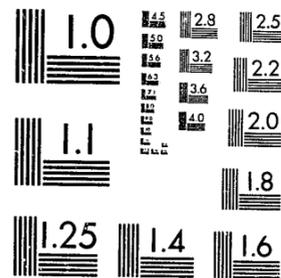


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Northumbria Police



"PREVENTION OF FEAR"

A presentation by Northumbria Police to
Newcastle District Inner City Partnership
at the Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne,
on 23rd September 1983

In the light of the approach of Crime Statistics
1983-84, reference is made to the following

92924

92924

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AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO CRIME STATISTICS
AND THEIR RELEVANCE TO RESOURCE ALLOCATION

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT JOHN HILLYER

RESEARCHED BY CONSTABLE 3054 GILBERG

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	...	...	...	...	...	1
FELLING	...	...	...	...	...	6
SALTWELL	...	...	...	...	...	10
SCOTSWOOD	...	...	...	...	...	14
ELSWICK	...	...	...	...	...	18
OFFENDERS	...	...	...	...	...	22
CONCLUSION	...	...	...	...	...	28
APPENDIX 'A'	(Distribution Maps)...	31
APPENDIX 'B'	(Extracts from British Crime Survey)	37

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ACQUISITIONS

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Policies affecting resource allocation are formulated both on a wide and narrow spectrum within an organisation. Such policies must be based on accurate and meaningful information.

POLICE ORGANISATION

INFORMATION ON MACRO LEVEL

Criminal statistics for the country have been compiled by the Home Office since 1856. To this end Police Forces are engaged in recording and processing vast amounts of information about criminal offences.

Details about all recorded criminal offences are available on a Force Area basis, Divisional basis or Sub-Divisional basis. I stress recorded because the British Crime Survey has revealed that a large number of offences are not reported. (See Appendix B)

Concentrate on residential burglary and analyse it in increasing depth.

NORTHUMBRIA FORCE AREA

1980	14,555	average 1 every 36 minutes
1983 (1st January - 31st July)	13,068	average 1 every 23 minutes

This kind of information paints a gloomy crime picture. How does it compare nationally? In isolation the figures given are virtually meaningless and a yardstick is required to enable comparisons to be made. Furthermore, an area with high density housing would be expected to have a higher number of burglaries than a less densely housed area. Therefore the scale of a crime problem is best measured by expressing it as a rate, say for example, X burglaries per 10,000 dwellings per annum; this rate to be known as the risk factor.

RISK FACTORS COMPARED - 1982

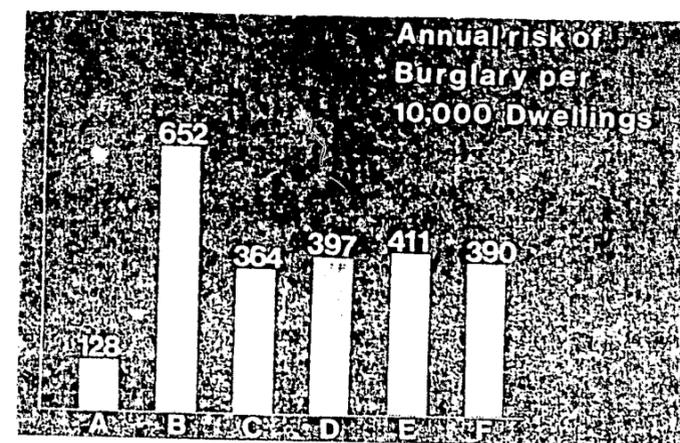
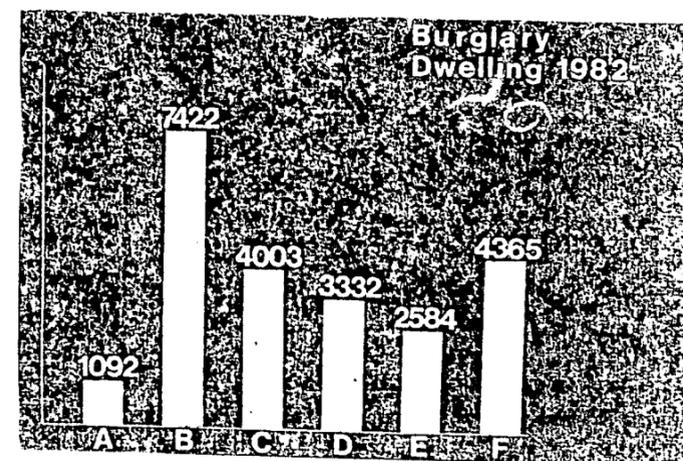
England and Wales	229 burglaries per 10,000 dwellings per annum
Northumbria	401 burglaries per 10,000 dwellings per annum (75% higher than the national risk)

DIVISIONS WITHIN NORTHUMBRIA POLICE AREA - 1982

Northumbria Police Area is divided into 6 territorial divisions.

