



Safer North West
Partnership

North West Leicestershire Community Safety Strategy 2014 - 2017

“Working together to make North West Leicestershire a safer place for residents, communities, businesses and visitors”

Foreword



As chairman of the Safer North West Partnership I am pleased to introduce the Community Safety Strategy for 2014-17. Over the past three years the Partnership has achieved some real successes. Relationships between partners new and old have gone from strength to strength and this has enabled us to work effectively together to drive down crime and disorder in North West Leicestershire.

Over the past three years we have seen reductions in both crime and anti-social behaviour in the District, continuing a six year downward trend. Recorded crime locally has reduced by 7% in the past year and anti-social behaviour has decreased by 4% (Partnership Strategic Assessment, October 2012-September 2013). It is particularly encouraging that serious acquisitive crime, which includes robbery and domestic burglary, has gone down by 19%. However, we acknowledge that despite our successes there is still more work that can be done to ensure that our residents feel safe in their communities and do not become victims of crime.

I am sure that the next three years will bring challenges, not least financial ones; however as a strong and well established Partnership I believe we will be able to overcome them. We will work closely with the communities we serve to improve public access to our work and increase confidence in our ability to tackle crime and disorder within North West Leicestershire.

I am confident that by working together and building on our success we can make an even greater contribution to improving the quality of life for those that live in, work in and visit North West Leicestershire.

Councillor Trevor Pendleton

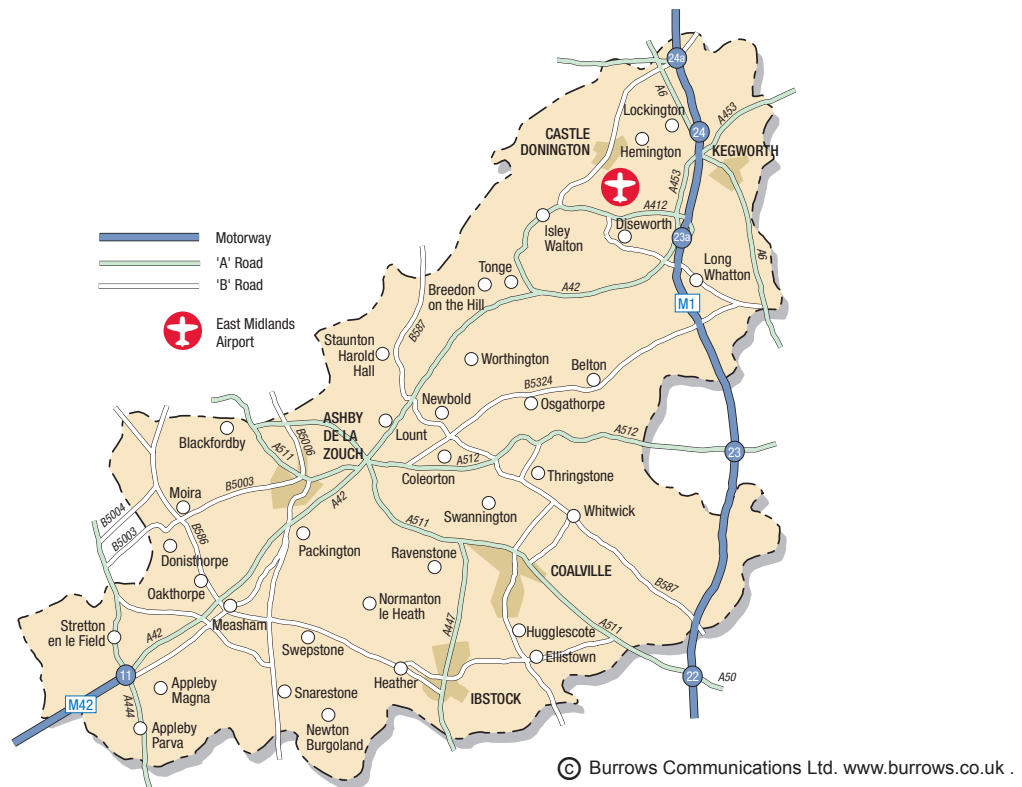
**Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning,
North West Leicestershire District Council
Chair of the Safer North West Partnership**

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1. Introduction and Background

North West Leicestershire is located in the heart of the Midlands and has a number of unique characteristics which bring their own community safety considerations. The district is home to East Midlands Airport and Donington Park race circuit in the north and is part of the National Forest. There are also stretches of the M1 motorway and other major commuter routes passing through the District.



