

Pendle Community Safety Partnership



Strategic Assessment 2009/10

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1. Introduction

Pendle Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a multi-disciplinary partnership made up of several organisations and voluntary groups who work together with a common aim to tackle crime and disorder in the borough and to maintain Pendle's position as a district where overall crime and disorder is being successfully reduced year on year.

Some partners have a legal responsibility to work with the CSP and these are Pendle Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Constabulary, East Lancashire Primary Care Trust, Lancashire Police Authority and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service. From April 2010, Probation will change from co-operating body to a statutory partner and this reflects the CSPs changed remit to include reducing re-offending.

Every year the CSP has a duty to undertake an annual Strategic Assessment of local community safety priorities. The strategic assessment process uses partner data to establish an accurate picture of current and emerging crime and anti-social behaviour trends. This enables the partnership to shift their focus as the pattern of local problems change. Assessments assist the partnership in revising the 3 year Partnership Plan which clearly sets out how the Partnership will tackle key priority crime types, identified through community and partner consultation. Findings contribute to the county Community Safety Agreement which sets out actions to be taken by the Safer Lancashire Board.

This document is not intended to provide a comprehensive analysis of all crime across the borough, but to focus on those issues that are of greatest concern and which require a partnership approach to resolve.

Each section of the document will contain

- Progress made through analysis of the data and information using the year 2007/8 as the baseline compared against the data 2008/9.
- actions that the partnership will take to tackle the priorities identified and the actions that need to continue if we are to maintain the downward pressure on key crime areas.

2. Headline Statistics

The Strategic Assessment has highlighted the following key findings which paint a very positive and reassuring picture for Pendle residents. A range of information sources have been used, but these are mainly Lancashire Constabulary crime statistics from April 2008 to March 2009 and the national Place Survey 2008 results.

The Place Survey gathers information from residents on their views, perceptions and experiences of where they live. The results are used by local public services to make sure their policies provide what people want.

Place Survey 2008 - Number of people surveyed 1,889 achieved a response rate of 32%

Residents in the Place Survey gave us the following information:-

- 32% of people (three in ten) think that ASB is a big or a very big problem in the borough
- 16.1% of respondents acknowledge a reduction in crime over last 2 yrs but 37.5% feel it has increased and 46.4% feel that the level is unchanged;
- 46% of respondents perceived that drug use or drug dealing as a fairly or very big problem in the borough;
- 81.8% of respondents said they felt safe in the daylight reducing to 40% after dark.

Table 1: Residents' perception of ASB in Pendle compared with national data

Place Survey	2003	2008	% reduction
National	21%	17%	19%
Pendle	49%	31%	37%

Source: Best Value Survey 2003 & Place Survey 2008..

Table 1 shows improvements in perception of ASB in Pendle as twice the national improvement, however we still have work to do as we remain above the 25% threshold. It is important to note, that although the data compares two different surveys the questions asked were the same.

Table 2: Number of ASB incidents reported to the police across the region compared with Lancashire data - per 1000 population

	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	12 months to Dec 2009
Pendle	118.0	112.8	114.3	105.4	100.9
Burnley	169.1	179.9	174.6	167.9	151.0
Rossendale	112.2	103.0	96.5	89.8	82.2
Lancashire	133.9	128.5	117.9	109.1	100.8

Source: Lancashire MADE database

Table 2: shows that one in ten people reported an anti-social behaviour incident to the police over a twelve months period, and although incidents reported to the police in Pendle are below the county average the figures are converging.

Table 3: Crime data from April to March 08/09 compared to same period previous year 07/08

Crime Type	No Incidents	% Change
Serious Acquisitive Crime	- 73	- 5.8%
Burglary Dwelling	+ 17	+ 5.9%
All Robbery	- 9	- 18%
Vehicle Taking	- 14	- 5.7%
Theft from a vehicle	- 67	- 10.0%
Assault with less serious injury	- 40	- 6.1%
Criminal Damage	- 144	- 8.0%

Source: Lancashire MADE database

The strategic assessment took place in September 2009; the following table illustrates a more recent position.

