

Annual Community Safety Report – 2019

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 4th February 2020, unless stated otherwise. Analysis is focused upon the Wyre CSP Priorities for 2019 based on the Strategic assessment completed in 2018 which are:

- Road Safety
- Victimisation
- Domestic Abuse
- Exploitation
- Substance Misuse – Alcohol & Drugs
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Vulnerability

FINDINGS/SUMMARY

- During 2019, there were 7569 crimes recorded in the district of Wyre.
- The highest number of these offences were violence against the person, which accounted for 40% (3058) of all crime in the District.
- Domestic abuse accounted for 15% (1109) of all crime in the district.
- Alcohol was a factor in 7% of all crime.
- Under 1% of all crime was hate related.
- Anti-Social Behaviour has increased by 10%.
- **Performance Update**

Category	Performance	Performance Description
<i>All Crime</i>	7569 crimes recorded	Total number of crimes recorded in the Wyre area.
<i>Domestic Abuse Crimes</i>	1109 (15%)	Total number of domestic abuse crimes representing 15% of the total number of crimes committed. The most prevalent offences were assault without injury, followed by assault with injury and harassment. Approximately 20% of domestic abuse was alcohol related.
<i>Violence against the person</i>	3058 (40%)	Total number of violence against the person crimes representing 40% of the total number of crimes committed. The most prevalent offence was assault without injury, followed by assault with injury and malicious communications. Please note that those Domestic Abuse Crimes which involve violence against the person are included within the figure of 3058 crimes.

<i>Alcohol related crime</i>	(7%)	7% of crimes cited alcohol as being a factor which represents approximately 530 cases. Alcohol related crime was predominantly violence against the person.
<i>Hate Crime</i>	(1%)	1% of the total number of crimes were hate related, representing approximately 76 cases.
<i>Anti-social behaviour</i>	3044 (incidents)	There was a total of 3044 anti-social behaviour incidents during 2019, which represents a 10% (290) increase in anti-social behaviour in Wyre. Anti-social behaviour has increased Pan Lancashire. Anti-social behaviour was predominately nuisance ASB, followed by personal and environment. Almost 30% was youth related.

- Performance period is the calendar year 2019.

Wyre Council - Community Safety Partnership Work 2019

1. Anti Social Behaviour - As discussed in last year's report the Council, Youth Offending Team, Children and family well-being service and the Neighbourhood Policing Teams are meeting on a fortnightly basis with other partners as appropriate. During the course of 2019 ASB has been split into Adult and youth ASB with the meetings following on from each other. This means a partner agency such as the youth offending team only hears cases that are relevant to them and vice versa. These meetings are co-ordinated by Wyre Council's Environmental Protection and Community Safety manager. The cases that are brought to the group are generally complicated cases where a multi-agency response is required. A significant number of the adult related anti-social behaviour recorded, is related to inter neighbour disputes. These cases are extremely difficult to resolve, and it is not always clear who is the perpetrator and who is the victim. The role of the group is to assess the evidence presented by each agency at a given point in time and jointly decide an appropriate response/intervention in an attempt to manage the situation. With regard to youth ASB the group is in the main there to assist the police in managing specific individuals engaged in low level ASB. Partners can assist by delivering appropriate interventions on the basis of evidence collected by the police, who are the first respondent to youth related incidents. A tracker excel spread sheet is maintained for each of the groups recording current status, actions and intervention outcomes providing a detailed record of partnership involvement.

To give an indication of the type of discussions taking place in the Youth ASB meeting I would like to provide some case studies, without naming names as examples:-

An 11 year old child and brother believed to be accessing disused buildings and allegedly throwing rubbish into their next door neighbour's garden. The 11 year old is a subject of child in need plan, Children and family wellbeing service are involved and local diversionary activity is being sourced, child activity now being monitored.

A 16 year old child is suspected of being involved in anti-social behaviour throughout the community, Following discussions at the ASB group a place has been offered on the your choice school programme. Unfortunately the child has chosen not to engage with the your choice program, but for the time being ASB incidents involving the child have also stopped, child activity being monitored.

A 17 year old involved in Anti-Social behaviour throughout the community for a number of years, when under 16 parent of individual was served by Wyre Council with a Community Protection Warning Notice, when turned 16 a Community Protection Warning was served on the individual themselves and eventually because of breaches a Community Protection Notice was issued. The individual has now been prosecuted by the police as a result of further breaches and has started a referral order with the Youth Offending team, it is understood that the individual is now making good choices, ASB by the individual has stopped – individual activity is being monitored.

To give an indication of the type of discussions taking place in the Adult ASB meeting I would like to provide some case studies, without naming names as examples:-

Two neighbours living next door to each other intensely dislike each other as a result of a boundary dispute between the two parties (civil case between the two parties). Both neighbours complain about each other from time to time on a number of issues. Various Agencies have been involved and there is a long history, and the case does disproportionately use the resources of the all agencies involved. As a consequence the case has been referred to the ASB group where all the information held by the involved agencies is made available. At present limited enforcement can be taken by any agency because of a lack of useable evidence – situation is managed by agencies as best they can.

A tenant in a block of flats allegedly involved in behaviours such as banging on the walls, shouting and slamming of doors and alleged drug taking. Advice has been given to complainant(s) on collection of evidence and the use of noise app recordings. The provision of appropriate evidence will determine whether a Community Protection Warning notice can be issued. Currently waiting for evidence of alleged poor behaviour to be provided by complainants.

A householder living next to their neighbour alleges they are subjected to constant noise such as Dog barking, slamming of doors, shouting including the use of swearing and alleged drug taking. After investigation the dog barking issue seems to have been resolved, and both parties are willing to participate in mediation, which may help resolve their issues.