Community Safety is a broad term used to describe the protection of our communities from the threat of criminal or anti-social behaviour. The Safer North West Partnership works to identify where crime and disorder has or may occur and puts measures in place to try to address it. This takes place against a backdrop of educating our communities on the effects of anti-social behaviour. The Partnership understands that the consequences of becoming a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour can be far-reaching and have a devastating impact. As a result, strong links have developed with support services and enforcement agencies to ensure that appropriate and timely referrals are made for both victims and perpetrators.

Since their introduction in 1998, community safety partnerships have encouraged a more joined up way of working which has contributed to a sustained fall in crime. The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act required Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (since renamed Community Safety Partnerships) be set up and placed an obligation on local authorities and police to work together to implement a strategy to tackle crime and disorder in their area. Since this time further legislation has expanded the remit of the partnership and made more organisations, such as clinical commissioning groups, also accountable for community safety.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, (amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006) requires responsible authorities to consider crime and disorder and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the exercise of all their duties, activities and decisions. This means that in all strategies and service delivery by statutory agencies, including District Councils, County Councils and the Police, there is a need to consider the likely impact on crime and disorder throughout their work.

Since they were elected in November 2012, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) have also played an important role in community safety. The Safer North West Partnership has worked hard over the past 18 months to build a good relationship with Leicestershire's PCC, Sir Clive Loader, and his office.

Every three years each community safety partnership is required by law to produce a strategy, informed by strategic assessment and consultation, which outlines the activities it plans to undertake. The strategy identifies priorities and trends for the partnership to focus on and provides a framework for delivery. The strategy is refreshed annually to respond to emerging threats and to ensure the priorities are still relevant.

The Safer North West Partnership brings together a number of agencies with a shared commitment to reducing crime and disorder in the district. The Partnership is made up of a number of organisations including;

- North West Leicestershire District Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Leicestershire Police
- Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service
- Leicestershire Fire Authority
- National Probation Service (from spring 2014)
- Community Rehabilitation Company (details should be known by autumn 2014 following a competitive commissioning process)
- West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group

The statutory agencies on the Partnership work closely with other organisations such as social housing providers, youth offending service, drug & alcohol support services, local business, youth groups and voluntary agencies amongst others. The Safer North West Partnership aims to bring together people and organisations that are committed to having an impact on crime and disorder in our local communities. By working together we can ensure that agencies are not working in isolation and that resources are targeted effectively where they are needed.

Our vision for the Safer North West Partnership is to protect North West Leicestershire's residents, communities, businesses and visitors from crime and disorder which may cause them harm.

2. Our Priorities

The priorities within this plan were identified using the annual Safer North West Partnership Strategic Assessment which brings together analysis from a number of agencies including the police, fire and rescue service, probation, youth offending and substance misuse agencies. The assessment includes information on levels of crime, views from the community, highlights any changes since the last assessment and helps identify current and possible future crime, disorder and substance misuse trends.

After analysis of the Partnership Strategic Assessment, consideration was given to the most recent crime figures in the district, the Police and Crime Commissioner's priorities and emerging local issues. Partner agencies then met to decide the strategic direction of the Partnership for 2014 and beyond.

The Partnership has decided that it will focus on three key priorities for 2014-17. For each priority we have identified the ways we will work to achieve them.

- **Priority one: Tackle Violent Crime and Abuse**
- **Priority two: Tackle Acquisitive Crime**
- **Priority three: Respond Effectively to Anti-Social Behaviour**

Priority One - Tackle Violent Crime and Abuse

The most recent Partnership Strategic Assessment shows that there are several areas within North West Leicestershire which have significantly higher levels of violent crime compared to the county average. There has been a 17% increase in police reported domestic abuse incidents and local support services are coming under increasing pressure. Alcohol related crime is also a concern with 31% of all violent offences in North West Leicestershire being classified by the police as alcohol related.

