

ITEM 13



Title: Persistent and Other Priority Offenders in Derby

Report by: Dan Howitt Partnership Analyst and
Ipsos MORI

October 23rd 2007

Context

Research indicates that a small number of offenders are responsible for a disproportionate amount of crime. As a result, the government launched the PPO programme to reduce offending amongst this particular group of offenders.

The schemes involve three strands;

- **Prevent and Deter**- Aiming to stop young people from engaging in offending behaviours and graduating to become the prolific offenders of the future.
- **Catch and Convict**- Aiming to prevent PPOs from offending through apprehension and conviction, and through licence enforcement, by ensuring a swift return to the courts for those PPOs continuing to reoffend.
- **Rehabilitate and Resettle**- Aiming to rehabilitate PPOs who are in custody or serving sentences in the community through closer working between all relevant agencies and continued post- sentence support.

(Home Office, 2004)

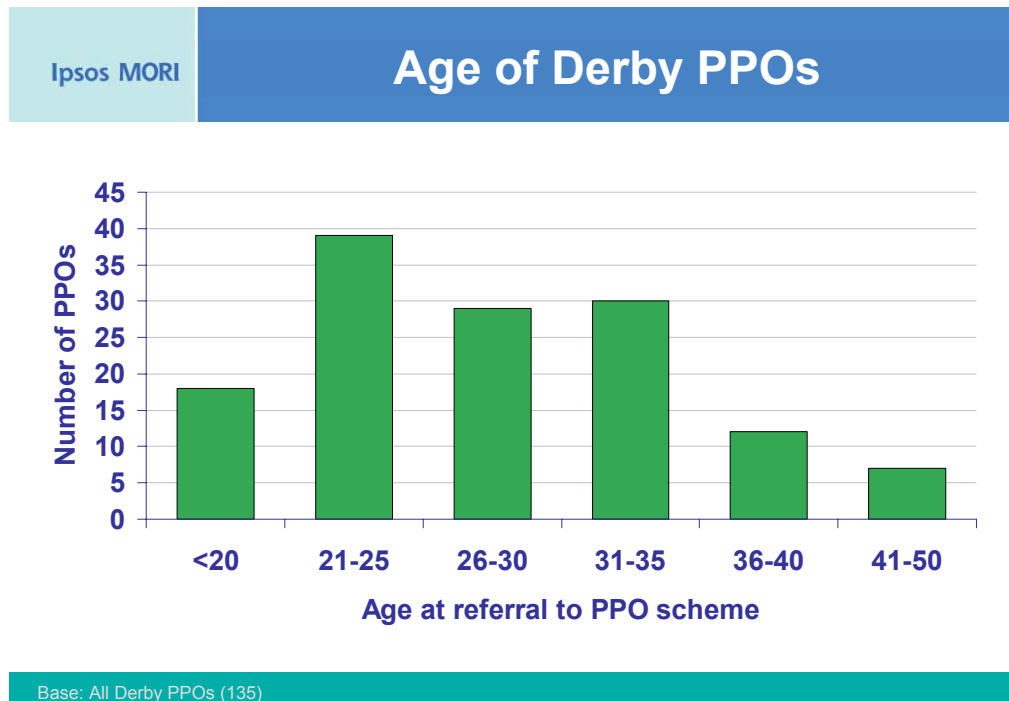
Derby's PPO scheme forms part of the wider aim of Derby's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to reduce crime in Derby by 20% by 2008. This profile is based on an evaluation conducted by Ipsos MORI in January 2007 and compares 136 local PPOs with a national profile of 7,801 PPOs across England and Wales.

Description of Derby PPOs

All the Derby PPOs are male compared to 95% of PPOs nationally. Reflecting the national trend, 86% are of white British origin, compared to 88% nationally.

The Derby PPOs age at date of being referred to the scheme ranges from 16 through to 50. The mean average age is 28 with most of PPOs aged from 17 to 40 years (93%, a higher proportion than nationally, where 84% fit this range). The most common ages are 20 and 34. Compared to the national evaluation Derby PPOs' age at referral is slightly older; nationally the average age is 25 with 20 years old being the most common age for referral. This could relate to the fact that those in the Deter strand (ie younger people at risk of offending) are not included in these statistics, which would have included younger

offenders and therefore decrease the average age. It may also relate to the fact that other schemes include antisocial behaviour cases in their project management statistics (often younger offenders), and Derby does not. The chart below shows the age distribution of Derby PPOs at the end of June 2006.



