
Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 3rd November 2008

Subject: Community Safety 2004-2008

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

☐ Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity ☐

Community Cohesion ☐

Narrowing the Gap ☐

Council
Function

☐

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

☒

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

☐

Executive Summary

This report provides details of crime statistics during the period April 2004 and March 2008 and highlights key activities during this period.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report is the annual community safety update report, providing details about crime trends between April 2004 and March 2008, highlighting key activities during this period.
- 1.2 It should be noted that a number of factors have a bearing on crime; these can be placed in 3 broad categories:
- A suitable target or opportunity
High value items which can be removed relatively easily, vulnerable premises or people, unlocked doors or windows, etc
 - A motivated offender
someone whose values or beliefs make stealing / violence acceptable, drug dependency, someone motivated by greed, etc
 - A low likelihood of getting caught
no police or security patrols, a neighbourhood with a culture of low reporting of crime, no natural street surveillance, properties obscured by overgrown bushes, etc

1.3 Traditional problem solving techniques aim to reduce crime by impacting on these categories:

- working to educate the victim (leaflets, crime reduction advice, etc)
- tackle the offender (known as offender management - Cautions, Criminal Sanctions, tenancy enforcement, etc)
- undertake environmental works (cut back hedges, fit additional locks, alleygates, etc)

However, it should be acknowledged that other factors also have a bearing on crime:

- Season
- Weather
- Release of offenders
- Location
- Population

1.4 It is also important to note that one offender can commit many offences in a short period of time and this can lead to significant increases in the figures. For example, where cars are damaged along a whole street there maybe 6 cars damaged and this would lead to 6 reports of criminal damage.

2.0 Summary of Key Actions

2.1 Operation Champion

This is a 3 day multi agency operation aimed at tackling crime, asb and environmental issues within an agreed area. A number of agencies come together to focus their activity in this area, joining together to have a greater impact. During the last 12 months, 2 Operation Champion have been held in the Outer area focusing on Holt Park (December 2007) and Holt Park & Horforth (June 2008). A further 2 Operation Champions are scheduled during the next 12 months (December 2008 and June 2009). These operations will be supplemented by action days as required.

2.2 Designated Public Places Orders (DPPOs)

DPPOs were introduced in Horsforth and Guiseley on 1st December 2007. Subsequent orders have been introduced in Otley and Yeadon on 1st April 2008. A Designated Public Places Order provides the Police with additional powers to confiscate alcohol within a defined area. Where an order exists the Police have the powers to confiscate alcohol that is being consumed or that is thought likely to be consumed (unopened bottles / cans). Failure to comply with a Police request in this regard could lead to a fine or arrest.

2.3 Multi Agency Tasking

This group examines the key tactical priorities for the Outer North West area and agree actions to tackle these priorities. Work undertaken through this group includes organising multi agency action days, case conferences about specific families / individuals and commitment to deliver or contribute to specific projects (eg. Promoting target hardening by door knocking in a neighbourhood, crime prevention articles in newsletters, etc). Agencies involved in this group include: Area management (Co-chair), Police (Co-chair), Safer Leeds, West North West Homes, Youth service, Attendance Management, Environmental Action Team and the ASB Unit. The group meets monthly and its work is managed through an action plan.

2.4 Offender Management

Research and experience has shown that a small number of determined criminals are involved in a large portion of crime. Some studies have reported that 20% of criminals commit as much as 80% of crime. It, therefore, follows that rather than concentrating time and other resources on the large volume that come through the judicial system and never offend again, that attention should be concentrated on this small proportion of prolific offenders. The Police and other agencies will come together to problem solve and manage these offenders through visits, targeted intelligence gathering, focused attention (eg discussions when out in the street), use of ASB Orders and through partner agencies powers, for example, use of tenancy enforcement for ALMO tenants.

2.5 Community Safety Metal Poster Frames

These frames were purchased with through a well being application in 2005/06. The frames are targeted to key areas to tackle specific crimes; examples include deployment in car parks where cars have been broken into with posters about car crime. The Area Committee contributed £1,000 towards this project and the Police pick up the costs of posters and moving the frames.

2.6 Off Road Motor Cycles

The deployment and cost of these vehicles is shared equally amongst the four Area management Committees (£4,750 per Area Committee per year). The Off-road motor cycles are deployed across the division to green spaces or to target specific problems with motorbikes. The vehicles are effective in reducing asb and low level crime particularly on green spaces and providing reassurance to those using the parks and green spaces.

2.7 CASAC Target Hardening

This initiative is delivered across all 4 Outer North West Wards and provides additional door locks, window locks, spy holes, chains and general crime prevention advice to householders. The Police help target this service to areas where burglary is an issue and PCSO help to door knock and promote this service. £40,000 of wellbeing funding allocated to this project will provide this service to over 300 properties.

2.8 ANPR Camera (Automatic Number Plate Recognition)

The area committee funded the permanent citing of an infrared camera in Outer North West. The camera checks the insurance and MOT status of all cars passing and will highlight any cars which do not have these in place. Any cars wanted by the Police will also be highlighted and relayed to the monitoring station for action; this could include stolen cars or owners of cars who have outstanding arrest warrants.

2.9 Mediation Leeds

60 hours of mediation has been funded by Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth and Otley & Yeadon wards. This will assist in resolving disputes between neighbours before they escalate.

3.0 **Overview of crime figures**

3.1 Appendix 1 shows a downward trend in relation to all crimes in the 4 Outer North West Wards; Adel & Wharfedale, Guiseley & Rawdon, Horsforth and Otley & Yeadon. The crimes presented in these figures cover the period April 2004 – March 2008 and relate to all crimes including; fraud & Forgery, handling stolen goods, sexual offences

and other thefts. For Comparison purposes during 2004/05, Hyde Park & Woodhouse Ward experienced 4,384 offences.