A drunken aggressive rough sleeper causing anti-social behaviour in a Wyre Town centre, Wyre Homeless team engaged with individual under the No second night out scheme, offered support to return to his native Hull. Individual did not take up the support offered and continued to cause anti-social behaviour in the town Centre. Community Protection Warning Notice issued by Wyre Council tackling the anti-social behaviour exhibited. Anti-social behaviour continued police arrested individual and case heard in court where police applied for Criminal Behaviour Order mirroring the requirements of the earlier Community Protection warning notice. The rough sleeper left the area.

2. **Wyre & Fylde Integrated Team** - During 2019 The Wyre and Fylde Integrated team has been set up and implemented to deal with vulnerable individuals which is also a priority for the Community Safety Partnership. The Integrated team is co-ordinated by Wyre Council Health & Early Action partnership officer. The team is relevant to Community Safety because unfortunately some vulnerable individuals can also be responsible for criminal / anti-social behaviour. As part of an integrated response to these individuals the integrated team seeks to get to the underlying cause of the poor behaviour and provide appropriate support / care from relevant agencies to address the underlying cause of this behaviour. It is hoped that given the right level of support and care poor behaviour can be prevented. Where support is offered and not accepted the case may where appropriate be referred to the anti-social behaviour group for their consideration. A tracker excel spread sheet is maintained recording current status, actions and intervention outcomes providing a detailed record of partnership involvement.
3. **Develop Mobile Camera Evidence Collection capability** – The mobile cameras are now being utilised for location based anti-social behaviour incidents. A review will be undertaken during the course of the financial year 2020.
4. **Act Awareness Events** – During 2019 the Community Safety Partnership applied for funding from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to deliver two Counter Terrorism Act awareness events in the Wyre area. A security advisor from Lancashire constabulary gave an insight into the NaCTSO (National Counter Terrorism Security Office) “ACT Awareness Campaign”; in order to increase resilience within Wyre communities. During the events attendees were provided with information on the current threat and were guided on what to do, should you find yourself involved in a serious incident. They were also given tips and information on how to identify and anonymously report any suspicious activity. The funding was used to promote the sessions specifically amongst the business community with a letter being sent to every business in the Wyre area. The sessions were delivered in February at the Civic Centre in Poulton and Marine Hall at Fleetwood.
5. **CCTV** – During 2019 the CCTV system started to experience some problems with the quality of the pictures being transmitted from the cameras to the control room which is thought to be related to the available broadband.

The Community Safety Partnership applied to the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to use the remaining available grant funding of £6942 to help fund a CCTV upgrade following investigatory works currently being undertaken by Wyre Council ICT team.

The aim of the project will be to improve the sustainability of the current CCTV system by improving broadband connections into the Council, and where possible with the funding from the Police and Crime commissioner’s office and available Wyre Council CCTV budget start to upgrade the systems analogue camera’s (which are in the process of being phased out) to digital cameras.

In addition during the course of the year we have produced a report detailing the activity of the system over the last 4 years – Appendix A. It is the intention that this

report will be produced annually to provide an indication of the activity of the CCTV control room.

- 6. Pan Lancashire Hate Crime Strategy/ Prevent / Modern Slavery** – The Head of Community Safety and Environmental Health attends a Pan Lancashire meeting on hate crime and Prevent. As a District Authority Wyre Council's and CSP partners other than the police, main responsibility is about identifying individuals and referring individuals to appropriate services. During 2019 Wyre Council have reviewed and produced a draft safeguarding policy, which includes references to the above work streams. Once the policy is agreed plans are in place to role out training on the policy and to update the Wyre Council Intranet with safeguarding information. The safe guarding policy is also linked into the Wyre and Fylde Integrated Team, it is hoped that by intervening early safeguarding thresholds can be avoided.

- 7. White Ribbon** – The aim of the campaign is to end male violence against women, once and for all by challenging male cultures that lead to harassment, abuse and violence. This year Wyre Council have worked closely with the YMCA Fylde coast leisure centres, who have displayed banners and posters in all their Wyre based leisure centres. In addition during the White Ribbon days of action campaign in November a mini football tournament was held with teams from the Police, Fire and Rescue, YMCA, Active Lancashire and Wyre Council competing for the White Ribbon Cup. The tournament was won by the Police and social media was utilised to spread the white ribbon message. It is hoped that the event could become an annual event.

- 8. Community Engagement** – In November 2019 the police and the licensing team conducted a multi-agency night safe operation in Poulton. Officer from both the Council and Police Licensing teams visited each licensed premises to check that the trade was ready for Christmas. There are plans to repeat the operation in other areas during the course of 2020.

- 9. Violence Reduction** – During the course of 2019 knife crime was raised as a serious concern nationally and the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner has received a £1.16M grant to establish a Pan Lancashire Violence Reduction Unit. A Violence Reduction Unit Leadership Board has been established to provide oversight and governance of the programme and to ensure that links are in place with other current multi- agency work programmes addressing similar or complementary issues.

Part of this work has been to place knife bins throughout the County, removing knives off the streets can only help with reducing violence, 2 of these bins have been located in Fleetwood.

The Violence Reduction Unit is working to tight timescales and a draft strategy and needs assessment for the unit has been produced and two consultation events were held in February.

This work is an exciting opportunity to fuse together key pieces of work with a view to improving public health outcomes, preventing vulnerability and therefore reducing

demand across the public sector. It will focus on working with Lancashire communities to achieve this wherever possible. The Violence Reduction Unit will operate with a Trauma-Informed approach and ensure that the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is understood and are taken into account.

In order to maximise the benefits of this Pan Lancashire approach Wyre Community Safety partnership needs to be fully engaged in order to ensure Wyre residents can access appropriate support. It will be especially relevant to youth cases coming to the attention of the ASB meeting. For further information see the briefing report in appendix B.