



# Report



## Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around

# Roehampton University

**Wandsworth Borough Council  
Department of Technical Services  
Community Safety Division**



**April**

## **Acknowledgements**

The project that this report documents would not have been possible if it were not for the work and support of the Roehampton University Students Union.

We would like to extend our thanks to the Union, in particular Helen Lofthouse, Vice President Welfare and Societies.

Author: Mike Hammond BSc

## **Report summary**

This report documents and summarises a survey on student safety and fear of crime in and around Roehampton University. 700 questionnaires were sent out with 305 students responding – a 43.5% return – which represents 4.5% of the total student population of 7000. The following is a list of the main points that emerged from the survey:

- Two thirds of the students that responded were female.
- Half of the students had been given information on crime prevention and community safety.
- 63% of respondents were worried about physical attack.
- 56% were worried about rape.
- 67% of those who were not worried about rape were male. 90% of those who were not *at all* worried about rape were male.
- 56% were worried about robbery or theft.
- 44% were worried about burglary.
- 97% owned a mobile phone and 52% worried about having it stolen yet 67% lacked any kind of mobile phone security or awareness of such.
- 30% of students owned a personal alarm. 95% of these were female.
- Of the 53% who knew where to acquire a personal alarm 76% were female.
- 63% worry about personal safety (81% of these were female).
- 38% feel unsafe walking to, from and around the University (88% of these were female).
- 18% of respondents feel unsafe on the street. 12% of the survey mention the Alton Estate (66% of those who feel unsafe on the street).
- 10% of the respondents feel unsafe in and around local train and tube stations. 57% of these mention Barnes station (6% of entire survey).
- 5% of respondents feel unsafe on campus.
- 87% have not security marked their household belongings.
- 56% have not insured their household belongings.
- 59% either do not worry about the security of their accommodation or had not thought about it.
- 44% do not know whether their accommodation is up to health and safety standards and fire checked.
- 54% do not worry about the conditions of their accommodation as far as safety goes.
- 15% had been a victim of crime since starting University.
- 21% of those who had been a victim had been so of theft of property other than their mobile phone. 15% had been a victim of mobile phone theft – 6% of total survey.
- 46% of victims of crime had not reported it to the police. Of those who had had their mobile phone stolen 78% had not reported it to the police.
- 79% did not know how to contact Victim Support Services.
- 45% did not know they could use the CRIMESTOPPERS number to report a crime anonymously.
- 11% suggested campus security should be increased and/or improved in some way.
- 5% suggested there should be more free bus services to and from the campus.
- 5% suggested more/clearer information should be made available to increase student awareness of crime and crime prevention.
- 4% suggested that the lighting on campus should be improved/increased and 7% feel unsafe due to poor lighting.

## Contents

▪ Acknowledgements	1
▪ Report summary	2
▪ Introduction	4
▪ Results	7
▪ Recommendations	16
▪ Appendices	17
▪ Appendix 1 – Responses to the question: Do you feel unsafe when walking to, from and around the University?	
▪ Appendix 2 – Responses to the question: Have you been a victim of crime since starting at University?	
▪ Appendix 3 – Responses to the question: Any suggestions of how we can help to improve safety at the University?	

## **Introduction**

The following report documents and summarises a recent survey carried out on student safety and fear of crime in and around Roehampton University. The survey was devised and distributed after two publications highlighted a number of concerns about student safety and fear of crime.

The first of these publications was the *Wandsworth Crime and Disorder Audit 2001*. A section within this document summarised the crime concerns of a handful of students from Roehampton University. 14 students were surveyed and the following is the summary of the results:

### You and concerns

- Drunken behaviour/street drinking.
- Young people causing a nuisance.
- Being robbed or assaulted.

### You and a safer Wandsworth

- 21% would like more police on the streets.
- 21% would like better street lighting.
- More Neighbourhood Watch and education for the public.
- Police to work more closely with University staff, students and security to help the community help itself.
- More call points for emergencies.
- More CCTV.
- Evening curfews.
- Recruit more civilian volunteers.
- Activate Neighbourhood Watch.
- National media campaign for volunteers.

### Where you feel unsafe in Wandsworth

- Alton Estate at night.
- Danebury Avenue.

The second publication was a Home Office report, *Burglary to Privately Rented Student Dwellings* (2001). The aim of this report was to examine burglary to privately rented student dwellings in order to make recommendations for an improved policing response to such dwellings. Included within this report were the results of a survey questionnaire of 251 student tenants in privately rented dwellings in Glasgow. Some of the main points that emerged from this were:

- Three quarters of the female student tenant victims still experienced fear/trauma as a result of the burglary some considerable time after the event.
- One third of the student tenant respondents were domiciled in a rural area and may be naïve to the increased crime risks found in inner cities.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- Over half of the students victims of burglary were not insured and only one third of burglaries were reported to an insurance company.
- There was some evidence of repeat victimisation to privately rented student dwellings.
- A controlled door entry system was the security feature most valued by the student tenant respondents.
- Inadequate home security and the physical characteristics of the buildings were deemed by student tenant respondents as the factors most likely to influence a burglary to a privately rented student dwelling.
- Over 55% of the student tenant respondents stated that they had received no crime prevention advice.
- Only one third of the student tenant victims of burglary stated that they had received crime prevention advice.
- The location of the rental property was the most important factor influencing the student respondents' choice of tenancy.
- Survey responses indicate a 5% detection rate for reported break-ins.
- Only 1% of property stolen was recovered.
- 41% of the student tenant respondents were domiciled outside of Scotland, with 8% coming from overseas.
- The majority of students tenancies were arranged by word of mouth (32%) and shop window adverts.

The report also included a number of recommendations to encourage. They included:

- The police, higher educational institutions and property landlords to positively recognise and address the vulnerability of student tenants.
- The police to take a lead role in the development of burglary reduction strategies for privately rented student dwellings.
- Effective local crime management of burglary to privately rented student dwellings.
- The police to work in partnership with other key agencies in the reduction of burglary to privately rented student dwellings.
- The need for improved standards of home security for privately rented student dwellings and houses in multiple occupation.
- The better marketing of landlord accreditation schemes and crime prevention initiatives that target students.

