

## Scrutiny Committee

24 September 2025

7.30 pm at the

Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton SM1 1EA



To all members of the Scrutiny Committee:-

Chair: Councillor Edward Joyce

Vice-Chair Councillor Qasim Esak

Councillors: Andrew Jenner, Gemma Munday, Patrick Ogbonna, Luke Taylor,  
Martina Allen, Tim Crowley, Neil Garratt and Joe Quick

Substitutes: Councillors Sam Cumber, Bobby Dean, Jayne McCoy, Muhammad Sadiq,  
Colin Stears, Steve Alvarez, Wendy Clark, Tom Drummond, Mike Dwyer,  
Catherine Gray and Tony Shields

This is a Council meeting held in public. Additional representations are at the invitation of the Chair of the Committee. If you are a relevant organisation and you wish to submit representations on a proposal contained within the reports to this agenda please submit a request via Committee Services three working days before the meeting date.

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This meeting will be recorded and made available on the Council's website.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any decision taken at this meeting does not become definitive until 10am on the third working day after the meeting. Any four members of the Council may notify the Chief Executive by then if they require a decision to be reviewed by the appropriate committee at its next meeting. Please contact the Committee Services representative shown on the front page for further information.

Helen Bailey  
Chief Executive  
Friday, 12 September 2025

*Enquiries to: Cathy Hayward, Committee Services Officer Tel: 020 8770 4990, Email: [committee.services@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:committee.services@sutton.gov.uk)*

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# A G E N D A

**1 Welcome and introductions**

**2 Apologies for absence**

**3 Declarations of interest**

**4 Minutes of the previous meeting** 5 - 10

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2025.

**5 Any urgent business**

To consider any items which, in the view of the Chair, should be dealt with as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances (*in accordance with S100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972*).

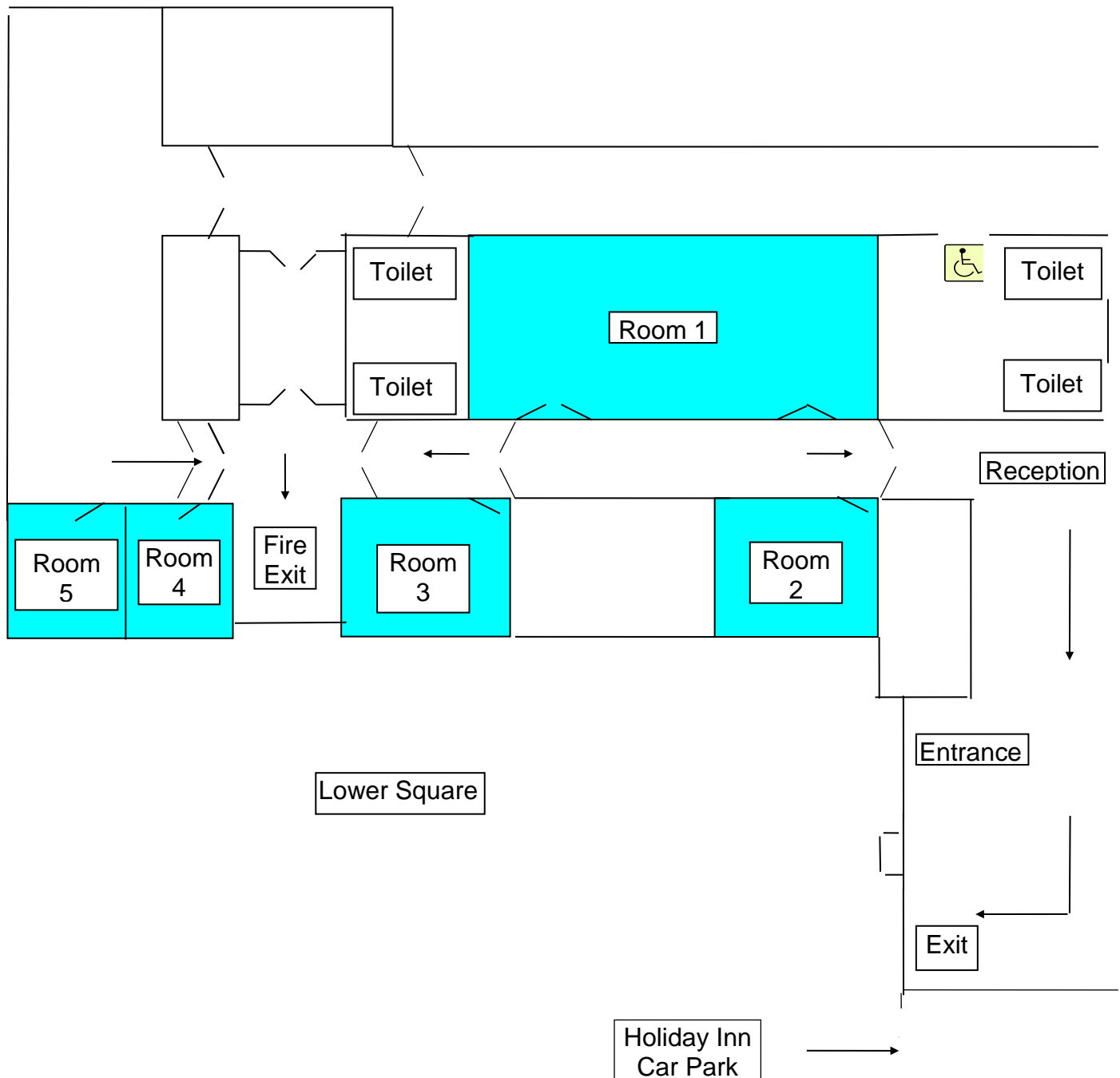
**6 Crime, Policing and Community Safety in Sutton** 11 - 94

**7 Update on National NHS Changes: Commissioning of Health Services** 95 - 106

**CIVIC OFFICES, SUTTON  
GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOMS**

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### **Reminder – Declaration of Interests**

Members should consider the following interests and whether they have any they should declare.

#### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any business of the Authority at this meeting and you have either declared it beforehand in the Register of Members' Interests or to the Monitoring Officer for entry in the Register you must state at this meeting that you have such an interest and then withdraw from the room or chamber where the meeting is being held whilst that business is considered.

Where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any business of the Authority at this meeting and have not previously declared it you must declare the nature of that interest at this meeting and then withdraw from the room or chamber where the meeting is being held whilst that business is considered.

#### **Other Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Where you have any other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any business at this meeting you must declare that interest, but may continue to speak and vote on the matter. However, if the interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest then you should declare the interest and withdraw from the room or chamber where the meeting is being held whilst that business is considered.

Further information on these matters can be found in the Council's Code of Conduct and Constitution. If you are in any doubt as to whether you have an interest you should seek advice **before** the committee meeting from Matthew Stickley.

If, during the course of the committee meeting, you consider you may have an interest you should always declare it.

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**Scrutiny Committee****11 June 2025****SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****11 June 2025 at 7.30 pm**

**MEMBERS:** Councillor Edward Joyce (Chair), Councillor Qasim Esak (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Luke Taylor, Martina Allen, Tim Crowley and Neil Garratt

**ABSENT** Councillors Andrew Jenner, Gemma Munday, Patrick Ogbonna and Joe Quick

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair, Councillor Edward Joyce, welcomed those present.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Joe Quick, Councillor Patrick Ogbonna, Councillor Andrew Jenner with Councillor Coin Stears attending as a substitute and from Councillor Gemma Munday with Councillor Sam Cumber attending as a substitute.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

For agenda item 7 Councillor Sam Cumber declared he is a member of the Corporate Parent Forum.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING****RESOLVED:**

1. that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2025 be agreed as an accurate record.

**5. ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

**6. EPSOM AND ST HELIER UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST: UPDATE**

The Chair welcomed Officers from Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust, Healthwatch Sutton and Community Action Sutton.

The Managing Director, Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust introduced the report.

11 June 2025

In response to questions from Members, The Managing Director explained that the recently allocated funding from the government would be for use across both the Epsom and St Helier sites. It was added that funding would be allocated to carry out works using intelligence-led projects potentially prioritising works such as fire safety, ventilation, and water safety. Officers acknowledged structural issues with the 1940s building and that its design did not support modern standards.

Members discussed that the funding plans for a proposed new hospital had included works to the current St Helier estate and whether the St Helier site continued to remain a viable option. Officers explained the proposed new hospital would provide acute services, and suggested it could still be considered a viable option to make use of the St Helier estate for provision of non-acute services.

Officers acknowledged several concerns for the Trust outlined in the report, including inflation, pay costs, increases in complex emergency care, staff retention, and providing cover across a split site. It was explained that the issues and challenges were the result of a combination of factors and steps were being taken to address them.

Members drew attention to the disparity of reported staff sickness rate between St George's and Epsom and St Helier. Officers explained that lessons were being learned from St George's experiences and that services like the Welfare Service were now shared and available to staff at both sites. Members and Officers expressed concerns about violence and abuse towards staff and discussed the reasons for this and how the issue could be managed. It was suggested there was no single reason for the rise, but factors such as patients waiting in crowded waiting rooms, treating patients with complex mental health conditions, and changes in patient and family expectations around health care may be amongst the reasons. In addition it was suggested that some of the increase was due to increased staff reporting of low level incidents. Officers agreed that reporting low-level incidents was positive and that the Trust aimed to empower staff to report any abuse, emphasising that no abuse in the workplace was acceptable. Furthermore, reporting low-level abuse could, in some instances, provide options to address an issue before it escalated. It was suggested that the public, patients, and communities should be made aware of the impact of abuse and violence on staff.

Officers explained the Trust aimed to reduce waiting times. It was explained that it was difficult to communicate the length of expected waiting times as waits depend on a range of factors, not only time of arrival.

In discussion, Members listened to concerns raised by Healthwatch Sutton representatives and the Voluntary and Community Sector Alliance who explained that their representatives had been removed from the SWL ICB Board, and that this had happened without consultation. Members asked who had communicated this removal and how it had been communicated. Members expressed their concerns, expressing a view that this removal could reduce the patient and community voice. The Managing Director explained that at a local level there had been work with Healthwatch Sutton and added that Healthwatch Sutton would continue to be listened to and worked with at the Sutton level.



**Scrutiny Committee****11 June 2025**

The Healthwatch Sutton representative briefly outlined the group's work on Maternity Services which reported residents and service users' experience. Concerns reported included being listened to and not being made aware of options available. Officers agreed communication was key, and the Trust aimed to support staff to provide clear communication and continuously improving communication methods.

In response to questions about the Inspection of Maternity Services Officers explained that the actions following the inspection were being worked through, and that all of 'must do' actions had been completed.

The Chair thanked the guests for attending the Committee.

Resolved:

1. The update report be noted

The meeting adjourned at: 20: 39

The meeting reconvened at 20:45pm

## **7. CORPORATE PARENTING FOR CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER AND CARE LEAVERS IN SUTTON**

The Chair welcomed Officers from Sutton Council and Cognus.

The Director Children's Social Care and Safeguarding introduced the report.

In response to questions from Members about housing for Care Leavers, Officers explained there were joint housing protocols and projects which supported Care Leavers to find settled accommodation. Officers explained there were some instances which had required Care Leavers to be housed in temporary accommodation and acknowledged that the length of stay and location of temporary accommodation depended on housing supply at any time, however, the aim was that if there was no accommodation available in Sutton, then accommodation should be as near to the borough as possible. Officers explained that the majority of Care Leavers were in appropriate accommodation which met their needs. Officers explained that Care leavers had access to Personal Advisors (PAs) who could support them to navigate the housing system and make appropriate applications. It was clarified that risk assessments were used when locations of housing for individual Care Leavers were considered. It was added that Children Looked After were supported to learn to be able to manage money and finances.

Officers explained that data relating to the education of Children Looked After was collated, and data at each key stage was reported. It was noted that data sets were sometimes small and care was needed in producing data which would identify a child. The attainment of Children Looked After was often taken from a starting point when tracking and measuring attainment.

11 June 2025

Officers explained there was a dedicated working group which supported Care Leavers to search for and gain employment, education opportunities or entrepreneurial ventures. Support included help with developing a LinkedIn profile, and finding work experience opportunities. It was added that Care Leavers were also directed to the national 'Care Leavers Covenant', in addition to Sutton's local offer, which provides a variety of information and advice.

Officers confirmed that the Council included Care Experienced as a protected characteristic, and therefore applicants who met the minimum requirements for advertised roles would be offered interviews. It was also explained that the Council worked with its suppliers, contractors and partners to create opportunities for Care Experienced people and was working to create a more formal programme.

Members discussed the benefits of the inclusion of Care Experienced as a protected characteristic for Sutton Council and suggested it has increased understanding and highlighted the need for additional consideration for this group.

Members suggested that the voice of Care Experienced young people should be heard at the Corporate Parent Forum. It was suggested that the formal structure of meetings could be reviewed, and a meeting format which supported Care Experience young people to be able to engage and participate in meetings be developed.

Officers outlined the range of support offered to Care Leavers, emphasising that support varied depending on individual needs and circumstances.

Members discussed Children Looked After who were unaccompanied asylum seekers (UASC), acknowledging their diverse backgrounds. Officers clarified that there was support for this group in place and during national unrest around immigration in summer 2024 workers had kept in touch with young people in this group and offered support as necessary.

The Chair thanked the guests for attending the Committee.

Resolved:

1. The information provided in the report be noted

## **8. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25**

There were no further questions.

Resolved:

1. The Annual Report 2024/25 (Appendix A of the report) be noted.
2. The Annual report be submitted to a future meeting of the Council be agreed.

**Scrutiny Committee**

**11 June 2025**

The meeting ended at 9.36 pm

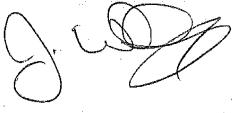
Chair:

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Date:

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<b>Report Title</b>	Crime, Policing and Community Safety in Sutton		
<b>Committee</b>	Scrutiny Committee		
<b>Committee Date</b>	24 September 2025		
<b>Committee Chair</b>	Councillor Edward Joyce		
<b>Report From</b>	Jonathan Williams, Director of Children's Services		
<b>Report Authors</b>	Adam French, Interim Ending Violence Against Women and Girls and Domestic Abuse Commissioning Manager  Supt Richard Lloyd-Ablitt, Sutton Neighbourhood, South BCU, Met Police  Angela Killalea, Head of Service- Integrated Support & Safer Communities		
<b>Wards Affected</b>	All Wards		
<b>Ambitious for Sutton priorities</b>	An inclusive place for everyone Campaigning for quality local services		
<b>Open/Exempt</b>	Open		
<b>Signed</b>		<b>Date</b>	09.09.2025

## 1. Summary

- 1.1. The Community Safety Partnership in Sutton, otherwise known as the Safer Sutton Partnership, consists of Police, Fire Brigade, Probation, Local Authority, Health and voluntary sector partners, all of whom work together with the intention to create a safer community for all. An effective Community Safety Partnership is key to delivering the Ambitious for Sutton Corporate Plan priority of 'making Sutton an inclusive place for everyone, where people feel safe, welcome and proud to be themselves'.
- 1.2. This report sets out the community safety arrangements in Sutton. This includes: the relationship with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC); local strategies and initiatives as they relate to violence reduction and violence against women and girls; and developments which have taken place within the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) over the last 12 months.
- 1.3. This information is provided for scrutiny in accordance with the Police and Justice Act 2006.

- 1.4. To help the committee undertake this scrutiny function a representative from the Metropolitan Police will attend to present their report which is set out in Appendix A: Sutton Ward Crime Data Analysis. Other external representatives also invited to the meeting are from Sutton Neighbourhood Watch and Sutton Women's Centre.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 To note this report.

## **3. Background and Key Information**

### Community Safety Partnership

- 3.1 One of the functions of the Council's Scrutiny Committee is to carry out the Council's responsibilities for scrutiny as stated in the Police and Justice Act 2006. In practice, this means that the Council has the power to scrutinise the activities of those responsible for crime and disorder strategies.
- 3.2 Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires responsible authorities in a local government area to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder. This is usually done through Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).
- 3.3 Safer Sutton Partnership has the ambition of creating 'A Safer Sutton for All'. This ambition is reflected in crime data which shows that for the last financial year (2024-25) across all 32 London boroughs, Sutton had the 3rd lowest volume of total notifiable offences (TNOs) and had the lowest rate of offences per 1000 of the population, thus evidencing that Sutton remains in the top three safest boroughs in London.
- 3.4 Each CSP is required to produce an annual needs assessment. The assessment is compiled by the Council in consultation with, and using data from, police, fire brigade, health, MOPAC and other partners. The assessment demonstrates what the community safety issues are in Sutton, helps set local priorities and enables the development of the Safer Sutton Partnership Community Safety Strategy. The Needs Assessment for 2024-25 is currently in development, however the previous [Needs Assessment for 2023-24](#) informed the new community safety strategy.
- 3.5 'A Safer Sutton for All', the Safer Sutton Partnership Strategy for 2025-28 (Appendix B), sets out the strategic priorities for the partnership over the next three years. These priorities include: Creating safer spaces and places; Empowering communities to promote greater cohesion and resilience; Challenging domestic abuse, sexual abuse and violence against women and girls; Protecting the vulnerable from violence and exploitation; and, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour through targeted partnership problem solving responses.
- 3.6 The Council's Community Safety team is within the People Directorate in Sutton Children's Services. The team has responsibility for operational delivery of community

safety initiatives in Sutton focused on: tackling anti-social behaviour, offending behaviour (including hate crime, domestic abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG), as well as overseeing Sutton's compliance with the statutory Prevent Duty and Serious Violence Duty. The team is co-located within Sutton Police Station, which allows for strong information sharing and partnership working with Police colleagues. Staff also work closely with a range of internal and external partners who attend a variety of partnership meetings, which the team coordinates and chairs.

#### Mayor's Office for Police and Crime (MOPAC)

- 3.7 The crime priorities for London are set by the Metropolitan Police and MOPAC. To deliver this vision, the [Police and Crime Plan 2025-29](#) sets out four key aims: Reducing violence and criminal exploitation, Building safer, more confident communities, Supporting and overseeing reform of the Metropolitan Police Service; and Improving the criminal justice system and supporting victims.
- 3.8 MOPAC currently distributes funding in London to Community Safety Partnerships through the Local Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF). Allocation varies for each borough, and allows the Partnership to commission projects to prevent and respond to crime and support victims and offenders. MOPAC funding was renewed as of April 2025, with £715,200 (£178,800 pa) agreed until 2029. Projects nominated by Sutton needed to meet one of five priority areas.
- 3.9 In Sutton, the current MOPAC LCPF funded projects are:
  - Tackling Anti Social Behaviour and Promoting Community Safety
  - Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) & Perpetrator Panel Coordination
  - Management of Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) Service
  - Tackling Hate and Promoting Social Cohesion
  - Sutton Youth Outreach & Diversion

#### Violence Reduction

- 3.10 The Government introduced a legal duty for local authorities in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The 'Serious Violence Duty' requires authorities to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, including identifying the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area, causes of that violence and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence.
- 3.11 The implementation of the Serious Violence Duty is governed by SSPB. The definition of serious violence agreed locally is: "Any violence and exploitation affecting young people under the age of 25, domestic abuse, and sexual violence. Within the context of these types of violence, it encompasses homicide, grievous bodily harm, actual bodily harm, rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault, personal robbery, threats to kill and violence against property caused during the commission of one of these offences."

- 3.12 The Home Office expects the Serious Violence Strategy (Appendix C) to be kept under review (at least annually), taking into account what impact interventions are having on serious violence locally. This is achieved through the completion of an annual [serious violence needs assessment](#).
- 3.13 Sutton's Violence Reduction Action Group (VRAG) is responsible for implementing the duty's requirements and overseeing the Violence and Vulnerability Action Plan. The VRAG takes a multi agency approach, and its Action Plan seeks to prevent offenders, and support victims and communities impacted by serious violence.
- 3.14 MOPAC's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) funds a number of initiatives in the borough aimed at reducing serious violence. This includes projects in response to critical incidents (e.g. stabbings), to prevent critical incidents, build capacity in communities and longer term interventions. Currently funded projects include:
- My Ends Project 2024-26: Delivering hyperlocal interventions in areas of most need- St Helier estate;
  - LCPF 2025-28: Establishing both a community guardians network to increase safer spaces and an outreach youth work provision at St Helier A&E;
  - Serious Violence Duty 2025-26: StreetDoctors delivering youth first aid training to children, young people and young adults across the borough.

#### Domestic Abuse & Violence against Women and Girls

- 3.15 In the 12 months to September 2024, Sutton had 1957 Domestic Abuse (DA) flagged offences (9.3 per 1000 population), an increase of 8.2% from the previous year. In this period Sutton was ranked the 25th lowest borough in London for domestic abuse offences. During the same period, there were 407 sexual offences (1.9 per 1000 population), a decrease of 4.5% from the previous year. For sexual offences, Sutton was ranked 29th out of 32 London boroughs (4th lowest) in terms of the volume of offences.
- 3.16 Sutton's Domestic Abuse service was recommissioned in 2024, with Sutton Domestic Abuse Support Services (Sutton DASS, previously known as Transform) emerging as the successful bidder, commencing the new contract in November, 2024. Cranstoun is the lead provider, managing the overall service and providing Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), DA One Stop Shops (female and male), and the Men and Masculinities perpetrator programme, in addition to management of the Refuge. Other providers include: Sutton Women's Centre (Freedom Programme), The Limes College (services for young people), and Jigsaw4u (Helping Hands).
- 3.17 Sutton Women's Centre was successful in their bid to MOPAC to provide the Identification & Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) service in Sutton, identifying and supporting victims in GP surgeries. This service commenced in early 2024, and IRIS was so impressed with the implementation that they selected Sutton as the national site for the IRIS Health Visiting pilot, which commenced in March 2025. Funding for both of these initiatives is due to end in March 2026, so ongoing funding is to be sought.



- 3.18 The Refuge was again successful in their bid (in conjunction with the Local Authority) for Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation funding from MOPAC. This funding provides a play therapist, transitional worker, and clinical psychologist in the Refuge.
- 3.19 Sutton, as part of the South Area Basic Command Unit (BCU), is one of the national pilot sites for the new Domestic Abuse Protection Notices / Orders (DAPNs / DAPOs). These new orders came out of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and the pilot has been operating since November 2024. DAPOs provide enhanced protection for victims from their abuser, as well as positive requirements for perpetrators, which can include things like participation in a perpetrator programme or drug and alcohol treatment.
- 3.20 Sutton is placing increased focus on perpetrator accountability. In addition to the DAPO pilot and Men & Masculinities perpetrator programme, a fortnightly perpetrator panel meeting is held to discuss ways to more effectively manage the most prolific offenders.
- 3.21 Sutton Women's Centre is leading on the 'Building a Safer Sutton for Women & Girls' initiative, which would strengthen Sutton's Coordinated Community Response by involving more local partners in promoting positive culture change and challenging misogyny. Funding has been secured by SWC. Some of the aims of the initiative are to:
- Develop a Women's Safety Charter
  - Women to be consulted on new developments to ensure safety is considered at the design stage
  - Helping businesses develop staff policies on DA and sexual violence
  - Training for licenced premises
  - Creating safer spaces for women
  - Delivering Male allies training
  - Delivering Young people's conference

#### Metropolitan Police Service organisational and operational changes

- 3.22 Policing in Sutton is organised under the South Area BCU which brings together policing resources for Croydon, Bromley and Sutton. This means that some areas of police resources are spread across the three boroughs and may be distributed based on policing priorities at the time.
- 3.23 Since the last Scrutiny Committee, there have been some changes within senior leadership positions for South Area BCU. In March 2025 Detective Chief Superintendent Nick Blackburn became SN BCU Commander, whilst Superintendent Richard Lloyd-Ablitt took over as Sutton Safer Neighbourhood Superintendent.
- 3.24 Budgetary constraints have resulted in some tough choices for the MPS during the current financial year, resulting in a shrinking organisation and the removal of posts from organisational structure. This has included the Safer Schools Officers, being replaced with Designated Ward Officers- Children & Young People (DWO- CYP) who are integrated with Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs). This change has meant schools no longer have a dedicated officer based on site; secondary schools have a named police contact and priority schools will continue to receive support from a

dedicated DWO – CYP. Likewise Sutton’s dedicated Town Centre Team (TCT) has been dispersed to different wards across Sutton, leaving Sutton town centre more vulnerable to anti-social behaviour and crime and Sutton is one of only two London boroughs not to have a dedicated TCT. Future changes have also been muted regarding the staffing of the ASB Unit & Licensing team. The impact of these changes have been felt by the wider partnership (e.g. schools, businesses, local authority). In regards to the dispersal of the TCT, the Leader of the Council has written to the Police Commissioner to express their concern that Sutton is being disadvantaged by these central decisions and in regards to the dispersal of the Schools Officers, schools have escalated their concerns to Sutton’s Local Safeguarding Children’s Partnership (LSCP).

- 3.25 Under the Home Office’s Safer Streets summer town centre initiative which is running from 30th June until 30th September, MPS determined Sutton High St to be one of 12 Tier 2 hotspots across London in accordance with their Summer Policing Plan. This determination was based on overlaying offence data as it related to knife crime, retail crime, robbery and theft offences; compared to other London town centres, Sutton is seen to be one of the safest in terms of volume of these offence types. As part of the Summer Plan, MPS activity has focused on operations around Sutton rail station trying to catch offenders entering the borough (e.g. drug dogs, live facial recognition), execution of drug warrants and targeted, intelligence-led policing from SNTs to apprehend offenders.

