

## Community Safety Report 2020-21

### REPORT TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



<b>DATE</b>	<b>15/02/2021</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>Community Services</b>
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#### PURPOSE

1. To provide an update to the Scrutiny Committee of Burnley's community safety performance as part of the required statutory duty, in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

#### RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Scrutiny Committee notes the detail of the report.

#### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. Burnley as part of the Pennine Community Safety Steering Group has agreed Pennine Lancashire's Community Safety Strategy priorities between 2018-2021. Please see the following link. <https://www.penninecsp.org.uk/priorities/>
4. The Strategic priorities for 2018-2021 are as follows; (Not in any ranked order)
  - Maintain low crime and anti-social behaviour levels
  - Keeping young people and adults with vulnerabilities safe
  - Tackling the causes of crime through prevention and early intervention
  - Targeting repeat offenders and those causing the greatest harm
  - Keeping our roads safe
5. The priorities are reviewed on a three-yearly cycle and work is currently ongoing, with the next full strategic assessment due to be completed and overseen by Pennine Community Safety Partnership during 2021.
6. Local community safety delivery in Burnley remains the responsibility of the Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating (MATAC) group which meets monthly and is chaired by Councillor Afrasiab Anwar, Executive Member for Community and Environmental Services

7. Local activities and the response of the MATAC group also take into account emerging threats identified through the Partnership Analyst and/or data provided by partner agencies and the community monthly via the partner meetings.

<b>SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS</b>
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### **Community Safety Projects and Activity in Burnley 2020/21**

8. All local activities are agreed through the Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordinating meeting and emerging and predictive threats, such as alcohol related crime in the run up to Christmas are considered. In addition, informing the community of our actions and their responsibilities in reducing crime are a key element in all local activities undertaken.
9. Officers have continued to support both local and Pennine CSP priorities. Thematic groups established across Pennine Lancashire's CSP continue to deliver against local priorities and concerns. Work continues to contribute to the delivery of the current 5 key strategic priorities that are outlined in para. 4. Both Pennine and local thematic groups have continued to meet virtually during the Pandemic and make progress. For instance, the low crime and anti-social behaviour Pennine Group is chaired by Joanne Swift, BBC Head of Streetscene and C.I John Bullas, Lancashire Constabulary.
10. 6 new alleygate schemes will be completed in the Borough by the end of the 2020/21 financial year providing extra security for 126 properties in areas highlighted as experiencing high levels of anti-social behavior and crime related to the rear of properties. The new schemes will be installed in Gawthorpe, Daneshouse with Stoneyholme, Rosegrove with Lowerhouse, Trinity, and Queensgate.
11. A borough-wide Gating PSPO has been approved which will streamline the management of all schemes from a legal perspective. This will bring all gating schemes covered by PSPOs under one single order. This step was taken following work by a pan-Lancashire officer working group to look at the best approach to managing, in some cases, hundreds of schemes.
12. The Home Office's Safer Streets fund awarded a grant of £549,500 for home security project based focusing on parts of Burnley Wood and Bank Hall. The bid was chosen as the primary bid for Lancashire. Project will look to improve home security for properties within the focus areas, improve the amenity of the areas, add further alleygate schemes to the project areas, and improve strategic CCTV coverage. The project will also aim to work with the community to deliver a project with a long-lasting impact on the community.

