



# NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Please find enclosed supporting papers for **Scrutiny Panel 1 Serious Acquisitive Crime and Violent Crime/ Community Safety**.

## Contents

- Serious Acquisitive Crime Problem Profile.

*\*Extracted from the 2012 Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment.*

## Members of the Panel

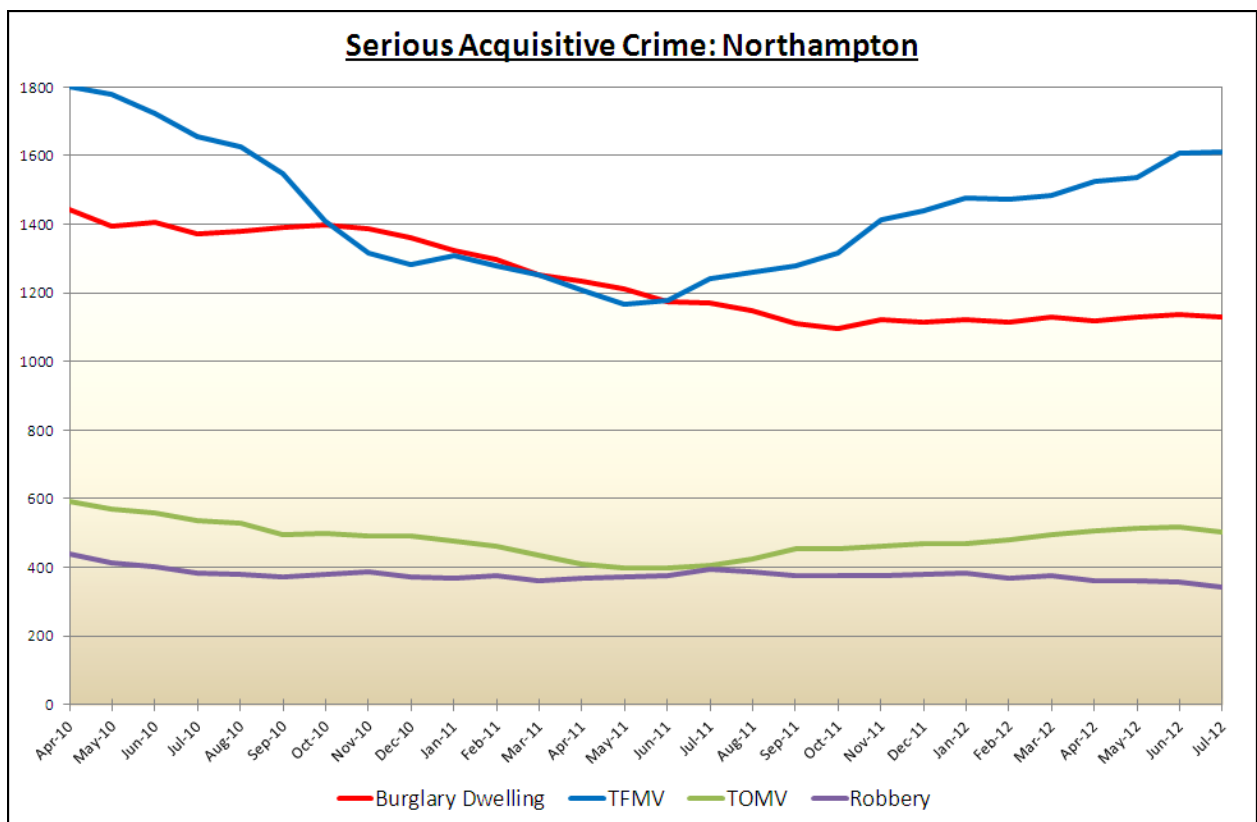
Chair	Councillor Danielle Stone
Deputy Chair	Councillor David Palethorpe
Panel Members	Councillor Michael Ford Councillor Brendan Glynane Councillor Dennis Meredith Councillor Christopher Malpas Councillor Brian W Sargeant
Co-opted Member	Sharon Henley, Northamptonshire Police Chief Inspector Max Williams, Northants Police Neil Bartholomey, Chair Northampton Pub watch

# Northampton Borough Scrutiny Panel 1 Serious Acquisitive Crime and Violent Crime/ Community Safety

## Serious Acquisitive Crime: Northampton

### Performance

SAC has been substantially reduced in Northampton over recent years (by 41.6% between Mar 2008 and Mar 2011); however since then SAC has steadily increased by 8.6%, resulting in the force not achieving similar reductions to recent years. As shown below, this is primarily due to poor performance in tackling vehicle crime (specifically thefts from vehicles) as burglary dwelling and robbery continues to be reduced.