South of the river	Gateshead, South Shields, Sunderland
North of the river	Newcastle, Blyth/North

Take a look at the number of dwelling house burglaries in each division during 1982 (top block graph) compared with their respective risk factors (bottom block graph).



It can be seen that although 'E' Division has less burglaries (2584) than 'C' Division (4003) the risk factor is higher for 'E' Division (411) than for 'C' Division (364).

The smallest area for which criminal statistics can be extracted from the computer at present is sub-divisional.

MICRO LEVEL

The day to day operational decisions in a sub-division require detailed information of offences and offenders. This information enables the identification of problem areas; the formulation, consideration and implementation of strategies and the evaluation of these strategies. This kind of detailed analysis may also identify underlying factors which influence crime.

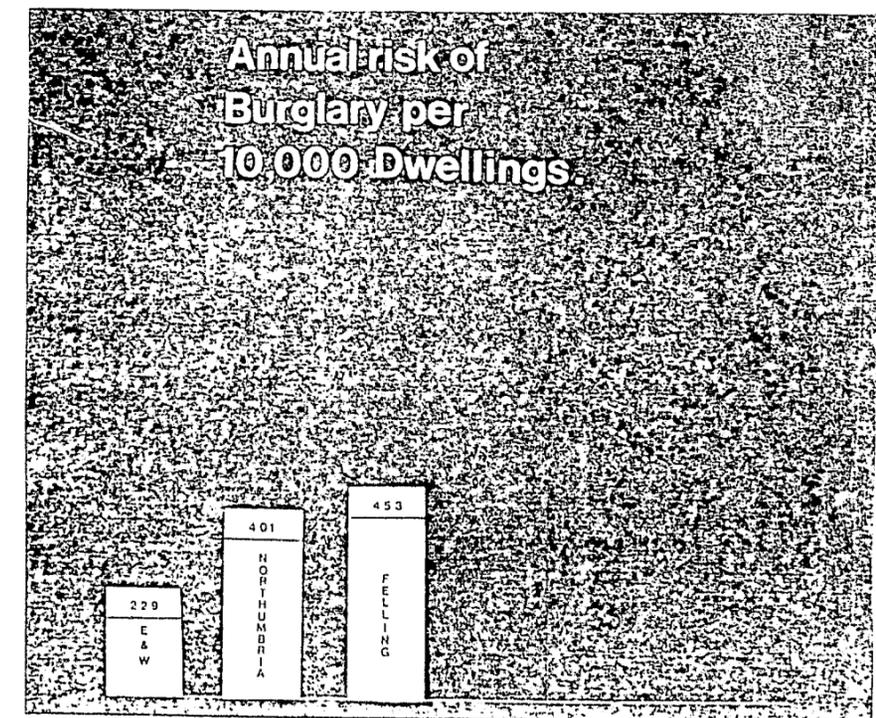
The identification of offenders and problem areas will often be spotted as a result of mental calculation by sub-divisional officers.

Now for a look at four wards within the Inner City Partnership Area (a small part of Saltwell lies outside the area):-

Felling and Saltwell to the South of the River Tyne.

Scotswood and Elswick to the North of the River Tyne.

FELLING



FELLING

Population 9,972

Households 3,616

Housing Tenure

12% owner occupied

76% Council

12% housing association and rented furnished and unfurnished

* * * * *

Between 1st May and 31st July, 1983, 41 households were burgled in the Felling ward (including 3 attempts and 1 bogus salesman).

This is a risk factor of 453 per 10,000 dwellings per annum. (Twice the national risk and slightly above that for the Northumbria Police Area.)

Preventable

Of these 41 burglaries, 13 (32%) were preventable, access being gained to the dwelling by insecure windows and doors and in one case by posing as a security salesman!

Prevented

There were 3 attempted burglaries:-

2 foiled because the offender was disturbed by the occupier

1 foiled because the window was nailed shut

Distribution Map (See Appendix 'A' - Page 32)

The spot map clearly shows a concentration of burglaries - a hot spot - in the north west area of the ward (estate type council housing). In the area indicated the risk of burglary is 1,227 per 10,000 dwellings per annum. Consequently, the fear of burglary in that area should be high.

Within the area outlined there were three burglaries in the same street between 13th May and 21st May. Examination of each burglary reveals that the same method was used in each case, i.e. entry via rear doors, during hours of darkness and cash stolen from prepayment meters. A look at the area - access to those gardens from the street is made easy by a wide gap between the houses at the end of the street, and low fencing between the gardens.

General

Method of entry

Entry was gained in equal numbers via doors and windows.

