



WHAT IS HAPPENING?

A STUDY OF THE DECREASING CRIME RATES IN LANDSKRONA

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This paper is written in a collaboration with the Swedish Police in Landskrona. Based on their request to know more about the decreasing crime rates in Landskrona the purpose of the study is to highlight and create knowledge about possible explanations for these changes. The study consists of semi-structured interviews with different stakeholders from the Police, Municipality and the County Administrative Board. These individuals' perceptions are used in order to discover what is happening in Landskrona. During the examined ten-year period it has been possible to distinguish a downward trend in terms of reported crimes in Landskrona. The result shows several possible explanations to this trend but, the most consistent findings are; effective collaboration mainly between the Police and the municipality, various investments toward youths both social and educational and huge investments in urban development. These investments are used as possible explanations for the changes in reported crime in Landskrona and perceived to play a pivotal role when it comes to understand the decreasing crime rates.

Keywords: Crime rates, Landskrona, perceptions, professionals, reported crime, qualitative.

Thank you!

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Malmö, August year 2019

Hanna Gustafsson

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1. INTRODUCTION

Crime is a serious social problem that has received much attention within the public debate for a long period of time. The reason for this is largely due to the fact that crime affects individuals either directly or indirectly but also because of the social and economic impact crime has on society as a whole (Lab 2016). Crime is found in all communities in Sweden, but some areas and cities are characterized by a higher degree of crime than others. For a couple of years, the Swedish Police have conducted a national survey regarding crime level impact in the local community. The survey aims to identify areas that can be defined as vulnerable, at risk or particularly vulnerable (Polisen 2017). Landskrona or more specifically the area Karlslund (in Landskrona) is classified as one of a total of 23 particularly vulnerable areas in Sweden (ibid.). Apart from factors such as low socio-economic status and high criminal impact which can be found in vulnerable areas those areas defined as particularly vulnerable are also considered to be characterized by parallel societal structures, extremism and a high concentration of criminal individuals (ibid.). In order to improve these problematic areas, the police authority has allocated additional resources to these areas to be able to reduce crime (ibid.).

When it comes to reducing crime, prevention should be a vital component (Welsh & Farrington 2014) yet politicians and practitioners generally don't take crime prevention as seriously as crime itself (Wikström 2007). Crime is identified as a problem that we need to *do* something about rather than something we need to *know* more about; this creates a mantra of *doing without knowing* which may even aggravate the ongoing situation and cause major economic and social losses (ibid.). However, the Police in Landskrona have noticed a downward trend in terms of reported crime which may be the opposite of doing without knowing.

1.1 Aim and research questions

This study strives to, through semi-structured interviews, identify perceptions from various stakeholders within the criminal justice system regarding the changes in reported crime in Landskrona and what factors they use in order to explain these changes. The study's results could be expected to assist the Police and municipality with knowledge to better understand the downward crime trend that has been going on in Landskrona for the past few years. Against this background, the study aims to answer the following questions:

1. *How do different stakeholders within the Police, municipality and County Administrative Board perceive the changes in reported crime in Landskrona from 2009 to 2018?*
2. *What do they attribute to these changes?*

2. BACKGROUND

During this section a background will be provided in order to understand the origin of the study and its aim and research questions. Therefore, there will be a section regarding terminology used followed by a brief description of Landskrona and how reported crime has developed over the past ten years.

2.1 Terminology

In order to highlight issues related to crime, for example, what structure, level and development crime has, crime statistics are useful. But there are different types of crime statistics that are used for different purposes. When development of crime is studied, and questions regarding what crime types have decreased or increased, statistics on reported crime are often used. Reported crime include all events that have been reported and registered as a crime by the Police authority, the Prosecutor authority, the Customs and the Economic Crime authority (Brottsförebyggande rådet 2019a)¹. Through the information from reported crime it's therefore possible to study the changes of crime over time, however when analyzing reported crimes, it is important to be aware of its limitations.

2.1.1 A simplified picture

Since reported crime only concerns those crimes that has been reported to the previous stated authorities' it's vital to understand that these statistics do not reflect the actual crime level in a society (Brå 2019a). There are many crimes that never get reported, so called *dark figures*, which make it impossible to study the actual crime level (ibid.). In order to get knowledge about the actual crime level it's necessary to account for other sources of information, like The Swedish Crime Survey (SCS) which is an annual survey that examine attitudes and experiences of victimization, fear of crime and confidence in the justice system (Brå 2008). With this knowledge in mind it's not hard to comprehend that the actual crime level is higher than the reported crime level, however, this differs depending on crime type (ibid.). The tendency to report crime varies a lot between different crime types, that is, some crime types suffer from higher dark figures than others and are more or less common to reach the authorities (Brå 2006). For example, there's a big difference in tendency to report if it concerns crime against person or crime against property and this due to different factors. The reporting levels for crime types such as burglary or theft are high since a report is necessary in order to get insurance money. Whilst when it comes to crime types that concerns crime against person factors like the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator and the severity of the crime is vital, which is why these types of crime tend to have lower reporting levels and therefore higher dark figures (ibid.). This indicates that statistics over reported crime only, for some crime types, can give a relatively fair picture of how many crimes have actually happened.

2.1.2 An increase is not always negative

When analyzing this type of statistics, it's essential to know how to interpret the results. Reported crime depends on two things, either that the person who the crime concerns report the crime or that the police and other authorities detect the crime themselves (Brå 2006). This means that the tendency to report crime can change over time because of the authority's possibilities to detect crime and the

¹ Reported crime also includes those events that, after investigation, is proved to be other than crime (Brå 2019a).

society's tendency to report crime (Brå 2006.). Except from the tendency to report crime there are several other factors that affect the level of reported crime. For instance, changes in the law where old laws get replaced by new laws which either creates an increase or a decrease when looking at the statistics (ibid.). Likewise, do the reported crime levels depend on the police working methods, let's say they increase their traffic controls and their reconnaissance insert against narcotic then there will automatically be an increase in the statistics because more crimes are detected (Brå 2018). Consequently, this does not necessarily indicate that these crime types have actually increased, but rather the police have detected more crimes (ibid.) which should be seen as something positive even if the statistics increased due to this. It's also essential to know that these statistics show the date of the reported crime and not the actual date when the crime occurred (except for those crimes that are registered the same day), this means that if a person reports being abused several times during several years this will be registered the same date as the report takes place (Brå 2006).

2.2 Landskrona

In the very south part of Sweden, close to Denmark, Skåne region is located and Landskrona is found in the west part of Skåne between Helsingborg and Lund (see Figure 1). Apart from the fact that Landskrona has developed into a multicultural city in recent decades, the population has also increased from about 41,000 in 2009 to approximately 46,000 in 2018 (Statistiska centralbyrån 2019). The city is characterized by quite a young population since one third is below 27 years and more than half of the population is below the age of 39 (ibid.). When looking at the number of youths in the city, it can be stated that there are slightly less youths between 13 -18 today compared to 2009 and the same goes for young adults between 20-25 years (ibid.). In terms of gender distribution, these figures are almost equally divided within the municipality (ibid.). Furthermore, there has been an increase of people who have post-secondary education (SCB 2019) and according to Arbetsförmedlingen (2019) the level of unemployment has decreased about 14 percent since 2009.

Historically Landskrona has suffered from a tough economic and social situation due to the shutdown of the ship industry in the 1980's which generated problems such as unemployment, criminality and xenophobia (Listerborn & Baeten 2016). However, for a period of time there's been a decreasing trend regarding these factors, for example nowadays Landskrona has the lowest number of reported crime since year 2000 and the unemployment has decreased (Landskrona stad 2019). Yet the city still suffers from the reputation as a dangerous and unsafe city (ibid.).

