Lancashire Community Safety Agreement 2017 - 18

"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 Chief Executives Group, 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 pan-Lancashire Strategic assessment (SA) identifies significant crime and anti-social behaviour threats and issues.

It is produced on a 3-year cycle with an annual evaluation of key findings and forms the key evidence base that supports 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 has been used to survey local communities regarding their concerns regarding crime, antisocial behaviour (ASB) and community safety. ASB and gangs of youths are the most cited reason for feeling unsafe with those living in more deprived areas on the whole feeling the level of crime is worse.

Our Priorities

The SA identifies the top crime and antisocial behaviour categories across Lancashire as:

- Violence against the person
- Domestic abuse
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE)
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- Road safety

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

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

The SA has also identified deprivation, social inequality and poor mental health as determinants that influence offending and vulnerability.

The key threats from serious and organised crime are the distribution and supply of drugs, violence between groups and exploitation of vulnerable people.

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

There is a strong history of partnership working in pan-Lancashire. Local CSPs take a pragmatic and flexible approach to joint working on shared priorities on a thematic and geographical footprint. Our approach will include:

Closer collaboration with other partnerships (including the Safeguarding Boards, Children and Young People's Trust and the Health and Wellbeing Board) to addressing shared priorities, particularly the contributory factors and determinants that influence offending and vulnerability.

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 stop the development of issues that can often become more significant challenges.

Effective commissioning of services is central to delivering key activity. Feedback from those services to CSPs will be used to further inform local action planning.

A work programme of intelligence assessments to further develop knowledge around significant threats, issues and gaps in knowledge identified in the Strategic Assessment.

The use of good practice and incorporate evaluations of what works and what does not into local plans and strategies.

Support the appropriate and effective sharing of information between responsible authorities and partner organisations, and develop the Multi Agency Data Exchange (MADE) platform to support this.

Our Action

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

Measuring success: To develop an appropriate dashboard on which to monitor priorities and significant threats. The aim that links county, district and unitary progress that incorporates the partnership intelligence assessment work plan.

Related strategies and plans

- The Police and Crime Plan
- Towards Zero Lancashire: Road Safety Strategy for Lancashire
- Pan-Lancashire Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Alcohol Harm Reduction Action Plan (draft)
- Child Sexual Exploitation Multi-Agency Strategy 2015- 2018
- Prevent
- Serious Harm Reduction Strategy
- Hate Crime Strategy (draft)