

Pendle Community Safety Partnership Strategy



Our Partnership Plan 2025- 2028

Foreword: Councillor David Whipp, Chair of the Pendle Community Safety Partnership

Pendle Community Safety Partnership continues to keep a local focus on what needs to be done to help our residents to both keep and feel safe in the Borough in a time of significant structural and economic change for public services.

We continue to deliver actions on a range of local issues. The past three years has seen three voluntary sector youth centres reopen supported by Lancashire County Council's Targeted Youth Support service and initiatives such as Operation Centurion in the North Valley area of Colne result in a significant reduction in youth ASB.

The Prosper Partnership, a Clear Hold Build initiative in Brierfield and Nelson, is showing early signs of addressing drug and illicit product related serious organised crime and related violence with the potential for long term benefits to those towns and to Pendle more generally.

On a wider footprint, we continue to work at a Lancashire level with the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Board, the Violence Reduction Network and the Lancashire Domestic Abuse Partnership Board.

Nationally, the Serious Violence Duty came into force in early 2023 and we will continue our working relationship with Lancashire Violence Reduction Network and the Pennine Community Safety Partnership as well as developing our own local strategy on serious violence.

We welcome the Government's recognition of the value of neighbourhood policing in the its Safer Streets Mission and look forward to the potential benefits to partnership working in our communities from increased numbers and case management approaches such as the Police and Partners Meeting involving the Police, Pendle Council and local housing providers.

We remain focused on both reducing crime and ASB and on reducing the harm they can cause. We will seek to improve on recent survey results showing residents are not feeling as safe as they should in Pendle. We want to change that not just in the data we collect but in how people feel when in their homes and in their neighbourhood.

To help set the direction for this Strategy, Pendle Community Safety partners were invited to a workshop to consider the current picture from a national, Lancashire and Pendle level, and to identify local community safety priorities. To support this, views from our local communities have been drawn from the recent *This is Pendle* survey, Lancashire Talking surveys and two Police and Crime Commissioner surveys.

Our local multi-agency forums continue to play a key part in facilitating the delivery of our priorities including: Pendle Domestic Abuse Forum, Pendle Youth Forum, Pendle and Ribble Valley Genga Panel and Pendle Transforming Lives Panel. Some of these forums will be reviewing how to operate most effectively to meet the challenge of Local Government Reorganisation and changes faced by other partners to continue partnership working in a meaningful way.

Once again, I would like to thank all our partners for their ongoing support. We are also indebted to our residents who look out for their neighbours and play an active role in keeping Pendle safe.

Introduction

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on the police, local authorities and 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.

Together with Lancashire Constabulary, Pendle Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, the Prison and Probation Service, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board, voluntary and community sector organisations and housing providers, Pendle Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is the representative body through which each agency discharges its Crime and Disorder duties.

The result is our three-year Strategy based on an assessment of partner and other data, including community concerns expressed through recent surveys, to provide an accurate picture of local community safety priorities and a commitment by local forums to deliver actions.

Pendle Community Safety Partnership Achievements 2022-25

Our priorities over the last three years were:

- Prevention and early intervention, including Domestic Abuse, Child Exploitation and Youth Anti-Social Behaviour and with these partnership achievements during the period:

Our achievements:

- Pendle Domestic Abuse Forum has a new action plan and has prioritised addressing recommendations raised in Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- Waterside, Byron Road and Barnoldswick youth centres brought back into use with the activity of all three, part funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- A Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) has been formed around the Pendle Youth Forum.
- Youth related ASB was below 13% during July to September 2025 compared with results in the high teens and low twenties in recent years.
- An Early Intervention Youth Panel has been formed to case manage young people on the fringe of being involved with the criminal justice system.
- PAC has obtained funding to raise awareness among business that may act as potential third-party reporting points to signpost victims of domestic abuse to confidential support services.

