

**PENNINE LANCASHIRE
COMMUNITY SAFETY
PARTNERSHIP**



STRATEGIC PLAN - 2022 - 2025

Joanne Dann – Chair of the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership

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Foreword

Joanne Dann – Chair of the **Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership**

The Community Safety Partnership (**CSP**) is pleased to introduce the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Strategy 2022–2025. Established in 2015 following the formal merger of **Blackburn with Darwen, Rossendale** and **Burnley** Community Safety Partnerships, and in 2019, **Hyndburn**, this is our first strategy to be developed collaboratively, and one that will help bring even greater focus to what is a vibrant and diverse part of Lancashire.

Reducing crime and disorder, and protecting vulnerable people are extremely important factors in improving the lives of Pennine Lancashire residents. We have had notable successes in protecting those who are vulnerable, changing the behaviours of offenders and keeping Pennine residents, businesses and visitors safe.

We are proud of our achievements to date but know that more needs to be done. The past few years have been difficult, with pressure growing on emergency, safeguarding and prevention services. Welfare reforms, increased demand for emergency protection and social care services, reductions in public resources and a range of government policy changes over the past three years have led to challenges.

During the course of the last strategy, the Covid-19 pandemic forced **PLCSP** to adopt new ways of working. We have embraced technology to allow all partners to regularly meet and receive assurance about the ongoing work of the partnership. We reviewed and amended our priorities to ensure that community safety concerns continued to be addressed and have been responsive to the changing needs of our community.

Over the last three years the partnership has seen some successful outcomes on projects commissioned through joint bids. In particular the Safer Streets projects which addresses the problem of acquisitive crime in Burnley and Blackburn, and Pause 4 Thought project which aims to reduce youth crime across the whole Pennine Lancashire footprint.

This has undoubtedly been a difficult time, but the strength of partnership working in Pennine Lancashire has enabled the Community Safety Partnership to remain assured that community safety issues across Pennine Lancashire are identified, addressed and reviewed.

As we move forward, by working together and prioritising our resources to those areas likely to achieve and sustain positive outcomes, we will demonstrate our commitment to improving community safety and continue to find new ways of working effectively and efficiently with partners.

Positive relationships with our communities are vital to help prevent and tackle crime; promoting community cohesion has an important role in responding to the challenges we have and is key to our success going forward, hence is a significant focus for us here in Pennine Lancashire.

Our Aim is to keep Pennine Lancashire a safe and forward-looking region where our communities, businesses and visitors do not see crime as a constraint to daily life and investment, something we are positive that we can deliver.

Joanne Dann

Introduction

The Crime and Disorder Act **1998** places a duty on the police, local authorities, key partners and organisations to work together to develop and implement local crime reduction plans. Before developing such plans, they must identify key local crime-and-disorder priorities through consultation, and by analysing crime-and-disorder levels and patterns in the area.

In Pennine Lancashire, the responsible bodies have combined their localised Community Safety Partnership arrangements for **Rosendale, Burnley, Blackburn** with **Darwen** and **Hyndburn**. Approved by elected members and the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner in 2016 (with the addition of Hyndburn in 2019), the partnership works closely with local government in Pendle, who are looking to formalise their engagement in the near future. Together with offender management services, the fire and rescue service, health providers and commissioners, the universities, voluntary and community sector organisations and housing providers the **Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (PLCSP)** is the representative body through which each agency discharges its Crime & Disorder duties.

The CSP's shared vision is:

To keep Pennine Lancashire a safe and forward looking region where our communities, businesses and visitors do not see crime or anti-social behaviour as a constraint to daily life and investment.

The focus of the **CSP** is underpinned by this Strategy, which places emphasis on our working with residents, partners and communities to improve safety across the four Council areas that form the **Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership**. We will also work closely with Pendle where their local concerns match our own and there is value in working together.

The **CSP** has consulted widely with residents, businesses and partners to inform our priority areas. We can see that concerns of residents and businesses are increasing and we need to respond to them.

This strategy is informed by the Strategic Needs Assessment from our Pennine areas, which provides an account of the key long term issues and threats from crime and anti-social behaviour across Pennine Lancashire.

Pennine Lancashire has mature partnership arrangements in place and partners are committed to addressing community safety issues. The above mentioned key risks and threats form our priority plans, to ensure work to reduce these is taking place across the region.

