



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

Off Licence Special Saturation Policy

Produced by PC 502 Andrew Dufour,
Blackpool Licensing Department.

Off Licence Special Saturation Policy

It is proposed to operate a second Special Saturation Policy (SSP) for parts of the Blackpool area.

The proposal of a second SSP is to be focused on the off licence trade. There is concern to the level of crime, disorder and public nuisance, and there is evidence that there is a cumulative effect on the incidence of crime, disorder and public nuisance due to the number of off licensed premises in the area.

The SSP creates a rebuttable presumption against the grant of new licences in this area.

Effect on existing licensed premises

This has no effect on existing premises in the area applying for variations to licences (unless the proposed change is a "material variation", which would require a new premises licence application).

This means that the SSP does not affect decisions about proposed variations for longer hours or minor changes in the way that premises are used. However, it is still open to responsible authorities and interested parties (people who live or work in the vicinity of the premises) to make representations.

Applications for new premises licences

The SSP will mainly affect applications from premises with licences primarily for the consumption of alcohol off the premises, because it is more likely to be these that add to cumulative impact of alcohol related crime in the home place and on the street drinking.

The cumulative impact of customers who have been drinking in, for example, new restaurants is likely to be small. Similarly, on-licences

should have little effect on cumulative impact in an area with street-drinking bans.

There may be other premises that do have an effect on cumulative impact. All applicants seeking new licences for premises in the SSP Area must be able to demonstrate, if necessary, that their proposals will not add to cumulative impact.

However, the licensing authority cannot set quotas for the number of licensed premises in the area or for the number of any particular type of premises.

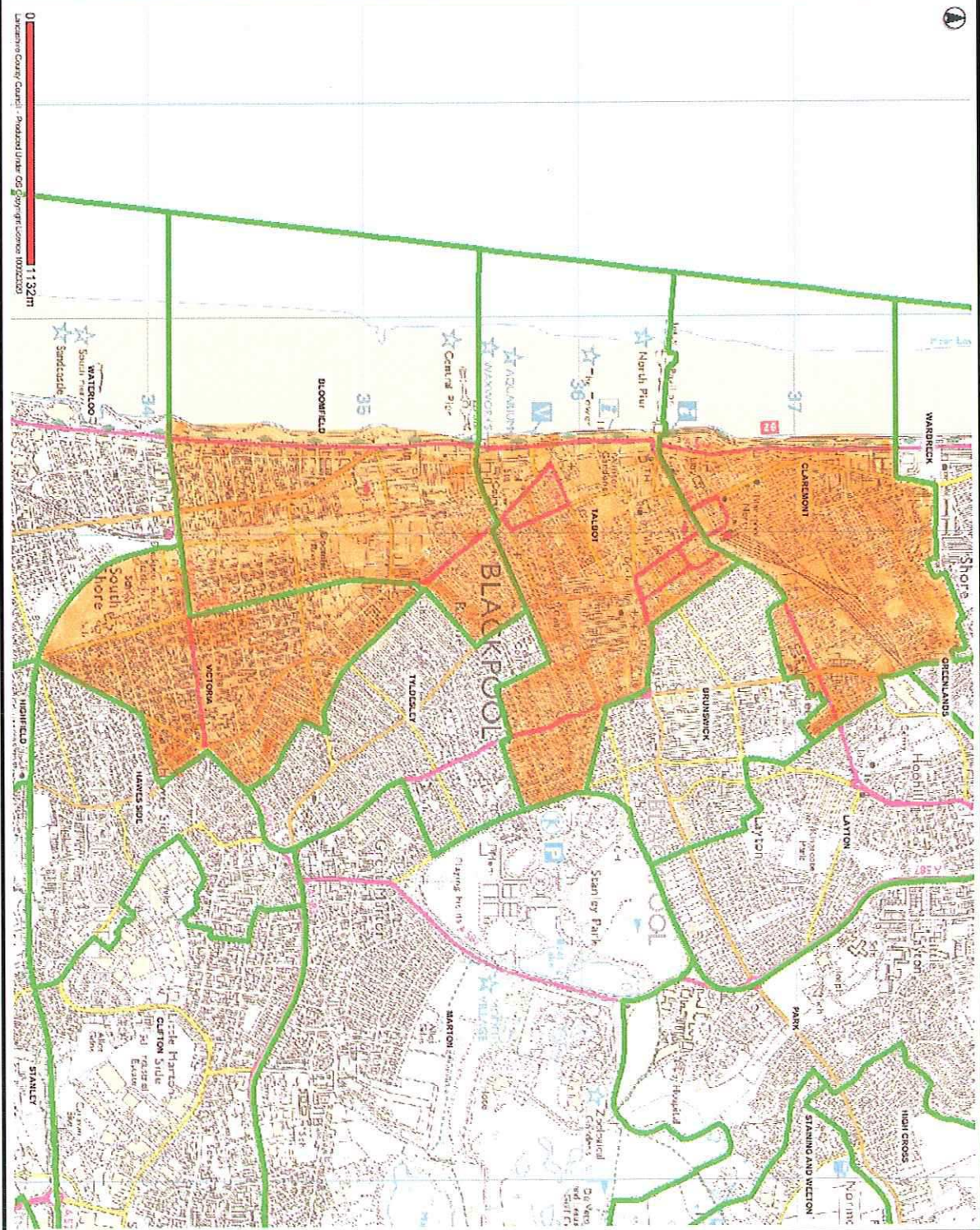
The presumption is rebuttable, because it is open to the applicant to demonstrate that the licensable activities proposed will not add to cumulative impact.

