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Evaluation of Licensing Act: Measuring Crime and Disorder in and around Licensed Premises, Research Study SRG/05/007 Annex 3: Croydon, prepared for the Home Office

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Evaluation of Licensing Act: Measuring Crime and Disorder in and around Licensed Premises

Research Study SRG/05/007

Final Report Prepared for the Home Office
Annex 3: Croydon

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March 2008

This report was submitted July 2007.

The views expressed in this report are those of the authors, not necessarily those of the Home Office (nor do they reflect Government policy).

Overview

This Annex provides detailed findings of a study into the impact of licensing hours in a single case study area, Croydon. This area is one of five case study areas considered as part of a Home Office funded study to assess the impact of changes in the licensing laws on crime and disorder. The Licensing Act 2003 (LA03), hereafter referred to as the Act, came into effect in November 2005, and this research forms part of a wider evaluation programme of the Act, including a number of larger scale national measures and surveys. This annex is one of five (one for each case study area) and these individual annexes are supported by a final report, a technical annex, and a single additional supplementary annex.

This research examines two time periods, a baseline (April 1st 2003 to 23rd November 2005) and a post implementation period (24th November 2005 to 31st November 2006). It uses a mixture of quantitative and qualitative research methods, to assess the potential impacts of the Act at three scales, the macro level (entire study area), meso level (near to licensed premises) and micro level (at or inside licensed premises). It is argued that this procedure increases the robustness of the findings.

A number of sources of data were examined in the quantitative analysis. The first area investigated is violence against the person, and two sources of data were used for this, police recorded violence against the person crime offences, and ambulance, accident and emergency data (where available) are also utilised. The second area investigated was criminal damage (using police recorded crime data) and the third was sexual offences (again using police recorded crime data). The final area examined in the quantitative analysis was public disorder which utilised police calls for service (disorder only) records.

The quantitative analysis was supplemented by local qualitative fieldwork that involved participant observation of key drinking areas and inside key drinking premises, including semi structured interviews with licensees, door supervisors and bar staff. The observation and interviews occurred both before and after the introduction of the Act.

A more detailed discussions of the methods used in this research can be found in the technical annex.

Summary of Findings

The key findings from the Croydon analysis were:

Violence against the person

With the exception of July and December, for each month of the post implementation period there were reductions in violence against the person compared to the corresponding months in the baseline period. These reductions were greater than 20 per cent during February, June, October and November. Violence against the person was already displaying a downward trend at the time the Act was introduced. There were significant reductions in the second half of the baseline period and both the first and second six months of the post implementation periods (see supplementary annex). There were 93 less serious violence against the person offences post implementation (see supplementary annex).

The distribution of violence against the person offences across times retained a similar pattern in the post implementation period. There has been a reduction in the number of offences of violence against the person in every one hour time period, although the greatest reductions were seen between: 5.00am and 6.00am and 11.00am to midday.

There was some reduction in offences of violence against the person between 1.00am and 1.59 am, most concentrated around the cluster area and from 0-50m from premises

The proportion of Croydon's violence against the person occurring within the cluster area gradually increased in the latter part of the baseline period through to the first quarter of the post implementation period before declining slightly again.

Although there was some turnover of premises in the top 15, in both periods, they accounted for a similar proportion of offences (60%), while a similar proportion of premises (40%) in both periods had no offences recorded against them.

Two thirds of premises in the top 15 applied for extra hours; of these they used on average 48 per cent of the applied for hours. There was a reduction post implementation in terms of violence against the person offences for those using one to five hours, while premises using none or more than six hours increased their share of such offences.

Estimates of the number of hours applied for by all premises found that 23 per cent of premises applied for no additional hours, 50 per cent applied for between one and eight, while 27 per cent applied for nine or more. The share of violence against the person offences in the three categories of premises changed very little between baseline and post implementation.

On average, there were just over twice as many violence against the person offences recorded by the police than ambulance assaults in the baseline period. Weekend violence against the person fell by over ten per cent between the baseline and the post-implementation period. Ambulance assaults also fell (2.5%), but to a lesser extent.

Weekday offences reduced in 9 out of 12 months, and weekend offences by 11 out of 12 months. There were six months when both weekday and weekend violence against the person fell but weekday offences reduced the most (see supplementary annex).

Violence against the person reduced between 11am and 3am both during the week and at weekends, although the magnitude of the change was greatest during the weekend (see supplementary annex).

KDE synthesis maps revealed that in the key drinking areas there are reductions from 9.00pm through to 4.59am, although these are most concentrated between 1.00pm and 2.59am (see supplementary annex).

Criminal damage

Overall levels of criminal damage post implementation and baseline were very similar and the trends during the post implementation period closely reflected the baseline trends, with the same seasonal peaks (summer) and troughs (spring and autumn). The only significant change observed in offences was in the first half of the baseline period (see supplementary annex).

The distribution of offences across time of day follows a similar pattern in the post implementation period as the baseline period and there were no large changes in rates of criminal damage in the hours which would be covered by extended hours (the only two noticeable decreases occurring at 9.00am and 1.00pm).

In six of the 12 months post implementation criminal damage fell during weekdays whilst rising at weekends (see supplementary annex).

Sexual Offences

The number of police recorded sexual offences occurring in Croydon increased slightly in the post implementation period compared to the baseline period, with the largest increases occurring in March and August.

There was considerable fluctuation in the distribution of recorded sexual offences between the baseline and post implementation periods. For example there were sharp increases in the

post implementation period between 10.00am and 11.00am and between 10.00pm and midnight and large decreases between 7.00pm and 8.00pm and between 5.00am and 6.00am. However, too much weight should not be placed on these changes due to the low base rates.

In both the baseline and implementation periods sexual offences peaked over the weekend, however during the post implementation period, there was a considerable increase in offences on Fridays compared to the baseline.

Calls for disorder

The monthly rates of calls for disorder over the post implementation period present a broadly similar pattern to those in the baseline period with a decrease in the number of calls between December and February, followed by an increase through to May, after which the number of calls remained fairly constant. There were significant reductions in the first and second six months in the baseline period for calls for disorder. These reductions were not sustained in the post implementation period (see supplementary annex).

Calls for disorder declined by eight per cent post implementation compared to baseline, and the number of calls was lower for each post implementation month with the exception of September and November.

Disorder at weekends was lower than in the baseline period for 9 of the 12 months in Croydon (see supplementary annex).

Findings from the fieldwork

13 participants took part in the post implementation interviews. Of the 13, six had signed up to Pubwatch.

When asked whether they felt that the levels of night-time violence in their premise had changed since the introduction of the Act, nine (69%) felt that it had not changed, three (23%) felt that it had decreased and none felt that it had increased.

When asked whether they felt that the levels of night-time violence in the town/city had changed since the introduction of the Act, three (23%) felt that it had not changed, one (7%) felt that it had decreased and seven (54%) felt that it had increased.

When asked whether they felt that the levels of drunk and disorderly behaviour had changed since the introduction of the Act, two (15%) felt that it had not changed, none felt that it had decreased and three (23%) felt that it had increased.

When asked whether they felt that the number of violent incidents which they had had to deal with had changed since the introduction of the Act, six (46%) felt that this level had stayed the same, none felt that it had decreased and two (15%) felt that it had increased.

Three of the respondents (23%) felt that the Act had resulted in staggered closing times, four (31%) felt that it had not. Four (31%) of the respondents felt that that extended drinking hours had led to people drinking more responsibly, three (23%) said that it had not.

Six (46%) of respondents felt that the Act was a good policy, four (31%) felt that it was not.

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1. Introduction: profile of case study area

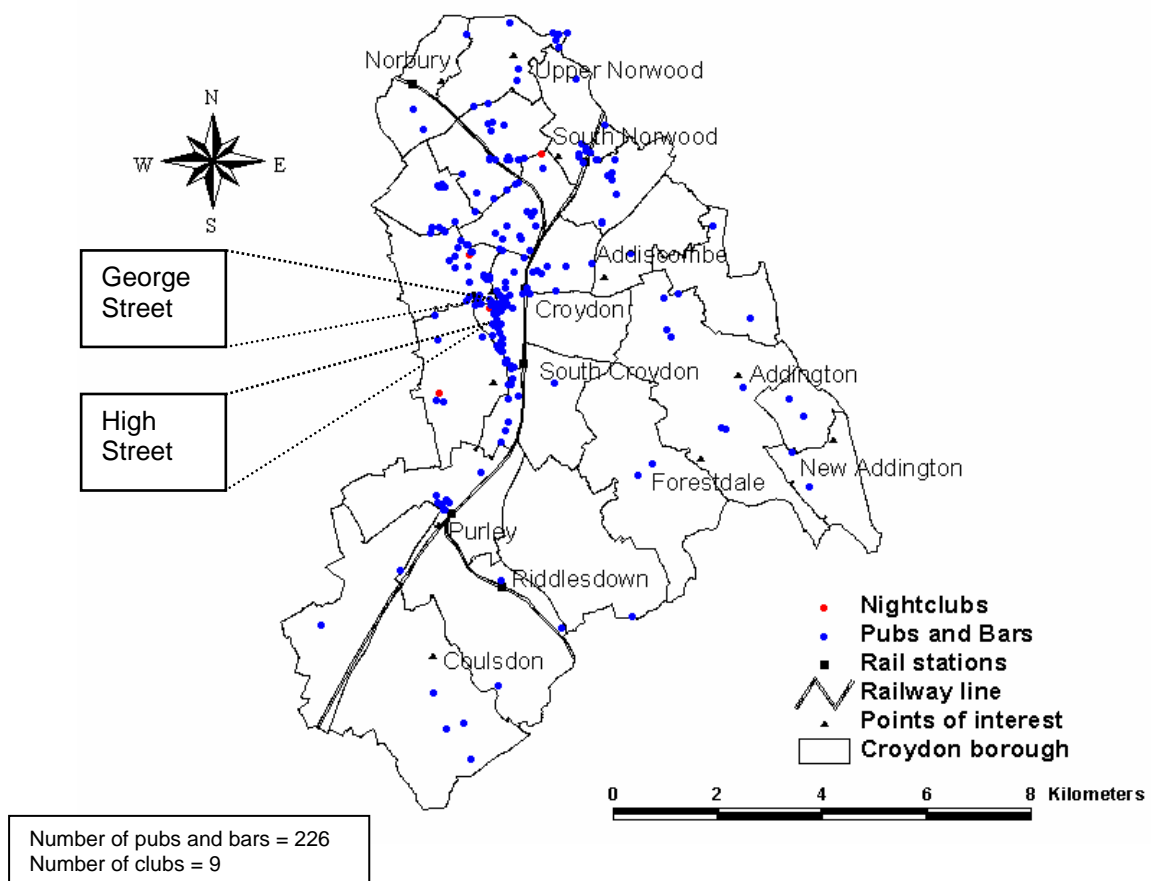
Brief description of profile area

Croydon is a commuter town situated to the south of London. It has excellent transport links to London Bridge and London Victoria stations in which trains and buses run throughout the night (taking on average 10-20 minutes). Trams also link Croydon to other surrounding towns. Both the tram and bus services operate using a pre-paid Oyster top up card. Croydon has a population of over 330,000 residents (The Office for National Statistics, 2005 mid year estimates). Croydon's population is very diverse with a 25 per cent minority ethnic population and a resident workforce of 150,000.

The main drinking area in Croydon is High Street, which contains the majority of drinking venues. High Street is a long, straight road that has a number of bars, clubs and restaurants dotted along it. Other bars and clubs are situated off High Street on adjacent roads. Licensed premises within Croydon have access to a radio system entitled CRAC (Croydon Radio Against Crime). This system links a number of high street shops as well as pubs, bars and nightclubs to the police and to security staff who are situated at the Local Authority's Taberner House. This enables each establishment to maintain contact with the police, to report incidents and to share information regarding potential 'troublemakers'. The locations of pubs, bars and night clubs in Croydon Borough are shown in Figure 1.1. There were 179 pubs and bars and 15 night clubs that were geo-coded and used in this research. Note that these descriptions include fieldworker observations from both the baseline and post implementation periods.

Map of case study area

Figure 1.1 Location of pubs, bars and nightclubs in Croydon



Key drinking areas

The main drinking areas in Croydon are George Street and High Street, the latter containing the majority of the drinking establishments.

High Street is a long straight road, known locally as 'the strip', with a number of bars, clubs and restaurants along it. Other bars and clubs are situated off High Street on adjacent roads. There has been a large decline in the number of drinking establishments within the area over the past four years. This combined with initiatives put into place by the police licensing officer restricting certain types of music ("hardcore reggae" and "R&B") have led to a decline in the numbers of drinkers in the Croydon area at weekends. High Street is a ten-minute walk away from East Croydon train station. This station provides a train service running through the night.

George Street contains more traditional pubs as well as several shops and takeaways. It appeared from the participant observation that many people socialise in the George Street area until 11.00pm before moving to the bars and clubs on High Street.

Observations from the baseline visits revealed that pubs and bars tended to close at 11.00pm, and nightclubs 2.00am. Participant observation revealed that taxi ranks along Katherine Street (next to High Street) utilise a marshalling service which logs the name, destination and registration number of each taxi in an attempt to reduce the number of unlicensed taxis.

The main pressure points appeared to occur along High Street at around 2.00am when large groups and often different types of 'drinking clientele' meet on High street. On Friday and Saturday nights this street and the surrounding area was policed with between 12-15 officers. Door supervisors were frequently observed communicating with other bar managers as well as the police. This communication took place using the Croydon Radio Against Crime (CRAC) radio system.

The visits which took place in November 2005 witnessed a heavy police presence. This was partly due to the Christmas period as well as a murder two months previously of a young woman which made local and national headlines. The visits which took place two months post implementation saw noticeably lower levels of policing.

Observations from the post implementation visits revealed that High Street contained many bars and clubs as well as several restaurants. Although police presence was minimal in the day, there was a clear police presence in this area at night, particularly on weekend nights where police and Community Support Officers were seen patrolling the street and waiting in parked vans. The police style appeared to be fairly tolerant until violence was observed. The police appeared to be particularly tolerant of loud, drunken behaviour. Door staff at a number of the licensed premises were observed using the CRAC system to communicate with one another.

There were some possible under-age drinkers observed in the early evening, but they appeared to have moved away from the High Street by 10.30pm. The key pressure point appeared to be towards the South of the area where there was a reduced police presence. There also appeared to be some concerns over crime and disorder outside the Black Sheep where there was a late night bus stand.

There was one large taxi rank on High Street which, although not marshalled, did not appear to be cause any problems. There were many taxis for waiting clients and no queue was observed to build up throughout the night. Travel in and out of the area was relatively easy with several trains, buses, trams and many taxis being available.

2. Violence against the person

Violence against the person is a diverse crime category including crimes such as murder, wounding and common assault. Analysis of police recorded data and the British Crime Survey (Walker, Kershaw and Nicholas, 2006) has shown that in England and Wales between 2004/05 and 2005/06 most types of violent crime have reduced or remained stable. Police recorded data for England and Wales has shown:

- a decrease of 13 per cent in more serious violence against the person;
- a 4 per cent decrease in more serious wounding;
- a 6 per cent increase in less serious wounding;
- a 14 per cent reduction in common assaults.

However these trends have been distorted by recent changes to police recording practices, particularly in relation to less serious wounding and common assault. The British Crime Survey shows incidents of wounding and common assaults have decreased over the same period.

Violent crimes such as wounding and common assault have been found to display seasonal patterns with peaks in the summer months and troughs in the winter months (Hird and Ruparel, 2007).

The findings of this analysis are supported by additional analysis presented in the supplementary annex which examines violence against the person using statistical tests of change from the baseline to post implementation, serious and other violence against the person, weekend and weekday offences, and synthesis maps of hot spot change by time of day. The results of this are detailed in the supplementary analysis, and also included in the summary findings at the start of this annex, and concluding sections of this annex. The reader is also referred to the final report that summarises the findings of all five case study areas.

Macro level

The following section compares the level of violence against the person offences across Croydon during the post implementation period with baseline levels.

Annual comparisons of offences show a steady decline from year 1 and year 2 in the baseline period (6941 and 6503 respectively) that was continued through to the post implementation period (5821). Monthly analysis revealed that overall levels of violence against the person were lower in the post implementation period compared to the baseline. During the baseline period there was an average of 560 recorded offences of violence against the person per month. This reduced by 13 per cent to an average of 485 offences per month during the post implementation period.

Table 2.1 displays the number of violence against the person offences in Croydon by month and year. The blue shaded area represents the post implementation period. The final column represents the percentage between the baseline and post implementation periods. This has been calculated as the change between the number of offences in each month during the post implementation period, and the average number of offences in the two corresponding months from the two previous years in the baseline period. Table 2.1 reveals that with the exception of July and December, for each month of the post implementation period there were reductions in violence against the person compared to the corresponding months in the baseline period.

Table 2.1 Violence against the person monthly crime counts in Croydon (December 2003 to December 2006)

	Year				Post implementation percentage change (monthly average) ¹
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January		561	566	481	-14.6
February		531	500	412	-20.1
March		550	600	478	-16.9
April		570	606	504	-14.3
May		596	588	520	-12.2
June		653	545	474	-20.9
July		596	544	572	0.4
August		675	515	554	-6.9
September		581	513	484	-11.5
October		598	525	436	-22.4
November		572	466	393	-24.3
December	458	535	513	369	3.3

¹Note: The baseline period is an average of the two year period 2004/2005

Figure 2.1 presents the monthly rate of violence against the person in Croydon (per 10,000 persons) with the blue line showing the post implementation period and the baseline period shown as a dotted grey line. It can be seen that violence against the person followed a fairly similar seasonal pattern across the post implementation period compared to the baseline, with peaks in the summer months, and reductions during winter. However, in the post implementation period, there was a decline in violence against the person offences which did not occur in the baseline.

Figure 2.1 Violence against the person crime rates in Croydon (average monthly baseline and post implementation period)

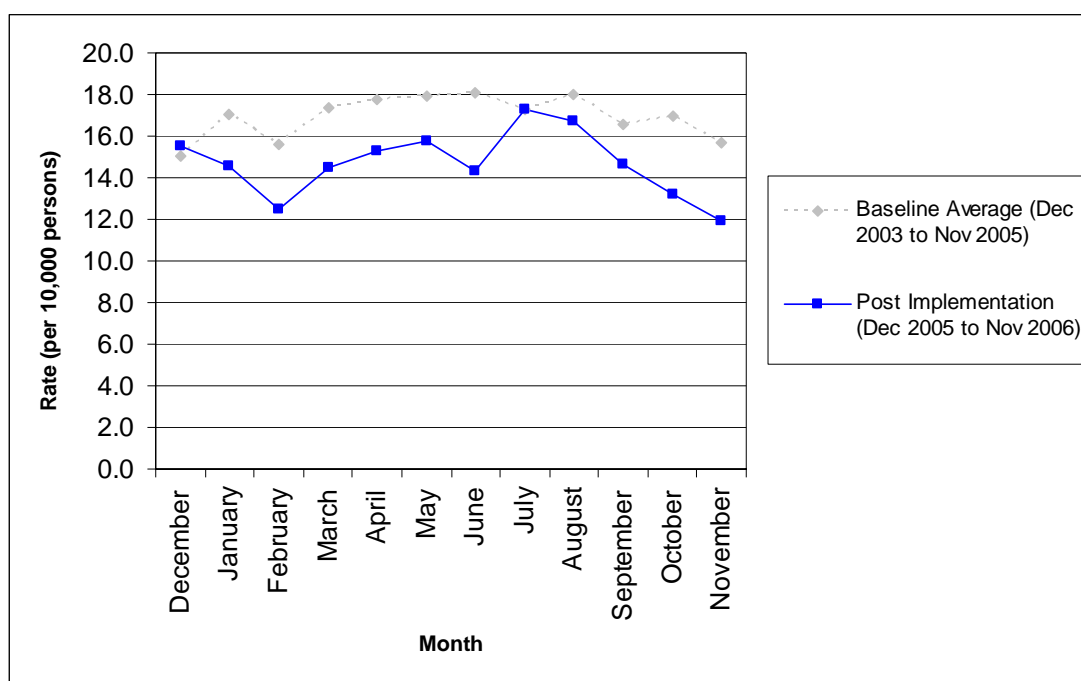


Figure 2.2 presents the monthly percentage change in violence against person offences from Table 2.1 in graphical format; this highlights the reductions during the implementation period compared with the corresponding months in the baseline period. These reductions are greater than 20 per cent during February, June, October and November.

Figure 2.2 Percentage change in violence against person offences in Croydon (average monthly baseline to post implementation period change)

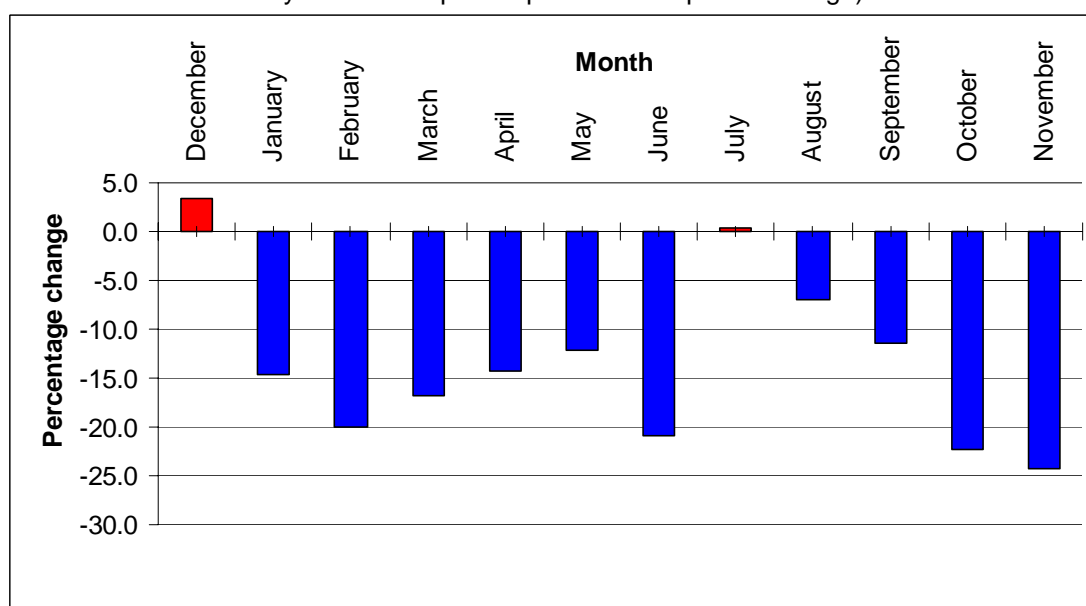
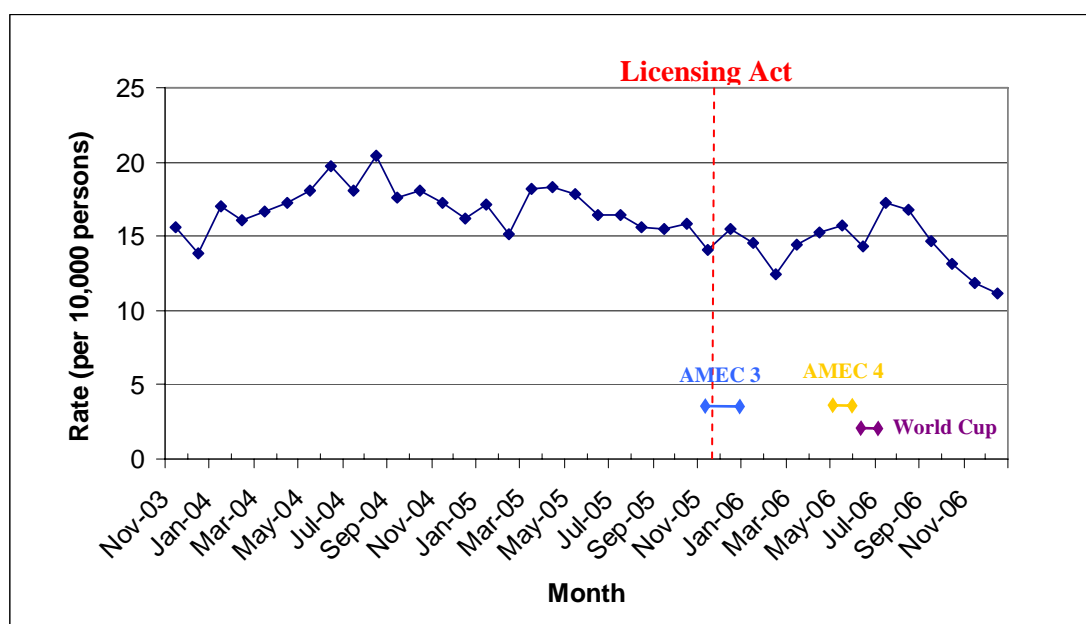


Figure 2.3 presents the monthly rates of violence against the person in Croydon (per 10,000 persons) across the baseline and post implementation periods plotted against the introduction of the Act and the timing of other relevant initiatives and events occurring in Croydon. The graph shows that after rising from January 2004 to a peak in September that year, violence against the person was already displaying a downward trend at the time the Act was introduced. Therefore the reductions shown in Figures 2.1 to 2.3 may be attributable to factors other than the Act. Figure 2.3 also shows that the periods that AMECs ran did not seem to correspond with reductions in violence against the person. The World Cup in 2006 coincided with an increase in violence against the person offences, which may explain why this was one of only two months which did not show a decrease compared to the baseline period.

Figure 2.3 Violence against the person crime rate in Croydon and local initiatives (November 2003 to December 2006)



Distribution of offences by time of day and day of week

The analysis also considered whether there were any changes in the way offences of violence against the person were distributed across hours of the day or days of the week. Table 2.2 displays the number of violence against the person offences by time of day for the two years of the baseline period and for the post implementation period. The right hand column presents the percentage change between the average baseline period frequency of violence against the person offences (year one and year two for each time interval) and the frequency of such offences post implementation for each time interval.

The table shows that unlike some of the other case study areas there is a lengthy time period where offences of violence against the person remain fairly constant, and at a high level, both in the baseline and post implementation periods. This period is from approximately 3.00pm until 00.59am, with peaks at both these times. The only period when there is a noticeable reduction in offences is from 3.00am until 8.59am. It can also be seen that the distribution of violence against the person across times of the day has retained a similar pattern in the post implementation period. There has been a reduction in the number of offences of violence against the person in every one hour time interval, although the greatest reductions were seen between 5.00am to 5.59am (35.8%) and 11.00am to 11.59am (26.1%).

Table 2.2 Violence against the person offences by time of day in Croydon (baseline and post implementation periods)

Time of day	Baseline year 1 frequency	Baseline year 2 frequency	Post implementation year 3 frequency	Percentage change (average baseline to post implementation)
0900-0959	237	247	211	-12.8
1000-1059	219	213	165	-23.6
1100-1159	252	235	180	-26.1
1200-1259	322	324	287	-11.1
1300-1359	319	232	245	-11.1
1400-1459	333	299	253	-19.9
1500-1559	446	445	411	-7.7
1600-1659	423	379	340	-15.2
1700-1759	379	386	326	-14.8
1800-1859	426	376	350	-12.7
1900-1959	415	380	304	-23.5
2000-2059	415	352	355	-7.4
2100-2159	417	401	344	-15.9
2200-2259	356	357	325	-8.8
2300-2359	415	408	357	-13.2
0000-0059	461	420	427	-3.1
0100-0159	355	310	267	-19.7
0200-0259	241	251	204	-17.1
0300-0359	134	109	101	-16.9
0400-0459	49	69	53	-10.2
0500-0559	38	43	26	-35.8
0600-0659	35	43	35	-10.3
0700-0759	89	84	72	-16.8
0800-0859	159	180	155	-8.6

Figure 2.4 shows the percentage of violence against the person offences in each time interval for each year. For the baseline period this is averaged over the two year period. A smoothed trend line has been plotted for each of the two time periods under consideration.¹

The pattern during the post implementation period is very similar to the baseline with offences plateauing between 3.00pm and 1.00am. There are small increases in the post implementation period at both these hours. There are no large decreases in the proportion of offences in the early hours post implementation compared to baseline, as there were in other case study areas. Nor is there any evidence to suggest that there has been a shift in the occurrence of violence against the person to later times in the day post implementation – as demonstrated by the close overlap of the two trend lines. This figure suggests there are no obvious changes to the timing of peaks of violence against the person post implementation.

Figure 2.4 Proportional changes to violence against the person offences by time of day in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

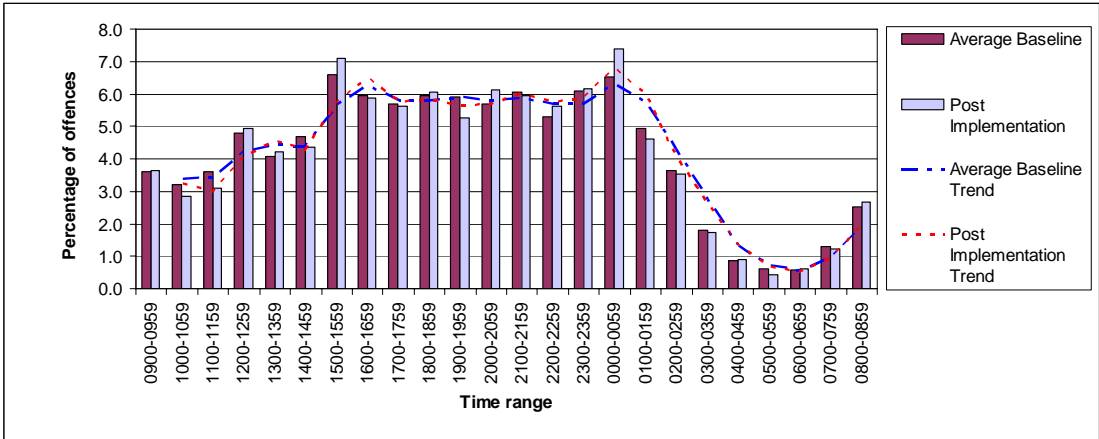
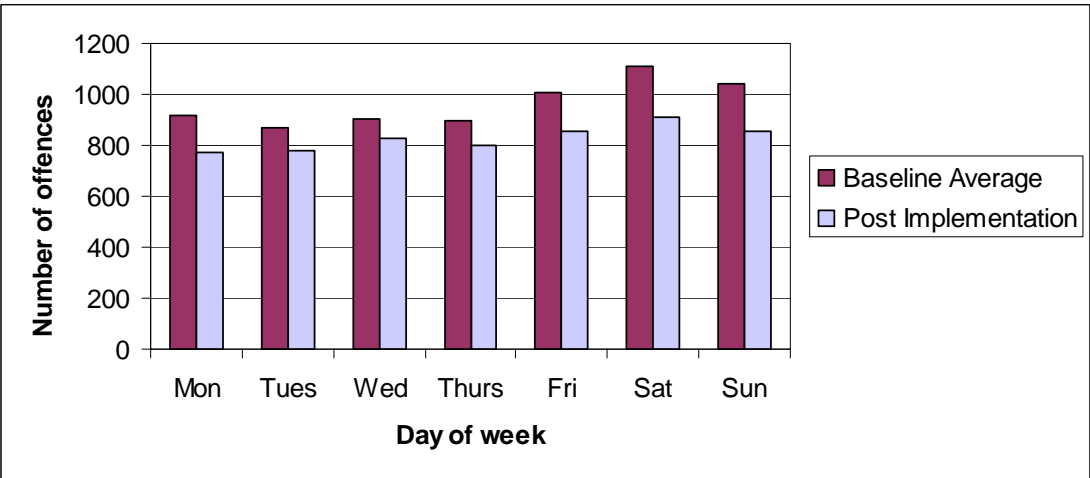


Figure 2.5 portrays the frequency of violence against the person of offences by day of week for the baseline period and post implementation periods. The baseline period is an average for the two years.

