



Sutton Community Safety Partnership Needs Assessment 2020-21

London Borough of Sutton

Safer Sutton Partnership

Title & Version	Sutton Community Safety Partnership Needs Assessment 2020/21
Relevant to	Sutton Community Safety Partnership, LBS and Wider Stakeholders
Summary / Purpose	An analysis of crime and disorder issues adversely affecting residents of Sutton, and will be used to inform the development of the Community Safety Strategy 2020/23
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Date Range	All data covers the period between 01.12.2018 - 30.11.2019, unless otherwise stated
Date Authored	January - March 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **Violence Reduction** should be a key focus for Sutton, including Violence with Injury (VWI), Knife Crime and Serious Youth Violence.
 - Total Violence Against the Person has seen a consistent increase over the past 5 years, where the number of offences has nearly doubled since 2014/15.
 - Violent crime has a detrimental impact on its victims, and the drivers of violence are varied and multi-faceted that requires a multi-agency approach.
- The current MOPAC Police and Crime Plan Priorities (**Domestic Violence and Abuse** and **Hate Crime**), as well as Sutton local priorities (**Residential Burglary, Non-Domestic Abuse VWI** and **Anti-Social Behaviour**) continue to be high volume and high risk.
 - There has been a year on year increase across Domestic Violence, Hate Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Residential Burglary since 2014/15, and a considerable increase in the number of reported offences across all priority crime types compared to 2015.
 - All priority crime types are high impact crimes which are adversely affecting victims' social environment and sense of security.
- Sutton currently has the **3rd lowest volume** of recorded crime and the **2nd lowest rate** of 32 London boroughs, with 67.4 crimes committed per 1,000 population.
- Total Notifiable Offences (TNO) increase of **+16%**, higher than London average of **+10%**. Out of 32 London Boroughs, 30 experienced an increase in TNO compared to the previous 12 months.
- An increase of **29%** in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) calls to Police in Sutton, with an average of **12 ASB** calls per day. Suttons ASB rate ranked **4th lowest** of 32 London boroughs.
 - There has been a consistent increase in the number of ASB calls to Police over the past five years, and Sutton had the second highest percentage increase in number of calls across 32 London boroughs compared to last year's levels.
- Sutton has experienced an increase of **+25%** in hate crime reports in the 12 months to December 2019. London as a whole has seen an average increase of **+15%**.
 - Sutton currently has the **7th lowest rate** with 1.5 hate crime offences reported per 1,000 population, compared to the London average of 2.6.
 - Although numbers are still relatively low, there has been a substantial increase in the reporting of both sexual orientation hate crimes and disability hate crime in the past year.
- Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury has increased by **10%**, compared to the average across London boroughs where the number of offences has stayed the same. DA VWI constitutes 35% of all reported violence with injury offences.
- Similarly, non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury has increased by **9%**, compared to an average London increase of **+2%**.

- There have been 121 victims of Serious Youth Violence (SYV) in Sutton in the 12 months to December 2019, which represents an increase of **+6%** to the previous 12 months. London has seen an average increase of **+13%** during the same period.
- Residential burglary continues to rise in Sutton, with an increase of **+19%** in the 12 months to December 2019, compared to a London average increase of **+1%**.
- Other challenges include:
 - Effectively responding to theft offences and business crime, such as Theft from Person (**+27%**) and Shoplift (**+23%**).
 - Theft from Motor Vehicle (**+35%**) and catalytic converter theft specifically.
 - Continue to tackle vulnerability by addressing the needs of vulnerable victims and offenders, including Domestic Abuse, Youth Violence and Exploitation.
 - Improving confidence levels and public perception of safety.
- High Street Sutton contributes to **9%** of all crime in Sutton.
- The main crime hotspots have remained the same as that of previous years, mainly along **High Street** Sutton Central, **London Road** in Nonsuch, **Wrythe Lane** in St Helier, **Green Wrythe Lane** in The Wrythe, and **Woodcote Road** in Wallington North.
- There were an average of **1.2** victims per crime in Sutton in 2018/19, with most crimes only having a single victim.
- Repeat victimisation was at **16%**, individuals were victimised on average **2 times** in 12 months.
- Community Safety Survey findings suggest **Burglary**, **Theft of/from Motor Vehicle** and **Anti-Social Behaviour** are Sutton residents' top community safety priorities.
- The Community Safety Survey highlighted less visible policing as a contributing factor to a decrease in residents' perceptions of safety.

1. CONTEXT

1.1 Background

The CSP Needs Assessment is an annual statutory requirement of all Community Safety Partnerships in England and Wales, as stated in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of a needs assessment of crime and disorder is to help decision makers set the strategic priorities for the future. It should also be used to support future commissioning processes, including the commissioning of intelligence products and more detailed problem profiles (e.g. for agreed priorities and where there are key information gaps), to gain a better understanding of crime, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, victims and offenders.

1.3 Methodology and Data Sources

This assessment includes an analysis of the level and patterns of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and offending in the London Borough of Sutton.

It utilises a range of data from appropriate sources as detailed through the document. Multi-agency data used includes Metropolitan Police, Probation Services, Public Health England, London Fire Brigade, London Ambulance Service, Crime Survey for England and Wales, and Sutton Community Safety Survey.

Data referred to relating to specific aspects of crime will often be taken directly from the Metropolitan Police Crime Recording Information System (CRIS). These figures are live, and extracted through purpose built 'queries'. Totals can change as crimes are re-classified from one type of offence to another, hence some data will give an indication of true events, however, may not add up to totals shown if scrutinised to this degree.

Analysis included a range of techniques, such as hotspot and thematic mapping, creation of indices which highlight disproportionality. Unlike some assessments, the purpose has not been to provide detailed analysis of each and every crime problem in Sutton, rather its purpose is to be used as a tool for strategic decision makers. The information provided is a measure of the problem utilising various analytical techniques.

A socio-economic and demographic profile of Sutton is available [here](#).

1.4 Responsible Authorities

The following partners are the statutory responsible authorities charged with coordinating community safety through the Community Safety Partnership (CSP):

- [Metropolitan Police Service](#)
- [Local Authority](#)
- [London Fire Brigade](#)
- [National Probation Service](#)
- [London Community Rehabilitation Company](#)
- [Public Health](#)
- [Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime](#)

See Appendix A for more information on the strategic priorities of the responsible authorities.

