

**Brighton Tce., Proposed Drug Rehabilitation Centre: Timeline****March 2005**

Public consultation meeting at St Matthew's TRA Hall

**May 2005**

Lambeth Health Scrutiny Committee (see below)

**September 2005**

Planning Committee:  
(details of the application are at:

<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/B6529FA4-E45F-4939-9551-CA5DF115BAC9/0/Agenda060905.doc>)

Supporting, in the application,

Lambeth Primary Care Trust – Shared Care Monitoring Group  
Drug and Alcohol and Crime Disorder Reduction Partnership  
Hetherington Group Practice  
Brixton Hill Group Practice  
St Mungo's  
Lambeth Crime Prevention Trust  
Lambeth Community Safety Team  
Lambeth Harbour  
Stockwell Partnership  
Brixton Area Forum

Letters / petitions of objection received from residents of:

Tunstall Road,  
Pavilion Mansion (Brighton Terrace)  
Trinity Gardens,  
Daisy Dormer Court (Brighton Terrace),  
Marie Lloyd Court (Brighton Terrace),  
Neilson Terry Court (Brighton Terrace),  
Brighton Terrace Estate Residents Association,  
Trinity Gardens Residents Association  
Landmark Housing Association

At the Planning Committee,  
(Minutes are available at:  
<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/CF07C4AA-95CF-4A38-A603-94790CD12DF0/0/PACMinutes060905.pdf>)  
Speakers in support were

Brixton Area Forum  
Lambeth Police  
South London and Maudsley Mental Health Trust  
Lambeth Community Safety

Speakers against were

Neillson Terry Residents Association  
Friends of Brighton Tce., Children's Playground  
Brighton Tce., Residents Association  
Brighton Tce., Estate Residents Association  
Trinity Gardens Residents Association  
Cllr Paul McGlone (Ferndale)  
Cllr Sally Prentice (Ferndale)

The recommendation from the Planning Officers was for approval. The Chair of the Planning Committee put a motion to approve but the motion did not find a seconder. The item was held over to the November meeting of the Planning Committee.

### **October 2005**

On-line petition in support of the proposal running on MyBrixton.org

### **Cllrs McGlone and Prentice.**

We have been asked to table the following statement from Cllrs McGlone and Prentice.

#### **Statement on proposal for a drug treatment centre to be located in Brighton Terrace**

As councillors in Brixton we recognise the need for a drug treatment centre to be based in central Lambeth. Most residents also accept this. We understand the pressures on the NHS Stockwell and Southwark drug and alcohol centres that underpin their proposals to re-locate to a single site in central Lambeth. However, we have serious concerns both about the way in which SLAM, Lambeth PCT and Lambeth Council have gone about identifying a suitable site, and the suitability of Brighton Terrace as their preferred location.

We would have expected the Council and the NHS to identify two or three possible sites and engage local residents and their ward councillors in a constructive discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of each location. We appreciate that such a centre needs to be accessible to users and easy to find. We are disappointed that the Council has sold off a number of suitable sites in central Brixton and they have not seriously considered other options on Acre Lane and Brixton Road as a site for the new centre. There are other buildings that are accessible and are only a short walk from Brixton and North Clapham Tube Stations and on several bus routes. Street front properties have the advantage of **not** being located in the middle of residential areas. Instead the Brighton Terrace location has been presented by the Council and the NHS to local residents as a fait accompli.

Residents in Trinity Gardens and Brighton Terrace already experience considerable threats, anti-social behaviour and nuisance from drug dealers and prostitutes using stairwells, the playground and street corners to sell and use drugs, etc. They are understandably concerned about levels of drug use increasing in the vicinity of their houses, and of needle debris, which is already a problem. The street lighting is poor and councillors and residents have campaigned for many years to improve the lighting, especially in Trinity Gardens, to no avail.