It is interesting to note that the levels of violence against the person at weekends are not much higher than for weekdays – offences are more evenly spread throughout the week. The decline in violence against the person post implementation is also fairly consistent across the different days.

Figure 2.5 Violence against the person offences by day of week in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



¹ A two month moving average.

Victim profile

Figure 2.6 displays the gender of victims of violence against the person offences during the baseline and post implementation periods. The gender for the baseline period is an average over the two years. It is essential to consider the impact of the 'not recorded' field (missing values) when interpreting the findings of this section of the analysis. The figures presented are based on those recorded.

As can be seen, the majority of victims of violence against the person in both baseline and post implementation periods were male. Gender was recorded in over 90 per cent of cases, and it can be seen that both males and females experienced fewer crimes of violence against the person in the post implementation period compared to baseline.

Figure 2.6 Violence against the person offences by gender in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

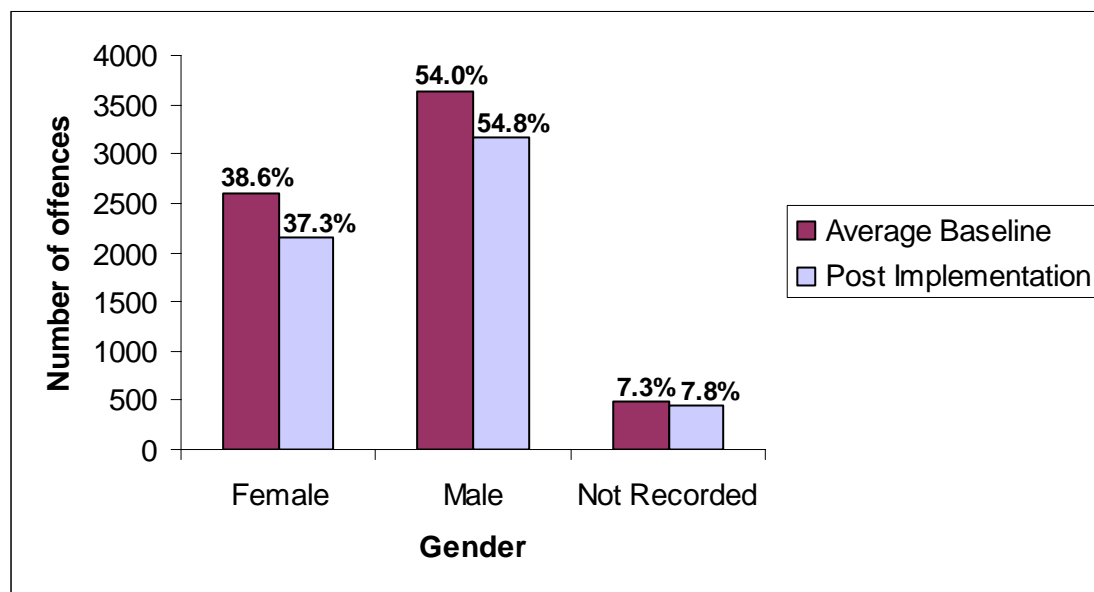
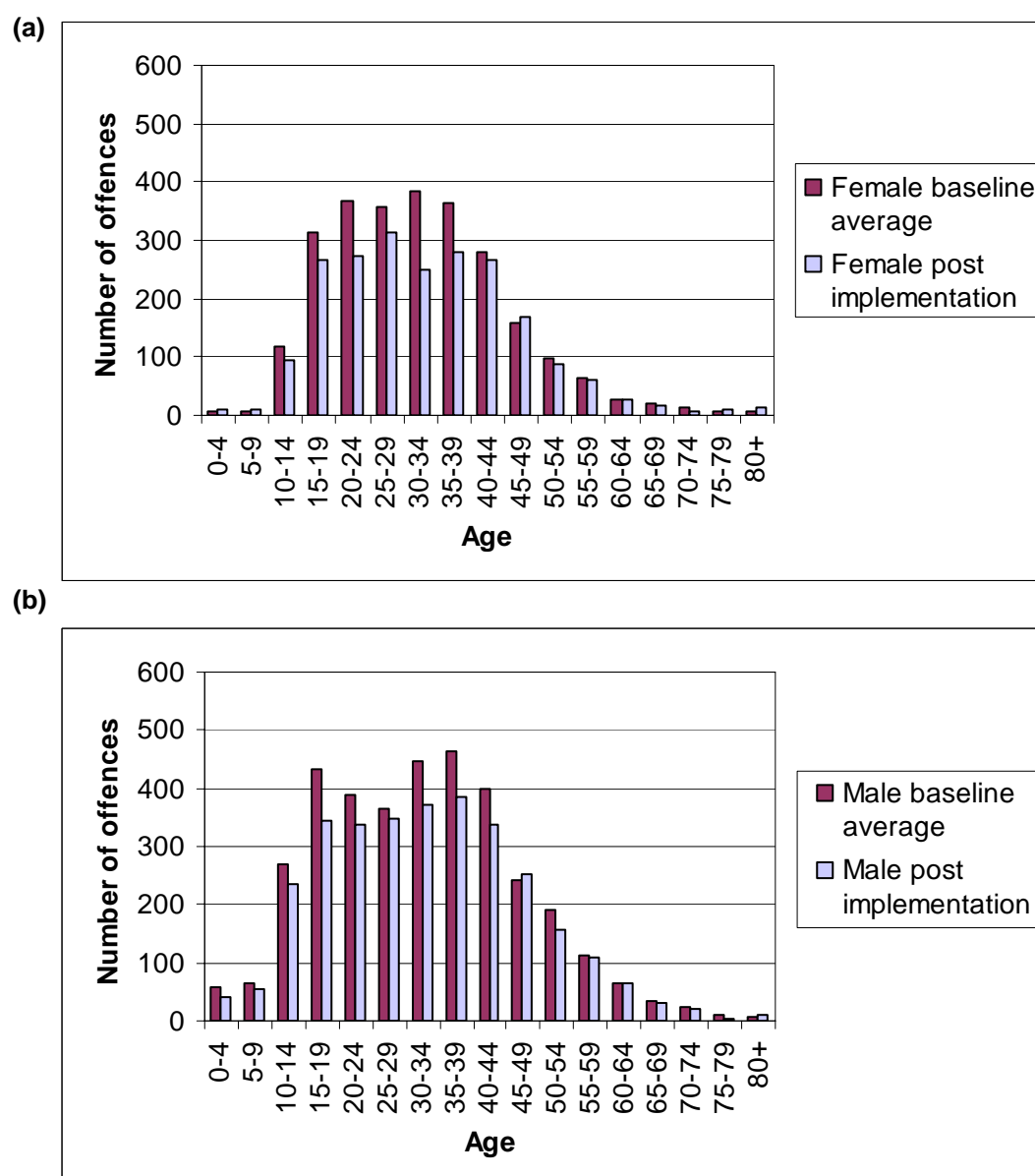


Figure 2.7 displays the gender and age of victims of violence against the person offences during the baseline and post implementation periods. The gender and age categories for the baseline periods are an average over the two years. The graphs show that overall, the profile of victims of violence against the person has not changed greatly between the baseline and post implementation period, with those aged 15-39 experiencing higher rates of violence against the person offences than other groups. For males, the reductions in violence against the person identified above were fairly evenly distributed across age groups. However, for females, those aged 15-39 saw reductions in the number of offences, whereas older females did not. Females aged 30-34 saw the largest reduction in offences, as did males aged 15-19.

Figure 2.7 Violence against the person by age and gender in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



Alcohol related violence against the person

In most case study areas, the crime offences supplied for this research also contained flags for whether alcohol was involved in the violence against the person offence, and a flag for domestic violence. In Croydon, flags for alcohol were missing, thus figure 2.8 is left blank here. Domestic violence flags were available, and are reported below.

Figure 2.8 Victims of violence against the person (with alcohol 'flagged') by age and gender in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation time periods)

- (a) * no alcohol flag – data not available
 (b) * no alcohol flag – data not available

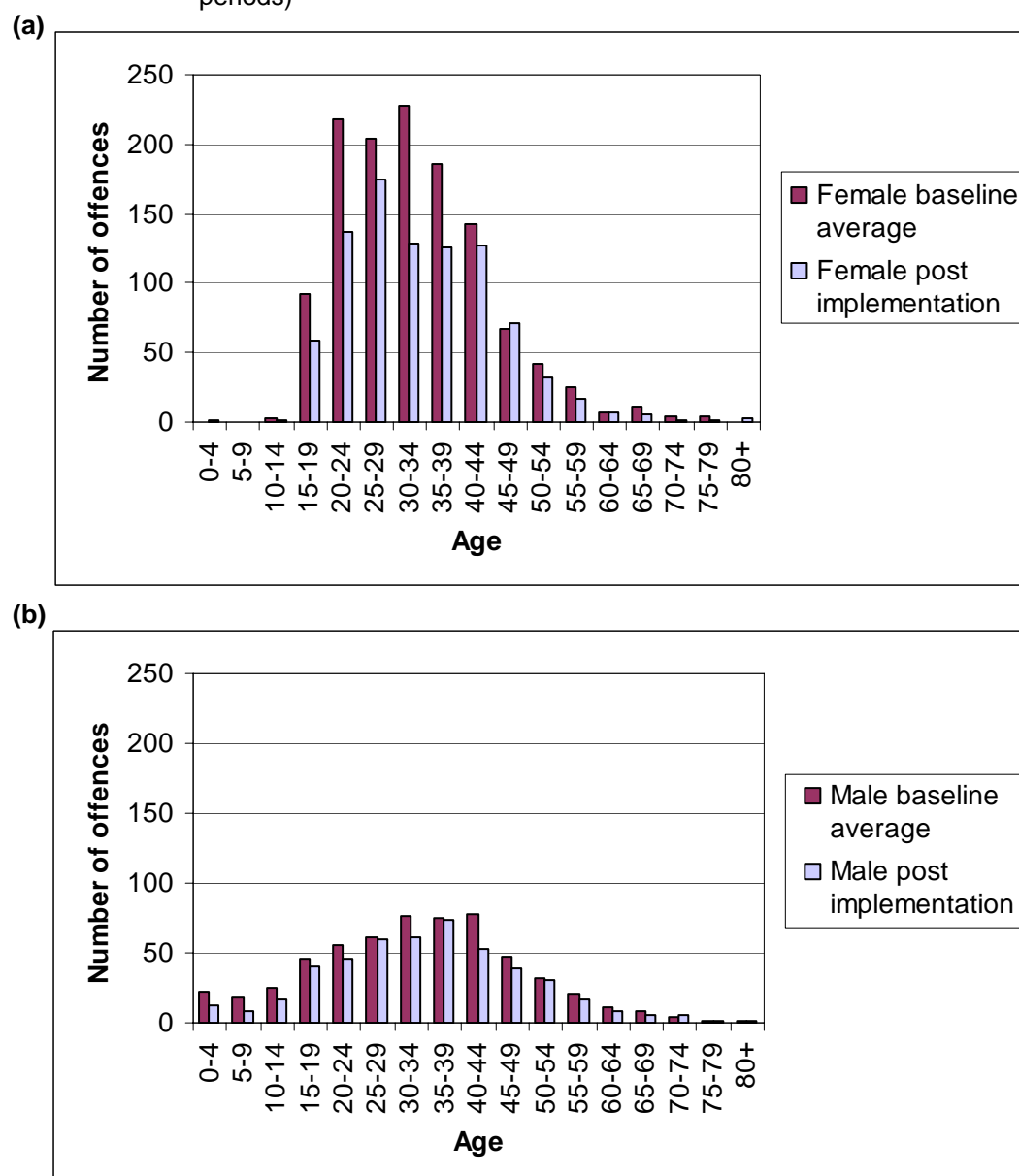
Domestic violence

In the case study area, 27 per cent of violence against the person offences in the baseline period and 24 per cent of offences in the post implementation period had a domestic violence flag. The following analysis is based on those offences with a domestic violence flag only.

Figure 2.9 portrays the gender and age of victims of violence against the person offences during the baseline and post implementation periods with a domestic violence flag. The baseline frequencies are an average over the two years.

The graphs show that the offences recorded in this category were predominantly committed against female victims. Figure 2.9a shows that amongst female victims there were large reductions in the number of offences among those in the 20-24 and 30-34 victim age groups and smaller reductions for most other age groups. Figure 2.9b shows a reduction in the number of offences recorded for most age groups for males, with the largest decreases amongst male victims aged 30-34 and 40-44.

Figure 2.9 Victims of violence against the person (with domestic violence 'flagged') by age and gender in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation time periods)



Meso and micro level

In addition to examining change across the macro level (entire case study area) a further focus of this research was to consider whether the Act has impacted on crime and disorder at specific times and specific locations. The distribution of licensed premises is neither random nor uniform across the case study area, thus it is likely the impact of the Act on crime and disorder is also not evenly distributed across the case study area. The advantages and limitations of using these macro, meso and micro level analyses are discussed in more detail in the technical annex.

Two areas were generated for the quantitative analysis. The first was a series of concentric buffer zones produced using a Geographical Information System (GIS), at a distance of 50 metre intervals from licensed premises. Thus, the first buffer zone covered the area 0 to 50 metres from licensed premises, the second 50 to 100 metres, the third 100 to 150 metres, and the fourth 150 to 200 metres (Figure 2.10). In addition to this, software was used to run clustering algorithms that generated areas where there was a concentration of licensed premises. These could be considered areas with a high density of licensed premises (Figure 2.11). The methodology for constructing these zones is described in more detail in the technical annex.

The cluster area contains 27 per cent of premises, and has a mean nearest neighbour distance of 45 metres. The non cluster area contains 73 per cent of premises and a mean nearest neighbour distance of 230 metres. Thus premises are on average five times closer together in the cluster area.

Furthermore, there was an examination of crime that occurred inside or within the vicinity of ('directly outside') licensed premises. The police recorded crime data contains a licensed premise flag, and this was used to attribute incidents of violence against the person to individual premises. These areas can be considered inside the premises or immediately adjacent to a premise.

Figure 2.10 Concentric buffer zones (50m intervals) around pubs, bars and nightclubs in Croydon

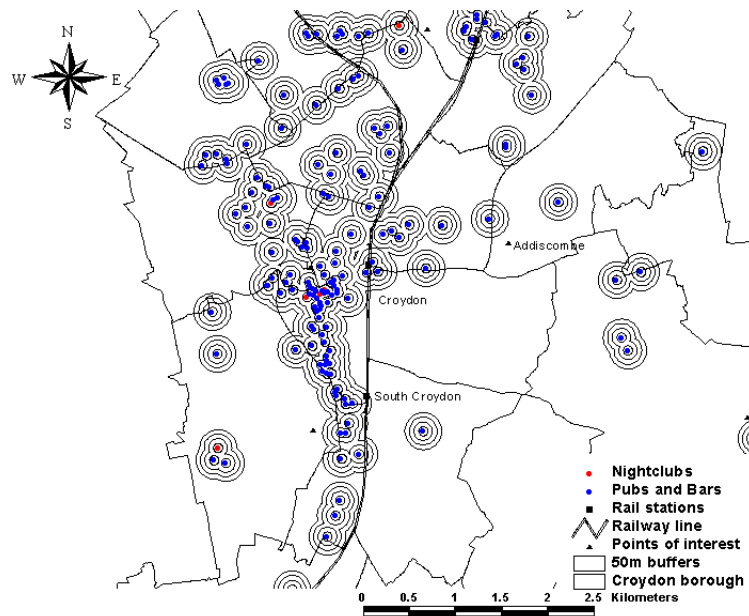
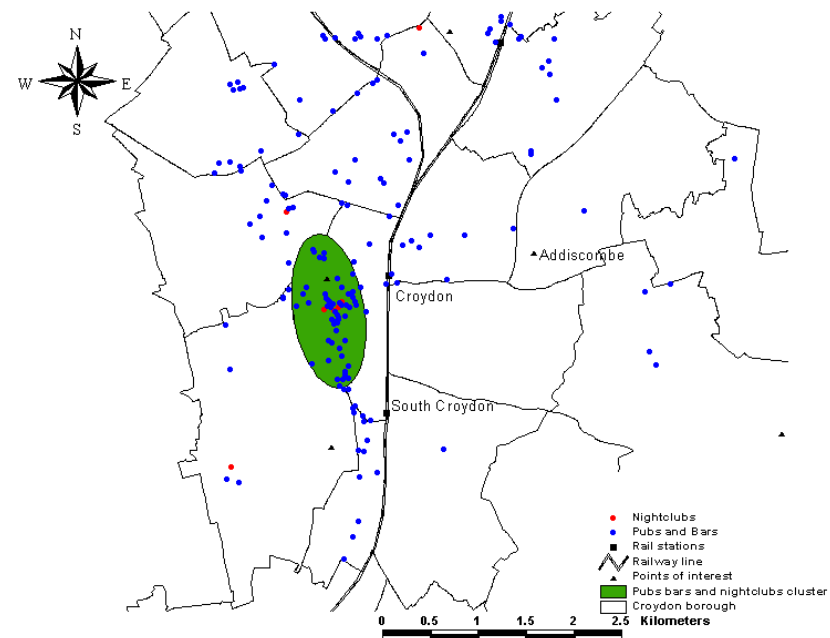


Figure 2.11 Cluster (high density) areas of pubs, bars and nightclubs in Croydon



Cluster area
Percentage of premises= 27
Mean nearest neighbour distance = 45m

Non cluster area
Percentage of premises= 73
Mean nearest neighbour distance = 230m

The frequency of violence against the person offences in each individual zone was calculated for the baseline period and post implementation period. Table 2.3 shows the proportion of Croydon's violence against the person that occurred in each of these defined zones during the two periods.

Table 2.3 Proportional changes to violence against the person offences in the buffer zones and cluster area in Croydon (average monthly baseline and post implementation periods)

	Area					
	Cluster	0-50m	50-100m	100-150m	150-200m	Croydon borough
Percentage baseline	11.5	14.6	13.5	10.9	8.4	100.0
Percentage post implementation	10.6	12.6	14.7	9.8	8.2	100.0
Proportional change	-0.9	-2.0	1.2	-1.1	-0.3	

The areas closest to licensed premises accounted for the greatest proportion of violence against the person offences in the baseline period. The zone 0-50m away from licensed premises accounted for 15 per cent of such offences. In the post implementation period, the area 50-100m from licensed premises contained the greatest proportion of offences (15%). However, when comparing the two periods, the actual differences in proportions of offences in each of the areas is small. For example, the increase in the 50-100m zone was only from 13.5 to 14.7 per cent. There is no evidence to suggest therefore that there was any considerable change over time in the location of violence against the person offences in relation to licensed premises.

In contrast to other case study areas, the cluster area contained relatively few violence against the person offences (11.5% baseline, and 10.6% post implementation). This is likely to be due to the fact that the cluster area (in this case Croydon town centre) accounts for a far smaller proportion of the whole case study area (in this case Croydon borough) than in the other areas.

Daily distribution of violence against the person in specified zones

The timing of offences against the person offences was also examined. The frequency of violence against the person offences in each individual zone was calculated for the baseline period and post implementation period. This was divided by time of day into twenty-four one hour time intervals. The percentage of offences in each time interval for the baseline period (average over two years), and also the post implementation period was then calculated. From this a percentage change could be generated for each time interval in each individual zone, from the average baseline to the post implementation periods. The result of this proportional change analysis is depicted in table 2.4. This table also includes volume change in addition to the proportional change that represents the actual change in numbers.

The table shows that the changes to the daily distribution of violence against the person were not distributed evenly across the Croydon area. Nor was there a discernible pattern to the changes that did occur. Most of the changes were only minor – less than one percentage point. Of the larger changes in crime which did occur, there was some reduction in offences of violence against the person between 1.00am and 1.59am for the cluster area and from 0-50m from premises, while there was an increase for the same areas between 3.00pm and 3.59pm.

Table 2.4 Proportional changes to violence against the person by time of day and location in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation time periods)

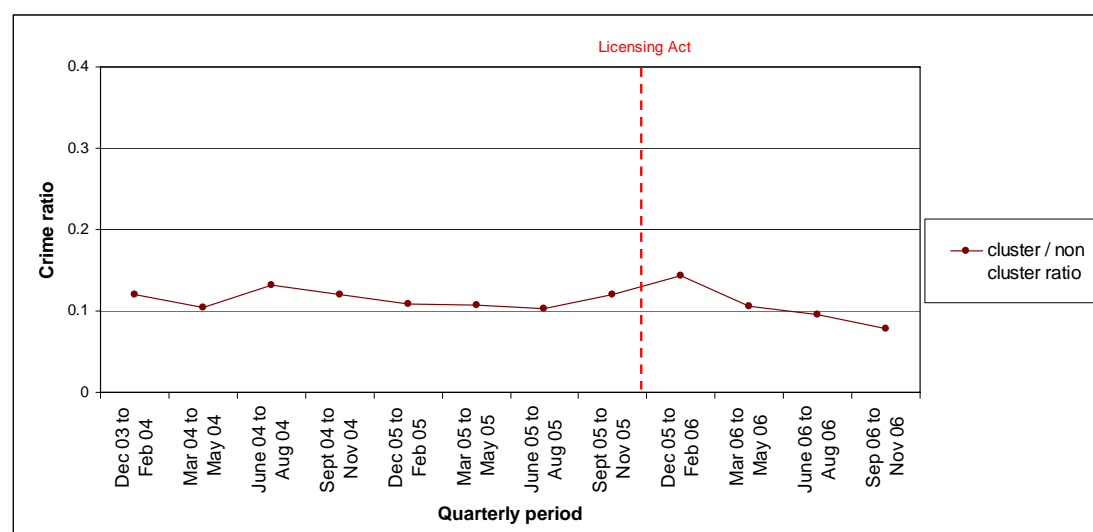
Time of day	Area											
	Cluster		0-50m		50-100m		100-150m		150-200m		Croydon borough	
	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume
0900-0959	0.7	1	0.7	1	-0.3	-5	-1.2	-13	0.9	1	0.1	-31
1000-1059	-0.6	-7	-0.6	-11	0.1	-1	-1.1	-11	0.8	1	-0.4	-51
1100-1159	-1.3	-13	-0.4	-12	-0.7	-8	-1.9	-18	-1.0	-9	-0.5	-64
1200-1259	0.3	-5	-0.2	-10	-0.2	-5	1.0	-1	0.9	-1	0.2	-36
1300-1359	1.4	3	0.5	-4	-1.5	-16	1.0	-1	1.1	2	0.1	-31
1400-1459	0.1	-6	0.6	-6	-0.6	-9	-0.8	-12	-0.5	-7	-0.3	-63
1500-1559	2.2	6	1.0	-8	-0.4	-8	-0.9	-16	-0.7	-10	0.5	-35
1600-1659	0.8	-6	1.1	-5	0.2	-2	2.8	7	-0.6	-8	-0.1	-61
1700-1759	-0.6	-12	-0.1	-12	0.9	5	2.7	7	0.9	0	0.0	-57
1800-1859	0.5	-2	-0.6	-18	0.7	3	-1.9	-19	1.3	1	0.1	-51
1900-1959	-0.1	-5	1.2	1	0.2	-1	-1.5	-20	-1.4	-13	-0.7	-94
2000-2059	0.6	-1	1.0	-3	0.4	1	2.0	4	-0.5	-8	0.4	-29
2100-2159	-0.5	-10	-0.6	-18	-1.2	-13	1.0	-3	-0.1	-7	-0.1	-65
2200-2259	-0.6	-12	0.4	-11	-0.1	-4	0.3	-5	-0.3	-8	0.3	-32
2300-2359	0.1	-12	-0.4	-25	-0.4	-7	-0.7	-13	1.3	0	0.1	-55
0000-0059	1.4	-8	1.5	-11	0.5	1	-0.3	-11	-1.2	-12	0.8	-14
0100-0159	-3.7	-48	-3.9	-60	1.4	8	0.2	-4	-0.6	-7	-0.3	-66
0200-0259	-1.0	-25	-1.2	-31	1.0	6	0.3	-2	-1.5	-11	-0.1	-42
0300-0359	0.2	-4	-1.0	-15	0.6	4	0.1	-3	0.0	-2	-0.1	-21
0400-0459	-0.2	-2	0.3	1	0.3	2	0.0	-1	0.2	1	0.0	-6
0500-0559	0.0	-1	0.0	-2	0.1	1	0.2	1	-0.1	-1	-0.2	-15
0600-0659	-0.3	-2	0.0	-1	-0.3	-3	-0.1	-2	0.2	1	0.0	-4
0700-0759	-0.3	-3	0.5	3	-0.8	-8	-0.5	-6	0.9	3	0.0	-15
0800-0859	0.9	5	0.4	-1	0.3	2	-0.7	-9	-0.2	-3	0.2	-15

Proportion of violence against the person in the cluster area

Crime ratios were produced to compare the number of offences that occurred within the cluster area with the number of offences that occurred outside the cluster area. The purpose of this is to examine whether there has been a change in the concentration of crime offences over time that occur in areas with high densities of pubs, bars and nightclubs.

Figure 2.12 tracks the changes to monthly crime ratios for the analysis period. This illustrates whether the proportion of Croydon's violence against the person occurring within the cluster area has changed over the baseline and implementation periods. Figure 2.12 shows that the proportion of Croydon's violence against the person occurring within the cluster area gradually increased in the latter part of the baseline period through to the first quarter of the post implementation period before declining slightly again.

Figure 2.12 Violence against the person crime ratio in Croydon (December 2003 to November 2006)

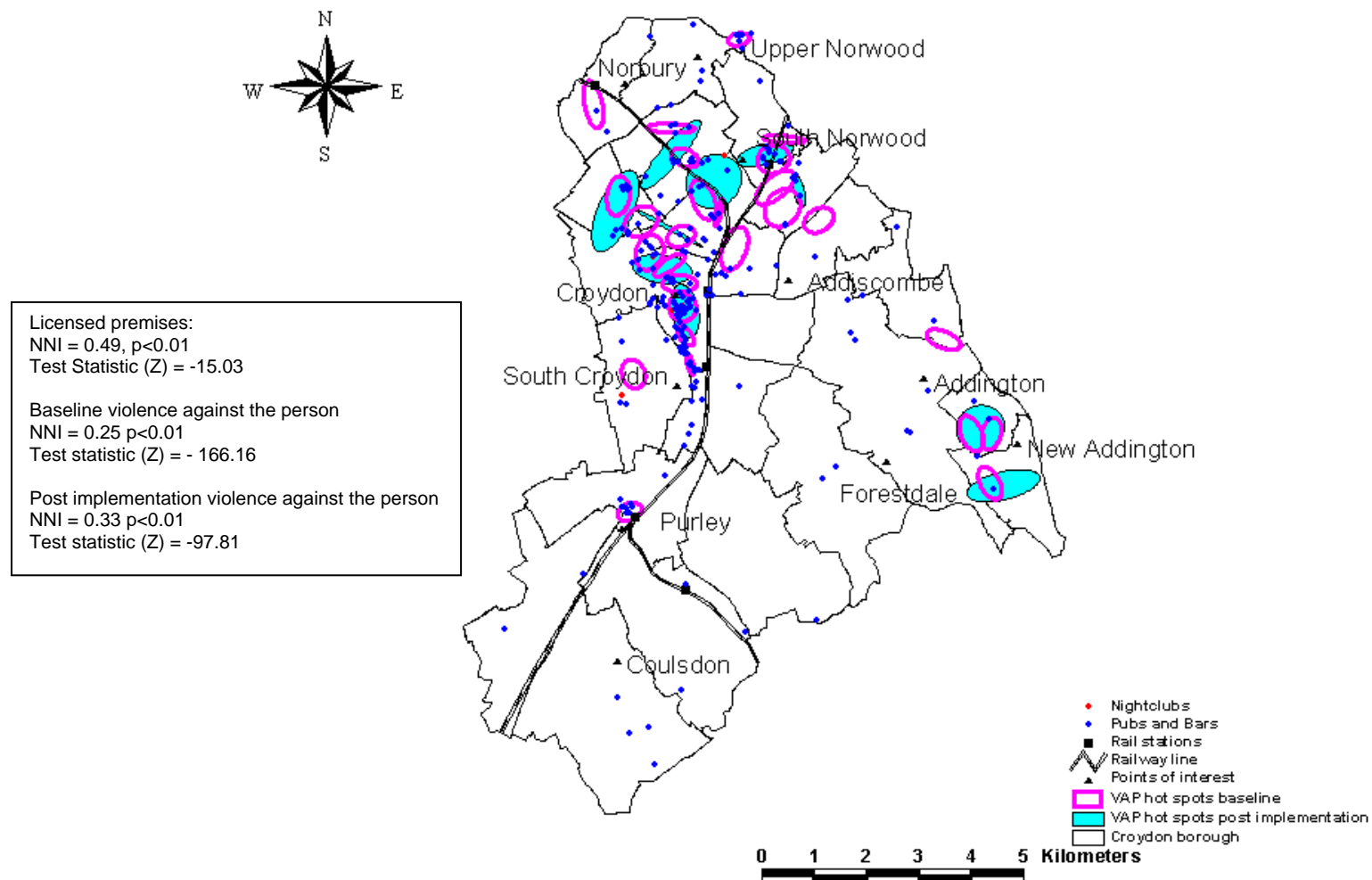


Geographical distribution of violence against the person

Two methods were used in this research to produce hot spot maps, Nearest Neighbour Hierarchical Clustering (NNHC) and Kernel Density Estimations (KDE). The uses of these methods, and the advantages and limitations of these approaches, are described in the technical annex. The Nearest Neighbour Index (NNI) statistic generated is also described in the technical annex. This shows that there is evidence of clustering in the violence against the person data, above the clustering exhibited by premises themselves, and that hot spot analysis is an appropriate technique to use.

Figure 2.13 maps the violence against the person hot spots (derived through NNHC) in Croydon Borough both in the baseline and post implementation periods (the derivation of which is discussed in more detail in the technical annex). The ellipses on the map are generated statistically and represent hot spots of violence against the person offences. The purple ellipses represent the baseline and the blue, the post implementation period. These hot spots do not account for the timing of the offences, but consider the overall concentration of offending over the analysis period. It can be seen that the hot spots remained relatively stable and are concentrated around the major urban areas, particularly Croydon itself, and South Norwood. Some areas which were hot spots in the baseline period are no longer apparent, for example to the north of Addington, although it should be stressed that overall there is no real evidence of a shift in the location of hot spots between the two periods.