Table 4: Crime data from April to September 08/09 first six months of the year compared to previous year 07/08

Crime Type	No Incidents	% Change
Serious Acquisitive Crime	-241	- 12.7%
Burglary Dwelling	- 46	-9.9%
All Robbery	- 21	- 29.6%
Vehicle Taking	- 33	- 8.9%
Theft from a vehicle	- 141	- 14.3%
Assault with less serious injury	- 103	- 10.6%
Criminal Damage	- 183	- 6.9%

Source: Lancashire MADE database

3. Methodology

Partner organisations together with the CDRP analyst met in early November to complete a priority matrix for Pendle. Each partner provided statistical data together with

anecdotal information from a range of sources. Information was considered and ranked in order to determine the priorities for Pendle. The time frame for the data is April 08 to March 09, unless otherwise stated, but some comparisons are made to previous financial years. Data sources include:

- Pendle Constabulary
- Pendle Fire & Rescue Service
- Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Team
- East Lancashire Primary Care Trust
- British Crime Survey
- Lancashire MADE
- Census data
- Place Survey 2008
- Home office IQUANTA Performance Management data
-

Consultations were also held with partnership members and other partners.

4. Context

Pendle Profile

Pendle has a population of approximately 90,100 people and is an area of great contrasts. It has some of the most beautiful countryside in the North West and is dominated by the legendary Pendle Hill. Its rural borders and picturesque villages neighbour Yorkshire and the Ribble Valley, however, some ward areas in Nelson, Colne and Brierfield are ranked amongst the most deprived in the country.

Demographic Profile

Pendle's community includes a 15% ethnic minority population, of which 13% is of Pakistani heritage. We also have a growing Eastern European population (approximately 1%).

Deprivation

The latest Index of Multiple Deprivation figures for Pendle (2007) highlight that the Borough has dropped 27 places between 2004 and 2007 and is now ranked as the 29th most deprived borough in England and Wales

Health

Pendle has lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality and higher death rates from coronary heart disease than the national average. The community safety partnership is working with others to address these health inequalities.