#### MPS Reviews & Inspections

- 3.26 In 2023, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), Sir Mark Rowley, published [A New Met for London](#) (NMfL) plan, which detailed how the Met would achieve More Trust, Less Crime and High Standards. This plan was developed in response to the findings of the independent [Casey Review](#) of the Met’s culture and standards of behaviour published in March 2023. In July 2025, Sir Mark Rowley published, for consultation, Phase 2 of NMfL, setting out progress of the reform conducted and setting out a plan to improve how the MPS performs.
- 3.27 Since the publication of the initial NMfL plan in 2023, confidence in the Met Police has improved, as by the end of 2024/25 81% of Londoners believed the Met was doing a good or fair job, and 74% of Londoners agreed the Met is an organisation they can trust. Crime has reduced, knife crime is down by 18.1%, residential burglary down by 17.7%, theft from person down by 15.6%, personal robbery down by 12.8% and the Met has solved 163% more retail crime cases.
- 3.28 The Council will follow the Met’s progress with Phase 2 of New Met for London at a local level. It will continue to act as a critical friend and be a conduit for feeding back locally through mechanisms such as strategy meetings, data sharing and engagement at the Safer Sutton Partnership Board, particularly on the changes needed in the Met’s approach to neighbourhood policing, community engagement, culture, diversity and inclusion.
- 3.29 Following His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) PEEL report which placed the MPS into Engage in 2022, considerable

work was undertaken to address areas of concern and in February 2025 MPS were moved out of enhanced monitoring.

- 3.30 The MPS made improvements in their 999 call handling, with 86.2% of calls being answered within 10 seconds (the National target) in 2024 compared with 77.6% in the previous year. During 2024 the MPS responded to 4,660,891 contacts, of which 2,394,416 were 999 calls, 1,279,552 were 101 calls, and 988,923 were digital contacts.
- 3.31 In 2023 HMICFRS inspected the MPS handling of sexual and criminal exploitation of children, a number of causes of concern were raised as it was felt the Met were not doing enough when children were suffering from, or at risk of exploitation. Significant work was completed around the reporting of children that go missing, investigation of child exploitation and victim blaming language, which enabled HMICFRS to close the causes of concern in February 2025.

#### 4. Appendices and Background Documents

Appendix letter	Title
A	Sutton Ward Crime Data Analysis Aug 24-July 25
B	'A Safer Sutton for All' Community Safety Strategy 2025-28
C	Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024-26

#### Background Documents

Date of Expiry	Background Document
N/A	N/A

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# **SOUTH AREA (SN) SUTTON**

## **Crime Data & Analysis Aug 2024 – Jul 2025**

**Sutton Borough Wards**

**Stewart Lawrence – Performance & Insights**  
SOUTH AREA BCU – BUSINESS SUPPORT – SUTTON POLICE STATION

# Historical Crime Rates for London Borough of Sutton

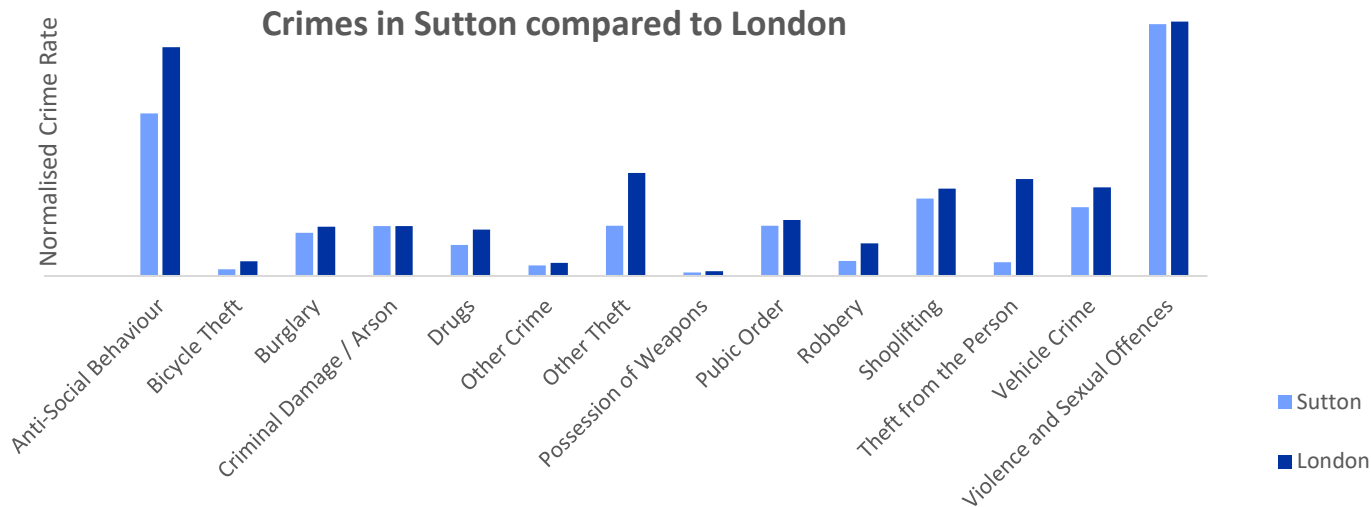
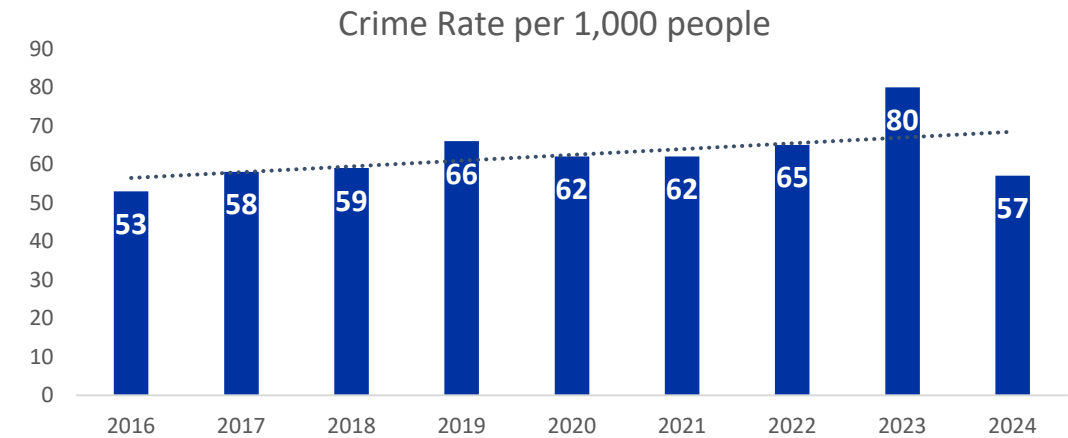
## Sutton 2025 Crime Scorecard

- ↓ **Third Safest**  
*Boroughs, London*
- ↓ **22% lower**, regional crime rate  
*London*
- ↓ **19% lower**, national crime rate  
*England, Wales & NI*

## Local Crime in Context

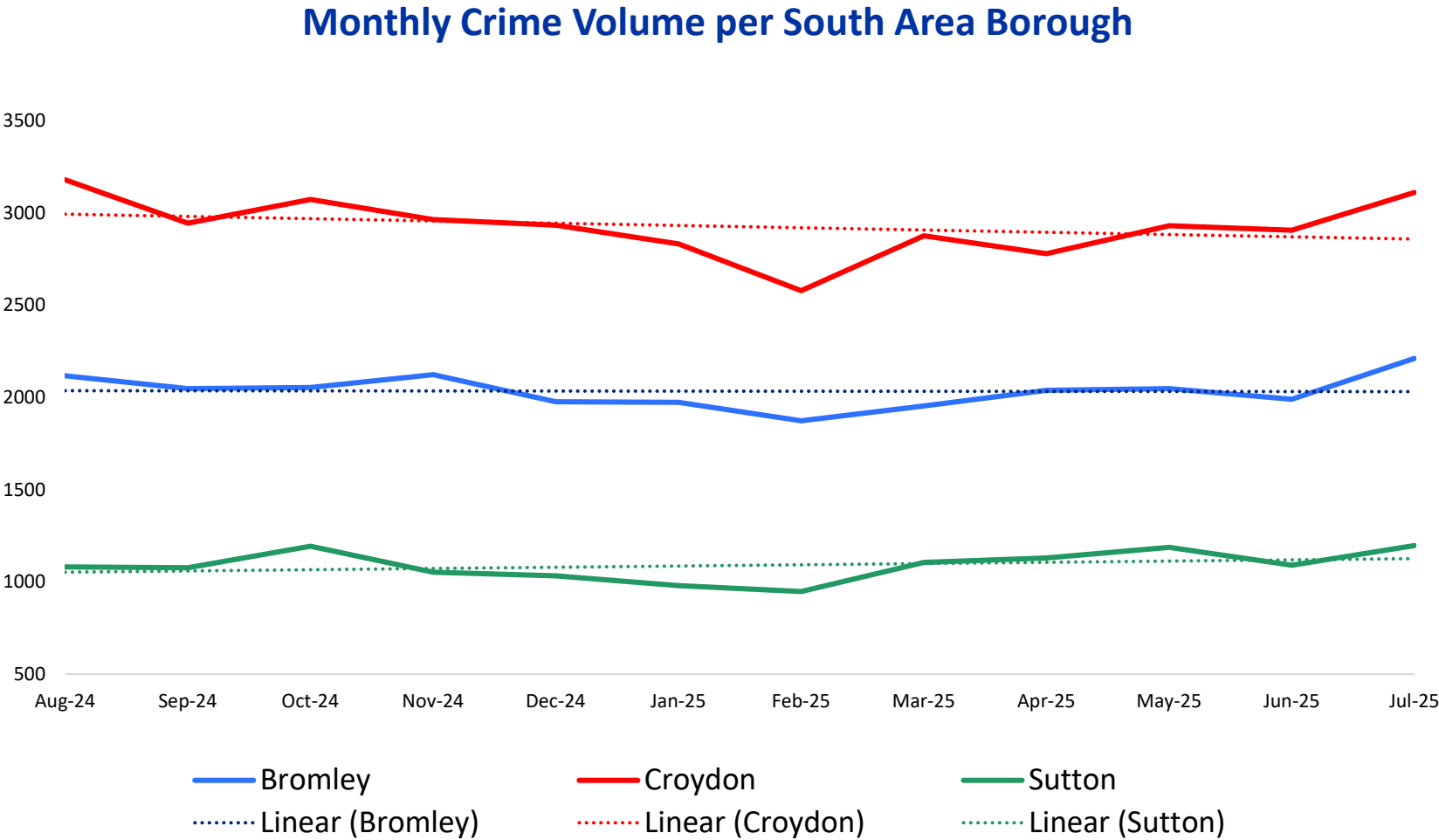
As of 2025, the crime rate in Sutton is 22% lower than London and 19% lower than the England, Wales & Northern Ireland overall figure.

<https://crimerate.co.uk/london/sutton>

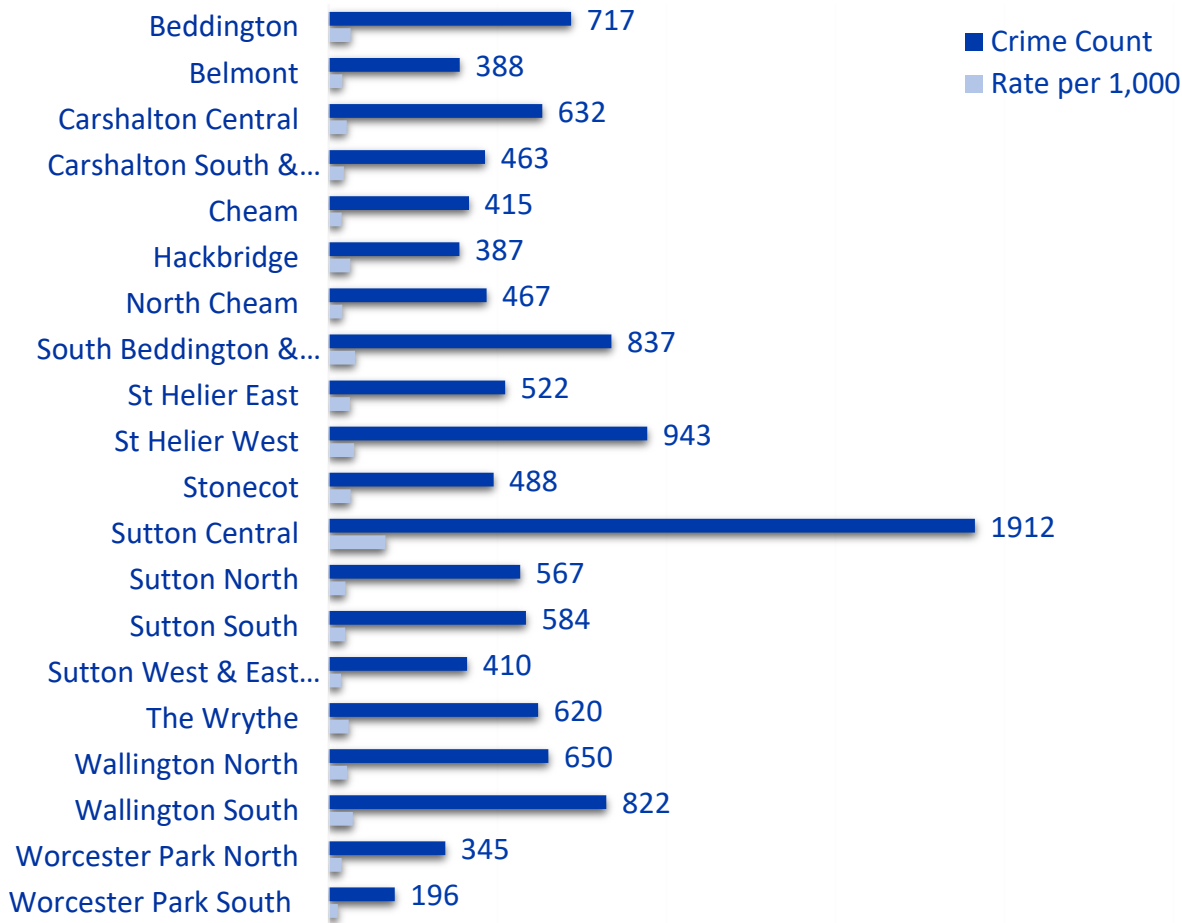


# 12 Month Overview of Crimes

	Bromley	Croydon	Sutton
Aug-24	2117	3179	1081
Sep-24	2047	2943	1077
Oct-24	2053	3073	1193
Nov-24	2123	2964	1052
Dec-24	1976	2933	1033
Jan-25	1973	2832	980
Feb-25	1873	2578	948
Mar-25	1953	2875	1106
Apr-25	2038	2778	1130
May-25	2048	2930	1187
Jun-25	1990	2905	1091
Jul-25	2211	3110	1197



# Total Crime Overview per Ward



Sutton Ward	Crime Count	Rate per 1,000	July 2025 vs July 2024
Beddington	717	64.5	4.8% ↑
Belmont	388	40	-7.4% ↓
Carshalton Central	632	53.6	17.3% ↑
Carshalton South & Clockhouse	463	45.1	7.2% ↑
Cheam	415	38.8	-1.4% ↓
Hackbridge	387	64.1	-11.4% ↓
North Cheam	467	40	-7.5% ↓
South Beddington & Roundshaw	837	78.5	-0.6% ↓
St Helier East	522	62.8	5.9% ↑
St Helier West	943	75.6	5.1% ↑
Stonecot	488	65.4	-3.0% ↓
Sutton Central	1912	168	-12.6% ↓
Sutton North	567	50.2	5.6% ↑
Sutton South	584	48.9	6.6% ↑
Sutton West & East Cheam	410	36.4	-1.4% ↓
The Wrythe	620	59.3	-11.4% ↓
Wallington North	650	54.3	-16.0% ↓
Wallington South	822	71.9	-0.4% ↓
Worcester Park North	345	38.7	4.2% ↑
Worcester Park South	196	26.7	-0.5% ↓



12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

# Ward Monthly Crime Overview

Aug 2024 – July 2025

▼0.1%

Ward Rank *	Neighbourhood Ward	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	TOTAL	Rate per 1000 pop.	Change last 12mths
1	Sutton Central	148	166	159	175	143	144	139	184	164	168	144	178	1912	168.0	-12.6%▼
2	South Beddington & Roundshaw	78	52	72	69	72	62	59	73	91	88	45	76	837	78.5	-0.6%▼
3	St Helier West	61	64	62	85	85	73	78	72	80	103	78	102	943	75.6	5.1%▲
4	Wallington South	63	67	96	61	75	39	64	69	75	82	70	61	822	71.9	-0.4%▼
5	Stonecot	45	33	56	46	41	33	37	33	40	60	35	29	488	65.4	-3.0%▼
6	Beddington	55	52	52	58	57	58	54	57	57	69	66	82	717	64.5	4.8%▲
7	Hackbridge	37	34	48	24	22	28	27	35	25	28	42	37	387	64.1	-11.4%▼
8	St Helier East	44	37	54	45	36	36	30	38	51	50	57	44	522	62.8	5.9%▲
9	The Wrythe	55	62	77	48	53	50	32	55	51	35	41	61	620	59.3	-11.4%▼
10	Wallington North	54	65	58	53	49	65	43	54	46	63	39	61	650	54.3	-16.0%▼
11	Carshalton Central	49	62	40	39	41	46	40	47	41	75	86	66	632	53.6	17.3%▲
12	Sutton North	36	45	74	35	44	45	42	47	53	50	45	51	567	50.2	5.6%▲
13	Sutton South	42	32	52	54	48	32	35	54	56	52	45	82	584	48.9	6.6%▲
14	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	37	33	27	34	49	26	45	52	44	29	50	37	463	45.1	7.2%▲
15	Belmont	28	43	35	28	21	44	34	32	25	34	32	32	388	40.0	-7.4%▼
16	North Cheam	45	30	49	30	31	35	30	34	52	44	42	45	467	40.0	-7.5%▼
17	Cheam	54	46	33	32	33	28	23	38	31	24	40	33	415	38.8	-1.4%▼
18	Worcester Park North	23	22	31	15	42	22	19	40	28	31	34	38	345	38.7	4.2%▲
19	Sutton West & East Cheam	33	42	30	30	24	48	33	28	28	37	43	34	410	36.4	-1.4%▼
20	Worcester Park South	8	18	19	15	12	15	17	14	22	14	17	25	196	26.7	-0.5%▼

\* Rank according to 'Crime Rate per 1000 Population'

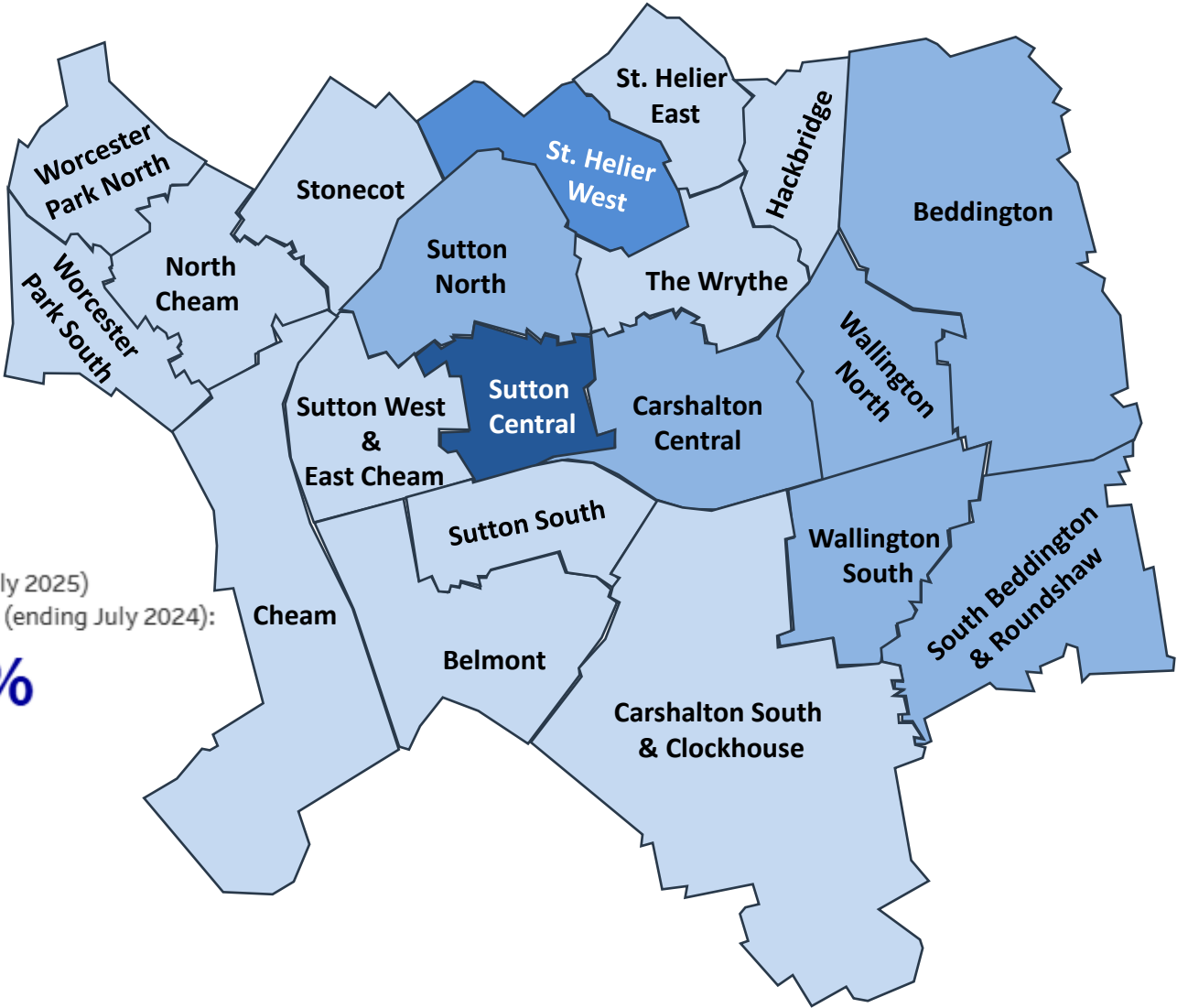
# Violence with Injury

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Sutton Central	186
2	St Helier West	116
3	South Beddington & Roundshaw	82
4	Wallington North	82
5	Beddington	79
6	Wallington South	72
7	Carshalton Central	60
8	Sutton North	60
9	Sutton South	55
10	The Wrythe	55
11	Stonecot	54
12	St Helier East	53
13	North Cheam	52
14	Sutton West & East Cheam	52
15	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	49
16	Hackbridge	43
17	Belmont	42
18	Worcester Park North	31
19	Cheam	30
20	Worcester Park South	17

12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▼5.0%



# Knife Crime

The MPS are reviewing offence data regarding knife crime, therefore, this page of the dashboard and associated data is not currently available and will be refreshed at a later date

