



## Proposed Special Policy Areas – Cumulative Impact Policy

### Southampton City Centre

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This report was commissioned in order to assess whether defined areas of Southampton are disproportionately affected by offending linked to the night-time economy.

The areas under consideration were identified by the police licensing team in consultation with partners.

The report is designed to inform the decision making process when considering whether or not these areas of Southampton should be designated Special Policy Areas (SPA) with a Cumulative Impact Policy put in place taken to restrict the number of new licenses that would be granted or extensions to existing licenses in these locations.

#### **KEY FINDINGS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The three identified locations all record a level of violent offending that is disproportionately high in terms of the city as a whole and also the main commercial area of Southampton
- The peak times for violence are in keeping with peak times for the night-time economy
- Each of these locations record an above average level of offences flagged as having been influenced by alcohol.
- In terms of offences where a premise is directly involved, all three locations record multiple offences.
- The overall trend with regard to these offences is either steady or upward.
- Both the Above Bar and Bedford Place areas also record a disproportionately high level of criminal damage.
- **It is recommended that a Cumulative Impact Policy is pursued in these areas as a tool to control violent crime and alcohol related offending.**



## ANALYSIS

Across the city three areas have been identified as potentially accounting for a disproportionate level of offending linked to the night time economy.

The level of offending is considered both in terms of the amount of offending city-wide and also in terms of the Central Neighbourhood Partnership Area (CNPA). The latter consists of three wards: Bevois, Bargate and Freemantle and contains the principal commercial centre of Southampton.

Each area was analysed individually so that a full assessment can be made as to which of the areas should be subject to special policy conditions.

Where licensed premises are discussed, each on-licence premise in the city has been classified as either: small (with a capacity of 50 to 199); medium (with a capacity of 200 to 499) or large (with a capacity of more than 500). Categorising the premises in this way ensures that each premise is being compared with other venues of similar size and that consequently direct comparisons can be drawn.

## AREA 1 - BEDFORD PLACE

Figure 1 (see appendix) shows the proposed special policy area for the Bedford Place location.

There are a total of 20 premises within the Bedford Place area, all of which vary in size and capacity. These premises are listed below:

Premise	Size	Capacity
Reflex	Large	600
Avondale House	Large	450
Bedfords	Medium	230
Chambers	Medium	250
Giddy Bridge	Medium	400
Carltons @ 90 Degrees	Medium	Unknown
Kelly's Bar	Medium	250
Lizard Lounge	Medium	300
Apartment 26	Medium	220
Mono	Small	185
Orange Rooms	Medium	265
Pensioners Arms	Small	100
Pulcinella	Small	120
Red Lion	Small	110
Rhino	Medium	370
Seymour's Wine Bar	Small	110
The Cricketers Arms	Small	100
The Wine Bar	Medium	250
Junk	Large	550
Varsity	Medium	450

## VIOLENT CRIME TOTALS

A total of 296 violent offences were recorded within the Bedford Place SPA. This accounts for 3.6% of the total violent crime (8138) recorded across the whole of Southampton within the same reporting period. It also accounts for 8.9% of total violent crime within the CNPA.



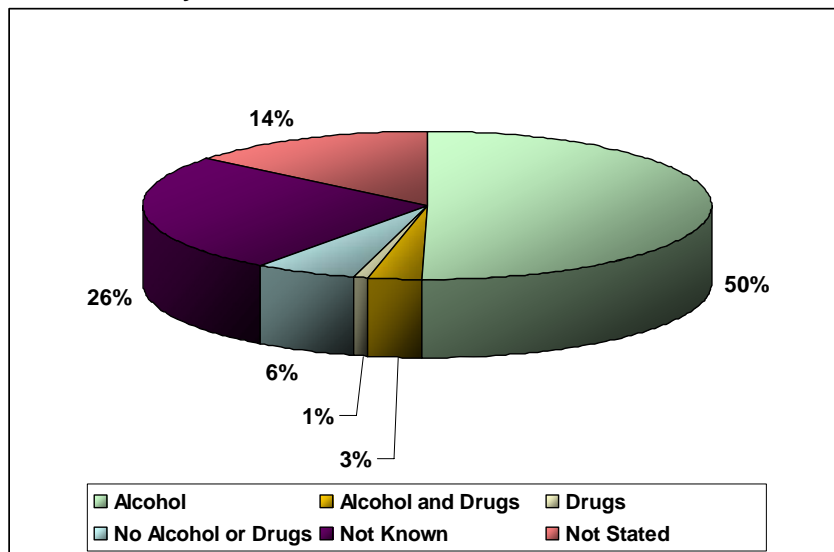
In terms of physical size this location accounts for 0.146% of Southampton and 7.12% of the CNPA.

Consequently it can be seen that the Bedford Place area records a disproportionately high level of violent offending when compared to both the city as a whole and the main commercial area.

**ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENDING**

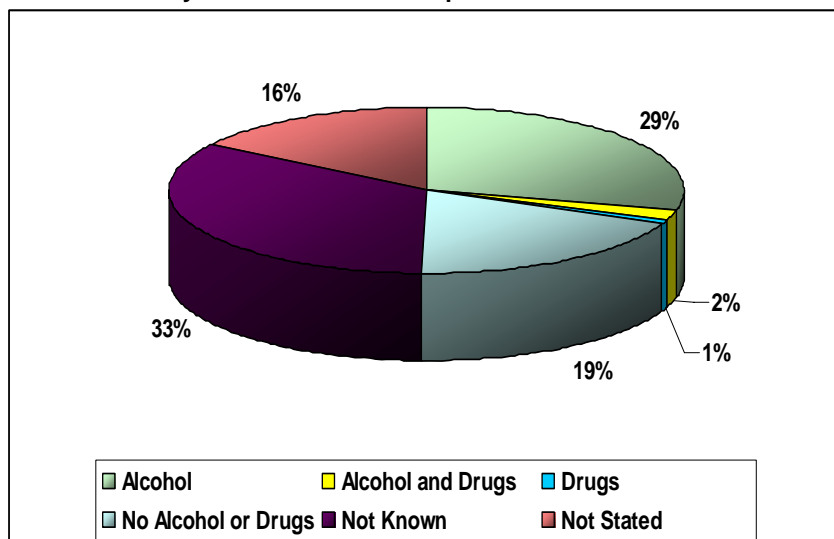
The chart below illustrates the proportion of violent crime linked to substance use by the perpetrator. Identifying the proportion of offences linked to alcohol helps to determine what percentage of violent crime can be linked to the night-time economy.

**Figure 2 Substances Used by Offenders – Bedford Place Area**



The chart below shows the proportion of violent crime that is linked to substance use by the perpetrator across the whole City.

**Figure 3 Substances Used by Offenders – Southampton**



Alcohol was a known factor in half of all violent offences (149) committed within the Bedford Place SPA, compared with the City as a whole which recorded 29% (2353) of violent offences. Eighteen offences (6%) within the proposed SPA were recorded as not involving alcohol or drugs. Based on this data it is inferred that the night-time economy is a significant factor in violent crime within this particular area.



In relation to the occurrence of serious violent offences within the proposed SPA: The most frequently recorded offence type is Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (ABH), with 99 offences (33.4%). 13 offences (4.4%) were classified as GBH offences.

Forty offences (13.5%) were police initiated. From this it is inferred that there was an obvious level of disturbance on the streets that necessitated police intervention.

### PEAK TIMES FOR OFFENDING

Temporal Analysis was carried out in order to establish whether the peak times for offending are in keeping with the peak times for the night-time economy.

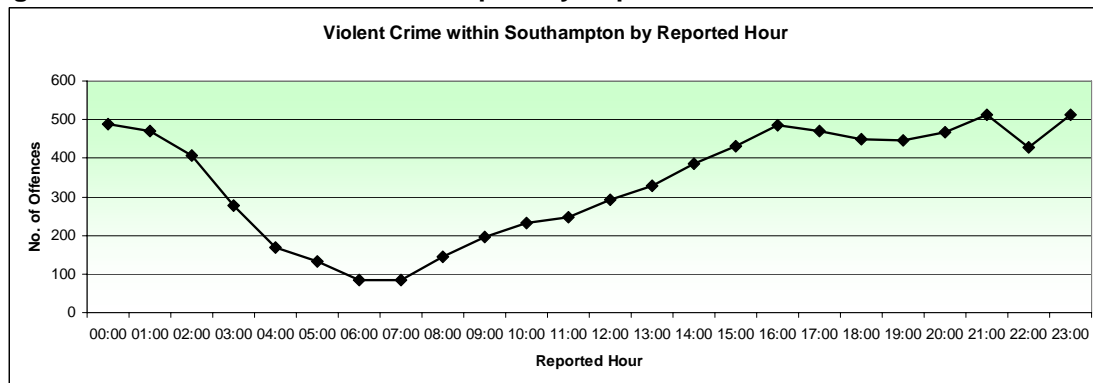
#### Violent Crime

	Bedford Place			Southampton City		
	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%
Peak weekday	Sunday	90	30.4	Saturday	1539	18.9
Peak hour	02:00	44	14.9	21:00 & 23:00	512	6.3

The peak weekdays for violent crime offending within the proposed SPA are Sunday (90) and Saturdays (68). Combined, these two weekdays account for 53.4% of the total violent crime within this area.

The peak hour for violent crime within the Bedford Place area is 02:00, although offending is generally highest from midnight to 02:00. These time periods are consistent with the night-time economy when individuals go into the City Centre on a Friday and Saturday evening. In relation to the peak times across Southampton, crime is more widely spread, as illustrated below:

**Figure 4 Violent Crime within Southampton by Reported Hour**



### CRIMINAL DAMAGE

A total of 56 Criminal Damage offences were recorded within the Bedford Place SPA. This accounts for 0.7% of the total offences (7491) recorded across the whole of Southampton. This is disproportionately high in terms of geographic area although not so strongly skewed as violent crime data.



## TEMPORAL ANALYSIS

### Criminal Damage

	Bedford Place			Southampton City		
	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%
<b>Peak weekday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1272</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Peak hour</b>	<b>03:00</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>6.9</b>

Saturdays are recorded as the peak weekday for offending. Sixteen offences were recorded on this day, 28.6%. Across the City, offending is spread fairly evenly throughout the week, however a slight peak is evident on Saturdays, 1272 (17%).

