

Monthly Threat in Focus

September – ‘En-Route’ Crime,



En-Route Crime



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En-Route Crime – Definitions 1.



EN-ROUTE CRIME generally refers to crime occurring against a person travelling from a starting point to their destination. Most commonly this occurs when people travel to or from work.

- Travelling safely to and from work has always seen an increase in risk during the autumn and winter months.
- As the nights get darker the vulnerabilities that criminals can exploit to engage in criminal activity increases and the possibility of getting caught decreases.
- The recent murders of women killed whilst simply travelling en-route to another location should prompt us to consider how safe we feel carrying out our regular routine to and from work or out for an evening.
- The recent reports of drink spiking and the use of needles in nightclubs has also highlighted the issues of getting home safely, sometimes regardless of the precautions taken.
- **Whilst many of these crimes target women it is not exclusively so and all staff should perform their own dynamic risk assessment** when travelling for, to or, from work or when socialising.
- A study of reported crimes in and around public transportation between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2022 in Economically Advanced Countries by the [Mineta Institute](#), revealed a **'fundamental shift in the threat facing public surface transportation'**. At the beginning of the study there was great concern regarding terrorism (particularly mass casualty events) compared to more recent years where the focus of concern appears to be anti-social violence by lone wolf actors such as criminals, mentally disturbed or unknown attackers incited by extremist views about everything from climate activism to bigotry. This increase in random acts of violence makes passengers, staff and security officers on public transport or at transport hubs more vulnerable.
- Our risk assessments should not finish at the destination transport hub rather the end destination itself prompting us to consider crime rates and high crime areas potentially surrounding the hub which employees must travel through before reaching their final destination.

En-Route Crime – What, Who, How

WHAT

Routes taken on public transport are more at risk due to the volume of users, the propensity for criminality and the anonymous nature of public transport users.

- Buses; Tubes; Trams; Trains.

Other methods of transportation susceptible to risk includes:

- Pedestrian; Driving; Cycling/motorcycling; Taxis; Planes.

WHO

Threat actors engaging in en-route crime can include:

- [Criminals](#)
- [Disgruntled passengers](#)
- [Disgruntled road users](#)
- [An aggressor suffering from MH issues](#)
- [Terrorists](#)
- [Gangs](#)
- [Sex Offenders](#)

HOW

En-route violence can take many forms including:

- Verbal abuse
- Physical Assaults
- Gender Based Violence
- Harassment
- Racial Harassment
- Robbery and Thefts
- Explosives devices

En-Route Crime – Statistics 2. 3. 4.

(TFL 2020)
20.8% of theft on the London Underground occurs on weekdays during the evening peak, between 5pm and 8pm

(MET POLICE 2022) In the first six months of 2021/22 there were 743 sexual offences reported on TfL's public transport networks

(RMT2021) 9% of Londoners were completely or temporarily deterred from using public transport due to a worrying incident

(RMT2021) More than 7% of staff in public facing roles on London's Underground and TfL rail networks have been sexually assaulted, 62% of all women respondents have experienced sexual harassment by members of the public in the last five years

(RMT2021) More than 50% of staff in public facing roles on London's Underground and TfL rail networks have been threatened with physical violence

(RMT 2021) 1/3rd of passengers felt worried on public transport in the last 3 months

(RMT2021) 76% of staff in public facing roles on London's Underground and TfL rail networks have been subjected to violence

TFL 2020)
14.5% of theft on the London Underground occurs during Night Tube operation

(RMT2021) 52% of TFL staff had prevented passengers being sexually harassed in the last year.

(RMT2021) 14% of staff in public facing roles on London's Underground and TfL rail networks have been spat at or targeted with bodily fluids

(RMT2021) 28% of staff in public facing roles on London's Underground and TfL rail networks have been racially harassed

(TFL 2020) Theft on the bus network peaks between 6pm and 7pm, increasing throughout the day from the morning peak.

En-Route Crime – Case Study

Man Jailed for 'Intentional Harassment' for Staring at Night Tube Passenger

- Female passenger travelling on night tube observed another passenger staring at her throughout her journey.
- Waiting until the last minute to decamp the tube and wait on the platform, the individual followed her and didn't get on another tube despite a number passing through. She then decided to run for her connection, when she looked to see if he was following he waved when she turned to look at him.
- Staring is not illegal - but **intrusive staring** of a sexual nature that causes harassment, alarm or distress can be classed as a Public Order Offence.
- He was sentenced to 22 weeks in prison.

17yr old Jailed for Machete Robbery on Evening Bus

- A 17 year-old suspect boarded an evening bus in the capital, produced a machete style knife and proceeded to rob a number of passengers on board.
- Police were alerted and passengers on-board indicated to them the direction of travel of the suspect.
- Police found him a short distance away still in possession of the machete and a number of phones stolen from victims on board.
- The suspect was arrested and remanded in custody, he was also wanted for a number of other offences including robberies and failing to appear in court.

WHAT CAN ADVISORY SERVICES DO FOR YOU

1. Perform a Bespoke Site Specific Threat Assessment

Advisory Services can conduct a Survey to:

- Proactively assess the threat specific to your site / industry.
 - Perform crime reviews of routes used, nearby transportation hubs and areas surrounding site to identify target areas for high crime and anti social behaviour. Identifying prevalent crime types and vulnerable areas

2. Facilitating changes by

- Building security staff's awareness and confidence in:
 - Managing the threat and recognising vulnerable areas on site or en-route to site.
 - Recognising risks specific to location.
 - Identify methods available with client for assisting vulnerable employees if applicable.
 - Confidence management and leadership training, understanding threat awareness courses, travel safely workshops available from our Advisory Services team.

