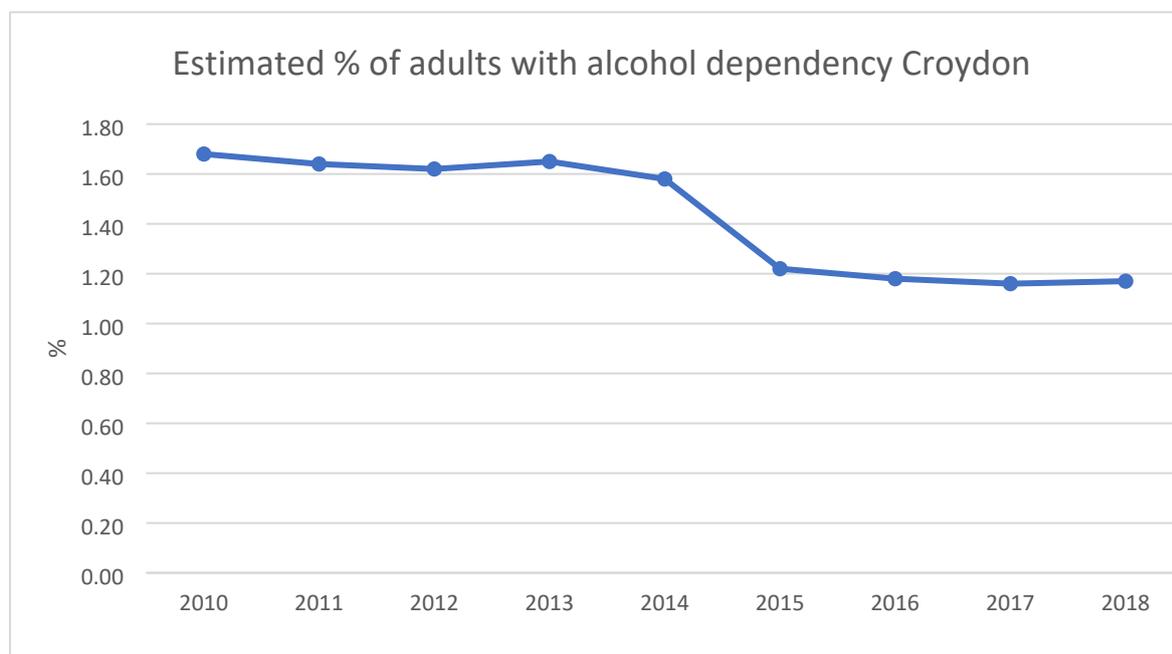


Alcohol use

Between 2,718 and 4,485 adults in Croydon were estimated to be alcohol-dependent in 2018-19, between 0.9% and 1.5% of the adult population¹

When looking at trend data, the estimated percentage of adults with alcohol dependency appears to have decreased in recent years.



21% of adults in Croydon abstain from alcohol. 8.6% binge drink on their heaviest drinking day and 15.8% drink more than 14 units of alcohol a week as estimated by the Health Survey for England (2015-18).²

Between 2.4%-4.6% of 15-year-olds in Croydon were regular drinkers, as estimated by The What About Youth survey in 2015.³

Off licenses

As at June 2022, there are 473 premises in Croydon licensed to sell alcohol to drink off the premises (off-licenses). This is equal to a rate of 1.95 off-license premises for every 1,000 people estimated to be living in Croydon and 2.6 per 1,000 of the adult 18+ population.⁴

In 2014, a total of 1,398,180 litres of alcohol were through the off trade, this is equivalent to 4.9 litres per adult (aged 18+).²

¹ Public Health England. 2018-19 Estimates of alcohol dependent adults, based on 2014 Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alcohol-dependence-prevalence-in-england>

² OHID, Local Alcohol Profiles for England. <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/local-alcohol-profiles>

³ OHID, Child and Maternal Health. <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles>

⁴ ONS. 2020 mid-year population estimates. Off-licence numbers taken from local council licensing team. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/bulletins/annualmidyearpopulationestimates/mid2019estimates>

PHE analysis of alcohol sales data (sales in the on and off trade) has shown a positive association at local authority level between off-trade sales and alcohol-specific hospital admissions. No association was found for on-trade sales.

