

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 5 January 2010**

(7.30pm to 8.25pm)

Present:

Wes Read – Mayor	Steve Hawker
Philip Chandler	Simon Hester
Bridget Dollard	Andrew Kendall
Julian Freke	Ruth Kendall
John Grana	Tom Parsley
Dave Greene	David Recardo

Also present:

Alan Tawse	Town Clerk
Chief Inspector Richard Evans	Avon and Somerset Constabulary
Inspector Jackie Gold	Avon and Somerset Constabulary

PRAYERS

Reverend Howard Davenport led the Council in prayers on behalf of the Townspeople of Yeovil.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY COMPETITION

The Mayor announced the winners and runners-up of the recent Town Council Christmas Lights Display competition, and presented prizes to those in attendance:

First	Mrs Neville of Hillcrest Road
Second	Mr and Mrs Bird of Westfield Grove
Third	Mr Cousins of Westfield Grove

The Mayor thanked everyone who had taken part in the competition, which had attracted a high standard of entry.

7/416 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 December 2009, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7/417 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from J Vincent Chainey, John Cruddas, Clive Davis, Tony Fife, Dave Gooding, Pete Goodman, Peter Gubbins, John Hann, Tony Lock, Ian Martin, Pat Martin and Alan Smith.

7/418 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7/419 **MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Details of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's recent and forthcoming engagements and announcements were attached to the Agenda.

7/420 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:-

- Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Newsletter – Winter 2009
- Letter from South Somerset District Council regarding plans to explore joint working arrangements with East Devon District Council.

7/421 **AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY - PRESENTATION**

Chief Inspector Richard Evans and Inspector Jackie Gold of Avon and Somerset Constabulary attended the meeting and gave a joint presentation on current issues facing the Police in Yeovil and the Force's plans for the future (a summary of the main points covered during their presentation is attached to these Minutes).

Richard drew attention to recorded crime figures and detection rates across a range of criminal activities to help illustrate how the East Somerset Policing District was performing in Yeovil. He gave an explanation of various trends and outlined a number of responses and strategies that the Police had adopted to deal with adverse patterns of crime.

He explained that the definition of wounding had now been extended by the Home Office to include many more forms of assault, which had had a disproportionate effect on the present year's figures.

Richard indicated that the current overall detection rate of 36.2% represented a 4.3% improvement on the previous year's figure and was the highest in the Force area.

Jackie outlined the ways by which the Police were working with the local community to help prevent and detect crime and she praised the effective partnership working that had been developed in the Town. She also gave details of various activities and initiatives with which the Police were currently involved, and the impact that these were having on levels of crime.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the way by which crimes were recorded, and the importance of the public reporting all crimes – to help the Police identify patterns of criminal behaviour and direct resources which, in turn, improved the likelihood of detection.

In response to a query, Jackie confirmed that the Police used mapping techniques to help identify crime "hotspots" and she outlined the benefits of this approach.

Reference was also made to the need for more enforcement of parking controls in the Town Centre. In reply, Jackie drew attention to changes in recent years to the personnel used to carry out these duties and indicated that the allocation of resources to deal with criminal activities was determined according to need and took into account the community's views on their prioritisation.

Richard also referred to the ways by which the Police were working with a number of agencies in the Town to deal with drug-related crime, and the steps that the Police were taking to combat the activities that were helping to fund such crime.

The Mayor thanked Richard and Jackie for their interesting and informative presentation, and it was

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/422 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS

The Chairmen of the various Committees of the Council presented the Minutes from the previous cycle of meetings, drawing attention to specific references to Council, any matters of particular interest and answering any questions.

Planning and Licensing Committee

23 November 2009

7 December 2009

7/423 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Minutes of the following meetings of Outside Bodies were attached to the Agenda and Members were given an opportunity to raise matters relating to them:

Yeovil Youth Council

16 November 2009

Yeovil Town Centre Consultative Panel

18 November 2009

Minute 5 – Yeovil Vision and Town Centre regeneration

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the failure to date by the developers of a site in Queensway Place to move their hoardings back, or to put in temporary dropped kerbs, to replace those that were currently unusable because of the position of the hoardings.

In response, the Town Clerk indicated that the Town Centre Manager was investigating the matter and he undertook to advise him of the Town Council's concern at the delay in resolving this issue.

South Somerset Countryside Steering Group

20 November 2009

7/424 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no questions or comments from members of the public.