It is clear from these two publications that student safety, crime against students and fear of crime amongst students and young people is a real issue that needs to be dealt with. It has also been noted that the level of acknowledgement of students as victims by such organisations as *Victim Support Services* needs to be improved.

In response to these two publications the Wandsworth Borough Council Community Safety Division, the Metropolitan Police Service and Roehampton University Student Union designed and created the questionnaire that this report documents, with the main aim of directing the focus more towards young people as victims of crime rather than perpetrators. 305 (43.5%) students responded to a total of 700 canvassed. This represents 4.5% of the total student population of the University of 7000.

Also, since this report had been first drafted another Home Office report has been issued that documents the findings of another survey of student safety in the East Midlands. The report *University Student Safety* (April 2003), which is available on the Home Office website

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk), interview 315 students from a number of Universities across the East Midlands. Some of the main findings of this report include:

- 33% of students were victims of crime during the past year.
- 12% were the victims of theft or attempted theft.
- 10% were the victims of burglary.
- 60% of crimes were experienced by repeat victims.
- 4% of students were stalked in the last year.
- 60% of incidents were not reported to the police.

## **Results**

The questionnaire was divided into the following sections:

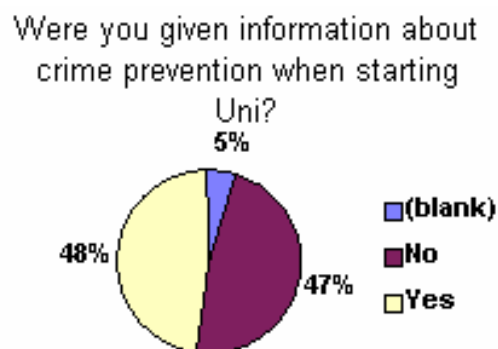
- Student Details/Personal Information
- Mobile Phones
- Personal Safety
- Home Security
- Fire/Health and Safety Issues
- Other Information

The results of the survey are summarised in these sections as follows.

### **Section 1 – Student Details/Personal Information**

- 67% of the respondents were female and 33% male.
- 43% of the respondents were in their first year; 38% in their second year; 12% in their third year; 2% in their fourth year; and less than 1% were post graduate. (5% of the respondents failed to indicate their year of study).
- 74% of the respondents were between the ages of 18 and 21 (24% were 19 years/24% were 20 years) leaving the last 26% to be mature students (22 years and older (8% over the age of 30)).

Students were asked if they had been given information about crime prevention and community safety since they had started University. The results were as follows:



**Fig 1**

Fig 1 shows that roughly half of those that answered this question had been given information and half had not. The categories suggested were mobile phones, personal safety, burglary, fire safety advice, motor vehicle security, cycle security and other. Of those who had been given information they responded as follows:

- 55% had been given information on personal safety.

## Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University

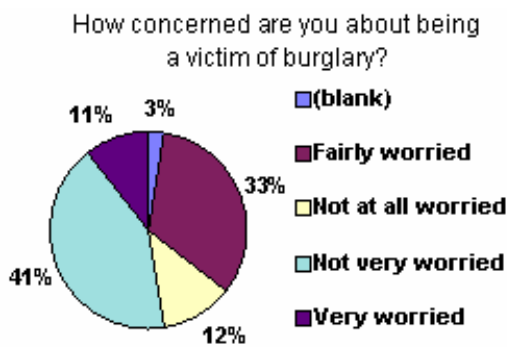
- 41% – mobile phone security.
- 37% – fire safety advice.
- 23% – burglary.
- 12% – motor vehicle security.
- 9% – cycle security.
- 1% – other (including spiked drinks and home insurance).

This indicates that information on personal safety, mobile phone security and fire safety is either more available or given more priority to the other types.

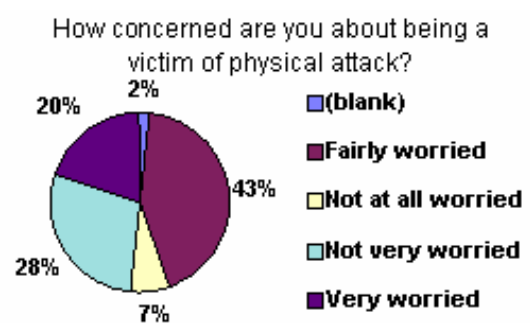
The students were also asked how concerned they were about being a victim of the following crimes:

- Burglary
- Physical attack
- Robbery or theft
- Rape

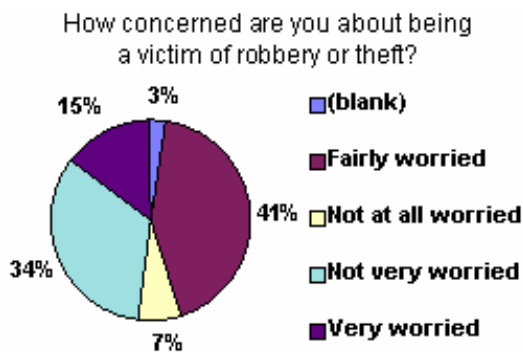
They responded as follows:



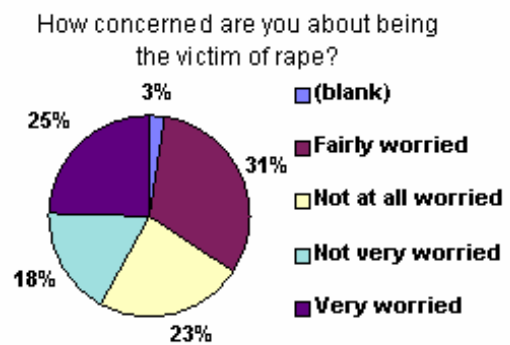
**Fig 2**



**Fig 3**



**Fig 4**



**Fig 5**

This shows that with 25% very worried and 31% fairly worried, rape seems to be the most feared crime. However it also has a high percentage for not at all worried. Interestingly, and perhaps as may be suspected, 90% of those that answered they were not at all concerned about rape were male.