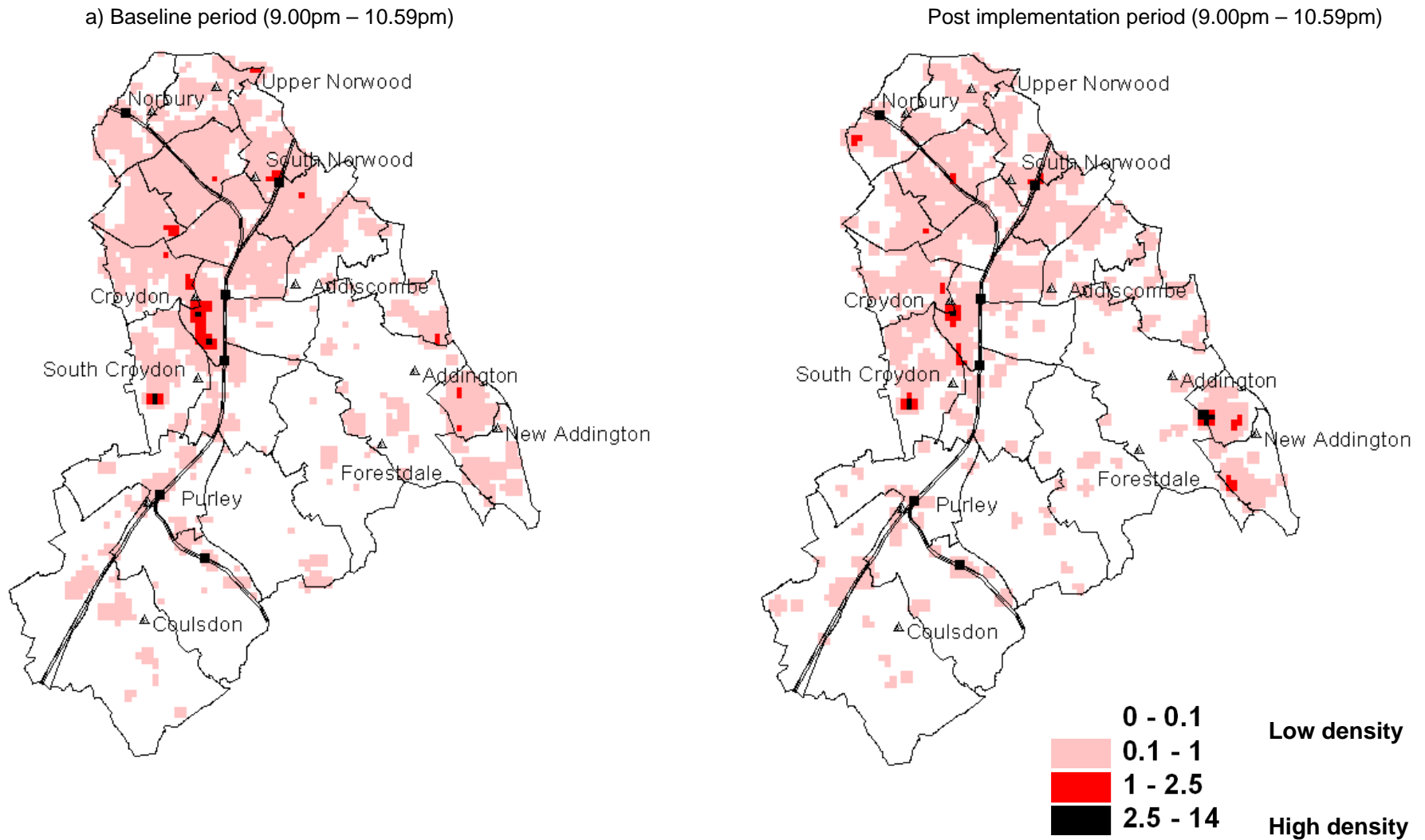
Figure 2.13 Violence against the person hot spots (NNHC) in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



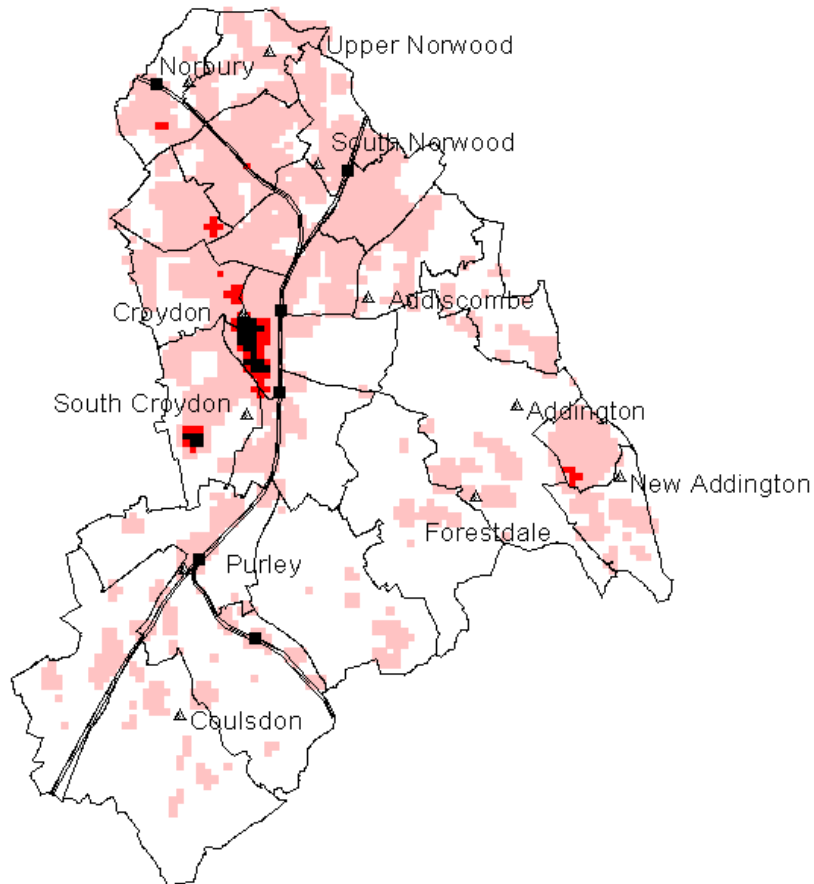
The maps which follow, in Figure 2.14, show violence against the person hot spots by time of day derived using KDE. The timing of offences has been grouped into four periods, namely 9.00pm to 10.59pm, 11.00pm to 0.59am, 1.00am to 2.59am and 3.00am to 4.59am. A decision was made to concentrate on these hours for two reasons. Firstly, the hours between 9.00pm and 5.00am account for the majority of all crimes of violence. Secondly, this period covers the hours when any changes to premises opening hours would occur.

For each of the pairs of maps, the left hand side represents the baseline period, while the right hand side represents the post implementation period. The overall pattern is similar in both periods, although there are a number of small changes. In the period 9.00pm to 11.00pm the focus of offences is around Croydon, Addington and South Norwood, with little change in density between baseline and post implementation. From 11.00pm to 1.00am, the overall concentration of offences increases, and post implementation there is a small increase in density near Addington, which also occurs in the 1.00am to 3.00am period. In the 3.00am to 5.00am period the concentration of offences declines considerably in both periods, although post implementation there is a small increase in density in South Croydon. Taken together, these results do not suggest that there has been any considerable change in the timing or location of offences of violence against the person in Croydon between the baseline and post implementation periods.

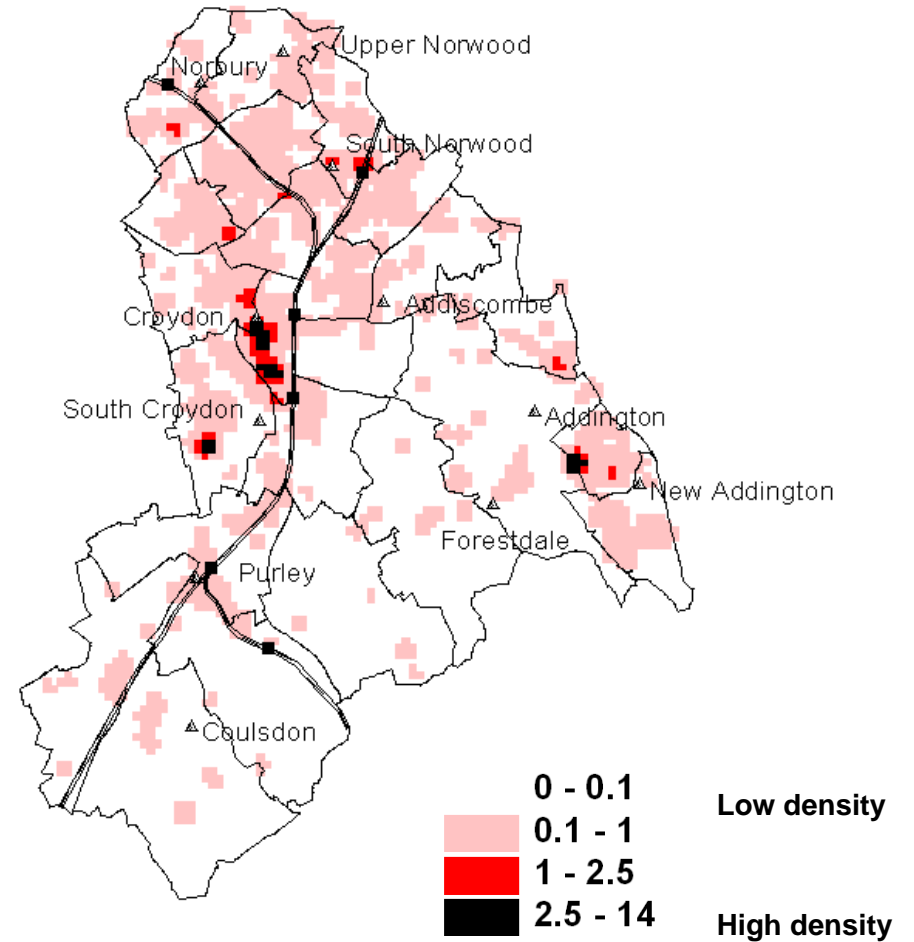
Figure 2.14 Violence against the person hot spots (KDE) by time of day in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



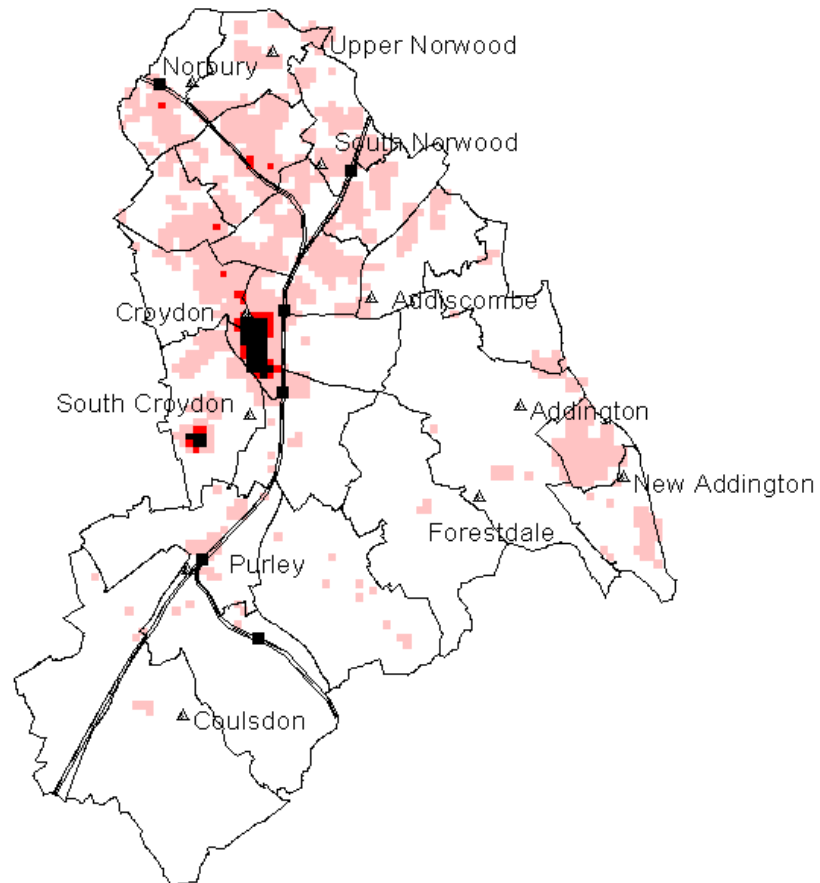
b) Baseline period (11.00pm – 0.59pm)



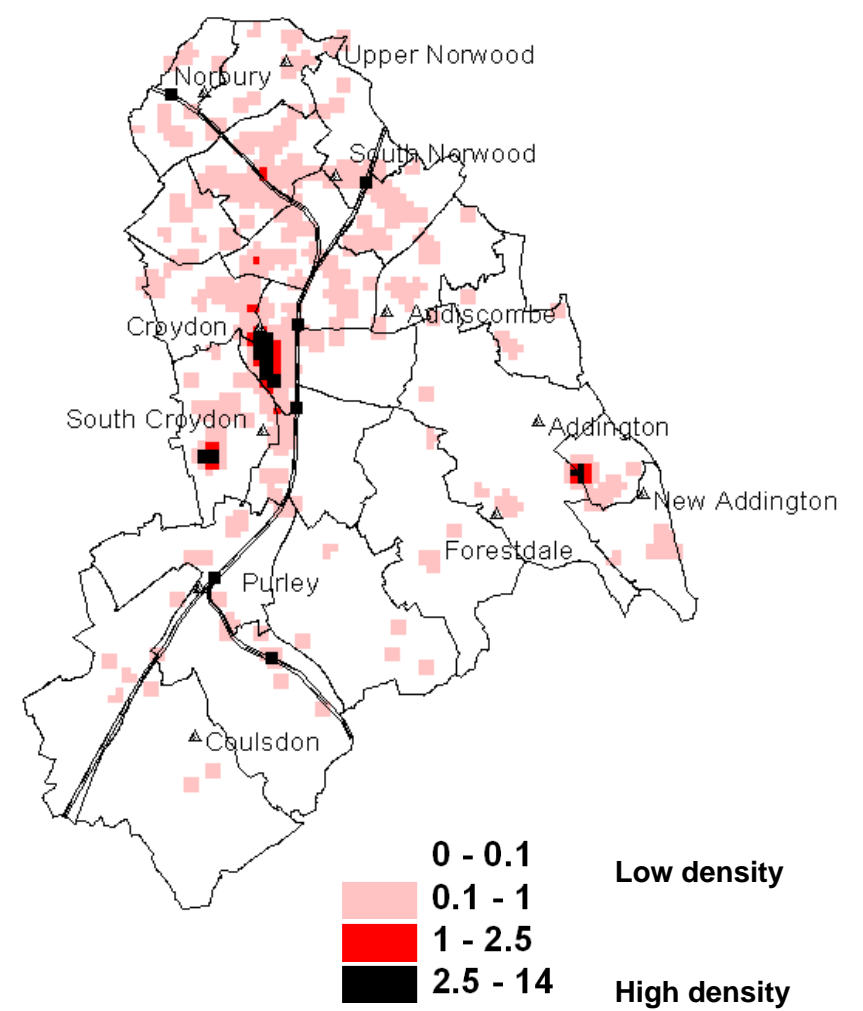
Post implementation period (11.00pm – 0.59pm)



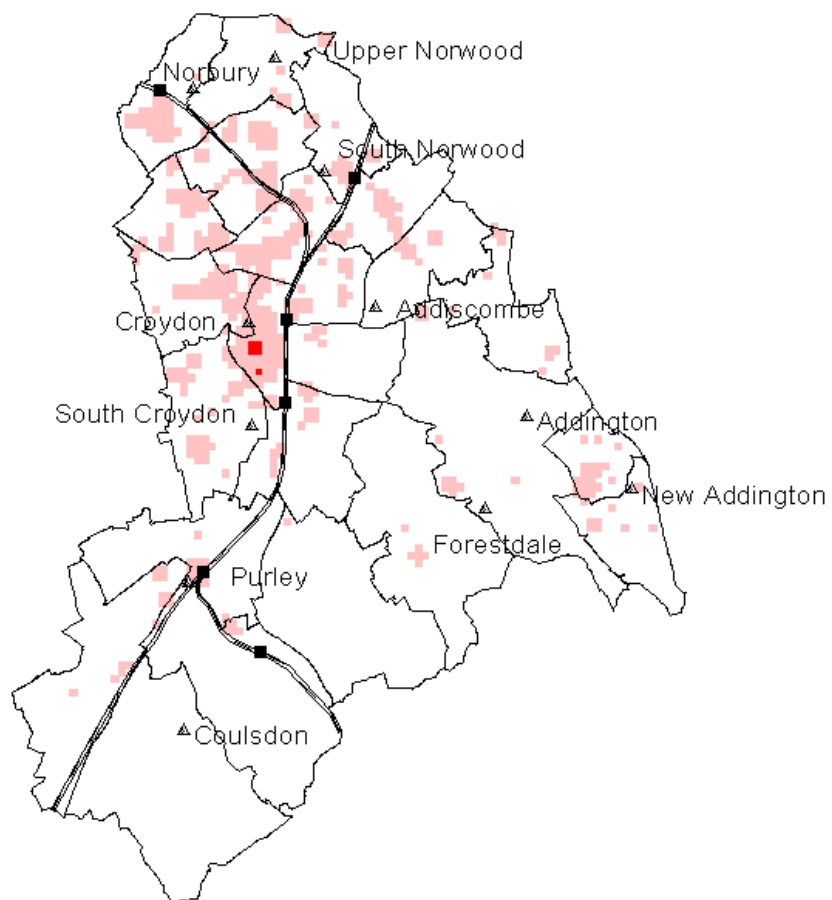
c) Baseline period (1.00am – 2.59am)



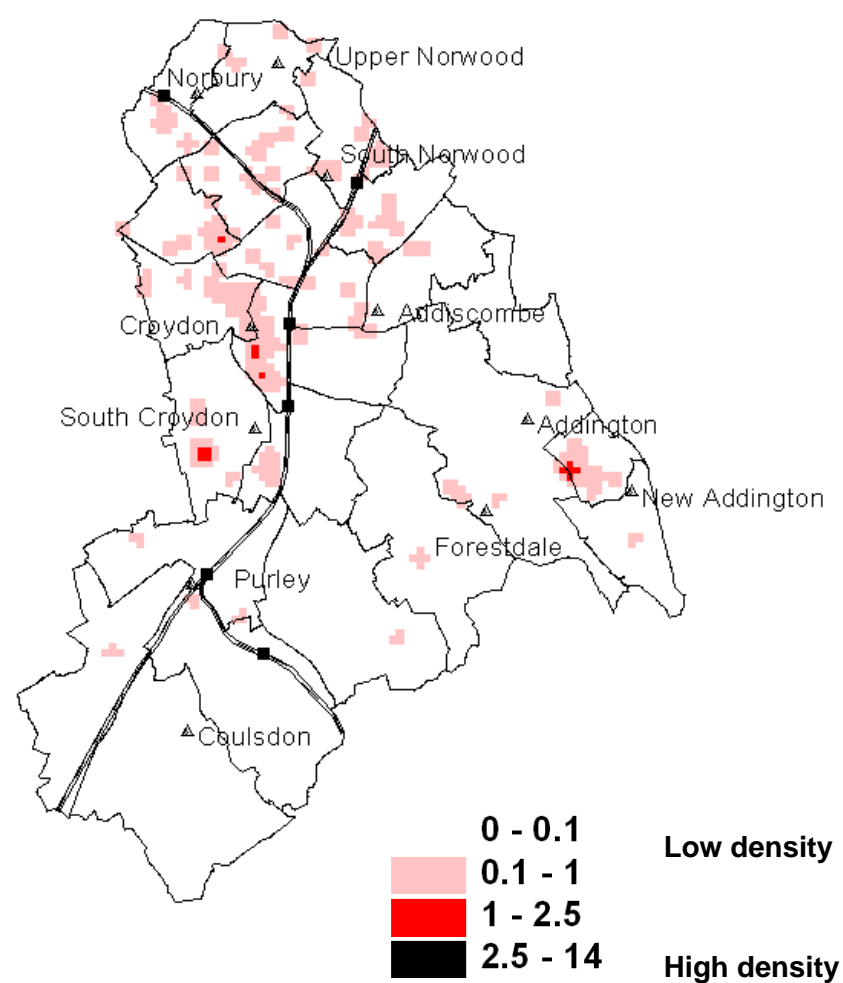
Post implementation period (1.00am – 2.59am)



d) Baseline period (3.00am – 4.59am)



Post implementation period (3.00am – 4.59am)



Violence against the person in or at licensed premises

The two Resource Targeting Tables (RTTs) which follow show the number and percentage of violence against the person offences occurring in or at licensed premises. Premises are ranked in descending order of the number of offences. For more detailed information on each individual premise the reader is referred to the qualitative fieldwork and the findings in tables 6.2 and 6.3. Note that these tables do not account for differences in premise type, for example the capacity, the hours open (pub or nightclub hours for example), or whether the premise has been closed for any period. They relate to the absolute number of offences in an area, and those premises with the highest concentrations of offences irrespective of premise type, as these do have a direct impact on policing. More discussion of this is provided in the technical annex.

Table 2.5, which covers the baseline period, shows that over 60 per cent of offences occurred at less than eight per cent of premises, indeed just one premise was responsible for 13 per cent of all offences. The top fifteen premises (6.5% of all premises) together accounted for over half (56 per cent) of all offences of violence against the person. At 40 per cent of premises, there were no recorded offences. Eight of the top fifteen premises in the baseline also appeared in the top fifteen in the post implementation period.

Results from the post implementation period are displayed in table 2.6. The table shows that the top fifteen premises (6.4 per cent of all premises) together accounted for over half (51%) of all offences of violence against the person. As with the baseline, 40 per cent of premises had no recorded offences. It is interesting to note that the top three premises in both periods were the same, and also accounted for 25 per cent of all offences in the baseline and post implementation periods. Five of the premises that were in the baseline top 15 that did not appear in the top 15 post implementation were closed for all or part of the post implementation period.

The evidence from these tables suggests that although there was some turnover of premises in the top 15, the top 15 in both periods accounted for a very similar proportion of offences, while a similar proportion of premises in both periods had no offences recorded against them.

Figure 2.15 overleaf plots the hot spots of violence against the person for baseline and post implementation periods, along with the location of the top 15 premises in both premises. Unsurprisingly, many of the violence against the person hot spots occur in the vicinity of premises in the top fifteen. Some of the new hot spots coincide with premises which appeared only in the top fifteen in the post implementation period. There are also, however, a number of hot spot locations which did not coincide with any of the highlighted premises.

Table 2.5 Resource Targeting Table of recorded ¹violence against the person offences recorded in or at pubs bars and nightclubs in Croydon (baseline period)

	Number of offences ²	Number of premises	Cumulative number of offences	Cumulative number of premises	Percentage of offences	Percentage of premises	Cumulative percentage of offences	Cumulative percentage of premises
A	95	1	95	1	12.8	0.4	12.8	0.4
B	48	1	143	2	6.5	0.4	19.3	0.9
C	45	1	188	3	6.1	0.4	25.4	1.3
D	32	1	220	4	4.3	0.4	29.7	1.7
E	27	1	247	5	3.6	0.4	33.4	2.1
F	27	1	274	6	3.6	0.4	37.0	2.6
G	27	1	301	7	3.6	0.4	40.7	3.0
H	18	1	319	8	2.4	0.4	43.1	3.4
I	17	1	336	9	2.3	0.4	45.4	3.8
J	14	1	350	10	1.9	0.4	47.3	4.3
K	14	1	364	11	1.9	0.4	49.2	4.7
L	14	1	378	12	1.9	0.4	51.1	5.1
M	13	1	391	13	1.8	0.4	52.8	5.5
N	12	1	403	14	1.6	0.4	54.5	6.0
O	12	1	415	15	1.6	0.4	56.1	6.4
	8-11	38	453	18	5.1	1.3	61.2	7.7
	3 to 7	180	633	60	24.3	17.9	85.5	25.5
	1 to 2	107	740	137	14.5	32.8	100.0	58.3
	0	98	740	235	0.0	41.7	100.0	100.0
			740	235	100.0	100.0	na	na

¹ Based on police recorded crime data using offences flagged in or at individual licensed premises

² These figures represent the sum of 2 years of baseline data

Top 15 premise baseline and post implementation

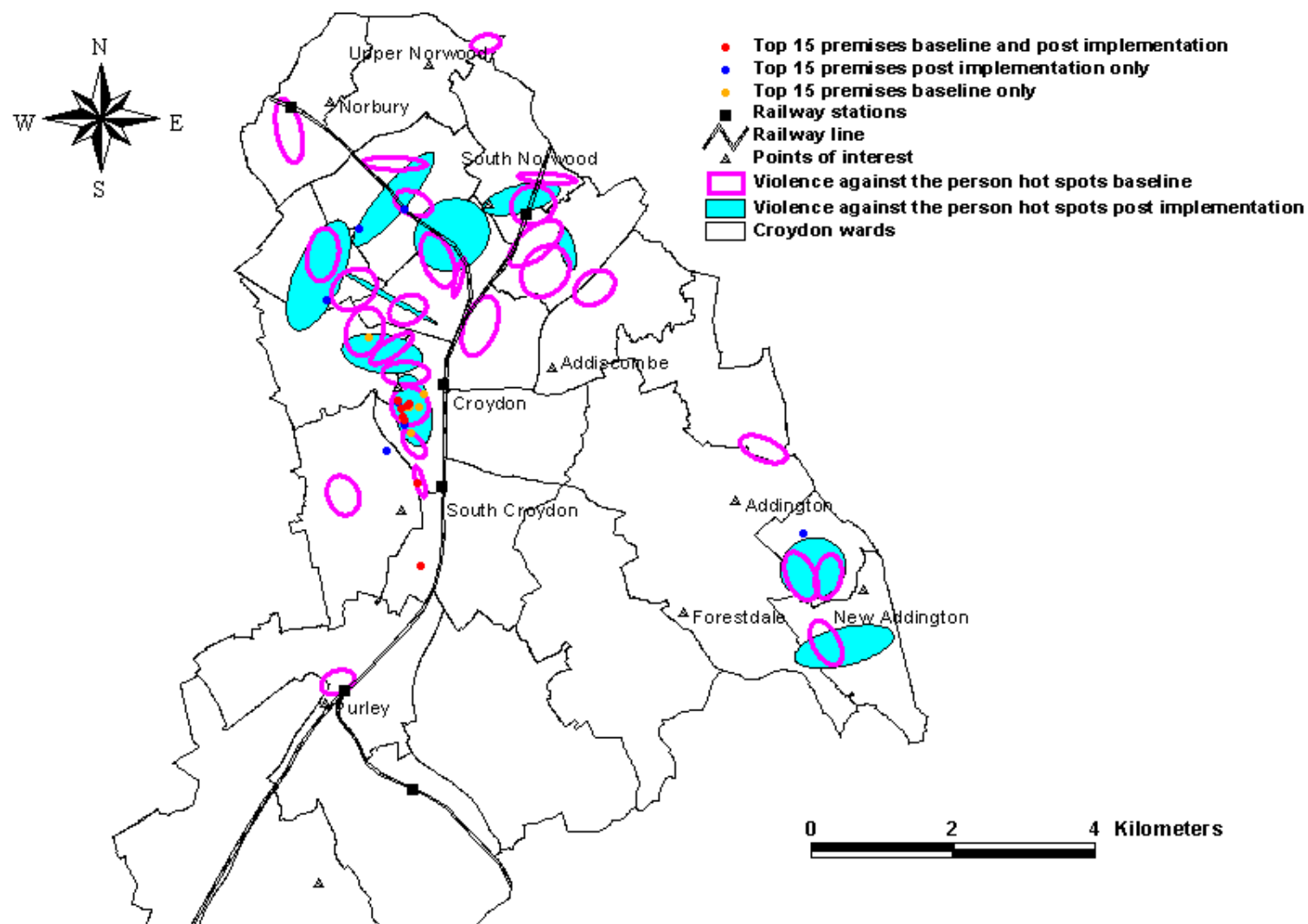
Table 2.6 Resource Targeting Table of violence against the person offences recorded¹ in or at pubs, bars and nightclubs in Croydon (post implementation period)

	Baseline rank	Number of offences	Number of premises	Cumulative number of offences	Cumulative number of premises	Percentage of offences	Percentage of premises	Cumulative percentage of offences	Cumulative percentage of premises
A	1	35	1	35	1	13.1	0.4	13.1	0.4
C	3	17	1	52	2	6.3	0.4	19.4	0.9
B	2	16	1	68	3	6.0	0.4	25.4	1.3
G	7	15	1	83	4	5.6	0.4	31.0	1.7
P	>15	9	1	92	5	3.4	0.4	34.3	2.1
M	13	9	1	99	6	2.6	0.4	36.9	2.6
I	9	7	1	104	7	1.9	0.4	38.8	3.0
K	11	5	1	109	8	1.9	0.4	40.7	3.4
Q	>15	4	1	96	6	1.5	0.4	42.2	3.8
R	>15	4	1	100	7	1.5	0.4	43.7	4.3
S	>15	4	1	104	8	1.5	0.4	45.1	4.7
T	>15	4	1	108	9	1.5	0.4	46.6	5.1
O	15	4	1	112	10	1.5	0.4	48.1	5.5
U	>15	4	1	116	11	1.5	0.4	49.6	6.0
V	>15	4	1	120	12	1.5	0.4	51.1	6.4
		2 to 3	101	217	106	37.7	40.4	88.8	46.8
		1	30	272	112	11.2	12.8	100.0	59.6
		0	85	272	201	0.0	40.4	100.0	100.0
		268	235	272	201	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Based on police recorded crime data using offences flagged in or at individual licensed premises

Top 15 premise baseline and post implementation

Figure 2.15 Comparison of top 15 ranked establishments for violence against the person in the baseline and post implementation periods in Croydon



Additional hours *used* and *applied for*

The fieldworkers collected information on the actual additional hours premises *used* as opposed to those that were applied for. Information on the hours *applied for* were provided by the local authority for each area in the licensed premises databases.

Table 2.7 presents information on premises visited by the fieldworkers during the qualitative part of the study. Five of the premises visited were in the top fifteen in both periods one was in the top fifteen in the baseline only, and seven were not in the top fifteen in either period (although most were in the top 30).

Only four premises did not apply for additional hours. Of the eight which did, six applied for nine or more hours. Premises do not, of course, always use the hours they apply for. In fact, none of the premises routinely used all of the hours applied for, and on average, premises used just 48 per cent of the extra hours.

Table 2.7 Profile of premises visited by fieldworkers in Croydon during post implementation interviews

Premise name	Weekly additional hours (applied for)	Weekly additional hours (used)	Percentage hours applied for used	Capacity	Violence against person offences (average baseline)	Violence against person offences (post implementation)
C	12	8	66.7	240	22	17
W	0	0	na	250	0	0
X	9.5	3	31.6	270	5	2
Y	9	2	22.2	-	3	1
M	0	0	na	250	7	9
I	14.5	10	69.0	850	9	7
Z	0	0	na	200	3	0
AA	9.5	2	21.1	600	4	3
AB	9	2	22.2	200	2	2
O	na	na	na	300	6	4
D	3.5	2.5	71.4	250	16	3
K	2.5	2	80.0	200	7	5
AC	0	0	na	60	1	0

	Top 15
	Baseline and post
	Baseline only
	Post only

In order to make comparisons easier, premises were grouped into one of three categories according to the number of additional hours *used per week*: none; one to five, and six or more.

