

WILTSHIRE POLICE

Ref Cumulative Impact Policy DT18, DT15, DS12 Station Gablecross, Swindon

Division D Date 28th November 2014

Wiltshire Police believe that the Town centre and Old Town areas of Swindon would benefit with the introduction of a Cumulative Impact Policy.

Swindon Town Centre for many years has been the main Night Time Economy (NTE) in Swindon and this is predominantly 2 streets of licensed premises. 75% of these premises are vertical drinking establishments that have the aim of selling high volumes of alcohol at low prices. Each venue offers drinks promotions that ranges from £1 shots and Jaeger bombs to £1.50 pints and £5 fish bowls of alcohol.

The Town Centre over recent years has become less popular and the trade in Old Town has seen a dramatic rise in custom over the last 3 years.

Many of the premises in Old Town have also become vertical drinking establishments at weekends due to the increase in the night time population. The ratio of vertical drinking establishments is now matching that of the Town Centre which is also seeing levels of crime and disorder rise due to the levels of drunkenness.

Licensed premises in Old Town are now offering drink promotions such as 2 for 1's and lower price drinks that have never existed in this area before. Old Town is also surrounded by residential premises and the close proximity to these premises has become apparent with noise complaints by residents to the local authority.

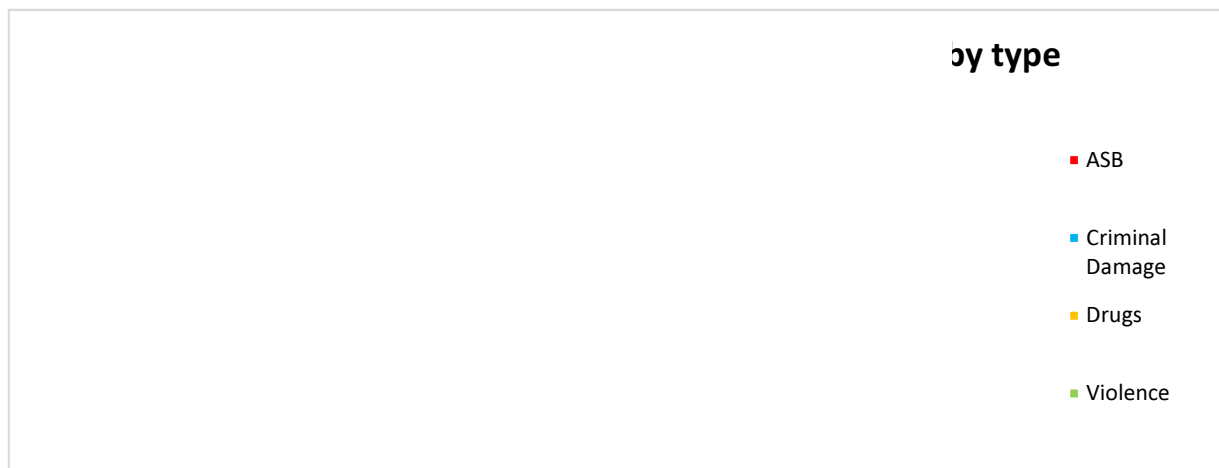
The licensed premises in these 2 areas are surrounded by late night refreshment premises which exacerbate incidents in the early hours of the morning allowing crowds to gather from the various pubs and clubs.

The grant of any further licences would exacerbate problems in these areas which is why the introduction of a CIP in this area is vital.

The evidence to support the introduction of a cumulative impact policy is as follows –

- The Occurrence types within the NTE (recorded crime)
- Top 5 Streets across a 4 year period
- Maps highlighting the hotspot areas for crime
- Tables highlighting the nature of the crimes throughout the NTE for ASB, Violence, drunk and disorderly and criminal damage.

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order. Continue on other side if necessary.

