

REPORT TO:		Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
DATE:		17 March 2021	
PORTFOLIO:		Cllr Jenny Molineux – Health and Communities	
REPORT AUTHOR:		Kirsten Burnett, Head of Policy and OD	
TITLE OF REPORT:		Community Safety Update	
EXEMPT REPORT (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A)	No	Not applicable	
KEY DECISION:	No	If yes, date of publication:	

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To update the Committee on how the Council contributes to Community Safety in the borough.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee notes the report and suggests any further actions.

3. Reasons for Recommendations and Background

3.1 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are an important feature of the network of partnerships that help to tackle crime and reduce reoffending and were set up under Sections 5-7 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998. This places a statutory duty on a number of responsible authorities to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder. The ‘responsible authorities’¹ of the Steering Group include:

- Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company
- East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Hyndburn Borough Council
- Lancashire Constabulary
- Lancashire County Council
- Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service
- National Probation Service

3.2 Additional members of the CSP can include other statutory, voluntary, community and private sector bodies that are able to make a positive contribution towards the development and effective delivery of the CSP priorities.

¹ As defined by the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, Police Reform Act 2002 and Police & Justice Act 2006 and Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011

- 3.3 They work together to protect their local communities from crime, focusing on local issues and priorities. They reassess local crime priorities and develop community safety plans in consultation with partners and the local community.
- 3.4 Police and Crime Commissioners also work together with their local CSP to develop local approaches to reduce and prevent crime. [Section 10](#) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out a flexible framework for partnership working between CSPs and PCCs, allowing for the adoption of locally meaningful arrangements. They must have regard to each other's priorities when developing their respective plans

Role of Scrutiny Committee

- 3.5 Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act² brought in powers for scrutiny committees to investigate work being undertaken by Community Safety Partnerships. It should be noted that this is a power to look at the work of the partnership as a whole rather than a power to scrutinise individual partners. Scrutiny of the Police is undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner, who will him/herself be held to account by a Police and Crime Panel.

Hyndburn's Community Safety Partnerships Structure

- 3.6 The Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Board (LCSPB) is responsible for addressing community safety issues through co-ordinating the work of county-wide 'responsible authorities' and other agencies to tackle priorities and deliver stronger and safer communities. The current board structure includes the Lancashire 12 districts and the unitary authorities of Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool by invite and together all are referred to as the 'Lancashire 14'. The LCC Chief Executive Officer chairs the LCSPB, which meets quarterly. The Head of Policy and OD represents Hyndburn Borough Council on this group.
- 3.7 This group has developed a [Community Safety Agreement](#) for Lancashire which is included as [Appendix 1](#).
- 3.8 The [Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership](#) was established in 2015 between Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, Rossendale, and Burnley Councils. Pendle are not part of the formal agreement, though are partners in the Pennine CSP arrangements and are looking to formalise their engagement in the near future. The Board works together with offender management services, the fire and rescue service, health providers and commissioners, the universities, voluntary and community sector organisations and housing providers as the representative body through which each agency discharges its Crime & Disorder duties. Hyndburn Borough Council's representative at this group is the Community Safety Officer.
- 3.9 Hyndburn Community Safety Partnership is the local body, co-ordinated by the Council, which brings together relevant partners across the borough. The Hyndburn CSP has made excellent progress in recent years in how it identifies and tackles local community safety priorities. Until March 2020, it was chaired by the late Cllr Tony Dobson, who made an excellent contribution to this work and supported the building of excellent relationships with key partners. The Chair is now the Council's Head of Policy and OD and our Community Safety Officer co-ordinates much of the work of this group. See [Appendix 2](#) for where Hyndburn's local priorities sit within the Pennine and County-wide priorities.

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/48/section/19>

3.10 Hyndburn's local CSP priorities are:

- Environmental Crime
- Violent Crime
- Acquisitive Crime
- Youth Related Crime

3.11 There are other priorities throughout Lancashire that the Local Community Safety Partnership contributes to, such as Road Safety, CCTV and Reducing Reoffending with Wellbeing and Safeguarding threaded into each priority.

3.12 We also contribute toward national campaigns, including the White Ribbon Campaign, Road Safety and other high profile campaigns.