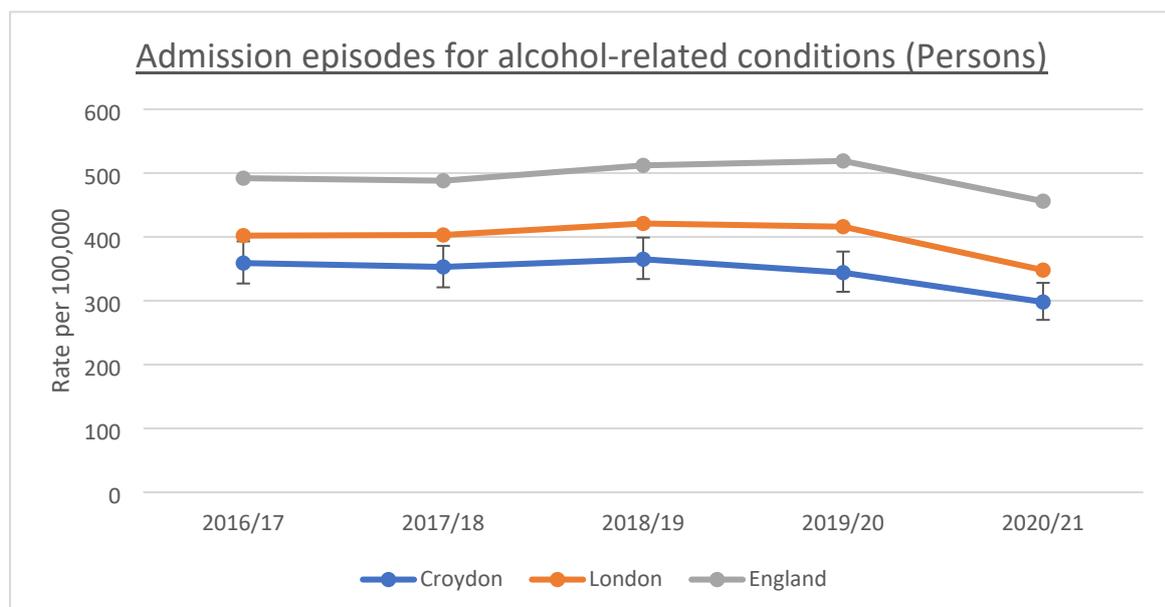
Alcohol-related Road traffic accidents²

26 road traffic accidents in Croydon in 2014-16 were alcohol related. This is a rate of 9.4 per 1,000 road accidents. This is a similar rate to London (10.7) and lower rate than England (26.4).

Hospital admissions²

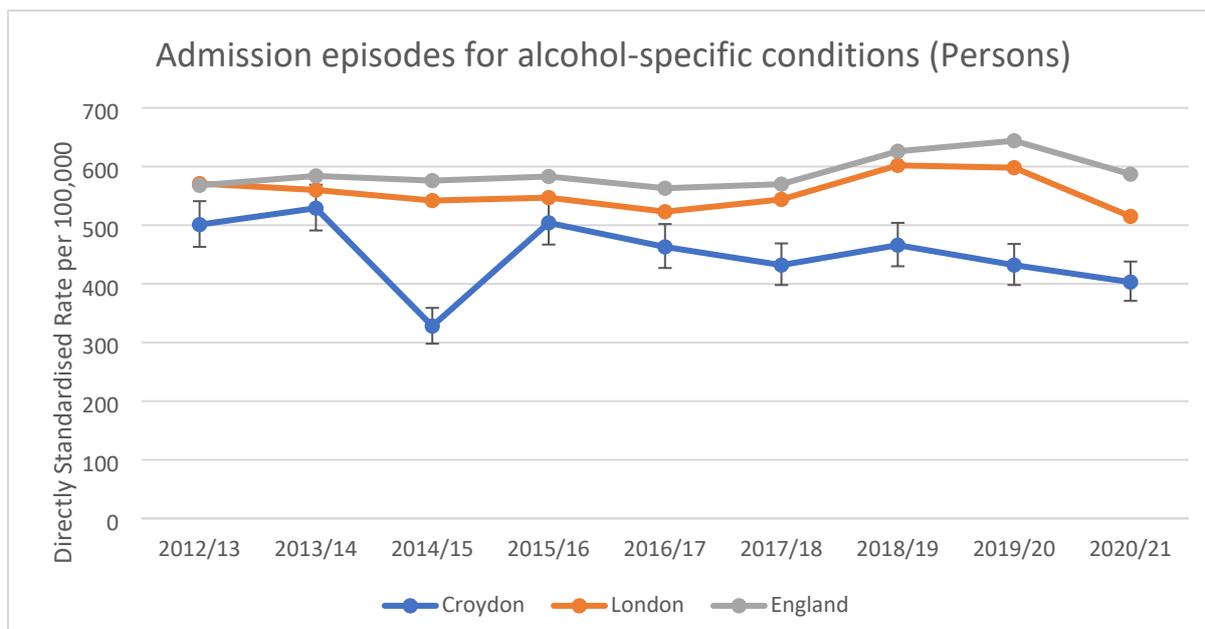
In 2020/21 there were 1,051 admissions to hospital for alcohol-related conditions (narrow definition). This is a rate of 298 per 100,000 population, lower than the rates seen across England (456) and London (348). 22% of these admissions were in people under 40 years of age, 53% in people aged 40-64 years and 25% in people aged 65 or above. In all age groups the rate of hospital admissions for alcohol related conditions is higher in males than females.

When looking at trend data admissions for alcohol related conditions in Croydon have been significantly decreasing and getting better in recent years.



A further 1,440 admissions occurred in the same year for alcohol-specific conditions. This is a rate of 403 per 100,000 population, again lower than the rates seen across England (587) and London (515).

When looking at trend data, admissions for alcohol-specific conditions in Croydon have been significantly decreasing and getting better in recent years.



Mortality²

Latest data (2020) shows that Croydon had an alcohol-specific mortality rate of 10.6 and an alcohol-related mortality rate of 31.3. Rates are directly standardised per 100,000 population. Croydon alcohol-specific mortality rates were similar to both England (13.0) and London (9.9). Alcohol-related mortality rates in Croydon were similar to both England (37.8) and London (32.2). Alcohol-related mortality rates in Croydon were higher in males (46.9) than females (17.9) which were also similar to England and London.