Maybe then, with 20% very worried and 43% fairly worried, physical attack should be considered the most feared crime followed by robbery or theft with 15% very worried and 41% fairly worried. What is clear is that burglary is the least feared crime of those suggested

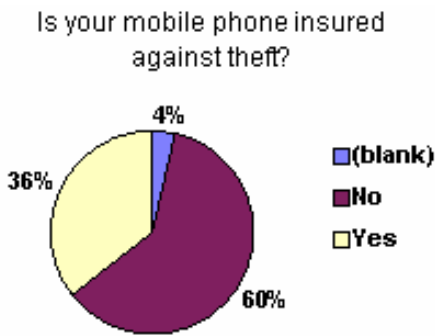
## Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University

with just 11% very worried and with 41% not very worried (the highest *not very worried* recorded for the four choices).

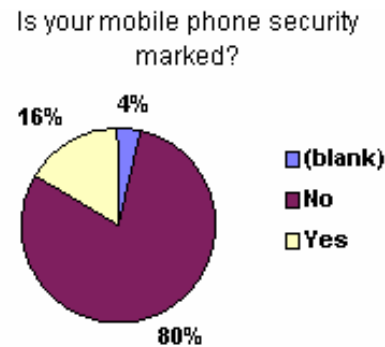
### Section 2 – Mobile Phones

- 97% of respondents own a mobile phone.

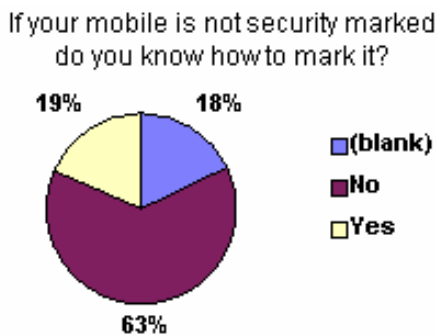
Questions were asked about mobile phone security, phone security awareness and fear of mobile phone crime. The results are as follows:



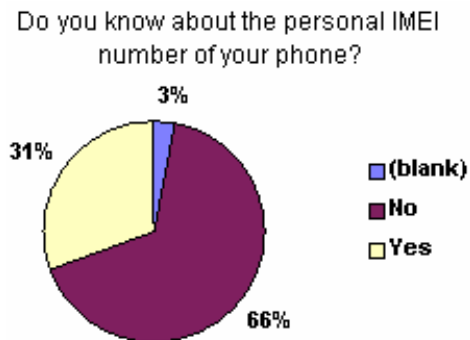
**Fig 6**



**Fig 7**



**Fig 8**

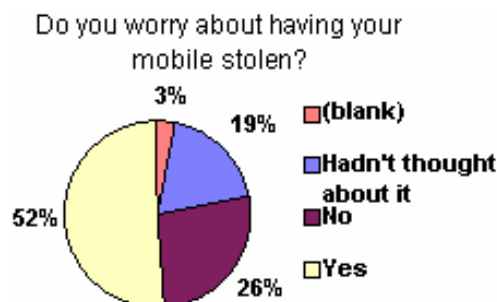


**Fig 9**

You will notice from Figs 6 to 9 that mobile phone security and the awareness of mobile security is quite poor. To summarise this:

- 60% of respondents have not insured their mobile against theft.
- 80% of mobiles are not security marked.
- 63% would not know how to mark their phone.
- 66% do not know about the personal IMEI number of their phone.

These results are interesting considering the further result, when students were asked if they worry about having their mobile phone stolen:



**Fig 10**

As you can see 52%, more than half, are worried about having their mobile phone stolen despite 67% not having any kind of phone security or awareness of such.

### Section 3 – Personal Safety

The students were asked about ownership and awareness of personal alarms.

- Only 30% of respondents own a personal alarm and only 5% of those were male.
- 53% knew where to acquire a personal alarm, 76% of which were female.

Students were also asked if they worry about personal safety, and if they feel unsafe when walking to from and around the University. The results were:



**Fig 11**



**Fig 12**

Fig 11 shows that 63% of respondents worry about personal safety in general and Fig 12 shows that 39% feel unsafe when walking to from and around the University.

Again when you look at the results with gender in mind you will see that of the respondents that worry about personal safety, only 19% were male, and of those who feel unsafe when walking to, from and around the University, only 12% were male.

It is expected that there be lower percentages in male fear of crime/awareness of personal safety simply due to only a third of respondents being male. However with 33% representation, statistically there should be similar percentages for fear of crime/awareness of personal safety. To summarise the actual percentages coming from male students:

- 43% of not worried about burglary (54% of not at all worried).
- 61% of not worried about physical attack (77% of not at all worried).
- 52% of not worried about robbery or theft (70% of not at all worried).
- 67% of not worried about rape (90% of not at all worried).
- 5% of personal alarm holders (2% of total respondents).
- 24% of those who know where to acquire a personal alarm (13% of total respondents).
- 19% of those who worry about personal safety (12% of total respondents).
- 12% who feel unsafe when walking to, from and around the University (5% of entire survey).

## Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University

As you can see none of these figures are very near to 33%. The closest, being the percentage of those who do not worry about burglary. At 43% it seems burglary is the most feared crime amongst male students, more so than more physical and personal crimes such as physical attack, rape and robbery.

It was also asked of the students who do feel unsafe walking to, from and around the University to indicate where, when and why. The following table summarises the response:

<u>Area/place (e.g. train station, road etc.)</u>	<u>% of response for question</u>	
▪ Estates/on street	47%	66% of those who felt unsafe on the street mentioned the Alton Estate or roads/areas within including Mount Clare halls, Danebury Avenue, Clarence Lane, Priory Lane and Sherfield Gardens. Other areas and roads mentioned included Roehampton Lane, Roehampton High Street, Roehampton Vale, Lytton Grove, Keswick Road, Sutherland Road, Upper Richmond Road, West Hill and the A3.
▪ Train/tube stations	25%	57% who feel unsafe walking to from and around train/tube stations mention Barnes station (14% of response for this question and 6% of entire survey). Other stations mentioned include Southfields, East Putney and Putney Bridge.
▪ On campus	13%	46% of those who feel unsafe on campus mentioned walking to, from and around Froebel College (5% of response for this question and 2% of entire survey). Other areas on campus include Whitelands College and Digby Stuart College.
▪ Other		12% (5% of survey) mention lighting (or lack of it). Other places where/reasons why students feel unsafe include lack of parking, travelling on public transport and crossing busy roads such as Roehampton Lane.