1.5 MOPAC pan-London and Local Priorities

The Mayor of London has published the [Police and Crime Plan for London \(2017-2021\)](#), which sets out the priorities for the safety of London:

- A better police service for London
- A better Criminal Justice Service for London
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls
- Standing together against hatred and intolerance

MOPAC 2019-20 Local Priorities for Sutton

- High harm crimes: Sexual Violence, Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation, Weapon Based Crime, Hate Crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Residential Burglary
- Non-Domestic Violence with Injury

2. COMMUNITY SAFETY PROFILE

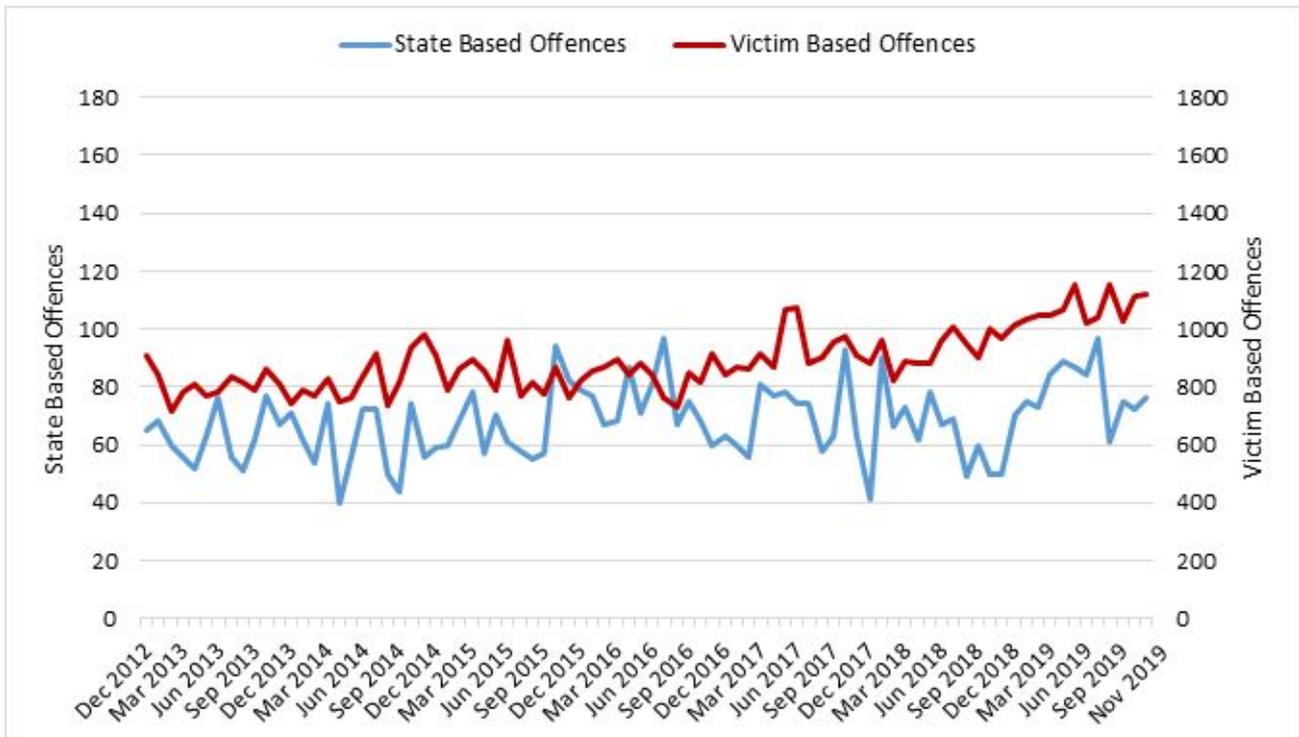
The Borough’s approach to community safety is coordinated through the Safer Sutton Partnership. This is a highly effective partnership between the Council and Police which since its establishment in 2005 has delivered excellent outcomes. Headline performance results for 2004/05 – 2018/19 include:

- Total crime down by 26% - 4,397 fewer crimes per year
- Theft of motor vehicle down by 50%
- Theft from motor vehicle down by 37%
- Burglary down by 12%
- Cash efficiencies of £1,404,000 from 2006/07 to 2017/18

Total notifiable offences recorded by the Metropolitan Police in Sutton have increased by 27% over the past five years (2,920 more offences) and by 16% over the past 12 months (1,930 more offences). The average increase across 32 London boroughs was 10% during the same time period.

Sutton remains, however, one of the safest boroughs across London and currently ranks as having the third lowest number of recorded crime across London for total number of offences committed, and has the second lowest rate of 32 London boroughs, with 67.4 crimes committed per 1,000 population, compared to the London average of 102 crimes.

The below chart shows the trend in recorded victim based crimes and state based crimes, which is crimes without an identifiable individual victim i.e. possession of cannabis or offensive weapon, since December 2012. Victim based crimes during this time have averaged at 800 – 900 per month. The increases and decreases of both victim and state based crimes can be influenced by several factors such as increased focus on certain crime types, seasonality, willingness to report and improved recording practices.



2.1 Crime and ASB Overview Table

	2017/18	2018/19	Change 2017/18 - 2018/19		Direction of Travel
Violence with Injury (VWI)	1312	1431	119	9%	↑
DA VWI	461	506	45	10%	↑
Non-DA VWI Offs	851	925	74	9%	↑
Serious Youth Violence	114	121	7	6%	↑
Knife Crime Offs	168	154	-14	-8%	↓
Knife Crime Injury Victims Not DA 1-24	7	9	2	29%	↑
Gun Crime Offs	50	25	-25	-50%	↓
Gun Crime Lethal Barrelled Discharges	2	0	-2	-100%	↓
Total Violence Against the Person	3541	4210	669	19%	↑
Total Hate Crime	289	359	70	24%	↑
Total DA	1576	1906	330	21%	↑
Rape	134	92	-42	-31%	↓
Total Sexual Offences	317	279	-38	-12%	↓
Personal Robbery	282	260	-22	-8%	↓
Total Robbery	315	304	-11	-3%	↓
Burglary - Business and Communitiy	217	225	8	4%	↑
Burglary - Residential	969	1150	181	19%	↑
Total Burglary	1186	1375	189	16%	↑
Theft from MV	993	1338	345	35%	↑
Theft or Taking of MV	376	424	48	13%	↑
Theft of Mobile Phones	59	70	11	19%	↑
Shoplift	781	962	181	23%	↑
Theft from Person	177	225	48	27%	↑
Total Drug Offences	1159	1218	59	5%	↑
Total Criminal Damage Offences	341	551	210	62%	↑
TNO (Total Notifiable Offences)	11938	13868	1930	16%	↑

2.2 Community Safety Survey Results

In December 2019 and January 2020, the Community Safety Team ran a Community Safety Survey across Sutton, where the purpose was to ask residents their views about community safety issues such as crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour amongst other local issues, to help identify their highest priorities at present. Of the 336 residents surveyed, the following findings emerged:

Public Perception of Crime and ASB

- 79% of respondents feel like Police presence/visibility has decreased in the past 12 months.
- 85% perceive Crime to have increased in the past 12 months.
- 80% perceive ASB to have increased in the past 12 months.

What makes residents feel SAFE?

In terms of what would make residents feel safe in the borough, 35% of respondents say police presence and regular patrols would increase their perception of safety. 24% say that neighbourhood watch and a close-knit community looking out for each other makes them feel safe, and 17% mention that well-lit streets, alleyways and parks encourage feelings of safety.

