May 2007, there were 1,823 traffic related incidents in the Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area. Traffic incidents include road traffic collisions, speeding, drink driving, dangerous driving, parking etc... The table below shows the top three roads for road traffic incidents in each ward.

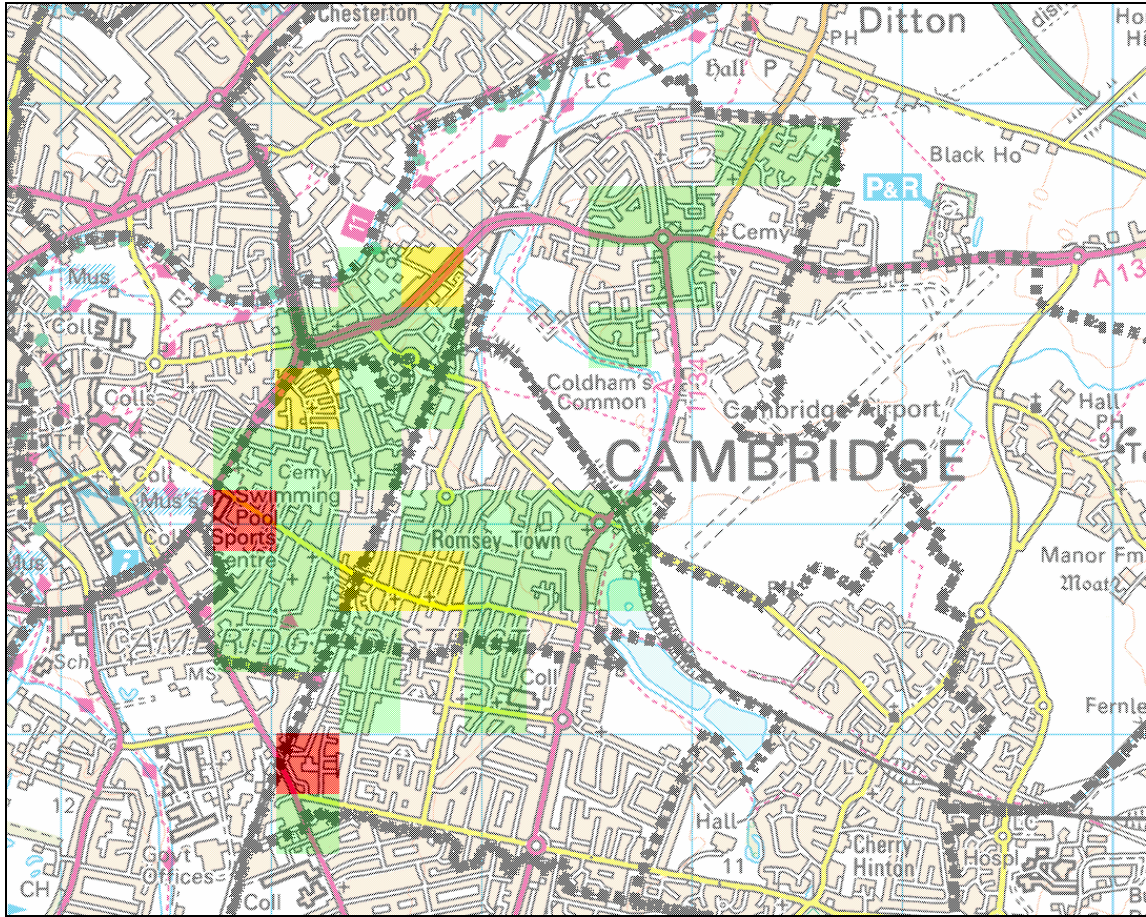
Fig. 11: Table to show Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area Road Traffic Incidents by Road, June 2006 to May 2007

Ward	Road	Number of Traffic Related Incidents	% of Ward Total
Abbey (Total 358)	Newmarket Road	172	48%
	Barnwell Road	23	6%
	Ditton Lane	15	4%
Romsey (Total 239)	Mill Road	81	34%
	Coldhams Lane	68	28%
	Brooks Road	11	5%
Coleridge (Total 169)	Cherry Hinton Road	48	28%
	Perne Road	24	14%
	Coleridge Road	17	10%
Petersfield (Total 145)	Station Road	22	15%
	Mill Road	14	10%
	Devonshire Road	9	6%
	Beehive Centre	9	6%

Newmarket Road is clearly the busiest road for traffic incidents, recording 39% of all traffic incidents in Cambridge City East. This is expected as Newmarket Road is several miles long and links the city centre with the A14 and Newmarket Road Park and Ride, and is one of the busiest roads in the city. All the roads recording the higher figures are main thoroughfares into/out of the city and it is therefore expected that there will be a higher volume of such incidents.