The peak reporting time for offending within the Bedford Place area is 03:00, compared with 09:00 across the whole City. Within the defined area, Criminal Damage offending occurs most frequently on Saturdays at 03:00 which is consistent with the night-time economy peak times.

### LICENSED PREMISES DATA<sup>1</sup>

A total of 72 offences were linked to licensed premises within the Bedford Place proposed SPA during the reporting period. Crime linked to these premises account for 20% of the total crime linked to licensed premises within Southampton. The table below shows the venues recording the highest occurrence of violent crime:

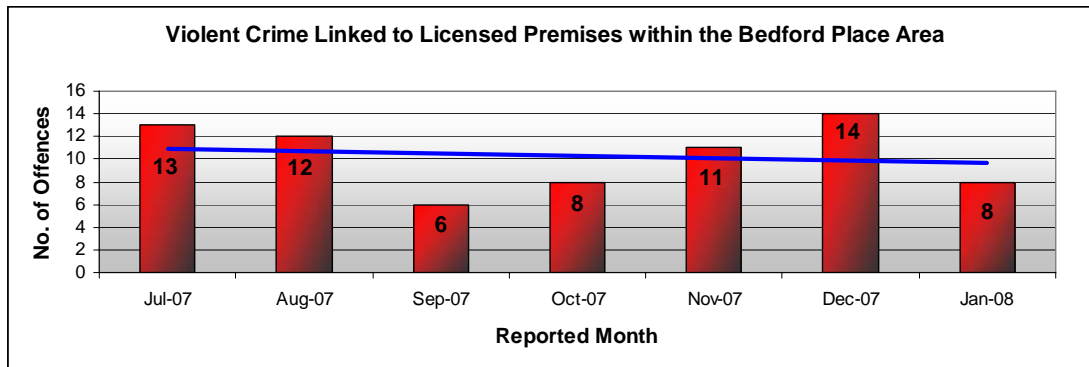
Premise Name	No. of Offences
Junk	30
Reflex	17
Kelly's Bar	7
Lizard Lounge	3
Red Lion	3
Rhino	3
Seymour's Wine Bar	3
Orange Rooms	2
Apartment 26	1
Giddy Bridge	1
Mono	1
The Wine Bar	1

The graph below provides a breakdown of the level of violent offending recorded by the licensed premises database over the last 7 months.

<sup>1</sup> This data consists of all offences that have been assessed by the police licensing team as either occurring within a licensed premise or involving the licensed premise e.g. assaults on door staff refusing entry.



**Figure 5 Violent Crime Linked to Licensed Premises within the Bedford Place Area**



In relation to the all the premises located within this area, 40 offences occurred inside the premises while 32 offences occurred outside the premises.

In terms of the level of serious violence occurring within this location, 4 occurrences were GBH offences and 3 were related to Violent Disorder.

The trend line at figure 5 illustrates an ongoing steady rate of violent crime linked to licensed premises in this area.



## AREA 2 – ABOVE BAR STREET

Figure 2 (see appendix) shows the proposed special policy area for the Above Bar Street location.

There are a total of 13 premises within the Above Bar Street area, all of which vary in size and capacity. These premises are listed below:

Premise	Size	Capacity
Flares	Large	500
Goblets Wine Bar	Small	140
Hamptons	Small	100
Slug & Lettuce	Medium	450
La Tavernetta	Small	100
Ocean & Collins	Large	1000
Old Fat Cat	Large	650
Poletrix	Small	140
Que Pasa	Large	535
Soul Cellar	Medium	250
Square Balloon	Large	1000
Whitehouse	Medium	240
Yates Wine Lodge	Large	850

### VIOLENT CRIME TOTALS

A total of 237 violent offences were recorded within the Above Bar Street SPA. This accounts for 2.9% of the total violent crime (8138) recorded across the whole of Southampton within the same reporting period. It also accounts for 7.1% of total violent crime within the CNPA.

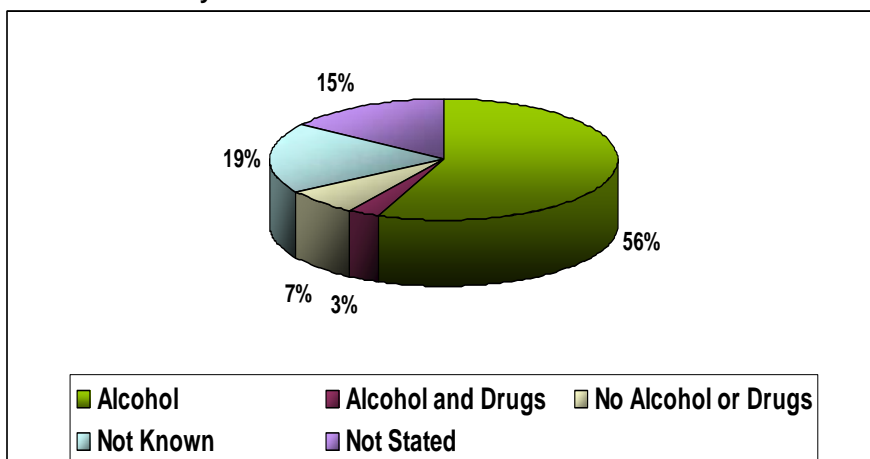
In terms of physical size this location accounts for 0.12% of Southampton and 0.58% of the CNPA.

