

# The Winchester City Saturation Policy

# Introduction

- Alcohol the 'NEW BRITISH DISEASE'
- During the last Government Tony Blair stated that "At a time when overall crime is falling, alcohol related violent crime is actually rising. As a society we have to make sure that this form of what we often call binge drinking, doesn't become a British disease."
- Since the Coalition Government have come to power they have made it a priority to find ways of tackling alcohol related crime and disorder.
- The scale of the UK's alcohol problem can, at times, be overwhelming. The NHS spends £2.7bn each year to tackle alcohol-related problems. In 2008/09 there were nearly 1,000,000 alcohol-related hospital admissions. Nearly half of all violent assaults are thought to be alcohol-related. (Alcohol Concern data.)

# Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England

- Alcohol misuse by a small minority is causing two major & largely distinct problems, crime and antisocial behaviour in towns and cities and harm to health
- The annual cost of alcohol misuse includes 1.2 million violent incidents, 360,000 domestic assaults and an increase in ASB and fear of crime
- 61% of the population perceive alcohol related violence is increasing.

# Winchesters Community Safety Partnership Plan 2010

## ■ **UPDATED - OCTOBER 2010**

Within the current Community Safety Partnership Plan there are three priority themes that the Partnership has agreed to deliver upon over the last two quarters of the financial year. See below the current list of priority themes for year 3 of the Partnership Plan:

- Violence with Injury focusing on the night time economy and domestic violence
- Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) with a focus on rowdy and nuisance behaviour
- Reduce adult re-offending and young people as first time entrants into the Youth Justice System

# Cost analysis of the outcome of an alcohol-related violent assault

Victim Activity	Cost	Assailant Activity	Cost
Ambulance summoned and patient conveyed to hospital for treatment	£300	Arrested by two police officers and taken to police station, detained in custody suite and processed	£400
Received in A&E and examined by specialist-detained overnight for observations	£1,000	The assailant is detained in cells overnight because he is drunk. Bailed the following morning	£500
Transferred to specialist unit for facial reconstructive surgery	£10,000	Formal interview	£150
Two days' recovery in hospital	£1,500	Arresting officers collect statements from four witnesses and prepare and submit report, considered by CPD	£1,100
Two sessions of dental treatment	£300	Serious nature of incident requires court hearing including one pre-trial review and adjourned hearings	£900
Six weeks sickness absence from work	£2,400	Trial in magistrates court with guilty plea	£500
Two visits as out-patient to assess treatment	£500	Report prepared by Probation Service	£150
		Sentencing hearing	£500
		Administration and supervision of order for 50 hours community service	£750
<b>Total</b>	<b>£16,000</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,950</b>

# The links between alcohol and crime.

From the Governments Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy document,

- 40% of violent crime  
78% of assaults  
88% of criminal damage  
are committed while under the influence of alcohol  
AND
- 70% of local crime audits identified alcohol as an issue of public concern, plus 60% related public order problems to alcohol.

# Winchester's Drunkenness, Public Order, Rowdy & Inconsiderate, damage and violence stats for 04/10/09 – 04/10/10

## Hampshire Police Business objects data shows;-

- All such incidents YTD 4453
- All Assaults 1086
- All damage incidents 1282
- All drunkenness incidents 222
- All Public Order 332
- All Rowdy & Inconsiderate 1527
- Using previous slide % about 3000 of all these are likely to be committed whilst under influence of alcohol.

# How Do we Compare

- Winchester is the most violent town / city centre in Central Hampshire District. Figures from Hampshire Police Business objects for the period 04/10/09 – 04/10/10 show the following statistics for violent crimes that are Actual Bodily Harm and above:

## **Winchester :**

Romsey Road – 23

Jewry Street - 26

High Street – 37 Giving a total of 86

## **Fareham:**

West Street - 39

Vannes Parade – 20 Giving a total of 59

Gosport:

High street – 35

Forton Road – 32



# Another Perturbing Fact

When measuring Rowdy and Nuisance Calls Winchester City is the Second worst in the OCU. West Street in Fareham which is approximately 4 times the length of High Street Winchester recorded 178 such calls from 04/10/09 – 04/10/10 (Police Business objects data.) High Street Winchester recorded 112 such calls. In theory if the High Street was as long as West Street that would increase to 448 calls!

