

Cumbria Crime & Community Safety Strategic Assessment

Eden District Summary

2014

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BACKGROUND

This Summary Report provides a narrative overview of community safety within Eden. It forms part of a collection of documents which make up the Community Safety Strategic Assessment (CSSA) for Cumbria.

The Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007 place a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare a Joint Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder in their local areas. The aim of the CSSA is to provide partners with an understanding of the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and substance misuse in the county and local areas, through statistical analysis, information about crime, changes and patterns over time, and, where possible, explanations as to why these changes have occurred.

The CSSA will highlight the county's priorities for the responsible authorities and partnerships that are working together to tackle crime, disorder and substance misuse. The CSSA will provide the evidence base for the development of Cumbria's Community Safety Agreement by helping to identify and prioritise the resources and interventions required to combat crime and disorder. It will draw on issues raised by those working or living in local communities including areas that they feel should be addressed.

This report is one of six District Summaries which sit alongside an overall Cumbria Summary and the Cumbria Community Safety Technical Report to make up the CSSA. The narrative within this report draws on the data and analysis contained in the comprehensive Cumbria Community Safety Strategic Assessment Technical Report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Eden remains a safe place to live with low levels of crime (the lowest crime rate across all districts in the county). Eden is the third least deprived district in England in terms of crime.

In the past year crime in Eden has increased by 3.8%, reversing the previous downward trend.

Levels of **anti-social behaviour** continue to fall, as well as incidents of **criminal damage; theft of and from a motor vehicle; domestic violence** and **sexual offences**; and **drug crime**.

Numbers of **burglaries** have increased, as well levels of **hate crime; violence against a person**; and **business crime**.

The number of people killed and seriously injured on Eden's roads has increased and the district continues to have the highest rate across the districts.

Rates of **alcohol specific mortality** for both males and females have increased; along with rates of **hospital admissions with alcohol related conditions**.

The typical offender in Eden is most likely to be male and aged 18-30 years; 21.5% of victims are aged 18-30 years; 20.7% are aged 41-50 years. Crime and disorder is most prevalent in Penrith town, in particular the ward of Penrith West. Penrith West has the highest levels of crime and is also the fifth most deprived ward in Eden.

The implications of welfare reform and the impact this may have on individuals and families across the county should be taken into consideration when planning priorities and forecasting levels of crime throughout 2015. As we see levels of household income reduce through benefit cuts and low paid work we may see an increase in crime, potentially acquisitive crime as well as domestic violence, alcohol and substance misuse as financial pressures increase.

Existing changes to welfare reform have seen a number of people removed from a range of benefits. Numbers of working age benefit claimants in Eden have fallen by 200 from 2,600 (February 2013) to 2,400 (February 2014). Greater numbers of 'out of work' benefit claimants have fallen from 1,940 to 1,720 – a fall of 220 over the same period. Further changes are planned which will continue up to and throughout 2017. Services may see an increase in demand and support as changes to personal and financial circumstances take place.

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

Eden sits in the East of the county. The administrative centre of the district is the market town of Penrith. Eden contains a number of other historic market towns including Kirkby Stephen, Appleby-in-Westmorland and Britain's highest market town Alston, which can be reached by the scenic Hartside pass. Eden has a rich and varied natural landscape, which includes sections of the Lake District National Park including Ullswater, the countryside of the Eden Valley and the moorlands that make up the North Pennines, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Geography

Eden is Cumbria's largest district, covering an area of 2,142 square km. With an average population density of 25 people per square km, the district is the most sparsely populated district in the county and much more sparsely populated than the national average (Cumbria 74 people per square km, England & Wales 377 people per square km). 71% of the district's residents live in rural areas, compared to 54% across Cumbria and 18% across England & Wales.

Demography

The resident population of Eden was estimated to be 52,600 persons as at mid-2013; an increase of 1,700 persons (+3.4%) since mid-2003. Population change over the last decade was not spread evenly across Eden's wards, with a small number of wards experiencing a decrease in their population size whilst other wards experienced large increases. The greatest proportional decrease was seen in Crosby Ravensworth ward (-7.3%) while the greatest proportional increase was seen in Hartside ward (+15.6%).

When compared to England & Wales, Eden has an older age profile; with lower proportions of residents in each of the three younger age groups (0-44 years) and higher proportions of residents in the oldest four age groups (45-85+ years). Eden's age profile is also older than the county average.