Mayor

AT
11/1/2010

Somerset East

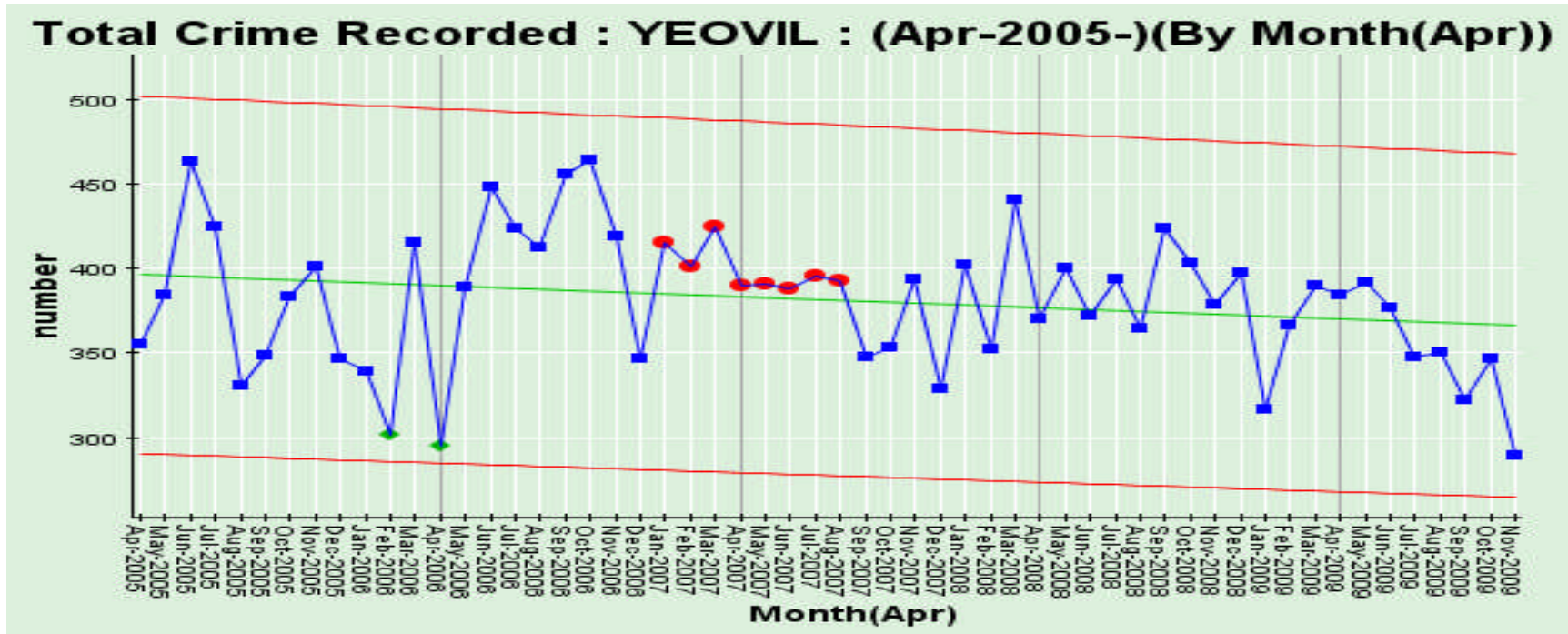
Yeovil Town Council

**Chief Inspector Richard Evans and
Inspector Jackie Gold**

5th January 2010



Recorded crime



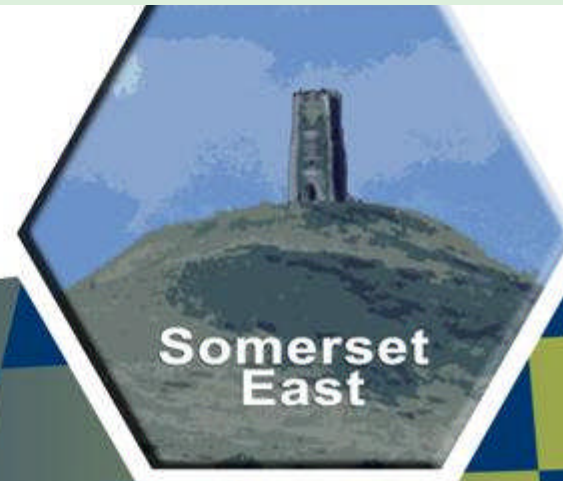
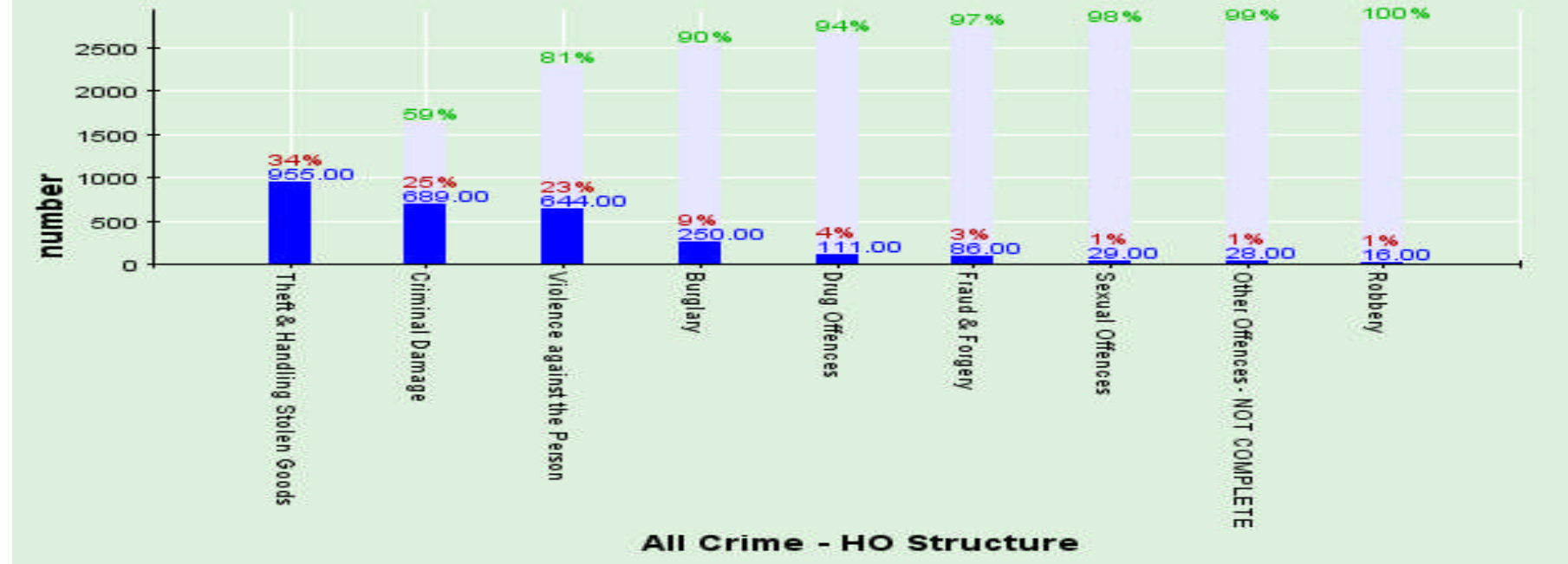
-6.2% on 05/06