### Vehicle Crime

#### Performance

Over three years, vehicle crime has been reduced by 16.9% in Northampton; TFMV by 10.1% and TOMV by 33.1%. Conversely over the past 12 months this trend has reversed and Northampton has seen a 28.4% increase; TFMV by 29.8% and TOMV by 23.8%. This increase has also been seen across many areas of the county, resulting in 15% countywide increase in vehicle crime in the same period. Northampton has significantly contributed to this given it is the largest urban area of the county with the greatest volume of crime in general. Specifically, the south west sector has caused the greatest issue countywide. However, during 2012/13 vehicle crime performance has also waned in the North and Central sector.

Comparatively, Northampton sit 12<sup>th</sup> out of 15 when ranked against similar CSPs nationally for vehicle crime, this is a considerable drop from 12 months previous, when the CSP were placed 6<sup>th</sup>. Contrastingly, the CSP are ranked 6<sup>th</sup> for TFMV. When compared to the county average, Northampton had 37.6% more vehicle crimes per population; this is across both TFMV and TOMV.

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## Thefts From Motor Vehicles

### Locations

Shown below are the top LSOAs for TFMV in Northampton in the past 12 months and past three years. Whilst these areas are the most vulnerable to vehicle crime, they only account for around 12% of all TFMV. More generally, analysis shows that 25.3% of TFMV have occurred in Spencer, St James, Castle and St Crispins wards in the past 12 months. This is a slight shift from over a 3 year period, which highlighted Kingsley and Billing as the hotspot wards, not Spencer and St James.

**NB: Ward descriptions are based upon ward boundaries used by Northants police, those used by NBC pre 2011 unless stated.**

TFMV: AUG 2009 - JUL 2012				
LSOA	DESCRIPTIVE	WARD (Pre 2011/Post 2011)	COUNT	% OF ALL TFMV
E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre	Castle	157	4.1%
E01027237	Sixfields/ Weedon Rd	St James/ St James	100	2.6%
E01027140	Bellinge/ Billing Aquadrome	Billing	96	2.5%
E01027251	Upton	West Hunsbury/Upton	89	2.3%
E01027223	Town Centre/ NGH	St Crispin/ Castle	88	2.3%

TFMV: AUG 2011 - JUL 2012					
LSOA	DESCRIPTIVE	WARD (Pre 2011/Post 2011)	COUNT	% OF ALL TFMV	% CHANGE FROM PREV 12 MONTHS
E01027251	Upton	West Hunsbury/ Upton	44	2.8%	12.8%
E01027239	Spencer (Dallington)	Spencer/ Spencer	38	2.4%	58.3%
E01027237	Sixfields/ Weedon Rd	St James/ St James	34	2.2%	0.0%
E01027140	Bellinge/ Billing Aquadrome	Billing	32	2.0%	14.3%
E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre	Castle	32	2.0%	60.0%

Below is a breakdown of TFMV by sector, showing the proportion of Northampton's TFMV, the ward with greatest volume and LSOA with greatest volume within each sector. As shown, the South West sector accounts for the most TFMV in both the long and short term, this is expected due to the large geographical space it covers, however the proportion of TFMV in this sector has increased in the past 12 months.

TFMV: AUG 2011 - JUL 2012				
SECTOR	%	TOP WARD	TOP LSOA	
			CODE	DESCRIPTIVE
N'pton South West	35.7%	Spencer	E01027251	Upton
N'pton East	26.6%	Billing	E01027140	Bellinge/ Billing Aquadrome
N'pton North	24.6%	Kingsley	E01027191	Kingsthorpe Rd/ Queens Park
N'pton Central	13.1%	Castle	E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre

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TFMV: AUG 2009 - JUL 2012				
SECTOR	%	TOP WARD	TOP LSOA	
			CODE	DESCRIPTIVE
N'pton South West	29.7%	St James	E01027237	Sixfields/ Weedon Rd
N'pton East	27.8%	Billing	E01027140	Bellinge/ Billing Aquadrome
N'pton North	25.4%	Kingsley	E01027191	Kingsthorpe Rd/ Queens Park
N'pton Central	17.1%	Castle	E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre

### Items Stolen & MO Entry

The table below shows the top ten items stolen in the past 12 months. This has remained relatively unchanged during the past 3 years, excluding a reduction in CDs being stolen, presumably due to the introduction of MP3 car stereos and reduction in resalable value of CDs. The table also shows the % change compared to the prior 12 months, as there was a 36.6% increase in items stolen overall, anything above this indicates a notable increase. Cash stolen has increased significantly; however in only 25% of cases was this the only item stolen, therefore it is unclear whether this is what lured the offender to the vehicle or whether it was a by-product of targeting another item. The fact that all items which have increased >36.6% could be easily removed from the vehicle by the vehicle owner indicates more preventative action can be taken by potential victims to reduce risk of theft.