Time of entry

Some burglaries are reported as having been committed over a long period of time and consequently one is unable to identify a period

during the day when it was committed, e.g. evening or overnight. However, where a period has been able to be identified the following information is revealed:-

12 (or 29%) of the burglaries occurred during the period 11 p.m. - 10 a.m. i.e. after the householder had gone to bed.

12 (or 29%) of the burglaries occurred during the day 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Elderly Victims

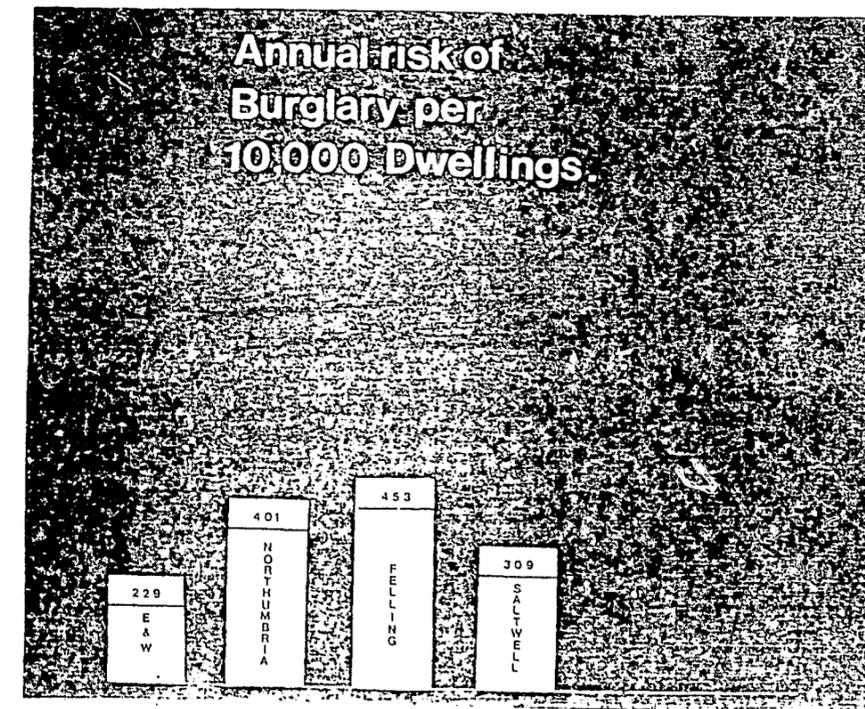
6 (or 15%) of the victims were over the age of 60 years. However, it will be appreciated that in trying to determine whether the elderly are at more, or at less, risk than other householders, the percentage of elderly people in the ward must be taken into account.

Goods Stolen

Of those burglaries where entry was gained to the house:-

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 9 (or 24%) | nothing stolen |
| 6 (or 21%) | value of goods less than £100 |
| 9 (or 24%) | value of goods over £200 (in 4 of these only a video recorder was stolen) |
| 15 (or 39%) | involved theft of cash from gas or electricity prepayment meters |

SALTWELL



SALTWELL

Population 9,655

Households 3,881

Housing Tenure

40% owner occupied

13% Council

47% housing association and rented furnished and unfurnished

The majority of the housing is pre war terraced housing.

* * * * *

Between 1st May and 31st July, 1983, 30 households were burgled in the Saltwell ward (including 5 attempts and 1 bogus official). This reveals a risk factor of 309 per 10,000 dwellings per annum. (Higher than the National risk but less than the risk for the Northumbria Police Area.)

Preventable

Of these 30 burglaries 14 (43%) were preventable (including 1 bogus official). In 10 of these cases entry was gained via rear insecure doors and windows, having first scaled the high back yard wall. The occupant perhaps assumed the high walls gave security and therefore left a window or door

open whereas in reality those high yard walls, once scaled, provided the burglar with his own security from observation!

Prevented

There were 5 attempted burglaries - one was identified as having been foiled because of a deadlock on the door.

Distribution Map (See Appendix 'A' - Page 33)

The distribution map does not reveal any hot spots but shows a general distribution.

GeneralMethod of entry

On eight occasions entry was gained by forcing the front door. This method of entry was used both during the daylight hours and during the hours of darkness. There are many examples of poor quality doors in this area which would probably open by leaning against them!

Time of burglary

12 (or 40%) occurred during the day 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

6 (or 20%) occurred overnight 11 p.m. - 10 a.m.