# What Are We Seeking

An extension to the current Saturation Policy that covers part of Winchester City Centre to cover the Police Beat area of WC01 (City Centre), but only to the railway line as shown in the maps to follow

# WHY?

- Violence linked to NTE is very apparent and is increasing
- The current targeting of policing resources into Operation Denver ( the Force Violence Campaign) may not be sustainable in the long term.
- The current financial climate requires agencies to have much more pro-active approach to preventing crime and disorder.
- WC sector recorded more violence than any other sector on 1 OCU at 15.79% (for the comparable period last year.)
- WC sector records one of highest incidents of DV in OCU. Alcohol is a factor in large number of incidents
- Economics may force more premises to look towards alcohol sales to make a living and as buildings become vacant licensing applications may increase.

# So, What Is a Saturation Policy

Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 issued by the Department of Culture Media and Sport in 2005 makes it possible for licensing authorities to consider introducing special policies, known as “saturation policies”, in certain areas. Saturation policies can be introduced in areas where the combined impact or “cumulative” effect of licensed premises in the area on the four licensing objectives, is sufficient for the authority to decide that the growth of premises of a similar nature in that area needs to be controlled.

The guidance states that where the authority has evidence to show that a special policy is necessary, it can, following consultation in that local area, introduce a policy that no further licenses will be granted to similar premises unless the applicant can show that the licensing of his premises will not add to the problems that have already been identified.

# Key to Maps

Legend Sep 09-Aug 10

Serious Assault (GBH)