Eden's population is projected to increase by 600 persons (+1.1%) over the next 25 years (to 2037). In contrast, Cumbria's population is projected to decrease by 5,900 persons (-1.2%), while England's population is projected to increase substantially (+16.2%).

Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Groups

1,555 residents in Eden reported that they were from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups in their 2011 Census (3%); Cumbria 3.5%, England & Wales 19.5%. Across the district's wards, the proportion of residents from BME groups ranged from 0.5% in Hartside ward to 6.7% in Ullswater ward.

Migration

The Office for National Statistics estimate that between mid-2003 and mid-2013, internal migration (to and from other parts of the UK) and other changes (i.e. changes in prisoners, armed forces personnel etc.) accounted for a net increase of 2,000 persons in Eden, while international migration (to and from overseas) accounted for a net increase of 500 persons.

The 2011 Census reported that 1,797 residents in Eden were born outside of the UK (3.4%). Of these non-UK born residents, 99 were born in Ireland, 303 were born in EU countries that were EU member countries in March 2001, 543 were born in EU countries that joined the EU between April 2001 and March 2011 and 852 were born countries other than those listed above.

Health

Life expectancy in the district is good. A male living in Eden can expect to live to 80.3 years, above the county average (78.8 years) and national average (79.2 years). A female can expect to live to 84.1 years, the greatest female life expectancy across all of the districts and above both county (82.4 years) and national averages (83.0 years).

Economy

Tourism plays a key role in Eden's economy. Within the district the largest areas of employment in the district are accommodation and food service activities (17.9%), wholesale and retail trade (15.8%), and health and social work (11.0%).

60.5% of Eden's population are of working age. Despite wages being relatively low in the district the median household income in Eden is £26,300, higher than the county average (£25,100) but lower than the national average (£28,500). Amongst the district's wards, the median household income varied from £18,400 in Penrith Pategill ward to £35,200 in Kirkoswald ward. 13.1% of households in Eden had an annual income of less than £10k in 2014 (Cumbria 14.3%, GB 12.4%). Of the district's wards, Appleby (Appleby) ward had the greatest proportion of households with annual incomes of less than £10k (22.4%) while Kirkoswald ward had the smallest proportion (7.4%).

The median house price in Eden is £192,800, higher than the county average of £140,900 and the national (GB) average of £172,800. House prices vary considerably across the district's wards; Penrith West ward has the lowest median house price (£126,300), while Ullswater ward has the highest (£338,500).

There are low levels of unemployment in Eden with just 0.7% of the district's working-age population claiming job seekers allowance, compared to 1.6% in the county and 2.2% nationally.

Poverty and Deprivation

Eden is a relatively affluent district however there are pockets of poverty and deprivation. 21 communities across Eden rank amongst the 10% most deprived in England in relation to geographical barriers to services; with 16 of these communities falling within the 3% most deprived in the country. These communities are located in the wards of Skelton, Greystoke, Ullswater, Hesket, Brough, Hartside, Crosby Ravensworth, Warcop, Morland, Orton with Tebay, Kirkoswald, Askham, Long Marton, Penrith North and Langwathby.

7.9% of children living in the district are living in poverty, well below county (14.1%) and national (18.6%) levels; however, this increases to 14.3% for children living in the ward of Alston Moor. 13.0% of households in Eden are in fuel poverty, this increases to 20.7% in some communities across the district. Because of the rurality of the district this makes access to some essential services for part of the district's population very difficult, particularly those living in the very rural areas with poor or no access to transport or public transport.

COMMUNITY SAFETY INFORMATION

This section will present the narrative of community safety within Eden.

Two different measures of incidents have been used:

- **Number:** the exact number of incidents / offences within Eden.
- **Rate:** the number of incidents in relation to Eden's population.

Substance misuse and alcohol

Alcohol and substance misuse not only has a significant impact on health but potentially crime. National research shows that in general alcohol misuse remains a significant contributing factor in crime and disorder as well as being detrimental to peoples' health and wellbeing.

9.8% of Eden's total crime is alcohol related, and over one third of violent and sexual offences are alcohol related.

Rates of **alcohol specific mortality for males** have almost doubled, while **alcohol specific mortality for females** rates are increasing. Rates of **hospital admissions with alcohol related conditions** are rising also. Rates of **alcohol specific hospital admissions - under 18 year olds** are falling.

There is a relationship between overall levels of crime, domestic violence and alcohol abuse. Incidents of alcohol related violence against a person are greatest in town centre areas and in particular in the Penrith West ward, where there are also high levels of anti-social behaviour.

