



Safer North West  
Partnership

# North West Leicestershire Community Safety Strategy 2014 - 2017

“To protect North West Leicestershire’s residents, communities, businesses and visitors from crime and disorder which may cause them harm”



# 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 good 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 recent years we have seen reductions in both crime and anti-social behaviour in the District, the continuation of an encouraging downward trend. Since this strategy was published, we have worked hard to reduce all crime. In 2014 we focussed on violent offences linked to the nighttime economy, particularly during periods of increased footfall in our vibrant town centres. Body worn cameras for door staff were introduced which act as a deterrent but are also able to capture evidence should an offence occur. This partnership work resulted in a reduction in violent crime in Ashby since the cameras were introduced.

Last year the Partnership provided early intervention with young people to raise awareness of healthy relationships. Drama productions were commissioned focussing on abuse, child sexual exploitation and internet safety as well as targeted work for child witnesses of domestic abuse. However, we acknowledge that despite our successes there is still more work that can be done to ensure that our residents and young people feel safe in their communities and do not become victims of crime.

I am sure that the next year 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 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**

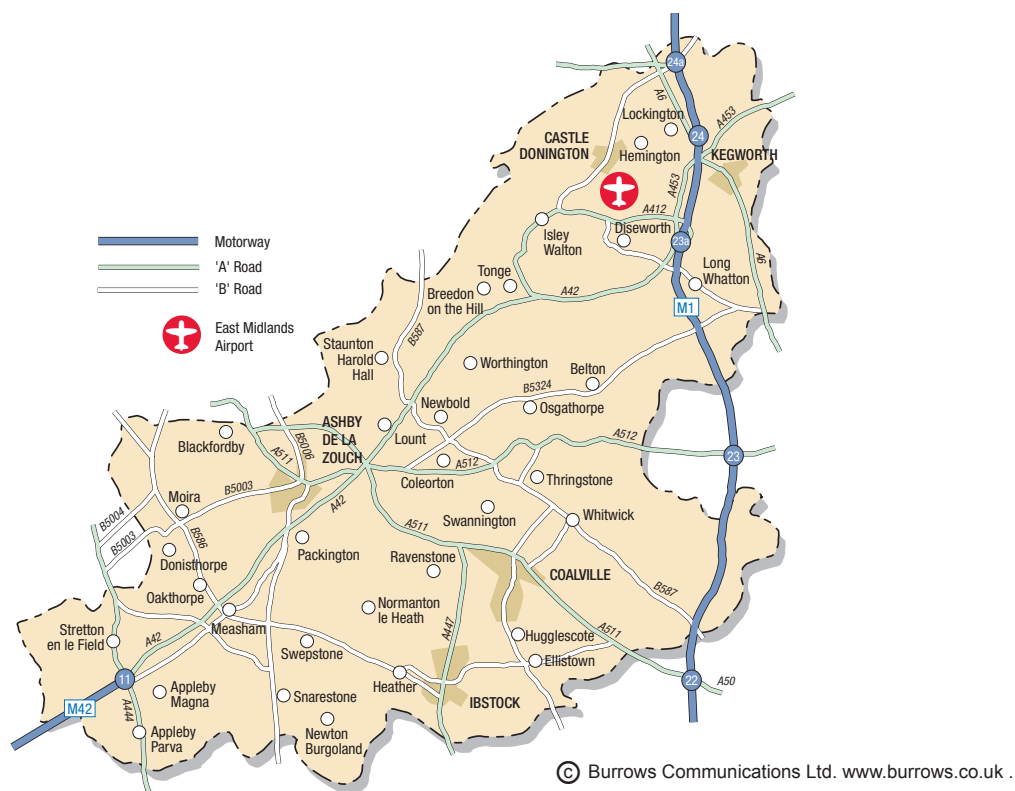
**Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning,  
North West Leicestershire District Council  
Chair of the Safer North West Partnership  
March 2016**

# Contents

1. Introduction and background
2. Our priorities for 2014-17
  - Tackle violent crime and abuse
  - Tackle acquisitive crime
  - Respond effectively to anti-social behaviour and hate incidents
3. Delivering the strategy
4. Equality and diversity
5. Glossary
6. Useful contacts

# 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. 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, 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 their introduction in 2012, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) have played an important role in community safety. The Safer North West Partnership has worked hard over recent years to build a good relationship with Leicestershire's PCC, Sir Clive Loader, and his office and we look forward to building a strong relationship with his successor in 2016.

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
- Reducing Reoffending Partnership
- 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 and 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.

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.

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 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.

The Partnership has decided to 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 (ASB) and Hate incidents**

The Partnership will consider the cross-cutting theme of **substance misuse** under each of the main priorities. This follows recognition by the Partnership that this issue can often be an underlying causal factor impacting on our main priorities.

