



Safer Leeds Crime and Disorder Report

2006/07

Foreword

In 2005, Safer Leeds developed a three-year strategy for tackling drugs and crime. The strategy, based upon the findings of the Leeds Crime, Disorder and Drugs Audit 2004, outlines the priorities for Safer Leeds until 2008. This annual report provides information about crime trends in Leeds from April 2006 to March 2007 and looks at the progress that Safer Leeds has made towards delivering the strategy.

Last year was a successful one for Safer Leeds, with recorded crime falling by 4%. Despite this and other achievements, crime and disorder remains a primary concern for the citizens of Leeds. The year ahead promises to be busy and challenging, Safer Leeds intends to build on previous successes confident that by working together we can continue to make progress in improving quality of life for the people of Leeds.

We would like to thank all those who work in partnership with Safer Leeds, without the considerable efforts of our partners, community groups and the staff who work for the partnership we would not be able to achieve our vision of making Leeds a safer place to live, work or visit.

Neil Evans
Councillor Les Carter

Chair of the Safer Leeds Executive
Chair of the Safer Leeds Board

Safer Leeds

Safer Leeds is the name for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership in Leeds, formed in 2005 when the Leeds Community Safety Partnership and the Drug Action Team merged. Safer Leeds has a membership drawn from representatives of the 'responsible authorities' (named in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police Reform Act 2002) along with representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

The Safer Leeds Executive

The Executive members represent the 'responsible authorities' and include:

- Children and Young People's Partnership
- Leeds City Council
- Leeds Strategic Partnership
- National Offender Management Service (Probation)
- Primary Care Trusts
- West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- West Yorkshire Police
- West Yorkshire Police Authority
- Safer Leeds Chair of the Board
- Safer Leeds Partnership Manager

The Safer Leeds Board

The Safer Leeds Board is made up of representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

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Safer Leeds Strategy Priority Themes

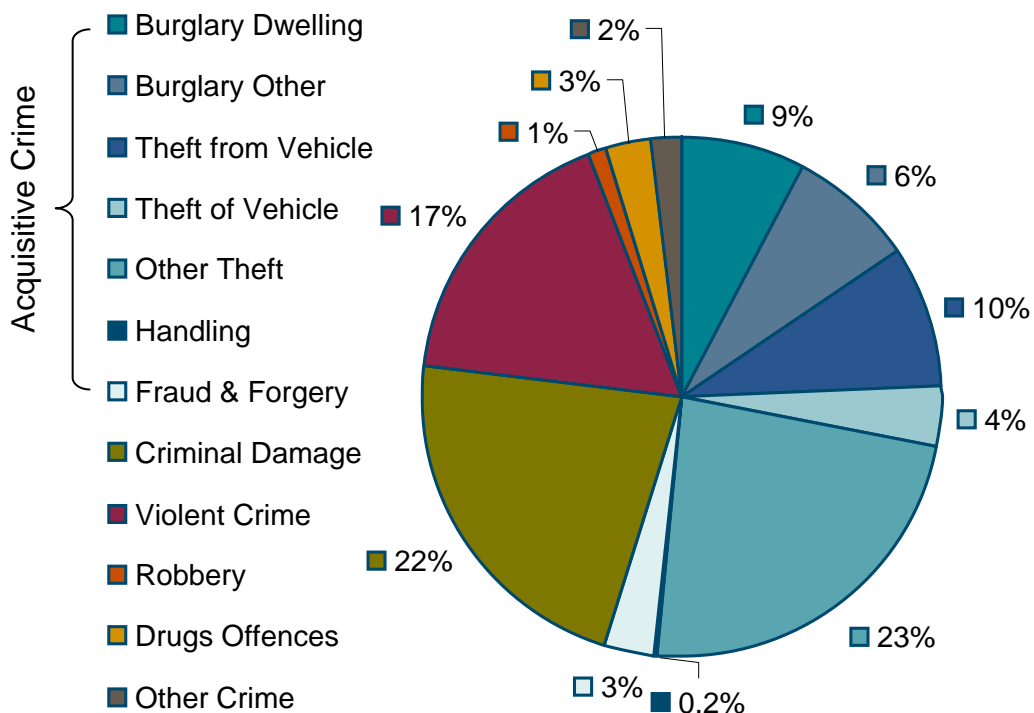
The Safer Leeds Strategy identifies five priorities for the period from 2005 to 2008, these are:

- **Acquisitive Crime**
Aim: To reduce acquisitive crime and opportunities for offending.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour and Environmental Crime**
Aim: To reduce anti-social behaviour and improve the local environment.
- **Drugs**
Aim: To reduce drug availability and minimise the harm caused by drugs.
- **Reassurance**
Aim: To improve public reassurance and help prevent crime.
- **Violent Crime**
Aim: To reduce the level and impact of violent crime, particularly domestic violence, hate crime and alcohol related violence.