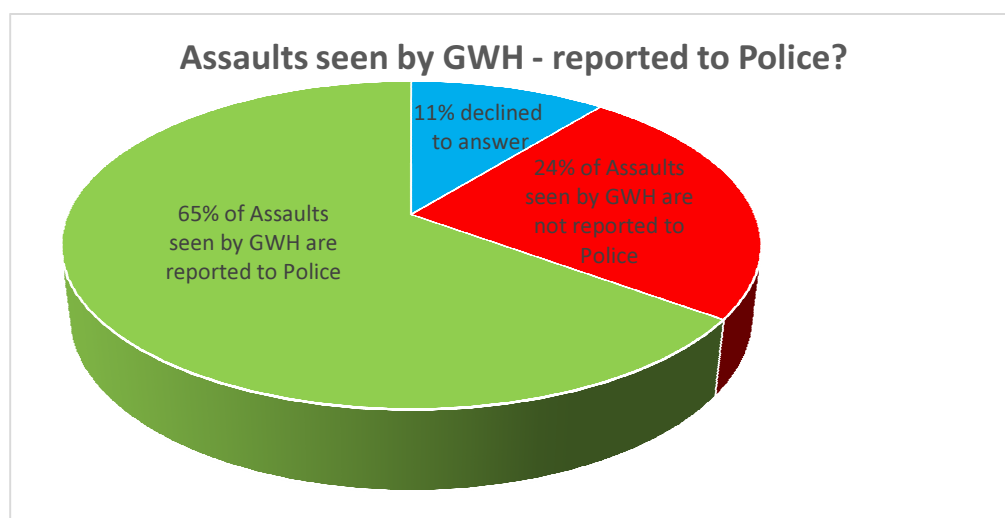
Occurrence Types in the NTE

Occurrence	Total Incidents 01/01/2009 – 28/10/2014
ASB	990
Criminal Damage	441
Drugs	308
Violence	2004
NTE Offences Total:	3743

Please note ASB included Drunk and Disorderly

The pie chart demonstrates that violence against the person accounts for the largest proportion of crime type in the last 6 years from our NTE period. The NTE parameter is Thurs-Sunday 21.00-06.00hours. Violence offences includes incidents such as GBH, ABH and Common Assault.

This figure can be seen as under reported as shown in statistics from GWH Accident and Emergency which indicate that potentially 35% of all NTE violent incidents are not being reported to the police.



Top 5 Streets for NTE Recorded Occurrences

The NTE areas of Swindon have remained the same for the last 6 years and this is indicated by the streets that have remained in the Top 5 for most recorded occurrences over the 6 year period. However 2014 has seen a new location of Regent Street emerge as a location showing that people are moving between the Old Town and the Town Centre Economies.

Street Position	2009	2010	2011	2012		2013	2014
				01/01/12 - 28/10/12	29/10/12 - 31/12/12		
1	Fleet Street (156)	Fleet Street (191)	Fleet Street (117)	Fleet Street (129)	Fleet Street (63)	FLEET STREET (199)	FLEET STREET (134)
2	Havelock Square (79)	Victoria Road (41)	Victoria Road (63)	Victoria Road (47)	Victoria Road (8)	BRIDGE STREET (82)	BRIDGE STREET (57)
3	Bridge Street (72)	Bridge Street (51)	John Street (46)	John Street (47)	John Street (8)	WOOD STREET (51)	WOOD STREET (53)
4	Victoria Road (54)	Havelock Square (54)	Bridge Street (42)	Bridge Street (39)	Bridge Street (6)	VICTORIA ROAD (45)	VICTORIA ROAD / JOHN STREET (29)
5	John Street (29)	John Street (25)	Havelock Square (39)	Havelock Square (UNKNOWN)	Havelock Square (2)	JOHN STREET (31)	REGENT STREET (14)

