

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

DATE	5 th November 2020
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Chief Superintendent Darren Wildbore
SUBJECT	Community Safety Partnership Arrangements
STATUS	Open
FORWARD PLAN REF NO.	N/A

CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

The matters for consideration within this report contribute to the strategic priorities of the council to promote a stronger economy and stronger communities. As a statutory partner of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP), the council undertakes activity to tackle crime and disorder and improve community safety which supports the North East Lincolnshire Outcomes Framework, namely that people in North East Lincolnshire:

- Feel safe and are safe
- Enjoy good health and well being
- Benefit from sustainable communities
- Enjoy and benefit from a strong economy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of findings of the CSP's Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA), including performance data and emerging threats. It also sets out the recommended priority areas presented to the CSP for consideration and approval, and the planned next steps to improve community safety across North East Lincolnshire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Crime and Disorder Committee members are asked to note the report and make any recommendations or observations for the Community Safety Partnership's consideration.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The JSIA is written and endorsed by the Community Safety Partnership. It shows emerging trends and patterns in crime and disorder and future threats and opportunities. The JSIA is part of the evidence base which supports the community safety partners to plan and target their work.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

1.1 *Community Safety Partnerships*

1.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory responsibility on local authorities to consider crime and disorder in all of their working practices. In addition, the act places a requirement for all responsible authorities to come together as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to undertake crime analysis and create strategies and practical interventions to reduce crime and disorder in their local area.

1.3 The responsible authorities are:

- Humberside Police
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- Humberside Fire and Rescue Service
- Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS) and Public Health
- The National Probation Service (NPS)
- Probation Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

1.4 Other key partners:

- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL)
- Voluntary Sector Support

1.5 *Community Safety Partnership Priorities*

1.6 The CSP has been working to address the following priorities as set out in the North East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-2020:

- Overall crime
- Violent crime
- Domestic abuse
- Anti-social behaviour
- East and West Marsh wards (overall crime and antisocial behaviour)
- Offending (including re-offending)
- Substance and alcohol misuse (including related harms and recovery rates)

1.7 *Police and Crime Plan*

1.8 The CSP also supports the three aims of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan namely:

- To deliver increasingly self-sustaining communities in the Humber area
- To build public confidence in the agencies involved in creating safer communities
- To provide services to victims and the most vulnerable that meet their needs

1.9 CURRENT STRUCTURE AND DELIVERY MECHANISMS

1.10 The CSP's delivery structure includes a number of operational delivery groups plus links to wider strategic boards. This enables a dynamic response to

changing priorities and emerging community safety issues. The delivery structure is subject to an imminent review following the adoption of the new strategic priorities on 13th October 2020.

1.11 **Governance**

1.12 The Community Safety Partnership is connected to the wider strategic boards across North East Lincolnshire to ensure that cross cutting themes can be considered more strategically. The main boards include The Place Board, The Safeguarding Children Partnership, and the Safeguarding Adults Board.

1.13 Within North East Lincolnshire Council, the Communities Scrutiny Panel's work programme has a very clear focus around crime and disorder, and community safety. Council representatives on the CSP Board provide thematic reports on request, and wider partners regularly attend the panel to provide updates. Both the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities, and the Communities Scrutiny Panel Chair are members of the CSP Board.

1.14 Although not a statutory member of the CSP, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has a duty under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to work with CSPs. PCCs have no powers to manage or direct CSPs, but the PCC and CSP are under a reciprocal duty to have regard to each other's priorities.

1.15 **JOINT STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT (JSIA)**

1.16 **Background**

1.17 Statutory Instruments determine that the CSP has a responsibility to carry out an intelligence audit on crime and disorder issues and to consult with the public to determine the priorities of the Partnership. This exercise has just been completed and the JSIA 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 is attached as a supplementary paper to this report.

1.18 **Emerging threats**

1.19 Horizon scanning has identified the following national and local emerging risks:

- The withdrawal of the UK from the EU and new immigration route for British Nationals resident in Hong Kong bring the potential for increased community tension and hate incidents.
- Covid-19, and any resultant recession, bring myriad impacts on community safety, particularly for the most vulnerable.
- Increased incidents elsewhere in the UK of both violent crime and exploitation (including organised crime groups and county lines), and of motorbike-assisted robberies and assaults may be emulated in North East Lincolnshire.
- Plans for the regeneration of Grimsby town centre should give due consideration to designing out crime.
- Nuisance begging is emerging as an issue which requires continued intervention, particularly due to the alcohol and drug-vulnerability involved.

