



REPORT TO:	Overview & Scrutiny – Environment & Performance Committee
DATE:	25 th July 2023
SUBJECT:	Crime and Disorder Report
PURPOSE:	To provide Members with an update on Community Safety Partnership work at a local and county level
KEY DECISION:	N/A
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Councillor Anne Dorrian
REPORT OF:	Emily Spicer, Assistant Director Wellbeing & Community Leadership
REPORT AUTHOR:	Peter Hunn, Community Safety Manager & Sarah Cocker, Community Safety Partnership Officer
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All Wards
EXEMPT REPORT?	No

SUMMARY

- 1) This report provides an overview of the work currently being undertaken by the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership at County level, the South & East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership at a local level, along with information on CCTV across the partnership and Anti-Social Behaviour activity in Boston Borough. The report recommends that the contents are noted, and additional areas of focus are considered for inclusion in future reports.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the content of the report is noted.
2. That Members consider areas of focus to be included in future reports.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The content of the report is noted to ensure that members are up to date on the current work being undertaken.
- 2) The focus of future updates provides members with an opportunity to advise of areas of work they require more detail on.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

1. Do nothing

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. A CSP is required for each local government area, bringing the police, local authorities, fire and rescue, health, and probation to formulate strategies for the reduction of crime.
- 1.2 Locally, the South & East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership (SELCSP) is an informally merged partnership administered through the South and East Lincolnshire Council's Partnership (S&ELCP), covering Boston Borough, East Lindsey, and South Holland. At a county level, there is an informally merged countywide partnership known as the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP), administered by Lincolnshire County Council. Boston Borough Council currently discharges its statutory duties for reducing crime and disorder at a strategic level through the abovementioned partnerships and at an operational level by delivering services such as CCTV and ASB investigation work.
- 1.3 The statutory duties of a Community Safety Partnership are as follows:
 - To prepare and implement a partnership plan that sets out a strategy for the reduction of reoffending, crime and disorder, combatting substance misuse, serious violence, community engagement and addressing the priorities identified in the strategic assessment.
 - To set up protocols and systems for information sharing.
 - To regularly engage and consult with the public about their community safety priorities and issues.
 - To commission domestic homicide reviews (DHRs) following notification from the police of a domestic homicide.
 - To hold one or more public meeting during the year.

1.4 This report will provide an overview of the work of the local SELCSP and the county SLP. The report also provides summary data in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and the alcohol-related Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Boston, and Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) across the partnership area.

2. SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

2.1 The SELCSP aims to combine knowledge, powers and expertise to reduce anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime in South and East Lincolnshire, to ensure it remains one of the safest places to live, work and visit.

2.2 SELCSP is a partnership made up of the following organisations:

- Boston Borough, East Lindsey and South Holland District Councils
- Lincolnshire County Council (Community Safety Team, Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership, and Public Health)
- Lincolnshire Police
- Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue
- Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- The Probation Service
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

2.3 Non-statutory agencies also contribute to the work of the partnership including housing associations, HMP North Sea Camp and the voluntary sector (e.g., Just Lincolnshire). The SELCSP works closely with the County SLP and supports its priorities.

2.4 The SELCSP has a Community Safety Strategy for 2022-2025 to demonstrate the work of partners at the sub-regional level. The partnership has a working action plan for each financial year that the strategy covers. Copies of the plan for 2022-23, and draft plan for 2023-24 are included in Appendices A and B respectively.

2.5 The identified priorities are presented below along with some key actions undertaken during the last year.

2.6 **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

- Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness week – This is an annual campaign to highlight the work that partners do to tackle ASB. The focus in 2022 was on the impact of ASB on young people, and the importance of engaging with the wider public about their vital role in tackling ASB. A social media campaign was coordinated across the county to share example of the work we undertaken to address ASB.
- Community Trigger Re-launch - The Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review (also known as the Community Trigger) allows victims of persistent ASB to request a formal review of their

case, where the local threshold is met. A standalone countywide policy and procedures document has been produced to ensure that we are providing a service that is based on best practice. This work was undertaken with the charity ASB Help who provide advice and support to victims of ASB. The new policy was launched in November 2022 and widely shared amongst our communities, staff and Elected Members.