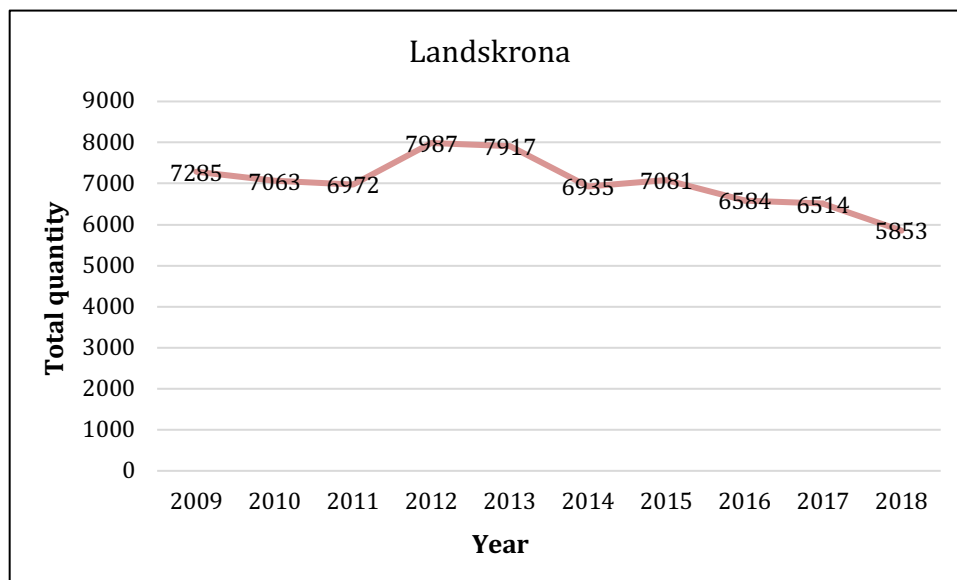


Figure 1. Map over Landskrona.

2.2.1 The overall development of crime

In 2018 a total number of 5.853 crimes were reported in Landskrona compared to 7.285 2009 (see Table 1). During the last ten years (2009-2018) the number of reported crimes has decreased by 1.432 which gives a percentage decrease by 20 percent. The development of the overall crime level in Landskrona has continuously decreased since the beginning of the 21th century and up until today Landskrona have the lowest number of reported crimes since 2000 (Landskrona stad 2019).

Table 1. All reported crime in Landskrona year 2009 - 2018



2.2.2 The crime structures

In table 2 Landskronas crime structure during 2018 are presented by crime categories while table 3 shows the development of the crime categories. In 2018, theft and acquisitive crimes accounted for 43 percent of all reported crimes followed by crime against person which accounted for 24 percent. Crimes against the traffic crime law accounted for ten percent, vandalism crimes nine percent, crimes against the narcotic law seven percent, fraud crimes six percent and other crimes one percent. Regarding how the crime categories has developed during the last ten years (2009-2018) it can be noted that some have increased while others has decreased (see table 3). The largest decrease is found in theft and acquisitive crimes, since year 2009 the crime types that's included in this category has decreased by 1 163 which generates a percentage decrease of 34 percent. Crime against narcotic law stands for the second largest decrease (-33%) followed by vandalism crimes (-30%) and fraud crimes (-13%). In contrast, crime against traffic crime law has increased by 20 percent followed by other crimes (+11%) and crime against person (+2%).

Table 2. Crime categories in percent of the total number of reported crimes in Landskrona 2018.

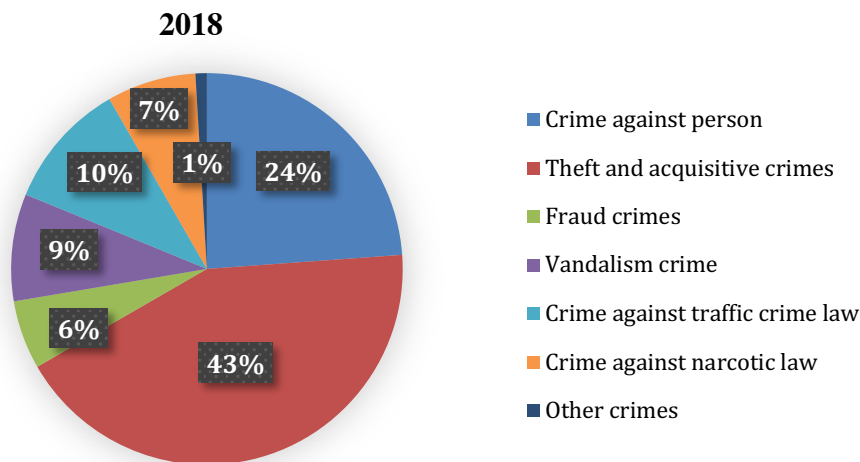


Table 3. Changes in quantity and percentage, within the seven crime categories, of reported crimes between 2009 and 2018.

Landskrona	2009	2018	Quantity difference	Percentage difference
Crime against person	1 240	1 269	29	+ 2 %
Theft and acquisitive crimes	3 441	2 278	- 1 163	- 34 %
Fraud crimes	348	302	- 46	- 13 %
Vandalism crimes	671	471	- 200	- 30 %
Crime against traffic crime law	464	559	95	+ 20 %
Crime against narcotic law	581	391	- 190	- 33 %
Other crimes	45	50	5	+ 11 %

*The percentage differences are rounded.

3. PREVIOUS FINDINGS

Since the study strives to investigate various stakeholders' perceptions of change in reported crime and through this create more knowledge about the downward trend in Landskrona the following section intends to present previous findings regarding a similar topic. More specific, this section will focus on public and professionals' perceptions of crime and crime prevention.

The definition of crime prevention varies, but a common definition is: "Crime prevention is intervention in the causes of criminal and disorderly events to reduce the risk of their occurrence and/or the potential seriousness of their consequences" (Ekblom 2005 p.28). Even though crime prevention is an important overall strategy to reduce crime and have widely public support over place and time (Welsh & Farrington 2014) it can be stated that the public has less knowledge when it comes to specific prevention programs and what is the most

effective responses towards crime (Roberts & Hastings 2014). The European Opinion Research Group carried out a survey for the European Commission in order to investigate the public's opinions regarding crime and crime prevention (European Opinion Research Group 2003). The study covers fifteen European Union member states where around 1,000 people per country were interviewed by telephone, all aged fifteen years and over (ibid.). The survey contains several different statements related to crime and crime prevention where the respondents could either agree or disagree, for example camera surveillance (CCTV), burglar alarms and special door locks can reduce crime, neighborhood watch can reduce crime or young people would commit less crime if they had better education (ibid.). Through the study it could be concluded that crime prevention has a strong public support and that crime prevention targeting young people had the highest level of agreement across all fifteen countries (ibid.). However, it is important to note that the opinions among the public of the most effective ways to reduce crime varied between different countries (ibid.). For example, 90 percent of the respondents in Sweden agreed that neighborhood watch can reduce crime while "only" 50 percent of the respondents in France agreed on this statement.