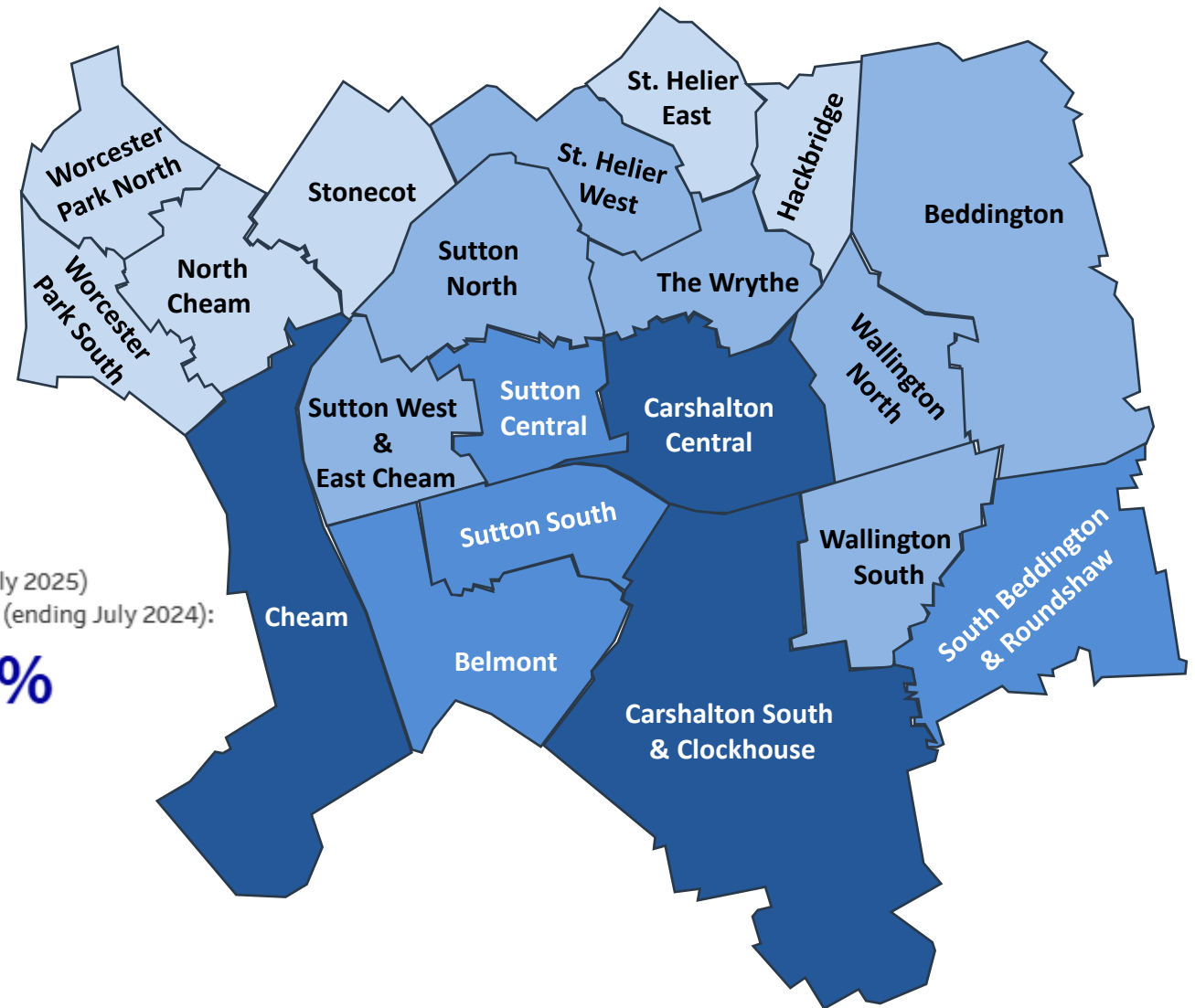
# Residential Burglary

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Cheam	62
2	Carshalton Central	51
3	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	50
4	Belmont	42
5	Sutton South	42
6	South Beddington & Roundshaw	41
7	Sutton Central	40
8	The Wrythe	37
9	St Helier West	35
10	Sutton North	35
11	Wallington South	33
12	Beddington	29
13	Sutton West & East Cheam	29
14	Wallington North	29
15	Worcester Park South	24
16	North Cheam	22
17	St Helier East	22
18	Hackbridge	16
19	Stonecote	16
20	Worcester Park North	13

12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▲ **15.5%**



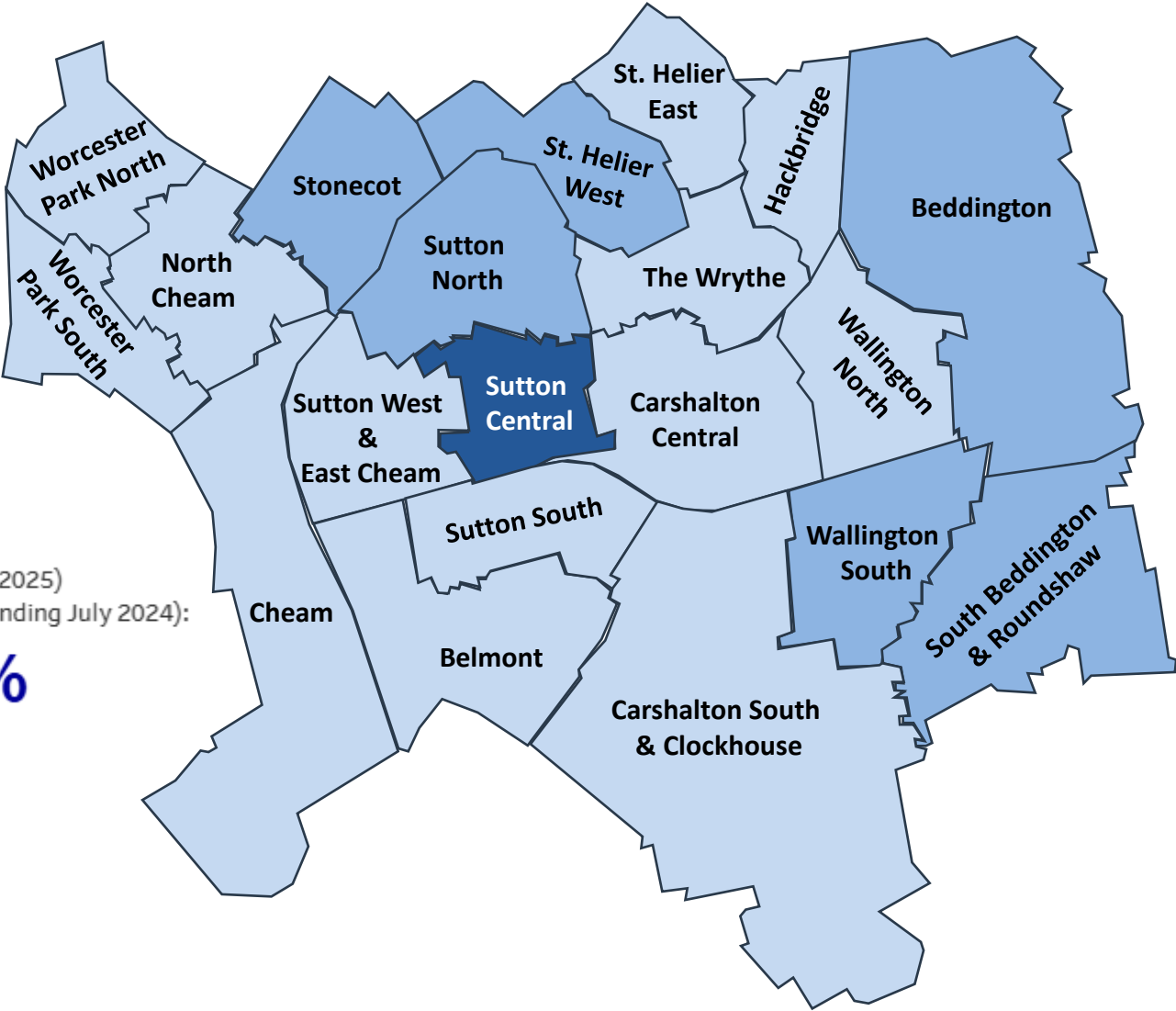
# Robbery of Personal Property

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Sutton Central	35
2	Beddington	15
3	Sutton North	14
4	South Beddington & Roundshaw	13
5	St Helier West	13
6	Wallington South	13
7	Stonecot	11
8	St Helier East	8
9	Sutton South	8
10	Wallington North	7
11	Carshalton Central	6
12	Hackbridge	6
13	Sutton West & East Cheam	6
14	The Wrythe	6
15	Worcester Park North	6
16	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	4
17	Belmont	3
18	North Cheam	3
19	Cheam	1
20	Worcester Park South	1

12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▼37.4%



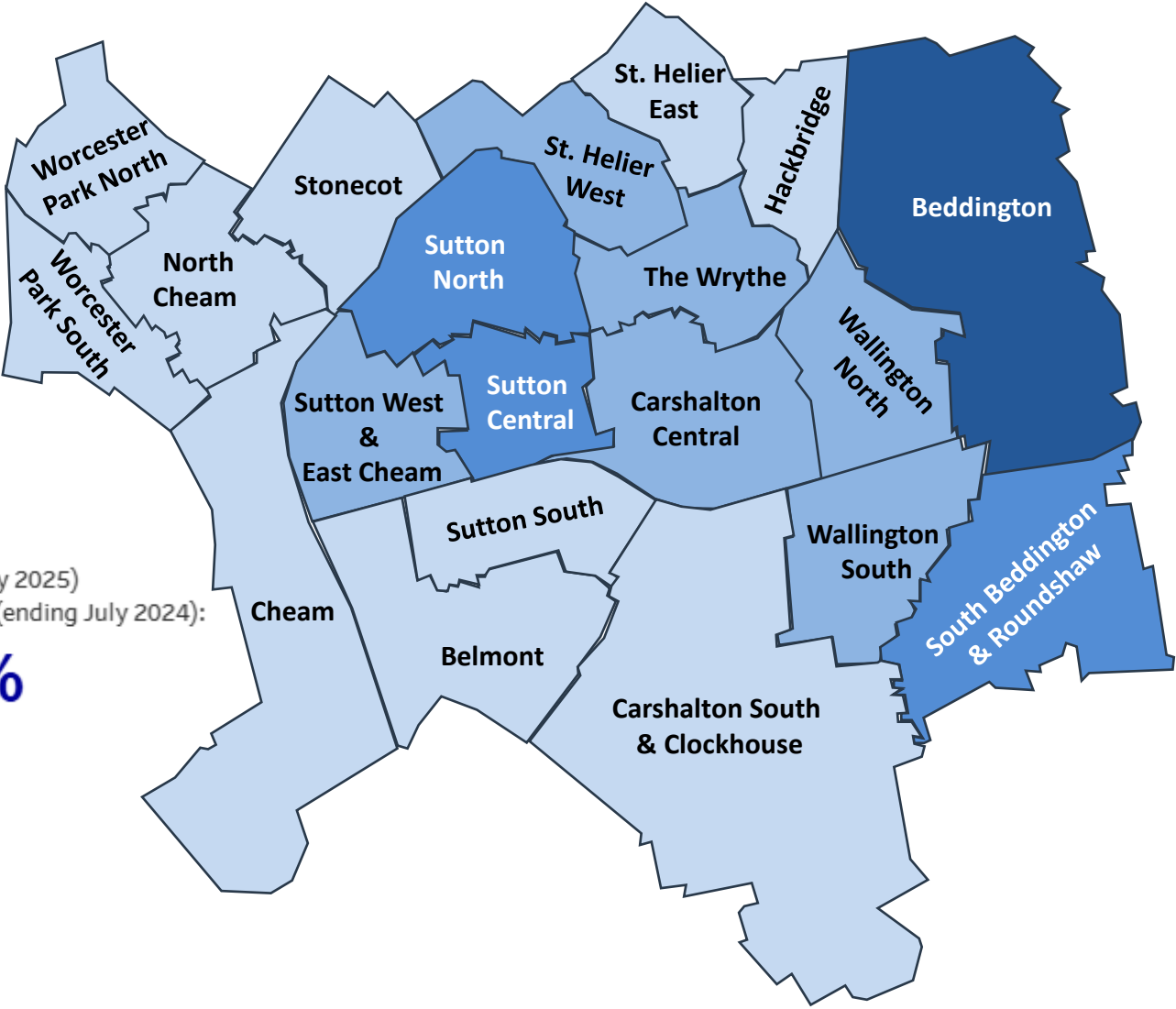
# Theft from Motor Vehicle

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Beddington	57
2	Sutton Central	41
3	Sutton North	38
4	South Beddington & Roundshaw	36
5	Sutton West & East Cheam	32
6	Wallington North	31
7	St Helier West	28
8	Wallington South	26
9	Carshalton Central	25
10	The Wrythe	24
11	Cheam	22
12	Belmont	20
13	North Cheam	20
14	Hackbridge	18
15	St Helier East	16
16	Stonecot	16
17	Sutton South	15
18	Worcester Park North	13
19	Worcester Park South	12
20	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	11

12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▲3.2%



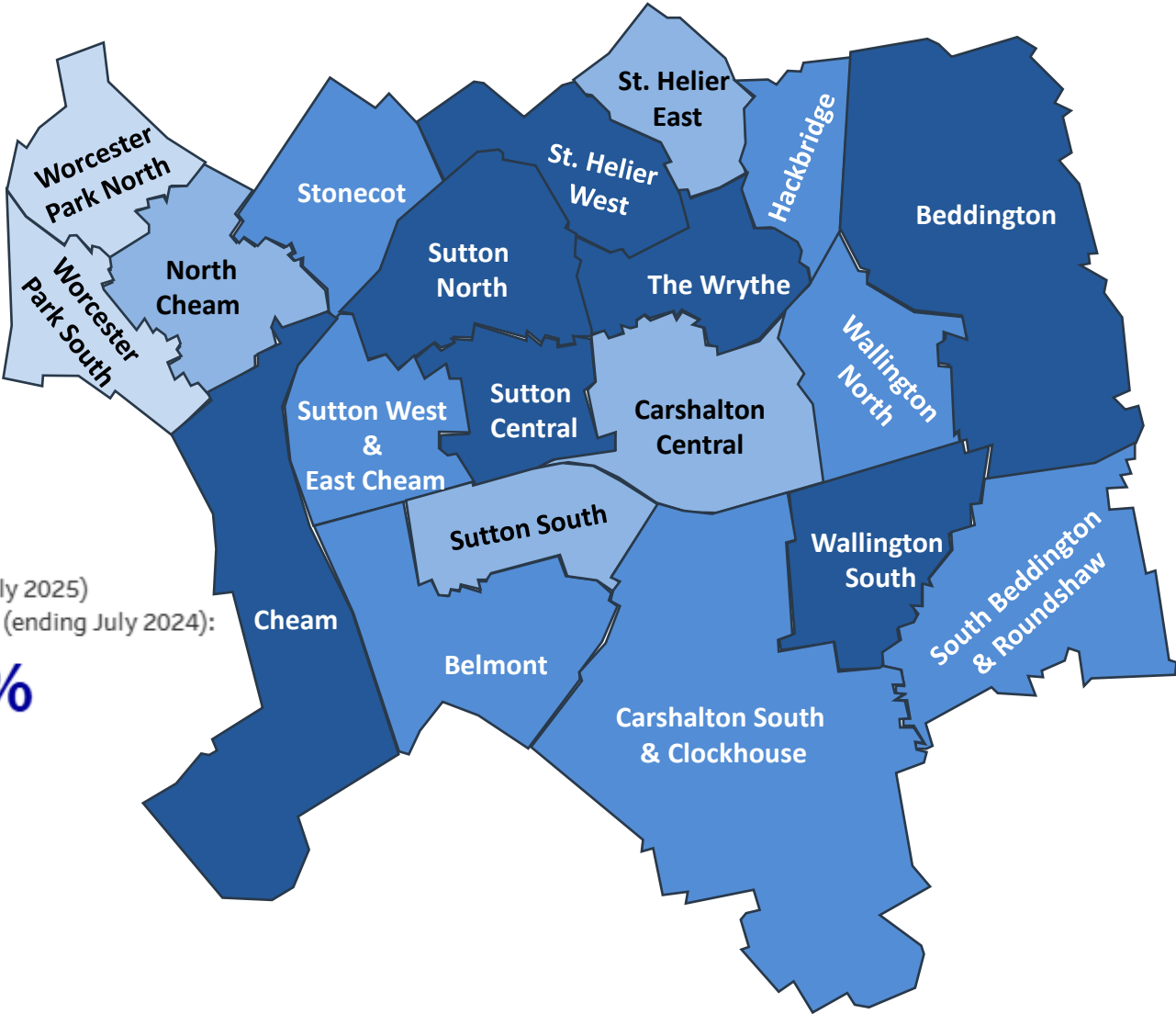
# Theft of Motor Vehicle

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Beddington	37
2	Wallington South	34
3	St Helier West	33
4	Sutton Central	31
5	Cheam	30
6	Sutton North	30
7	The Wrythe	30
8	South Beddington & Roundshaw	28
9	Wallington North	24
10	Hackbridge	23
11	Sutton West & East Cheam	23
12	Belmont	22
13	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	22
14	Stonecot	22
15	North Cheam	19
16	Carshalton Central	18
17	Sutton South	18
18	St Helier East	15
19	Worcester Park North	13
20	Worcester Park South	6

12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▼0.4%



# Criminal Damage

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Sutton Central	119
2	St Helier West	65
3	Beddington	58
4	St Helier East	56
5	Wallington South	56
6	South Beddington & Roundshaw	54
7	The Wrythe	48
8	Sutton South	45
9	Carshalton Central	44
10	Wallington North	43
11	Worcester Park North	41
12	Sutton North	39
13	North Cheam	38
14	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	37
15	Sutton West & East Cheam	35
16	Cheam	31
17	Stonecote	30
18	Belmont	29
19	Hackbridge	28
20	Worcester Park South	20

12 months (ending July 2025)  
compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▼8.0%





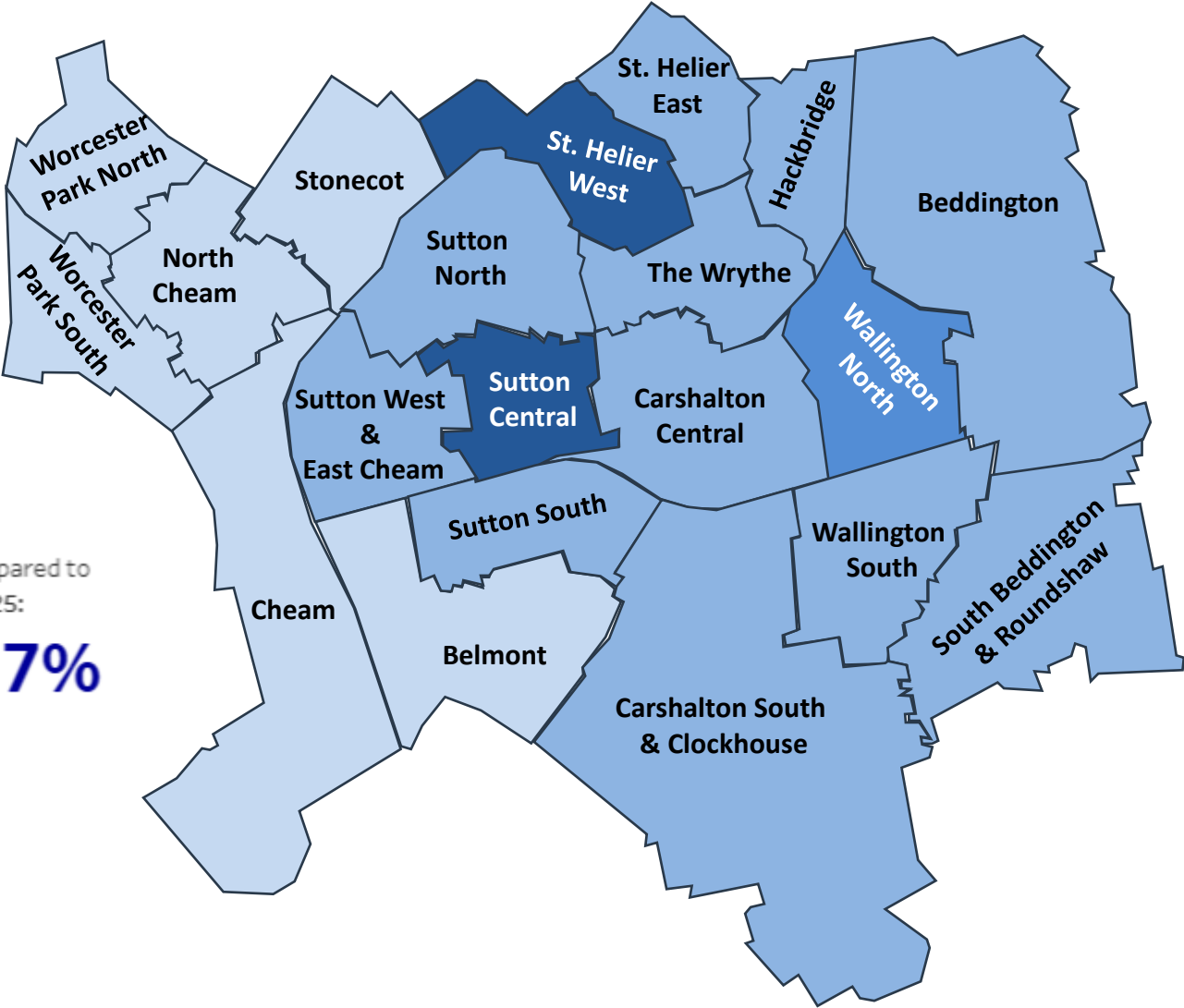
# Domestic Abuse

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Sutton Central	214
2	St Helier West	190
3	Wallington North	128
4	Beddington	119
5	South Beddington & Roundshaw	118
6	Sutton South	115
7	Sutton North	112
8	St Helier East	107
9	Carshalton Central	98
10	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	96
11	The Wrythe	95
12	Wallington South	92
13	Hackbridge	79
14	Sutton West & East Cheam	75
15	Belmont	72
16	North Cheam	68
17	Worcester Park North	67
18	Stonecot	65
19	Cheam	59
20	Worcester Park South	28

July 2025 compared to  
June 2025:

▲14.7%



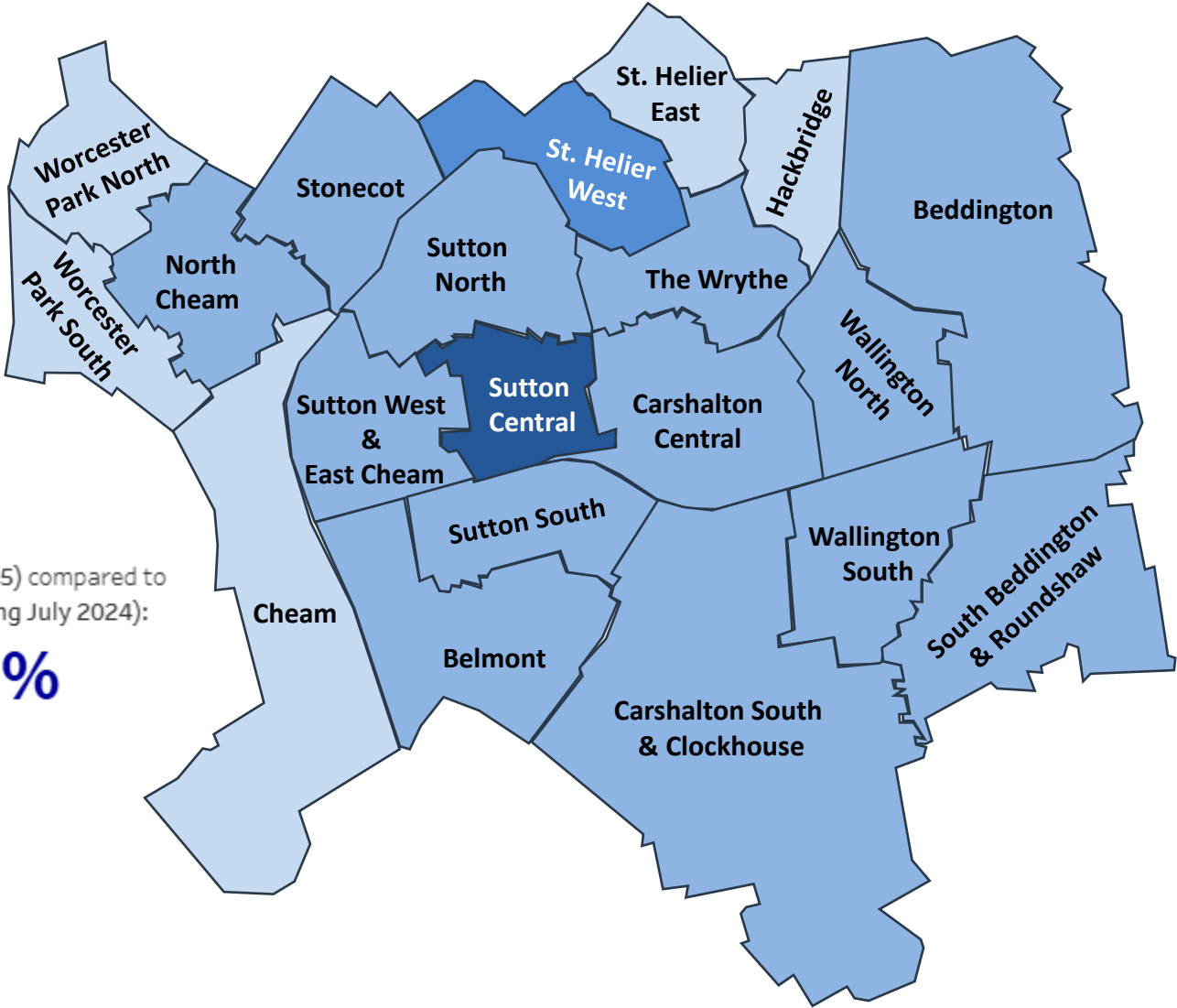
# Hate Crime

Aug 2024 – July 2025

Ward Rank	Neighbourhood Ward	Count
1	Sutton Central	46
2	St Helier West	29
3	Sutton North	20
4	South Beddington & Roundshaw	17
5	The Wrythe	15
6	Wallington North	15
7	Belmont	14
8	Carshalton Central	14
9	Stonecot	14
10	Sutton West & East Cheam	14
11	Wallington South	14
12	Beddington	13
13	Carshalton South & Clockhouse	13
14	North Cheam	13
15	Sutton South	13
16	St Helier East	9
17	Hackbridge	8
18	Cheam	7
19	Worcester Park North	7
20	Worcester Park South	2

12 months (ending July 2025) compared to previous 12 months (ending July 2024):

▼19.8%



# Anti-Social Behaviour

*NB. Ward data not available*



# MPS Stops and Search Summary: 12 Months

(data last refreshed on 8/2/2025 1:16:33 PM)



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

Apply these filter(s) to  
update the visuals

BCU or Borough View?  
Borough

Duration of Interest  
12 Months

Monthly Trend (CP vs PP)  
Stops CP  
Stops PP (chart)

<https://www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data>

Stops **h**

**1,601**

stops recorded  
+0,351 (+28.1%)

MORE than previous period

Positive Outcomes **h**

**571**

positive outcomes recorded  
+0,139 (+32.2%)

MORE than previous period

Positive Outcome Rate **h**

**35.7%**

Positive Outcome Rate  
AN INCREASE of  
+1.1 ppt

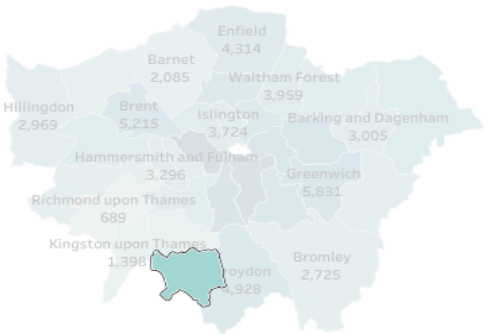
NFA Stops **h**

**1,030**

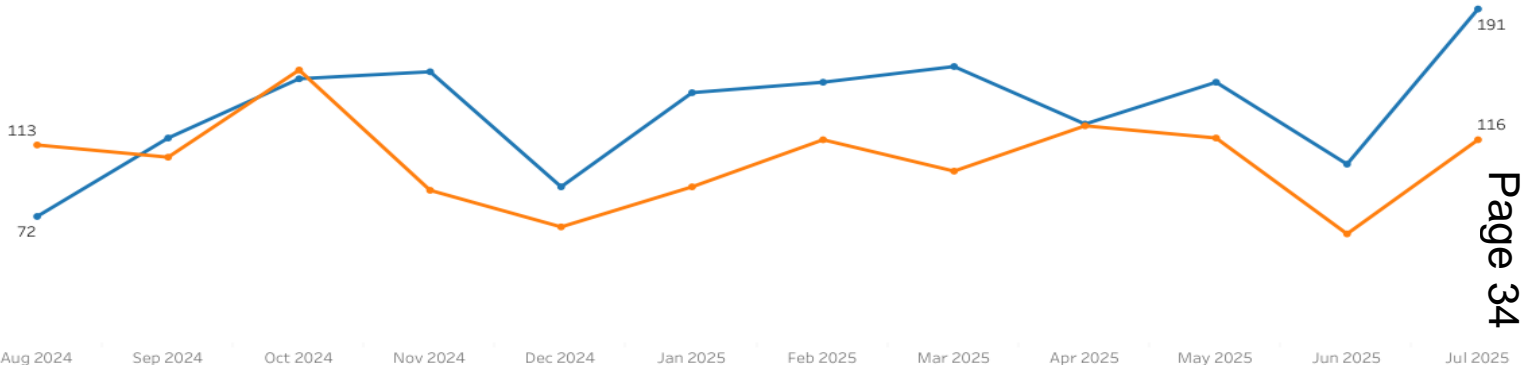
NFAs recorded  
213 (+26.1%)

MORE than previous period

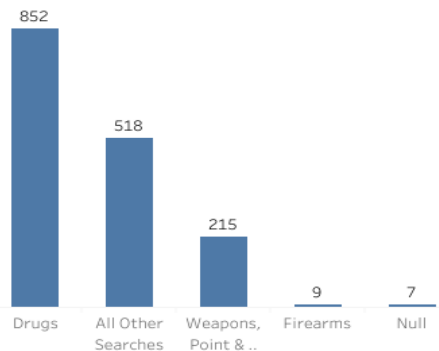
Where are people being Stopped?