How we tackle each priority

3.13 Each priority is assigned a task and finish group with key partners and a dedicated chair. These meetings allow each agency to provide the chair with an update on the action plan and also share information with other partners in order to provide a holistic approach in tackling the issue of concern.

3.14 Each Task & Finish group reports back to the Community Safety Partnership for consideration and review. This in turn provides updates for the Pennine Community Safety Partnership and Lancashire-wide Community Safety Steering group.

3.15 We work collaboratively across Council departments to avoid duplication and make best use of our resources to tackle issues of concern. These include Licensing, Planning, Waste Services, Parks and Open Spaces, Housing and Environmental Protection.

Serious Violence Bill 2020

3.16 A new 'public health duty' to tackle serious violence will cover the police, local councils, and local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services. It will ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence, and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence including knife crime. It will also allow them to target their interventions to prevent and stop violence altogether.

3.17 In addition, the government will amend the Crime and Disorder Act to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, and that they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime.

3.18 The local Hyndburn CSP has achieved great successes in working in partnership from setting up a radio system for all retailers in the Town centre that has a direct link to the both the CCTV hub and Police. This project was hailed as a great example of partnership working from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner who visited key partners in the borough. This has reduced shoplifting dramatically and acts as a deterrent for potential crime to occur. We have also been very successful in closing down businesses without the correct permits and licences and prosecuted those undertaking unlawful business activity within the Borough. We have an established relationship with the business sector, providing a valuable means of sharing information and intelligence.

Data sharing

3.19 The CSP will produce, adopt and regularly review its 'Data Sharing Protocol' under S115 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and Crime & Disorder (prescribed information) Regulations 2007 No.1831. Members are required to sign the CSP's Data Sharing Protocol and adhere to its conditions, taking into account confidentiality issues and relevant data protection and Human Rights legislation. In the event of discussions taking place which are of a confidential nature, partners who have not signed a Data Sharing Protocol may be asked to leave the meeting for that item. In order to protect the identity of a named individual or groups personalised data may be restrictive.

Other related groups

3.20 Within Lancashire there are a number of other groups which support Community Safety and Hyndburn Borough Council officers attend where relevant. This includes the Lancashire Contest board, Prevent meetings, Safeguarding networks, Lancashire Strategic Hate Crime and Cohesion Group, Lancashire Anti-Social Behaviour Group, Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board, Domestic Abuse Steering Group and the Violence Reduction Network. We also contribute to regional networks when appropriate, for example Organised Crime. The Lancashire CSP has commissioned a review of partnership and governance arrangements across Lancashire, which may lead to some changes in future.

Crime and Disorder

3.21 The recent strategic threat assessment for Hyndburn states the following:

- Hyndburn had the 6th highest crime rate in Lancashire (2020)
- 11.6% of suspects in 2020 were under the age of 18
- Violence without injury was the most reoccurring crime type in Hyndburn during 2020 with an age range 30-40 years
- Repeat offending = 28% (Lancashire = 29%) and repeat victimisation = 25% (Lancashire = 21%) (2018)
- Barnfield Ward had the highest crime rate in 2020
- The rate of police incidents is forecasted to continue decreasing in Hyndburn
- Deliberate ASB fires were highest in Central Ward (2019)

3.22 Burglary

BURGLARY						
CSP	Lower Super Output Area	Ward	2017/18 R/000 pop	2018/19 R/000 pop	2019/20 R/000 pop	3-yr average annual R/000 pop
Hyndburn	E01025036	Barnfield	30.44	32.38	16.19	26.34
Hyndburn	E01025068	Peel	20.03	23.36	14.02	19.14
Hyndburn	E01025049	Clayton-le-Moors	15.09	25.79	13.21	18.03
Hyndburn	E01025037	Barnfield	28.47	16.67	4.17	16.44
Hyndburn	E01025067	Peel	18.30	16.19	7.74	14.07
Hyndburn	E01025034	Altham	11.91	20.85	8.93	13.90
Hyndburn	E01025083	Spring Hill	11.76	16.12	9.15	12.35
Hyndburn	E01025046	Church	12.51	9.17	13.34	11.68
Hyndburn	E01025075	St Andrew's	8.10	15.05	10.42	11.19
Hyndburn	E01025044	Church	5.38	12.31	10.77	9.49
Hyndburn	E01025050	Clayton-le-Moors	9.82	13.10	1.96	8.30
Hyndburn	E01025057	Milnshaw	8.35	6.56	9.54	8.15