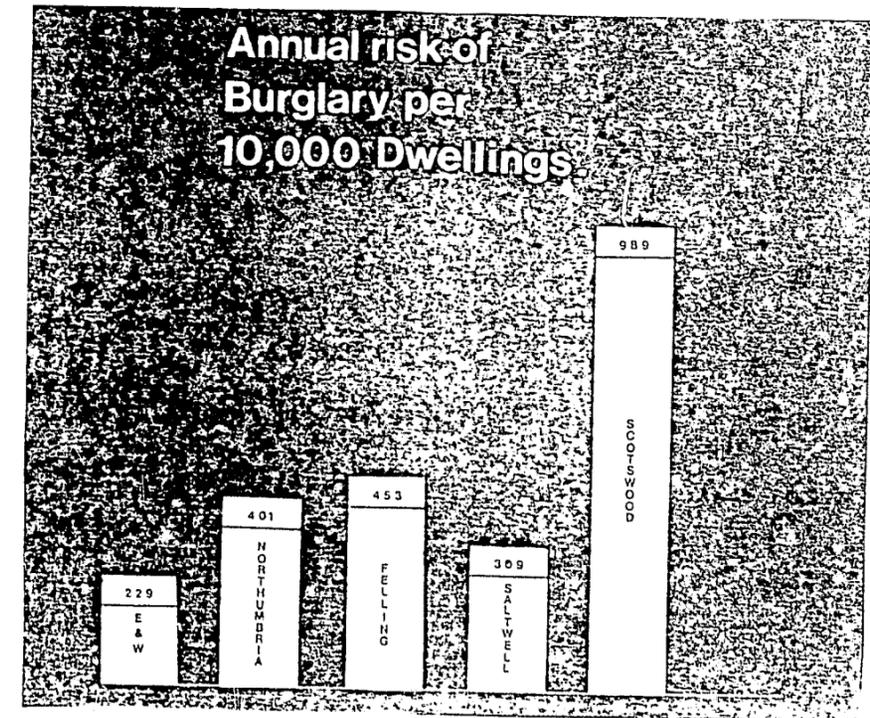
Elderly Victims

7 (or 23%) of the victims were over the age of 60 years.

Goods Stolen

10 (or 34%) Value of goods exceeded £200

SCOTSWOOD



SCOTSWOOD

Population 10,798

Households 3,800

Housing Tenure

39% owner occupied

46% Council

15% housing association and rented furnished and unfurnished

* * * * *

Between 1st May and 31st July, 1983, 94 households were burgled in Scotswood ward (including 3 attempts and 1 bogus official). This reveals a risk factor of 989 per 10,000 dwellings per annum. (More than four times the national risk and two and a half times the risk for the Northumbria Police Area.

Preventable

Of these 94 burglaries 25 (27%) were preventable. (On seven occasions entry was gained via insecure first floor windows.)

Distribution Map (See Appendix 'A' - Page 34)

The north west of the ward consists of pre/post war private housing and as can be seen is almost burglary free. The whole of the council estate

in the lower $\frac{2}{3}$ of the ward is hot with some very hot spots. The risk factor in this lower $\frac{2}{3}$ of the ward is nearly 1,500 per 10,000 dwellings per annum. The risk factor in the south east corner, discounting houses under renovation and vacant could be as high as 3,000 per 10,000 dwellings per annum.

In one small section of St. Margarets Road joining the railway lines there are no less than 7 burglaries. A look at the area reveals that the street immediately behind is almost completely boarded up, providing privacy for the intending burglar. Access can be gained to the rear gardens via a dark archway.

GeneralMethod of entry

Windows offered the normal point of entry 60%

Times of entry

17 (or 18%)	7 a.m. - 6 p.m. during the day
26 (or 27%)	11 p.m. - 10 a.m. over-night

The low proportion of daytime burglaries is perhaps a reflection of the high level of unemployment in

that area as very few households are left unoccupied during the day.

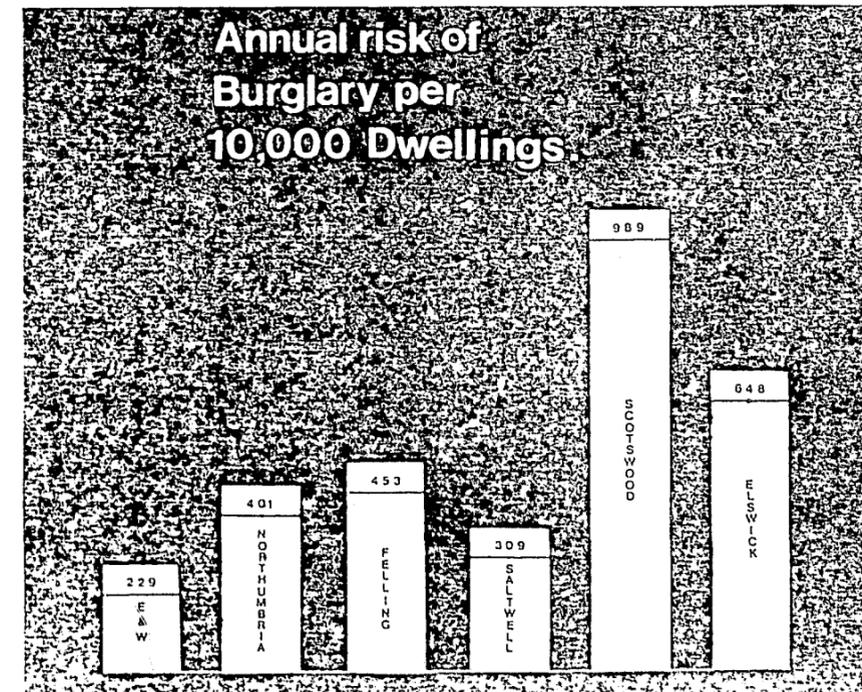
Elderly Victims

9 (or 10%) of the victims were over the age of 60 years.

