



Lancashire's Violent Nightclub: Playing to a Different Tune

Lancashire Police

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Glossary of Terms:

- **ASB** – Anti social Behaviour
- **Review** – Power introduced as a result of the 2003 Licensing Act.
- **Test Purchase** – Tactic used when underage drinkers are ask to purchase age restricted products under controlled circumstances.
- **Responsible Authority** – Police, Fire Service, Planning and certain other departments within the Local Authority.

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Nationally (UK)

- 90% adult population consume alcohol on regular basis.
- Vast majority consume alcohol in responsible manner
- Cost to UK economy approx 20 billion sterling (\$40 Billion).
- 15,000 – 22,000 people die from alcohol related illnesses per year.

(We are here)



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Geographic's

- Population of approx 145,000.
- Most popular holiday destination in UK – attracting 11 million visitors.
- Main attractions include Blackpool Tower and the Pleasure Beach.



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Geographic's

- Major attraction for single sex groups and young people visiting the thriving night time economy.
- Over 3300 licensed premises within the division authorized for the sale and supply of intoxicants.
- Alcohol admissions in under 25's have increased by 900% since 1980.
- Alcohol key factor in 40% (6450) of violent crimes within the division.



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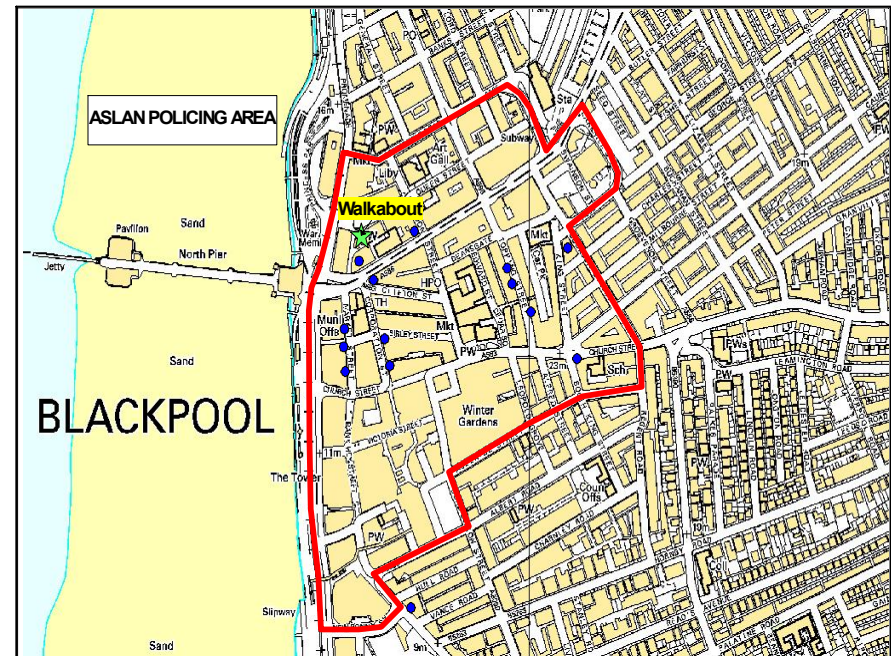


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Town Centre - scanning

- 100 Licensed premises concentrated in small area of less than 1 square mile.
- 60,000 vertical drinking spaces in town centre premises.
- Major competition between premises to attract visitors into the town targeting 18 to 24 year old age bracket.
- Major attraction for visiting football fans.
- Highest rate of alcohol related deaths in England. (3 times National Average)