What makes residents feel UNSAFE?

More than 1 in 4 of respondents (27%) say the recent spate of burglaries makes them feel unsafe in the borough. This feeling of unsafe is exacerbated by the perceived lack of police presence (22%) and groups of youths (16%).

Other issues that residents feel are affecting their perceptions of safety were local knowledge of anti-social behaviour, drugs, youth ASB and violent crime such as robbery, serious youth violence, and assault. Dangerous driving was also mentioned as an issue of concern to residents. Environmental concerns that make residents feel unsafe include poor lighting in alleyways and parks across Sutton, as well as fly-tipping, graffiti and vandalism.

Top issues of concern

Issues of concern to residents in their local areas related to burglary, anti-social behaviour, lack of visible policing and visible drug use. This was relatively evenly distributed throughout the borough.

When asking residents their top three community safety issues currently, the below issues were most frequently mentioned;

1. **Burglary**
2. **Theft of/from Motor Vehicle**
3. **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Top location of concern

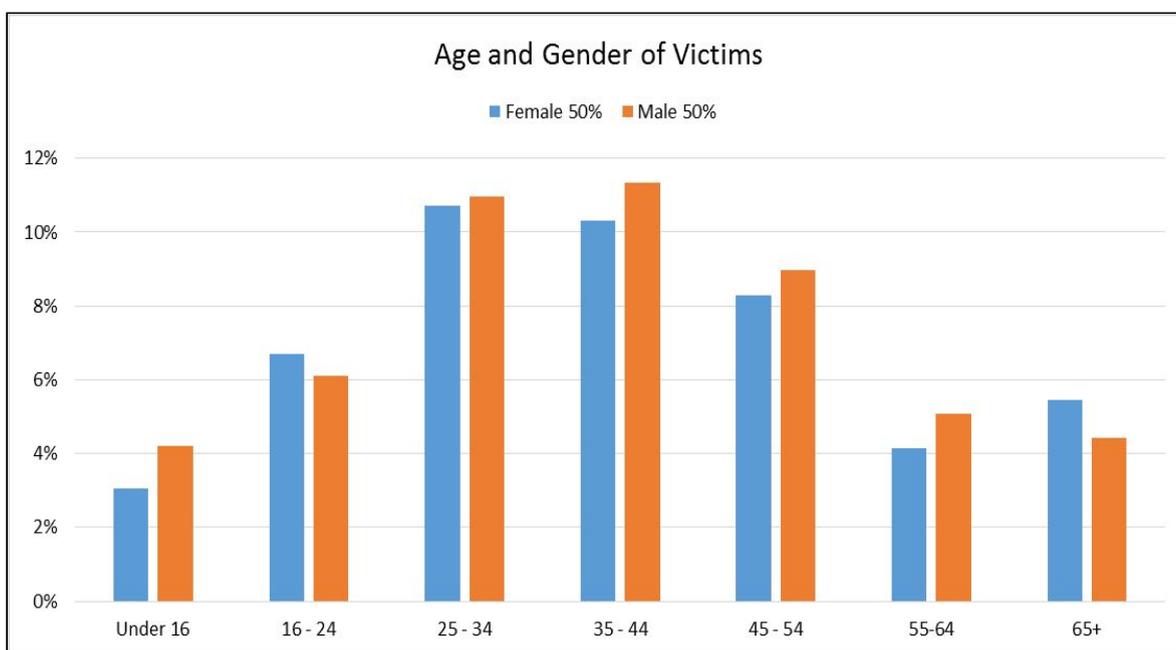
Majority of respondents felt that crime has increased all over Sutton, specifically in residential areas, which correlates with the top community safety issues currently. For specific locations, top three currently were;

1. **Sutton High Street**
2. **Sutton Town Centre**
3. **Cheam/Carshalton**

Other mentions were given to town centres/high streets and shopping areas across the borough, transport hubs and unlit parks.

2.3 Victim demographics

- Approximately 11,600 victims of crime in Sutton over the 12 months to December 2019.
- An average of 1.2 victims per crime, with most crimes having a single victim.
- 5% of all victims were also suspected of committing a crime in 2018/19.
- The two largest age groups of victims were between 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 year olds, together forming 44% of all victims.
- The third largest age group were 45 to 54, with 17% of all victims.
- The most common ethnicity of victims is White European, forming 45% of all victims. Victims from BAME backgrounds formed 19% and the remaining 37% were unknown.
- The age and ethnicity of victims is consistent with the demographics of the borough.



2.3.1 Repeat Victims

- As of November 2019, Sutton had the 4th lowest volume of repeat victims across London, with 281 victims of crime in November having also been a victim in the previous 12 months.
- This represents 16% of all victims, which mirrors that of the London average of 16%.
- On average, repeat victims in Sutton had been victimised approximately 2 times in 12 months.

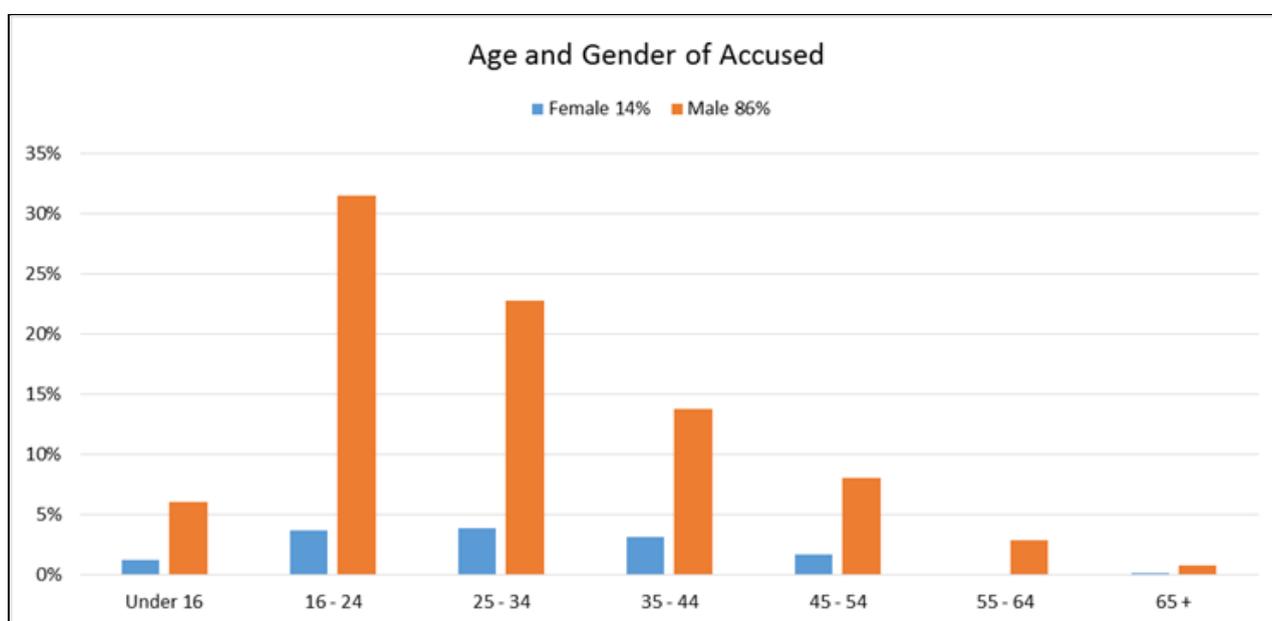
2.4 Suspect/Accused demographics

Suspects

- Approximately 5,000 suspects shown on crime reports across Sutton over the 12 months to December 2019. Of those, 11% were repeat suspects within the year.
- 14% of all suspects were also identified as the victim of a crime in 2018/19.
- A significant number of crimes had no known suspect or suspect descriptions, either due to no suspect being seen or identified, or due to victims being unwilling or unable to provide statements.