Goods Stolen

9 (or 10%) nothing stolen
 40 (or 42%) value of goods stolen less than £100
 16 (or 17%) value of goods stolen over £500

ELSWICK



ELSWICK

Population 9,669

Households 3,729

Housing Tenure

37% owner occupied

34% Council

29% housing association and rented furnished and unfurnished

* * * * *

Between 1st May and 31st July, 1983, 63 households were burgled in Elswick (including 2 attempts and 1 bogus official.) This reveals a risk factor of 648 per 10,000 dwellings per annum. (Nearly three times the national risk and 50% higher than the risk for the Northumbria Police Area.)

Preventable

Of the 63 burglaries 18 (28%) were preventable (including 1 bogus official). In five of these entry was gained via first floor windows.

Distribution Map (See Appendix 'A' - Page 35)

The distribution map shows a hot spot in the old terraced housing to the west of the ward (Hampstead Road Area). These burglaries are

concentrated between two streets. The interpretation of these hot spots needs great care because in that area the density of housing is high as there are a large number of flats. Nevertheless the risk factor in that area is 2,000 per 10,000 per annum.

Terraced Housing

As seen in Saltwell, in 80% of the burglaries of terraced housing, entry was gained by scaling the rear yard walls. In this area a number of yard walls are being lowered - reducing privacy to the occupant, but at the same time reducing privacy to the burglar.

GeneralMethod of entry

11 (or 17%) entry by forcing the front door - equal distribution throughout ward.

Time of burglary

24 (or 39%) of the burglaries occurred during the period 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

7 (or 11%) of the burglaries occurred overnight 11 p.m. - 10 a.m.

Elderly victims

12 (or 20%) of the victims were over the age of 60 years.

Ethnic victims

9 (or 15%) of the victims were of ethnic origin.

Goods stolen

Of those burglaries where entry was gained to the house:-

1	nothing stolen
27 (or 44%)	value of goods less than £100
15 (or 25%)	value of goods over £500

Video recorders	10
-----------------	----

T.V.s	13
-------	----

OFFENDERS

DETECTED OFFENCESFELLINGDetected

2 (or 4.9%) of the 41 burglaries have been detected to date. In the Force Area during 1982 39.4% of residential burglaries were detected. The low detection rate in this ward and the other three wards reflects the fact that a large number of burglaries are detected when the offenders have been arrested in connection with other matters. Looked at in 6 months time, the picture will be much different.

Offenders

Total arrested - 4

All male and unemployed

Aged 20, 21, 27, 33

3 lived within the Felling ward

1 was of 'No fixed abode'.

SALTWELLDetected

2 (or 6.7%) of the 30 burglaries have been detected to date.

Offenders

Total arrested - 4

All male and unemployed

Aged 16, 19, 20, 20

1 lived within the ward

3 lived just outside the ward.

SCOTSWOODDetected

9 (or 10%) of the 94 burglaries have been detected to date.

Offenders

Total arrested - 8

All male and unemployed

Aged 18, 18, 21, 33, 34, 36, 38, 43

5 lived within the ward

1 lived just outside the ward

ELSWICKDetected

2 (or 3.2%) of the 63 burglaries have been detected to date.

Offenders

Total arrested - 3

All male

Aged 11, 15, 17

1 lived within the ward

2 lived just outside the ward.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS - NEWCASTLE WEST SUB DIVISIONSPOT MAP (See Appendix 'A' - Page 36)

Shows Juvenile Offenders living within the Newcastle West End Sub-Division. The Sub-Division covers the following wards:-

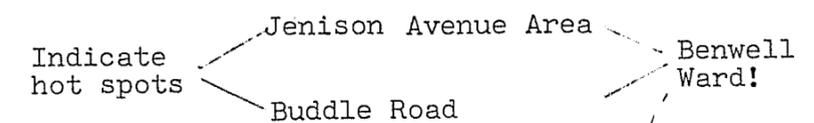
Wingrove, Fenham and Moorside to the North of the West Road.

Benwell, Elswick and West City to the South of the West Road.

