

OFFCUT 2

Crime and disorder reduction partnerships in England and Wales acknowledge alcohol's role in crime and disorder but most have yet to commit to tackling these issues. ¹ Home Office researchers analysed the partnerships' audits of crime and disorder in their areas in 2001/02 and their strategies for the following three years. Almost all the audits mentioned alcohol, with about half or more linking it to disorder or anti-social behaviour, the night-time economy, or violence. However, only a around a fifth of partnerships which identified a link to violence or disorder (and virtually none which mentioned the night-time economy) prioritised alcohol in their plans and few set explicit targets. When it was among the priorities, alcohol was often subsumed under a 'drug and alcohol' or 'substance misuse' priority with illegal drugs the prime focus.

¹ Richardson A. et al. *Alcohol audits, strategies and initiatives: lessons from crime and disorder reduction partnerships*. Download from www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds.