Reducing Residential Burglary: Enfield (UK) Community Safety Partnership

Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety
Ian Clark, Metropolitan Police
London Borough of Enfield

One of 32 London Boroughs
Population: 288,000
Area: 32 square miles
Notable Communities:
- White British 43%
- Black inc. Jamaican, Nigerian, Congolese, Somali 14%
- Turkish 9%
- Indian 7%
- Greek 6%

GREATER LONDON

The Safer & Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) is a partnership of leading Enfield authorities, partner agencies and volunteer groups whose vision is to make Enfield one of the safest boroughs in London.
London Borough of Enfield

**Tenure**
- Owner Occupied 71%
- Social Renting 18%
- Private Renting 11%

**Household Type**
- Detached 6%
- Semi-Detached 24%
- Terraced 35%
- High Rise / Apartment / Maisonette 35%
Scanning

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Domestic burglary accounts for 13% of all crime in Enfield.

Several years of stable performance.

Not a priority due to other demands.

In 2008/09, significant increase of +24%.

An extra 591 crimes.
• Public priority
• Ranked sixth with 35% in January 2009
• Ranked 3rd by March 2009
• Political and community concern

**SOAPBOX**

Enfield North MP **JOAN RYAN** urges residents to join forces to keep their homes secure

**SSCB**

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• High Publicity
• ‘Burglary level is capital’s second highest’
• Also had the 8th highest rate nationally
The economic and social costs of crime against individuals and households 2003/04

- Estimated cost of one burglary offence in 2003/04 was £3,268
- Not accounting for inflation, the cost to Enfield is up to £10million
- Psychological impact and fear of crime
Scanning → Analysis → Response → Assessment

- Exhausted methods

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Analysis
The primary object of an efficient police is the prevention of crime: the next that of detection and punishment of offenders if crime is committed. To these ends all the efforts of police must be directed.

Mayne, S.R. (1829) Instructions to “The new police of the Metropolis” (London: Metropolitan Police)
Overview

• High incidence of near repeats
• Distinct seasonality
Overview

- Geographically concentrated
Location

Low density suburban dwellings suffered enduringly high levels
Location
Access to rear of properties via alley-ways
**Location**

**Near-Repeats / Space-Time Clustering**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 to 30 days</th>
<th>31 to 60 days</th>
<th>61 to 90 days</th>
<th>91 to 120 days</th>
<th>121 to 150 days</th>
<th>151 to 180 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Same location</strong></td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>2.04</td>
<td>0.29</td>
<td>1.66</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 to 100 meters</strong></td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>0.79</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>0.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>101 to 200 meters</strong></td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>0.79</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>201 to 300 meters</strong></td>
<td>1.49</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>301 to 400 meters</strong></td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Location
5% of geographical area
20% of residential burglary
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Victims / Targets

Lifestyle data identified distinct groups with high rates:

• Skilled older families, terraces *(Urban Prosperity)*
• Home owning family areas *(Comfortably Off)*
• Older families prosperous suburbs *(Wealthy Achievers)*
• Suburban private renting professionals *(Wealthy Achievers)*
Victims / Targets

- Working families, parents at work and kids at school
- Professionals, commute to the city
- Higher incomes
Victims / Targets

- Money 27% of cases
- Jewellery 19%
- Laptop Computer 15%
- Mobile Phones 11%
Offenders?

- 9% detection rate in 2008
- 15% of those arrested drug dependent
- Catch and convict of known offenders did not curb increase
- Was the increase a result of an economic downturn?
Economic conditions in Enfield

- Unemployment increased from 7.4% to 9.7%
- Gross weekly income did not increase locally
- Proportion in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance increased from 2.9% to 5.1%
- Proportion of burglary offenders citing financial management as a factor in their offending doubled from 22% to 44%
The scheme would aim to reduce burglary by 7.5% in the locations visited by the end of 2009/10.
Response
Safe as Houses Funding - £231k, of which

- £96k gating alleyways
- £24k burglary prevention products
- £8k advertising
- £4k van hire
- £3k miscellaneous activity
Safe as houses

The "Safe as Houses" scheme is a local partnership initiative between the Police, Merton Council, London Borough of Bromley and other agencies. The scheme involves the installation of alarms and security lights in selected areas of the borough, aiming to reduce the vulnerability of homes and make them less attractive to burglars. Police officers will work with residents to encourage them to join Neighbourhood Watch schemes and develop better security for their properties.

"Safe as Houses" is an additional service and complement to existing initiatives such as Crime Prevention Officer schemes. The scheme can make a big difference in people's lives, especially for older people and those with vulnerable properties.

"Safe as Houses" is particularly beneficial for the 70-79 age group, who are more likely to become targets for burglars. By installing these devices, the scheme helps to improve the security of homes and make people feel safer in their own environments.

"Safe as Houses" is not just about providing security; it's also about empowering communities. By involving police officers, council representatives, and other local organizations, this partnership creates a stronger sense of community and encourages residents to take an active role in protecting their homes and neighbourhoods.

Everyone can do to make it harder for burglars is something. We have brilliant things... I wish more people would use them..."