13. Burnley Council have, in partnership with other East Lancashire districts and the PCC contributed funding for Operation Provide. The project will provide enhanced IDVA support for the police to engage with victims of domestic abuse at the earliest opportunity.
14. The Youth panel continues to bring together statutory agencies and youth service providers to co-ordinate youth activity across the borough and address youth related anti-social behavior. During the period of disruption experienced due to the current pandemic, the group has been a vital forum that has helped some smaller agencies and services remain connected to the local community safety scene.
15. The Town Centre Offender Group coordinates targeted work against prolific shoplifters, aggressive beggars, and other anti-social individuals affecting the town centre. Through coordinated work the group have been able to obtain restrictive orders against some of the most problematic individuals, helping to create a more pleasant environment for businesses and members of the public alike.
16. Prolific, high risk offenders are being targeted through the expanded Police MOSOVO unit. Local districts form the Pennine Lancashire screening panel and with partners from the police, probation services, and drug and alcohol services, identify candidates to be included on the enhanced project.
17. The Youth Endowment Fund grant (£343k for Pennine Lancashire) for the Pause 4 Thought programme, designed to divert young people (aged 10-14) from becoming involved in criminal behaviour has been extended to enable the project to be rolled out. Due to the nature of project delivery it has been affected by Covid factors however these have now been overcome and the project will commence in Burnley from January 2021.
18. Pennine Lancashire CSP (PLCSP) has launched its website <https://www.penninecsp.org.uk> The website contains information covering all districts in PLCSP.
19. A programme of interactive, theatre-based, awareness raising sessions have been developed to refresh the Council's approach to domestic abuse. Prior to the lockdown two sessions had been delivered with a further 4 planned. Working with the partner alternative methods of delivery will be developed.
20. The 2020 Resident Satisfaction Survey recorded that concerns around 'teenagers hanging around' had fallen from 58% in 2019 to 48% in 2020. Similarly, the survey reported that the percentage of residents responding that saw 'people using or dealing drugs' fell from 62% in 2019 to 54% in 2020. Both youth ASB and activity around the drugs trade remain priorities for local partners with strong operational groups dedicated to addressing those specific issues.
21. As part of the review through the Scrutiny Committee a brief overview of crime and anti-social behaviour performance for the Borough is provided.

The Coronavirus pandemic has had a profound impact on recorded crime and anti-social behaviour across the borough and this is replicated in trends across the county. In respect to all recorded crime during 2020 there was a 10% fall in reports to the police. This decrease has been driven by a significant fall 28% in acquisitive crime with Burnley recording the largest decrease in burglaries in East Lancashire.

Where there has been a marked decrease in crime rates during 2020 there has also been significant increase in reports of anti-social behaviour and this too is driven by factors relating to the coronavirus pandemic. From March 2020 reports to the police relating to coronavirus breaches were recorded as anti-social behaviour and during the first lockdown this precipitated a significant spike in reports to the police with April showing three times the number of complaints made in February. Once lockdown restrictions were gradually relaxed the volume of calls to the police fell but remained approximately double those of pre-covid levels. Reports of anti-social behaviour across all agencies in Burnley have been increased and this increase is driven by factors relating to the coronavirus pandemic.

### **Proposed activity for 2020/21**

22. Burnley, in conjunction with all districts in Lancashire, is involved in the application to reaffirm the county's White Ribbon Status.
23. A coordinated programme of alleygate review will be taken during 2020/21 to identify schemes that are not meeting the expected standards of usage. Schemes that are identified as failing and show no improvement during the review will be removed and used to supplement the 2020/21 roll out of new schemes.
24. A further roll-out of alley gating with approximately 6 new schemes to be identified from existing applications.
25. A review of evidence gathering resources will be undertaken to ensure the Council and partners are best able to investigate crime and disorder.
26. Continue to support the development and delivery of key, pan-Lancashire, strategies around reducing reoffending, violence reduction and knife crime, as well as locally defined priorities through Pennine Lancashire CSP and MATAC.

<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION</b>
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27. Community Safety delivery has remained pro-active over recent years with strong partnership arrangements in place, collaborative and funding opportunities continue, wherever possible to be sought to support activities.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

28. The Strategic Assessment will be reviewed yearly with a full assessment to be carried out in 2021 overseen by the Pennine CSP.

#### **DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

29. Councillor Afrasiab Anwar  
30. Lukman Patel – Chief Operating Officer

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

31. None

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT:** Richard Brown Community Safety Officer Ext 3375  
**ALSO:** Joanne Swift, Head of Streetscene x7301