Since the current study investigates a city located in Sweden the author decided to look more closely at the Swedish opinions that emerged from the European Opinion survey. The result showed that; 88 percent of the respondents agreed that CCTV, burglar alarms and special door locks can reduce crime, 58 percent thought that the Police should share their responsibility for crime prevention with local and national governments, 37 percent believed that the public and organizations can share the responsibility for crime prevention with the Police, 67 percent agreed on that young people will commit less crime if they had better education, 87 percent thought that poverty and unemployment lead young people to commit crime, 89 percent agreed that there should be more crime prevention programs that targets young people and as previously stated 90 percent agreed that neighborhood watch can reduce crime (European Opinion Research Group 2003). In sum, the public at large in Sweden seems to value crime prevention and especially neighborhood watch and interventions towards youths. However, this study was conducted in 2003 and there's reason to believe that this might have changed for the better since crime prevention has become a hot topic within the Swedish Police force and other authorities.

Contrary to the public's views there is also studies regarding crime and crime prevention but where professionals within the criminal justice system have been studied. One of which, is a quantitative study conducted by Ortet-Fabregat and Pérez (1992) who investigated attitudes towards causes of crime, crime prevention and treatment among professionals within the criminal justice system in Catalonia, Spain. The sample consisted of a total of 357 people who were randomly selected and included both police officers, social workers, correctional officers, lawyers, public prosecutors and judges (Ortet-Fabregat & Pérez 1992). Among other things the result showed that social workers and penal justice professionals had very favorable attitudes towards crime prevention, they were more positive towards non-punitive interventions and strongly favored social and educational interventions when it comes to preventing criminal behavior (ibid.). Regarding the police officer's attitudes, the result revealed positive views towards crime prevention due to the fact that the police believed in community based- and social intervention programs (ibid.). However, the police and correctional officers seemed to have more conservative attitudes compared to the social workers which may be because of their profession (ibid.). Ortet-Fabregat and Pérez (1992) concludes that there is a difference in attitudes towards crime

prevention between various groups of professionals but the result from their study and other related studies also show that professionals within the criminal justice system have higher beliefs in social interventions and rehabilitation than classic imprisonment.

Furthermore, another study that's more up to date when it comes to police officers' attitudes towards crime prevention is a Swedish study initiated by The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå 2013). The study was conducted in a Swedish context and aimed to investigate police officers' perceptions and opinions of crime prevention work, more specific which investments they consider to be the most common and the most effective (ibid.). A total of 245 respondents, police officers on patrol duty (local police officers and emergency response officers) and local police chiefs participated in the survey (ibid.). The study revealed that investments towards traffic, youths, alcohol serving environments and investments in police visibility and collaboration are the five most common crime prevention strategies (ibid.). However, the study also concluded that neighborhood watch and information initiatives were considered as common strategies towards crime (ibid.). Regarding the most effective crime prevention investments the answers are consistent with the answers regarding the five most common investments, this means that the Police perceive the most common crime prevention investments also to be the most effective ones (ibid.). However, there were some exceptions. For example, the Police perceived investments towards traffic to be one of the most common investments, but they did not believe it was an effective one (ibid.). In sum, the results indicated that the most effective investments were those aimed at young people and investments in police visibility (ibid.).

4. METHODOLOGY

This section describes the material and the methodological approach that has been applied in the study. Furthermore, the credibility and dependability of the methodological approach will be raised in the upcoming discussion.

The present study is based on a qualitative approach with an inductive alignment and this is because the aim is to study human factors which in this case consists of perceptions from different stakeholders. This choice of a qualitative approach is motivated due to the fact that the current study intends to obtain in-depth information from a fewer number of informants in order to, through captured patterns, describe and understand the complex processes of Landskronas decreasing crime levels (Malterud 2014; Tewksbury 2009). Further, an inductive alignment has been used since it intends to use knowledge from individual cases in order to say something about the general level (Malterud, 2014). More specific, the purpose of this study is to use knowledge from different stakeholders (individual cases) in order to say something about the changes in crime in Landskrona (the general level) (ibid.). Hence is the choice of a qualitative approach with an inductive alignment considered to be motivated.

4.1 Preunderstanding

"The question is not *whether* the researcher affect the process, rather *how*" (Malterud 2014, p. 41). All researchers' regardless of their methodological approach need to possess a critical mind and ask questions about credibility, transferability and dependability (ibid.). Apart from this the researcher also needs to be aware of their personal experiences, hypothesis and professional interests,

more specific their preunderstanding (Denscombe 2018; Malterud 2014). Before entering a research project it's important to be aware of the preunderstanding since it can either give strength to the project or cause insufficient ability to see new perspectives (Malterud 2014). In the present study the authors preunderstanding can to some extent be attributed to her experiences and knowledge that has been obtained from the criminological field. To counteract the possibilities of personal opinions and subjectivity the author has critically reflected on how her preunderstanding can affect the interviews (collection of material) and thereby also the final results. Moreover, before the study began, the author wrote down questions regarding earlier experiences about the studied subject and expected findings. One of the author's expectations were that the registration tendency has decreased and that this partly explains the decreasing crime rates. This self-declaration creates the possibility to compare the result of the study with the self-declaration and thereby control to which extent the preunderstanding has influenced the material (ibid.).

4.2 Sample

The sample constitutes a total of seven informants, all with connections to Landskrona in different ways. Two informants work at the Police, four at the municipality, more specific; two at the Social Services, one former principal² at a high school and one security coordinator and lastly one crime coordinator at the County Administrative Board. This sample is based on a purposive sampling method in form of a so-called snowball sampling, which is characterized by reaching out to the informants through an earlier contact (Bryman 2018). In this case the Police in Landskrona reached out to Malmö University with a request about a cooperation where they asked for help to better understand the decreasing crime rates in Landskrona. After a meeting with the Police, recommendations of potential informants who were considered to have valuable knowledge and good insight into the research area were given. These informants were later contacted through email with a request of participation in the present study. The author considered these participants to be out of interest since they were referred to have a special insight in Landskrona in terms of crime and crime prevention. Also, they were chosen as their different professions was thought to strengthen the dependability of the present study.

4.3 Collection of material

The present study consists of six interviews³, these were conducted through semi-structured face-to-face interviews between April-May 2019. Semi-structured interviews are based on relatively specific themes that the researcher prepares through a so-called interview-guide, these themes then forms the basis for the interviews (Bryman 2018; Denscombe 2018). Compared to structured and unstructured interviews semi-structured interviews enables the researcher to be flexible and adapt the questions based on the informant's answer (ibid.), which is preferable when perceptions are studied (Bryman 2018). Based on the desire to touch the same themes among the informants, despite different occupations, semi-structured interviews were chosen since the questions can be adapted to each individual informant but still touch upon the same theme (Denscombe 2018). The

² This informant (former principal) cannot be categorized as a professional within the criminal justice system but, was of interest due to his/hers many years within the local school and work with youths.

³ The last interview was conducted with two people at the same time, therefore six interviews but seven informants.

choice is also considered to be motivated since the study aims to examine the informant's perception of crime changes in Landskrona.

Before conducting the interviews, the author designed an interview-guide based on the current study research questions (see appendix 3). For the informant to find the situation as relaxed as possible the guide starts off with some background questions regarding the informant's professions (Denscombe 2018). The following questions were based on the chosen themes and most of the questions were open-ended questions that focused on the informant's perceptions of Landskrona as a city, perceptions of crime, perceptions of how reported crime has changed during the past ten-years and what factors they perceive as possible explanations for these changes. Those questions that were closed were followed up by open-ended questions where the informant had the possibility to develop their answer. The aim of the interviews was to encourage the informants to talk as freely as possible about the subject, hence why the interview-guide was only used as a guide per se. Further, in order to get the informants to talk as comprehensively as possible, there were no direct questions about how they perceive the decrease of reported crime in Landskrona, but rather how they perceive the change of reported crime. Subsequently, follow-up questions were asked based on their answer. The interview ended with the informant being given the opportunity to share information that he/she thought the interviewer had missed to ask that could be out of interest for the study.