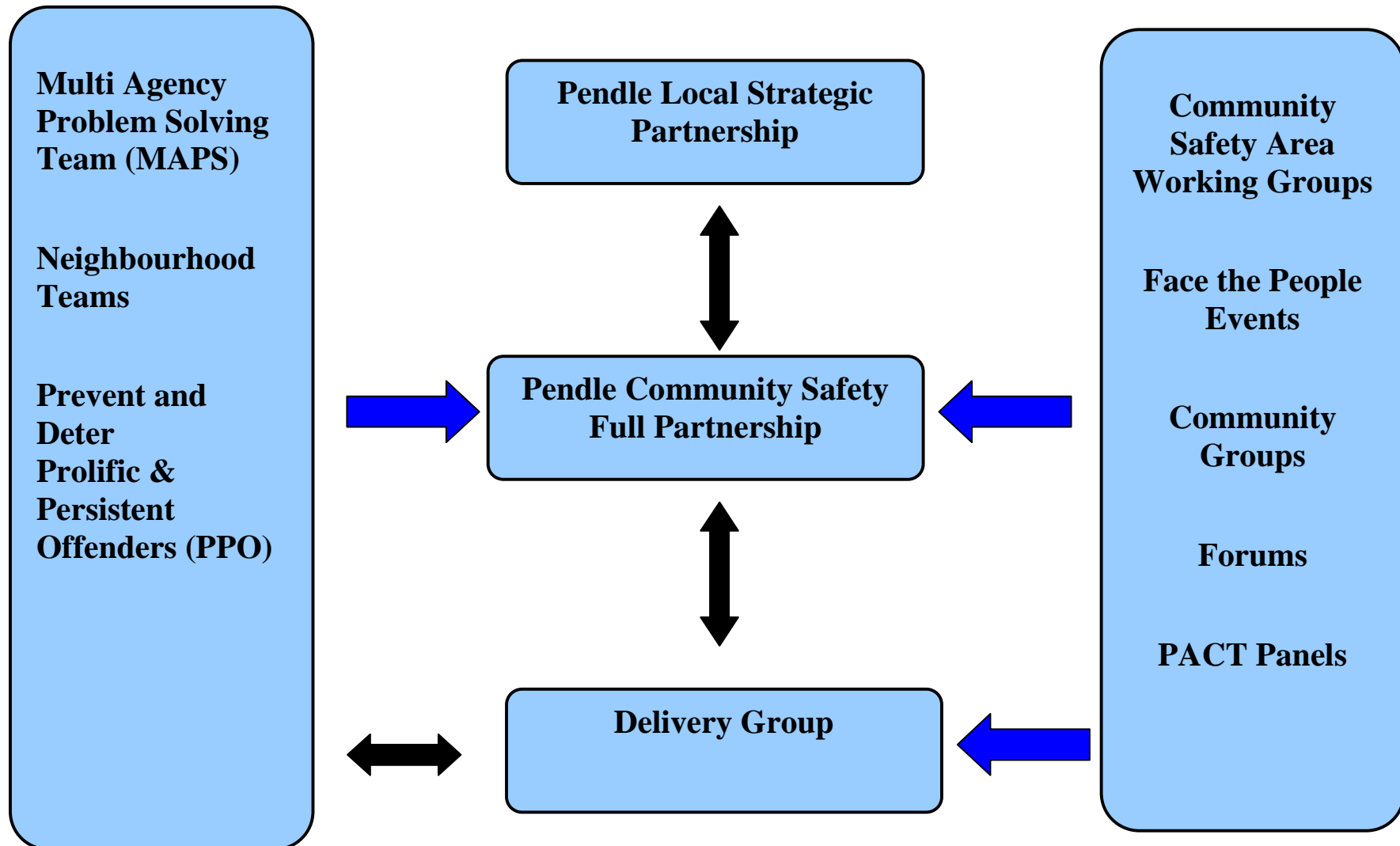
Local Economy

Pendle's economy is still heavily reliant on the manufacturing industry. Manufacturing jobs still account for 33% of all jobs but the service sector is growing. The industrial change during the second half of the 20th century has left significant socioeconomic issues for the former textile mill towns in the borough with low skill levels, unemployment, poor quality housing, significant health inequality problems and high concentrations of deprivation.

Community Safety

It is now much safer in Pendle than it was three years ago with reduced levels of reported criminal damage, burglary and motor vehicle crime. However, despite the low levels of recorded crime, the fear of crime still remains a key issue for people in Pendle. With crime often fuelled by factors such as poverty, poor housing and low educational attainment, crime patterns vary across Pendle with crime rates generally higher within our most disadvantaged areas.

5. Community Safety Partnership Structure



6. Related Strategies & National Indicators

The CDRP not only works to identify priorities for Pendle, but must also take account of how and what we contribute to a range of local and county wide strategic documents and National Indicators in relation to crime and community safety. The strategic documents include:

- The Local Area Agreement Lancashire
- Pendle Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2018
- Lancashire Police Authority Policing Plan 2009 - 2012
- Cutting Crime: A new partnership 2008 - 11
- Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service Risk Management Plan (RMP) 2008/2011
- Pendle Domestic Violence Strategy 2009 -2012

7. Pendle Key Priority Findings

The strategic assessment has identified the priorities for Pendle 2010/11 as:

- Public Confidence
- Road Traffic Collisions
- Anti-Social Behaviour inc Criminal Damage
- Violent Crime inc Domestic Violence
- Serious Acquisitive Crime
- Alcohol Related Harm
- Hate Crime

8. Data Analysis

Public Confidence

Geographic extent of the problem

Impacts in all areas of the Borough - our enhanced Place survey tells us that some areas of the Borough are more confident than others.

Scale relative to other areas

Compared with other parts of Lancashire - Pendle Policing area scores the lowest in the confidence measure, though generally Lancashire is higher than other areas nationally. The Place Survey showed Pendle to have only 24% satisfaction on this measure.

Direction of travel

Heading in the right direction as measured by police surveys, but confidence in Police and Local Authority together is lower. In the place Survey only 27.7% of people feel the police and public services are successfully dealing with crime and ASB in Pendle. This is a long way from the Police target of 63% by 2012 – milestone 55% 2010 AND 59% by 2011 with a baseline of 51%.

Level of harm

Low confidence can undermine communities and offset the progress made to reduce crime. In certain situations it can hinder social and economic progress so is important for the CSP to address.

Threat Level

Nationally we are scoring low on perception on a range of issues and this is impacting on our confidence scores which won't improve unless we act.

Community Concerns expressed

Community concerns are expressed in a variety of ways including surveys - PACT panels, community safety area group meetings and focus groups.

Local strategy/targets

NI21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police.

