

To: Surrey Police Authority

Date: 6th February 2012

By: Assistant Chief Constable, Jerry Kirkby

Title: Joint Neighbourhood Policing Survey Results – informing the 2012/13 Local Policing Plan

Purpose of Report / Issue:

This paper presents the key findings from the Joint Neighbourhood Survey which has been used to inform the target setting process for the 2012/13 Local Policing Plan.

Summary:

To support the development of the 2012/13 Local Policing Plan, results from the Joint Neighbourhood Survey were collated to identify neighbourhood issues and priorities.

Recommendation(s):

The Police Authority is asked to note the content of the report

Introduction:

Please find attached a summary report of Joint Neighbourhood Survey results that were used to inform the target setting for the 2012/13 Local Policing Plan.

Equalities Implications – Have been considered and none identified.

Human Rights – Have been considered and none identified

Risk – Have been considered and none identified.

Background papers - N/A

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To support the development of the 2012-2013 Local Policing Plan back in the Autumn, results from the latest two quarters of the Joint Neighbourhood Survey (JNS) at the time were used. These were interviews conducted with Surrey residents from **January to June 2011**, and were compared to the same period in the previous two years.

Key Findings

- It is encouraging that 10 issues have either seen further improvements from the previous year or have sustained the improvements seen last year.
- Consistent with previous years, vehicle and youth related issues are seen as problematic by more respondents than other issues considered. The top two issues are traffic congestion (41.9%), and speeding motorists & anti-social driving (41.2%).
- Teenagers hanging around on the streets (25.7%) and parents not taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children (22.5%) are the next most problematic issues, although both are improving yearly.
- The top five issues are the same for BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) and White respondents; however BME respondents consider the youth related issues and graffiti more problematic than White respondents.
- BME respondents are also more concerned about the presence of drug users and dealers and physical attacks.
- Physical attacks are seen as less problematic for the second year, however significantly more BME respondents than White consider this is a problem. Comparing the proportions of recorded 'physical attack' crimes for BME respondents and the proportion of BME residents in Surrey suggests BME respondents experience more physical attacks and helps explain the finding that twice as many BME consider this issue problematic.

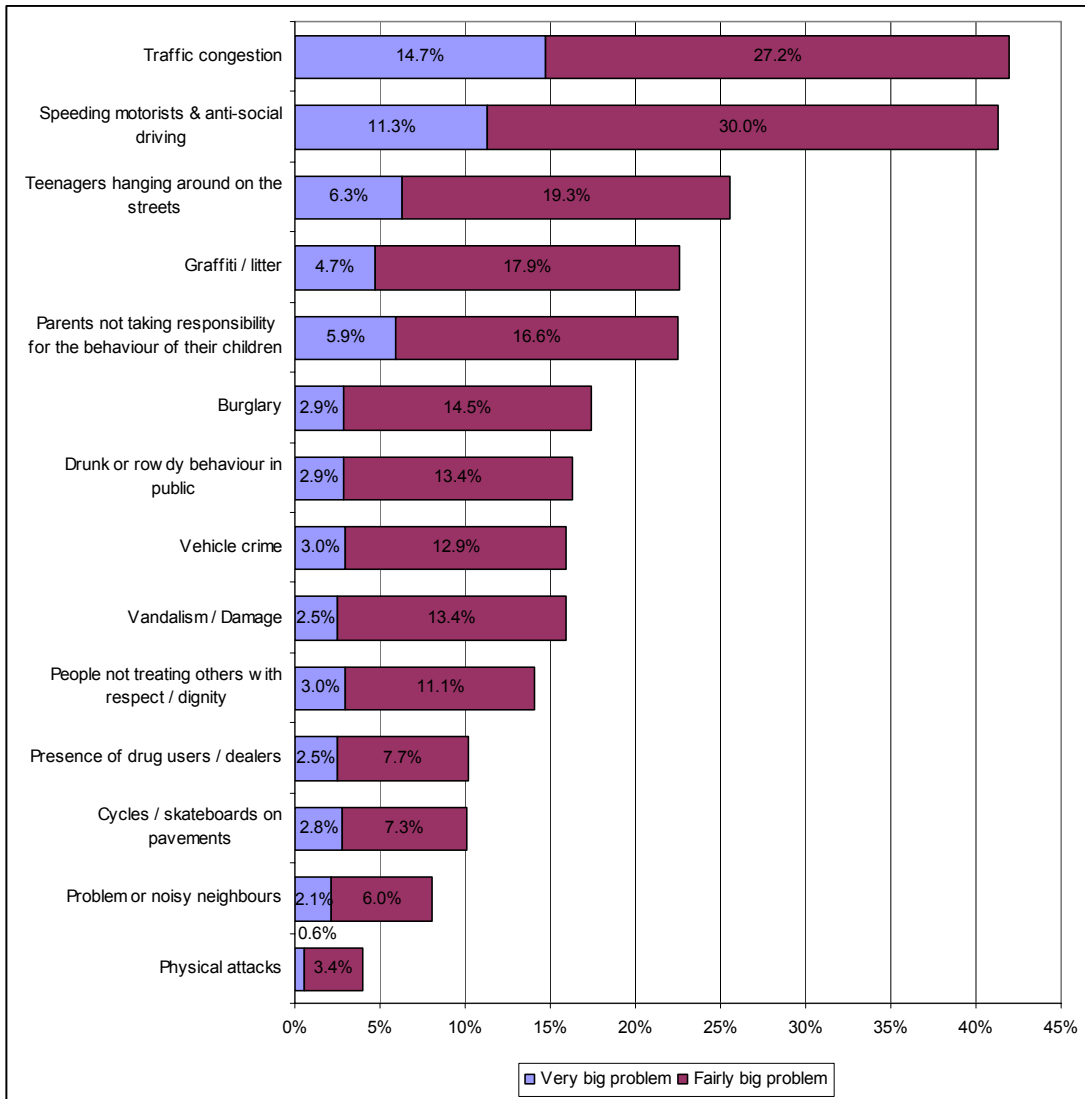
RISK: It is unknown how or if the current civil disturbances and phone hacking issue will impact on public confidence in the police, however these do represent issues of concern for future confidence level and perceptions of local issues.