When looking at trend data for alcohol specific mortality and alcohol related mortality in Croydon there is no significant change over the recent years.

Crime

Data⁵ shows that there is a strong relationship between alcohol and a range of crimes including violence. Alcohol-related crime is measured by the Metropolitan Police Service as notifiable crimes which have at least one of the following flags:

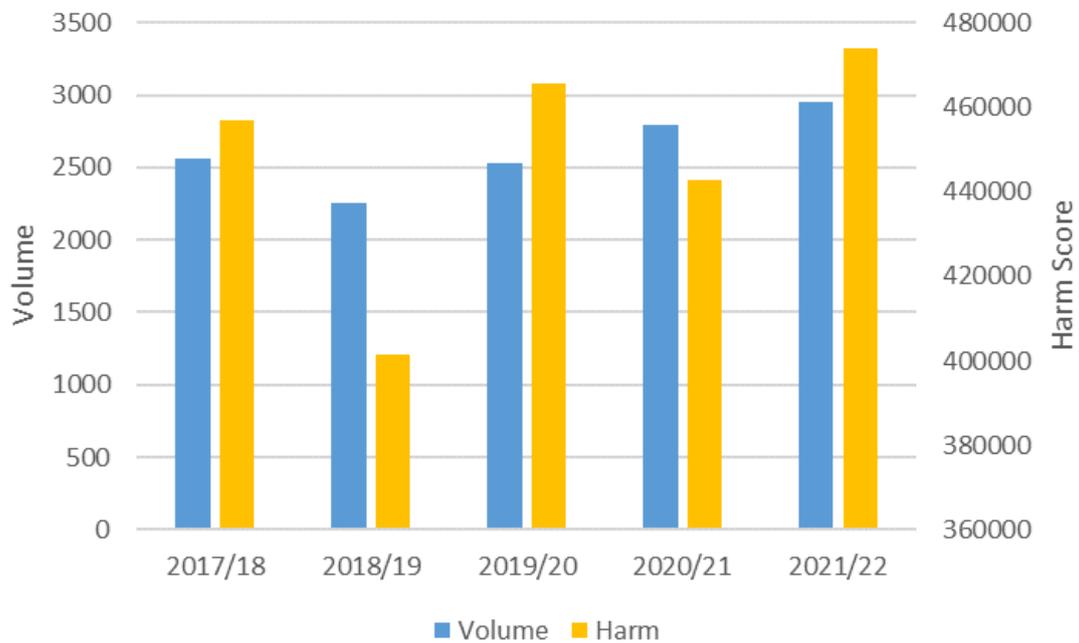
- Alcohol consumed at scene by suspect/accused.
- Suspect/accused had been drinking prior to committing offence.
- Victim had been drinking prior to the offence.

Also, there are specific alcohol-related crimes which are also included in the data (e.g., causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs) and they are the only ones which are notifiable to the Home Office. As there is an issue of reliability of the above flags being recorded consistently, 'wildcards' are also used to identify crimes where alcohol featured e.g., searching for words including 'drunk', 'drinking alcohol' etc in the crime report. However, it must be emphasised that the following statistics on alcohol-related crime in the borough should be treated as the minimal number of crimes where alcohol featured.

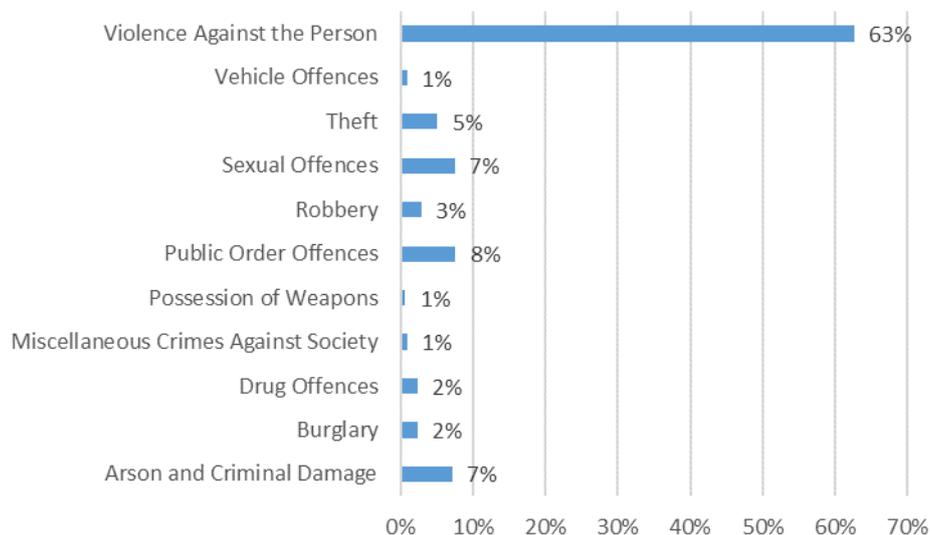
⁵Crime Survey for England and Wales, nature of crime tables (violence)

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/natureofcrimetablesviolence>

The following graph shows the volume and harm⁶ of alcohol-related crime in the borough in the last five years. As shown there has been an overall increase in volume over the last five years and 2021/22 was the highest for alcohol-related crime. In regards to harm, even though this has fluctuated over the same period, 2021/22 was also the highest in five years.