- Noxious Odour Pilot (Boston) – Fumes from people smoking Cannabis can amount to ASB where the impact of the odour has a detrimental impact of a continuing nature on the quality of life of those in the locality. A pilot process has been set up in Boston in partnership with Boston Police and Lincolnshire Housing Partnership, to use an incremental approach offering advice letters initially progressing to a Community Protection Notice in more serious cases. To-date 4 advice letters have been issued.
- Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC) review – ASBRACs are multi-agency meetings used for managing high risk victims, locations and perpetrators of ASB. A project was undertaken in quarter 4 of 2022-23 to review the meetings to establish the current arrangements are fit for purpose, and to identify any changes required to improve their effectiveness. The review identified several recommendations which are currently being addressed, these broadly cover four themes:
 - Training & Awareness
 - Process issues
 - Risk assessment and problem-solving processes
 - Monitoring and analysis

2.7 Hate Crime

- Hate Crime Awareness week – This is an annual campaign to raise awareness of what hate crimes are and how people can report them. A communications plan was developed to publicise information during the week included reporting advice, support services and information on what hate crime and hate incidents are.
- Increasing awareness and reporting of hate incidents – The ASB Team in Boston and East Lindsey have adapted their Anti-Social Behaviour diary to include a question on whether the victim believes that the ASB is targeted because of their identity or perceived identity. Not everyone will recognise that a hate crime or incident has occurred, and it is hoped that this will assist in the identification of occurrences.

2.8 Safer Streets & Night-Time Economy

- Operation California – This was undertaken over the summer months in 2022 in Skegness and aimed to tackle drugs and promote safety in licensed premises. The ELDC Senior Licencing Officer worked with Lincolnshire Police using ‘drugs itemiser’ which can detect residue of a range of drugs on people and surfaces in premises. Unfortunately, the number of visits carried out was limited due to the loss of the itemiser machine which reached the end of its working life. Work is underway to source funding for a replacement equipment.

- Promotion of StreetSafe - This is a service for anyone to anonymously tell the police about public places where they have felt or feel unsafe. This might be because of environmental issues, e.g., street lighting, abandoned buildings or vandalism. It could also be because of some behaviours of people in the area, e.g., being followed or verbally abused. Agencies have been promoting the use of this to encourage its wider use as the information is fed into problem solving and crime reduction work. This has also recently been used by Boston Police to identify some key hotspot areas in Boston Town Centre and work with a number of partner agencies has just commenced to address the issues that been identified.

2.9 The Safety of Women & Girls:

- White Ribbon Day & 16 Days of Action – This is an annual campaign to end violence against women. White Ribbon Day marks the start of the 16 days of action against domestic violence. White ribbons were distributed to Elected Members to ask them to pledge their support. Social media was used to demonstrate their commitment with photos of members wearing the ribbons.
- Safer Streets Round 4 – Excellent progress has been made in upgrading the CCTV camera systems in Spalding, Skegness and Boston town centres and in the control room at Boston. Work in Spalding is complete with Skegness nearing completion. It is anticipated that work will commence in Boston in June 2023. Signs are currently being installed which include a QR code to direct people to the relevant council website where they can see a map of the ‘Safe Zone’ areas and additional information on reporting crime and where to go for support. A Community CCTV Volunteer has also commenced working within the CCTV suite to help in tasks such as image reviews and burning disks which frees up the CCTV Operators to focus on the monitoring cameras.
- Self Defence Classes for females in Boston – Funding was provided to support the continuation of a local self-defence class for women and girls (aged 12 upwards) at the Geoff Moulder Leisure Complex.

