

CRIME

Summary

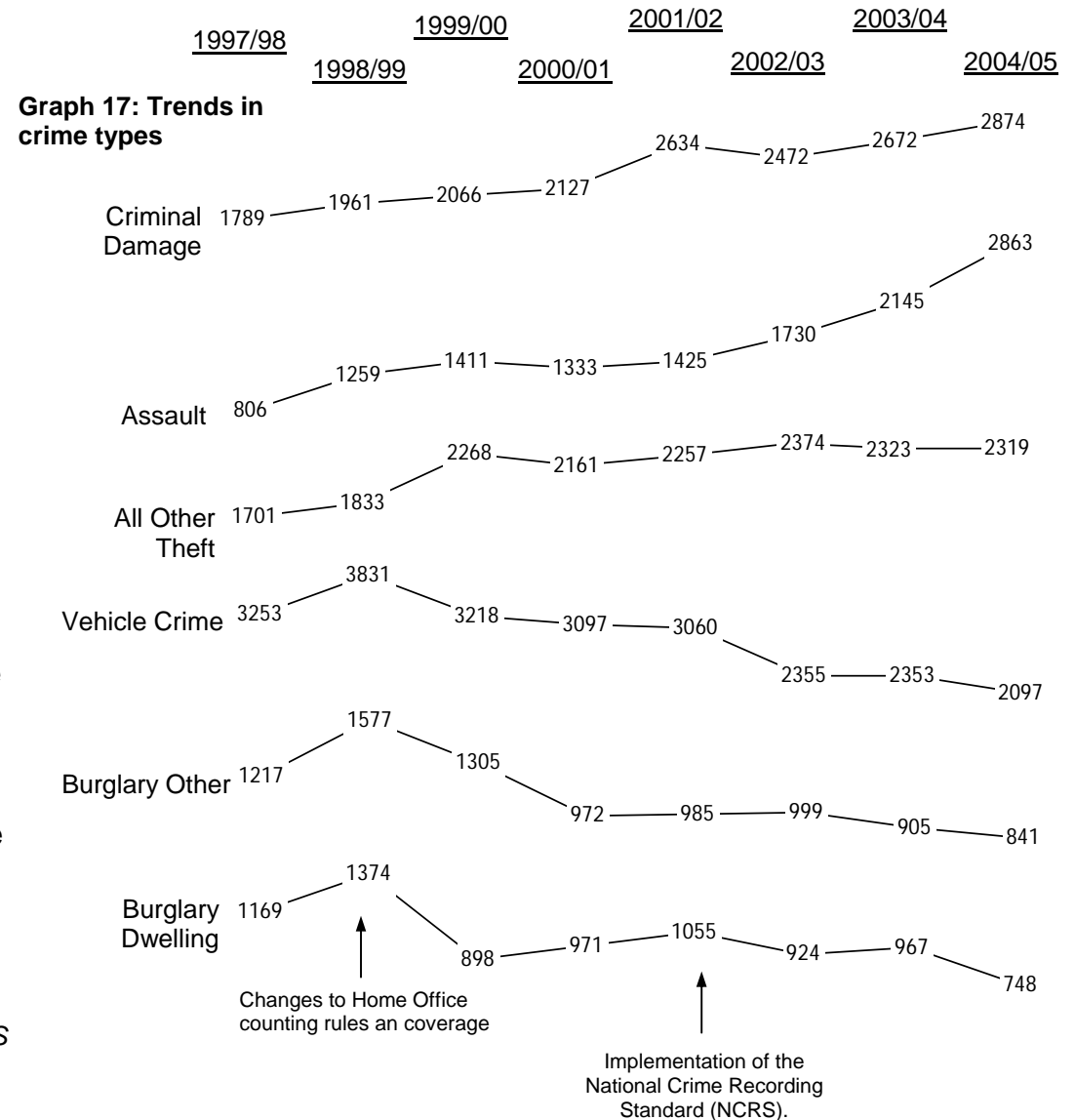
- **Offences recorded by the police in Charnwood Borough in 2004/05, shows falling Vehicle Crime and Burglary but Criminal Damage remains high and Assault offences continue to increase.**

In 2004/05 there was a total of 13,629 recorded offences in Charnwood Borough, up by 5% on the previous year.

The histograms and trend-lines (right) show that the highest crime types in Charnwood are Criminal Damage, Assault and All Other Theft. The trend-lines show the number of recorded offences over the last eight years and the histograms show the proportion of total crime by crime type.