The licensing authority cannot apply the Special Saturation Policy unless it receives representations from responsible authorities or interested parties. Where relevant to the case, their representations can simply mention the SSP in order to refer to the evidence on which it was based.

Areas to be covered by Off Licence SSP

Blackpool is split into several 'wards'. This SSP will cover the following wards:

Bloomfield, Victoria, Talbot, Claremont. (**Appendix 1** on the following page shows a map of the areas)



south



Date: 01/08/2008

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Evidence

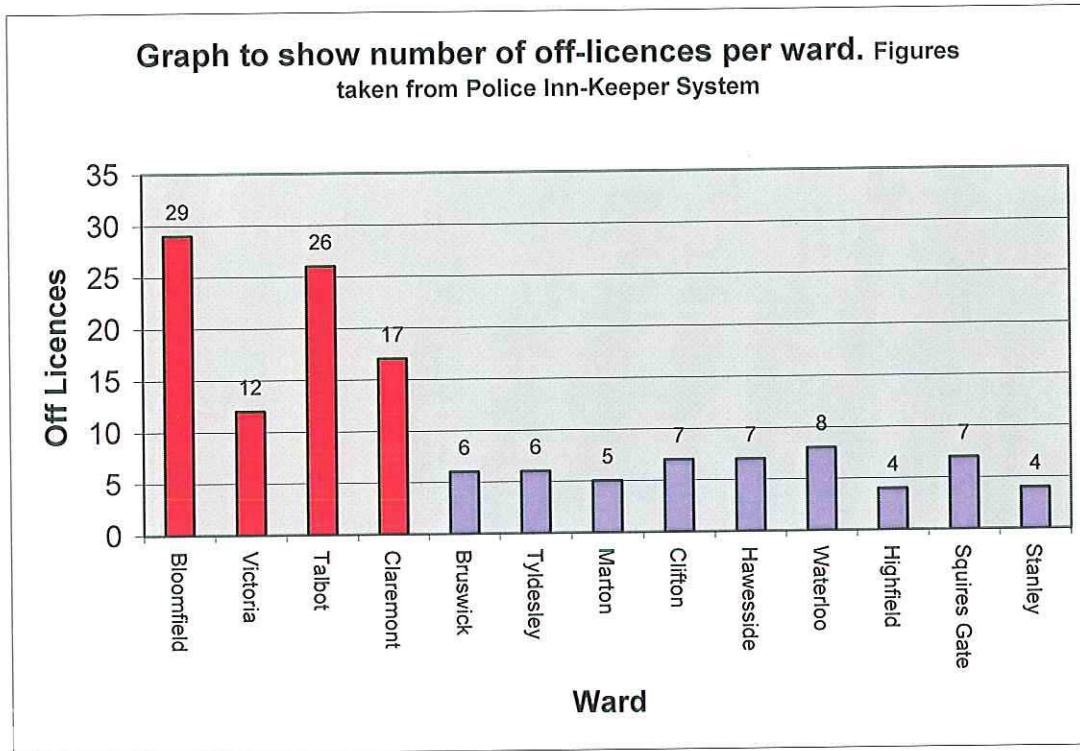
The ease of which a person can obtain alcohol is one of the main problems facing the Police and local authorities. Table 1 below shows how many off licences are currently situated in the relevant wards. An estimated population has been placed next to that figure to show the ratio of off licences per person per ward. This figure does not take into account that a large percentage of the population will be under 18 years old and not legally allowed to purchase alcohol from an off licence.