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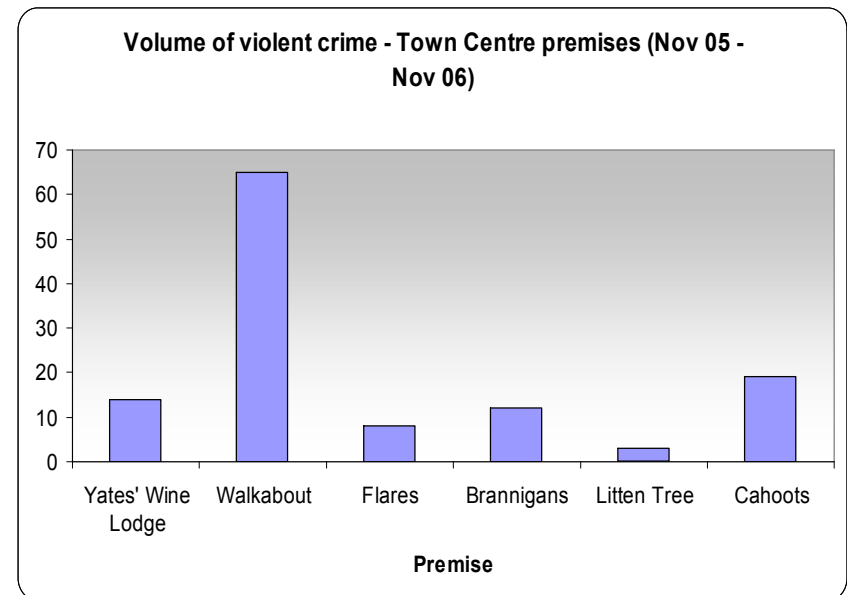


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Town Centre - Scanning

- Operational activity and reports from partners highlighted certain premises as the highest drain on resources.
- Neighbourhood Policing team consulting with local businesses identified issues with regards ASB and Criminal Damage.
- Consultation between senior management and Police to discuss crime issues – management left in no doubt as to consequences of failing to comply with requests.



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Figures based on 23/11/05 to 07/11/06

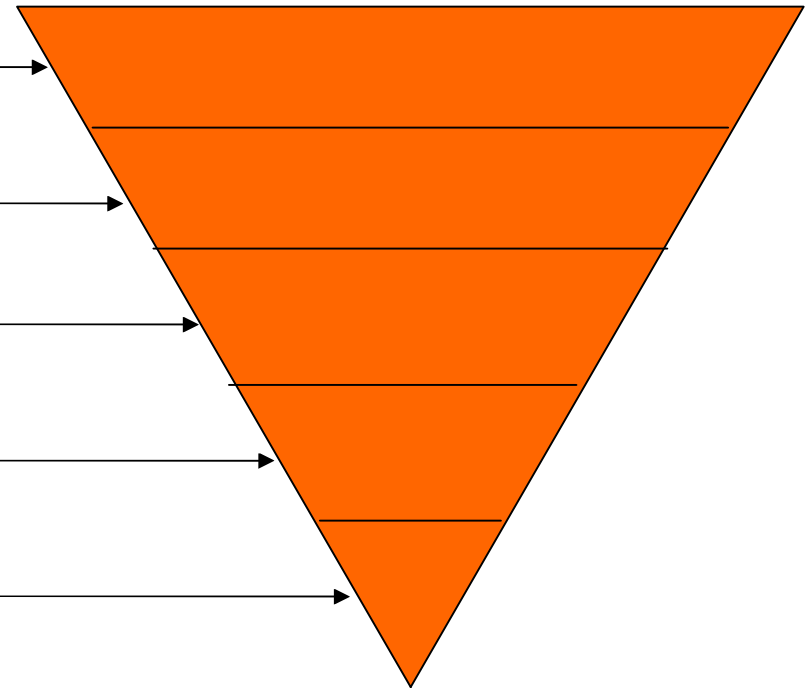
Nationally – Too Many

Lancashire – 13,518 violent crimes

Divisional - 2,245 violent crimes

Ward – 590 violent crimes

Premises – 65 violent crimes (1.2%)



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Question –

‘What are the three main issues caused by alcohol in your discipline.’