Crime in Leeds 2006/07

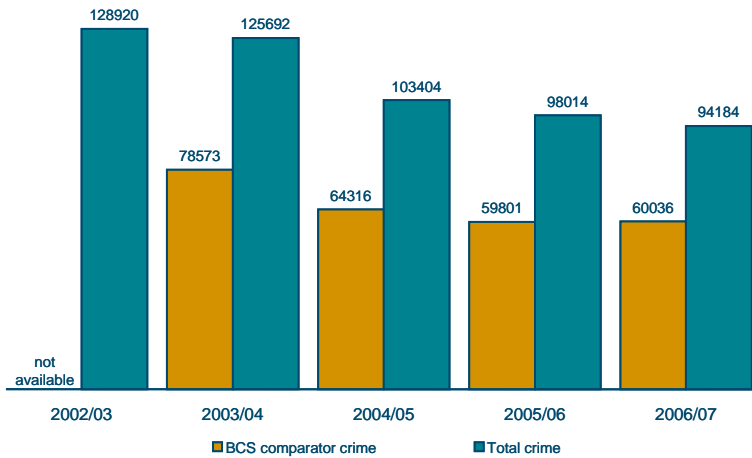
- More than half the offences recorded by the police are *acquisitive crimes*, but fewer than one in ten offences are burglary dwelling.
- More than one in five offences recorded by the police are *environmental crimes* (criminal damage).
- Fewer than one in six offences recorded to the police are *violent crimes* (violence against the person and disorder).

Recorded Crime in Leeds by Offence Type 2006/07



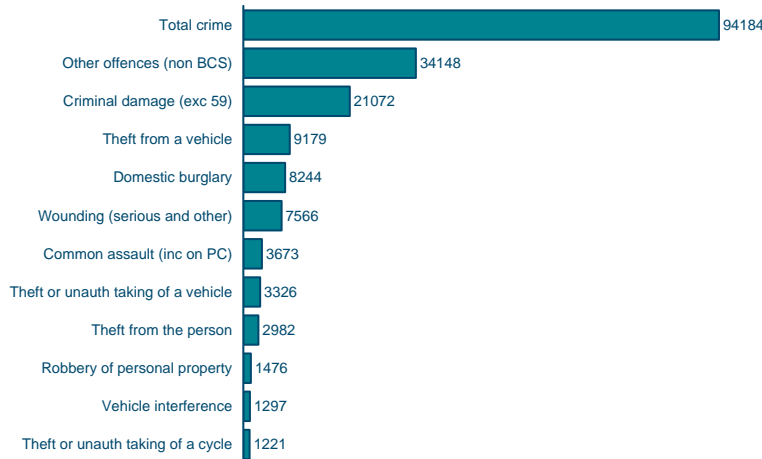
Crime in Leeds 2006/07

Crime Trends in Leeds 2002/03 to 2006/07

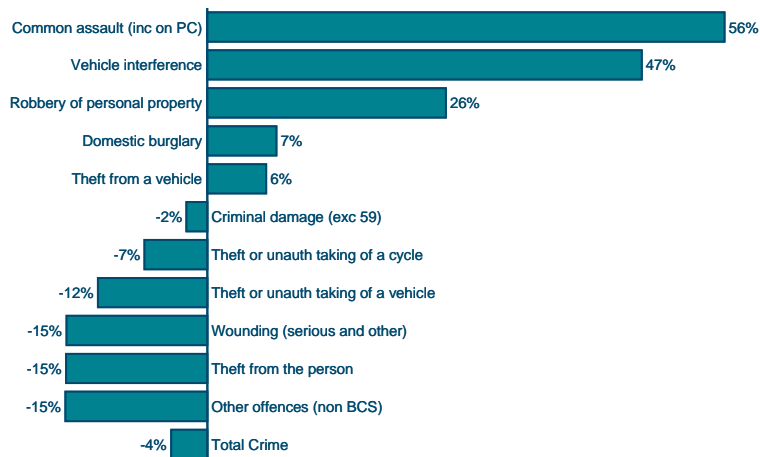


In Leeds, the police recorded 94,184 crimes in 2006/07, 3,830 fewer offences than in 2005/06; this is a 4% reduction in offences compared to a 2% reduction in England and Wales during the same period.