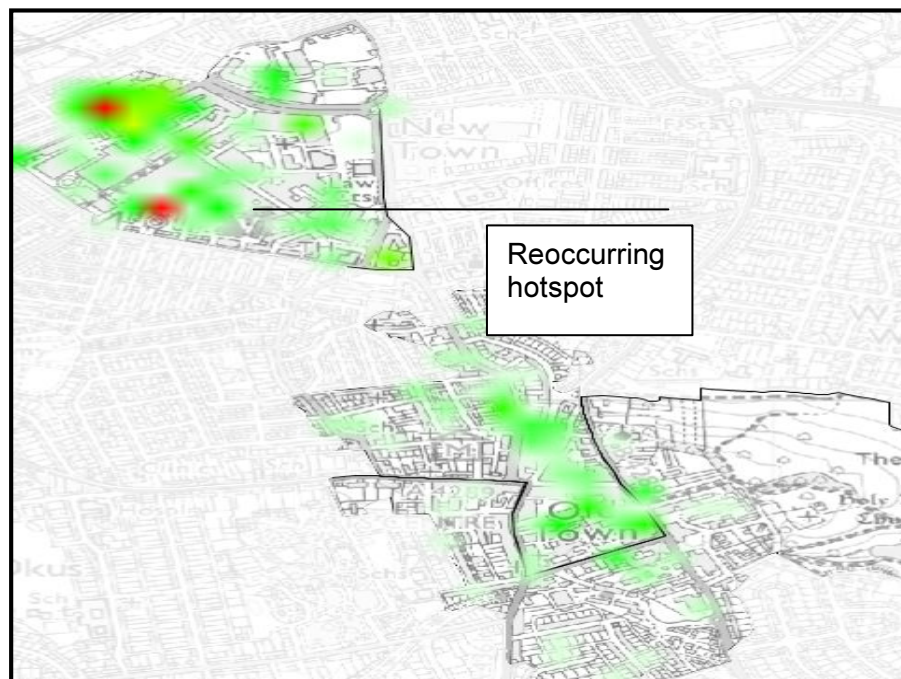
Fleet Street has recorded the most occurrences over the 6 years and this is due to the number of licensed premises along this street. This table highlights that the 3 main streets in the town centre where licensed premises exist all appear in this top 5.

Hotspot Map Analysis

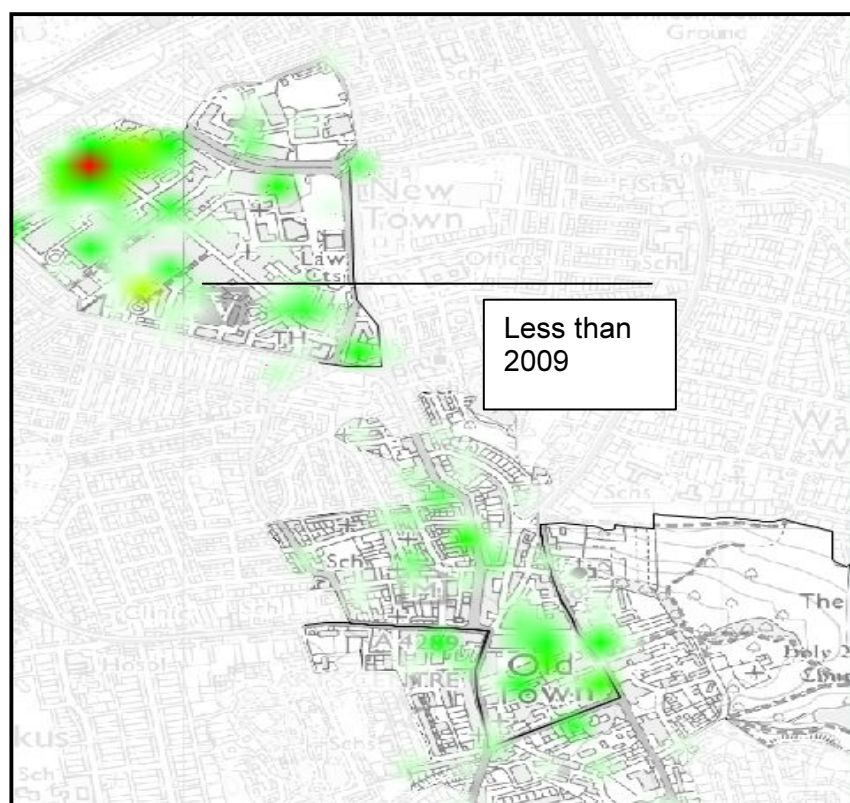
The hotspot analysis for the areas of Swindon Town Centre and Old Town NTE show a consistent pattern over the 6 year period showing that this is a constant problem and not one that has suddenly occurred overnight.