Table 2.8 examines crime by the additional hours premises *used*, at premises visited by the fieldworkers. This shows that at these premises there was a reduction in the overall number of offences post implementation compared to baseline (from 79 to 49). In terms of the percentage of offences, the 30 per cent of premises *using* no additional hours accounted for 14 per cent of offences in the baseline period, rising to 18 per cent post implementation. Those *using* between one and five hours decreased their share of offences from 47 per cent to 33 per cent while the share of those *using* six or more hours increased from 40 to 49 per cent. In other words there was a reduction post implementation in terms of violence against the person offences for those premises *using* one to five hours, while all other premises increased their share. Due to the data structures it is not simple to compare the time of day or

day of week of crime directly with the time of day or day of week when premises extended their hours.

Table 2.8 Estimated additional hours *used* per week by premises visited by fieldworkers in Croydon and violence against the person offences (average baseline and post implementation periods)

Additional hours (used)	Number of premises	Violence against person offences (average baseline)	Violence against person offences (post implementation)
None	4	11	9
1 to 5	6	37	16
6 plus	2	31	24
Total	12	79	49

Additional hours (used)	Percentage of premises	Percentage of violence against the person	
		Average baseline	Post implementation
None	33.3	13.9	18.4
1 to 5	50.0	46.8	32.7
6 plus	16.7	39.2	49.0
Total	100	100	100

This analysis was repeated using the additional hours *applied for* at premises where this data was available. In Croydon there were 169 such premises. As former hours were not known, it was necessary to estimate the number of additional hours applied for, on the assumption that most pubs would have closed at 11.00pm and most clubs at 2.00am in the baseline period (*traditional closing hours*). The difference between the estimated traditional hours and the hours *applied for* post implementation were used to generate the number of *additional hours applied for*. It is estimated that 23 per cent of premises *applied for* no additional hours, 50 per cent applied for between one and eight, while 27 per cent applied for nine or more. It can be seen from table 2.9, that the share of violence against the person offences in the three categories of premises changed very little between baseline and post implementation. There was no evidence to suggest that the number of hours *applied for* impacted on the level of violence against the person offences recorded.

Table 2.9 Estimated additional hours *applied for* by all premises in Croydon and violence against the person offences (average baseline and post implementation periods)

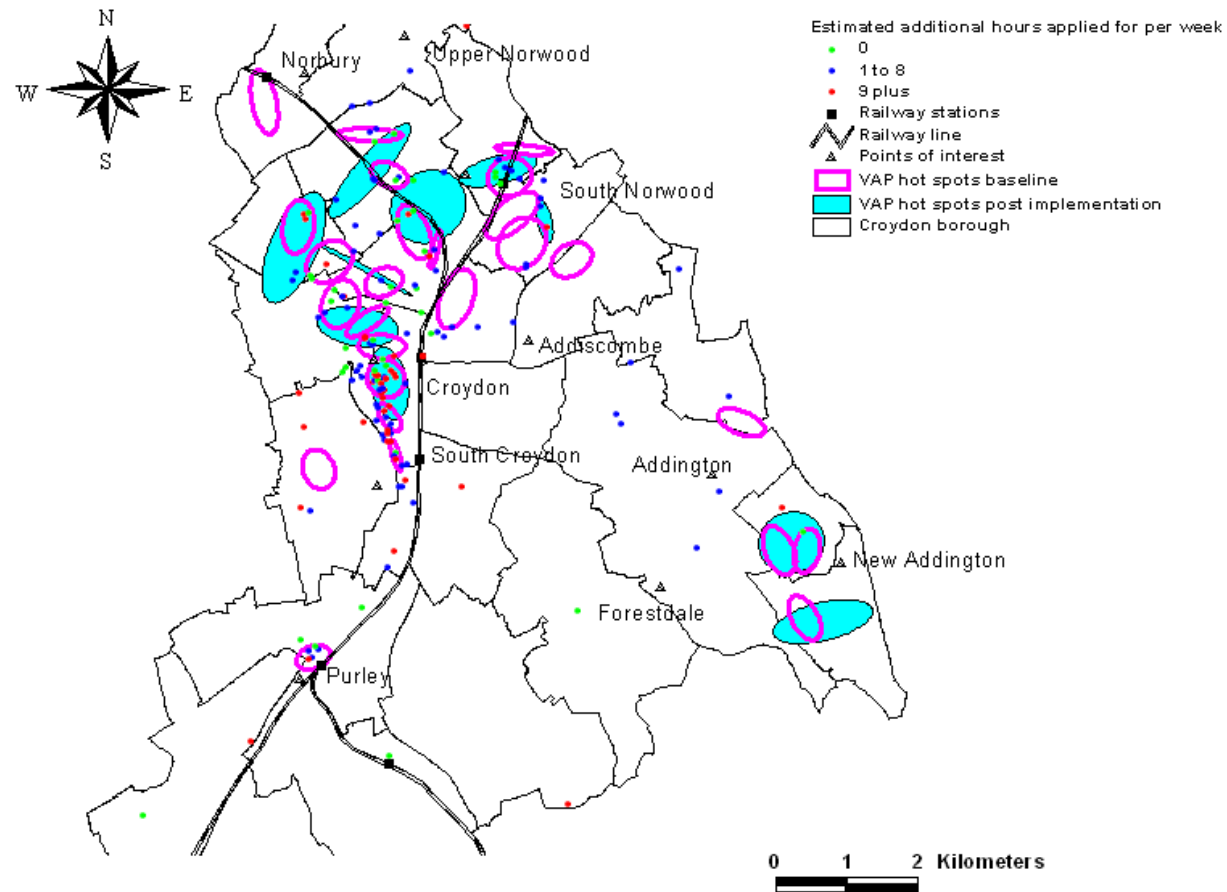
Additional hours (applied)	Number of premises	Violence against the person (average baseline)	Violence against the person (post implementation)
None	40	25	19
1 to 8	83	102	85
9 plus	46	149	112
Total	169	275	216

Additional hours (applied)	Percentage of premises	Percentage of violence against the person	
		Average baseline	Post implementation
None	23.7	8.9	8.8
1 to 8	49.1	37.0	39.4
9 plus	27.2	54.1	51.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

The map in figure 2.16 plots the premises by the number of estimated additional hours applied for. Although there is some concentration of premises which applied for additional hours; there is also significant inter-dispersal of these premises with premises which did not apply for extra hours. There is no evidence of new hot spots in areas where additional hours were applied for.

Unfortunately the data structures make it very difficult to link changes in licensing hours to change in crime by location and time. The top 15 analysis uses recorded crime data (violence against the person offences) and extracts the premise name as a text field based on the number of times it appears (frequency). It is a complex process to link the frequencies generated on premise name back to the individual crime records to extract number of offences at each premise by time of day. It is suggested that future research here is necessary and that local authorities maintain a database of violence offences by premise which include the date and time of the offence, the name of the premise, and the premise opening hours at the time of the offence.

Figure 2.16 Estimated weekly additional hours applied for by premises in Croydon in the post implementation period



Accident and Emergency and ambulance data

Ambulance data was provided for Croydon from November 2003 to the end of December 2006. Details of the information requested are provided in the technical annex. Accident and emergency data was not provided. Incidents of assault were extracted and analysed by month, by hour of the day/night and by age and gender. The time periods covered were 10.00pm on Friday through to 4.59am on Saturday and 10.00pm on Saturday through to 4.59am on Sunday. Only those patients attending who were aged 17 to 35 were included in the data set.

Distribution of incidents by month and year

In total, 1214 ambulance assaults were available for examination covering the 38 month period. Subsets of police recorded crime data on violence against the person were produced to accord with the days and times covered by the assaults data. Thus, violence against the person offences occurring outside of weekend nights were excluded to allow a more meaningful comparison between police recorded crime and ambulance assaults. In addition, changes in violence against the person on weekend nights were compared with overall violence against the person offences (that took place at any time) to provide a broader context for the various analyses.

Caution must be exercised in comparing the results from the ambulance data with those on recorded crime. This is because the geographical areas covered by the ambulance service were not coterminous with police wards. Also, there are likely to be different interpretations of what constitutes violence against the person for police recording purposes and what constitutes an assault for ambulance service recording purposes. As police violence against the person offences and assaults recorded by the ambulance service use entirely different information systems it was not possible to link the two various data sets.

On average, there were just over twice as many violence against the person offences recorded by the police than ambulance assaults in the baseline period. This is indicated by the violence against the person/assaults ratio in Table 2.10 below. The ratio between the two does not change markedly over time.

Weekend violence against the person fell by over ten per cent between the baseline and the post implementation period. Assaults recorded by the ambulance service also fell over this time period but to a lesser extent.

Table 2.10 Violence against the person and ambulance response assault data in Croydon (December 2003 to November 2006)

Category	Baseline year one December 2003 to November 2004	Baseline year two December 2004 to November 2005	Mean baseline	Post implementation December 2005 to November 2006	Percentage change mean baseline post implementation
Violence against the person	972	888	930	831	-10.6
Assaults (A&E)	416	341	378.5	369	-2.5
Ratio of violence against the person to ambulance assaults	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.2	

The monthly distribution of ambulance service recorded assaults appears in Table 2.11 and in Figure 2.17. The number of incidents post implementation revealed a somewhat mixed picture with fluctuations occurring throughout the year. However, the period between March

and July 2006 was characterised by reductions in assaults compared with the baseline, but this was followed by an increased volume of assaults between August 2006 and October 2006.

Figure 2.17 compares the assaults following the implementation of the Act with the mean monthly totals in the previous two years. The baseline averages appear as a grey dotted line. The post implementation line is mainly below the baseline in the first half of the year and above the baseline thereafter, markedly so in September and October 2006. Interestingly, this peak did not coincide with the World Cup football tournament. There was a general lack of correspondence between ambulance service assaults in the baseline and post implementation periods; the peaks and troughs did not coincide and the volume of assaults was subject to marked fluctuations. This suggests that the demands on the ambulance service in terms of assault victims changed post implementation.

Table 2.11 Ambulance response assault data in Croydon (November 2003 to December 2006)

	Year				Post implementation percentage change (monthly average) ¹
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January		39	28	22	-34.3
February		34	16	32	28.0
March		37	40	28	-27.3
April		32	32	32	0.0
May		38	25	21	-33.3
June		49	20	21	-39.1
July		36	46	34	-17.1
August		27	26	35	32.1
September		36	32	54	58.8
October		28	30	49	69.0
November	45	31	19	18	-28.0
December	29	27	23	43	-21.7

¹Note: The baseline period is an average of the two year period 2004/2005

Figure 2.17 Ambulance response assault data in Croydon (average monthly baseline periods and post implementation period)

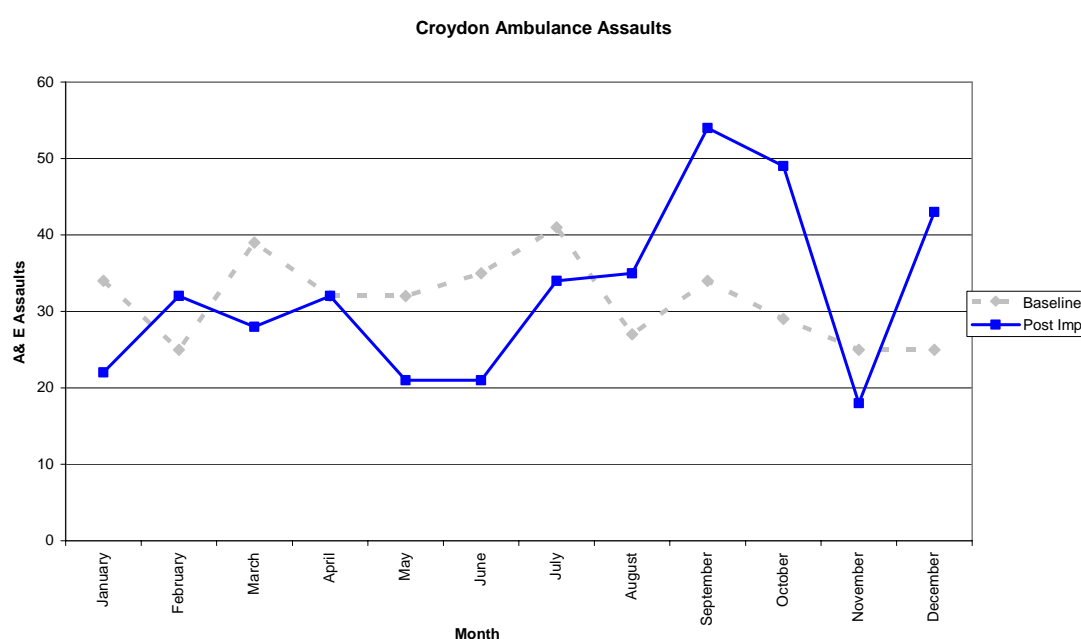


Figure 2.18 compares the monthly percentage change in ambulance data assaults (displayed in the grey bars) with that of police recorded violence against the person for weekend nights. The latter is shown in red where increased levels occurred compared with the same month in the previous two years and in blue when a reduction took place.

In general, between January 2006 and June 2006 both violence against the person and ambulance service recorded assaults showed monthly reductions compared with the baseline period – assaults more than violence against the person offences. From August 2006 onwards, violence against the person and assaults moved in different directions; the former continued to show monthly reductions whilst the later displayed sizeable increases.

Figure 2.18 Percentage change in ambulance response assault data in Croydon (average baseline to post implementation period change)

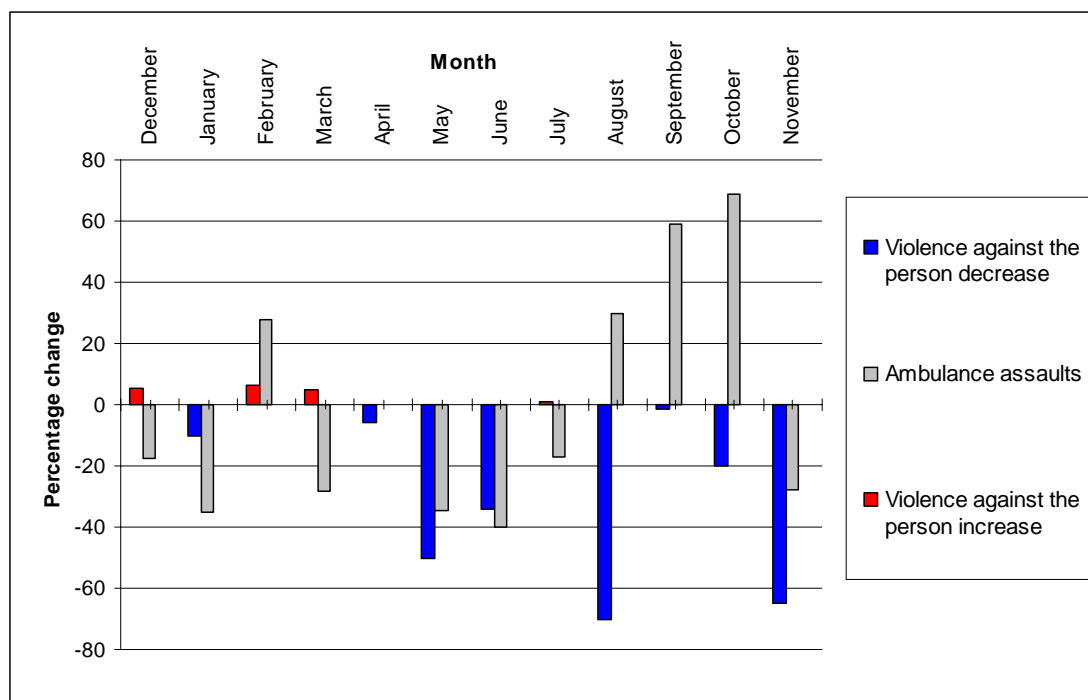
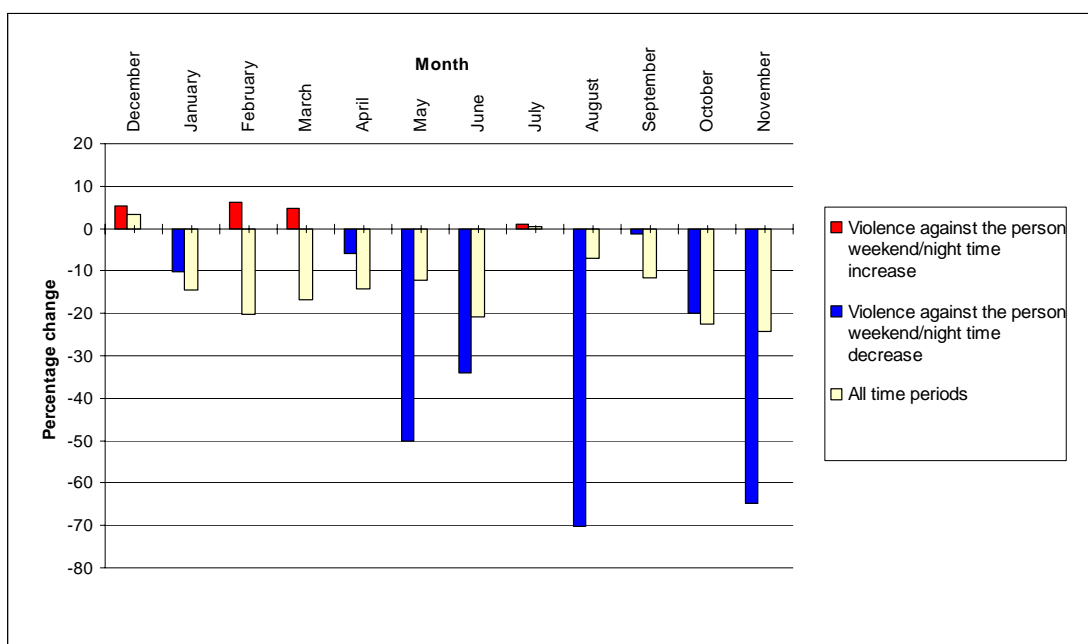


Figure 2.19 compares baseline and post implementation monthly changes in weekend evening violence against the person offences with changes for all violence against the person occurring in Croydon. The red and blue bars represent violence against the person on weekend nights and the clear white bars show changes in all violence against the person offences.

In the initial months following the implementation of the Act, small increases in weekend violence against the person took place whilst violence against the person overall (white bars) showed modest reductions. From April 2006 onwards (with the exception of July 2006), both weekend violence against the person and violence against the person overall showed reductions, with weekend violence against the person generally falling much more than violence against the person overall. The interruption in the fall of violence against the person in July 2006 could be a result of the World Cup, although this was not reflected in the ambulance assaults which fell in July 2006, albeit modestly.

Figure 2.19 Percentage change in violence against the person occurring at weekends and violence against the person overall in Croydon (average baseline to post implementation period change)



Distribution of incidents by time of day

The timing of ambulance data assaults appears in Table 2.12. The baseline and post implementation change in assaults is displayed in the penultimate column and this is compared with changes in weekend violence against the person in the final column.

There were some similarities in Croydon in how ambulance assaults and weekend violence against the person offences changed by hour of the evening/night. Both assaults and violence against the person offences fell between 11.00 pm and 11.59pm and in each hour between 1.00am and 3.59am. Assaults and violence against the person both increased between 10.00pm and 10.59pm and between 4.00am and 4.49am, although increases in assaults were far greater than those seen for violence against the person offences.

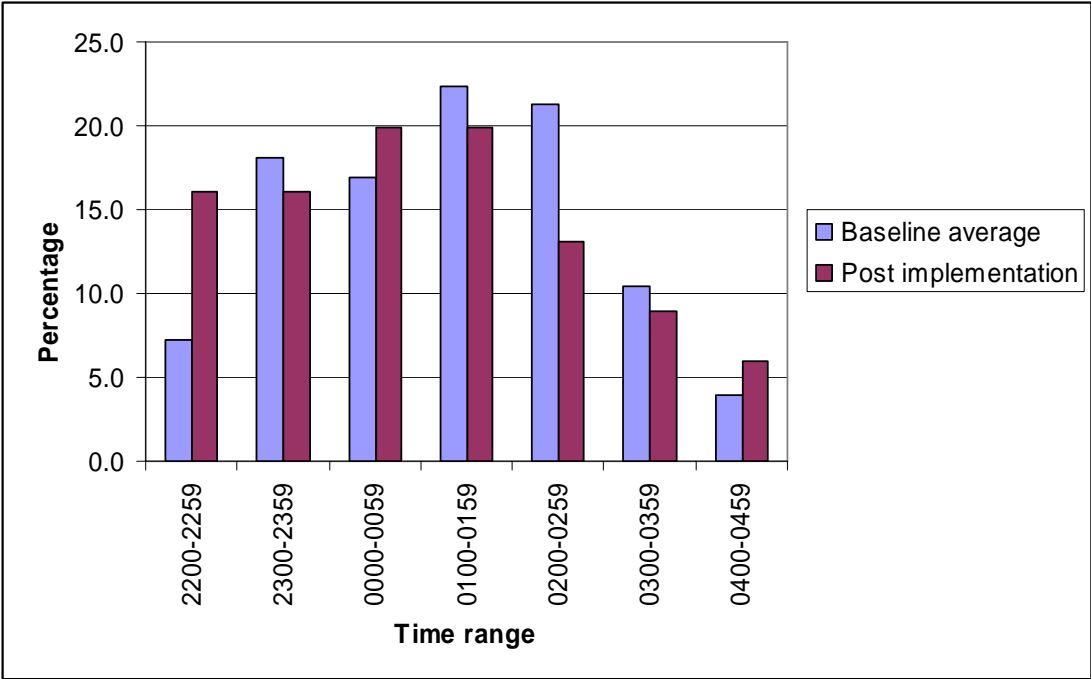
Table 2.12 Ambulance response assault data by time of day in Croydon (baseline and post implementation periods)

Time of day	Baseline year one December 2003 to November 2004	Baseline year two December 2004 to November 2005	Post implementation December 2005 to November 2006	Ambulance assaults percentage change mean baseline post implementation	Weekend violence against the person percentage change mean baseline post implementation
2200-2259	16	23	43	115.0	4.8
2300-2359	65	35	43	-14.0	-14.3
0000-0059	50	44	53	12.8	-0.3
0100-0159	68	56	53	-14.5	-19.5
0200-0259	72	46	35	-40.7	-22.3
0300-0359	30	28	24	-17.2	-13.9
0400-0459	10	11	16	45.5	6.7

The proportion of assaults within each time band in the baseline and post implementation period are shown in Figure 2.20 below. This shows changes in the distribution of assaults throughout weekend nights. The post implementation period saw a greater proportion of these incidents concentrated at three points during the night; between midnight and 12.59am and at

both ends of the night - in the late evening (10.00pm to 10.59pm) and in the early hours (4.00am to 4.59am).

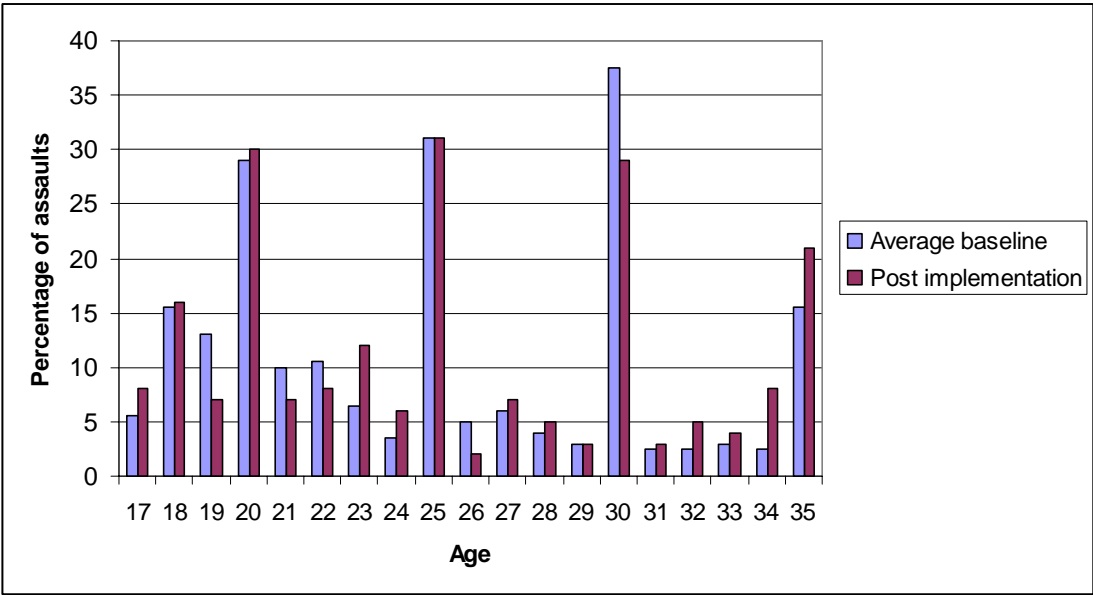
Figure 2.20 Percentage of ambulance response assault data by time period in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



Victim profile

The results of the analysis of assaults by age appears in Figure 2.21. The graph shows that there was little in the way of any discernible patterns in the changes from the baseline to post-implementation. The age distribution of patients across the two periods was largely similar, although there was a small increase in the number of victims aged 31 to 35.

Figure 2.21 Percentage of assaults in Croydon by age of victim (average baseline and post implementation)



Summary of findings: violence against the person

- With the exception of July and December, for each month of the post implementation period there were reductions in violence against the person compared to the corresponding months in the baseline period. These reductions were greater than 20 per cent during February, June, October and November.
- Violence against the person was already displaying a downward trend at the time the Act was introduced. Therefore the reductions may be attributable to factors other than the Act. The World Cup in 2006 coincided with an increase in violence against the person offences, which may explain why this was one of only two months which did not show a decrease compared to the baseline period.
- Offences of violence against the person remain fairly constant, and at a high level, from 3.00pm until 1.00am, with peaks at both these times in both periods.
- The distribution of violence against the person offences across times retained a similar pattern in the post implementation period. There has been a reduction in the number of offences of violence against the person in every one hour time period, although the greatest reductions were seen between: 5.00am and 6.00am and 11.00am to midday.
- During the post implementation period there was no evidence of a shift in the occurrence of violence against the person to later times of the day. Nor was there any difference in the distribution of offences by day of week.
- There have only been marginal changes to the age and gender profile of victims of violence against the person. For males, the reductions in violence against the person were evenly distributed across age groups. For females, those aged 15-39 saw reductions in the number of offences, whereas older females did not.
- Among female victims of domestic violence there were large reductions in the number of offences among those aged 20-24 and 30-34. Amongst males, the largest decreases were amongst those aged 30-34 and 40-44.
- There was some reduction in offences of violence against the person between 1.00am and 1.59 am for the cluster area and from 0-50m from premises, while there was an increase for the same areas between 3.00pm and 3.59pm.
- The proportion of Croydon's violence against the person occurring within the cluster area gradually increased in the latter part of the baseline period through to the first quarter of the post implementation period before declining slightly again.
- Overall, there was no evidence to suggest that there was any considerable change over time in the location or timing of violence against the person offences in relation to licensed premises.
- Although there was some turnover of premises in the top 15, in both periods, they accounted for a similar proportion of offences (60%), while a similar proportion of premises (40%) in both periods had no offences recorded against them.
- Two thirds of premises in the top 15 applied for extra hours; of these they used on average 48 per cent of the applied for hours. There was a reduction post implementation in terms of violence against the person offences for those using one to five hours, while premises using none or more than six hours increased their share of such offences.
- Estimates of the number of hours applied for by all premises found that 23 per cent of premises applied for no additional hours, 50 per cent applied for between one

and eight, while 27 per cent applied for nine or more. The share of violence against the person offences in the three categories of premises changed very little between baseline and post implementation.

- On average, there were just over twice as many violence against the person offences recorded by the police than ambulance assaults in the baseline period. Weekend violence against the person fell by over ten per cent between the baseline and the post-implementation period. Ambulance assaults also fell (2.5%), but to a lesser extent.
- The monthly distribution of ambulance assaults revealed a mixed picture with fluctuations taking place throughout the year. The period between March and July 2006 saw reductions in assaults (compared with the baseline), however, this was followed by increases (compared to the baseline) between August and October 2006.
- There were some similarities in how ambulance assaults and weekend violence against the person offences changed by hour of the evening/night. Both ambulance assaults and violence against the person offences fell between 11.00pm and 11.59pm and in each hour between 1.00am and 3.59am. Assaults and violence against the person increased between 10.00pm and 10.59pm and between 4.00am and 4.49am.
- There were significant reductions in the second half of the baseline period and both the first and second six months of the post implementation periods (see supplementary annex).
- There were 93 less serious violence against the person offences post implementation (see supplementary annex).
- Weekday offences reduced in 9 out of 12 months, and weekend offences by 11 out of 12 months. There were six months when both weekday and weekend violence against the person fell but weekday offences reduced the most (see supplementary annex).
- Violence against the person reduced between 11am and 3am both during the week and at weekends, although the magnitude of the change was greatest during the weekend (see supplementary annex).
- KDE synthesis maps revealed that in the key drinking areas there are reductions from 9.00pm through to 4.59am, although these are most concentrated between 1.00pm and 2.59am (see supplementary annex).

3. Criminal damage

Criminal damage includes crimes such as arson, damage and vandalism to buildings, vehicles and other property and threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage.

Vandalism recorded by the British Crime Survey has fallen by 19 per cent since its high point in 1995. Between 2004/5 and 2005/06 the British Crime Survey reported no significant change in criminal damage while police recorded figures showed a 1 per cent reduction. (Walker, Kershaw and Nicholas, 2006).

Nationally, criminal damage offences tend to peak in the spring months then fall in the summer months followed by another peak in autumn (Hird and Ruparel 2007).

The findings of this analysis are supported by additional analysis presented in the supplementary annex which examines criminal damage using statistical tests of change from the baseline to post implementation, weekend and weekday offences, and synthesis maps of hot spot change by time of day. The results of this are detailed in the supplementary analysis, and also included in the summary findings at the start of this annex, and concluding sections of this annex. The reader is also referred to the final report that summarises the findings of all five case study areas.

Macro level

The following section compares the level of criminal damage across Croydon during the post implementation periods with baseline levels. Annual comparisons of offences show a steady decline from year 1 and year 2 in the baseline period (5028 and 4711 respectively). In the post implementation period there was a slight increase (4908). During the baseline period there was an average of 406 criminal damage offences per month in Croydon. This increased by less than one per cent to 409 offences per month during the implementation period.