## Priority One - Tackle violent crime and abuse

The Partnership Strategic Assessment shows that there are several areas within North West Leicestershire which have higher levels of violent crime compared to the county average. Part of this rise could be accounted for by increased confidence in reporting, however the Partnership has taken additional measures to address this increase. We have had great success with initiatives focussed on the nighttime economy during anticipated busy periods and the introduction of body worn cameras has led to a substantial reduction in violent offences.

There has also been a rise in reported sexual offences, particularly those linked to child sexual exploitation. The Partnership has responded to this increase with early intervention, awareness raising and a focus on the issue at multi-agency meetings such as the Joint Action Group.

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

- **Encourage reporting of domestic abuse and offer appropriate support**
- **Support work aimed at reducing child sexual exploitation**
- **Tackle violent crime linked to the nighttime economy**
- **Support early intervention work to reduce the impact of substance misuse**

Groups which will support delivery;

NWL Domestic Abuse Forum

Domestic Abuse Action Group (countywide)

Ashby and Coalville Pubwatch Groups

How will we measure success?

- There is an increase in positive outcomes for those who have experienced or witnessed domestic abuse or sexual exploitation
- Current levels of violent crime linked to the nighttime economy do not increase
- There is an increase in individuals successfully supported by drug and alcohol treatment providers leading to:

A reduction in reoffending

A reduction in relapse and

An increase in the number of people signposted to other services.



## Priority Two - Tackle acquisitive crime

Serious acquisitive crime continues to pose a threat to our communities, particularly during times of austerity, with some categories of offence having risen over the past year. The Partnership recognises that rural communities can be affected disproportionately by some offences and welcomes the introduction of Rural Watch. Initiatives in rural areas will be complemented by town centre crime reduction measures such as appropriate use of closed circuit television (CCTV) alongside shopwatch and retail radio schemes.

Partnership work at the Download Festival in 2015 resulted in (add in stats)

To tackle acquisitive crime the Safer North West Partnership will;

- **Respond to acquisitive crime hotspots and trends**
- **Support early intervention work to reduce the impact of substance misuse**
- **Support rural crime initiatives -including Rural Watch and Neighbourhood Watch**
- **Support crime initiatives in our town centres – including CCTV, shop watch and retail radio**

Groups which will support delivery;

NWL Joint Action Group (JAG)

Specific Sub-groups such as Download 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
- Acquisitive crime offences at Download do not increase (calculated as crime per capita of those in attendance)
- An increase in positive outcomes for victims of serious acquisitive crime
- There is an increase in individuals successfully supported by drug and alcohol treatment providers.
- Greater awareness locally of the effects of substance misuse, especially that relating to so-called 'legal highs'.
- Raised awareness of rural and town centre crime reduction initiatives.

## Priority Three - Respond effectively to ASB and hate incidents

Anti-social behaviour has decreased 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. The Partnership also recognises that there has been more attention given to hate crime and incidents recently and as such has expanded this priority to include hate.

From 2015 there has been a new statutory obligation placed upon public agencies to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism; this is known as the Prevent duty and will be included within our action plan this year.

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

Support early intervention by engaging with young people at risk of committing ASB or being radicalised

- **Support the most vulnerable ASB complainants where risk factors may increase the likelihood of victimisation**
- **Ensure that the new ASB legislation is successfully embedded into local processes.**
- **Encourage victims to report hate crime and incidents**
- **Work to support the Prevent agenda**

Groups which will support delivery;

NWL Joint Action Group (JAG)

ASB, Hate and Prevent Delivery Group (Countywide)

ASB, Hate and Prevent Strategy Group (Countywide)

How will we measure success?

- Increase in public confidence that effective action is being taken against ASB
- Vulnerable complainants of ASB are effectively supported
- A reduction in repeat occurrences of ASB
- Improved knowledge and information sharing around the Prevent agenda.

### 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 completed 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

**PCC:** Police and Crime Commissioner

**SNWP:** Safer North West Partnership

## 6. Useful contacts

Police (emergency)	999	<a href="http://www.leics.police.uk">www.leics.police.uk</a>
Police (non-emergency)	101	
North West Leicestershire District Council	01530 454545	<a href="http://www.nwleics.gov.uk">www.nwleics.gov.uk</a>
Leicestershire Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 802 0028	
Swanswell (substance misuse support)	01530 275970	<a href="http://www.swanswell.org">www.swanswell.org</a>
Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service	0116 2872241	<a href="http://www.leicestershire-fire.gov.uk">www.leicestershire-fire.gov.uk</a>

For more information on this strategy, please contact North West Leicestershire District Council Community Safety Team Leader at [community.safety@nwleicestershire.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@nwleicestershire.gov.uk) or call 01530 454719.