National strategy/targets

New single target for the Police and CSPs. Clearly, this is a very important measure for us and a key challenge for the CSP

Other

Building confidence is one of our priorities for the reasons outlined

Partnership Action

A multi agency working group has been established in Pendle to improve confidence levels in the borough. A communication strategy is under development to improve the flow of information between residents and service providers, together with a comprehensive action plan for the delivery of a range of interventions on the ground. Random telephone surveys with residents are being undertaken by the police and qualitative data from the surveys will be routinely monitored and results used to focus the work.

Road Traffic Collisions

Geographic extent of the problem

The problem affects all parts of the district however there is a positive association between economic and social deprivation and casualties from road traffic accidents.

Scale relative to other areas

There is no validated comparative data from other areas for the current year, but information from the police would suggest that there has been a significant increase in the current year. Speeding vehicles, non compliance of seat belt regulations and under use of child safety devices have been identified as part of the problem. Additionally, there are increasing numbers of drivers using mobile phones whilst driving.

Direction of travel

Comparing data from April to September 08 against 09 road traffic fatalities in Pendle have increased by 33% from 1 fatality to 5.

Level of harm

Road traffic collisions affect all sectors and backgrounds of the local community. However there is a significant trend where incidents younger drivers aged 17 -25 yrs. There is also a direct connection to excess speed, alcohol use and mobile telephone use.

Threat Level

The fact that we are still experiencing a high number of incidents is concerning considering the National media campaigns regularly carried out around the Road safety topic. A Road safety Co-ordinator has been appointed by LFRS to determine best practice and develop a Service wide Road Safety delivery package targeting the above age groups in the first instance.

Community Concerns expressed

Issues around speeding vehicles are often raised by residents at our local area group meetings. It appears to be a particular problem for the residents of Brierfield and speeding regularly appears as a police PACT priority. Overall however, LFRS report that it is not often recognised as a problem by the general public unless directly involved.

Local strategy/targets

NI 47 Number of fatalities and serious injuries from Road Traffic collisions. NHS East Lancashire would support an approach which saw the extension of 20mph speed limits to all residential areas. In addition the East Lancashire Safe Network is going to be asked to look at the issues. LFRS have committed resources to identify hotspots for activity and contribute via its educational packages to a reduction in fatalities and serious injuries of 3.6% against a County level baseline of 912.

National strategy/targets

Department for Transport/Departmental Strategic Objective

Partnership Action

CSP will continue to support community projects designed to improve road safety/speed awareness amongst young people. Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) have a range of interventions to improve road safety, which are delivered in schools throughout the borough. CSP will also be supporting a new road safety project due to be piloted in

Nelson this year. The project, Operation Peardrop, will provide an alternative to a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for specific motoring offences. Individuals found to have committed road traffic offences will be given the option of attending a road safety presentation by LFRS or paying the FPN.

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) & Criminal Damage

Geographic extent of the problem

Borough wide. The level of perception is as significant in the more affluent areas as it is in the deprived areas.

Scale relative to other areas

Pendle has been identified by the Home Office as a priority area in its ASB Refresh and Action programme.

Direction of travel

Perception has reduced from 49% of residents to 31% between 2003 and 2008.

Level of harm

One in ten residents report an ASB incident to the Police in a twelve month period yet one in three consider ASB to be a big or a very big problem.

Threat Level

Some types of ASB can be an indicator for criminal damage or violent behaviour. ASB is often but not exclusively alcohol related.

Community Concerns expressed

Specific ASB issues are invariably a cause for concern at PACT and Community Safety Working Group Meetings.

Local strategy/targets

- Communication Strategy
- Improve first point of contact
- Improve feedback – case specific and on performance and impact
- Develop recording and monitoring processes
- Develop ASB Policy and Procedure

National strategy/targets

Move within the Home Office threshold for ASB priority status and ultimately converge with the national average for NI17.

Partnership Action

ASB has been a priority in Pendle in previous years. Our approach is coordinated by a small ASB team based in our Multi Agency Problem Solving unit. Our approach includes robust management of individual cases, use of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and ASB Orders and premises closures. We are also committed to more long term preventative measures, such as, youth diversion projects, mediation and family based interventions.

Coordinated Environmental Visual Audits continue to provide a multi agency response to environmental issues that impact on how residents feel about where they live and the level of ASB and crime in their neighbourhood. They have also generated a list of hotspots for longer term action and impact.

ASB priority status is enabling the police, local authority and partners to work together to improve case management, support for victims and witnesses and to deliver a minimum standard for responding to ASB. It is also providing an opportunity for frontline officers in

partnership organisations to both train together and pilot a multi agency targeted intervention with before and after perception surveys to monitor the impact on perceptions. The targeted intervention will emphasise both intergenerational work and social marketing.