Table 3.1 displays the number of criminal damage offences in Croydon by month and year, the blue shaded area represents the post implementation period. The percentage change figure is the change between the number of offences in each month during the post implementation period, and the average number of criminal damage offences in the two corresponding months from the two previous years in the baseline period. The table shows that in only two months was there a difference of more than 10 per cent; in May there was an increase of 12 per cent compared to the baseline and in November a 13 per cent increase. The largest reduction in criminal damage offences was in August, where post implementation figures were almost ten per cent lower than baseline.

Figure 3.1 shows the monthly rate of criminal damage (per 10,000 persons) in Croydon during the post implementation period (blue line). The average monthly rate of criminal damage for the baseline period is shown as a dotted grey line. The graph shows that overall criminal damage trends during the post implementation period closely reflected the baseline trends, with the same seasonal peaks (summer) and troughs (spring and autumn).

Figure 3.2 shows the percentage change between the average monthly frequency of criminal damage offences during the baseline period, and the monthly frequencies of such offences during the post implementation period. As overall levels of criminal damage did not change noticeably post implementation, it not surprising that there is no overall trend visible in the figure, with six months showing increases and six months showing decreases compared to the baseline.

Table 3.1 Criminal damage monthly crime counts in Croydon (November 2003 to December 2006)

	Year				Post implementation percentage change (monthly average) ¹
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January		419	397	405	-0.7
February		406	339	369	-0.9
March		459	405	410	-5.1
April		466	442	446	-1.8
May		433	465	502	11.8
June		472	410	402	-8.8
July		375	399	389	0.5
August		423	326	338	-9.7
September		387	357	394	5.9
October		391	439	421	1.4
November		396	388	443	13.0
December	401	344	389	375	4.4

¹ Note: The baseline period is an average of the two year period 2004/2005

Figure 3.1 Criminal damage crime rates in Croydon (average monthly baseline and post implementation periods)

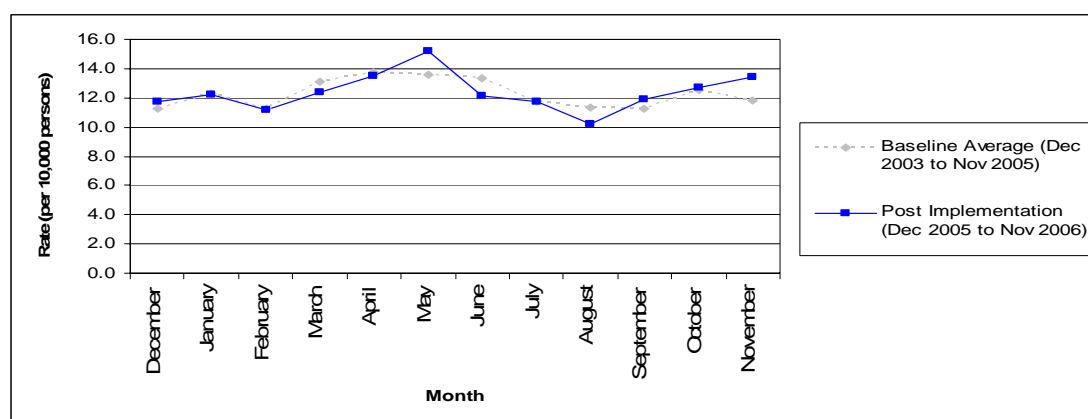
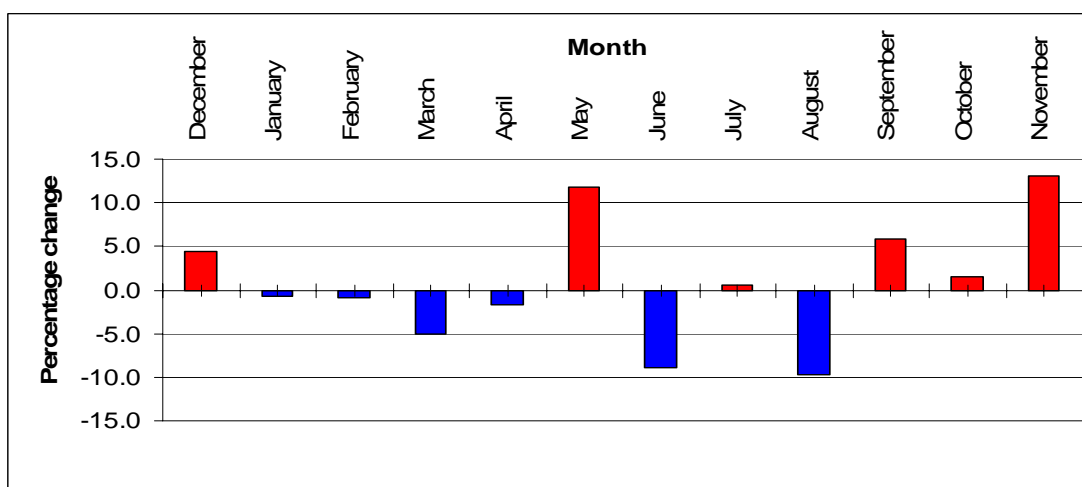


Figure 3.2 Percentage change in criminal damage offences in Croydon (average monthly baseline to post implementation period change)



Distribution of offences by time of day and day of week

This section examines whether the distribution of criminal damage offences across hours of the day and days of the week changed following the introduction of the Act. Table 3.2 displays the number of criminal damage offences by time of day for each of the three year periods examined. The average percentage change reflects the change between the average baseline period frequency criminal damage offences (year one and year two for each time interval) and the frequency of such offences post implementation for each time interval.

The table shows that the distribution of offences across time of day follows a similar pattern in the post implementation period as the baseline period. In both the baseline and post implementation periods, the frequency of criminal damage offences tended to increase gradually throughout the morning, peaking between 5.00pm and 11.59pm before gradually declining until 8.00am the following morning. There were some decreases of over 10 per cent in the post implementation period compared to the baseline period between the hours of 12.00pm and 12.59pm and 5.00pm and 5.59pm. Increases of over 10 per cent in criminal damage compared to baseline occurred during the hours of 9.00am to 9.59am, 4.00am to 5.59am and 7.00am to 7.59am. Many of these changes may simply be due to natural variations in crime rates between years, and it is notable that there were no large changes in rates of criminal damage in the hours which would be covered by extended hours.

Table 3.2 Criminal damage offences by time of day in Croydon (baseline and post implementation periods)

Time of day	Baseline year 1 frequency	Baseline year 2 frequency	Post implementation year 3 frequency	Percentage change (average baseline to post implementation period)
0900-0959	175	148	186	15.2
1000-1059	137	143	128	-8.6
1100-1159	133	136	140	4.1
1200-1259	227	213	179	-18.6
1300-1359	152	143	133	-9.8
1400-1459	158	189	174	0.3
1500-1559	227	238	244	4.9
1600-1659	272	234	233	-7.9
1700-1759	352	332	297	-13.2
1800-1859	493	400	413	-7.5
1900-1959	366	337	324	-7.8
2000-2059	365	348	391	9.7
2100-2159	343	305	354	9.3
2200-2259	390	334	369	1.9
2300-2359	322	295	335	8.6
0000-0059	224	257	263	9.4
0100-0159	174	159	166	-0.3
0200-0259	129	106	112	-4.7
0300-0359	86	75	86	6.8
0400-0459	46	44	51	13.3
0500-0559	28	35	49	55.6
0600-0659	40	41	37	-8.6
0700-0759	66	66	78	18.2
0800-0859	130	143	146	7.0

Figure 3.3 shows the percentage of criminal damage offences in each time interval for each year. For the baseline period this is averaged over the two year period. There is also a two month average trend line for each of the two time periods under consideration. A smoothed trend line (rolling average) is plotted for each of the two time periods examined. This chart

confirms that there have been only marginal changes in the distribution of criminal damage offences between the baseline and implementation periods. The only two noticeable differences between the periods occurred around 9.00am and 1.00pm, which saw decreases in criminal damage offences compared to baseline, neither of which could plausibly be attributed to changes in licensing hours. It is difficult to detect any overall change in criminal damage offence peaks by time of day.

Figure 3.3 Proportional changes to criminal damage offences by time of day in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

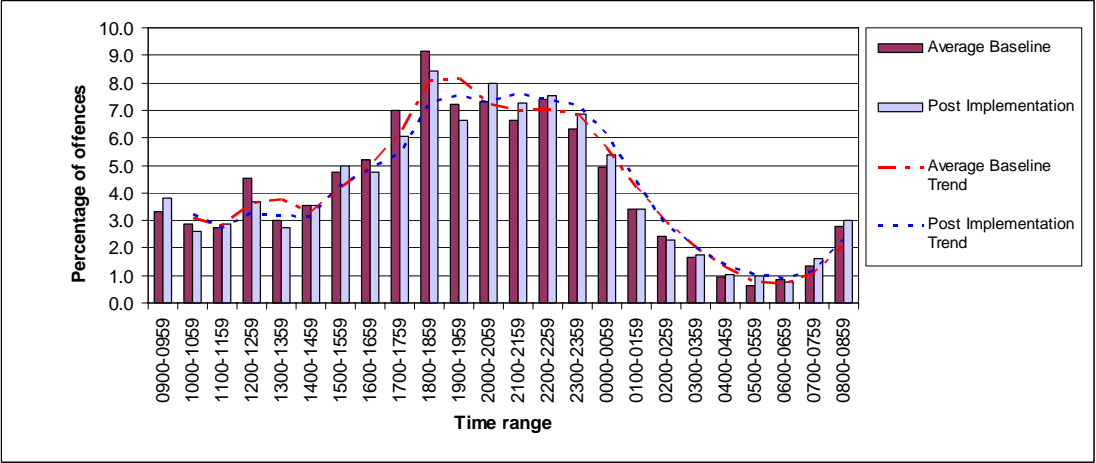
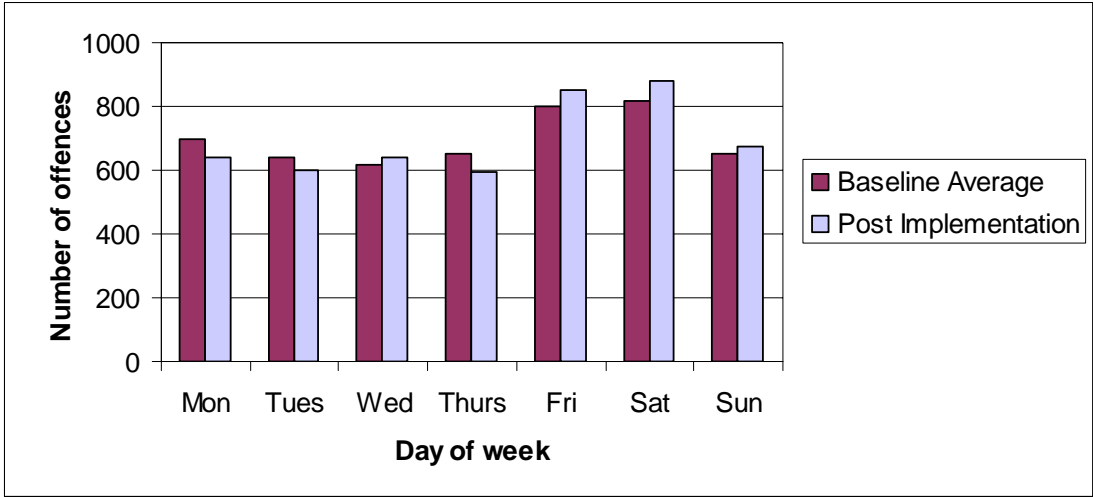


Figure 3.4 portrays the frequency of criminal damage offences by day of week for the baseline period and post implementation periods. The baseline period is an average for the two years. This shows that the overall distribution of offences was largely unchanged, Friday and Saturday both peak days for offences. There was a slight tendency in the post implementation period for offences of criminal damage to be concentrated at the weekends.

Figure 3.4 Criminal damage offences by day of week in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



Meso and micro level

In order to examine the relationship between the location of licensed premises and the level of criminal damage the frequency of offences was examined specifically for defined zones within the case study area. These were 50m concentric buffer zones surrounding licensed premises (pubs, bars and clubs) and also cluster areas (areas with high densities of licensed premises). The methodology for constructing these zones is described in more detail in the technical annex. The frequency of criminal damage offences in each individual zone was calculated for the baseline period and post implementation period.

Table 3.3 shows the proportion of Croydon's criminal damage offences occurring in each of the zones during the two periods. The table shows that in both periods the zone within 50-100m of licensed premises accounted for just over 10 per cent of all criminal damage offences with the area 100-150m away from premises accounting for almost as many offences, around 10 per cent in both periods. Criminal damage appears to be less concentrated around licensed premises than violence against the person, indeed the cluster area accounted for just four per cent of criminal damage offences, less than half of the proportion of violence against the person. Comparing the baseline and post implementation periods there was very little change in the proportion of criminal damage occurring in each of these zones.

Table 3.3 Proportional changes to criminal damage offences in the buffer zones and cluster area in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

	Area					
	Cluster	0-50m	50-100m	100-150m	150-200m	Croydon borough
Percentage baseline	4.4	7.8	10.8	10.3	7.8	100.0
Percentage post implementation	4.2	7.0	10.2	9.3	8.0	100.0
Proportional change	-0.1	-0.8	-0.6	-0.9	0.2	0.0

Daily distribution of criminal damage in specified zones

The frequency of criminal damage offences occurring in each zone was divided by time of day into twenty-four one hour time intervals. The percentage of offences in each time interval for the baseline period (average over two years), and also the post implementation period was then calculated. From this a percentage change could be generated for each time interval in each individual zone, from the average baseline to the post implementation periods. The result of this proportional change analysis is depicted in table 3.4. This table also includes volume change in addition to the proportional change that represents the actual change in numbers

The table confirms that across Croydon and within each of the specified zones, changes to the daily distribution of criminal damage offences were marginal. Where small changes do occur they tend to be during the day, at times when they are unlikely to be influenced by the new opening hours as a result of the Act. It is recommended that further contextual data, for example land use, be incorporated into future analysis to examine this further. Reasons why this has not been done in this research project are described in the final report and technical annex

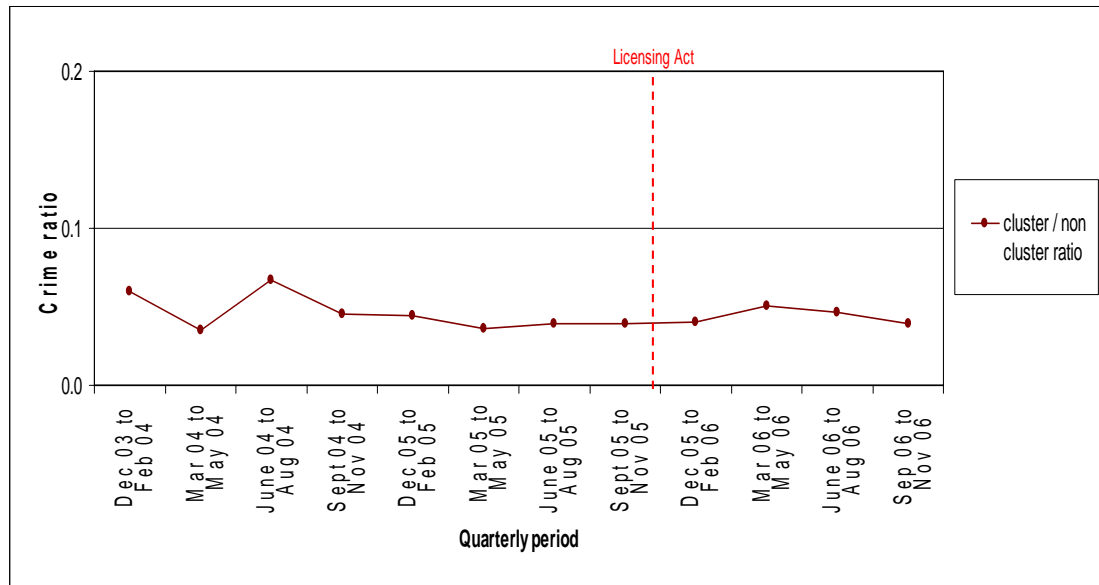
Table 3.4 Proportional changes to criminal damage offences by time of day and location in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

Time of day	Area											
	Cluster		0-50m		50-100m		100-150m		150-200m		Croydon borough	
	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume
0900-0959	1.9	0	1.9	5	0.8	3	-0.4	-4	1.1	5	-0.7	-34
1000-1059	0.7	-2	0.7	2	-1.1	-7	0.9	3	-0.7	-3	-0.6	-28
1100-1159	0.0	3	0.0	-2	-0.2	-2	0.8	3	-0.6	-2	0.7	35
1200-1259	0.6	2	0.6	0	0.6	2	-1.9	-11	-2.7	-10	0.6	30
1300-1359	-0.4	1	-0.4	-3	0.8	3	0.5	1	0.1	1	0.1	7
1400-1459	-0.3	-2	-0.3	-3	2.1	9	-0.3	-3	0.3	2	0.5	27
1500-1559	-0.2	1	-0.2	-3	-1.6	-10	1.2	4	-1.2	-5	0.5	23
1600-1659	-0.5	-2	-0.5	-4	-1.8	-11	-0.4	-5	-0.5	-2	0.0	-1
1700-1759	-1.3	-2	-1.3	-8	0.4	0	1.1	2	-1.0	-4	-0.1	-6
1800-1859	0.7	2	0.7	-1	2.2	9	-0.5	-6	-3.1	-12	0.1	6
1900-1959	1.3	-6	1.3	2	-1.2	-9	-1.1	-8	-1.7	-6	0.1	6
2000-2059	-3.5	-5	-3.5	-15	2.8	12	-0.2	-4	-2.2	-8	0.4	18
2100-2159	1.5	-3	1.5	3	-1.0	-8	2.1	7	3.2	13	-0.1	-4
2200-2259	0.4	-7	0.4	-3	-3.1	-18	1.1	2	3.7	15	0.2	12
2300-2359	1.9	4	-1.0	-7	-0.6	-5	-0.5	-6	1.1	5	0.2	10
0000-0059	0.3	9	0.3	-2	0.0	-2	0.0	-3	0.7	3	0.5	25
0100-0159	-0.4	2	-0.4	-4	2.5	11	-2.2	-12	0.5	2	-0.3	-12
0200-0259	-1.5	-5	-1.5	-8	-0.8	-5	-0.1	-2	-0.4	-2	0.1	6
0300-0359	-0.4	-4	-0.4	-3	0.5	2	0.1	-1	0.0	0	-0.8	-41
0400-0459	0.8	1	0.8	3	-0.3	-2	-0.9	-5	0.4	2	-0.3	-15
0500-0559	0.4	1	0.4	1	-0.9	-5	0.2	1	1.5	6	0.0	1
0600-0659	-0.1	3	-0.1	-1	0.1	1	0.9	4	0.1	1	0.2	12
0700-0759	0.1	-2	0.1	0	0.0	0	-0.3	-2	-0.5	-2	-0.4	-20
0800-0859	0.8	4	0.8	2	-0.1	-2	-0.1	-2	1.8	7	-0.9	-45

Proportion of criminal damage in cluster area

Figure 3.5 plots the criminal damage ratio produced by dividing the monthly counts of offences in the cluster area with counts outside the cluster area. The graph illustrates that across the period of analysis the proportion of Croydon's criminal damage occurring within the cluster fluctuated somewhat in the first year of the baseline, but has been stable over the second year of the baseline and during the post implementation period. The graph does not suggest that the introduction of the Act had an impact on the proportion of offences occurring within the area with a high concentration of licensed premises

Figure 3.5 Criminal damage crime ratio in Croydon (December 2003 to November 2006)

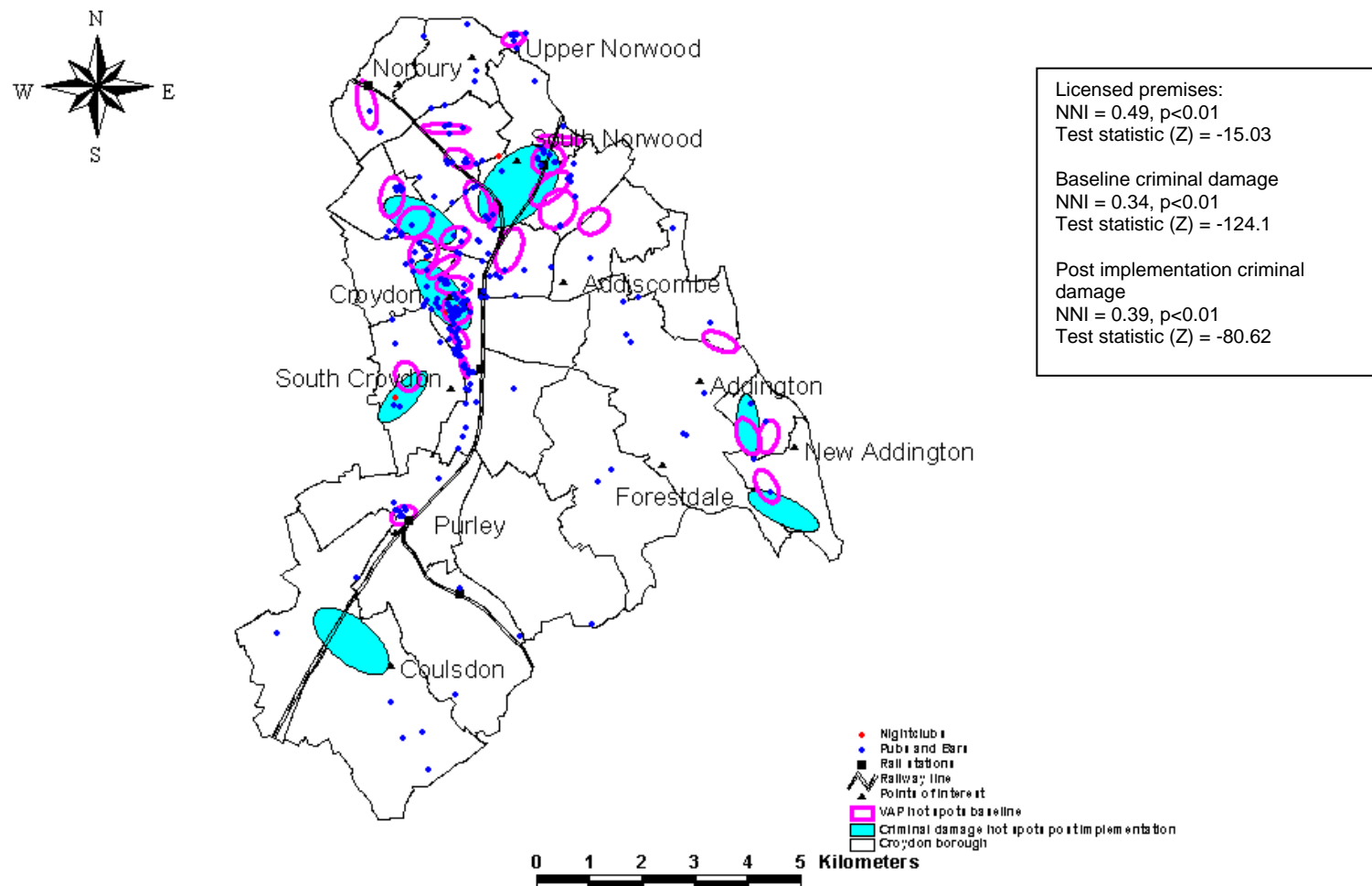


Geographical distribution of criminal damage

The NNI statistic (described in the technical annex) shows that there is evidence of clustering in the criminal damage data, above the clustering exhibited by premises themselves, and that hot spot analysis is an appropriate technique to use.

Figure 3.6 maps the NNHC hot spots (see technical annex) in Croydon borough both in the baseline and post implementation periods. The ellipses on the map are generated statistically and represent hot spots of criminal damage. The purple ellipses represent the baseline and the blue ones the post implementation period. These hot spots do not account for the timing of the offences, but consider the overall concentration of offending over the period. It can be seen that the hot spots remained relatively stable. They are concentrated around the major urban areas, particularly Croydon itself, South Norwood and Addington. One new hot spot around Coulsdon emerged in the post implementation period, but overall there is no real evidence of a shift in the location of hot spots between the two periods.

Figure 3.6 Criminal damage hot spots (NNHC) in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

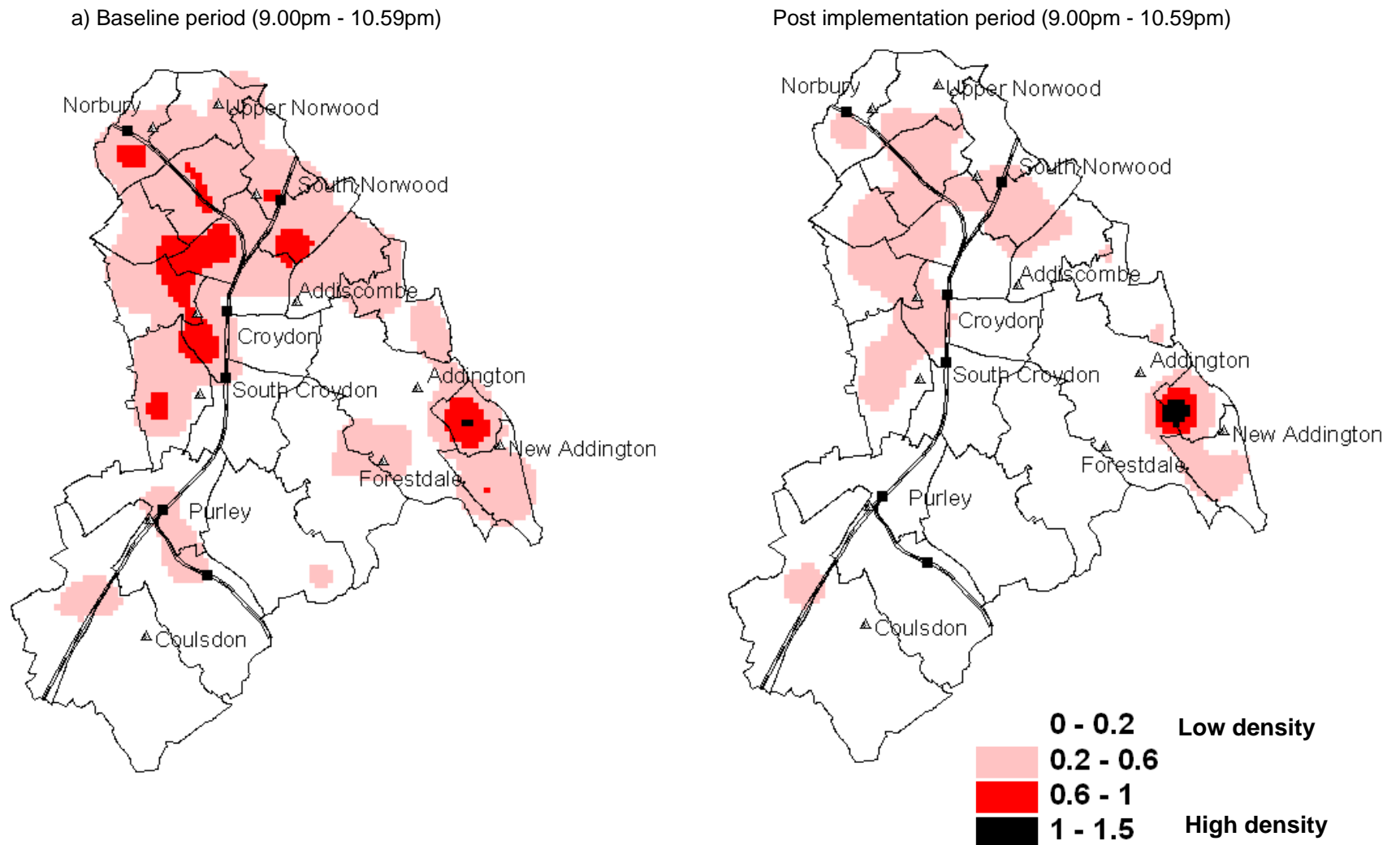


The maps which follow (Figure 3.7) show criminal damage hot spots by time of day. KDE (explained in the technical annex) is used to derive hot spots. The timing of offences has been grouped into four periods, namely 9.00pm to 10.59pm, 11.00pm to 0.59am, 1.00am to 2.59am and 3.00am to 4.59am.

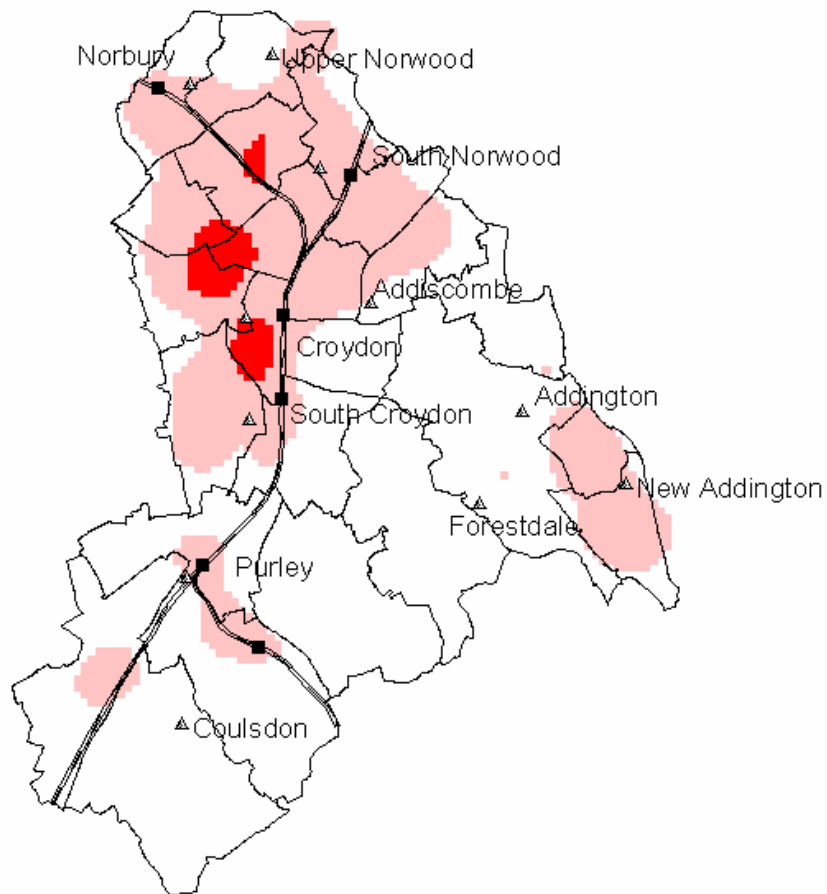
For each of the pairs of maps, the left hand side represents the baseline period, while the right hand side represents the post implementation period. The overall pattern is similar for baseline and post implementation periods for most of the time intervals, although there are a number of small changes. In the interval 9.00pm -11.00pm the intensity of criminal damage around Croydon itself had decreased in the post implementation period, while it has increased in Addington. From 11.00pm to 1.00am, the intensity of criminal damage declines in both the baseline and post implementation periods, with a small hot spot remaining only in New Addington. From 1.00am to 3.00am, criminal damage again declines, with the hot spot around Croydon decreasing in intensity compared to the baseline. After 3.00am there is negligible criminal damage in either period.