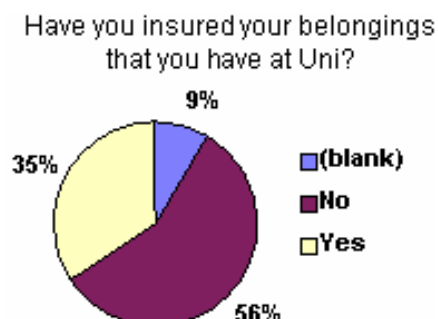
\*See Appendix 1 (page 16) for full response.

### Section 4 – Home Security

The students were asked what type of housing they lived in:

- 35% rented.
- 35% halls of residence.
- 26% family home.
- 2% own residence.
- 2% other (including partner's house).

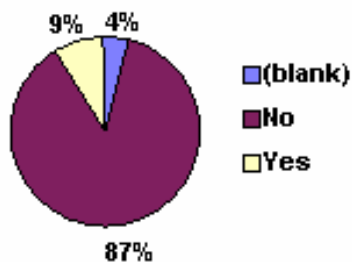
Various questions were asked about the security of their accommodation and its contents and



## Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University

their awareness of security when it comes to accommodation:

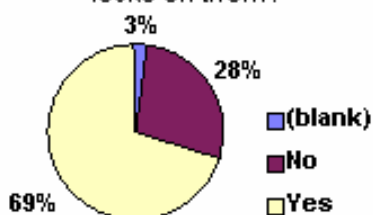
Have you security marked your belongings?



**Fig 13**

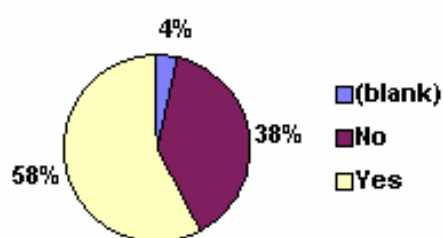
**Fig 14**

Do all your windows have working locks on them?



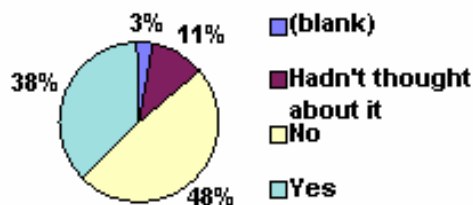
**Fig 15**

Do you double lock your front door when there's no one in?



**Fig 16**

Do you worry about the security of your accommodation?



**Fig 17**

The most significant results from this section are:

- 87% have not security marked their belongings (Fig 13).
- 56% have not insured their belongings (Fig 14).
- 28% do not have locking windows (Fig 15).
- 38% do not double lock their front door when no one is in (Fig 16).
- 59% either do not worry about the security of their accommodation or they had not thought about it (Fig 17).

Other information from this section includes:

- 67% of those who live in a rented accommodation do not rent through a letting agent.
- 58% did not use the University housing list to help them find accommodation.

## Section 5 – Fire/Health and Safety Issues

## Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University

The section included various questions relating to student safety and security of accommodation concerning fire and health & safety. The main points gained from this section are:

- 44% do not know whether their accommodation is up to health and safety standards and fire checked (54% do know).
- 85% have a smoke alarm.
- 36% do not have a plan of escape in case of a fire (61% do).
- 8% do not know where the nearest fire fighting equipment is (if they live in residential accommodation) and 82% do (leaving 10% who left this question blank).
- 44% do not have fire-fighting equipment where they live (51% do).
- 49% would not like to receive fire safety training and 47% would.
- 54% do not worry about the conditions of their accommodation as far as safety goes, 26% do worry and 18% had not thought about it.

### Section 6 – Other Information

The section includes questions on victim experience, victim support and any other necessary information. The first question asked if they had been a victim of crime since starting University and if so to give details of the incident/s (see Appendix 2 (page 21) for full response).



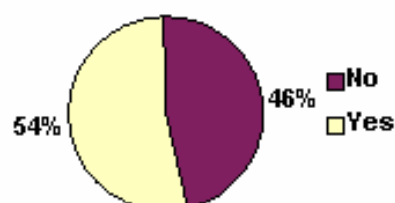
**Fig 18**

The sorts of crimes that those students had been victims of were:

- Theft (other than mobile phone) – 21%.
- Mobile phone theft – 15%.
- Theft from car/vehicle – 11%.
- Physical assault in the street – 8%.
- Burglary – 7%.
- Attempted robbery – 7%.
- Car/vehicle theft – 5%.
- Robbery – 5%.
- Vandalism to vehicle – 3%.
- Attempted burglary – 3%.

Other crimes included one rape (though this was during time in home area of Leicester), one

If you have been a victim of crime did you tell the police?



## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

vandalism to residence, one Internet fraud and one hit and run in a vehicle. 96% of those who had been a victim of crime told someone, be it a friend, family, lecturer, social worker, police, doctor, University security, student union, domestic bursars, bouncers or insurance companies. However of those that had been a victim the following shows how many did and did not report it to the police:

**Fig 19**

The table below shows the kind of crimes that were more often reported to the police against those that were more often not.

<u>Crimes more often reported to the police</u>	<u>Crimes more often not reported to the police</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Robbery</li><li>▪ Burglary</li><li>▪ Attempted robbery</li><li>▪ Theft from car/vehicle</li><li>▪ Rape (one victim)</li><li>▪ Internet fraud (one victim)</li><li>▪ Hit and run in vehicle (one victim)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mobile phone theft</li><li>▪ Theft (other than mobile phone)</li><li>▪ Physical assault on the street</li><li>▪ Car/vehicle theft</li><li>▪ Attempted burglary (two victims)</li><li>▪ Vandalism to vehicle (two victims)</li><li>▪ Vandalism to residence (one victim)</li></ul>

From these results it appears that mobile phone theft is the least likely crime to be reported to the police. In fact only 22% of those who had had their mobile phone stolen reported the theft to the police.