Residents are effectively being asked to take a 'leap of faith' with this NHS experiment, as there is no similar centre in a residential setting as proposed in Brighton Terrace that they can show to overcome residents concerns. Residents fear the major problems that they currently experience from drug users would not be effectively tackled but rather would deteriorate even further with the centre being based in Brighton Terrace. This is not acceptable, particularly when alternative locations have not been presented to local councillors and local residents, and there is no evidence that the current problems would not persist.

Lambeth Council's Planning Committee did not approve the SLAM / PCT Planning Application for the Brighton Terrace site. Councillors and Kate Hoey MP are calling on the NHS Trusts to work with local residents and the Council to identify an alternative and agreeable site, rather than waste public money further by seeking to overturn the decision on appeal to the Courts.

Cllr Paul McGlone and Cllr Sally Prentice  
Ferndale Ward Councillors

31 October 2005

### **Cllr Meader**

Cllr Meader has asked that we inform the meeting of the outcome of the May meeting of Lambeth's Health Scrutiny Committee, in particular the recommendations.

### **HSSC CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS**

The Chair reiterated that the Committee could only make recommendations in relation to the health provision to service users, and could not make decisions on planning matters.

To answer a question from Councillor O'Malley, Dr Kelleher gave some clarification regarding the clinical provision of the new centre. He insisted that the Brighton Terrace centre would provide key workers, who would liaise with GP's in order that clients could receive their treatments locally. It was further noted that other SLaM projects, including the Harbour project, King's College, the

Portuguese Clinic, Cedar's Road, the Aftercare Team, Cannabis Clinics and Smart Clinics, amongst others, would all remain available at other sites.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Health Scrutiny Committee consider the proposed relocation to be in the best interest of service users and an improvement to service provision with the proviso that the environmental considerations were adequately dealt with and a Project Advisory Group established with a strong and sustained initiative, providing immediate feedback to residents.

2. That the environmental issues be referred to Brixton Area Committee for consideration, and for Brixton Area Committee to liaise with Transport & Highways and the Community Safety Team to ensure that funding is available for improved lighting in Trinity Close.

3. That the Drug and Alcohol Action Team provide an update on the relocation to a future meeting of the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee.

<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/BCEEEEC83-67BC-4CED-871A-72B3ED3D06D3/0/HSSCMinutesFINAL250505.pdf>

### **Report of Visits to MPS Training Establishments**

This report is from Pauline Bower (Churches Together in Clapham). Pauline will be at the December meeting to answer questions.

## **REPORT ON TWO VISITS TO THE PEEL CENTRE**

### **July and August 2005**

In spite of the fact that many of the Training staff had been involved in the G8 meeting and the aftermath of the bomb attacks on the previous Thursday, 7 July, the class of the 19 recruits I observed from the Blue Intake arrived, with all the others, at the Peel Centre on Sunday 10 July as planned. Arrangements for accommodation and division into Borough classes, etc, were made. The recruits began their police careers at 7.15 am on the Monday morning with the start of their Foundation Course.

A new intake of recruits starts training every five weeks. Since my first visit in March 2003, general intake numbers have dropped dramatically (by almost 50%) for policy and financial reasons.

All MPS recruits begin their training at Hendon but there are now also training centres at Sunbury, Orpington, Havering, Beak Street and Colindale.

A new syllabus for Diversity training has been introduced. The question of diversity is now comprehensively dealt with and discussed during the first week of training, instead of separate components being tackled sporadically at intervals during the training on other subjects. It is, however, recognised that questions of diversity do crop up in every aspect of police duty. It is useful that the recruits come from a wide variety of backgrounds and

bring with them very different experiences, and that their ages (in this group) range from 19 to 53 years, so they can also learn from one another.

Starting with "Attitudes, Values, Stereotypes and Prejudice - Dealing with Discrimination", they continue with "Cross-Cultural Knowledge - Culture and Communication", "Religion", "Identifying Racism", and so on. They are taken through the Human Rights Act (and as amended in 2000) and look at the questions of personal and vicarious responsibility. They are given a great deal of course material to read and digest.