2.10 Vulnerability & Safeguarding

- Dementia Bands pilot - This pilot project, led by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, aims to protect vulnerable people living with dementia by giving them a wristband that stores the contact details of the wearers next of kin. If they get lost, police or the public can quickly access their next of kin’s details and contact them. The SELCSP has been supporting the delivery of this project through collaboration, communication and publicity and it is hoped that there will be scope to broaden the project further to other areas across the partnership.
- Fraud Awareness Raising – Support is provided to the county Crime & Disorder Fraud Core Priority Group (CPG) in achieving the overarching aim of tackling digitally enabled fraud & identity theft. The South & East Lincs Councils Partnership has helped to publicise campaigns such as the ‘Get Safe Online’ campaign, which promoted how to shop safely online, and ATM distraction theft.

3. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR & THE PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

- 3.1. Boston Borough Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Officer works in partnership with Lincolnshire Police, Housing Associations, and other agencies to tackle ASB. Officers follow the guidance set out in the Countywide procedures for tackling ASB in Lincolnshire, which details the tools and powers brought in by the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The full act can be accessed here:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted>
- 3.2. A stepped approach is used to give advice and encourage people to stop the ASB before considering more formal (legal) methods. People are provided with support, guidance and signposting to other organisations who may be able to help, where applicable.
- 3.3. A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is in place in a designated area of Boston town centre which prohibits the consumption of alcohol. The PSPO has been in place since January 2015 and has been extended twice. The current order will expire in January 2024 and work is underway to carry out the necessary consultation with the public and key partners with the intention of extending it for a further 3 years.
- 3.4. Information on enforcement action taken to tackle ASB in Boston Borough, including that taken in relation to the PSPO (in Boston) is included in Appendix C.

4. CCTV REPORT 2022-23

- 4.1. This is an examination of data collected by the CCTV department for the areas of Boston Borough Council, East Lindsey District Council and South Holland District Council. North Kesteven data is included for the area of Sleaford. This data is collected and studied in order to better understand the performance and achievements of the CCTV control room in Boston but is clearly not (nor indeed intended to be), a full picture of criminal activity within the areas it covers.
- 4.2. **CCTV Data** - The data relates to the period between 01/04/22 and 31/03/23. Within this time-period CCTV operators have:
 - Recorded **15,310** Daily log entries.
 - Completed **1160** incident records which includes
 - **587** East Lindsey camera area incidents.
 - **366** Boston camera area incidents.
 - **128** South Holland camera area incidents.
 - **79** North Kesteven camera area incidents.
 - CCTV contributed to **329** arrests which includes

- **165** East Lindsey camera area arrests.
- **92** Boston camera area arrests.
- **46** South Holland camera area arrests.
- **26** North Kesteven camera area arrests.
- Produced **398** pieces of evidence for Police / Court use.
 - **120** for the East Lindsey area.
 - **161** of these for the Boston area.
 - **81** for the South Holland area.
 - **36** for the North Kesteven area.

The full report is included in Appendix D

5. SAFER LINCOLNSHIRE PARTNERSHIP (SLP)

- 5.1. An update was provided to the Crime and Disorder Committee on 15th December 2022 regarding the work of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP). Updates are provided to Local Authority area Crime and Disorder Committees upon request. This was provided by Claire Seabourne. Due to staffing restructures in the LCC Community Safety Team, Zoe Walters is now the interim Business Manager for the SLP. Claire Seabourne is the interim Business Manager for the LCC Community Safety Team.
- 5.2. South Holland District Council, East Lindsey District Council and Boston Borough Council are all statutory members of the SLP. They provide representation at the SLP Strategy Board and are also committed to the delivery of the current SLP Strategic Priorities through representation at the underpinning Core Priority Groups.
- 5.3. The report provided in December 2022 highlighted the findings and recommendations from the Safer Lincolnshire Health Check and the Strategic Needs Assessment.
- 5.4. The Health Check recommended that at least one public meeting is held per year and that an annual report is produced. The SLP Annual Report March 2022-23, has been provided for your information in Appendix E. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 14th March 2023. Reports are also submitted for scrutiny to the LCC Crime and Disorder Committee as part of an annual schedule.
- 5.5. A working relationship has been established with the Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership (LDAP). It has been agreed that they will provide assurance to the SLP on a 6 monthly basis in relation to Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). SLP retains the statutory duty to commission DHRs but has delegated this responsibility to LDAP.
- 5.6. SLP Annual Report and AGM
- 5.7. The Annual Report March 2022-23 provides an overview of the progress made against the Strategic Priority areas which were agreed by the SLP Strategy Board in 2022. It also