1.6 Hotspot Crime and Disorder Locations

Grid analysis map to show crime and disorder hotspots in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, June 2006 to May 2007



Key: **Red** = >234 Offences/Disorder Incidents (2), **Yellow** = 156-233 Offences/Disorder Incidents (4), **Green** = 78-155 Offences/Disorder Incidents (32) (Clear = <78 Offences/Disorder Incidents).

The above map indicates there are six main concentrations of crime/disorder incidents in the Neighbourhood Area. These areas will now be looked at in more detail.

Petersfield Ward, near Parkside Swimming Pool



- This area includes the city centre end of Mill Road, Parkside Swimming Pool and nearby side streets. For offences, Parkside Swimming Pool/Kelsey Kerridge recorded the highest number of offences (74), with the majority of these being for theft of pedal cycle or other types of theft. Disorder incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, street drinking and begging/vagrancy were also recorded here.
- A total of 17 offences occurred at one public house, with theft and violence being the main offence types. Ten rowdy and inconsiderate incidents were also recorded there.
- One shop recorded 15 incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour or street drinking. Seven theft offences were also recorded (most were theft of pedal cycles parked outside).

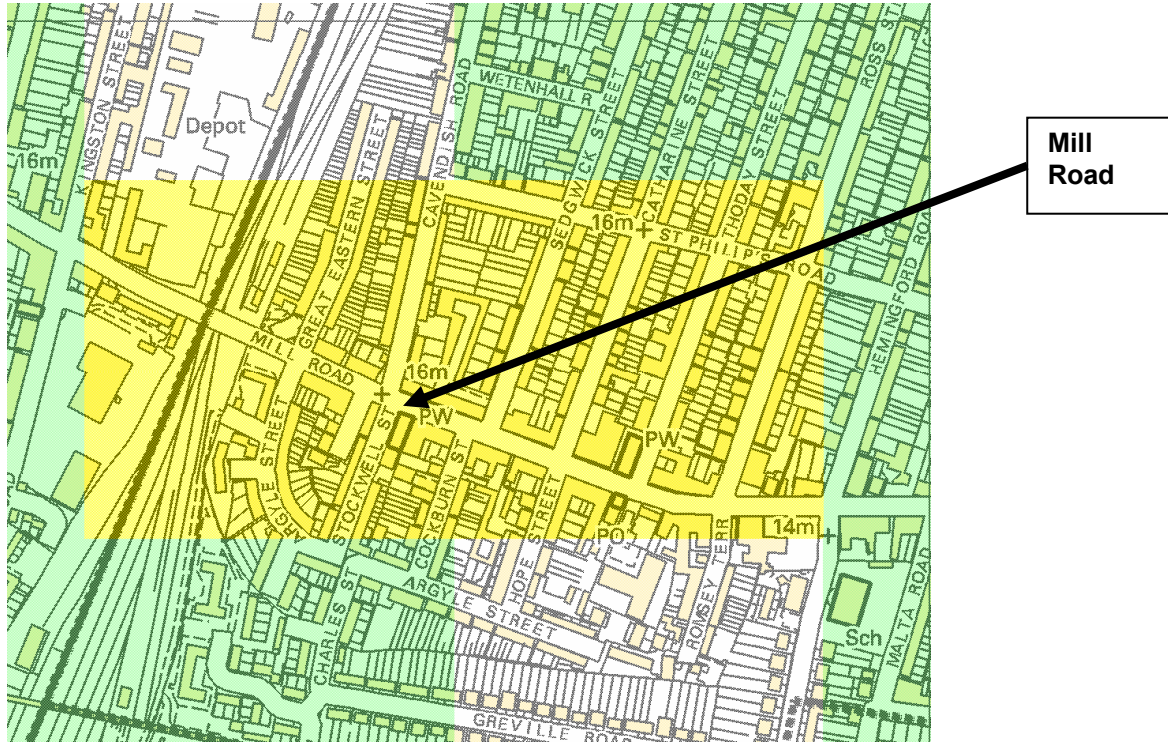
Coleridge Ward, Cambridge Leisure Park⁷

- The grid analysis shows that crime and incidents in Coleridge ward are concentrated at the Cambridge Leisure Park/Clifton Road area, with at least 32% of crime and 20% of anti-social behaviour in the ward being recorded there. Crime and disorder at the Leisure Park was adopted as a tactical priority for the Division in May 2007 when it was recognised that focussed enforcement and preventative action was required.