Other results from this section included the following:

- 79% did not know how to contact Victim Support Services.
- 56% answered yes when asked if there was public transport information available in the University (34% said there was not and 6% did not know).
- 50% were given a list of reputable cab numbers when starting University.
- 45% did not know they contact the CRIMESTOPPERS number to give information about a crime anonymously.
- 74% would find it useful if the University displayed information about recent crimes on notice boards or the website (though some of those who said they would not find it useful suggested that this was ‘scare mongering’).
- 93% would find it useful if information that helps prevent them from becoming a victim of crime was made available.

If they did think that information that helps prevent them from becoming a victim of crime would be useful they were also asked how they would want to see this information. They were given the suggestions of University website, information pack, notice boards and other (here they were asked to specify).

Notice boards were the most popular option with 67% wanting to see it delivered this way. The next most popular was via the website with 62%. Information packs got 48%. Other got 5% and suggestions that were made included via email, flyers, sent by post to residence, workshop, presentation, text message, monthly meetings, newsletter and information displayed in the bar.

The last question in the survey was asking whether the students had any suggestions about how the University, council and police can help to improve student safety at Roehampton. 30% made some kind of suggestion. The following is a summary of the suggestions made (see Appendix 3 (page 24) for full response):

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- 36% (of those who had made suggestions – 11% of survey) thought security should be increased and/or improved in some way. Suggestions included more security officers, more patrolling, tighter security, random ID checks, security more accessible, better security at front gate, security escorts to halls at night time and security to show less interest in whether a student is a campus resident before giving their help.
- 17% thought there should be more free bus services to and from the campus and they should be made more available, especially in the evenings (5% of survey).
- 16% thought more/clearer information should be made available to increase student awareness of crime and crime prevention (5% of survey).
- 14% thought that the lighting on campus should be improved/increased (4% of survey).
- 4% thought parking should be made available on or near campus.
- 4% thought self defence classes should be offered.
- 3% thought there should be cash points on campus to limit leaving the campus.
- 3% thought emergency call boxes or buttons that are linked directly to security should be installed around the campus.
- 3% thought student awareness of insurance should be increased.
- 3% thought there should be more CCTV.

Other suggestions included:

- Improve road safety.
- Increase accommodation on campus.
- Provide more opportunities and activities for young members of the community to divert them from crime.
- Increase police presence on and around campus.
- Improve fire safety standards in halls of residence.
- Meetings with the police.
- Hold more events on campus.
- Monitor non-Roehampton students closer.
- Allow access to halls to less people/improve privacy.
- Allow taxis access to campus to make pick-ups and drop-offs.
- Hold presentations/seminars on security and personal safety.
- Have safety inspections of halls of residence.
- Improve halls of residence security.
- Provide personal bodyguards.

## **Recommendations**

A meeting has been scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> May 2003 for all parties that may have some interest or involvement in crime and students safety in and around Roehampton University. The purpose is to discuss the results of the survey and the steps that may be taken to improving student safety and reducing fear of crime. The following is a list of those who have been asked to attend:

- Wandsworth Borough Council – Community Safety Division:
  - Community Safety Manager
  - Community Safety Officer
  - Senior Projects Officer
  - Wandsafe Officer
  - Watchlink Officer
- Wandsworth Borough Council – Area Manager of Housing Department
- Wandsworth Borough Council – Senior Transportation Officer
- YOT Crime Prevention Officer
- Metropolitan Police Service:
  - Wandsworth Borough Liaison Officer
  - Wandsworth Crime Prevention Officer
  - Area Beat Officer
- Roehampton University:
  - Student Union
  - Head of Security
  - Accommodation Office Manager
  - Deputy Principals
  - Head of Counselling
  - Director of Estates
  - Residence Managers
  - Pro Rectors of Services
  - Reach Out Co-ordinator
- British Transport Police
- South West Trains
- London Bus Operators
- Richmond Borough Council – Community Safety Division
- Wandsworth Borough Victim Support Co-ordinator
- Crimestoppers
- Endsleigh Insurance Co.
- The five winning students