The following population figures have been provided by the government's statistics 2005 census ward estimates.

Table 1.

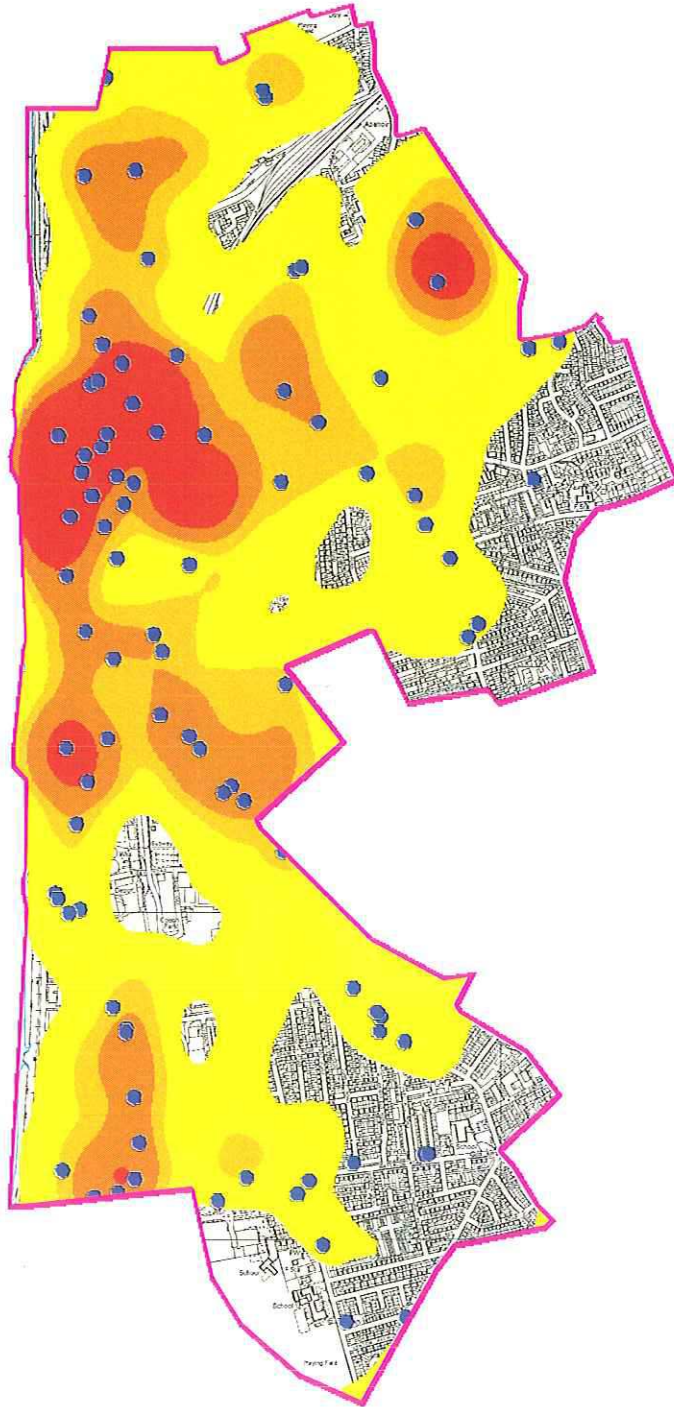
Ward	Population	Off Licences	Population/Off Licence
Bloomfield	7189	29	247
Victoria	6701	12	558
Talbot	6943	26	267
Claremont	7565	17	445