The question "What is justifiable discrimination?" is asked. The responsibility for coping with bullying, victimisation, discrimination, *within* the MPS lies with each officer, who is expected to challenge unacceptable behaviour wherever it is found.

I joined the class for their second and third days - Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 July - and it was encouraging to observe their growing awareness and understanding of their own attitudes as they discussed Prejudice (attitudes and values), Power (control and environment), Discrimination (behaviour and actions).

There was recognition that Institutional Racism can be almost unwitting and can also be passive, by the acceptance of types of behaviour which are racist without accepting the reasons why - which can happen when they are faced with orders. I was told, when I asked what they did when given orders to act in ways which conflict with the training, that advice is given on how to challenge superior officers. It was pointed out that indirect racism often shows in corporate policy. There was general horror at the label of institutional racism.

My next visits took place on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 August, the fourth and fifth days of the first week of training of the Purple Intake.

Each class has two course tutors, on this occasion one male and one female, and during the first week a specialist diversity facilitator is added to the team. Each member of the team is given a basic course book which they use in their own personal way, and they can also give the recruits extra illustrative handouts if they wish to do so. It was interesting to see the different approaches to the subject. I felt both were effective.

This was again a marvellously varied group of recruits from many different backgrounds, with ages ranging from 20 to 32, who by the fourth day were feeling that the things they had learnt were helping them to be aware of their own attitudes and to be prepared for other people to think and behave differently. They were interested in the new perception and understanding of the things they were doing and the way they do them, as their normal actions were looked at and broken down into different processes, emotions, etc.

Because the Group would be meeting Community Contributors the next day, Friday, this day, Thursday, was mainly used to sum up, in so far as was possible, the information and discussions of the previous three days. At one point, the recruits took it in turn to ask each other, and answer, four questions:

1. Now that you have had the training, what are your thoughts on diversity?
2. What has had the most impact on you?
3. What do you need from your classmates to make you feel part of the team?
4. What can you offer your classmates to keep the team together?

I was struck by the openness and honesty of their replies.

Notes I took included:

- a) There is no need to be politically correct if you voice your views carefully.
- b) One should never underestimate the need for local knowledge.
- c) Diversity is not about political correctness but about appreciating people.
- d) Diversity is a far larger subject than one thinks at first, and so is its application.

Finally, and importantly, we looked at a video called **Blue Eyes, Brown Eyes** which seems to have a big impact on everyone who sees it. I have a copy of the video and would be happy to show it or to lend it, perhaps especially to any police officers who don't know it.

The next day I unfortunately did not manage to meet the Afro-Caribbean Community Contributors, but the representatives of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender group (who were in fact only Lesbian and Gay) gave a historical perspective before inviting questions and initiating discussion. They said that they hoped eventually to get to the point at which there was no longer any need for them to explain themselves in this way; that their sexuality does not define them and they hoped to be accepted simply as fellow human beings. Once again there were no Bi-sexual or Transgender representatives, which was a pity. I feel that perhaps more effort could be made to persuade some to attend.

I also feel that there could usefully be contributors from disability groups.

The Community Contributors from the Asian community were apparently part of the input about religion (I am not sure what further input was expected), but they spoke of their respect for or fear of the police, and said that institutional racism has now gone underground.

They said that they feel a need to see the figures of race crime prosecutions.

They dislike categories and forms, and the younger ones feel that they don't apply to them. They felt that Muslims are now very much on the defensive. They spoke of the gulf between expectation and reality and of their need to be able to trust the professionalism of the police.

After all the contributors had gone, we were told "Hands up those in this room who are ethnic" - so of course we all put up our hands. It was the correct response.

I am again grateful to both staff and recruits for making me welcome, for being so helpful, and for giving me such an interesting and pleasant time. Thank you.