Throughout 2013-14, 234 service users came into contact with **Unity** (the provider of statutory drug and alcohol services in the county). Numbers of those accessing drug and alcohol services are increasing in Eden, and in particular those accessing the service for alcohol related issues. 53.4% of clients use the service for alcohol misuse while 46.6% use the service for drugs misuse. 65.1% of drug service users in Eden use heroin as their primary drug. The greatest proportion of service users are male and aged between 26-35 years; while 29% have a child or have children living with them. Drug dealing and drug crime, dependency on heroin and alcohol may cause users to commit crimes, by helping those with addictions may help to reduce levels of crime in the county and help to protect vulnerable children.

Reoffending

As of 1st June 2014 Cumbria Probation Trust merged with Lancashire Probation Trust to form the Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company (CLCRC). The aim of CLCRC is to protect the public and to reduce reoffending.

As at 31st March 2014 there were 1,945 registered offenders in Cumbria, in the North and West (which includes Eden) there were 1,185 offenders. In the county, over a third (37.0%) of offenders are aged between 20-29 years, 28.7% are aged 30-39 years. 87% are male and 98% are of white origin. Violence accounts for one in three offences (33.7%), theft accounts for 10.9%. Over a three year period (up to 2013) actual rates of reoffending in Cumbria were below predicted rates. Over the same period, reoffending rates had fallen.

There are a series of factors which can contribute to someone offending which include housing issues, alcohol misuse, and the lack of opportunities through limited education or employment. Re-offending remains a priority in Cumbria and plans to help address re-offending are set out in the Police & Crime Commissioners Plan 2013 – 2017, restorative justice being one of them.

Domestic Violence

Throughout 2013-14 there were 241 domestic violence incidents in Eden, and 26 sexual offences. There has been a 9.1% decrease in incidents of domestic violence along with a fall in the repeat victim rate. Numbers of sexual offences fell marginally from 29 to 26 incidents. Eden has the lowest rate of domestic violence in the county.

Domestic violence is most common in areas where there are high levels of deprivation, high levels of unemployment, and greater numbers of households with low incomes. In addition to this, where there are high levels of domestic abuse there are high levels of child poverty. Penrith West ward had the greatest number of incidents of domestic violence in the district, followed by Penrith South.

As expected, there is correlation between alcohol related crimes and domestic abuse, more than 1 out of 3 violent and sexual offences are alcohol related. Domestic abuse tends to take place in deprived urban areas, however, we must be mindful of hidden and unreported abuse in more affluent and more rural areas. Improving detection rates and access to services should be a priority.

Changes in welfare reform may have a significant impact on victims of domestic abuse. Not only could the reduction in benefits and household income add further financial pressure in the home but it is planned for a *household* to receive the one benefit (Universal Credit) and not an individual therefore allowing greater power to the offender and increasing the vulnerability of the victim. The government has pledged to support known cases however many victims and cases are hidden and remain unknown. Some welfare reform changes have already taken place but further reforms are planned up until 2017. Services may experience an increase in demand.

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) definition of anti-social behaviour (ASB) defines ASB as follows: 'Acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as (the defendant).'

ASB can have a serious effect on an individual's quality of life and despite falling numbers of incidents it remains a continuing priority for Cumbria. ASB, particularly Youth ASB, can lead to further and more serious offending. Collaboration and restorative work with local partners and agencies can help to prevent this.

Throughout 2013-14 there were 1,606 incidents of ASB; and 304 incidents involving young people. ASB and Youth ASB continue to fall in the district, down by 3.9% and 5.3% respectively. Rates of ASB in the district are the lowest in the county. 13.8% of ASB is alcohol related.

ASB is most prevalent in town centres and areas with high levels of deprivation and unemployment. The greatest number of ASB incidents took place in the Penrith West ward, followed by Penrith South. Incidents were relatively high in the wards of Penrith North and Penrith East (surrounding the town centre). Incidents typically increase

throughout the summer and holiday months and then fall again during the winter months. Support and activity should reflect these trends and should continue to focus on those months.

Reducing the number of incidents involving repeat offenders and repeat victims remain a priority for Cumbria Constabulary.

Crime

Eden is a safe place to live with low levels of crime. It has the lowest crime rate in the county and is the third least deprived district in terms of crime in the whole of England. Despite this, in the past year crime in the district has increased by 3.8% reversing the previous downward trend.