Here are some examples of how the **CSP** has reduced crime and antisocial behaviour, protected vulnerable people, and changed the behaviour of offenders during the previous strategy:

Safer Streets

The PLCSSG has applied, and been successful in gaining funding for two Safer Streets initiatives over the last three years. The funding comes from the Home Office, and aims to reduce acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour. The PLCSP established, through data gathered by Lancashire Constabulary's data analysts, that two areas in Burnley, and later, two areas of Blackburn, were recording the highest levels of burglary and acquisitive crime, across the whole of East Lancashire. The Safer Streets 1 & 2 Projects funded £1,000,000 worth of crime reduction initiatives in these areas, while engaging the community to make them feel safer. Despite the project plans having to be completely readapted due to Covid restrictions, the projects and all planned works went ahead. Evaluation of the work is still in the early stages, but early indicators are showing these crime types in the four particular LSOAs targeted have reduced, and residents report feeling safer and happier in the area that they live.

Tackling Rough Sleeping and Begging

Covid has had a significant impact in the way we work with the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. In 2021, an application was successful to the Changing Futures programme, which is a Lancashire wide initiative. The Changing Futures project supports individuals facing disadvantage who are unemployed or economically inactive. Through this five-year programme 1500 people in Lancashire will receive tailored support to move towards work or training. The project is delivered by a partnership of 30 mostly community, voluntary and social enterprise sector organisations across Lancashire.

Pause 4 Thought

Pause 4 Thought is a therapeutic programme for 10-14 year olds who are at early risk of getting caught up in anti-social behaviour, crime & violence and who may struggle to regulate their emotions when feeling stressed or anxious. All of the groups are offered across East Lancashire, and offer safe virtual / on line groups or direct face-face groups in local community venues. The programme is currently in the feasibility phase, and early indicators are showing positive outcomes for those that have been through the programme.

Priorities over the next three years



The Partnership uses Strategic Intelligence and Assessments which draw on a wide range of data sources relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, environmental issues and substance misuse alongside perception information concerning public confidence and reassurance. We also consider the changing socio-economic and demographic profile of Pennine Lancashire that plays a role in influencing some of the community safety hotspots in the region.

The next section outlines the key findings from these documents and sets out how the feedback and statistical analysis feeds into our priorities.

Each priority will be overseen by a strategic lead that will be responsible for developing the **CSP's** response for this area. This will include developing a delivery plan, commissioning analysis and activity, allocating funding, monitoring activity and performance as well as working with other priority leads on cross-cutting areas of work.

Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Priority Areas

The following areas will have their own tactical groups, chaired by a member of the Steering Group, and supported by the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Coordinator, and will report in directly to the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Steering Group.

Maintaining Low Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is the common term used to describe incidents or actions that cause damage or affect the quality of life of people. It can be any behaviour that causes harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not living in the same household and can include things such as noise, neighbour nuisances, abandoned vehicles, litter and vehicle nuisance, vandalism, graffiti and fly posting, verbal abuse, threatening behaviour, harassment and intimidation.

Over the last three years, there was a significant increase in reported **ASB** incidents. A number of those reports related to breaches and complaints against others regarding the pandemic lockdown measures. As we move out of these measures, it remains to be seen as to whether the levels of reported **ASB** incidents returns to those seen in the previous two years. Current data suggests many areas have increased levels of **anti-social behaviour**.

Anti-social behaviour in Pennine Lancashire is addressed at the neighbourhood and district level, particularly through local Community Safety Partnerships. Local Authorities, the Police and other partners work together to address **ASB** using tools and powers where appropriate, as well as diversionary activities and safeguarding measures.

This priority will continue to focus on targeted activities to prevent and detect crime, alongside dealing more effectively with **anti-social behaviour**. It will include focused work on acquisitive crime prevention and crimes associated with the evening and night-time economy, including violent crime. This will be alongside measures to reduce the number of adults in crisis; the by-product of which is **anti-social behaviour** on our streets and in our town centres. Our residents will be emotionally healthier and feel safer.