## **Appendix 1**

### **Responses to the question: Do you feel unsafe when walking to, from and around the University?**

#### **Yes, where?**

- Barnes station traffic is bad and there is no pedestrian crossing. Danebury Avenue is also unsafe, as it's full of gangs of kids.
- Walking around Roehampton campus at night: Barnes and Putney Bridge stations.
- Night-time from Digby to Froebel and vice versa.
- Because I have to walk alone often through the Alton Estate.
- I feel worried at night when walking to Southfields station; the road is dark and scary.
- Evening/late night walking from East Putney to Uni campus Keswick Rd.
- The alleyway leading to Barnes Station.
- Worried about walking from the station because there aren't many people around after 7pm.
- Alton Estate.
- In the evening to and from Mount Clare as you have to walk through a housing estate.
- Barnes Bridge by the train station. Estate by Mount Clare.
- Roehampton Lane near Uni, near the co-op. Alton Estate. Clarence Lane (so dark).
- Anywhere that is slightly isolated when I am on my own.
- Alton estate especially (as a woman living in this area).
- I live on an estate and it can be daunting walking through alone when it's dark.
- At night when walking from the tube or from Southfields on your own.
- Sometimes when walking alone in or around the Alton Estate or anywhere at night.
- Usually at night walking along West Hill as nobody seems to be around.
- Only in the evening walking back to Mount Clare from the main campus or when we have been out.
- Walking to and from Uni but not around.
- Around Danebury Ave., shops - kids misusing fireworks.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- Walking to the Uni from Mount Care, through the estate.
- When walking around on the estate I live.
- At night.
- At night around the Lytton Grove Sutherland Rd and on campus.
- I live on the Alton Estate due to there being no space in halls. I heard it is a rough area, which concerns me. There are often groups of kids, which concerns me as it is said that it's the kids that make the trouble.
- On my own on the streets in urban areas, especially when there aren't many people around.
- Whilst travelling on public transport i.e. tube and bus.
- Around the Alton Estate/Danebury Ave.
- When got train didn't like walking through alleyway in woods to Barnes station.
- Danebury Avenue, all the kids from the council estate. Froebel, walking at night through trees.
- Around the Alton Estate between Uni and Mount Clare. All because of the horrible stories.
- I do feel safe during the day but at night-time when coming back from the union pub I feel unsafe walking through the estate. I always make sure that I walk in pairs or more. I feel unsafe walking through the openness of the fields when coming back to Mount Clare. I feel so unsafe cause it's so open around that area.
- When walking back from work late at night because of the attacks in the area. I now have my friends pick me up from work, in Southfields.
- At night around the garden areas.
- Only at night- time near New Court on Froebel College as there are trees. There are streetlights but it still isn't very well lit. Also sometimes the security gate at Froebel is open all night - only occasionally though.
- In the dark, when alone around campus & outside in quiet places.
- Only late at night after returning from work.
- Walking through the Alton Estate especially at night, I get worried walking from Mount Clare as large groups of teenagers etc. hang around nearby, they can be intimidating.
- The Alton Estate and Roehampton High Street. Lots of young people hanging around these areas.
- Crossing traffic lights between Barnes station and Roehampton Lane.
- Barnes station is very unsafe. Crossing the big intersection, which has no pedestrian crossing.
- Walking through the Alton Estate alone early mornings (for school placement) and early evenings.
- From Mount Clare to campus and vice versa at night. Alton Estate.
- Barnes station and Danebury Avenue.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- In the evening when I go back to the campus. If I'm carrying shopping and there are too many bags I'm afraid of teenagers robbing me and stealing my wallet.
- Barnes Station.
- The Alton Estate and all of Roehampton Lane towards Roehampton Vale. Barnes Station because the path is below road level. General levels of crime in the area seem to be high. Friends living on Danebury Avenue can't get pizza delivered because the delivery guy gets beaten up and they have had stones thrown at the windows.
- Along Roehampton Lane, coming from Roehampton to Uni.
- Sometimes at night because of the greenery and security are not that strict.
- Roehampton Lane is dark. Whitelands college from Southfields station is dark
- From Barnes train station.
- Walking around the Alton and other estates at night. Fear of attacks.
- Students cannot park in the grounds. I live a long way away and drive in. I have to park in surrounding roads - I drive into Dover Home Rd, then crossway. From there I walk through the alleyway to an estate which comes out opposite the Uni on Roehampton Lane. I feel very worried about the alleyway - it is enclosed with high walls - once you are in, there is no easy escape. I would like to stay late to use computers at Uni but never do because I don't want to walk down the alleyway when its done.
- Walking home from work at night (10.30).
- Mount Clare late at night.
- Walking around the Alton Estate late a night due to recent attacks.
- All of the time during the day especially term time. Not the case during late evening and at weekends when there doesn't appear to be much security presence.
- At night time when on own. Walking from Digby to Froebel is quite dark and not many people are around also a lot of bushes.
- When it starts to get dark early in the evening and your lectures go on later than thought.
- The alleyway near Barnes station at night.
- Walking to Putney & Southfields in the dark.
- Around Froebel after dark. On my way home (takes 1 and half hours) between college and stations at Barnes and Norwood Junction.
- As the council put in more and more pay and display I have to walk further to my car which is the only time I feel nervous.
- Sometimes walking back from work in Putney at night. Would be nice if gate on West Hill was open to save us walking along Sutherland Grove late at night.
- Walking home from Uni late at night on Alton Estate.
- Walking home in dark along Lytton Grove (Putney). Usually Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights.
- From Barnes station along Roehampton Lane going to Froebel.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- Would be walking about Roehampton outside Uni at night - though would never do it unless with a group of people.
- Feel unsafe travelling back home from Uni at night especially walking to Southfields tube station and around that area.
- I live on Sherfield Gardens and feel unsafe when walking down the adjoining footpath when returning home after being at Uni. The footpath is not well lit (sometimes not at all) and at night is quite scary.
- Walking home after the bar to Southfields.
- Putney - Upper Richmond Road. So I carry a tool.
- Going to Froebel College.
- St Claire - feel exposed walking though estate during dark evenings during autumn and winter.
- Sometimes around Barnes station - very dimly lit and have to walk through a forest area in the night - dangerous.
- At night or after late evening lectures walking when it's dark from the Whitelands campus to Southfields station. There are currently lots of road works meaning area of pavement can't be used - and poor lighting in some areas.
- When I'm walking through the estate where I live.
- Walking to Mount Clare as it is a secluded area.
- Around my estate. Lots of kids always hanging around and lots of crime reported there.
- Outside the university walking around main road. I have heard of problems before.
- I live on Danebury Avenue, which is known for being notorious say and night. I was very disappointed that this is where the majority of places on the Uni housing list were. I can't walk home from Uni because my lectures finish in the evening, but I can't park either! It's been a nightmare!
- I don't like going to the library late at night because I have to travel far. I don't like Barnes station.
- At night, walking to tube station.
- As an athlete I have to go training twice a week. And since training ends about 9.00pm, I feel very unsafe walking down the road as it gets dark very early and there are no streetlights especially down Sutherland Grove.
- Walking along the path from Barnes station towards Roehampton Lane because of its proximity to the trees and undergrowth.
- Keswick Rd and the road that continues on, round the bend. It is dark, trees, hiding places.
- After dark.
- At night.
- When walking from Barnes station up towards the Uni and this is in the daytime or early evening as not much street lighting.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- The path on approach to Barnes station (below road and quiet). Walking down side of A3.
- Roehampton Village, Alton Estate.
- From Southfields station or to the station at night when my last lecture finishes at 6pm.
- I feel safe within the Uni grounds however at night Sutherland Grove is a bit scary but because we're normally a group of people its okay. Also walking home from work in Putney, Keswick Rd is a little bit dodgy.
- Anytime in the dark, even if it's 5 in the afternoon. When I'm alone.
- Around the Alton Estate - especially when going to Sainsburys Local etc.
- Roehampton Lane is quite a long road and dark. After getting money from ATM is scary. On the way from Southfields station to Whitelands is too.
- Only at night. Clarence Lane and Priory Lane. You never know who's about.
- Walking around the local area, as it is not somewhere I know very well and I am not sure how safe it really is, especially at night.
- It's a quiet road where I park or when I walk back to the station.
- Walking from Mount Clare to the Uni. Groups of children (16yrs) shouting and throwing things.
- I sometimes feel unsafe when walking when its is dark because a number of thefts have been reported around here.
- I live at Mount Clare and I am concerned about the surrounding area, especially at night and sometimes during the day when youths are about.
- Around Alton Estate - Barnes station is badly lit and unpatrolled.
- Walking to bus stops at night when it's dark. Also walking from my house to the bus stop at any time (Hammersmith) due to fear of attack because of all the stories I hear.
- Alton Estate, from Uni to Mount Clare.
- Mainly to and from Whitelands College and East Putney/Southfields tube stations.
- Walking through the estate. Because a friend and I have been harassed before when walking to Uni. A car full of Asian men would not leave us alone and tired to touch me. We were going to Squeeze at about 9.00pm.
- After 12.00 midnight. Get off the bus to walk home. I am afraid somebody will attack me.