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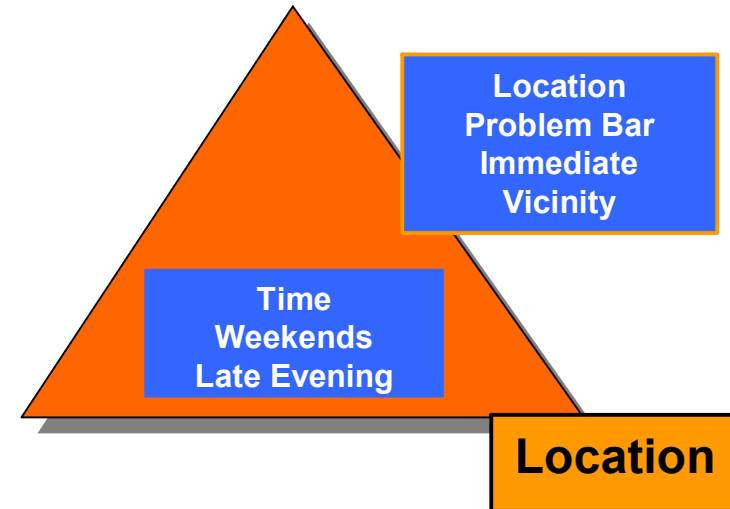


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Premises - Analysis

- Situated on busy thoroughfare, frequented by visitors and locals.
- Premises capacity of 1,250 spread over two floors.
- Entry and exit through one small entrance and main ejection point for troublesome individuals by doorstaff.
- Vertical drinking establishment with very little seating.



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Victim – Analysis

- Majority of thefts are females who leave property unattended (61 crimes). Property stolen in the main – handbags and mobile phones.
- Physical assaults – males between 18 to 24 year old who have been drinking to excess.
- Majority of victims are not local.



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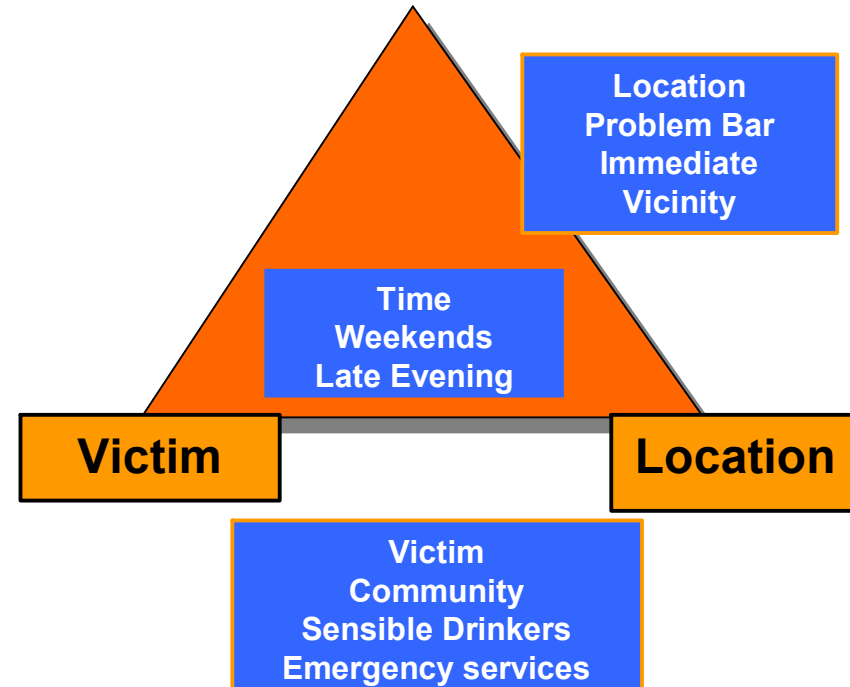


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Offender – Analysis

- Majority of offenders for low level ASB are visitors who have drunk to excess.
- Majority of offenders for serious offences are local to the town and frequent premises regularly.
- Majority of offenders detained for thefts are local.
- No evidence to suggest any other motivation except excessive alcohol consumption.