The Community Safety Partnership will:

- Balance support and choice with the use of tools and powers to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime.
- Supporting the commercial sector, in particular retailers, industrial and commercial businesses and our night-time economy, to increase their and their customer's resilience against becoming the victims of crime.
- Continue to identify hotspot locations, taking an intelligence-led approach to targeted activity.
- Effectively respond to hate incidents and crimes, encourage reporting, and provide support for those affected.
- Strengthen community led responses to preventing acquisitive crimes such as burglary and vehicle crime.
- Continue to monitor the delivery and success of the Changing Futures Programme.
- Use our CCTV resources effectively and in partnership with the private sector to reduce the opportunity for crimes to be committed and increase their likelihood of detection.
- Engage with residents and businesses and improve our communication around intelligence, risk and prevention measures as well as our successes.

Success Measures over the 2012-25 period will be:

- To promote consistency of approach across Pennine Lancashire of the use ASB tools and powers so that residents can expect a common approach.
- Raising awareness of Hate Crime using a community led intelligence approach, and developing more third party reporting centres to ensure an increase in reporting of these crimes.
- Utilising existing community group networks to raise awareness of these aspects of community safety, to ensure that residents feel safer and more aware of how to report incidents, measuring this through these community groups and links with local residents.

Targeting repeat offenders and those causing the greatest harm

There are Lancashire wide governance arrangements for this group, with mature partnership arrangements in place. There is a local Reducing Reoffending group for East, and this reports into both the Pennine Community Safety Steering Group, and the Lancashire Reducing Reoffending Board. This group is Chaired by an Independent Chair, appointed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

We will work to tackle the issues which underpin crime committed by prolific offenders, namely problem drug and alcohol use, peer networks, homelessness and employability alongside developing more effective methods of identifying individuals at risk of future involvement in crime and target those posing the greatest risk of harm to our communities.

The Community Safety Partnership will:

- Reducing re-offending by effectively managing prolific and priority offenders within an Integrated Offender Management System.
- Change the way offenders think, to bring home the effect of their behaviour on themselves and others, and to teach positive techniques to avoid the situations that lead to offending.
- Using new technology and data systems to improve the monitoring of the activities of prolific local and cross border offenders.
- Tackle financial and housing need among perpetrators. This should include improved discharge from prison, and prevent resettlement in an area outside of their local network.
- Securing safe and appropriate accommodation for those who would otherwise be homeless on release should be a priority, resisting low quality, multi occupancy premises being used as a default. The use of a housing first model will developed at scale.

Success Measures over the 2022-25 period will be:

- Using the provision of bespoke support over that available to all across all pathways to offending and repeat offending from all key partners and commissioners.
- Review Restorative Justice options available for adults and transition cases, confirming the options to sustain or improve them.
- Review the current arrangements of the offers available for female offenders, making recommendations for further development, in order to establish a clear offer



Serious Violence



There will be an East **Serious Violence** tactical group formed, to address issues of **serious violence**, and work towards the **Serious Violence** Duty, set to come into law in the latter part of 2022.

Work under this priority area is also undertaken by the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network, set up in 2019 and funded by the Home Office. The VRN leads work to reduce **serious violence** across the County. Nationally, violent offences typically make up just 1% of all crime recorded by the police. However, they cause some of the most serious harms to individuals, communities and societies.

Lancashire Violence Reduction Network (VRN), one of the original 18 Violence Reduction Units, pioneers a new approach that brings together local partners in policing, education, health, and local government to deepen understanding of the root causes of violence and put interventions in place. Those interventions shown to be the most successful are rolled out to other areas in the county.

The VRN produced a county wide needs assessment and local serious violence district profiles and has one-year and five-year work plans which incorporate both violent and knife crime pilot work streams. These include parenting, awareness raising, prevention, multi-agency violence reduction, accident and emergency department interventions, Lancashire Divert, prison and prisoner family programmes and family support to exploitation. The longer-term plan will focus on prevention, enforcement, cultural transformation, workforce development, evaluation and data. Full implementation plans will supplement the Strategy.

The VRN leads the Trauma Informed Lancashire whole system trauma-informed approach to tackling violence and is having a positive impact in reducing violent crime in the County.

The Community Safety Partnership will continue to support and seek assurance from the VRN that it is delivering on its four strands of work, as well as covering these through the local tactical group for East Lancashire, which cover

1. Prevention

Prevention and early intervention, focusing on community and partnership strengths to reduce, prevent and respond to violence.