All interviews took place at the informant's workplace and in a closed environment in order to ease the participation, this also goes in line with the fact that it's preferable if the informant is familiar with the environment in which the interview is carried out (Bryman 2018). First the informant was asked to sign a consent form and then the author asked if there were any questions regarding the information letter that had been sent out by email. Afterwards a request to record the interview was made, all informants agreed on this which enabled the author to fully focus on the informant and reduced potential memory problems when analyzing the material (ibid.). Furthermore, the interviews had a retrospective approach, were conducted in Swedish and took between 35-60 minutes.

4.3.1 Transcription

After collecting the materials through semi-structured interviews, the raw data needs to be processed and organized in order to be able to analyze the material, this is made through a so-called transcription (Kvale and Brinkmann 2009; Malterud 2014). Kvale and Brinkmann (2009) describe transcription as a translation between two different narrative modes, more specific a translation from an oral discourse into a written discourse. In order to facilitate the transcription it's preferable to have recordings with high acoustic quality (Kvale & Brinkmann 2009), the author intended to use a Dictaphone but due to the cost to buy one and the long waiting to borrow one from the university the author decided to use her cellphone. Thereby, the author tried to place the cellphone the best way possible in order to secure the audio.

To avoid losing relevant information the transcription in the current study has been made continuously and in close relation to each interview occasion. The author transcribed the interviews herself which is desirable because the person who conducts the interviews is the best candidate when it comes to clarifying uncertainties in the oral material (Kvale and Brinkmann 2009; Malterud 2014). Apart from this the credibility of the analyzed material is strengthened when the author is responsible for the transcription (Malterud 2014). It's

important to consider that even the most successful recording and transcription only reflects an indirect picture of reality since gesticulations and facial expressions get lost in the process (Malterud 2014.).

Before the start of the transcription, the author prepared guidelines for how the transcription should be carried out, it was for example decided that repetition of words and incoherent expressions should be corrected, something Malterud (2014) call *slightly modified verbatim mode*. This way of transcribing did not change the informant's statements it was rather used as a tool to ease the analysis. Lastly, to maintain the confidentiality requirements of the study all informants' names was recoded into numbers (informants 1-7).

4.4 Analysis

Miles (1979) describes qualitative data as an attractive nuisance because of the analytical difficulties getting through the rich and attractive material. In contrast to quantitative analyzes there are no clear rules for how a qualitative analysis should be carried out, which means that there are several different approaches to choose among (Bryman 2018). For the present study the author has chosen a thematic analysis, one of the most common analytic approaches within the qualitative field (Braun & Clarke 2006). The aim of a thematic analysis is to identify, analyze and report patterns within the collected data, which is considered suitable for the present study in order to answer the research questions (ibid). Further, this analytic approach was chosen because its theoretical freedom offers flexibility which can provide both rich and complex results (ibid.).

There's no clear agreement of how to do a thematic analysis but Clarke and Braun (2006) argue that a thematic analysis consist of six phases, more specific; 1) *Familiarizing yourself with your data*, 2) *Generating initial codes*, 3) *Searching for themes*, 4) *Reviewing themes*, 5) *Defining and naming themes* and 6) *Producing the report*. The author therefore started off reading the transcribed material in order to get an overall impression of the content and then re-reading while taking notes. After this phase the author begun to organize the data into meaningful groups and produced initial codes which were later on sorted into potential themes (ibid.). In the fourth phase the author reviewed and refined the themes since some codes may not fit the existing themes and therefore a refinement is necessary (ibid.). The fifth phase consists of further refining of the themes, the author identified the meaning of each theme and created the final name of the themes that later would be presented in the study (ibid.). Lastly, when writing the results, the author provided several quotations in order to demonstrate the themes prevalence (ibid.). The analysis ended up with a total of four main themes, the themes and sub-themes are specified in appendix 4.

4.5 Ethical considerations

Regardless of the methodological approach all researchers concerned with social sciences need to consider the *criterion of protection of the individual* and the *research criterion* (Vetenskapsrådet 2017). It is crucial for the researcher to be ethically motivated when conduction research for both society and citizens, and the researcher needs to be aware and consider the *criterion of protection of the individual* before, during and after the research process (Kvale & Brinkmann 2009; Vetenskapsrådet 2017). This is because the researcher is responsible for those individuals that participate in the study and for those individuals who can be affected by the research and its results, indirectly (Vetenskapsrådet 2017).

In order to acquire a good research-practice the author of the present study has considered the four most fundamental ethical principles that falls under the *criterion of protection of the individual*, which are; *information requirement*,

consent requirement, confidentiality requirement and the usage requirement (Vetenskapsrådet 2002). To fulfil these requirements the author started off by sending her project plan, information letter and interview guide to the Ethics Council at Malmö University. Since one part of the purpose in the current study is to examine different stakeholder's perceptions of changes in crime in Landskrona the author decided to apply to the Ethics Council. The author did not consider the study to be sensitive but wanted to ensure the Ethics Council that if any personal experience of crime would emerge during the interviews this information would not be presented. This is because the focus is not on personal experiences of crime but rather how they reflect on the changes of crime.

After receiving approval from the Ethical Council (see appendix 1), the author sent out an information letter to the informants where all four ethical principles were presented (see appendix 2). The information letter included a brief description about the author (responsible of the project), the purpose of the study, why individuals have been selected and information about how the participation is voluntary. Further, information about confidentiality was stated, more specific that the collected material only will be examined by the author herself and no one else, that only the author will have access to the audio files, transcriptions and consent forms and that the material will be stored safely and deleted after examination. The information letter also contained information stating that only the material will be used for the purpose of the study and that later on the study will be published at Malmö University Electronic Publishing (MUEP).

Before conducting the interviews, the participants were able to read and fill in a consent form where they either agreed or disagreed participating, and if there were any questions, they could ask the author directly. In addition, in order to ensure the informants anonymity, the author orally informed that their names would not be presented and that any information that could be associated with them would not be revealed.

5. FINDINGS

This section presents the study's findings from the interviews which are presented by those four themes which emerged from the thematic analysis (see appendix 4). Each theme contains several quotes that reflect the content of the informant's statements, these are presented and discussed in order to adequately answer the study's research question.⁴

5.1 The reported crime rates decrease

There's a consensus among the informants regarding the changes in crime in Landskrona the past ten years, whereby all informants perceived that there has been a decrease within the reported crime rates. A majority of the informants spoke about a general trend; that there's a stable downward trend when it comes to the number of reported crimes each year. Some of the informants mentioned that even though it's a general trend it's important to be aware that not all crime categories and crime types decrease, and that the city still face challenges when it comes to reducing criminality. Further, several informants mentioned that Landskrona had been a city that's been having a higher number of reported crimes than the Skåne average but that this has changed.

⁴ Since the interviews were conducted in Swedish the quotations have been translated into English.

“The police have less to do now than ten years ago”.

“There’s been a change, Landskrona approaches the average level of reported crime in Skåne County”

5.1.1 A city under development

In the description of Landskrona as a city all informants considered Landskrona to be a city under development. Several informants described the problems that appeared when the ship industries shutdown and how the image of Landskrona back then still exists and affects the city negatively. Some of the informants explained that even if they work with crime prevention and see the “worst” of Landskrona they don’t think that this should characterize the city as it’s just a small part of what really characterize Landskrona.

“There is an awareness from the local government that we should develop, change and do something better by Landskrona and I believe that the local government has succeeded extremely well with it.”