Accused

- Approximately 1,400 individuals were accused of a crime in the 12 months to December 2019.
- Of all 1,400 accused, 151 reoffended within the year, with a reoffending rate of 10%
- More than 8 of 10 (86%) of accused were male, with only 14% described as female.
- The largest age group for accused individuals were those aged between 16 to 24, forming 35% of all accused, followed by 25 to 34 year olds (23%).
- Males aged 17 or under formed 14% of all those accused, most of which were aged between 14 and 17.
- The most common ethnicity of those accused was White European, forming 69% of all accused.
- This was followed by BAME backgrounds, forming 31% of all accused, which is proportionate to the demographics of the borough. The remaining 1% were unknown.



3. VOLUME CRIME

3.1 Total Notifiable Offences

Borough	London Rank	Rate per 1000 pop 2018/19
Richmond upon Thames	1	64.9
Sutton	2	67.4
Harrow	3	68.5
Merton	4	69.9
Bexley	5	72.8
Havering	6	74.1
Kingston upon Thames	7	74.4
Bromley	8	75.0
Redbridge	9	78.7
Barnet	10	79.7
Wandsworth	11	80.2
Waltham Forest	12	86.7
Croydon	13	86.7
Hillingdon	14	88.9
Enfield	15	90.1
Ealing	16	90.8
Brent	17	91.0
Barking & Dagenham	18	93.5
Lewisham	19	95.3
Hounslow	20	98.2
Greenwich	21	101.0
Newham	22	102.7
Lambeth	23	110.3
Tower Hamlets	24	111.8
Haringey	25	117.9
Hackney	26	123.1
Southwark	27	124.7
Islington	28	127.5
Hammersmith & Fulham	29	129.5
Camden	30	154.2
Kensington & Chelsea	31	158.8
Westminster	32	332.5
London Total		102.0

Total notifiable offences refers to all recorded crime in the Borough, with 13,872 crimes committed in the 12 months to December 2019.

Overall crime in Sutton has increased by 16% in the 12 months to December 2019, compared to a London wide average increase of 9%.

Sutton currently ranks 3rd lowest volume of recorded crime and second lowest rate of 32 London boroughs, with 67.4 crimes committed per 1,000 population, compared to the London average of 102 crimes.

Violence against the Person and Theft/Handling accounted for 67% of all crimes committed within the 12 months to December 2019.

High Street Sutton contributes to 9% of all crime in Sutton.

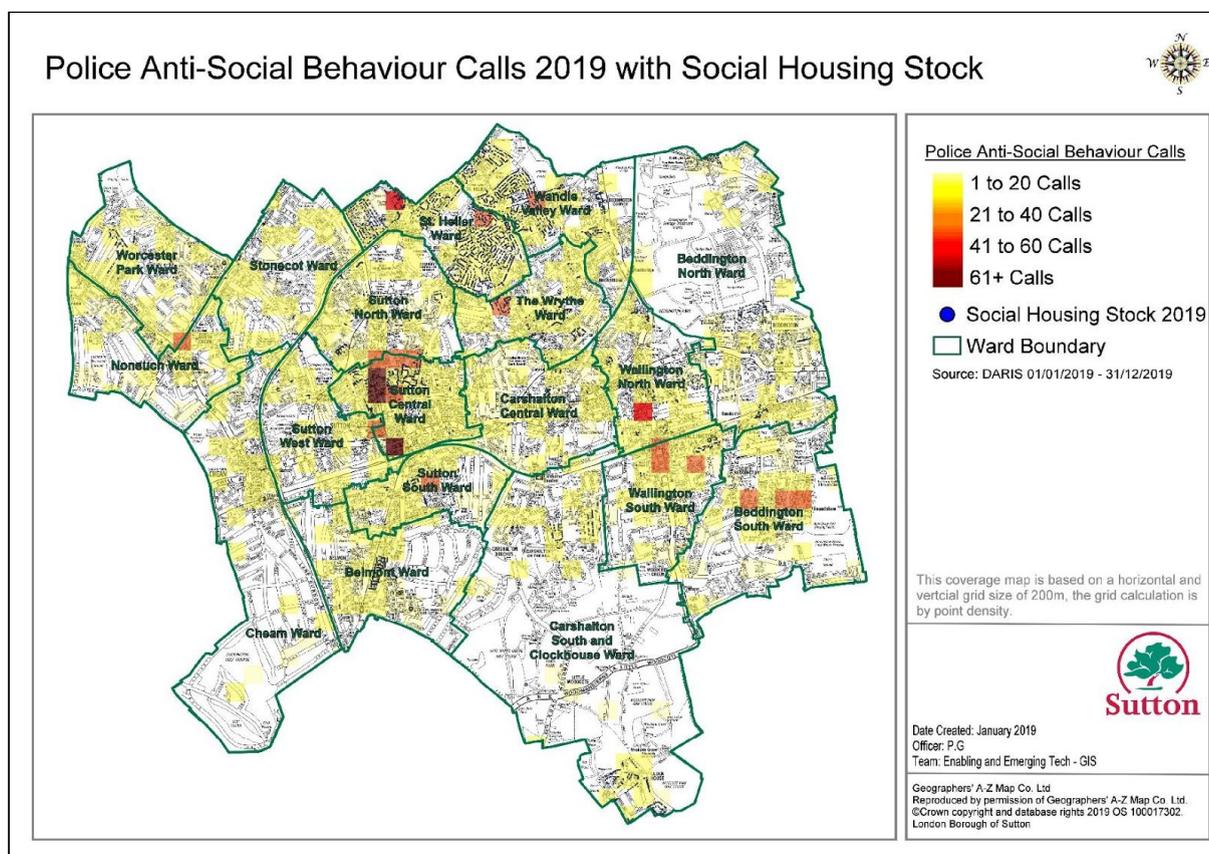
The main crime hotspots have remained the same as that of previous years, mainly along **High Street** Sutton Central, **London Road** in Nonesuch, **Wrythe Lane** in St Helier, **Green Wrythe Lane** in The Wrythe, and **Woodcote Road** in Wallington North.