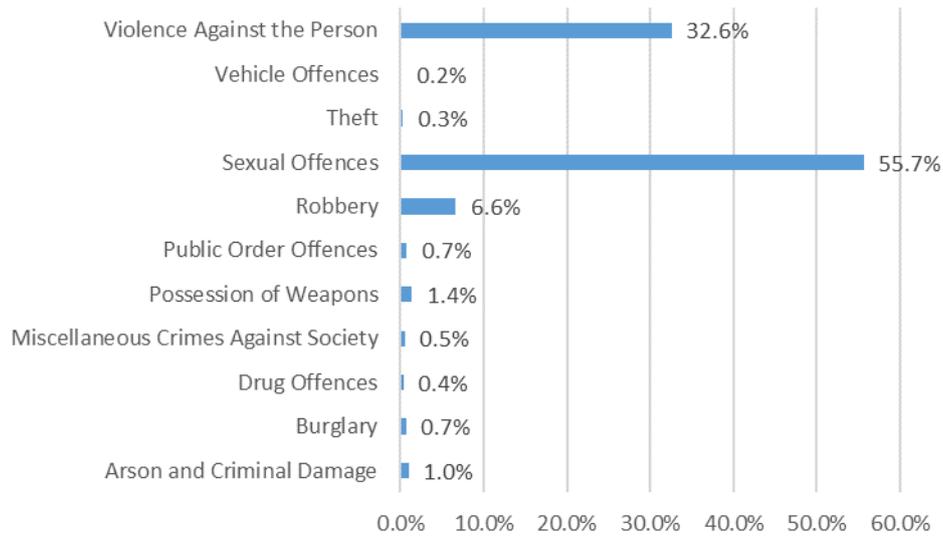


The following chart shows that over 60% of alcohol-related crime volume committed in the borough in 2021/22 was violence against the person. This is followed by 8% being public order offences.

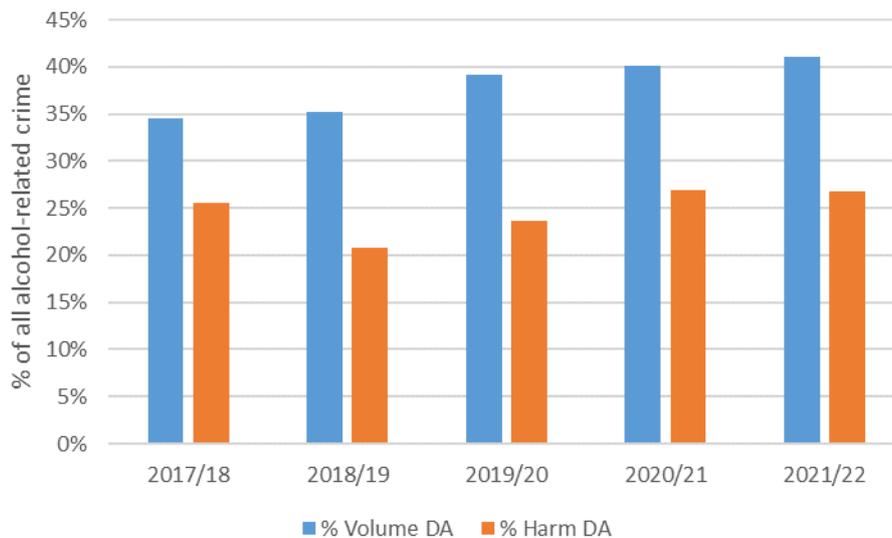


By looking at alcohol-related crime harm in the borough in 2021/22, over half of all harm committed were sexual offences and around a third was violence.

⁶ Crime Harm is measured using the Cambridge Crime Harm Index <https://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/research/thecambridgecrimeharmindex>



Alcohol-related crime is closely linked to domestic violence which has also seen higher levels of reported offences in Croydon. The following chart shows that the proportion of all alcohol-related crime volume which is flagged as domestic has been increasing year-on-year with over 40% of all crimes being domestic in 2021/22. In contrast, the proportion of all alcohol-related crime harm which was flagged as domestic as relatively stable over the last five years with it representing 27% in 2021/22.

