

# Sexual Violence

LCPF Co-Commissioning Workshop

July 2017



**MAYOR OF LONDON**

OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

# LCPF Co-commissioning – data pack

These data packs are not intended to provide a comprehensive download of all the data available on the priority area.

They are provided to aid initial thinking on the development of EOIs and to potentially help boroughs and agencies to seek collaborative partnerships.

You are advised not to rely on these as a sole source of data for your EOIs and especially if they get through the proposal stage.

The onus is on partners to demonstrate the need and the problem which you are trying to address.

It should also be noted that often a lot of this data is not held by MOPAC but by other agencies.

## **Useful Links (Sexual Violence)**

Rape Crisis: <https://rapecrisis.org.uk/statistics.php>

MOPAC Domestic abuse and sexual violence dashboard: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-research/crime%20/domestic-and-sexual>

MPS Crime dashboard: <https://www.met.police.uk/stats-and-data/crime-data-dashboard/>

Office for National Statistics:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/compendium/focusonviolentcrimeandsexualoffences/yearendingmarch2016/overviewofviolentcrimeandsexualoffences>

London Sexual Violence Needs Assessment 2016:

[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sexual\\_violence\\_needs\\_assessment\\_report\\_2016.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sexual_violence_needs_assessment_report_2016.pdf)

# Definition Of Sexual Violence

The World Health Organisation provides a broad definition of Sexual Violence as:

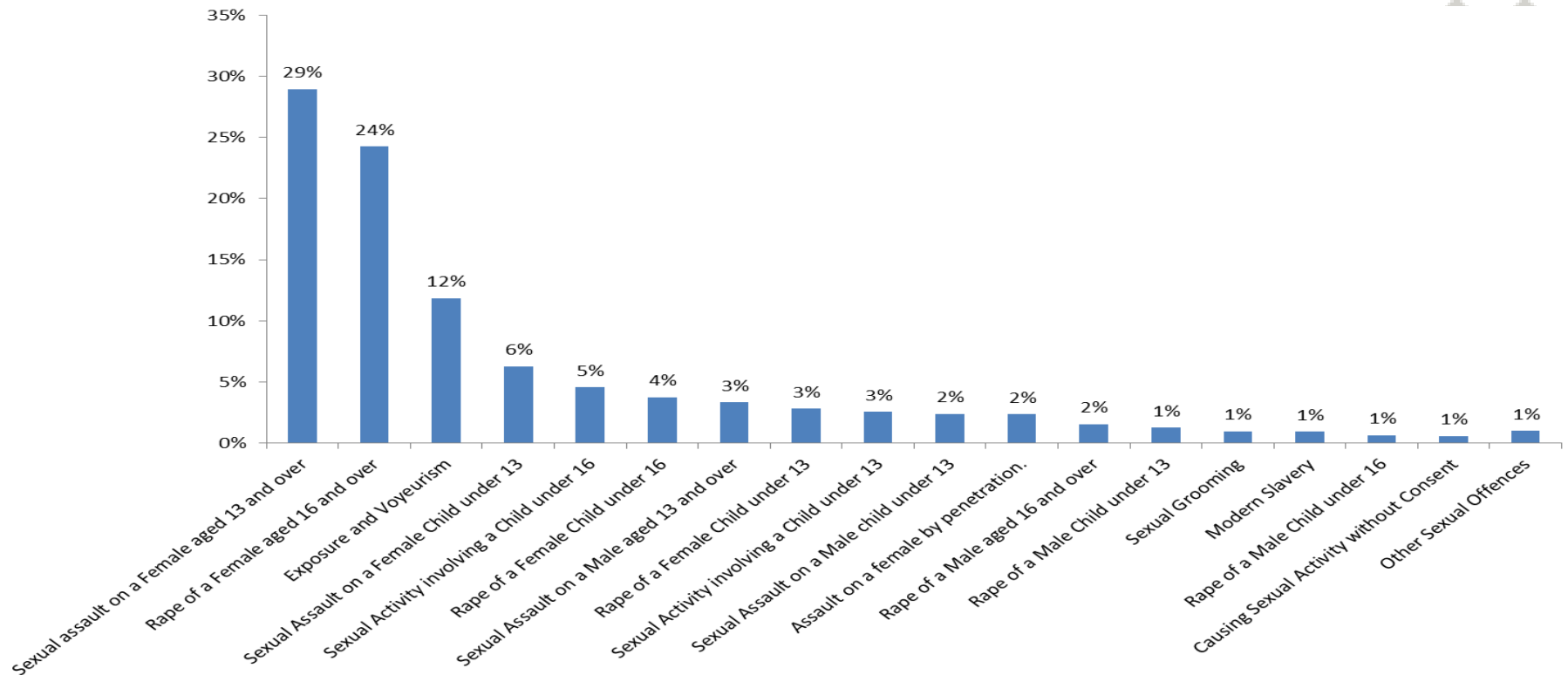
***“Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work”***