- Crime prevention including Serious Violence, Serious Organised Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour and with these partnership achievements during the period:

Our achievements:

- A Clear Hold Build approach has been implemented in response to serious organised crime in Brierfield and Nelson.
- Operation Centurion together with Positive Action in the Community (PAC) and Colne Youth Action Group support has reduced the impact of ASB in the North Valley area of Colne.
- The Police and Partners meeting involving the Police, Pendle Council and housing providers on ASB case management and victim support is now well established.
- The Pendle Genga Panel and the Genga approach is being used for case management of complex serious organised crime cases.
- Operation Bin the Banger has taken over 350 untaxed or nuisance vehicles off the streets.
- Police incident reporting for 2022-25 was down 12% compared with 2019-2022 (includes the Covid period).
- Recorded crime was down 4.6% during the period.
- Anti-Social Behaviour was down nearly 32% compared with the previous period although the latter included a high level of Covid related incident reporting.

Pendle Community Safety Partnership's Priorities 2025-28

In deciding its priorities for the next three years Pendle Community Safety Partnership (CSP) reviewed recent sources on public perceptions, strategic needs assessments and national, regional and local action plans relating to crime and disorder. The current priorities and achievements were reviewed and new priorities agreed by a workshop held in November 2025 and attended by the responsible authorities, cooperating bodies and our partners from the voluntary sector.

The Partnership will focus on these priorities over the next three years:

- Violence Against Women and Girls including:
 - Domestic Abuse by delivering on the Pendle Domestic Abuse Forum Action Plan set out below including any changes during the period.
 - Domestic Homicide Reviews by acting on lessons learned and implementing recommendations.
 - Improving perceptions of feeling safe in Pendle as described in the survey results below.
- Vulnerable young people including:
 - Anti-Social Behaviour and maintaining the reduction in youth related ASB by delivering on the actions in Pendle Youth Forum Action Plan set out below.

- Road safety and safe driving awareness including working with the Road Safety Partnership, schools and colleges to raise awareness and using the tools and powers available to address vehicle nuisance.
 - Drug related issues including the risks associated with Ketamine by working with substance misuse support services and people with lived experience to raise awareness and reduce risk.
- Serious Violence and Serious Organised Crime
 - Violence Against the Person
 - Clear Hold Build and the Prosper Partnership
 - Genga responses to serious organised crime

The Partnership will develop action plans and deliver on these priorities through local partnerships:

- Pendle Youth Forum
- Pendle Domestic Abuse Forum
- Pendle and Ribble Valley Genga Panel
- Prosper Partnership and its strategic, tactical and operational delivery groups.

The work of each of these groups will be reviewed by the Partnership at each of its quarterly meetings. These groups are critical and integral to the delivery of the priorities outlined in this plan. The action plans and objectives for the two principal delivery groups are set out below:

Pendle Youth Forum and CAP Action Plan

Objectives:

- Reduce alcohol/substance related anti-social behaviour, vulnerability and risk-taking behaviour in under 18's.
- Enhance / raise awareness of positive activities for young people in the area.
- Reduce incidents of alcohol sales to young people and ensure Challenge 25 is in place at licensed premises.
- Reduce proxy purchasing and general supply of alcohol to under 18's.
- Enhance alcohol education and awareness with young people, their parents and the community.
- Promote opportunities for positive mental wellbeing.
- Increase access to support for young people and their families.
- Support the engagement and sustainability of young people in education.

Pendle Domestic Abuse Forum (PDAF) Action Plan

Objectives:

- Ensure that local issues and actions in Pendle are reported regionally.

- Ensure appropriate lobbying opportunities are utilised, including sharing and engagement in consultations.
- Implement Domestic Abuse Related Death review actions.
- Provide information and good practice sharing platform for professionals on domestic abuse
- Build on campaigns, sharing messages and awareness raising to the public.
- Ensure the PDAF receives regular updates on data, to be able to identify any trends and actions that the PDAF can add to the action plan.

These groups are supported locally by strategic, case management and task and finish groups:

- Serious Violence Duty Task and Finish Group
- Community Cohesion Action Network
- Pendle Health and Wellbeing Partnership
- Transforming Lives
- Police and Partners Meeting
- Prosper Partnership Operational Delivery Groups

The Partnership will also work with other regional partnerships and organisations on common priorities:

- Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Board
- Lancashire Domestic Abuse Partnership Board
- Lancashire Violence Reduction Network
- Office of the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner
- Lancashire Road Safety Partnership
- Pennine Community Safety Partnership

All partners represented are responsible for identifying and driving action to deliver positive outcomes. This will be achieved through a multi-agency approach which adds value to the day-to-day business of CSP partners.