*Pauline Bower  
Churches Together in Clapham*

## **Constitutional Changes**

We have now received from the Home Office agreement for the use of the word 'Police' in our company title and will register the company in the next week. At that point, in line with the motion passed at the AGM the Shadow Board will become the Board and will invite recommendations from Statutory members regarding the three Board places set for them.

As set out in the Guide and Draft Rules and Regulations, all existing members of CPCG will be members of the new constitutional form. This will be formalised by writing to each member asking them to confirm that they support the objects, subscribe to the Memorandum and Articles and accept the limited liability of £1. In line with their duties, the Board will ask organisational members to confirm that they meet the criteria set out in the Memorandum and Articles, as derived from our old Constitution (in respect of membership, AGM's, Annual Reports etc).

### **Slam Membership Recruitment**

South London and Maudsley NHS Trust are running a membership campaign, which may be of interest to CPCG members. Details are available at:

<http://www.slam.nhs.uk/members/>

### **Meetings and Events Attended**

**Domestic Violence One Stop Shop** project, now to be called The Junction. It will provide a comprehensive first step advice and support resource for women and children experiencing DV in Lambeth. Hopefully it will be fully operational by the end of the Year and will enable police response teams to offer a contact point to female victims that can offer a range of services without delay. (Anna Tapsell)

**Steering Committee at Guys and St. Thomas Hospital** of the domestic violence project called Mosaic which provides counselling and advocacy for woman attending the maternity unit or the sexual health clinics. It is also providing training for midwives and other staff in the hospital. Accident and Emergency staff are represented on the Steering group and it is hoped that the Police and A@E can develop better joint working and clear protocols to dealing with DV. (Anna Tapsell)

### **Ward Based Crime Statistics**

An easy to use interface to the Met's ward based crime statistics is now available on the CPCG website – [www.lambethcpcg.org.uk](http://www.lambethcpcg.org.uk) , under Resources, Crime Statistics.

More generally, a meeting has been held with Dean Haydon (Borough Commander's Staff Officer) to agree a new format for the monthly police report and a recommendation developed.

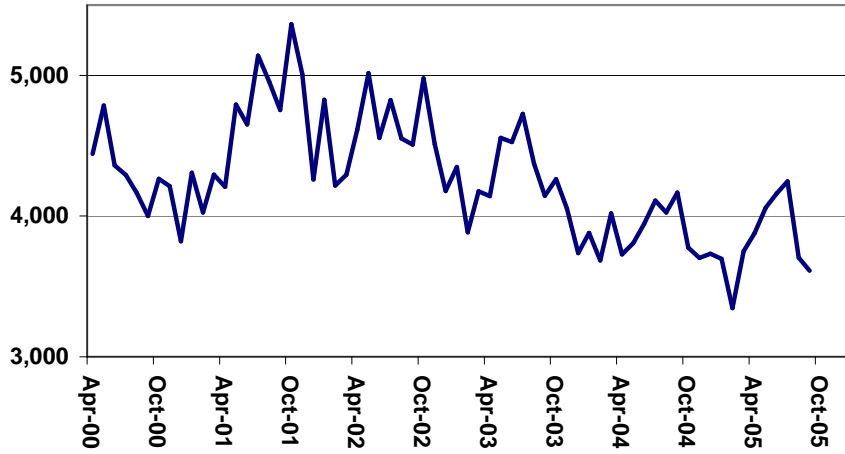
### **MPA's Community Engagement Conference**

This is a half day conference on Tuesday 22 November to which three delegates from each CPCG have been invited, in addition to their administrator. We will be looking to send to Board members plus one member. Please let the Office know if you are interested.