The definition of “coercion” is wide: apart from physical force, it may involve psychological intimidation, blackmail or other threats including the threat of physical harm, of being dismissed from a job or of not obtaining a job that is sought. It may also occur when the person is unable to give consent while drunk, drugged, asleep or mentally incapable of understanding the situation.

# Prevalence of Sexual Violence

- London accounts for 15% of all recorded sexual offences across England and Wales
- 75-95% of victims of sexual assault and harassment never report incidents to the police
- However the number of recorded sexual offences has increased in recent years. This increase follows the Savile scandal and the so called “Yewtree effect” reported by ONS.
- Non-current sexual offences as recorded by the MPS increased by 121% in the 3 years to 2016 with recorded historic rape offences increasing by 111%.
- However it was found that victims did not report sexual violence because they felt it did not seem serious enough and they would not be taken seriously, while not knowing who to report to.
- 9 in 10 offenders proceeded against for sexual offences in the year were charged with the Offence.
- CPS data for sexual offences shows that in 2015/16 there were 1,920 prosecutions for sex offences in London. Convictions occurred in 73% of these – this is compared to the national rate of 78%
- In the year to June 2014, the time of offence to completion was 269 days at Magistrates Courts and 602 days at Crown Courts for rape offences.

# Profile of Sexual Offences for FY 2016/17 in London



## Victims

- Largest single category of sexual assault was on females age 13 and over
- Child victims of sexual offences accounted for 27% of all reported sexual offences in 2016/17

## Offenders

- People of black ethnicity are over-represented in reports to the police of sexual violence, whilst people from the Asian population are under represented.

(Total Offences by ethnicity compared to population 2014-15)

# Prevalence of Sexual Assault for Adults (2012–2015)

## Prevalence of sexual assault in the last year in London, by category, year ending March 2013 to year ending March 2015 CSEW

CSEW asks people aged 16 and over living in households in England and Wales about their experiences of crime in the last 12 months.

- Young women were more likely to be victims of any sexual abuse, as a consequence 1 in 5 of women in England and Wales had experienced sexual assault since the age of 16
- A majority of female victims of serious sexual assault experience at least one incident of serious sexual assault by a partner/ex-partner since age 16
- For less serious sexual assault around a quarter of victims had experienced at least one incident where a partner/ex-partner was the offender
- Respondents who had experienced serious sexual assault since they were 16 reported that offenders were most likely to be men
- A majority of the victims also reported that the offender was a male aged between 20 and 39
- Of those who had experienced a serious sexual assault since the age of 16, the majority took place in the victim's home or the offender's home
- A fifth of victims were asleep or unconscious in the most recent serious sexual assault that they had experienced

# The Profile of Violence against Women & Girls

CSEW: Percentage of women aged 16 to 59 who were victims of intimate violence, in the last year by age and type of abuse, 2013/14

England and Wales	Adults aged 16 to 59		
	Domestic abuse	Any sexual abuse	Stalking
	<i>% victims once or more</i>		
16-19	13.1	6.7	7.5
20-24	10.1	4.1	7.8
25-34	9.2	2.0	4.0
35-44	7.9	1.4	4.5
45-54	7.1	1.3	2.9
55-59	5.9	1.1	2.7

## Reporting levels

- Females aged 10-19 had highest levels of reporting (4,000 females)
- Almost a third of females who reported sexual offence were aged between 10-29 years

## Demographics

- Almost 2 in 5 Asian victims of sexual offences were aged between 18 and 31 years.
- While 2 in 5 Black victims were aged between 12 and 19 years
- Although white victims of abuse showed a wider range of ages, women and girls between 13 and 26 years represented the highest proportion (1 in 2 female victims)