Recorded Crime in Leeds 2006/07



Change in Recorded Crime in Leeds 2006/07



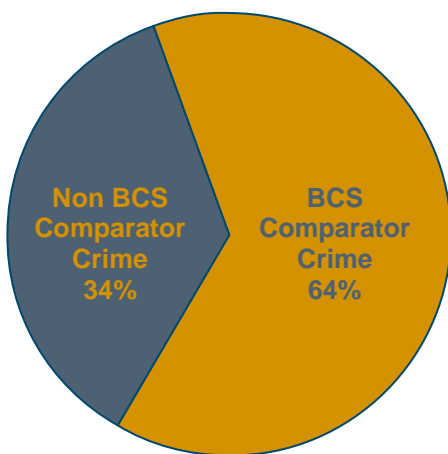
A number of crime types showed fewer offences in 2006/07 than in 2005/06, particularly theft of vehicles, wounding and theft from the person. However, some crime types had more offences recorded in 2006/07 than in 2005/06, most significantly vehicle interference and common assault. The large increase in the common assault was due to new police powers for this offence.

PSA1 Performance in Leeds

PSA1 is a Public Service Agreement containing the crime reduction targets that the police, local authority and CDRP must achieve by March 2008. The PSA1 target measures BCS (British Crime Survey) comparator crime against the level recorded in 2003/04. The PSA1 target for England and Wales is that by March 2008, BCS comparator crime must fall by 15% from the level recorded in 2003/04. However, high crime areas have PSA1 targets that are more demanding, with the requirement that BCS comparator crime must fall by at least 20%. To improve the situation in Leeds, West Yorkshire Police and Safer Leeds set a very ambitious PSA1 target of 35%, much higher than the minimum 20% reduction. As PSA1 runs for three years from April 2005 to March 2008, there are annual targets to monitor progress towards the overall target of 35%, in 2006/07 the PSA1 target for Leeds was 25%.

The government uses police recorded crime and the British Crime Survey to measure crime. The British Crime Survey (BCS) questions individuals about the crime they have experienced in the last year. The survey includes crimes *not reported* to the police, but it only covers crime personal crime and not commercial crime. However, information from the BCS is not available at a local level, so to allow comparisons with the British Crime Survey, PSA1 uses a sub-set of police recorded crime, looking at only those offences covered by the BCS.

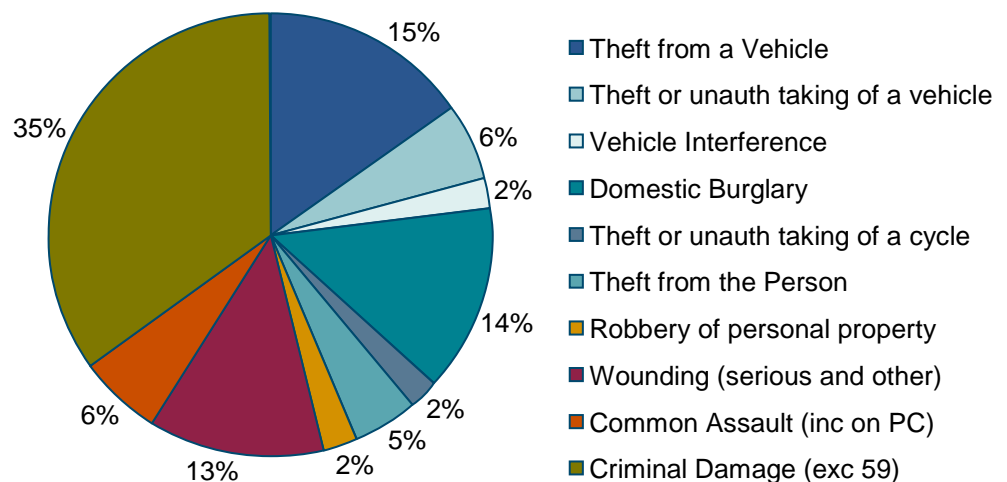
Recorded Crime in Leeds 2006/07



Police recorded crime statistics cover the crimes recorded by the police that the public have reported to them.

BCS comparator crime looks at a sub-set of police recorded crime.