- 3.2 It should be noted that Guiseley & Rawdon and Otley & Yeadon did experience increases in 2005/06. It is difficult to attribute this to a single cause, more likely a combination of factors may have lead to this rise. However, it is important to note that during the period of the report (April 2004 – March 2008) all wards experienced decreases in crime. With Horsforth and Adel & Wharfedale achieving 33% and 23% reductions in all crime during this period, 611 and 323 fewer incidents respectively.

4.0 Overview of Crime Types

- 4.1 Appendix 2 provides an overview of specific crime types. Burglary, Robbery, Criminal Damage and Theft of Motor Vehicle achieved substantial reductions during this reporting period. The following paragraphs will examine these trends in more detail.

4.2 Burglary and Robbery

Throughout the Outer North West Area burglary has reduced by over 30% with 341 fewer offences recorded, Appendix 3. Robbery figures remain generally very low; however, even with these low figures it is important to note that a substantial reduction has been achieved.

4.3 Theft of and Theft from Motor Vehicles

Appendix 4 shows that Theft from motor vehicle continues to present a challenge as it involves reinforced education for members of the public to not leave items on display in vehicles. In addition, the increase in the use of satellite navigation systems means that vehicles are broken into in an attempt to steal these devices. Various tactics are used to help get this message about not leaving valuables on display across, examples include: If a PCSO comes across a vehicles where an item is on show they will note the details and arrange for the DVLA to write to the owner and provide some basic crime prevention advice. Temporary notices are also used in the form of the A4 poster frames purchased through well being in 2005/06. However, moderate reductions have been experienced in this area, with a 3.5% reduction despite a significant increase in 2005/06. Theft of motor vehicle also presents a challenge with increased security of newer vehicles offenders have resorted to burglary in order to steal the keys to vehicles. Despite an increase in 2005/06 a 17% decrease in offences was recorded between 2004 and 2008, 61 fewer incidents.

4.4 Criminal Damage and Violent Crime

During the period of this report recorded criminal damage reduced by 25%, a reduction of 334 offences (Appendix 5). some criminal damage offences now receive a follow up visit by Officers to ensure that offences are not misreported. For example, accidental damage recorded as criminal damage. Violent Crime remains the most challenging area with offences at the same level as 2004/05, despite a peak during 2005-2007.

5.0 Ward Summary

5.1 Adel and Wharfedale

During this period most recorded crime decreased, with burglary seeing the biggest reduction, of 62% with 212 fewer offences during this period, Appendix 6. Theft of Motor vehicle and Criminal damage also achieved decreases with 25 and 133 fewer offences.

Project Summary (Area Committee spend on Community Safety)

£4994 of additional policing was funded in 2005/06

£5000 of additional policing was funded in 2006/07

£1,925 funded 2 mountain bikes for use by PCSOs in 2006/07

£9,920 of additional policing to assist with evidence and intelligence gathering in 2007/08

5.2 Guiseley and Rawdon

Appendix 7 shows that burglary and criminal damage experienced significant decreases with 85 and 41 fewer offences, respectively. Theft from Motor Vehicle increased 38% during this period, with an increase of 49 offences. As mentioned previously, this continues to be a challenging area with ongoing education of individuals about leaving valuables (such as mobile phones) on display. Additionally, the upsurge of the use of satellite navigation systems has also lead to an increase in attempted thefts looking for these devices in glove compartments. Ongoing education and advice in this field will be the used to tackle this increase.

Project Summary (Area Committee spend on Community Safety)

£1,875 of additional policing was funded in 2004/05

£2,500 of additional policing was funded in 2005/06

£5,000 of additional policing was funded in 2007/08

£2,000 of funding paid for 3 mountain bikes in 2007/08

£2,665 to support the Guiseley DPPO in 2007/08

£5,000 of additional policing to support the Guiseley DPPO in 2007/08

5.3 Horsforth

All crimes in Horsforth experienced significant decreases during this period, with Theft from Motor vehicle (30%), Criminal Damage (30%) and Theft of Motor Vehicle (25%) seeing substantial reductions, Appendix 8.

Project Summary (Area Committee spend on Community Safety)

2 Horsforth PCSOs are funded through the Town Council and Area Committee and deployed to the Horsforth Town Council area. This is an ongoing project committed each year.

£5,000 of additional Policing for Horforth was funded in 2005/06

£8,448 paid for the monitoring and maintenance of 2 CCTV cameras. This is an ongoing project at a cost of £6,758 in 2006/07 and 2007/08.

£5,000 of additional policing in 2006/07

£3,242 to support the DPPO in 2007/08

£700 paid for 10,000 beer mats to support the Horsforth pubwatch and DPPO

£5,000 of additional policing to support the Horsforth DPPO in 2007/08

5.4 Otley and Yeadon

Theft of Motor vehicle reduced significantly during this period 38% reduction which equates to 34 fewer offences (Appendix 9). Violent Crime saw an increase of 12%, however, this was on the back of a reduction of 28 fewer offences in 2006/07.

Project Summary (Area Committee spend on Community Safety)

£1,000 paid for the Otley CCTV feasibility study which resulted in a report recommending a camera system for Otley town centre.