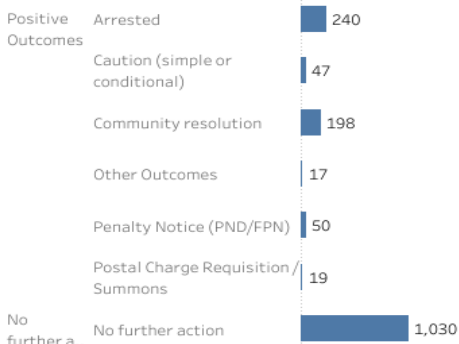
How have Stop Volumes changed?



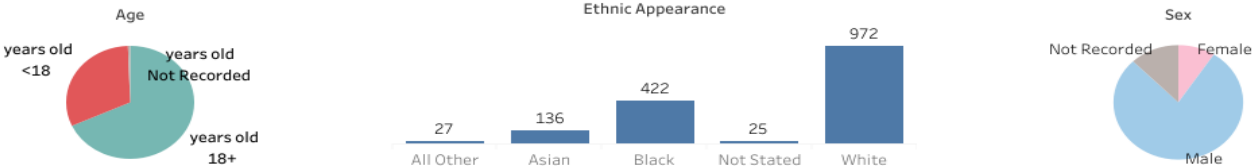
Why are people being Stopped?



What is the result of the Stops?



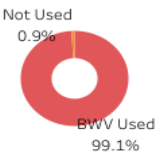
What are the demographics of those searched? (excl. vehicle-only searches)



How often are Intimate Parts exposed during More Thorough searches?



How often is Body Worn Video used?



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

MORE  
TRUST

LESS  
CRIME

HIGH  
STANDARDS



# MPS Stop and Search Volumes

(data last refreshed on 8/2/2025 1:16:33 PM )



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

Apply these filter(s) to  
update the visuals

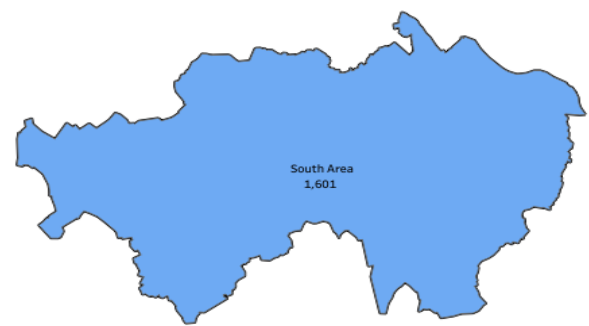
Select Date Range  
August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025  
and Null values

Comparison Period (Daily/Monthly)  
Monthly

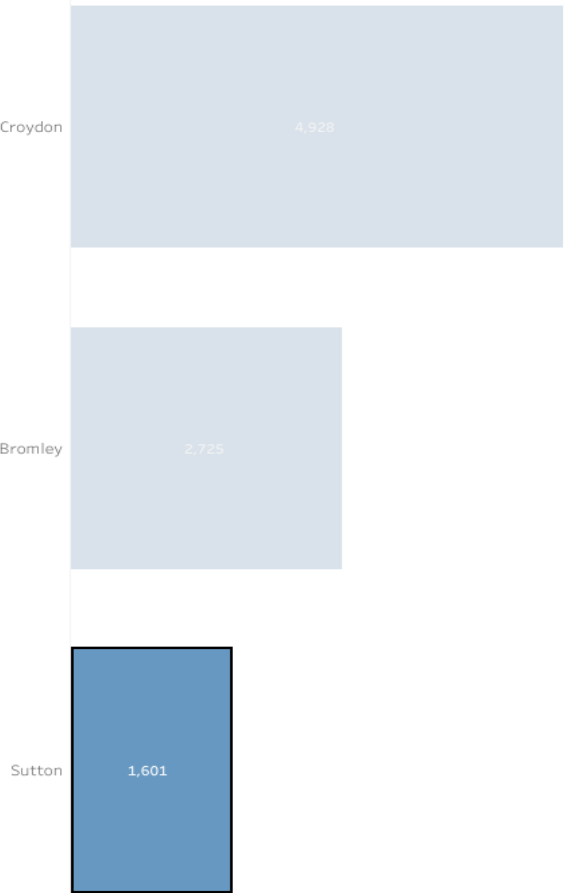
Summary: Tab showing the Volume of stops and search by location.  
Please note that charts are interactive and can be used as filters when selected.

<https://www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data>

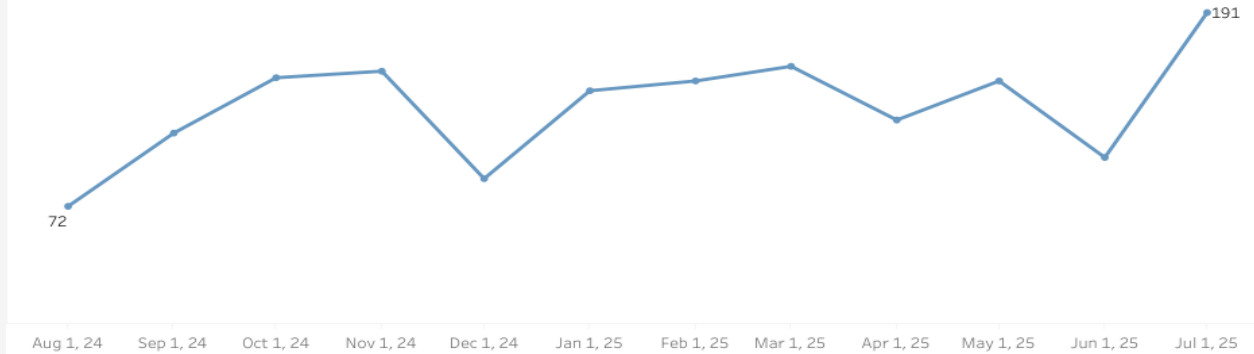
What are the number of Stops and Search by Location?



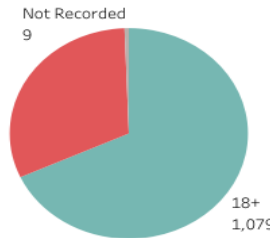
What is the volume of Stops and Search by Borough?



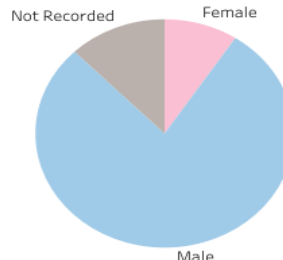
What is the trend in the volume of Stops?



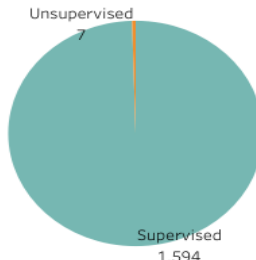
What is the Age of people being stopped? (excl. vehicle-only searches)



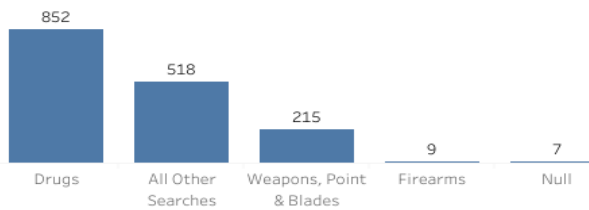
What is the Sex of People being stopped? (excl. vehicle-only searches)



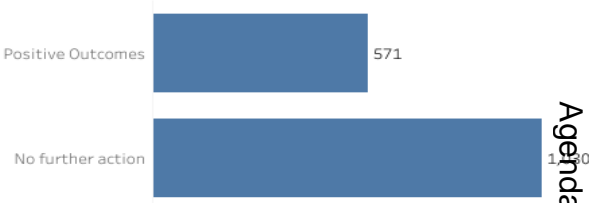
What are the number of Stops Supervised/Not Supervised?



Why are people being stopped?



What is the result of the search?



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POLICE

MORE  
TRUST

LESS  
CRIME

HIGH  
STANDARDS



Demographics (excluding vehicle only searches)

(data last refreshed on 8/2/2025 1:16:33 PM )



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

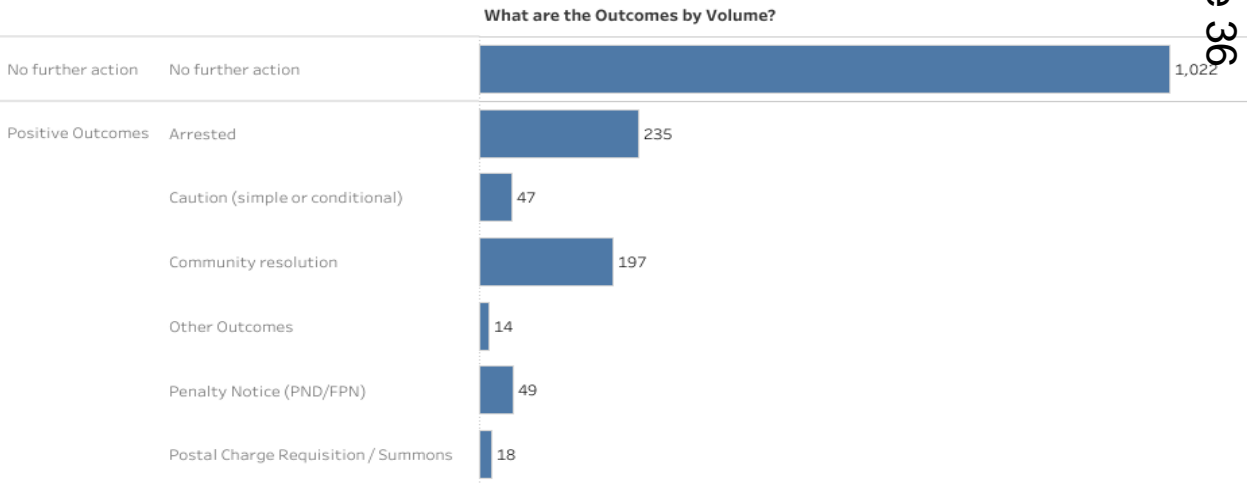
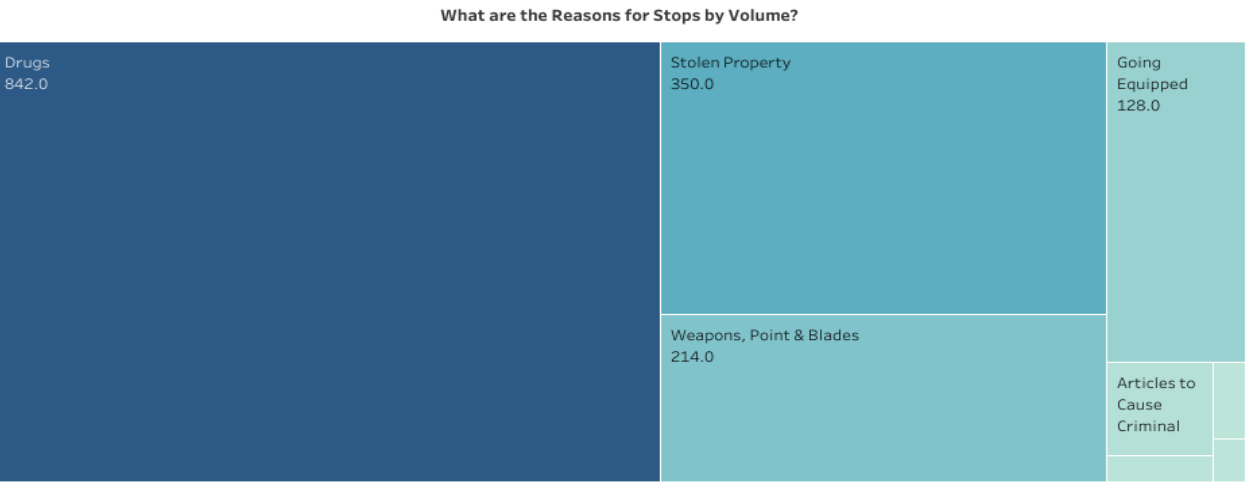
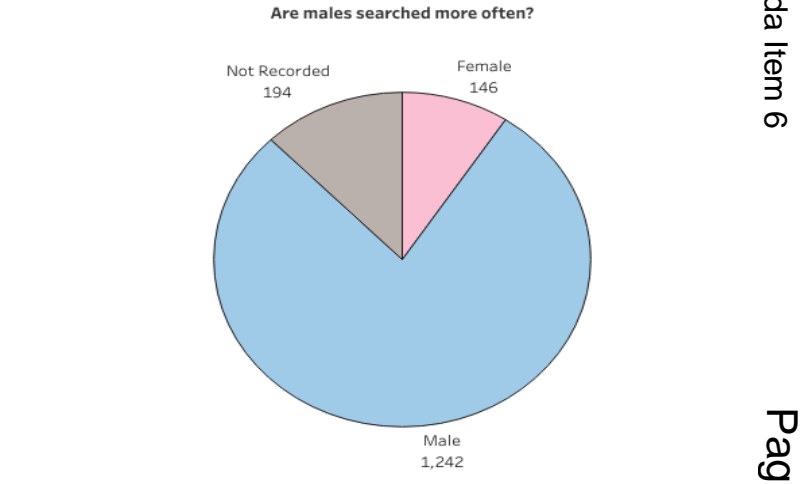
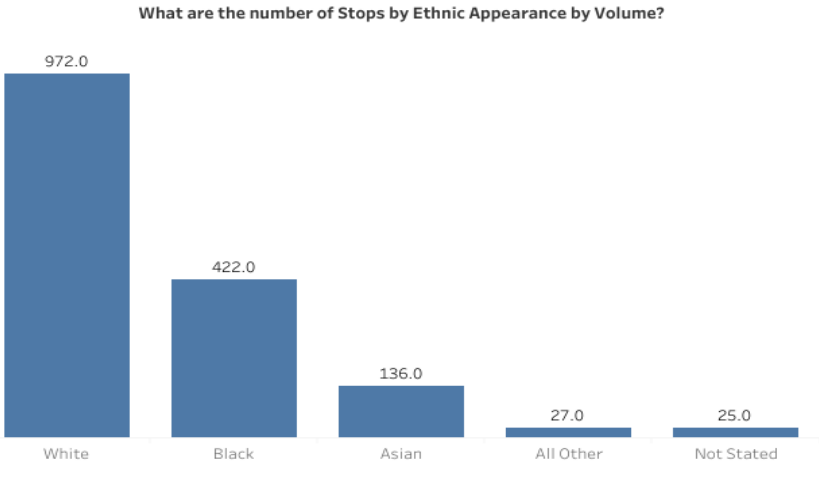
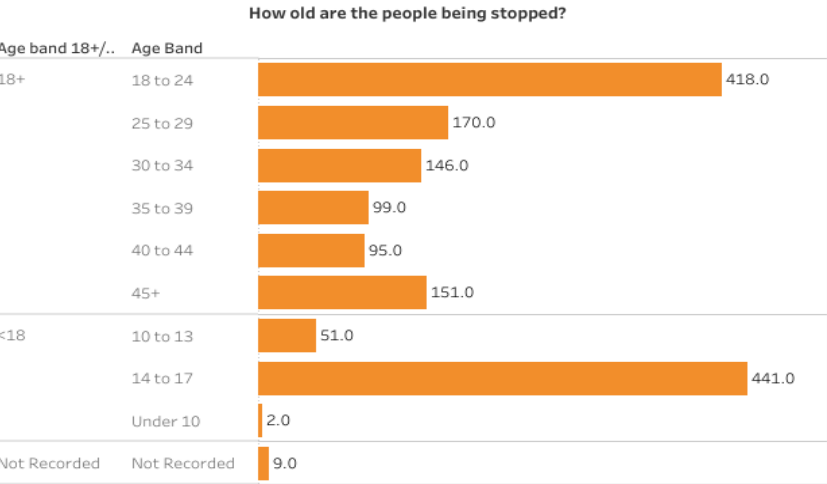
Apply these filter(s) to update the visuals

Select Date Range  
August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025  
and Null values

BCU of Stop  
South Area

Borough of Stop  
Sutton

<https://www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data>



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE

MORE  
TRUST

LESS  
CRIME

HIGH  
STANDARDS



**MORE  
TRUST**

**LESS  
CRIME**

**HIGH  
STANDARDS**

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# ‘A Safer Sutton for All’

Safer Sutton Partnership Strategy  
2025-2028



# Contents

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Slide 5 - Safer Sutton Partnership

Slide 6- Governance Structure

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Slide 19- Engagement & Feedback

Slide 20- Our Strategic Priorities

Slide 27- Glossary of Terms

Slide 28- Acronyms

# Foreword



Community safety is paramount to what we value most about Sutton. It supports our thriving high streets, active civic and community life, brings business investment, encourages neighbourly interactions and generally helps improve the well-being and way of life of older people, and the happiness of our children and young people.

The police, while essential to maintaining order and safety, cannot do it alone. In Sutton we are proud of our long-standing and innovative community safety partnership which has for decades now involved multiple partners in the collective project of keeping Sutton safe.

This strategy outlines the Safer Sutton Partnership's priorities for the next three years.

We will work to maintain and improve community cohesion in the borough, tackle violence against women and girls, protect the vulnerable from violence and exploitation, address anti-social behaviour through targeted work, to ensure Sutton continues to have safer spaces and places that we can all enjoy.

This document presents many examples of both new and ongoing activities that will help us achieve these priorities.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to all those working to make the partnership successful, especially those who do so voluntarily. I also commend the many Sutton residents who play their part, by reporting crime to the police, attending ward panels, joining their local Neighbourhood Watch branch, and being an active presence in their neighbourhood.

Sutton is one of the safest boroughs in London. We want to keep it that way - and with the help of residents, communities and partners, make it even safer.

**Chair of Safer Sutton Partnership Board, Deputy Leader, Councillor Sam Martin**

[sutton.gov.uk](http://sutton.gov.uk)

# Introduction

Sutton is one of the safest boroughs in London when it comes to reported crime statistics and there are strong multi-agency partnerships in place around crime and community safety.

Sutton's community safety partnership, Safer Sutton Partnership, consists of a range of statutory and community sector agencies who work together to formulate and implement strategic responses to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the borough, with the aim of making Sutton a safer community.

The Safer Sutton Partnership Strategy 2025-28 was developed in collaboration with Sutton's partners and communities. Its goal is to create "A Safer Sutton for All." This ambition will be realised through a delivery plan that outlines the strategic priorities for the community safety partnership over the next three years, as well as the specific initiatives and actions for each priority.

To prepare for this strategy, a needs assessment was conducted to assess crime and anti-social behavior trends in Sutton. Additionally, various groups representing a diverse range of Sutton residents were consulted to gather their opinions on key community safety priorities for the upcoming years. The strategy also took into account the strategic priorities of other partnership boards, such as the Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership and the Safeguarding Adults Board, as well as the [Mayor's Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029](#).



# Safer Sutton Partnership

Community Safety Partnerships were introduced by the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* and brought together the following agencies to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour:

- Local Authorities
- Police
- Fire Brigade
- Probation Service
- Health services

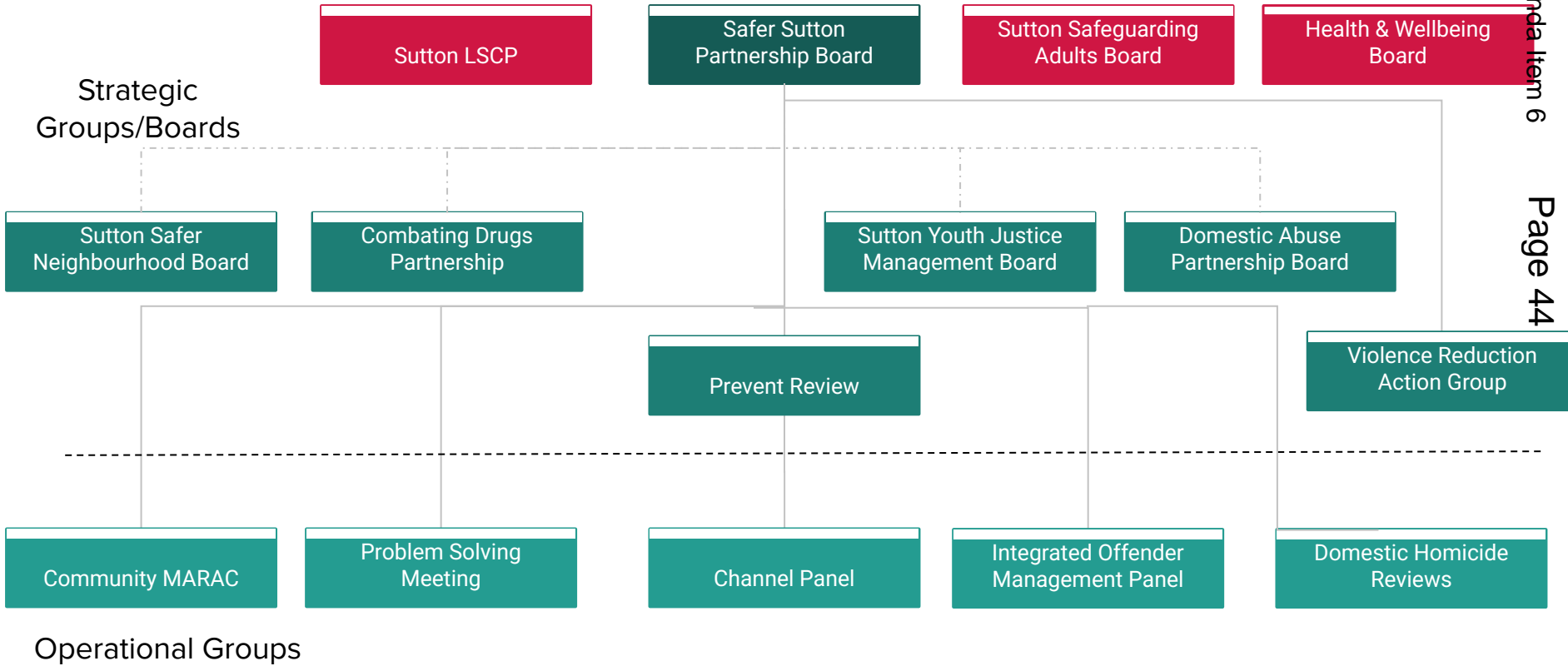
Safer Sutton Partnership is the strategic group, consisting of both statutory and voluntary sector partners, working together to tackle the complex issues related to community safety.