Taken together, these results do not suggest that there has been any considerable change in the timing or location of criminal damage offences in Croydon between the baseline and post implementation periods

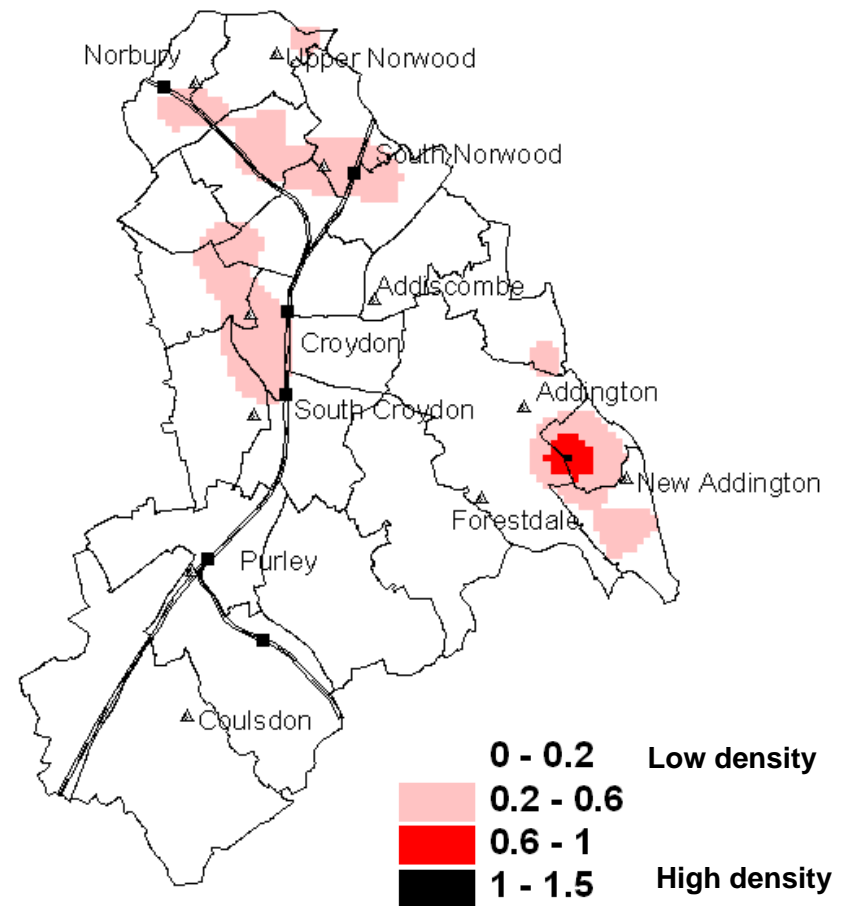
Figure 3.7 Criminal damage hot spots (KDE) by time of day in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



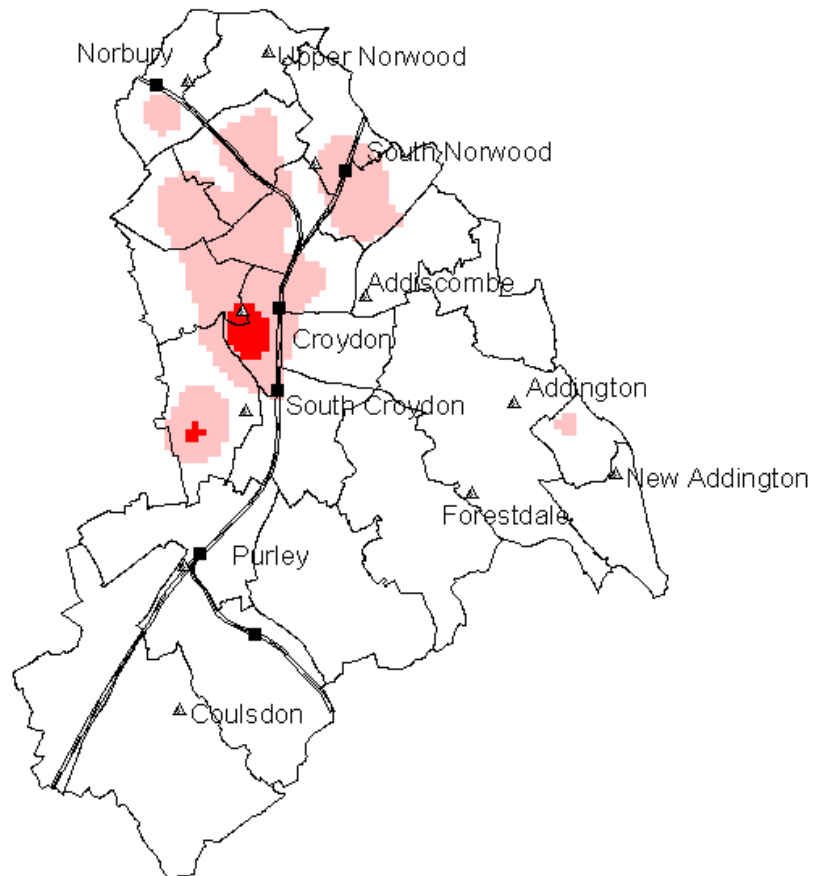
b) Baseline period (11.00pm - 0.59am)



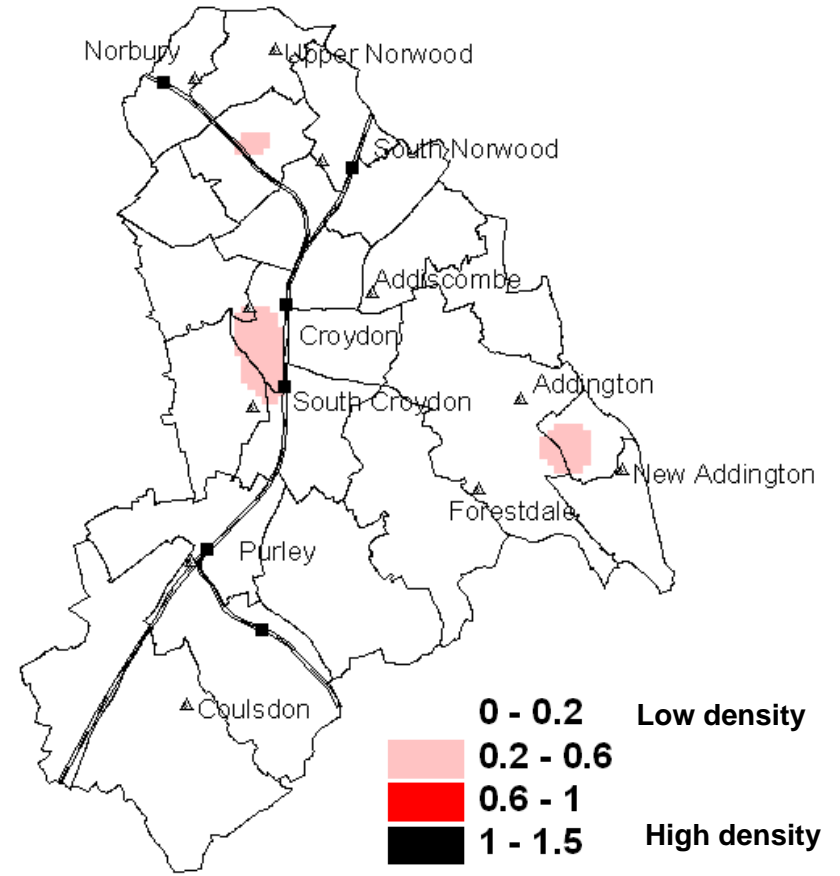
Post implementation period (11.00pm - 0.59am)



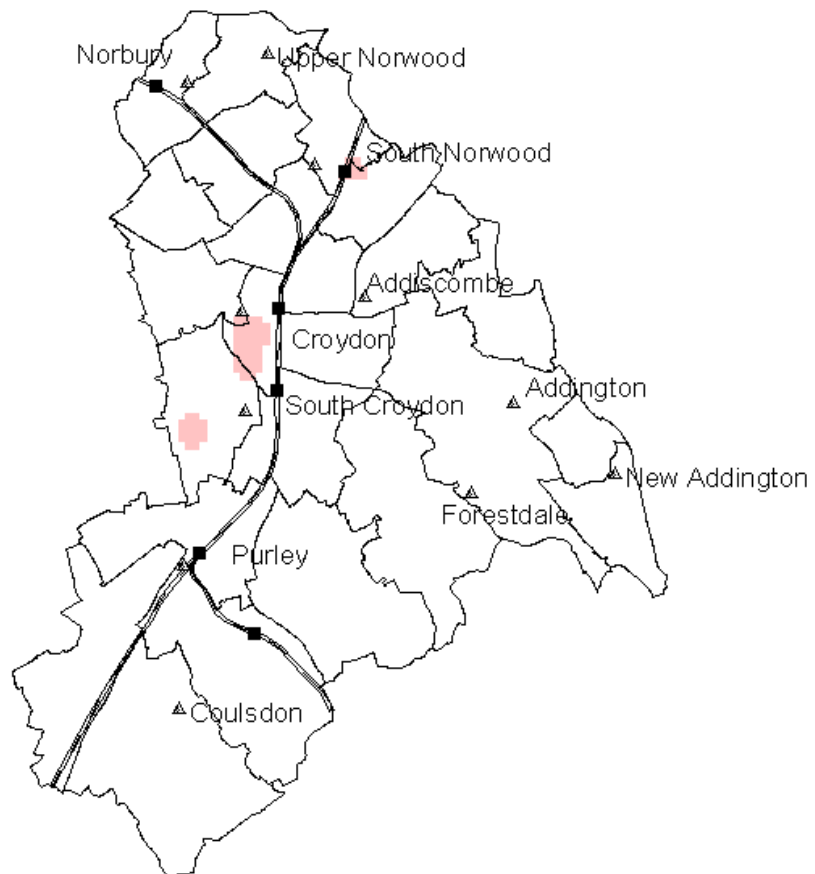
c) Baseline period (1.00am - 2.59am)



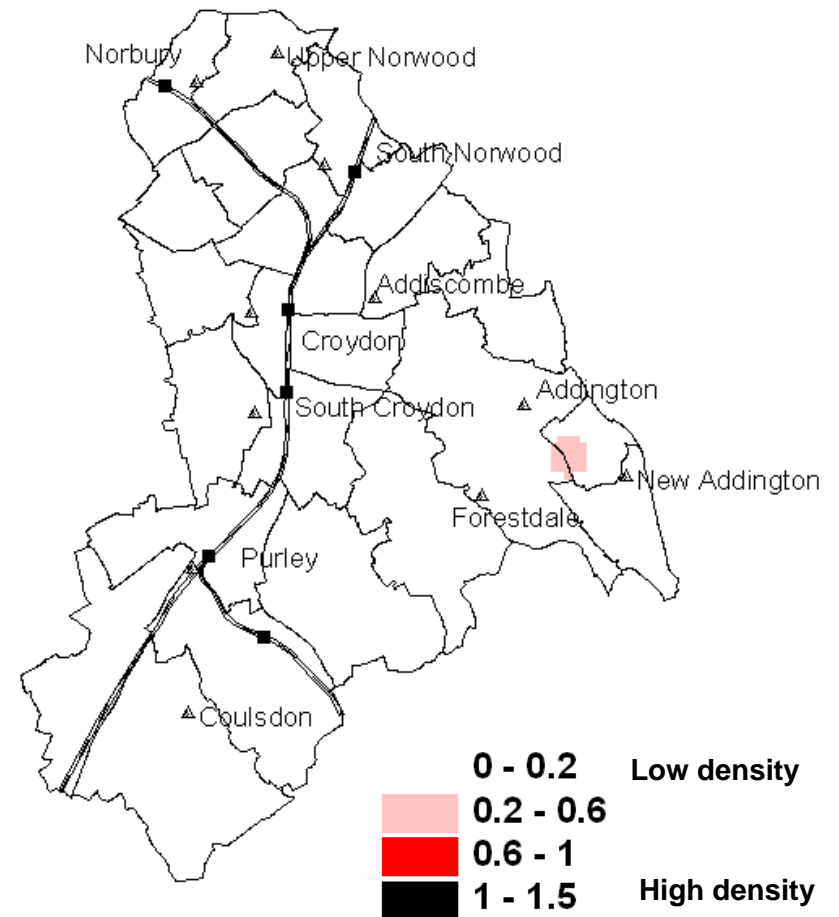
Post implementation period (1.00am - 2.59am)



d) Baseline period (3.00am - 4.59am)



Post implementation period (3.00am - 4.59am)



Summary of findings: criminal damage

- Overall levels of criminal damage post implementation and baseline were very similar and the trends during the post implementation period closely reflected the baseline trends, with the same seasonal peaks (summer) and troughs (spring and autumn).
- The distribution of offences across time of day follows a similar pattern in the post implementation period as the baseline period and there were no large changes in rates of criminal damage in the hours which would be covered by extended hours (the only two noticeable decreases occurring at 9.00am and 1.00pm).
- The overall distribution of offences by day of week was largely unchanged, with Friday and Saturday both peak days for offences. There was a slight tendency in the post implementation period for offences of criminal damage to be more concentrated at the weekends.
- Criminal damage was less concentrated around licensed premises than violence against the person; the cluster area accounted for just four per cent of criminal damage offences. Comparing the baseline and post implementation periods there was very little change in the proportion of criminal damage occurring in each of the buffer zones.
- Changes to the daily distribution of criminal damage offences were marginal.
- The results do not suggest that there has been any considerable change in the timing or location of criminal damage offences in Croydon between the baseline and post implementation periods.
- The only significant change observed in offences was in the first half of the baseline period (see supplementary annex).
- In six of the 12 months post implementation criminal damage fell during weekdays whilst rising at weekends (see supplementary annex).

4. Sexual offences

Sexual offences include sexual assault, rape and gross indecency. Not all sexual offences are violent. Analysis of police recorded crime data (Walker, Kershaw and Nicholas 2006) has found that:

- The number of police recorded sexual offences in England and Wales changed little between 2004/05 and 2005/6 (from 62,084 offences to 62,081)
- The number of police recorded indecent assaults reduced by 7 per cent between 2004/05 and 2005/06
- The number of police recorded rapes increased by 3 per cent between 2004/05 and 2005/06
- Sexual offences follow seasonal patterns with a large peak in the summer (Hird and Ruparel 2007).

It is important to note that the number of sexual offences reported are relatively low (compared to violence against the person and criminal damage offences). Thus the analysis could not be performed at areas smaller than the macro level, and care should also be taken in interpreting the findings due to small numbers.

Macro level

The following section compares the level of sexual offences in Croydon during the baseline and post implementation periods. In Croydon during the baseline period an average of 22.2 sexual offences per month were recorded by the police, in the post implementation period this had increased to 25.4 offences per month.

Table 4.1 displays the number of sexual offences in Croydon by month and year, and the blue shaded area represents the post implementation period. The percentage change figure is the change between the number of offences in each month during the post implementation period, and the average number of offences in the two corresponding months from the two previous years in the baseline period.

It should be noted that as the monthly counts of sexual offences are small expressing change in percentages may appear to inflate trends. The table shows that overall, post implementation, the number of police recorded sexual offences occurring in Croydon had increased compared to the baseline period. However this was not the case for all months. In February, October, November and December there were small decreases in the numbers of sexual offences compared to the corresponding months of the baseline period.

Table 4.1 Sexual offences monthly crime counts in Croydon (November 2003 to December 2006)

	Year				Post implementation percentage change (monthly average) ¹
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January		29	28	29	1.8
February		22	23	16	-28.9
March		15	15	28	86.7
April		20	20	21	5.0
May		19	21	24	20.0
June		28	23	28	9.8
July		32	19	27	5.9
August		25	17	48	128.6
September		22	15	29	56.8
October		26	25	23	-9.8
November		26	14	18	-10.0
December	16	27	21	14	-2.3

¹ Note: The baseline period is an average of the two year period 2004/2005

Figure 4.1 shows the monthly rate of sexual offences in Croydon (per 10,000 persons) during the post implementation period (blue line). The average monthly rate of sexual offences for the baseline period is shown as a dotted grey line. This shows that trends in recorded sexual offences during the post implementation period did not follow the same pattern as the baseline period. While both periods saw fluctuations in the monthly rate of offences, from December to June the trends were fairly close in the baseline and post implementation periods. However, there was a sharp increase in the rate of sexual offences in August in the post implementation period compared to the baseline.

Figure 4.1 Sexual offences crime rates in Croydon (average monthly baseline and post implementation periods)

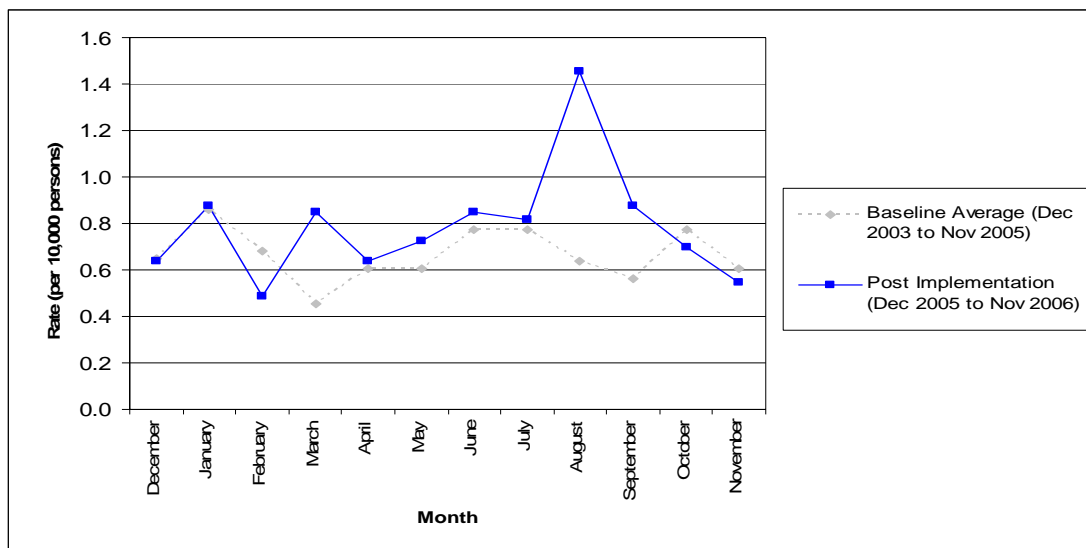
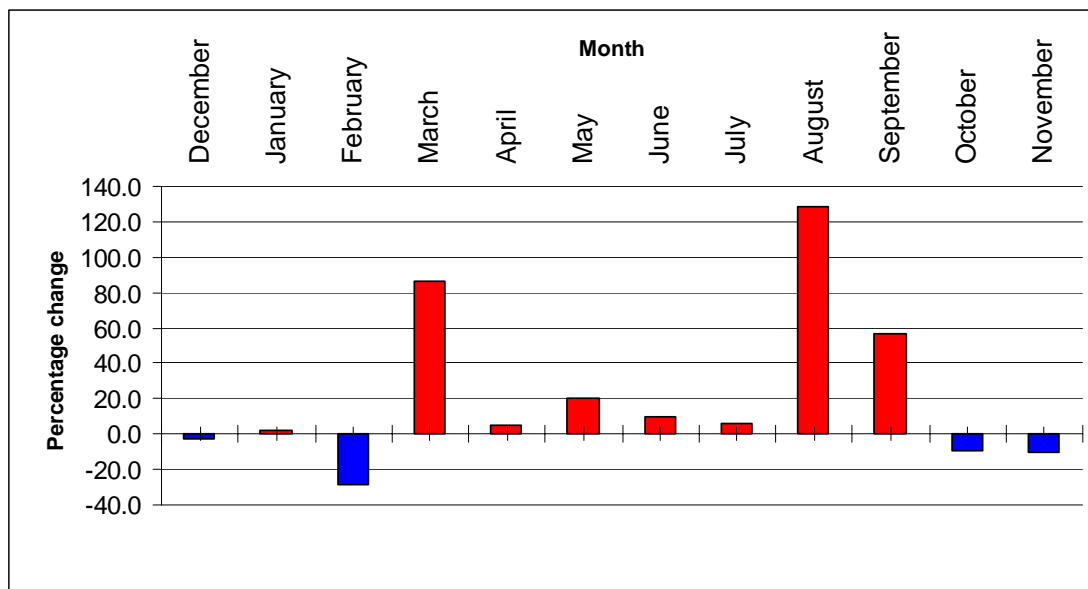


Figure 4.2 shows the percentage change between the average monthly frequency of sexual offences during the baseline period, and the monthly frequencies of such offences during the post implementation period. This confirms that with the exception of December, February, October and November, the rate of sexual offences during the post implementation period was higher than corresponding months in the baseline period.

Figure 4.2 Percentage change in sexual offences in Croydon (average monthly baseline to post implementation period change)



Distribution of offences by time of day and day of week

Table 4.2 displays the number of sexual offences by time of day for each of the three year periods examined. The average percentage change reflects the change between the average baseline period frequency of sexual offences (year one and year two for each time interval) and the frequency of such offences post implementation for each time interval. The table shows that there is considerable fluctuation in the distribution of recorded sexual offences between the baseline and post implementation periods. For example there were sharp increases in the post implementation period between 10.00am and 11.00am in the morning and between 10.00pm and midnight. Conversely large proportional reductions in sexual offences were seen between 7.00pm and 8.00pm and between 5.00am and 6.00am. However, one should place too much weight on these changes, as the base rates on which they are based are often very low (less than 10 per time period).

Table 4.2 Sexual offences by time of day in Croydon (baseline and post implementation periods)

Time of day	Baseline year 1 frequency	Baseline year 2 frequency	Post implementation year 3 frequency	Percentage change (average baseline to post implementation period)
0900-0959	11	15	16	23.1
1000-1059	6	5	13	136.4
1100-1159	9	8	9	5.9
1200-1259	31	27	27	-6.9
1300-1359	14	12	14	7.7
1400-1459	10	12	8	-27.3
1500-1559	17	14	21	35.5
1600-1659	16	17	16	-3.0
1700-1759	15	19	18	5.9
1800-1859	17	14	14	-9.7
1900-1959	18	13	11	-29.0
2000-2059	11	18	13	-10.3
2100-2159	14	10	16	33.3
2200-2259	16	11	19	40.7
2300-2359	12	15	21	55.6
0000-0059	52	60	37	-33.9
0100-0159	16	10	17	30.8
0200-0259	15	15	9	-40.0
0300-0359	17	4	9	-14.3
0400-0459	7	8	4	-46.7
0500-0559	6	2	1	-75.0
0600-0659	2	5	2	-42.9
0700-0759	9	3	5	-16.7
0800-0859	15	11	7	-46.2

Figure 4.3 shows the percentage of sexual offences in each time interval for each year. For the baseline this is averaged over the two year period. A smoothed trend line has been plotted for each of the two periods.² A comparison of the two trend lines shows that there were no major differences in the distribution of sexual offences between the baseline and post implementation periods. It is difficult to detect any changes to the peaks of sexual offences by time of day post implementation

² Two month rolling average

Figure 4.3 Proportional changes to sexual offences by time of day in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

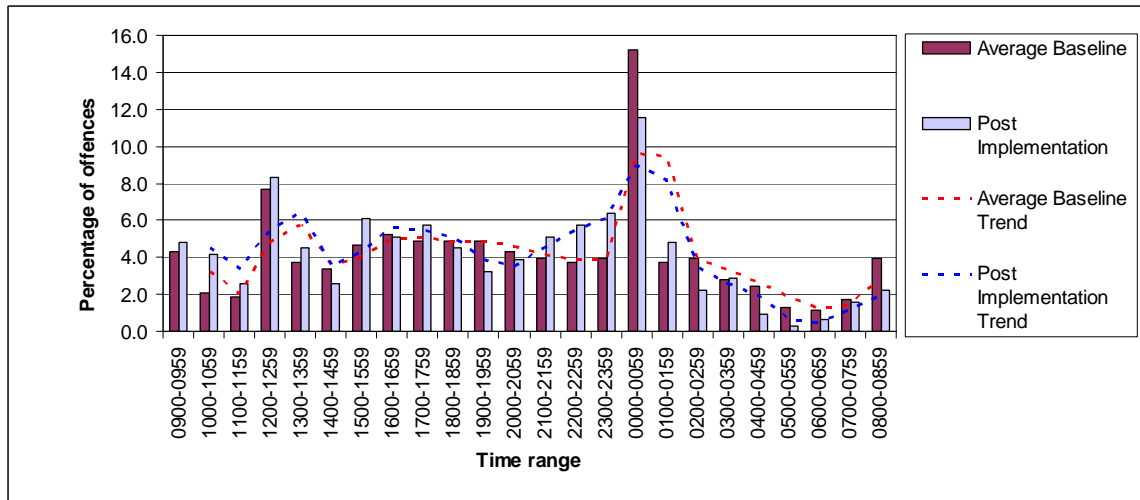
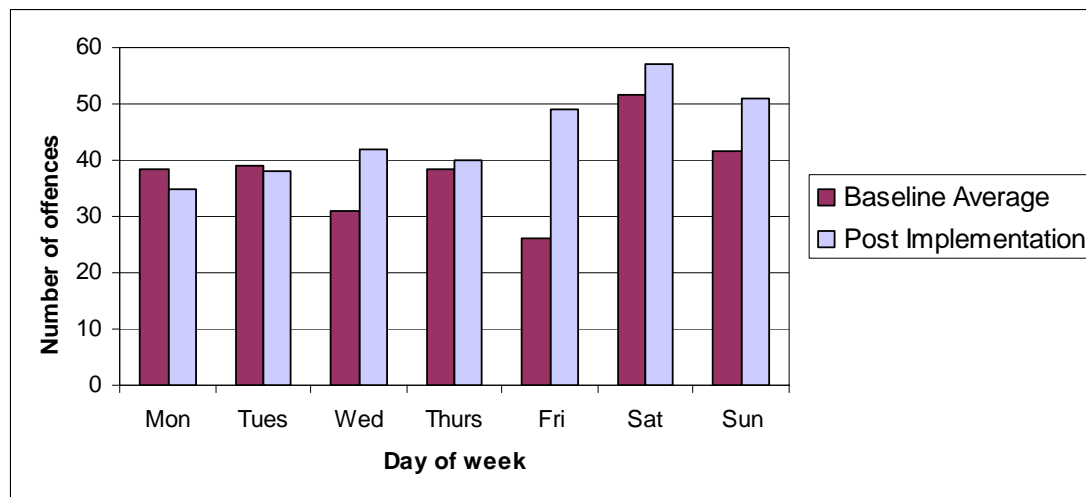


Figure 4.4 portrays the frequency of sexual offences by day of week for the baseline period and post implementation periods. The baseline period is an average for the two years. The graph shows some changes to the weekly distribution of sexual offences. In both the baseline and implementation periods offences peaked over the weekend, however during the post implementation period, there was a considerable increase in offences on Fridays compared to the baseline.

Figure 4.4 Sexual offences by day of week in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



Victim profile

Figure 4.5 displays the gender of victims of sexual offences during the baseline and post implementation periods. The gender for the baseline period is an average over the two years. The graph shows that in both periods of analysis females accounted for the majority of victims (around 60 per cent) of sexual assault, although not as large a majority as in other case study areas (where it was typically 80 per cent). It is essential to consider the impact of the 'not recorded' field (missing values) when interpreting the findings of this section of the analysis.

Figure 4.5 Sexual offences by gender in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

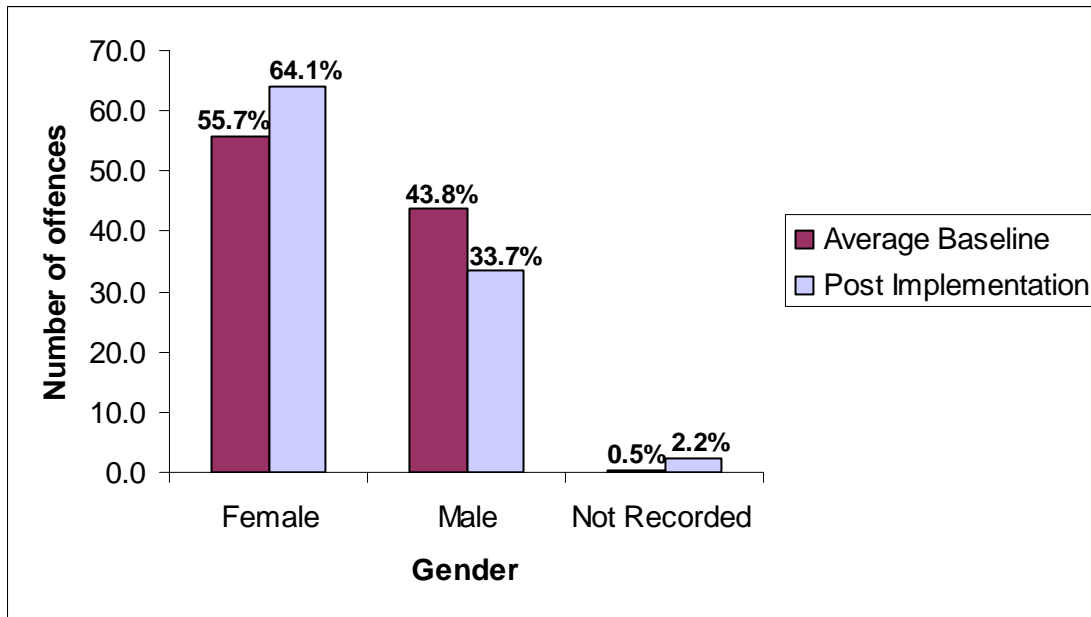
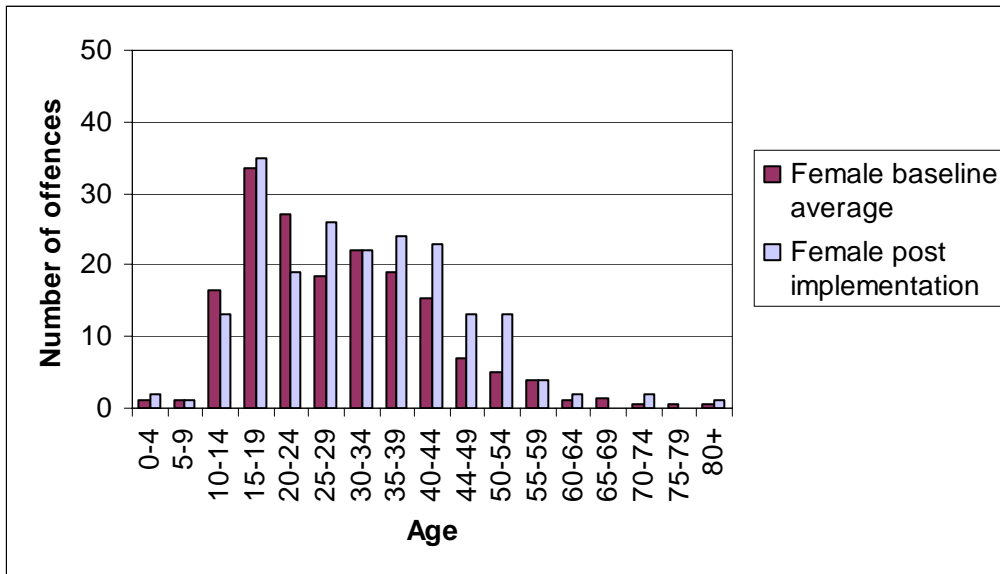


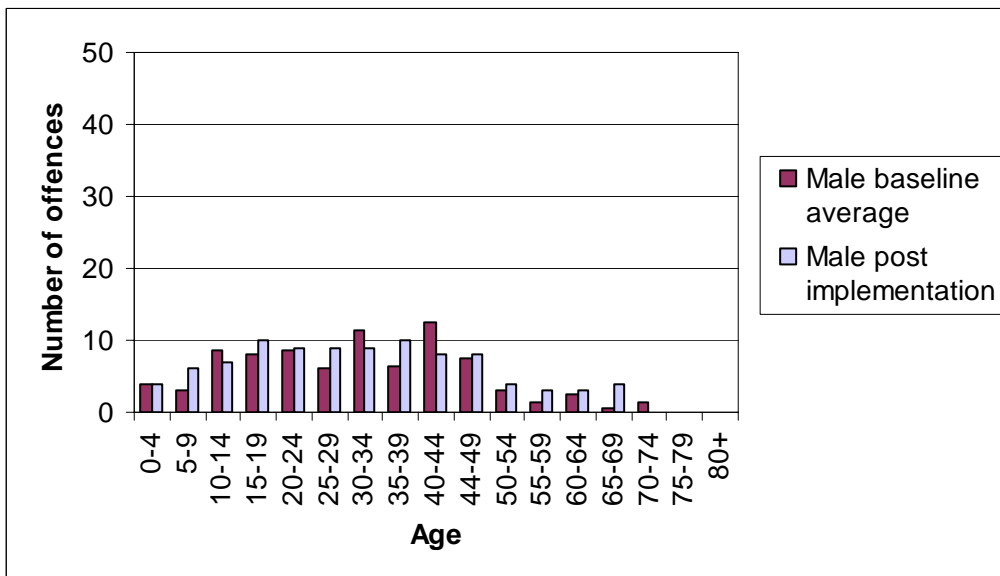
Figure 4.6 displays the gender and age of victims of sexual offences during the baseline and post implementation periods. The gender and age categories for the baseline periods are an average over the two years. The graph shows that the gender and age of victims of sexual assault was broadly similar in the post implementation and baseline periods, although the distributions for males and females were very different. On the whole males experienced lower levels of victimisation, but the peak age of victims was in the early forties. By comparison, females aged 15-19 were most at risk of victimisation. In the post implementation period, there had been an increase in the victimisation rates of older females, particularly those aged 35-54. There were no pronounced differences in terms of male victimisation.