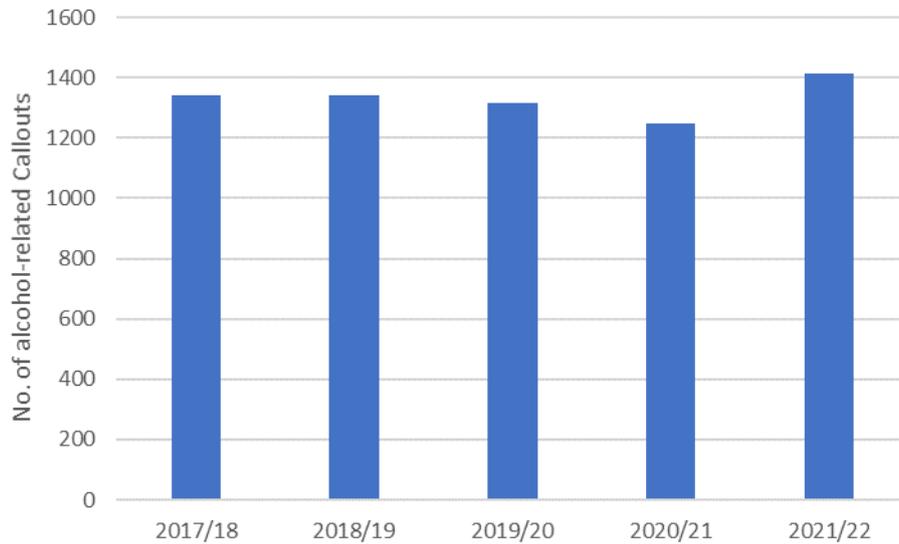


In 2020/21, the Metropolitan Police Service recorded 34,068 crimes within Croydon, of which 11,645 were violence against the person (34.2% of all recorded crimes)⁷. The CSEW shows that, in 2017/18, 42% of the victims of violent incidents believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol. In Croydon this would result in a total of 4,891 offences of violence against the person were alcohol-related.

⁷Crime Statistics in Croydon in 2021/22 published by the Metropolitan Police Service https://public.tableau.com/shared/RMW9PB8ZH?:display_count=y&:origin=viz_share_link&:embed=y

London Ambulance Service – Alcohol-related Callouts⁸

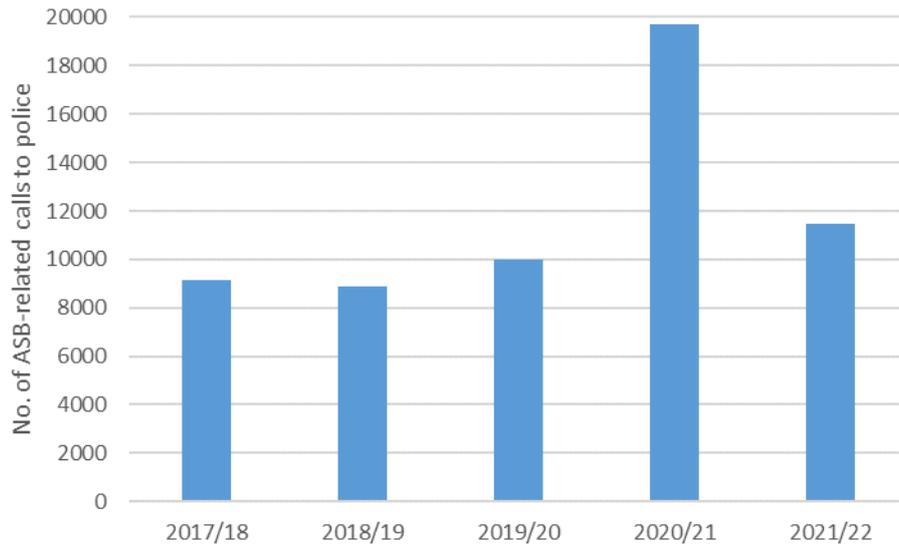
In 2021/22 there were 1,415 alcohol-related callouts to the London Ambulance Service – the highest in the last five years. Also, 2021/22 saw the only year-on-year increase over the same period with callouts rising to 13%. This large increase can be partly attributed to Covid-19 and the consequential government restrictions where many businesses were closed for substantial periods of time. Therefore, by comparing 2021/22 to 2019/20, there was still an 8% increase in callouts.



Anti-social Behaviour⁸

Another reliable indicator of identifying the level of alcohol-related nuisance or disorder is by looking at anti-social behaviour in the borough. In 2021/22 there were 10,087 calls of anti-social behaviour (ASB) made to the police in Croydon. This is a 42% decrease compared to the year before. However, it must be noted that incidents linked to Covid-19 restrictions are recorded as ASB (e.g. lack of social distancing, no mask wearing etc.) therefore this was the main contributor for the large number of calls in 2020/21 as shown in the following chart.

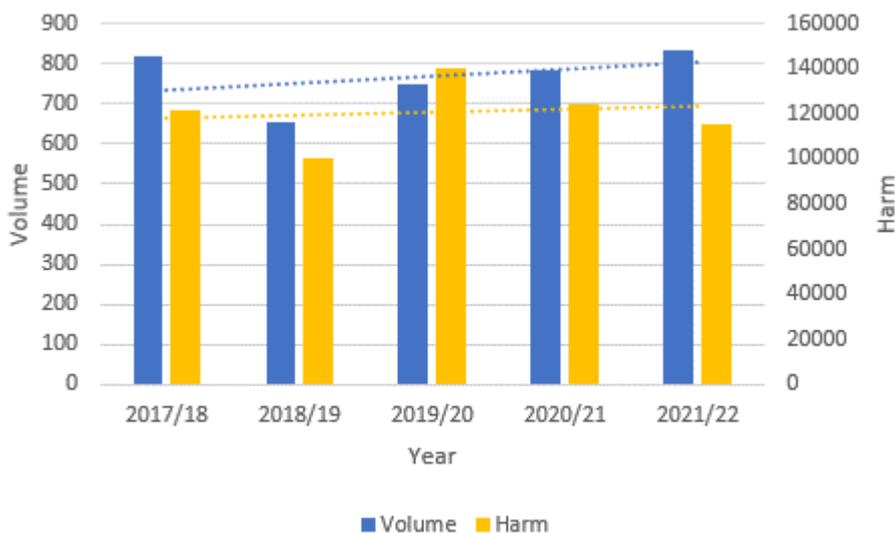
⁸ London Ambulance Service incidents and Dispatches figures from Greater London Authority SafeStats tool, <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/research-and-analysis/safestats?source=vanityurl>. The same tool used to identify antisocial behaviour incidents from London Ambulance Service, British Transport Police, London Fire Brigade, Metropolitan Police Service and Transport for London. SafeStats contains non-official data for the purposes of operational and strategic insight and is accurate only at the point in time that it is received by SafeStats therefore there are caveats regarding the accuracy of this data.