Sutton currently has the lowest level of crimes directed towards businesses¹ across London, with 30% of all crimes being committed against a business in the 12 months to December 2019. This is similar to that of the previous year, however, there has been an increase of approximately 7% in the number of crimes committed, correlating with the increase in TNO across the borough.

¹ "Any criminal offence that is committed against a person or property which is associated by the connection of that person or property to a business" NBCF, MPS and NRCSG definition

3.2 Anti-Social Behaviour

- Sutton currently stands as having the 4th lowest levels of ASB calls to Police compared to all other London boroughs in the 12 months to December 2019.
- A total of 4,481 ASB calls were made to Police during this period, an increase of 29% compared to the previous year.
- All London boroughs experienced an increase in the number of ASB calls made to police, with an overall increase in ASB calls of 13% across London during the same period.
- An average of 12 ASB calls were made to Police per day, which is lower than the London average of 23.
- In the 12 months to December 2019, Sutton had an ASB rate of 21.8 calls per 1,000 population, which is lower than the London average of 30.3, where Sutton's ASB rate ranked 7th lowest of 32 London boroughs.
- Of all ASB calls made to police, over 80% were classified as nuisance calls, where anti-social behaviour is seen to cause trouble and annoyance to the community at large.
- **St Helier and Sutton Central** remain the main focus of ASB calls.
- High volumes of ASB within Sutton reflect areas of high footfall, including shopping areas and transport hubs (area around **Woodcote Road, Sutton High Street, and Sutton Train Station**).
- ASB hotspots also include housing estates and areas with higher concentration of social housing.



3.3 Burglary (Residential)

Borough	London Rank	Rate per 1000 pop 2018/19
Kingston upon Thames	1	4.5
Newham	2	4.7
Havering	3	5.2
Waltham Forest	4	5.5
Sutton	5	5.6
Bexley	6	5.6
Barking & Dagenham	7	5.7
Redbridge	8	5.8
Croydon	9	5.9
Richmond upon Thames	10	5.9
Hounslow	11	6.1
Ealing	12	6.4
Brent	13	6.4
Wandsworth	14	6.5
Bromley	15	6.6
Merton	16	6.6
Greenwich	17	6.7
Tower Hamlets	18	6.9
Harrow	19	6.9
Southwark	20	7.1
Lewisham	21	7.2
Hammersmith & Fulham	22	7.2
Lambeth	23	7.3
Camden	24	7.3
Hillingdon	25	7.4
Barnet	26	7.4
Islington	27	7.9
Enfield	28	8.1
Haringey	29	8.2
Westminster	30	8.2
Kensington & Chelsea	31	8.8
Hackney	32	9.1
London		5.9

In the 12 months to December 2019, Sutton had the 2nd lowest levels of residential burglary across London.

There has been a consistent increase in the number of residential burglaries reported over the past 5 years in Sutton, with a total of 1150 reported offences in 2018/19. This is an increase of 19% to the previous year, compared to the London average of 1% increase.

Of 32 London boroughs, 15 boroughs had an increase in the number of reported residential burglaries in 2018/19 compared to the previous year.

Sutton is currently ranked 5th lowest of 32 London boroughs, with a rate of 5.6 residential burglaries committed per 1,000 population, which is lower than the London average of 6.7.

The **hotspot for residential burglary continues to be Cheam**, which experienced the highest volume of residential burglary in the 12 months to December 2019, as well as the highest rate per 1,000 population (9.8).

Belmont emerges as the ward with a higher occurrence of residential burglary in the past year than what would be expected based on yearly average.

3.4 Theft of/from Motor Vehicle

- In the 12 months to December 2019, Sutton had the 5th lowest level of Theft from Motor Vehicle (TFMV) and 2nd lowest levels of Theft of Motor Vehicle (TOMV) of 32 London boroughs.
- There has been a consistent increase in both crime types over the past five years.
- A total of 1339 TFMV offences were committed in 2018/19, which is an increase of 35% to the previous year, compared to an average London increase of 23%. Similarly, a total of 427 TOMV offences were committed during this period, which is an increase of 14% to the previous year, whereas a London average of 0%.
- Sutton is currently ranked 5th lowest for TFMV with 6.5 offences per 1,000 population and 3rd lowest for TOMV with a rate of 2.0 offences per 1,000 population.
- **Catalytic converter thefts** have increased dramatically over the past two years, where the number of reported thefts has gone from under 50 offences in 2017/18 to 186 in 2018/19.
- **Belmont** emerges as the ward with the highest percentage increase in number of offences compared to the previous year for both TOMV and TFMV. This correlates with the number of residential burglaries also experienced in this ward over the past 12 months.
- **St Helier** and **Wandle Valley** had an unusually high occurrence of TFMV in the past 12 months than what would be expected based on yearly average over the past five years.
- TO/FMV were found to be one of residents' top community safety priorities in the Community Safety Survey 2019/20.

	Theft of Motor Vehicle				Theft From Motor Vehicle			
	2017/18	2018/19	% Change	Rate per 1000	2017/18	2018/19	% Change	Rate per 1000
Sutton	376	427	14%	2.07	993	1339	35%	6.50
Kingston	343	237	-31%	1.34	782	982	26%	5.56
Merton	569	510	-10%	2.44	1089	1226	13%	5.87
Croydon	1120	1124	0%	2.89	2474	3141	27%	8.08
London	30717	30825	0%	3.40	65140	79035	23%	8.94

4. VIOLENCE

4.1 Domestic Abuse Violence With Injury

Borough	London Rank	Rate per 10,000 pop 2018/19
Richmond upon Thames	1	15.1
Kingston upon Thames	2	19.8
Barnet	3	20.7
Camden	4	21.1
Harrow	5	21.3
Wandsworth	6	21.4
Redbridge	7	21.5
Bromley	8	22.2
Kensington & Chelsea	9	23.1
Merton	10	23.4
Sutton	11	24.5
Ealing	12	24.5
Hillingdon	13	24.6
Westminster	14	25.0
Waltham Forest	15	26.0
Havering	16	26.1
Bexley	17	26.1
Hammersmith & Fulham	18	26.9
Brent	19	27.4
Hackney	20	27.8
Newham	21	27.9
Islington	22	27.9
Lambeth	23	28.5
Tower Hamlets	24	29.2
Enfield	25	29.5
Hounslow	26	31.5
Croydon	27	31.9
Southwark	28	33.0
Haringey	29	33.2
Greenwich	30	33.6
Lewisham	31	35.1
Barking & Dagenham	32	37.1
London		26.5

Domestic Abuse VWI has increased by 9% in the 12 months to December 2019, compared to a London wide average increase of +1%. Similarly, our neighbouring borough Kingston had an increase of 5%, whereas Merton had a decrease of 6% and Croydon had no change in the number of reported DVA VWI offences reported.

Compared to the 2011/12 baseline, there has been a 34% increase in the number of DA VWI offences reported in Sutton.