 Point

Assault

 Point

Public Order

 Point

Rowdy

 Point

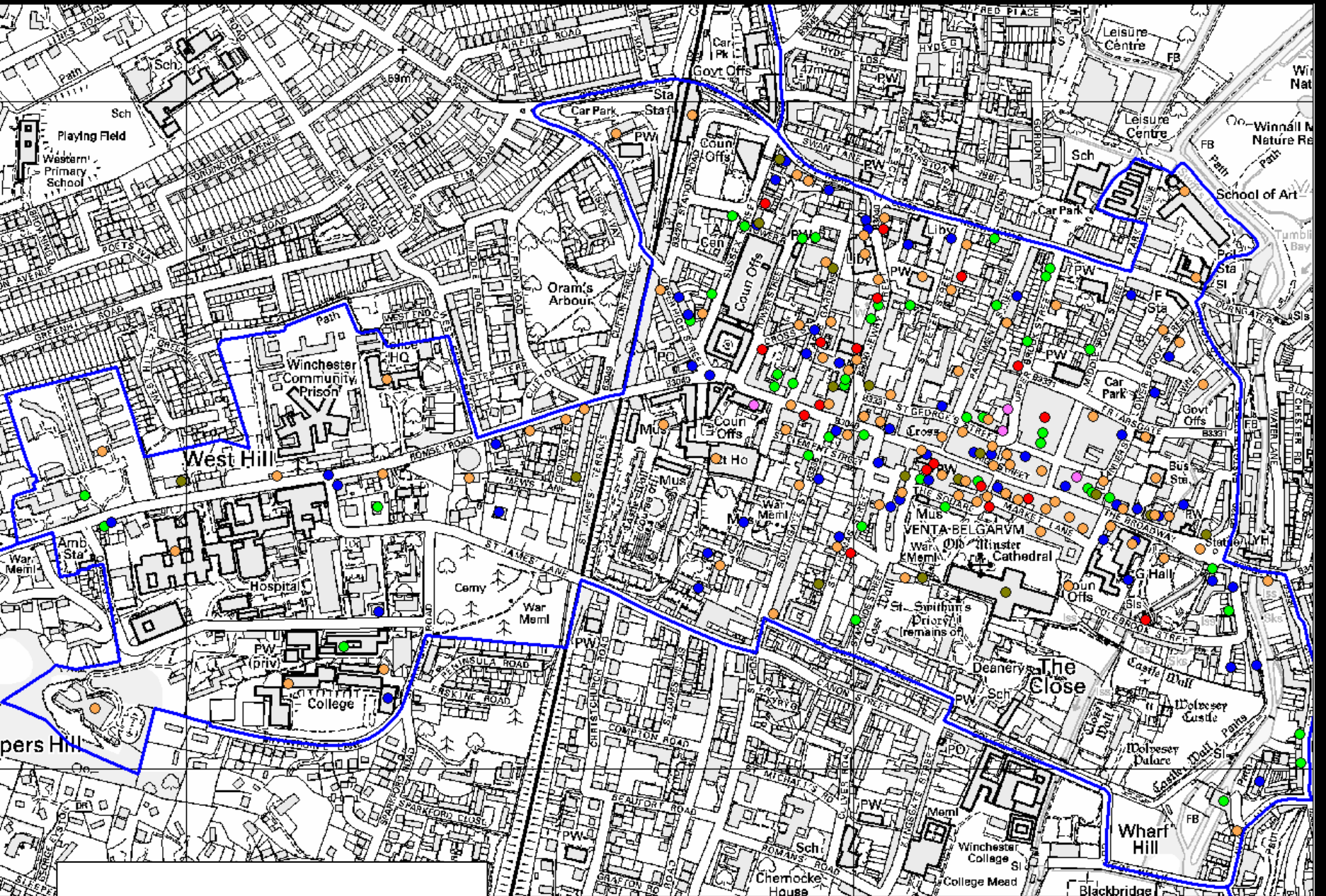
Drunkenness

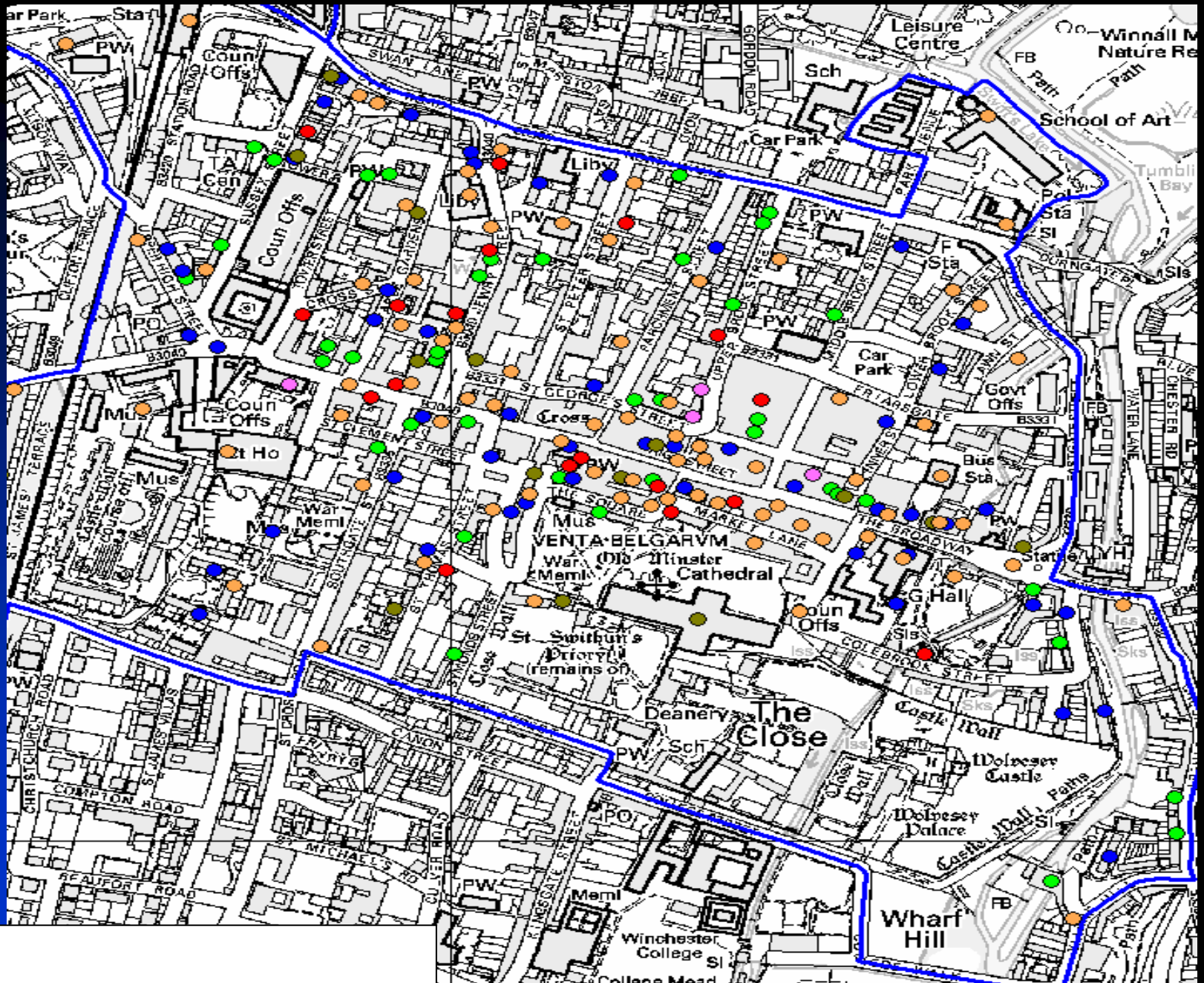
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Damage