The distribution map indicates the addresses of juvenile offenders (i.e. under the age of 17 years) who have come to the notice of the Police for criminal offences (theft/TWOC/Burglary, etc.) during the period 1.1.83 to 6.9.83.

Each spot represents a juvenile - however that juvenile may have committed a number of offences - still one dot.

Clearly the greater population of offenders live south of the West Road in the wards of Elswick, West City and Benwell!

Indicate hot spots 

A map of this nature must be carefully interpreted. There may be a number of juveniles in a household of a criminal nature and a number of juveniles in the street may have been involved in one offence.

CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

In coming to the end of my part of this presentation I should like to say that police officers have long recognised that by our efforts alone, be they by way of crime prevention or detection, we cannot hope to significantly reduce the level of crime. What is needed is the concerted effort of all sections of the community including those agencies having a general responsibility for the welfare of the community.

I would suggest, and I trust you agree, that the way in which this small and random sample of crime statistics in four Inner City Partnership Areas have been presented today clearly indicates there is scope for most of the functions of local government to be brought to bear on the problem, if any real and lasting impact is to be made in reducing crime. It follows, therefore, that there are obvious implications for the allocation of resources if the challenge is to be taken up. It is also proper, at this stage to acknowledge that an encouraging start has already been made along this path. However, as guardians of the public purse I expect you would also agree that it would not be particularly prudent to embark on any long term and expensive strategy without a deeper study and understanding of the nature of crime in our area and its causes.

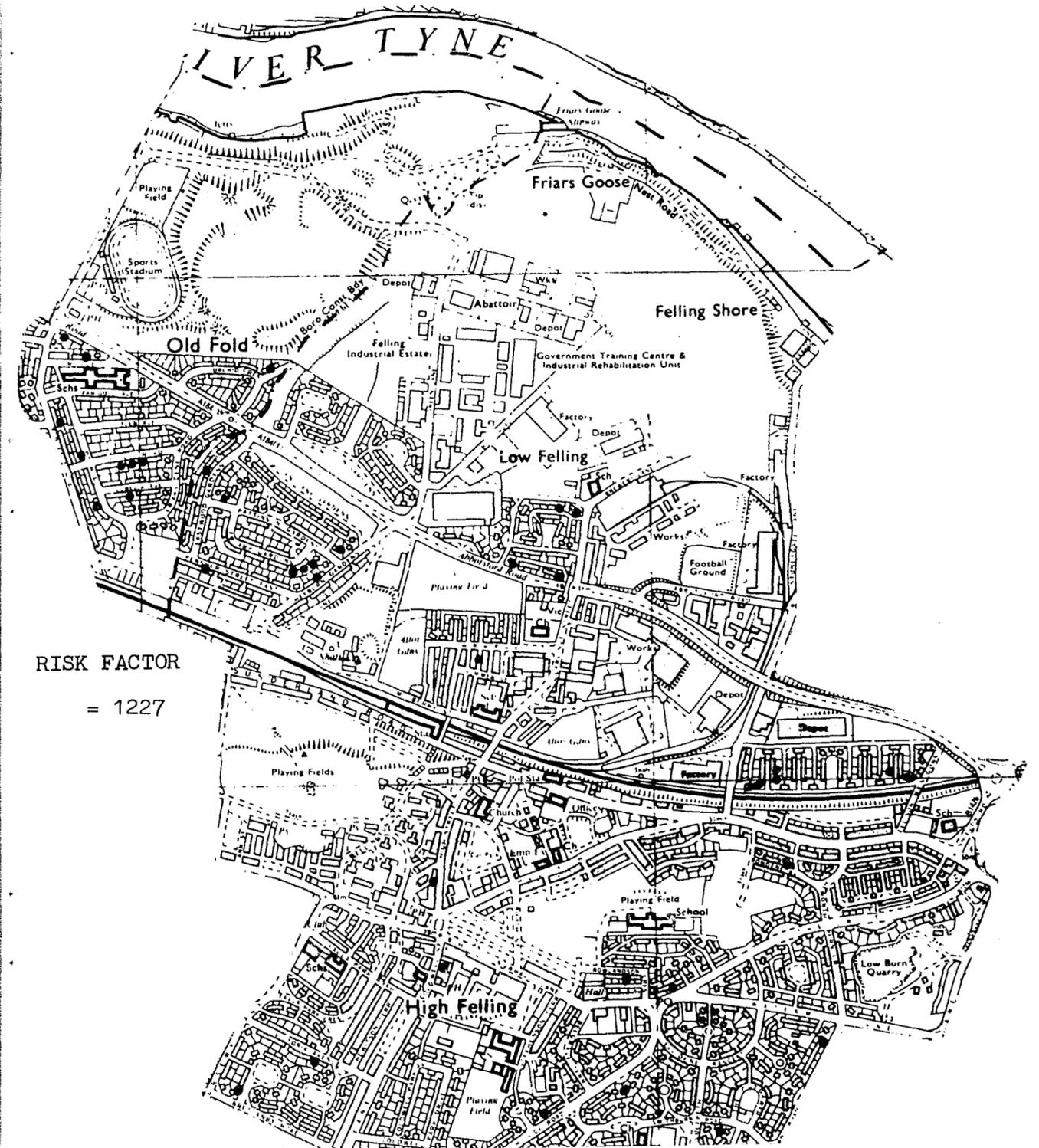
You have already heard of some of the research that has been done and I now pass you to Mr. R.W. THOMPSON, an Assistant Chief Constable, whose numerous responsibilities include crime prevention and crime investigation who will speak about areas of research that could be undertaken.