“We have to stop talking about the shutdown of the ship industries, we are stuck in this, people still nag about it”.

5.2 Low registration tendency

Even though there is a consensus among all informants regarding a downward trend in Landskrona three informants expressed their concern over the registration tendency (regarding crime) in the city. They all agreed that people’s tendency to report crime is low, that the citizens are afraid to report crime and afraid to testify because of threats from perpetrators. One informant spoke about how the general tendency to report crime has become an increased problem today but also how the “young” generation are better to report crime than the “old” generation. Another informant discussed how the tendency to report crime varies between different cultures and that this is a big problem.

“There are a lot of things that people don’t want to report because they are afraid to report, they are very scared of the perpetrator and his/her family and friends”.

“...They differ in the tendency to report crime, origin people may report the smallest crimes example when someone scratched their car or kicked down their mailbox while people who live in the segregated areas may first report when someone in their family has been exposed to a serious crime of violence”.

In contrast to the other informants a fourth informant instead expressed that he/she couldn’t see why the tendency to report crime should have decreased more in Landskrona than in other municipalities in Skåne. The informant explained how the reorganization of the Police created a dip in the tendency to report crime due to the extended time to report but that the reorganization has not affected the Police in Landskrona that much compared to other municipalities. Further, a fifth informant couldn’t see why the tendency to report crime should be lower now compared to ten years ago.

“I can’t see why the tendency to report crime should have decreased more in Landskrona compared to other municipalities in Skåne”.

“I don’t believe that people feel more afraid to report crime now compared to ten years ago, I don’t believe that’s the case”.

5.3 Investments in crime prevention

Based on the result it’s hard to specify which investments have been the most fruitful. The informants mentioned several possible social and situational aspects that they believe has contributed to this improvement in reported crime, which are presented below.

5.3.1 Effective collaboration

Throughout all interviews the collaboration between the municipality, Police and other organizations was raised. All informants mentioned an effective and close collaboration that’s been going on in Landskrona the past ten years, a collaboration based on a common agreement that was carried out year 2009 between the Police and the municipality. Several informants discussed what this agreement has brought Landskrona and refers to the good cooperation that has emerged within the city.

“The agreement has given collaboration, we meet regularly and highlight problems, make common priorities and see that this is our shared difficulties”.

Some of the informants also mentioned a project called “effektiv samverkan för trygghet - EST” (effective collaboration for safety) which was initiated by the municipality in the beginning of 2018⁵. They described how this project has created a consensus between the Police and the municipality regarding Landskronas problems. One of the informants also mentioned that this project is more of a short-term project rather than a long-term project like the agreement that was established in year 2009.

“In EST we do weekly reconciliations to be more coherent in where we have a problem. It’s more about quick handling, it’s not a long-term work in the same sense”.

5.3.1.1 Distinct priorities and sustainability

Several informants mentioned Landskronas distinct priorities in terms of crime prevention and safety creation. They discussed how these questions have been prioritized during a long time and that the city has invested and put a lot of resources towards these questions in order to reduce the total amount of crimes.

“The municipality has been very clear about having crime prevention and safety creation as a prioritized area”.

Further, in three of the interview’s sustainability was a recurring word. The informants talked about the importance of sustainability, how the municipality has collaborated with the Police and organizations for a long time now and that a change neither comes fast or easy. That a change takes time and that there will be setbacks but thanks to the agreement all parties involved have fought despite

⁵ Before EST was initiated there were two groups that mainly consisted of the same participants and which has been around for about ten years. These groups were later on merged with the EST-group.

setbacks and have never given up, the city has sustained both adversity and success and kept their priorities.

“It’s easy to lose pace because you either think ‘now it’s going well so we do not need to focus or prioritize this anymore’ or ‘nothing happens, we work and struggle, but nothing happens anyway’. The city has together with the Police kept their focus no matter what”.

5.3.2 Urban development

All informants have, in one or another way, discussed the urban development that’s been going on in Landskrona the past years. They describe how the urban development company have invested in buying out properties from irresponsible property owners in order to either renovate or demolish them to create a better environment to live in. Some of the informants also mentioned that the property owners aren’t allowed to bring in renters from other municipalities if they have economic support which aims to reduce the inflow to the city.

“If you have property owners who don’t care who they rent to and don’t want to invest in their properties then you get renters who don’t take care of the properties, it becomes as a vicious circle”.

One of the informants described how the municipality has taken the work with the urban development seriously which is good, but he/she also see this process as a way of building away the problems rather than actually creating something sustainable for the city and describes how one sees that the problems comes from the outside and not the inside.

“One has tried to remove the problems by building them away, but we also need to invest in building social sustainability. We do not get finer citizen automatically because we have finer houses”.

“There’s a conviction that all the problems come from the outside but that’s no longer the case”.

5.3.3 Camera surveillance (CCTV) and perimeter protection

Additional aspects that were raised during the interviews was the fact that the city, the past few years, has invested in CCTV in different areas. Two informants spoke about how the number of monitoring cameras has increased and one of them also mentioned that the municipality has worked a lot with perimeter protection in schools. One of the informants perceived CCTV to be an ineffective investment as some of the cameras are of poor quality and believed that it’s negative that the placement of the camera is published. Another informant perceived CCTV to be effective in some contexts. He/she believed that it can be crime preventative towards open drug scenes, vandalism, burglary and theft if implemented in public places such as parking lots, train stations and schools.

“In recent years, we have received much more surveillance cameras and the municipality has invested in better perimeter protection in schools, which includes better locks, camera surveillance and improved internal routines”.

“Despite the cameras, violence has increased in some areas, the criminals do not care”.

5.3.4 A successful Police

Some informants (even those who don't work for the Police) spoke about the success of the Police and how their job has generated feelings of safety within the city. Two informants talk about how the Police have worked with so called "snowballs" against drugs during specific periods where a lot of people have been arrested due to this⁶. Some informants also mentioned how the Police have succeeded well when it comes to organized crimes, how there have been some successful lockups of heavy criminals which has given great effect to certain areas in Landskrona.

"The Police has made an important work, by putting a number of heavy criminals in place it's possible to reduce the recruitment of new members and create that first feeling of safety".

On the other hand, one informant agreed with the importance of locking heavy criminals up but spoke about how the Police don't really reach the heavy organized criminals in Landskrona.

"The ones we arrest are heavy criminals, but I wouldn't say they are especially organized. One talk about that we work against heavy organized crime, but we really don't. The part that is organized, I don't feel that we reach them".

5.3.5 Neighborhood watch

Furthermore, one of the informants also mentioned neighborhood watch as another successful factor by the Police. The Police have together with the municipality worked with creating neighborly cooperation in the city in order to reduce theft and other acquisitive crimes.

"The municipality has together with the Police worked with neighborhood watch in order to increase people's awareness and knowledge of how to protect themselves against burglary and work with their neighbors to protect themselves".

5.3.6 Extended leisure activity

Another aspect that was highlighted by one of the informants was the implementation of two new recreation centers for young children between 9-13 years. One of the recreation centers was aimed exclusively for girls and the other one for boys. Some informants also spoke about a popular association called "Cityidrott" (City sports) that has become very popular the past years, they offer all possible activities that older children and youths are welcome to try out. The informants discussed the importance of "Cityidrott" since it contributes to preventing crime at an early stage and thereby reducing crime in the long run.

"Cityidrott makes a very important job in terms of crime prevention, they work mobile and flexible, and if we prevent at an early age, we can reduce typical youth crimes".