 Point

Beat Area WC01 City Centre

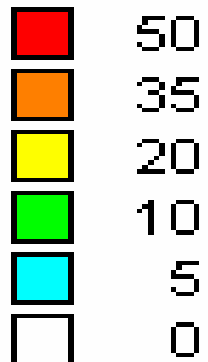




# Licensed Premises and Late Night Fast Food outlets

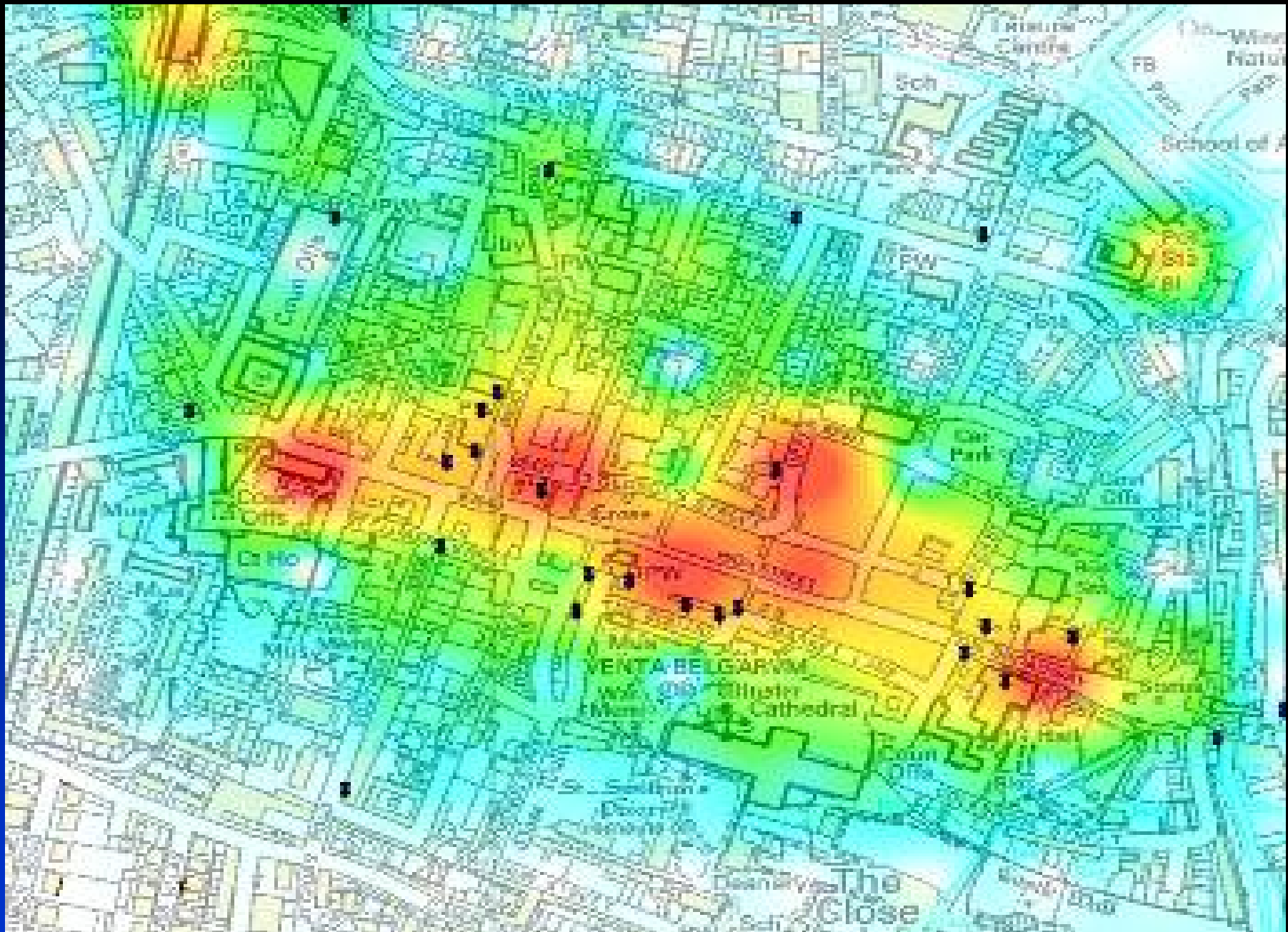
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Grid1 by CountOfgary\_all\_offences









# The Message

- Clear & unambiguous
- A responsible attitude towards restricting further licensed premises that will further fuel alcohol related crime.
- Supporting the Community Safety Strategy
- Making Winchester City a safer environment for its residents and visitors.