Each year the CSP will assess any change to the evidence behind our priorities and whether new threats are emerging. Overall, the impact of deprivation within key areas of Pendle, factors affecting the health, wellbeing and prosperity of residents and the emerging demographic trends will all impact on crime and the causes of crime and a partnership approach must continue to respond to these in order to maximise our impact.

We also recognise that as we move through the period of this strategy Local Government Reorganisation and changes relating to the end of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner will impact governance, partnership working, delivery and outcomes.

What the data tells us

Each quarter the Lancashire Constabulary analysts provide a Multi-Agency Task and Coordination (MATAC) report with Violence against the person consistently the highest crime type including:

- Assault without injury 30%
- Assault with injury 25%
- Stalking and harassment 25%

Recent MATAC reports also highlight burglary, retail crime, domestic abuse and town centre and retail ASB.

The table below sets out the changes in reported incidents and crime between 2019/22 and 2022/25:

Incident type	2019-2022	Per 1000 pop	2022-25	Per 1000 pop	Difference	Difference %
Total Police Incidents	90,958	946.39	79,843	830.75	-11,115	-12.22
Victim-based crime	17,580	182.92	16,678	173.53	-902	-5.13
Road Safety						
Road traffic collisions total	3,439	35.78	3,057	31.81	-382	-11.11
RTC - Death	7	0.07	6	0.06	-1	-14.29
RTC - Serious Injury	53	0.55	54	0.56	1	1.89
Anti-social behaviour	12,786	133.04	8,734	90.88	-4,052	-31.69
Business crime	1,805	18.78	1,772	18.44	-33	-1.83
Domestic Abuse						
Domestic violence	3,731	38.82	4,052	42.16	321	8.60
Domestic abuse as a qualifier	4,124	42.91	4,336	45.11	212	5.14
Repeat domestic abuse	1,843	19.18	1,728	17.98	-115	-6.24
Hate Crime						
Total hate incidents	138	1.44	136	1.42	-2	-1.45
Hate crime qualifiers	408	4.25	396	4.12	-12	-2.94
Vehicle offences	948	9.86	1,089	11.33	141	14.87
Public order offences	1,615	16.80	1,281	13.33	-334	-20.68
Sexual offences	702	7.30	783	8.15	81	11.54
Child sexual exploitation	75	0.78	107	1.11	32	42.67
Theft						
Robbery	100	1.04	149	1.55	49	49.00
Burglary	1,440	14.98	1,177	12.25	-263	-18.26
Theft	3,264	33.96	3,030	31.53	-234	-7.17
Shoplifting	974	10.13	1,132	11.78	158	16.22
Arson and Criminal Damage	2,575	26.79	2,227	23.17	-348	-13.51
Violence						
Violence against the person	8,979	93.42	8,822	91.79	-157	-1.75

Possession of weapons	157	1.63	275	2.86	118	75.16
Violence WITH injury	2,411	25.09	2,650	27.57	239	9.91
Violence WITHOUT injury	3,227	33.58	3,088	32.13	-139	-4.31
Homicide	8	0.08	2	0.02	-6	-75.00
Stalking and harassment	3,333	34.68	3,082	32.07	-251	-7.53
Alcohol related violence	1,182	12.30	1,244	12.94	62	5.25
Drugs offences	464	4.83	434	4.52	-30	-6.47
Total ambulance incidents	36,498	379.75	25,475	265.06	-11,023	-30.20
Fire Safety						
Total fire and rescue incidents	3,101	32.27	2,697	28.06	-404	-13.03
Primary fire casualties (excluding precautionary hospital checks)	23	0.24	24	0.25	1	4.35
Accidental dwelling fires	157	1.63	117	1.22	-40	-25.48
Deliberate secondary fires	214	2.23	272	2.83	58	27.10

The 2019/22 period included the Covid 2019 period which will have skewed some of the figures in particular those relating to total Police incident reporting, ASB reporting and ambulance incidents. The figures also show:

- Road traffic collisions are down however that has had no effect on the number of deaths and serious injuries.
- Domestic violence and domestic abuse as an indicator are showing increases however repeat incidents are down.
- Hate incident and crime figures are down despite the more recent period being impacted by international and domestic issues however there is also likely to be significant under reporting.
- Sexual offences were up and child sexual exploitation was up significantly.
- Burglary and theft were down however shoplifting was up and robbery was up significantly.
- Violence against the person showed a slight reduction however violence with injury was up and possession of a weapon was up significantly.
- Accidental dwelling fires were down however deliberate secondary fires were up.