Sutton currently ranks at 11th lowest across London with a rate of 24.5 offences committed per 10,000 population, which is marginally lower than that of the London average of 26.5.

Hotspot locations centre around residential areas in **St Helier, Wandle Valley and South Beddington** wards.

DA VWI constitutes 35% of all reported violence with injury offences.

4.2 Non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury

Borough	London Rank	Rate per 1000 pop 2018/19
Richmond upon Thames	1	3.0
Barnet	2	3.8
Harrow	3	4.2
Merton	4	4.2
Bromley	5	4.4
Sutton	6	4.5
Havering	7	4.7
Waltham Forest	8	4.8
Redbridge	9	4.9
Kingston upon Thames	10	5.0
Bexley	11	5.0
Wandsworth	12	5.0
Enfield	13	5.3
Hillingdon	14	5.6
Croydon	15	5.9
Ealing	16	6.0
Hounslow	17	6.1
Newham	18	6.3
Brent	19	6.4
Barking & Dagenham	20	6.4
Lewisham	21	6.6
Greenwich	22	6.6
Tower Hamlets	23	6.6
Haringey	24	6.7
Camden	25	7.0
Kensington & Chelsea	26	7.0
Islington	27	7.2
Southwark	28	7.2
Hackney	29	7.8
Lambeth	30	7.9
Hammersmith & Fulham	31	8.0
Westminster	32	13.8
London		6.1

Non-Domestic Abuse Violence With Injury (Non-DA VWI) offences have increased by 9% in the 12 months to December 2019, compared to the London average increase of 2%. Similarly, our neighbouring boroughs Merton and Croydon had an increase of 6% and 3% respectively, whereas Kingston had no change in the number of Non-DA VWI offences reported.

Compared to the 2011/12 baseline, there has been a 26% increase in the number of Non-DA VWI offences committed in Sutton.

Hotspot locations continue to be locations known for their criminogenic nature such as **High Street Sutton, Transport Hubs** (Sutton and Carshalton), **Woodcote Road** and **Wallington Square**.

Sutton currently ranks as 6th lowest across London with 4.5 offences committed per 1,000 population, which is lower than the London average of 6.1. For comparison, Sutton performs better than Kingston (5.0) and Croydon (5.9).

Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV) continues to support monitoring of trends in violence locally by capturing attendance of St Helier hospital Emergency Department (ED) due to assault. There has been an increase in assault related arrivals in the last year due to improvements in recording by the ED.

Assault hotspot locations identified through ED are overall consistent with the locations identified through MPS assault data (Sutton Central and Carshalton), however, as location recording continues to improve it may be possible to ascertain specific locations that would benefit from targeted violence reduction approach.

4.2 Serious Youth Violence

Borough	London Rank	Rate per 10,000 pop 2018/19
Harrow	1	5.2
Sutton	2	5.9
Wandsworth	3	6.0
Bromley	4	6.2
Bexley	5	6.2
Barnet	6	6.6
Merton	7	7.2
Hillingdon	8	7.3
Richmond upon Thames	9	7.7
Kingston upon Thames	10	7.8
Redbridge	11	8.1
Waltham Forest	12	8.1
Ealing	13	8.4
Havering	14	8.5
Brent	15	8.6
Tower Hamlets	16	8.9
Kensington & Chelsea	17	9.1
Croydon	18	9.1
Lambeth	19	9.3
Hounslow	20	9.4
Greenwich	21	9.6
Newham	22	10.1
Islington	23	10.2
Camden	24	10.6
Lewisham	25	10.7
Hackney	26	11.2
Southwark	27	11.6
Hammersmith & Fulham	28	12.4
Enfield	29	14.0
Haringey	30	14.4
Barking & Dagenham	31	14.4
Westminster	32	21.9
London		9.5

There have been 121 victims of Serious Youth Violence (SYV) in Sutton in the 12 months to December 2019. This represents an increase of 6% compared to the previous 12 months, compared to a London average increase of +13%.

SYV in Sutton consists of a combination of assault and personal robbery with victims aged 10 to 19.

Although there has been an increase in SYV since the previous year, there has been a 22% reduction in the number of SYV victims in Sutton since 2015/16, when there was a peak in the number of young victims recorded.

The temporal pattern of SYV offending correlates with that of school times, with a peak in offending between 2pm and 7pm.

The Integrated Youth Service (IYS) is a newly formed service integrating the existing partnership of the Targeted Youth Support and Youth Offending Team.

Sutton youth services were successful in securing MOPAC funding to provide a 'Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)' project which is coordinated by IYS. The project will be providing a specialist worker to act as a single point of contact to assist with young people's needs, where the focus will be to support young offenders and reduce violent recidivism, supporting young people back into EET and addressing the drug related drivers of violence.

See [here](#) for more information and updates from IYS.

4.3 Knife Crime

Borough	London Rank	Rate per 10,000 pop 2018/19
Bromley	1	7.4
Sutton	2	7.5
Bexley	3	7.5
Kingston upon Thames	4	8.9
Richmond upon Thames	5	9.6
Harrow	6	10.3
Havering	7	11.2
Merton	8	11.7
Wandsworth	9	11.8
Barnet	10	12.4
Redbridge	11	12.5
Hillingdon	12	12.6
Waltham Forest	13	13.2
Croydon	14	13.7
Hounslow	15	14.3
Greenwich	16	15.4
Ealing	17	15.4
Lambeth	18	18.0
Brent	19	18.2
Tower Hamlets	20	19.0
Lewisham	21	19.1
Newham	22	20.7
Barking & Dagenham	23	22.0
Enfield	24	22.5
Hammersmith & Fulham	25	22.7
Camden	26	22.8
Islington	27	23.1
Kensington & Chelsea	28	23.5
Southwark	29	24.4
Hackney	30	25.2
Haringey	31	35.8
Westminster	32	46.4
London		17.5

In the 12 months to December 2019, three were 154 knife crime offences reported in Sutton. This represents a decrease of 8% compared to the previous 12 months. London had an average increase of 8% for the same period.

Although this is an increase to the yearly average of 137 offences since 2011/12, there number of reported offences has remained relatively stable over the past two years, with no significant upturn in the number of knife related offences committed.

Sutton currently has the lowest volume of offences, and the 2nd lowest rate with 7.5 offences committed per 10,000 population, compared to the London average of 17.5.

Knife crime in Sutton continues to mostly consist of a combination of personal robbery and assault with injury.

The majority of victims of knife crime in Sutton are male, over 18 years of age and of White European ethnicity. Compared to the yearly average over the past 5 years, the number of knife crime with injury victims under the age of 25 has decreased substantially in Sutton, going from a high of 26 victims in 2014/15 to 9 victims in 2018/19.

The majority of suspects of knife crime continue to be male and over 18 years of age. A large proportion of suspects (48%) were identified as being from a BAME background, which is disproportionate to the Sutton demographic profile.

Locations highlighted through predictive mapping of knife crime indicate that locations where knife crime is more likely to occur are consistent with those areas in the borough known to have higher levels of crime.