The trend-lines are ranked (top to bottom) by the number of crimes recorded in 2004/05, ranging from the highest to the lowest for the six major crime categories. The number of Criminal Damage offences is highest in 2004/05 compared to previous years. Criminal Damage (which includes and is sometimes referred to as vandalism) is linked with low level anti-social behaviour.

Source: Leicestershire Constabulary, CIS



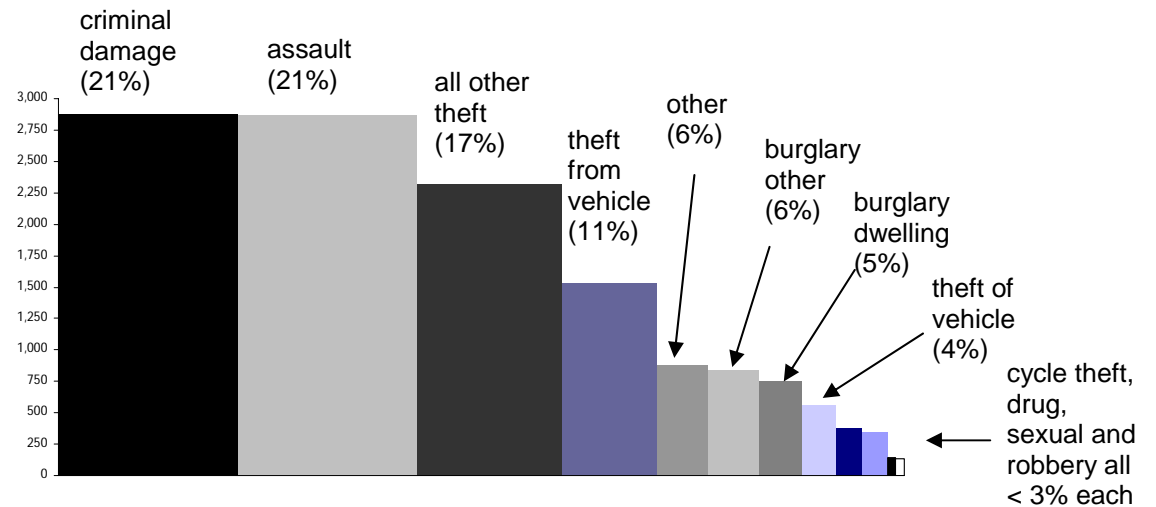
Assault covers a range of different offences from the less serious (harassment, verbal abuse) to more serious violent crime (grievous bodily harm-GBH, wounding). The number of recorded assault offences has increased dramatically since 2001/02 and makes up 21% of total crime in Charnwood.

The type of offences recorded in the category of All Other Theft is less obvious and offences under this category have remained relatively stable since 1999/00.

Further research has identified that a large number of All Other Theft offences were the theft of handbags/purses, wallets, phones etc, which had been left unattended in public places (leisure centres, pubs, shops, libraries etc). The use of appropriate situational crime prevention measures would help to reduce the opportunity for this type of crime.

The histogram below shows the number of offences recorded in Charnwood Borough (2004/05) are dominated by Criminal Damage, Assault and All Other Theft.

Graph 18: Number of recorded offences, 2004/05



Bar width is proportional to the percentage of all crime in Charnwood Borough for each crime category. Crime categories are displayed in ranked order left to right (highest proportion of all crime to lowest). Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Source: Leicestershire Constabulary, CIS

What do the charts show?

This section shows a summary of five major types of crime, plus total crime, for each ward in the Charnwood Borough. Each dot represents a comparison of the wards crime rate per thousand population to the average for Charnwood. The comparison is specific to each crime type and each year. The legend to the right shows what each dot represents.

The general rule is: more ink on the dot equals a higher crime rate in that ward compared to the average for the Borough.

Viewed horizontally, the dots show the performance of that ward for a particular crime type over the last three years. Viewed vertically, the dots show the performance of that ward for all the major crime types for that year.