BCS Comparator Crime in Leeds 2006/07

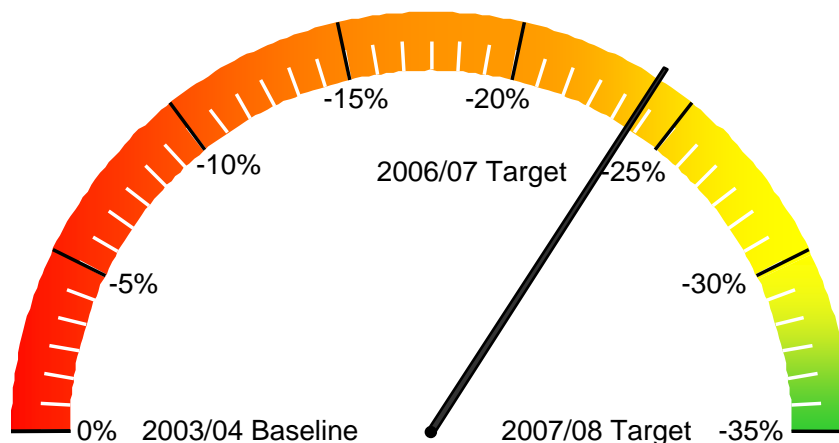


PSA1 Performance in Leeds

In 2006/07, Safer Leeds had a PSA1 target to reduce BCS comparator crime by 25% from the 2003/04 baseline.

In 2003/04, there were 78,573 BCS comparator crimes, this fell to 60,036 BCS comparator crimes in 2006/07 a reduction of 18,537 offences (24%) from the 2003/04 baseline.

Reduction in BCS Comparator Crime from 2003/04 Baseline



Leeds PSA 1 Performance 2006/07

What Leeds Residents think about Crime and Disorder

In 2006/07, a survey of 2,000 residents, undertaken by Leeds City Council, revealed that:

- 78% of residents felt safe when walking alone in their area during the daytime.
- 31% of residents felt safe when walking alone in their area after dark.
- 11% of residents felt that drunkenness and rowdiness was a very big problem.
- 31% of residents believed that people using or dealing drugs was a very big problem.
- 47% of residents felt that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles was a very big problem.

The methods used to conduct the 2006/07 survey changed from previous surveys, therefore direct comparison of the results from 2006/07 with previous years may not give an accurate representation of residents' perceptions.

Delivering the Safer Leeds Strategy

Safer Leeds supports and commissions a variety of activities to help reduce crime and disorder in Leeds. These are just some of the things Safer Leeds did to help deliver its strategy in 2006/07.

Reducing acquisitive crime and the fear of crime through prevention activities, visible street security and publicity

- Safer Leeds target hardened 2,914 properties and installed 80 alley gates in locations across the city.
- Safer Leeds repeated a successful crime prevention campaign with students, distributed information to people in the city centre and attended community events.
- Twenty car parks in Leeds now meet the Safer Car Parks standard.

Reducing anti-social behaviour and improving local environments

- Leeds became a 'Respect' area, with more resources made available for family support and increased emphasis on enforcement activity to tackle anti-social behaviour. Respect areas will be able to adopt the Respect Housing Standard.
- We have introduced Parenting Pathfinder Programmes aimed at 8-13 year olds, with an 'expert practitioner' to share good practice.
- Safer Leeds worked with partners to deliver 28 multi-agency operations, making communities safer and reducing anti-social behaviour.

Reducing drug availability and minimising the harm caused by drug misuse

- To ensure that drug services meet the Drugs and Alcohol National Occupational Standards (DANOS) requirements by 2008, Safer Leeds has implemented a workforce development programme for non-professionally trained staff.
- Drug Intervention Programme provides a new service, for persistent and prolific offenders who misuse drugs, with two clinics per week.
- New measures mean that prostitutes are fast-tracked into drug treatment services.
- The Alcohol Strategy for Leeds will address the specific problems caused by alcohol misuse in Leeds.

