

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

DATE	12/10/2023
REPORT OF	Chief Superintendent Darren Wildbore
SUBJECT	Community Safety Partnership update
STATUS	Open

CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

The matters for consideration within this report contribute to the outcomes of the council. 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:

- Reach their full potential through skills and learning;
- Benefit from a green economy and a high quality environment;
- Enjoy good health and wellbeing;
- Benefit from a strong local economy;
- Live in a safe environment, can have their say about things that are important to them and participate fully in their communities.

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 sets out the CSP's areas of priority and their pertinence to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan. It also provides an update on current work streams.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

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
- Integrated Care Board and Public Health
- Probation Service

1.4 Other key partners:

- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire
- Voluntary Sector Support
- NAVIGO
- Victim Support
- Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Trust

1.5 **JOINT STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT (JSIA) 2023**

1.6 ***Background***

1.7 Statutory instruments place a responsibility on the CSP to carry out an intelligence audit and to consult with the public on crime and disorder. The JSIA sets out emerging trends and patterns in crime and disorder, and identifies future threats and opportunities. The JSIA is part of the evidence base which supports the community safety partners to plan and target their work.

1.8 ***Consultation***

1.9 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 year's JSIA survey was supplemented by Humberside Police's *Humber Talking* exercise, and the Annual Youth Consultation: *Your Voice Your Vote*.

1.10 Thirty-eight percent of 374 respondents (117 respondents) had experienced crime or anti-social behaviour in the previous year, a slight increase on last year (34%) but remaining below pre-covid levels. This is not borne out in crime data which shows an overall decrease in crime from 2021/22 (18,613 incidents) to 2022/23 (17,615 incidents). The type of crime experienced remained similar to last year's survey with anti-social behaviour far exceeding other crime types, experienced by 38% of respondents. Of note, the number of respondents reporting an experience of burglary increased from 6% to 10% of respondents compared to last year. This is reflected in police incident data and will be discussed in paragraph 1.50.

1.11 The two crimes perceived as the biggest problems in respondents' neighbourhoods were ASB and drug related crime and disorder. These were then followed by shop theft, alcohol related crime and disorder, and burglary. Actual crime figures show only shop theft and burglary had increased.

1.12 When asked what the CSP should prioritise, the top responses were:

- Anti-social behaviour (19%)

- Drug related crime (14%)
- Burglary (9%)

1.13 **Key data findings**

1.14 In 2022/23 overall reported crime fell by 5% (from 18,613 in 2021/22 to 17,615 in 2022/23), and good reductions occurred in violent crime without injury (-18%), ASB (-14%) and violent crime without injury (-11%). Smaller reductions occurred in youth ASB (-8%), and arson and criminal damage (-7%).

1.15 However, increases were seen in the following areas:

- Burglary offences (19.3%);
- Vehicle offences (18.7%); and
- Theft (5.9%)

1.16 Anti-social behaviour

1.17 ASB incidents (all ages) decreased from 2,770 in 2021/22 to 2,387 in 2022/23, a decrease of 14%. The wards experiencing the greatest amount of ASB in 2022/23 were East Marsh at 16% and West Marsh (which includes top town) at 14%. Traditionally West Marsh has seen slightly higher levels of ASB than East Marsh and it was anticipated that with the end of covid restrictions in February 2022 we may have seen a reversal between these wards in 2022/23 but this was not the case. Both East Marsh and West Marsh saw a reduction from 2021/22 levels to 2022/23.

1.18 Public order

1.19 Public order offences reduced by 6.4% from 2,267 in 2021/22 to 2,121 in 2022/23. This includes public fear, alarm or distress, racially or religiously aggravated public fear, and violent disorder. However there has been a significant rise in public fear, alarm or distress (defined as threatening, abusive and insulting words, behaviour or visible representations, and forms of disorderly behaviour) in quarter four. National issues such as the cost of living increase could be a contributing factor.

1.20 The JSIA recommends that public order is monitored through the area-based tasking approach following the sharp spike in quarter four.

1.21 Youth anti-social behaviour

1.22 Youth ASB had a slight fall of 9.8% (-121) in 2022/23 but overall has stayed stable across the last three years. It accounted for 47% of all ASB in 2022/23 and followed a similar monthly trend line to adult ASB. Youths on nuisance motorbikes were the top type of ASB experienced by respondents to the JSIA survey. As in previous years, youth ASB peaked in October 2022, attributable to Halloween and bonfire night. Reported arson and criminal damage also peaked in October (222 incidents), with a secondary peak in August (school summer holidays) (221 incidents).

1.23 Offending and reoffending

1.24 Awaiting data on adult offending and reoffending – to be presented verbally in the meeting.

1.25 First time youth entrants into the criminal justice system remained consistently low with a 12-month rolling figure of 18 between January 2022 and December 2022. This is well below the family average and the Yorkshire region and is in line with our Humber colleagues.