provides an update on progress related to the findings from the health check. During the AGM, strategic representatives recognised the progress made in each of the core priority areas, Substance Misuse, Reducing Reoffending, Crime and Disorder, Anti-Social Behaviour and Serious Violence.

5.8. The Annual Report highlights recent achievements for the SLP:

- A comprehensive strategic assessment produced and utilised by the partnership to inform strategy development.
- Successful re-introduction of the SLP newsletter. There have now been 5 issues of the newsletter, and statistics show that there has been a 42% increase in subscribers from the first issue to the last issue ([subscribe to the newsletter here](#)).
- Increased twitter usage by working with other boards to maximise our target audience.
- A successful presence at the Lincolnshire Show in 2022 and work is underway on content and potential involvement that we can have at the 2023 Lincolnshire Show as well as other events around the County.
- The SLP have continued to review financial contributions from partners to ensure the SLP can operate efficiently and effectively.
- SLP has piloted a Reducing Reoffending (RRO) dashboard with a view to this becoming a dashboard that reflects analytical data for all CPG areas. This is an ongoing project.
- The introduction of the delivery plan dashboard to ensure efficient and effective performance monitoring for all CPG's.

5.9. The Annual Report highlights next steps for SLP over the coming financial year:

5.10. Core Priority Groups

By January 2024 we (SLP) will have published the Serious Violence Strategy.

5.11. Analysis

Continue the project currently underway to increase our (SLP) analytical capacity and consequently the products we can provide to the partnership; meeting our objective of ensuring the SLP is evidence based in determining its areas of focus and activity.

5.12. Finance

There is also a need for a review on how the partnership is financed by partners. Following the work undertaken in 2022, going forward, an annual financial review will take place. This will consider contributions, including proportional split across partners, and ensure effective and appropriate spend.

5.13. Formal Merger

Continued work will be made towards the formal merger. As it stands the SLP is an informal arrangement agreed by all partners to have just one partnership instead of the statutory duty for each local authority to have in place a Community Safety Partnership.

5.14. Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan 2023

On 27th March 2023, the government published its [Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). This was discussed at the SLP ASB Core Priority Group on 17th April 2023. It was agreed at the meeting that this should be raised with the SLP Strategy Board on 16th June 2023, so that the delivery Plan for ASB can be updated accordingly.

5.15. Community Safety Partnerships Review and Anti-Social Behaviour Power

The government launched a consultation [Community safety partnerships review and antisocial behaviour powers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) on 27th March 2023. Members of the SLP Strategy Board have been invited and encouraged to submit response to this. All 7 Local Authority areas within Lincolnshire, have provided a combined response which is being submitted on their behalf by the SLP Business Manager. The deadline for responding to the consultation is 23rd May 2023. No indications have been given at this time regarding the timescales for any potential changes to legislation and statutory duties following the consultation.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This report has outlined the work carried out by the county level Safer Lincolnshire Partnership and the local South and East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership. The report also provides enforcement data in respect of ASB, the PSPO and CCTV data across the South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership.

EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

- 7.1 The report provides an overview of the work undertaken to support the Council's statutory duty under s17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 7.2 It supports an increased understanding and awareness of the partnership working taking place in the districts.

IMPLICATIONS

8.1 SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP

None

8.2 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The area of work detailed in this report supports the following corporate priorities:

- Boston Borough Council – ‘Priority 1 - People Focused’ (main priority)

8.3 STAFFING

Current staffing resource across the partnership will support the delivery of community safety activity with additional resources identified through further funding as necessary.