2. Enforcement

Working closely with partners to use civil and criminal remedies. Continuing to be committed to swift, visible justice for those who commit violence.

3. Evidence

Promoting a learning culture and developing evidence of good practice. Taking a system-wide approach across Lancashire partnerships.

4. Culture

Taking a public health approach to tackling violence. Building on community links and partnerships, including working with people with lived experience, to reduce and prevent violence. We work to build a trauma informed approach across the county's services.

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Lancashire has mature partnership arrangements in place and partners are committed to addressing community safety issues, and the following priority areas are governed through Lancashire wide partnerships. Although the Pennine CSP does not have specific tactical groups for these areas, the Lancashire wide partnerships continuously feed into the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Steering Group, so assurance is given on these areas of business.

Road Safety

The Lancashire **Road Safety** Partnership is the coordinating body for Lancashire, **Blackburn with Darwen** and **Blackpool** which aims to reduce road casualties through the management of speed, enforcement, engineering, emergency response, driver education and training and through developing collaborative approaches to education, awareness, engagement and other measures. The Partnership is going through a period of change with a recently appointed **Road Safety** Manager overseeing a review of aims, purpose and objectives.

The following top five priorities are currently (May 2022) being discussed and agreed at Joint operational Group and Executive Board levels;

- Young Road Users (17-24 years)
- Motorcyclists
- Cyclists
- Careless, Dangerous and Inappropriate Driving
- Drink & Drug Driving

These proposed road safety priorities are Lancashire outliers in terms of resulting in disproportionate numbers of injury road traffic collisions as well as disproportionate trauma for those injured parties.

A peer review of the partnership has recently been conducted by West Yorkshire with numerous recommendations being offered in the final report. As a partnership, the Lancashire **Road Safety** Partnership was deemed as effective and evidence-based.

Road Safety has been highlighted by all fourteen districts of Lancashire as a Community Safety priority and the Lancashire **Road Safety** Partnership aims to work closer than ever with all key partners and stakeholders in tackling issues of roads policing and making the roads safer, and feel safer, for all users.

Tackling serious and organised crime

Operation Genga is Lancashire's partnership approach to tackling **serious organised crime**. Genga was launched in 2011 to compliment the Home Office pilot 'extending our reach'. Tackling the problem of **serious and organised crime** requires collaboration with partners and is not solely the responsibility of the police. Since its inception, Genga has grown in both strength and numbers and is now with embedded co-ordinators across all the districts of Lancashire, and is a testament to the commitment and drive to tackle **organised crime** across all partner agencies.

The Genga team assist in managing the threat from **organised crime** from neighbourhood policing through to specialist departments using a variety of overt and covert tactics. It is recognised that in addition to targeting offending behaviour and disrupting **organised crime**, Genga is also committed to ensuring appropriate safeguarding and protection across individuals and communities. Alongside this, civil officers are aligned across the districts that use a collection of tools and enforcement powers from both police and partners to target the threat from **organised crime**.

The Lancashire **serious and organised crime** (SOC) strategy, reflects the 2018 national strategy of a 4P (pursue, prevent, protect & prepare) framework to tackle SOC. The strategy is built on a fully engaged partnership approach, involving stakeholders and partners from the public sector, statutory community safety partners, other government and law enforcement agencies as well as the third and private sectors in order to ensure that all available information, resources and powers are brought to bear locally to tackle SOC.

The Strategy aims to:

- Ensure a comprehensive understanding of **organised crime** including known offenders and hotspot areas.
- Gather and share intelligence from all partner agencies, third and private sector, including the community.
- Take a partnership approach to disrupting organised criminal activity and bring offenders to justice.
- Protect vulnerable people from harm caused by **organised crime**.
- Engage all of our communities in becoming more resilient to **serious organised crime**
- Support the development of appropriate diversion schemes to prevent those becoming involved in **serious organised crime**

The Community Safety Partnership will ensure it works with colleagues across Pennine Lancashire to assist the SOC strategy to continue to protect vulnerable people from harm caused by **organised crime**.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is an important issue for Pennine Lancashire. Across Lancashire, it accounts for approximately 14% of all crime, however, it is widely accepted that this is likely to be an underestimation. **Domestic abuse** can be largely hidden but is a significant concern and an increasing problem for health and social care services. **Domestic abuse** includes a wide range of harm including physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse.

