



Federation of Small Businesses

South East Policy Unit

Business Crime Awareness Month



Business crime – addressing the issues

- ▶ **Identifying the issues**
 - Lifting the Barriers to Growth Survey 2008
- ▶ **Addressing the problems**
 - FSB South East & National Initiatives



Business crime – identifying the issues

Definition of Business Crime used by Warwickshire Police:

“ Any crime which takes place against a business or on a business premises is business crime”



Business crime – identifying the issues

“Axa data shows 10% rise in crimes against business”

The Times (10/09/2008)

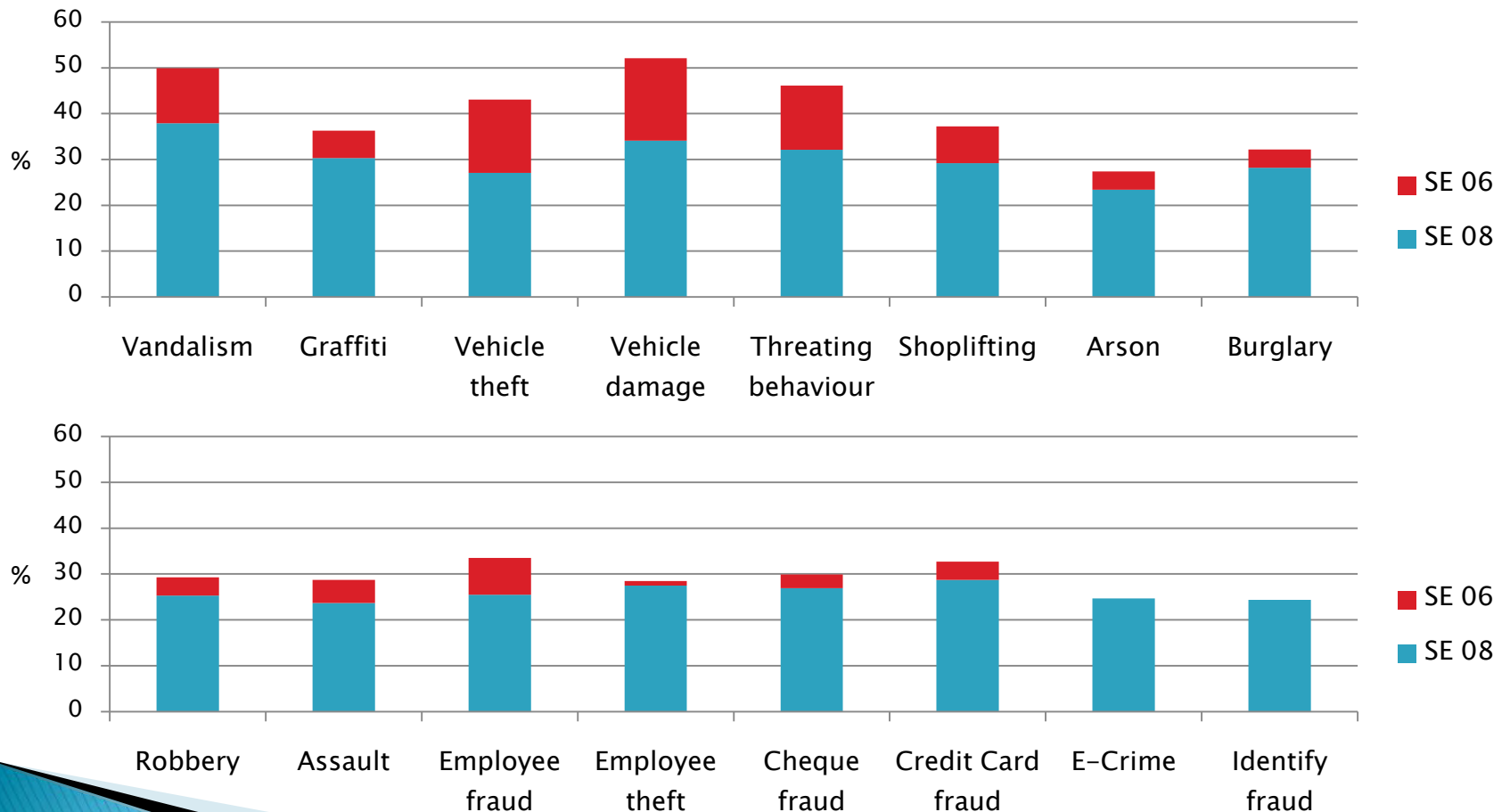
- ▶ Claims jumped by 10 per cent for first half of the year
- ▶ Costs per claim jumped by 10%
- ▶ The average claim settlement was £4,575
- ▶ The most common crime was forcible entry to business premises