⁶ This is an approach that the Police use from time to time in order to reduce drug sales. They catch one and then they use that individual's cellphone to catch more individuals who has bought or sold drugs. This approach often generates in a lot of arrests.

5.3.7 Other investments

A majority of the informants mentioned the municipality's project "Kontantfritt Landskrona" (Cashless Landskrona) as an important factor when it comes to reducing robbery against stores and private persons. The informants could see that robbery has decreased due to this and consider the project to be successful.

"The robberies are almost non-existent now and it has of course to do with cash handling. Landskrona have for some time worked for a cash-free city".

Some of the informants also mentioned how Landskrona has been struggling with high unemployment and above the average in Skåne County but, that the number of people whose unemployed now decreases even if it's still high. Possible reasons for this are discussed by several informants, some of them mentioned the fact that the municipality have invested in school so that more students can leave school with final grades but also projects that have created new workplaces.

"The municipality has had the goal to reduce Landskronas unemployment to the average in Skåne County and when we look at our economic support, one can see a positive development".

"The municipality has a lot of projects, among other things, there is a laundry project out in the industrial area where unemployed has been placed".

Furthermore, one informant mentioned how the municipality has invested quite a lot of money on night patrols which creates opportunities for these organizations to be around youths during evenings and weekends. The informant meant that this investment could be one part of the explanation regarding the decreasing vandalism rates since youths mainly are responsible for this type of crime.

"The municipality invest quite a lot of money on night patrols".

5.4 Remaining challenges

Although all informants agreed on a decrease when it comes to reported crime a majority of them also discussed the many challenges that Landskrona have. The most discussed challenges were lack of integration and lack of resources within the Police, these are presented below.

5.4.1 Lack of integration

Several informants mentioned that the city has changed for the better but still faces many challenges. They discussed segregation, alienation and social vulnerability and how this is problematic for the city. One informant spoke about the importance of integrating everyone in society. The informant believes that Landskrona and many other municipality's, for instance Malmö, has failed when it comes to integrating newly arrived people from other countries and that this has created a challenging segregation in the city. Another informant mentioned that even though there have been many successful projects in the city those people who live in alienation do not tend to decrease. This informant also mentioned that Landskrona has a high social vulnerability compared to nearby municipalities which is also confirmed by another informant who discussed that there are many people who lives in a tough socio-economic situation in Landskrona.

“It’s very divided as it’s in many cities nowadays, there are parts where anyone can live and there are parts where it’s very segregated, high unemployment and alienation”.

“Compared to nearby municipalities Landskrona is at the top in terms of social vulnerability”.

5.4.2 Lack of resources within the Police

Furthermore, while a majority of the informants spoke about a successful Police force in Landskrona that has made several effective efforts for the city some informants (even those who do not work within the Police) discussed how the lack of resources within the Police has affected the crime preventative work. They mentioned how the Police due to this have varied in efficiency and that there were more police back then compared to now. It was also said that back then when there were more police, they worked differently. Landskrona had police officers who worked specially with certain things for example schools, youths, preventative work against narcotic and traffic but that’s not the case today and mainly because the lack of resources. Something that other informants also confirmed.

“I believe in the work we did years ago, that work was better compared to today. The problem is that we are fewer police officers today”.

6. DISCUSSION

The overall purpose of this study has been to identify perceptions from various stakeholders within the criminal justice system regarding the changes in reported crime in Landskrona and what factors they use in order to explain these changes. In the following section the findings of the study will be discussed in relation to previous research and those themes that have been developed during the thematic analysis. Furthermore, the study’s limitations will also be highlighted in this section.

6.1 Result discussion

The result presented in the study shows that all informants perceived that there has been a decrease in reported crime in Landskrona and they talk about a stable downward trend. This is also confirmed by the statistical analysis which shows that the number of reported crimes per 100.000 inhabitants are lower today compared to the average in Skåne and has been for the past years. It can thus be assumed that the decrease in reported crime in Landskrona is rather stable than temporary. This change in crime will be discussed by perceived explanations from the current study and in relation to previous studies in the following sections.

6.1.1 Perceived explanations - investments in crime prevention

There are several possible social and situational aspects that’s been raised as potential explanations to this downward trend, but some aspects have higher consistency than others, these will thereby be discussed in more detail in the following section and in relation to previous research.

Based on the result, it can be stated that collaboration is seen as a vital component when it comes to the decrease in crime. All informants mentioned an effective and long collaboration between the municipality, Police

and other organizations and how this has generated the possibility to highlight Landskronas problems and make common distinct priorities in order reduce the total number of crimes. This is in line with previous research from Brå (2013) where the Swedish Police perceived collaboration to be one of the most common and effective investments towards crime. Also, Rosenbaum (2014) support these perceptions and talk about multi-agency partnerships and the benefits of “putting heads together”. He suggests that when we put our heads together each agency will provide some unique skills, resources, experiences and intervention strategies which will make it possible to achieve new and more comprehensive interventions (ibid.).

The study also shows that there is a consensus among the informants regarding how the urban development in Landskrona has been taken seriously by the municipality in recent years. Irresponsibly property owners have been bought out in order to either renovate or demolish buildings to create better environments to live in. All informants were positive towards these investments, but one also pointed out the importance of creating social sustainability and not just building away the problems. This is in line with what Wilson and Kelling (1982) founders of *Broken Windows* theory believe, they argue that it's the physical and social disorder itself that cause more crime in certain areas. The theory implies that when a broken window is left without being repaired, this will result in more broken windows. In other words, signs of physical and social disorders, for example; old buildings in need of renovation, doodles, careless traffic and littering creates an indication of low social control within the area which in turn attracts criminals since no one seems to care (ibid.). According to Wilson and Kelling (1982) it is therefore important to handle disorder before it escalates, and this could quite possibly be what Landskrona has been doing. The statistical analysis in the present study showed that in the past ten years there's been a 30 percent decrease in vandalism crimes, and this may partly be explained by the city's investments in urban development since it's considered as an effective way to keep physical and social disorder away.

Another possible explanation that was discussed were CCTV and perimeter protection. Some of the informants mentioned that there has been an increase regarding this type of investment in different areas around the city. The results indicate that CCTV is perceived as ineffective due to the fact that some are of poor quality and that the placement of the camera is published but, it's also perceived to be effective in some contexts. These results partly differ from what emerged in the European public opinion study where as many as 88 percent of the public perceived these types of investments to be an effective way to reduce crime (European Opinion Research Group 2003). This suggests that CCTV has higher levels of support from the public compared to professionals within the criminal justice system, something that's also frequently found in other studies (Ditton 2000). The result of the present study regarding CCTV and its crime preventative effects shows that its perceived ineffective since despite CCTV surveillance violent crimes have increased however it's also considered to be effective when implemented in the right context (towards planned crimes e.g. open drug scenes, vandalism crimes, burglary and theft). These results go in line with previous research, based on a recent meta-analysis CCTV is considered most effective when aimed towards planned crimes (e.g. drug, property and vehicle crimes) and less effective when aimed towards violent crimes, disorders or when implemented within the city center (Piza, Welsh, Farrington & Thomas 2018). Moreover, Piza et al. (2018) concluded that for CCTV to work as a crime preventative tool, it's vital to inform where the monitoring takes place which is the opposite of what

emerged in this study since one informant considered CCTV to be ineffective if information regarding the camera's location is exposed.