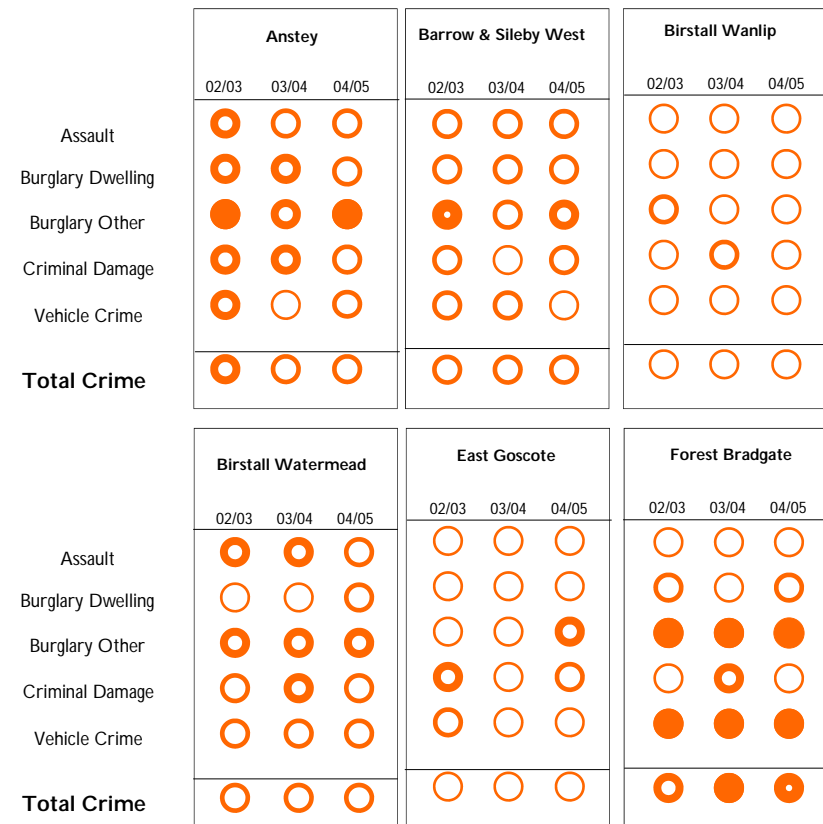
What the charts don't show?

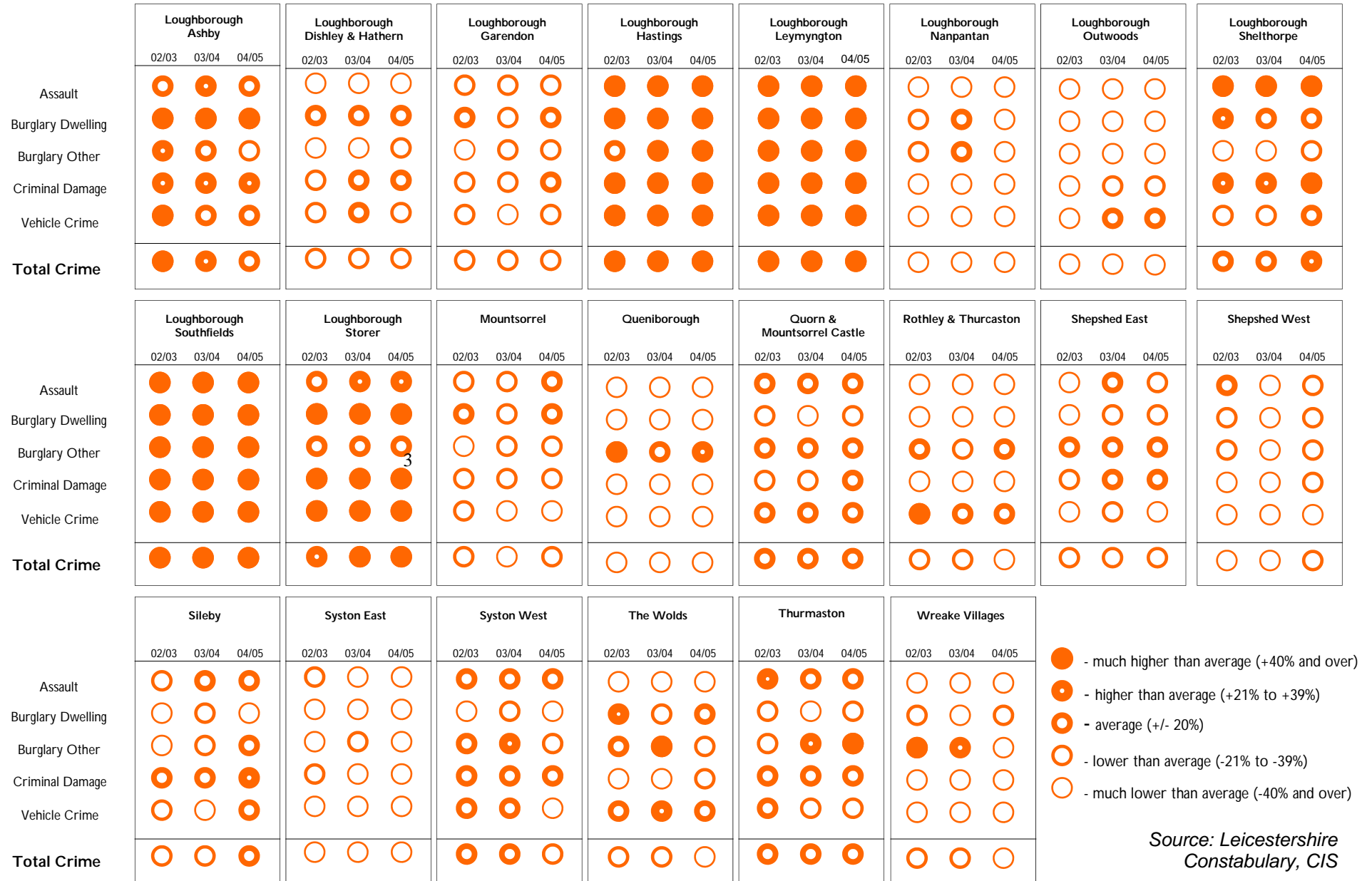
The chart does not give any indication of how crime rates in wards in Charnwood compare to other crime rates in Leicestershire, regionally or nationally. It does not necessarily show whether the number of crimes has gone up or down. It only shows the crime rates relative to other wards in Charnwood.

