



REPORT TO:	Overview & Scrutiny – Environment & Performance Committee
DATE:	18 th June 2024
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

This report provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership at County level, the South & East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership at a local level, along with information on Anti-Social Behaviour enforcement 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 work undertaken over the last financial year.
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 (SELCP), 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 and enforcement work.
- 1.3 The statutory duties of a CSP are as follows:
 - 1.3.1 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.
 - 1.3.2 To set up protocols and systems for information sharing.
 - 1.3.3 To regularly engage and consult with the public about their community safety priorities and issues.
 - 1.3.4 To commission domestic homicide reviews (DHRs) following notification from the police of a domestic homicide¹.
 - 1.3.5 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 enforcement action to address Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) including the alcohol-related Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) and Noxious Odours procedure.

¹ In February 2024 Government announced that DHRs will be renamed to Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews following calls to better recognise deaths from domestic abuse related suicide. The changes will be brought into law via an amendment to the Victims and Prisoners Bill.

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 (officers and Elected Members)
 - 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
 - Wellbeing Lincs
- 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. A copy of the completed plan with updates for 2023-24 is included in Appendix A. The current plan for 2024-25 is a working document monitored by the SELCSP.
- 2.5 The identified priorities are presented below along with some key actions undertaken during the last year.
- 2.6 **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**
- 2.6.1 Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness week – This is an annual campaign to highlight the work that partners do to tackle ASB. A countywide communications campaign took place during the week. The aims were to raise public awareness of:
- What constitutes ASB.
 - The importance of reporting ASB, who to report to and how.
 - The ASB Case Review (formerly Community Trigger) and how to make a request.
 - The positive action in response to ASB in Lincolnshire and the partnership approach – using good news stories/quotes from victims etc.
 - Messages were shared via social media by key agencies involved in tackling ASB.
- 2.6.2 Noxious Odour Process – 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. Following a pilot in Boston (from March to October 2023), the process has been rolled out countywide with the launch of the

Lincolnshire Noxious Odour Procedures (Residential Premises) in November 2023. Further information including the number of enforcement actions taken by Boston Borough Council is included in Appendix B.

- 2.6.3 Good Neighbour Leaflet – 500 copies of a leaflet aimed at encouraging people to be a good neighbour have been printed to disseminate across Boston Borough and East Lindsey to reduce the likelihood of neighbour disputes occurring and calls for service being made.

2.7 **Hate Crime**

- 2.7.1 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 delivered across the South and East Lincs Partnership area to increase awareness of what Hate Crime is, how it can be reported and the support available to victims. Victim Support are the new provider for Hate Crime support in Lincolnshire (formerly Stop Hate UK).
- 2.7.2 Increasing awareness and reporting of hate incidents – Lincolnshire Police are routinely providing data on Hate Crimes on a quarterly basis which will assist in monitoring the type of issues occurring within the districts. Lincolnshire Police have also produced a problem profile and will be consulting with districts as they develop a strategic plan to address Hate Crime and Hate Incidents.

2.8 **Safer Streets & Night-Time Economy**

- 2.8.1 Operation Plotting – Several projects have received funding from the Serious Violence Fund, managed through the County Serious Violence Core Priority Group. The projects being managed by Boston Borough Council are:
- Engagement Boards: to be installed in Boston Market Place and Central Park.
 - Community Rangers: to introduce capable guardians in areas lacking presence.
 - Environmental Changes: Working with HMP North Sea Camp to improve the street scene in hotspot areas.
 - Community Engagement Officer: To support a targeted engagement programme of specific issues.
 - CCTV in hotspot areas: Installation of five new CCTV cameras to cover gaps in Central Park, Red Lion Street and West Street.

2.9 **The Safety of Women & Girls:**

- 2.9.1 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. A substantial communications plan was produced and delivered by the Domestic Abuse Partnership and supported by partner organisations to maximise the effectiveness of the plan.
- 2.9.2 Safer Streets Round 4 – Work continues in Boston to upgrade the CCTV camera systems. This work has taken longer than in Spalding and Skegness (which are now complete) due to the need to upgrade the BT fibre network. A Community CCTV Volunteer continues to work within the CCTV suite to help with tasks such as image reviews and burning disks which frees up the CCTV Operators to focus on monitoring the cameras.

2.10 Vulnerability & Safeguarding

2.10.1 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 Crimestoppers ATM Distraction Theft and Government's national 'Stop! Think Fraud' campaign.

2.10.2 Domestic Abuse Officers – Three officers have been introduced across the SELCP area to support staff in identifying and supporting individuals experiencing domestic abuse (DA), through the following:

- Supporting staff in completing a DASH risk assessment and advising on signposting a client or referring to MARAC
- Attending MARAC
- Training staff on DASH risk assessments
- Overseeing target hardening / Sanctuary for DA cases
- Working on DAHA accreditation which is a DA housing accreditation
- Working on DA policies and procedures
- Eventually training staff to be DA Champions

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

3.1. Information on enforcement action taken to tackle ASB in Boston Borough, including that taken in relation to the PSPO (restricting alcohol consumption) and Noxious Odours is included in Appendix B.

4. SAFER LINCOLNSHIRE PARTNERSHIP (SLP)

4.1. 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 committed to the delivery of the current SLP Strategic Priorities through participation at the underpinning Core Priority Groups.

4.2. SLP Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Report

4.3. The AGM was held on 30th April 2024 and was open for the public to attend along with strategic representatives from across the partnership. The AGM included updates on the core priority areas, Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Disorder, Drugs & Alcohol, Reducing Reoffending and Serious Violence along with updates on Prevent, Public Engagement, Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews, the Stay Safe Partnership, and finance.

4.4. The SLP Annual Report 2023-24 provides a summary of the SLP's achievements in relation to the priority areas during the last year and looks forward to the work planned over the next year. The full report and sub appendices are included in Appendix C.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1. 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 and the PSPO in Boston Town Centre.

EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

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. It supports an increased understanding and awareness of the partnership working taking place in the districts.

IMPLICATIONS

SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP

None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

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

Safe and Resilient Communities - work with partners to help reduce domestic abuse and the fear of crime; ensure licensing policies support crime reduction; work with the local community to support community cohesion. More specifically for Boston the priority to ensure local resources are targeted towards community safety.

STAFFING

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

WORKFORCE CAPACITY IMPLICATIONS

None

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.

DATA PROTECTION

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

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.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

Consultation has been undertaken with the Community Safety Portfolio Holder for Boston Borough Council and with key officers across the S&ELCP (Corporate Management and Service Managers).

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.

CONTRACTS

None

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.

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.

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.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

MISSIONS	
This paper contributes to the following 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.

ACRONYMS

AGM – Annual General Meeting

ASB - Anti-Social Behaviour

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

(If none then insert the word 'None' and delete the below text/boxes).

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

APPENDIX A

Community Safety Strategy Action Plan 2023-24 End of Year

APPENDIX B	Enforcement action to address Anti-Social Behaviour in Boston 2023-24
APPENDIX C	<p>Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Annual Report 2023-24</p> <p><i>Sub appendices to this report:</i></p> <p><i>Annual Report Appendix A – ASB CPG Presentation</i></p> <p><i>Annual Report Appendix B – C&D CPG Presentation</i></p> <p><i>Annual Report Appendix C – RRO CPG Presentation</i></p>

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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