PROPERTY ITEM DESCRIPTION	COUNT	% OF ALL ITEMS STOLEN	% CHANGE FROM PREV 12 MONTHS
OTHER VEHICLES PARTS AND ACCESSORIES	312	9.4%	27.9%
SATELLITE NAVIGATION SYSTEM (SAT NAV)	290	8.7%	31.2%
CASH	279	8.4%	136.4%
REGISTRATION PLATES	169	5.1%	8.3%
RADIO / CASS / CD / MP3 / DVD (ALL CAR STEREOs)	117	3.5%	-16.4%
MOBILE TELEPHONE	107	3.2%	81.4%
PAYMENT CARD (INC. CREDIT CARD/DEBIT CARD)	106	3.2%	63.1%
DRIVING LICENCE	90	2.7%	91.5%
WALLET	74	2.2%	131.3%
ELECTRIC/CORDLESS DRILLS	66	2.0%	65.0%

MO of entry to vehicles tends to be by breaking glass (46.3%) or vehicles left insecure (22.5%). These methods are increasing in use, indicating methods such as forcing locks or doors with instruments are becoming less successful.

### Temporal Analysis

TFMV tend to occur between 22:00 – 06:00, this has remained relatively constant throughout the previous 3 years. These crimes occur every day of the week but show slightly greater risk on Saturdays. TFMV has peaked in April during the past 3 years and in November in 4 of the previous 5 years.

### Victim Profiles

In the past 12 months, victims of TFMV were male 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of the time; the majority of victims were White British (69.3%), followed by Other White Background (12.4%). In broad terms, Asian ethnic groups have been victimised on an increasing basis in the past 12 months (11.3% of victims, compared to 5% during the two years previous). The likelihood of victimisation considerably

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increases at the age of 20 and reduces at 44, accounting for 60% of all victims. When analysing the occupation of victims the most notable trend is the victimisation of taxi drivers. Taxi drivers account for 12.7% of all victims of TFMV and in the past 12 months victimisation of this group has increased by 458%.

## Location & Vehicle Types

During the previous 3 years hatchbacks have accounted for 36.8% of all vehicles where items have been stolen, saloons and estates account for 24.1%, vans 16.4% and people carriers 5.9%. This has remained relatively constant during this period. Proportionately taxis/hackneys have seen the greatest increase in TFMVs during the past 12 months; however when this is analysed by volume, the vehicle types listed above account for the majority of the increase in this crime type and whilst it is important to tackle taxi-related thefts, it will not impact hugely on the overall volume of vehicle crime.

The majority of TFMV occur on the street (52.8%), secondly on driveways (22.3%) and thirdly on car parks/parking bays in residential estates (10.4%). The number of thefts occurring on driveways has considerably risen in the past 12 months (+103%, n = 181).

## Thefts Of Motor Vehicles

### Locations

Shown below are the top LSOAs for TOMV in Northampton in the past 12 months and past three years. This maps similarly to TFMV; with all but one LSOA, both long and short term, in the South West or Central Sector. More generally, analysis shows that 39.9% of all TOMV have occurred in Castle, St Crispin, St James, Spencer and Delapre in the past 3 years. This trend is more profound in the previous 12 months, with 46.9% of TOMV occurring within these wards.

**NB: Ward descriptions are based upon ward boundaries used by Northants police, those used by NBC pre 2011 unless stated.**

TOMV: AUG 2009 - JUL 2012				
LSOA	DESCRIPTIVE	WARD (Pre 2011/Post 2011)	COUNT	% OF ALL TOMV
E01027140	Bellinge/ Billing Aquadrome	Billing	39	2.7%
E01027157	Cotton End	Delapre/ Delapre & Briar Hill	38	2.6%
E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre	Castle	38	2.6%
E01027241	Spencer (South)	Spencer	35	2.4%
E01027238	St James Rd Area	St James	33	2.3%
E01027153	Barrack Rd/ Grafton St	Castle	33	2.3%