### **CPCG December meeting**

The next meeting of the Lambeth CPCG will take place at 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 6 December 2005 at Christ Church (North Brixton), 90 Brixton Road SW9 6BE

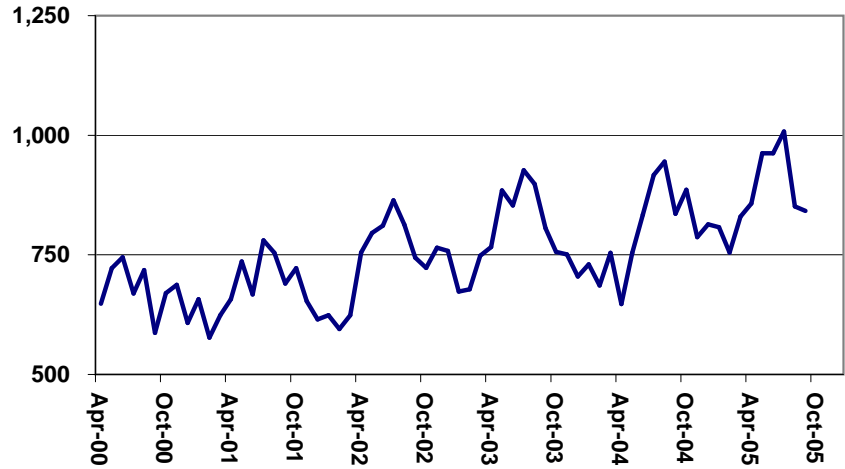
**Lambeth - Total Notifiable Offences**



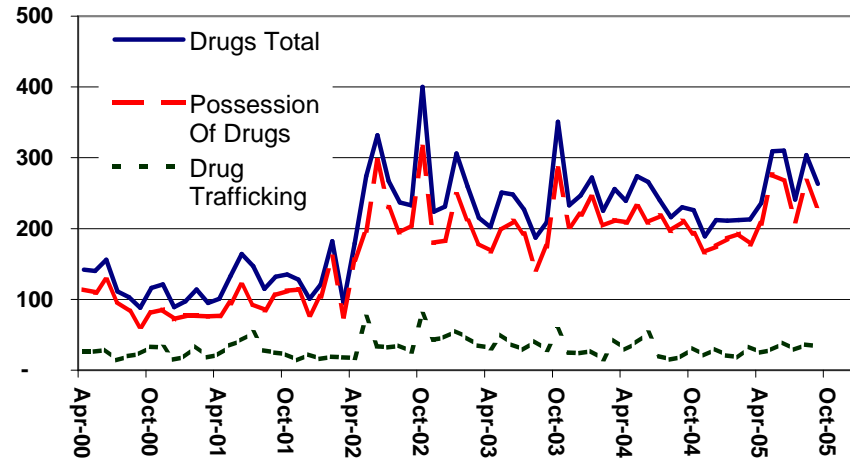
**Lambeth - Street Crime (Personal Robbery plus Snatches)**