The coloured areas on the maps show that there are levels of crime occurring in this area and the red and yellow shades show a higher intensity of crimes. These areas relate to the top 5 streets which are all surrounded by a high number of licensed premises. The green highlights that there is crime recorded within the NTE area consistently around the licensed premises in both of these area.

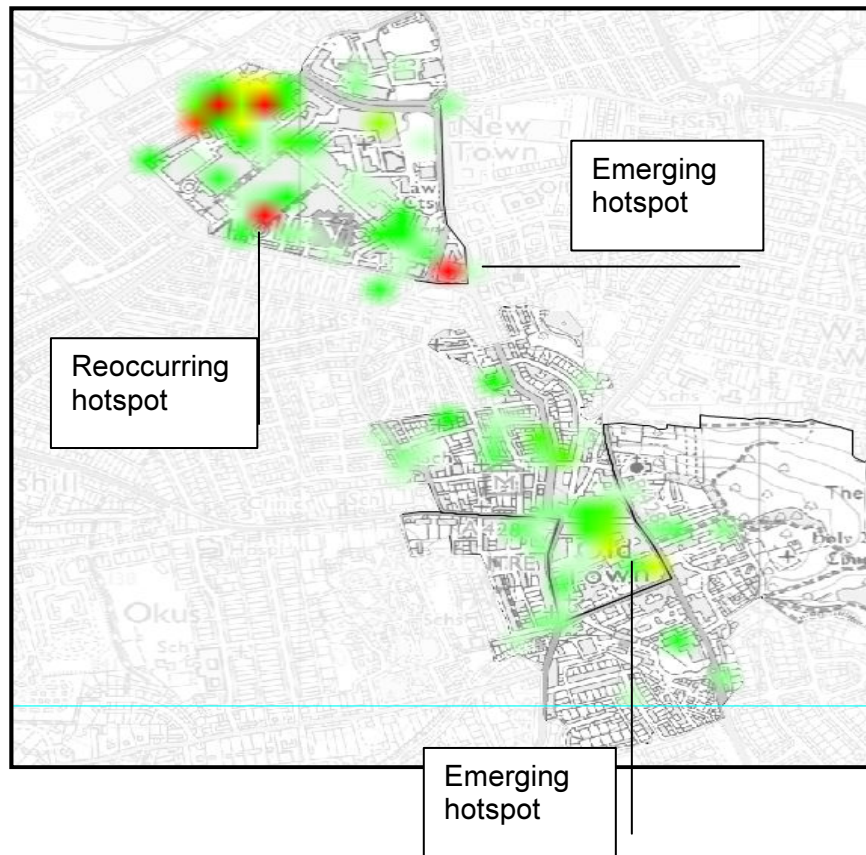
2009



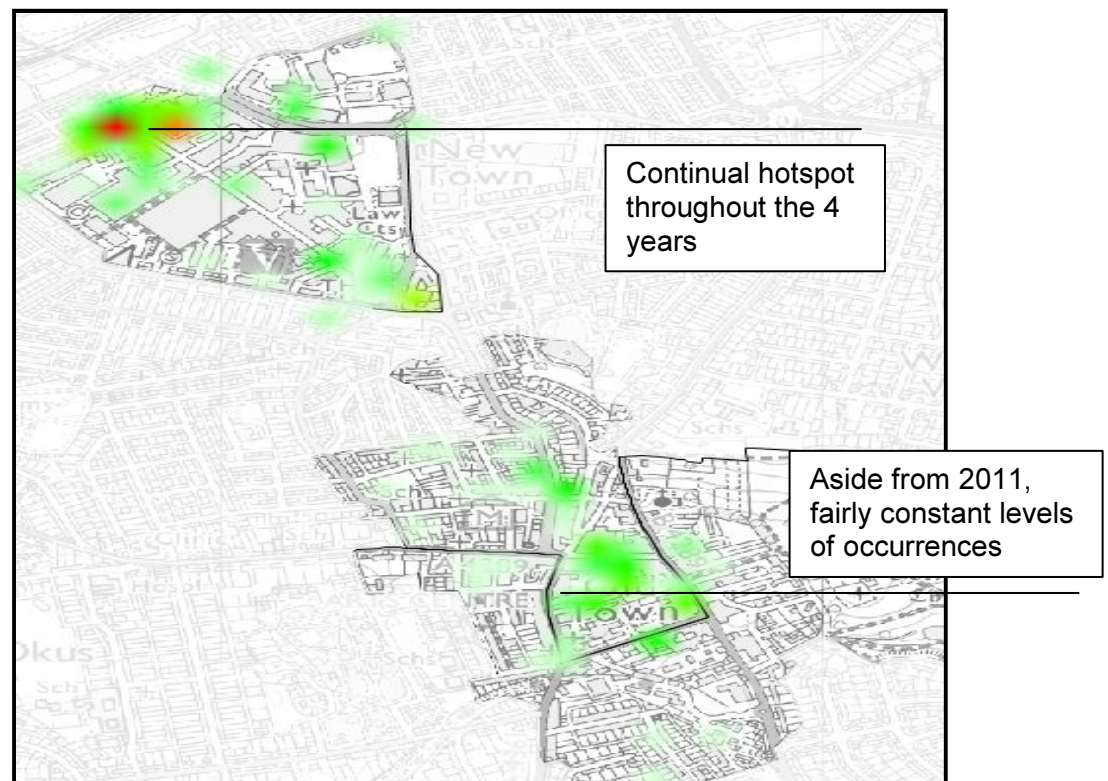
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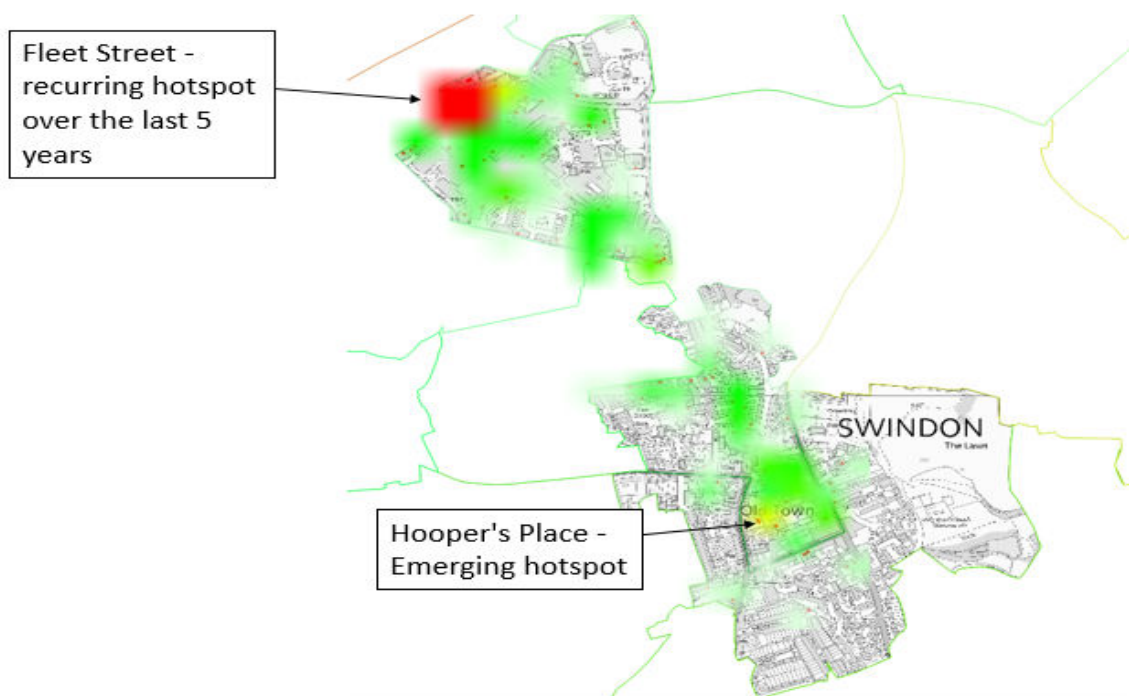