£5,000 of additional policing in 2007/08

£2,000 funded 3 mountain bikes for use by the PCSOs in 2007/08

£17,613 paid for the CCTV revenue costs of 5 cameras in Otley town centre

£2,465 to support the Otley DPPO in 2007/08

£2,465 to support the Yeadon DPPO in 2007/08

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 It is clear that substantial reductions in crime have been achieved in Outer North West during the period April 2004 and March 2008. However, with the current economic outlook it is fair to predict that there will be significant challenges ahead in a number of areas. The significant partnership working developed during the period of this report will place us in a promising position to deliver reductions in crime and improvements in community confidence, with continued support from the Outer North west Area Committee.

7.0 Recommendations

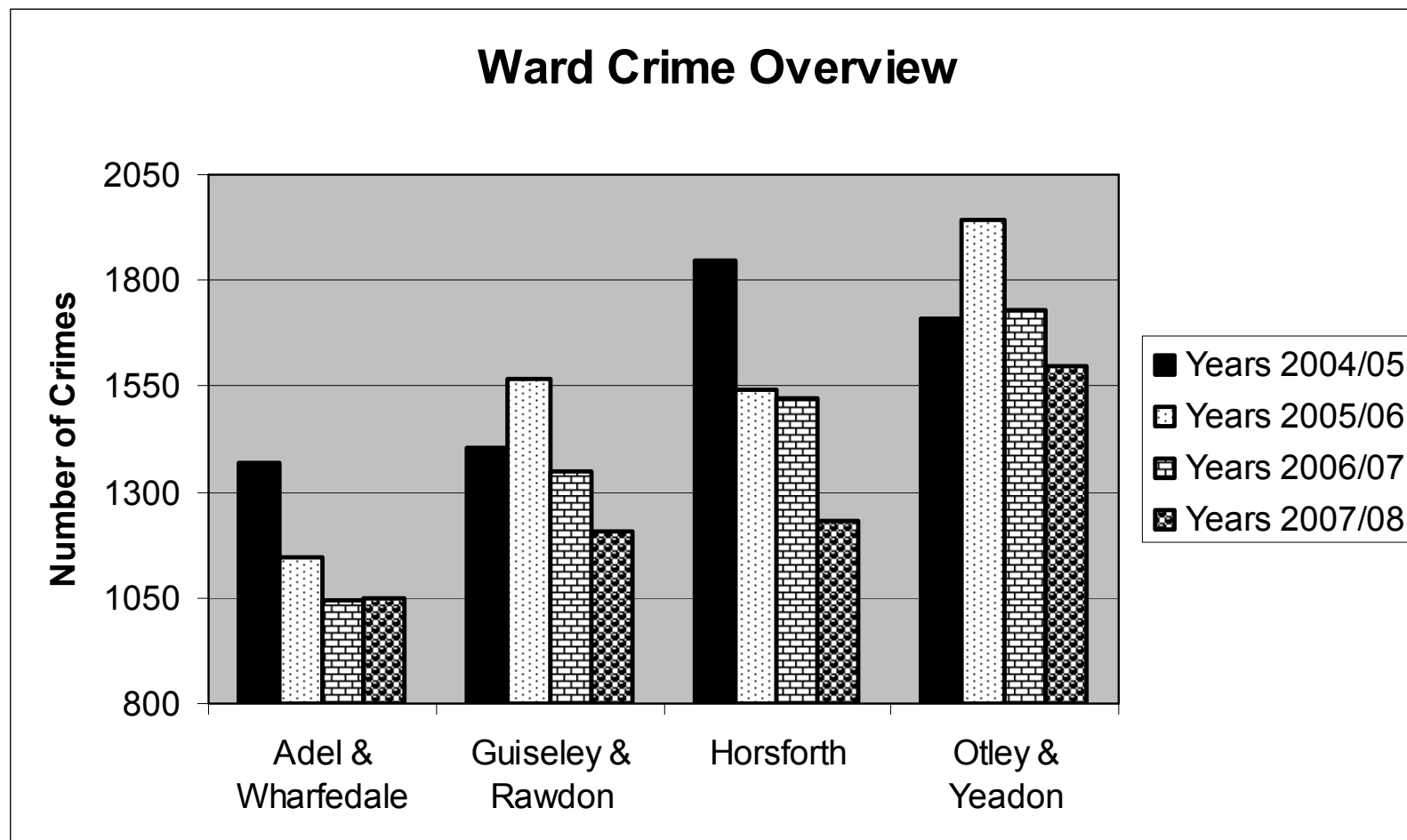
- 7.1 Members are asked to note this report and offer comments.