**Lambeth - Violence Against the Person**

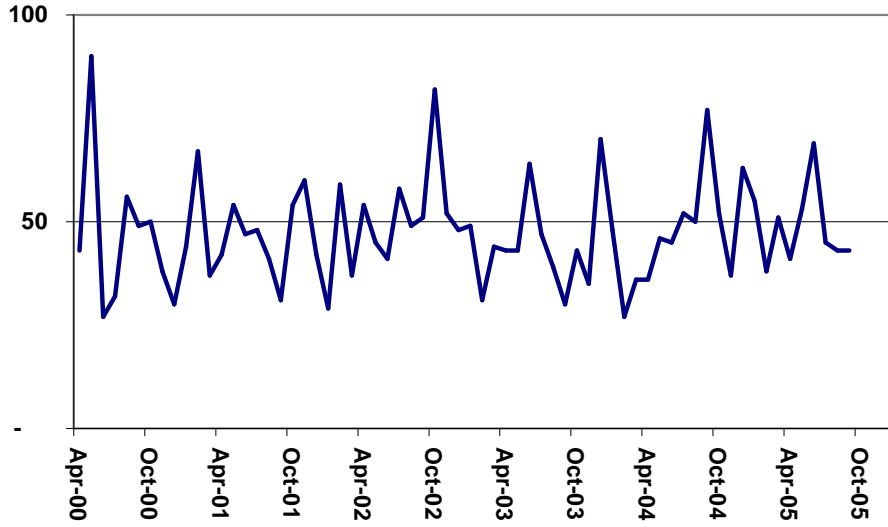


**Lambeth - Drug Crime**

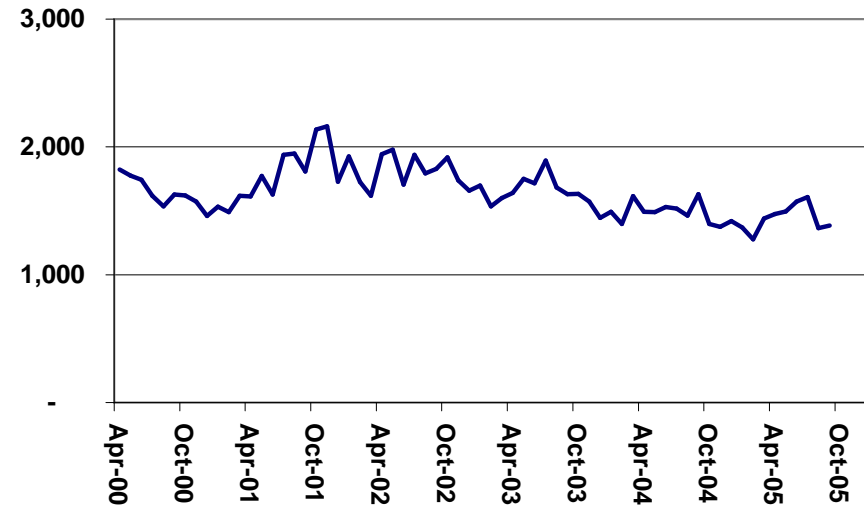




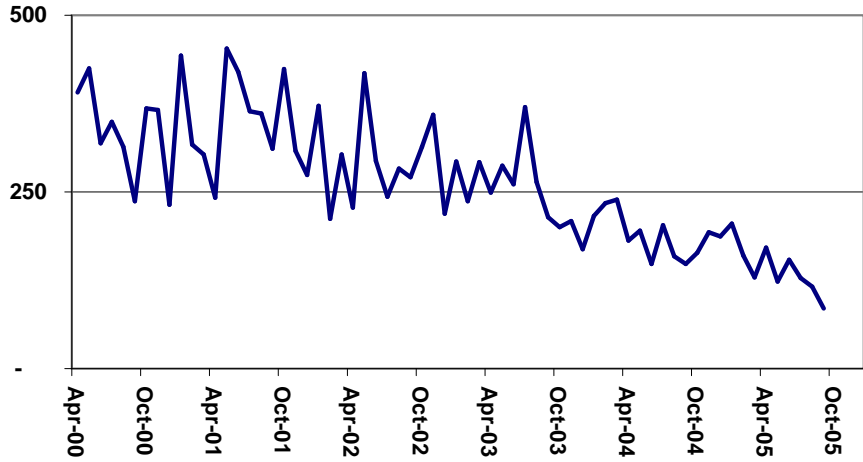
**Lambeth - Sex Offences**



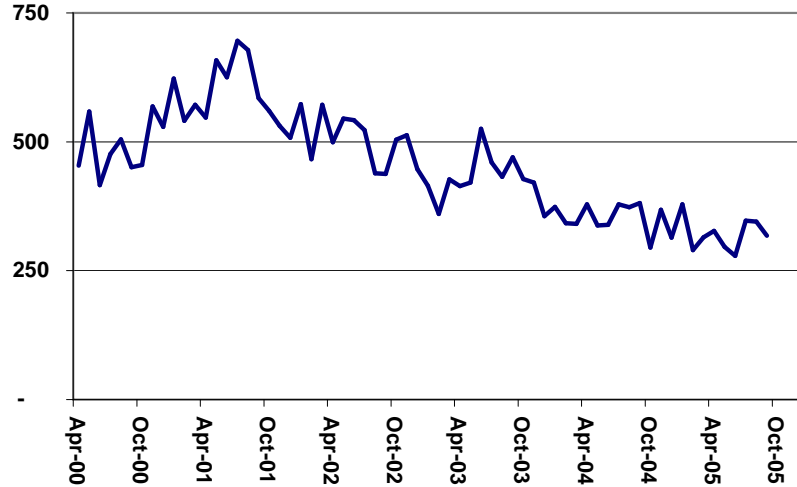
**Lambeth - Theft and Handling**



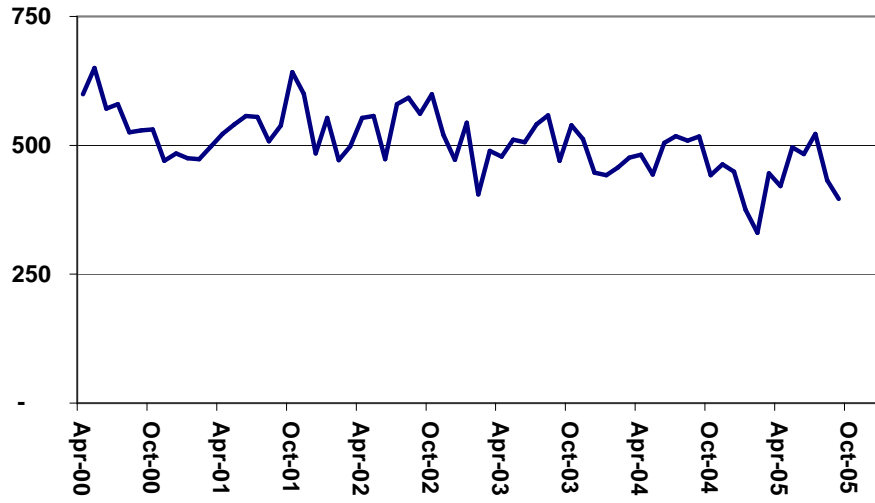
