

## **Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

### **Lancaster District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

#### **Report of Head of Public Protection**

##### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an update on current projects in 2021/2022 and future developments for 2022/2023 for Lancaster District Community Safety Partnership (CSP). Members will have a greater understanding of the work of the partnership, how the current priorities are being tackled and the breadth of joint working with the partners of the CSP. The report highlights the fact that Lancaster District continues to be a safe place in which to live, work and explore.

**This report is public**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) **Receive and endorse the report noting the contribution made through the CSP.**

##### **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 Community safety involves various agencies working together with the local community to tackle persistent crime and disorder issues that affect the quality of life of local residents. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on responsible authorities to implement strategies to reduce the levels of crime and disorder in the area in which they operate. This involves working in partnership with a wide range of agencies, such as the probation service, fire service and health authority, and the local voluntary sector and business community, as well as local community groups.

1.2 Lancaster District CSP have recently met to discuss the priorities of the partnership for 2022/2023. The main priority that has been identified through Lancashire Talking is anti-social behaviour and the CSP is currently running a consultation exercise to identify the other priorities identified in the district. It is acknowledged that the previous 20 months has been a challenging time for all the partners, but the group have continued to meet virtually. Since the start of the Covid 19 Pandemic the CSP has evolved to support the statutory and voluntary partners deal with the issues that emerged during this time.

##### **2.0 Details**

2.1 Lancaster CSP meets four times a year. This is supplemented by a number of other meetings with the partner agencies that have evolved over the course of the Covid 19 Pandemic. Currently members of the CSP together with non-statutory partners meet on a weekly basis which has enabled a quick response to emerging issues. There is also a bi-monthly meeting with the council and police to discuss issues around ASB. A strength of the CSP is the local commitment of a police sergeant (PS Lindsay Brown, Partnerships Officer Lancaster & Morecambe) who is the single point of contact into the police. In March 2021

Lancaster City Council appointed Kirstie Banks-Lyon into the role of Resilience & Community Safety Officer. She has brought with her policing experience of 30 years plus a strong background in working in the partnership realm.

2.2 A number of surveys have been carried out by the Lancaster CSP in the last 12 months. (Please see the link to the background papers) A survey was carried out in May 2021 to support a bid to the Home Office for Safer Streets 3 funding which looked at the concerns of the residents of the district around the use of the Bay Cycleway which is a combined footpath and cycle path that links Morecambe and Lancaster. Although this bid was unsuccessful work is on-going to identify funding that will enable some of the work to be undertaken. Another survey that has been carried out was the public consultation for a PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) that was presented to Cabinet for a decision on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

2.3 Lancaster CSP have been supported by the PCC for bids into Safer Street Funding. In April 2021 it was the tertiary bid, and In May 2021 the secondary bid. Unfortunately, neither bid was successful due to the volume of primary bids submitted to the Home Office.

2.4 Lancaster CSP has recently completed a JSNA (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) as part of the on-going process of identifying the priorities for the CSP from 2022/2023. The JSNA (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) provides an overall assessment of the issues that impact on the safety of the residents within Lancaster District, and it draws upon a wide range of data from statutory partners to identify the needs of our community. Key points from the JSNA has identified that there is a wide range of issues experienced across the district with 14.6% of the LSOA's (Lower Super Output Areas) being in the top 10% of most deprived areas in England. There are also more affluent areas along the Lune Valley which is highlighted by above average population in the 65+ age group.

2.5 Highlights from the JSNA include the work of Acorn analysis of Victims of Crime which was recently added to MADE. This shows that victims that live in the postcodes designated deprived areas and high rise flats are 4 times more likely to be a victim of reported crime than the normal for Lancaster district. Those living in postcodes designated social rented flats, families and single parents/singles and young families, some receiving benefits are 3 times more likely to be a victim than the normal for the district. Skerton East is the hotspot for both deprived areas and high rise flats in the district.