1.26 One young person was taken into custody in this same rolling 12-month period, and those under 18 suspected of committing a crime reduced by 15% from 1,472 in 2021/22 to 1,249 in 2022/23.

1.27 Substance and alcohol misuse

1.28 The number of people receiving drug and alcohol treatment has remained relatively stable over the last three years with 1,371 in treatment in 2022/23, compared with 1,460 in 2021/22 and 1,332 in 2020/21. This represents a rolling total, with 546 new presentations in the 12-month period of 2022/23 compared with 579 in 2021/22. Although the pandemic had significant effect to the way services were provided (e.g. a move, where appropriate and clinically safe, to more online interventions) this did not affect on the ability of commissioned services to maintain provision for those already engaged with the services and provide accessible support for new clients.

1.29 The JSIA recommends that the possession of drugs is tackled through the Ten-Year Drug Strategy work.

1.30 Domestic abuse

1.31 Recorded domestic abuse incidents decreased by 41% from 5,056 in 2021/22 to 2,995 in 2022/23. Similarly recorded domestic abuse crimes fell by 23% from 3,443 in 2021/22 to 2,639 in 2022/23. However this should be viewed with caution as the implementation of new police recording software may have impacted the accuracy and reliability of the data.

1.32 In 2022/23 there were a total of 758 referrals to MARAC, the Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference for high-risk victims of domestic abuse. This was a decrease from 2021/2022 when 803 cases were heard. The number of MARAC repeat hearings has also fallen slightly by 6.86% from 412 in 2021/22 to 394 in 2022/23. However MARAC repeats as a percentage of all cases heard at MARAC remains stable at 52%

1.33 A wide range of supporting activity continue to be provided to victims and their families via the multi-agency domestic abuse arrangements underpinned by the North East Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Strategy and supporting action plan. Additional funding has been provided which will result in additional provision being commissioned and procured during the 2023/24 period.

1.34 Wider work is also underway to independently review both the MARAC and wider system arrangements, which is being undertaken by SafeLives the leading national domestic abuse charity. On completion, any recommendations will be considered and implemented on agreement of the Tri-Board arrangements of the Community Safety Partnership, Safeguarding Children Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board.

1.35 Violent crime

1.36 Violence with injury had a small fall of 11% from 2,163 in 2021/2022 to 1,921 in 2022/2023. This has not changed significantly in the last three years. There was a significant decrease in incidents of violence without injury from 2,689 in 2021/22 to 2,207 in 2022/23, representing a decrease of 18%. Incidents of violence remained attributable in the main to domestic abuse and the social economy.

1.37 Serious violence is now monitored through the new Reducing Serious Violence Task Group, introduced to deliver against the duties contained within the Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act 2022. Please refer to paragraph 1.73.

1.38 The JSIA recommends that reducing violence continues to be tackled through the Serious Violence prevention work and Violence against Women and Girls working group.

1.39 Violence against women and girls

1.40 Over the last three years incidents of violence against women and girls have remained static, increasing by only 0.28% from 4,201 incidents in 2020/21 to 4,205 incidents in 2021/22 to 4,213 incidents in 2022/23. 56% of these incidents were flagged as relating to domestic abuse.

1.41 Incidents of violence against women and girls includes, but is not limited to, assault, blackmail, controlling or coercive behaviour, criminal damage, exposure and voyeurism, harassment, manslaughter, murder, rape, robbery, sexual assault, sexual grooming, stalking, threats to commit an offence. In 2022/23 the most reported sub-category of violence against women and girls was assault with injury, with the majority (73%) of known suspects recorded as male.

1.42 The JSIA recommends that reducing violence continues to be tackled through the Serious Violence prevention work and Violence against Women and Girls working group.

1.43 Adolescent risk / child criminal exploitation

1.44 Awaiting data on adolescent risk – to be presented verbally in the meeting.

1.45 Modern slavery

1.46 In 2022/23 there were 32 referrals were submitted into the National Referral Mechanism process, up from 24 in 2021/22. Across Humberside, criminal

exploitation makes up 51% of all offences, followed by forced labour at 16% and sexual exploitation at 11%.

1.47 Neighbourhood networking

1.48 Numbers of formal neighbourhood watch groups have been in slow decline and so new models of engagement are being implemented, including resident-led groups, briefing sessions, community events and My Community Alert.

1.49 In 2022/23 there were 51 resident-led community safety groups, resulting from Safer Streets projects and other weeks of action. There has been engagement with 1,120 residents including one to one discussion and larger group briefing sessions. And 1,150 vulnerable people have been supported through the 'Keeping Older People Safe' programme which conducts fraud awareness campaigns and provides personal safety items.

