



INFORMATION NOTE

FYLDE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

1. The Partnership, its priorities and funding position

1.1 Statutory Partners in Fylde CSP comprise:

Fylde Council

Lancashire County Council

Lancashire Constabulary

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service

Public Health including Fylde and Wyre Clinical Commissioning Groups

Cumbria and Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company and the National Probation Service

The above named partners are also referred to as 'responsible authorities'

There are additional partners who participate but are not statutorily obligated to do so, such as representatives from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and the voluntary sector.

The Fylde Community Safety Partnership's overarching aim is: "To promote community safety, reduce levels of crime, disorder and road casualties, as well as improving the quality of life for all those who live, work and visit the Borough of Fylde." The Partnership is statutory in nature and its partners are obligated to participate.

Fylde Council is the lead partner as it co-ordinates activity and administration within the Fylde Community Safety Partnership.

1.2. Strategic Assessment

It is a statutory requirement to conduct a 'Strategic Assessment' within all Community Safety Partnership Districts with all partners contributing to identify priorities. For 2018/19 the priorities of the CSP have been identified, developed and analysed with any potential threats at both County and a local level. The assessment determines the priorities for a three year period with annual reviews. In no particular order, current priorities have identified domestic abuse; improving road safety; reducing reoffending; countering substance misuse and countering anti-social behaviour. Additionally there are Lancashire wide priorities which include child sexual exploitation and victim vulnerability and these are highlighted through the inappropriate use of social media where contact is made via Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram in particular. A local priority reassessment exercise took place in 2017 which determined local priorities until 2019. The local Action Plan is on the Fylde Council Website. In late 2018 a County wide strategic re-assessment took place which identified Fylde's priority areas and the Lancashire Community Safety Agreement was developed to be in place from 2019 to 2022. The aim of which is " Working together to make Lancashire a better place for this and future generations; by targeting vulnerability, increasing resilience and reducing crime

1.3 Partnership Financial Position

Income

The Partnership is funded by a variety of funding streams including residual monies passed to it by the former Local Strategic Partnership. In 2018/19 the Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Safety Grant provided a standard £10,000 grant but the partnership were again successful in being awarded additional funds. At the opening of the 2018/19 financial year its balances stood at £20,830. With the additional grants provided by the

Police and Crime Commissioner, the total income reached £33,308. Additionally, Fylde Council provide a budget for both Capital and Revenue for the provision of all CCTV coverage throughout Fylde which includes the annual commitment to Wyre for the monitoring service provided for our town centre cameras and a maintenance agreement with Blackpool Council.

Expenditure

In 2018/19 a total spend of £20,400 was allocated to community safety initiatives. At the end of the financial year the balance of £12,908 remained in the Community Safety budget which was requested as slippage into 2019/20.

Major expenditure:-

- Twelve month provision of Diversionary Activities for Young People.
- Positive Pathways activities for ex-offenders
- Replacement CCTV Cameras in Lytham Town Centre
- Contribution to 'Chelsea's Story' Domestic Abuse Educational Drama production

Successful and Ongoing Initiatives and Activities:

- Multi-agency and partner Market Place Event with Warton Parish Council to educate on service provision to address anti-social behaviour, violent crime, domestic violence, criminal damage and acquisitive crime and substance misuse issues.
- LANPAC Membership Fee
- Crime Prevention Signage
- CCTV signage
- Crime prevention materials
- Locally distributed crime prevention literature
- Contribution to Christmas Domestic Abuse Campaign.
- Attendance at a Community Safety Seminar (Community Safety Officer)
- Self-Care Week materials
- White Ribbon – Domestic Abuse materials
- Anti-Social Behaviour Legislative Training

All initiatives undertaken by the community safety partnership have been successfully evaluated and have contributed significantly to the overall low levels of crime and disorder in the Borough. Partnership success is also due to the continuing commitment of partners despite the effects of ongoing austerity and the most significant challenge to the partnership is how to address the public concerns and perceptions regarding crime and anti-social behaviour with ever reducing resources. Essentially not all initiatives require money, hence the importance of strong partnership working.

During 2018/19, Fylde Community Safety Partnership continued to maintain the Fylde District as the second 'safest' place in the County, with lower crime and anti-social behaviour levels than other Districts in Lancashire. There were further excellent results and some excellent examples of outstanding partnership working, once again delivering good value for money.

Several multi-agency initiatives have been delivered throughout the year with Fylde Council Departments taking an active part. There have been some inexpensive and cost neutral initiatives which have been delivered, supported by physical resources from the CSP and other agencies. Some notable examples of relatively low cost initiatives include Diversionary Activities which have run throughout the year to focus on dealing with youth related anti-social behaviour and a repeat initiative aimed at Male Domestic Abuse which ran during the Christmas and New Year period. There have also been multi-agency initiatives to target burglary, shop lifting, thefts, and fly tipping and following the consultation exercise with young people the previous year, activities were aligned to the results of the consultation, where possible.