**Lambeth - Fraud or Forgery**



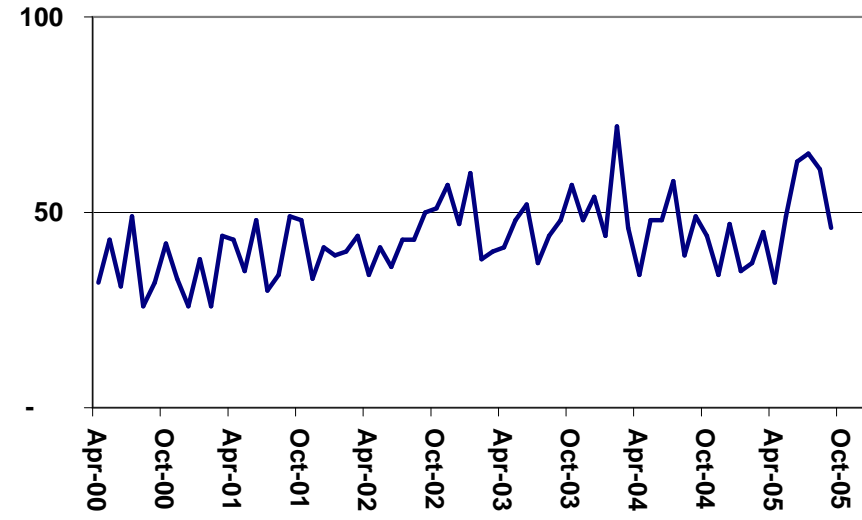
**Lambeth - Burglary**



Lambeth - Criminal Damage



Lambeth - Other Notifiable Offences



Source: MPS Crime Statistics Archive -[www.met.police.uk/crimestatistics/index.htm](http://www.met.police.uk/crimestatistics/index.htm); presentation CPCG