Incidents of **criminal damage** have fallen (0.7%); **theft from a motor vehicle** (17.9%) and **theft of a motor vehicle** (7.1%); and numbers of **drug crimes** (9.3%). Levels of drug crime have improved in the past year, however, it is worth noting that there are still a notable amount of incidents in Askham ward which can be attributed to the Kendal Calling Music Festival which takes place in the Lowther Deer Park. Askham had the highest number of incidents in the district followed by Penrith West. The aim of Cumbria Constabulary is to increase the number of drug convictions in order to reduce the number of drugs in circulation. Despite the fall in drug crimes Eden remains above average compared to its most similar groups (forces with similar characteristics).

Numbers of **burglaries** have increased in the district – burglary dwelling (17.1%) and burglary other (21.8%). Incidents of **violence against a person** are up (14.8%) along with **alcohol related violence against a person** (2.9%). **Hate crime** and **business crime** are also increasing, up by 41.7% and 1.0% respectively. The cause of the majority of hate crimes is racism, accounting for 69.5% across the county. Hate crime incidents tend to take place in and around city centres and are also linked to areas where there are greater proportions of black and ethnic minority groups and migrant workers. The ward with the highest number of hate crimes was Penrith West. The aim of Cumbria Constabulary is to increase the reporting of hate incidents and crimes.

The greatest levels of crime are typically in town/city centres. These areas tend to have high levels of anti-social behaviour and violence, business crime, shoplifting, and criminal damage. Typically there are high levels of deprivation and unemployment. Incidents of crime were highest in the Penrith West followed by Penrith South. Other hot spot areas within the district include Askham, Penrith East and Penrith North.

Crime in the district is typically committed by men aged 18-30 years; victims of crime in the district are typically male and aged 41-50 years, perhaps a reflection of the older population in Eden.

Killed and seriously injured

51 people were killed or seriously injured on Eden's roads, a 70% increase from the previous year. Eden has the highest rate of KSIs across the county, perhaps reflecting the rurality of the district, the distances being travelled, and the infrastructure of the roads. The greatest numbers of KSI s took place in the wards of Greystoke and Warcop. In the most recent annual Public Consultation Survey speeding vehicles was the main area of concern for Eden's residents, followed by dangerous driving.