Initiatives and work undertaken by the CSP and its partners are all aimed at reducing crime and disorder within Fylde in increasingly difficult times, where police officer numbers have fallen and resources have diminished. Fylde has, however, seen an increase of eight Police Community Support Officers who are spread throughout the Borough. Determined efforts by all agencies concentrate their efforts into priority areas, for example, the Reducing Reoffending Board concentrates on prolific and priority offenders and future prison date releases; another looks at instances of domestic abuse and work done to counter this; there is a restorative justice panel which has regular panel meetings to try and reach amicable solutions between victims and offenders and continuing work has been done in the last year on an approach to Early Action and Intervention which is a multi-agency approach to support troubled and vulnerable families and individuals across the Fylde to 'transform people's lives'.

Following the closure of St Annes Police Station in 2018, PCSO's have been relocated to St Annes Fire Station although this is not open to the public. Kirkham Police Station is not an operational Police Station open to the public but it does house several police officers who work from that building.

3. Crime Statistics

3.1 All Crime

** Due to problems with a new Police recording system, the data available since the end of October 2018 has not been possible to access or analyse and although it is anticipated this will become available during 2019 it is not available in time for this report. An explanation and interim report from the Lancashire Constabulary analytical department is attached as an appendix.

3.2 Violent Crime

Violent crime continues to show further increases up to November, 2018, although much of this is due to the counting rules from the Home Office on what is deemed to be a violent crime. Third party reporting, where a witness sees an assault and reports it to the Police is recorded as a crime irrespective of whether the victim reports it himself.

3.3 Victim Based Crime

Victim based crime is where a 'victim' is identified as opposed to property. Theft crimes occur across the whole district in Fylde and is not disproportionate in any area. It has been recognised that Fylde suffers from travelling criminals with a large proportion of offences occurring as a result of property being inadvertently left insecure, particularly garages, garden sheds and motor vehicles. Ongoing initiatives and awareness campaigns to address this type of crime have had a degree of success with some notable crime reductions.

4. Domestic Abuse

The definition of domestic abuse is 'any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults 16 years or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality'.

Domestic Abuse Crime decreased by 8% in the period up to November 2018 compared to the previous year. This is the second lowest total in Lancashire.

Overall, high risk victims of domestic abuse have remained reasonably stable in Fylde in terms of the numbers of offences recorded and as a proportion of the total crime in Fylde, however these numbers are relatively low in comparison. It is believed that this is as a result of a continued drive to encourage victims to report abuse recognising that there has previously been an under-reporting of domestic related crime.

In common with other Council's, a 'MARAC' exists to consider domestic abuse. This as a monthly 'multi-agency risk assessment conference' and it meets to discuss the victims of domestic abuse deemed to be at a high risk of harm with an aim to reduce the risk to the victims or their immediate families. Part of the work involves

specialist workers having close links with victims of domestic violence and protective interventions as necessary. The number of cases referred in averages less than ten per month. Specialist domestic violence courts located within Blackpool deal with the more extreme cases.

Following the service re-commissioning undertaken in early 2017, the service provision across Lancashire and in

Fylde falls under Lancashire Victims Services and Fylde Council make an annual contribution towards the Domestic Abuse service.

The voluntary sector - Fylde Coast Women's Aid also continues to provide an excellent service and delivers a range of services to advise, educate and support families. The Group does much work within schools. A funding contribution made by the CSP to enable FCWA to work with the Police on a project over the Christmas period provided reassurance to all victims of sexual abuse.

A financial contribution from the Community Safety Partnership to enable a domestic abuse educational drama production in schools (Chelsea's Story) was very successful.

It is a mandatory responsibility placed on the Community Safety Partnership to conduct a 'Domestic Homicide Review'(DHR) where a fatality occurs when there are two or more people aged 16 years or older and living together in a close relationship. The process and procedure have recently been reviewed at a County level and a DHR group meets regularly to share learning experiences from such reviews.

It is pleasing to report that one of our partners - AFC Fylde, became the first accredited Club in Lancashire for the White Ribbon Campaign which is a national campaign for men and young boys to condemn violence against women and girls.

5. Road Casualties

In the year April 2018 to October 2018, Road casualties showed that there were 33 killed or serious injured casualties one of which was a fatality. The number of slight casualties remained the similar to last year showing an increase of 2 or 6.1%.