The graph below shows a comparison of off licences to wards in the Blackpool area. The wards proposed in this SSP are highlighted in red.



Appendix 2 on the following page is a 'hot-spot map'. This clearly illustrates the relevant wards and the ranges of recorded assault, public order and rowdy behaviour received by Lancashire Constabulary. Off Licences have been spotted on the map and in most cases there is a correlation between high levels of crime and disorder and an off licence.

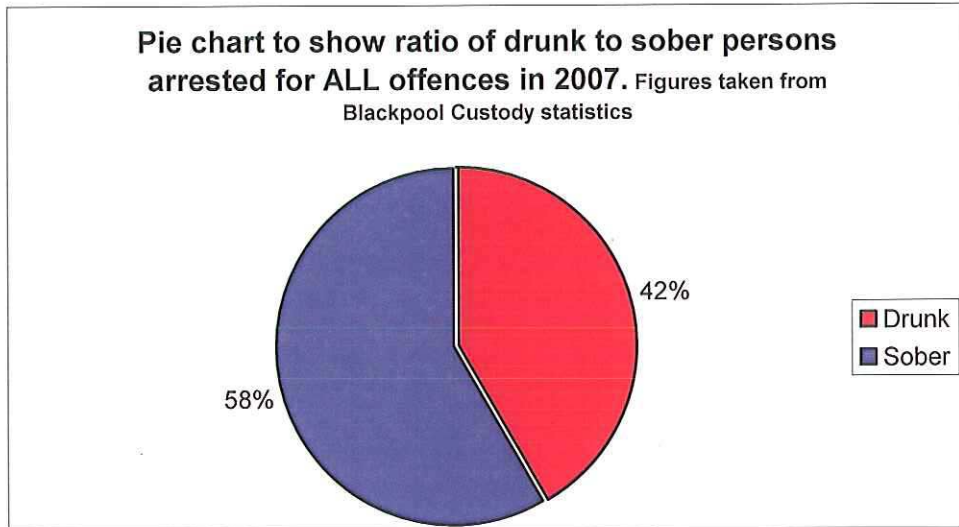
These statistics for this have been produced by PC 974 Farrow.