3.23 Vehicle Crime

VEHICLE CRIME						
CSP	Lower Super Output Area	Ward	2017/18 R/000 pop	2018/19 R/000 pop	2019/20 R/000 pop	3-yr average annual R/000 pop
Hyndburn	E01025036	Barnfield	15.54	39.51	7.12	20.73
Hyndburn	E01025041	Central	14.92	16.71	12.53	14.72
Hyndburn	E01025068	Peel	12.02	11.35	14.69	12.68
Hyndburn	E01025067	Peel	11.96	14.78	7.04	11.26
Hyndburn	E01025044	Church	7.69	19.23	6.15	11.03
Hyndburn	E01025074	Rishton	9.72	8.97	13.45	10.71
Hyndburn	E01025057	Milnshaw	10.73	8.35	11.33	10.14
Hyndburn	E01025034	Altham	10.13	11.91	7.74	9.93

3.24 Robbery

ROBBERY						
CSP	Lower Super Output Area	Ward	2017/18 R/000 pop	2018/19 R/000 pop	2019/20 R/000 pop	3-yr average annual R/000 pop
Hyndburn	E01025036	Barnfield	2.59	7.77	4.53	4.97
Hyndburn	E01025041	Central	1.79	5.37	3.58	3.58
Hyndburn	E01025067	Peel	2.11	2.81	1.41	2.11
Hyndburn	E01025034	Altham	1.79	1.79	1.19	1.59
Hyndburn	E01025049	Clayton-le-Moors	0.63	1.89	1.89	1.47
Hyndburn	E01025075	St Andrew's	1.16	0.58	2.31	1.35
Hyndburn	E01025068	Peel	0.00	3.34	0.67	1.34
Hyndburn	E01025071	Rishton	1.52	0.76	1.52	1.26

3.25 All Crime

ALL NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIME						
CSP	Lower Super Output Area	Ward	2017/18 R/000 pop	2018/19 R/000 pop	2019/20 R/000 pop	3-yr average annual R/000 pop
Hyndburn	E01025036	Barnfield	64.77	96.50	36.92	66.06
Hyndburn	E01025068	Peel	34.05	41.39	31.38	35.60
Hyndburn	E01025041	Central	28.04	43.56	21.48	31.03
Hyndburn	E01025049	Clayton-le-Moors	27.04	37.11	20.75	28.30
Hyndburn	E01025067	Peel	32.37	35.19	16.89	28.15
Hyndburn	E01025034	Altham	24.42	34.54	18.46	25.81
Hyndburn	E01025037	Barnfield	34.03	27.08	10.42	23.84
Hyndburn	E01025044	Church	15.38	32.31	16.92	21.54
Hyndburn	E01025057	Milnshaw	20.27	17.89	21.47	19.88
Hyndburn	E01025046	Church	18.35	20.85	20.02	19.74
Hyndburn	E01025075	St Andrew's	19.68	21.99	17.36	19.68
Hyndburn	E01025083	Spring Hill	23.53	20.48	13.94	19.32

3.26 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

ASB	2019					2020
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Non Youth	244	231	234	213	197	188
Youths	72	53	127	87	44	56
Total	316	284	361	300	241	244
ASB	2020					2021
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Non Youth	423	309	374	341	318	406
Youths	92	73	143	118	74	107
Total ASB	515	382	517	459	392	513
% change on previous year	63.0	34.5	43.2	53.0	62.7	110.2

3.27 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 defines ASB as:

- Conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person (i.e. objectively causes fear for one's own safety), or
- Conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that persons occupational residential premises, or
- Conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person

3.28 As a partnership we are intelligence-led and information driven to ensure resources are deployed through tasking and coordination into the right areas at the right time to combat ASB effectively. We:

- Ensure that timely and targeted enforcement action is taken against perpetrators of ASB.
- Tackle specific elements of ASB (e.g. youth disorder, graffiti-signal crimes etc.)
- Work collectively in order to prevent /divert ASB from occurring in the first place.
- Review how we combat ASB within the borough in order to improve our response to ASB complaints.
- Review and implement ASB legislation locally by seeking to put into place Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs).
- Provide support to vulnerable and repeat victims of ASB.