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TOMV: AUG 2011 - JUL 2012					
LSOA	DESCRIPTIVE	WARD (Pre 2011/Post 2011)	COUNT	% OF ALL TOMV	% CHANGE FROM PREV 12 MONTHS
E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre	Castle	20	4.0%	100.0%
E01027237	Sixfields/ Weedon Rd	St James/ St James	15	3.0%	400.0%
E01027241	Spencer (South)	Spencer	14	2.8%	55.6%
E01027157	Cotton End	Delapre/ Delapre & Briar Hill	14	2.8%	55.6%
E01027238	St James Rd Area	St James	14	2.8%	133.3%
E01027153	Barrack Rd/ Grafton St	Castle	14	2.8%	55.6%

Below is a breakdown of TOMV by sector, showing the proportion of Northampton's TFMV, the ward with greatest volume and LSOA with greatest volume in each sector. As shown, the South West sector accounts for the most TFMV in both the long and short term, this is expected due to the large geographical space it covers, in general terms the locations correspond with top locations for TFMV.

TOMV: AUG 2011 - JUL 2012				
SECTOR	%	TOP WARD	TOP LSOA	
			CODE	DESCRIPTIVE
N'pton South West	34.7%	Spencer	E01027237	Sixfields/ Weedon Rd
N'pton East	24.0%	Lumbertubs	E01027151	Weston Favell Centre/ Lings
N'pton North	21.0%	Kingsley	E01027191	Kingsthorpe Rd/ Queens Park
N'pton Central	20.4%	Castle	E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre

TOMV: AUG 2009 - JUL 2012				
SECTOR	%	TOP WARD	TOP LSOA	
			CODE	DESCRIPTIVE
N'pton South West	35.4%	Spencer	E01027157	Cotton End
N'pton North	25.3%	Kingsley	E01027191	Kingsthorpe Rd/ Queens Park
N'pton East	22.8%	Billing	E01027140	Bellinge/ Billing Aquadrome
N'pton Central	16.4%	Castle	E01027150	Spring Boroughs/ Town Centre

## Temporal Analysis

TOMV tend to occur between 19:00 – 09:00, with a particular spike between 22:00 and 02:00. However in the past 12 months there has emerged a greater likelihood of TOMVs occurring during the daytime. Specifically, a spike has emerged from 07:00 – 09:00.

TOMVs show equal risk throughout the week until Friday, which displays heightened risk. To a lesser extent, there is also a greater risk on Saturday/ Sunday.

TOMV have peaked during March, April and May for the past 5 years and, similarly to TFMV, has peaked in November in 4 of the past 5 years.

## Victim Profiles

Males tend to be victims of TOMV more than females, accounting for 80%. Victims span relatively easily across all ages however there is a peak between 17 – 30 years old (38.3%), which has been more prominent in the past 12 months. As with most crime types, White British accounts for the majority of victims (68.2%) with Other White Background making up 15.7%.



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## Location & Vehicle Types

During the past 3 years 33.6% of stolen vehicles have been recorded as motorcycle/moped/scooter/quad, 24.2% of vehicles stolen have been hatchbacks, 16.5% saloons and 7.7% were vans. This has remained relatively constant during this period, although there has been a 69.6% increase in theft from vans, this accounts for 30.2% of the overall increase in TOMV.

TOMVs tend to occur in similar types of locations to TFMVs; on the street (55.5%), on the driveway (21.6%) and in car parks/parking bays (9.2%) in residential estates.

## Burglary Dwelling

### Performance

Similarly to countywide performance, burglary dwelling in Northampton is on a continuous downward trend, albeit reductions are smaller each year, as shown in the table below.

Whilst performance is strong in this crime type in the previous 5 years, Northampton still has 46.2% more crimes per population than the county average, however this is expected given it is the most urban area of the county.

When compared to most similar CSPs, Northampton is 9<sup>th</sup> out of 15 and has 12.1% less crimes per population than the average for MSG, this is a marked improvement compared to 3 years ago, when the partnership were 48.1% **above** average.

### Locations

Shown below are the top LSOAs for burglary dwelling in Northampton in the past 12 months and past three years. All but one of the top areas in the past 12 months forms a strip of localities across the town centre from St James to Abington. More generally, analysis shows that 37.6% of dwelling burglaries have occurred in Spencer, St James, Castle and St Crispins and Abington wards in the past 12 months, corresponding with hotspots for vehicle crime. This is a slight shift from over a 3 year period, which highlighted Lumbertubs as a key ward for this crime type. The removal of this ward and Cotton end (at LSOA level) indicates a level of success from target hardening operations undertaken in recent years.