Reducing the level and impact of violent crime, particularly domestic violence, hate crime, robbery and alcohol-related violence

- The Tackling Violent Crime Plan (2006/07), delivered through a multi-agency task group, contributed to the 17% reduction in violent crime in Leeds city-centre.
- A taxi marshalling scheme and night-bus services ran throughout the festive season to help people travel home safely at the end of a night out in Leeds city centre. The taxi marshalling scheme covered four sites in the city centre and there were no violent assaults at any of the marshalled sites during the period. 690 passengers used the night bus service.
- A 'sanctuary' scheme to help victims of domestic violence stay in their own homes began in July 2006, with 174 installations receiving approval by the end of March 2007.
- Three Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs), one per police division, meet on a monthly basis. MARACs provide a structured forum for the sharing of information, risk assessment and safety planning in cases of domestic abuse and ensure adequate appropriate support is available to the victim and any dependants.
- Safer Leeds established the Strategic Hate Incident Group (SHIG) to increase the reporting of hate crimes, improve service responses to hate crime and develop preventative activities.

Performance against Safer Leeds Strategy Targets

Priority 1 – Acquisitive Crime		
Measurements of Success for 2006/07	Target	Outcome
To reduce the rate per 1000 households of recorded domestic burglary	23.3	25.4
To reduce the rate per 1000 population of recorded theft from motor vehicles	11.7	12.7
To reduce the rate per 1000 population of recorded theft of motor vehicles	5.1	4.6
Priority 2 – Anti-Social Behaviour and Environmental Crime		
Measurements of Success for 2006/07	Target	Outcome
To reduce the level of recorded criminal damage	27.2	29.4
To reduce the number of people begging in the city centre	25	5
To reduce the number of people sleeping rough	10	not available
To increase the number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, with young people, supported by an intervention	120	76
Priority 3 – Drugs		
Measurements of Success for 2006/07	Target	Outcome
To increase the number per 1000 population of drug users (aged 15-44) in treatment from 2004/05 baseline	8.20	11.60
To increase the % of drug users retained in treatment at 12 weeks	80%	79%
To reduce the number of deaths related to illicit drug use	23	18*
*Provisional result – still awaiting inquest verdicts from Coroner		
Priority 4 – Reassurance		
Measurements of Success for 2006/07	Target	Outcome
Reduce the fear of crime, measured by:		
a) Increase the % of residents who feel safe walking alone in their area during the day	94%	78%
b) Increase the % of residents who feel safe walking alone in their area after dark	54%	31%
c) Reduce the % of residents who feel drunkenness & rowdiness is a very big problem	28%	11%
d) Reduce the % of residents who believe that people using or dealing drugs is a very big problem	28%	31%
Reduce the % of residents who feel that:		
e) Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property and vehicles is a very big problem in their area	32%	47%
f) ASB has got worse in the past 12 months	44%	not available
Priority 5 – Violent Crime		
Measurements of Success for 2006/07	Target	Outcome
To reduce the rate per 1000 population of recorded violent crime	23.6	23.8
To reduce the rate per 1000 population of recorded robbery	1.8	2.3
To reduce the rate per 1000 population of recorded common assault	3.1	5.1
To reduce the rate per 1000 population of recorded wounding (serious and other)	11.7	10.5
Excellent Performance	Progress Made	Weak Performance

Overall, Safer Leeds has made some progress in all the priority themes.

Delivering the Safer Leeds Strategy in 2007/08

Safer Leeds will continue to concentrate on the five priority themes and commission services and activities to reduce crime and disorder. Safer Leeds will also play a significant role in delivering Operation Champion; Face the People and Anti-Social Behaviour Roadshows.

Operation Champion

Operation Champion is a programme of coordinated “days of action”, building on the good work already happening in Leeds to reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime. Similar initiatives have run in other parts of the country and these areas have seen marked reductions in crime and disorder. Operation Champion is a multi-agency initiative involving a wide range of partners including Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and many others. Partners will take part in a wide range of activities and action to tackle crime and grime, including enforcement action, litter and graffiti removal along with crime prevention and fire safety advice.

Operation Champion will run as a rolling programme across the City throughout the 2007, 26 operations will run between April and December 2007 (four operations ran in 2007 before April).

Face the People

The findings of the Crime and Disorder Act review require CDRPs to hold regular Face the People sessions. Face the People sessions will involve senior representatives of agencies including the police and local councils meeting members of the public and the local media in the community, using locations like shopping centres and community centre or leisure centres. Face the People sessions in Leeds will begin in October 2007 with a high profile citywide event.

Anti-Social Behaviour Roadshows

Anti-social Behaviour Roadshows will showcase the work of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, the first event is planned to take place in the autumn of 2007. Members of the public will be able to meet staff from the ASBU and hear about the work they have done to improve the lives of people living in the city and find out what they can do to make their community a better place to live, work or visit.