- Almost two thirds of offences (63%) related to theft, in particular, theft of pedal cycles, motor vehicles and other types of theft. Violence against the person was the second most common offence type (15%), with Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm and Common Assault and Battery making up the majority of these.

⁷ Map not included due to being out of date.

- Two thirds of the anti-social behaviour incidents were categorised as rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour. Abandoned vehicles were relatively high, with 43 recorded during the last year (almost one a week).

Petersfield and Romsey Wards, Mill Road

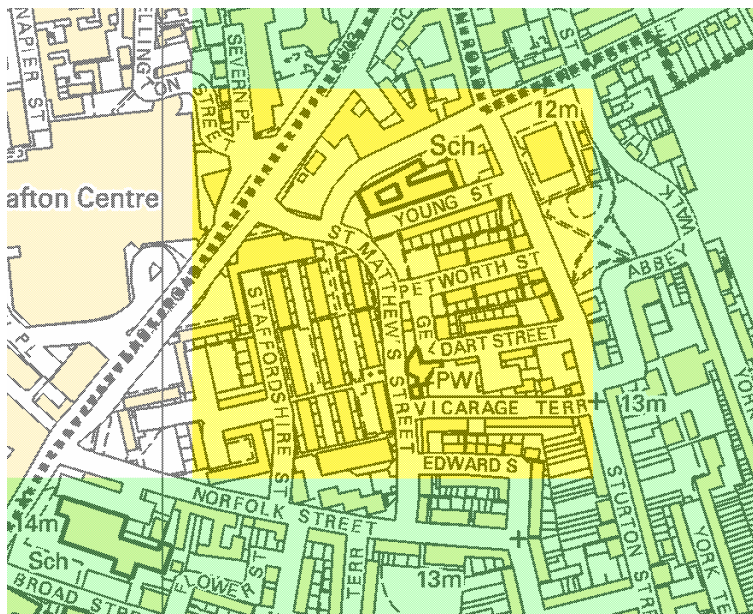


- The area highlighted above is one of the busiest sections of Mill Road. It has historically been a hotspot for problems with the 'street life' community due to the concentration of support services available. The abundance of shops, cafes and other venues ensures there is also a busy night time economy. The parade of shops acts as a congregation point and thefts are a common occurrence, although not always reported. A supermarket is located here, and along with the other shops, cafes and restaurants, it is a busy area of the city at all times of the day.
- Analysis was recently completed on the top 10 streets for total crime in the City during the last year, and it was found that Mill Road appeared most frequently. Of particular note, Mill Road is the top road in the City for BCS⁸ comparator crime, violence against the person and hate crime. It was recommended that Mill Road should be the greatest focus of attention for Cambridge City⁹.