Even though Covid-19 related calls partly contribute to the number of calls in 2021/22, there were much less restrictions in place compared to the year before. Therefore, a fairer comparison is comparing 2021/22 to 2019/20, where there was a 15% increase in incidents.

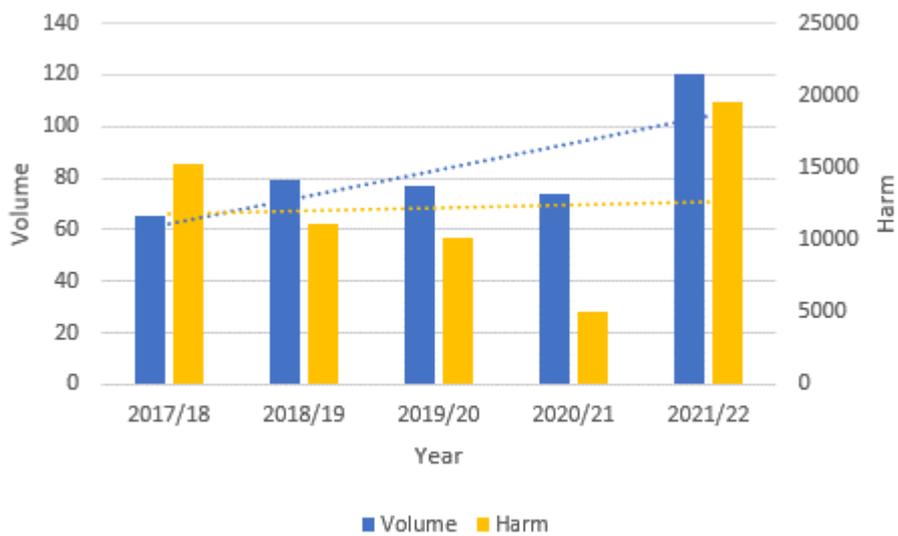
The current CIA's together have seen the highest volume of alcohol-related offences in 2021/22 in the last five years. This is measured by identifying the number of offences in a 150m area of the CIA's. The volume of offences has risen for the third consecutive year. By comparing 2021/22 to the year before there has been a 6% increase in the number of offences. By comparing 2021/22 to 2019/20 (pre-covid year) there has been an 11% increase.

By looking at harm in the current CIA's, it has fallen for the second consecutive year and it is at its second lowest in 2021/22 in the last five years. In 2021/22, alcohol-related harm dropped by 7% compared to the year and compared to 2019/20 (pre-covid year) it has dropped by a fifth (20%).