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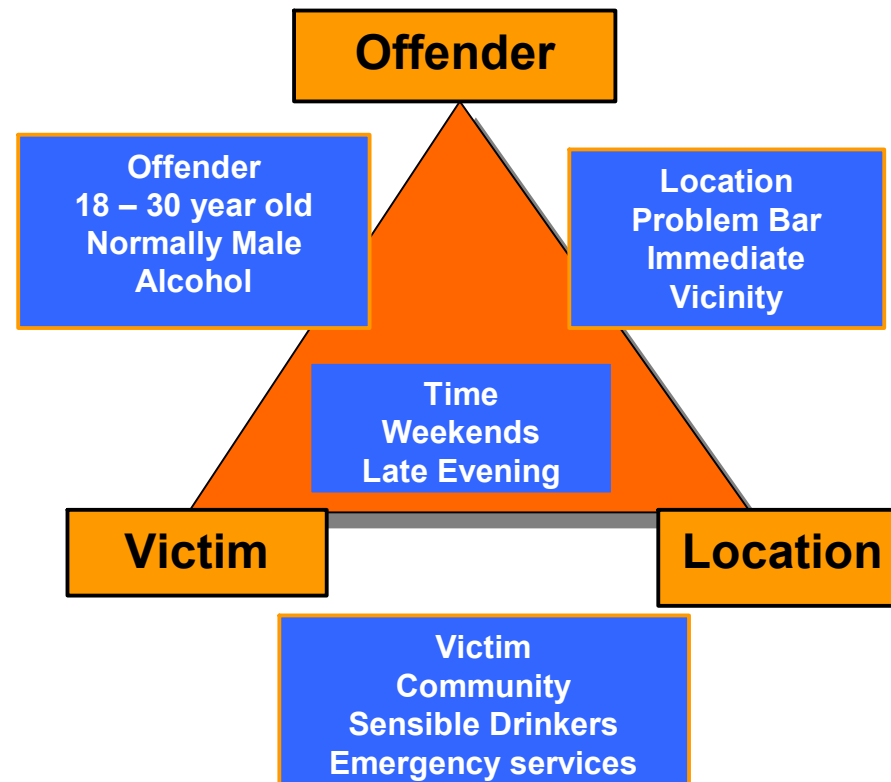


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Data Collection – Analysis (Police Data)

- 65 Violent Crimes in 12 months (Nov 05 to Nov 06) whereby staff and/or customers involved.
- 49 (75%) assaults involve some physical injuries with 38 (58%) having serious injuries.
- 10 (15%) assaults involved glasses and bottles as weapons.
- 46% of offences whilst one or both parties were intoxicated.
- 35 (54%) offences come about as offender had been or was in the process of being ejected.



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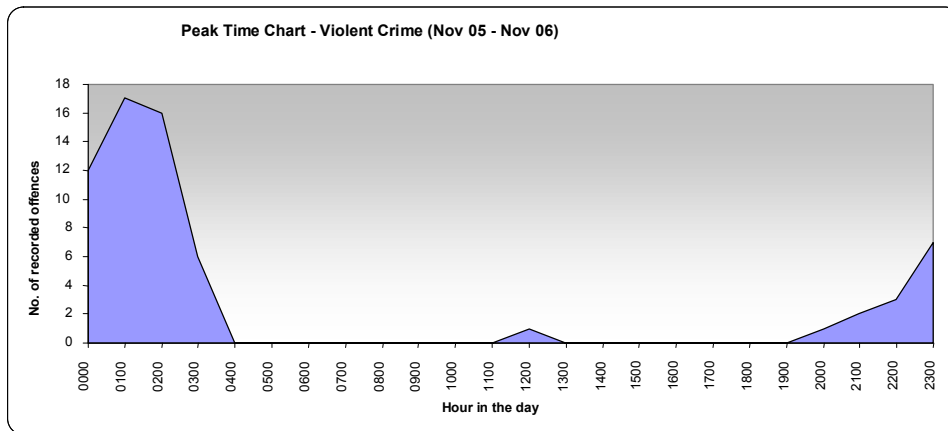
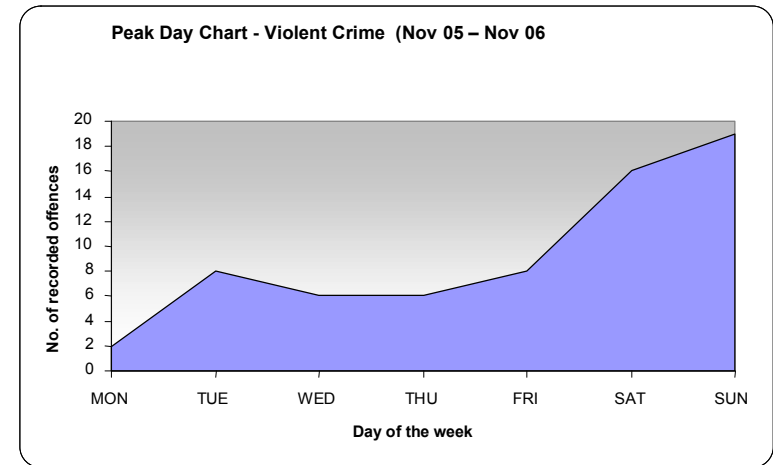