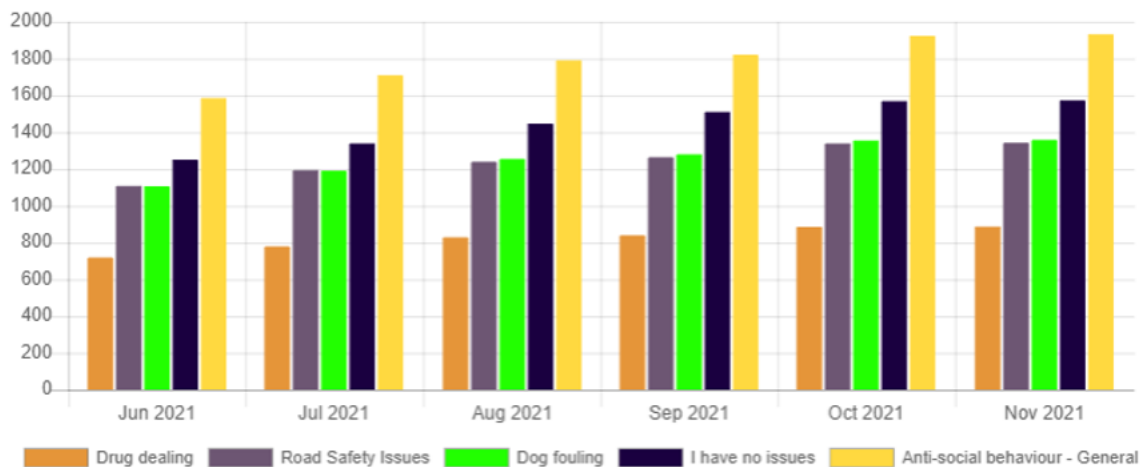
2.6 Again the JSNA has highlighted that alcohol is known to contribute to offending behaviour, particularly violence, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. Residents in the Lancaster district are significantly worse for the number of hospital admissions due to alcohol-related conditions than the national average with a rate of 774.5 per 100,000 population in 2018/19 compared to a rate of 663.7 nationally. Focusing on young people, admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions in under 18s are high in the area with a rate of 49.0 per 100,000 compared with the region and national averages of 43.6 and 30.7 respectively. Lancaster is the eighth worst performing district in the Northwest for under 18's hospital admissions linked to alcohol.

2.7 To address this Lancaster CSP have commenced preparatory discussions to establish a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) as well as continuing to work with the Police Licensing Officers/Council Licensing Officers to identify problematic premises that require multi-agency visits. This was proven to be beneficial at the recent music festival in Lancaster City Centre.

2.7 As highlighted, partnership working is a key part of Lancaster CSP. To address the issues in the district over Bonfire night, a multi-agency vehicle staffed by the council, police and fire brigade was on patrol over the 2 evenings identified as a risk. The planning for 2022 has already begun following the debrief of this successful initiative.

2.8 Communication with our local residents is also a strength of the CSP. Utilising Lancashire Talking 5850 households responded about the top 5 issues in the community.

The graph below shows the issues identified and highlights that ASB is the main issue for the residents of Lancaster District, and this has therefore been identified as one of the priorities for the next 12 months. A further consultation is being undertaken with our partners to identify a second priority.



2.9 Lancaster CSP has granted funds to 2 projects in the last 12 months and has a third bid is being considered. These bids have been submitted by Morecambe BID for 'Morecambe Christmas Safer Nights' which will help address the safety of late-night revellers over the Christmas period in Morecambe, and Lancaster BID for CCTV enhancement in Lancaster City Centre covering some of the hot-spot areas for ASB.

2.10 The cost of crime to the district, using the cost of crime report on MADE (For the period of the last 12 months ending October 2021, the crimes that are quantifiable using the home office crime cost figures) indicate that the cost to Lancaster District is £61.7m, which equates to £416 per resident. Violence with injury accounted for £19m of this figure and violence without injury a further £18m.

### 3.0 Conclusion

3.1 Despite the challenges faced in the last 20 months Lancaster District CSP continues to meet its statutory duty to implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder.

#### **CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing):**

This report aims to provide a summary on the current position on community safety, programmes of work over the last twelve months and future priorities to keep the public safe.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

No legal implications

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No Financial implications

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces**

No wider implications

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Copy of Survey responses PSPO ; Copy of Summary response Cycle track, Public Version of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

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