5. VULNERABILITY

5.1 Domestic Violence and Abuse

Incidents

- In the 12 months to December 2019, 2,972 police crime reports have been flagged as Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA), classified as both Crime and Non-Crime incidents.
- This is an increase of 7% to the previous year, compared to a London wide average increase of 2% for the same period.

Offences

- A total of 1,906 DVA offences was reported to the police, which is an increase of 21% to the previous year, which is higher than that of the average London increase of 6%.
- Sutton currently performs mid-range per 1000 population, ranked 13th lowest across MPS with 9.3 DVA offences committed per 1,000 population.
- Sutton currently has a higher rate compared to our neighbouring boroughs Kingston (8.2) and Merton (9.0), but lower than Croydon (11.3).
- Sanction detection rates for DVA have decreased in Sutton in the past year, which is a similar pattern as seen across London.
- The under-reporting of crime to police is known to be particularly acute for domestic violence and abuse offences, where estimates based on those interviewed in the CSEW during the year ending March 2015 indicate around four in five victims of DVA did not report the abuse to the police.

Repeat DA victim / suspects

- For victims of DVA in the 12 months to December 2019, 12% were repeat victims, compared to a London average of 10%.
- For suspects of DVA in the 12 months to December 2019, 19% were repeat victims, compared to a London average of 15%.

See [here](#) for more information on Sutton's approach to tackling Domestic Abuse and Violence.

5.2 Sexual Violence

- Overall sexual offences in Sutton have decreased by 12% in the 12 months to December 2019, compared to a London average decrease of 2%.
- Sutton currently stands as having the 2nd lowest volume of offences, and the lowest rate of sexual offences committed per 1,000 population.
- Offences are spread across the borough, with more clustering in the central and northern wards.

See [here](#) for Sutton Multi-Agency Domestic Violence and Abuse /Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2015-2018.

5.3 Hate Crime

- There has been a London wide trend of increased reporting of hate crime over the past year.
- Sutton has experienced an increase of 25% in the 12 months to December 2019, going from 289 offences in 2017/18 to 360 in 2018/19, compared to a London average increase of 15%.
- Although Sutton currently has the 4th lowest volume of hate crime offences being reported, it has the 7th highest percentage increase in the number of reported offences over the past year compared to the previous 12 months.
- Sutton currently has the 7th lowest rate with 1.5 hate crime offences reported per 1,000 population, compared to the London average of 2.6.
- There has been an increase in all strands of hate crime in Sutton over the past 12 months, and although numbers are relatively low, there has been a substantial increase in the reporting of both sexual orientation hate crimes and disability hate crime.
- Since 2014 there has been an upward trend in the number of victims of hate crime across London. Similarly, Sutton has seen a similar increase, going from 158 victims in 2014 to 373 in 2019. Sutton currently stands as having the 5th lowest number of hate crime victims across 32 London Boroughs.
- For victims of hate crime over the past year, 18% reported they had been the victim of another crime in the previous 12 months leading up to the offence.
- Compared to the yearly average number of hate crime offences in Sutton since 2011/12 (251), there has been a consistent increase in the number of reported hate crime offences over the past three years. Such increases can be viewed as an increased occurrence of such offences, but could also potentially demonstrate an increase in confidence levels and understanding of hate crime in the community, leading to more offences being reported.

	Sutton 2017/18	Sutton 2018/19	Sutton % Change	London % Change
Hate Crime Offences	289	360	25%	15%
Disability Hate Crime	6	10	67%	17%
Racist Hate Crime	249	306	23%	13%
Religious Hate Crime	26	31	19%	-1%
Transgender Hate Crime	1	3	200%	30%
Sexual Orientation Hate Crime	21	37	76%	25%

6. EXPLOITATION

6.1 Children and Young People

As of 31st March 2019, there were 237 Children Looked After in Sutton, which is consistent with numbers from previous years. Sutton's rate of Children Looked After remains lower than the national average at 49 children per 10,000 of the population aged 0-17, compared to 65 children per 10,000 nationally and 50 children per 10,000 in London. Further, 187 children were the subject of a Child Protection Plan in Sutton as of 31st March 2019, of which the initial and later category of abuse relate to neglect or emotional abuse.

Additionally, of all Children Looked After in Sutton as of 31st March 2019, 44 children had a missing episode during the year, where 30 of the 44 went missing more than once during the year. On average, each Child Looked After had 4.8 missing episodes within the year.

6.1.1 CE/ CSE/ County Lines

According to NCA research on County Lines Violence, Exploitation & Drug Supply from 2017, "the use of missing persons (MISPERS) is a commonly reported feature of county lines activity with many being encountered during police stops and warrant searches... The true correlation between missing persons and county line drug dealing is reported by many forces as an intelligence gap, as it has not yet been fully established or understood".

Sutton is working alongside the Rescue and Response Project, which is a pan London county lines service, put in place as a comprehensive programme of work to better understand, target and respond to county lines. Between June 2018 and August 2019, there were 8 referrals from Sutton to R&R, however, as it is likely this is not a reflection of the true picture. See [here](#) for R&R Strategic Assessment 2019.

Sutton's approach to safeguarding children over the next three years will include 'Early Help and Protection' and the implementation of the Contextual Safeguarding facilitated through the [Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Partnership](#).

6.2 Adults and Elderly

In the 12 months to March 2019, Adult Safeguarding received 3,380 notifications. From these, 24% proceeded to be safeguarding concerns of which 50% required an S42 Enquiry to be carried out.

Since November 2018, Merlins and accident/ incident forms from nursing and supported living providers have stopped being recorded as notifications, and are now screened and only recorded as a concern if they meet the adult safeguarding criteria, whereas previously, all reports suspected as having a safeguarding element were recorded as a notification. If another form of intervention is required, such as a review of a person's needs, then this is carried out without being recorded as a safeguarding notification. This approach has enabled cases to be identified and risk assessed efficiently and the service to react appropriately to need.

The volume of safeguarding concerns recorded has decreased by 36.7%, which is in line with the current changes in the recording of safeguarding data. The highest number of safeguarding concerns is consistently psychological (24%), neglect or omission of care (22%), physical abuse (18%) or financial/material (15%). With the current focus on Hate crime, there is an on-going discussion as to how this information can be incorporated within the new safeguarding referrals framework.

See [here](#) for more information on Adult Safeguarding in Sutton.

6.2.1 Financial Fraud and Abuse

Research suggests that the risk of experiencing financial abuse increases with age, where older people are more at risk of being victimised. Additionally, those who have dementia or reduced cognitive function are the subgroup of people who are most at risk of being victimised compared to any other risk factor. Other risk factors include low levels of social support, needing assistance with daily activities, family problems or being dependent on the abuser. Evidence further indicates that women are twice as likely as men to be the victim of financial abuse.