# Violence against Men & Boys

The table of CSEW of men aged 16 to 59 who were victims of sexual violence in the last year by age and type of abuse, 2013/14:

England and Wales	Adults aged 16 to 59		
	Domestic abuse	Any sexual abuse	Stalking
	<i>% victims once or more</i>		
16-19	7.5	1.3	2.5
20-24	6.5	1.6	3.7
25-34	4.5	1.0	2.5
35-44	4.5	0.3	2.3
45-54	3.5	0.3	2.4
55-59	2.4	0.3	1.5

- The most common age group for male victims of sexual violence offences is under 18 accounting for more than a third of victims
- Just under 1 in 5 were aged between 11-17 years and approximately 1 in 7 aged 10 and under
- Overall, just under a half of males who reported a sexual offence were between ages 10 and 29
- Male victims account for 12.7% of the total recorded sexual offences in London
- There are on average 0.5 male victims per 1,000 males in London. There are eight boroughs above this average.



# Victim/offender relationship

CSEW: Victim/offender relationship for sexual assault or stalking experienced for men age 16 to 59, 2013/14 (percentage)

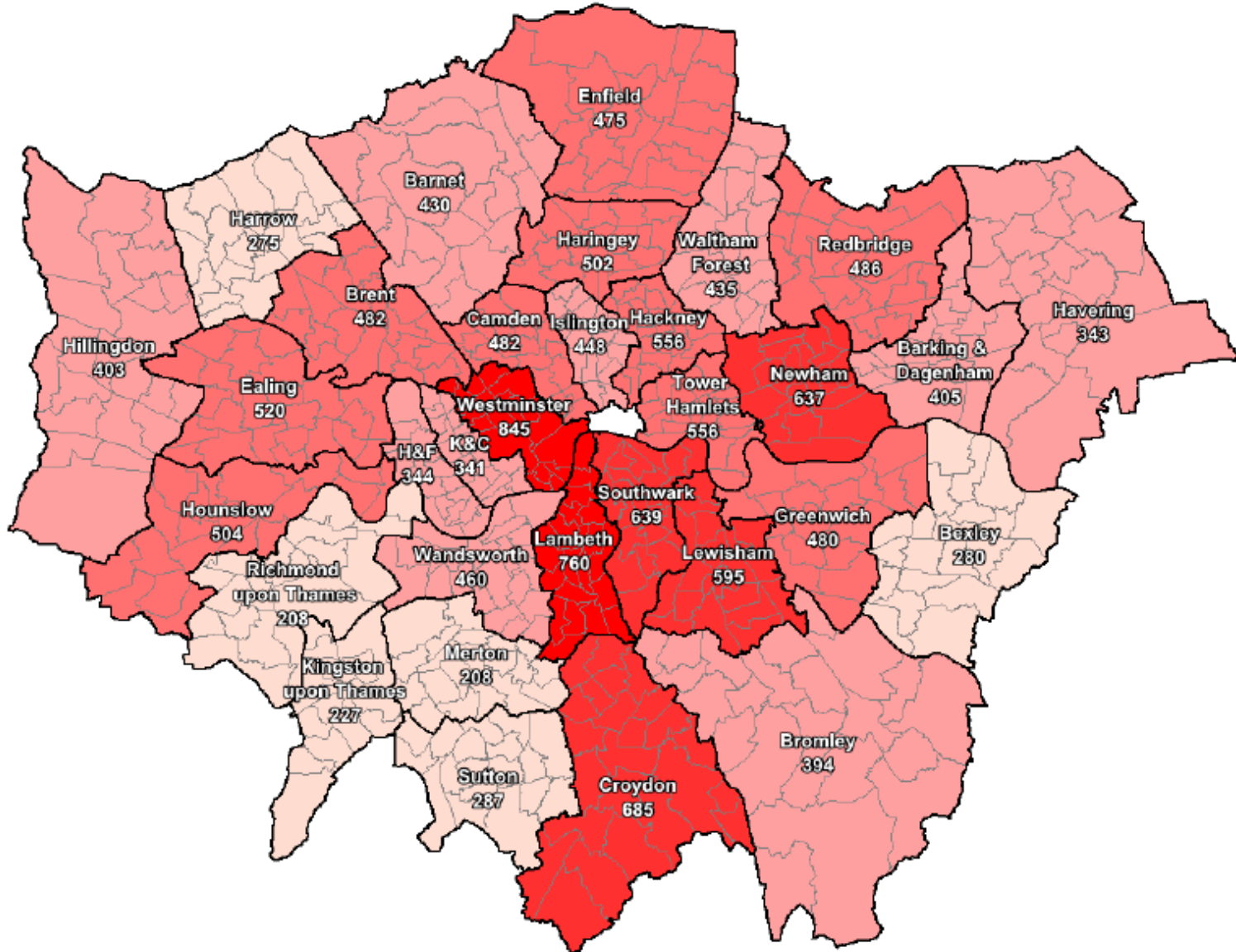
	Less serious sexual assault	Serious sexual assault	Stalking
Partner/ex-partner	15.6	25.3	28.2
Family member	7.5	6.7	11.9

