

Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Monday 6 March 2017

ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SCOPE

Research and analysis for this document has been focused on the local priority areas and significant threats. Multi-agency data has been used to provide an objective understanding of key issues. This information has been obtained on the 8th February 2017, unless stated otherwise. Analysis is focused upon the Wyre CSP Priorities for 2016/17, which are:

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Violence against the person
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse – Alcohol
- Road Safety

In addition the report will outline areas of work undertaken by the partnership during 2016-17.

SUMMARY of CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

- All crime is showing a year on year increase.
- Violent crime has continued to increase – this is similar across Lancashire.
- Reports of domestic abuse continue to increase.
- 42% of domestic abuse offences were alcohol related.
- Recording of alcohol related crime has increased – although recent months are showing a reduction.
- Year to date increase in all ASB, but more recently there have been reductions.
- Other threats – there has been an increase in sexual offences – this has been seen across Lancashire.

Performance Update

| Category | YTD Performance 2016-17* | Performance Description |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <i>All Crime</i> | +9.8% (+408) | The last 2 months have shown small reductions compared to the same period last year. All crime across Lancashire has increased by 10.5% YTD. |
| <i>Domestic Incidents</i> | -2.4% (-26) | The number of reported incidents has continued to reduce compared to last |

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|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| <i>Domestic Abuse Crimes</i> | +40.2% (+164) | year. There has been an increase in January from the previous 2 months – which is not the norm at his time of year. Previous years has seen the number of crimes reduced post Xmas. The number of DV assaults continue to increase compared to previous years. This is replicated across Lancashire. |
| <i>Domestic Assault Crimes (DV)</i> | +31.3% (+87) | As with the above, increases continue to be seen both locally and across Lancashire. Harassment offences have increased by 81%. |
| <i>Violence against the person</i> | +24.6% (+270) | Although there is a YTD increase, the monthly totals have been reducing since August. |
| <i>Alcohol related crime</i> | +5.4% (+38) | The last 3 months have all shown small reductions compared to the same period last year. The current forecast suggests a similar annual total to last year. |
| <i>Anti-social behaviour</i> | +1.5% (+53) | There have been no fatalities YTD, and serious injuries have reduced from 49 to 38. Slight injury casualties have also reduced by 31% - from 220 to 152. |
| <i>Road safety (KSI's)</i> | -24% (-12) | |

Quarterly Statistics for the period from November 2016 to January 2017 in respect of 4 of our priorities.

1) Violence against the person (VAP)

There has been a small **increase of 9% (+31)** compared to the same period last year. The increases are all **non-injury assaults** – both domestic and non-domestic related. Injury assaults have remained similar, whilst there has been a small increase in harassment (+4).

2) Domestic Abuse

13% (n=163) of all crimes were DA related during this period – this is similar to the previous reporting period. The levels of reported DA has continued to be at its highest during the last 4 years.

3) Substance Misuse – Alcohol

15.6% (n=196) of all crime during this period were alcohol related. This is a similar proportion to the same period last year. Year to date, 2016/17 has seen the highest number of alcohol related offences recorded during the last 3 years – this is consistent across Lancashire. Of note, the number of alcohol related offences per month has been reducing since the summer months.

4) Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

There has been a **reduction of 8.7% (-75)** during this period compared to last year, from 859 to 784. December (n=243) had the lowest monthly total recorded during the last 3 years.

Emerging trends / other threats.

Reporting of sexual offences has increased notably since the summer months. All sub categories of sexual offences (rape, sexual assault and sexual offences on children under 16) are showing an increase – this is similar across Lancashire.

A number of offences linked to children relate to social media and the sending / requesting images and video chat – as these are classified as sexual activity. A quarter of the offences reported during the period were non recent all relating to rape or sexual assaults (when at the time of these offences the victims were under 16 year of age.)

Community Safety Partnership Work.

Early Action.

Within Wyre there are a number of complex cases involving individuals that have an impact on a number of different agencies including justice and health professionals. Early action is seen as a key mechanism for all the agencies to discuss the case and agree the most appropriate interventions for these cases to get the best outcome for them and the agencies.

CCTV.

Following the award of grant funding by the Police And Crime commissioner's office during 2015/16, all the camera's in Fleetwood's CCTV system were replaced during the summer of 2016 and one additional camera was installed in Poulton thus future proofing the system for a further 5 years. CCTV monitoring in both Wyre and Fylde is undertaken by volunteers from the control room at the civic centre. A strong relationship exists between the CCTV control room and the police and is a highly respected service.

Under Age - Test Purchasing of Alcohol.

The partnership have provided funding for undertaking a number of test purchasing initiatives organised by the police, to identify which licensed establishments are providing alcohol to under aged individuals. The information is shared with the Licensing Section at Wyre Council and appropriate action taken against those premises found to be supplying alcohol to minors.

Dementia Buddies.

The partnership have purchased dementia Buddies which are a wrist band which can be used to track the whereabouts of the wearer. It is hoped these can provide piece of mind to the relatives of the wearer, but also reduce the amount of time the police spend looking for missing persons who have the dementia condition and have gone missing.

Inspire – Conference in January 2017.

Inspire are the service providers here in Wyre, for people trying to recover from addiction to alcohol and or drugs. The conference highlighted the importance of creating a community where recovering addicts can mix to obtain peer to peer support. Inspire are working closely with a number of providers to help create a culture of recovery. This work is crucial to reducing alcohol related crime.

Complex Needs.

The Partnership have applied for and been awarded grant funding from the police and crime commissioner to assist in the employment of a support worker to individuals with complex needs. People with complex needs include individuals who have just come out of prison, women coming out of a refuge, people with mental health issues and young adolescents with no support. If an individual has no money, no home and no food they are likely to suffer the same problems as before. If we can intervene and help set them up with food, a home and appropriate benefits, it gives the individual the best possible chance of a fresh start.

White Ribbon Campaign.

Together with Lancashire Authorities and the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office Wyre Council promoted the White Ribbon campaign through social media during November and December 2016, as part of the 16 days of action to raise awareness about domestic violence. The campaign encourages men to Wear a white ribbon, which means that they believe domestic violence is never acceptable. The aim of the campaign is to create a culture where domestic violence is seen to be socially unacceptable. As part of the campaign Wyre Council, Health & Safety enforcement officer visited businesses in Wyre with large numbers of employees, outlining their responsibility to their employees.

Community Consultation Events.

The neighbourhood Policing teams have held a number of community events aimed at promoting areas of community safety.

2 & 3 of April the theme for the event was securing your shed and outbuildings.

16 & 17 July the theme of the event was around keeping your house secure.

9 & 10 October the theme of the event was around high visibility on the roads.

10 & 11 December the theme of the event was around driver safety.

The events all occurred at Asda and Freeport in Fleetwood and Cleveleys plaza at the bottom of Victoria Road West on the sea front.

By Neil Greenwood – 20 February 2017.

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