However, individuals on the Derby Prevent and Deter strand are not given a “PPO status” by Derby CSP as the scheme believes they are more likely to respond positively to the deter strand of the Scheme by not being labelled “PPOs” at this early stage. A similar approach is taken to those young people on Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs). Anyone on an ASBO would not be included on the PPO scheme.

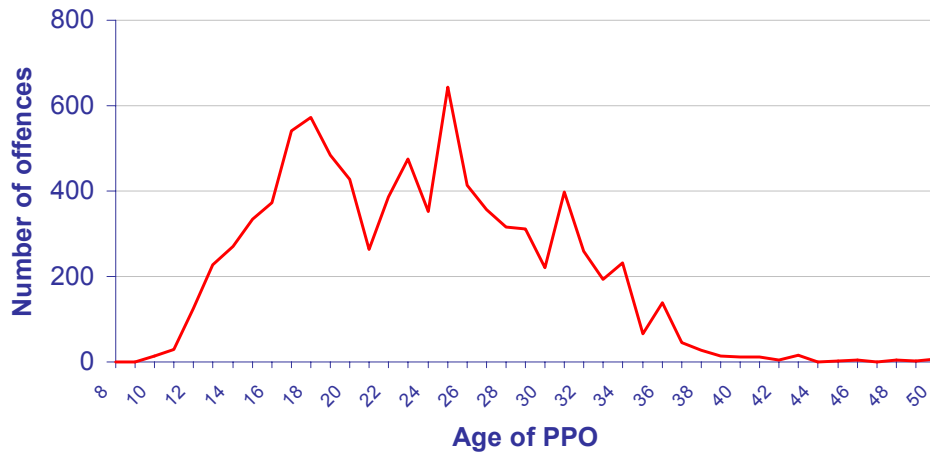
The Derby scheme differs to other schemes in these respects, and this is likely to contribute to a higher average age of PPOs, as many of the youngest offenders are not included. Although the Prevent and Deter strand is not part of the scope of this evaluation data, in June 2006 there were 29 individuals on the Deter strand of the scheme, with an average age of 17 years.

Offending careers

The average age at first offence for Derby PPOs is 15 years old, which is the same as the national average. The chart below indicates that most of the PPOs are arrested for the majority of their offences well before the average age of 28. The chart shows all the arrests of all the Derby PPOs and plots at what age they were committed.

Over half (58%) of the arrests occur during the years from 16 to 26, and nearly two thirds (73%) of all offences occur before the age of 28. It is possible that PPOs that are on the scheme may have already passed their period of “peak” offending. It could also mean that the PPOs spent most of their time throughout their late twenties/early thirties incarcerated and are therefore unable to offend, and that the PPO scheme is offering them support throughout this period in custody and after they are released.

PPO Age of Offence

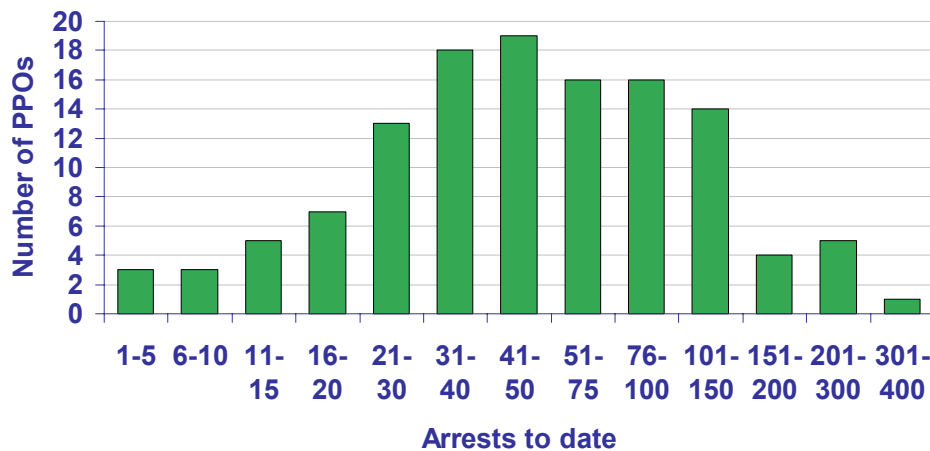


Base: All Derby PPOs (135)

Derby PPOs with recorded arrests¹ have had an average of 69 arrests in their criminal careers which is higher than PPOs nationally, who have an average of 47 arrests. This could be related to Derby PPOs being identified and referred to the scheme later on in their offending careers than PPOs nationally. It could also signify that the targeting criteria used on the scheme is selecting the most appropriate PPOs.