# Police Performance

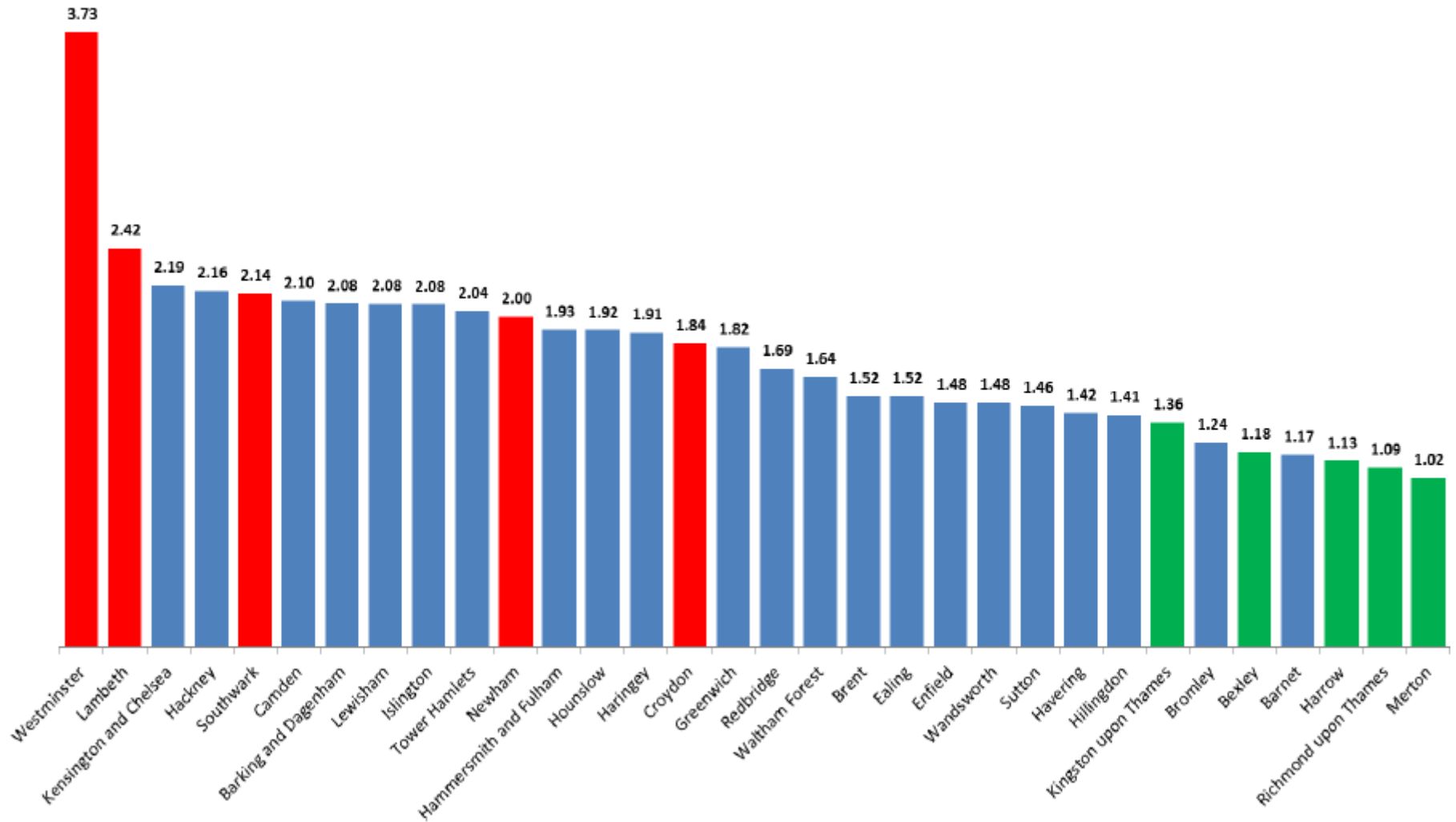
The following are an overview of the issues relating to police performance in relation to responding to sexual violence:

- Of all crimes, rape has the highest rate of statement withdrawal, linked to key decision points in the victim journey
- On a borough level basis, the proportion of People Processed Against (PPA) ranges from 20% in Redbridge to 4.7% in Croydon and 5.1% in Southwark
- The forensic window for sexual offences is generally within 7 days. More rapes are reported within the 7-day period. In 2014/15 2,024 offences were reported within the forensic window compared to 2013/14 (1,863)
- In 2013/14, 44% of rape offences were reported within the 7 day window
- In 2014/15 40% rape offences were reported within the 7 day window

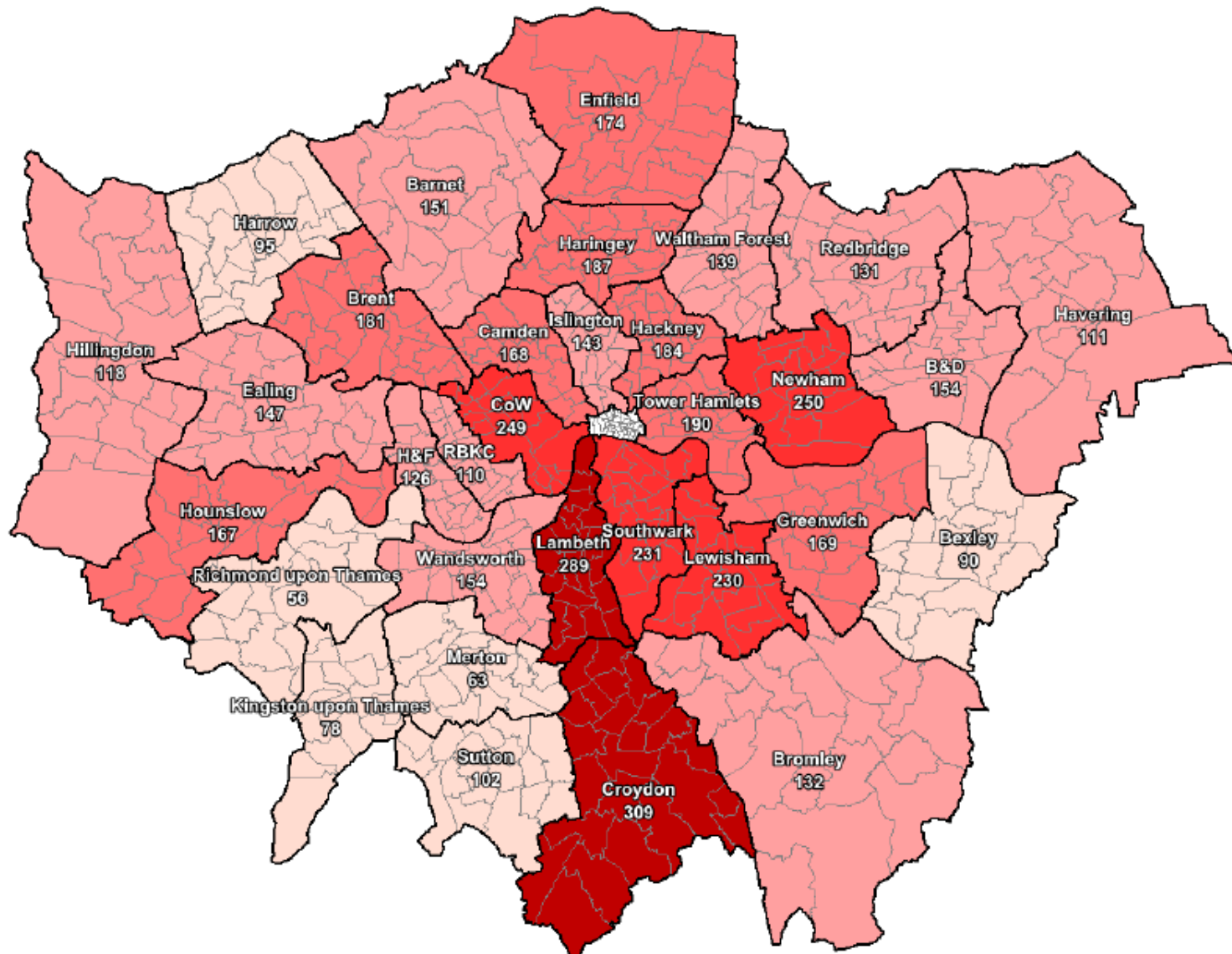
# Total Sexual Offences by borough 2014/15