2011



2012



2013**2014**

Analysis on particular crime types and location in the NTE

Analysis has been carried out on 4 different crime types that feature within the NTE these tables can be seen at Appendix 1.

The first table demonstrates that on average the number of ASB incidents recorded has reduced since 2010. This is due to better use of police powers to disperse individuals from the area using s.27 direction to leave notices and more recently s.35 dispersal notices under the new Anti social behaviour legislation which prevents a number of arrests. The areas of the NTE have also been covered by a dispersal area for several years in order to tackle antisocial behaviour.

The peak streets for ASB are consistent, with Fleet Street coming out on top with Bridge Street, Victoria Road and Wood Street featuring as well.

Peak time analysis shows that throughout the 6 years the early morning hours of 00.30 hours – 02.30hours are consistently peak times and Saturday nights into Sunday mornings are the peak days for offences of ASB to occur.

The general theme running through the ASB occurrences are that offenders are intoxicated and acting inappropriately such as drunk and disorderly behaviour, making threats to others, using obscene language in the street and some occurrences with racist/homophobic connotations.

The second table records violence against the person occurrences and many of the same streets are highlighted as before. Fleet Street features prominently as does Victoria Road. It is interesting to note that over the last 2 years Wood Street and High Street in Old Town appear which illustrates the area rise in popularity.

The third table shows Criminal Damage occurrences over the 6 year period which also shows a decline however the streets that are affected remain mainly the same. The impact of criminal damage offences is heightened in Old Town due to the amount of residential in the area. This is shown by the streets that are affected in the top 5 of the table. Those streets in Old Town are either part residential or all residential properties and some of the top 5 streets also have late night refreshment premises attracting customers after they have finished in the bars and clubs..

The peak time for damage to occur in 2014 has extended to 01.00-05.30hours which is a longer and later period of time caused by individuals walking home.

Table four demonstrates that there has been a large increase in the number of occurrences relating to drunk and disorderly behaviour from 2009 onwards. With a reduction in 2014 however we still have 2 months remaining at a particularly busy period for the NTE.

The table highlights the growing popularity of Old Town as more Old Town streets are within the top 5 streets for drunk and disorderly occurrences from 2011 than shown in 2009 and 2010. The rise in drunk and disorderly occurrences of 39 in 2009 to 111 in 2012 shows the influence alcohol led venues are having on its customers.

Summary

Swindon Town Centre is at saturation point as it has a significant concentration of alcohol led late night venues. The evidence highlights a number of assaults and other related crime and disorder including public nuisance and risk to public safety. The Town Centre incidents are high and there are clear links to the streets where late night licensing trade exists.

In Old Town the cumulative impact that occurs as a result of a concentration of licensed premises differs to that of the Town Centre as a result of a number of people dispersing from venues or congregating in the streets does not just affect crime. The cumulative impact can include an increase in noise, disturbance to residents, parking difficulties, traffic congestion and an increase in littering and fouling. The amenity of local residents can be put under pressure in this area and the effects of this cannot be readily attributable to any individual premises.

Wiltshire Police do not wish to affect businesses coming into the Town Centre or Old Town areas and openly welcome the diversification of venues and entertainment to include family orientated entertainment. Applications for these types of licence would be likely to be supported by the police, as they promote activities other than vertical drinking. The cumulative impact policy is required to focus on alcohol led establishments that remain open into the early hours of the morning that make the promotion of the licensing objectives difficult to achieve.

Sian Kalynka 6454
Police Licensing Officer