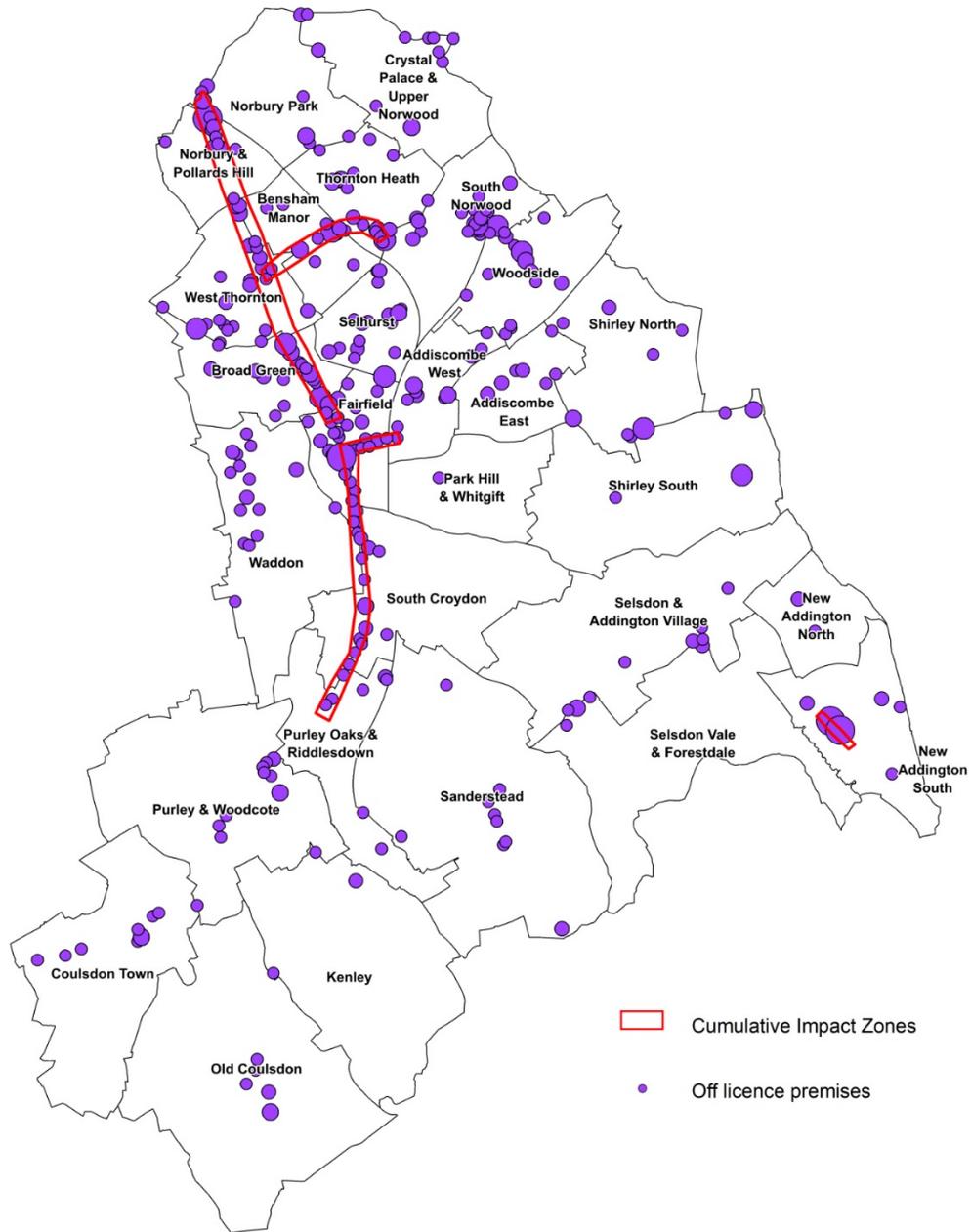


In respect of the proposed new South Norwood CIA, both alcohol-related volume and harm have been at their highest in this area in 2021/22 over the five year period. By comparing

2021/22 to the year before, volume has gone up 62% and harm has gone up 294%. By comparing 2021/22 to 2019/20 (pre-covid year), volume has increased 56% and harm has increased 94%. This data appears to support the proposal to introduce a CIA in this area.