- Modern slavery is emerging as a relatively newly recognised issue within North East Lincolnshire. Support mechanisms have been developed but potential victims are under-reported.

1.20 **Consultation**

1.21 The CSP has a statutory duty to consult on the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and substance misuse in the area, and the matters which the persons living and working in the area consider the responsible authorities should prioritise. This was achieved both through a bespoke survey and by collating the results of existing engagement exercises.

1.22 When asked about the biggest community safety issues within their neighbourhood:

- 44% of respondents have been affected by crime – mostly ASB (alcohol-related, begging, nuisance motorbike). [JSIA survey]
- The greatest perceived problems were drug related crime and disorder, followed by shop theft and anti-social behaviour. [JSIA survey]
- Neighbourhood Watch groups identified burglary, drug-related offences, and driving offences as the areas of highest concern to the communities. [Neighbourhood Watch survey]
- Young people identified mental health and knife crime as their top two concerns. [Your Voice Your Vote survey]
- In seven of the 15 wards ASB is the greatest concern to residents, but in some areas general ASB does not fall within the top three. [Humber Talking consultation]

1.23 When asked what the CSP should prioritise, the crimes with the highest numbers of responses were:

- Anti-social behaviour (19%)
- Drug related crime (16%)
- Alcohol related crime (10%)

1.24 **Key data findings**

1.25 Findings of the JSIA data are summarised below.

1.26 **Overall crime** – Overall crime decreased by 4% between 2018/19 (21,208 recorded crimes) and 2019/20 (20,370 recorded crimes). In 2019/20 good reductions have been observed in the categories of adult ASB (-12%), youth ASB (-6.8%), theft (-10.3%), robbery (-19.8%), fraud and forgery (-18.8%), and racial incidents (-10.1%) which are all down when compared to the same period in 2018/19.

1.27 **Violent crime** – 2019/2020 (5,145 incidents) saw a 3.6% decrease in violence against the person (with and without injury) from 2018/2019 (5,337 incidents). This can be broken down into assault with injury (1,977, 38.4%) and assault without injury (2,531, 49.2%). Most of the frequent locations relate to locations involved in the night-time economy.

- 1.28 **Domestic abuse** – There were 5,327 incidents of domestic abuse reported to the police in 2019/2020 compared to 5,502 reported in 2018/19 (3% decrease). Of the domestic abuse cases recorded, 89% of cases categorised as high risk resulted in arrest, 38.1% classified as medium risk resulted in arrest and 7.2% of standard (low) risk resulted in arrest. Female victims account for 77.2% of all reported incidents and work continues to encourage male victims to access support services.
- 1.29 **Anti-social behaviour** – 2019/20 (3,070 incidents) saw a 12% reduction from 2018/19 (3,486 incidents) in adult ASB, representing a decrease in eight wards including East Marsh and West Marsh. Alcohol-related adult anti-social behaviour saw a 24% increase between 2018/19 (239 incidents) and 2019/20 (286 incidents).
- 1.30 **High demand areas: East and West Marsh wards** – 2019/2020 saw overall crime in East Marsh decrease by 5.1% (from 3,679 to 3,491 incidents) and decrease in West Marsh by 15.2% (from 3,809 to 3,229 incidents) from 2018/2019. Despite positive trends in reducing numbers of incidents, East Marsh and West Marsh remain the greatest contributing wards to crime numbers.
- 1.31 East Marsh experienced the biggest decrease in anti-social behaviour with a 35% reduction in incidents recorded by Humberside Police between 2018/19 and 2019/20 (from 611 to 399 incidents). West Marsh saw a 19% reduction over the same period (from 501 to 404). For context, eight wards experienced a decrease in incidents and seven wards experienced an increase. However, East and West Marsh continue to account for the greatest number of anti-social behaviour reports to Humberside Police.
- 1.32 **Adult reoffending** – Data is only available at a Humberside level at present, due to resources being focussed on preparations for the imminent Probation Reform Programme. There is no full year's data available for this indicator but the latest data, Q4 2019/20, records a Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) caseload of 50 and two offenders who were reconvicted (4% reconviction rate).
- 1.33 **Young people involved in criminal activity** – The number of young people in custody remains consistent with five young people currently held in custody between January and December 2019. First time entrants to the criminal justice system is decreasing year on year and currently stands at 21 compared with 41 in 2016/17, 40 in 2017/18, and 33 in 2018/19. And there is a decrease in the numbers of young people suspected of committing crime and in the numbers of crimes that are being committed by under 18-year olds. This has historically accounted for greater than 10% of all crimes committed, however it is now below 7%.
- 1.34 **Substance and alcohol misuse** – 2019/20 saw a 9.7% increase in drug offences (including trafficking of controlled drugs and possession of drugs) from 269 in 2018/19, to 295 in 2019/20. The majority related to possession (223, 75.3%) and, of this possession, cannabis was the most frequent drug.