Consequently it can be seen that the Above Bar area records a disproportionately high level of violent offending when compared to both the city as a whole and the main commercial area.

### ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENDING

The chart below illustrates the proportion of violent crime linked to substance use by the perpetrator. Identifying the proportion of offences linked to alcohol helps to determine what percentage of violent crime can be linked to the night-time economy.

Figure 7 Substances Used by Offenders – Above Bar Street





Alcohol was a known factor in over half of all violent offences (133) committed within the Above Bar SPA, compared with the City as a whole which recorded 29% (2353) of violent offences as alcohol influenced. Seventeen offences (7.2%) within the Above Bar Street area were recorded as not involving alcohol or drugs. Based on this data it is inferred that the night-time economy is a significant factor within this particular area.

In relation to the occurrence of serious violent offences within the proposed SPA: GBH offences were recorded on 7 occasions. This accounts for 3% of the total violent offences recorded.

Thirty-two offences (13.5%) were police initiated. From this it is inferred that there was an obvious level of disturbance on the streets that necessitated police intervention.

### PEAK TIMES FOR OFFENDING

Temporal Analysis was carried out in order to establish whether the peak times for offending are in keeping with the peak times for the night-time economy.

#### Violent Crime

	Bedford Place			Southampton City		
	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%
<b>Peak weekday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1539</b>	<b>18.9</b>
<b>Peak hour</b>	<b>01:00</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>21:00 &amp; 23:00</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>6.3</b>

The peak weekday and times for violent crime offending within the Above Bar Street SPA is Sunday, (79) 33.3% at 01:00 which coincides with the peak time for the night-time economy with people having gone into the area on Saturday night.

### CRIMINAL DAMAGE

A total of 39 Criminal Damage offences were recorded within the Above Bar SPA. This accounts for 0.5% of the total offences (7491) recorded across the whole of Southampton within the same reporting period. This is disproportionately high in terms of geographic area although not so strongly skewed as violent crime totals.

### TEMPORAL ANALYSIS

#### Criminal Damage

	Bedford Place			Southampton City		
	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%
<b>Peak weekday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1272</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Peak hour</b>	<b>Midnight</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>6.9</b>

Criminal Damage occurs most frequently on Sundays at midnight. Again, this is consistent with the night-time economy peak times.





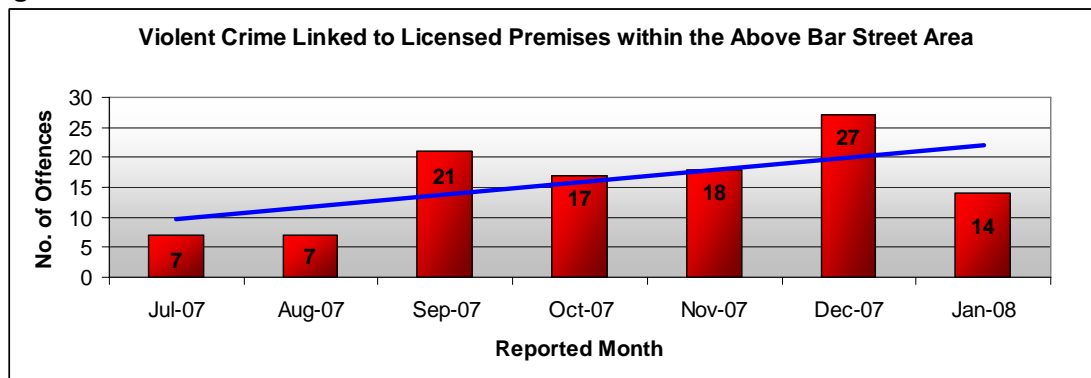
## LICENSED PREMISES DATA

A total of 109 offences were linked to licensed premises within the Above Bar Street proposed SPA. This accounts for 30.4% the total crime linked to licensed premises recorded across the City. The table below lists the premises recording the highest occurrence of violent crime:

Premise Name	No. of Offences
Flares	28
Ocean & Collins	22
The Square	22
Whitehouse	10
Yates Wine Lodge	8
Que Pasa	5
La Tavernetta	4
Old Fat Cat	3
Poletrix	3
Goblets Wine Bar	2
Soul Cellar	2

The graph below provides a breakdown of the level of violent offending recorded by the licensed premises database over the last 7 months.

**Figure 8 Violent Crime Linked to Licensed Premises within the Above Bar Area**



In relation to the all the premises located within this area, 57 offences occurred inside the premises while 52 offences occurred outside the premises.

In terms of the level of serious violence occurring within this location, 4 occurrences were GBH offences and 3 were related to Violent Disorder.

The trend line at figure 8 illustrates an increasing rate of violent crime linked to licensed premises in this area



## AREA 3 – BEVOIS VALLEY

Figure 3 (see appendix) shows the proposed special policy area for the Bevois Valley location.