Deliberate fires

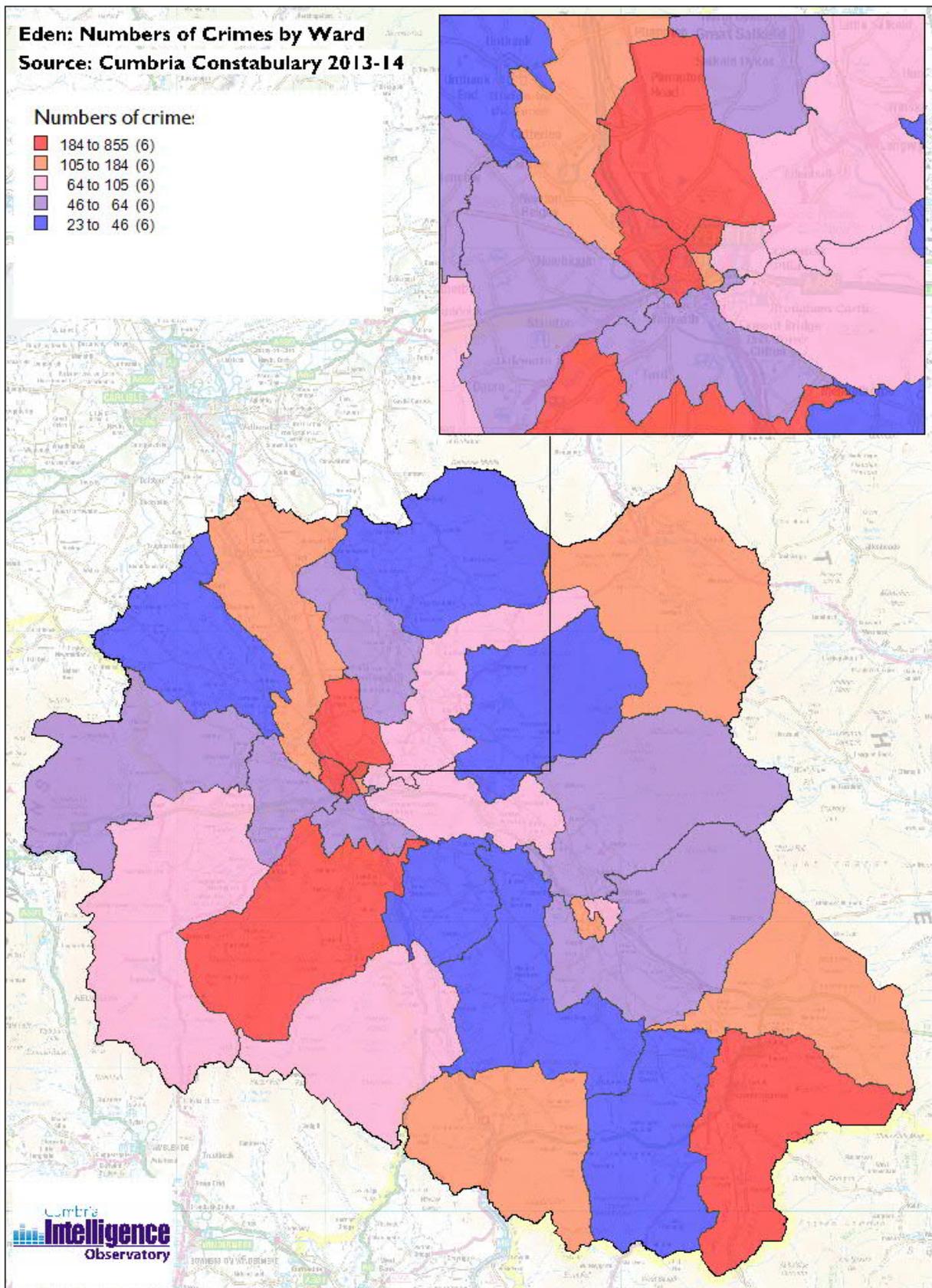
Throughout 2013-14 there were 14 deliberate fires in Eden. Numbers of incidents have increased in the district in the past year (up by 2 incidents, from 12) but have fallen over a three year period (48.1%). Eden has the lowest number and rate of deliberate fires in Cumbria. Deliberate fires tend to take place in urban areas, areas with high levels of deprivation and other crime.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY - EDEN

| <u>Indicator</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Trend (change from 2012/13 – 2013/14</u> |
|--|---------------|-------------|---|
| Total Crime (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 1,737 | 31.8 | up |
| Anti-Social Behaviour (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 1,606 | 30.5 | down |
| Anti-Social Behaviour involving young people (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 304 | 5.8 | down |
| Burglary Dwelling (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 41 | 0.8 | up |
| Burglary Other (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 162 | 3.1 | up |
| Criminal Damage (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 304 | 5.8 | down |
| Drug Crime (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 136 | 2.6 | down |
| Violence Against the Person (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 280 | 5.3 | up |
| Alcohol Related Offences Against the Person (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 107 | 2.0 | up |
| Theft from a Motor Vehicle (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 96 | 1.8 | down |
| Theft of a Motor Vehicle (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 39 | 0.7 | down |
| Business Crime (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 298 | 5.7 | up |
| Hate Crime (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 17 | 0.3 | up |
| Domestic Violence (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 241 | 4.6 | down |
| Sexual offences (rate per 1,000 population) 2013/14 | 26 | 0.5 | down |
| Alcohol specific mortality: Males (all ages, DSR per 100,000) 2010-12 | 9 | 9.54 | up |
| Alcohol specific mortality: Females (all ages, DSR per 100,000) 2010-12 | 6 | 7.81 | up |
| Alcohol specific hospital admissions – under 18 year olds (persons, crude rate per 100,000) 2010/11-2012/13 | 6 | 20.59 | down |
| Admitted to hospital episodes with alcohol related conditions (broad) (all ages, DSR per 100,000) 2012/13 | 1,076.93 | 1,821.47 | up |
| Alcohol related recorded crimes (persons, all ages, crude rate per 1,000) 2012/13 | 121.65 | 2.32 | down |
| Alcohol related violent crimes (persons, all ages, crude rate per 1,000) 2012/13 | 91.02 | 1.73 | down |
| Killed or Seriously Injured (rate per 1,000) 2013 | 51 | 1.0 | up |
| Deliberate Fire Incidents (rate per 1,000) 2013/14 | 14 | 0.3 | up |

(DSR: Directly Standardised Rate)

MAP 1: Numbers of Crimes by Wards in Eden



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