**NB: Ward descriptions are based upon ward boundaries used by Northants police, those used by NBC pre 2011 unless stated.**

Burglary Dwelling: AUG 2009 - JUL 2012				
LSOA	DESCRIPTIVE	WARD (Pre 2011/Post 2011)	COUNT	% OF ALL TFMV
E01027157	Cotton End	Delapre/ Delapre & Briar Hill	79	2.1%
E01027225	The Mounts (Colwyn Rd Area)	St Crispin/ Castle	60	1.6%
E01027198	Weston Favell Centre/ Lings	Lumbertubs/ Brookside	56	1.5%
E01027151	St James (Victoria Park)	St James	53	1.4%
E01027153	Barrack Rd/ Grafton St	Castle	53	1.4%

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Burglary Dwelling: AUG 2011 - JUL 2012					
LSOA	DESCRIPTIVE	WARD (Pre 2011/Post 2011)	COUNT	% OF ALL TFMV	% CHANGE FROM PREV 12 MONTHS
E01027151	St James (Victoria Park)	St James	26	2.3%	85.7%
E01027226	Exter Place/ Artizan Rd	St Crispins/ Castle	25	2.2%	92.3%
E01027189	Kingsley Park	Kingsley	22	2.0%	100.0%
E01027241	Spencer (South)	Spencer	20	1.8%	66.7%
E01027153	Barrack Rd/ Grafton St	Castle	19	1.7%	11.8%
E01027136	Abington Ave Area	Abington	19	1.7%	26.6%
E01027133	Abington South (Barry Rd)	Abington	19	1.7%	171.4%
E01027233	Briar Hill (Hunsbarrow Rd)	Delapre/ Delapre & Briar Hill	19	1.7%	111.1%
E01027225	The Mounts (Colwyn Rd Area)	St Crispins/ Castle	19	1.7%	-13.6%

Below is a breakdown of burglary dwelling by sector, showing the proportion of Northampton's burglary dwelling, the ward with greatest volume and LSOA with greatest volume within each sector. As shown, the South West sector accounts for the most crimes but largely the split of crimes has remained relatively constant.

Burglary Dwelling: AUG 2011 - JUL 2012				
SECTOR	%	TOP WARD	TOP LSOA	
			CODE	DESCRIPTIVE
N'pton South West	33.6%	Spencer	E01027151	St James (Victoria Park)
N'pton East	27.9%	Abington	E01027136	Abington Ave Area
N'pton North	21.5%	Kingsley	E01027189	Kingsley Park
N'pton Central	17.1%	Castle	E01027226	Exter Place/ Artizan Rd

Burglary Dwelling: AUG 2009 - JUL 2012				
SECTOR	%	TOP WARD	TOP LSOA	
			CODE	DESCRIPTIVE
N'pton South West	29.7%	Spencer	E01027157	Cotton End
N'pton East	27.8%	Lumbertubs	E01027198	Weston Favell Centre/ Lings
N'pton North	25.4%	Kingsley	E01027189	Kingsley Park
N'pton Central	17.1%	Castle	E01027225	The Mounts (Colwyn Rd Area)

## Temporal Analysis

Over the past 3 years burglary dwelling has peaked from 23:00 – 04:00, however a trend has emerged in the past 12 months showing greater risk during the daytime, with risk increasing as early as 14:00 and staying constant till 04:00, with a particular spike at 01:00 – 03:00. The days of the week when burglaries occur has also shifted; over 3 years Friday and Saturday are the peak days, whereas during the previous 12 months weekdays show almost as equal risk to Saturdays. Over the past 3 years, March and April have shown seasonal peaks, December has also suffered above average number of dwelling burglaries during the past 5 years.

## MO Entry & Items Stolen & Property Types

The method of entry has remained relatively unchanged over the past 3 years, with one third of burglaries being due to insecurities. Forced with instrument has remained consistently second most common, with glass broken being 3<sup>rd</sup> most common, accounting for around 14.2%. It is also worth noting that end terrace houses are proportionately being increasingly targeted.



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The most commonly stolen items have been laptop computers, cash, keys and games consoles throughout the past 3 years and this has remained constant. There has been a notable reduction in mobile phones and payment cards being stolen from properties, presumably due to these being useless once victims have notified their bank or service provider. Jewellery has been increasingly stolen, accounting for 17% of items stolen from homes in the past 12 months, compared to 11.1% in the same period 2 years prior.

## **Victim Profiles**

74.2% of victims of burglary dwelling were White British with the second most common ethnicity being Other White Background (15%). The peak age of victims is 22 – 34 years old (32.3%) over the past 3 years, there is a slight increase in younger householders being victimised; this corresponds with a *slight* increase in student victims of burglary.