1.50 Acquisitive crime

1.51 Burglary increased by 19% from 913 offences in 2021/22 to 1,089 in 2022/23. 78% of burglaries (853) were residential properties and 22% were business and community premises. The increase in offences in 2022/23 were attributable on the whole to residential burglaries, with a decrease of 14% in business / community burglaries between 2021/22 and 2022/23.

1.52 Theft has increased by 6% from 2,872 offences in 2021/22 to 3,043 offences in 2022/23. This is attributable to small increases in shop theft, 'other' theft (including making off without payment), and theft from the person. The number of bicycle thefts decreased slightly.

1.53 Vehicle theft offences increased by 19% from 631 in 2021/22 to 749 in 2022/23. Theft from a vehicle and theft of a vehicle both increased, although aggravated vehicle taking decreased slightly from a low baseline figure (reducing from 17 offences in 2021/22 to 15 in 2022/23).

1.54 The JSIA recommends that theft, burglary and vehicle theft offences are tackled through the area based tasking process, including nuisance motorbikes and road safety issues.

1.55 Preventing violent extremism

1.56 Due to Home Office instruction regarding the sharing of sensitive information, data on Prevent will not be disclosed in this report. Work continues within local communities to prepare businesses for their new responsibilities under the Protect Duty, which strengthens our position against a terrorist act; we continue to work with partners to build resilience in young people against becoming radicalised; and we continue to train practitioners and parents in threats emerging within social media and gaming.

1.57 **JSIA recommendations**

The JSIA proposes six recommendations. These are yet to be endorsed by the CSP board.

- That the Community Safety Partnership Board endorses the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment update report.
- That the Community Safety Partnership continues to address the priority areas set out in the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2022-25.
- That theft, burglary and vehicle theft offences are tackled through the area based tasking process, including nuisance motorbikes and road safety issues.
- That reducing violence continues to be tackled through the serious violence prevention work, collaboration with the Humber Violence Prevention Partnership (VPP), and violence against women and girls working group.
- That the possession of drugs is tackled through the Ten-Year Drug Strategy work.
- The performance measures included in the delivery plan are reviewed by the Community Safety Partnership Board to ensure that they are comprehensive.

1.58 **CSP PARTNERSHIP PLAN AND PRIORITIES FOR 2022-25**

1.59 ***Community Safety Partnership priorities***

1.60 The CSP has published its Partnership Plan for 2022-2025, drawing on the emerging threats identified to establish two outcomes to achieve our vision that 'all people in North East Lincolnshire feel safe and are safe':

- People are kept safe from crime and disorder, focusing on five outputs:
 - Dedicated domestic abuse provision with adequately resourced support for victims and their families
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to reducing anti-social behaviour and protecting repeat victims
 - Enhanced criminal justice prevention model to ensure people who commit crime and those who re-offend are supported to address harmful behaviours.
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to reducing serious violence
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to preventing violence against women and girls
- Vulnerable communities are protected and supported, focusing on five outputs:
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to adolescent risk
 - Effective treatment is provided to those with substance and alcohol dependency
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to neighbourhood networking
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to preventing violent extremism
 - Dedicated multi-agency approach to tackling modern slavery

1.61 The Partnership Plan will be reviewed in 2023/24 to ensure it continues to meet the needs of local communities.

1.62 ***Delivery mechanisms and governance***

1.63 The CSP Board is responsible for agreeing the priorities of the partnership, and for delivery against those priorities to improve community safety across North East Lincolnshire. A performance scorecard shows delivery, risks and progress against each priority.

1.64 The CSP's delivery structure includes a number of operational delivery ("task") groups. The task groups utilise data and intelligence from available crime audits, needs assessments and public consultation to inform strategic tactical and operational activity, initiatives and interventions. This enables a dynamic response to changing priorities and emerging community safety issues.

1.65 The Community Safety Partnership is also 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 Safeguarding Children Partnership, The Youth Partnership Board (focusing on youth crime) and the Safeguarding Adults Board.

1.66 Within North East Lincolnshire Council, the Communities Scrutiny Panel's work programme has a 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.

1.67 **POLICE AND CRIME PLAN**

1.68 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.

1.69 The current Police and Crime Commissioner was elected in May 2021; his Police and Crime Plan was published in October 2021.

1.70 The plan has three key aims:

1. Engaged, resilient and inclusive communities – to provide pathways for everyone to contribute to the safety of our communities;
2. Safer communities – to focus activities on interventions that significantly impact on local crime levels;
3. Effective Organisations – to make the system work better for local communities.

1.71 The Community Safety Partnership will continue to work with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to support the delivery of the three aims and ensure that the Community Safety Partnership Plan supports and compliments the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

1.72 **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

1.73 ***Serious violence duty and the Violence Prevention Partnership***

1.74 The Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act 2022 introduced a requirement for specified authorities to collaborate, where possible through existing partnership structures, to prevent and reduce serious violence and serious youth violence. This duty is being discharged through the CSP.