“This increase in business crime is likely to get worse as the downturn continues, particularly where prices for certain goods are increasing” Doug Barnett, Axa’s head of customer risk management



Business crime – identifying the issues

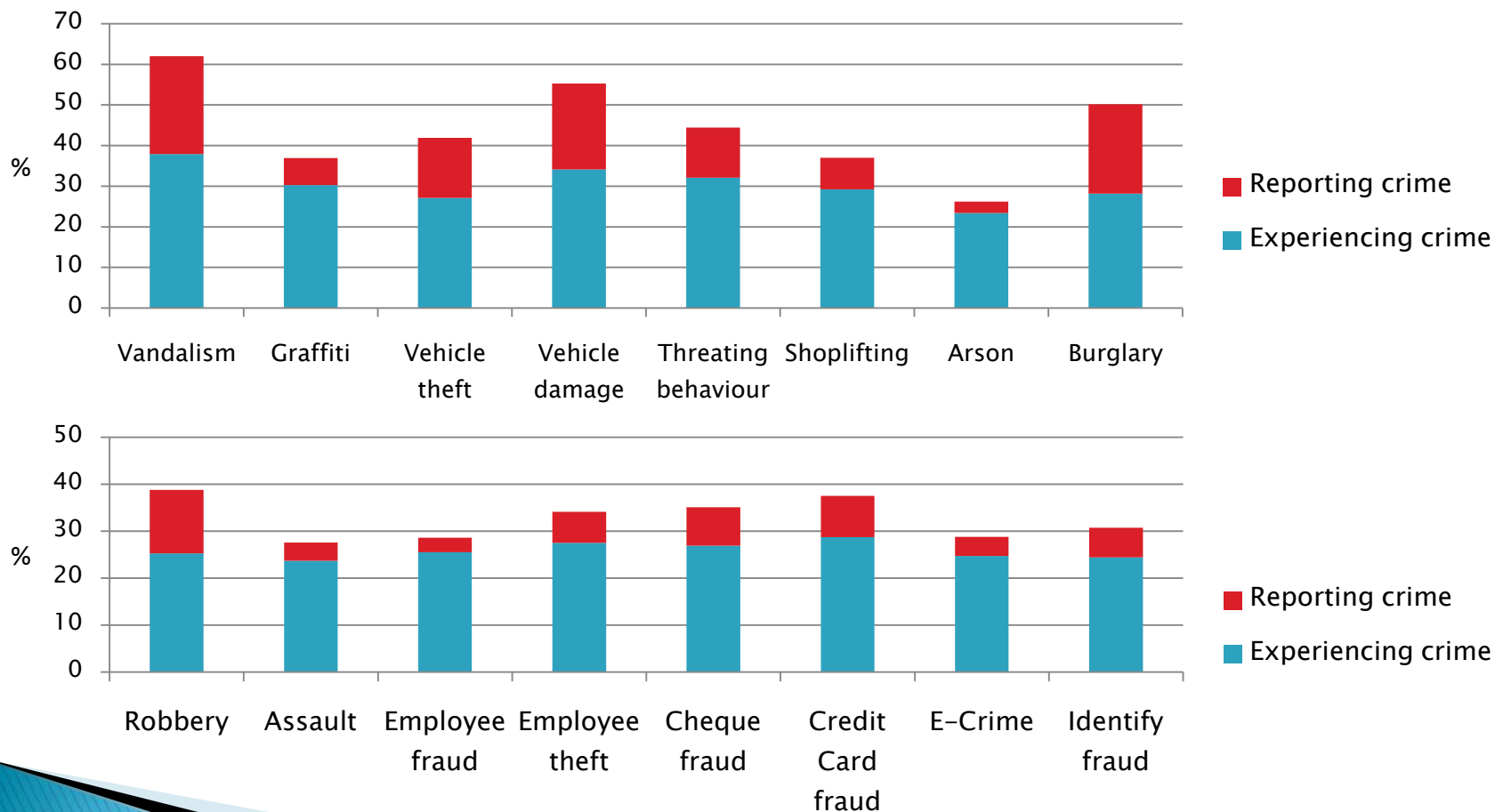
Percentage of members indicating experiencing a crime





Business crime – identifying the issues

Experience of crime/reporting crime to police





Business crime – identifying the issues

Reasons for not reporting crime:

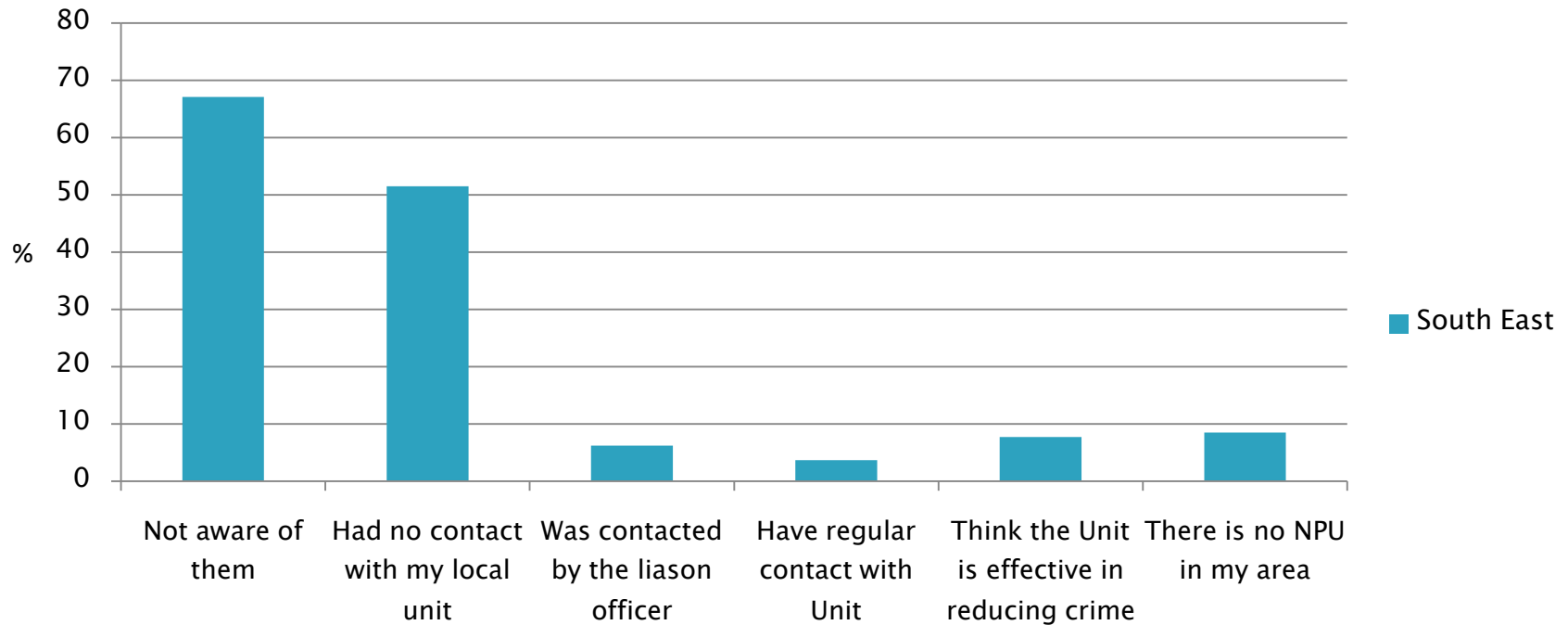
- ▶ Doubts about police's ability (28.6%)
- ▶ Crime not serious enough (24.9%)
- ▶ Police not interested (22.8%)
- ▶ Not making an insurance claim (20.4%)
- ▶ Lack of proof (17.4%)
- ▶ Too time consuming (14.8%)
- ▶ Effect on future insurance premiums (12.7%)





Business crime – identifying the issues

Understanding & knowledge of Neighbourhood Policing Units





Business crime – addressing the problems

South East Business Crime Forum

- ▶ Secured funding from SEEDA
- ▶ Working in partnership with GOSE
- ▶ First meeting in February 2009
- ▶ Business group includes:
 - Federation of Small Businesses
 - Chambers of Commerce
 - Confederation of British Industries
 - Institute of Directors
 - Engineering Employers Federation
 - Freight Transport Association
 - National Farmers Union
 - British Retail Consortium
 - Country Land & Business Association

Purpose of the forum:

- Reduce the incidence and impact of crime against business
- Share good practice in tackling crimes against business
- Develop a constructive dialogue and exchange of information
- Ensure a greater understanding of the challenges facing business
- Establish mechanisms to reassure the business community that their views are taken into account
- Ensure that business crime issues are reflected in local and regional strategies



Business crime – addressing the problems

FSB National Campaigns...



- ▶ 40% of crime goes unreported
- ▶ Campaign started Jan 2008
- ▶ Encourage business owners to report every crime
- ▶ Business owners encouraged to log information about incidents
- ▶ Website with online incident report



Federation of Small Businesses
The UK's Leading Business Organisation



WHY report crime?