The result of the present study is in line with what has been found in previous studies (Brå 2013; European Opinion Research Group 2003; Ortet-Fabregat & Pérez 1992) since all informants in one way or another perceive investments towards youths to be an important aspect in the reduction of crime. For example, the informants spoke about extended leisure activities and how this contributes to preventing crime at an early stage. This perception can partly be connected to Weerman Bernasco, Bruinsama and Pauwels (2015) study where it was concluded that the risk for criminal behavior among youths were lower when time spent with peers were structured and supervised. Its therefore possible that the extended leisure activities such as "Cityidrott" and recreation centers has created higher levels of structured activities among youths in Landskrona. Furthermore, the informants also perceived investments in schools and creating new workplaces as a possible explanation to the decrease in crime, something that European Opinion Research Group (2003) also confirms since the public in Sweden believe that youths will commit less crime if they have better education and are employed. Likewise do professionals within the criminal justice system perceive social and educational interventions to play a vital role in reduction of crime (Ortet-Fabregat and Pérez 1992). Another investment that can be connected to youths are night patrols, these organizations patrol where youths hang out during evenings and weekends which one informant partly believes explain the decreasing vandalism crimes. However, less than 40 percent of the public in Sweden perceive that the Police should share their crime preventive responsibility with private individuals and organizations (European Opinion Research Group 2003). The author disagrees with the publics opinion and value community engagement based on her beliefs that crime prevention is everyone's responsibility, not just the Police and other crime preventative authorities. Also, according to Routine activity theory the odds for crime to happen are heavily reduced when capable guardians are present (Cohen & Felson 1979).

A further aspect that was raised in relation to possible explanations were the perception of successful Police. Both those within the Police and those who do not work within the Police believed that the Police have done an important job the past years. For example, some informants mentioned "snowballs", a method the Police use towards open drug scenes which has resulted in many arrests but also how successful lockups of heavy criminals have generated positive effects to certain areas in Landskrona. Locking up heavy criminals will probably reduce recruitment of new members to some extent and create a feeling of safety, however one informant points out that the Police do not really reach the heavy organized criminals due to lack of resources. The lack of resources within the Police is also something that's confirmed by other informants (even those who do not work within the Police), they perceive that the lack of resources has affected the crime preventive work. These results match the results from (Brå 2013) where approximately 80 percent of the Police agreed that they do not have enough resources in order to create a good crime preventive work. A common opinion is that more Police officers are necessary in order to succeed with crime prevention (Brå 2013) something that the present study also found.

Finally, a less common possible explanation was neighborhood watch. Only one out of seven informants mentioned neighborhood watch but he/she perceived this investment to be successful and described how the Police together with the municipality has cooperated to increase people's awareness and knowledge to protect themselves and their neighbors against burglary. This is in

line with what the Swedish Police perceived, they considered neighborhood watch to be relatively common in their crime preventive work and described how they through various information investments tries to engage people in their neighborhoods to reduce for example burglary (Brå 2013). Contrary to professionals within the criminal justice system, as many as 90 percent of the public in Sweden perceive neighborhood watch as an effective investment to reduce crime (European Opinion Research Group 2003). These results suggest that the public perceive neighborhood watch to be an effective investment to a greater extent than professionals which can be an indicator that there is interest from the public to cooperate with the Police in order to help reduce crime.

6.1.2 Perceived explanation – low registration tendency

Contrary to what has previously been stated, another perceived explanation to the decreasing crime levels in Landskrona is the public's tendency to report crime. The result that emerged from the current study shows that several informants perceived people's tendency to report crime as low and described a fear among the citizen to report or testify due to threats from perpetrators. However, the result is not consistent in this question, some informants described how the tendency to report crime has become an increased problem while others couldn't see why the tendency to report crime should be lower now compared to ten years ago. There's reason to believe that the tendency to report crime was affected by the reorganization of the Police that took place 2015 but at the same time one informant explained that the reorganization didn't affect the Police in Landskrona that much compared to other municipalities. Also, the result from the statistical analysis showed that theft and acquisitive crimes, fraud crimes and vandalism crimes has decreased relatively steady the last ten years which rather indicates the opposite (at least regarding these crime types). This since the reporting levels of these crime types are high as the victim needs to report the crime in order to get insurance money (Brå 2006).

6.2 Study limitations

As earlier stated, the current study is based on a qualitative approach with an inductive alignment. This approach was considered beneficial since the aim was to study human factors, more specifically perceptions and because the study intended to obtain in-depth information from different stakeholders. Additionally, a qualitative approach was considered the most suitable for the present study since quantitative methods might not be able to fully capture these kinds of underlying mechanisms (Tewksbury 2009).

The author chose a purposive sampling method in form of a snowball sampling. Since the author was not familiar with Landskrona the choice of a snowball sampling was considered appropriate because that way the most relevant people were chosen. The author made the selection based on a desire to interview people who were relevant to the research questions and were connected to the informants through a key informant (the Police). A possible disadvantage of this sampling method could be that the chosen informants all share the same perceptions and were recommended in order to obtain a positive picture of the changes in crime in Landskrona, which may have resulted in an oblique selection and a less representative result. But since the sample is also based on a source triangulation, meaning that the informants are in different positions in relation to the examined problem, the dependability is considered to be strengthened (Malterud 2014). Furthermore, including informants with different perspectives can provide a broader aspect of the studied subject and therefore a source

triangulation was reckoned beneficial (Malterud 2014). Regarding the number of informants, it could have been beneficial to include more informants in order to get richer material, but this would not have been feasible because of the current study time frame. However, the study consists of informants who were all considered to have valuable knowledge and good insight in the subject. Even though no additional knowledge was added during the last interview the author doesn't consider having reached data saturation since it's possible that the author's lack of interview technique may have contributed to this.

Further, the author chose to examine a ten-year period in order to better detect crime trends and to minimize the risk of the statistics being misleading as a result of decriminalization, new criminalization and changes in tendency to report crime. The timespan may have made it difficult for the informants to recall certain things since the questions were based on this ten-year period. However, using a shorter timeline would have made it difficult to say something about the crime trends in Landskrona.

Lastly, all interviews were recorded since this offers an almost complete documentation of what has been said during the interviews which in turn will facilitate the analysis of the interviews and strengthen the credibility of the study (Denscombe 2018). However, one disadvantage may be that the informant feels inhibited to talk freely due to the recording but being recorded can also be perceived as something positive since the interviewer then can recount the exact formulation which creates a sense of security for the informant (Alvehus 2013).

7. CONCLUSION

So, what has happened in Landskrona? Based on the findings it can be concluded that all informants perceive that the change in reported crime in Landskrona is steadily decreasing. These perceptions are confirmed by the statistical analysis since it's been possible to distinguish a stable decrease (-20 percent) of reported crime during the past ten years. Moreover, it can be concluded that the most consistent attributions to these changes are; effective collaboration mainly between the Police and the municipality, various investments toward youths both social and educational and huge investments in urban development. These attributions are perceived to play a pivotal role when it comes to understand the decreasing crime rates in Landskrona. Additionally, the findings also indicate that the city suffer from segregation and high social vulnerability and thereof still faces many challenges in their crime preventive work. But somehow the city managed to turn around their crime trajectory and there is reason to believe that all the previous mentioned investments in crime prevention in one way or another has contributed to these changes. Hence, maybe there is a mantra of doing based on knowing in Landskrona rather than doing without knowing as Wikström (2007) suggests is a common pitfall in crime prevention. Nevertheless, a larger and more in-depth analysis is necessary to be able to get closer to whether Landskrona are doing based on knowing or doing without knowing.

The study contributes to the field of criminology as it demonstrates how this collaboration with the Police can help provide them with internal validation. The result which demonstrated that the statistics surrounding crime in the area are in line with the perceptions is an invaluable insight for both police morale as well as a base to implement realistic crime prevention programs in the area. The next step after this study is a modified power point presentation of this study to the Police in Landskrona and other stakeholders within the present study.

