

New online crime map of England exposes black spots

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The , which was such a hit it crashed under the weight of users, is intended to give people the data needed to hold the local constabulary to account and let people track how crime is being tackled in their area.

The data covers the previous month, giving the approximate location of incidents reported to the police.

The site revealed that the most crime-ridden [neighbourhood](#) last month centred on Glovers Court in Preston, northwest England.

It saw 44 violent crimes, 73 instances of anti-social behaviour, one [robbery](#), a [burglary](#) and 33 other crimes.

The site crashed in its first few hours online after 75,000 attempts to access it per minute.

The information is broken down into six categories: burglary, robbery, violence, vehicle crime, anti-social behaviour and other crime, which includes sex offences and shoplifting to help prevent victim identification.

Policing Minister Nick Herbert said it was the first time that information in this detail had been provided on a country-wide scale.

Home Secretary Theresa May dismissed fears that it would send house prices plummeting in some areas of property-obsessed Britain.

"This is giving people a real tool, real power to see that something is being done about crime in their area," the interior minister said.

"This doesn't make them frightened, it actually makes them feel a part of what is happening. This will give them the real facts and figures."

"We can't sweep crime under the carpet. We have to tell the truth about crime... and give the [information](#) and the power to the public.

"It's going to be a transformation in the public's ability to hold the police to account and drive action against crime and anti-social behaviour."

[Crime](#) trends will be established as the site develops, and it could include

details on the outcomes of court cases.

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