



Pendle Community Safety Partnership Meeting

Minutes from the Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting held on Monday 20th January 2025, 2:00pm

Present:

Councillor David Whipp (Chair)

Tim Horsley	Pendle Borough Council
Danielle Thorpe	Pendle Borough Council
Cllr Ashley Sutcliffe	Borough and County Councillor
Cllr Zafar Ali	Borough Councillor
Abdul Kheratkar	Lancashire County Council
Martin Counsell	Lancashire Fire & Rescue
Tony Crook	LCC Road Safety Manager
Jonathan Scolah	Serious Crimes Co-Ordinator OPCC
Robert Kershaw	NHS ICB Safeguarding ICB Lead
Suzanne Parkinson	Intelligence Officer for Lancashire Trading Standards LCC
Beth Wilmott	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Louise Donaldson	Operational Team Manager for Child and Youth Justice Services at LCC
Rob Grey	Lancashire Police Neighbourhood Police Inspector
Elaine Hother	Community Safety Team at LCC
Ruth Thompson	Office of Jonathan Hinder MP
Sarah Astin Wood	Head of Policy and Commission at PBC
Gemma Waterhouse	Children & Families Wellbeing Service in Pendle

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Apologies:

Carl Coughlan – Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Claire Bennet PAC

Thanks were given to Jerry who was Chair of Colne Working Group and Vice Chair of CSP but has had to retire due to ill health. Jerry was an invaluable support not only in his locality working but also in the CSP and his input and tenacity will be missed and the group wished this to be recorded.

2. Minutes from last meeting

The minutes of the last Pendle Community Safety Partnership held on 21st October 2024 were approved.

3. Police MATAC report

Inspector Grey presented the MATAC report:

- There was a 4% increase in crimes on same period last year.
- Burglary and Drug Offences were the only 2 areas that had a decrease.
- Vehicle offences 102 between oct and Dec – 6% increase compared to last year.
- 31 in the last 28 days
- The increase has a lot to do with cross border activity with North Yorkshire.
- The Chair mentioned a focus on quad bike theft from rural farms and asked if there were any interventions we could put 'over the tops', Ribble Valley and Pendle rural communities are upset about the recent spate of burglaries.
- Insp Grey said they are looking at identifying the main routes where these thefts take place and are working with North Yorkshire Police to identify these routes and offenders. They are difficult to spot on cameras as they are loaded into other vehicles so not identified. He also mentioned a local group from East Lancashire that have been identified as an issue to stealing from rural farms and these have been dealt with.
- There was a 5% increase in theft offences compared to last year, especially shop lifting. The top six offenders are repeat offenders and have all been issued with criminal behaviour orders. They are banned from some stores and can be arrested if they go into those stores. David asked if the CBOs should be supported with treatment programmes for those who are stealing to feed a drug or alcohol habit. They would try and engage them with Inspire etc if possible but ultimately it's up to the offender if they want to engage with these sort of services, but we can't enforce it with the CBO. If they then steal in other areas, the fact that they have an existing CBO means we would be able to treat their next offences more harshly.
- LD asked if Insp Grey had seen an increased use of ketamine, as this is increasing in Accrington and is driving an increase in younger people shop lifting, age 14-18 typically. He pointed out Pendle repeat offenders tend to be older people and it's not necessarily driven by ketamine use. Louise said they are more worried about the chronic health conditions that Ketamine causes, chronic pain, ket. bladder etc, which

then causes a vicious circle of taking more Ketamine for pain relief. There is increasing use of Ketamine use in Padiham and Blackburn, so we need to be mindful that this will probably stretch to Pendle at some point. Louise pointed out that the young people with Ketamine addiction have a real reluctance to accept and engage with agencies and rehab.