All Violent Crime inc Domestic Violence

Geographic extent of the problem

Violent Crime affects all ward areas of the Borough and accounted for 21.4% of all crime for Pendle during 2008/2009. The wards with the highest volume of Violent Crime were Waterside (n=183), Bradley (n=155), Whitefield (n=132) and Southfield (n=128). All Violent Crime increased by 5.9% when compared to the 2007/08 fiscal year (n=83).

Domestic Violence accounted for 25.7% of Violent Crime for Pendle during 2008/09. The wards with the highest volume of Domestic Violence were Southfield and Bradley. Domestic Violence increased by 44.4% (n=115) when compared to the 2007/08 fiscal year.

Assault with Less Serious Injury accounted for 40.9% of Violent Crime for Pendle during 2008/09. The wards with the highest volumes of Assault with Less Injury were Bradley, Southfield and Cloverhill.

Assault with Less Serious Injury decreased by 6.1% (n=40) when compared to the 2007/08 fiscal year. Scale relative to other areas
iQuanta places Pendle mid-table when compared to its MSG with 13.20 crimes per 1000 Households (1188). This is below the MSG average of 14.92 crimes per 1000 Households .

For Burglary Dwelling Pendle is again Mid-table with 8.33 crimes per 1000 Households (307). This is below the MSG average of 10.91 crimes per Household. Up to September 09 indications are that our position, whilst still relatively good, are worsening against peers.

Scale relative to other areas

iQuanta places Pendle seventh lowest in the table when compared to its MSG with 16.66 crimes per 1000 Households. This is lower than the MSG average of 17.93 crimes per 1000 Households.

For Assault with Less Serious Injury iQuanta places Pendle in the third lowest position on the table when compared to its MSG with 6.8 crimes per 1000 households. This is below the MSG average of 7.42 crimes per 1000 households. When analysing Domestic Violence crimes, all three boroughs, (Pendle, Rossendale & Burnley), are seeing increases on YTD with Pendle seeing the greatest increase with 16.5% (n=152) when compared to last year.

Direction of travel

Using the baseline data for 2008/2009 the forecast for All Violent Crime shows a slightly decreasing trend line with a point estimate for next year end at +0.3%. This slight increase is due to higher number of violent crimes earlier in the year .

The forecast for Assault with Less Serious Injury shows a decreasing trend line with a point estimate for the next year end at -19.3%. When analysing DV crimes, all three

boroughs, (Pendle, Rossendale & Burnley), are seeing increases on YTD with Pendle seeing the greatest increase with 16.5% (n=152) when compared to last year.

Level of harm

Alcohol is a major factor in Violent Crime and increases vulnerability for predatory crimes, such as Sexual Offences. 17.5% of Violent Crime between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 was flagged as being alcohol related. 23.3 % of Domestic Violence offences between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 were flagged as being alcohol related and 20.1 % of Assault with Less Serious Injury offences between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 were flagged as being alcohol related.

Threat Level

The current economic climate may affect results and increase Violent Crimes as more people are losing their jobs and homes and may result in drinking more alcohol and increase violence in the home.

Community Concerns expressed

Media coverage of Violent Crime adds to the fear of crime, particularly the coverage of town centre violence featured on news reports where they show violent crime incidents captured on CCTV.

Local strategy/targets

NI 32 Repeat incidents of DV.

Lancs Constabulary, Pennine Division Control Strategy 2009

Pendle Domestic Violence Strategy 2009/11

National strategy/targets

PSA 23

Other

DV is a significant issue in Pendle. Moreover, concerns have been raised about the number of children involved in DV households in the borough. CSP is currently working with the Children's Trust to address the issue.

Partnership Action

Through external funding secured by the CSP the centre radio scheme to licensed premises has been extended. Our commitment to PubWatch scheme continues and schemes in the borough now benefit from membership of the national PubWatch organisation. A mobile CCTV unit has been purchased by the partnership that will enable us to take quick remedial action in problem areas across the borough. CCTV monitoring will improve evidence gathering for successful identification and prosecution of offenders. We have also installed CCTV monitoring equipment in Pendle taxis as a pilot project. This initiative has worked well in other areas in reducing attacks on drivers and we will extend the initiative if the pilot produces results.

Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC)

Geographic extent of the problem

SAC affects all ward areas of the borough and accounted for 17% of all crime in Pendle during 1998/9. The wards with the highest volume of SAC were Brierfield, Reedley and Waterside. The worse performing category within SAC was Burglary in a Dwelling which showed a 5.9% increase on last year. (Vehicle Taking -5.7%, Theft from Vehicle -10.0%, Robbery Personal -20.0% and Robbery Business remained the same.

Scale relative to other areas

iQuanta places Pendle mid-table when compared to its MSG with 13.20 crimes per 1000 Households (1188). This is below the MSG average of 14.92 crimes per 1000 Households .

For Burglary Dwelling Pendle is again Mid-table with 8.33 crimes per 1000 Households (307). This is below the MSG average of 10.91 crimes per Household. Up to September 09 indications are that our position, whilst still relatively good, are worsening against peers.

Direction of travel

Using the baseline data for 2008/09 the forecast for all SAC shows a declining trend with a point estimate for next year end at -38.4% (n=455). Individually Burglary in a Dwelling shows a declining trend with a decrease of -41.1% (n=95).

Vehicle Taking forecasts a continued reducing trend with a point estimate for next year of -29.0% (n=67). Theft from Vehicle also shows a reduction of -39.1% (n=188).

Robbery (Personal) forecasts a declining trend line and predicts a decrease of -69.9% (n=25). Robbery (Business) forecasts a levelled trend line and so predicts similar figures to last year . Up to September 09 indications are that direction of travel is worsening slightly against peers.

Level of harm

SAC affects all sectors and backgrounds of the local community. It is unbiased about victim and its harm is measured mostly in the financial and emotional cost. Once it affects an area it very quickly raises the fear of all crime.

Threat Level

There is some evidence that the current economic climate may affect results and increase crimes as more people turn to crime to make an income. SAC has historic links with PPO's and individuals who have dependency on drugs and alcohol

Community Concerns expressed

Via opinion surveys/ public opinion

Local strategy/targets

SAC remains a CSP target. It is featured in the Community Safety Plan, and also has a set target within the LAA.

National strategy/targets

SAC remains a threat to the single confidence level target as an increase in victims could lead to a decline of confidence in the Police

Other

SAC within Pendle can also be affected by travelling criminals from other forces (West Bradford and the GMP area) as well as nominals from the neighbouring Boroughs crossing boundaries. The propensity for more community based sentences given the success of IOMU, is leading to more high risk PPOs being managed in the community which may pose a threat to SAC. The movement of PPOs and other high risk offenders into Pendle is also a threat.

Partnership Action

The CSP are committed to continuing the target hardening scheme, which we have funded for several years. The scheme is offered to all victims of burglary across the borough with the aim of reducing repeat victimisation. The Prolific and Other Priority Offender Scheme has had success in targeting repeat offenders of SAC crimes. Similarly, our work with the Offender Management Unit, supported by the Probation Service, has improved our provision for the resettlement of offenders in the borough.

We work closely with the Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Action Team (LDAAT) to address drug misuse, (a significant contributory factor to SACs), through maintaining problematic drug users in effective treatment. From April 2010 a new integrated drug and alcohol service will be introduced that will significantly improve local provision, and will focus on long term recovery.

There are currently a number of operations being undertaken to assist with the reduction and detection of serious acquisitive crime.

Operation Fiesta – this operation targets cross border criminals who drive into Pendle in order to carry out high value burglaries within the predominantly rural areas of the borough. This operation provides high visibility patrols in identified locations throughout the borough at pertinent times. In addition to the high visibility patrols ANPR equipment is also used in an effort to identify individuals and vehicles who are driving into the locality. A very similar operation (Hanoi) is carried out within our neighbouring constabularies, this assists with intelligence gathering and building up a picture of activity.

Operation Fugo – this operation is a covert operation that includes the use of Smartwater spray systems inserted in a number of ‘trap cars’ in addition to using ‘trap cars’ there is also the facility to utilise the Smartwater spray system within domestic dwellings. This operation is to assist with reducing and detecting vehicle offences.

Increased media releases utilising a number of media formats including, local radio, newspapers, television, leaflets and multi agency visits to identified localities. All of this activity takes place in an effort to ensure the communities are educated in crime prevention measures, reassurances are issued increasing confidences and good news stories are highlighted including all positive action taken to ensure that Pendle is a safer place.