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Data Collection – Analysis (Police Data)

- 66% of crimes committed at weekends (Friday and Saturday), with Sunday being the most prolific.



- Vast majority of crimes mainly committed between 11pm and 3am.

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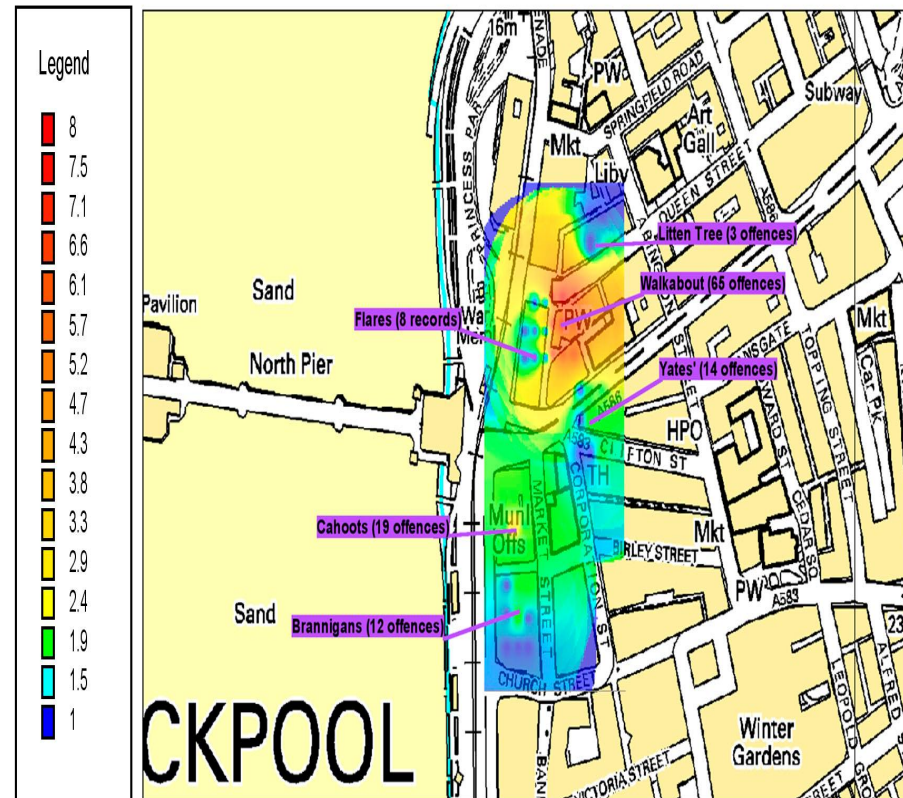
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Data Collection – Analysis (Police Data)

Premises is the most problematic venue in the area.

• Conclusion

- *Premises is most prolific for violent offences.*
- *15% of crimes involve glass bottle or glasses to cause injury.*
- *66% of crimes committed at weekends and 80% taking place between 11pm and 3am.*



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Aim

*‘to reduce the amount of crime and disorder within
the premises.’*

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Question –

‘With the information provided state one action that you would do to rectify the situation.’