⁸ British Crime Survey

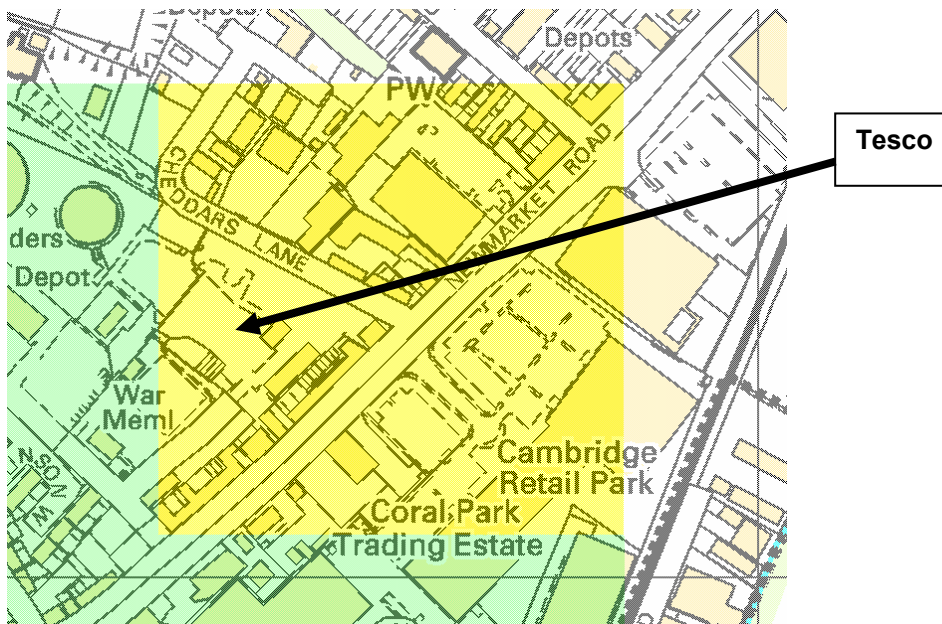
⁹ Top 10 Streets Analysis, Kirsten Burrows, June 2007

Petersfield Ward, East Road/St Matthew's Street



- Crimes and anti-social behaviour incidents occurred throughout the yellow area above, with St Matthews Street and Vicarage Terrace being the busiest streets. A wide variety of offences were recorded in these streets, including possession of cannabis (7), criminal damage to vehicles (7) and personal robbery (2).

Abbey Ward, Newmarket Road



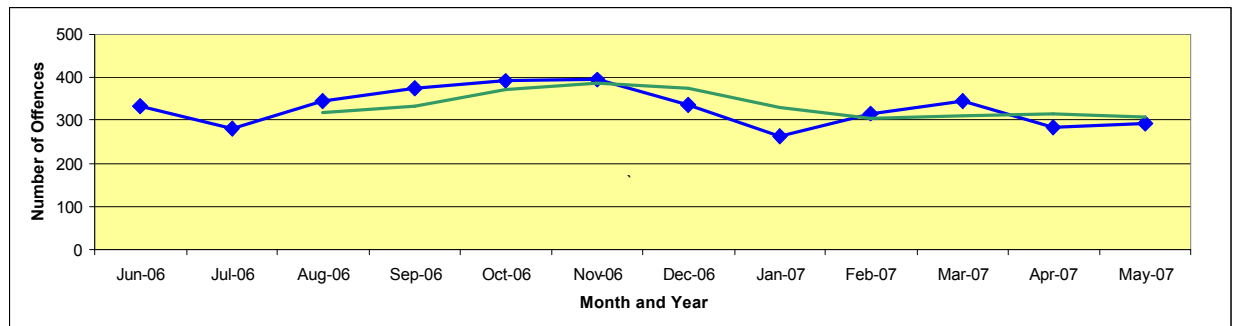
- The main reason the yellow area is a hotspot is because of the many retail outlets located here. Tesco recorded the most offences (97), with the majority of them comprising of shoplifting and other types of theft. Other outlets recording high offence levels were Boots the Chemists, Halfords, B&Q and Homebase. Once again, theft was the main offence type.

- Anti-social behaviour in the Tesco car park appears to be a regular problem, with cars racing each other and loud music causing a disturbance.