-7.9% on 08/09 : 30 fewer crimes/month



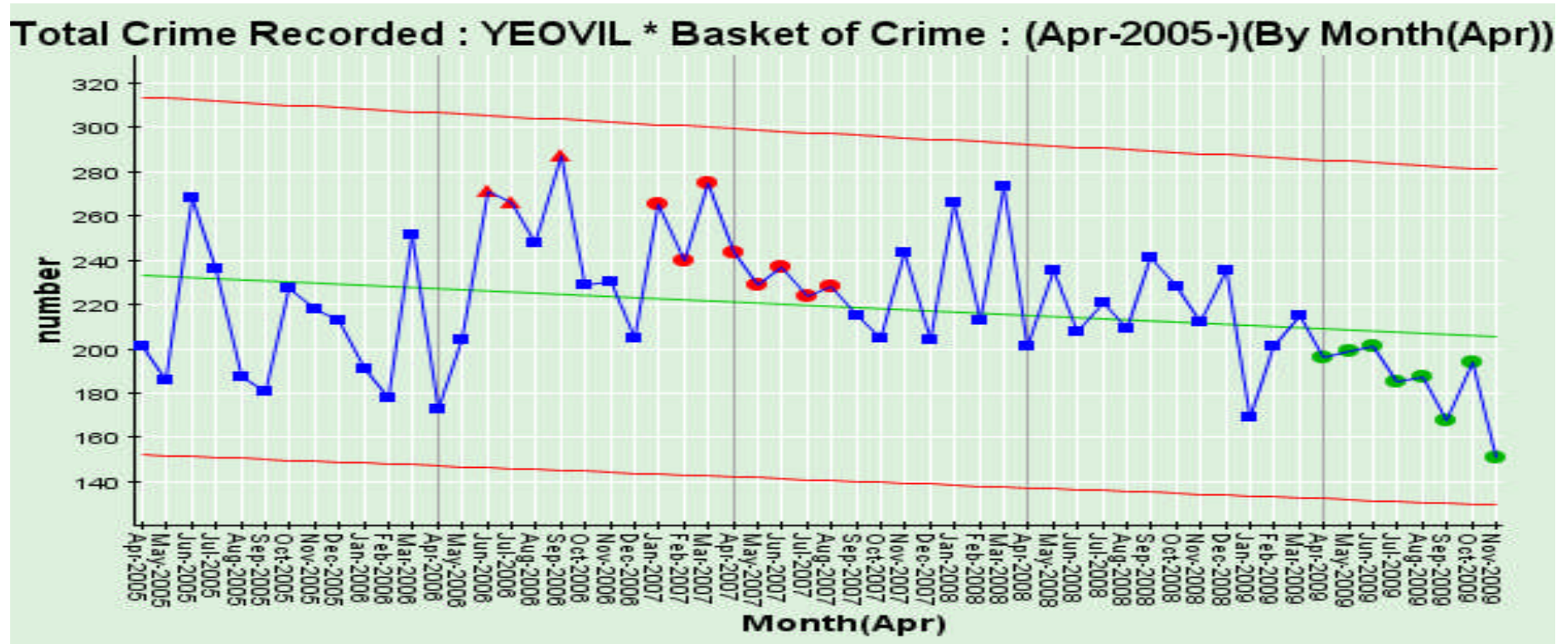
Breakdown of crime

Total Crime Recorded : YEOVIL * All Crime - HO Structure : (Apr-2009-)(By Month(Apr))