3.29 **Nitrous Oxide** has become an issue for the borough in that the use of 'legal highs' is putting the public at risk as well as contributing to a significant littering problem. Loopholes in the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 have led to the activity of NO2 inhalation becoming commonplace. We are working with Trading Standards to minimise the risk posed by this product.

3.30 **Cannabis usage:** the police have primacy on this issue, however it is clear that personal use of cannabis within dwellings is becoming a problem that has led to an increase in complaints by neighbours especially during lockdown periods.

3.31 Youth related ASB has increased by 91% (up 51 incidents to 107) whilst non-youth ASB increased by 116% (up 218 incidents to 406). ASB pan-Lancashire and nationally is recording higher levels than the same period in 2020. One of the reasons for the increase is as a direct result of Covid-19 restrictions and the public reporting breaches of these restrictions.

- 3.32 Prior to the outbreak of Covid-19, the long-term trend for anti-social behaviour in Hyndburn along with Lancashire was downward. However, due to the Covid-19 restrictions imposed from March 2020, there have been significant increases in both Hyndburn and pan-Lancashire.
- 3.33 Repeat locations for youth related ASB are Tesco, McDonalds, B&M and Asda car parks and open spaces. We work with local businesses, who are represented on the youth panel task & finish group. We conduct joint operations with our Parks teams and the police tackling youth nuisance in our parks and open green spaces.
- 3.34 The wards recording the greatest number of Covid-19 related incidents in the last three months were Central, Peel and Spring Hill.

Policing

- 3.35 The Hyndburn Policing team consists of 1 Inspector, 2 Sergeants, 9 Police Constables, and 14 PCSOs.
- 3.36 Local police teams work closely with the Council. Regular meetings take place between all of the team in the form of a joint tasking and co-ordinating meeting, where geographical problems around all areas of ASB are highlighted and actions allocated to deal with emerging and/or historical problems.

Lancashire Talking

- 3.37 Lancashire Talking gives local people a voice in how the Policing Team approach the neighbourhood policing priorities.
- 3.38 The concerns of local residents are raised through a 3 monthly updated survey to identify their top 5 community issues, so Neighbourhood Policing Teams can prioritise problem solving and targeting activity in their neighbourhood on a daily basis, on the problems that matter most to their community.
- 3.39 It can be considered a modern-day digital version of the traditional PACT approach to identifying community concerns, but is more effective as it involves thousands of residents in setting priorities and provides residents with personalised updates about the issues that they raise.
- 3.40 Hyndburn has been the successful pilot for the programme which has now been devolved across the whole of Lancashire and we currently have 17 % of Hyndburn households participating.
- 3.41 Since its inception the top 3 priorities raised by Hyndburn residents are:
- Anti-social behaviour
 - Road Safety issues
 - Drug dealing

4. Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 N/a

5. Consultations

- 5.1 N/a

6. Implications

Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council)	The Hyndburn CSP receives a grant from the Police & Crime Commissioner which is used to fund small community projects within the borough. The Community Safety Officer post is funded by Hyndburn Borough Council.
Legal and human rights implications	The Council has legal obligations which are detailed in the report.
Assessment of risk	None – report is for information.
Equality and diversity implications A <u>Customer First Analysis</u> should be completed in relation to policy decisions and should be attached as an appendix to the report.	n/a

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985: List of Background Papers

None

8. Freedom of Information

8.1 The report does not contain exempt information under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A and all information can be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Appendix 1

Lancashire Community Safety Agreement 2019-2022

"Working together to make Lancashire a better place for this and future generations; by targeting vulnerability, increasing resilience and reducing crime".

The Community Safety Agreement sets out how we will work together to address the community safety priorities for Lancashire. It is owned by the Lancashire Public Service Board, as the Community Safety Strategy Group, which brings together representatives from the responsible authorities to set the strategic direction and coordinate partnership activity to tackle crime and disorder. Partnership plans are tailored to local need and are developed and delivered by local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). A number of related Lancashire partnerships and strategies are also integral to delivering our community safety priorities.