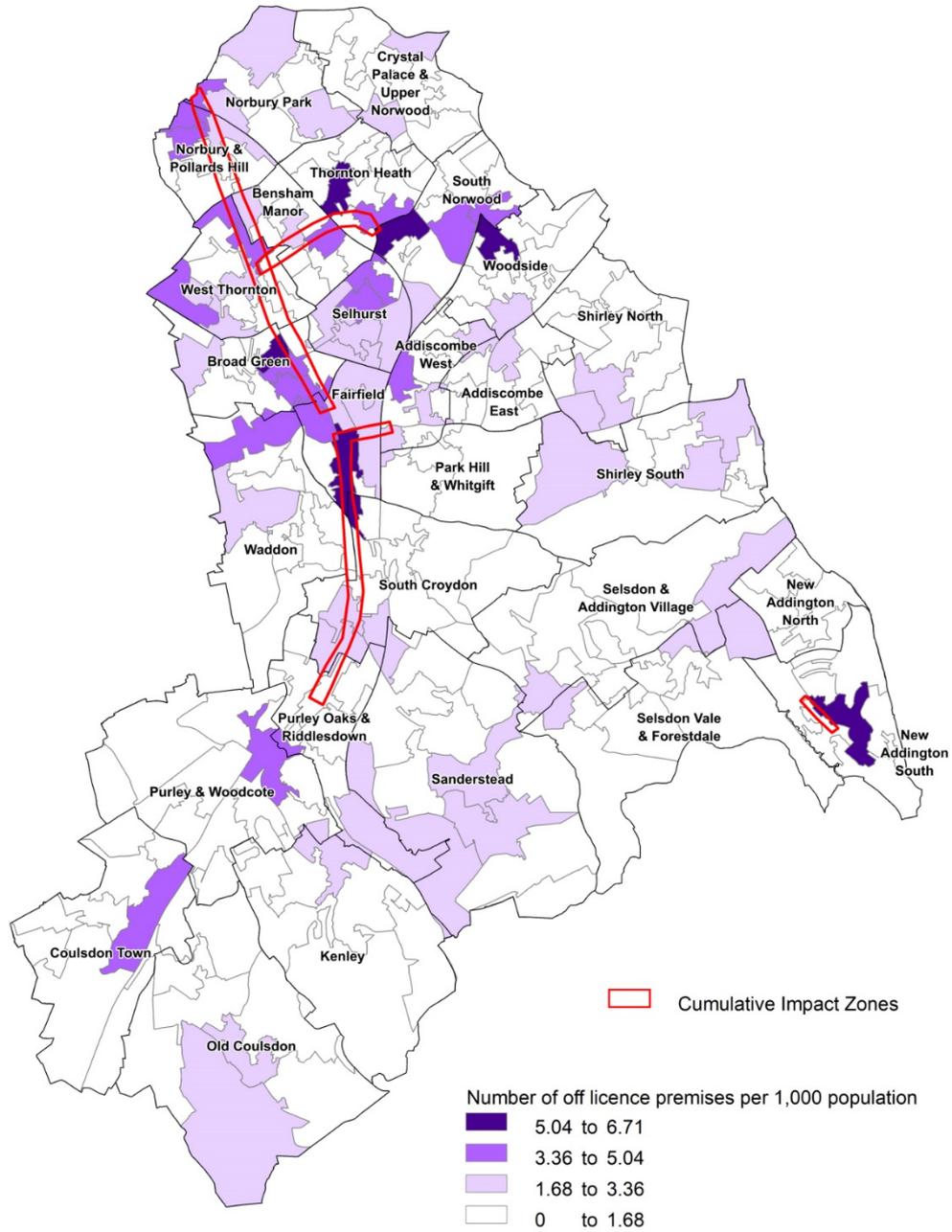


Off Licence Premises in Croydon



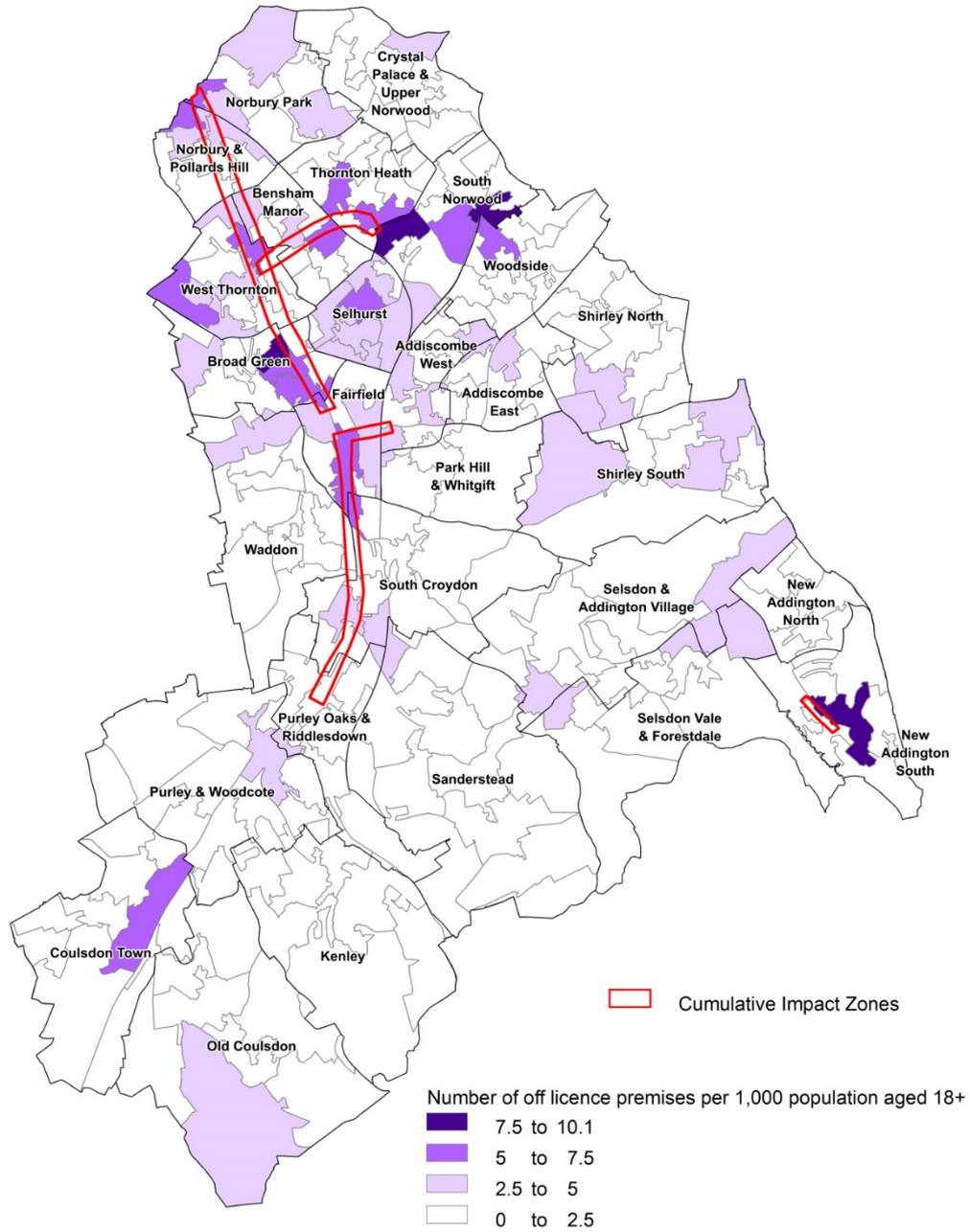
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Off Licence Premises in Croydon: rate of premises per 1,000 population



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Off Licence Premises in Croydon: rate of premises per 1,000 population aged 18+



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