- The Chair suggested to add an agenda item perhaps to next meeting, to look at mitigations and suggestions coming from other agencies about how we can tackle the growth of Ketamine use.
- RK said there has been a lot of comms gone about Ketamine use as Emergency Departments and health care were not aware of the impact of Ketamine on health such as bladder issues for example.
- JS said Emergency Departments have been briefed and mentioned that Jen Cooper from Inspire has previously presented to other CSP groups re ketamine issues. maybe she or a member of her staff could present around this.
- GW shared a poster from CFWB service around Ketamine use.
- Insp Grey said one main issue around shoplifting is many stores don't see security as one of their priorities, they're not willing to change and engage in any preventative work.
- Violence Against a Person Offences has increased by 7% - mainly assault without injury such as a grab, a touch, or a punch that doesn't cause harm.
- There was a 22% increase in Domestic Abuse reports.
- There was a 37.4% increase in Anti Social Behaviour on this time last year. Highest increase was in Vivary Bridge Ward with a concentration around the site of the MacDonalds.
- The Chair talked about the increase in the Barnoldswick area where groups of young people are coming over from Skipton because there is a lack of police presence in Barnoldswick. Insp Grey said they are increasing presence there. A couple of new PCSOs have come in and are making a positive impact with people in the area. They engaged with a number of young people over the weekend and have got some names to look at in the short term.
- The Chair asked what support there was from youth services, but youth services are struggling with resource as they feel most help is going into social care. BFC in the community might be able to provide some low-level diversionary activities, and he asked what can we do as a partnership to help these young people?
- BW asked if Barlick First was still running. The Chair confirmed they run a youth club for younger and older teens, but that some young people would not be allowed into these clubs due to behavioural issues.
- AK asked about extending Operation Centurian in Barlick? Insp Grey said he would but is currently unable to due to resources and BW said they need to put a request into the Home Office. BW is looking at funding opportunities for next year and will let us know when she knows how that will affect things and what will be open.
- The Chair said the young people would love a boxing club.

- GW asked if these young people where is schools or NEET? They can link with the schools if they are in education so they can advise and guide the schools re support.
- LD said the Child & Youth Justice service has a prevention programme for those on the cusp of the criminal justice system. If we could share names, then they can look at what support and prevention work they can put in for these young people.

Action: TH to arrange an item on Ketamine for the next meeting.

4. Road Safety

TC from the LCC Road Safety Team ran a presentation on the Lancashire County Council Road Safety Strategy 2025-27 [road-safety-strategy-2025-2027.pdf](#)

The Chair asked about safer school routes, Active Travel now manage this and support schools with safer walking routes etc.

TC talked about the fatal collisions in Pendle and that they had been linked with criminal activity. He has a further meeting about these incidents.

5. Police and Crime Commissioner's Crime and Policing Plan

The Chair suggested directing any questions to BW. JS gave an update – they are getting funding but as yet not sure how much. [The Police and Crime Plan - Lancashire Police Crime Commissioner](#)

6. Colne Community Safety Area Working Group

Cllr AS gave an update;

- Elsmere Avenue - repeated issues continue. Working with Together Housing to tackle them.
- He gave a big thank you to the team involved around the removal of caravans on Rook Street.
- Group wanted to raise concerns around Child Sexual Exploitation and Grooming gangs – they have written to the police to see what is being done to tackle this.
- Ash also said the group was concerned about the increasing use of Ketamine – some young people wanted to share their stories and their lived experience to try and prevent other young people becoming addicted.

7. Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) update

TH gave an update;

The Domestic Homicide Review Overview Report went to the Home Office in December, expecting a response to it in the summer. However the Panel is working through the Action Plan through the Domestic Abuse Forum and some of the innovative ideas will be implemented and we will feedback on these later in the year.

8. Pendle Community Safety Partnership Plan 2022-25

TH gave CB's updates;

- The Domestic Abuse Forum now has a one page action plan in place – to be circulated for discussion at the next CSP meeting.
- The Domestic Abuse Support Service Lancashire is now live – official launch in February.
- The tender for Victim Services is still pending.
- MARAC continues to be a cause for concern. Some high-risk cases are being pushed back, causing concern for safety
- Youth Forum has not met since CSP last met, so we will feed back at the next group.

Serious Violence Duty

- Genga may be a forum for discussing serious violence duty
- TH suggested a task and finish group.
- Insp Grey said they are recruiting for officers for Clear Hold Bill. It will cover Brierfield into Bradley and Whitefield Wards – possibly early May.

Action – TH to set up a Serious Violence Duty Task and Finish Group alongside the development of CHB and Genga

9. Update on Fire Safety (Martin Counsell – LFRS)

Martin Counsel gave an update;

- Slightly up on numbers from 2023-2024
- Slight increase on accidental fires, e.g. cooking items left unattended
- A rise in ASB around fires from October through to December – especially around loose refuse and wheelie bins

10. Communications

David said any comms should be sent to DT who would share with PBC Comms team for circulation to public.

11. Dates of Future Meetings (all 2pm on Teams)

12 May 2025 (replaces the original April date)
21 July 2025
20 October 2025

12. AOB

TH mentioned the next Partnership Plan needs to be done this year, so we will be making arrangements with partners to review the current plan and update as necessary.