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Response

All partners involved including Police, Council Licensing Dept and Fire Service

- Large number of visits to premises by enforcement officers detecting
 - Breaches of Health and Safety
 - Breaches of Fire Safety Legislation.
 - Test Purchase ops using two 15 year olds

Police engaged with National Management from Brewery at both Senior and local level.

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Response

- Quarterly review process to discuss crime and disorder issues.
- Design of premises and local area considered with view to reduce ASB
- Doorstaff engaged with to address training needs
- Local Officers tasked to provide high profile presence within premises.
- Training provided to Police Officers conducting visits in relation to licensing legislation.

All the above performed during 2006 with no reduction in crime and disorder at premises.

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Response – Review of Premises Licence

On 29th November 06 formal review papers submitted under the 2003 Licensing Act.

Grounds :-

- Unacceptable levels of crime and disorder committed within premises.
- Unacceptable levels of incidents directly linked to premises.
- Level of children frequenting premises and subject to crime and disorders
- Despite warning, premises did nothing to reduce long term issues.

As a result of engagement – National Management became willing partner with the Police to reduce violent crime

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Response – Police Proposals

- Restrictions on admission times (including re-admissions)
- Reduction in trading hours.
- Restrictions on number of drinks purchased at any one time
- Polycarbonate glasses and plastic bottles.
- Reduction in capacity.
- Identification Scan at point of entry
- Introduce Security Manager and public lockers.
- Better external lighting and CCTV.
- Balustrade off dance floor and increase seating to 60% of floor space.
- Redesign point of entry and exit and re-site fire exit adjacent to gents toilets.



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Assessment

- Since the introduction of the conditions a monitoring process has been introduced between the premise and the relevant authorities.

	<u>01/01/06 to 31/07/07</u>	<u>01/01/07 to 31/07/07</u>	<u>% Reduction</u>
<i>All Crime</i>	93	33	64.5%
<i>Violent Crime</i>	48	12	75%
<i>Thefts</i>	40	14	65%
<i>Incidents Attended.</i>	220	107	52%

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Due to the success of this operation, the principles have been adopted in targeting other problematic premises in the force and now firmly embedded as the forces standard in tackling alcohol harm.

Assessment of second premises.

	June/July06	June/July07	%Red
<i>All Crime</i>	16	8	-50%
<i>Violent Crime</i>	13	3	-76%
<i>Incidents</i>	50	27	-46%



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Response

- Monthly review of crimes committed in premises.
- Monthly consultation between senior management at Brewery and Police.

Assessment

	<u>01/01/06 to 31/07/07</u>	<u>01/01/07 to 31/07/07</u>	<u>% Red</u>	<u>%Red01/09/07</u>
<i>All Crime</i>	93	33	64.5%	63.1%
<i>Violent Crime</i>	48	12	75%	73.2%
<i>Thefts</i>	40	14	65%	65%
<i>Incidents Attended.</i>	220	107	52%	51%

Quotes from Simon Kaye Commercial Director Regent Inns

regent^{inns}

- 'Initial surprise at the events highlighted by the Police.'
- 'Initiated moves to immediately co-operate with Police and Licensing Authorities.'
- 'Reviewed, implemented and improved policies, procedures and risk assessments.'
- 'Introduced new computerised training for all levels of staff.'
- 'Worked closely with police to introduce licensing conditions that were practical, effective and commercially viable.'

Quote from Simon Kaye Commercial Director Regent Inns

regent^{inns}

- 'Reviewed and updated existing computerised Risk Management systems to record and monitor incidents, crime, capacity, safety & fire.'
- 'The effect has been to improve the customer base, reduce incidents by a substantial margin and after 9 months produced a turnover equivalent to a year ago'
- 'Customers appreciate the change in atmosphere, feel safer, but still enjoy themselves to the full.'
- 'Walkabouts throughout the United Kingdom all operate within this system.'