Background Papers

None

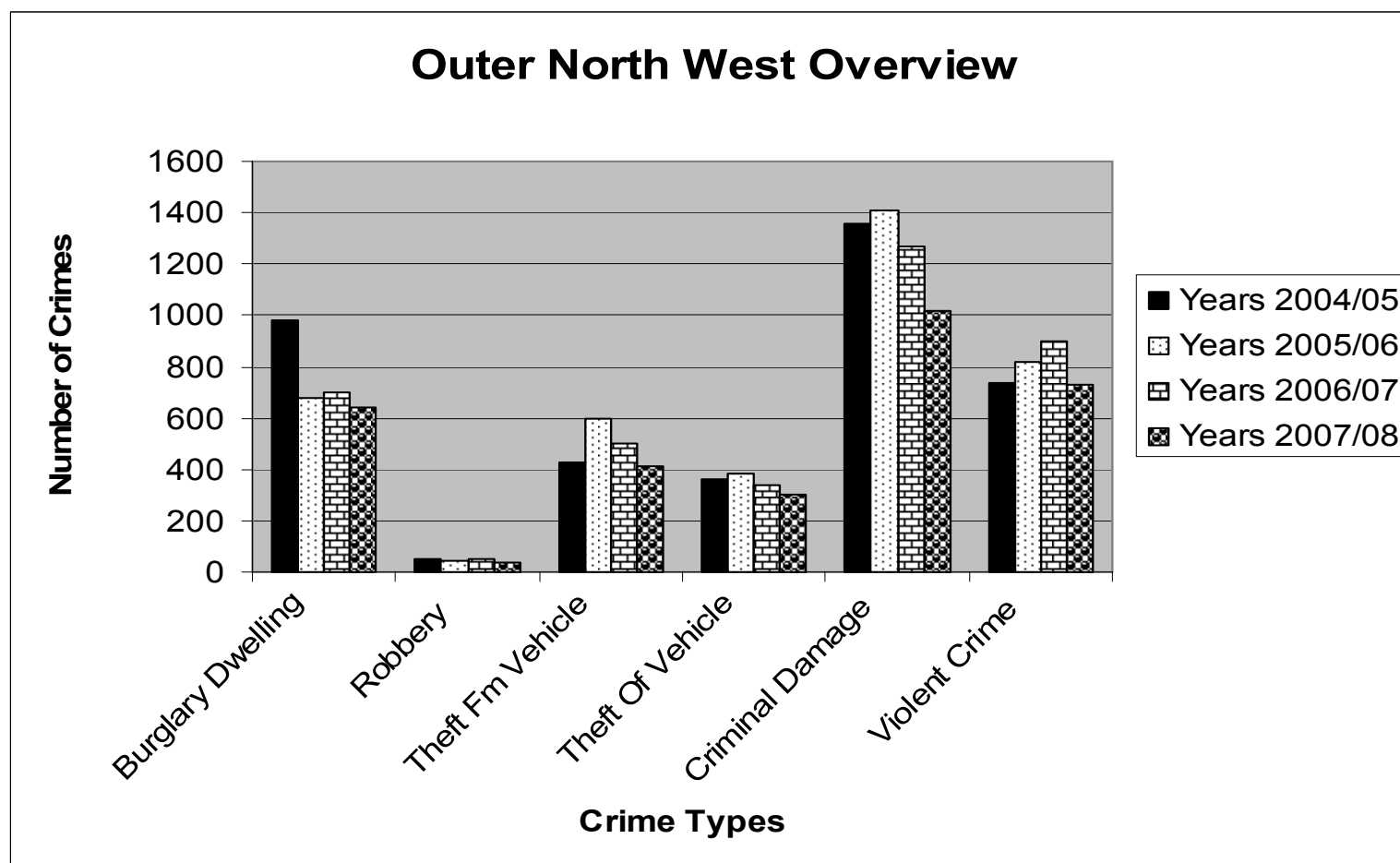
Ward Overview	Years					
Wards	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Difference	% Reduction
Adel & Wharfedale	1371	1147	1042	1048	323	24
Guiseley & Rawdon	1407	1568	1349	1209	198	14
Horsforth	1845	1543	1524	1234	611	33
Otley & Yeadon	1712	1943	1732	1599	113	7