In Lancashire, the response to **domestic abuse** is co-ordinated through the Pan Lancashire **Domestic Abuse** Steering Group. The Lancashire **Domestic Abuse** Partnership Board, initially established to ensure that the statutory requirements the **Domestic Abuse** Act 2021 are fulfilled, has recently widened its remit to ensure all aspects around **domestic abuse** are being considered concurrently.

Domestic abuse officers from East Lancashire regularly attend the Pennine Steering Group to offer assurance to members, and update on projects funded through part 4 of the **Domestic Abuse** Act 2021, specifically those relating to safe accommodation.

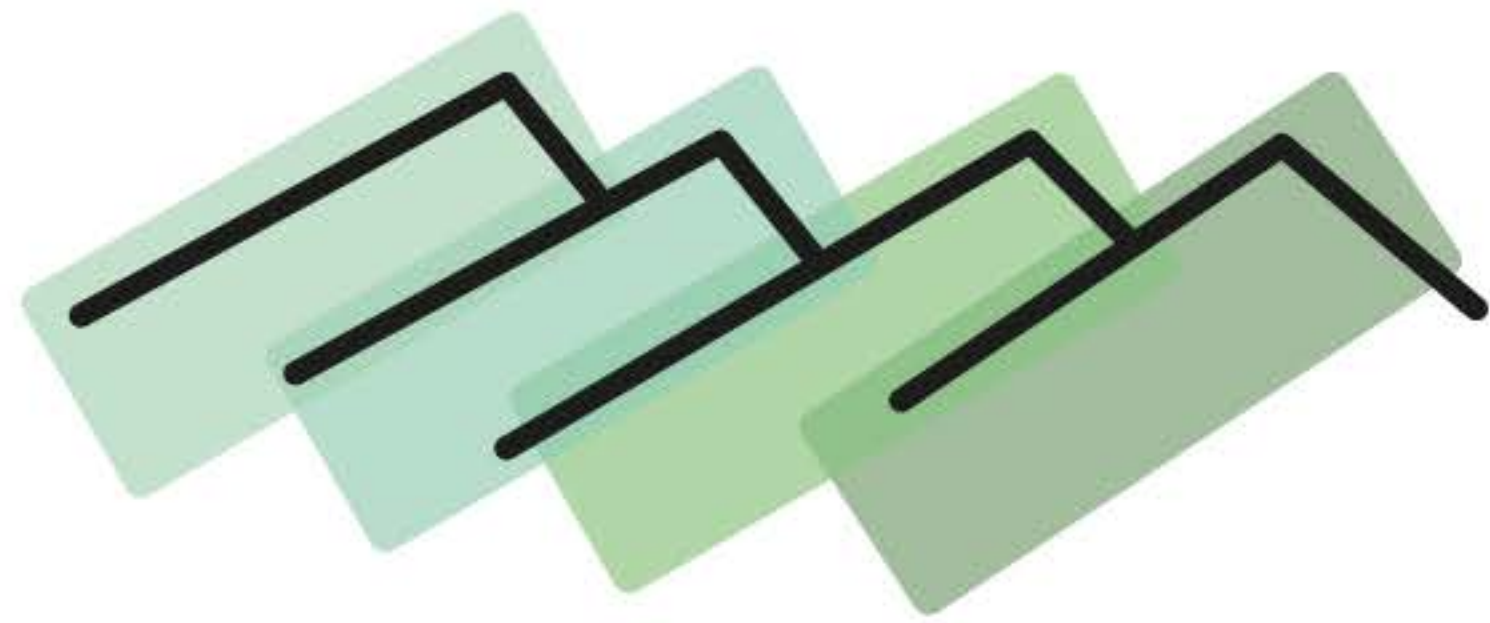
“The strategy is intended to be flexible and to reflect changes in policy and legislation.”

Looking Forward

The Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Partnership aim to build on the successes of the three years, particularly in relation to the work that has been developed in response to protecting and providing support those who are most vulnerable.

The Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains current. The strategy is intended to be flexible and to reflect changes in policy and legislation. The priorities will be frequently reviewed; looking at the available data and feedback from our communities ensuring we remain focussed on what is important.

The PLCSP will continue to monitor and seek assurance on other leading priorities, including domestic abuse, hate crime, and exploitation (criminal and sexual).



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