# Rate of sexual offences per 1,000 resident population 2014/15



# Rape offences by borough 2014/15



# Break down by borough of residence (latest Met data 2015)

- Women and girls are more likely to be the victims of sexual violence than men; on average 6 times more likely. However this rises in boroughs such as Newham where women and girls are more than 11 times more likely to be victims of sexual violence than
- 15 Boroughs have higher rate of female victims per 1,000 females than the London average, with Westminster having the highest
- Westminster had the highest volume followed by Lambeth, Croydon, Southwark and Newham
- Croydon recorded the highest number of rape offences, followed by Lambeth, with Westminster recording the fourth highest volume.
- It should be noted that Croydon is London's most populous borough and that Westminster has the highest rate of sexual offences in relation to its population size that is likely to be due to its large night time economy.

# Sexual Violence and Domestic Violence

There is a close relationship between domestic violence and sexual violence. Total numbers of sexual violence crimes that are flagged as domestic violence cases by the MPS were

- In 2015: 2,078 of a total of 15,816 sexual offences reported (13%)
- In 2014: 1,798 of a total of 14,011 sexual offences reported (13%)

Data from CSEW (2013/14) on victim-offender relationships for women over 16 indicates that serious sexual assaults are most likely to be committed by a partner or ex-partner.

	Less serious sexual assault	Serious sexual assault	Stalking
Partner/ex-partner	23.8	56	42.7
Family member	8.5	10.2	13.5

- Respondents who experienced a serious sexual assault since they were 16 years reported that offenders were most likely to be men
- For the majority of female victims the offender was a partner or ex-partner
- Victims were more likely to report that offenders were under the influence of alcohol
- A third of victims reported that they were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the most recent incident of serious sexual assault

# Sexual Violence in Public Spaces

British Transport Police undertook a range of interventions in relation to sexual violence and based on data from reported incidences highlighted the following:

- Sexual violence is most likely to take place at peak commuting hours at high passenger footfall stations (morning/evenings), during the morning hours (8-9am) and evening hours (6-7pm)
- There has been a year on year increase in reports of sexual offences: In 2012/13 there were 924 reports, the following year 1,112, and, in 2013/14 a total of 1,374
- Over half of victims were recorded as girls aged 13-15 years
- Nationally, types of crime recorded during 2012 to June 15 indicate that:
  - Over half (54%) were 'crimed' as sexual assault on a female (13 – 15 years +)
  - 24% involved offences classed as 'committing an act of outraging public decency' and
  - 12% involved 'exposure'.
- Collectively, the three offence types noted above account for 90% of all recorded sexual offences



# Attrition in Rape Cases

The prevalence figures indicate a significant disparity between CSEW figures and those that go on to report rape to the police – the “attrition rate”.

- Of rape offences reported to police 55% of suspects are arrested
- Where suspects are not arrested, the largest single reason for a case to falter at this point is the victim’s withdrawal from the process. Similarly, when a suspect is arrested, 7% of cases end with no further action (NFA) being taken due to victim withdrawal
- Attrition of rape cases is high with unsuccessful outcomes in London more often due to victim related issues. The conviction rate for rape cases remains constant, with an average of 6% ending with prosecution

London records the highest number of defendants charged across England & Wales.

Across England & Wales, 42% of rape cases ended with an unsuccessful outcome (2015/16).

However, rape attrition rates are worse in London than the England & Wales, on average 46% result in an unsuccessful outcome.

In London, 23% of all unsuccessful rape outcomes are due to victim issues compared to 18% for England & Wales. Of the cases that are unsuccessful due to victim issues in London, the key reasons for attrition are Victim retraction (14%), Evidence that victim does not support the case (6.9%), Victim non-attendance at court (2%)