Appendix 1

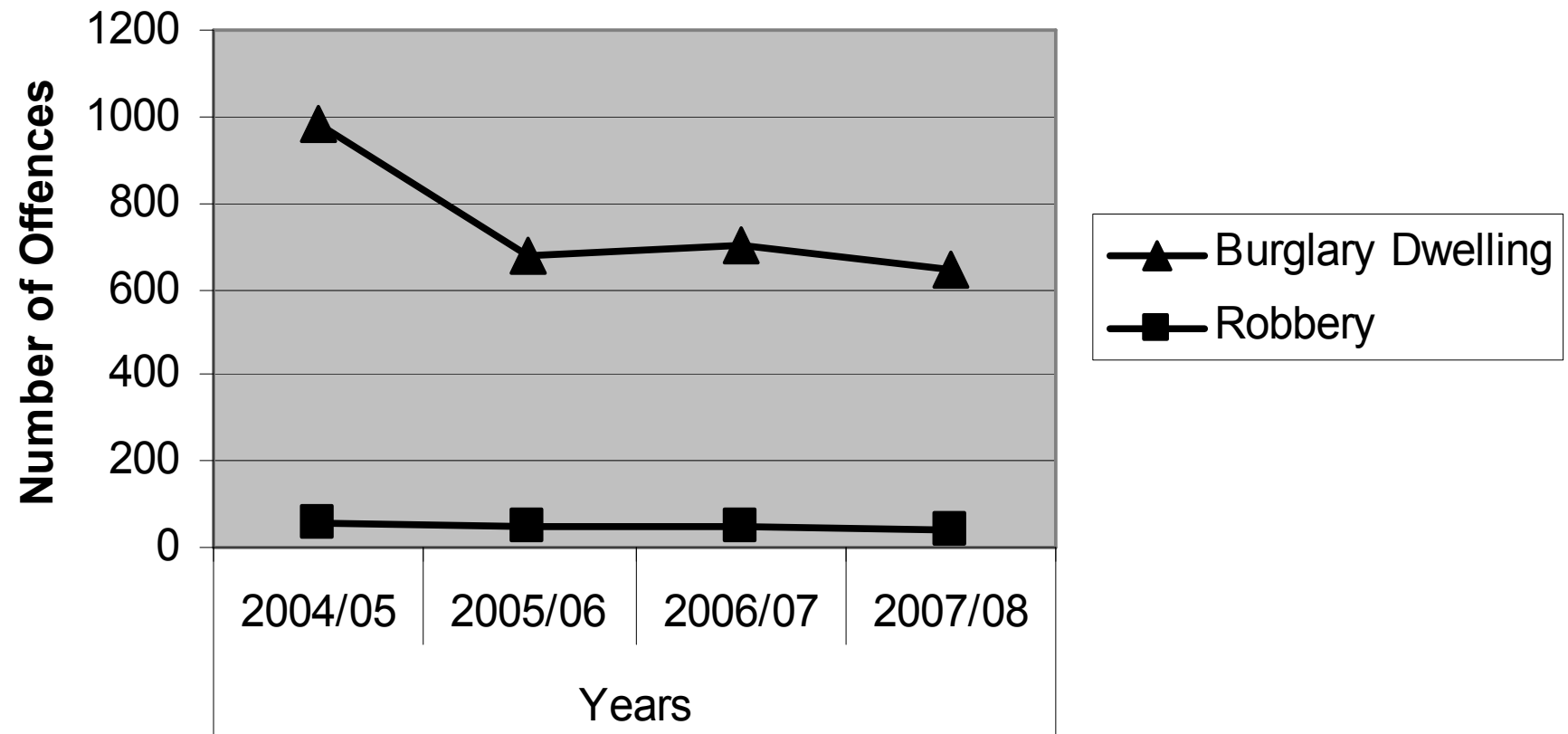


Outer NW Overview	Years					
Crime types	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Difference	% Reduction
Burglary Dwelling	984	679	702	643	341	35
Robbery	54	47	52	38	16	30
Theft Fm Vehicle	430	594	503	415	15	3
Theft Of Vehicle	364	383	337	303	61	17
Criminal Damage	1353	1411	1270	1019	334	25
Violent Crime	735	822	898	733	2	0