Local Issues

Respondents were asked how problematic, if at all, they consider specific community and crime issues to be in their neighbourhood.

Not Protectively Marked

Chart 1: Problematic Issues



As in previous years, vehicle and youth related issues continue to be seen as problematic by more respondents than other issues considered.

Approximately two-fifths of respondents consider traffic congestion and speeding motorists & anti-social driving, problematic (41.9% and 41.2% respectively). Following these, approximately a quarter consider teenagers' hanging around on the streets (25.7%) and parents not taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children (22.5%) problematic.

Notable proportions also consider graffiti and litter (22.5%), and vandalism / damage (15.9%) problematic. These are issues that can impact on residents' perceptions that their area is a safe place to live.

Please see page 4 for comments regarding physical attacks.

Not Protectively Marked

Table 1: Problematic Issues

	2009		2010		2011	
	%	Rank	%	Rank	%	Rank
Traffic congestion	42.9%	1	43.6%	1	41.9%	1
Speeding motorists & Anti-social driving	42.3%	2	41.0%	2	41.2%	2
Teenagers hanging around on the streets	31.7%	3	29.2%	3	25.7%	3
Parents not taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children	27.0%	4	24.0%	4	22.5%	=4
Graffiti and litter lying around	24.1%	5	23.8%	5	22.5%	=4
Burglary	17.7%		17.3%	=6	17.5%	6
Vandalism / Damage	21.6%	6	17.4%	=6	15.9%	
Drunk or rowdy behaviour	16.6%		16.8%		16.3 %	
Vehicle crime (theft of and from, damage to)	18.9%		15.9%		16.0%	
People not treating other people with respect and dignity	16.2%		14.8%		14.1%	
Presence of drug users / dealers	11.1%		10.6%		10.2%	
Cycling / skateboarding on pavements	10.3%		9.0%		10.1%	
Problem / noisy neighbours	7.9%		7.1%		8.2%	
Physical attacks	6.6%		5.2%		4.0%	

It is encouraging that most of the improvements seen last year have either been sustained or improved further.