40% of businesses do not report crime committed against them. Unless businesses start to report ALL incidents of crime, anti-social behaviour and verbal or physical abuse, the scale of the problem will continue to go unnoticed.

That is why we are encouraging firms to report...
Every Crime - Every Time

This national campaign is being managed by the:
Federation of Small Businesses
Press and Parliamentary Office
2 Catherine Place, Westminster
London, SW1E 6HF
Email: eeet@fsb.org.uk
Website: www.fsb.org.uk/eeet

HOW to report a crime

Businesses should continue to report all crime, anti-social behaviour and physical/verbal abuse by calling 999 in emergencies, or to their local police if not urgent.

However, we are also encouraging firms to log information about incidents to get a more accurate and measurable picture of the crime issues you are experiencing.

Your information will help inform a national response to business crime. More information and an online reporting form can be accessed from: www.fsb.org.uk/eeet



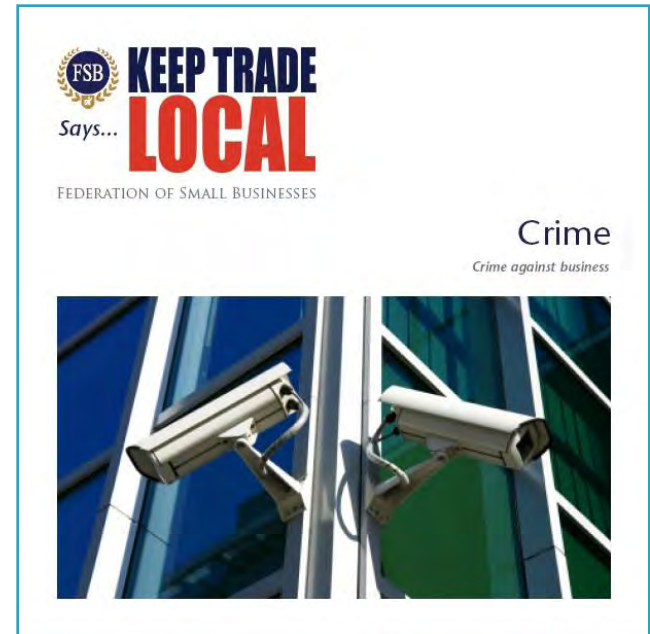


Business crime – addressing the problems

FSB National Campaigns...



- ▶ Local traders are often subject to repeat victimisation and anti-social behaviour
- ▶ Crime affects a business' ability to meet customer deadlines, attract customers and their profitability
- ▶ Valuable time and resources are spent in dealing with the aftermath of crime
- ▶ Businesses are increasingly feeling the squeeze of narrowing profit margins and increasing insurance costs

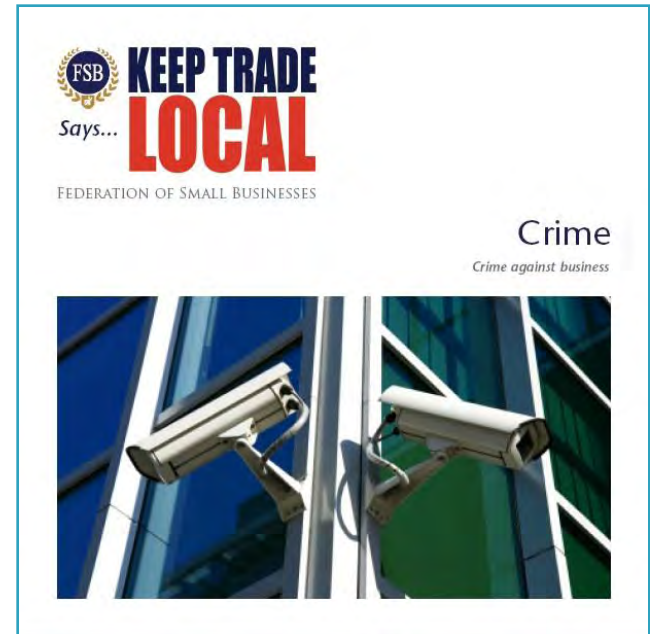




Business crime – addressing the problems

FSB National Campaigns...

1. Police forces must adopt a national definition for crimes against business and targets for reduction in local policing plans
2. Local structures must include reducing business crime as a priority in their strategy
3. Neighbourhood Policing Units must proactively engage with the business community
4. The Police must operate easy online reporting mechanisms to facilitate local crime mapping to inform local strategies





Business crime conclusion

What does the FSB offer

1. Access to data on business crime
2. Contact with local businesses
3. National campaigns aimed at reducing crime against business
4. Work with you at the strategic or grassroots level
5. 37,000 members across the South East