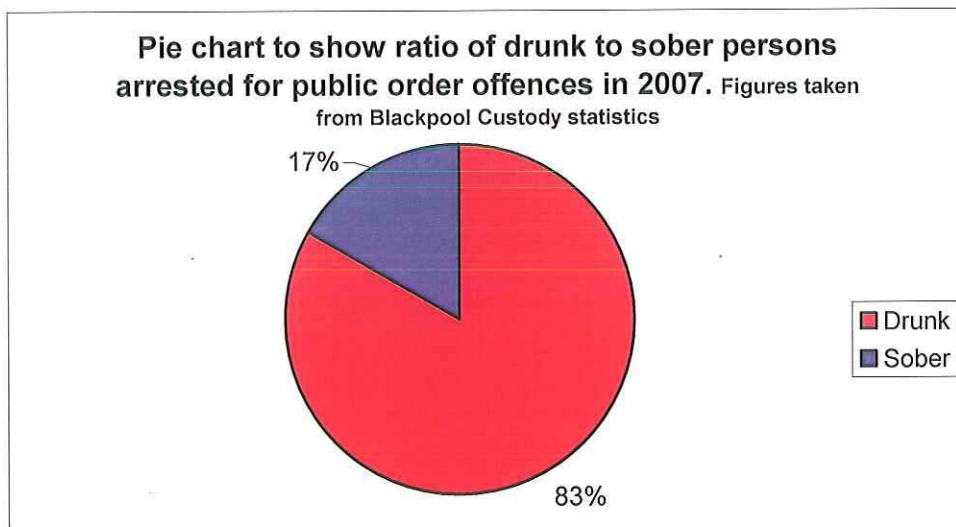
Hotspot map showing Claremont, Brunswick, Talbot Bloomfield and Victoria Wards, with ranges of incidents of Assault, Public Order and Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour for the period 01/09/07 to 31/08/08. The blue dots signify licenced off sale premises.

The link between alcohol and crime.

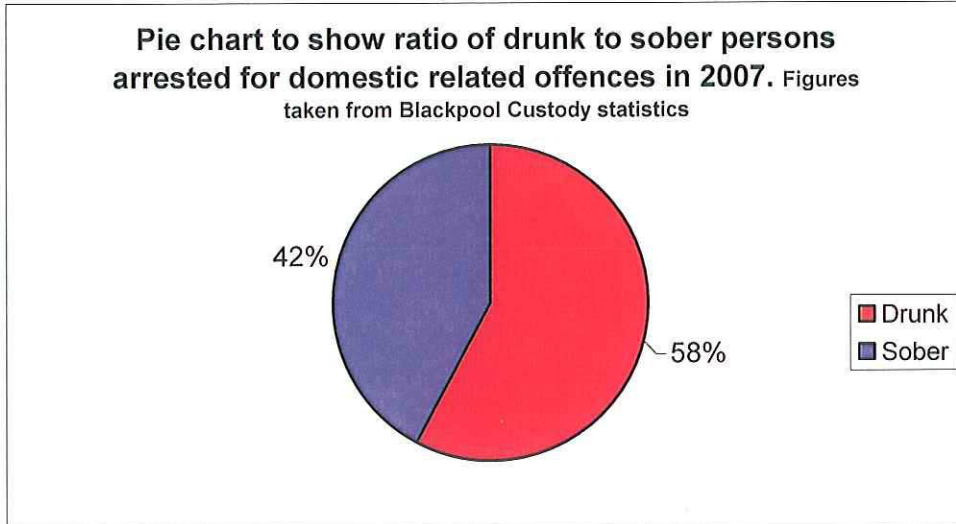
Between the 1st January 2007 and the 1st January 2008, **14260** people were arrested and taken to Blackpool Police Custody (this figure represents all offences)



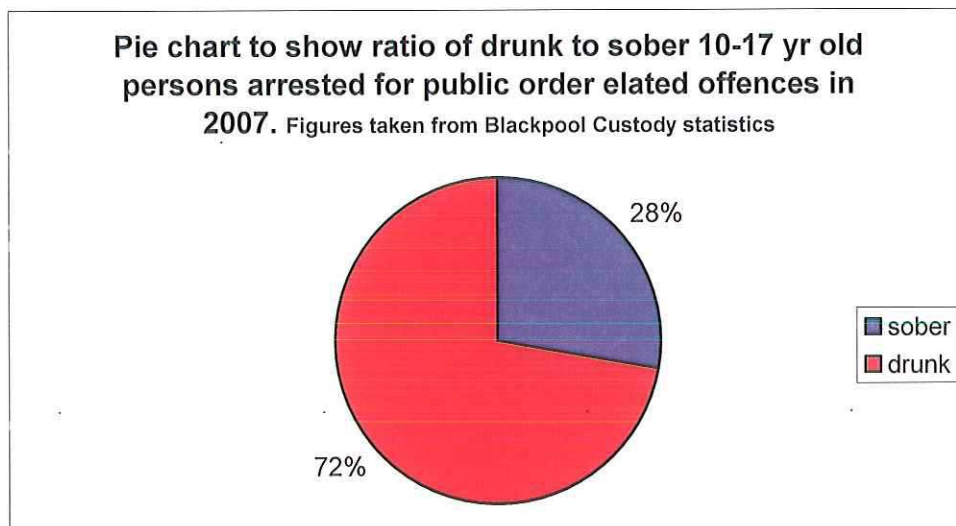
Between the 1st January 2007 and 1st January 2008, **1929** people were arrested and taken to Blackpool Custody for public order offences.