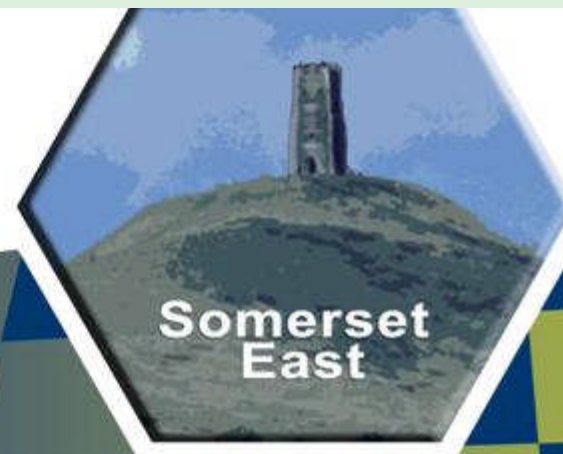
Somerset East

BCS crime

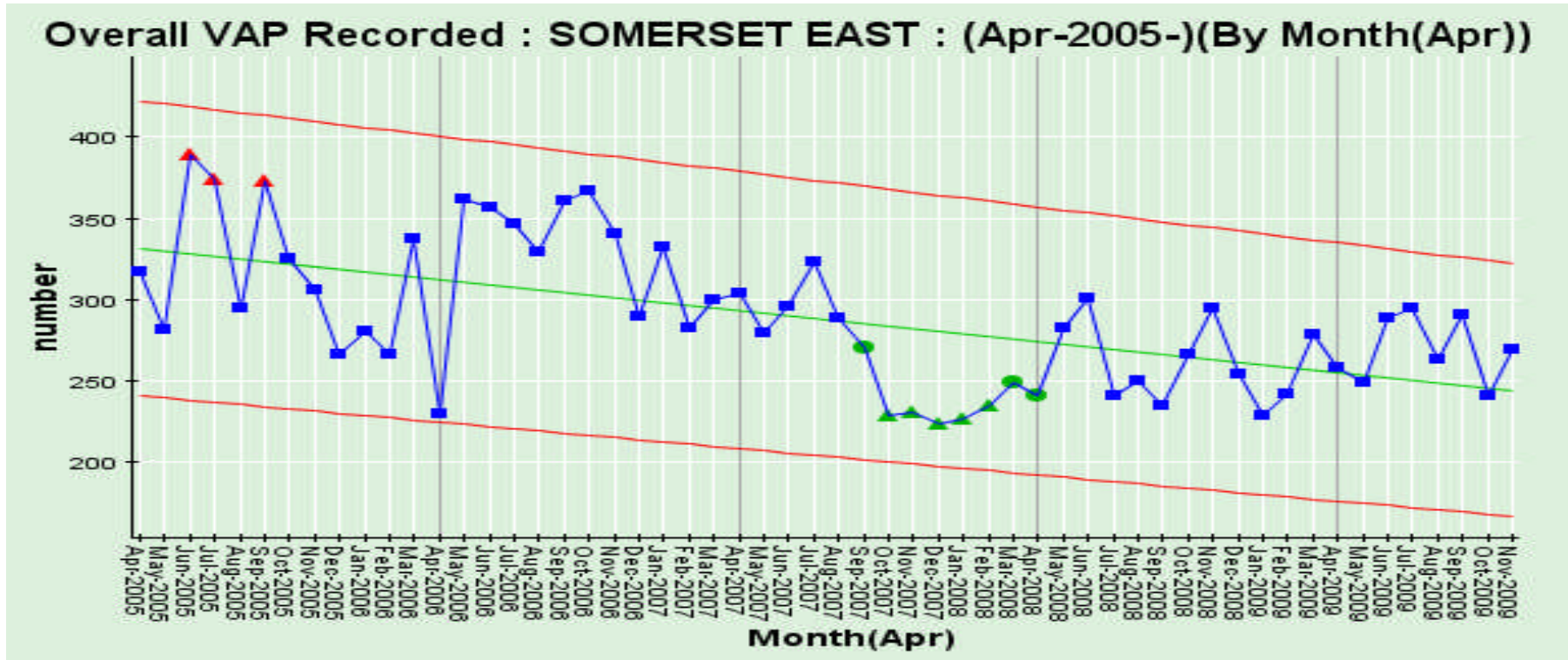


-12.3% on 05/06

-13.6% on 08/09 : 29 fewer crimes/month



Violent crime



-15.1% on 05/06 :

+3.9% on 08/09 : 10 more crimes/month

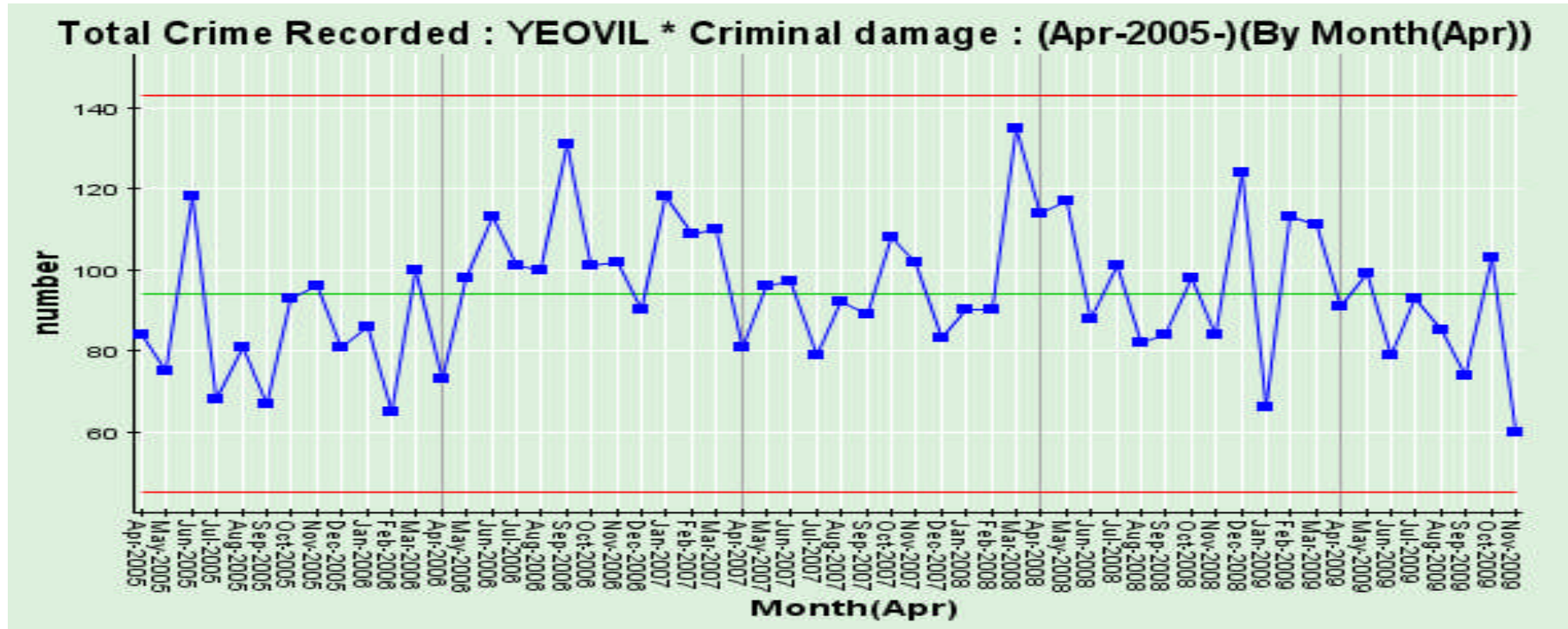


Violent crime

- Improved CCTV coverage/support
- Increased numbers of security staff for night time economy venues
- SSN team (includes dedicated alcohol PCSO)
- Radio link
- No drink zone
- Robust licensing review policy – Licensing officer
- Anti violence patrols – especially at peak times
- Test purchasing

