



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Estimates of Initial court hearing outcomes of suspects involved in recent disturbances

Using data available as at midday 12 September 2011

Background

This note presents analysis of the outcome of the initial court hearings for those involved in offences either directly related to the disturbances or heavily influenced by the disturbances. This is based on management information received from the courts and covers all cases where the courts and prosecutors determine it to be related to the disturbances.

These figures should be treated as provisional and will be revised as more information becomes available.

Results

Table 1 – Summary of Suspects brought before the courts for offences relating to the disturbances of 6th to 9th August 2011

Outcome of initial court hearings

England and Wales

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	150	70	55	274	782	20	1351
<i>Juvenile</i>	26	69	13	139	109	8	364
Total	176	139	68	413	891	28	1715

1,715 suspects have had an initial hearing at a magistrates' court based on the data available at midday on 12th September. The majority of these hearings were in London (67 per cent).

Twenty-one per cent (364) of those to have appeared in court were aged 10-17 and the remaining 79 per cent (1,351) were adults. From the information currently available around 90 per cent of defendants are male.

For those cases where the defendant was not sentenced but remanded at the first hearing, 65 per cent were remanded to custody. By comparison in 2010, 10 per cent of people brought before magistrates' courts were remanded in custody.

Where information is available it is estimated that 78 per cent of adults have a caution or conviction for a previous criminal offence.

Sentencing – Magistrates' courts

Of those cases where the defendant has been convicted and sentenced, 43 per cent received a custodial sentence, with an average custodial sentence length (ACSL) of 5.1 months. For equivalent offences convicted and sentenced in 2010 the ACSL was 2.5 months and the custody rate was 12.3 per cent. Due to

the low volume of cases sentenced in the Crown Court these sentences are not yet being reported in this bulletin.

Table 2 – Sentencing Comparison for offenders convicted following the August 2011 Public Disturbances, with similar offences⁽¹⁾ committed in 2010.

	For offences committed during the recent disturbances				During 2010			
	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)	Total sentenced	Sentenced to custody	Custody rate (%)	Average custodial sentence length (months)
Juvenile (youth courts)	94	25	26.6	7.3	34,796	1,843	5.3	7.3
Adult - Magistrates' court	132	72	54.5	4.3	166,746	22,867	13.7	2.1
All ages - Magistrates courts	226	97	42.9	5.1	201,542	24,710	12.3	2.5

(1) Offences of: Violent disorder, Burglary, Robbery, Theft, Affray, Assault/obstructing a police officer, criminal damage, breach of the peace and possession of offensive weapons

Table 3 – Area Summaries of Suspects brought before the courts for offences relating to the disturbances of 6th to 9th August 2011.

London

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	68	28	37	198	587	12	930
<i>Juvenile</i>	11	33	12	76	85	2	219
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	79	61	49	274	672	14	1149

West Midlands

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	24	6	8	20	49	5	112
<i>Juvenile</i>	3	2		13	8	1	27
Total	27	8	8	33	57	6	139

Nottingham

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	2	5	2	9	27		45
<i>Juvenile</i>		3		15	2		20
Total	2	8	2	24	29		65

Greater Manchester

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	51	12	2	11	70	2	148
<i>Juvenile</i>	11	24		13	1	1	50
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	62	36	2	24	71	3	198

Merseyside

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	2	17	2	8	15	1	45
<i>Juvenile</i>		2		13	6	3	24
Total	2	19	2	21	21	4	69

Other

	Sentenced to Immediate Custody	Sentenced to non-custody	Remanded on unconditional bail	Remanded on conditional bail	Remanded in custody	Outcome of hearing not recorded	Total
<i>Adult</i>	3	2	4	28	34		71
<i>Juvenile</i>	1	5	1	9	7	1	24
<i>Not known</i>							
Total	4	7	5	37	41	1	95

Future publications

A more detailed release will be published on the 15th of September containing detailed information on age, gender, offence committed, sentence given, and previous criminal history.

On the 15th of September I will also announce my intentions for future publications on this topic.

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Ministry of Justice

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