The Evidence

The [Strategic Assessment \(SA\)](#) identifies significant crime and anti-social behaviour threats and issues across Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire.

It is produced on a 3-year cycle with an annual evaluation of key priorities and forms the key evidence base that underpins the *Community Safety Agreement* and development of local partnership plans.

District and unitary profiles, partnership intelligence assessments and joint strategic needs assessments (JSNA) have provided supporting evidence through consultation with key stakeholders, partner organisations and local community groups.

Community Engagement: The *Living in Lancashire* resident's panel and other local consultation mechanisms have been used to survey local communities, regarding their concerns in relation to crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and community safety. Dangerous driving, burglary, drug dealing, cleanliness of streets and pavements and access to green areas have been identified as the issues which concern our communities.

*Our Key Issues

The SA identifies the top crime and anti-social behaviour issues across Lancashire as:

- Violence against the person
- Domestic abuse
- Sexual offences
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Road safety

The main contributory factors in the commission of crime and increased risk of victimisation are:

- Alcohol use / misuse
- Drug use / misuse
- Previous offending
- Mental Health

The SA identifies key themes that require multi-agency engagement as being **vulnerability/victims; justice/ re-offending; public safety and serious organised Crime (SOC)** through the distributions and supply of a variety of drugs. (County Lines).

Within these themes risks and threats relate to domestic abuse; repeat victimisation; CSE; hate crime; modern day slavery; missing from home(MFH);re-offending; crime; fraud; cybercrime; violence against the person; anti-social behaviour; fire safety within the home and road safety, knife crime.

The SA district and unitary profiles provide a breakdown of local threats and issues and demonstrate the geographic and demographic diversity of Lancashire. Local variations must, therefore, be considered in all approaches tackling crime and ASB.

Our Approach

We will continue to build on the strong history of partnership working between Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire. Our local CSPs take a pragmatic and flexible approach to joint working on shared priorities on a thematic and geographical footprint. Our approach will include:

Collaboration with other strategic partnerships, in addressing shared priorities, particularly the contributory factors and determinants, such as mental health, that influence offending and vulnerability.

Working in partnership to review the structures and governance across the CSP landscape to ensure that key issues are addressed effectively.

Continually developing and improving links and activities with all local authorities to support local residents and better understand the geographic and demographic diversity of Lancashire.

Working with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to deliver community safety activity that supports the aims and priorities of the Police and Crime Plan.

A commitment to taking an 'early help' approach; to recognising the effect of Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE's); to taking a trauma informed approach to working; and to building on strengths and community assets, at a neighbourhood level, to stop the development of issues that can often become more significant challenges.

A work programme of intelligence assessments to further develop knowledge around domestic abuse; child exploitation; modern day slavery and victim engagement, which have all been identified as issues of common concern. This will be flexible enough to develop knowledge around emerging issues as they become of common concern; an example being that of knife crime.

Supporting the appropriate and effective sharing of information between responsible authorities and partner organisations, through the continued use of [Multi Agency Data Exchange \(MADE\)](#) platform.

Our Activity

Local partnership plans identify key actions that address the priorities to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

Dashboards are available, for officers to access through MADE, that monitor issues and significant threats relating to community safety; these are available to those who have access [here](#)

Strategic Partnerships with links to Community Safety

Health and Wellbeing Board (under review)
Lancashire Safeguarding Boards (under review)
Lancashire Criminal Justice Board

Boards/Partnerships with links to Community Safety

- CONTEST Board
- GENGA/Serious Organised Crime(SOC) Group
- Lancashire Reducing Reoffending Board
- Lancashire Road Safety Partnership
- Pan Lancashire Complex Safeguarding and Exploitation Strategic Board
- Pan Lancashire Domestic Abuse Board
- Lancashire Strategic Hate Crime and Cohesion Group
- Pan Lancashire Anti-Slavery Partnership
- Anti-Social Behaviour County Group

*Terrorism is also a key issue that is referenced in the SA – however it is dealt with by a specialist unit within the Police; the CSA focusses on the issues that CSPs feel able to influence more locally.

Together we are safer Lancashire

Appendix 2