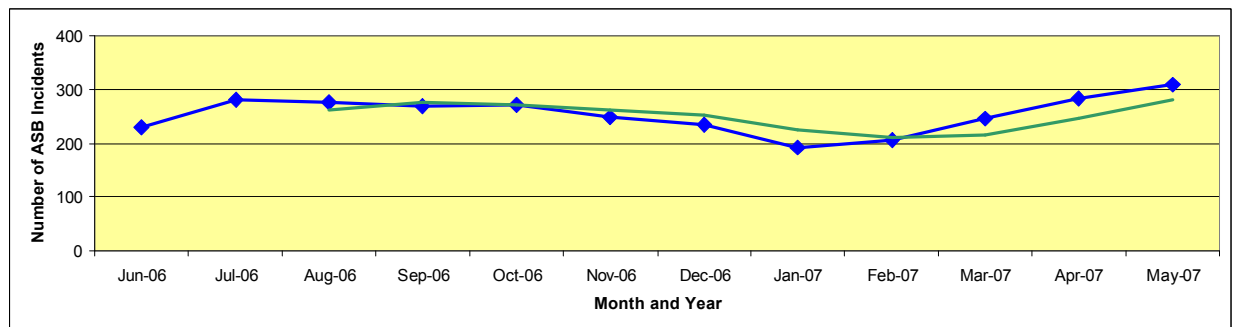
2.0 Current Picture

This section analyses crime and disorder trends in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area over the last two months (April and May 2007). To provide context, the following charts show the totals by month for total crime and anti-social behaviour incidents in the area since June 2006:

*Fig. 12: Graph showing **Total Crime** in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, June 2006 to May 2007, with 3 month Moving Average*



*Fig. 13: Graph showing **Total Anti-Social Behaviour** in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, June 2006 to May 2007, with 3 month Moving Average*



- By month, the number of offences has ranged from 264 (in January 2007), to 396 (in November 2006). An upward trend occurred from July 2006 which peaked in November and then declined over the winter period. April and May 2007 have recorded relatively low crime figures (283 and 291 respectively). As there has not been a seasonal trend in total crime over the last few years, it is not possible to predict levels of crime over the coming months.
- Incidents of anti-social behaviour fluctuated less than crime, with an average of 60 incidents per week over the last year. After a slight decline over the winter months, anti-social behaviour is showing a clear upward trend, with April and May 2007 recording the highest number of incidents over the last year. It is likely that this increase will continue over the summer due to the better weather and longer days.

Crime

Fig. 14: Table showing Crime in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, April and May, 2006 and 2007

Ward	April and May 2006	April and May 2007
Petersfield	208	188
Abbey	193	188
Romsey	148	146
Coleridge	140	117
Total	689	639

- **Slight decrease in year on year offences in last two months**

Total crime in the Neighbourhood Area decreased by 7% during the last two months when compared with the same period last year. Crime levels in Abbey and Romsey wards were static, with Coleridge and Petersfield wards showing a reduction of 23 offences and 20 offences, respectively.

- **Reduction in Burglary**

Dwelling burglary and non dwelling burglary almost halved in comparison with last year. 23 fewer dwelling burglaries were recorded and 25 fewer non dwelling burglaries were recorded, with no change in shed/garage burglaries. These reductions were seen across all the wards for both dwelling and non dwelling burglaries, except for Romsey ward which recorded a slight increase in non dwelling burglary (3 offences).

- **Reduction in Theft from Vehicles**

Theft from vehicles reduced from 47 to 27 (43% reduction), with all wards except Abbey showing reductions (Abbey increased by one offence). Criminal damage to vehicles also reduced slightly (by 9 offences), however theft of vehicles remained static.

- **Theft of Pedal Cycles was Top Offence Type**

In the Neighbourhood Area, the theft of pedal cycles accounted for the highest number of crimes (94), equating to 16% of all crime. For Petersfield and Romsey wards, this was the most common offence type, for Coleridge it was ranked second and for Abbey it was ranked third. The offences in Petersfield and Romsey were widespread in and around Mill Road.

Disorder

Fig. 15: Table showing Disorder/ASB Incidents in Cambridge City East Neighbourhood Area, April and May, 2006 and 2007

Ward	April and May 2006	April and May 2007
Petersfield	92	150
Abbey	133	188
Romsey	95	131
Coleridge	79	94
Total	399	563

- **Increase in Anti-Social Behaviour in all the wards in the Neighbourhood Area**

All wards have recorded a year on year increase during the last two months, with Petersfield and Abbey recording the highest increases.

In Petersfield, an increase in incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour was recorded, with Mill Road, Ravensworth Gardens and Gwydir Street being the busiest streets.

- Most of the Mill Road incidents related to people under the influence of alcohol, causing disturbances or fighting. There was no particular peak time of the day.
- Almost all the incidents at Ravensworth Gardens involved large groups (up to 20), drinking in the park, banging on doors, fighting and drug taking. The peak time was between 10pm and 11pm. This problem was recognised as a Divisional policing priority and consequently the area was regularly patrolled by PCSOs and mobile CCTV cameras were deployed. According to the local officers, the situation certainly seems to have improved.
- The majority of incidents on Gwydir Street occurred in the car park and involved large groups (up to 25) drinking alcohol and intimidating passers by.