Bringing together local knowledge, expertise and resources, the Safer Sutton Partnership Board (SSPB) has oversight of a range of operational and strategic subgroups.

When setting the Partnership's strategic priorities, close regard has been given to other strategic partnership priorities and action plans e.g. Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership, Sutton Safeguarding Adults Partnership, Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, Helping Early Board.



# Governance Structure





# Sutton at a glance

Sutton's population was estimated at 211,123, as of June 2023. Looking at the Census, the population of the borough grew by 10.2% between 2011 and 2021, a higher rate of growth than seen across London (7.7%) and England (6.3%).

Growth was specifically in those groups that generate significant demand for council services. Compared to average, there has been higher population growth amongst adults aged 70 to 80, and over 90. There has also been larger population growth in Sutton amongst children aged 0 to 14 than England and London. Sutton is home to more care homes and schools than many other London boroughs and the numbers of both care home residents and school children are disproportionate to the overall population of Sutton. This presents a number of challenges when it comes to demand for services.

Sutton has some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the country next to some of the least deprived. Residents living in more economically deprived parts of the borough are more likely to experience poorer outcomes.

The demographics of Sutton have changed considerably in the last few decades, becoming increasingly diverse in terms of ethnicity. We are pleased that so many new communities have chosen to make Sutton their home, including over 4,500 people from Hong Kong, and smaller numbers from Ukraine and Afghanistan. Sutton has well established South Asian communities, including a significant Tamil population, as well as a growing number of people from Eastern European backgrounds (e.g. Poland, Bulgaria and Romania).

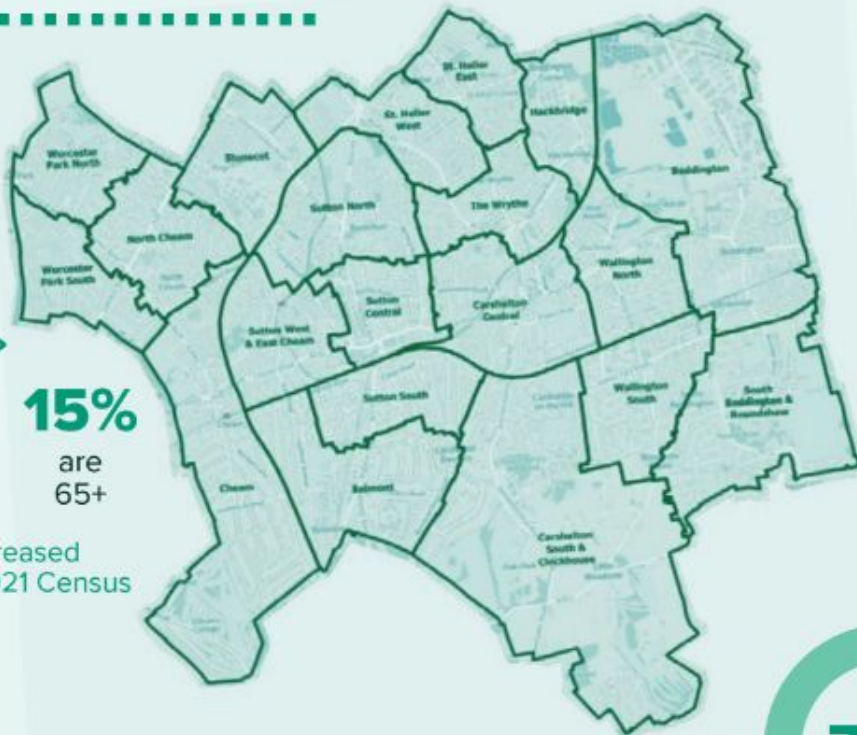


# Population Overview

**211,123**

people live in  
Sutton across

**20** wards



**24%** are under 18  
**61%** are 18-64  
**15%** are 65+

Sutton's population increased  
10% from the 2011 to 2021 Census

**43%**

of Sutton residents were from Asian, Black, Mixed / multiple and non-British White backgrounds in 2021, an increase from 29% in 2011.

**74%**

of Sutton residents have high or very high life satisfaction (2023)

## Sutton Council



**55**  
Councillors



**1,293**  
Council-based  
employees



**£174.2m**  
Net revenue  
budget (2024/25)



## Children and young people

**68%**

of Sutton children achieve a good level of development at the end of Reception (2022/23)

**2,304**

EHCPs maintained by LBS in 2024



a rate of **366**

per population aged 0-19

**234**

children looked after in Sutton (2022/23)

a rate of **46.5** per 10,000 population under 18

**1 in 5**



Sutton children (21.8%) are living in poverty (2021/22). This is lower than the rates for London and England.

## Adult social care and older adults

**7.2**



Sutton adults per every 1,000 people aged 18-64 receive long-term support from adult social care (2022/23)

**1 in 10**



older adults in Sutton (11.4%) are affected by income deprivation.

**64**



Sutton adults per every 1,000 people aged 65+ receive long-term support from adult social care (2022/23)

**Ambitious  
for Sutton**

An  
inclusive  
place for  
everyone



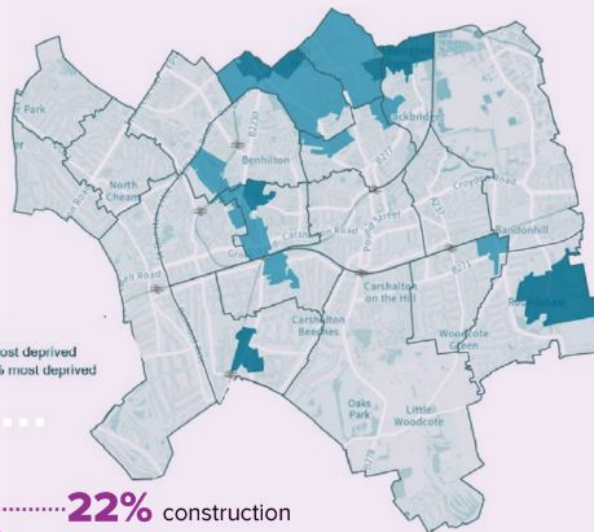
## Deprivation

Sutton is a relatively less deprived borough, ranking **226** out of **317** local authorities in England.

**14%** Sutton neighbourhoods are in the 20% **most** deprived in England

**35%** Sutton neighbourhoods are in the 20% **least** deprived in England

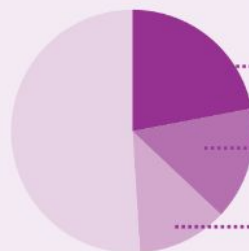
IMD (2019)  

## Businesses

**8,160**

VAT / PAYE registered businesses in Sutton in 2023, of which the largest sectors were:



**22%** construction

**15%** professional, scientific and technical

**12%** information and communication

## Workforce

**47%**

Sutton adults aged 16-64 with degree equivalent qualification or above.

**84%**

Sutton adults aged 16-64 are economically active (2023/24)

**£39,962**

2023 median income for full-time employees resident in Sutton

**Ambitious  
for Sutton**



# Housing

In 2023, the average house in Sutton cost

**£433,241**



**1 in 3**

households in Sutton are rented (private, social or from the Council) while 66% are owner-occupied.

**988**

households in temporary accommodation in Sutton, a rate of 11.64 per 000 households (2023/24)

**Ambitious  
for Sutton**

Quality  
and  
affordable  
housing



# Environment



**2.7**

tonnes of CO2 emissions per person in 2021



**11**

Sutton parks awarded Green Flag status



**90**

parks and green spaces in Sutton covering

**500**  
hectares

**Ambitious  
for Sutton**

Action on  
climate  
change





# Needs Assessment

The [Sutton Community Safety Partnership Needs Assessment 2023-24](#) provides the main evidence base for this strategy. It has highlighted the key issues for the Safer Sutton Partnership to address in order to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the borough. Conducted annually, it helps to evidence the impact of the strategic priorities and associated actions on crime trends.

The following slides have information taken from the Needs Assessment and provide an overview of Sutton's rate of crime, compared to other London boroughs, as well as offence trends, victim and suspect demographics and location hotspots for reported crime and anti-social behaviour.

# Crime overview

3rd

Lowest volume of recorded crime reports across London's 32 Boroughs in 23/24

3rd

Lowest for rate of offences per 1,000 population across London's 32 Boroughs in 23/24

62.5

Sutton's rate of offences per 1,000 population in 23/24, compared to 102.8 in London and 77.6 in comparable Boroughs



Sutton has consistently been within the **lowest 3 boroughs for volume** of reports and **lowest 5 boroughs for rate per 1,000 population** every year since at least 2017/18

-1.9%

Decrease in recorded crime reports compared to previous financial year (253 less offences than 2022/23)

London and comparable boroughs

Comparable Boroughs had a 2.9% increase and across London there was a 6.7% increase in recorded crime reports

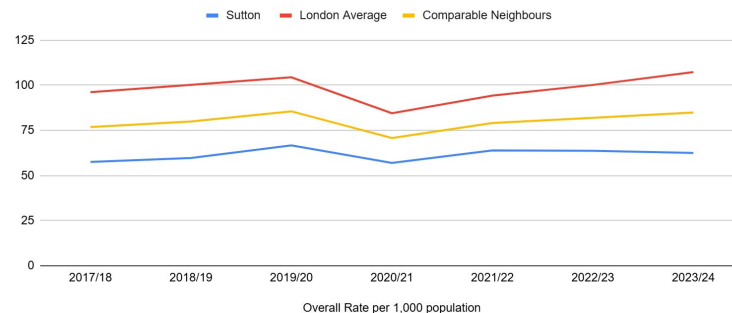
1 of 3

Sutton was one of only three boroughs to see decreases in volume of offences compared to the previous year, with all other boroughs seeing increases.

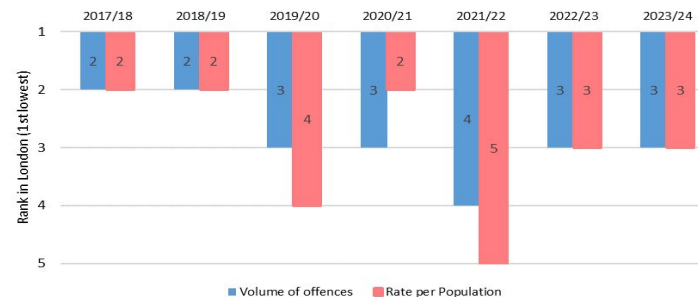


Compared to 6 years ago there has been an increase of 8.65% (1042 more offences than 2017/18). Over the same time period there were similar increases seen for London (10.87%) and Sutton's comparable boroughs (6.41%)

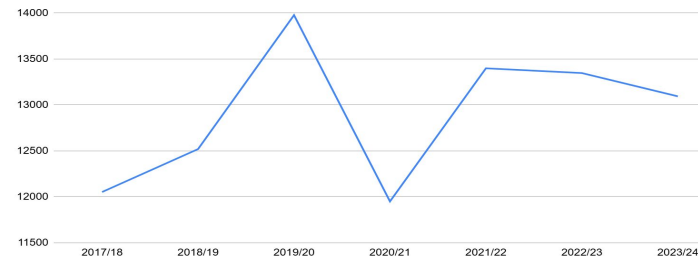
Sutton and London Average rate of offences per 1,000 population



Sutton rank in London for Volume and Rate per Population



Sutton Total Notifiable Offences trajectory



# Offence trends



For the financial year 2023/24 many crime types in Sutton saw differences in a similar proportion to comparable boroughs and London as a whole. There were however some notable differences:



Reports of **Residential Burglary** for Sutton experienced a 19.66% **decrease** between the 2 financial years, while for London there was an increase of 4.56% and comparable boroughs an increase of 5.6%

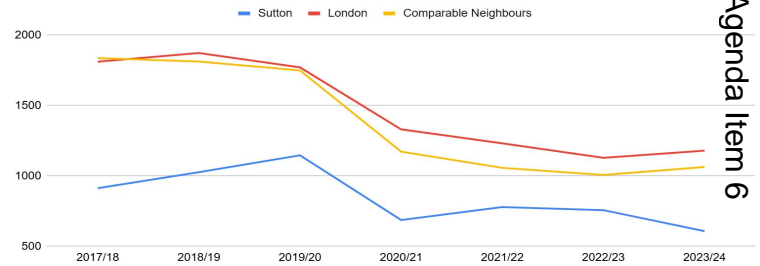


Although Sutton recorded only a small **decrease** in **Personal Robbery** (-0.69%), this was different to London which saw a 13.51% increase from the previous year, and comparable neighbours which saw a 10.72% increase.

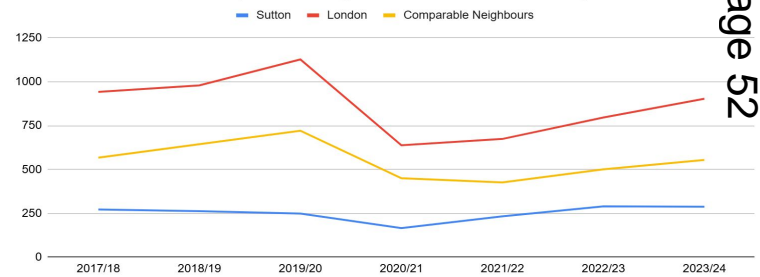


Similarly **Knife Crime** figures **decreased** in Sutton but increased across London as a whole. In 2023/24 Sutton had a reduction of 0.97% compared to the previous year, whereas London saw a relatively large increase of 14.91%. Comparable boroughs saw a slightly larger increase than London - a rise of 18.71%.

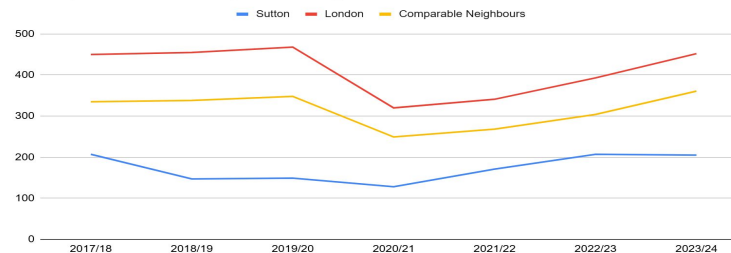
Sutton, London and Comparable Neighbours - Residential Burglary



Sutton, London and Comparable Neighbours - Personal Robbery



Sutton, London and Comparable Neighbours - Knife Crime



# Offence trends

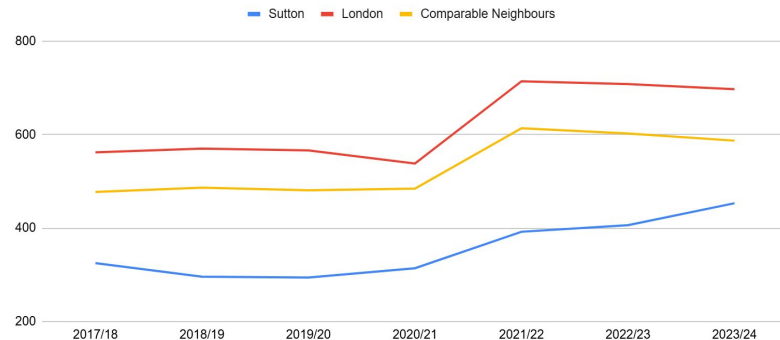


Conversely, Sutton saw an increase in Sexual Offences which was not seen across London. There was an **increase** of 11.58% of **Sexual Offences** in Sutton, compared to a decrease of 1.54% across London. There was also an increase of 20 reports of Rape (16%) compared to the previous year.

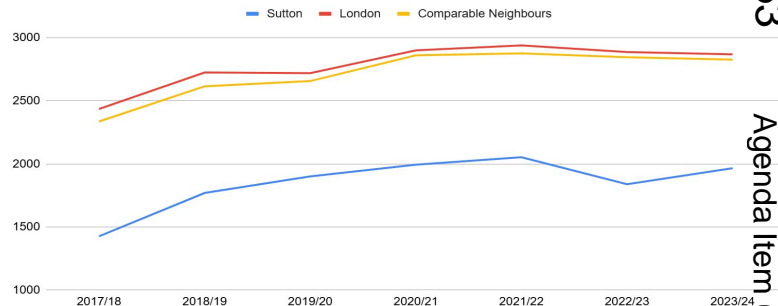


Sutton experienced an **increase** in both **Domestic Abuse** crime categories. Domestic Violence and Abuse increased by 6.91%, whereas London record a small decrease. Sutton recorded an 11.21% increase of Domestic Abuse Violence With Injury (VWI), which was greater than the small increase of 3.97% across London.

Sutton, London and Comparable Neighbours - Sexual Offences



Sutton, London and Comparable Neighbours - Domestic Abuse



# Victims

## Gender Split 23/24



This is the same as the last Needs Assessment and is in line with the gender split of the borough's population.

## Age group breakdown

<b>30-39</b> years old <b>22.1%</b>	<b>18-29</b> years old <b>20.1%</b>	<b>40-49</b> years old <b>18.8%</b>	<b>50-59</b> years old <b>13.5%</b>	<b>1-17</b> years old <b>13.4%</b>	<b>60+</b> years old <b>11.5%</b>
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Combined victims aged between 18-49 account for 61% of all victims. This is despite this combined age group making up only around 43% of the population of Sutton. Most offence categories had a relatively similar split of male/female victims recorded however there were some notable exceptions:

**65%**

of robbery victims were recorded as male, whereas only 19% were female

**For  
Sexual  
Offences**

**56%** of victims were in the age range of 10-24

**82%** of victims are defined as female with 17% male

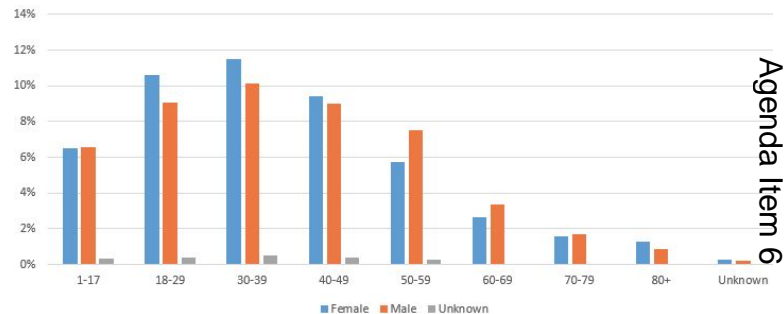


Victims of Vehicle Offences were more likely to be male (66%) compared to female (28%), with 75% of victims of Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Motor Vehicle being male

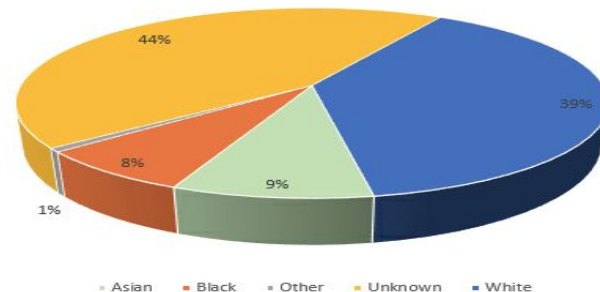


Violence against the person was the category with the highest number of victims, with 55% being female and 43% being male  
sutton.gov.uk

Gender & Age of Victim

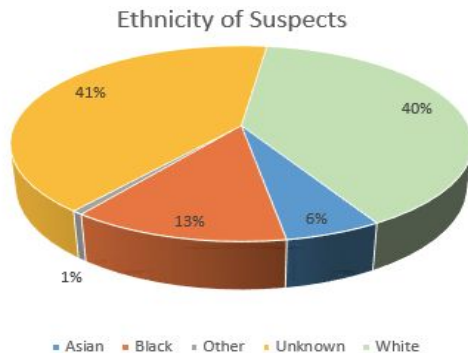
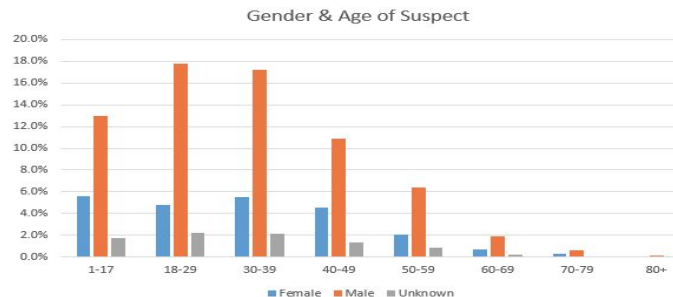


Ethnicity of Victims





# Perpetrators

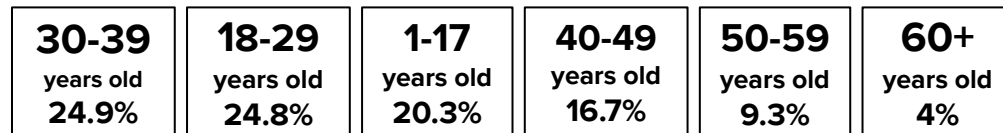


41% of suspects' ethnicity is recorded as unknown. However looking at suspects with ethnicities recorded, 67% of suspects were White, 22% were Black, 10% were Asian and 1% Other ethnicity. These are all similar proportions as the Accused figures in the previous needs assessment.

## Gender Split (where known) 23/24



## Age group breakdown



**15.2%** The highest proportion of male suspects were aged between **18-24**

**13.6%** the highest proportion of female suspects were aged between **10-14**

## Suspect known to victim

**43%**

Of all suspects, **43%** are recorded to be known by the victim.



The highest offence categories for suspect being known by the victim are **Violence Against The Person (69%)** and **Sexual Offences (65%)**



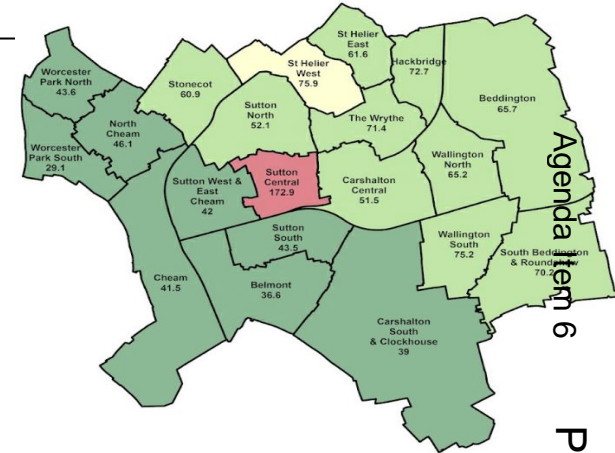
The lowest offence categories in which the suspect is known to the victim are **Vehicle Offences (7%)** and **Robbery (8%)**

sutton.gov.uk

# Crime Hotspots



## Reported Crime Offences



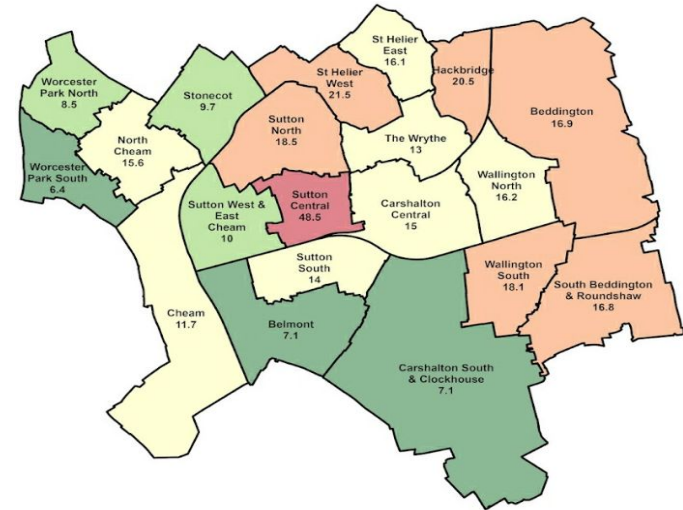
The highest number of crime reports occurred in Sutton Central ward, with 16.7% of all offences reported across the borough.

St Helier West (7.1%) and Wallington South (6.4%) were the 2nd and 3rd highest. The top 6 wards (these 3 wards together with The Wrythe, Wallington North and South Beddington & Roundshaw) account for over half of all recorded crime offences within Sutton borough during 2023/24 (53.7%).

13 out of 20 wards saw a decrease in total notifiable offences (TNOs) compared to the previous year. St Helier East saw the biggest reduction of 21.2% (-142 TNOs), while the wards of North Cheam and Beddington saw decreases of between 10-13%. Hackbridge saw the greatest increase in TNOs of 36.6% (+128), while Stonecot and South Beddington & Roundshaw recorded increases of 11.8% and 8.5% respectively.