Figure 4.6 Sexual offences by age and gender in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

(a)



(b)



Summary of findings: sexual offences

- The number of police recorded sexual offences occurring in Croydon increased slightly in the post implementation period compared to the baseline period, with the largest increases occurring in March and August.
- There was considerable fluctuation in the distribution of recorded sexual offences between the baseline and post implementation periods. For example there were sharp increases in the post implementation period between 10.00am and 11.00am and between 10.00pm and midnight and large decreases between 7.00pm and 8.00pm and between 5.00am and 6.00am. However, too much weight should not be placed on these changes due to the low base rates.
- In both the baseline and implementation periods sexual offences peaked over the weekend, however during the post implementation period, there was a considerable increase in offences on Fridays compared to the baseline.
- Females aged 15-19 were most at risk of victimisation. In the post implementation period, there had been an increase in the victimisation rates of older females, particularly those aged 35-54. There were no pronounced differences in terms of male victimisation.

5. Calls for disorder

Calls for disorder include incidents such as disturbances in public places, disturbances in licensed premises and noise nuisance. This data on incidents recorded by the police is not crime per se, but calls made by the public for police assistance. This data is often used as an alternative to police recorded crime data, as it provides a measure of the volume of calls made to the police, and as a proxy to measure the public's perception of crime and need for police assistance.

The findings of this analysis are supported by additional analysis presented in the supplementary annex which examines calls for disorder incidents using statistical tests of change from the baseline to post implementation and weekend and weekday incidents. The results of this are detailed in the supplementary analysis, and also included in the summary findings at the start of this annex, and concluding sections of this annex. The reader is also referred to the final report that summarises the findings of all five case study areas.

Macro level

The following section compares the level of calls for disorder in Croydon during the baseline period with levels during the implementation period. Annual comparisons of incidents show a steady decline from year 1 and year 2 in the baseline period (13,169 and 11,490 respectively) that was continued through to the post implementation period (11,234). During the 24 months of the baseline period there was an average of 1006 calls for disorder per month. This declined by eight per cent to an average of 958 calls per month in the post implementation period.

Table 5.1 displays the number of calls for disorder incidents in Croydon by month and year, and the blue shaded area represents the post implementation period. The percentage change figure is the change between the number of incidents in each month during the post implementation period, and the average number of incidents in the two corresponding months from the two previous years in the baseline period. This shows that during 10 of the months of the post implementation period monthly incident counts were lower than for the corresponding months in the baseline period. Only September and November saw increases.

Table 5.1 Calls for 'disorder' monthly incident counts in Croydon (November 2003 to December 2006)

	Year				Post implementation percentage change (monthly average) ¹
	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January		1109	922	826	-22.9
February		1013	812	722	-26.4
March		1088	909	848	-17.7
April		1125	895	937	-7.8
May		1215	1014	1022	-9.1
June		1234	1034	983	-15.4
July		1196	1067	977	-15.8
August		1200	954	987	-9.1
September		1062	970	1054	3.6
October		1034	1076	1006	-4.9
November		948	851	971	7.4
December	945	986	901	990	-7.2

¹ Note: The baseline period is an average of the two year period 2004

Figure 5.1 shows the monthly rate of calls for disorder (per 10,000 persons) in Croydon during the post implementation (blue line). The average monthly rate of calls for disorder in the baseline period is shown as a dotted grey line. The graph shows that the monthly rates of calls for disorder over the post implementation period presents a broadly similar seasonal pattern to those in the baseline period with a decrease in the number of calls between December and February, followed by an increase through to May, after which the number of calls remained fairly constant.

Figure 5.1 Calls for 'disorder' incident rates in Croydon (average monthly baseline and post implementation periods)

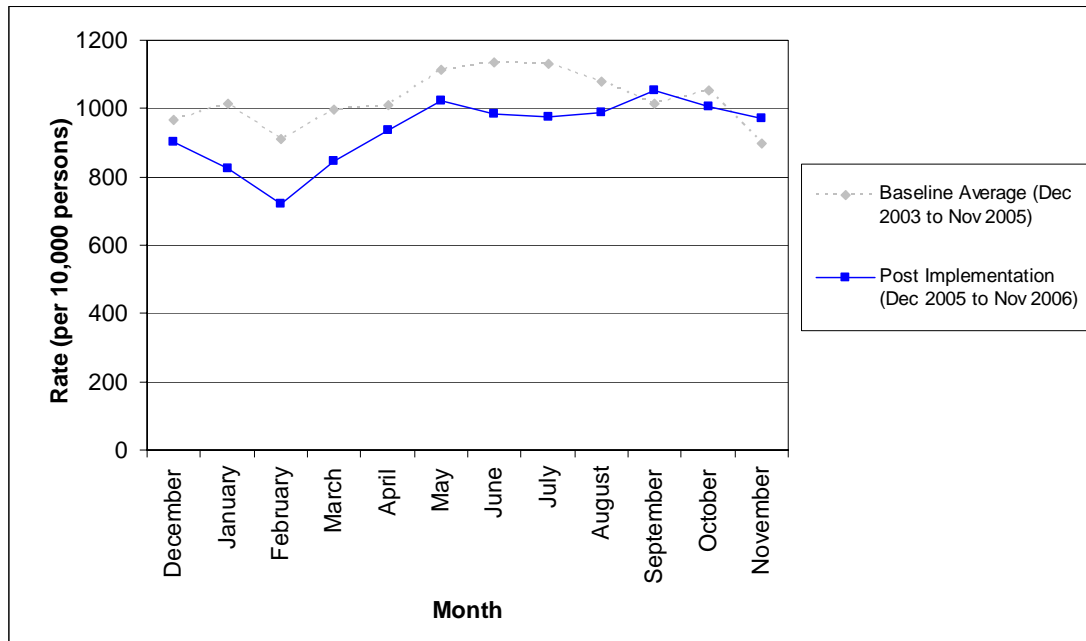
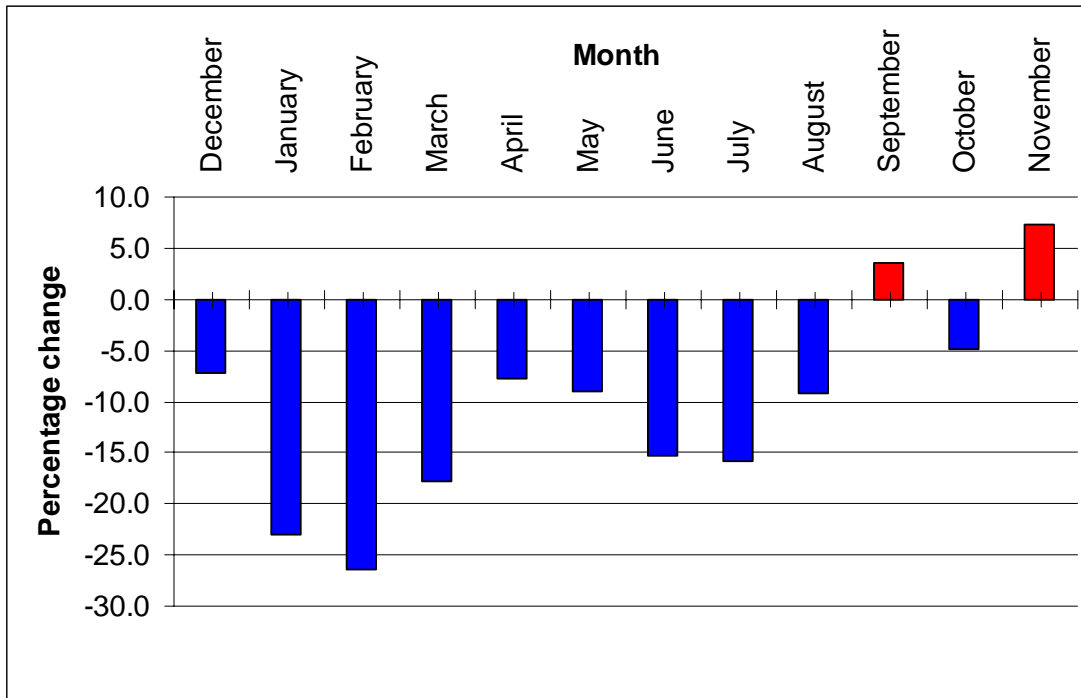


Figure 5.2 shows the percentage change between the average monthly frequency of calls for disorder incidents during the baseline period, and the monthly frequencies of such incidents during the post implementation period. The graph confirms the findings from Table 5.1 that the rate of calls for disorder was lower than baseline rates throughout the first three quarters of the post implementation period, with small increases seen in October and November.

Figure 5.2 Percentage change in calls for 'disorder' in Croydon (average monthly baseline to post implementation period change)



Distribution of calls by time of day and day of week

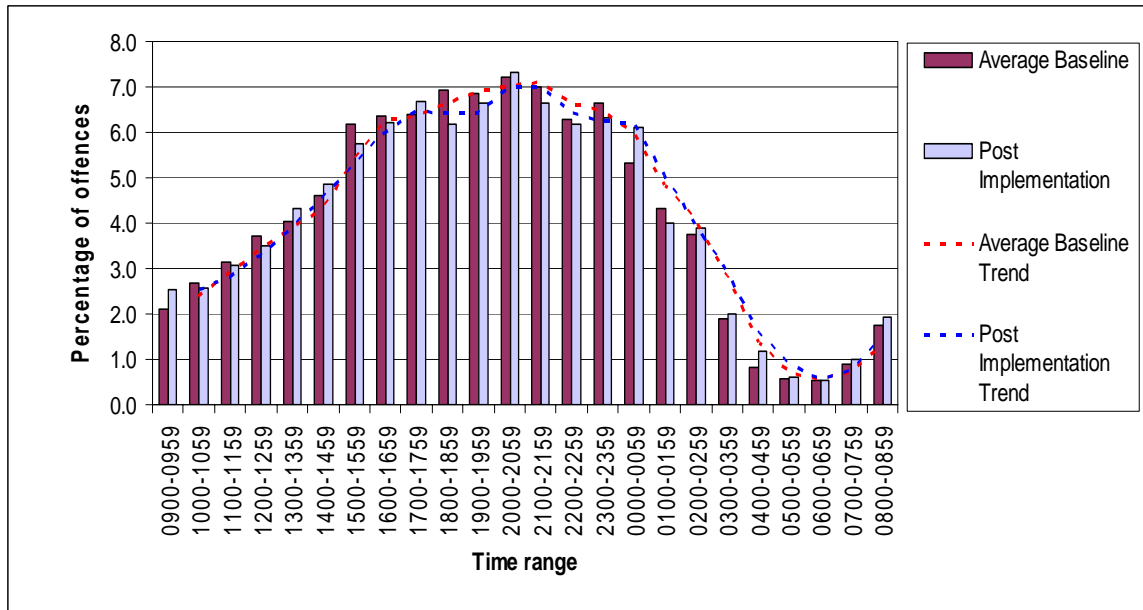
Table 5.2 displays the number of calls for disorder incidents by time of day for each of the three year periods examined. The average percentage change reflects the change between the average baseline period frequency of calls for disorder incidents (year one and year two for each time interval) and the frequency of such incidents post implementation for each time interval. While there were some changes in the distribution of calls for disorder throughout the day there was little change to the overall pattern with calls peaking between 8.00pm and 8.59pm. However, there were no time periods during which the reduction in calls for disorder stood out – decreases of between 10 and 30 per cent were experienced in 20 of the 24 hour time periods.

Table 5.2 Calls for 'disorder' incidents by time of day in Croydon (baseline and post implementation periods)

Time of day	Baseline year 1 frequency	Baseline year 2 frequency	Post implementation year 3 frequency	Percentage change (average baseline to post implementation period)
0900-0959	253	264	255	-1.4
1000-1059	366	297	259	-21.9
1100-1159	427	350	311	-19.9
1200-1259	490	428	353	-23.1
1300-1359	524	471	435	-12.6
1400-1459	604	529	489	-13.7
1500-1559	787	732	580	-23.6
1600-1659	824	743	629	-19.7
1700-1759	834	739	676	-14.0
1800-1859	906	797	624	-26.7
1900-1959	932	757	672	-20.4
2000-2059	954	821	740	-16.6
2100-2159	918	807	672	-22.1
2200-2259	823	725	625	-19.3
2300-2359	884	749	638	-21.9
0000-0059	713	594	617	-5.6
0100-0159	574	489	403	-24.2
0200-0259	483	444	394	-15.0
0300-0359	250	218	201	-14.1
0400-0459	116	90	118	14.6
0500-0559	74	67	63	-10.6
0600-0659	72	61	55	-17.3
0700-0759	125	93	100	-8.3
0800-0859	199	231	195	-9.3

Figure 5.3 shows the percentage of calls for disorder incidents in each time interval for each year. For the baseline period this is averaged over the two years period. There is also a two month average trend line for each of the two time periods under consideration.

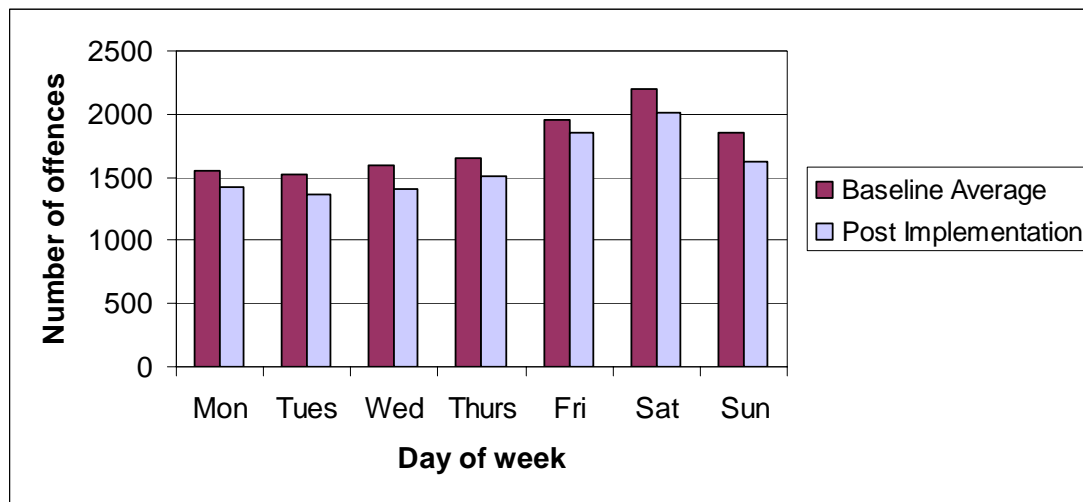
Figure 5.3 Proportional changes to calls for 'disorder' by time of day in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



The graph confirms the findings in Table 5.2 that there were only marginal changes in the daily distribution of calls for disorder between the baseline and post implementation periods, demonstrated by the close fit of the two trend lines. There are no changes to the peak times of calls for disorder incidents post implementation.

Figure 5.4 portrays the frequency of calls for disorder incidents by day of week for the baseline period and post implementation periods. The baseline period is an average for the two years. Again there has been little change during the post implementation period in terms of the shape of the distribution, as the number of calls made each day in the post implementation period was lower than in the baseline.

Figure 5.4 Calls for 'disorder' by day of week in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)



Meso and micro level

In order to examine the relationship between the location and concentration of licensed premises and calls for disorder the frequency of calls were analysed for each of the specified zones mapped in Figures 2.10 and 2.11. These were 250m concentric buffer zones surrounding licensed premises (pubs, bars and clubs) and also cluster areas (areas with high densities of licensed premises). The methodology for constructing these zones is described in more detail in the technical annex. The frequency of calls for disorder incidents in each individual zone was calculated for the baseline period and post implementation period. For the Croydon case study area only the calls for disorder buffers were created at a distance of 250m intervals. This is because the calls for disorder data are recorded by 100m grid squares (not individual locations accurate up to one metre), thus the margin of error of using 50m buffer zones precludes their use.

The proportion of Croydon's calls for disorder made in each of these zones is presented in Table 5.3 for both periods. The table shows that calls for disorder were most concentrated in the areas 0-250m away from licensed premises (around 60 per cent in both periods) and the proportion of calls reduces as distance from licensed premises increases. The cluster area with a high concentration of licensed premises accounted for around 14 per cent of Croydon's calls for disorder in both periods analysed. There was little change to the proportion of calls in each zone between the baseline and post implementation phases.

Table 5.3 Proportional changes to calls for 'disorder' incidents in the buffer zones and cluster area in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation periods)

	Area			
	Cluster	0-250m	250-500m	Croydon borough
Percentage baseline	13.7	60.2	23.7	100.0
Percentage post implementation	14.5	60.7	23.0	100.0
Proportional change	0.8	0.5	-0.7	0.0

Daily distribution of calls for disorder in specified zones

The frequency of calls for service in each area was divided by time of day into twenty-four one hour time intervals. The percentage of incidents in each time interval for the baseline period (averaged over two years), and also the post implementation period was then calculated. From this a percentage change could be generated for each time interval in each individual zone, from the average baseline to the post implementation periods. The result of this proportional change analysis is depicted in Table 5.4. This table also includes volume change in addition to the proportional change that represents the actual change in numbers.

The changes to the daily distribution of incidents were small and there was no obvious tendency for changes to be more pronounced with proximity to licensed premises.

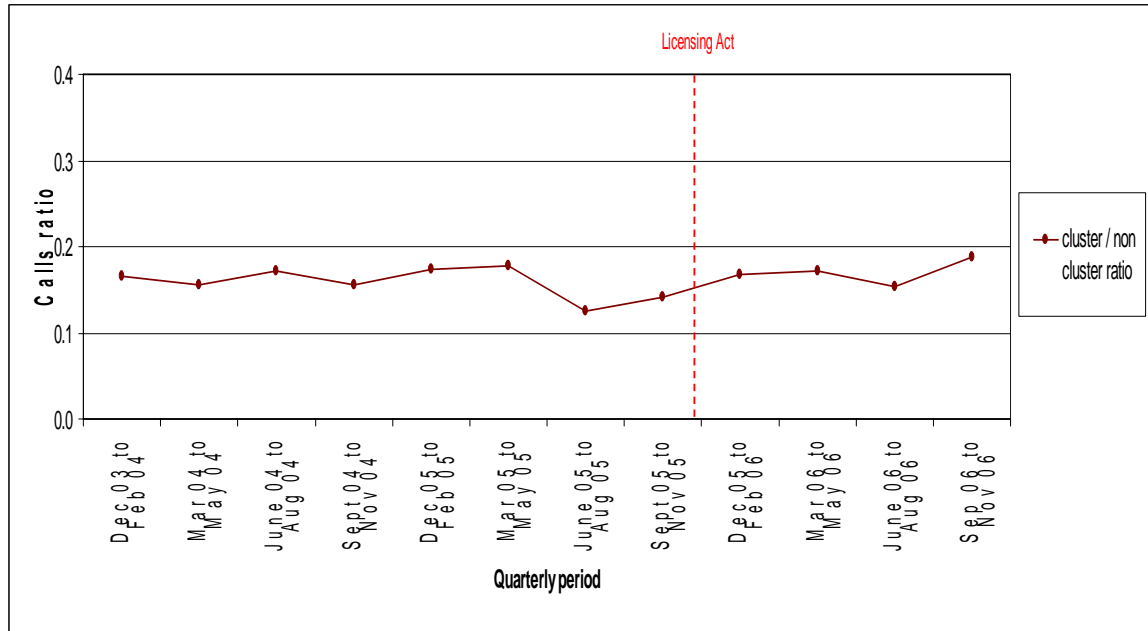
Table 5.4 Proportional changes to calls for 'disorder' incidents by time of day and location in Croydon (average baseline and post implementation time periods)

Time of day	Area							
	Cluster		0-250m		250-100m		Croydon borough	
	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume	Proportion	Volume
0900-0959	0.3	2	0.5	7	0.1	-14	0.4	-4
1000-1059	0.1	-3	0.0	-33	-0.5	-30	-0.1	-73
1100-1159	-0.3	-10	-0.2	-53	0.2	-14	-0.1	-78
1200-1259	-0.1	-10	-0.6	-82	0.5	-12	-0.2	-106
1300-1359	0.4	-3	0.1	-48	0.2	-19	0.3	-63
1400-1459	0.7	0	0.5	-29	0.2	-22	0.2	-78
1500-1559	-0.2	-17	-0.4	-102	-0.6	-48	-0.4	-180
1600-1659	-0.8	-30	-0.1	-89	0.5	-23	-0.1	-155
1700-1759	0.1	-16	0.6	-42	-0.5	-49	0.3	-111
1800-1859	-0.5	-19	-0.8	-133	-0.7	-60	-0.7	-228
1900-1959	0.4	-6	-0.1	-90	-0.5	-55	-0.2	-173
2000-2059	2.0	20	0.5	-52	0.2	-42	0.1	-148
2100-2159	0.4	-5	-0.1	-91	-0.1	-45	-0.4	-191
2200-2259	-0.1	-15	-0.3	-100	-0.2	-42	-0.1	-149
2300-2359	-1.0	-33	-0.2	-105	-0.7	-51	-0.3	-179
0000-0059	0.3	-16	0.8	-23	0.8	-9	0.8	-37
0100-0159	-2.2	-56	-0.8	-115	0.3	-11	-0.3	-129
0200-0259	-0.9	-36	-0.2	-71	0.1	-14	0.1	-70
0300-0359	-0.2	-11	-0.1	-34	0.2	-5	0.1	-33
0400-0459	0.6	7	0.3	6	0.1	-4	0.3	15
0500-0559	0.1	1	-0.1	-12	0.2	3	0.1	-8
0600-0659	0.1	1	0.0	-5	0.0	-3	0.0	-12
0700-0759	0.2	1	0.2	1	-0.2	-10	0.1	-9
0800-0859	0.7	7	0.4	3	0.4	-3	0.2	-20

Proportion of calls for disorder in the cluster area

Calls for disorder ratios were calculated by dividing the monthly counts of calls in the cluster area with counts for the remainder of Croydon. The calls for disorder ratios can then be used to examine how the proportion of Croydon's calls for disorder has changed over the analysis period. The graph shows that the disorder ratio was stable for the first year of the baseline, before declining and then rising through the first half of the baseline. There was no evidence of a reduction in disorder post implementation.

Figure 5.5 Calls for 'disorder' incident ratio in Croydon (December 2003 to November 2006)



Summary of findings: calls for disorder

- The monthly rates of calls for disorder over the post implementation period present a broadly similar pattern to those in the baseline period with a decrease in the number of calls between December and February, followed by an increase through to May, after which the number of calls remained fairly constant.
- Calls for disorder declined by eight per cent post implementation compared to baseline, and the number of calls was lower for each post implementation month with the exception of September and November.
- There was little change to the distribution of calls for disorder by time of day, or day of the week.
- The proportion of calls in each buffer zone was very similar between the baseline and post implementation phases.
- There were significant reductions in the first and second six months in the baseline period for calls for disorder. These reductions were not sustained in the post implementation period (see supplementary annex).
- Disorder at weekends was lower than in the baseline period for 9 of the 12 months in Croydon (see supplementary annex).

6. Findings from qualitative analysis

As was outlined within the methodology section of the main report, participant observation and interviews with bar and door staff took place at key premises before the Act was implemented (November 2005), approximately two months after the Act came into force (between January and March 2006) and one year post implementation (January 2007).

As the venues visited as part of the fieldwork were selected based upon their level of recorded violence against the person offences (top 15 premises), the same 15 premises were not automatically included in the three phases. However, there was a degree of overlap which will allow before and after comparisons.

Table 6.1 below displays the premises visited in phases one, two and three and the colour coding identifies the premises which were visited in either one, two or three of the phases.

Table 6.1 Premises visited in phases one, two and three in Croydon (January 2007)

Premises visited in phase one (baseline)	Premises visited in phase two (2 months post implementation)	Premises visited in phase three (12 months post implementation)
Y	Y	Y
X	X	X
H	H	
AD	AD	
C		C
AB		AB
A	A	
	I	I
N	N	
AD	AD	
AE	AE	
G	G	
B	B	
AF		
AJ		
D		
F		
AH		
		K
		AC
		Z
		M
		AA
		O

Red shading denotes premises visited across three phases

Blue shading denotes premises visited across two phases

Findings from fieldwork conducted at key licensed premises

Findings from fieldwork conducted baseline and two months post implementation

The findings here present those from the initial visits to the case study areas. Interviews occurred in the first two months post implementation. However it is not possible to distinguish whether observations occurred in the initial visit (baseline period) or subsequent visits (post implementation).

Context

Of those interviewed in phase one of the research, most had good knowledge of Croydon. Each licensee had been in the trade for at least four years and lived within Croydon for between two and 24 years. One door supervisor had worked in Croydon for only two months; the rest had worked in Croydon for between 18 months and six years. None of the interviewed door supervisors lived in Croydon and a couple had moved out of the area.

Clientele

The clientele varied in each bar but the target market was those aged between 18 and 30 years. One establishment appeared to attract only those of black ethnicity.

Most premises attracted small groups of three to five. Large groups of young men were viewed as being problematic and would be turned away from various bars.

Participants reported that their clientele had not changed dramatically since the introduction of the Act, although a few of the door supervisors commented that some underage drinkers have been kept out of bars in Croydon as a result of the new legislation.

Establishment type

The licensed premises visited as part of this phase of the research varied in terms of their opening and closing hours. This varied from an 11.00pm closing time to one which stayed open until 5.00am on a Saturday.

It was reported that most premises had only applied for an additional hour on Friday and Saturday nights. Not all of the establishments were using their full extended hours but had applied for them in case they needed them for a special event. All premises which were visited as part of this phase of the research had door supervisors - usually two males, but in one case five door supervisors including one female.

All of the bars and clubs with the exception of one premise utilised the CRAC radio. This enabled door supervisors to inform other bars of potential troublemakers. Interviewees expressed the view that CRAC was a very effective crime prevention measure. Interviewees all reported that levels of disorder were low in the premises in which they worked.

Violence and disorder

The general consensus from interviews with licensees and door staff was that there has been no increase in violence and disorder over the past two years or since the introduction of the Act. One licensee however stated that there had been an *“increase over the past two years due to white people drinking too much.”* Another licensee stated there had been a gradual increase of violence and disorder in Croydon over the past ten years.

One supervisor believed the decline of violence and disorder to be a direct result of the strict licensing legislation which keeps the problematic youths out of Croydon. *"Violence and disorder is not as bad as it used to be, it's not every weekend more like every second or third weekend."*

Two door supervisors believed that there had been a reduction in violence and disorder over the past year due to a decline in people going out in Croydon. One door supervisor attributed the move towards drinking at home to *"extortionate parking charges in the town centre."*

One door supervisor stated that the decline of trade and the closing down of numerous premises was due to a number of recent murders in Croydon, particularly the murder of model Sally Ann Bowman on 25th September 2005.

Glass bottles were referred to as a commonly used weapon and most of the door supervisors and licensees mentioned the use of guns and knives. Two licensees spoke of the use of gas as a weapon.

Problematic times and groups

Some door supervisors stated that violence and disorder was fairly consistent throughout the week. One door supervisor in particular commented that violence and disorder is to be expected any day: *"As long as the clubs are open and the boys are out."* However, in general, licensees viewed Friday and Saturday nights as being the most problematic nights of the week.

Interviewees suggested that in the past, football related disorder had proved most problematic for Croydon, particularly when England were knocked out of Euro 2004: *"The riots of 2004 were an all time low for Croydon."* Door supervisors and licensees commented that when the football was being screened and England were playing they expected violence and disorder and would need more staff.

In some establishments, plastic glasses were used to limit violence on high profile match days even if they were not screening the football within their own premises and some door staff would turn away those wearing football shirts as a preventative measure. One door supervisor commented that more violence and disorder is anticipated during the summer months when more people are out.

Most of those interviewed commented that the weeks leading up to Christmas were particularly problematic. The last Friday before Christmas was referred to as 'black Friday' due to exceptionally high drink related disorder.

The perception of problematic days and times had not changed since the introduction of the Act. This is perhaps due to the short time period between November and March which was not sufficient to enable licensees and door supervisors to notice any clear change.

Males between the ages of 18-25 were consistently viewed as being the predominant group to be involved in violence and disorder. However, several of those interviewed felt that females were becoming more involved in violence and disorder. In fact, one licensee believed that 18-22 year old women caused more problems for them as licensees than males of a similar age. They acknowledged that many of these problems were verbal, but that this could lead to escalations into physical violence.