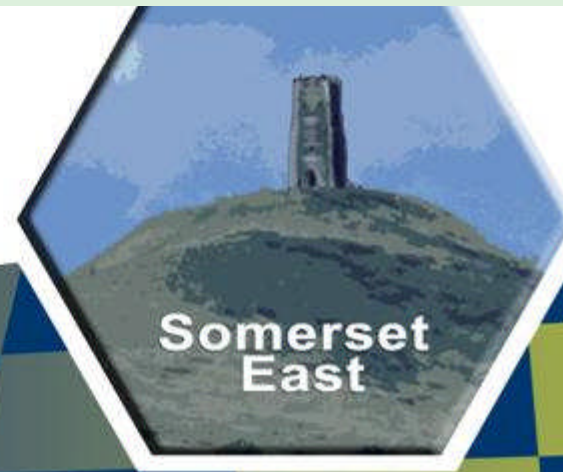


Criminal damage



0% on 05/06 :

+2.2% on 08/09 : 7 more crimes/month



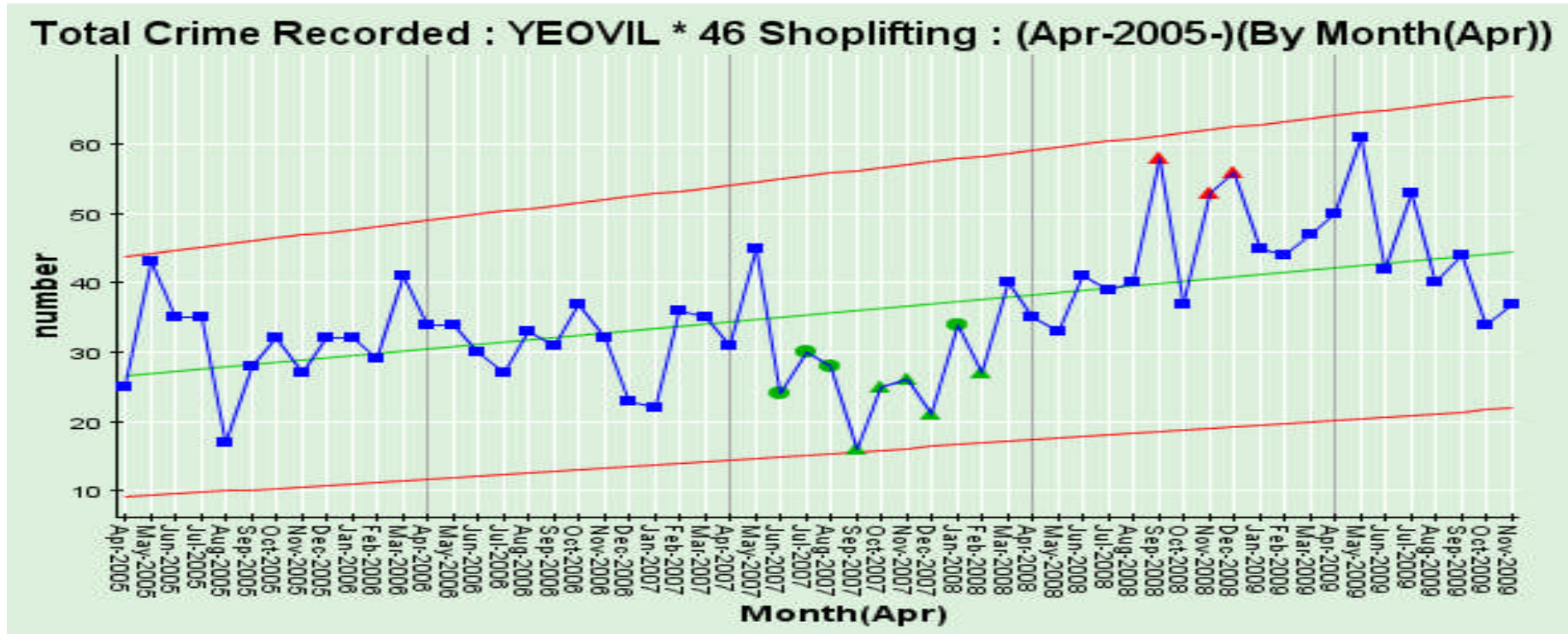
BCS - Year to Nov

	08/09	09/10	Change	
TOMV	44	38	-13.6%	(-6 crimes)
TFMV	255	121	-52.5%	(-134crimes)
Vehicle int	33	27	-18.2%	(-6 crimes)
Dom Burg	146	88	-39.7%	(-58 crimes)
Theft pedal cycle	49	27	-44.9%	(-22 crimes)
Theft person	28	27	-3.6%	(-1 crimes)