8.4 CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The statutory duties required of CSPs, as set out in the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, are met through working with the County SLP which works as a combined area for Lincolnshire. We also meet these through our own local South and East Lincolnshire CSP membership as well.

8.5 DATA PROTECTION

Data Protection will be dealt with under the partnership’s information sharing agreements.

8.6 FINANCIAL

External funding has been granted through the government Safer Streets Fund which will support the Safer Streets and Safety Against Women and Girls priorities. Further funding opportunities will be sought wherever possible to support delivery of the Community Safety strategy. That aside, delivery will be managed through existing partner commitments and resources.

8.7 RISK MANAGEMENT

All risks will be managed as part of the strategy and action plan development as appropriate.

8.8 STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

Consultation has been undertaken with the Portfolio Holders of each sovereign council and with key officers across the S&ELCP (Corporate Management and Service Managers).

8.9 REPUTATION

It is important that the councils demonstrate their commitment to dealing with community safety issues and responding to local concerns. The Community Safety Strategy will have a positive impact on the reputation of the S&ELCP as it shows our dedication to improving the safety and wellbeing of our local communities.

8.10 CONTRACTS

None

8.11 CRIME AND DISORDER

The Councils have a duty under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to take steps to reasonably prevent crime and disorder in the district. Changes to this legislation were brought in through the Police and Justice Act 2006, with subsequent regulations coming into force in 2007. The regulations set out the minimum requirements for partnership working to ensure effective practice and that all partnerships deliver to a common standard. This report evidenced compliance with the Acts and the regulations

8.12 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

There are no direct implications from this report. It should be noted that CCTV surveillance techniques and investigations need to consider Article 8 of the Human Rights Act, which covers right to privacy. This is also subject to regulation under RIPA and CCTV Codes of Practice.

8.13 HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Work carried out to reduce crime and disorder within the district and to support those that are affected helps to improve the health and wellbeing of those residents.

8.14 CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None

8.15 LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

MISSIONS	
This paper contributes to the follow Missions outlined in the Government's Levelling Up White paper.	
Health	By 2030, the gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2035 HLE will rise by 5 years.
Wellbeing	By 2030, well-being will have improved in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.
Pride in Place	By 2030, pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.
Crime	By 2030, homicide, serious violence, and neighbourhood crime will have fallen, focused on the worst-affected areas.

9. ACRONYMS

AGM – Annual General Meeting

ASB - Anti-Social Behaviour

ASBRAC – Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference

CCTV - Closed Circuit Television

CPG - Core Priority Group

CSP - Community Safety Partnership

DHR – Domestic Homicide Review

LDAP – Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership

PSPO – Public Spaces Protection Order

RRO – Reducing Reoffending

SELCSPP - South and East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership

S&ELCP - South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

SLP - Safer Lincolnshire Partnership

VAWG – Violence Against Women and Girls

APPENDICES

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

APPENDIX A	Community Safety Strategy Action Plan 2022-23 End of Year
APPENDIX B	Anti-Social Behaviour & PSPO Data 2022-23
APPENDIX C	Annual CCTV Report 2022-23
APPENDIX D	SLP Annual Report Final Version

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body

REPORT APPROVAL	
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Approved for publication:	

FINANCE PROFORMA

PROFORMA FOR APPROVAL OF THE RELEASE OF RESOURCES

(CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS)

FROM:

THIS PROFORMA PROVIDES THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
IN RESPECT OF THE ATTACHED

REPORT:

REPORT DATE:

OPTION 1	£ Year 1	£ Year 2	£ Year 3	£ Year 4	£ Year 5
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25

Revenue

Total Revenue Cost

Funding required:

Total capital cost £

Revenue cost £

Considered by:

Enter committee here

Enter Council or
Cabinet/Executive here

Date:

Financial Services Comments

Risk

Procurement

Value for Money Efficiency

This FP is valid for 3 months from FP date	If this FP is no longer required, please advise Finance	If there are changes to the original report it may invalidate this document, it must be reviewed by Finance.