APPENDIX A

FELLING

RISK FACTOR 453

DISTRIBUTION OF DWELLINGHOUSE BURGLARIES FOR
THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY 1983



DISTRIBUTION OF DWELLINGHOUSE BURGLARIES FOR
THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY 1983



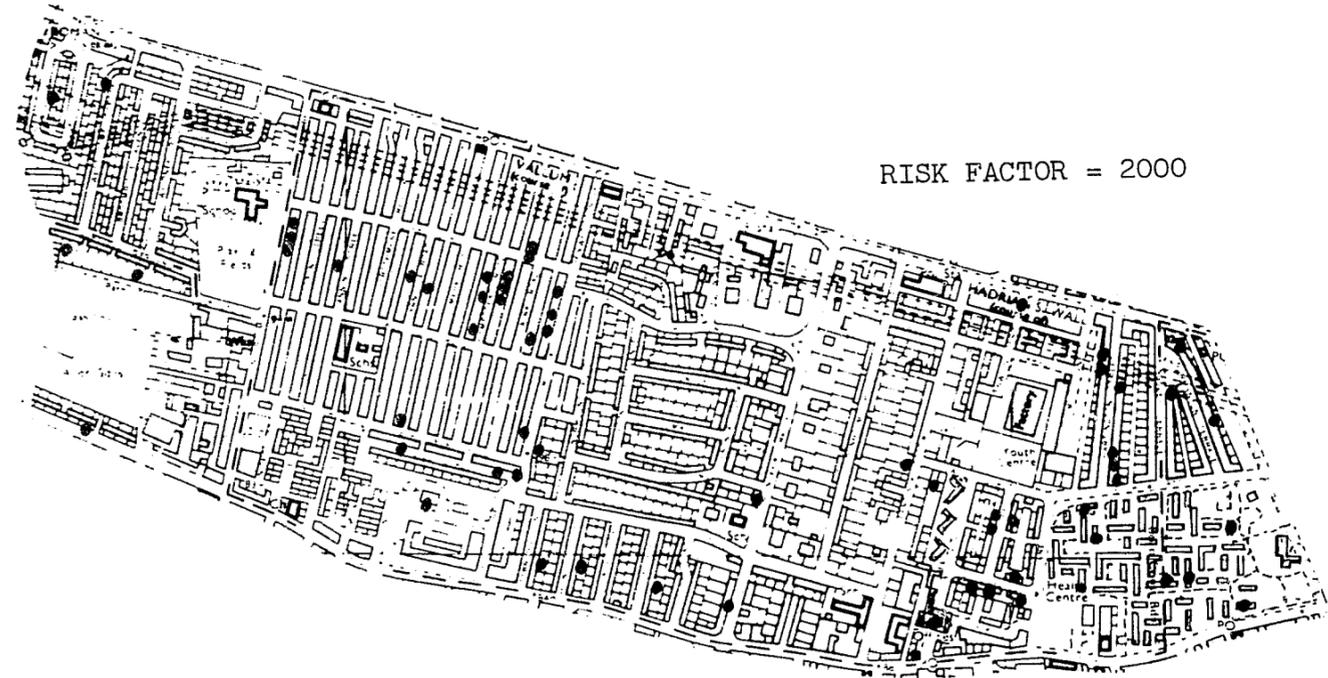
DISTRIBUTION OF DWELLINGHOUSE BURGLARIES FOR
THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY 1983