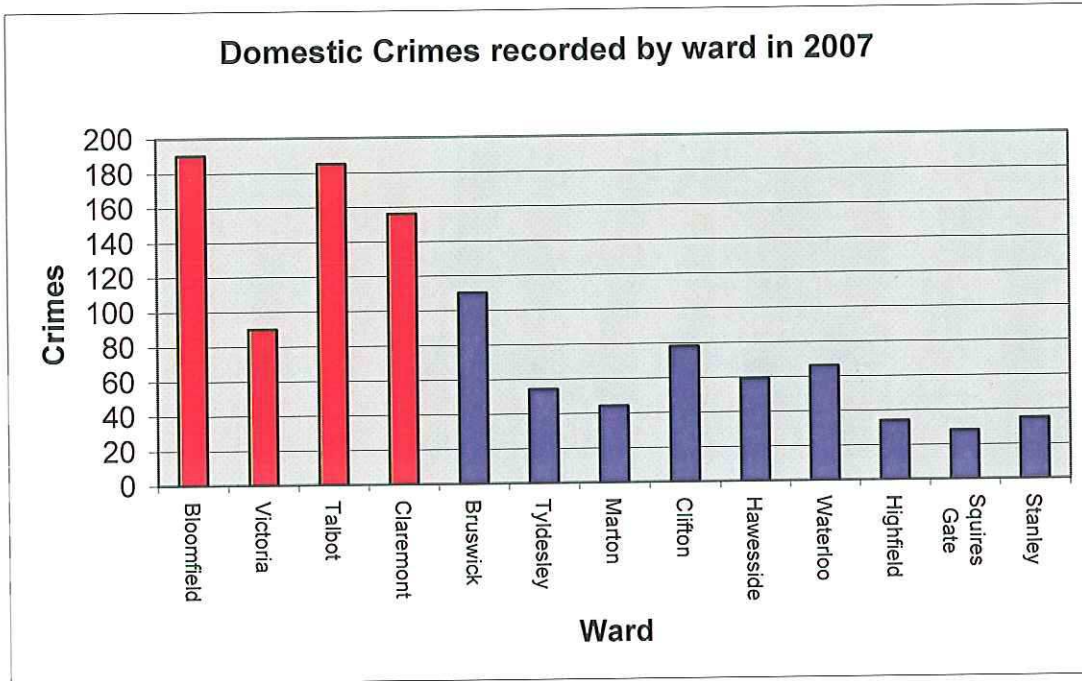
Between the 1st January 2007 and 1st January 2008, **1909** people were arrested and taken to Blackpool Custody for domestic related offences.