Lancashire Strategic Assessment 2025

From this Lancashire-wide Strategic Assessment, a Pendle Profile has been produced by the Lancashire Community Safety Partnership analyst team. Some key findings from the Profile are shown here:

- Pendle is ranked 13/296 in the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025

- Life expectancy (men and women) is lower than the England average.
- Suicide rates are above the national average and regional average.
- Alcohol related hospital admissions have remained similar and are significantly better than both the regional and England average.
- Hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence) are above the regional and national statistics.
- The reoffending rate for all crime is 24.2% and is below the Lancashire rate of 28.1% and the national rate of 26.3%.
- Anti-Social Behaviour incidents – Pendle ranked 8th by volume and 7th by rate per 1000 population across Lancashire in 2024.
- Domestic Abuse was a factor in 21% of all recorded crime.
- 19% of domestic abuse offences were alcohol related.
- The total number of collisions (all severities) have increased from 2022 (116) but are similar for 2023 (143) and 2024 (139)
- The peak age group for casualties were 15-24 years.
- 39% of all KSI casualties and 50% of child KSI casualties in Pendle were pedestrians.
- Where gender details were recorded 53% of all victims of crime were female and 47% were male
- 78% of all victims were aged under 50 years old.
- There is an overrepresentation of male victims of violent crime aged 15-44.
- A greater disproportionality can be seen amongst female victims of violent crime aged 15-49.
- Females accounted for 73% of victims of domestic abuse and males 27%.
- Victims were predominantly White British (76%) followed by Pakistani (14%)

What we were told

Partner workshop

On the 4 November 2025, a workshop was held with CSP partners to consider the existing national and local picture, current data and trends; and to identify priorities for this Community Safety Strategy.

Ahead of the workshop we asked partners to tell us what their priorities look like:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Road safety, driving offending | • Cohesion, supporting vulnerable people |
| • Drug dealing, organised crime | • Anti-social behaviour |
| • Ketamine | • Children in care, young people and prevention |
| • Domestic abuse, VAWG and DHRs | |

- More police presence
- Fly tipping, fire prevention

Surveys

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Crime and Policing Plan Survey 2024 showed 41% of residents feel unsafe or very unsafe, the highest level for any district in Lancashire.

When asked why these were some of the responses:

- Lack of Police Presence: The absence of police patrols and the lack of visible policing in the area.
- Speeding and Dangerous Driving: Concerns about dangerous driving behaviours.
- Drug Activity: Drug dealing and drug use in the community.
- Anti-Social Behaviour: Vandalism, fireworks, loud noises, and groups of youths causing disturbances.
- Crime and Safety Concerns: Fears about burglaries and thefts
- Intimidation and Abuse: Intimidated by groups of people or experiencing verbal abuse.
- Community Issues: Fly-tipping, closed shops, and general neglect of the area.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's 2025 Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Survey also shows 32% of Pendle respondents had frequently felt unsafe in public places over the past year compared with an average of 29% for the