A multi-agency partnership chaired by Lancashire Fire and Rescue exists between Fylde, Wyre and Lancaster whereby all road safety issues are analysed and actioned. The Community Roadwatch scheme continues with volunteers assisting in informing speeding motorists to reduce their vehicle speed, particularly in rural areas. A dedicated Road Safety analyst provides data for each locality which is useful in determining where additional preventative resources can be directed.

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service continue to deliver educational initiatives to both senior drivers and young and inexperienced drivers who are notoriously involved in road traffic collisions.

6. Areas of focus and the work of the Community Safety Partnership

6.1 Anti-Social Behaviour

The reduction of Anti-social behaviour (ASB) in our communities continues to be a priority for the Partnership. Each month a number of partners come together to consider the reported ASB issues arising across a range of areas, including personal, nuisance and environmental issues. Discussions within this group also focus on individuals who are high risk victims of anti-social behaviour and actions can be taken by agencies to reduce or eliminate this risk. The process known as ASBRAC (Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference) is chaired by the Community Safety Officer prior to the Police led Early Action Cases which looks at vulnerable families and individuals.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act in 2014 has provided the victims of Anti-social behaviour with a number of measures which can be implemented by the Council, Police and Housing Providers to address the behaviour of perpetrators. It also provides the victims with the opportunity to invoke the 'Community Trigger' where they feel that agencies are not dealing with their complaints of ASB.

Certain concerns have been raised during the past twelve months despite a general decrease in ASB across the Borough. The main concerns concentrated in and around Warton and Westby where anti-social behaviour connected to the Fracking Site and youth related ASB in the village has been linked to specific individuals and premises.

In 2018-19 All Police recorded ASB in Fylde decreased by 23.3%, a decrease of 567 on the previous year. Nuisance was the most commonly reported ASB class (1038) followed by Personal (575) and Environmental (94). The Wards with the highest ASB were Central Ward (232),Warton and Westby (189) Ashton Ward (182) and Medlar with Wesham (128)

Fylde Council reported ASB, which also includes Personal, Nuisance and Environmental ASB, showed an end of

year reduction of 43 complaints. From 1,359 to 1,316. This is a year on year reduction since 2016. Noise nuisance, neighbour disputes and Flytipping are the most reported types of ASB.

6.2 Substance Misuse

Drugs

The misuse of drugs remains a relatively low threat in Fylde compared to most other parts of Lancashire. There continues to be a change in the substance of choice – from Class A drugs to cannabis and psychoactive substances (legal highs) The use of ‘Spice’ has been highlighted as a potential risk due to its availability and low cost.

Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) also known as Inspire are the commissioned service provider in Fylde. They provide a range of services to Fylde’s drug clients with both alcohol and drug problems. Re-commissioning of service provision will take place later in the year. Young Addaction are the County young people’s service provider where some of the work undertaken in Fylde has been carried out in partnership initiatives. A training and awareness session was delivered in St Annes as part of a safeguarding initiative early in 2018. Overall responsibility for Substance Misuse and commissioning in Lancashire is the responsibility of Lancashire Public Health.

Alcohol

Fylde CSP has Alcohol misuse as a local priority area. However, Public Health have a strategy which will subsequently address most of the concerns especially amongst young people who tend to ‘experiment’ with alcohol.

Alcohol related crime has increased by 21% or 83 crimes on the previous year. Alcohol related violent crime increased by 16 crimes on the previous year

The Action Plan for Fylde is constantly reviewed and updated to address the issues which directly concern the people of Fylde. Resources will be aimed at the Health, Wellbeing and Safety of all age groups within Fylde.

Licensing conditions stipulate that Pub Landlords attend a regular ‘Pubwatch’ meeting which provides a wealth of information to them. A monthly report highlights which licensed premises have recorded crimes on or adjacent to their premises.

Local group meetings are attended by Fylde Council Community Safety, FBC Licensing, Lancashire Constabulary, Lancashire Fire and Rescue, NHS North Lancs. Public Health, CRS, Young Addaction, Help Direct, Lancashire Young Peoples Services and other service providers.

6.3 Fire Safety

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) report that Fylde remains an area which is not a cause for concern.

Community Fire Safety Practitioners provide a programme of education and awareness to the community and there continue to be fire awareness sessions such as the ESCAYPS course which accepts young person referrals who receive a 5 week structured programme of fire awareness education.

The Fire service continue to provide Home Fire Safety Checks for the vulnerable and community work has become a vital part of the service provided by LFRS.

BBQ’s in public open spaces have raised a number of concerns from members of the public but none of these ‘potential’ fires have caused any fire related incidents. Advisory signs have been strategically placed in the most prevalent areas of Fylde.