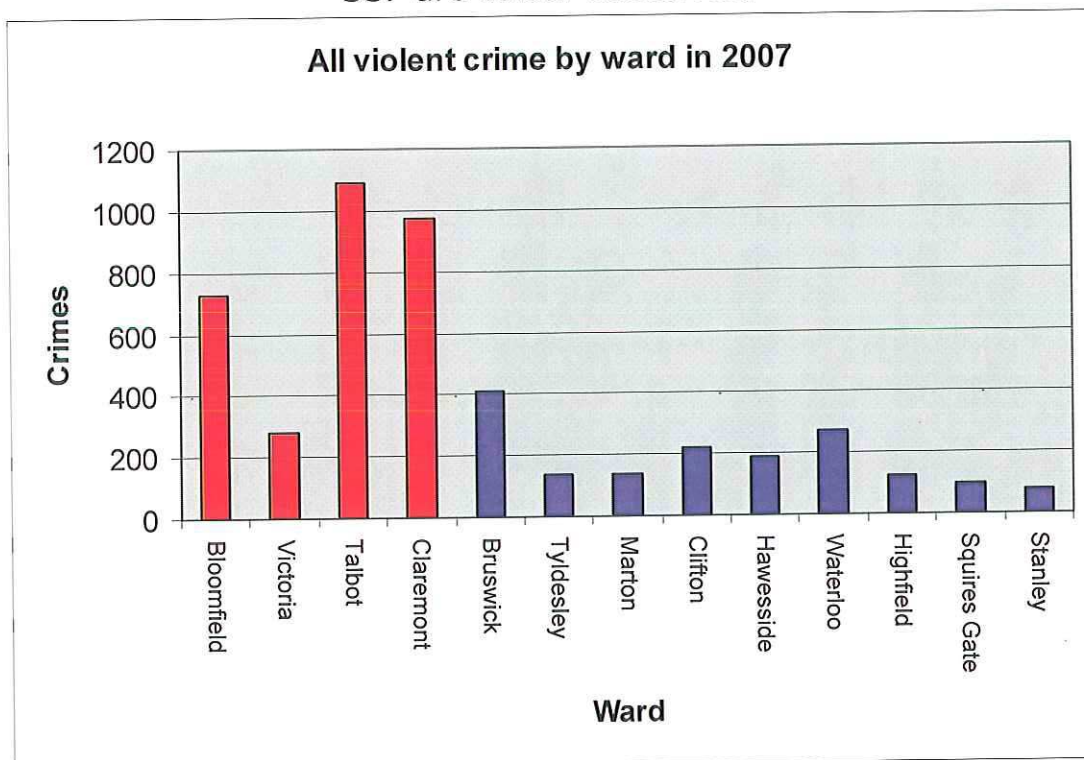
Between the 1st January 2007 and 1st January 2008, **271** people aged between 10 and 17 were arrested and taken to Blackpool Custody for public order offences.



The graph below illustrates how many domestic related crimes were record by Lancashire Constabulary in 2007. The statistics have been broken down into their own wards. The wards that would be covered in this SSP are colour coded red.



The graph below illustrates how many violent crimes were record by Lancashire Constabulary in 2007. The statistics have been broken down into their own wards. The wards that would be covered in this SSP are colour coded red.



Applications outside of the designated area:

Representations on cumulative impact may be made in respect of applications for premises licences outside of the designated area. If such representations are successful, the licensing authority may choose to consult as to whether that particular area should be designated as an area of cumulative impact.

Where Responsible Authorities of Interested Parties seek to establish that an application should be refused on the grounds that it would result in (or further contribute to) cumulative impact, they should:

Identify the boundaries of the area

Identify the licensing objective(s) being undermined,

Provide full details and evidence to show the manner and extent to which the licensing objective(s) are being, or will be undermined,

Provide evidence that the problems are being caused by patrons of licensed premises in the area.

When considering such representations, the licensing committee will have particular regard to:

The nature of the proposed application – including licensable activities, hours, and occupancy

Measures proposed by the applicant in the operating schedule to mitigate or prevent adverse impact on the licensing objectives (including the proposed hours of operation)

The proximity of the premises to others in the area, licensed for similar activities

The occupancy figures of existing premises in the area concerned,

The operational hours of existing licensed premises in the area concerned,

The nature of licensed activities in the area,

Whether the proposed premises will be a direct replacement for others in the area no longer licensed,

Whether conditions would be effective in addressing the issue of cumulative impact.