- 1.35 The number of hospital admissions for mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use spiked in 2015/2016 at 143 admissions. The following year of 2016/2017, these numbers halved and have remained constant since (69 in 2016/17, 69 in 2017/18 and 65 in 2018/19). The number of hospital admissions for alcohol was also highest in 2015/16 at 110. It decreased in 2016/17 to 81 and has remained constant since then (90 in 2017/18 and 74 in 2018/19). The number of people receiving drug and alcohol treatment totalled 1,200 in 2019/20. This is higher than the national average.
- 1.36 **Organised crime, exploitation, and vulnerabilities** – As at March 2020, there were eight mapped OCGs within NEL, this has increased from five in April 2019. The primary threat for all of these are the distribution of class A drugs, however there are sub threats of modern-day slavery and human trafficking, county lines, child criminal exploitation, and violence.
- 1.37 2019/2020 saw no change from 2018/19 in the number of cases of child criminal exploitation being recorded (9 per year). Each of the past three years has recorded very low numbers of child criminal exploitation for NEL, partly due to incidents being relatively difficult to detect.
- 1.38 In 2019 there were four referrals of potential victims of modern slavery into the National Referral Mechanism. All of these were children, which can be attributed to the success of the GRAFT project which addresses child criminal exploitation. Further work is planned to address the low number of adult potential victims being identified.
- 1.39 During this JSIA period the number of Prevent referrals in NEL dropped significantly with none recorded. As a result, work was undertaken to ensure awareness of the Prevent referral process was embedded in practice within organisations and refresher training was completed where necessary. More recently during 2020 the Channel Panel has started to receive a number of Prevent referrals.
- 1.40 **Acquisitive crime** – Burglary (including both residential and commercial) increased by 4.5% from 1,393 in 2018/19 to 1,456 in 2019/20. 71.8% of these were residential and 28.2% commercial. Theft and handling stolen goods decreased by 10.3% from 4,370 in 2018/19 to 3,922 in 2019/20, the majority of incidents were in relation to shoplifting (53.1%).
- 1.41 **Racially or religiously aggravated offences and other hate crimes** – 2019/2020 saw a 10.1% decrease in racial *incidents* from 2018/2019 (decreasing from 148 to 133) and an 8.2% decrease in racial *crimes* (from 182 in 2018/19 to 167 in 2019/20). 2019/2020 saw a 2.8% increase in ‘other’ hate crimes from 2018/2019 (from 72 to 74 crimes) remaining relatively static over the past three years. ‘Other’ hate crimes are categorised through the presence of a "disabled", "religion", "sexual orientation" or "transgender" indicator.
- 1.42 **Transport** – Last year saw a 5.82% increase on transport related incidents from 3,419 in 2018/2019 to 3,618 in 2019/20. However, this remains below the 2017/18 figure of 3,861. 48.6% (1,758) incidents recorded relate to a road

related offence, 21.0% (760) to highway disruption, 17.8% (648) to road traffic collision damage and 12.3% (445) to road traffic collision resulting in death or injury. In 2019/20 79 people were killed and seriously injured in North East Lincolnshire and 327 were slightly injured.