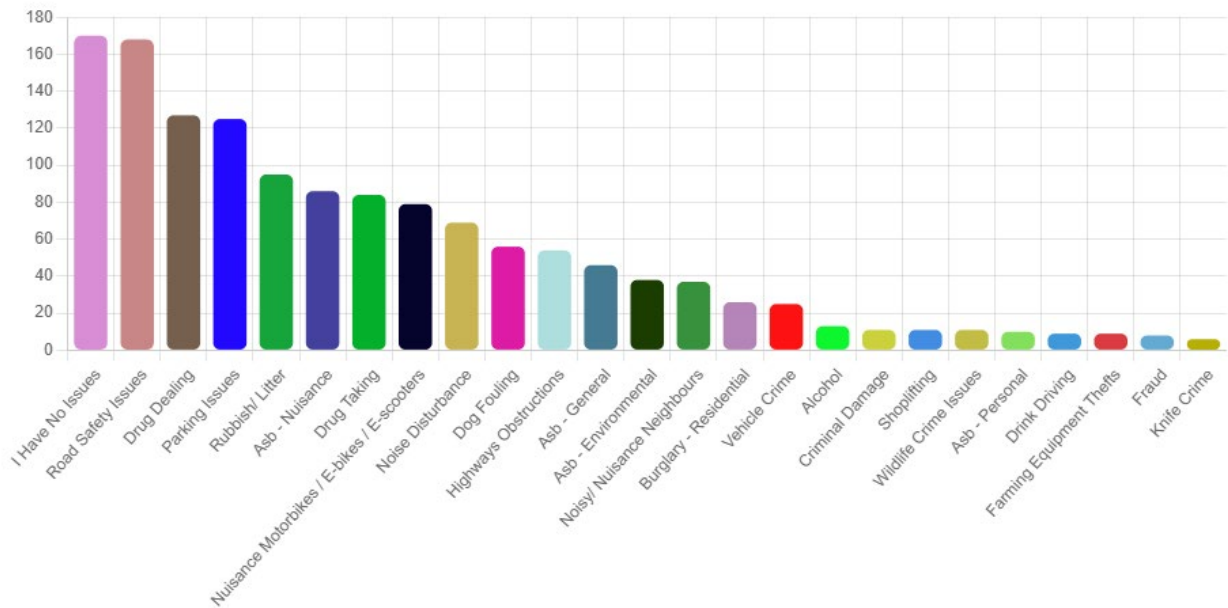
County. Respondents also related high levels of concern regarding sexual assault (72%), rape (69%) and spiking (66%).

Pendle residents' personal experience of VAWG includes:

- Intrusive staring – 59%
- Unwanted comments – 51%
- Unwanted sexual comments – 32%
- Catcalling – 23%
- Wolf whistling – 21%

Residents signed up to Lancashire Talking are regularly able to let their Neighbourhood Policing Team know what is affecting them locally and where the focus of the Team and partners needs to be. In Pendle, the top priorities are consistently road safety, drug dealing, parking, littering and ASB.

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Supporting Strategies and Action Plans

National

The Government's Safer Streets Mission aims to:

- Reduce serious harm and increase public confidence in policing and in the criminal justice system.
- Halve knife crime and halve Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) within a decade.
- Through the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, put 13,000 additional police officers, PCSOs and special constables into neighbourhood policing roles.
- Deliver a programme of police reform to raise standards, harness technology, increase efficiency and improve accountability.
- Introduce new powers around ASB and retail crime through the Crime and Policing Bill.

The Lancashire Police and Crime Plan

The Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2025-29 has four priorities:

- **Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls:** Domestic Abuse, Rape and Sexual Offences, Stalking, Night-time Economy and Supporting and Preventing Victimisation
- **Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour:** ASB, Retail Crime, Road Safety, Rural Crime and Fraud and Cybercrime

- **Get Tough on Serious Violent Crime:** Serious and Organised Crime, Knife Crime, Abuse and Exploitation and Modern Slavery
- **Rebuild Public Trust and Confidence:** Neighbourhood Policing, Citizen Policing, Raise Standards, Improve Public Contact, Proceeds of Crime and Victim Focused Service

The Lancashire Picture

At a Lancashire-wide level, the strategic direction is set by the Lancashire Community Safety Agreement which is steered through the Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Board. The priorities in the Lancashire Community Safety Agreement 2025-28 are:

- Domestic Abuse
- Violence Against Women and Girls
- Serious Violence
- Exploitation
- Serious Organised Crime
- Road Safety
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Cyber Crime

The Agreement also identifies health and wellbeing links common to our local needs assessment, the Serious Violence Duty needs assessment for Pendle and emerging issues from the Prosper Partnership:

- Adverse childhood experiences
- Education
- Unemployment
- Health care
- Housing
- Substance misuse
- Vulnerability
- Chaotic lifestyles
- Mental health
- Dual diagnosis
- Hoarding
- Resources

Our Community Safety Partnership Strategy also links and supports the following Lancashire-wide strategies:

- Lancashire Serious Violence Strategy
- Lancashire Road Safety Strategy
- Lancashire Hate Crime Strategy