**Graph 19:
 Summary of crime
 by ward**

- much higher than average (+40% and over)
- higher than average (+21% to +39%)
- average (+/- 20%)
- lower than average (-21% to -39%)
- much lower than average (-40% and over)

Source: Leicestershire Constabulary, CIS





What does this tell us?

All crime types appear to have remained much higher than average over the three year period in Loughborough Southfields, Loughborough Hastings and Loughborough Lemyngton wards. These wards are relatively close to one another and close to the town centre. This may possibly be an explanation for the relatively higher crime rates in these areas.

Loughborough Storer ward has also experienced a relative increase in total crime in the last two years. This increase is largely attributable to the change from an average to a higher than average rate of assault offences in this ward over the three years. The total crime rate in Loughborough Ashby ward has decreased from much higher than average in 2001/02 to average in 2004/05, compared to the rest of Charnwood Borough.

In Loughborough Shelthorpe ward the total crime rate has increased from average in the previous two years to higher than average in 2004/05. This relative increase is attributable to the increases in the rates of Criminal Damage, Vehicle Crime and Burglary Other.

The total crime rate in Queniborough remains consistently much lower than the Borough average. However, the Burglary Other rate for this ward is higher than average in two out of the three years. Also, the Burglary Other rate in Thurmaston ward has increased from below average to much higher than the Borough average over the last three years.

Conversely, the Burglary Other rate in Wreake Villages has gone from much higher than average to much lower than the Borough average over the last three years.