To tackle violent crime and abuse the Safer North West Partnership will;

- **Encourage reporting of domestic abuse and offer appropriate support**
- **Address violent crime linked to the nighttime economy, particularly that which is alcohol related**
- **Support work aimed at reducing sexual exploitation**
- **Support early intervention work**

Groups which will support delivery;

NWL Domestic Abuse Forum
Domestic Abuse Delivery Group (countywide)
Ashby and Coalville Pubwatch Groups

How will we measure success?

- Overall violent crime in the District is reduced
- There is an increase in positive outcomes for those who have experienced or witnessed abuse
- There is not a rise in violent crime linked to the nighttime economy during the summer, particularly around the time of the Football World Cup
- Early intervention work takes place to prevent offences occurring.

Priority Two - Tackle Acquisitive Crime

Serious acquisitive crime has shown a decrease over the past year however the partnership recognises that such offences, particularly domestic burglary, can have a devastating impact on communities and should remain a focus. Other acquisitive crime is of growing concern with shoplifting offences more than doubling over the past year. Theft from the person offences have also increased, particularly at the Download Festival in June.

To tackle acquisitive crime the Safer North West Partnership will;

- **Respond to acquisitive crime hotspots and trends**
- **Carry out proactive enforcement work**
- **Support early intervention work**

Groups which will support delivery;

NWL Joint Action Group (JAG)

Specific Sub-groups (such as Download planning meetings and ad hoc groups set up to respond to specific crime types or trends)

How will we measure success?

- Overall acquisitive crime in the District is reduced
- A reduction in acquisitive offences at Download
- An increase in positive outcomes for victims of serious acquisitive crime

Priority Three - Respond Effectively to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Anti-social behaviour has decreased slightly over the past year; however the partnership acknowledges that such behaviour can have a huge impact on the quality of life for residents in our communities. Criminal damage, an offence which has strong links to ASB, has increased and currently makes up 16% of all recorded crime in the District.

To respond effectively to ASB the Safer North West Partnership will;

- **Provide early intervention by engaging with young people at risk of committing ASB and diverting them into positive activities**
- **Support the most vulnerable ASB complainants where risk factors may increase the likelihood of victimisation**
- **Ensure that planned reform to ASB legislation is successfully implemented**

Groups which will support delivery;

NWL Joint Action Group (JAG)

ASB Delivery Group (County)

ASB Strategy Group (County)

How will we measure success?

- An increase in the numbers attending diversionary activities arranged by partnership agencies.
- Public confidence that effective action is being taken against ASB increases
- Vulnerable complainants of ASB are effectively supported
- A reduction in repeat occurrences of ASB

3. Delivering the Strategy

The diagram below illustrates how the three priorities within this community safety strategy will be delivered by the Safer North West Partnership.



The Partnership has access to a variety of funding streams and resources will be allocated against the priorities within the strategy. Projects will be evaluated to demonstrate effectiveness and value for money.

This strategy is supported by an action plan which sets out how partners intend to deliver against the priorities within this document. The action plan will be monitored and reviewed throughout each year of the strategy.

4. Equality and Diversity

Equality and Diversity has been considered throughout formulation of this three year plan. The Safer North West Partnership is committed to serving all members of its communities effectively and an equality impact assessment has been conducted for this strategy. The Partnership aims to ensure fair and equal access to services and support irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership or pregnancy/maternity.

5. Glossary

ASB: Anti-Social Behaviour

CDRP: Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

CSP: Community Safety Partnership

JAG: Joint Action Group

NWL: North West Leicestershire

NWLDC: North West Leicestershire District Council

SNWP: Safer North West Partnership.

6. Useful Contacts

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| Police (emergency) | 999 | www.leics.police.uk |
| Police (non-emergency) | 101 | |
| North West Leicestershire District Council | 01530 454545 | www.nwleics.gov.uk |
| Swanswell (substance misuse support) | 01530 275970 | www.swanswell.org |
| Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service | 0116 2872241 | www.leicestershire-fire.gov.uk |
| Leicestershire Domestic Abuse Helpline | 0300 303 1844 | |

For more information on this strategy, please contact NWLDC's Community Safety Team Leader at community.safety@nwleicestershire.gov.uk or call 01530 454719.