- 1.43 **Public safety / welfare** – This is a wide-ranging category and includes abandoned calls to emergency services, concerns for safety, missing persons, natural disaster and demonstrations. There has been an increase of 5% from 15,705 incidents in 2018/19 to 16,508 in 2019/20. Of the 16,508 incidents 35% (5,778) were associated with a vulnerability marker and 16% (2,641) were attributed with a mental health related qualifier. It is expected that the number of incidents recorded by the police is likely to decrease with the commencement of the Right Care Right Person project which aims to direct the incident to the correct agency at the first point of contact.
- 1.44 **Fire** – There has been a year on year decrease in the number of primary fires recorded since 2016/17, with a total of 54 incidents in 2019/20. This is a result of closer partnership working to address areas of concern (derelict properties and arson risks) at an earlier stage. Deliberate secondary fires have decreased by 28% between 2018/19 and 2019/20 from 368 to 264.
- 1.45 Primary fires in vehicles has remained almost constant in the last three years with 68, 63 and 64 incidents per year. South ward has the highest number of incidents with Bradley fields being a hotspot for moped / motorcycle fires. Malicious false calls for service have reduced every year since 2015/16 with 21 calls in 2019/20. Twelve of these 21 calls were made in the East Marsh ward.
- 1.46 **CSP areas of priority 2020-2023**
- 1.47 Using the intelligence gathered in the JSIA, in October 2020 the CSP agreed the following areas of focus for 2020-2023. These comprise four key priorities, and a number of areas for further review and monitoring:
- 1.48 Priorities
- **Violent crime** – this year has seen a slight decrease in the number of incidents but violence remains a high quantity and high impact crime.
 - **Domestic abuse** – this year has seen a slight increase in the number of crimes but a reduction in the number of incidents. Domestic abuse remains a high quantity and high impact crime.
 - **Child criminal exploitation** – low numbers in this area may represent under-reporting.
 - **Organised crime groups** – low numbers in this area may represent under-reporting.
- 1.49 Areas to review
- **Overall crime rates** – although not a specific area of focus, there is value in monitoring overall crime as an indicator of crime rates as a whole.
 - **Offending and reoffending** – this is an area of high impact, and a statutory duty for the CSP.
 - **Substance and alcohol misuse** – drug offences are increasing, substance and alcohol misuse has a wide impact on multiple crime types, and the CSP has a statutory duty to address this.

- **Community concerns** – including drug related crime and disorder and ASB.
- **East and West Marsh** – this year has seen a small decrease in overall crime and a substantial decrease in ASB in these wards. However they are the two but most prevalent wards for multiple crime types plus the areas of highest deprivation within the borough.
- **Prevent** – low numbers in this area may represent under-reporting but a strategy is already in place to address this.
- **Modern slavery** – low numbers in this area may represent under-reporting but a strategy is already in place to address this.
- **Community cohesion** – community cohesion has a wide impact on multiple crime types. This thread runs alongside the overarching partnership plan.

1.50 **NEXT STEPS**

1.51 ***Partnership Plan refresh***

1.52 Following the refresh of the JSIA a revised Partnership Plan for 2020-2023 is in development based on the emerging threats and priorities identified through the JSIA, as described above.

1.53 ***Revision of delivery mechanism***

1.54 Following the refresh of the JSIA and the Partnership Plan a review of the structure and delivery mechanisms of the CSP will be undertaken to ensure the efficient address of identified priorities and threats. The CSP task groups, work programme, and funding allocations will be aligned to the Plan.

1.55 ***Development of performance framework***

1.56 Following the appointment of the new CSP partnership analyst, quarterly performance reports are to be introduced and reviewed by the CSP Board to support decision making, monitor progress and highlight emerging priorities. During this progress the CSP will use a risk-based scoring approach, akin to that used by Humberside Police, to approve a smaller selection of indicators for inclusion in the JSIA 2020/21. This will ensure the document remains relevant whilst becoming more concise.

1.57 ***Other recommendations within the JSIA***

1.58 Consideration will be given to the following JSIA recommendations throughout the delivery of the 2020-2023 Partnership Plan:

- The development of a victim pathway to ensure that victim care retains appropriate focus within our strategic objectives.
- The coordination of CSP priorities with existing community cohesion work.
- The strengthening of the CSP's engagement with local communities.

2. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Following a desktop risk and opportunities assessment exercise using the Risk and Opportunities Framework, the risk rating around crime increasing which could see a decline in community safety is rated as 'C'. This is based on a medium likelihood score of 3 multiplied by a major impact score of 9 (potential for sustained national / international story). Controls and governance are in place both via the council and other members organisations, but also through the Community Safety Partnership as a whole.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not applicable as the Crime and Disorder Committee members is asked to note the report only.

4. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

Crime and community safety concerns feature regularly across both local traditional media and wider social media platforms. This increases the potential for negative reputational implications for the council and wider community safety partnership. A communications plan is in place which regularly releases information in a proactive manner to reassure and increase community confidence.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations linked to this report.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources which affect climate change or the environment.

7. CONSULTATION WITH SCRUTINY

All elected members were invited to take part in the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment consultation exercise in July / August 2020.

8. MONITORING COMMENTS

In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources (people, finance or physical assets). As a result no monitoring comments have been sought from the Council's Monitoring Officer (Assistant Director, Law), Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance) or Human Resources Group Manager.

9. WARD IMPLICATIONS

Affects all wards.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

11. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

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