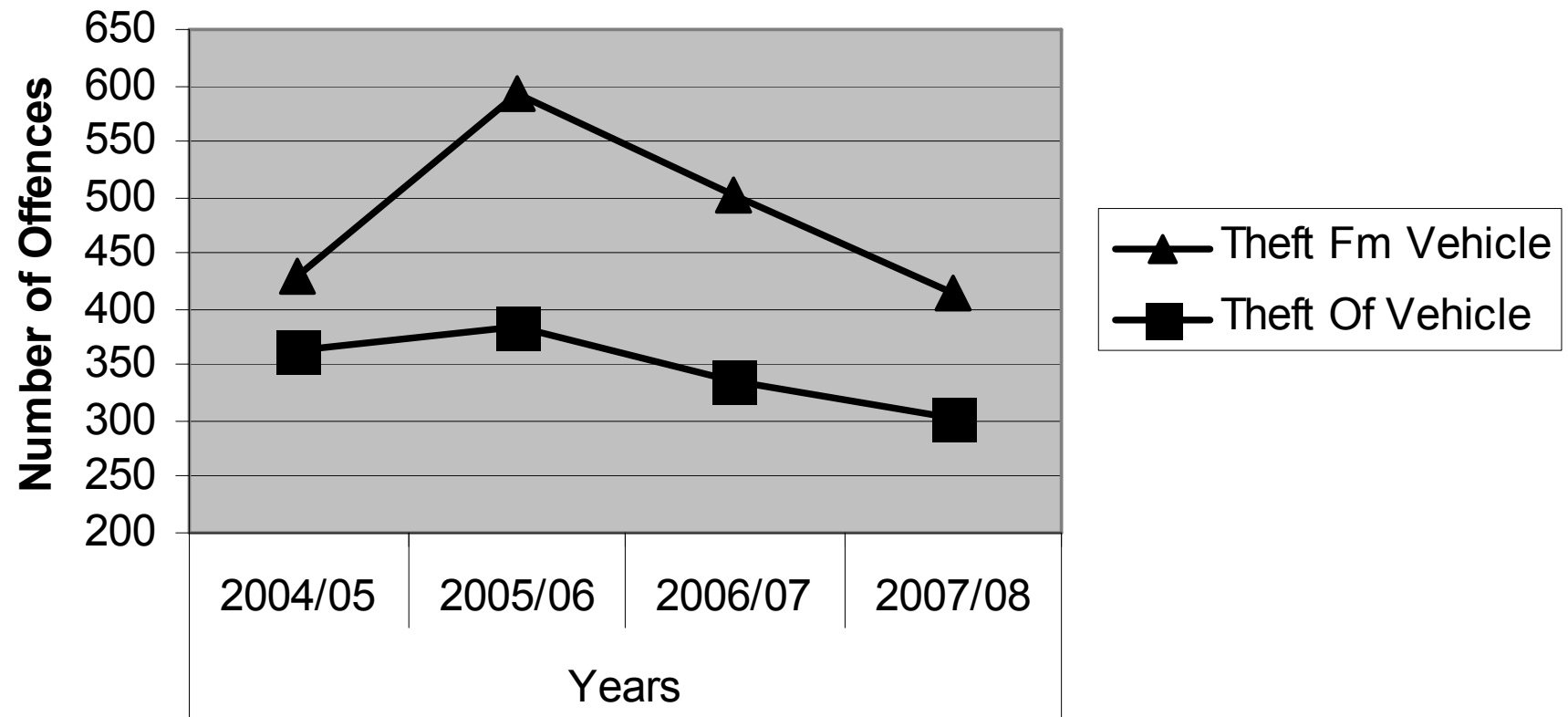
Appendix 2



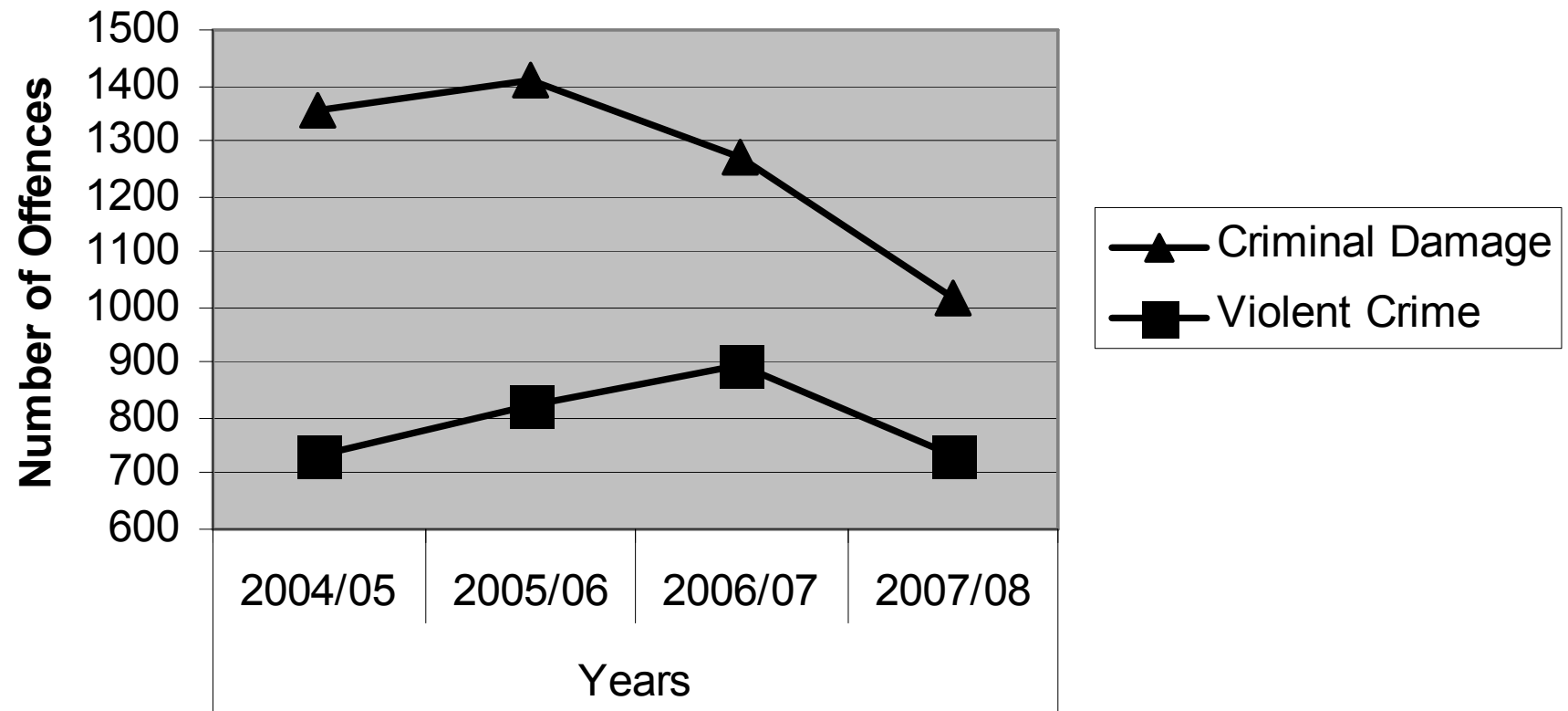
Burglary and Robbery



Theft of and Theft From Motor Vehicles

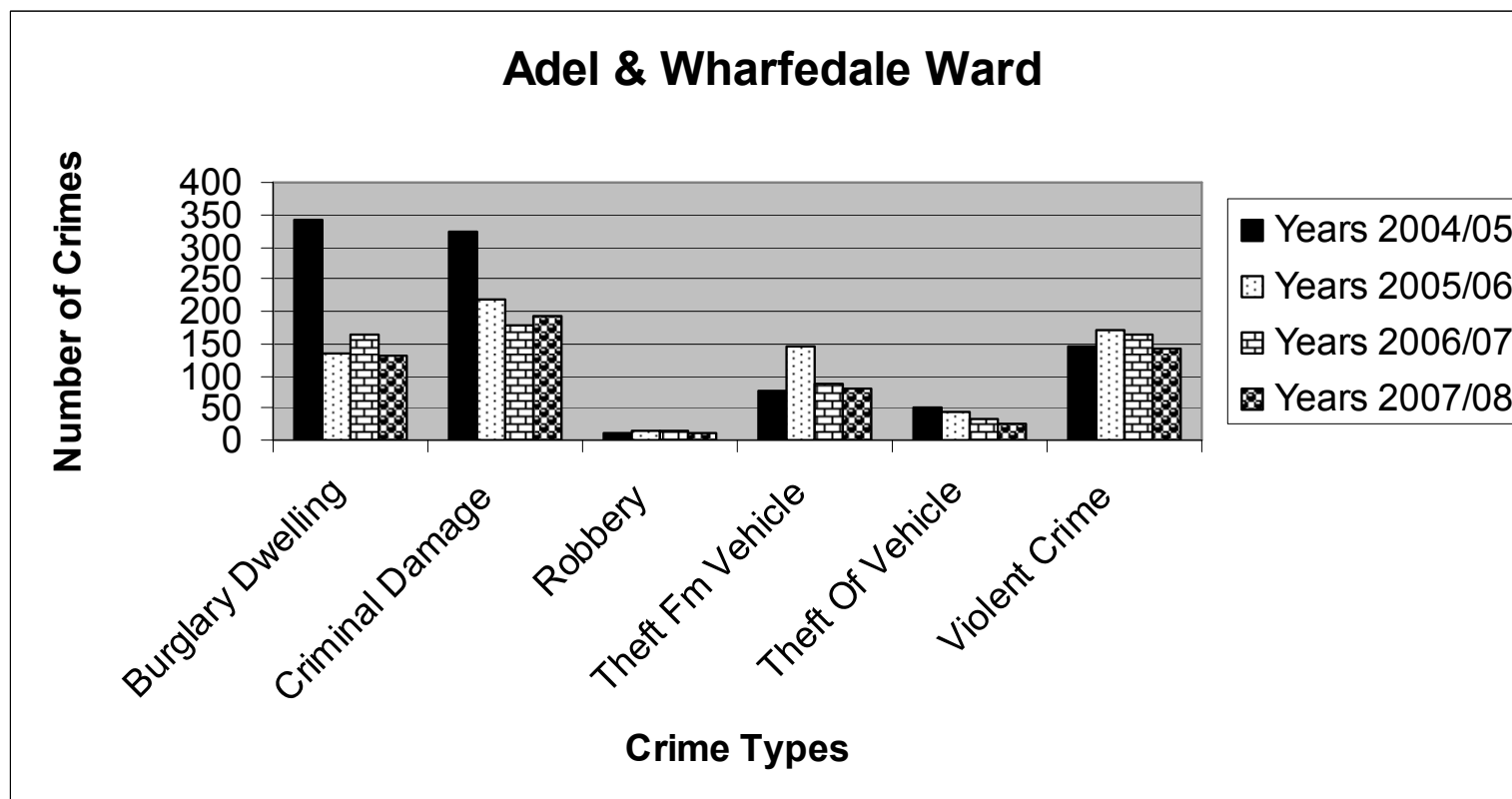


Criminal Damage and Violent Crime



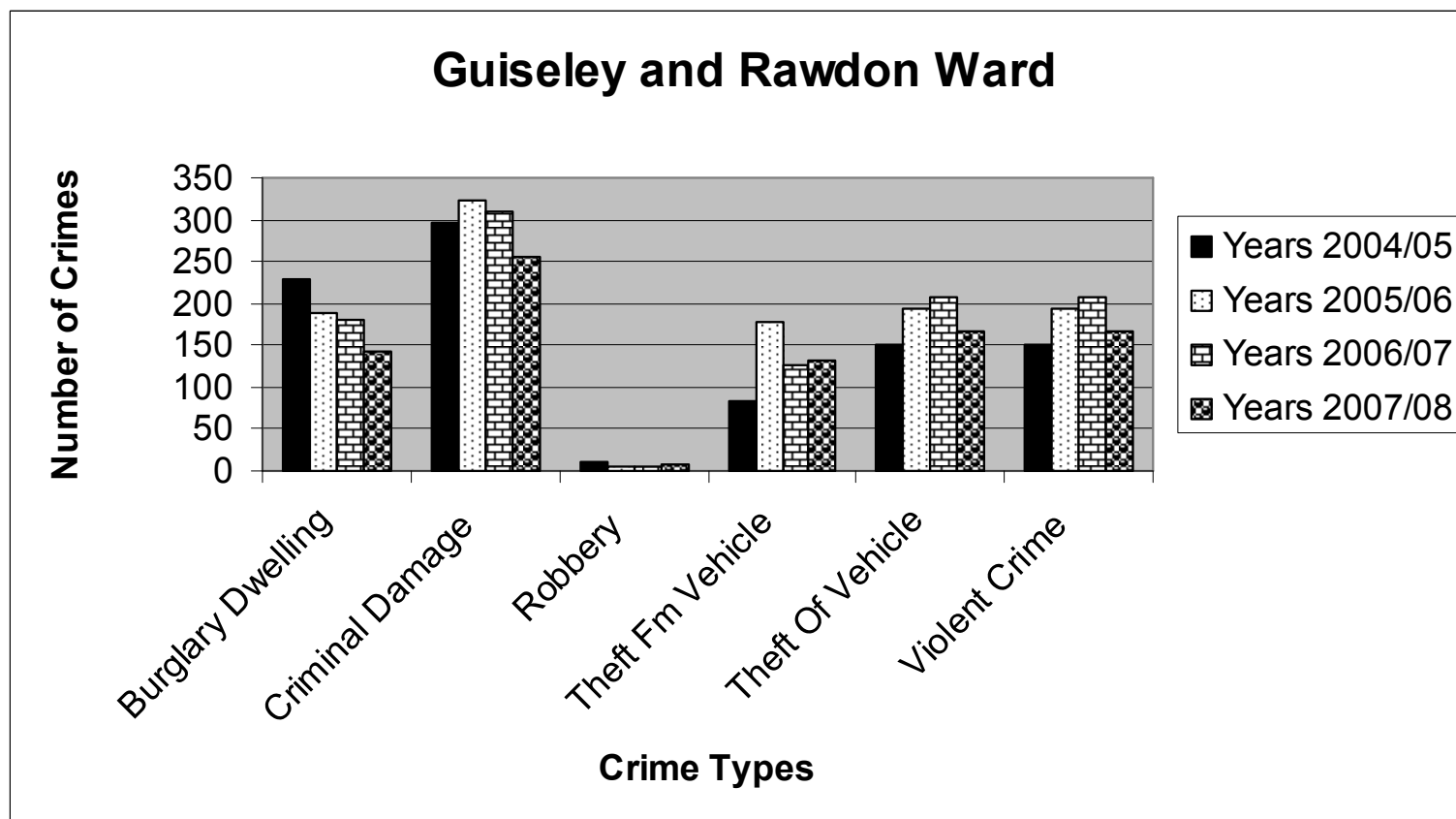
Adel & Wharfedale Ward	Years					
Crime types	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Difference	% Reduction
Burglary Dwelling	343	136	164	131	212	62
Robbery	10	15	16	12	-2	-20
Theft Fm Vehicle	78	145	86	80	-2	-3
Theft Of Vehicle	52	43	32	27	25	48
Criminal Damage	324	218	177	191	133	41
Violent Crime	147	172	164	141	6	4