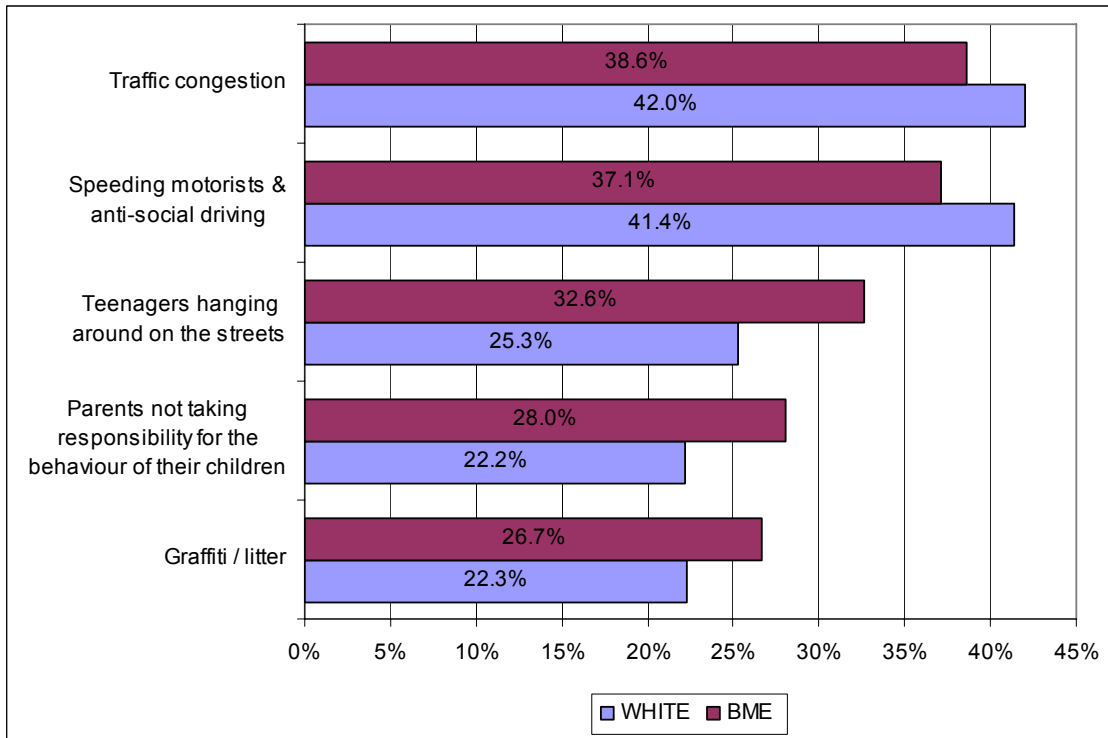
Despite having to contend with severe weather early in the year, fewer respondents considered traffic congestion a problem this year than last (-1.7% points). Furthermore results for speeding motorists & anti-social driving have sustained the improvement seen last year, *and* more respondents are confident the police will deal with this issue now than last year (+3.4% points). These results are likely to reflect the success of initiatives such as Drive Smart which focuses on anti-social driving, for example the use of mobile telephones and speeding motorists. (Supporting Table 3)

Issues specifically relating to youths/teenagers hanging around and parents not taking responsibility, have improved for the second year (-3.5% and -1.5% points respectively from 2010). Confidence that the police will deal with teenagers hanging around has also increased for the second year (+4.5% points from 2010) (Supporting Table 3)

Similarly graffiti and litter, and vandalism / damage, and physical attacks are seen as less problematic for the second year in a row.

Due to improved perceptions regarding vandalism / damage, burglary now ranks as the sixth most problematic issue. However, despite higher than average number of burglaries early in 2011, the proportion of respondents who consider burglary problematic (17.5%) has remained consistent with 2009 and 2010.

Chart 2: Top five problematic issues, by Ethnicity
(%Very/Fairly big problem)



The top five problem issues are the same for both BME and White respondents. However, more BME respondents consider youth related issues and graffiti / litter problematic than White respondents. Notably, significantly more BME than White respondents consider teenagers hanging around is a problem (BME 32.6%; White 25.3%).

Two other significant differences were found, with more BME than White respondents considering that:

- The presence of drug users or dealers is problematic (BME 15.5%; White 9.9%).
- **Physical attacks** are problematic (BME 8.7%; White 3.8%).