Aside from this work with Landskrona, I believe there could be more opportunity to work with different police stations around Sweden to bring criminological tools and processes to life, applying them to contemporary issues that the Police are currently dealing with in Sweden.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Statement from Malmö University Ethics Council.



Malmö universitet / Fakulteten för Hälsa och samhälle
Etikrådet
Adm sekreterare Ewa Sorberg Bassmann

1(1)

Utlåtande

2019-04-26 rev 2019-05-08 **HS2019 löp nr 72/93**

Projekt: Landskrona The development of reported crime - An analysis of the decreasing crime levels in Landskrona

Student: Hanna Gustafsson

Handledare: My Lilja

Föredragande: Anette Gjørloff Wingren

Etikrådets utlåtande:

Syfte med projektet: att kartlägga utvecklingen av anmälda brott under en 10-årsperiod (2009-2018) i Landskrona, Skåne.

Material: Officiella registerdata från Brottsförebyggande rådet (Brå) gällande anmälda brott i Landskrona stad, samt intervjuer med 3-5 personer från myndigheter.

Datainsamling: 1) genom data via Brå ska anmälda brott analyseras 2) intervjuer med 3-5 olika personer från myndigheter såsom polis, socialstyrelsen, kommunen, skola (rektor).

Informationsbrev tilldelas, samtycke inhämtas.

Hantering av personuppgifter: Extern hårddisk och USB – endast studenten, och möjligtvis handledare hanterar. Inget wi-fi på datorn. Mail raderas. Vid avslutad studie raderas materialet.

Etikrådets utlåtande:

Etikrådet gör bedömningen att studien kan genomföras utifrån de handlingar och underlag som inkommit.

Etikrådet önskar studenten lycka till med studien!

För Etikrådet vid Fakulteten för hälsa och samhälle, Malmö universitet
Anette Gjørloff Wingren

Postadress	Besöksadress	Tel	Fax	Internet	E-post
Malmö universitet Fakulteten för hälsa och samhälle 205 06 Malmö	Malmö sjukhusområde Jan Waldenströms g 25	040-665 74 54	040-665 81 00	www.mah.se	etikradet@mah.se

Appendix 2. Information letter

Hej!

Mitt namn är Hanna Gustafsson och jag studerar kriminologi på masternivå vid Malmö Universitet med en planerad examen sommaren år 2020. Nu under våren skriver jag min magisteruppsats med titeln ”*What is happening? – A study of the decreasing crime levels in Landskrona*”. Uppsatsen grundar sig i att Polisen i Landskrona känt av en märkbar nedgång av den anmälda brottsligheten i kommunen och därav kontaktades Malmö Universitet med en förfrågan om ett samarbete i syftet att försöka generera klarhet till den positiva utvecklingen.

Det övergripande syftet med studien är att ge en aktuell lägesbeskrivning av brottsligheten i Landskrona samt framhäva eventuella förändringar över tid. Studien ämnar mer specifikt, att på en lokal nivå, genom enklare statistiska analyser och intervjuer kartlägga utvecklingen av antal anmälda brott under en tioårsperiod i syfte att närma sig frågan om vad som kan tänkas förklara utvecklingen av den anmälda brottsligheten i Landskrona. Studiens resultat kan tänkas bistå Polisen i Landskrona med kunskap om varför utvecklingen av antal anmälda brott ser ut som den gör i kommunen.

Mot bakgrund av detta önskar jag få möjligheten att genomföra en intervju med dig/er där ni får beskriva era erfarenheter och era upplevelser av brottsutvecklingen i Landskrona. Anledningen till att ni blivit utvald grundar sig i att ni anses kunna bidra med värdefull information gällande tänkbara förklaringar till brottsutvecklingen i Landskrona. Intervjun beräknas ta ungefär 40–60 minuter.

Viktigt att veta är att er medverkan i föreliggande studie är helt frivillig och att ni när som helst kan välja att avbryta er medverkan. Om det skulle förekomma frågor under intervjun som ni ej vill besvara är det givetvis okej att välja att inte besvara dessa. Vidare kommer intervjun att spelas in via ljudupptagning, denna ljudfil kommer enbart användas i syfte för studien och förstörs omgående efter det att studien avslutats, varpå ni även kommer informeras om detta. Då studien eftersträvar så hög konfidentialitet som möjligt kommer allt som framkommer under intervjun behandlas med största försiktighet, det innebär att ingen obehörig kommer få ta del av materialet utan ljudfilen kommer förvaras på ett sådant sätt att den enbart är åtkomlig för mig.

Resultatet kommer att presenteras i form av en examensuppsats (publiceras på Malmö Universitets databas MUEP), en sammanställd rapport till Polisen i Landskrona samt genom en intern presentation via PowerPoint hos Polisen i Landskrona. Vid slutrapportering eller inför citering kommer all information som kan spåras till dig som individ att aidentifieras så att resultatet inte går att koppla till dig som enskild individ.

Ni tillfrågas härmed om deltagande i denna studie och har ni ytterligare frågor är ni välkomna att kontakta mig.

Med Vänliga Hälsningar
Hanna Gustafsson
Malmö Universitet

Huvudfokus: brottsutvecklingen i Landskrona de senaste tio åren.

Studiens syfte: syftet med studien är att belysa och skapa kunskap om brottsligheten i Landskrona och hur den utvecklats under de senaste tio åren.

Samtycke: inhämta samtycke

1. **Bakgrundsinformation**

- Berätta lite om dig själv; hur länge har du arbetat inom verksamheten?
- Är du bosatt i Landskrona?
 - Om ja, hur länge har du i så fall bott här?
 - Om nej, finns det någon anledning till varför du valt att bo någon annanstans?

2. **Landskrona som stad**

- Om du endast fick beskriva Landskrona med tre ord, vilka skulle det vara?
 - *Beskriv mer utförligt hur du upplever Landskrona som stad*

3. **Brottsligheten och dess utveckling**

- Hur upplever du brottsligheten i Landskrona?
 - Sett till en tio års period upplever du att brottsligheten har ökat, minskat eller är oförändrad?
- Upplever du att följande brottskategorier förändrats de senaste fem-tio åren i Landskrona? *Beskriv på vilket sätt och vad du tror detta beror på.*
 - Stöld, rån och andra tillgreppsbrott.
 - Skadegörelsebrott.
 - Narkotikabrott.
 - Andra brottskategorier eller brottstyper.
- Upplever du att brottsligheten i Landskrona skiljer sig mellan olika områden? *Beskriv på vilket sätt.*

4. **Upplevelser**

- Upplever du att arbetslösheten har förändrats de senaste fem-tio åren? *Beskriv på vilket sätt.*
- Upplever du att främlingsfientligheten har förändrats de senaste fem-tio åren? *Beskriv på vilket sätt.*

5. **Avslut**

- Finns det något/några svar du nu i efterhand vill att jag ej tar med?
- Finns det något du tycker är viktigt att ta upp som jag inte nämnt?
- Har du några frågor?

Appendix 4. A summary of themes and sub-themes from the analysis.

Main themes	Sub-themes
The reported crime rates decrease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city under development
Low registration tendency	
Investments in crime prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective collaboration • Distinct priorities and sustainability • Urban development • Camera surveillance (CCTV) and perimeter protection • A successful Police • Neighborhood watch • Extended leisure activities • Other investments
Remaining challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of integration • Lack of resources within the Police