For Bespoke site Specific Threat Assessments providing practical mitigation where it counts most, please contact Wilson James Advisory Services: advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk

En-Route Crime – Protect yourself apps



Safe and the City

Available for free for IOS and Android [please click here](#) to download the app.

This app aims to help you:

1. Quickly reach emergency services.
2. Find the nearest safe site (Friendly shop, closest hospital etc.).
3. Real time notifications from police.
4. Get a route map
5. Walking and public transport routes rated for safety.
6. Report incidents.

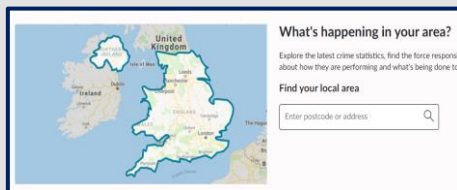


Safe Streets

Available for free for IOS and Android [please click here](#) to download the app.

This app aims to help you:

1. Get Alerts
2. Get Help
3. Stay Safe



Police UK

This is a [website](#) where you can search any postcode and identify an area of increased criminal activity or review the local crime types for your area.

Street Safe (Police UK)

This is a [website](#) is a pilot service for anyone to anonymously report to police about public places where you have felt or feel unsafe:

For example: Poor lighting, abandoned buildings, vandalism, abusive behaviours.

En-Route Crime – Guidance 5. 6. 7.



USEFUL HINTS AND TIPS FOR TRAVELLING SAFELY

- 1. Join a safe streets app:**
 - a. See our previous section on apps available to make you aware of local hazards.
- 2. Plan your route in advance:**
 - a. Use transport apps/maps or track your journey via your phone.
 - b. Choose well lit streets.
 - c. Choose busy streets.
 - d. Inform a reliable friend or family member of your ETA.
- 3. Avoid insecure public Wifi**
 - a. Use a VPN to avoid being hacked.
- 4. Know your exits:**
 - a. Make yourself aware of the exits, fire alarms, conductor or 'help' points.
- 5. Avoid sitting in empty carriages on public transport**
 - a. If necessary move, should your carriage become empty or you feel unsafe.
 - b. Stay near the conductor's area.
- 6. Use licensed cabs**
 6. Ensure they display driver IDs
 7. Ensure they have video cameras installed
- 7. Keep valuables out of view:**
 - a. Avoid walking and talking on your phone.
 - b. Don't leave items out 'on show' including jewellery and watches, designer bags.
 - c. Be mindful of drawing attention to devices when using pay or ticket apps at stations etc.
- 8. Be aware of your surroundings/Trust your instincts:**
 - a. Drink responsibly.
 - b. Don't let your guard down.
 - i. When taking selfies.
 - ii. Talking to strangers.
 - c. If you feel uncomfortable – move.
 - d. Alert a member of staff/public if needs be.
- 9. If you see something say something:**
 - a. It's better to be over cautious and it is never a waste of time to report suspicious behaviour.
 - b. Know who to contact and how to contact them

En-Route Crime – Campaigns



BTP

- [British Transport Police Safety Campaigns](#)
- [British Transport Police - Railway Guardian](#)
- [British Transport Police - See it Say it Sort it \(Suspicious behaviour\)](#)
- [British Transport Police - We Stand Together \(Hate Crime\)](#)
- [British Transport Police - Project Servator](#)
- [British Transport Police - Non emergency response text service](#)

NETWORK RAIL

- [Network Rail Passenger Safety Campaigns](#)

TFL

- [TFL - Sexual Harassment Campaign](#)
- [TFL - Stand up to Hate Crime](#)
- [TFL - 'Nearby' Transportation](#)

[BTP We Stand Together Campaign \(2022\)](#)

CYCLING

- [Cycling.org](#)
- [British Transport Police - Bike Safety](#)

BUS

- [Stagecoach - Hate Crime Charter](#)

TAXI

- [TFL - Travelling Safe by Taxi](#)

HATE CRIME
When is hate crime serious enough to report? It is if you are...

98% of people said they felt safe on this bus. Passenger survey 2017

INSULTED OFFENDED
SCARED THREATENED
SHOVED ATTACKED

If it happens on the bus call us on **01273 886200**
Report directly to Sussex Police on **101**
or in an emergency call **999**
For more information visit buses.co.uk/reportit

Brighton Hove Buses Brighton & Hove City Council

[TFL Harassment Campaign \(2021\)](#)

Staring
INTRUSIVE STARING OF A SEXUAL NATURE IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND IS NOT TOLERATED

Upskirting
TAKING PHOTOS UNDER SOMEONE'S CLOTHES IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND IS NOT TOLERATED

Pressing
RUBBING AGAINST SOMEONE ON PURPOSE IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND IS NOT TOLERATED

Touching
TOUCHING SOMEONE INAPPROPRIATELY IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND IS NOT TOLERATED

See it or experience it on public transport? Test what, where and when to 8096. In an emergency always dial 999.

Aware of someone who is doing this and want to report anonymously? Call the sexual harassment line on 0800 783 837.

Together, we can stop sexual harassment.

Mayor of London Transport for London

En-Route Crime – Discussion Prompts for your Team

Who are the Threat Actors?

**What makes someone vulnerable when
travelling on public transport?**

**What are the control measures available to mitigate and manage
against the Risk Likelihood of becoming
subject to crime when travelling on public transport?**



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