As burglary rates soar, we spend a day with the police teams trying to keep our homes secure.
Scanning → Analysis → Response → Assessment

- **Hot Street Selected**
- **Leaflet drop week prior to inform residents and Environmental Visual Audit**
- **Period of activity – Crime Prevention Surveys for households**
  - Advice given to all residents
  - Locksmith service / security devices
  - Record of all interventions

*SSCB*

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Increased effort – harden targets

**KICKSTOP**

Britain's largest range of Secondary Door Security Products
London Bars, Birmingham Bars, Anti-Jemmy Devices,
Door Reinforcement, Frame Reinforcement, Door Bar and Door Grille

It is an unfortunate fact that morticing, to fit good locks, will seriously weaken the door and frame at the exact point where door strength is essential to good security. Chiselling and removing wood during lockfitting will actually result in a weakened door that will split open and fail during a burglary involving a 'kick-in' attack. Police crime prevention officers recommend fitting LockGuards, FrameGuards and other Kickstop security devices to strengthen the area around locks and hinges.

Order online at
www.londonbar.co.uk

**London Bar**
A flat steel bar frame reinforcer with a 'D' shaped section to fit over the staple (keep) of a surface fitted rim lock or cylinder nightlatch. Round edge bar with countersunk holes.

**LockGuard**
A pair of metal plates bolted together through the door, to strengthen the area around a traditional UK lever, Euro or Oval Profile cylinder mortise lock. Similar to 'kick-in' attack. It can be screwed fitted on the lock side if there is no rim lock fitted. The Bar will also resist chisel attack when fitted to the external face of the frame on each side of an outward opening door.

**Birmingham Bar**
A multi-purpose countersunk flat steel frame reinforcer bar without the 'D' section. Usually screw fitted on the hinge side of the internal face of the frame to resist a 'kick-in' attack. It can be screwed fitted on the lock side if there is no rim lock fitted. The Bar will also resist chisel attack when fitted to the external face of the frame on each side of an outward opening door.

**London Bar Security**
1 Wellingborough Road, Broughton, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN14 1PD
Tel: 01536 780999 Fax: 01536 780713 e-mail: info@londonbar.co.uk
To obtain information or place an order - Website: www.londonbar.co.uk
Increased effort – control access

Alleygating Locations

The Safer & Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) is a partnership of leading Enfield authorities, partner agencies and volunteer groups whose vision is to make Enfield one of the safest boroughs in London.
Increased effort – deflect offenders
Reduced rewards – deny benefits
Reduced rewards – stolen property outlets
Increased risk – assist natural surveillance
Educate and inform residents

TO STOP A BURGLAR,
YOU NEED TO THINK LIKE ONE.

To a burglar, a dark doorway is an opportunity to hide. Fit a security light over your front door to deter burglars.

TO STOP A BURGLAR,
YOU NEED TO THINK LIKE ONE.

To a burglar, a dark house is an empty house. Attaching a timer to a lamp will make your home appear occupied even when it isn’t.
Assessment
Recording info

- Environmental Visual Audit carried out in each street
- Crime prevention survey carried out for each property
- Records kept of works needed and free security devices given
- Kept on database and geo-coded for mapping purposes
Measuring activity

• 3,135 households received crime prevention surveys and advice

• 1,800 households received burglary packs and security measures

• 900 properties had additional locks fitted

• 88 alleygating schemes were signed up and implemented
Performance headlines end of first financial year

- Target of -7.5% in Safe as Houses streets
- Achieved a reduction of 106 burglaries, or -46.7%
- Non intervention areas saw a reduction of -1.8%
- Enfield wide there was a -7.2% reduction
## Unintended benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Type</th>
<th>Change in SAH</th>
<th>Change Borough Wide</th>
<th>Difference (% points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Damage</td>
<td>-6.7%</td>
<td>-2.0%</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damage to Dwelling</td>
<td>-6.7%</td>
<td>+3.9%</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Crime</td>
<td>-23.0%</td>
<td>-12.5%</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>+29.3%</td>
<td>+15.8%</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence</td>
<td>-1.4%</td>
<td>+9.7%</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Performance figures (varied periods)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Rear Entry</th>
<th>Safe as House</th>
<th>Non-Intervention Area</th>
<th>Enfield Borough</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 09 – Dec 09 (intervention period)</td>
<td>+0.8%</td>
<td>-5.4%</td>
<td>-0.8%</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10 – Dec 10</td>
<td>-10.1%</td>
<td>-21.0%</td>
<td>-7.7%</td>
<td>-9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May-Feb 09/10 vs. May-Feb 10/11</td>
<td>-8.1%</td>
<td>-24.8%</td>
<td>-3.1%</td>
<td>-6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar Year 2009 vs. 2010</td>
<td>-16.7%</td>
<td>-29.0%</td>
<td>-7.6%</td>
<td>-12.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volume of Burglary By Sub-Ward (SOA)
• Ranges use same parameter for each thematic map
• Red sub-wards had more than 30 offences, orange more than 20 offences

2008-09

2010-11

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Resident feedback alleygates

- 73% response rate
- 93% satisfied with gate installation
- Percent of residents happy with the state of the alley increased from 30% to 97%
- Residents have been supportive and expressed appreciation at the schemes
Challenges

- Important to work to the long term objectives.
- Senior level support.
- Monitoring and reviewing process.
- Evaluation and understanding of the costs and benefits.
• Intervention area = 2.5% of the boroughs housing stock.

• Over 40% of the boroughs overall burglary reduction in 2009-10 (106 of 219 offences) and over 70% in 2010-11 (180 of 243 offences) – SAH reduction equates to savings of £934k

• Additional benefits
  • Reduced fear of crime.
  • Promoted burglary prevention message beyond target areas.
  • Improved ‘street scene’ (fly tipping, graffiti).
  • Release of resources for other work.
  • Improved understanding of operational staff.
  • Value for money.