ELSWICK

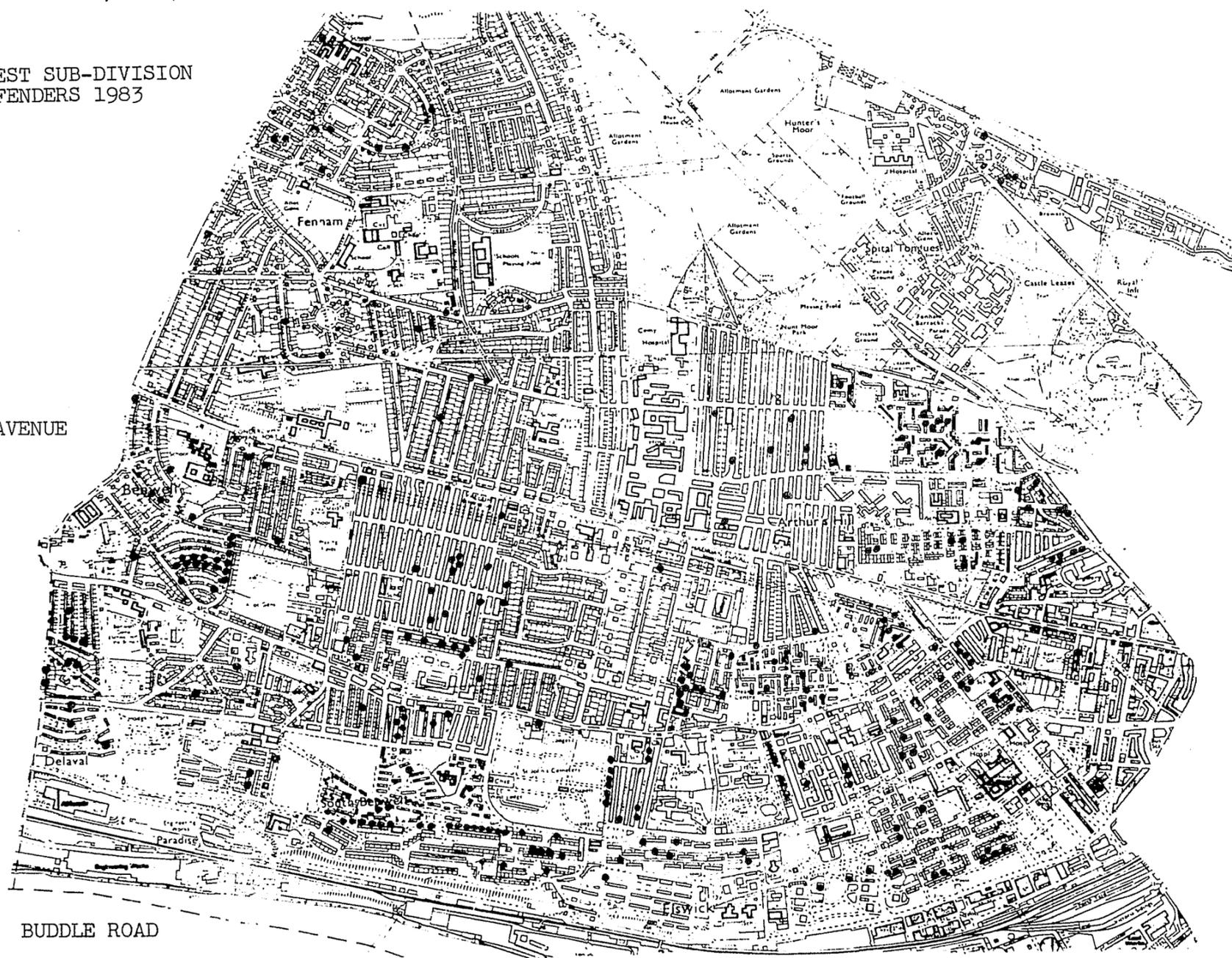
RISK FACTOR 648

DISTRIBUTION OF DWELLINGHOUSE BURGLARIES FOR
THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY 1983



NEWCASTLE WEST SUB-DIVISION
JUVENILE OFFENDERS 1983

JENISON AVENUE



BUDDLE ROAD

APPENDIX B

BRITISH CRIME SURVEY JANUARY 1983

Reveals the extent of 'dark' crime in the year 1981.

% OF BCS OFFENCES REPORTED TO THE POLICE

Household Offences

22%	Vandalism
30%	Theft from motor vehicle
56%	Burglary
95%	Theft of motor vehicle
64%	Bicycle theft
18%	Theft in a dwelling

Personal Offences

31%	Theft from the person
39%	Wounding
47%	Robbery
28%	Sexual Offences

REASONS WHY THE POLICE WERE NOT NOTIFIED

	<u>Personal Offences %</u>	<u>Household Offences %</u>
Too trivial; no loss or damage	38	49
Police could do nothing	16	34
Inappropriate for police; dealt with matter ourselves	13	5
Fear/dislike of the police	6	1
Inconvenient	5	2
Police would not be interested	3	9

- 2 -

	<u>Personal Offences %</u>	<u>Household Offences %</u>
Fear of reprisals	2	1
Reported to other authorities	3	2
Other specific answers; vague answers	21	10

"Not surprisingly, unreported incidents were generally the less serious ones in terms of the value of goods stolen, damage done, and the degree of injury sustained."

END