The chart below details number of arrests to date for PPOs on the Derby scheme. Around half the Derby PPOs (51%) fall in the range of 31 – 100 arrests, and 80% fall within the range from 11 to 150 arrests.

Derby PPO Arrests



Base: All Derby PPOs (135)

¹ 126 of the Derby PPOs have recorded arrests

The predominant arrests for PPOs in Derby are for burglary or theft from or of a vehicle (accounting for 71% of all arrests). Of these, burglary from a dwelling (27%) and theft from a vehicle (21%) are most prevalent. The table below shows the offence categories for recorded

Derby PPO arrests.

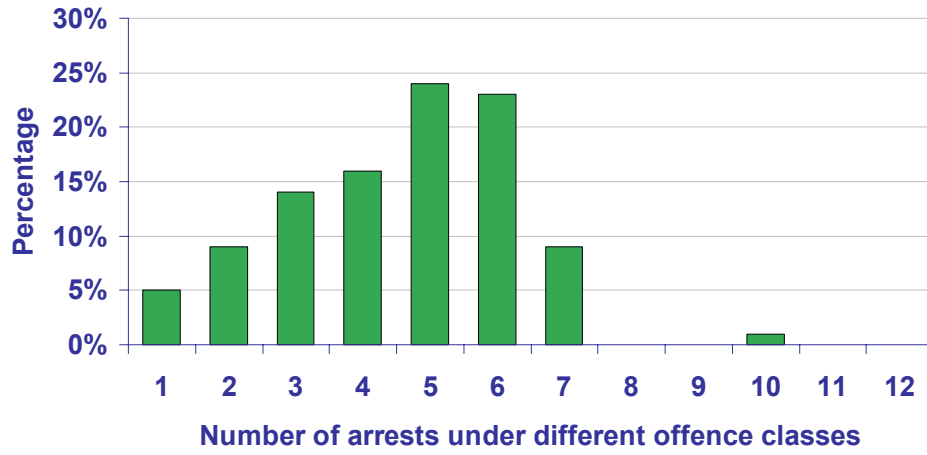
| <i>Derby PPO Offence types</i> | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Arrests | |
| <i>Base: All Derby PPOs</i> | <i>(135)</i> | <i>(135)</i> |
| | <i>N</i> | <i>%</i> |
| Burglary Dwelling | 2288 | 27% |
| Theft From Vehicle | 1784 | 21% |
| Burglary Not Dwelling | 1145 | 13% |
| TWOC/Theft Of Vehicle | 826 | 10% |
| Shoplifting | 546 | 6% |
| Assault | 510 | 6% |
| Total Damage & Arson | 353 | 4% |
| Other Theft | 340 | 4% |
| Other Crime | 178 | 2% |
| Fraud | 132 | 2% |
| Robbery | 132 | 2% |
| Handling | 123 | 1% |
| Drugs Offence | 102 | 1% |
| Theft Of Pedal Cycle | 85 | 1% |
| Interfere With Vehicle | 14 | * |
| Absconding | 12 | * |
| Sex Offence | 3 | * |
| Forgery | 2 | * |

Source: Ipsos MORI

This would imply that the scheme is targeting the correct PPOs as they primarily aim to target burglary, vehicle crime and robbery. One hundred and twenty Derby PPOs have a recorded arrest in one of these categories (95% of the 126 with recorded arrests on the scheme).

The Police National Computer (PNC) has 12 main offence classes. Criminal versatility is measured by the number of offence classes an individual has a recorded offence under. The following chart shows the criminal versatility of Derby PPOs. Derby PPOs are most likely to have committed five offence types, whereas the figure for PPOs nationally is seven. This is likely to be due to a more rigid selection criteria for the Derby scheme. It may mean that more targeted work can be done with the Derby PPOs due to their lesser criminal versatility.

Criminal Versatility of Derby PPOs



Base: All Derby PPOs (135)