Door supervision

Since the introduction of the compulsory Security Industry Authority (SIA) licences, door supervisors are required to be more interactive with customers (meet and greet on the door) and are no longer employable with criminal records. Interview findings suggested that this has impacted on door staff considered to be “old school”. One door supervisor stated that they are *‘glorified babysitters, they have less powers and some customers exploit that fact and they ask for it (trouble).’*

Relationship with police, licensees and door supervisors

The interviews revealed that both door supervisors and licensees appear to have a very good relationship with the police. The police licensing officer is well known and respected by both licensees and door supervisors for reducing violence and disorder by providing strict guidelines particularly regarding the music policy. The general consensus was that there is a strong relationship between the police and licensees. Most licensees commented that attending Pubwatch with the police was beneficial.

Licensees tended to report that there had not been a change in their relationship with the police since the introduction of the Act. One licensee stated that other than attending Pubwatch, they do *“not have anything to do with the Police as they frighten my customers.”* Most door supervisors reported liaising with the police about potential troublemakers.

Respondents stated that the main way of communication with the police was via the CRAC radio. All premises except for one used this system. All door supervisors were complimentary about the quick police response from the CRAC radio.

Since the introduction of the Act, some door supervisors commented on improved interaction with the police. One stated that *“the police are very helpful for the door staff, they are always there to help out and take the door staff’s word more than before the badge.”* However, two door supervisors mentioned a poor police response. One stated that *“they (police) drag out petty things and they take longer to arrive for big incidents.”* Another claimed that *“they don’t always take incidents of fake identification serious enough.”*

Although most interviewees stated there had been no change in their opinion of the police since the introduction of the Act, a couple mentioned that their opinion of the police had improved.

Extended hours

All of the licensees interviewed had applied for and obtained extended hours. None of the licensees reported having any problems or conditions placed upon extending their licence. In general, the trend appeared to be that venues opened for one additional hour, with the traditional pubs closing at 1.00am and other bars and pubs closing at 2.00am.

Most of the bars and clubs used the additional hours on Fridays and Saturdays but not always during the week. One licensee reported that due to loss of profits, they were reluctant to open for the additional hour but the brewery enforced it. Most licensees were in favour of the extended hours especially if closing times were staggered, as they felt that this resulted in less congestion in the centre of town. The general consensus was that the extended hours had not drastically changed the working practice of door supervisors (with the exception of them being required to work longer hours).

Reducing alcohol related crime and disorder

When asked how alcohol related crime and disorder should be reduced, one licensee suggested that schools need to do more to educate children and teach them respect *“god knows what will happen when they are old enough to drink, schools and parents are not strict enough.”*

One door supervisor believed that it is up to the managers to control alcohol consumption. Another door supervisor suggested that bars should act responsibly, reducing the number of drinks promotions.

One recommendation from a door supervisor was that admittance to all premises should be over 21 entry only. Another door supervisor stated that each bar should search every person who enters the establishment to cut down on weapons and drugs.

Findings from fieldwork conducted 12 months post implementation

Table 6.2 Participant observation of individual premises in Croydon (January 2007)

Name	Food served	Capacity	Dress code	Age of clients	Entertainment facilities	Promotions/entertainment	Door staff	Management of area by staff	Safety initiatives
C	No	240	No Burberry or football shirts	18+	No	DJs and live music	Chat, friendly, greet and welcome	N/A	CCTV, posters warning of spiked drinks.
W	No	150	None	20-55	TV, fruit machine, pool table	DJs	N/A	N/A	CCTV, outside lighting.
X	Yes	270	No hats/caps	18+	TV, gambling and fruit machines	N/A	N/A	N/A	CCTV
Y	Yes	450	No peaked caps or soiled clothing	18+	TV, fruit and quiz machines	N/A	N/A	N/A	CCTV
M	No	250	None	35+	Fruit machine, big screen	Karaoke	N/A	N/A	Pubwatch
I	No	800	No sportswear or steel cap boots	18-25	Dance floor	No	Checked ID and greet	No	CCTV, no glasses outside
Z	No	300	None	30+	TV, fruit machines, pool	Live rock bands	N/A	N/A	CCTV
AA	Yes	500-600	None	25+	Fruit machines, golf machine	No	N/A	N/A	CCTV
AB	Yes	200 (estimate)	None	18+	Quiz machines, DJ, newspapers	Live rock bands	N/A	N/A	CRAC
O	Yes	200	None	18+	TV, fruit machines, pool	Karaoke	N/A	N/A	CCTV & CRAC
AC	No	60	None	18+	TV	No	N/A	N/A	No
D	Yes	250	Smart	25+	Newspapers	No	Friendly	N/A	CCTV

K	Yes	200	No hooded tops or baseball caps, trousers and shirts	18-45	TV, quiz and fruit machine	No	Limited interaction	N/A	CCTV, plastic glasses, NO drugs sign on door
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Table 6.3 Baseline licensing hours for licensed premises in Croydon

Premise	Mon - Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
C	19.00-1.00	19.00-3.00	19.00-3.00	19.00-3.00	CLOSED
X	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00
W	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-0.00	12.00-22.30
Y	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-0.00	12.00-22.30
M	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-22.30
I	20.00-2.00	20.00-2.00	20.00-2.00	20.00-2.00	CLOSED
Z	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
AA	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00
AB	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00
O	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00
D	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	CLOSED
K	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
AC	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00

Table 6.4 Post implementation licensing hours for licensed premises in Croydon

Premise	Mon - Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
C	19.00-2.00	19.00-4.00	19.00-4.00	19.00-4.00	CLOSED
X	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00
W	9.00-0.00	9.00-0.00	9.00-1.00	9.00-1.00	CLOSED
Y	11.00-1.00	11.00-1.00	11.00-2.00	11.00-2.00	12.00-0.00
M	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-22.30
I	20.00-2.00	20.00-2.00	20.00-2.00	20.00-2.00	CLOSED
Z	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-1.00	11.00-1.00	11.00-22.30
AA	9.00-0.00	9.00-0.00	9.00-0.00	9.00-0.00	9.00-0.00
AB	12.00-0.00	12.00-0.00	12.00-0.30	12.00-0.30	12.00-0.00
O	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-23.00
D	11.00-23.00	11.00-23.00	11.00-0.00	11.00-23.00	CLOSED
K	10.00-23.30	10.00-22.30	10.00-0.00	10.00-0.00	11.00-22.30
AC	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00	12.00-23.00

Findings from interviews with doors supervisors

Contextual information

The second phase of fieldwork found that bar staff were much more willing to be interviewed than door supervisors and the fieldworkers had significant difficulties talking to the latter group. Unlike bar staff, door supervisors were not available at quieter periods, therefore unable to put time aside to complete the interview. Finally, some venues did not employ any door supervisors. The door supervisors who took part in the research were all Security Industry Authority (SIA) registered. Most of the staff had lived in the Croydon region for a substantial proportion of their lives.

Clientele and premise

In the central area of Croydon, interviewees described their target market as 'trendy' and stated that customers are predominantly male. Away from the centre, quiet local pubs still operated and a fringe rock scene was also present. The music scene had a strong influence on the clientele with the rock pubs having a noticeable different atmosphere to premises playing more dance orientated music. This was more prominent in those premises that had live bands playing. As pointed out by one bar worker, having live entertainment gives people '*something to look at*' so they are less likely to consume as much alcohol and have confrontations.

All premises had a no drugs policy. One premise mentioned that cocaine had been a problem previously and they had removed flat surfaces from the toilets to hinder consumption.

Most premises used CCTV and had a no hats, caps and hoods policy as result. Passports and driving licenses were universally accepted forms of identification. Only one premise had a strict over 21 entrance policy. Though all managers said that they challenged under 21 year olds to show ID.

Door staff were employed on Friday/Saturday nights in most, but not all premises. The number of door supervisors employed depended upon the size of the venue.

All interviewees said that there had been no major changes to the management or clientele since the introduction of the Act. Most premises had increased their licensing hours by one hour at weekend nights. It should be noted that the two premises already had late licenses at the weekends prior to the Act; with one having a license until 3am.

Levels of violence and disorder

All interviewees stated that there was very little violence and drunk and disorderly behaviour in their premises. Most said that there had been some incidents but these were entirely unrelated to the changes in the licensing law.

When asked about violence in the town centre, opinion varied. Some respondents stated that drunk and disorderly behaviour had increased, though this was often clarified as not being caused by the Act but by underlying social changes.

Relationship with police

Most respondents stated that they liaised with the police on a regular basis, with Pubwatch being the forum normally cited. With regard to liaising regarding trouble-makers, most stated that this was on a “need to” basis. All central Croydon premises were provided with the CRAC system which links all premises, the police and a council control room (located in Taberner House) together to co-ordinate any problems. Opinion varied regarding the level of use. Some stated that they used CRAC on an “everyday” basis. Others said that they used in “only in emergencies”.

Impact of the Act on role

When asked about the impact of the Act, almost all respondents stated that any impact had simply been upon the hours that they had to work. Some indicated that there had been more trouble since the Act, though this was not a universal view. No respondents felt that the Act had resulted in less violence and disorder, with the majority stating that levels of violence and disorder were about the same.

When asked about what could be done to reduce alcohol related crime and disorder on a local and national level, a range of suggestions were put forward. A common view was that the English will always drink to excess. One bar worker stated that: “*England does not know how to drink properly*” and there was a perception that it was unlikely that anything could be done to change the alcohol culture in the short/medium term. Some specific suggestions were also made regarding greater police presence.

Findings from interviews with licensees/bar managers

Contextual information

The length of time that licensees/managers had worked at the premises varied considerably. One licensee had only been working at the venue for one week; the longest had been working at the same premise for 11.5 years. Similarly, length of time in the trade varied quite considerably with the shortest being around three and a half years and the longest 26 years (the majority had been in the trade for over 10 years). Most had not worked at other premises in the city centre in the past, however a sizeable minority had done so – working at a number

of venues. The majority of people did live in the area, generally for the same number of years that they had worked at the venue they currently worked at.

Type of establishment

With regards to current opening and closing hours, most venues opened at either 11.00am or 12 noon and closed at 11.00pm or 12 midnight. Several of the pubs closed at 12 midnight on Friday and Saturday nights only, and closed at 11.00pm on other nights of the week. The exceptions to this were the two pubs which both opened at 9.00am (these venues also served food all day). One night-club opened at 8.00pm and closed at 2.00pm on Tuesday to Saturday only. Most of the licensees said that their hours did change after implementation of the Act; the extension of licenses was generally only by one hour (or perhaps two hours), and some cases only on Friday and Saturday nights. Some licensees said they did not know as they had not been working at the premise when the Act came into force. Pre-Act opening/closing hours were generally 11.00am to 11.00pm (10.30pm on Sundays).

The capacity of the premises ranged from 60 to 850, with most around 200-250. Approximately half of the venues served food. Those pubs who did serve food prior to the Act continued to do so after, and those who did not serve food prior to the Act, similarly, still do not. Only a few of the venues had pool tables, however many venues had a large screen television (and if not they either had a plasma screen or a smaller television), and all venues had at least one fruit machine.

Just over half of the venues had no door supervisors and the one venue only employed door staff when they have a function booking for the venue. Of the pubs which did have door staff they tended to only have two door staff, working only on Friday and Saturday nights. The exception to this was one premise which employed three door staff on a Tuesday and Wednesday, five on a Thursday and eight on Friday and Saturday.

None of the venues had a table service for drinks. However, two premises said they sometimes brought drinks to the table for regulars. Only one pub currently had a happy hour (from 5.00pm-7.00pm on Thursdays) and all other venues stated that they did not have happy hours now or prior to the Act. On the whole venues did not offer live entertainment. However, one venue had a live DJ every night. Another premise had karaoke on Friday and Stand up on Saturday. One premise had bands and DJs on Saturday nights, and one premise had singers and karaoke on Friday and Saturdays.

Only two of the venues where interviews took place charged for entry. One premise charged £3 on Friday and Saturday nights, and another £2 after 11.00pm on Tuesday to Thursday, and £3 after 10.00pm, and £5 after 11.00pm, on Friday and Saturday. None of the venues had made changes to charging entry fees at the time of, or as a result of, the Act. The most popular drinks were generally strong lagers and then spirits. All participants felt either that this had not changed since the introduction of the Act or that they did not know.

Most licensees stated that they were not aware of the Pub/Club Accreditation Scheme i.e. Best Bar None, although a few were. Almost all were aware of both the BBPA responsible drinking code and The Portman Group's code of conduct for the sale of alcohol. Similarly, most were aware of the Government's Social Responsibility Standard for the Production and Sale of Alcohol in the UK. All venues were aware of Pubwatch/Clubwatch.

The few that were aware of the Pub/Club Accreditation Scheme i.e. Best Bar None were signed up to it. Approximately a third of venues were signed up to the BBPA responsible drinking code. About three quarters were signed up to The Portman Group's code of conduct for the sale of alcohol and The Government's Social Responsibility Standard's for the Production and Sale of Alcohol in the UK. All venues interviewed were signed up to Pubwatch/Clubwatch (although some did not regularly attend meetings because they were not informed as to when they were taking place). One licensee reported that attendance to Pubwatch was compulsory for city centre venues since the riots in Croydon during Euro 2004. Those who had signed up to schemes thought them to be useful. This was particularly the case with Pubwatch where participants suggested that information could be passed between

licensees and police. Participants also expressed positive views about the Portman ID and Government posters which they felt gave them a strong justification for asking people for ID or refusing to serve them.

Most venues had CCTV, also two premises had plastic glasses during football events.

All venues said they had made no changes to their target market, or the management of the premise since the introduction of the Act. Most venues had not changed their use of drinks promotions, except one who said they now offered drinks promotions in a different wording/style. For example rather than advertise three drinks for two they would now advertise a reduced price for a single drink with the aim of encouraging more responsible drinking. No venues said they had made changes to their entertainment.

Clientele

The typical age/gender of clients varied. Some pubs had more of an older clientele.

A number of who described their clientele as regulars. Most licensees stated that they were satisfied with clients' behaviour. Only one reported a mixture of known and unknown drinkers.

Two premises stated that they have a 'Challenge 21' policy whereby anyone who looks 21 or younger would be asked for identification. One premise had an over 21s admittance policy on Friday and Saturday night. Many of the venues had a no hats or sportswear policy.

All venues had drugs policies as well as a policy not to serve those who are intoxicated. All venues accepted passports and driving licenses, most venues accepted proof of age cards with a photo and/or hologram, and a few accepted student cards with photos.

Levels of violence and disorder

Most licensees/managers reported no change in the level of violence at their premise since the introduction of the Act. Two premises reported a decrease, which they attributed to people having a longer time to drink, and therefore not rushing. Also, they felt the stricter policies on ID had been a positive move in terms of violence and disorder.

Participants expressed similar views regarding the level of violence in the town centre. Venues located in the town centre expressed the view that there had been no change since the introduction of the Act. In contrast, those on the edges of the town centre felt that levels of violence in the town centre had increased (since the Act). In general, most respondents felt that the levels of violence and disorder had stayed the same.

In terms of specific weapons being used to commit violence in the town centre there seemed to be no consensus. Some participants stated that weapons were not a problem, others that they were a major problem and others that they were a minor problem. Most respondents did not know whether the levels of usage of bottles/glasses, knives, and fire arms had changed since the introduction of the Act.

Most licensees stated that they had had to deal with one or two incidents of violence at work since the Act; only two stated that they had not and only one reported a higher figure (since the Act) of approximately one incident per weekend. Almost all participants said this figure had stayed the same since the introduction of the Act.

None of the participants regarded Croydon as very safe, and there was an even spread of participants who felt it was safe, unsafe and highly unsafe. Most felt that their view had not changed since the introduction of the Act.

Almost all licensees/managers felt that the greatest risk of violence in Croydon was on Friday and Saturday nights, with the exception of one who felt all times were potentially risky and quiet nights could sometimes be worse. Christmas and football matches were also suggested

to be the times of year when risk of violence and disorder were greatest. Nobody felt that patterns of violence had changed since the Act.

The interviews revealed that young men aged 18-25 years caused the most trouble, although some said men aged 20-30 and a few also said young females.

Relationship with police

All participants stated that they regularly talked to police, and almost all said that they exchange information about potential troublemakers. Most respondents spoke to the police monthly at Pubwatch meetings, or on a need to know basis. As was stated earlier, most venues had a 'semi-direct' radio link to the police (CRAC). The majority of licensees felt that the police help their job, although some did say they hinder or have no influence. Noticeably, one premise reported a very good relationship with the police, and one reported a bad relationship with police (describing it as 'us and them'). All participants felt that their view of the police had not changed since the Act. Many venues had been visited by other agencies since November 2005, commonly the Environmental Health and Fire Services (in some cases to inspect new fittings necessary for their license).

Impact of the Act on role

Some licensees had applied for extended hours, those which had not, already had extended hours before the Act. One premise reported they had not been given a choice, and rather were 'informed' by the police of the hours they could apply for (two extra hours per week). All venues were granted the hours that they applied for. The only conditions reported by licensees were that door staff were required for events and later nights. The manager at one venue reported that he and other managers were applying for SIA accreditation in order that he or other managers could work on the door should they decide to open later. Not all venues were using all the hours they applied for, for example one premise closed early on Thursdays because the pub is quiet.

Most participants felt that the introduction of extended hours had not resulted in staggered closing times in Croydon. Of those who felt the Act had staggered closing times, the view was that this change was minor. When asked whether people were drinking more responsibly, responses were split. Half of respondents felt that people were drinking more responsibly - generally because they only had so much money and thus spread out their drinks over a longer time and became less intoxicated. The other half felt that people were not drinking more responsibly, because longer opening hours equated to more time to drink.

The majority of licensees felt that not much had changed in their premise (or in the area around their premise) since the introduction of the Act. However, the manager at one premise felt that things had improved as staff no longer had to make people leave, so their jobs were easier.

Most respondents stated that they were not making any additional profit since the introduction of the Act due to increased overheads and paying door staff. Most reported that the Act had not had a direct influence on their job except that they were working longer hours. Two of the licensees however, did state that the Act had meant more power to the licensee. Almost all licensees felt that the SIA scheme had made a positive impact as the door staff were more professional, regulated and skilled (at dealing with customers).

When asked whether they felt that the Act was a good policy, opinions were split. Half felt that it was a good policy because people were drinking more responsibly or because it gave more power to the licensee. The other half felt that it was not a good policy either because people were drinking more, or because it had not made any real difference to staggering opening hours.

When asked what should be done to reduce alcohol related crime and disorder, suggestions included: Raising the drinking age to 21, increasing the police presence, the introduction of

plastic glasses, tougher penalties for misbehaviour and encouraging people to take more responsibility for their behaviour.

Summary of findings from post implementation interviews

- 13 participants took part in the post implementation interviews.
- Of the 13, two had signed up to the pub accreditation scheme.
- Of the 13, four had signed up to the British Beer and Pub Association.
- Of the 13, two had signed up to the government's Social Responsibility Standards.
- Of the 13, six had signed up to Pubwatch.
- When asked whether they felt that the levels of night-time violence *in their premise* had changed since the introduction of the Act, nine (69%) felt that it had not changed, three (23%) felt that it had decreased and none felt that it had increased.
- When asked whether they felt that the levels of night-time violence *in the town/city* had changed since the introduction of the Act, three (23%) felt that it had not changed, one (7%) felt that it had decreased and seven (54%) felt that it had increased.
- When asked whether they felt that the levels of drunk and disorderly behaviour had changed since the introduction of the Act, two (15%) felt that it had not changed, none felt that it had decreased and three (23%) felt that it had increased.
- When asked whether there had been a change in the use of bottles/glasses as a weapon since the introduction of the Act, three (23%) felt that there had been no change, three (23%) felt that there had been a small increase, one (7%) felt that there had been a large increase, none felt that there had been a reduction.
- When asked whether there had been a change in the use of knives since the introduction of the Act, two (15%) felt that there had been no change, four (31%) felt that there had been a small increase, one (8%) felt that there had been a large increase, none felt that there had been a reduction.
- When asked whether there had been a change in the use of firearms since the introduction of the Act, two (15%) felt that there had been no change, four (31%) felt that there had been a small increase, none felt that there had been a reduction.
- When asked whether they felt that the number of violent incidents which they had had to deal with had changed since the introduction of the Act, six (46%) felt that this level had stayed the same, none felt that it had decreased and two (15%) felt that it had increased.
- Two respondents (15%) stated that they felt unsafe in the town/city where their premise was located, two (15%) felt highly unsafe, seven (54%) felt safe and none felt very safe.
- Nine (69%) said that these feeling had not changed since the introduction of the Act, one (8%) said that it had.
- Three of the respondents (23%) felt that the Act had resulted in staggered closing times, four (31%) felt that it had not.
- Four (31%) of the respondents felt that that extended drinking hours had led to people drinking more responsibly, three (23%) said that it had not.
- Six (46%) of respondents felt that the Act was a good policy, four (31%) felt that it was not.
- Of the 13, eight *stated that* they had changed their hours, two suggested that they had not.

7. Summary of findings

Introduction

Croydon is a commuter town to the south of London. It has excellent transport links to London Bridge and London Victoria stations in which trains and buses run throughout the night. Croydon has a population of over 330,000 residents, 25 percent of whom are from ethnic minorities.

The main drinking area in Croydon is High Street, which contains the majority of drinking venues. Other bars and clubs are situated off High Street on adjacent roads and on George Street. Licensed premises within Croydon have access to a radio system entitled CRAC (Croydon Radio Against Crime), which facilitates communication between licensed premises, the police and security staff who are situated at the Local Authority's Taberner House.

Violence against the person

There were significant reductions in the second half of the baseline period and both the first and second six months of the post implementation periods (see supplementary annex). There were 93 less serious violence against the person offences post implementation (see supplementary annex).

The number of violence against the person offences declined by 13 per cent in the post implementation period compared to the baseline, and was also lower in all but two months post implementation compared with the baseline period (the average of the equivalent months in 2004 and 2005). The largest decreases were seen in October and November. The largest increase came in December, in the first full month post implementation. Violence against the person was already displaying a downward trend at the time the Act was introduced. Therefore the reductions may be attributable to factors other than the Act. The World Cup in 2006 coincided with an increase in violence against the person offences, which may explain why July was one of only two months which did not show a decrease compared to the baseline period.

Decreases in violence against the person were spread across the entire day, with every single one hour period seeing a decrease compared to the baseline. There were no large decreases in the proportion of offences in the early hours post implementation compared to the baseline, as there were in other case study areas. Nor was there any evidence to suggest that there was a shift in the occurrence of violence against the person to later times in the early hours post implementation.

The distribution of offences across the week has not changed greatly between the baseline and post implementation periods. The weekend increase in offences of violence against the person was less pronounced in Croydon than in other case study areas.

Weekday offences reduced in 9 out of 12 months, and weekend offences by 11 out of 12 months. There were six months when both weekday and weekend violence against the person fell but weekday offences reduced the most (see supplementary annex).

The majority of victims of violence against the person in both baseline and post implementation periods were male. Gender was recorded in over 90 per cent of cases, and both males and females experienced fewer crimes of violence against the person post implementation compared to baseline.

The peak age for female victims of violence against the person during the baseline period was between 30-34 years old, while post implementation this was 25-29. For males, the peak age for victims during both periods was between 35-39 years old, older than in other case study areas.

No information was available in Croydon relating to flags for alcohol related violence.

Twenty three per cent of violence against the person offences in the baseline period and 17 per cent of offences in the post implementation period had a domestic violence flag. The majority of these victims were female. For females, the peak age for victims in the baseline was 30-34 years old; in the post implementation period the peak age was 25-29.

In contrast to other case study areas, the cluster area contained relatively few of the violence against the person offences (11.5 per cent baseline, and 10.6 per cent post implementation). This is likely to be due to the fact that the cluster area (Croydon town centre) accounted for a smaller proportion of the whole case study area (Croydon borough) than in the other areas. There was little change to the proportion of violence against the person recorded in each of the zones between the two periods. There was some reduction in offences of violence against the person between 1.00am and 1.59am for the cluster area and from 0-50m from premises, while there was an increase for the same areas between 3.00pm and 3.59pm.

Violence against the person reduced between 11am and 3am both during the week and at weekends, although the magnitude of the change was greatest during the weekend (see supplementary annex).

There was a correspondence between hot spots of violence against the person and areas with high densities of licensed premises. The hot spots remained relatively stable over time with those evident in the baseline period remaining in the post implementation period. Consequently there was little evidence of change in the geographical distribution of violence against the person. Nor was there much evidence of change in the timing of offences of violence against the person in Croydon between the baseline and post implementation periods.

KDE synthesis maps revealed that in the key drinking areas there are reductions from 9.00pm through to 4.59am, although these are most concentrated between 1.00pm and 2.59am (see supplementary annex).

Over 60 per cent of offences in the baseline occurred at less than eight per cent of premises; indeed just one premise was responsible for 13 per cent of all offences. The top fifteen premises (6.5% of all premises) together accounted for over half (56 per cent) of all offences of violence against the person. At 40 per cent of premises, there were no recorded offences. Although there was some turnover of premises in the top 15, the top 15 in both periods accounted for a very similar proportion of offences, while a similar proportion of premises in both periods had no offences recorded against them. The top three premises in both periods were the same, and also accounted for 25 per cent of all offences in the baseline and post implementation periods.

Most of the violence against the person hot spots occurred in the vicinity of premises in the top fifteen. Some of the new hot spots coincide with premises which appeared only in the top fifteen in the post implementation period. There are also, however, a number of hot spot locations which did not coincide with any of the highlighted premises.

Of the 13 licensed premises visited by fieldworkers (most of which were in the top 15 on violence against the person) eight applied for additional hours. On average these premises used just 48 per cent of the hours applied for. There was a reduction post implementation in terms of violence against the person offences for those using one to five hours, while all other premises increased their share.

An examination of the relationship between violence against the person and additional opening hours using estimates for all pubs in the case study area revealed that the 27 per cent of pubs opened for more than nine additional hours accounted for over half of violence against the person offences in both the baseline and post implementation periods. Thus, using an estimate of the number of additional hours applied for; there was no obvious relationship between the number of hours and share of violence against the person offences.

Accident and emergency

In Croydon, there were on average twice as many violence against the person offences than assaults recorded by the ambulance service. This was fairly consistent over the period of analysis. Monthly volumes in ambulance assaults post implementation bore little resemblance to those in the baseline period. There were marked increases in assaults in September and October 2006, but these did not coincide with the World Cup. However, there may have been a World Cup influence on weekend violence against the person offences because the month of July 2006 interrupted a downward trend in violence against the person compared with the baseline period.

There were some similarities in violence against the person and assaults in the first half of the post implementation period, but these diverged in second half of year – violence against the person fell and assaults rose. Similar changes were observed in the timing of violence against the person offences and assaults; both showed reductions between 1.00am and 3.59am and both registered increases between 10.00pm and 10.59pm and between 4.00am and 4.59 am.

There was insufficient evidence to conclude if or how the increase in assaults and the decrease in police recorded violence against the person were related, and how far these patterns, if at all, were attributable to changes taking place as a result of the Act.

Whilst it was reassuring that the period following the implementation of the Act saw a sizeable reduction in violence against the person at weekends, this was accompanied by an increase in the number assaults. If both measures had shown substantial reductions, one might conclude that violence had indeed lessened following the implementation of the Act although this alone would not be evidence of impact.

Criminal damage

Levels of criminal damage were very similar during the baseline (405 offences per month) and post implementation periods (408 offences per month), and the trends were similar with the same peaks (summer) and troughs (spring and autumn).

The only significant change observed in offences was in the first half of the baseline period (see supplementary annex).

In both the baseline and post implementation periods, the frequency of criminal damage offences increased gradually throughout the morning, peaking between 5.00pm and 11.59pm before gradually declining until 8.00am the following morning. It is notable that there were no large changes in rates of criminal damage in the hours which would be covered by extended hours.

There was little change in the weekly distribution of criminal damage offences between the baseline and post implementation periods. Criminal damage was highest on Saturday for both time periods although there was a slight increase in the number of criminal damage offences occurring at weekends post implementation.

In six of the 12 months post implementation criminal damage fell during weekdays whilst rising at weekends (see supplementary annex).

Criminal damage was far less concentrated around licensed premises than violence against the person, with the cluster area accounting for just four per cent of criminal damage offences, less than half of the proportion of violence against the person. There was very little change in the proportion of criminal damage occurring in each of these zones between baseline and post implementation periods.

Looking at the proportion of Croydon's criminal damage occurring within the cluster area, there is no evidence to suggest that the introduction of the Act had an impact on the

proportion of offences occurring within the area with a high concentration of licensed premises.

There was no evidence of a shift in the location of hot spots between the two periods. There were a few small changes in the pattern of timing of hot spots. In the period 9.00pm-11.00pm the intensity of criminal damage around Croydon itself decreased in the post implementation period, while it has increased in Addington. From 11.00pm to 1.00am, the intensity of criminal damage declines in both the baseline and post implementation periods, with a small hot spot remaining only in New Addington. From 1.00am to 3.00am, criminal damage again declines, with the hot spot around Croydon decreasing in intensity compared to the baseline.

The ratio between criminal damage in the pubs cluster and that in the rest of Croydon was fairly stable over time.

Sexual offences

The number of police recorded sexual offences occurring in Croydon increased slightly compared to the baseline period, with the largest increases occurring in March and August.

There was considerable fluctuation in the distribution of recorded sexual offences between the baseline and post implementation periods – with a higher proportion of post implementation offences occurring between 10.00am and 11.00am and between 10.00pm and midnight, and a smaller proportion occurring between 7.00pm and 8.00pm and between 5.00am and 6.00am. However, too much weight should not be placed on these changes, due to the low base rates.

In both the baseline and implementation periods offences peaked over the weekend, however during the post implementation period, there was a considerable increase in offences on Fridays compared to the baseline.

Females aged 15-19 were most at risk of victimisation, and in the post implementation period there was an increase in the victimisation rates of females aged 35-54. There were no pronounced differences in terms of male victimisation.

Calls for disorder

During the baseline period there was an average of 1025 calls for disorder per month; this declined by eight per cent to an average of 944 calls per month in the post implementation period. The monthly rates of calls for disorder over the post implementation period present a broadly similar pattern to those in the baseline period.

There were significant reductions in the first and second six months in the baseline period for calls for disorder. These reductions were not sustained in the post implementation period (see supplementary annex).

While there were some changes in the distribution of calls for disorder throughout the day there was little change to the overall pattern with calls peaking between 8.00pm and 8.59pm. There was little change to the distribution of calls by day of the week.

Disorder at weekends was lower than in the baseline period for 9 of the 12 months in Croydon (see supplementary annex).

The cluster area with a high concentration of licensed premises accounted for around 14 per cent of Croydon's calls for disorder in both periods. There was little change to the proportion of calls in each zone between the baseline and post implementation phases.

Qualitative fieldwork

All of the participants believed that the levels of night-time violence in their premise had either decreased since the introduction of the Act or had not changed. However, of levels of violence in the city as a whole, over half thought that it had increased.

A significant minority believed that there had been an increase in the use of weapons including bottles, knives and firearms and 15 per cent felt that the number of violent incidents which they had had to deal with had increased post implementation. There were mixed feelings about the Act itself, with 46 per cent saying they thought it was a good policy, while 31 per cent thought it was not.

8. References

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