Alcohol Related Harm - Health

Geographic extent of the problem

Alcohol problems affect all ward areas of the borough, but are strongly associated with socio-economic deprivation.

Scale relative to other areas

The 2009 alcohol profile shows that Pendle is significantly worse than both the regional and England averages for alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18s, for alcohol specific hospital admissions for males, for alcohol attributable hospital admissions for both females and males and hospital admissions for alcohol related harm (NI39). In 2007 research commissioned by the Department of Health considered a number of health related factors, including levels of deprivation, educational attainment, teenage pregnancy and alcohol related admissions. Pendle scored worse than the national average in all these areas.¹

Direction of travel

There has not been a significant year on year fluctuation in the figures for Pendle but the 2007, (latest available figures), suggest that there has been a slight increase in both alcohol attributable mortality for both sexes and alcohol attributable hospital admissions for males with a slight decrease in alcohol attributable hospital admissions for females.

Level of harm

There is evidence that alcohol as well as being linked to anti-social behaviour and crime is also a significant cause of premature mortality. The proportion of adults who binge drink in the East Lancashire region is estimated to be 39,100 males and 18,500 females. The numbers of hazardous drinkers in Pendle is 9,100 males and 4,500 females together with 1,700 males and 600 females categorised as dependent drinker.

Threat Level

There is some evidence that in times of recession alcohol related harm increases.

Community Concerns expressed

Alcohol is related as a community concern when it is associated with anti-social behaviour and crime, however, it needs to be seen as a significant public health issue as well as a problem of community safety.

Local strategy/targets

NI39 Alcohol harm related hospital admission rates. East Lancashire Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2008 to 2011.

National strategy/targets

National Alcohol Strategy 2004 plus the updated Safe Sensible strategy that replaced it.

Other

In terms of substance misuse, alcohol is the issue which is causing most public concern although drugs still impacts on acquisitive crime . We are dependent upon the treatment services to manage the impact of drugs alongside police enforcement. Alcohol is a cross cutting issue which impacts on ASB and Confidence.

¹ Lancashire County Council Strategy for Health and Well Being

Partnership Action

CSP will ensure that the actions identified in the recently developed Pendle Alcohol Harm Reduction Action Plan are fed into the East Lancashire Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy; this will enable us to address the problems that are relevant to local people. We will continue to work with our partners in local schools to raise awareness of the impact of alcohol misuse on health and provide advice to parents of underage drinkers through our Staysafe project. We will communicate with residents to continually identify ensuing problems early and develop actions to address the issues. The partnership has a target to reduce alcohol related hospital admissions and we are working hard to improve our data collection on alcohol related health issues to help our understanding of what needs to be done. The CSP will be delivering the health messages again by taking part in a range of activities during 'Alcohol Awareness Week 2010. We will continue to coordinate the delivery of Brief Interventions training to frontline staff to enable them to identify alcohol related problems that individuals may be experiencing.

Alcohol Related Harm – Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

Geographic extent of the problem

Alcohol related crime and disorder in Pendle occurs largely on the streets outside licensed venues, on routes out of town and significantly in local taxis. Problems are dispersed around several locations; however, Bradley, Waterside, Southfield and Vivary Bridge wards feature heavily in police incidents flagged with an alcohol qualifier.

Scale relative to other areas

Police incidents flagged with an alcohol qualifier identifies Bradley, Waterside, Southfield and Vivary Bridge wards in the top quartile (top 25% of district/county). In terms of street drinking, Barrowford features in the top quartile (top 25% of district/county). Barrowford is the only ward in Pendle that has consistently ranked in the top quartile from 2007 to 2009.

Direction of travel

Incidents of street drinking have risen steadily over the past 3 years from (n=118) in 2007/8 to (n= 214) in 2008/9 a rise of 81%.

Level of harm

Alcohol is recognised as the most significant contributory factor in incidents of violence in our communities.² Alcohol related crime and disorder affects all sectors and backgrounds of the local community. Once it affects an area it very quickly raises the fear of all crime.

Threat Level

As a result of the economic climate and changes in social habits many pubs around Nelson, Brierfield and Colne have closed. There is some anecdotal evidence that young adults are travelling into Barrowford and areas of West Craven to drink in the pubs that remain there, this may be escalating the problems in those areas.