# Anti-Social Behaviour Hotspots

- 11 wards saw decreases in the number of ASB calls.
- The biggest decreases were in Worcester Park North (-33%), Belmont (-28%) and Carshalton South & Clockhouse (-23%).
- The wards with the greatest increases were Sutton South (50%), Sutton West & East Cheam (34.57%) and Hackbridge (31%). Hackbridge also rose to the 18th highest for rate per 1,000 population, from 12th in the last year.
- St Helier West and Sutton Central remain the main focus of ASB calls as they were also in the 2 previous financial years. The area around Sutton High Street remains a persistent hotspot, accounting for 18% of the borough's ASB calls.



# Engagement & Fee

In addition to undertaking the Needs Assessment, the community safety partners participated in and led on a range of community engagement events, in order to hear what community members' views were in relation the key community safety issues for Sutton and what priorities they believe the partnership should focus on going forward.

Resident feedback has been gathered through community impact days, as part of focused engagement visits (e.g. to local businesses), as well as conducting specific focus group discussions.

Throughout 2023-24, the Safer Sutton for All community capacity building programme was delivered by the Innovation Unit, a not-for-profit company and focused on improving feelings of safety amongst young people. The programme gathered insights from over 200 young people and delivered 12 engagement and co-design sessions, with different groups of young people.

In March 2025, partners heard from approximately 60 Student Council representatives from 14 Secondary schools across the borough who shared that crime/ASB, knife crime and student behaviour and safety on public transport were the top 3 issues affecting students across Sutton.

Focus groups were held with young people in February 2025 and with representatives from Neighbourhood Watch and local VCS providers in March 20

The feedback from these engagement events were supplemented with the findings from recent surveys undertaken with residents and young people in the borough



# Our Strategic Priorities

The Safer Sutton Partnership has decided on the following priorities for the Safer Sutton Partnership Strategy 2025-28:

- **Creating safer spaces and places**
- **Empowering communities to promote greater cohesion and resilience**
- **Challenging domestic abuse, sexual abuse and violence against women and girls**
- **Protecting the vulnerable from violence and exploitation**
- **Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour through targeted partnership problem solving responses**

# Creating safer spaces and places

Despite Sutton being one of the safest boroughs in London, unfortunately young people and older residents tell us that they are concerned for their safety when out and about in Sutton, particularly in certain locations or at certain times of the day.

This priority aims to tackle residents fear of crime by creating safer spaces and places across the borough.

Initiatives will include:

- **Community Guardianship**- Work across the partnership to develop a network of trained individuals embedded within local communities who will work together to safeguard children, young people, vulnerable adults, women and girls by identifying risks, providing places of safety, building trusting relationships and strengthening social support networks.
- **Safer Streets**- Work with local retailers and the BID to develop retail crime prevention initiatives and focused Police operations to tackle shoplifting (e.g. Summer Streets).
- **Community Engagement**- Develop a schedule of community engagement events led by the Community Safety Team- so that residents have opportunities to share concerns and hear the outcome of work being undertaken to tackle ASB.
- **Neighbourhood Watch**- Promote and encourage membership of Neighbourhood Watch and seek opportunities to increase funding for Neighbourhood Watch initiatives.
- **Street Pastors**- Continuing to conduct patrols of Sutton and Wallington High Streets at night time and providing a safe presence to those who might be more vulnerable.
- **Safer Transport**- High visibility Policing operations at key transport locations (e.g. Operation Nightingale/Operation Zoedone).
- **Youth Outreach and Diversion**- Youth workers from Riverside intervening with children in the community and provide reassurance to them. Intervene in public spaces where children report feeling unsafe (High St, Parks, transport hubs) and in areas known to have higher rates of crime/ASB. Areas will be identified by the monthly PSM. Also providing a reactive response following an serious incidents.
- **Communications**- Develop a partnership communications plan to better communicate and promote community safety initiatives, including encouraging the use of the StreetSafe App, Met Engage, etc.
- **MyEnds**- Creation of Adolescent Hub at the Quad and increased universal youth work offer to offer diversion activities.

# Empowering communities to promote greater cohesion & resilience

Sutton's population has become increasingly diverse over recent years with new communities moving into the borough. At the same time, the spread of misinformation and disinformation online has generated distrust, division and hatred amongst sections of society, resulting in significant disorder taking place in parts of the country during 2024.

This priority aims to tackle hate crime and the risk of radicalisation through initiatives that promote community cohesion and resilience.

Initiatives will include:

- **Tackling hate & promoting social cohesion-** Promote awareness of hate crime through a range of training courses/workshops and community engagement events, with the view of supporting community cohesion. A focus on schools and education providers to educate children on hate crime and the spread of misinformation and focused promotion with groups more likely to be the victim of hate crime (e.g. faith groups, disability groups).
- **National Hate Crime Awareness Week-** The partnership will coordinate a series of events during national hate crime awareness week.
- **Prevent Duty-** Promote the Prevent Duty across the partnership through the development of a new Prevent Delivery Plan.
- **Interfaith Forums-** Facilitate interfaith forums in the borough inviting key stakeholders, such as the police and Community Safety.
- **Neighbourhood Engagement** - As part of CAS health inequalities work, CAS community development officers will bring together communities in the following areas of Sutton; St Heller, Shanklin, Roundshaw, and Benhill. Food from different countries will be used to bring communities together and promote cohesion.

# Challenging domestic abuse, sexual abuse and violence against women and girls

Sutton has seen increases in reported domestic abuse and sexual abuse offences over the last 12 months. Meanwhile feedback from residents and young people have highlighted concerns about women's safety at certain times and locations in Sutton.

This priority aims to reduce the risk of these offences being perpetrated by early intervention to educate young people about misogyny and healthy relationships, ensure that victims of domestic abuse and sexual abuse are supported and that perpetrators of these offences receive the appropriate intervention to address future risk of re-offending.

Initiatives will include:

- **MARAC-** Ongoing coordination of Sutton's MARAC panel and safety planning for victims.
- **Publish VAWG & DA Strategies-** Publish revised DA Strategy and new Ending VAWG Strategy.
- **Holding perpetrators to account-** Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel (DAPP) to identify opportunities to disrupt and ensure perpetrators receive consequences, including the delivery of the Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPO) pilot.
- **Capturing survivor's voices-** Establish forums and groups to promote the voices of those with lived experience of abuse, including a Survivor's Forum, a group for young women and opportunities to incorporate lived experience in training programmes.
- **Enhanced survivor & victim support-** Introduce the role of an ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advocate) in the borough, continue to provide counselling and psycho-educational support to survivors and explore opportunities to further increase the local support offer. New Met for London training to officers to improve the response to victims of abuse.
- **Community engagement-** Utilise the SWC community champions to engage and educate certain communities who might be less likely to engage with services, through the delivery of training (e.g. Bystander/Upstander, Ask Me), holding awareness raising events (e.g. Male Allies) and establishing groups for different communities (e.g. LGBTQ+ Walk and Talk) .
- **Communications-** Produce branding and campaign materials, including a book, logos, messaging, graphics (film and photography) for posters, social media posts and static communications, including materials in relevant languages to facilitate referrals and educate people about available support services and promote issues through established communications channels.
- **Promotion of White Ribbon event-** The Partnership to take part in planning and delivery of annual White Ribbon Day and 16 days of Activism, including a Male Allies event, bystander training and some lunch and learn sessions on various topics.
- **Promotion of DA Champions network-** Encourage partners across the SSP to join the DA Champions network.
- **Schools Engagement-** Delivery of training to secondary school students across the borough including the delivery of specific programmes on consent, healthy relationships, as well as the delivery of another Youth Safety Conference and Male Allies event.



# Protecting the vulnerable from violence and exploitation

Nearly 50% of Sutton school students have shared that they fear being directly impacted by knife crime violence and 16% reported witnessing or being victims of serious incidents in Sutton. This was against a reduction in knife crime offences in 2023-24 compared to the previous year.

Tackling exploitation of children and vulnerable adults is a key priority for both the Sutton LSCP and SSAB and Safer Sutton Partnership intends to work closely with both groups to ensure initiatives over the coming years are aligned.

Initiatives will include:

- **MyEnds SSWs-** 1:1 intervention to young people aged (10-17yrs) living in SM5 identified as most at risk of serious violence.
- **My Ends Seconded CSO-** This CSO will work closely with multi agency partners based at the Adolescent Hub on the St Helier estate. Embedded within the youth justice service at the Adolescent Hub, this officer will work with partners in the Adolescent Hub to identify and understand concerns as they relate to serious youth violence, criminal exploitation and contextual safeguarding. This Officer will work with partners to intervene and disrupt perpetrators and location hotspots, as well as undertaking both educational and preventative action.
- **St Helier Hospital Youth Work-** Introduce youth workers at St Helier Hospital to provide targeted interventions for victims of violence and/or those deemed highly vulnerable to becoming a victim of violence or exploitation.
- **Community Guardians-** Developing a network of trained individuals embedded within local communities who will work to safeguard children and young people by identifying risks, providing places of safety, building trusting relationships and strengthening social support networks. As part of this project bleed kits, defibrillators and first aid training are being offered to a range of businesses, schools and other community venues (e.g. libraries) across the borough, in partnership with the BID, the Police and the Paul Alan Project.
- **Child Exploitation Awareness Week-** Involvement in awareness raising activities as part of this week in March.
- **Youth First Aid training-** Commission Street Doctors to deliver a programme of intervention to identified groups of young people in secondary schools and other youth settings across the borough. The programme will equip these young people with lifesaving first-aid skills, whilst encouraging growth in young people's confidence, sense of civic responsibility and leadership skills.
- **Awareness raising-** Protect vulnerable residents from rogue traders, distraction burglary and online crime through focused partnership campaigns to tackle issues, such as the recent campaign to address cashpoint robberies amongst the elderly.
- **Daily Partnership meetings-** Ongoing daily meetings between Police and Community Safety to share any serious violence incidents that have taken place over the last 24hrs to consider risk management and monitor community tensions.

# Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour through targeted partnership problem-solving responses

Sutton remains an incredibly safe borough to live in and has the third lowest volume of crime in London and the lowest volume of ASB calls across the whole of London. The Partnership wants to ensure that Sutton remains a safe place to live for all residents.

This priority aims to focus partnership attention and resources on the most prevalent/high risk offending and ASB issues in the borough, so as to reduce crime and victimisation locally.

Initiatives will include:

- **Problem solving meetings-** Focused partnership task & finish groups to develop action plans in response to criminal activity arising through the monthly Police Precision Crime Fighting plans and/or ASB hotspots flagged in the monthly PSM.
- **CMARAC-** Coordinate bi-monthly partnership meetings to consider individual support plans for those individuals open to CMARAC.
- **IOM-** Coordinate the partnership response to high harm offenders.
- **CCTV-** Use enforcement resources to target areas of high crime and ASB and offenders, including CCTV, Rapid Deployment Cameras and Enforcement Officers.
- **Communications-** Revise communications on Council website re. Reporting/responding to ASB and Community Trigger response/protocol and increased promotion of good news stories.
- **National Anti Social Behaviour Awareness Week-** Partnership to organise a week of awareness raising events to coincide with National ASB Awareness week.
- **Community Engagement-** Develop a schedule of community engagement events led by the Community Safety Team, working closely with the Police ASB team- so that residents have opportunities to share concerns and hear the outcome of work being undertaken to tackle ASB.

# Glossary of Terms

Anti Social Behaviour	Behaviour that causes alarm, distress or harassment to others; can be criminal or non-criminal behaviour
Channel	Monthly multi agency Panel which discusses cases referred and accepted onto the Prevent programme.
CMARAC/ Community MARAC	Bi-monthly panel that discusses cases of complex or high-risk antisocial behaviour and/or hate crime where there is a significant impact on an individual or community.
Community Trigger	Process by which victims of persistent ASB can request a case review if they feel agencies (e.g. Council, Police, Social Housing providers) haven't responded accordingly.
Community Safety Partnership	Statutory partnership consisting of Police, Fire Brigade, Health, Local Authority, Probation and other agencies with responsibility to address crime, disorder and anti social behaviour.
Contextual safeguarding	An approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm outside their homes/families, e.g. in neighbourhoods, schools and online.
Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel	Multi-agency meeting which considers options to disrupt and intervene with domestic abuse perpetrators.
Hate crime	Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender
IOM Panel	Monthly multi-agency meeting which considers the most prolific and persistent offender cohort.

MARAC Panel	MARAC discusses the top 10% highest-risk domestic abuse cases in the borough.
Mayor's Office for Police and Crime	Sets the priorities for policing and community safety for London, agrees the Policing budget and holds the Met Commissioner to account.
One Stop Shop	Free, drop in service which provides advice and support to any Sutton resident experiencing domestic violence or abuse.
Operation Nightingale	Met Police initiative using evidence-based approaches to policing crime or anti-social behaviour hotspots
Operation Zoedone	Met Police initiative which aims to disrupt robbery offences (particularly mobile phones) committed against students traveling to and from school.
Prevent	The government-led, multi-agency Prevent programme aims to stop individuals becoming terrorists by supporting those identified to be at risk of radicalisation.
Problem Solving Meeting	Monthly multi-agency meeting which considers actions to disrupt locations/hotspots for crime and anti-social behaviour.
StreetSafe	A service that allows people to anonymously report safety concerns in public places to the Police. This includes issues like poorly lit streets, abandoned buildings, or vandalism, as well as instances where they feel unsafe due to someone following or verbally abusing them.
Violence Reduction Action Group	Strategic multi-agency meeting which considers activities that can be taken to reduce serious violence within the borough.
Violence Reduction Unit	A team working to understand and prevent violence in London, focusing on prevention and early intervention.

# Acronyms

ASB	Anti Social Behaviour
BCU	Basic Command Unit
BID	Business Improvement District
CAS	Community Action Sutton
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CMARAC	Community MARAC
CSO	Community Safety Officer
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
DAPP	Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advocate
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

MET	Metropolitan Police
MOPAC	Mayor's Office for Police and Crime
PSM	Problem Solving Meeting
SSAB	Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board
SSP	Safer Sutton Partnership
SSPB	Safer Sutton Partnership Board
SSW	Specialist Support Worker
SWC	Sutton Women's Centre
TNOs	Total Notifiable Offences (offences reported to the Police)
VAWG	Violence Against Women & Girls
VCS	Voluntary & Community Sector
VRAG	Violence Reduction Action Group
VRU	Violence Reduction Unit
VWI	Violence with Injury



### Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022

# London Borough of Sutton Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024-26

Title & Version	London Borough of Sutton Serious Violence Duty 2024-26
Relevant To	Safer Sutton Partnership Board, Sutton Council People Committee
Summary/Purpose	To outline Sutton's Serious Violence duty, strategic plan, governance and priorities for 2024-26
Authorised By	Senior Leadership Group
Date Authorised	30 January 2024

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## Foreword

The Safer Sutton Partnership is committed to preventing and reducing serious violence to keep local residents in the London Borough of Sutton safe.

We will embed the statutory serious violence duty under this Serious Violence Strategy 2024-26, through a delivery plan that has been endorsed by the Sutton Safer Partnership that has representation from the responsible authorities (also known as 'duty holders'). The strategy is fully supported by the Adult and Children Local Safeguarding Partnerships.

The "Ambitious for Sutton" Corporate Plan 2022-27 sets out the vision of Sutton being a place where people from all backgrounds feel included and get on well together, with support for our young people, families, older people, and vulnerable residents. The strategy to reduce serious violence will form part of the aim to make Sutton a safe and inclusive place for everyone who lives, works, or attends schools and colleges in the Borough. We know how deeply impactful serious violence can be on communities and individuals. We are committed to reducing the frequency of serious violence or antisocial behaviour, and to supporting Sutton's families and communities to feel safe and heard.

While effectively challenging any violent crime in Sutton, we will ensure no particular community, either directly or indirectly, is unduly prejudiced through the process. We firmly believe that Sutton should be an inclusive, safe place for everyone, where people of all backgrounds feel included and heard in Sutton's decisions. This is why this strategy's key priorities centre on safety in our communities.

These three strategic priorities represent our commitment to a new way of thinking and responding to serious violence and antisocial behaviour, establishing a new balance between prevention and law enforcement. As a partnership, we need to consider serious violence with a whole-system approach to understand its causes, prevent and divert people from serious violence, and protect residents wherever needed.

Our first priority theme, "Prevention and Early Intervention", aims to identify emerging and ongoing antisocial behaviour and intervene before escalation to more serious violence or other crimes. Sutton are well equipped to prevent serious crime at an early stage through the Local Child Safeguarding Partnership's Helping Early Strategy. Our recent Ofsted Joint Targeted Area Inspection of the "front door of services" recognised that Sutton has strong and effective inclusive Partnership arrangements in place to respond to serious crime, and support those who have been victims of crimes.

Our second priority theme, "Supporting Communities and Partnerships", takes this

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collaboration further. We are speaking to diverse groups of young people in our borough to understand what their thoughts are about serious violence and the area they live in. It is well recognised that engagement in full-time, good quality education is a strong protective factor against young people being drawn into serious violence, and we understand that social stigma and access to services can prolong this cycle. This priority will ensure that we are safe on our streets and neighbourhoods, and vulnerable groups are safe from harm and exploitation.

Our third priority theme, “Disrupt, divert, protect and enforce”, revolves around keeping residents safe from crime and its consequences. Sutton is one of the safest London boroughs, and we will continue to work closely with our proactive police and place-based community groups to divert potential criminals from antisocial behaviour. This theme pledges to ensure Sutton remains a difficult place for people to behave antisocially or commit serious violent crime. Where serious violent crime does take place, we want to provide timely and appropriate support to victims. Serious offenders will be identified and monitored to ensure that Sutton residents and families are kept safe from harm.

Together we will show the best of our borough to make Sutton an even safer, fairer, and more inclusive place. It is this community spirit, collaboration and innovation with partners and community groups that will protect us from serious violent crime and its consequences. We are stronger together.

Councillor Ruth Dombey, OBE  
Leader of Sutton Council



## 1. Introduction

Sutton's Serious Violence Strategy has been produced as part of the requirements of the Serious Violence Duty that were introduced by the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.<sup>1</sup> The overall purpose of the strategy is to ensure compliance with the fundamental principles of the new statutory duty in order to reduce serious violence in Sutton.

This strategy is underpinned by a needs assessment that informs how we interpret our statutory duty to prevent and respond to incidents of serious violence in Sutton over the next two years. Collectively, the community safety partnership is committed to delivering a range of interventions to prevent, disrupt and divert criminal acts linked to potential serious violence. Protecting members of the public through enforcement of the act where necessary and supporting victims of crime is central to this strategy.

## 2. The Sutton vision and how we will achieve stronger communities

The Ambitious for Sutton Corporate Plan 2022-27 captures the vision to achieve an inclusive place for everyone through supportive communities. Sutton Local Child Safeguarding Partnership's Helping Early Strategy was first rolled out in 2019, and refreshed in 2022. It sets out the vision to take a joined up approach to supporting families who need help at the most appropriate, earliest, and helpful point. It is therefore well recognised that we must do more to find long term solutions to serious violence, rather than solely rely on law enforcement. This is why creating supportive communities is the right ambition for Sutton; examples from our corporate plan of how we will achieve this are:

- Work with our partners, including youth services to support schools, parents and children and young people, to improve their mental health and wellbeing
- Deliver a new Family Hub Model alongside partners to support families to access a range of universal support services more easily
- Ensure enough school places for Sutton residents, including high-quality places for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Work with partners to integrate support for Children and Young People across health and social care
- Improve youth provision in the Borough

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<sup>1</sup> [Serious Violence Duty Preventing and reducing serious violence Statutory Guidance for responsible authorities 2022](#)

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- Work with partners to deliver a programme to transform mental health support across South West London
- Champion equality, diversity and inclusion across Sutton through strong partnerships
- Develop and deliver a violence against women and girls strategy which brings together work with partners across the borough, including; White Ribbon Accreditation work, community safety initiatives, and the Womens Night Time Safety Charter
- Work with the voluntary and community sector to support refugees, migrants and asylum seekers, including taking part in the London Councils "fair shares" plan
- Work with partners to raise awareness of hate crime and how to report it, including delivering hate crime awareness events

Taking account of the Strategic Needs Assessment, and the work already undertaken by Sutton's Community Safety Partnership in response to serious violence, the following three priority themes will frame the strategy:

<b>PRIORITY THEMES</b>		<b>AREAS OF FOCUS</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Prevention and Early Intervention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safe in our Partnership and Community</li> <li>- Safe from Domestic Violence, Abuse, and Sexual Violence</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Supporting Communities and Partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safe on our Streets and Neighbourhoods</li> <li>- Safe from Harm and Exploitation</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Disrupt, Divert, Protect and Enforce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safe from Crime and its Consequences</li> </ul>

This strategy reflects a step change in the way we think and respond to serious violence, helping to establish a new balance between prevention and law enforcement. These themes adhere to our "Ambitious for Sutton" Corporate Plan 2022-27, in which we pledged to continue promoting equality and inclusion, and making Sutton a great place for our diverse communities.

### 3. Definition

#### 3.1 What is serious violence?

The Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 provides that, for the purposes of the Duty, serious violence includes domestic abuse, sexual offences, violence against property and threats of violence, but does not include terrorism.

The Government Serious Violence Strategy (2018) sets out specific types of crime of concern, including homicide, violence against the person (which may include both knife crime and gun crime), and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in county lines drug dealing.<sup>2</sup> These crimes should be at the core of the serious violence duty for the purpose of its reduction and prevention

#### 3.2 What is serious violence for the purpose of this statutory duty?

We have agreed to adopt this definition of serious violence for the purposes of the Serious Violence Duty.

“Any violence and exploitation affecting young people under the age of 25, domestic abuse, and sexual violence. Within the context of these types of violence, it encompasses homicide, grievous bodily harm, actual bodily harm, rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault, personal robbery, threats to kill and violence against property caused during the commission of one of these offences.”<sup>3</sup>

#### 3.3 What is the definition of domestic abuse?

We have agreed to adopt the Domestic abuse definition in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

#### 3.4. What is the definition of Violence Against Women and Girls?

“Violence against women and girls (VAWG) covers a range of unacceptable and deeply distressing crimes, including rape and other sexual offences, stalking, domestic abuse, ‘honour’-based abuse (including female genital mutilation, forced marriage and ‘honour’ killings), ‘revenge porn’ and ‘upskirting’, as well as many others. These crimes disproportionately affect women and girls.”<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> [Serious Violence Strategy, April 2018](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Serious Violence Duty Preventing and reducing serious violence Statutory Guidance for responsible authorities, Appendix 3, December 2022](#)

<sup>4</sup> [National Statement of Expectations for commissioning Violence Against Women and Girls services, March 2022](#)

#### 4. Legal and policy context

In April 2018 the Government published its National Serious Violence Strategy in response to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide in almost all police forces across England. The strategy represented a change in how partners should think and respond to serious violence, establishing a new balance between prevention and law enforcement. It declares a call to action for partners from across different sectors to come together and adopt an end-to-end, whole-system multi-agency approach to preventing and responding to serious violence at a local level.

In 2019, as part of the National Serious Violence Strategy, funding was identified to set up 18 Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) across the country. The primary focus of VRUs is to ensure collaboration between the police, local authority community safety, education, health professionals, community leaders, and the voluntary and community sector to understand the root cause of serious violence at a local level taking a public health approach. Sutton's Serious Violence Strategy takes account of guidance issued by the government, as well as London guidance developed by the London Violence Reduction Unit in collaboration with London Councils, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, the Metropolitan Police, NHS London and Probation Service and is designed to complement the Sutton Violence and Vulnerability Reduction Action Plan.

The responsible authorities (also known as 'duty holders') in the Serious Violence Duty will be:

- The police
- Fire and rescue authorities
- Justice organisations (youth offending teams and probation services)
- Health bodies (Integrated Care Boards)
- Local Authorities

Educational institutions, prisons and youth custodial institutions will be under a separate duty to co-operate with duty holders, but they are not duty holders.

In 2021 the Government released guidance in relation to the implementation of a Serious Violence Duty. The duty brings with it several commitments and responsibilities for both Central and Local Government, as well as named partners, including the police, justice (Youth Justice and Probation), health, education and fire and rescue.

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The new Duty requires the specified authorities to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence. In doing so, local areas are encouraged to work within the framework of a public health approach:

- Focused on a defined population
- With and for communities
- Not constrained by organisational or professional boundaries
- Focused on generating long-term as well as short-term solutions
- Based on data and intelligence to identify the burden on the population, including any inequalities
- Rooted in evidence of effectiveness to tackle the problem.

## **5. Local Partnership Arrangements**

In the London Borough of Sutton, the Community Safety Partnership is known as the Safer Sutton Partnership Board (SSPB). This will be the lead partnership for implementation of the Serious Violence Duty, and for ensuring compliance with the duty. SSPB meets quarterly and is chaired by the leader of the council. Further details, including the membership, are available in the SSPB constitution.<sup>5</sup>

This Strategy document will be reviewed annually by the SSPB to ensure that it reflects emerging policy and practice developments.

