

NI 15 Serious Violence Crime Rate – managing partnership performance

1 Description

NI15 is described in national guidance as the number of ‘most serious violent crimes’ per 1,000 population. This includes wounding or other act endangering life, grievous bodily harm, homicide, attempted murder, death by dangerous driving, death by careless driving while under the influence, and death by aggravated vehicle taking (1)

2 2008/9 Performance

2.1 2008/9 Target

The target was set in line with the 2008/9 Sussex Police target for NI 15, which was a 10% reduction on the previous year’s result. This amounted to no more than 127 offences.

2.2 2008/09 Performance

The table below shows the number and type of offences within the NI15 grouping in the ten month period from June 2008 to March 2009 (2.)

Serious violence offences June 2008 – March 2009 in Brighton & Hove

Offence	Grand Total
Attempt To Commit Murder	1
Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH)	90
Grievous Bodily Harm W/I	35
Manslaughter	1
Murder Victim Aged 1 Year Or Over	2
Wounding	1
Wounding W/I	3
Grand Total	133

As can be seen, a majority of the crimes in this group are related to GBH; GBH comprised 94% of crimes recorded in Brighton & Hove during this period.

16 of the 133 crimes (12%) were associated with domestic violence.

2.3 Numbers of crimes and trends

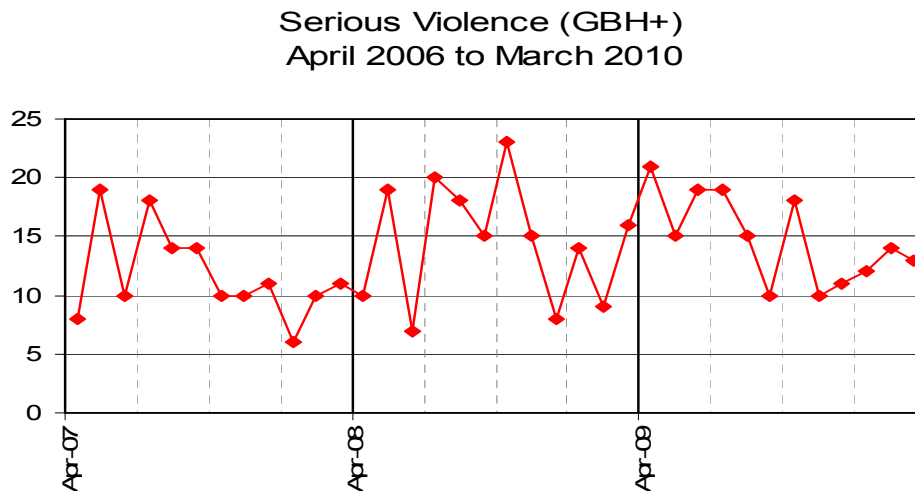
The graph shows monthly NI15 serious violence data over the last 3 years. The number of crimes recorded per month over this period has ranged between 6 and 23, with more tending to occur during the summer months.

¹ This does not include ‘actual bodily harm’ crimes which are far more numerous and covered by NI20 which is a target in the LAA.

² This only covers 10 months of 2008/9 only due to the accessibility of detailed data allowing a crime breakdown.

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There was a recording change brought in by the Home Office in April 2008 which required crimes where the intention was to commit GBH to be classified as GBH whether or not they actually resulted in injury. This had the consequence of increasing the number of crimes recorded under this category and is likely to be the main reason for the 23% increase.



3 2009/10 Performance

3.1 2009/10 Target

NI15 is not a target in Brighton & Hove's Local Area Agreement. Targets were again set in line with local Police targets. The relatively low number of this type of crime will result in the data showing some natural variability from month to month which make the data less ideal for target setting and monitoring, as small variations in the data will have a greater impact on the result. The target is to achieve no more than 165 offences which is based on a 5% reduction on 2008/9 result.

During 2009/10 there was a decision taken by the police locally to work with a measure of injury violence (all levels of injury together) so that the dataset would be more robust overall. The approaches to tackling injury violence are similar, regardless of the level of seriousness of the injury. Combining injury indicators and targeting against them together will remove the difficulties in monitoring and targeting relatively small numbers in data. This method is currently being investigated, and new targets will be devised.

3.2 2009/10 Performance

In 2009/10 there were 3 more serious violence (NI 15) crimes than in 2008/9 (174 up to 177 – a 1.7% increase).

NI 20 (which covers less serious injury assault) was selected from the National Indicator Set as a proxy for alcohol-related crime and is included as a local indicator in the LAA. The result for this indicator reduced by 15% in 2008/9 compared with the year before and

³ This figure will be a little different than reported previously because it has been drawn from a 'shifting database'

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has further reduced by 2% in 2009/10. Taking into account NI 20 'assault with injury' in line with the suggestion to combine violence indicators will offset the increase in NI 15.

4 Performance measures in place

There is a wide range of activities and approaches undertaken within Brighton & Hove to prevent violence which are often related to alcohol and the night time economy.

Approaches and initiatives include:

- 4.1 Alcohol education work with young people and with the wider population.
- 4.2 Partnership work to disperse and educate groups of young people who have been drinking through Operation Park.
- 4.3 Policing operational strategies which involve early intervention and high visibility policing to respond to any early evening rowdy behaviour related to the night time economy and to deter/prevent the escalation of poor behaviour as the evening progresses.
- 4.4 Provision of a 'safe space' and support for those who need assistance due to alcohol or other reason in the city centre on weekend nights.
- 4.5 Support through the Business Crime Reduction Partnership to night time economy businesses to operate in a way that is resistant to alcohol-related crime. This includes the operation of a red and yellow card scheme.
- 4.6 Provision of 'alcohol brief interventions' to individuals who have come to the attention of a range of agencies as a consequence of alcohol misuse. This provides referrals to information and advice around alcohol misuse.
- 4.7 Provision of medical care/treatment for people drinking at harmful levels.

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