² Violent Crime Strategy 2008-2011

Community Concerns expressed

Residents report through our local area group meetings of incidents of drunk and disorderly behaviour on the streets and in parks, predominantly at the weekends. Young adults are seen carrying their drinks from pub to pub and leaving bottles and glasses on the streets.

Local strategy/targets

East Lancashire Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2008/11
Pendle Local Alcohol Harm Reduction Action Plan 2010/11

National strategy/targets

National Alcohol Strategy 2004
Safe Sensible & Social: The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy 2007

Partnership Action

.A mobile CCTV unit has been purchased by the partnership which will enable us to take quick remedial action in priority areas across the borough. CCTV monitoring will improve evidence gathering for successful identification and prosecution of offenders. We will continue to deliver our very successful multi-agency Staysafe project designed to safeguard young people found on the streets/public places and who may be vulnerable and at risk of significant harm. The partnership continues to work and support the Street Pastors initiative which now delivers a limited service in Colne. We will continue to use the powers at our disposal, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and ASB Orders where necessary, supported by a programme of education with vulnerable groups.

Our Licensing Service will continue to conduct evening visits to off and on licensed premises in partnership with the Police and other agencies. Test purchase operations, with the Police, are carried out in conjunction with operation Staysafe to identify those off licensed premises selling alcohol to children. Since August 2009, 146 premises have been visited, some, on more than one occasion. This has resulted in action being taken against the premises (reviews of licence) and the individual sellers of the alcohol. CSP will continue to support these measures during the coming year. The opportunity of gaining a recognised BIIAB award in responsible alcohol retailing has also been offered, through the CSP), to those people who have failed a test purchase in an effort to raise standards across the Borough. We are committed to responding to what our residents tell us and in February 2010 we launched 'Alcoline' a new initiative, funded by the NHS, which allows the public to report to the Council, either by telephone or e-mail, 24 hours a day, any concerns they may have in relation to alcohol licensed premises.

Pendle will also be implementing Drink Banning Orders (DBO) across the borough. These powers are available to the police and local authorities to target individuals who abuse alcohol to the extent that it leads to alcohol related crime and disorder. Pendle currently have cases being prepared for submission for a DBO to be applied. In addition there are a further 2 individuals who are being considered for DBO's in the near future.

Hate Crime

Geographic extent of the problem

Hate crime can occur across the borough, but areas with the greater mix of ethnicity do suffer a higher level of incidents. However, recorded cases overall are relatively low.

Scale relative to other areas

No direct comparison available, however, three wards in the borough (Bradley 15 , Brierfield 23 and Waterside 33 are in the highest quartile for racial crime in Lancashire

Direction of travel

Year to date figures show an increase from last year. The figures are relatively low, to October 09 there are 13 more crimes than at the same time last year, (45 compared with 32). Under reporting is an issue locally and nationally. Taking steps to improve third party reporting i.e. Stop Hate UK introduced by LCC and supported locally

Level of harm

The level of harm can be significant and can also have a detrimental effect both on the victim and the wider community. The CSP is aware of the need to deal with these crimes quickly to offset any impact on community cohesion, which unresolved issues can generate . For example, CSP successfully bid for funding to offset alcohol related crime - taxi drivers who were subject to racist abuse and violence will benefit from CCTV in the cab as a result.

Threat Level

Medium - given the ethnic mix in Pendle crimes and incidents are going to take place . An even handed approach is called for and hate incidents of any kind must not be allowed to become normalised.

Community Concerns expressed

Individual cases can cause a great deal of local concern and sometimes press coverage can inflame the situation. Good working relationships between Police Hate crime and Diversity Team and CSP/MAPS helps . Regular scanning meetings highlight trends for multi agency action.

Local strategy/targets

Helps towards NI1 (which is a challenge in Pendle) % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together and NI 23 perceptions that people treat each other with respect.

National strategy/targets

National expectation that CSPs will take on Hate crime as a key issue

Other

We will continue to develop our capacity in this area particularly to encourage 3 rd party reporting.

Partnership Action

In January 2010 the Stop Hate UK telephone 24hour helpline was introduced to encourage the reporting of hate crime incidents. Pendle CSP will continue to work closely with the police Hate Crime and Diversity Unit to take action on these offences. Cases are routinely discussed at the Multi Agency Scanning Meetings (MASM)

particularly where community cohesion/tensions may be affected. We remain committed to continuing our support of community led projects that bring together groups and individuals from diverse background and generations.