Assurance about the implementation of the strategy will be provided to the strategic Multi-Agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) Strategic Subgroup that meets quarterly, and comes under the governance of Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP). The subgroup is chaired by a senior Police representative, who will report into the SSPB, SSAB and LSCP Boards. The progress of the action plan's implementation will be reported into the annual review of the effectiveness of the Local Arrangements under Working Together 2023.<sup>6</sup>

## **6. Summary of the Strategic Needs Assessment of Violence**

Sutton's Community Safety Partnership recognises that in order to effectively embed a public health approach to serious violence we need to ensure that we have a robust understanding of the presenting issues and driving factors at a local level. It is essential that we understand the picture of serious violence in Sutton in order to ensure that we can respond to trends and drivers efficiently and effectively. The strategic needs assessment is intended to enable partners to identify current and long-term issues relating to serious violence and those most vulnerable to

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<sup>5</sup> [SSPB Constitution, June 2023](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Working Together to Safeguard Children, December 2023](#)

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involvement in the local area. This provides a greater understanding of established and emerging serious violence trends, priority locations or other high-risk issues. The strategic needs assessment has been developed following an evidence-based analysis of data from Metropolitan Police Service, Domestic Abuse Partnership and Youth Justice Board relating to violence, as well as broader datasets from Sutton Children's Services and Public Health including those in relation to deprivation and health.

In assessing each of the critical areas, the analysis has looked at locations that have a higher risk of violence and temporal factors, such as the times of greater and lesser offending, including the times of day, days of the week and seasonal trends through the year. The analysis has also looked at the profile of victims and offenders of violence, in order to understand the risks and opportunities for prevention.

Outlined below is what we know about serious violence in Sutton so far and has looked at the critical areas of violence and vulnerability within the definition of serious violence, including violence affecting those under the age of 25, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

The following utilised the calendar year 2023 for detailed analysis and the longer-term trends covering the previous two years. For future needs assessments further data would be beneficial in understanding what types of venues offences are occurring, what type of property is being targeted/stolen and whether victims/suspects are local.

### **3.1. Violence and Exploitation Affecting Young People Under the Age of 25 (counting all the VRU defined offences with at least one victim or suspect aged under 25 years)**

#### **Overview - Sutton**

There were 1,094 VRU defined violence offences involving under 25-year-olds in Sutton in 2023. This was a rise of 9% from 2022 and 24% from 2021. This increase is greater than was seen across all Violence Against a Person, which increased 5% against 2022, and 2% against 2021.

<b>Victims</b>	<b>Suspects</b>
The victim gender split is in line with Sutton's population with 51% female and 49% male.	75% of suspects were male.

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The most common age band for victims was 10-24 (70%).	68% of suspects were older young people aged between 10 and 24 years.
The most common victim ethnicity was white, however, black victims were disproportionately higher than the population make-up of Sutton, with 14% of victims recorded as black compared to 6% of Sutton's population.	Similarly, while white was the most common suspect ethnicity, the proportion of black suspects was greater than the local population (23%).*
34% of offences involved at least one victim and one suspect who were both under 25.	The majority (67%) of offences occurred away from the victim's residence, and in over half the offences the suspect were known to the victim.

\*As the data doesn't identify repeat suspects, it may be that this figure has been increased by persistent/prolific offenders.

**Injury Seriousness**

Seriousness of injury in these offences has been consistently low with 88% (2023) and 90% (2022 & 2021) defined as either no injury, threats only or minor.

In over 50% of offences, the suspect was known to the victim.

Although there were 2 murders in the borough in 2023, the use of weapons within all offences is relatively low. 12% of offences included one or more relevant weapons.

**Borough Wards**

Sutton Central, St Helier West and South Beddington & Roundshaw have been consistently in the top wards for these offences over the last 3 years.

These 3 wards have been previously identified as higher contributing wards for violence offences and the current serious violence capacity building projects has particular focus on areas in these wards. When comparing violence offences with Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence there are 5 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) which appear in the top areas for 2 or 3 of the crime types. These frequently occurring locations are in line with previous research that identified the areas of focus for the serious violence capacity building project.

**Days of the Week**

Peak days for serious violence are Fridays and Saturdays, accounting for 16% each. Peak time is between 1500 and 17:59 with 25% of offences within this band and a greater number of offences appearing to align with the end of the school day. Most

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offences within that time band on weekdays are either Actual Bodily harm and other Injury or Robbery of personal property, accounting for 71% of offences.

**Trends**

Across 2022 and 2023 the monthly trend of these offences was generally a similar pattern until August. After this in 2023 there is a greater number of reported offences for the remainder of the year. Around a third of this increase is due to Personal Robbery offences occurring in Sutton Central and South Beddington & Roundshaw. A recent London-wide trend for robbery of high value clothing has been identified. However, the crime data doesn't contain stolen property data so links to this cannot be confirmed.

### **3.2. Domestic Abuse (counting all Total Notifiable Offences with a Domestic Abuse Flag)**

**Overview - Sutton**

There were 1,944 offences of Domestic Abuse in Sutton in 2023. Although this is a 3.3% rise from the previous year, it is a decrease from 2021 of 4%. Sutton is ranked 24<sup>th</sup> lowest in the London boroughs with 9.6 offences per 1,000 population. The rank and rate have remained similar over the previous 2 years indicating changes are in line with London.

<b>Victims</b>	<b>Suspects</b>
Over three quarters of victims of Domestic Abuse are female (76%), considerably higher than the population of Sutton.	Similarly, suspects are predominantly male (78%), though the gender gap reduces in the 75+ age bands.
Over half of all victims are aged between 18-39 years.	The majority of suspects also fall within the 18-39 age band.
The majority of victims are white. However, the proportion of black victims (10%) is slightly higher than the proportion of Sutton's population.	The breakdown of ethnicity for suspects is similar to victims.

Conversely, the proportion of Asian victims is lower than the proportion of Sutton's population. Further work within these communities may assist in understanding if this is representative or if there is greater under-reporting in these communities.



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**Injury Seriousness**

The degree of injury of victims was low with 90% recorded as minor or no injury.

**Borough Wards**

Top wards are Sutton Central, St Helier West and St Helier East. Over a quarter of offences (27%) occur in one of these 3 wards. This was consistent with the previous 2 years with similar higher contributing wards.

**Days of the Week**

Saturdays (15.6%) and Sundays (15.5%.) are peak days with a notable number of offences in the early morning (00:00-02:59) of these days. This may indicate a link with returning home after a night out.

Victims	Suspects
Most offences occurred in the victim's home with 65% off offence locations matching the victim's address.	95% of suspects were known to the victim.
Ex-boyfriends account for over a quarter of all suspects (28%).	The other most common relationships are current boyfriend (11%) and son or father of the victim (11% and 10% respectively).
These relationships account for over 60% of all offences.	

### 3.3. Sexual Violence (counting all offences with the Crime Section Sexual Offences)

**Overview - Sutton**

There were 461 offences of Sexual Offences in Sutton in 2023. This was a rise of 15% compared to 2022 and 18% compared to 2021. Sutton is ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> in the London boroughs with a rate of 2.2 offences per 1,000 population. Although the rate of offences has only changed from 1.9 in 2022 the borough was ranked 31<sup>st</sup> that year. In the lower contributing boroughs, the rate of offences is very similar (a difference of 0.15 between the boroughs ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>) so this can fluctuate greatly. However, Sutton was one of 8 boroughs to have an increase in offences between 2022 and 2023.

Victims	Suspects
84% of victims are female with a similar gender gap across the age ranges.	Suspects were most commonly male, accounting for 93% of all suspects.
* This is significantly different from the gender breakdown of the local population with disproportionately high female victims and male suspects.	
The majority of victims are aged between 10-17 (42%).	A quarter of suspects were aged between 15-24 years.
Like Domestic Abuse, the proportion of black victims (10%) is slightly higher than the proportion of Sutton's population.	The breakdown of ethnicity for the suspect is similar to the victim.
The proportion of Asian victims is lower than the proportion of the local population.	Ex-boyfriend or acquaintance of the victims both made up 16% of suspects, and friends of the victim made up 9% of victims.
The majority (67%) of offences occurred away from the victim's home.	The suspect was known to the victim in 66% offences.

### Borough Wards

The top wards are Sutton Central, The Wrythe and Wallington South. Two of these wards were within the top wards throughout the reporting period. However, The Wrythe has seen a considerable increase in 2023, particularly around 2 LSOAs. In most cases the victim knew the suspect and it was a variety of different relationships. From the data available it isn't possible to identify any links between these offences, nor does the data identify if there are repeat victims.

### Days of the Week

Peak days are Wednesday (19%) and Saturday (18%). Peak times for offences are between 00:00 and 02:59 with nearly a quarter of reporting during this time band. Like Domestic Abuse there is a higher proportion of offences around this time on a Saturday. Therefore, potentially indicating a connection with either people returning home after a night out or offences committed while people are out on a Friday night.

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The data available doesn't contain types of venues where offences occurred so it's not possible to confirm if there is a link. 20% of Sexual Offences also have a Domestic Abuse flag.

## **7. Priority Themes - Action to Prevent and Reduce Serious Violence**

Taking account of the Strategic Needs Assessment, and the work already undertaken by Sutton's Community Safety Partnership in response to serious violence, it has been agreed to frame the strategy on the following three priority themes:

<b>PRIORITY THEMES</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Prevention and Early Intervention</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Supporting Communities and Partnerships</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Disrupt, Divert, Protect and Enforce</b>

This strategy, and the implementation of the above priorities builds on the work already undertaken to respond to serious violence, through the Sutton LSCP Helping Early Strategy<sup>7</sup> and targeted early help and prevention approaches<sup>8</sup>, by emphasising the balance between prevention and law enforcement.

### **3.4. Theme 1: Prevention and early intervention**

Problem solving meetings are well established multi-agency panels chaired by Safer Sutton Community Safety. The panels identify emerging and ongoing place based antisocial behaviour and seek to intervene before escalation to more serious violence or other crimes. We must prevent people from committing serious violence and being drawn into exploitation by building resilience, supporting positive alternatives, and providing timely interventions at the "teachable moment". This signals our intention to deliver a step change in early intervention and prevention and outlines proposals for action which support interventions to help young people and young adults to live positive lives away from violence. Further details about the function of the problem solving meeting are available in the Terms of Reference<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> [Sutton Helping Early Strategy](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Sutton Early Help approaches](#)

<sup>9</sup> [LBS Terms of Reference for Problem Solving Meeting\\_March 2022.docx](#)

### 3.4.1. Safe in our Partnership and Community

Sutton is one of the safest boroughs in London, with a proactive multi-agency partnership in place with which to target and tackle crime and its consequences at a local level. We will continue to target and deal with harm and impact from our day and night time economies, recognising that while Sutton's economy provides tremendous benefits and prosperity to the borough, it can be a source of nuisance and distress for some.

4.1.1.1	Manage a partnership problem solving approach to crime and community safety through our Problem Solving Meeting, Community Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Panel.
4.1.1.2	Ensure public space Closed-circuit television (CCTV) is being used effectively to prevent crime and increase the likelihood of successful prosecution.
4.1.1.3	Manage the impact of drugs and alcohol on crime and anti-social behaviour.
4.1.1.4	Tackle serious crime and violence through the Sutton Violence and Vulnerability Reduction Action Plan.

### 3.4.2. Safe from Domestic Violence, Abuse and Sexual Violence

We will maintain a strong commitment to supporting women and girls, and all victims of domestic and sexual abuse, helping them to break free and recover from abusive relationships. We will support the Mayor's Public Health approach for tackling Violence Against Women and Girls which places a stronger emphasis on partnership working, prevention and education across a wide range of services

4.1.2.	Ensure effective strategic governance of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) through the Safer Sutton Partnership Board (SSPB).
4.1.2.3	Provide leadership for the DV MARAC
4.1.2.4	Provide leadership for the DV MARAC.
4.1.2.5	Contribute to the Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to DVA.
4.1.2.5	Sign up to and promote the Women's Night Safety Charter and White Ribbon to end male violence against women and girls

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Work is being undertaken to consult with a diverse range of young people within the borough to understand what their thoughts are about serious violence and the area they live in. The Safer Sutton Community Safety Partnership recognises that engagement in full-time, good quality education is a strong protective factor against young people being drawn into serious violence. The effects of permanent exclusion for a child can be long-lasting and life-limiting. Exclusion from school has been found to be a key factor in the stigmatisation of a young person, resulting in reduced life chances, limited opportunities for self-development and inhibited engagement in wider society. From a public health approach, the label of having been excluded can socially shape the actions of a child through to adulthood, often resulting in a cyclical reproduction of that stigma. Education providers are well placed to identify those at risk of serious violence and deliver interventions through their trusted relationships with children and young people.

We want communities and local partnerships to be at the heart of our multiple-strand approach to tackling serious violence. This outlines measures to help communities to build resilience and respond to serious violence. It also sets out measures to support vulnerable individuals, communities and the wider public through encouraging partners to take action to reduce the opportunities for crime to take place, including raising awareness of the key issues and how best to respond.

**3.5.1. Safe on our Streets and Neighbourhoods**

We will be taking a collaborative approach to tackling violent crime and the underlying causes of violent crime sharing in the Mayor of London's goal to stabilise and reduce violence across London. We will continue to actively target and deal with anti-social behaviour swiftly, when and where it occurs, recognising the nuisance and distress that it causes to people's lives. Our work around women's safety prioritises providing those experiencing or fearing violence with the support they need to be and feel safe.

4.2.1.1	Tackle environmental crime and disorder to reduce the fear of crime and reduce opportunities for crime to occur.
4.2.1.2	Support neighbourhood watch to prevent crime and help local communities protect themselves and their properties.
4.2.1.3	To provide a targeted youth engagement and diversion programme in partnership with the Riverside Centre Association.
4.2.1.4	To commission Street Pastors to support our communities and our emergency services.

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4.2.1.5	Support the Safer Neighbourhood Board to set local policing priorities and hold police to account and improve the Stop and Search process.
4.2.1.6	Support community and voluntary organisations to deliver activities and interventions in the areas of highest need.
4.2.1.7	Collaborate with schools, colleagues and alternative provision to tackle serious violence.
4.2.1.8	Create and deliver a coordinated community response, to prevent violence and abuse from happening and challenging inequality throughout the delivery of our VAWG services to prevent discrimination and address the impacts of intersectionality.

**3.5.2. Safe from Harm and Exploitation**

We will protect our children and young people, and those who may be vulnerable from undue influence, harm and exploitation, acknowledging the impact and the role that modern technology may have in this. We will support the public health approach to violence prevention particularly in relation to Contextual Safeguarding that seeks to improve the health and safety of young people by addressing underlying risk factors that increase the likelihood that an individual will become a victim or a perpetrator of violence.<sup>10</sup>

4.2.2.1	Tackle criminal exploitation, especially among young people.
4.2.2.2	Manage and support female offenders.
4.2.2.3	Support Sutton's Youth Justice Board and Integrated Youth Service.
4.2.2.4	Provide safety training and advice to young people.
4.2.2.5	Work with Licensing and Trading Standards to prevent the sale of prohibited goods to young people, incl. disrupting the potential supply of weapons to under 18s.
4.2.2.6	Monitor human trafficking/modern slavery, and be ready to take collaborative action should concerns arise.
4.2.2.7	To develop and embed a contextual safeguarding approach.
4.2.2.8	Tackle serious violence and organised crime e.g. county lines.

**3.6. Theme 3: Disrupt, Divert, Protect and Enforce**

<sup>10</sup> [LBS Youth Justice Plan 2023-2025 Final](#)

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While the focus of this strategy is early intervention and prevention, the Safer Sutton Community Safety Partnership remains committed to swift, visible justice for those who commit serious violence offences and exploit others into doing so. There are currently several ongoing high-visibility operations led by London Metropolitan Police that contribute to the reduction of serious violence across the borough. These police-led operations are complemented by other enforcement activities (utilising antisocial behaviour and licensing legislation) undertaken by Sutton Council's Community Safety, Compliance and Enforcement Services. In addition, Community and Voluntary sector partners commissioned by Sutton Council conduct disrupt and divert work through their outreach engagements.

**3.6.1. Safe from Crime and its Consequences (Safe in Ourselves)**

4.3.1.1	Support the Basic Command Unit (BCU) policing structure and work with colleagues in Croydon and Bromley to ensure community safety across the BCU.
4.3.1.2	Support the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Unit to respond to ASB and to work with victims and offenders.
4.3.1.3	Use the MPS DIVERT programme to support referrals from police custody to local providers to support education, employment and training.
4.3.1.4	Use the MPS DIVERT programme to support referrals from police custody to local providers to support education, employment and training.
4.3.1.5	Support an improved criminal justice response to all forms of serious violence.
4.3.1.6	Ensure the effective management of DVA offenders.
4.3.1.7	Identify and manage high harm offenders.

Our overall aim for Sutton is to make it one of the most difficult boroughs in London in which to commit crime or behave antisocially. By focusing our attention and resources on the most vulnerable and priority issues in the borough, we believe that we can over time reduce the repeat offending and victimisation locally. We will maintain tactical oversight of the Reducing Reoffending agenda and will support the reunification of probation services. Will we support any initiatives increasing access to restorative justice and we will continue to prioritise local and London priority neighbourhood crimes.

## 8. Violence and Vulnerability Action Plan

The Violence and Vulnerability Action Plan aligns to the three priority themes

partnership has agreed a range of activities to reduce the risks of violence and vulnerability, in support of the strategic objectives agreed across London. These are set out within a Violence and Vulnerability Reduction Action Plan. This plan contains information for which disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

The plan contains seven different themes each with a set of mandatory actions as well as a menu of optional actions. The themes within the local plan are:

- 3.7. **Governance**- this provides an oversight of the leadership and governance of violence reduction locally, detailing the senior leadership structure as well as interoperability between Community Safety Partnership, Safeguarding Children Partnership, Adults Safeguarding Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board, to support a public health approach to reduce violence
- 3.8. **Analysis and Enforcement**- understanding of how analysis and local enforcement tactics are used to disrupt violence locally, including the Strategic Needs Assessment, monthly tasking meetings and using wider public health data
- 3.9. **Reducing Access to Weapons**- how partners are working jointly to minimise access including using Trading Standard initiatives and weapons sweeps
- 3.10. **Safeguarding and Educating Young people**- contains actions that include focussing on reducing exclusions, contextual safeguarding, support for children in care and care leavers, working with parents and carers and ensuring schools are safe and inclusive spaces
- 3.11. **Working with Communities and Neighbourhoods to Reduce Violence**- ensuring that local delivery works closely with communities to reduce violence including the Voluntary and Community Sector and in particular young people, who are most adversely affected by violence
- 3.12. **Supporting Victims of Violence and Vulnerability**- ensuring co-ordinated referral and support to victims and those who are most vulnerable to being exploited
- 3.13. **Positive Diversion from Violence**- recognising that children and young people should be offered interventions which help them before or to move away from criminality



**LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON - SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGY 2024-26**

As the serious violence definition includes domestic abuse and sexual violence, activity is also being undertaken in support of this through a range of actions, this has included modifying existing actions to encompass this (where relevant) as well as including a new section of actions listed below.

The domestic abuse and sexual violence specific actions are:

- To ensure strong referral pathways from statutory services into local and pan-London specialist support services, including 'by and for' provision for all victims of domestic abuse and sexual offences.
- To ensure all victims and perpetrators can access the support they need- including information on how they can access this support and where they can find more information. This might include the consideration of cross-borough reciprocal agreements.
- Coordinate an appropriate local awareness training offer for key professionals coming in to contact with survivors and/or perpetrators- such as health, education, social care and justice- which is refreshed annually.
- Local Authority departments such as children's social care, housing, adults social care and community safety, to ensure policies are in place regarding working with perpetrators of domestic abuse and sexual offences when safeguarding children and the non-abusive parent.

## **9. Engagement**

Local communities, the voluntary and community sector (VCS), local businesses and young people have an important role to play in violence reduction. Our local violence and vulnerability action plan contains a range of activity that involves communities and neighbourhoods, working alongside Safer Sutton Partnership and the MET Police to reduce violence. Over the last 12 months in the lead up to the development of this Serious Violence strategy there have been a variety of partnership consultation activities:

- The MET Police attended the School Council Youth Forum where young people from across a range of local area secondary schools raised their concerns around risks in the local area and requested a better focus on ongoing communication by the police with young people that was accessible and meaningful. This resulted in the coproduction of a termly newsletter for young people focused on safety in the borough.
- During Child Exploitation Awareness Week, a range of engagement activities were undertaken with young people and the local community to increase awareness of the risks of child exploitation. This included a survey completed with young people to better understand their perceptions/views regarding their safety.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON - SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGY 2024-26**

- Young Commissioners meet every 2 weeks, except during the holiday periods. Their consultative input has shaped the Sutton LSCP Children & YP Engagement and Participation Subgroup Delivery Plan. Safety is one of four priorities within this plan. Under the safety priority, there are 3 key actions:
  - Improved communication with the police and a greater police presence in the High Street. More resources to support schools tackling the dangers of social media would help aid student's welfare
  - More awareness and support needed from local NHS groups about the dangers of vaping and its long-term health effects upon young people in schools (e.g via assemblies, workshops or lessons).
  - Encouraging students to take a more critical approach to their PSHE learning to develop diverse opinion amongst students and giving young people a secure and age-appropriate education in RSE.

A breakdown of Young Commissioners' engagement activities to support the development of the strategy is provided below:

<b>BREAKDOWN OF ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN 2023</b>		
	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
	Sutton Youth Board meeting	Key findings from engagement activities, including Joint School Councils' meetings, discussed.
		Child Exploitation survey discussed.
		Personal experiences and insights into various safety concerns facing young people in the community shared.
		Participants able to understand the diverse perspectives and challenges faced by their peers
		A series of valuable recommendations for professionals working with young people in Sutton and key agencies, to address identified safety concerns
	Annual Youth Summit attended by over 80 young people	Attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with organisations such as the Sutton Metropolitan Police Service Youth Engagement & Diversion Team, Sutton Women's Centre, Stop Hate UK, Gloves Not Gunz, Time Out Youth Project, Sutton

## LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON - SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGY 2024-26

		Council, People Arise Now, Kooth UK, Cranston Here4YOUth, Sutton Community Works, Volunteer Centre Sutton, Carshalton College, ASK Amazing Apprenticeships, Sutton Carers Centre, Sutton School Nursing team, Sutton Family Hubs and Sutton Healthwatch.
		A more connected and empowered community, providing a platform for the youth to interact, learn, and thrive.
	Police newsletter	Key messages of personal safety, from the perspectives of young people, shared through the local police newsletter.
	School Council meetings	Safety concerns discussed within local schools
	LSCP Board	Findings from the engagement with young people shared, and three themes put forward for the LSCP to support which included priorities for: "Inclusive Communities"

Safer Sutton Partnership Board including membership from Community Safety Sub Groups and Local Safer Neighborhood Boards will continue to consult and include communities and the VCS in violence reduction locally over the next 12 months.

Safer Sutton Partnership commissioned the Innovation Unit to co-develop community-led responses to serious violence in the borough. This 12 month project which commenced in October 2023 invites Sutton's community and residents, organisations, businesses and faith groups to work together to build strong partnerships for community cohesion and violence prevention. The project, which is still in phase 1, has three key objectives:

Key objectives for building community cohesion and violence prevention	
1	To increase community engagement and capacity-building initiatives
2	Empowering the community to lead long-term, sustainable solutions
3	To reduce serious youth violence incidents and promote community safety.

Phase 1 has focused on mapping community resources. The next phase commencing from Jan 24 will focus on engagement with the local community to:

- Understand perceptions of safety

**LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON - SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGY 2024-26**

- Develop collective mechanisms to prevent violence
- Mediate and resolve conflict at the neighbourhood level through the training up of Community Connectors/Volunteers.