1.75 In addition to this duty twenty regional Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) have been established, through the allocation of Home Office funding to PCCs, to support the reduction of serious violence. Humberside was designated a Violence Reduction Unit (known locally as the Violence Prevention Partnership) in April 2022. The local duty is therefore being delivered in close cooperation and joint working with the Humber VPP.

1.76 A Humber strategic needs assessment, strategy and delivery plan are in draft stage, mirrored by a parallel local (North East Lincolnshire) strategic needs assessment, strategy and delivery plan. Key to ensuring consistency between the two is the new Violence Reduction Officer – a post funded by the VPP to coordinate this work.

1.77 Delivery is based on the 6P model; workstreams include:

- Prepare – reviewing data relating to youth and adult serious violence and precursor crimes, emergency department data, and school exclusions relating to serious violence and weapons.
- Prevent – street based targeted delivery detached youth work; positive activities; the power of kNOW productions and safe havens; JEFF emotional regulation work; targeted weapons awareness education; hotspot police patrols, CCTV improvements.
- Protect – improvements to safeguarding within the night time economy; introduction of trauma and bleed kits; work to address violence against women and girls including early culture change around misogyny and informed consent; victim support.
- Pursue – partnership tasking and coordination, including daily Pacesetter meetings; management of wanted offenders (Op. Shield – see paragraph 1.81); ASB enforcement through Community Protection Warnings and Notices.
- People – consultation with adults and young people as both victims and perpetrators; community engagement and problem solving (Clear, Hold, Build – see paragraph 1.78).
- Partnership – joint working with VPP, related CSP task groups, Safeguarding Children's Board, Safeguarding Adults Partnership, Youth Partnership Board.

1.78 ***Clear Hold Build***

1.79 Clear Hold Build is a locality-based model for tackling organised crime. Nunsthorpe has been selected as a pilot area, and, following early signs of success in the pilot areas, the approach is due to be adopted by all forces in England and Wales by March 2024. The tactic comprises of three parts: Clear, which sees police pursue gang members; Hold, where police and partners work together to maintain a grip on the area to prevent other criminal groups from taking control; and Build, which works to help the community become less susceptible to the draw of organised crime groups.

1.80 Locally the CSP is working with the Regional Organised Crime Unit to secure reductions in violent crime, drug offences, and exploitation. To date the Clear phase has resulted in drugs warrants executed, class A drugs recovered, and cash seized. The next steps are:

- Clear – continued enforcement action and development of intelligence;
- Hold – neighbourhood visibility of police, community engagement;
- Build – development of funding streams and community events, identify gaps in service provision, media strategy.

1.81 ***Operation Shield***

1.82 Operation Shield is a three-month Force-wide initiative to proactively target and disrupt serious violence and high harm offenders, disrupt organised crime groups, and make it difficult for travelling criminality to enter the area.

1.83 The operation will run from mid-September to mid-December with three phases:

- Phase one – overt policing activity to reduce vulnerability to victims, increase public confidence and prevent and detect crime. This includes the execution of warrants, OCG disruption, the arrest of high risk or repeat suspects, enhanced visibility in the community and night time economy, and sustained proactive communications to the public.
- Phase two – reduction of outstanding crime on the workbooks of staff within all Commands, through finalising investigations and positive action such as arrest of suspect(s).
- Phase three – enhanced overt policing capacity and capability to support dynamic operational policing requirements. This includes Op Galaxy, and community engagement by neighbourhood policing teams.

1.84 ***Grimsby Top Town Community Safety Project***

1.85 The CSP has been awarded funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) and crime, including violence, violence against women and girls and public order.

1.86 This project has a collective of five interventions which dovetail to create a community safety plan which minimises the threat of crime and disorder in the town centre:

1. To develop a youth hub in the centre of Grimsby town centre to divert young people away from causing ASB and crime;
 2. To improve business security by enhancing the Grimsby Retail in Partnership (GRIP) programme to include licenced premises;
 3. To enhance the street scene and improve the perception of the town centre as a safe place, free of crime and disorder;
 4. To enhance the night time street scene in support of the night time economy (NTE) and violence against women and girls (VAWG) agendas;
 5. To improve the visible aesthetics of the town centre area by removing graffiti and working with graffiti artists to provide as safe place for them to tag.
- 1.87 Needs assessments and project planning are currently underway in anticipation of receiving the funding grant agreement in due course.

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. 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 proactive approach is taken to communications which regularly releases information in a proactive manner to reassure and increase community confidence.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations linked to this report.

5. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS

In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources which affect children and young people.

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. 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 (Chief Legal Officer), Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance) or Strategic Workforce Lead.

8. WARD IMPLICATIONS

Affects all wards.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Community Safety Partnership Plan 2022-25

Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2022-23

10. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

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