In Abbey, Newmarket Road and Ditton Fields were the busiest roads for rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour. At least four incidents occurred at the Access Surgery (125 Newmarket Road), but many incidents did not specify an exact location on Newmarket Road.

- **Street Life Anti-Social Behaviour in Brooks Road has become more problematic**

As the far side of Brooks Road is not included in the current Section 30 Dispersal Order, and with the extension to include parts of Abbey ward, displacement has become a problem there. The children's play area is often used by the 'street life' community to pass the time of day, and large groups of up to 20 people will congregate and cause a general nuisance. Complaints of loud behaviour, out of control dogs, drunken behaviour and drug taking are being received regularly. Additionally, broken bottles and needles are littering the play area, and as a consequence, children and families are no longer using it. A petition calling for police action was recently received containing 59 signatures.

- Fly tipping was high in Petersfield and Abbey

Ward	May 2007 Noise Nuisance Complaints ¹⁰	May 2007 Fly Tipping Incidents	April 2007 Fly Tipping Incidents	Total
Petersfield	14	42	36	92
Abbey	13	25	12	50
Romsey	21	16	13	50
Coleridge	15	2	12	29
Total	63	85	73	221

The East Neighbourhood Area accounted for a third of the City's Environmental Services and fly tipping complaints in May 2007:

- Three quarters of complaints to Noise Services involved noise complaints. There were no particular hotspots, with no address recording more than three complaints.
- Five streets recorded four or more incidents of fly tipping: Tenison Road (Petersfield, 9), Suez Road (Coleridge, 5), Ditton Fields (Abbey, 5), Gwydir Street (Petersfield, 4) and Coldhams Lane (Romsey, 4).
- Of the 85 flytips searched for evidence, this resulted in the following enforcement action:
Petersfield – 12 formal warning letters sent regarding domestic fly tipping.
Abbey – 3 formal warning letters sent regarding domestic fly tipping.
Romsey – 4 formal warning letters sent regarding commercial fly tipping, 2 formal warning letters sent re domestic fly tipping and one name retained for future reference.

2.1 Conclusion

Cambridge City East is a very diverse area, with relatively high levels of crime and disorder in Petersfield, Romsey and Abbey in relation to the other Cambridge City wards. In Coleridge, crime and disorder is centred around the Cambridge Leisure Park. The current crime trend is fairly static, but for anti-social behaviour there is a clear upward trend. It is predicted that anti-social behaviour will continue to increase during the summer period throughout City East.

2.2 Recommendations

It is recommended that the following crime and disorder issues are considered for prioritisation over the coming period (listed in no particular order).

1. Cycle theft in Petersfield ward.
2. Anti-social behaviour in the Council estates of Abbey ward (e.g. Ditton Fields and Thorpe Way).
3. Anti-social behaviour and crime associated with the 'street life' community in Mill Road and Brooks Road.
4. Theft and anti-social behaviour at the Cambridge Leisure Park.

¹⁰ April 2007 Environmental Services data not available.

2.3 Feedback

Any feedback on the contents or structure of the document would be gratefully received to enable future improvements.

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Appendix A – Vulnerable Localities Index¹¹

The concept of a Vulnerable Localities index was developed by Spencer Chainey¹² and originally presented at the Third National Crime Mapping Conference in April 2005. The essence of the presentation centred on common themes that had been identified as preceding the 2001 riots, thus making them predictable to a certain extent. According to Chainey, indicators of a community in breakdown include high levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, deprivation, poverty, unemployment, poor and overcrowded housing, disenfranchised young people, poor education and health, lack of economic prospects and a poor cultural identity.

The Vulnerable Localities Index was developed as a tool for identifying which communities are demonstrating these signs to the greatest extent and therefore, most vulnerable to breakdown. It achieves this by amalgamating police and socio-demographic data, normalising it by population numbers and calculating an average or 'Vulnerable Localities Index Score'. These can then be mapped to provide a clear picture of 'at risk' areas.

¹¹ Explanation taken from VLI briefing doc – Debbie West Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

¹² Director of GIS at the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science.