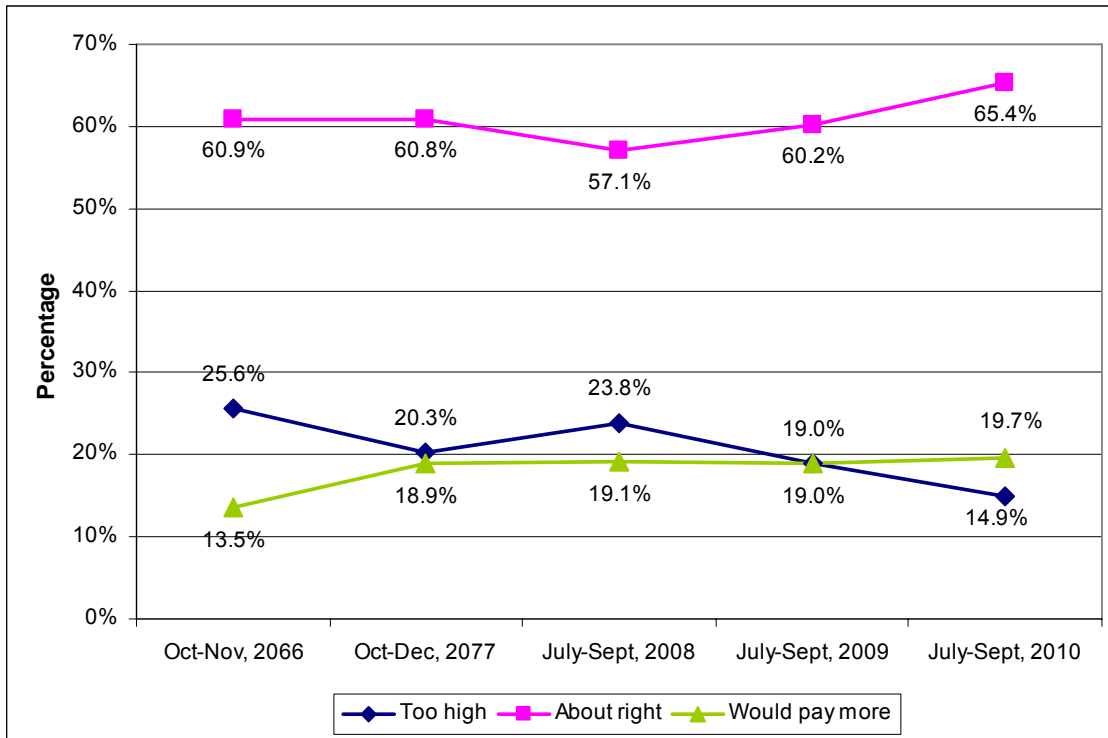
Table 2 shows that approximately 11% of all recorded 'physical attack' crimes involve BME victims, whereas approximately 88% involve White victims (12 months ending July 2011)*. When compared to the ethnicity of Surrey residents (BME 5%; White 95%) this suggests that BME respondents experience more physical violence than White, which helps explain the finding that over twice as many BME residents consider physical attacks problematic.

(*See page 6 for list of offences included in 'physical attacks' calculation)

Table 2: % crime, population, perceptions, by Ethnicity

	BME	White
% 'physical attack' crimes	11.5%	88.5%
% population of Surrey	5%	95%
% 'physical attacks' problematic	8.7%	3.8%

Chart 3: Amount paid for policing in Surrey



Note: Categories 'Don't pay council tax', 'No opinion/Don't know' excluded from analysis.

Encouragingly the proportion of respondents who consider they pay the right amount for policing in Surrey has increased from 2009, and approached two-thirds (65.4%) by July-Sept 2010. Furthermore, results suggest this improvement is largely due to a shift from those considering they pay too much for policing (2009 19%, 2010 14.9%). In addition almost a fifth (19.7%) reported they would pay more for policing in Surrey.

Key confidence indicators:

The Local Policing Plan (LPP) confidence indicator stood at 88.7% at the end of June, a figure +8.7% points above the LPP target. Encouragingly, results show the overall direction of travel for factors known to be associated with confidence are improving. These are:

▪ Neighbourhood police tackling the issues that matter to locals	JNS report, table 7
▪ Neighbourhood police understanding the issues that matter to locals	JNS report, table 8
▪ Treating everyone fairly	JNS report, table 5
▪ Being well informed about policing in the neighbourhood	JNS report, table 9
▪ Perceptions that anti-social behaviour is NOT high and that crime rate has not increased	This document, table 1
▪ Frequency of foot patrols	JNS report, chart 4

Supporting tables:

Table 3: How confident are you that your neighbourhood police would...
(% Very & Fairly confident)

	2009	2010	2011
...deal with drunk or rowdy behaviour in public places	79.8%	81.4%	85.2%
...deal with speeding motorists & anti-social driving	66.8%	68.0%	71.4%
...deal with teenagers hanging around on the streets	66.6%	67.6%	72.1%
...deal with vandalism / damage (not to vehicles)	60.5%	63.3%	69.2%

Note: Bases are approximately 3100

Offences included in 'physical attacks' calculation:

- 105A Assault without injury
- 105B Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury
- 5A Wounding or carrying out an act endangering life
- 8G Actual Bodily Harm and other injury
- 8J Racially or religiously aggravated Actual Bodily Harm and other injury