There are a total of 11 premises within the Bevois Valley area, all of which are either small or medium sized premises. These venues are listed below:

Premise	Size	Capacity
Bevois Castle	Small	100
Clowns Wine Bar	Small	100
Dorchester Arms	Medium	200
Dungeon Club	Medium	250
Guide Dog	Small	90
Hobbit	Medium	350
Jesters	Medium	200
Kolebka	Small	120
Lennon's	Small	100
New Inn	Small	60
Sobar	Medium	480
Kaos	Small	100
H2O	Small	80

### VIOLENT CRIME TOTALS

A total of 94 violent offences were recorded within the defined Bevois Valley area. This accounts for 1.2% of the total violent crime (8138) recorded across the whole of Southampton within the same reporting period. It also accounts for 2.8% of violent crime within the CNPA.

In terms of physical size this location accounts for 0.13% of Southampton and 0.63% of the CNPA.

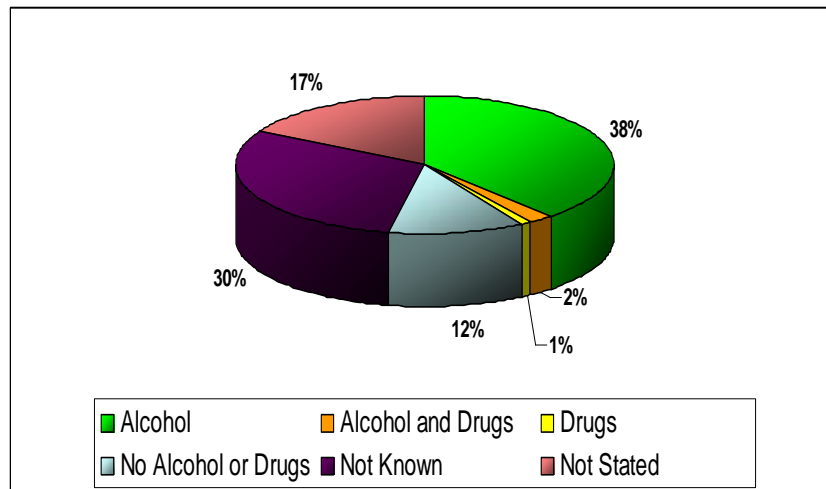
Consequently it can be seen that the Bevois Valley area records a disproportionately high level of violent offending when compared to both the city as a whole and the main commercial area.

### ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENDING

The chart below illustrates the proportion of violent crime that is linked to substance use by the perpetrator. Identifying the proportion of offences linked to alcohol helps to determine what percentage of violent crime can be linked to the night-time economy.



**Figure 9 Substances Used by Offenders – Bevois Valley**



Alcohol was a known factor in 38% (36) of all violent offences recorded within the Bevois Valley area. In comparison the citywide total stands at 29%. Based on this data it is inferred that the night-time economy is a significant factor in violent crime within the area.

One GBH offence and 1 attempted murder were also recorded.

Seven offences (7.4%) were police initiated. This location tends to be patrolled less compared to the Bedford Place and Above Bar Street area, which may account for the lower figure. It is inferred that these incidents involved an obvious level of disturbance on the streets that necessitated police intervention

### PEAK TIMES FOR OFFENDING

Temporal Analysis was carried out in order to establish whether the peak times for offending are in keeping with the peak times for the night-time economy.

#### Violent Crime

	Bedford Place			Southampton City		
	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%
Peak weekday	Sunday	19	20.2	Saturday	1539	18.9
Peak hour	02:00	12	12.8	21:00 & 23:00	512	6.3

The early hours of Sunday mornings are the peak timeframe for violent offending, which is in keeping with the night-time economy peak time.

#### **CRIMINAL DAMAGE**

A total of 14 Criminal Damage offences were recorded within the Bevois Valley Area. This accounts for 0.187% of the total offences (7491) recorded across the whole of Southampton within the same reporting period. This is proportionate to the geographic area with this location covering 0.13% of Southampton as a whole.



## TEMPORAL ANALYSIS

### Criminal Damage

	Bedford Place			Southampton City		
	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%	Weekday / Hour	No. of Offences	%
Peak weekday	Monday and Friday	8 combined	57.1	Saturday	1272	17
Peak hour	Midday	3	21.4	09:00	517	6.9

The table above presents a different pattern of Criminal damage offending compared to the Bedford Place and Above Bar Street SPA. These peak times and days are inconsistent with the night-time economy.

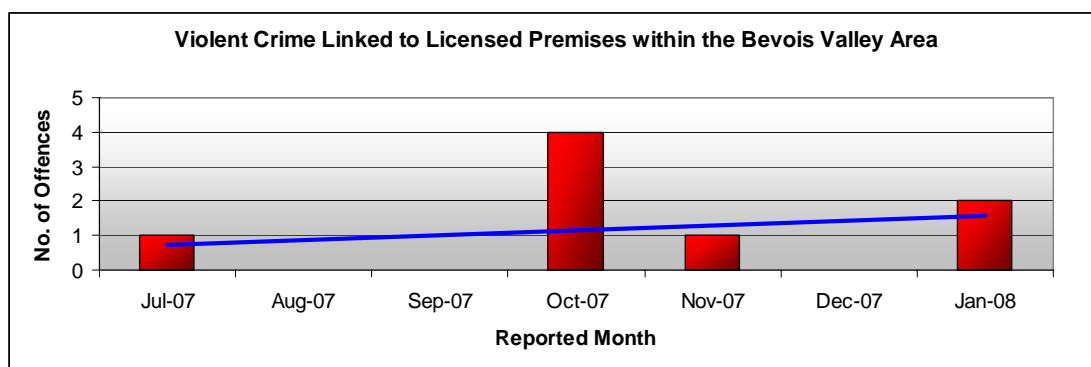
### LICENSED PREMISES DATA

A total of 8 offences were linked to licensed premises within the Bevois Valley SPA. This accounts for 2.2% the total crime linked to licensed premises recorded across the City. The table below lists the premises recording the highest occurrence of violent crime:

Premise Name	No. of Offences
Hobbit	2
Lennons	2
Dorchester Arms	1
Dungeon Club	1
Jesters	1
Sobar	1
Kaos	1
H20	1

The graph below provides a breakdown of the rate of violent offending recorded by the licensed premises database over the last 7 months.

**Figure 10 Violent Crime Linked to Licensed Premises within the Bevois Valley Area**



Six offences occurred inside the premises, while only 2 occurred outside the premises. The offences recorded within this location were all lower level assaults.

The pattern of offending linked to licensed premises in this area is slightly different to that in the city as a whole. The Bevois Valley area is one that is strongly associated with premises frequented by students. It is inferred that the low level of offending in the summer months and over the Christmas period is connected to the University vacation times. Conversely the increase in October is connected to the return of the student community.



The trend line in this location indicates that there is an overall upward trend in offending.

## ***Conclusion***

Based on the analysis of the crime data it is inferred that violent offending in all three of these locations is affected by alcohol in a pattern that is higher than that seen across the city as a whole.

The reason for this pattern is the availability of alcohol due to the concentration of licensed premises in the area.

Consequently restricting or reducing the availability of alcohol in these areas has the potential to reduce violence. Further increasing the availability of alcohol in these areas has the potential to further increase violent offending.

A cumulative impact policy has potential to be of benefit in all three of these locations.



## **APPENDIX 1 DATA SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY**

The data used in this report is obtained from police RMS records and consists of all recorded crimes<sup>2</sup> with the crime having received a Home Office category classification of Violence or Criminal Damage within the specified time period.<sup>3</sup> Data for this report was extracted from the police Records Management System (RMS) for the period covering 01/01/2007 to 31/12/2007.

In addition, RMS data transported into Microsoft Access Licensed Premises database was also used. This process was carried out via the filtering system whereby the licensing team assess each occurrence and determine whether the premise was directly involved in the incident. A search was then carried out on the data for all Violent Crime offences that had been flagged as occurring within Southampton's licensed premises for the period covering 01/07/2007<sup>4</sup> and 31/01/2008. These offences included Common Assault, Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (ABH), Assault Occasioning Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH), Assault Police, Section 4 POA, Section 5 POA, Racial Section 5 POA, Criminal Damage, Affray, Indecent Assault, Breach of ASBO, Violent Disorder and Possession of an Offensive Weapon. The data was then extracted and transported into Microsoft Excel where it was subject to analysis.

The calculations with regard to geographical areas were carried out using statistical information via the Geographic Information System MapInfo.

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<sup>2</sup> As per Home Office recording and counting rules.

<sup>3</sup> Force Policy stipulates that Business Objects searches must be based on the date the crime was validated by IMU rather than the date committed. Therefore, there may be some inconsistencies with the data supplied in that the crimes analysed for the report, may not have occurred within the set date period.