Over the past few years, Sutton has seen an increase in the number of crimes that can be categorised as financial fraud or abuse, such as courier fraud or doorstep crime such as artifice burglary. It is likely, however, that these types of crimes are under-reported in Sutton. UK estimates suggest that 1-2% of the population age 65 older have experienced or are currently experiencing some form of financial abuse, however, the suspicion remains that the true extent of financial abuse is actually much greater. Based on population estimates, Sutton has a population of people aged 65 or over of about 32,000. According to the above estimates, a minimum of 400 individuals have previously or are currently experiencing financial abuse.

6.3 Online Crime

In the age of information technology, fraud has evolved more dramatically than any other crime, as the rise of online communities and the internet have facilitated a plethora of new opportunities for crime to be committed. New technologies have not only facilitated traditional crimes to be committed online, but created completely new types of crime, such as computer misuse and cyber-dependent crime. Whilst online fraud and cybercrime has become one of the UK's most common offences, cybercrime itself, however, is not considered a crime and is not part of the notifiable offences that are reported within official statistics (CSEW, 2018). The Internet and social media also introduces a range of potential safeguarding risks to vulnerable adults and children.

In Sutton, there is a need to gain a broader understanding of how this is affecting the people in the community and what can be done to raise awareness in regard to reporting crimes occurring online, cyber security and how to stay safe online.

6.3 Prevent

Sutton has a well-established community safety partnership which provides a good platform to effectively deliver the Prevent duty over the next three years. Crime and disorder in Sutton is under the average level, for both London and nationally, making it one of the safest boroughs in London. Extremism and Radicalisation, however, present real risks in today's society. In order to protect those who may be exploited by extremists and their ideology, the London Borough of Sutton must ensure that risks and community tensions are identified, and continue to proactively work to engage individuals at the earliest stage possible through the Channel Process.

Promotion of social inclusion, the counter action and reduction of opportunities for extremists requires strong partnerships with other London boroughs, agencies, interest groups and communities, robust safeguarding processes, the raising of awareness and the building of capability with staff across the Organisation. The Community Safety Partnership will continue to utilise these existing relations and structures within our communities to counter extremism and radicalisation.

See [here](#) for Sutton's Prevent Strategy.

APPENDICES

Appendix A - Responsible Authorities

Metropolitan Police Service

The key priorities for the Metropolitan Police Service in 2018/19 have been outlined in the MPS Police and Crime plan for 2017 – 2021, which can be found [here](#).

London Borough of Sutton

The London Borough of Sutton Corporate Plan Ambitious for Sutton 2018 - 2023 and strategic priorities can be found [here](#).

London Fire Brigade

The Sutton Borough Community Safety Plan outlines how Sutton and Wallington Fire Stations will contribute towards protecting our local communities, responding to emergencies and preventing fires and other incidents. The risks our communities face are set out in the London Safety Plan and the London Fire Brigade Community Safety and Prevention Plan Strategy, which also details how we plan to ensure that your Fire and Rescue Service contributes, in a co-ordinated and meaningful way, towards keeping our communities safe. The document is available to view [here](#). This plan sets out our goals and aspirations over the next 12 months to fully embed the LFB within the local community and provide clear direction to all involved.

The priorities for London Fire Brigade for the next four years are set out in the London Safety Plan 2019 (LSP). As an overview and in supporting the LSP the London Borough of Sutton will:

- Open up our Fire Stations to the community.
- Work with Sutton council to provide improved fire safety awareness to key staff groups.
- Delivery a Community Open Days, based at either Sutton and Wallington fire stations (annually) or attend and take a key role at the St Helier Music and Community festival (annually).
- Work collaboratively with partners and community groups to understand and respond to the community safety needs throughout the Borough.
- Empower local crews to seek out and build powerful community partnerships
- Make Every Contact Count; ensuring that we make every possible use of the contact that we have with vulnerable people in society by way of education and advice and, where appropriate, making referrals to partner agencies
- Engage in outreach recruitment activities within the Borough
- Provide excellent prevention, protection and response functions to our communities and make improvements to these functions aligned to our changing risk profile so as:
 - to keep people safe in their home
 - to keep people safe at work, when in public places and throughout London
 - to keep people safe when they travel

National Probation Service

The National Probation Service (NPS), as part of the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), is a national organisation covering England and Wales. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for NOMS oversees the entire NPS delivery structure.

Until 2014, probation services were run by 35 regional trusts. The work previously done by those trusts has now been split. 21 private sector Community Rehabilitation Companies manage low and

medium-risk offenders, while high-risk cases remain in NPS care. The divisions cover London, Midlands, North East, North West, South East, South West and South Central and NOMS in Wales.

The National Probation Services' chief purpose is to protect the public, in conjunction with the police, prisons and courts. Their people work directly with offenders to do this, by:

- Tackling the causes of offending.
- Enabling offenders to turn their lives around.
- Rehabilitating offenders back into the community.
- Following the Transforming Rehabilitation reforms, every offender released from custody will receive supervision and rehabilitation in the community. What's more, most will be given continuous support by one provider – from custody into the community – meaning that they receive consistent and more effective management.

London Community Rehabilitation Company

The London CRC works with male and female service users (aged 18 and above) to ensure they complete their probation period, and have the right support to make positive life changes and break the cycle of reoffending. We provide a variety of services, interventions and accredited programmes to help service users understand their behaviours, develop a prosocial identity and make positive changes to reintegrate into their community. London CRC also works closely with partner agencies across the statutory and voluntary sectors to safeguard vulnerable adults, children and victims of crime, and to meet the needs of our service users.

London CRC's overall aims are to deliver the sentence of the court; to reduce reoffending; and to protect the public.

London CRC's strategic priorities for the coming year include: supporting service users to desist from crime through encouraging a prosocial identity shift; collaborating with partner agencies to manage and address offending in the community and to safeguard individuals; also to work towards reunification with the NPS (scheduled to take place in summer 2021).

See [here](#) for more information.

Public Health England

Public Health England exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities. PHE is an executive agency, sponsored by the Department of Health.

Appendix 2 - COVID-19

The Covid-19 outbreak in the first quarter of 2020 presents an unprecedented and challenging situation, which has had an impact on the way we live our normal day to day lives. We acknowledge that the situation will have an impact on community safety issues and crime and disorder trends, however, the extent of this impact is not yet known.

The recent paper 'Policing a Pandemic' by Policy Exchange², notes that "The Coronavirus pandemic represents the biggest challenge to UK police since the Second World War", and acknowledges that some aspects of criminal behaviour will increase, but that a lot crimes are likely to decrease due to government induced measures, including social distancing and the closure of, pubs, bars and clubs, which will help to balance crime-related demands. The impact on crime will depend on crime type and the severity of the virus, and although there will be a profound impact on crime and law and order; it will be short term and not of the same severity or complexity as the health service.

This needs assessment is based on "business as usual", however, as the impact of the current situation becomes more clear, priorities may shift to effectively respond to the emergent needs.

² <https://policyexchange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Policing-a-Pandemic.pdf>