Criminal damage	768	684	-10.9%	(-84 crimes)
Common assault	201	183	-8.9%	(-18 crimes)
Wounding	216	270	+25%	(+54 crimes)
Personal robbery	15	15	+0%	(+0 crimes)
Total	1755	1481	-15.6%	(-274 crimes)



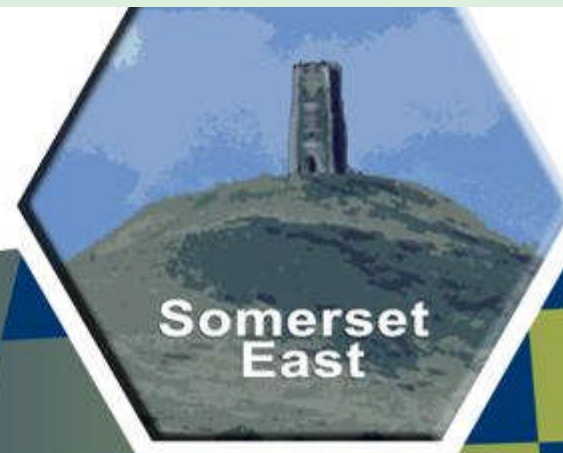
Somerset
East

Shoplifting



+45.2% on 05/06 : 14 more crimes/month

+2.2% on 08/09 : 1 more crime/month

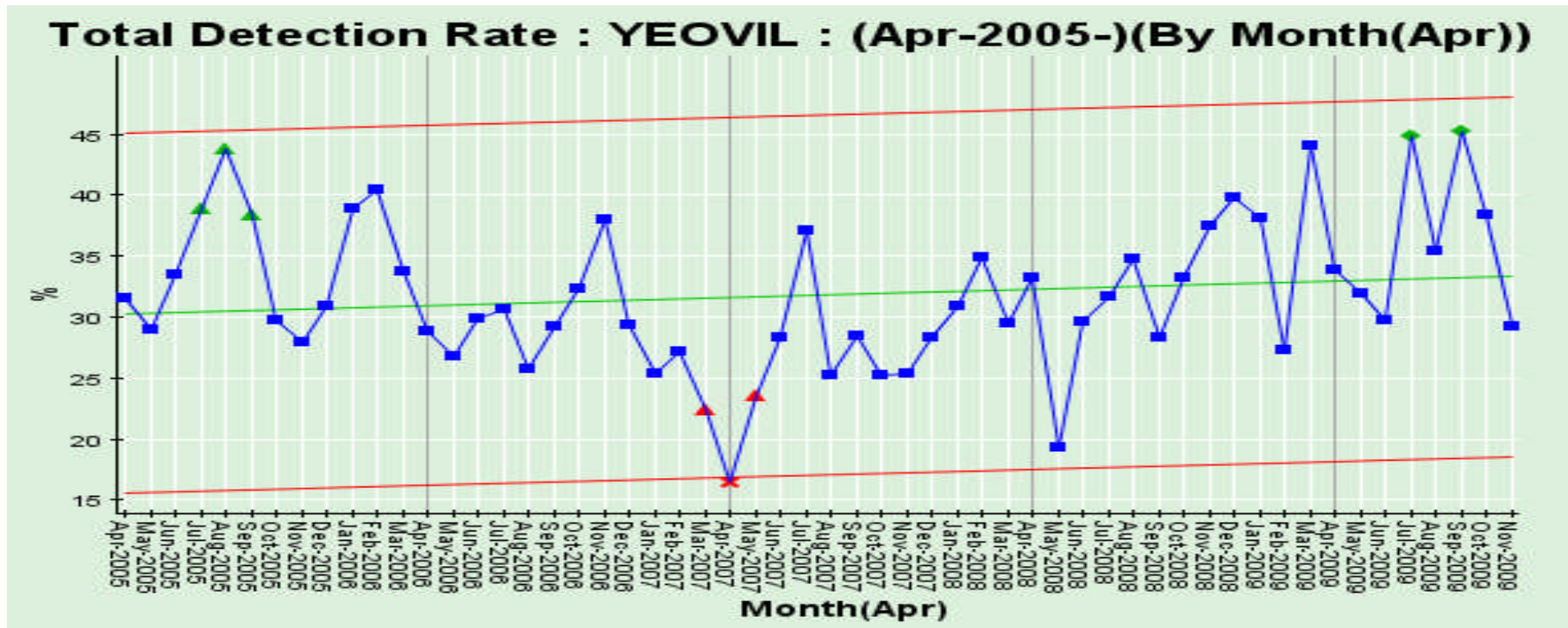


Notes:

1. Supermarkets are showing increased levels of shoplifting, esp. Metro/Express and equivalents.
2. Retailers tend to reduce loss prevention budgets during economic downturn and do not return to 'normal' levels until well after a period of 'economic upturn'.
 - Larger chains more likely to cut budgets, smaller chains increase them.
3. Offences tend to migrate to larger stores the longer a downturn continues.
4. Alcohol biggest target followed by electrical/computer goods, DIY and department stores.
5. One third of the 50 most stolen lines are not specifically protected by stores.
6. The trend is forecast to continue through 2010.
7. Bear in mind the significant increase in overall numbers of shops & 24 hr outlets in Yeovil



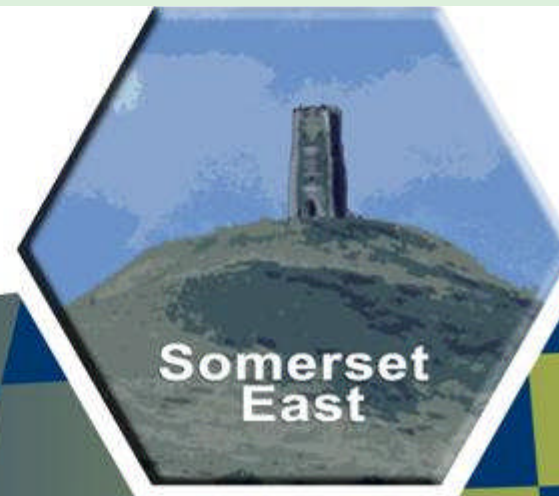
Detection rate



Current detection rate: 36.2%

Detection rate improved 4.3% 08/09

No of detections improved 5.3% (+51 dets)



Yeovil Safer Neighbourhood Teams

SSN Sgt: Mark Hunt

Beat Managers: Amanda Cross - Town centre

Dave Buckley – T/C night time economy

Ben Saville - East

Justin Pitman - West

Jackie Poole - South

Mark Hurst - YDH



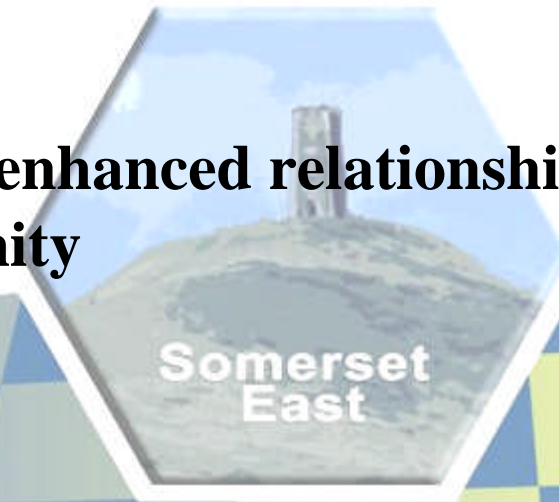
Current activities

- **Street Pastors – currently Fridays nights in town centre. Plans increase activity to Saturdays nights**
- **Project Zero – young peoples disco at Chicago Rock**
- **CSW – Larkhill Rd, Preston Rd and West Coker Rd**
- **Project Argus – counter terrorist exercise for the retail and business communities within Yeovil**
- **Drugs enforcement work**
- **Action against aggressive/persistent begging – ASBO application against one individual to set the tone of future activity**



Current activities

- **The Op Frost – work to reduce missing persons from YCC and associated knock on fear of crime in locality resulting from assaults & criminal damage (676 calls last year from the centre alone)**
 - **Local Action Group formed**
 - **dispersal order**
 - **new Missing Person Policy drafted, in consultation with YCC**
 - **increased Police visibility**
 - **reduced calls, increased confidence, enhanced relationship between Police, partners and community**



Current activities

- **Migrant Impact Fund. District has obtained funding for two Polish speaking PCSO's to aid with integration of communities**
- **Football project – Newtown, Westfield and Milford. Diversionary work with young people aiming to discourage ASB/petty crime**
 - **additional site at Birchfield likely**



Any Questions ?