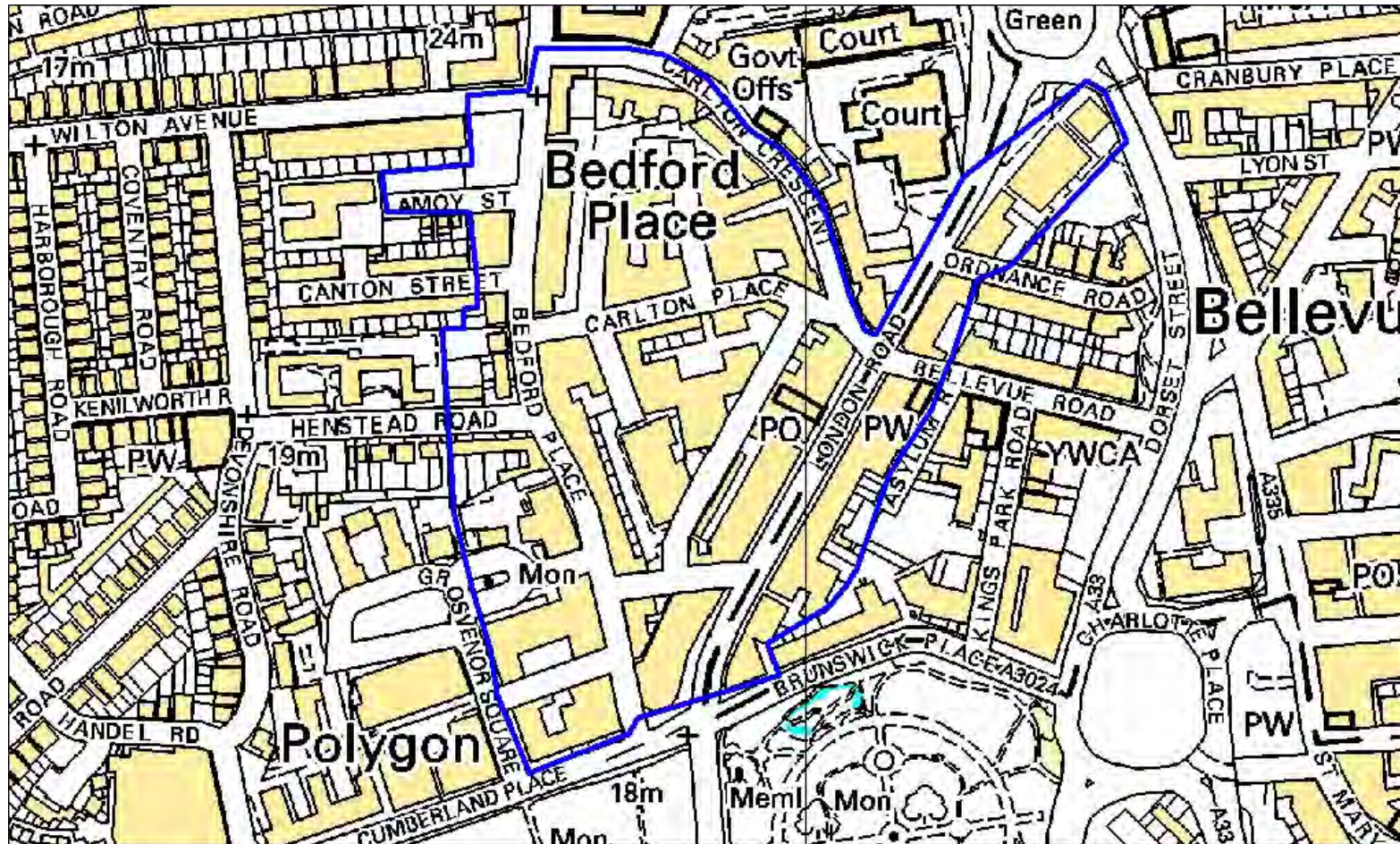
<sup>4</sup> Data before 01/07/2007 was unavailable.



Produced by: CDRP Analyst Kathryn Hague, 12334 & CDRP Researcher, Sam Hall, 12336  
Date: 05/06/2008  
Produced for: 5 OCU Licensing Team