## **Appendix 2**

### **Responses to the question: Have you been a victim of crime since starting at University?**

#### **Yes, details**

- My car was broken into over Christmas.
- Theft of sheepskin jacket.
- Hit and run in car.
- I was mugged for my mobile phone a year before starting Uni.
- I have had my bag stolen with my house keys, mobile phone, money and wallet.
- Not directly but friends' bikes were stolen from our back garden.
- Mobile phone was stolen at the Bop last Friday.
- I had my wallet stolen from my flat by the cleaner.
- Attempted mugging outside campus, Roehampton Lane.
- About £1000 of my stuff was nicked out of a van along with 7 other players stuff whilst out playing football. Lock got drilled in. Bag, phone, wallet, clothes all taken.
- Internet fraud.
- Have been robbed at knifepoint on a night out on Kingston, and I was a victim of an attempted robbery on campus.
- Possibly had wallet stolen, or lost it - not sure.
- Theft of mobile and belongings from all of residence when in first year.
- Victim of armed robbery on the street in Kingston.
- Mobile phone and wallet stolen.
- Got purse stolen whilst in central London.
- Burglary of my last residence. I was not home, had my laptop, camera and money stolen.
- Mobile stolen whilst in Kingston.
- House robbed.
- Physical contact from two men walking behind me told me they had a knife.
- Mobile phones and mini disc player stolen from room in Uni by outsiders.
- I have witnessed an attack on Roehampton Lane.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- Attempted mugging (incident report for Nov 11th). Along Roehampton lane two youths approached me and two girls for our phones and wallets.
- Had my wallet stolen from my room while I was about 10 metres away.
- Mobile phone stolen twice. Wimbledon in my first year. Alton Youth Club - where I work.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- My moped was stolen from outside my house in Kingston last year.
- Theft/burglary
- Mobile stolen from room in first year. Coat stolen from kitchen in third year (particularly devastating as it was middle of winter and couldn't afford a new one).
- My car was broken into and stereo equipment & clothes were stolen.
- Attempted mugging walking back from Texaco.
- In first year someone broke into best friend's car and stole CDs and video games, some of which were mine.
- Car broken into & bag stolen.
- Attacked in the street.
- Burglary - 2002.
- Attempted mugging. Attempted forced entry to our house. Car was broken into/windows smashed etc.
- Raped at home in Leicester.
- Someone stole my number-plate.
- Attacked when walking home.
- Purse was stolen in restaurant.
- Somebody ripped off my car wing mirror and scratched the paint.
- Our window got smashed and we had a break-in at Templeton. Both when security were not on duty.
- I have been attacked in the streets at night-time when I was lost in an area I was not familiar with.
- Phone stolen.
- Wallet was stolen. Wheel stolen off car in first month of being at Uni. Mobile phone stolen from room at Uni. Stolen mobile phone, Froebel College 2002.

## **Appendix 3**

# **Responses to the question: Any suggestions of how we can help to improve safety at university?**

## **Suggestions**

- Better/tighter security especially at night.
- Make students more aware through displaying more public notices on campus and in parks.
- More available info.
- Notices on how to stay safe. More security guards on patrol.
- Clear info. about insurance is urgently needed. Especially international students like me. Have no idea how to sign up.
- Put pedestrian crossing at large intersection and tell council to improve situation at station.
- More, brighter light.
- If parking was available on campus it may limit street robbery or theft or rape as those who commute via car would not have to walk for ages just to get to their car and therefore may avoid these attacks. Also the gates at Froebel which are used to walk to Danebury Ave. are locked at a certain time. This insures safety for those staying on campus but otherwise you have to walk longer, and maybe on your own which may lighten danger of attack.
- Enough accommodation for first years to stay on campus.
- Better lighting at night.
- Let people know what's happening around the area.
- I live at home so don't spend much time here. Possibly better lighting in dark areas.
- Allow for parking nearer or on campus.
- Whitelands College is located in a very dark street at night. There needs to be much more lighting in and around the Uni including neighbouring streets.
- More lighting.
- Open gate on West Hill. Always have somebody in hut.
- I don't live in the area so it's not really relevant to me but I appreciate what you're trying to do.
- Random ID checks.
- Fight poverty and cheap activities for youths - so gangs aren't formed and drug networks continued.
- The only problems are with security - they are very helpful & supportive however sometimes they are not easy to get hold of and when phoning the hut no one answers - I understand this is because they are patrolling the grounds but perhaps it would be good to ensure there is enough staff for one to be in the hut at all times.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- More accessible security guards.
- Having a cashpoint within the Uni grounds so that we don't have to walkout late at night for money.
- Have more people living on campus.
- Bus services to Putney during day and night.
- Regular updates.
- Too easy to get into the Uni.
- More info on crimes in the area so we can know where to avoid.
- A cash machine on site at Whitelands.
- Frequent transportation into town especially in the evenings.
- More lighting around the walkways. More security guards patrolling after dark.
- Better lights between Froebel and Digby Stuart, as it is woody and scary.
- More security officers on campus at night.
- I feel safe walking around Uni anyway because it is well lit at night and there is always good security.
- Bus service to St. Claire during dark evenings.
- Have more security presence especially evening and at weekends - when there are less people around. On occasion I have walked straight into the building and have seen no one around.
- More lights are needed on the streets surrounding Uni grounds.
- Check student cards. Maybe have security officers walking around campus.
- By checking ID cards ensuring who comes in and who goes out.
- Better security at front gate it seems too easy to get in.
- On campus it is all safe due to security guards but the moment I leave and walk to the station down the long, dark road - anything could happen. There definitely has to be more lighting and perhaps police patrolling the area.
- Personal bodyguards.
- Regular info and contract with the students.
- Entry system cards.
- Shutdown Mt Clare. It is not safe to walk around at night. All the locals burgle you or try to in the summer.
- More encouragement to insure goods.
- I have only been here 2 weeks and know little to nothing of current security etc. So it would be too hard to make comment at this point.
- Regular notification of criminal activities in the area.
- The free buses should have more than just the driver, maybe a security officer or second member of the RSU. And should always request to see a Roehampton ID card before