6.4 Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company and National Probation Service

The National Probation Service was set up on 1 June 2014, and is a statutory criminal justice service that supervises high-risk offenders released into the community. Nationally, NPS work in partnership with 21 community rehabilitation companies (CRCs) that manage low and medium risk offenders. They also work in partnership with the courts, police, and community safety partnerships and with private and voluntary sector partners in order to manage offenders safely and effectively.

Together, the NPS and the CRCs have replaced the former 35 probation trusts and they are responsible for:

- Preparing pre-sentence reports for courts, to help them select the most appropriate sentence
- Managing approved premises for offenders with a residence requirement on their sentence
- Assessing offenders in prison to prepare them for release on license to the community, when they will come under our supervision
- Helping all offenders serving sentences in the community to meet the requirements ordered by the courts
- Communicating with and prioritising the wellbeing of victims of serious sexual and violent offences,
- When the offender has received a prison sentence of 12 months or more, or is detained as a mental health patient.
- The new Rehabilitation Activity Requirement (RAP) Orders are popular with the courts as they can give the service user a prescribed number of activity days and guidance by the National Probation Service.

Additionally, and working within the CRC's, are 'Community Payback' who provide supervised unpaid work across the Fylde. There is currently a local agreement to provide two full days work per month on a programme of nominated projects and include such projects as litter picking and graffiti removal.

6.5 Police and Crime Commissioner

The office of the PCC is a non-statutory partner in the CSP but the PCC has been keen to continue involvement with the CSP's and sends a representative to CSP meetings.

The PCC holds regular meetings with Council representatives on the Police and Crime Panel. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act put in place a flexible framework for partnership working between the PCC and community safety partners. Whilst having regard to cross border and national issues, PCC's work effectively with other local leaders to prioritise resources to suit local needs and priorities.

The PCC has responsibility for:

- Appointing the Chief Constable and holding them to account for the running of their force
- Setting out a 5 year Police and Crime Plan(in consultation with the Chief Constable)

Determining local policing priorities. Setting the annual local precept and annual force precept and annual force budget

- Making community safety grants to other organisations aside from the Chief Constable (including, but not limited to Community Safety Partnerships)
- The PCC'S Community Action Fund. Fylde has directly benefited from this fund.

The PCC has a budget which currently includes the policing grant from the Home Office, various other grants include the Drugs Interventions Programme funding and funds raised through the local authority precepts in the Lancashire force area.

PCCs are not a 'responsible authority' on Community Safety Partnerships, however, they are an influential and valued partner. There is a reciprocal duty for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and responsible authorities to cooperate with each other and have regard to each other's priorities for the purposes of reducing crime and disorder, including ASB, reducing reoffending and reducing substance misuse along with helping the most vulnerable members of our communities. PCCs are also able to request a report from a CSP where they are satisfied that a CSP is failing to carry out their duties effectively and efficiently.

A grant of £10,000 to the CSP for 2018/19 was made by the PCC which assisted both the CSP and the OPCC in addressing their priorities

7. Emerging Issues

During 2018/19 ongoing statutory responsibilities are placed on local authorities and the responsible authorities in regard to Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking and the Prevent Strategy of the Counter Terrorism Act. Fylde Council staff and members, have received Counter Terrorism awareness training along with several community groups who have been made aware of these issues and threats to our overall safety and

vulnerabilities.

Consideration is always given to potential threats when planning major events. There is a County wide Strategic Hate Crime Group a Lancashire wide ASB delivery group and a Prevent Delivery Partnership Group which are all attended by Fylde Officers.

8. Risk Assessment

Strategic decision making in regard to Community Safety is the responsibility of the Lancashire and Unitary Chief Executives through the Public Service Board, overseeing how all partners and agencies work together. Blackpool Wyre and Fylde constantly work together as a strategic group within West Division. This doesn't have an impact on the local Community Safety Partnerships who have neither merged nor disbanded as they deliver locally led initiatives to address local problems.

Local CSPs are regarded as 'delivery' groups and concentrate on local issues for local people. Much of this work is actioned in Fylde through the monthly held 'Tactical, Tasking and Co-ordinating' group.

Despite several changes in personnel and officer attendance during the year by partner agencies, it is evident that they are still committed to the Community Safety Partnership. All our agencies and partners make a significant contribution towards overall community safety within the District. Success with our partners has included the volunteers who are based within the Wyre CCTV Studio where they control and manage 15 of our CCTV cameras. Continued partnership work has been undertaken with the Fylde Foodbank; the Wyre and Fylde Disability Partnership; Neighbourhood Watch and Just Good Friends.

9. Conclusion

Despite increases in crime and a reduction in anti-social behaviour, Fylde Community Safety Partnership can still claim to be a successful and strong partnership which supports partnership working in minimising how crime and disorder impacts on our communities. With one of the lowest crime rates in Lancashire, Fylde remains a safe place in which to live, work and visit.

FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

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