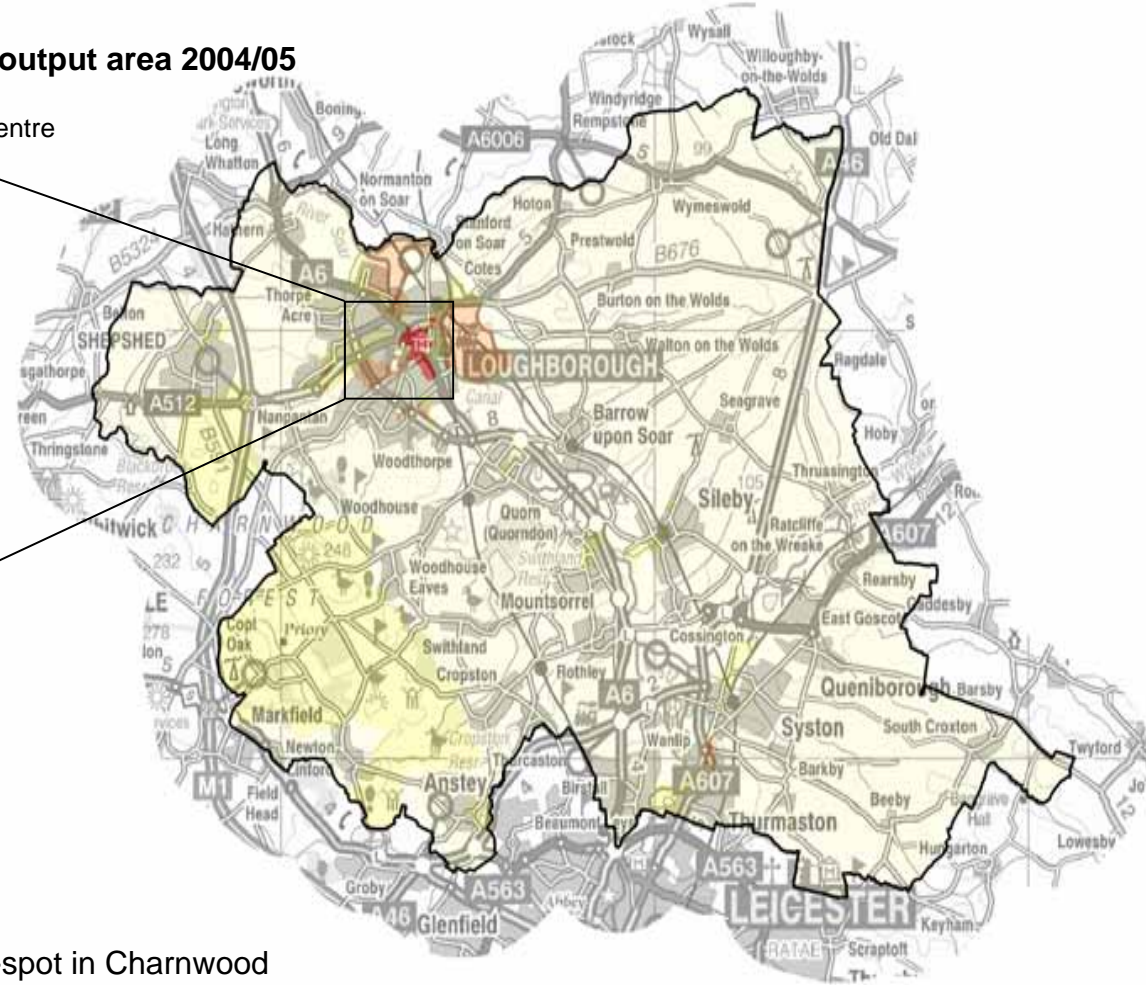
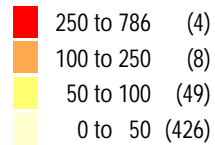
Crime hotspots in Charnwood Borough

Map 29: Total recorded offences by census output area 2004/05

Hotspot around Loughborough Town Centre



Total Recorded
 Offences 2004/05



The map to the right shows the main crime hot-spot in Charnwood Borough, located around Loughborough town centre. This area covers the Market Place down to Wards End, Carillion Court and The Rushes shopping areas and along Loughborough Road and Southfields.

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 Leicestershire County Council. LA100019271. Published 2005.

Source: Leicestershire Constabulary, CIS

Crime hotspots in Charnwood

The table below shows the recorded crime for this hot-spot area. This shows that in 2004/05 there has been a 5% increase in total recorded offences in the Borough though there has been a reduction of 3% in the main hot-spot around Loughborough town centre.

Half of the offences (49%) in the town centre hot-spot are recorded as 'All Other Theft'. This category includes theft from person and theft from shops/stalls. The proportion of other offences in the Loughborough town centre hot-spot is nearly double that of the Borough. Approximately one third of these offences were recorded as Cheque / Credit Card fraud.

The percentage of Burglary offences, Criminal Damage and Theft from Vehicle offences were lower in this hot-spot, compared to the whole of the Borough.

Table 52: Charnwood Borough crime hotspots profile by recorded offence category

	Total Crime			Criminal Damage	Assault	All Other Theft	Theft		Burglary Other	Burglary Dwelling
	03/04	04/05	Trend				from Vehicle	Other		
Charnwood Borough	13,010	13,629	▲ 5%	21%	21%	17%	11%	6%	6%	5%
Loughborough town centre hot-spot	1,990	1,932	▼ -3%	8%	20%	49%	5%	10%	2%	1%

Source: Leicestershire Constabulary, CIS