Appendix 6



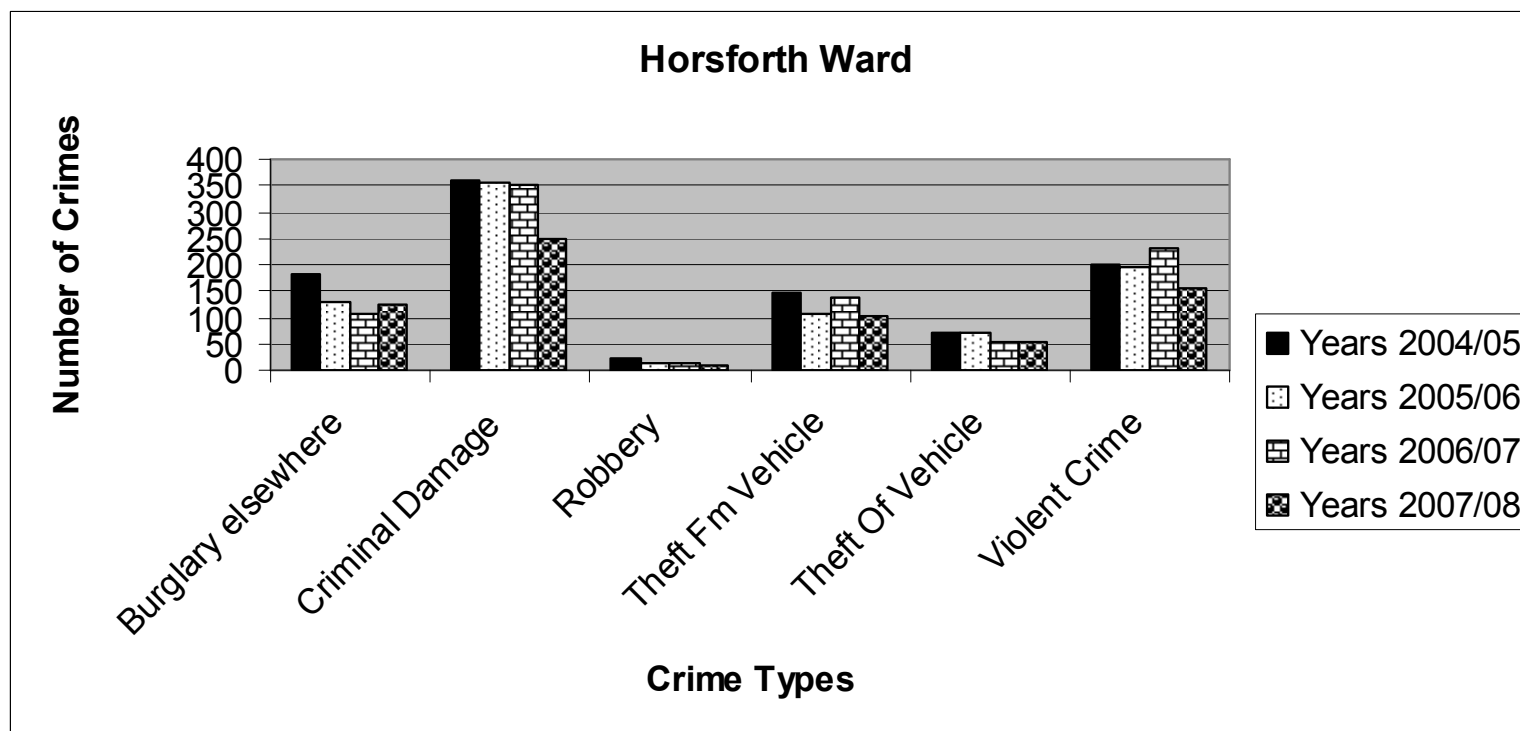
Guiseley & Rawdon	Years					
Crime types	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Difference	% Reduction
Burglary Dwelling	229	189	180	144	85	37
Robbery	10	6	6	7	3	30
Theft Fm Vehicle	83	177	126	132	-49	-59
Theft Of Vehicle	150	194	206	166	-16	-11
Criminal Damage	296	324	309	255	41	14
Violent Crime	150	194	206	166	-16	-11

Appendix 7



Horsforth	Years					
Crime types	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Difference	% Reduction
Burglary	260	202	206	230	30	12
Robbery	23	15	15	7	16	70
Theft Fm Vehicle	145	108	138	101	44	30
Theft Of Vehicle	72	70	52	54	18	25
Criminal Damage	358	355	349	248	110	31
Violent Crime	201	196	231	157	44	22

Appendix 8



Otley & Yeadon	Years					
Crime types	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Difference	% Reduction
Burglary Dwelling	152	152	152	138	14	9
Robbery	11	11	15	12	-1	-9
Theft Fm Vehicle	124	164	153	102	22	18
Theft Of Vehicle	90	76	47	56	34	38
Criminal Damage	375	514	435	325	50	13
Violent Crime	237	260	297	269	-32	-14