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

admitting people on to the buses.

- Escorts to Froebel at night-time by security. Froebel grounds and Southlands Lake better lit (or trees cut back) at all times of the day.
- I know there isn't the staff but on a Friday night as a group we will rarely go to Bop because Whitelands students always push onto the bus. They will shout at us saying that we can walk home etc. (because we only live over the road). As there is all this bother to get on the bus after Bop we usually don't go or we'll walk home. It would be good if we could get more buses for a Friday night but I understand your circumstances.
- More transport between Mount Clare and Uni.
- Make students more aware of dangers around the area and safety measures.
- Blocks at Mount Clare only have front door as fire exit, no other way for people upstairs to get out as windows only open slightly. The free bus does not pick up from Mount Clare to go to Ponana on Tuesdays, only drops people off there!
- Mount Clare blocks have no fire exit only the front door. If a fire on the stairs occurs everyone is upstairs is stuck and windows in bedroom don't open more than six inches.
- Free buses to Ponana don't pick up from Mount Clare!
- Get better security staff who aren't bone idle.
- Provide transport (charged if necessary) between college other boroughs e.g. Croydon, Clapham etc. I haven't been able to attend events due to problems in getting home afterwards. I know there are others who have the same problems.
- Some areas on the woodland walks are not lit at all well and at night are quite dangerous.
- Monthly meetings with CPOs to highlight matters in the community.
- Provide more transport to and from Mount Clare, more CCTV. Maybe increase relations between students and the local community.
- Increase security staff numbers and make sure they are more vigilant.
- Improve security. Don't let anyone walk in.
- More buses to and from Uni. More security guards.
- By improving parking at both sites would. This would reduce the distance people have to walk from the car to Uni and vice versa - reducing the risks of attacks etc.
- A free and regular service from Barnes station (I feel strongly about this). Increased amounts of parking on campus/a safe area near campus. More frequent train service from Barnes to Clapham Junction.
- Have security visible at the Clarence Lane/Froebel Gate. Hold more events on campus - thus meaning we don't have to travel too far late at night.
- Being given info about local crime.
- More security guards, especially in the evening at all gates including Froebel.
- Offer a self-defence course. Provide fire blankets in the halls of residence kitchens.
- Get cameras to aim at bus stop and cash point outside Uni.
- Maybe inter college bus service to serve some estates after events and in the dark (Putney

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

Vale).

- Extension phones to security more available around college. Currently internal phones only in halls of residence or offices. More patrolling around the lake etc. on event nights, as it is shaded, dark and secluded in many places. Closer monitoring of non-Roehampton students entering grounds on event nights.
- Security needs to be improved but still has to respect the students.
- Personally I think the back gate at Froebel should be secured by security guards so that people living behind the University would be able to get home on time by going through those gates.
- 24 hour security at Templeton.
- Perform safety inspections to ensure the University is keeping up to standards. The main door to my block hasn't had a lock at any time during this academic year. Perhaps lighting could be better around wooded areas.
- The campus is quite open, more cameras or security checks of ID.
- More information to students. More awareness on current issues.
- It's great apart from Barnes and Danbury Avenue.
- Do self defence courses
- Security could be interested in helping without asking if we are students living on campus first. Halls could be more secure as random mechanics, hall supervisors, cleaners and security regularly access our flat without our knowledge or consent - they don't even knock. Our flat is not treated as if it is our home; there is no respect for our feelings or concerns about access to our rooms/flat. Security have let themselves in during the night before and not explained why they were there.
- Most people who are working for the Uni have access to our halls without our prior knowledge or consent. Similarly the cleaners have access to both our flat and our rooms when we are not there. We cannot be sure that our belongings will be secure in our own flat as strangers have full access.
- To give more student awareness around Uni. Hold self defence classes so students feel safer, or classes on how to be more crime aware,
- More mini bus services from the Uni to Mount Clare.
- Transport from Uni to Mount Clare more often.
- I think that there should be a bus service from Mount Clare to the Uni. Also on student nights a bus should come and pick up students at Mount Clare.
- To increase police around the Alton housing estate. To increase bus to and from campus to Mount Clare.
- Cash points inside Uni so students don't have to go onto Roehampton Lane at night if they need to get cash. Taxis should be allowed into Uni to pick up and drop off students. Apart from that student safety is good, especially at the Bop, the security is much better now than it was last year.
- Perhaps a self defence class or a personal safety evening providing info, talking about personal alarms, property marking mobile etc.

## **Student Safety and Fear of Crime in and around Roehampton University**

- Better lighting around campus. Security guards patrolling campus during the evening. Front gates locked at night. Only allowed in if have ID card/reason for being there. More cars should be stopped on arrival at Uni as who knows who's coming in!
- Tell me good insurance company for international students.
- Security patrolling rather than in office. More police involvement with non-students entering campus. Emergency call boxes on campus - noticeable - direct link to security. Improved lighting, especially at lake in Froebel and around halls at Linden, Willow, Aspen - needs to be well-lit on paths and road, not just buildings.
- More light. Emergency help buttons.
- Installation of emergency help and buttons on and around campus.