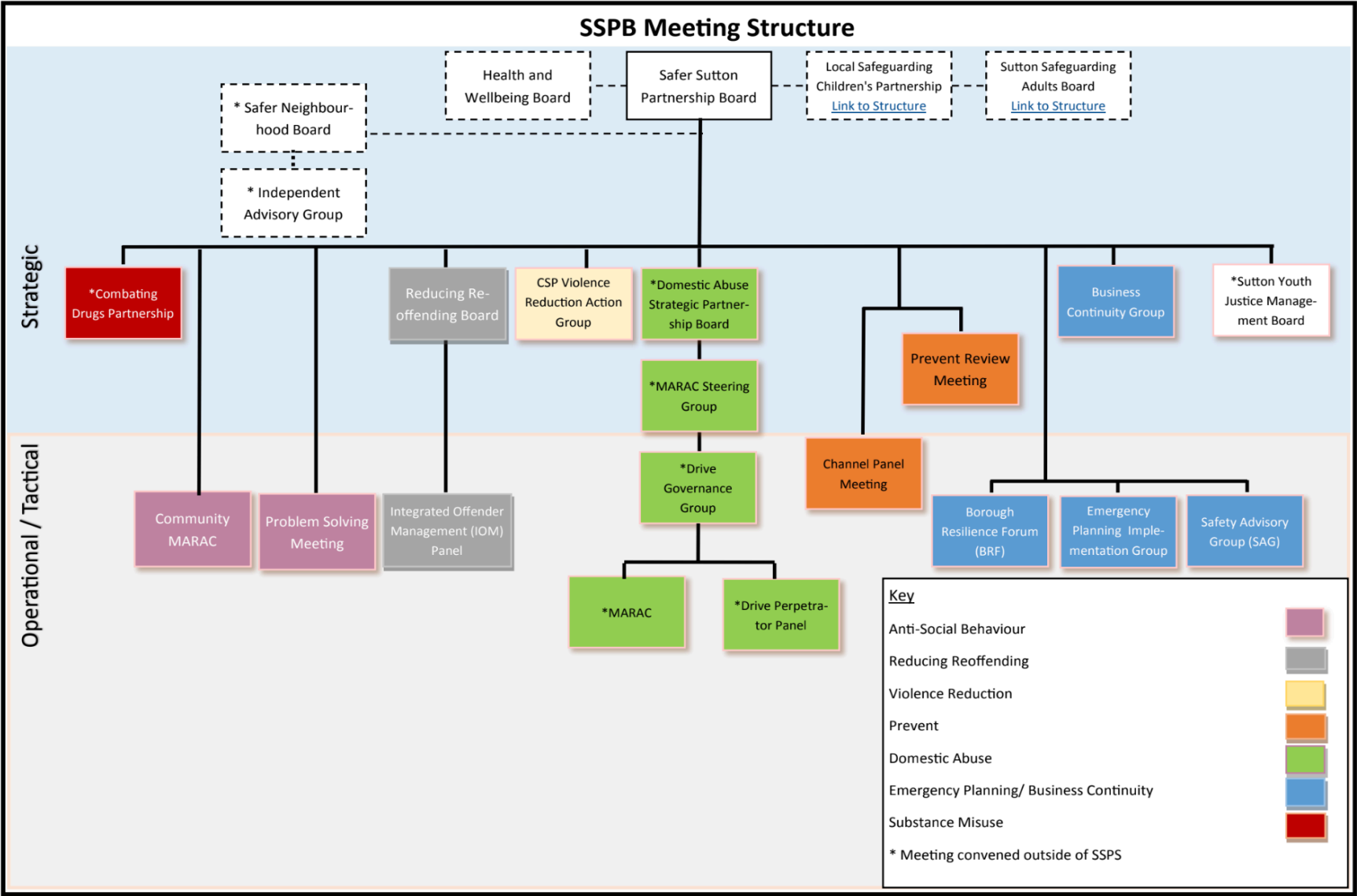
**10. Identified funding streams or resources**

<b>Name and source of fund</b>	<b>Amount per annum</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Description of activities</b>
VRU	TBC	To reduce serious youth violence incidents and promote community safety:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop grassroots and community-led responses to prevent serious youth violence;</li> <li>• Understand local tensions and be able to better respond to critical incidents and reduce tensions- including young people and communities in helping to shape/lead the service.</li> </ul>
		Empowers the community to lead to long-term, sustainable solutions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute towards effectively addressing the root causes of violence in the community;</li> <li>• Deliver community-led services in a way that empowers the community and leads to long-term, sustainable solutions.</li> </ul>
		To increase community engagement and capacity-building initiatives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver community engagement activities to understand local tensions and respond to critical incidents;</li> <li>• Deliver a training and development programme for community champions and develop information/intelligence sharing appropriate to all partners to address critical incidents;</li> <li>• Also, empower communities to share critical information with the police and other authorities to prevent serious violence within their communities.</li> </ul>
LCPF	TBC	To work with young people on a weekly sessional basis out in the community in various known locations of concern and those areas identified as service priorities, using a detached youth work approach to engagement.	
Public Health	TBC	Support members of the public and those most vulnerable in known “hotspot” locations. Signposting, offering guidance, reassurance and intervening to divert possible escalating situations	
MOPAC	TBC	Turnaround Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve positive outcomes for children with the ultimate aim of preventing them going on to offend;</li> <li>• Build on work already done to ensure all children on the cusp of the youth justice</li> </ul>

## LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON - SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY STRATEGY 2024-26

			<p>system are consistently offered a needs assessment and the opportunity for support;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the socio-emotional, mental health and wellbeing of children; and</li> <li>• Improve the integration and partnership working between YOTs and other statutory services to support children.</li> </ul>
MOPAC	TBC	Engage Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth workers see all under 18s detained in local custody suite;</li> <li>• Utilising “teachable moments” to engage and divert young people from YJS at earliest opportunity;</li> <li>• Youth workers to use restorative practice and solution focused theory;</li> <li>• Identify risk factors and offer appropriate targeted interventions;</li> <li>• Signpost parents/carers to interventions and support within the community</li> </ul>

Appendix 1 - Overview of community safety partnership arrangement




## Appendix 2 - Overview of Sutton Local Child Safety Governance

Local Authority, SWL ICS and Police led	Local Authority led		Public Health led	SWL ICS led
Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Partnership	Sutton Safer Partnership Board	Children's First Contact Service Governance Board	Joint Health and Wellbeing Board	SWL Integrated Care Board
Sutton Safeguarding Adult Board	Sutton Youth Justice Management Board	Education Leadership Group Meeting	Children's Delivery Board	Sutton Integrated Care Partnership Board
	Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership Board	SEND Strategic Partnership	Sutton Suicide Prevention Partnership	SWL Children and Young People System Board Meeting
	Corporate Parenting Forum	Strategic Attendance Steering Group		CYP Mental Health Partnership

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<b>Report Title</b>	Update on National NHS Changes: Commissioning of Health Services		
<b>Committee</b>	Scrutiny Committee		
<b>Date</b>	24 September 2025		
<b>Chair</b>	Councillor Edward Joyce		
<b>Report From</b>	Richard Simpson, Strategic Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer		
<b>Report Author</b>	Fern Barber, Head of Policy, Insights & Communities		
<b>Wards Affected</b>	All Wards		
<b>Ambitious for Sutton priorities</b>	Campaign for quality local services		
<b>Open/Exempt</b>	Open		
<b>Signed</b>		<b>Date</b>	5 September 2025

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 Sutton's Scrutiny Committee is formally established to undertake the council's statutory scrutiny responsibilities. This includes the scrutiny of health services, to ensure that the people of Sutton benefit from good quality health provision.
- 1.2 In undertaking the Council's statutory scrutiny responsibilities, Sutton's Scrutiny Committee provides constructive challenge to public sector partners which is key to delivering the Council's ambitions as set out in the Corporate Plan; campaigning for quality local services.
- 1.3 The Council is continuing to work closely with local health partners to ensure the best possible health services for the community. This includes ensuring that all of the issues which impact on residents' use of healthcare, including access, transport and the consequences for employment, the local economy and wider public services are addressed through any plans to change or improve services within the borough. A strong local partnership with the NHS is crucial to the continued delivery of these ambitions.

- 1.4 On 1 April 2025, NHS England wrote to ICB and NHS provider leaders outlining the NHS 2025/26 core priorities and laying the foundations for national NHS reform. The South West London (SWL) Integrated Care Board (ICB) is therefore facing rapid major change and transformation.
- 1.5 NHS England has worked with ICB leaders across the country to co-produce a draft 'Model ICB Blueprint' that clarifies the future role and purpose of ICBs, recognising the need to build strong strategic commissioning skills to improve population health and reduce inequalities, and focus on the delivery of the three strategic shifts set out in the NHS ten year plan; sickness to prevention, hospital to community, analogue to digital.
- 1.6 Under this new model ICB's will become strategic commissioning bodies focused on core functions such as population health management and strategic planning and purchasing, whilst some of their wider functions will be transferred to other bodies or organisations.
- 1.7 Appendix A provides the committee with an overview of the proposed changes.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 To note the update report,

## **3. Background and Key Information**

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising matters relating to local health services, and considering proposals to vary health provision in the borough. The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 enable a local authority to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in its area and to be consulted on any substantial reconfiguration proposals of a relevant NHS body or a relevant health service provider.
- 3.2 In practical terms for Sutton this means that the Council has the power to scrutinise matters relating to the health of the authority's population and can make recommendations to health bodies or other relevant authorities.
- 3.3 The Council considers the proposed changes to health functions set out in this report to be substantial and, to date, has not been consulted on the proposed changes in any formal way. The Council would welcome more clarity on the planned arrangements for consultation and engagement with local authorities about the proposed changes to ensure that The Council, as a key local partner, can feed into any consultation and highlight key challenges and risks that may impact on residents or Council services.
- 3.4 In mid-March the Government announced significant changes to the NHS including the abolition of NHS England and the refocusing of Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) as

‘strategic commissioners’; with a 50% reduction in staffing, running and programme costs to be completed and implemented by quarter three of 2025/26.

3.5 The rationale set out for these changes is to provide greater alignment and accountability at the centre, to place the NHS on a more sustainable financial footing and to help ensure delivery of the 10 Year Health Plan; and in particular the three strategic shifts set out within the plan:-

- hospital to community
- analogue to digital
- sickness to prevention

An executive summary of the NHS 10 Year Health Plan can be viewed here;  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-year-health-plan-for-england-fit-for-the-future/fit-for-the-future-10-year-health-plan-for-england-executive-summary>

3.6 This is a period of rapid and turbulent change for the NHS, which presents a number of key challenges and risks for The Council as a local delivery partner. These include;

- **Uncertainty**; there is a lack of clarity and specificity within the NHS 10 year plan, as well as the Model ICB Blueprint, about how and when things will be delivered and what functions will be transferred, to whom and by when. This uncertainty is generating risks and making it increasingly difficult to sustain strong partnership working at a local level.
- **Local impact of budget reductions**; the proposals for Sutton ICB to reduce costs by 58% will likely result in a significant number of job losses, which will impact on local service delivery and partnership working in Sutton. In the short term, uncertainty about the timing and process of redundancies is having an impact on joint work and local charities and community organisations are being affected by contract reductions.
- **Joint funding**; there are a number of areas where budgets and funding are jointly managed or coordinated across The Council and ICB (for example, the Better Care Fund and Continuing Health Care contributions). A lack of specificity about the future of these arrangements, including where certain functions may transfer to, and the role of the local authority, makes forward planning more challenging at a time when the Council is facing significant budget pressures in relation to Adult Social Care, Children’s Social Care and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- **Property ownership and estates**; the current proposals indicate that ICBs will transfer responsibilities relating to estates and property, which could present a number of challenges to The Council when it comes to local issues such as planning, assets strategy and joint service delivery from local buildings.
- **Delivery of neighbourhood health services**; whilst The Council welcomes the intention set out in the NHS 10 year plan to move from a hospital-centric model to

the development of Neighbourhood Health Services, this will not be achieved without significant investment in prevention and primary care and there is a lack of detail about how this ambition will be delivered and the local authorities should play, for example, how will current ICB functions be delegated to a place/neighbourhood level and what level of autonomy will this involve?

3.7 In summary, the scale of proposed changes and lack of clarity about where specific roles and responsibilities will sit under the new model is a significant challenge for both the local authority and health partners to manage, and comes at a time when both The Council and the NHS are under pressure to manage business as usual, for example around adult social care demand and working together to support timely hospital discharge.

3.8 Despite the risks and challenges set out above, there could also be some opportunities for The Council under the future model, including a focus on place-based leadership and more multi-agency working at a local neighbourhood level by building on the integrated neighbourhood team (INT) model.

3.9 SWL ICB have no plans to merge or cluster with other ICBs at this stage but will need to undertake more functions in conjunction with other ICBs on a 'once for London' basis and potentially deliver some functions in partnership with neighbouring ICBs.

#### 4. Appendices and Background Documents

Appendix letter	Title
A	National NHS Changes: the new Model ICB

#### Background Documents

Date of Expiry	Background Document
N/A	N/A

**Partner update for ICBs** *(OSCs. HWBBds etc)*

# **National NHS Changes: the new Model ICB**

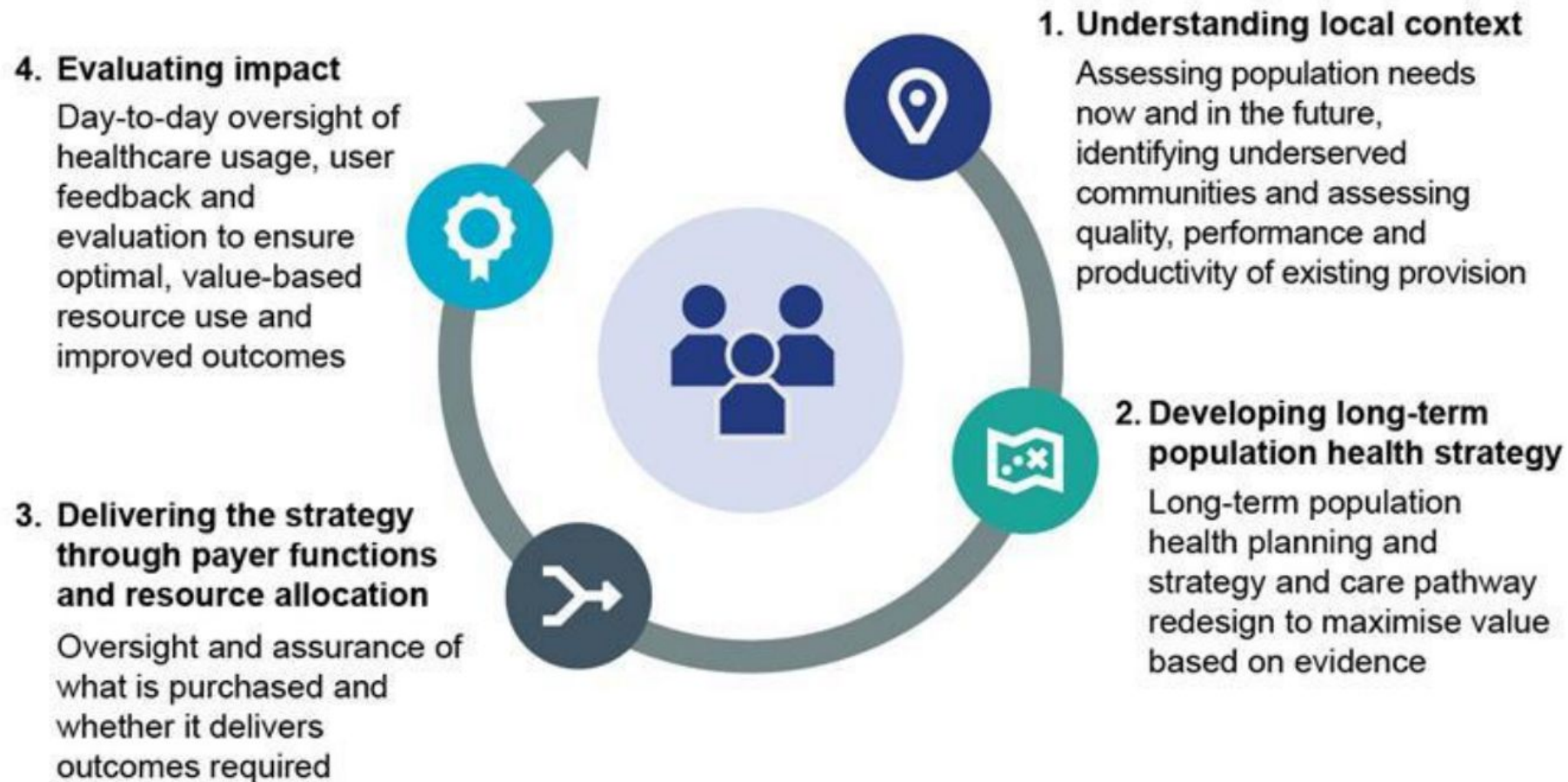
August 2025

# What's happened to date

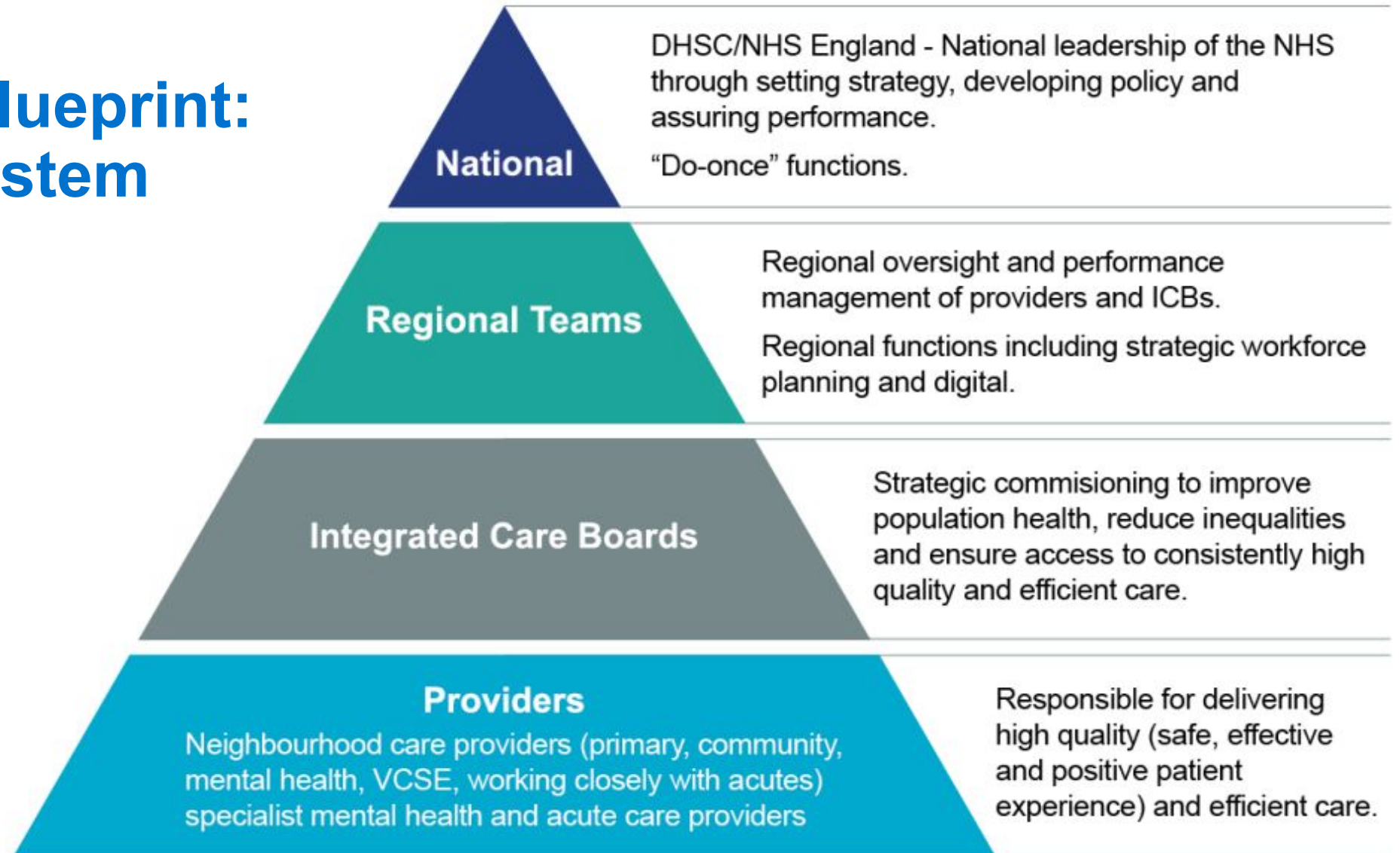
- On 1 April 2025, NHS England wrote to ICB and NHS provider leaders outlining the NHS 2025/26 core priorities and laying the foundations for national NHS reform.
- Delivering these core priorities will require a leaner and simpler way of working.
- NHS England has worked with ICBs leaders across the country to co-produce a draft 'Model ICB Blueprint' that clarifies the role and purpose of ICBs, recognising the need to build strong strategic commissioning skills to improve population health and reduce inequalities, and focus on the delivery of the three strategic shifts – sickness to prevention, hospital to community, analogue to digital.
- In March 2025, ICBs were asked to reduce their running costs by around 50% and shift to a new role as strategic commissioners.
- Some ICB functions currently managed by ICBs may move to local providers, regional teams or national bodies. These changes aim to improve how care is organised locally. Transfers will need to be well planned and carefully managed, with clear oversight to protect patient care.
- To meet the new financial allocation, we must reduce our ICB in total by c.58%.
- Reducing costs by this amount will be a challenge, but it's important we move quickly, as ICBs have a critical role in the delivery of the 10 Year Health Plan.

# Model ICB Blueprint: core ICB functions

## Model ICB - System leadership for improved population health



# Model ICB Blueprint: refreshed system landscape





# Moving into the Model ICB: functional changes

To support the development of the future state, functions ICBs currently provide and have grouped into the following headlines:

- **Grow:** Functions for the ICBs to grow/invest in over time to deliver against the purpose and objectives e.g. population health intelligence, strategic planning
- **Selectively retain and adapt:** Functions for ICBs to retain and adapt including by delivering at scale e.g. core organisational functions such as HR, internal communications, corporate governance
- **Transfer:** Functions for ICBs to transfer over time e.g. system control centres, research and development, estates and infrastructure, oversight of provider performance

It is recognised the detail and implementation will depend on multiple factors, including the parallel development of provider and regional models, readiness to transfer and receive across different parts of the system and in some cases legislative change.

# ICB functional changes from the 'Model ICB document'

Grow

- **Population health management** – data and analytics, predictive modelling, risk stratification, understanding inequalities
- **Epidemiological capability** to understand the causes, management and prevention of illness
- **Strategy and strategic planning** including care pathway redesign
- **Health inequalities and inclusion expertise** – capacity and capability to routinely disaggregate population and performance data to surface health inequalities, generate actionable insights, drive evidence informed interventions and build intelligence to guide future commissioning and resource allocation decisions
- **Commissioning neighbourhood health**
- **Commissioning of clinical risk management and intervention programmes** (working with neighbourhood health teams to ensure proactive case finding)
- **Commissioning end-to-end pathways** (including those delegated by NHS E: specialised services; primary medical, pharmacy, ophthalmic and dental services (POD); general practice, and further services that will be delegated by NHS England to ICBs over time) Vaccinations and screening will be delegated by NHS England to ICBs in April 2026
- **Core payer functions** – strategic purchasing, contracting, payment mechanisms, resource allocation, market shaping and management, utilisation management
- **Evaluation methodologies and evidence synthesis using qualitative and quantitative data**, feedback and insights
- **User involvement**, user led design, deliberative dialogue methodologies
- **Strategic partnerships to improve population health** (public health, local partners, VCSE, academia, innovation)

Review for transfer

- **Quality management** – understanding drivers of improved health, range of health outcome measures, elements of high-quality care (safety, effectiveness, user experience); child death reviews
- **Board governance**
- **Clinical governance**
- **Corporate governance** (including data protection, information governance, legal services)
- **Core organisational operations** (HR, communications, internal finance, internal audit, procurement, complaints, PALs)
- **Existing commissioning functions**, including clinical policy and effectiveness – local funding decisions (individual funding requests; clinical policy implementation)
- **Oversight of provider performance** under the NHS performance assessment framework (finance, quality, operational performance)
- **Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response** (EPRR) and system coordination centre
- **High level strategic workforce planning, development, education and training**
- **Local workforce development and training** including recruitment and retention
- **Research development and innovation**
- **Green plan and sustainability**
- **Digital and technology leadership and transformation**
- **Data collection, management and processing**
- **Infection prevention and control**
- **Safeguarding**
- **SEND**
- **Development of neighbourhood and place-based partnerships**
- **Primary care operations and transformation** (including primary care, medicines management, estates and workforce support)
- **Medicines optimisation**
- **Pathway and service development programmes**
- **NHS Continuing Healthcare**
- **Estates and infrastructure strategy**
- **General Practice IT**

# NHS Changes 2025 – other national changes

## NHS 10 Year Health Plan

- The NHS 10 Year Health Plan has been published, which sets out priorities for the years ahead and how through the 'three shifts' – from hospital to community, from analogue to digital, and from sickness to prevention
- It also confirms the future role of Integrated Care Boards as strategic commissioners of local health services, including neighbourhood health services, with a focus on population health outcomes and financial sustainability. As our role as integrated care boards evolves, we will continue to work through what this means locally.
- A key part of this future is the development of a Neighbourhood Health Service, delivering more care where people live.
- In London, The Target Operating Model for London for Integrated Neighbourhood Health, published in May 2025, sets out how neighbourhood health will work in practice.

## Review of patient safety across the health and care landscape

- Separately, Dr Penny Dash, Chair of NHS England, has published a review of patient safety in England. It looks at the organisations involved in improving safety, and recommends ways to simplify the system, aligning with the 10 Year Health Plan. It proposes changes to some national bodies that support the patient voice, including Healthwatch. Here in South West London, we remain committed to working with residents, voluntary organisations, and partners to ensure the voice of our citizens continues to shape how services are planned and delivered.

# Next steps

- Based on our current understanding, the indicative next steps are:
  - A more detailed planning phase to determine the future of existing ICB functions in line with our budgets and the national model.
  - We are now subject to national sign-off before starting formal staff consultation. This means we expect consultation to take place slightly later than planned. We will confirm timings as soon as possible.
  - We will keep partners updated as national decisions are made and our plans develop.
- We will do everything we can to support our staff and partners through what we know will be a challenging time.
- We remain committed to working collaboratively with our partners to tackle health inequalities and to achieve better health outcomes for all.
- We are proud of what we have achieved as an ICB to date, we plan to build on this and adapt the way we work to continue to deliver for local people as we move forward.