Figure 1 Proposed Special Policy Area – Bedford Place

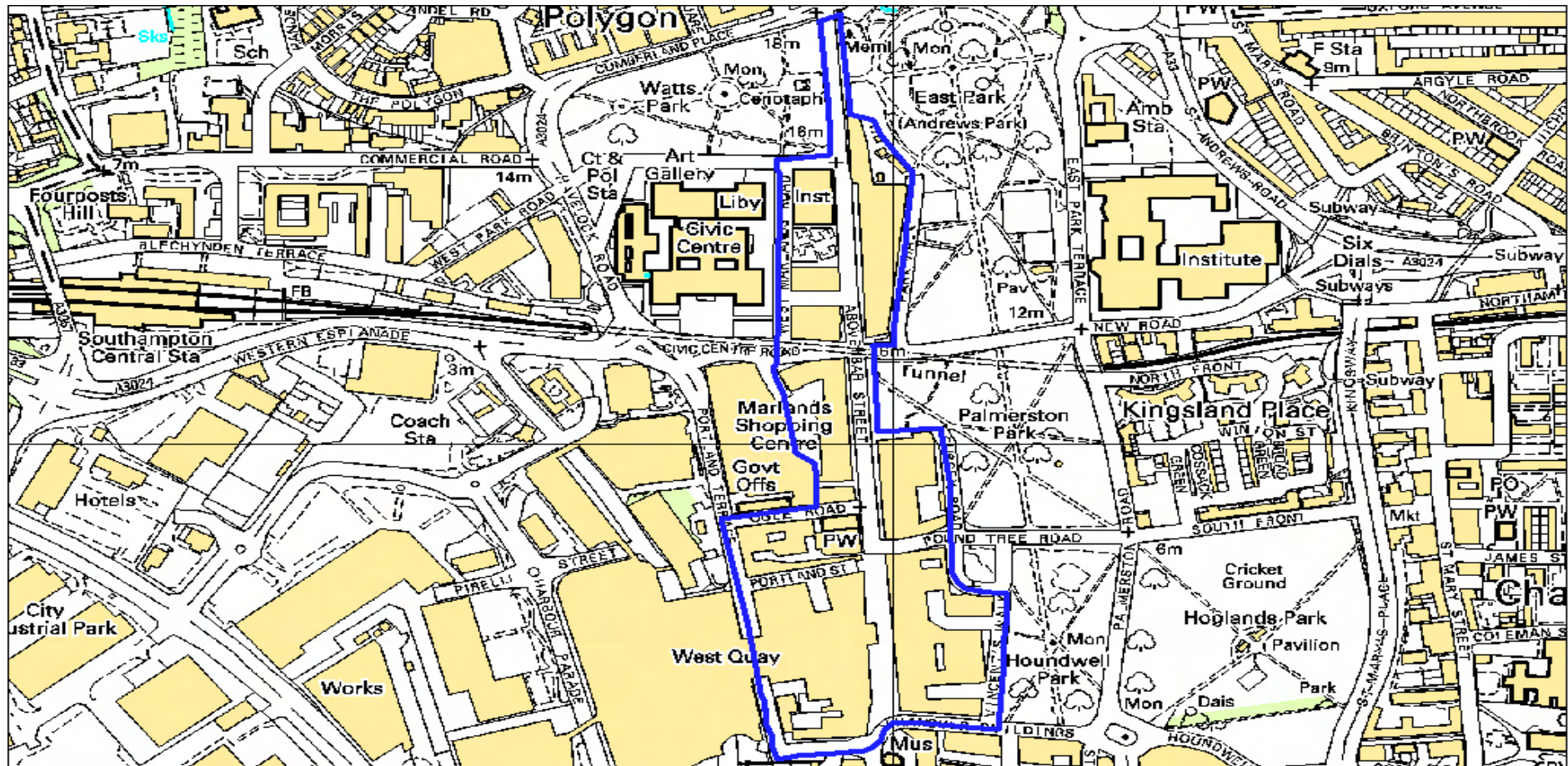


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Figure 2 Proposed Special Policy Area – Above Bar Street

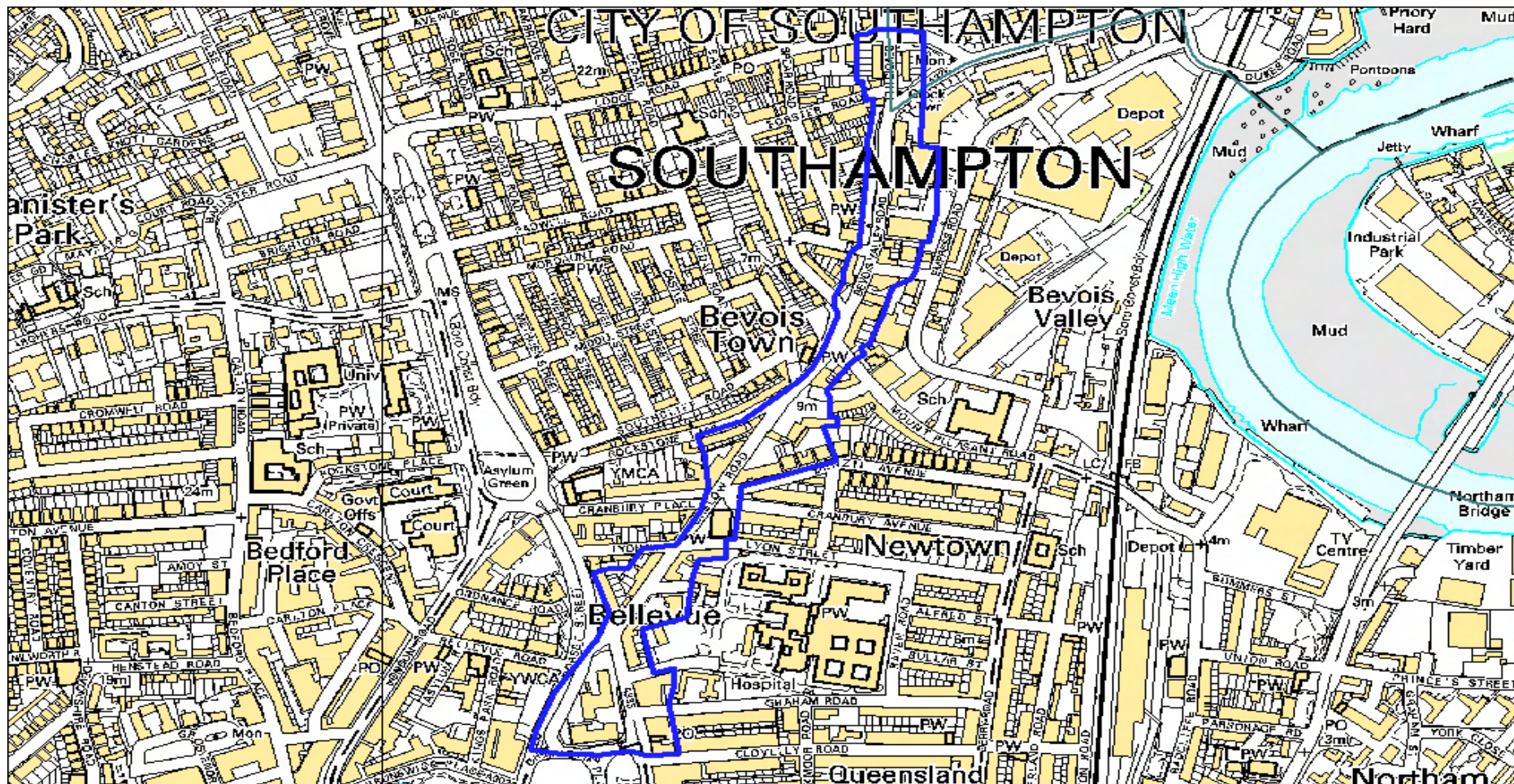


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Figure 3 Proposed Special Policy Area – Bevois Valley



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